

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT



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A YEAR OF PROGRESS



Message from the Chief

RON BUSCH

Fire Chief

Dear Sonoma County Community,

As Fire Chief, it is my honor to present the 2025 Annual Report for the Sonoma County Fire District. This past year reflects our continued commitment to service excellence, operational readiness, and the safety of the communities we proudly serve.

Continued Success

The Sonoma County Fire District remains one of the largest and most progressive fire districts in Northern California, and 2025 was a year defined by stability, growth, and forward momentum. Our organization continues to demonstrate that consolidation, when done thoughtfully, strengthens service delivery, enhances efficiency, and builds long-term sustainability.

Capabilities and Resources

Operationally, we maintained a high level of readiness across our system. Our personnel responded to a wide range of emergencies, including fires, medical incidents, rescues, and all-hazard events. The dedication, professionalism, and compassion shown by our firefighters, paramedics, and support staff continue to set the standard for public service.

Chain of Command

A key focus this year has been strengthening our command structure and field supervision. Investments in leadership positions and deployment models have improved coordination, accountability, and response effectiveness across our service area. These improvements ensure that we are not only meeting today's demands but are well-positioned for the future.

Prevention Department Expansion

Prevention and Community Risk Reduction efforts also expanded significantly in 2025. Through inspections, public education, and proactive outreach, we are working to reduce emergencies before they occur. This approach reflects our belief that true public safety extends beyond response—it begins with prevention.

Emergency Medical Care

Our Emergency Medical Services system continues to be a cornerstone of our mission. With increasing call volumes and growing demand for advanced life support, we remain focused on delivering high-quality patient care while exploring innovative solutions to sustain and enhance EMS delivery.

Collaborative Efforts

None of this work would be possible without the support of our Board of Directors, our labor partners, and the communities we serve. Their trust and collaboration allow us to continue evolving as a modern, resilient, and community-focused fire district.

Our Future

As we look ahead, we remain committed to fiscal responsibility, strategic planning, and maintaining the highest level of service. The challenges facing the fire service—ranging from increased call demand to workforce and funding pressures—are real, but so is our resolve to meet them.

The Workforce

I am incredibly proud of the men and women of the Sonoma County Fire District. Their dedication to protecting life, property, and the environment is unwavering, and it is a privilege to serve alongside them.

Respectfully,

Ron Busch

Fire Chief
Sonoma County Fire District



December 22, 2025
Closed Roads - Sonoma County

- Green Valley Rd, near Sullivan Rd, Sebastopol
- Mark West Station Rd, near Starr Rd, Windsor
- Slusser Rd at River Rd, Windsor

Logos for Sonoma County Fire District, Fire, Emergency Management, and Windsor are at the bottom.



2025 AT A GLANCE



OUR LEADERSHIP

2025 Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my honor to present this year's annual report for the Sonoma County Fire District.

Over the past year, our District has continued to demonstrate what is possible when strong leadership, dedicated personnel, and community support come together with a shared purpose. We remain committed to providing the highest level of fire protection, emergency medical services, and community risk reduction to the residents and visitors we serve.

This year marked continued progress in strengthening our organization following multiple consolidations. These efforts have enhanced operational efficiency, improved service delivery, and positioned the District to better meet the growing and evolving needs of our communities. By aligning resources, standardizing operations, and investing in our workforce, we are building a more resilient and sustainable fire district for the future.

Our successful transition into providing EMS and ambulance service for a large portion of Sonoma County stands out as a major milestone. This advancement has been a significant step forward for both residents and visitors. Today, fire-based EMS and ambulance delivery in Sonoma County is more efficient, more responsive, and more sustainable than ever before. This achievement reflects not only the hard work of our team but also our long-term vision for a resilient, community-centered emergency service system.

The Board of Directors has remained focused on fiscal responsibility, transparency, and long-term planning. We recognize that every dollar entrusted to us by our taxpayers must be managed with care and accountability. Through thoughtful budgeting and strategic investments, we continue to support critical infrastructure, modern equipment, and the recruitment and retention of highly trained personnel.

This success would not be possible without the dedication and professionalism of our firefighters, paramedics, and support staff. Their commitment to service—often in the most challenging and demanding conditions—reflects the very best of public service. We are equally grateful for the continued trust and support of our community, whose partnership is essential to everything we do.

As we look ahead, the District remains focused on maintaining excellence in emergency response while expanding our efforts in prevention, preparedness, and community engagement. Together, we will continue to build a safer, stronger Sonoma County.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for your ongoing support.

Steve Klick
BOD President



Steve Klick
President



Bob Briare
Vice President



Jason Weaver
Secretary
Treasurer



Arnie Tognozzi
Director



Frank Treanor
Director

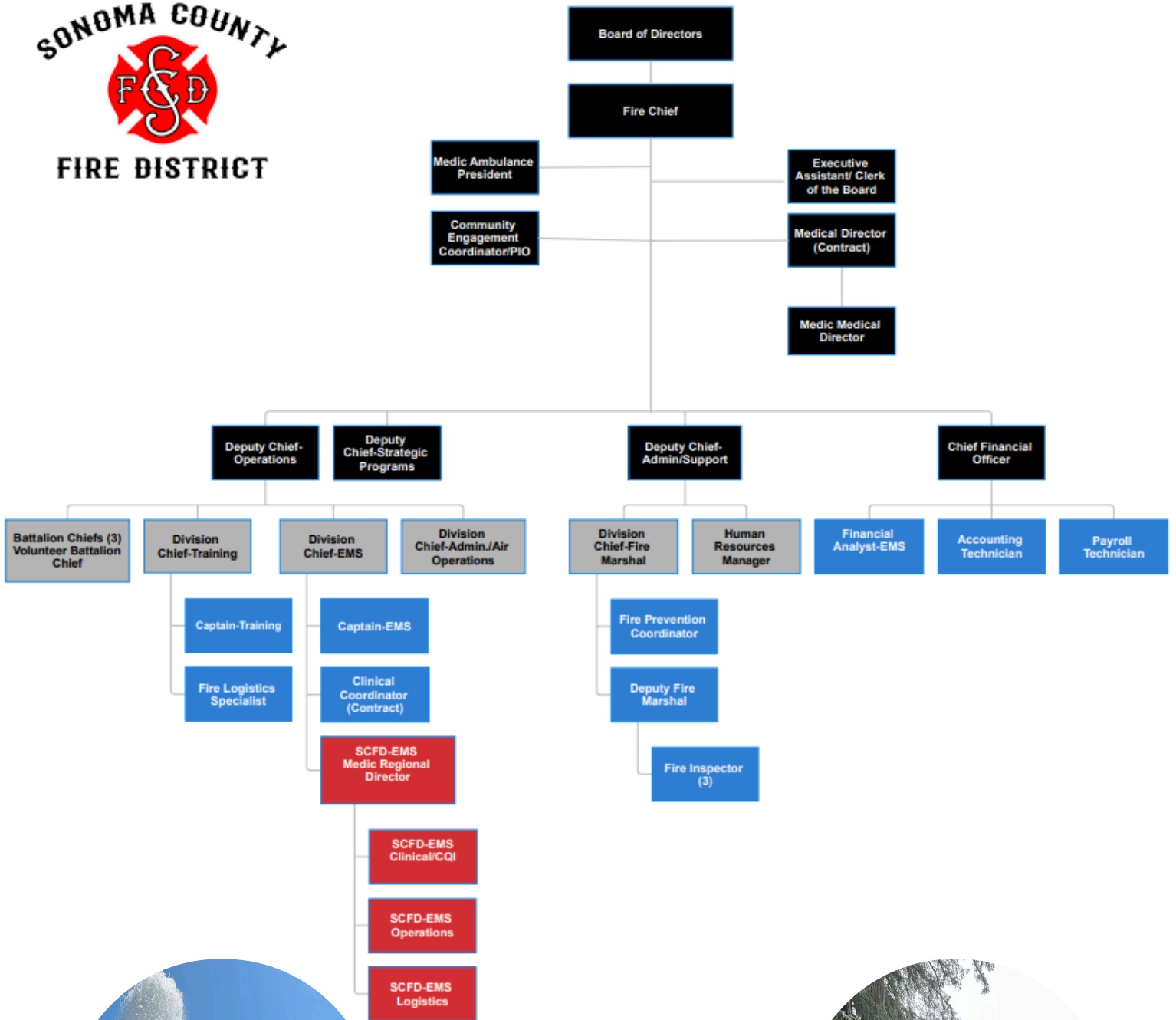


Gary So
Director



John Hamann
Director

ORGANIZATION CHART



OUR CULTURE

CORE PRINCIPLES: HONESTY - RESPECT - INTEGRITY



MISSION STATEMENT

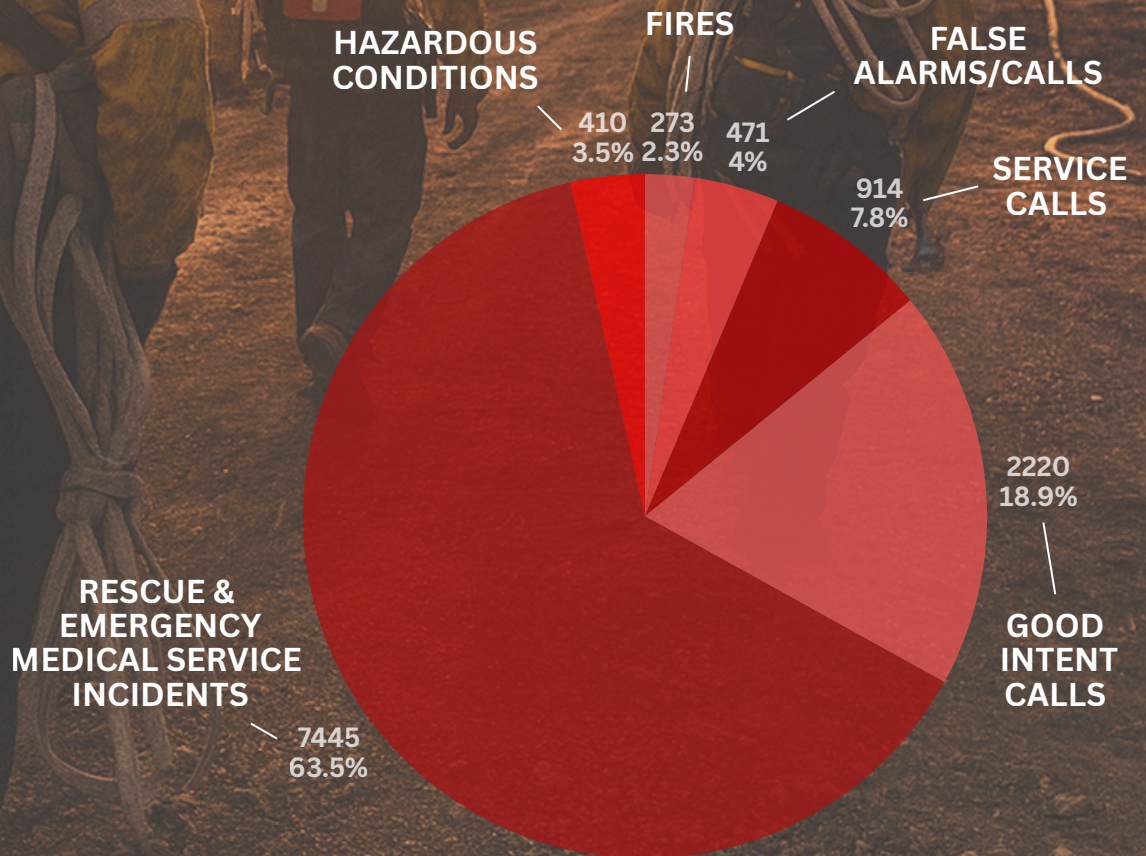
To compassionately care for the safety of our communities and our visitors through progressive professional emergency preparedness and response.

VISION STATEMENT

We will position the Fire District to provide fiscal sustainability while providing excellent emergency response and community preparedness.

EMERGENCY INCIDENTS

2025 Total Calls
11,733



INCIDENT TYPE CATEGORIES

SCFD OPERATIONS

The Operations Division of the Sonoma County Fire District is proud to present its 2025 achievements. This past year was marked by exceptional service to our communities, meaningful contributions to statewide emergency response efforts, and a steadfast commitment to the professional development of our firefighting workforce. The Operations Division is responsible for the day-to-day responses handled by our engine, ambulance, and special operations crews.



DEPUTY CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, MATT WINDREM

Highlights of activities in 2025 include:

- 11,733 emergency responses.
- Deployed SCFD personnel and apparatus as strike teams and overhead to the January 2025 Southern California fires, including the Palisades and Eaton fires.
- Provided strike team and overhead support to over 12 significant incidents throughout California during the year.
- Upstaffing for winter flood and swiftwater operations, July 4th coverage, and Crab and Salmon season openings.
- Planned for Measure H funded staffing enhancements to improve district-wide response capabilities.



Fleet Highlights:

- Delivery of two new Type-3 engines
- Ordered new 107' Ladder Truck and new Type-1 engine



Training Highlights:

- Conducted two recruit academies; the first completed in mid-2025, the second completed in early 2026.
- Led Fire and EMS coordination for the successful Sonoma County Airport Triennial Drill.
- Hosted the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, recognizing the contributions of volunteer personnel throughout the district.

Interagency & Committee Participation:

- Regular participation on the REDCOM Dispatch Operations Advisory Group and the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association Operations and Training Sub-group.



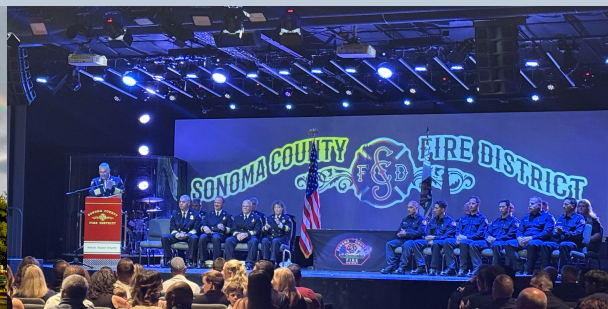
SCFD ADMINISTRATION

In 2025, Administration and Support of Sonoma County Fire District made significant progress strengthening the District's organizational structure, and workforce development. We initiated an administrative realignment, including transitioning Payroll under the Finance Division to improve efficiency and internal controls, and began the recruitment process for a dedicated Human Resources Manager to enhance HR services and compliance.



DEPUTY CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION, ROBERT JOHNSON

- 2 Fire Academies
- Multiple Promotions
- Station Infrastructure Upgraded
- Progress towards Station 2 & 9 rebuilds funded through Measure H
- Administrative Services supported efficient operations and District-wide readiness
- Finance, Logistics, and Wellness programs strengthened



PREVENTION DIVISION

The Prevention Division plays a vital role in ensuring the safety and resilience of our community. The division is dedicated to reducing fire risk through proactive measures, including fire code enforcement, plan reviews, and public education. By conducting inspections of residential and commercial buildings, overseeing defensible space compliance, and managing permits for special events, the division ensures adherence to safety standards.

Public outreach remains a cornerstone of the division's efforts, with programs designed to educate residents about wildfire preparedness, Hands-Only CPR and fire extinguisher training. Initiatives such as the Fire-Wise Demonstration Garden and community workshops demonstrate our commitment to empowering the public with knowledge and tools to protect themselves and their properties.

In collaboration with local agencies, the Prevention Division works tirelessly to enhance fire safety, mitigate risks, investigate fires, and support the District's mission to safeguard lives and property.



DIVISION CHIEF - PREVENTION/FIRE MARSHAL, CYNDI FOREMAN

Fire Investigations
60

Vegetation Inspections
485

Vacation Rental Inspections
208

Windsor Business License Inspections
196

Windsor New Construction Fire Final Inspections
30



BEFORE



AFTER



TRAINING DIVISION

The Sonoma County Fire District Training Division provides comprehensive and progressive training to ensure firefighters maintain the highest standards of proficiency and professionalism. Through structured instruction, hands-on exercises, and continuous professional development, the division prepares personnel to meet the evolving challenges of emergency response while promoting safety, effectiveness, and operational excellence.



DIVISION CHIEF - TRAINING, MICHAEL FRANCESCHI



2025

- 26,689.25 - Full Time Member Training Hours
- 1,394.75 - Volunteer Firefighter Training Hours
- 28,084 - Total Training Hours

EMS DIVISION

The EMS Division of the Sonoma County Fire District continued to strengthen system performance, clinical excellence, and regional leadership throughout 2025.

The division advanced staffing stability, improved compliance metrics, and expanded its role in statewide EMS collaboration, while delivering high-quality patient care across the Fire District and EOA-1 system.



DIVISION CHIEF - EMS, DAVID BYNUM

Leadership & Organizational Development

- Promoted Division Chief of EMS Dave Bynum
- Promoted EMS Captain Jason Clopton

Expanded Representation within the California Fire Chiefs EMS Section

- David Bynum serving on the E-Board as Legislative Representative
- New members: Karri Pierson, Jason Clopton, Eric Constantine, Marcus Bond, and Steve Herzberg

Clinical & Operational Achievements

- Cardiac Arrest Saves: 3
- Newborn Deliveries: 2
- Attended Survivors' Reunion: 4 Fire District personnel recognized

Awards & Recognition

EMSA Awards:

- Tyler Grinberg - Clinical Excellence Ribbon
- Kenneth Chaffee - Clinical Excellence Ribbon

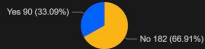


SCFD EMS Review



Number of Cardiac arrests with ROSC

PCR Count



ROSC?
● No
● Yes

Total number of calls

PCR Count

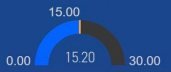
39750

2025

All

Median scene time for STEMI

PCR times



STEMI transports

PCR count

135

Total Transports

PCR Count

28768

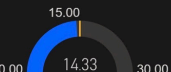
Count of incidents from CAD

Unit arrived on scene

20K

Median scene time for Trauma Patients

PCR times



Trauma activations

PCR count

465

ALS Transports

PCR Count

22094

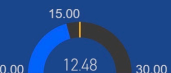
Advanced Airways

PCR Count

179

Median scene time for Strokes

PCR times



Stroke activations

PCR count

716

BLS Transports

PCR Count

6674

Patients defibrillated

PCR Count

66

System Performance & Compliance

- Completed 2024 Contract Compliance Audit with a 92% score
- Achieved outstanding ambulance response time compliance
- Greater than 90% in all six zones
- With an overall score for the EOA of 97.74%
- Achieved full staffing of the EOA Division
- Successfully eliminated use of traveler personnel

Clinical & Operational Achievements

- EMS Responses: 39,750 within EOA-1
- Cardiac Arrest Saves: 25
- Attended Survivors' Reunion: 2 EOA-1 Medic Ambulance Personnel recognized

Operations & Special Events

- Successfully deployed the MCI Bus during February Sonoma County floods.
- Participated in the STS Triennial Airport Drill
- Expanded Public Access AED Program, Installing devices at Luther Burbank Center, United Way, and Lo Cien

Fleet Total: 46

- 34 Ambulances
- 3 Support F150's
- 5 Supervisor Units
- 1 Ambulance Bus
- 1 Strike Team Leader Vehicle
- 1 Mobile Command Center
- 1 UTV



Awards & Recognition

CAAS Accreditation awarded
EMSA Awards:

- Andrew Natoli – National Star of Life Award
- Bryan Smith – Distinguished Service Medal
- California Stars of Life Awards: 7 recipients



STATIONS



**Station 1 - Windsor
1997**



**Station 2 - Larkfield
1960**



**Station 3 - Windsor
2009**



**Station 4 - Bellevue
1964**



**Station 5 - Rincon Valley
1949**



**Station 6 - Mountain
2021**

STATIONS



**Station 7 - Forestville
1978**



**Station 8 - Bennett Valley
1960**



**Station 9 - Guerneville
1960**



**Station 10 - Bodega Bay
1996**



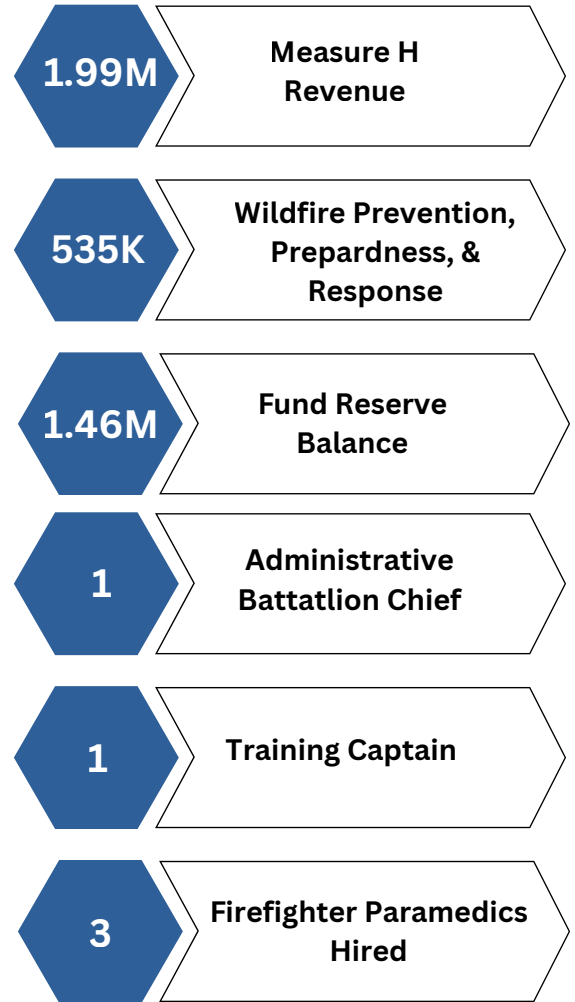
**Station 11 - Aviation Division
2023**

MEASURE H

FUNDS APPLICATION

The Sonoma County Fire District's Measure H Annual Report outlines how funds from the voter-approved sales tax were received and used during the FY 2024-2025 reporting period. The district received approximately \$1.99 million in revenue, with about \$535,000 spent primarily on personnel costs related to wildfire prevention, preparedness, and emergency response. The remaining funds, totaling roughly \$1.46 million, were placed into a designated Measure H fund for future use. Key staffing additions included a Training Captain, an Administrative Battalion Chief, and three Firefighter Paramedics, all aimed at improving training capacity, recruitment efforts, and frontline emergency response.

Measure H fund also highlights forward-looking investments and planning efforts, particularly in capital improvements and service expansion. The district has begun implementing a Facilities Master Plan, prioritizing the replacement of Guerneville Station 9 and Larkfield Station 2, with land acquisition and planning already underway. The district emphasizes the Measure H funds are being used to enhance overall operations, including staffing increases and long-term infrastructure improvements. No major changes in service demand were identified and future efforts will focus on hiring additional personnel, advancing station construction projects, and strategically allocating remaining funds to strengthen fire protection and emergency services across the district.



Total Measure H Revenue in 2025: \$1,994,235.18



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Conforms with District Strategic Plan
- Increases service delivery to the public
- Enhances diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging in public outreach and education
- Aligns ongoing expenses with ongoing revenue
- Invests in the Districts critical infrastructure- Staffing, Apparatus and Facilities
- Invests in the wellness of the district’s employees
- Strategic, minimal use of the district’s reserves
- Utilizes conservative approaches to allow the district to position for economic unknowns
- Leverages available grant funding
- Maximizes partnerships with our non-profit partner organizations

REVENUE		
Property Taxes	\$23,526,808	55.25%
Grants and Donations	\$213,750	0.50%
Fees for Services	\$4,313,098	10.13%
Intergovernmental Revenue/Agreements	\$9,762,991	22.93%
Other	\$4,764,846	11.19%
Totals	\$42,581,493	100%
2025-2026 Use of Fund Balances	\$1,886,114	
EXPENSES		
Staffing Costs	\$30,046,457	70.96%
Services and Supplies (Annual costs of facility and apparatus maintenance, equipment, safety clothing, uniforms, fire station utilities, fuel, training, dispatch costs, professional services, information technology, employee wellness and general office expenses.)	\$4,814,671	11.37%
Long Term Debt	\$1,351,237	3.19%
Apparatus and Facility Capital Improvements	\$6,130,280	14.48%
Totals	\$42,342,645	100%

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



163

Community Events



12 ~1250 PEOPLE

Community & Business
Fire Extinguisher
Trainings



10 ~1350 PEOPLE

Hands Only Community
CPR Trainings



APPARATUS SPOTLIGHT



SPECIAL OPERATIONS

The Sonoma County Fire District's Special Operations teams are equipped and trained to handle complex and high-risk emergencies. Our Swift Water Rescue teams, boats, and jet skis are deployed along the Russian River, ensuring rapid and effective response to water-related incidents, including rescues during floods and swift currents.

In Bodega Bay, Fire Boat Integrity serves as a vital asset for ocean rescue, firefighting, and emergency medical response. These specialized resources, combined with highly trained personnel, enable the District to protect lives and property in diverse and challenging environments, reflecting our commitment to community safety and operational excellence.

Our Special Operations resources have responded to multiple emergency incidents and we have been able to provide additional response capabilities by upstaffing additional crews during extreme weather events and for the opening of recreational crab and salmon fishing seasons.

- Swift Water Rescue
- Ocean Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- Low/High Angle Rope Rescue
- USAR (Urban Search and Rescue)
- Fire Boat
- Air Operations



AIR OPERATIONS

SONOMA COUNTY 1

Based at Charles M. Shultz Sonoma County Airport



Our helicopter partnership with REACH, Sonoma County-1, provides a rapid response to medical emergencies, fires, and search and assist missions. It can also provide aerial reconnaissance for multiple types of emergencies. Equipped for firefighting and high-level medical transport, Sonoma County-1 enhances the District's ability to respond quickly and effectively to emergencies in challenging and remote areas throughout our territory and other areas within the County. This partnership underscores the District's commitment to innovative solutions and comprehensive emergency preparedness and response for the communities we serve.



RECRUIT ACADEMY 25-1 & 25-2



VOLUNTEERS

3 Apprentice Firefighters

How Many: **39** Volunteer Firefighters **9** Support Volunteers



EXPLORERS **FUTURE FIREFIGHTERS**

Exploerer Achievements:

- Graduated 5 explorers from the CFEA (California Fire Exploring Association) fire academy in north Las Vegas
- 1 Explorer to the Apprentice Program
- Brought on 11 new explorers in the spring of 25
- Total of 19 explorers throughout the year
- Maintained chain of command system with 1 chief and 2 captains
- Branched out to the whole county and welcomed explorers from Monte Rio, Forestville, Petaluma, and Sebastopol
- Completed over 200 hours of training
- Visited SOCO 1, Henry 1, and REDCOM
- Welcomed parents of new explorers to a Q and A session
- Hosted an Auto Extrication night at Station 7

Public Events Explorers Assisted:

- Scott Hall Funeral (Berkeley fire)
- Mothers Day pancake breakfast
- 1401 toys for kids program
- Guy Fieri Foundation toy collection at Wal Mart Windsor
- SCFD open houses
- Windsor day parade
- Sonoma County college and career fair at Windsor High
- SCFD badge pinning events
- Annual Forestry crabfeed



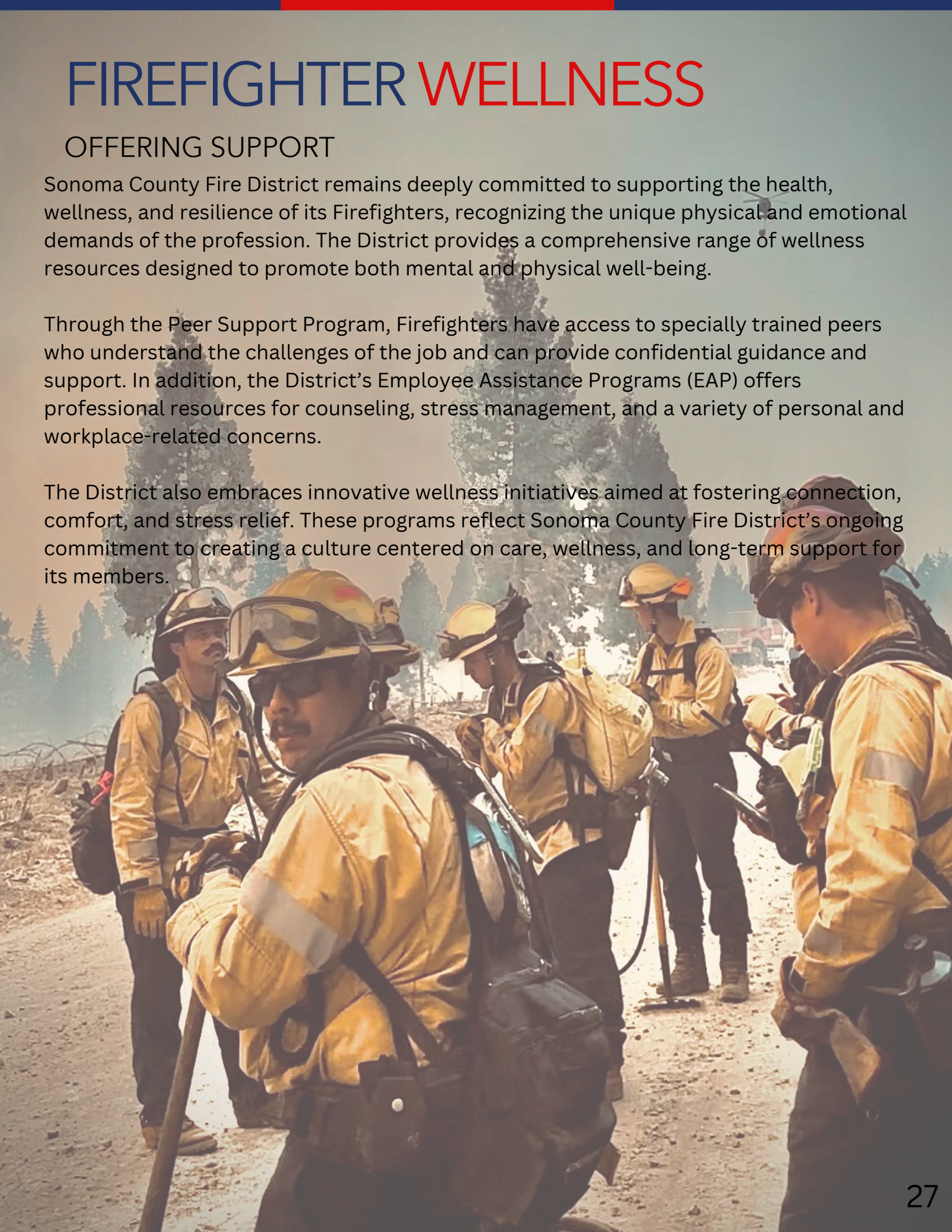
FIREFIGHTER WELLNESS

OFFERING SUPPORT

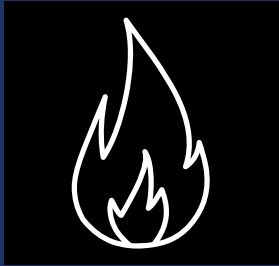
Sonoma County Fire District remains deeply committed to supporting the health, wellness, and resilience of its Firefighters, recognizing the unique physical and emotional demands of the profession. The District provides a comprehensive range of wellness resources designed to promote both mental and physical well-being.

Through the Peer Support Program, Firefighters have access to specially trained peers who understand the challenges of the job and can provide confidential guidance and support. In addition, the District's Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) offers professional resources for counseling, stress management, and a variety of personal and workplace-related concerns.

The District also embraces innovative wellness initiatives aimed at fostering connection, comfort, and stress relief. These programs reflect Sonoma County Fire District's ongoing commitment to creating a culture centered on care, wellness, and long-term support for its members.

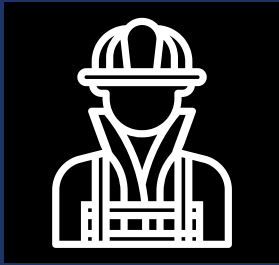


TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS



FIRE SERVICES

- Enhanced service throughout the District
- Increased Community Outreach/Life Safety Risk Reduction Programs
- Increased Special Operations in the river and ocean



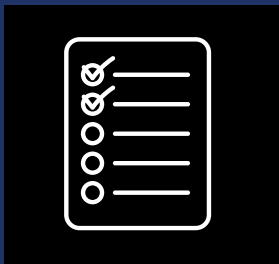
STAFFING ADDITIONS

- Transitioned to new Fire Chief
- Strengthened Firefighter Paramedic Program
- Added EMS and Training Captain
- Continued to Grow-Our-Own Program hiring two from SCFD-EMS



FLEET ENHANCEMENTS

- New type 3 engines - Larkfield & Bennet Valley
- New type 6 engine - Guerneville
- Ordered new type 1 engine
- Ordered new ladder truck
- Increased support vehicle program
- Established funding for fleet repair program



LONG TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Recruitment & Retention
- Firefighter Health & Wellness
- Fiscal Sustainability with long-range planning
- Career Succession
- Using Measure H funds
- Consolidation of additional districts

SCFD 2025 PROMOTIONS

FIRE CHIEF

Ron Busch

DEPUTY CHIEF

Matt Windrem - Deputy Chief of Operations

DIVISION CHIEF

Michael Franceschi - Division of Safety & Training
David Bynum - Division of EMS

CAPTAIN

Jason Clopton - EMS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

HONORING DEDICATED SERVICE

RETIREMENTS Mark Heine, Fire Chief
Rob Bisordi, Division Chief of Administration
Sean Grinnell, Division Chief of Safety & Training
Josh Nultemeier, Volunteer
Ray Hill, Volunteer

30 YEARS Shawn Johnson, Battalion Chief
Pat Mills, Captain

25 YEARS Ron Busch, Fire Chief
Ryan Estes, Battalion Chief
Sid Andreis, Captain

20 YEARS Eliseo Gonzales, Captain
Travis Wood, Captain
Chuck Franceschi, Engineer
Miguel Inong, Engineer
James Deurloo, Volunteer

15 YEARS Jason Clopton, EMS Captain
Stephano Mercieca, Captain
Lou Stoerzinger, Captain
Jayson Dooyes, Engineer
Erich Engle, Engineer
Spencer Hansen, Engineer
Josh Menzies, Firefighter / Paramedic
David Tuttle, Firefighter / Paramedic
Chris Taeuffer, Firefighter
Don Fowler, Volunteer

10 YEARS Andrew Tognozzi, Engineer
Jennifer Lemelin, Volunteer

5 YEARS Kris Hawkes, Captain
Alex Leason, Firefighter / Paramedic
Ryan Vincent, Firefighter / Paramedic
Tiffany Leo, Accounting Technician

PROUDLY SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES

Bodega Bay, Bellevue, Bennett Valley, Forestville,
Guerneville, Larkfield, Mountain, Rincon Valley, Windsor





SONOMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT
2025 ANNUAL REPORT

8200 OLD REDWOOD HWY. WINDSOR, CA 95492
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES 707-838-1170
911 FOR EMERGENCY

sonomacountyfd.org

