



GOOD NEWS



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

August 2020 Edition

Good News #56: Medical Director Dr.Wendell & Tactical Medics

Good News #57: Janice Drive Fire Incident

Good News #58: Rescue Engine & Medic-27

Good News #59: Off-duty Personnel - Water Rescue Incident

Good News #60: FCO Williams - Water Rescue Incident

Good News #61: Retired Lieutenant Jim Booker Funeral

GOOD NEWS





ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #56 August 8, 2020 - Medical Director Dr. Wendell & Tactical Medics

Sat, Aug 8, 2020

To: Trisha Wolford

Chief,

I wanted to take a moment to share with you just how impressed I continue to be with our Tactical Medics and Medical Director Doc Wendell. As a former member of our team, I know you will appreciate this feedback. Recently they have been an invaluable resource as we have navigated several COVID issues and Doc always answers the phone to help us out with questions or concerns. We have kept Doc busy!

Secondly, and most importantly I wanted to thank them again for what they do for us. It is often overlooked, or they might not realize just how much we appreciate them and having them follow us at all hours of the day and night on what may seem like routine warrants.

(Call information has been redacted from the letter. Tactical Medics Yuliya Brown, Jim Clopein, Phil Stratton and Dr. Wendell recently supported QRT on an operational call.)

To have medics with us has been completely invaluable and will never be fully appreciated. I speak for the entire team, that the comfort level it provides our team to do our job effectively is something I know each of our team members is thankful for. This goes for the other tac medics that were not part of the operation yesterday.

So in closing, I just wanted you to know as the Chief that these medics are absolutely amazing, and should be recognized more often. They are truly part of QRT and our TEAM. You should be proud of them and this program. Please pass my thanks along to each of them.

Sergeant Jon Zimmer #1559
Anne Arundel County Police
Special Operations Section
Quick Response Team

Doctor Jonathan Wendell
Lieutenant Yuliya Brown
Lieutenant Philip Stratton
FF/PM Jim Clopein



GOOD NEWS



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #57 August 7, 2020 - Janice Drive Fire Incident

August 10, 2020

Hello Chief Wolford,

I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to let you know that my neighbors were very impressed with the professionalism of the AACoFD staff that responded to a house fire at [REDACTED] Janice Drive this past Friday morning.

Stations 40 & 8 were there along with AFD 35 & 36 and NDFD 46 and many others. Many commented that they were surprised how quiet everyone and everything was and that many slept through the whole event since there were multiple units on the block from about 1:30am-5:30am.

This makes me even more proud of the admin work I do to support WAVFD and all the career personnel in all the fire department.

Have a great and safe day,

Sincerely,
Krista Wallach
WAVFD-40

Companies

Co.08 - Annapolis Neck
Co.40 - West Annapolis
Co.35 - AFD Forest Drive
Co.36 - AFD Eastport
Co.46 - Naval District USNA



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #58
August 12, 2020 - Co.27 Maryland City

Wed, Aug 12, 2020
Subject: THANK YOU

Good day Fire Chief Wolford,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am a resident at Tall Oaks Apartments. I am also temporarily handicap. Because of my disability, I now need assistance leaving and entering my building. I am unable to walk up or down the stairs. As a result, I had to call EMS for assistance so I could leave home for a doctor's appointment as well as upon my return.

I was BLESSED to have members from RE27/MU27 (LT. Jordan, FF Clark, FF Wilson, PM Cathcart and FF Leonard) both when I was leaving home and when I returned. They brought me up and down the stairs in their chair. Not only did they bring me up and down the stairs, they eased my fears, they were all very kind and gentle and ensured that I was safely out of my apartment and then safely in my apartment when I returned.

I explained to the team that I was moving out of Tall Oaks Apartments on August 17 because of my lack of mobility and because of the need to be in an elevated dwelling. Therefore, I would probably only need to seek their assistance one last time on the 17th. They made me feel comfortable and said they would be here to help. I was overwhelmed by their kindness and thanked them profusely.

Fire Chief Wolford, I wanted you to be aware of the extraordinary members that you have on your team. They are truly here for the community. Although I have thanked them, I would love for you to extend my warmest thank you to each of them on my behalf, being dependent on others is not easy but they made my experience so much lighter.

Best Regards,
[REDACTED]

RE-27

LT Michael Jordan
FF III Patrick Clark
FF II Kenneth Wilson

Medic-27

FF/PM Benjamin Cathcart
FF II Colton Leonard



GOOD NEWS



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #59 August 14, 2020 - Off-Duty Personnel - Water Rescue Incident

Fri, Aug 14, 2020
Subject: Re: Thank you

To: <firechief@aacounty.org>

Chief Wolford,

Good evening. Once again I must commend your team on a successful mission, this time on the water. Earlier this morning on the Patapsco River near Fort Smallwood Park, a small boat took on water and both persons onboard ended up in the water. One was wearing a PFD and the other was not.

At about the same time, a group of your "off-duty" firefighters were departing the Ft Smallwood boat ramp for a day of team building and comradery. Having recognized an immediate emergency with the two people in the water, they went to their location and pulled both from the water. A second group then towed the boat back to the boat ramp. If your team of men and women had not jumped into action, the outcome may not have been so positive. The subject without a PFD had been drinking alcohol and this combination with being in the water is not one we would like to see.

One of the off duty firefighters happens to be a friend of mine and provided me with the names of everyone involved. I did not know they were the ones who actually rescued them until this afternoon. I was given these names as to their involvement.

Jeremy Davis, Mike Cardy, Stephanie Taluba, Jason Ciresi and Ben Soulier. These folks retrieved the two people from the water. Josh Focht, Tim Cross, Kyle Smith. These three recovered the boat and towed it back to the ramp.

Please thank them for a job well done!!

Thanks again, as it's always a pleasure to work with your men and women.

Mark Miller
MD Natural Resources Police

FF/PM Jeremy Davis
FF/PM Stephanie Taluba
FF/PM Joshua Focht
FF III Benjamin Soulier
FF II Michael Cardy
FF II Jason Ciresi
FF II Timothy Cross
FF II Kyle Smith



GOOD NEWS



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #60 August 8, 2020 - FCO Williams - Water Rescue Incident

Annapolis Capital Letter to the Editor

August 8, 2020
Eastern Avenue, Annapolis

My husband Joel somehow fell off of our boat or pier on Saturday morning and suffered a head injury and inhaled a good amount of water. He was able to hold onto a piling and call for help.

The 911 response was amazing, sending boats from both direction as well as ambulances to our location. The harbormaster boat that was nearby responded as well. He was pulled from the water and taken to Anne Arundel Medical Center for treatment. We are so blessed to have these services! We are so aware of the potential dangers of being on or near the water. People, unfortunately, drown, mostly because they aren't wearing PFDs. This was my husband's case. He is blessed to have survived this near-death event.

Our extreme gratitude goes to those workers who saved his life, and the amazing 911 woman who stayed with me until they arrived. We are extremely blessed and thank God for all who came to our rescue!

Debbie
Annapolis

FCO Jasmine Williams was the Call Taker. The Caller stated that her husband had fallen off the pier struck his head and was disoriented. FCO Williams remained on the phone with the Caller until help arrived. The Harbor Master was the first to arrived on the scene and pulled the victim out of the water. FCO Williams provided instructions for bleeding control until the arrival of fire department personnel.

Fire Alarm
FCO Jasmine Williams



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Good News #61

August 5th - 7th, 2020 - Retired Lieutenant Jim Booker Funeral

From: Captain Edward Ross

Date: Sun, Aug 23, 2020

Subject: Lt. Booker Funeral - Members Actions on August 5th, 6th and 7th

To: Trisha Wolford

Chief Wolford:

As you know Lt. Booker recently died and the family requested that Engine 32 be a part of the funeral process. At the time the front line engine was out-of-service for body work on the Eastern Shore. Additionally, the family's request was made via the Retirees just days before the funeral.

In short, in very time, the following members were able retrieve the front line engine from Patriot Fire LLC on the Eastern Shore and deliver it to the Shop. Members of Station 32 picked it up from the Shop and did a full GI of the unit and made it "parade ready." Then members attended two viewings in Class A uniforms and attended the internment in Class A uniforms. At the internment, members served as a defacto honor guard. After which the front line was returned to the Shop and Ground Support returned it to Patriot Fire.

All members took such actions on Category V heat alert days. Captain Joe Cvach was present and did an outstanding job organizing several retired members and current members who were all in Class A uniforms, as well as Engine 32's crew in Class A uniforms, for the defacto honor guard. Praise also needs to be extended to Station 31 for allowing the front line engine to be housed for the event in their Station.

As such, I would like to recognize the following members:

Thank you - Ned

County Honor Guard

Captain Joe Cvach

Logistical Support for funeral

Captain Rusty Hallock

Lieutenant Joe Huber

Mechanic Mr. Craig Strickler

Contractor Mr. Dave Ayres

Members of Station 31

Engine/Medic 32 - B Shift

(Engine Pick-up/GI)

Lieutenant John Asquino

FF III Richard Meise

FF II Raheem Ewing

FF II Matthew Kooser

FF/PM Timothy Young

Engine 32 - C Shift (Viewings)

Lieutenant James Heale

FF/PM Steven Roth

FF II Antonio Santiago

Engine 32 - D Shift

(Internment)

Captain Edward Ross

FF III David Pennell

FF/PM John Knapp