



# West Sacramento Fire Department



## 2021 Annual Report

# Message from the Fire Chief

On behalf of the members of the West Sacramento Fire Department, and in the effort to provide insight into our organization in a transparent and comprehensive manner, I am pleased to present our 2021 Annual Report.

While we met 2021 with great optimism and hoped to put the challenges associated with the 2020 pandemic behind us, this ultimately was not the reality that we faced. As such, although many of 2020's challenges endured, the dedication, fortitude, grace, and resilience of our personnel, in conjunction with the steadfast support from our Mayor, City Council and City Manager, enabled us to meet and overcome these adversities and continue the forward momentum of the organization. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of them and express how extremely grateful I am to be able to work with such a professional and dedicated team.

To the residents of West Sacramento, I would like to reiterate that we are here to serve you, and the respect and trust which you continue to exhibit toward us is deeply appreciated. Our goal is to provide you with unparalleled, responsible, effective, and compassionate service. We will always be there should you need us.

I hope that the information found within this annual report serves as an informative, retrospective look at our major accomplishments over the past year. As we prepare for the new year and challenges that lay ahead, know that the men and women of the West Sacramento Fire Department remain unwavering in their commitment to providing the highest level of service in the most professional, efficient, and compassionate manner possible. You deserve nothing less than the best from your Fire Department.

Respectfully yours,

Steve Binns  
Fire Chief



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# West Sacramento Fire Department 2021 Annual Report

**\$17.79 Million**

FY 20-21 Budget

**66**

Full-Time Positions

**60**

Uniform Positions

**6**

Civilian Positions

**5**

Fire Stations  
Staffed 24/7/365

**3**

Platoons / Shifts  
of Firefighters

**17**

Firefighters in each  
Platoon

**48**

Hours worked in each  
Tour of Duty

**10,592**

Calls for Service  
in 2021

**53,519**

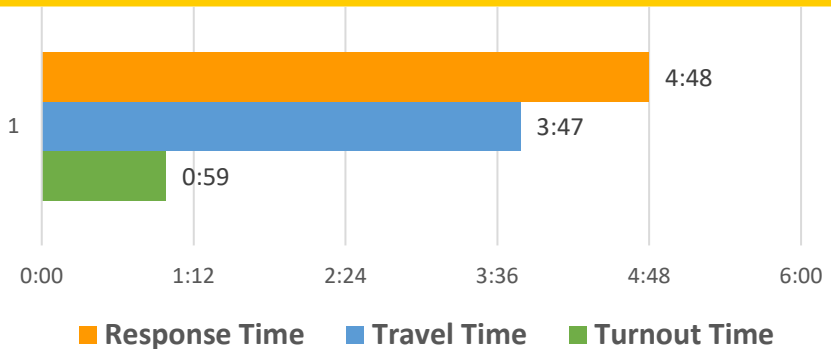
Population Served

**21.43 sq. mi.<sup>2</sup>**  
Land Area Protected

## Mission & Purpose

The West Sacramento Fire Department (WSFD) is an “all-hazard” response agency that is dedicated to protecting life, property, and the environment from fires, medical emergencies, hazardous material releases, and other natural or man-made disasters. The department accomplishes this mission through aggressive prevention, training, public education, and emergency response.

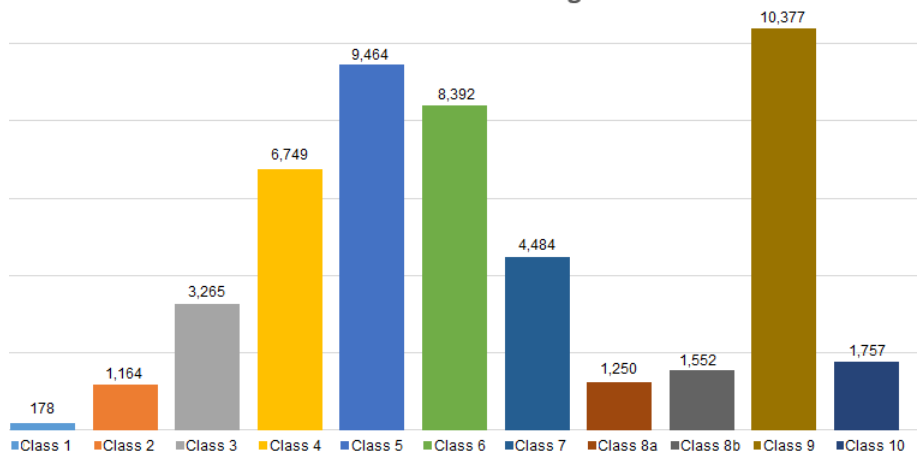
## 2021 Average Response Times



## ISO Class 1

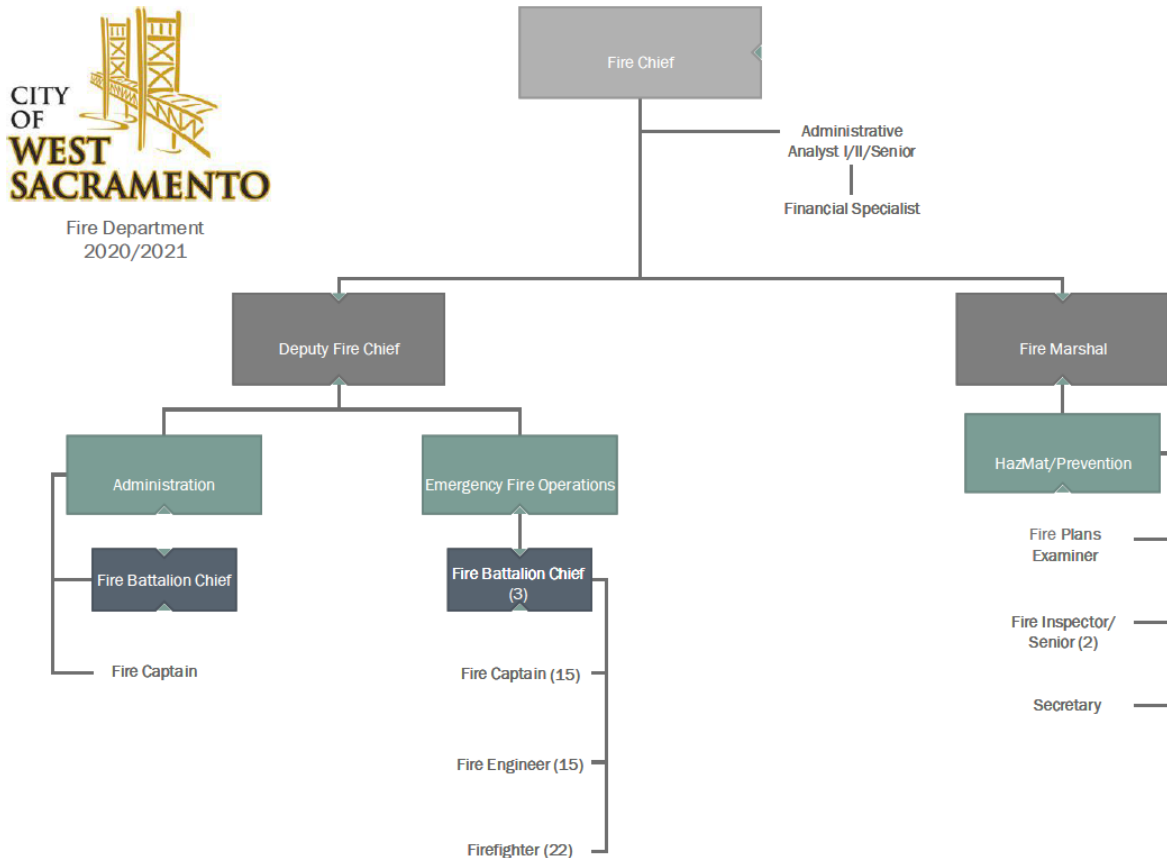
Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluates municipal fire protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. By classifying a community’s ability to suppress fires, ISO also helps the community evaluate their public fire protection services. The City of West Sacramento received a rating of “Class 1” and “1A”. This is the highest rating ISO offers and denotes superior fire protection. Of the nearly 50,000 rated cities across the nation, less than one-half of 1% of cities receive a “Class 1” rating.

Nationwide ISO Ratings



# Organizational Breakdown

The West Sacramento Fire Department has three divisions which provide a wide array of services to the community. These divisions are Fire Administration, Emergency Operations, and Community Risk Reduction (HazMat / Fire Prevention). Together we are responsible for structure fire, wildland fire, technical rescue, hazardous material, and emergency medical aid responses as well as public education, fire prevention, community preparedness and disaster response. Our goal is twofold: reduce the community risk through education, planning, and preparedness, and to mitigate all incidents safely, efficiently, and effectively.



## Administration / Personnel

The West Sacramento Fire Department is an “All Hazard” response agency committed to excellent delivery of fire services and outstanding customer service. Our greatest asset is our people. The West Sacramento Fire department has a current force of 66 dedicated and professional full-time firefighters, chief officers, and support staff. Firefighters work 48-hour tours of duty. There are three work groups called “shifts.” Our line crews are divided into three shifts of 17 firefighting personnel, including a Battalion Chief, who are on duty every day to respond to all structure fires and other major emergencies, providing Incident Command and Scene Management.

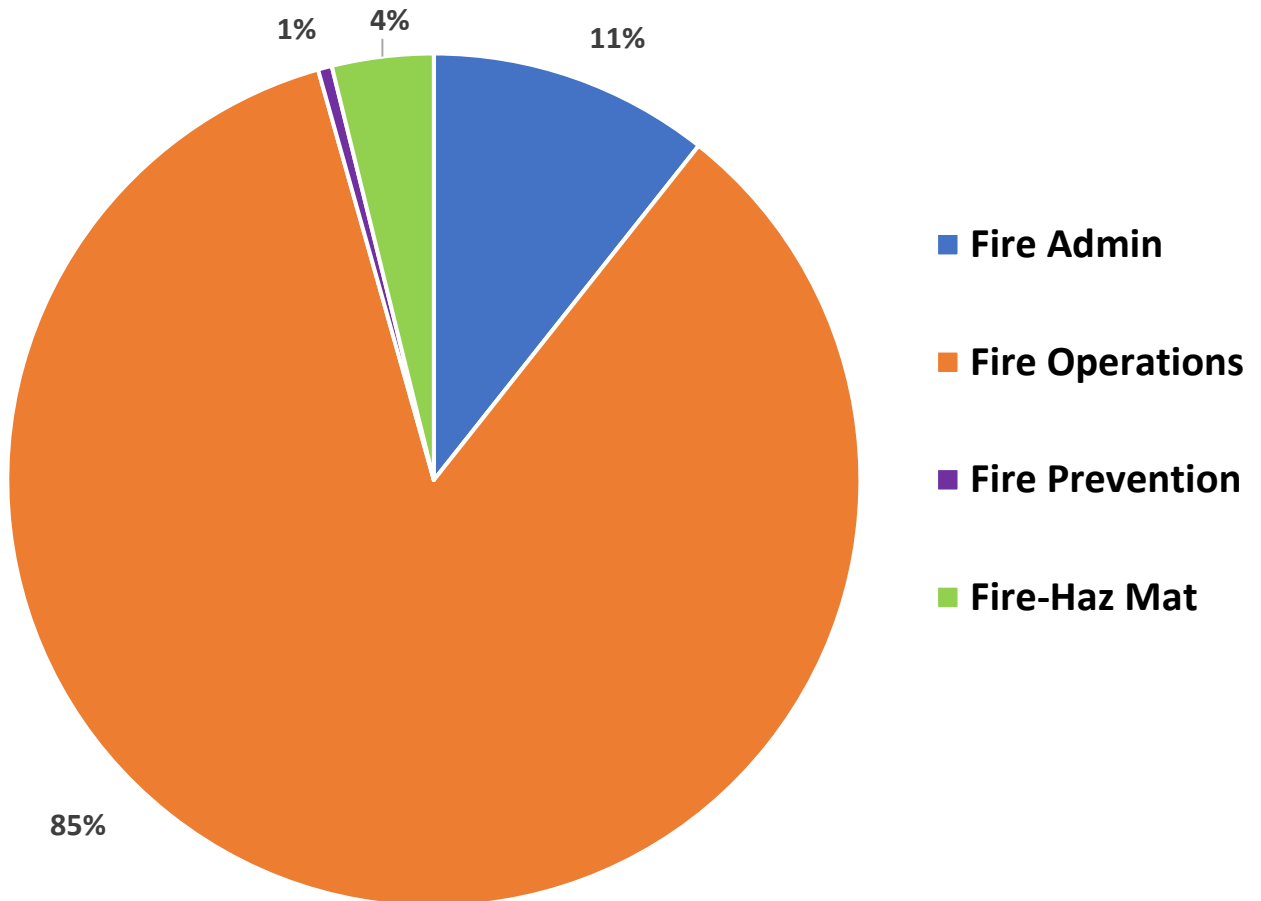
Succession planning is encouraged through a program that allows opportunities for Fire Captains to be Acting Battalion Chiefs, as well as opportunities for Battalion Chiefs to be Acting Deputy Chiefs. This program encourages professional development, provides exposure to the various responsibilities of each position, and prepares the department for the future.

# FY 2021 Fire Department Budget

The Fire Department's budget is part of the overall City budget and is approved by the City Council on a biennial basis. The City operates on a July 1 through June 30 fiscal year. The budget includes all aspects necessary for the fire department's operation including personnel, operating, and capital costs. The FY 2020/2021 adopted budget for the department was \$17,795,042.19.

The Fire Chief and Executive Staff are tasked with being the stewards of the organization's financial resources. They continually evaluate our programs and service delivery models to ensure their cost effectiveness and efficiency, but more importantly to ensure we are meeting the emergency service needs of our community and having a positive impact on people's lives. Our commitment to providing the best possible service within available funding constraints, ensures stabilized finances, enhances the delivery of essential emergency services and keeps the Department on a fiscally sustainable path moving forward.

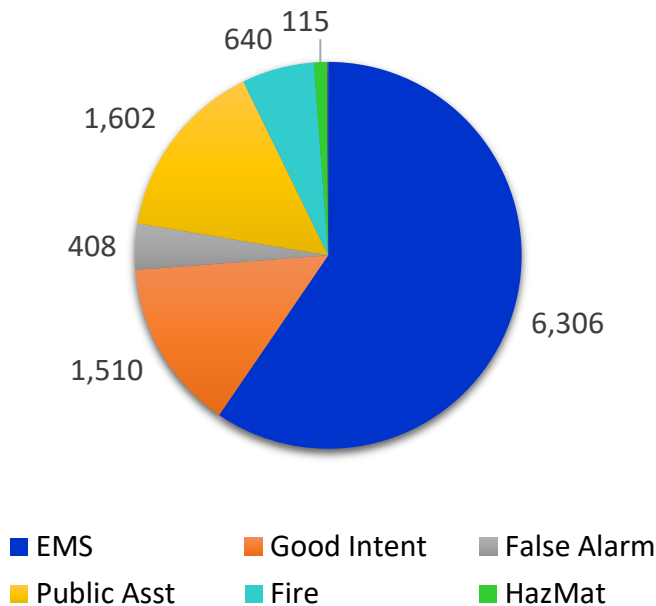
## 2021 Budget by Division



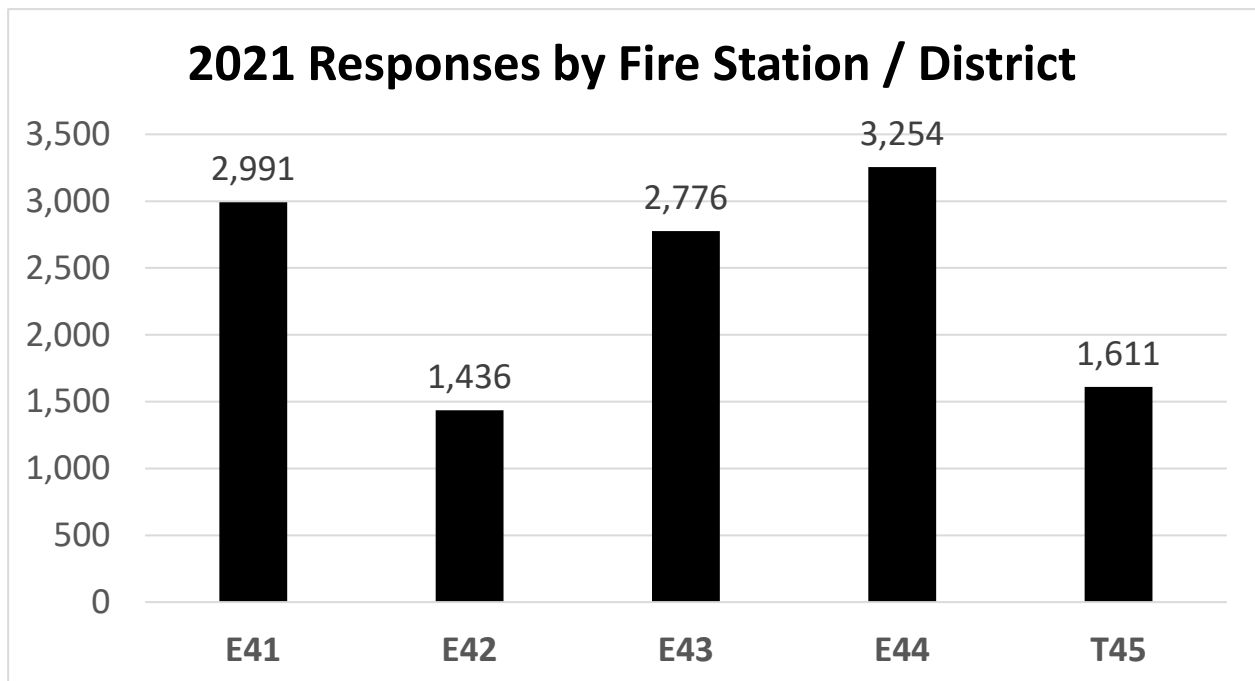
# Fire Operations – By the Numbers

Today, the Fire Department responds to a wide array of calls for service. These services constitute an “all risk” approach to community service and include medical emergencies, technical rescue, hazardous materials incidents, and of course, fire responses. The following graphic displays the wide variety of calls for service to which the department responded in 2021.

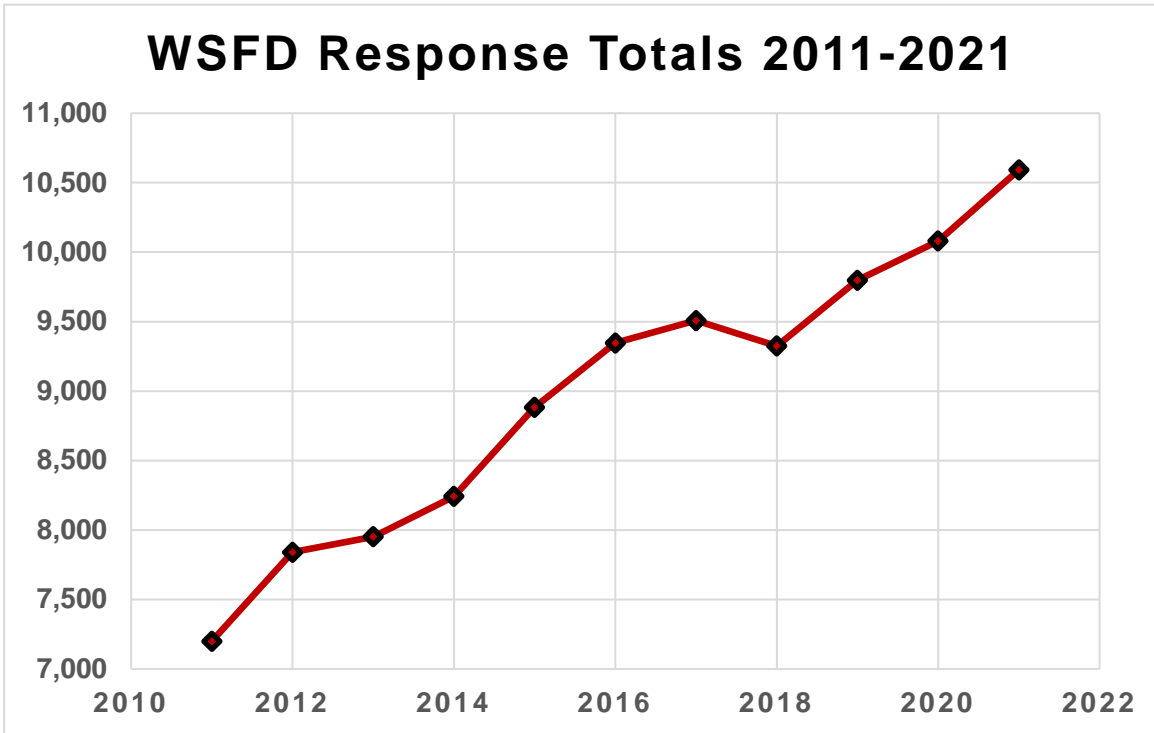
## 2021 WSFD Calls by Type



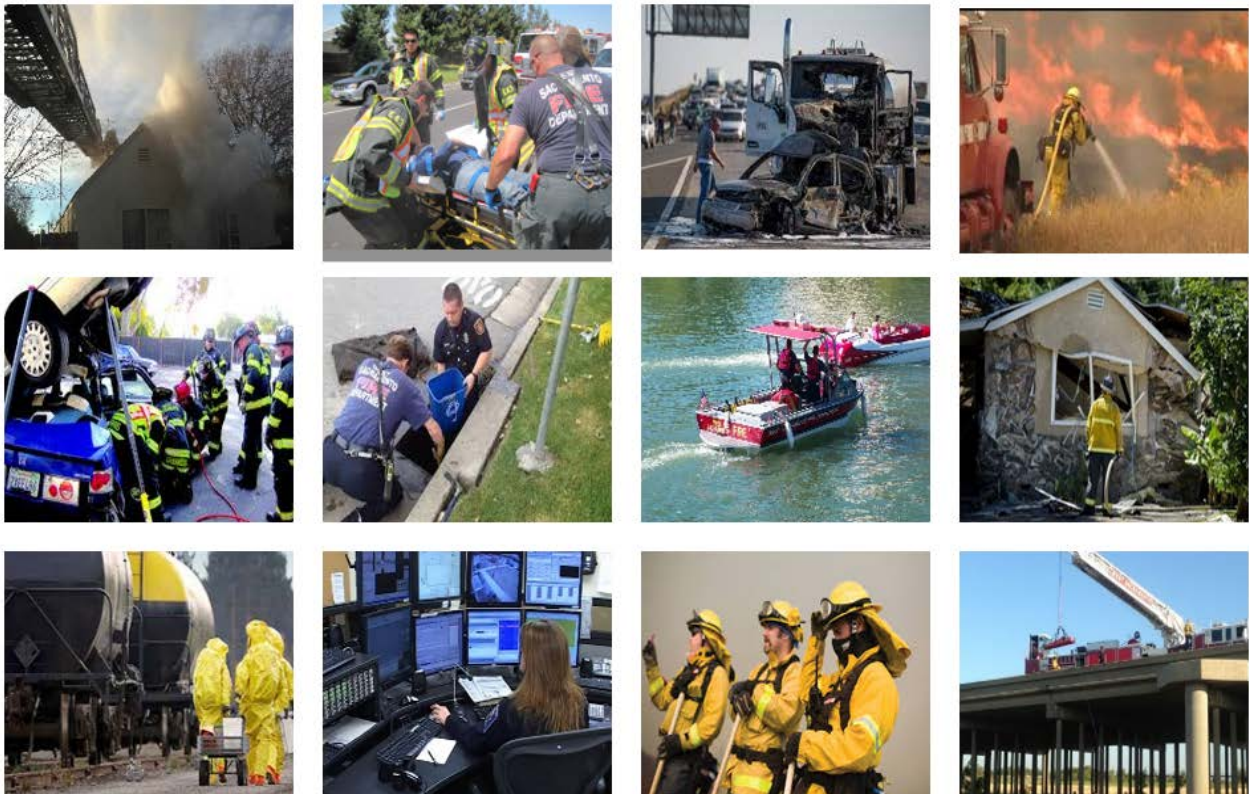
The West Sacramento Fire Department responded to a total of 10,592 calls for emergency service in 2021. The associated graphic displays how these responses are categorized by fire station location often referred to as a “first due” response area or district.



The City of West Sacramento has witnessed dramatic growth and change since incorporation as a City in 1987. To match that growth and change, the Fire Department has continued to develop and evolve to provide effective and efficient emergency response services to the citizens. The following chart displays the growth in call volume for the past decade.

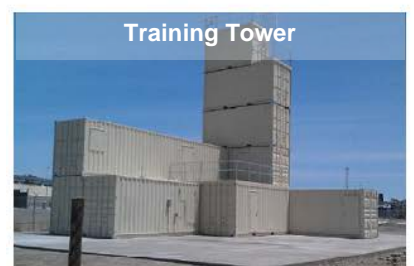
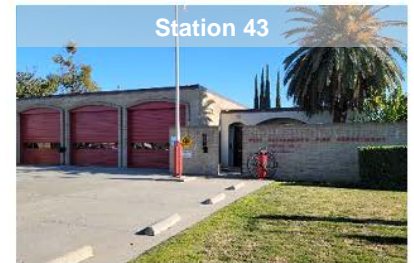
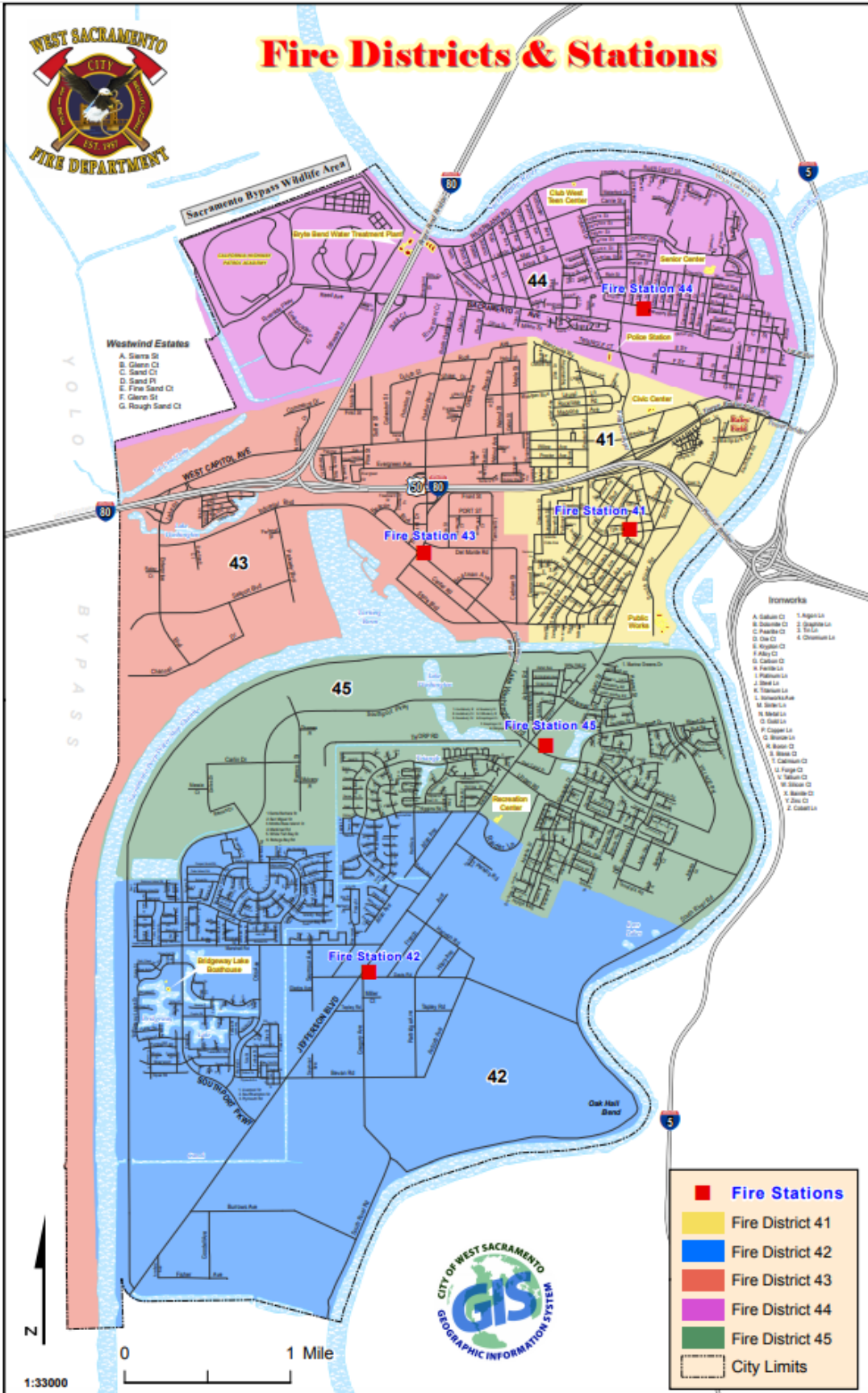


As the City of West Sacramento continues to develop, and the population continues to grow, it is likely that the Fire Department will continue to see an increased need for emergency response services throughout the community.





# Fire Station Coverage Map



# Fire Apparatus

In order to meet the evolving needs of our community, the West Sacramento Fire Department operates and maintains a variety of apparatus:

- Battalion Chief Command vehicles
- Type I Engines
- 100' Aerial Ladder Trucks

Additionally, on-duty crews cross-staff the following apparatus as needed:

- Type III Engines
- Water Tender – 2000 gallons
- Fire/Rescue Boats
- Confined Space/Technical Rescue Trailer

## Battalion Chief Command Vehicle

The on-duty Battalion Chief is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day fire department operations and is typically dispatched to take command of an incident that requires more than one Fire Department Apparatus to respond. This vehicle is equipped with communication equipment and resources needed to manage large scale emergency incidents.



## Type 1 Pumper / Engine

The fire engine is the workhorse of the fire service. It is an extremely versatile piece of equipment that enables the fire department to accomplish its mission on a daily basis. It has a 1500 gpm fire pump, carries 500 gallons of water, 2600 feet of hose, ground ladders, and EMS equipment.

## 107' Aerial Ladder Tiller Truck

The Ladder Truck is a specialized piece of apparatus that facilitates rescue and ventilation operations to elevated locations including multistory structures. The Aerial also provides an elevated water way for large scale incidents. Equipment carried on T45 include: 228' of ground ladders, 107' aerial ladder, Jaws of life, air bags, chainsaws, rotary saws, salvage and overhaul equipment, Hazardous Materials equipment, technical rope rescue equipment and lighting.



# Fire Apparatus



## Type III Engine

Type III Engines are smaller than Type I's and are primarily used for vegetation fires that are commonly found along the rivers and unincorporated areas of West Sacramento. With 4 x 4 capabilities and elevated ground clearance, Type III's can easily gain access to areas inaccessible by Type I Engines. These engines have a 500 gpm pump, carry 500 gallons of water, 2200' of hose and have the ability to pump and roll.

## Type III OES 8435

In 2015 the WSFD took delivery of OES 8435, which was purchased by the State of California but is staffed by the West Sacramento Firefighters. The Office of Emergency Services has strategically placed these resources throughout California. They are most often used on large scale wildland fires; however, they can also respond to earthquakes and other natural or man-made disasters anywhere in California. All maintenance and personnel costs incurred by the use of the apparatus are reconciled by the State of California.



## Fire/Rescue Boats

Boat 41 (pictured) responds to local waterways in and around the Sacramento Area. It's equipped with a 400 gpm fire pump, master stream device, fire hose, and water rescue equipment. Boat 43 is docked at the Port of West Sacramento. Its primary responsibility is protecting the vessels and docks located at the Port of West Sacramento. It also is equipped with a fire pump, and master stream device. Boat 43 is jointly operated with WSPD. Boat 45 is an inflatable rescue boat designed to access smaller bodies of water located throughout our city.



# Mutual Aid

The California Master Mutual Aid Agreement provides for systematic mobilization, organization, and operation of necessary fire and rescue resources that are typically committed to incidents for two-week deployments. These are commonly referred to as “Strike Teams” and are made up of five pieces of like-apparatus with a complement of four firefighters: specifically, an officer, engineer and two firefighters on each. The agreement provides reimbursement for services and resources deployed in a mutual aid capacity. In 2021, the West Sacramento Fire Department deployed resources on 11 occasions to assist with battling devastating wildfires throughout the State of California. These large fires threatened communities, critical infrastructure, and natural resources all over the state.

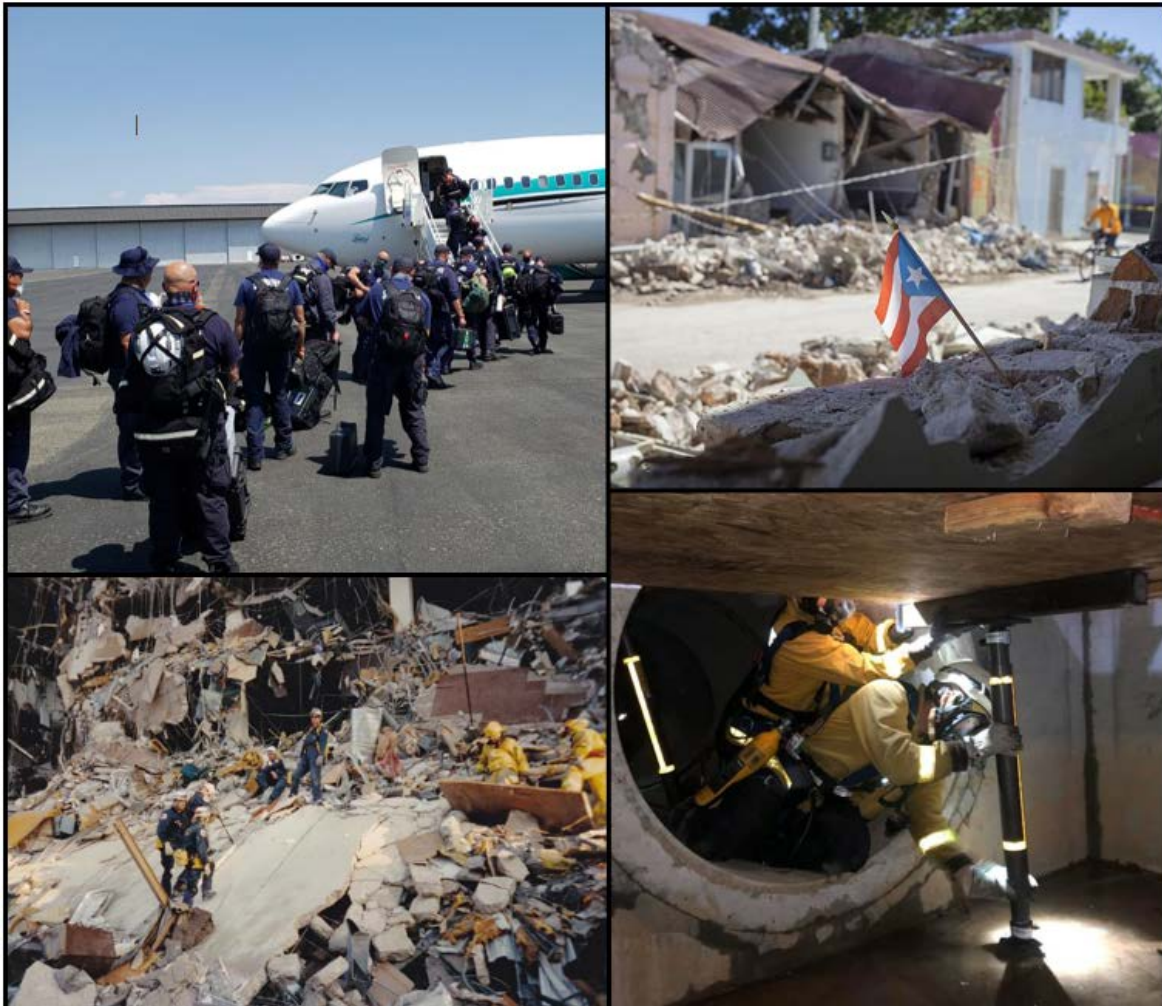


## Automatic Aid

In addition to the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, the WSFD maintains reciprocal mutual and automatic aid agreements which provide additional resources from neighboring fire departments who are automatically dispatched according to pre-determined resource matrix and/or whenever resources are needed. The WSFD presently provides and receives automatic aid with the following Fire Departments; Sacramento (SFD), Davis (DFD), Woodland (WFD), Dixon (DFD), Clarksburg (CFD), Elkhorn (EFD), and University of California at Davis (UCDFD). This multi-jurisdictional response benefits all participating departments and prepares all the cities for large scale events where the need for resources may exceed the jurisdiction's ability to provide services.

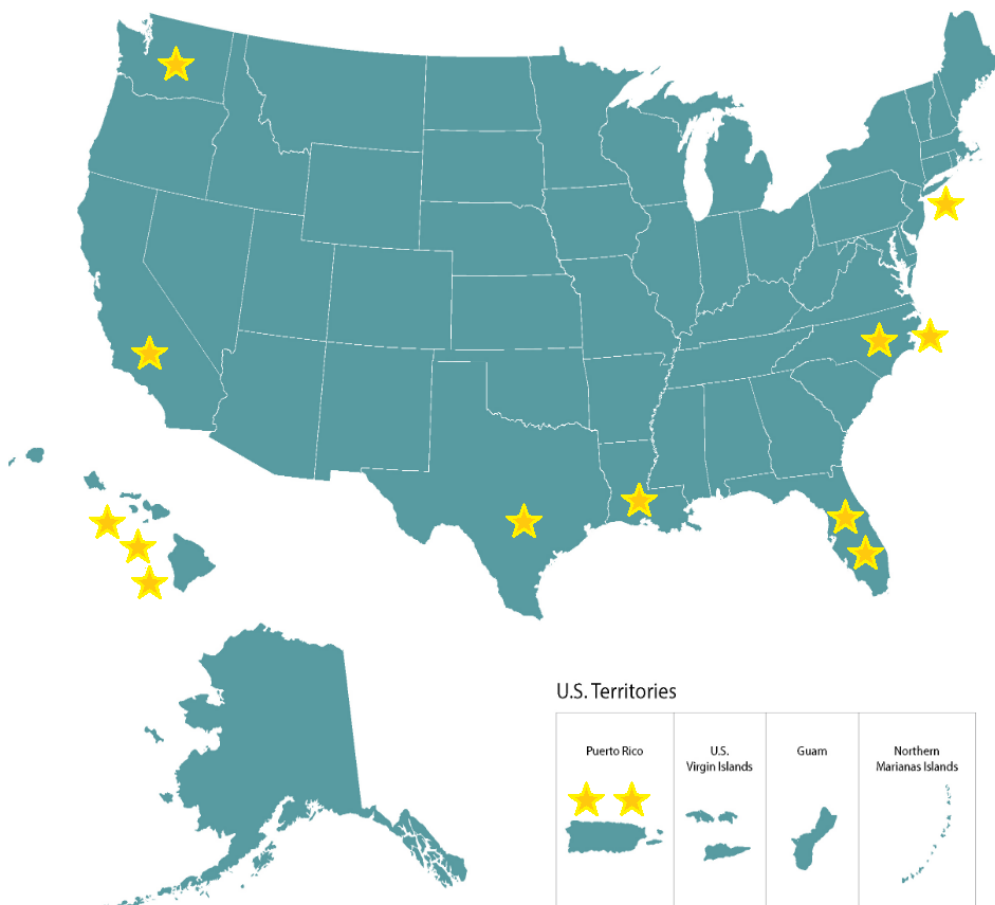
## FEMA Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Task Force

The FEMA Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Forces are teams of specially trained and equipped emergency response professionals that serve as a resource for disaster response at local, state, federal, and international levels. Specialties within the USAR Task Force include collapse rescue, heavy rigging, hazardous materials, disaster medical services, communications, search, and logistics.



The newest addition to our fire department family is K9 Mac. Mac's handler is Firefighter McCandless who has been with West Sacramento Fire since 2017. Mac is a rescue dog from the National Disaster Search Dog Foundation. In 2021, Mac and his handler participated in training that included working multiple live find searches, K9 decontamination & K9 medical classes. They are proud to be a part of California Task Force 7 in Nationwide Search & Rescue operations.

There are only 28 FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces nationwide, 8 of which are located in the State of California. The West Sacramento Fire Department is proud to support California Task Force 7 (CA TF-7) with the participation of 6 personnel, including a Rescue Team Manager and Transportation Unit Leader. Over the last ten years, CA TF-7 has responded to the following events:



- 2012 Hurricane – Sandy (New York & New Jersey)
- 2014 Oso Mudslide (Washington)
- 2016 Hurricane – Matthew (Florida)
- 2017 Hurricane – Harvey (Texas)
- 2017 Hurricane – Irma (Puerto Rico)
- 2017 Hurricane – Maria (Puerto Rico)
- 2018 Landslides - Montecito (California)
- 2018 Hurricane - Lane (Hawaii)
- 2018 Hurricane - Olivia (Hawaii)
- 2018 Hurricane - Florence (North Carolina)
- 2018 Hurricane - Michael (Florida)
- 2019 Hurricane - Barry (Louisiana)
- 2019 Hurricane – Dorian (North Carolina)
- 2020 Hurricane – Douglas (Hawaii)

# Training

The ongoing training of fire fighters is the cornerstone of fire protection and service to the community. The West Sacramento Fire Department, in partnership with the other professional fire departments in Yolo County, has developed a regional training and safety program that has been widely recognized as a model for programs delivering training and education. The West Valley Regional Fire Training Consortium (WVRFTC) was founded in 2012 as a partnership between regional fire and emergency service agencies to supplement individual training and ensure the continued delivery of high-quality, realistic, and relevant training based on the principle of common standards.

Employing a shared-service model, the WVRFTC provides high-caliber training and cultivates interoperability throughout Yolo County. The regional training and safety program enhance operational efficiency and elevates the level of service provided within each community. The cooperative administration of training development allows for a reduced burden on individual Departments when fulfilling mandated training and records management.



## Monthly Training Calendar

The West Valley Regional Fire Training Consortium develops and publishes to all agencies a consolidated monthly training calendar which includes Standard Engine & Truck Company Evolutions; Dynamic Fire Simulations & Tactical/Strategic Objectives; Mandated Training (OSHA / NFPA Compliancy); and Professional Development.

## Multi-Agency Training

In addition to the fundamental monthly training plans, the Consortium provides multi-company drills (MCDs) that allow for resource integration and develop cohesive operations at the direction of the Yolo County Operations Chiefs. Through the Consortium model, all agencies participate in the drill, with “move-and-cover” units scheduled to backfill throughout the region, with no overtime cost generated, to maintain critical re-source response capabilities in all jurisdictions. Capacity – the ability of the department to meet the mission as measured by personnel, equipment, or training needs.

# Community Risk Reduction (CRRD)

The Community Risk Reduction Division (CRRD) is responsible for the identification and prioritization of risks followed by the coordinated application of resources to minimize the probability or occurrence and impact of unfortunate events. The Fire Department not only has a responsibility to the public to respond to emergency events, it also has a responsibility to prevent or reduce the effects of these events as a whole wherever and whenever possible. The CRRD acts as a risk reduction entity for the City providing a safer community to our citizens and businesses. Through the multiple programs managed by the CRRD, the Fire Department works diligently to manage risks presented to the community and the inherent dangers posed by them.

## Emergency Management

The West Sacramento Fire Department is responsible for coordinating the City's emergency management responsibilities and is the lead agency that fulfills the City's requirements under the Emergency Services Act (Government Code Section 8550 et. seq.). This office works with all City departments and other partnering agencies having emergency management responsibilities, including the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and other neighboring jurisdictions inside and outside of our County. Much of the work conducted by Emergency Management includes planning, preparing [to respond], and mitigating potential disastrous events of all natures.





# COVID-19 Pandemic

As the Covid-19 pandemic raged on, 2021 not only continued to present many of the same challenges that were encountered in the previous year, but new ones as well. Issues ranging from long hospital emergency department wait times, to Fire Department staff falling ill in large numbers, to severe constraints in the global supply chain, all served to continue to test the ability of the Fire Department to continue to not only operate, but to continue to deliver top-notch service.

Fire Station 45 continued to serve as central command and control throughout the pandemic. Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff spend countless hours in meetings to decipher and disseminate frequently changing federal and state protocols, as well as to coordinate the overall effort to mitigate the COVID issue.



The ongoing pandemic forced our firefighters to continue to alter their daily work activities; mask wearing throughout the day continued to be the norm, as did daily disinfecting of the fire station and apparatus, along with maintaining a heightened level of safety precautions during emergency calls for service. Finding the necessary PPE and protective equipment that would allow the department to continue to provide the services the community has come to expect continued to present a real challenge and was exacerbated by the global supply chain crisis. As we saw throughout the nation and world, PPE, such as N-95 masks, gloves, gowns, and the like, continued to be difficult, if not impossible to find.



Many conferences, classes, trainings, etc. had to be canceled. Despite the changes and challenges, we were able to find new ways to interact with each other and the public. Zoom, and Microsoft Teams meetings became commonplace and ensured that we stayed connected with our community and one another.

Vaccines for Covid-19 became widely available in 2021, and Fire Department staff had a 93% vaccination rate. Furthermore, firefighters were instrumental in a pilot program alongside Yolo County to vaccinate underserved community members in their homes.

Moving forward, we continue to work in close conjunction with City and County officials to plan, respond, and recover from this pandemic. Our focus remains on moving forward safely and responsibly to assist in returning our community to a healthy environment.



# Youth Fire Academy

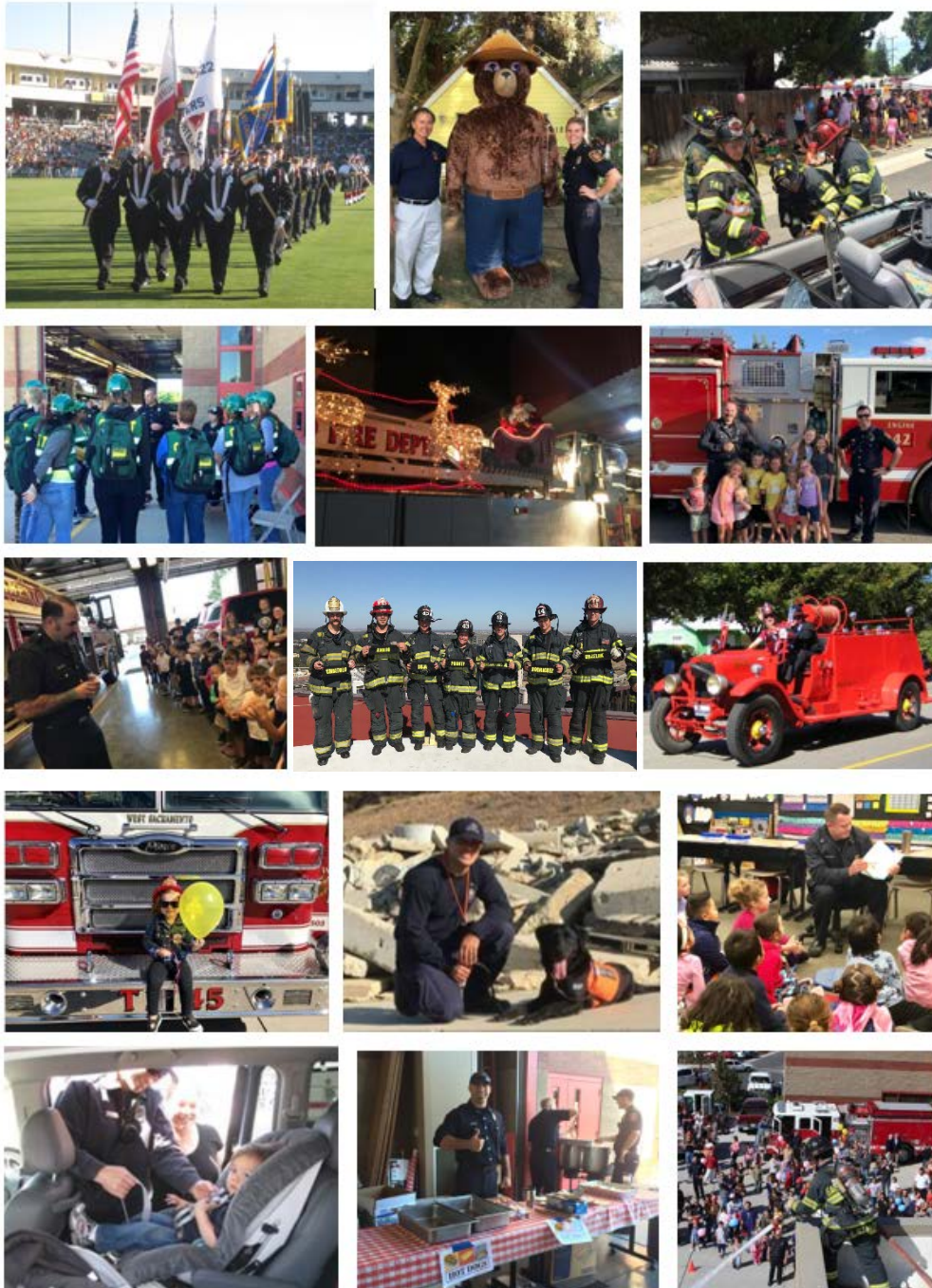
The West Sacramento Fire Department wanted to find a way to reach out to our local youth and give them the opportunity to learn more about public safety, the fire service, and our fire department. We look for motivated individuals that work well with others, and who are fitness and team-oriented. Cadets must show honesty, integrity, and good character with an interest in serving the public.



The Youth Fire Academy provides training that consists of an introduction to all aspects of the fire service; part of the focus is placed on preparing the cadets for a mock hiring process consisting of the written, CPAT (physical agility course), and oral interview. They are exposed to the culture of the fire service, and the paramilitary organization that will be expected of them in their future fire service careers. Cadets then go through a week-long Tower training where firefighting skills are taught and practiced including pulling hose, flowing and maneuvering hose lines, throwing ladders, rope systems, knots, and proficiency with both personal protective equipment and self-contained breathing apparatus. The Academy culminates in the cadets being assigned to a WSFD fire station, where cadets work shifts to fulfill their high school required volunteer hours while riding along with the fire department on emergency calls as well as experiencing station life. While the program has been suspended in recent years due to COVID-19, our hope is that it will continue again in the near future.

# Public Education Programs

The responsibility of public education is an important duty of the Fire Department and we make educating the community in fire and life safety a top priority. By coordinating a variety of public education and training programs, the Fire Department provides a valuable service to the community. With the combination of school visits, career fairs, attending public events, and station tours, the Fire Department can reach out to thousands of citizens each year.



## **Service & Educational Programs**

**C.E.R.T. Team**

**S.A.V.E. Program**

**Honor Guard**

**Open House**

**National Night Out**

**Santa Run**

**Read Across America**

**Child Safety Seat Installation**

**9-11 Memorial Stair Climb**

**Station Tours**

**Safety Presentations**

**School Presentations**

**Safe Surrender & Safe Place**

**Lifejacket Loan Program**

**Sharps Disposal**

**K-9 / Urban Search & Rescue**

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