

# 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.**

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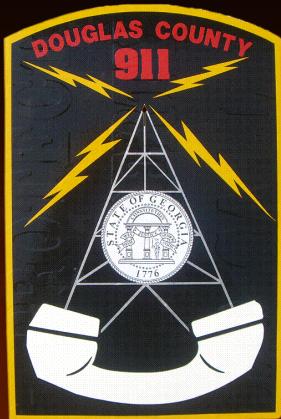
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# FIRE CHIEF JOLIVETTE:

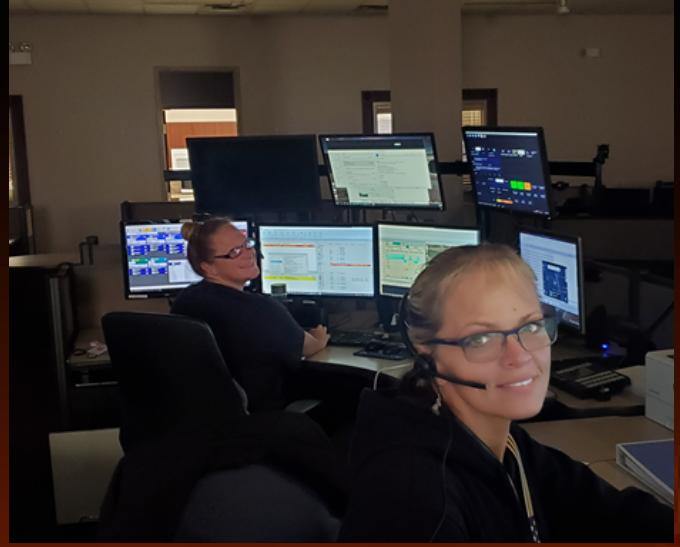


UPDATE of Changes to Georgia's  
Outdoor Burn Notification System ~  
Douglas County officials and Chief  
Ranger Bryan Rooks of the Georgia  
Forestry Commission met on July 9th,  
2021 at DCFD Headquarters to discuss  
our local ordinances as it pertained to  
Senate Bill 119 - O.C.G.A. 12-6-90. It 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.

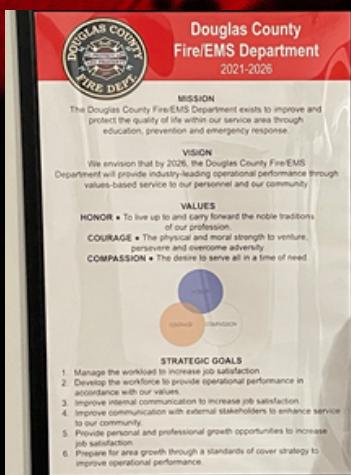
## Deputy Chief Phillips



Sgt. Frankie Weber   FF James Pradere   Sgt. Arthur Rogers



**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!!!**



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

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 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.



## Battalion Chief Roberts (B-SHIFT)

# BATTALION CHIEFS



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

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



FF Chris   FF Juan   FF Alfredo  
Reeves   Castillo   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

Lt. Bryan  
Harrell

Always...be smart and  
stay safe.

# Additional Info/ Events

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

Fire Inspector

Wesley

Corkill



Fire Marshal  
Jay Williford

Fire Inspector  
Marty  
Thomas



FF David  
Miller  
Lt. Dwayne  
Bennett

6th Annual FIRST RESPONDER LUNCH 2021

**METRO**  
GARAGE DOORS - INSULATION - FIREPLACES  
404.937.6767  
[www.MetroGarageDoorsInc.com](http://www.MetroGarageDoorsInc.com)

**September 8th**

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

Paypal: [www.paypal.me/metrogaragedoors](https://www.paypal.me/metrogaragedoors)  
Venmo: @Metro-Garage-Doors

12871 Veterans Memorial Hwy - Douglasville, GA 30134  
404.937.6767 • [MetroGarageDoorsInc.com](http://MetroGarageDoorsInc.com)

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

THE CITY OF DOUGLASSVILLE 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



Dept. Sec. Melisa Loredo   Admin. Asst. Paula Austin

Fire Inspector Wesley Corkill & Marty Thomas



EMS Records Cord. Gina Mahaney Tolbert Eubanks   Admin. Asst. Michele Courtney   EMS Logistics

# Additional Info/ Events

## HEROES LUNCHEON

MEDICAL  
PROFESSIONALS,  
POLICE OFFICERS,  
FIRST RESPONDERS,  
AND FIREMEN



WILLIAMSON BROS.  
BAR-B-Q

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:



GRACE  
Senior Living

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.



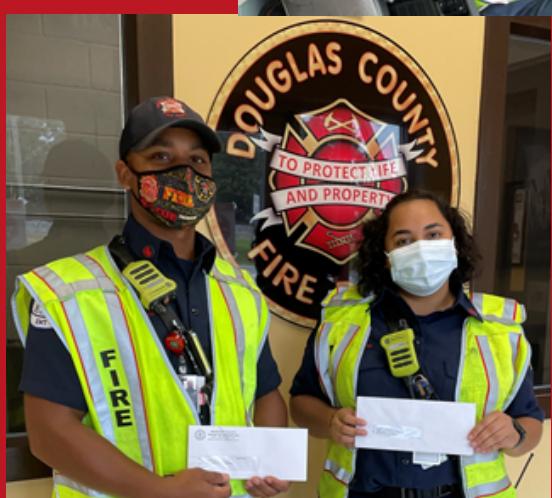
<https://www.ajc.com/neighborhoods/douglas-county-awarded-fema-grant/640BAULHOJCRDBH26S4YLBQTE/>

## HAZARD PAY CHECKS

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 received hazard pay checks on Monday, September 13th, 2021.



FF  
Jeremy  
Upshaw



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

