

DeSoto County Fire Rescue



2009-10 Annual Report



Mission Statement:

To protect lives and property of the citizens and visitors of DeSoto County, by providing the highest level of service in Fire Suppression, Fire Prevention Education, Emergency Medical Services and Incident Mitigation.



Fire Chief
Glenn H. Prescott



Letter from the Chief

It is once again my privilege to report the accomplishments and efforts of the department for fiscal year 2009-2010. We must positively reflect on our hard work throughout the year, possibly even brag a little. It has been a challenge to continue to provide a higher level of service during these financially troubling times, but with the combined efforts of you we have consistently upheld our commitment to the residents and visitors of DeSoto County. I would like to personally thank each and every one of you for your contributions throughout the year. I realize that all of us at times are working beyond our scope of expertise in order to continue to move forward and it has not been unrecognized. Every additional effort provides some type of cost savings and overall will assist us in accomplishing our goal.

As every year has shown call volume continues to increase. This year was no different, we responded to 3616 emergency calls; an increase of 48 calls over last year. I know it may not appear to be much of an increase, but in broader view of our situation this is an increase of 206 calls since the merger with no additional personnel. According to the National Average for Rural Communities recommendation of 1.67 firefighters per 1,000 in population DeSoto County should employ 54 line personnel. I will continue to attempt to reduce our deficit as funding and economic situations improve.

The grant markets have also taken a slight downturn, but we were able to successfully obtain some great equipment (thanks Monica). We acquired a Smart Stat Manikin, two additional Auto Pulses, and six Auto Vents with advanced capabilities to further improve our service delivery. We were also successful in obtaining an AFG grant that would enhance our communications system; unfortunately requirements beyond our control have not allowed the implementation of this system. This system should be in place possibly sometime in the summer of 2011. We attempted to obtain personnel through the Safer Grant, however we were unsuccessful. We will re-apply and hope to obtain it next year. Funding opportunities are continually sought to enhance and improve our resources.

Station 4 is underway and the anticipated completion time is April 2011. I would like to thank all of you who utilized their talents and skills to assist in the fruition of this project as it was greatly needed. It was an immense commitment by the Board of County Commissioners to support this project in these economic times. This station will provide a great benefit to the residents of DeSoto County and provide us with a much needed station to efficiently operate from.

Public education continues to expand yearly. It has been a very active year, it is apparent the dangers that are unnoticed on a daily basis are being realized and more schools, businesses, daycares and facilities are requesting training events, literature or special public speaking. We are making a tremendous impact in our community through awareness and prevention. Prom Promise was a huge success, we had more participation from other agencies and the actors were great. I realize it is difficult to provide these additional services while maintaining emergencies as our top priority. Constant community awareness will continue to make all our extra efforts worthwhile.

This fiscal year has already shown us a glimpse of what is yet to come. We have already surpassed last year's call volume by 107 calls to date. Keep in mind with increased call volume comes greater risks. Your safety is my primary concern, keep an eye out for your partners and this will ensure that everyone goes home.

It has been my pleasure to report the accomplishments and efforts of DeSoto County Fire Rescue for year 2009-2010. I look forward to even greater accomplishments next year.

Sincerely,

Glenn H. Prescott

Fire Chief



Medical Director
Dr. Steven Mishkind



Training Officer
LT. Joseph E. Walker



Letter from Training Division

This year has been a transitional year for the training division. Beginning February we moved our offices from the Fire Department (Sta.1) to our new facility on Roan Street which clearly identified the need for records consolidation and overhaul. The Fire Department leadership was instrumental to this move and continued to provide quality training to the crews as usual.

Some of the training that was completed over the last year is as follows and it encompassed the entire department.

1. The Florida "Safe Haven" for babies program.
2. ICS for the responder (IS 100, 200, 300).
3. The National Seatbelt Pledge.
4. The University of Arizona's "MRSA" for first responders.
5. In service training for the use of the "bougie" advanced airway adjunct.
6. All Children's Hospital's "NRP" neonatal resuscitation program/certification.
7. FFP 2111 Fire Chemistry course (40 hours Florida State Fire College).
8. Completion and a consolidation of the fire department immunization records (on file).

Our department has successfully recertified all EMT and Paramedics for this license cycle completing just over 31 hours of certifiable medical director approved course work. The upcoming recertification programs are already underway as the entire fire department has just completed the AHA CPR for health care providers and other required training is prepared and ready for scheduled delivery. The upcoming year looks promising in terms of training for the fire department as well as the community.

Sincerely,

Lt. Joseph E. Walker

Training officer

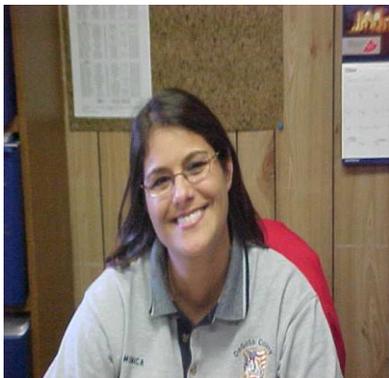


Administration



Office Manager

Sally Taylor



Administrative Assistant

Monica Allison



Administrative Assistant

Sally Knight



Chief Prescott,

This past fiscal year we billed out \$1,008, 292.00 in ambulance billing. We have collected \$630,184.91 in EMS fees. This is a decrease from last years' money. Total call volume for 09-10 was 3551. The prior year's call volume was 3503. We had an increase of 48 calls for the year.

This year, we wished Leslie the best, when she left us and went back to the Building and Permit Dept. We welcomed Sally Knight from DeSoto Life, to our department. She replaced Leslie's position as Administrative Assistant.

We have Dr. Mishkind, once again, as our Medical Director. Go Doc Go!

We received two new Auto Pulses, 6 new Auto Vent 4000, the Smart Stat Manikin, 1 new Power Pro Ambulance Stretcher. I would like to say a special "Kudos" to Monica. Monica has done a great job taking over the grants.

We also have received the Communication Grant from AFG. This grant is still in process of being completed. It is in the amount of \$80,000.00, it is a 90/10 grant. They give 90% of the cost (\$72,000.00) and we have to pay the remaining 10% (\$8,000.00).

And again, Monica, Sally Knight and I wanted to "THANK-YOU" each and everyone of our dedicated employees for a job well-done in patient care and training. You guys/gals are awesome!! Keep up the good work.

And I want to say a very special "Thank-you" to all of you, from the bottom of my heart, for the caring people that you are. This year was difficult with the loss of my step-sons. I couldn't ask for a better group of people to work with. Be smart. Be safe.

Sincerely,

Sally Taylor
Secretary/Office Manager



**Fire Inspector
Juanita Gaitan**



“A” Shift





Letter from A-shift

Dear Chief Prescott:

As of the writing of this letter there are changes happening all around us, one of those major changes is the development of a new station. This poses a logistical problem in itself as we will not be adding any more new personnel to the roster as of yet. Where the apparatuses and the equipment are concerned we should be alright. Anytime you add something like a new station to a department there will be questions that need to be answered and problems that will arise. But if we all work together we can adapt, improvise and overcome any situation that this next year will throw at us. Standing together we will prevail.

While being dedicated to the department, the people we serve, and each other, we have strived to maintain the skills necessary to keep this department the best that it can be. Just a sample of the subjects that we covered last year are: Neonatal Resuscitation, Safe Heaven program, Aerial Apparatus, Fire Chemistry, too many FEMA classes to mention, daily training. We also have taken all the recertification classes to maintain our EMT and Paramedic certificates such as CPR, ACLS, PALS, EVOC, several of the shift members took extra classes to maintain their Instructor Level certification in these classes as well.

With the help of Tom Beilstein leading the way to educate the community (especially our school aged kids) in fire safety we have been backing him every step of the way. We have spent a number of hours in the schools and the community educating them on fire safety and other health safety issues; this has been a huge success with the public.

Not only is the example that is listed above as a confirmation of the dedication that this shift offers we are also proud to have two shift members that were the recipients of the "EMS Provider of the Year" award. That honor went to Josh Bair and Dustin Taylor. Congratulations to Gerald Romine, for he is now a state certified paramedic. New to the scene is Louis Chieffo, we welcome him aboard.

The daily life in the Fire and EMS service would not be complete without the vehicles and their maintenance. This is a task that we have not taken lightly, although it has been very trying at times we have made time to complete repairs and coordinate with the county shop to have the trucks sent to the proper places for the necessary repairs. We all understand that the department as a whole has a responsibility to help maintain these trucks and we appreciate the work that other shifts have done and will look forward to the help in the future.

With a full plate already we still did our part with station maintenance, hydrants, hose testing and the annual tests of the fire pumps. We will continue to work with the other shifts to provide our knowledge and help to make this a better facility.

Sincerely,

Capt. Sweeting



Captain H. Sweeting



Lieutenant J. Rinaldi



EMT/FF K. Lewis



Firemedic T. Beilstein



Firemedic L. Taylor



Firemedic K. Simcic



Firemedic K. Logan



Firemedic C. Boggess



Firemedic J. Bair



Firemedic G. Romine



Firemedic M. Downs



EMT/FF L. Chieffo



EMT/FF C.W. McLeod



“B” Shift





Letter from B-shift

Chief Prescott,

Well here we are at the end of another fiscal year. Where does the time go? It seems like just yesterday you and I were young pups with the world at our feet. Today we are the old goats that must ensure the proper guidance and safety of the new pups in our department. Please allow me to take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your caring attitude, commitment to us, guidance, and long hours you put in to assure that DeSoto County Fire Rescue is the best that it can be. We on B-shift cannot imagine going through these incredibly trying times and faltering economy with anyone but you as our leader. Thank you.

This has been an eventful year for us on B-shift. We have lost personnel and gained personnel but as long as our surrounding counties continue to pay higher the trend will continue.

I am blessed with a shift that cares deeply for this department. I guarantee you if a piece of equipment or apparatus could be repaired in house this group of men would be right on it. These guys understand today's economy and the importance of saving monies, if we could make it, build it, or repair it, B-shift did.

Training continues to be a high priority on our shift. In order to provide the highest level of service to the citizens and visitors of DeSoto County we must continually train. We must learn new techniques and keep abreast of the changing technologies in our field. B-shift has made a commitment to be constantly trained to the high level of performance and skill that you have come to expect from us. Working with the knowledgeable persons surrounding our department like, Dr. Mishkind, Lt. Walker, Clayton Boggess and outside sources this can easily be accomplished.

We are proud to be part of DeSoto County Fire Rescue. We are committed to you as our leader and the goals of our department and county as a whole.

Thank you,

Captain William Walker & B-shift



Captain W. Walker



Lieutenant D. Robinson



Firemedic K. Johnson



Firemedic S. Lucey



Firemedic B. Solomon



Firemedic F. Rebella



Firemedic K. Baker



Firemedic B. Hutchison



Firemedic J. Johnson



Firemedic B. Hogan



Firemedic J. Wilcoxon



EMT/FF R. Tumbleston



Firemedic Q. Birge



EMT/FF K. Markey



EMT/FF J. Rinaldi



“C” Shift





Letter from C-shift

Chief Prescott

Thank you for another outstanding year. Working here has been the best job I have ever had. In giving a quick report about my shift, I must start out with that we have hired four new men this year, Jerod Jones, Matt Gouge, Jonathan Waters and Spencer Capitano. These men are coming along well and I am very proud of their hard work and dedication. On our shift we have those with 20 years experience and some just getting started. We believe our shift has a strong work ethic and work together to accomplish daily training and shift assignments.

This year has been a trying one. Our County Administrator has conducted several meetings to reassure us on the strong commitment the County has to keep our personnel untouched. We would like to thank Jan and the Commissioners for that. Jan and Chief Prescott have shown calm leadership in getting us through the last year. We are now looking forward to next year and the good things it will bring.

We have again surpassed our goal on shift training. We have had shift training on pump operations, triage, extrication, CPR, ACLS, and brush truck driving to brush fire fighting. With four new men, it has been as usual, we train them then they move on to another department that pays more. That has been the situation from the beginning. Surrounding departments love to get our men because we have the best trained men in Florida. Some of that is the training, other factors are they get to see more and handle more responses because of the size of our department. Together with our hiring of good men, make us a perfect training camp for others. As I have said, we have had this going on since I have been here. I am sure it is a problem for all small Counties as well as for us. We will continue to hire and train good men. That is just what we do.

It would not be a good report if I did not mention the men and women who make C shift the best shift in the county. So let me just start off with that we have some of the best men and women anywhere. At Station One we have Tim Alley, Darren Lally, Matt Gouge, Spencer Capitano and Jerod Jones. At Station Two we have Lt. Dan Wells, Matt Connours, Tammy Baker and Wade Beasley. At Station Three we have Ricky Wood, Randy Hipp, and Jonathan Waters. All the men work well together and train hard together. Tim Alley and Darren Lally passed their Instructor One. We are very proud of these men and know that the future shows a lot of hope.

Let's work together and make this year the best year ever.

Thank You,

Dan Collins

Captain "C" Shift



Captain D. Collins



Lieutenant D. Wells



Firemedic R. Wood



Firemedic L. Wells



Firemedic T. Baker



Firemedic T. Alley



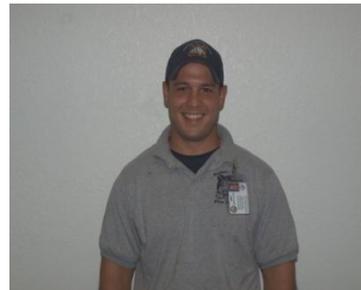
EMT/FF W. Beasley



Firemedic D. Lally



Firemedic R. Hipp



Firemedic M. Connours



Firemedic S. Capitano



Firemedic J. "Cookie" Jones



Firemedic J. Waters



EMT/FF M. Gouge



DeSoto County Firefighter Paramedic Tim Alley brings home his brother after 38 Years

May 4, 2010 - Tim Alley flew to Hawaii to bring home a brother he never knew except in photos and stories told by his Father, Sgt James Harold Alley was Killed on a Mission when the Jolly Green Giant Helicopter he was in was shot down in Vietnam on April 6, 1972 trying to rescue Colonel Iceal (Bat 21) Hambleton. Returning to Fort Myers FL, on May 7 being lead by numerous Law Enforcement Depts. And the Patriot Guard following their return to Arcadia. May 8 was an out pouring of support for a hero. Funeral line up stretched out for a mile and a half. DeSoto County Tower 10 displaying the Colors at the Cemetery, Full Military Honors and a fly over, Sgt James Harold Alley was laid to rest between his Father and Grandfather. Welcome home James, Rest with God.

From 1st Responder Broadcast Network.

By Lt. John Rinaldi, Correspondent



Sgt James Harold Alley





DCFR help in the Homecoming of Sgt. James Harold Alley





DCFR Remembers Fallen Hero's on 9/11.



Never Forget 9/11



DCFR Personnel Help Promote Fire Prevention in DeSoto County Schools.





DCFR helps show DeSoto County High School the aftermath of drinking and driving at Prom Promise.





DCFR Personnel and DCSO help save the lives at the scene of a downed airplane.





DCFR Training





DCFR also helped out Jerry's kids with a
MDA Boot Drive.



We collected \$5,534!



Even Super Heros get old.



Happy 50th Birthday!!!

Sally Taylor

Lt. Tony Rinaldi

Lt. Duke Robinson

Lt. Joe Walker



Public Safety

First Unit Arrival Response Time Analysis

Response Times

Min.	Count	Percentage
< 01	101	3.8%
1	64	2.4%
2	164	6.2%
3	264	10.0%
4	368	14.0%
5	344	13.1%
6	293	11.2%
7	217	8.2%
8	190	7.2%
9	151	5.7%
10	113	4.3%
11	70	2.6%
12	61	2.3%
13	65	2.4%
14	35	1.3%
15	33	1.2%
16	21	0.8%
17	22	0.8%
18	10	0.3%
19	9	0.3%
20	2	0.0%
21	3	0.1%
22	3	0.1%
23	2	0.0%

Overall Average Response Time: 03:11:18



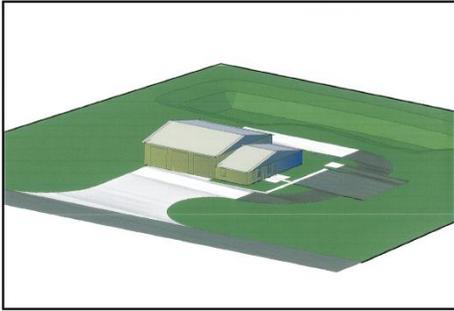
Total calls

Year to Date

• Emergency Ambulance	2,441
• DOA	46
• Vehicle Accidents	286
• Non-Emergency	0
• Out of County	0
• Ambulance Standby	42
• Brush Fires	115
• Vehicle Fires	27
• Haz Mat Incidents	18
• Structure Fire	49
• Standby Fires	8
• Fire Investigation	328
• Cancelled In Route	59
• Mis-numbered	2
• Aid & Assists	130
• Helicopters	65
Total Calls	3,616



FIRE STATION 4



DeSoto County Fire Rescue

The average age of vehicles is 16 yrs old

Truck	PS #	Year	Make	Model	Tag	Engine	Wt. in Tons	HP	Fuel	Mileage
E-10	2004-32	2004	E-One	Typhoon	221914	CM 850	19.13	370	Diesel	42,635
E-20	2006-68	1999	Freightliner	Pierce	TA0958	8.3 L	17.47		Diesel	40,336
E-21	2006-69	1990	Pierce	Dash D 800	94376	3208T	16.11	250	Diesel	51,810
E-30	1966	1997	Ford	F Series	123056	8.3 L	13.71	265	Diesel	40,723
E-31	2006-73	1984	Mack	Ward Limited	33827	8.8 L	14.25	210	Diesel	54,547
E-20	2010-01	1991	E-One	Pro Custom	TB7201	6 L	15.16		Diesel	12,257
T-10	1970	1998	Ford	F Series	123058	8.3 L	16.52	265	Diesel	19,780
T-20	1621	1994	Ford	L 8000	123022	8.3 L	22.54	250	Diesel	30,084
T-30	2006-72	1990	Mack		44378		29.17	350	Diesel	8,501
B-1	2008-28	2008	Ford	F-350	138390	6.4 L	6.36		Diesel	93,960
B-2	600	1986	Ford	F-350	TA2725	460 CID	5.40	325	Gas	57,521
B-10	DOF	1969	6x6	5-Ton	ACS29524	Cummins 855	16.06	350	Diesel	7,043
B-11	DOF	1987	6x6	M35A2C	ACS27676	White	10.28	140	Diesel	15,667
B-21	DOF	1969	6x6	5-Ton	ACS9701	Cummins 855	13.25	350	Diesel	34,946
B-31	DOF	1987	6x6	M35A2C	279581	White	9.96	140	Diesel	5,275
C-1	9901	1998	Ford	Expedition	161521	5.4 L		300	Gas	116,448
C-2	2005-42	2000	Ford	Explorer	123006	4.0 L		210	Gas	114,334
R-10	2006-86	2002	International	4300	114463	7.6 L	7.94	245	Diesel	82,394
R-11	2007-179	2008	Ford	F-350	TA4570	6.4 L	6.11		Diesel	13,432
R-20	2002-23	2002	Ford	F-350	205667	7.3 L	5.59	205	Diesel	101,671
R-21	1784	1995	Ford	F-350	123038	7.3 L	5.26	215	Diesel	121,092
R-30	2006-67	1999	International	4700	TA0954	7.3 L	7.29	190	Diesel	57,438
R-31	2005-120	2006	Ford	F-350	236019	6.0 L	5.91	325	Diesel	29,356
Utility-1	2006-95	1998	Ford	F-150	TA2719	4.6 L	2.20	239	Gas	121,328
Utility-2	2003-101	2003	Ford	F-150	217386	4.6 L	2.20	239	Gas	43,663
Bat-1	2003-103	2003	Ford	F150	217385	4.6 L	2.30	239	Gas	9,363
Tower 10	2008-13	2007	E-One	Bronto	214649	ISM 500	38.20	500	Diesel	3,500
P-1	2008-21	1998	Ford	Explorer	TB4025	4.0 L		210	Gas	106,813



DeSoto County Volunteer Fire Rescue

Chief Prescott:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to update you and our community on the progress of this department and its members. We are grateful for the outstanding support that your department, its administration and staff, the county administration, and the community continue to show us. Especially as we strive to make the relationship of these two departments better. I can speak on behalf of the members of this department when I say; we are committed to serving you and your staff to the best of our ability for nothing in return. I believe that we have a dedicated staff of men and women that are selfless with their time when they are called upon to volunteer. We have continued through this year to respond to scenes, cover apparatuses at the stations, and fill the gaps where needed. I am pleased to see that our members are actively being involved and utilized.

Through this past year we have undergone changes to the department as well as its membership. We currently have a membership of twenty trained men and women certified at minimum of First Responder ranging to Florida Certified Firefighter II/Paramedic. We are pleased to see that our volunteers are being hired as full time career personnel, as this is one of the reasons our department exists; acting as a buffer zone while members are continuing their education while becoming familiar with the Fire/EMS service as well as your department. Though this is not our only reason for existence, I can speak with confidence when I say that we do excel in this area. We have provided to you and the county, employees that are likely to be lifelong residence and servants to this community. We continue to support our men and women with school tuition, training, and values that can only help them with their service in this field. I am pleased to say that we are always striving for more training and looking forward to another Firefighter I class for our uncertified members. We have established an education fund that assists with these classes and training that can be utilized by any member upon request. Under the direction of Lt. Joe Walker and with the help of shift personnel, our training and professionalism has only increased.

I and this department continue to look forward to a bright future. With the help of your department, county administration, and the community, I feel that we can become a much more established, respected, and grounded department. It is my personal belief that support is one of our greatest assets. As we continue to strengthen our department, and in turn yours, let us focus on the support of one another, not for ourselves or the men and women of these departments, but for the broader picture that continues to be the residence of this great county. For they deserve the skills that we possess, the professionalism we've been taught, and the bravery that most envy.

Respectfully,

Jason R. Story

Secretary/Treasurer



DeSoto County Volunteer Fire Rescue

The following is a list of current officers, members, and associated certifications of personnel:

Officers:

- President William "Marty" Scott** First Responder, DOF S130 & S190
- Vice President Jeff E. Camp** First Responder, DOF S130 & S190
- Secretary/Treasurer Jason R. Story** Firefighter I, EMT, DOF S130 & S190
- Chaplin John Twohig** First Responder, DOF S130 & S190

Members:

- Robert Bush** (DOF S130 & S190)
- John McVey** (FF1/EMT)
- John Rinaldi** (Paramedic)
- Thomas Rickenbrode** (First Responder, DOF S130 & S190)
- Nick Newberry** (EMT)
- Austin Nott** (EMT)
- Jordan Deriso** (First Responder, DOF S130 & S190)
- James Rinaldi** (FF2/EMT)
- Carl King** (FF1)
- Keith Markey** (FF2/EMT)
- Matt Strube** (EMT)
- David Mills** (EMT)
- Jason Cooper** (FF2/EMT)
- Heather Cho** (EMT)
- Kevin Easton** (FF2/Paramedic)
- James Madden** (FF2/EMT)



DeSoto County Volunteer Fire Rescue



FR/DOF J. Camp



EMT/FF1 J. Story



FR/DOF J. Twohig



Paramedic J. Rinaldi



DeSoto County Volunteer Fire Rescue



EMT N. Newberry



EMT A. Nott



FF2/DOF J. Deriso



EMT/FF2 J. Cooper



Prepared by C-Shift