

# Chief's Message

On behalf of the emergency responders of the City of Santa Fe, I am pleased to offer you this guide to visiting the Santa Fe Fire Department (SFFD). The SFFD has a proud history of serving the City of Santa Fe, and an emerging tradition of innovation in community service. The men and women of the SFFD are here to provide the best possible public service, and I feel that will be ex-



Fire Chief, Erik Litzenberg

the best possible public service, and I feel that will be evident during your visit. I welcome you to explore our stations,

observe our trucks and equipment, and interact with our firefighters to make the most of your experience. Who knows, you might be the next Santa Fe firefighter!

The mission of the Santa Fe Fire Department is to preserve life and property through public education and prompt, efficient, emergency response.



The Santa Fe Fire Department (SFFD) consists of 162 uniformed men and women, and 10 non-uniformed civilian personnel. SFFD personnel work out of nine stations to provide all hazard response twenty four hours a day. In addition to responding to approximately 15,000 calls per year, the SFFD conducts public education programs, fire prevention activities, and promotes risk reduction practices throughout the community. There is nothing more important to us than the community we serve, and we are dedicated to providing excellent service and making a difference in the lives of the people living in and visiting Santa Fe.





### Firefighters

Firefighters are people, whether or not they are in their gear. A firefighter's work outfit is called a uniform. They wear uniforms so people can recognize them. When fighting a fire, a firefighter puts "turnouts" or "bunker gear" over their uniform. The pur-



pose of the bunker gear is to protect the firefighter from heat, smoke, and fire. In addition to their bunker gear, a firefighter wears fire boots, fire gloves, a fire helmet, and a mask and air bottle so they can breathe fresh air while they fight the fire. This gear is what keeps a firefighter safe, even though they might look scary!

# Vehicles

**Fire Engine** — A fire engine is what is used to put a fire out. Fire engines usually carry a little bit of water, but they can also be attached to a fire hydrant if more water is needed to fight a fire. Usually, three or four people are on a fire engine — a Captain, an Engineer, and one or two Firefighters. There are plenty of hoses, ladders, and tools on a fire engine, so firefighters have what they need to work.

**Ambulance** — Ambulances are what are used to carry people to the hospital when they need to see a doctor. Usually, two people are on an ambulance— a Paramedic/Firefighter and a Firefighter. Ambulances carry the equipment needed to perform emergency medical services and to help with fighting fires.

**Rescue** — The rescue is what is used to help people who are in bad car wrecks, stuck on a cliff, or have fallen into a hole or river. Usually, three or four Rescue Technicians are on a rescue.

**Aircraft Rescue Firefighting** — The ARFF is a specialized truck that is for aircraft rescue and firefighting at the airport. Usually, there are two people on the ARFF—a Captain and a Firefighter. The ARFF carries all the equipment needed to help people out of a plane if it has an issue.







# Tips for Visiting a Fire Station

While emergencies can happen at any time, you have the best chance of a successful visit if you plan it in advance. Here are a few ways to visit:

► IN ADVANCE: Call the Fire Department Administration at 505-955-3110. If done during normal working hours, they can make sure that someone will be available to give you a tour.

► TO RESERVE A COMMUNITY ROOM AT A FIRE STATION:

If you would like to reserve a room for a meeting or a party, contact our Administrative Assistant at 505-955-3500.

► SHORT NOTICE: Call the Fire Department Battalion Chief at 505-670-6013. Our Battalion Chief will arrange a tour as best as they can around our other duties.

► **SHOW UP:** You can show up at any staffed station (on the map) and request a tour. If not busy with other assignments, firefighters are always happy to show people around.

# Other Tips

- Firefighters are always on call, so please be patient and understanding if they miss an appointment or have to leave during a tour.
- Please respect the fire stations, as the fire station is the firefighter's home as well as their office.
- Please keep watch of all the visitors in your group and ensure that you bring adequate supervision to the fire station.
- All fire stations have facilities available during tours. However, if you might want drinks or snacks during a tour, you should prepare by bringing your own. We do have community rooms at each station for your guests to gather should you choose to do so.



### Fire Prevention Basics

### **SMOKE ALARMS**

- Working smoke alarms can mean the difference between life and death. A smoke alarm provides warning of danger so you can escape immediately and call for help.
- Spring forward, Fall back: Test your smoke alarms at least twice a year using the test button when you change your clocks
- Clean your alarms at least once a year and dust with vacuum attachments.
- Replace batteries in battery-operated smoke alarms at least once a year.
- If you hear a smoke alarm while sleeping, roll out of bed and do not stand up. Crawl to the door and stay low to avoid smoke and heat. Test the door for heat with the back of your hand. If the door is cool, brace your shoulder against the door and open it cautiously and be ready to close it quickly if you feel heat. If the door is warm, use your second exit and go to your meeting place.
- Call 9-1-1 from a safe place.

#### **OTHER SAFETY TIPS**

- Sleep with your bedroom door closed. The door helps hold back smoke and fire while you escape.
- Matches and lighters are not toys. Do not touch them! If you find matches or lighters lying around, tell an adult.
- Make exit plans with your parents. Make a drawing of your house and identify two ways out from all rooms, especially from bedrooms.
- Choose a safe meeting place outside.
- Practice your exit plan at least twice a year. Practice it at least once at night without lighting.

### YOUTH FIRE-SETTING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM

- We have a Youth Fire-Setting Prevention and Intervention Program in place to work with youths ages 3 to 17 that are misusing fire.
- This program can be utilized to instruct youths about proper fire safety and the dangers of misusing fire before any incidents occur.



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Alarm Ambulance Blast Blaze Brave Emergency Extinguisher Fire Firetruck Firefighter Heat Hero Hose Hydrant Ladder Medical

Oxygen Prevention Rescue Safety Siren Smoke Station Water



# Spot the Difference!

10 things are different in these two pictures. What are they?



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