

# 2024

## ANNUAL REPORT

SOUTH JORDAN CITY  
FIRE DEPARTMENT



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# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT



# 2024 MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



**CHRIS DAWSON**  
FIRE CHIEF

Thank you for taking the time to explore the South Jordan Fire Department's 2024 Annual Report. This report offers an overview of our Department's achievements, services, and the continued progress we've made in serving our community throughout the year.

As South Jordan continues to grow, our Fire Department evolves alongside it. We remain dedicated to managing our expansion thoughtfully and strategically to ensure we maintain the high level of service our residents have come to expect. With careful planning, we are adapting our operations to meet both the current and future needs of a dynamic city.

In 2024, we focused on enhancing our capabilities in key areas that directly impact the safety and well-being of our community. As part of this effort, we made significant strides in expanding our hazardous materials response and technical rescue operations. With the increasing complexities of modern emergencies, we have invested in specialized training and equipment to ensure that we can respond to hazardous materials incidents with expertise and efficiency. Our technical rescue capabilities are also growing, allowing us to respond more effectively to high-risk situations such as confined space rescues, trench rescues, rope rescues, vehicle extrication, and other specialized operations. We also continue to add capabilities to our Critical Care Paramedic Program, which brings second-to-none advanced medical capabilities to the community.

We are committed to continuously advancing our operations to stay ahead of emerging challenges. Our department is embracing new technologies and industry-leading practices to improve our ability to respond to fire, medical, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and environmental incidents. We remain steadfast in our mission to provide the best possible service to the people of South Jordan.

Our dedicated team of professionals remains the heart of our success. I am incredibly proud to work alongside a group of individuals who continually deliver exceptional service with professionalism, compassion, and expertise. Their unwavering commitment to excellence is what drives us to continually improve, ensuring we are prepared for whatever challenges lie ahead.

I am honored to serve as your Fire Chief and to work with such a talented and dedicated team. We are always eager to engage with the community, participate in local events, and assist in any way we can. Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can be of service.

With appreciation,

Chris Dawson  
Fire Chief, South Jordan Fire Department



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

As an all hazards emergency response agency, the South Jordan Fire Department prides itself on providing exceptional service to the community. Our professional firefighters operate out of four strategically located fire stations across the city. South Jordan Firefighters respond to a variety of incidents and perform many duties including fire suppression, advanced emergency medical response, ambulance transportation, hazardous materials response, technical rescue operations, fire prevention activities, and community education.

Our Operations Division consists of one Deputy Chief, two Division Chiefs, and three Battalion Chiefs who are responsible for the daily oversight of over 95 sworn members who serve a population of approximately 90,000 residents within 26 square miles. South Jordan City is located in the rapidly growing southwest corner of the Salt Lake Valley.

Each day the South Jordan Fire Department staffs the following resources:

- 1 – Operations Battalion Chief
- 4 – Advanced Life Support Ambulances
- 1 – Single Role Paramedic Advanced Life Support Ambulance
- 1 – Ladder Truck
- 3 – Fire Engines
- 1 – Type 6 Wildland Engine
- 1 – Type 3 Wildland Engine



# DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# FIRE STATIONS



**STATION 61**

**10758 SOUTH REDWOOD ROAD**



**STATION 62**

**4022 WEST SOUTH JORDAN PARKWAY**



**STATION 63**

**10451 SOUTH 1055 WEST**



**STATION 64**

**5443 WEST LAKE AVENUE**

# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

## FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF



**CHRIS DAWSON**  
FIRE CHIEF



**RYAN LESSNER**  
DEPUTY CHIEF



**JON STONE**  
BATTALION CHIEF A PLATOON



**RYAN RAY**  
BATTALION CHIEF B PLATOON



**CLAYTON MILLER**  
BATTALION CHIEF C PLATOON



**LAURA EARLEY**  
FIRE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



**MICHAEL RICHARDS**  
MEDICAL DIVISION CHIEF



**DAVID LEE**  
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION CHIEF



**CORY CAMPBELL**  
TRAINING CAPTAIN



**STEVE STENQUIST**  
TRAINING CAPTAIN



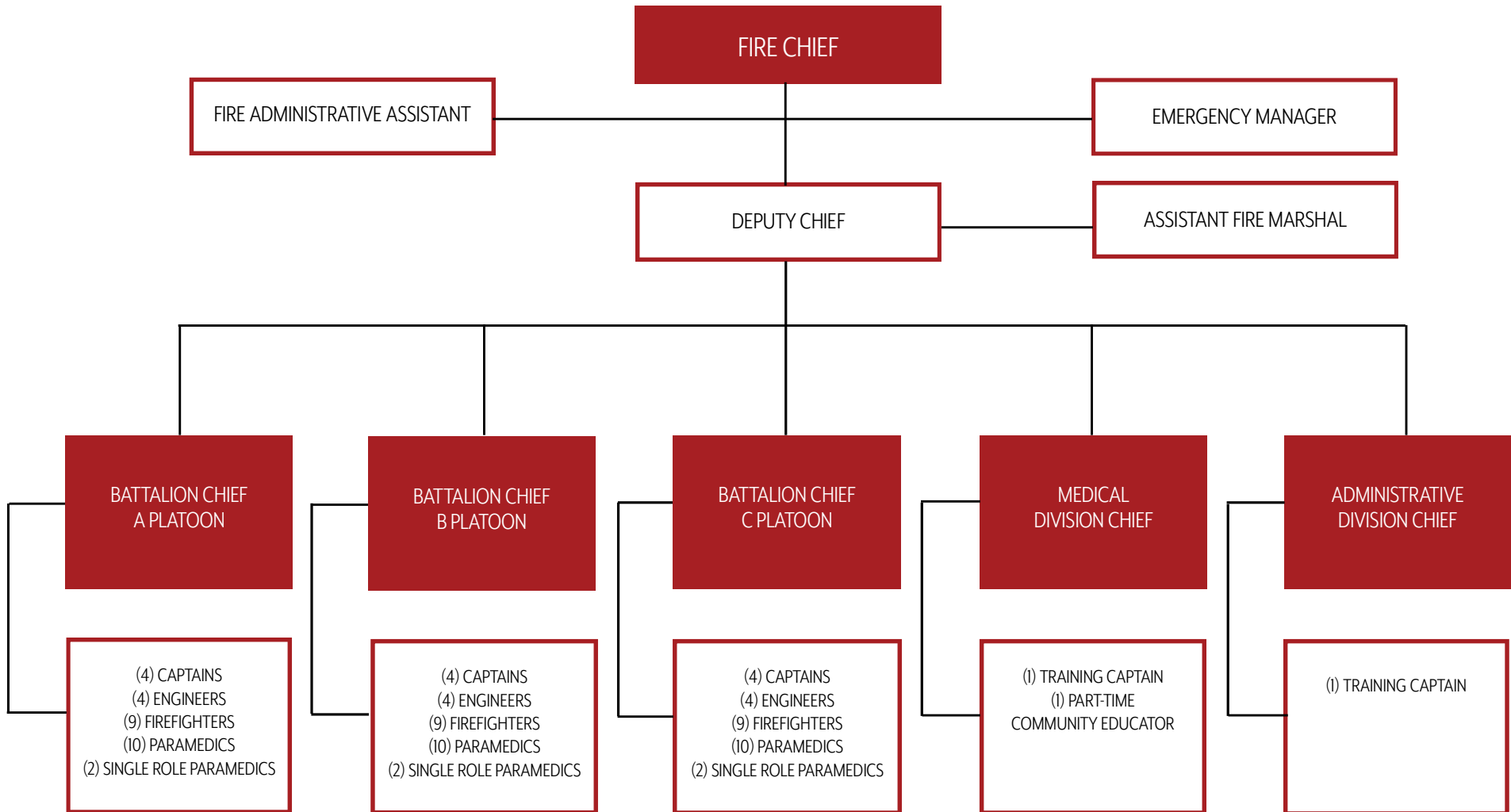
**RUSS AVERY**  
ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHAL



**AARON SAINSBURY**  
EMERGENCY MANAGER

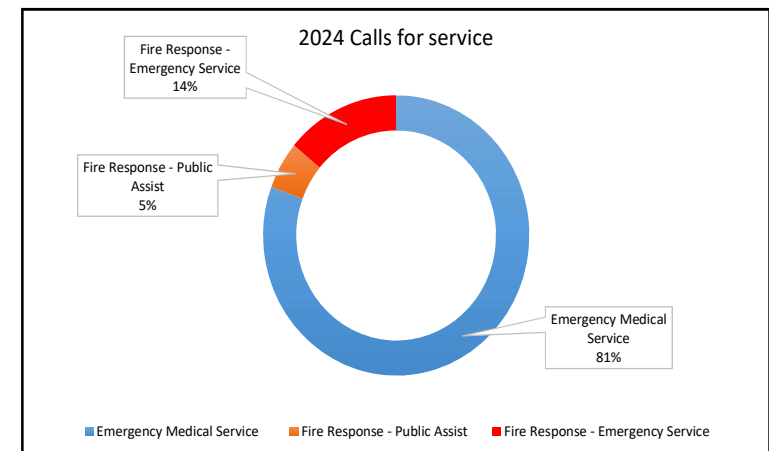
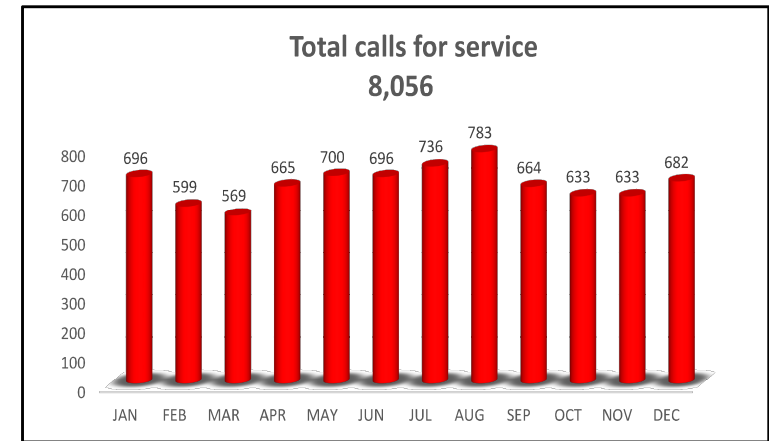
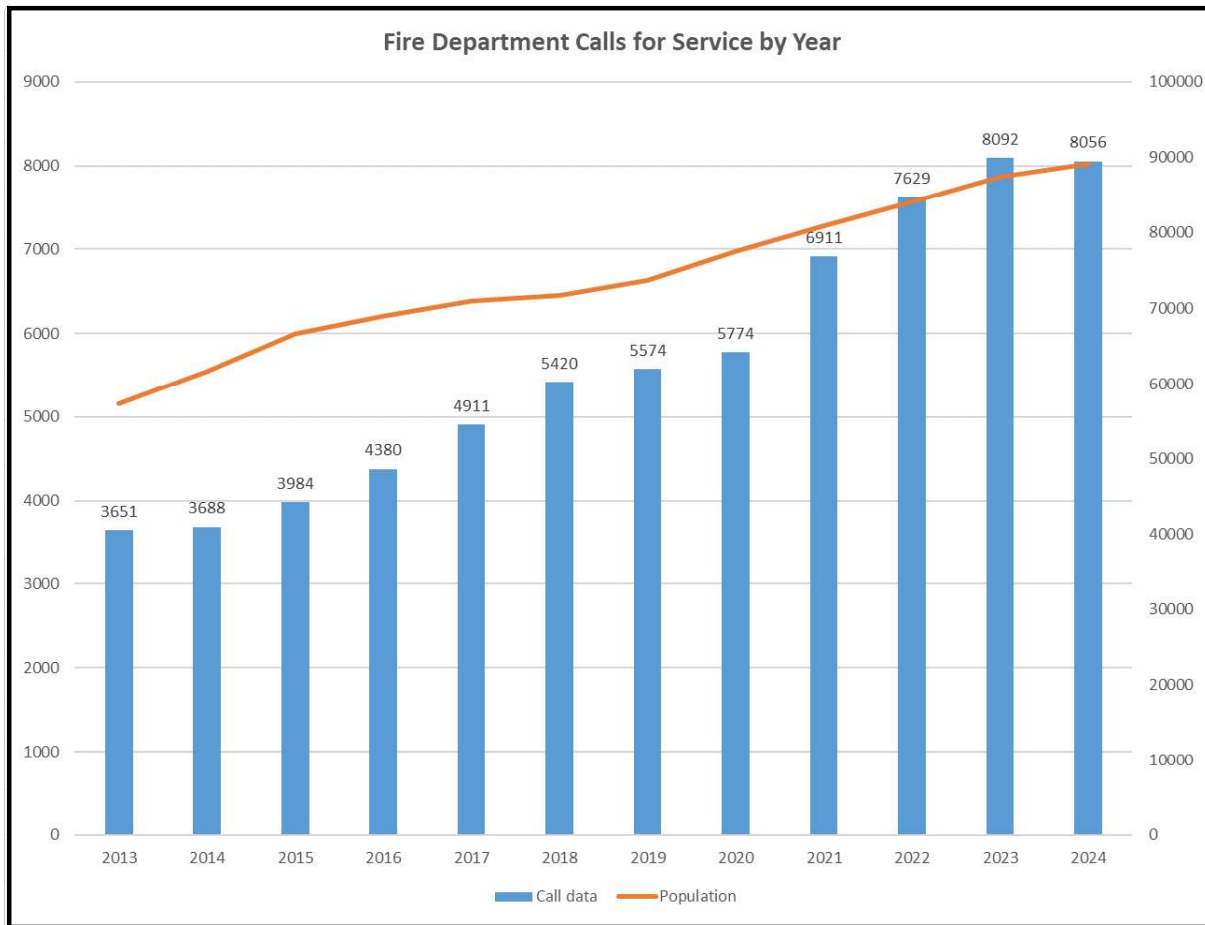
# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# RESPONSE DATA

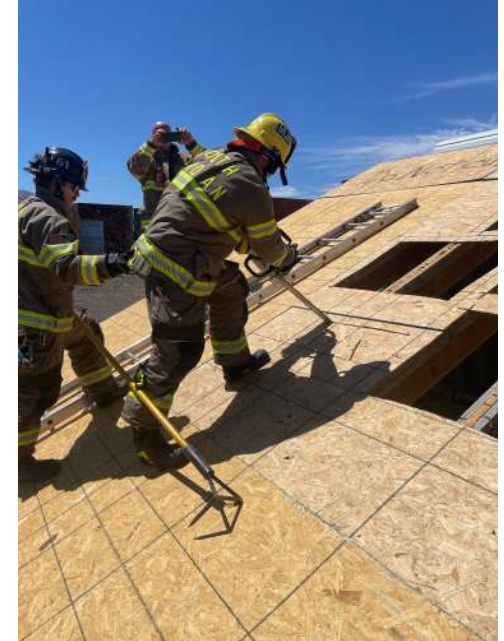


# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The South Jordan Fire Department remains steadfast in its commitment to the safety and well-being of our community. Our personnel dedicate themselves to delivering exceptional services across a range of critical areas. Through continuous training and a focus on innovation, the department consistently enhances its capabilities in advanced emergency medical services, fire prevention, fire suppression, rescue operations, and hazardous materials response.

Additionally, the department prioritizes the professional development of our highly skilled personnel to meet the evolving needs of a rapidly growing city. The men and women of the South Jordan Fire Department are unwavering in their dedication to providing the highest standards of emergency services, while also maintaining a strong focus on delivering outstanding customer service to the residents of our vibrant community.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# 2024 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

## PROMOTIONS

CAPTAIN KENDELL IVERSON  
 CAPTAIN WILLIAM PLATT  
 CAPTAIN ALEX YORK  
 ENGINEER JAREN FRANCHINA  
 FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC MAX DODDRIDGE  
 FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC CONNOR OREY

## NEW EMPLOYEES

FIREFIGHTER COLE FORSYTH  
 FIREFIGHTER JEREMY GREEN  
 FIREFIGHTER TAYLOR KELLER  
 FIREFIGHTER JOSHUA RUGGLES  
 PARAMEDIC ADRIENNE COBURN  
 PARAMEDIC CONNER DOGGETT  
 PARAMEDIC SHATAYA WALKER  
 PARAMEDIC ALEXANDER WEBECKE



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT

## Personnel Development Spotlight -

Captains in the fire service play a vital leadership role, overseeing daily operations, emergency response, and personnel development to ensure the safety of South Jordan personnel and residents. Given the significance of this position, our department places great emphasis on the selection process.

In April 2024, we conducted our annual Captain promotional process, a rigorous two-day evaluation with five key components. Candidates demonstrated their command abilities in a Tactical Assessment, managing a simulated commercial fire at a local Walgreen's. The Conflict Resolution Assessment tested their skills in handling an inter-agency personnel issue. In the Presentation Assessment, candidates proposed cost-effective solutions for firefighter recruitment, retention, and workforce development, including plans for the Medical Division. The Interview evaluated leadership readiness, ethical decision-making, and problem-solving. Finally, the In-Box Assessment measured professionalism, prioritization, and communication through written assignments based on the other evaluations. This comprehensive process ensures that our future Fire Captains are well-equipped to lead effectively, support their teams, and contribute to the department's continued success.

## Professional Development -

Our department members are our most valuable resource. Enabling our personnel to grow and remain proficient in core competencies is key to our ongoing success. Aggressive professional development at all levels is a necessity for succession into the future. Leadership and Driver Development continue to be top priorities. South Jordan aggressively seeks opportunities for department members to grow with internal and external training, hosting many courses from outside entities.



Testing Simulation

# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# TRAINING & CONTINUING EDUCATION

South Jordan is experiencing significant growth on the City's west side, driven by a new baseball stadium, residential housing, and commercial development. These developments present new challenges for training and future development opportunities for our Department members. The Fire Department's Training Division is committed to providing exceptional training for department personnel, which is tailored to evolving industry standards. Some of the areas of focus for training during 2024 were:

## Fire Training

Fire training is based on a robust annual training plan that emphasizes the latest NFPA, ISO, and local certification standards. Fire training is focused on improving personnel safety as well as effective and efficient emergency operations.

## Medical Training

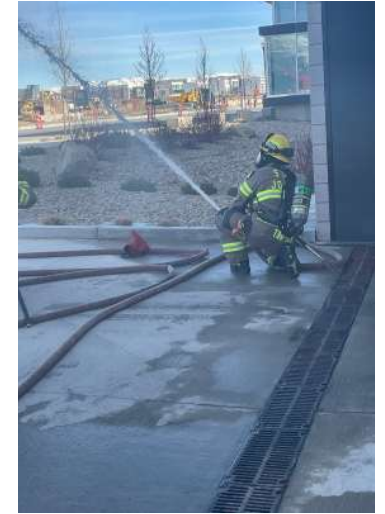
Medical training seeks to provide cutting-edge training in the latest EMS field treatment techniques. This includes Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, use of ventilators and advanced airway techniques to handle breathing and airway problems. The Department also continues to develop its Critical Care Paramedic Program in order to provide second-to-none lifesaving capabilities in the field.

## Safe Driver Training

The Department has a goal of providing a minimum of 24 hours of emergency vehicle driving training to all personnel annually. In 2024 emphasis was placed on training personnel in Traffic Incident Management (TIM) in order to provide safer operating practices for personnel and the public when operating at emergency scenes on roadways.

## Special Operations Training

The Training Division continues to provide training opportunities in support of the Department's Special Operations. These include truck company operations, hazardous materials response, wildland urban interface firefighting, technical rescue operations, as well as ice and water rescue techniques.



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# TRAINING & CONTINUING EDUCATION

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAINING

### 2024 TRAINING HOURS

17,223 HOURS

4,000 HOURS FIRE TRAINING

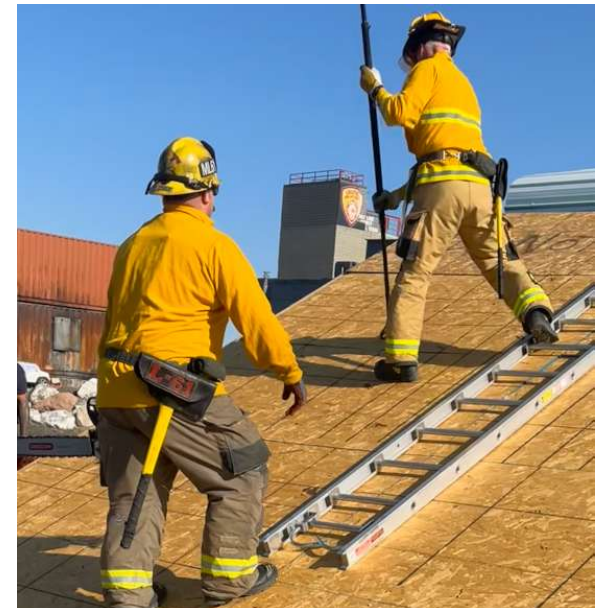
2,487 HOURS MEDICAL TRAINING

3,565 HOURS APPARATUS DRIVER TRAINING

2,400 HOURS NEW FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

4,226 HOURS SPECIALTY TRAINING

545 HOURS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

As your City Emergency Manager, I am proud to highlight the significant accomplishments we've achieved together over the past year. These milestones reflect our collective dedication to ensuring the safety, preparedness, and resilience of our beloved city. Some key accomplishments in 2024 were:

1. **Enhanced Emergency Preparedness:** We successfully conducted a series of community training sessions that equipped residents with essential knowledge on emergency preparedness, disaster response, and community awareness. Communication remains a primary focus in both real-world disaster situations and training exercises. As technology advances and lessons are learned, we continue to upgrade and refine our systems. Notably, improvements have been made to strengthen the radio communication network for professional first responders.
2. **Improved Emergency Management Plans:** We have updated and enhanced our Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), Hazard Mitigation Plan, and Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA). This process involved integrating feedback from community drills, exercises, and real-life events to ensure we are prepared for any situation. Effective planning is vital in fostering a more resilient community, as it guides our preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation strategies based on a thorough understanding of the hazards that may affect our city.
3. **Strengthened Community Partnerships:** We have strengthened collaborations with federal, state, county, and local partners, as well as organizations, businesses, and volunteers. This unified approach has enhanced our disaster response and recovery capabilities, ensuring that we are better equipped to serve our community in times of need.
4. **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Our outreach efforts have increased public awareness about emergency preparedness and the resources available to residents. These initiatives empower community members to take proactive steps in preparing for potential crises, helping to create a more informed and resilient population.
5. **Successful Disaster Exercises:** We conducted comprehensive simulation exercises to test community response and coordination. These exercises provided invaluable insights, allowing us to identify areas for improvement and strengthen the collaboration among emergency services.



QR code for [Be Ready Utah](#)



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

These achievements would not have been possible without community support and active participation. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who took part in drills, exercises, seminars, and community events. Your commitment to staying informed and prepared plays a critical role in our ongoing efforts to ensure the safety and resilience of our city. It is an honor to serve such a dedicated and engaged community.

Respectfully,  
Aaron Sainsbury, Emergency Manager



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

## Critical Care Paramedic Program

The South Jordan Fire Department is committed to staying at the forefront of emergency medical services for our residents. In 2024, our five promoted Critical Care Paramedics made significant strides in advancing our emergency medical capabilities. They successfully finalized the protocols and training required to administer medications for rapid sequence intubation (RSI). By receiving approval from both the State Medical Director and the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, South Jordan Fire Department is now one of only four agencies in Utah authorized to perform prehospital RSI.

Additionally, our Critical Care Paramedics are working on obtaining variances that would allow them to utilize Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) in the field and perform blood tests while still on scene of a medical emergency. Once these variances are approved, South Jordan will become the first ground ambulance service in Utah to offer these advanced medical services. These initiatives will further enhance our ability to provide critical care to the residents of South Jordan.

To ensure the highest standard of training, our Critical Care Paramedics participate in rotations at local emergency rooms and operating rooms, gaining invaluable hands-on experience alongside expert physicians. This ongoing training is crucial as we explore the potential to expand the range of advanced medical services we provide.

The Critical Care Paramedics have also been instrumental in training the department on the use of the Hamilton T1 ventilator. As a result of their instruction, the department has been able to respond to and transport numerous patients experiencing respiratory distress, delivering an elevated level of care during critical situations.

## Single-Role Paramedic Program

In 2024, the South Jordan City Fire Department saw significant benefits from the addition of six single-role paramedic personnel, hired in 2023. These individuals have proven to be invaluable assets to our team. The introduction of a van-style ambulance, utilized by our single-role paramedics, has led to substantial cost savings through improved fuel efficiency and reduced maintenance expenses.

As single-role paramedics, these individuals are not required to hold fire certifications. However, the program offers them the potential opportunity to transition into firefighter roles, should it align with their professional goals. The addition of this medic unit has also helped balance service demands across our four other paramedic ambulances, ensuring a more efficient response to the growing number of emergency calls resulting from the community's expansion.



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

## MEDICAL DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

### Fire Prevention and Public Education

The South Jordan City Fire Department is dedicated to empowering our community with the knowledge and skills to effectively handle emergencies. In 2024, the department achieved several milestones in public education and emergency medical services:

- **CPR and First Aid Training:** The department conducted 29 CPR and Health Care Provider courses, along with 14 First Aid classes, certifying a total of 350 students.
- **EMS Coverage for Special Events:** We continued to provide EMS coverage at various special events across the city, including medical and water rescue standby at a range of unique events.
- **Fire Prevention and Education:** As part of our 2024 Fire Prevention Campaign, the Fire Department taught fire safety to approximately 1,000 elementary-age students. Our Fire Prevention and Public Education efforts also extended to schools, businesses, church groups, and scout troops throughout South Jordan.
- **Life-Safety Inspections:** Fire Department personnel conducted 2,149 life-safety business inspections during the year, ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.



### Mission Lifeline

In 2024, the South Jordan Fire Department responded to 195 patients exhibiting symptoms consistent with a heart problem or stroke. Among these patients:

- 25 were identified with symptoms consistent with STEMI (ST elevation myocardial infarction), commonly known as a heart attack.
- 36 were identified as having positive stroke symptoms.

Thanks to the Fire Department's advanced life support capabilities, these patients received immediate, lifesaving care. The department's exceptional commitment to providing timely and effective care was recognized by the American Heart Association with the Gold Mission Lifeline Award and placement on the Target: Heart Attack Honor Roll. South Jordan Fire Department was the only fire department in Utah to receive this award at this level.



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Fire Investigations

The South Jordan Fire Department (SJFD) remains committed to training and developing new Fire investigators. In 2024, five SJFD investigators attended and successfully completed the annual conference and testing hosted by the Utah Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators.

SJFD also continues to be an active participant in the Salt Lake Valley Metro Arson Group, which comprises representatives from each fire agency in the Salt Lake Valley. This collaboration strengthens our partnerships, including those with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), allowing us to leverage federal resources and support for local investigations.

## Urban Search and Rescue

The South Jordan Fire Department (SJFD) continues to actively participate in Utah Task Force One (UT-TF1), with eight SJFD members serving on the task force. UT-TF1 is one of 28 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) teams nationwide, trained to respond to both natural and man-made disasters. The team specializes in search and rescue operations in environments such as high-angle, confined space, water-based, structure collapse, and wide-area searches.

In 2024, SJFD personnel on UT-TF1 participated in various training opportunities, including:

- Out-of-state trainings: Members attended training sessions in Texas and California alongside other task force teams.
- Local training events: SJFD personnel also took part in a two-week Structural Collapse Specialist Course hosted by UT-TF1, where they trained with individuals from across the country.
- National Guard collaboration: UT-TF1 and SJFD personnel assisted in training members of the Utah National Guard in structure collapse operations.

In addition to these training efforts, SJFD personnel associated with UT-TF1 responded to Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton in September and October 2024. Members participated in search operations and provided assistance to local agencies in Tennessee and Florida.

# SPECIAL OPERATIONS



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS

### Heavy Rescue School

In 2024, instructors from *Training to Perform Under Pressure* and *Paratech* shared their expertise through a combination of classroom instruction at Station 64 and practical exercises at RAD Canyon. Participants gained valuable hands-on experience with a variety of heavy vehicles, including garbage trucks, dump trucks, HazMat trailers, school buses, and passenger cars. The training culminated in a complex, multi-vehicle accident simulation, which tested participants' skills and knowledge in real-world scenarios.

### Rope Rescue and Confined Space

In August 2024, South Jordan Fire Department hosted an internal Rope Rescue Technician course. This comprehensive training, held at Station 64 and nearby locations, equipped firefighters with the essential skills for handling technical rescue incidents involving ropes. The course combined classroom instruction with hands-on exercises, ensuring participants were thoroughly prepared for real-world scenarios. Looking ahead, a Confined Space Rescue Technician course is scheduled for 2025.

### Water Incident Response

South Jordan Fire Department continues to enhance its capabilities to respond to water-based emergencies. The department has introduced ongoing training and new programs aimed at improving response to various water-related incidents, including ice rescue, boat operations, and surface water rescue. Additionally, new equipment has been purchased and training is underway to further support Water Incident Response efforts.

- Each year, the department conducts refresher training for ice rescue operations. In 2024, training included the use of Oquirrh Lake and the new Watercourse water features in the Daybreak development, providing valuable hands-on experience in a controlled environment.
- In 2024, South Jordan launched a Surface Water and Boat Operations course to enhance the department's ability to respond to water emergencies on Oquirrh Lake and other bodies of water in and around South Jordan. Members began training on both inflatable and hard-bottomed boats, which are stationed at Station 64 as part of the department's technical rescue specialties.



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

# FLEET AND APPARATUS

## Dual Purpose Specialty Apparatus

The South Jordan City Fire Department has developed an innovative dual-purpose fire engine, designed to combine both firefighting and heavy rescue capabilities into a single unit. This unique vehicle merges the functions of a fire engine and a heavy rescue vehicle, allowing the department to streamline its fleet and reduce the need for multiple specialized vehicles.

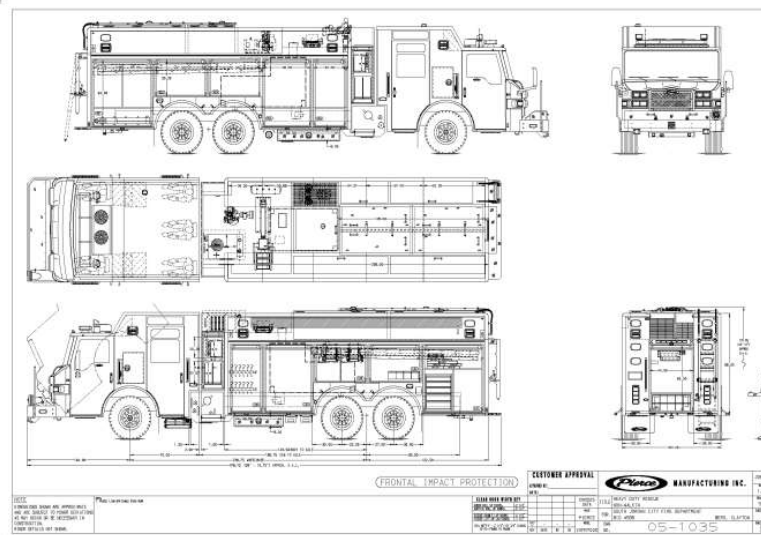
This design ensures faster response times, as personnel can be dispatched with all the necessary tools and equipment for both fire suppression and complex rescues, including vehicle extrications, technical rescues, and heavy lifting operations. This forward-thinking approach to fleet design reflects the department's commitment to improving efficiency, reducing operational costs, and providing the highest level of service to the community. With this new apparatus, the department is setting the standard for future heavy rescue vehicle designs across fire departments. The dual-purpose fire engine is anticipated to be delivered in mid-2025.

## Streamlined Ambulance Procurement

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, fire departments across the nation have faced significant challenges in acquiring vehicles due to supply chain issues and extended manufacturing times. To address these ongoing challenges, the South Jordan Fire Department proactively opted for a new ambulance model with a more efficient ordering process.

This new model combines a semi-stock body with a fully customizable interior patient compartment, reducing production time by as much as three years. By selecting this approach, the department has found a practical solution to rising production costs and prolonged delivery timelines.

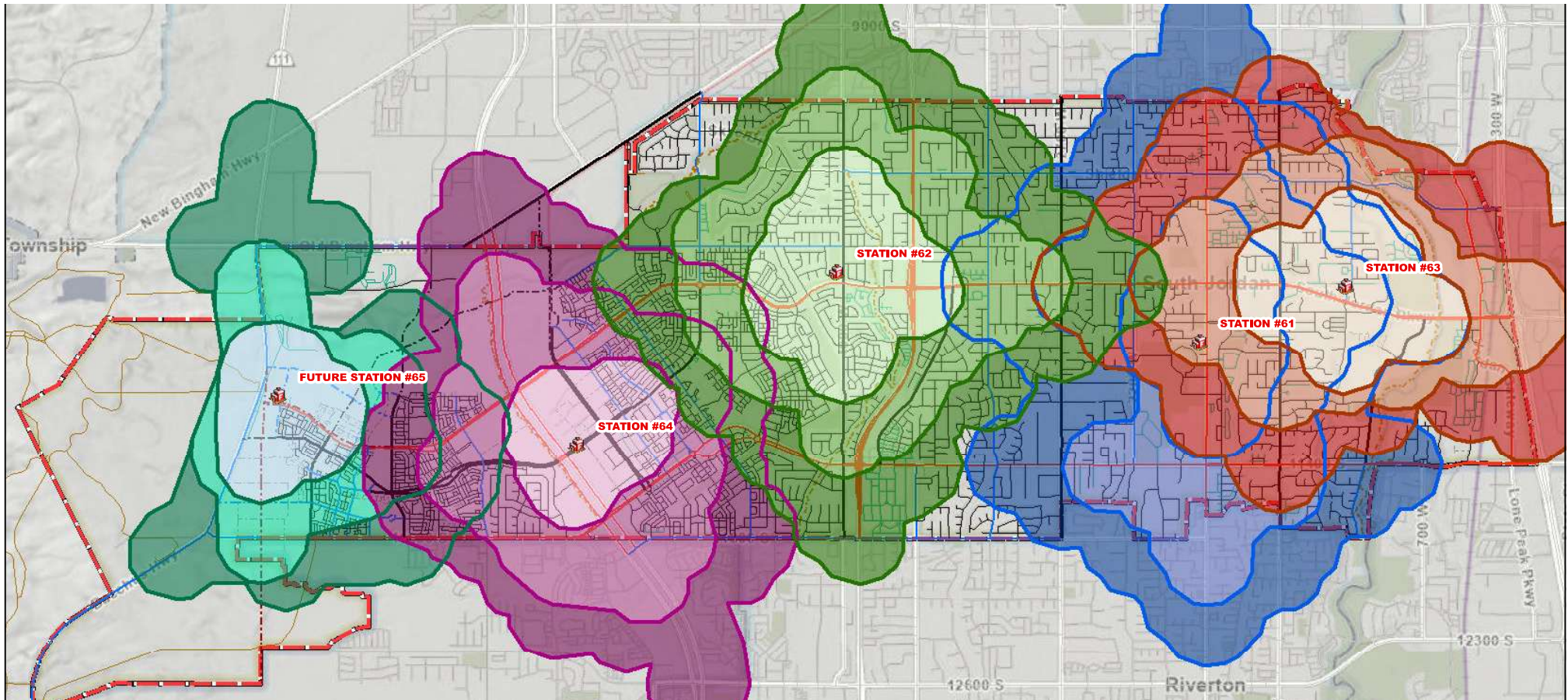
The semi-custom model meets the department's operational needs while being easier, faster, and more cost-effective to manufacture. As a result, the South Jordan Fire Department is able to address its immediate operational requirements without compromising on quality or service. The department has ordered two of these ambulances and expects delivery in mid-2025.



# SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

## FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE

Response times within South Jordan are continuously evaluated to ensure that the Fire Department is providing residents with the highest level of service possible. The colored zones within each response district below, highlight the department's response time goal of five minutes or less within the city. These zones are averages based on existing roads and speed limits. Our average emergency response times decreased with the addition of Station 64 in 2021. As the city continues to develop west, the Fire Department remains committed to critically evaluate its response capabilities and the needs of the community. The Fire Department is actively working with the city's elected officials and the city administration to determine the appropriate timing, and to identify funding, for the addition of a fifth fire station to service the city's far west side.



\* Response zones are based on existing roads only and do not represent future roads that will be developed.

