

THE BLAZE

DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT/ 911 OPERATIONS/EMA
NEWSLETTER

"Thank you for allowing us to serve you." ~ Roderick B. Jolivette,
Fire Chief

SEPTEMBER 2021



MISSION

The Douglas County Fire/EMS Department exists to improve and protect the quality of life within our service area through education, prevention & emergency response.

In this Issue:

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Cover page | PAGE 1 |
| Fire Chief Jolivette..... | PAGE 2 |
| 911 Operations..... | PAGE 3 |
| EMA..... | PAGE 4 |
| Deputy Chiefs..... | PAGE 5 & 6 |
| Battalion Chiefs..... | PAGE 7 & 8 |
| Additional Information/Events..... | PAGE 9-15 |

FIRE CHIEF JOLIVETTE:



UPDATE of Changes to Georgia's Outdoor Burn Notification System ~ Douglas County officials and Chief Ranger Bryan Rooks of the Georgia Forestry Commission met on July 9th, 2021 at DCFD Headquarters to discuss our local ordinances as it pertained to Senate Bill 119 - O.C.G.A. 12-6-90. It was decided Douglas County local ordinances supersede 12-6-90, and the Environmental Protection Division's summer burn ban remains in effect (May 1 - Sep 30).

911 OPERATIONS



Debra Gross
Teena Donnell
Alecia Partin



The past month or so has brought our department into unfamiliar territory. For the first time in our county's history, our department is now under the Douglas County Fire/EMS Public Safety umbrella and the leadership of Chief Jolivette. The unknown always raises questions and causes some concern, however, Chief Jolivette has quickly become a familiar face to all shifts and management. He has shown us all an immediate inclusion to his team letting us know we are not alone in this transition. As we navigate these unknowns, we are excited to see what this change in structure can and will bring to our department.

As the county's only PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point), we can report call volume remains at an all-time high and staffing remains at an all-time low. As with all departments, COVID-19 is wearing our resources and our staff thin. Our management team has been working tirelessly with DCFD Command Staff on this new endeavor and all that it entails. We are also in the process of building our new CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system which is exciting, but it can be a very daunting and overwhelming process. Our tentative "Go-Live" date is set for February 2022.



EMA

(EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY)

JASON MILHOLLIN



This month Douglas County EMA hosted two FEMA/GEMA training courses. The first class ICS/ EOC Interface taught students how that command post in the field and the personnel in the Emergency operations Center interact and the roles and responsibility of each. The second class was NIMS 300: Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents. Douglas County first responders were represented well in the course by 911 and command staff from the Fire/EMS Department. The EOC was also used this month for training by the State of Georgia Fire Marshals office. By allowing outside agencies to use our emergency operations center it builds relationships and increases the county's ability to respond to events in our own community.





DEPUTY CHIEFS

Deputy Chief Allen

Fire Department Administration section has been working diligently on acquiring new vehicles for the department. Our new pumper is currently in Ashland, AL. There will be an inspection of the vehicle by FD leadership before acceptance of the vehicle. This will be taking place immediately. More to come on this.

Also, we are working on renovating Fire Station #4. Much of the information about the process is being worked from a SPLOST aspect. Great things for Station 4 are soon to come. Station #11 issues are being addressed with more information to follow.

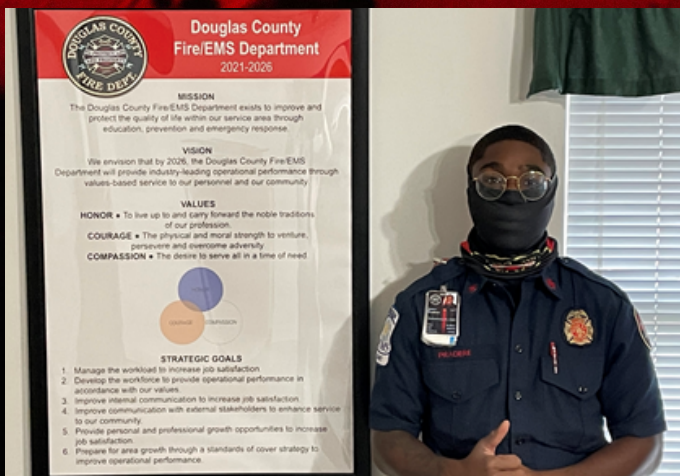
Deputy Chief Phillips



We are excited to present Douglas County's Fire/EMS Mission, Vision and Values Statement. This document will be a true working document for our department and as such, it is imperative all members of our organization are represented by and aligned with these declarations. A fire department's MISSION STATEMENT defines its culture, values, ethics fundamental goals, and agenda. It reveals what the department does, how it does it and why it does it. A fire department's VISION STATEMENT describes what a company desires to achieve in the long run, generally in a time frame of five to ten years. A fire department's VALUES highlights an organizations' core principles and philosophical ideas. TOGETHER, we are setting our course for the FUTURE!!!



Sgt. Frankie Weber FF James Pradere Sgt. Arthur Rogers



FF James Pradere

DEPUTY CHIEFS



Deputy Chief Lugo

This month, CRR/Training was directly and indirectly involved in several things. On the training side, with a partnership with Atlanta Fire Department, we offered a State Structural Fire Control Class and Structural Fire Control Instructor Class. We had participants from Paulding Fire, Atlanta Fire and Douglas County Fire Department. A special thank you to Lt. Travis Major for heading this partnership and these classes. Thank you to all the instructors from our department and Atlanta that helped. Lastly, I want to personally thank all of you who are working to serve our community and our citizens.

Your continued perseverance and dedication to continue the work, through this pandemic and these times is recognized and appreciated. As we strive forward, our on-going hard work on behalf of our public is more vital than ever. With our commitment to the accomplishment of our assigned tasks, even under challenging circumstances, we will fulfill the trust given to us by the public.



BATTALION CHIEFS



**Battalion Chief
Shadix (Rusty)
(A-SHIFT)**

Paw Patrol 911

Earlier this month B-Shift had a real life Paw Patrol moment. It began with a frantic call to 911. The caller advised she had been bathing her puppy in the bathtub and his paw had become wedged in the drain. She stated she had been trying for an hour to free it. E6 and 441 responded to the entrapment. On the scene Lieutenant Sullivan and Sergeant Arbeau began to calm the frantic caller and devise a plan to free the puppy from the drain. Turns out, the puppy was stuck, like really stuck. The pad of the puppy's paw had pushed through the drain hole and expanded on the opposite side, therefore there was no way to pull the paw out without dismantling the drain. E6 figured it would be a quick fix, crawl under the house, cut the pipe and remove the paw. As always, there was a catch. The tub was part of an add-on to the house and was built directly on a concrete slab. There was no way to access under the tub. With plan B in motion, Chief Roberts found a neighbor with some tools he could loan to them. Chief Roberts then drilled several 3" holes around the drain and slowly cut towards the drain in order to free the entrapment portion from the tub. Once that portion was cut the drain, and the paw, with the puppy still attached, came free of the tub. The crew was then able to access the bottom of the drain where the paw was stuck. With some very precise cutting they were able to free the paw from the drain with no injuries to the puppy. All in all the call took over two hours to complete. This indeed was not a "normal 911 call", however it was nice to break the cycle of the same old same old 911 call.

See Page 8 for pictures of the puppy rescue.

2021 is quickly

drawing to a close and there have been many significant events, challenges, and changes. To begin, we welcomed a New Chief, Chief Jolivette, created 3 new Deputy Chief Positions and brought in Chief Allen and Chief Phillips. The new team is coming together and will have the responsibility of shaping the future, setting goals and benchmarks for the department's success. I will focus though on some of your achievements. Following a year of constant change, the administration was totally restructured and with it some expectations. You have handled this with great professionalism. You have brought your training up significantly, began teaching recruits and spending countless hours at the training center and in your stations preparing this next generation of Firefighters. You tested and marked hose, maintained hydrants, created resume', created a succession plan and other assignments. You have been doing this with reduced manpower and call volume rising to a level never before seen. I applaud each of you individually as well as collectively. I've seen teamwork at a higher level than almost any time in our dept.t history. I'm proud to have witnessed your accomplishments. You have embodied "ownership" and are an example for these that will be running this place soon enough.



**Battalion Chief
Roberts
(B-SHIFT)**

BATTALION CHIEFS



**Battalion Chief
Shelton
(C-SHIFT)**

Lt. Travis Major Sgt. Laurie North Lt. Doug Dickens



FF Chris Reeves FF Juan Castillo FF Alfredo Cruz

Hello Everyone,
In just a few words, I would like to start by letting everyone know how much I appreciate your hard work and dedication to DCFD and to the citizens of the county. The teamwork you show and the hardships you face does not go unnoticed.
Thank you.

To C shift,
This year has been extremely difficult for us all. We have seen many changes within our department, our call volume continues to increase, and we are still in the middle of a pandemic. Our staffing levels continue to be a burden on you, and I notice. I also notice a resiliency in all of you. You continue to work hard, you continue to provide compassionate patient care, you train, you complete pre-fire plans and you strive to make sure our department grows in the right direction, all while teaching recruit school in your stations. Way to go. As I type this, Recruit Burns are starting. Getting ready for this to start has been a monumental task from the dedication of the recruits, line personnel, the Training Division and all others involved. A BIG thank you to all. As
Always...be smart and stay safe.

Lt. Bryan
Harrell

Additional Info/ Events

6th Annual First Responder Lunch Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2021

6th Annual FIRST RESPONDER LUNCH 2021

METRO
GARAGE DOORS • INSULATION • FIREPLACES
404.937.6767
www.MetroGarageDoorsInc.com

September 8th

Now Accepting Donations!
All donations go straight towards First Responders.

Paypal: www.paypal.me/metrogaragedoors
Venmo: @Metro-Garage-Doors

12871 Veterans Memorial Hwy • Douglasville, GA 30134
404.937.6767 • MetroGarageDoorsInc.com

*Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends
John 15:13*

Fire Inspector
Wesley
Corkill



Fire Marshal
Jay Williford

Fire Inspector
Marty
Thomas



FF David
Miller

Lt. Dwayne
Bennett

THE CITY OF DOUGLASVILLE AND
DOUGLAS COUNTY GOVERNMENT PRESENT

9/11 Memorial Ceremony

TO HONOR THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

*You are cordially invited to join our
community as we observe Patriot Day*

September 11, 2021 • 8:30am

Douglas County Courthouse
8700 Hospital Dr, Douglasville, GA 30134



20th Anniversary of the September 11th, 2001 Terror Attacks

The program began at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at the Douglas County Courthouse, located at 8700 Hospital Drive, Douglasville, Georgia. The program was an outdoor ceremony. Seating was provided in a social distance manner & masks were mandatory.

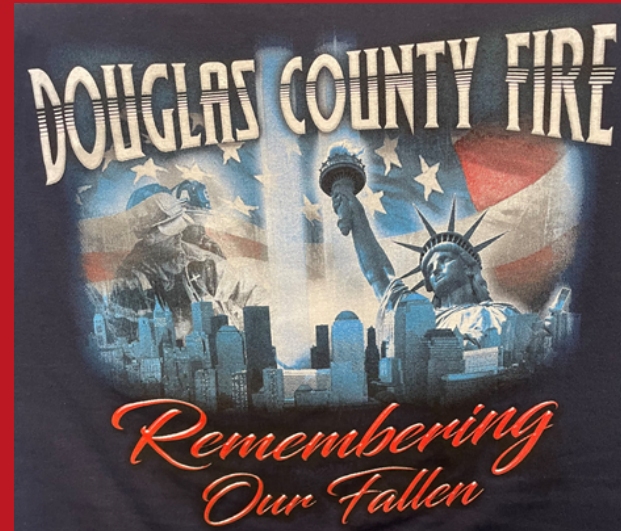
The event was open to the public and was a memorable event involving various facets of our community including The New Manchester Mastery Chorus singing and the playing of "Taps" by student Dominick Perez of Alexander High School. **PAGE 9**

Additional Info/ Events

Continuance of the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11

"I write this on 11 September 2021, I am compelled to bring into remembrance those 343 men of FDNY who ran their last alarm that fateful day 20 years ago. Many knowing they would never return. They set an example of grit, determination to meet the mission and ultimately self-sacrifice. Even today it's emotional to think of. The photo included is from the ceremony at the courthouse with all city and county government represented. Never Forget."

-Battalion Chief Howard R. Shadix



Douglas County Fire/EMS presents

our 2021 9/11 t-shirts in honor of 2,000+ citizens who were killed in the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001. Below is some of our Admin staff with our "Douglas County Fire- Remembering Our Fallen" t-shirts.

Deputy Chief Lugo

Lt. Stacie Farmer



Fire Inspector Wesley Corkill & Marty Thomas



Dept. Sec. Melisa Loreda

Admin. Asst. Paula Austin



EMS Records Cord. Courtney Eubanks

Admin Asst. Michele Mahaney

EMS Logistics Gina Tolbert

Additional Info/ Events

HEROES LUNCHEON

MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, POLICE OFFICERS, FIRST RESPONDERS, AND FIREMEN



**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 14
11AM-1PM**

MENU:

- BBQ pork/chicken sandwich
- Baked beans
- Cole slaw
- Dessert
- Sweet or Unsweet tea
- Lemonade

Join us at Grace Senior Living for a BBQ lunch honoring our healthcare heroes!

All medical professionals, first responders, firemen, police officers and medical office teams are invited!

Sponsors:



Location & Contact Info:

PLEASE RSVP
770-920-2273
8647 Hospital Drive
Douglasville, GA 30134
graceseniorliving.net



Sgt. Nathan Britt
Capt. Dan Callan



Fire Chief Jolivette



On Tuesday, September 14th, the Fire Dept. was proudly invited for a heroes luncheon at the Grace Senior living of Douglasville. The menu was carried by Williamson Bros Bar-B-Q.

Additional Info/ Events

\$1.2M FEMA GRANT

<https://patch.com/georgia/douglasville/douglas-county-accepts-1-2-million-fema-grant>

Posted Wednesday, September 15th, 2021

Douglas County Government has been awarded more than a million dollars in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant funds from the Department of Homeland Security. The money will be used to replace damaged fire safety equipment.



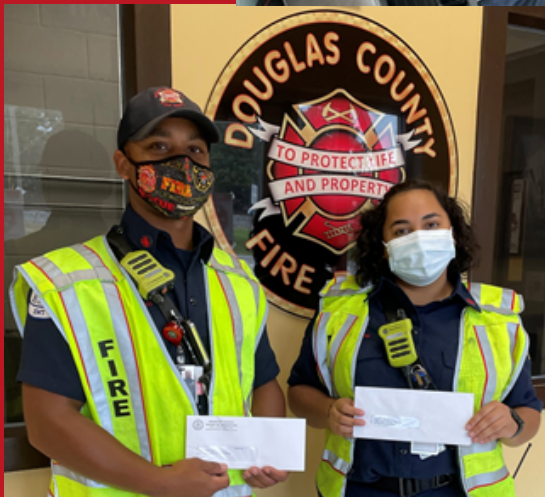
<https://www.ajc.com/neighborhoods/douglas-county-awarded-fema-grant/640BAULHOJCJRDBH26S4YLBQTE/>

HAZARD PAY CHECKS

FF
Jeremy
Upshaw



At the Commission meeting on August 31, 2021, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a one-time payment of \$1,000 for full-time employees and \$500 for part-time employees. As a supplement to this action, and to support county efforts to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Board of Commissioners also approved an incentive of \$250 gift card for all Douglas County employees who are fully vaccinated by November 1, 2021. Those employees already vaccinated are also eligible to receive this incentive payment., We recieved hazard pay checks on Monday, September 13th, 2021.



FF Keith
Brown

FF Jenny
Molina

Additional Info/ Events

FIRE CHIEF'S CITIZEN AWARD

Miss Lanai Denoia, eleven years of age, was recently awarded the Douglas County Fire Chiefs' Citizens Award. She was presented the award on September 17th, 2021 for her

act of heroism during a house fire on April 26, 2021 in which she evacuated her family members from their burning home. DCFD personnel at the scene advised, if it weren't for Miss Lanai Denoia keeping her focus, and composure, the incident could have ended differently, and it was at their recommendation that she was recognized.



Fire Chief Jolivette will recognize citizens that are heroes with his Douglas County Fire Chief's Citizens Award. Each month, he will reward a citizen for a heroic act in which someone's life was saved because of their actions. If you are on a scene in which you recognize a hero for the Chief's award, please send an email communication to your Battalion Chief explaining the incident in which that person would be a candidate for the award.



Additional Info/ Events

A celebration of retirement
happened at
Douglas County Fire Station #1 on
Monday, September 20th, 2021 for
Captain Gary Crews.
Thank you for your service
Captain Crews,
and may you enjoy
your retirement.



Additional Info/ Events

Douglas County Fire/Ems joined September Saturdays that was held at the Courthouse on September 18th & the 25th

