2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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Mission Statement:

The Harker Heights Fire Department will provide, with care and concern, the highest quality Fire/Rescue/EMS care and service to all persons for whom the City of Harker Heights is responsible.



HARKER HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION / CENTRAL STATION 401 INDIAN TRAIL HARKER HEIGHTS, TEXAS 76548

(254) 699-2688

Fire Dept@harkerheights.gov

On behalf of the men and women of the Harker Heights Fire department, I want to say thank you for taking the time to read and enjoy our 2021 & 2022 Annual Report. Having now experienced a pandemic as a nation and seemingly moving out of it, many things are somewhat

back to normal and we are grateful for being blessed to not have been too adversely affected. We have and continue to lift up those in prayer who have been affected in our community, state, and nation in a more profound way through loss or illness!

We have a lot to be proud of as an organization for the accomplishments we were able to achieve over these last two-years and our team is to be commended. The following are just a sample of our achievements during the 21/22 calendar years:

- Received the American Heart Association's Mission Lifeline "Gold Plus" EMS Award year for the seventh and eighth consecutive year. This award recognizes its commitment and success in implementing specific quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who suffer a severe heart attack.
- Completed renovation or our fire station #2 with the addition of 2350 sq. feet of space in order to serve our needs for well into the future.
- Ordered a new ladder truck this will be known as Tower 41 once it arrives, expected to be April of 2023.
- Ordered a replacement Medic unit during in October of 2021 and received new unit in February 2023 and placed into service.
- Purchased new extrication tools.
- Continued the Thanksgiving Basket and Santa Pal program assisting more than 200 families over the course of the last two years.

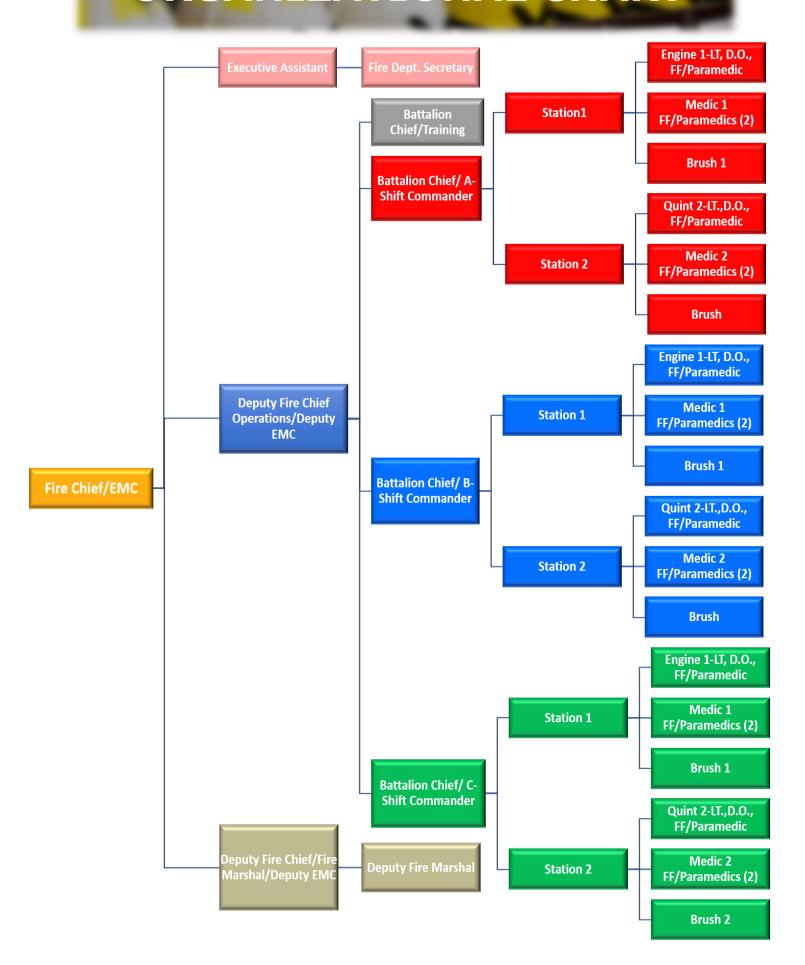
We look forward to what 2023 has in-store in the way of challenges and possibilities and we will approach them with the degree of diligence and purpose we expect of ourselves in order to best serve our community.

- Providing public services that empower people to focus on what matters most: their goals, hopes and dreams; is our city's vision statement and we stive daily to see it through.

Paul D. Sims

Fire Chief/EMC

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





The Operations Division is led by the Deputy Fire Chief of Operations Cindy Hicks and is tasked with providing an array of fire suppression and specialized rescue operations. Moreover, the suppression staff of thirty nine (39) are responsible for providing Advanced Life Support (ALS) and basic emergency medical care to those who live, work and/or pass through our community. These and other areas of service are provided twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, with two front line state of the art mobile intensive care units and one reserve ambulance. As well as, one Quint "ladder" truck, one front line Class "A" pumper, one Class "A" reserve pumper, two brush trucks, one boat for high water rescue, and one Battalions Chief commander vehicle. The Operations Division responded to 4400 calls for service this year. The Harker Heights Fire Department handled an average of 12.05 emergency responses each day.

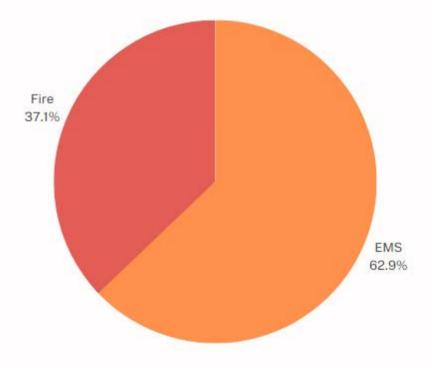


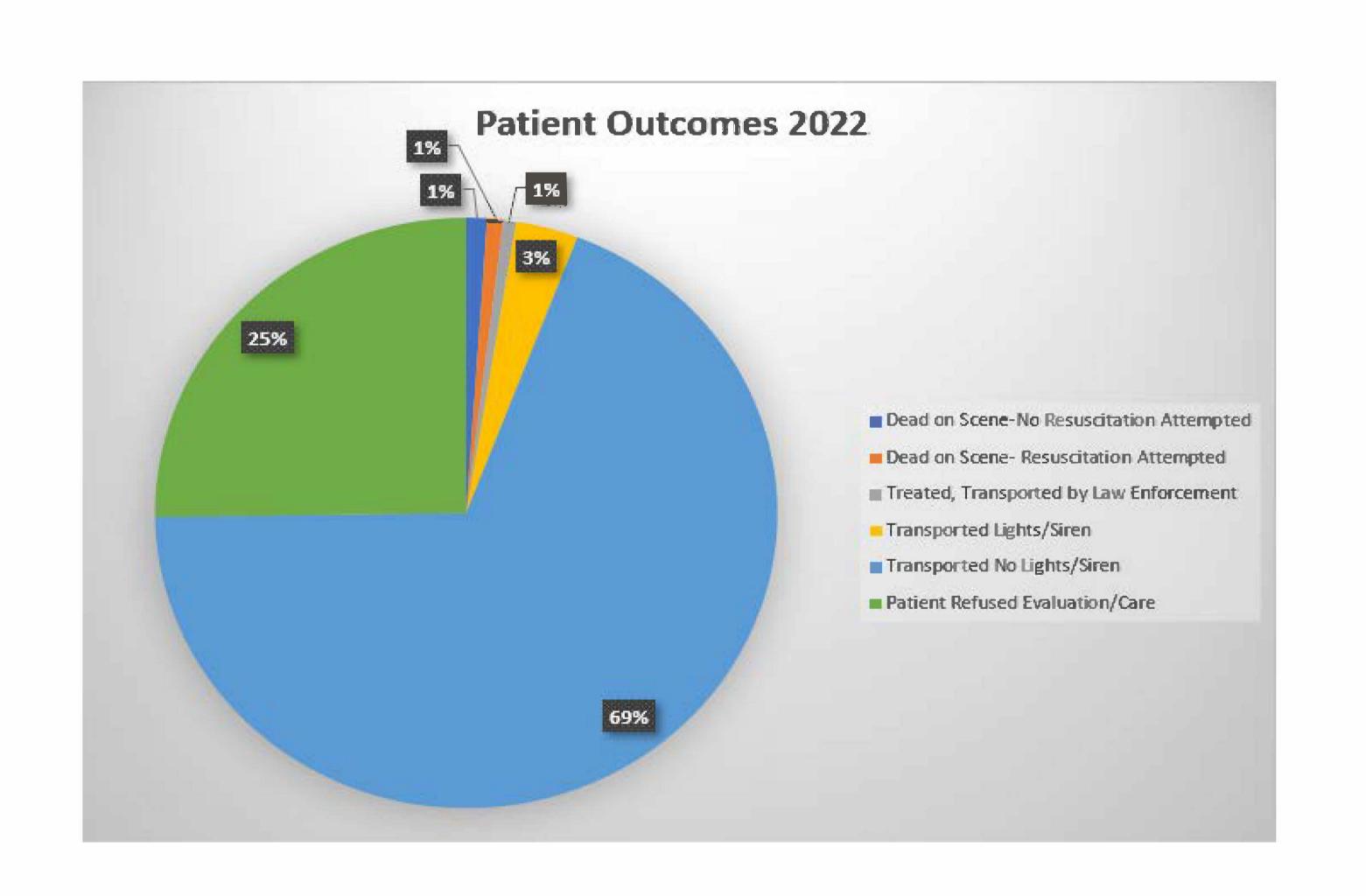


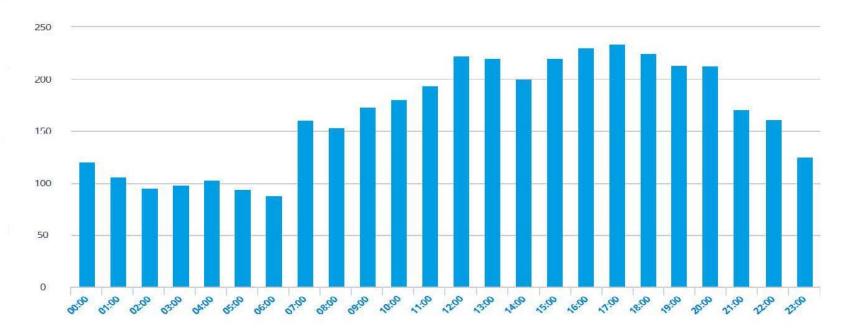


Deputy Fire Chief Cindy Hicks has been with the Harker Heights Fire Department since 1994. Besides being a certified firefighter and paramedic, she is also a chaplain, wildland firefighter, among holding many other certifications.



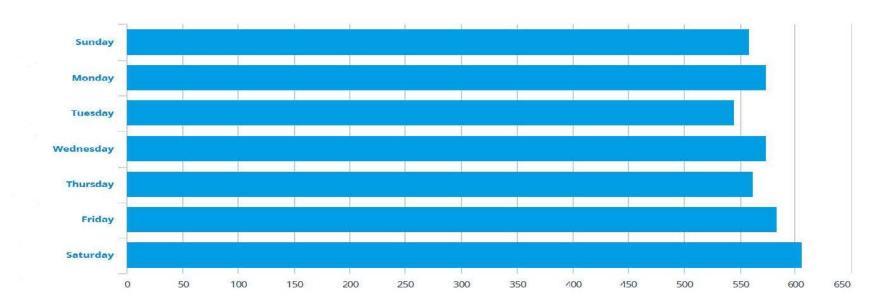


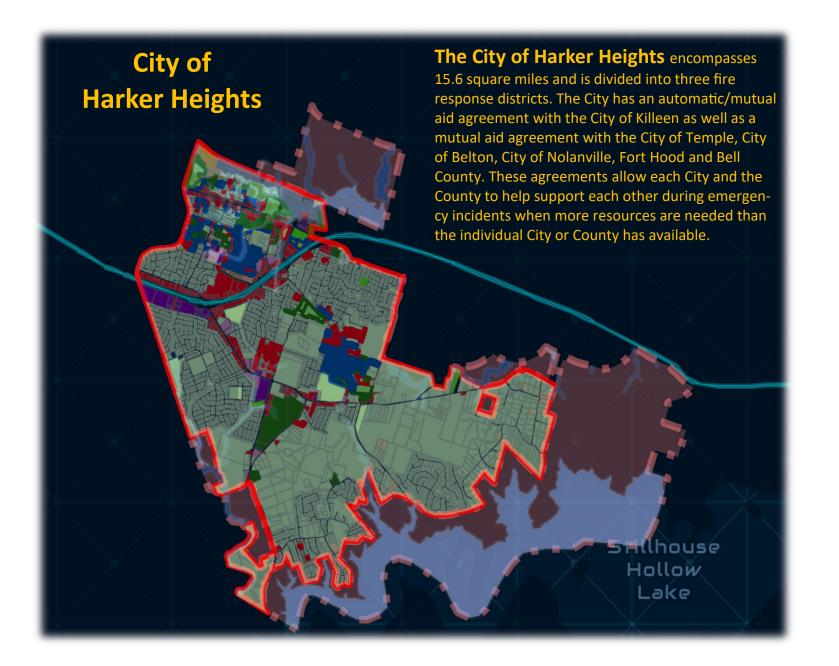






Jan 1, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022 🗸





Type of Incident	# of Incidents	% of Incident Type
Structure Fire	51	36.96%
Fire, Other	1	.72%
Fire in Mobile Property Used as a Fixed Structure	2	1.45%
Mobile Property (Vehicle)	13	9.42%
Natural Vegetation Fire	51	36.96%
Outside Rubbish Fire	17	12.32%
Special Outside Fire	3	2.17%
Total Fire Responses	138	



Central Station
401 Indian Trail
Harker Heights, TX 76548

Station #2 3207 Stillhouse Lake Rd Harker Heights, TX 76548





Lieutenant Megan Leighman



Battalion Chief Matthew Truitt





Lieutenant Damon Sprouse

A-Shift Updates and Accomplishments

- Former Lieutenant Matt Hogan was promoted to Battalion Chief of Training.
- BC of Training Aaron Dunnam became BC of A-Shift.
- Damon Sprouse was promoted to Lieutenant of A-Shift.



DriverOperator **Damon Sprouse**



DriverOperator Justin Lewis



Firefighter/Paramedic **Kevin Rochford**



FirefighterParamedic **Kellie Mozek**



Firefighter Paramedic Jonathan Gutz



Firefighter Paramedic Nathan Elliott



Kaleb Sparkman



Firefighter Paramedic Firefighter Paramedic **Tanner Fleet**



Firefighter Paramedic **Nicholas Olson**



Firefighter EMT **Lacey Moore**



Firefighter Paramedic Roman Hernandez



Battalion Chief
Ray Gandara





Lieutenant Justin Lewis



Lieutenant
Anthony Combs

B-Shift Updates and Accomplishments:

- Lieutenant Ray Gandara was promoted to B-Shift

 Battalion Chief Persiment
- FF Charles Brummett was promoted to C-Shift
 Driver/Operator
- FTO Zach Gauthier instructed multiple classes for city personnel throughout the year
- New Hires Corey David and Ernesto Rodarte were welcomed to B-Shift.



Driver/Operator Cody Newman



Driver Operator Rene Fernandez



Firefighter/Paramedic Joseph Byrne



Firefighter/Paramedic **Zachary Gauthier**



Firefighter Paramedic Casey Baugh



Firefighter Paramedic Firefighter Paramedic Firefighter Paramedic **Jason Moore**



Tyler Pavelka



Tanner Read



Firefighter Paramedic John Fussell



Firefighter EMT **Corey David**



Firefighter EMT **Ernesto Rodarte**









Lieutenant Jacob Cardona



C-Shift Updates and Accomplishments:

- Firefighter/EMT Logan Green was welcomed.
- Hunter Ringo graduated from CTC's Paramedic

 Program.
- Stuart Kiefer was promoted to Driver/Operator for B-Shift.



Driver/Operator Walter Elvidge



Charles Brummett



Mike Licavoli



Firefighter Paramedic Firefighter/Paramedic Firefighter Paramedic **Jordan Clopton**



Firefighter Paramedic Stuart Kiefer



Firefighter Paramedic Justin Elliott



Firefighter Paramedic Firefighter Paramedic Mandy Jimenez



Alyssa Schwindt



Firefighter Paramedic Hunter Ringo



Firefighter EMT **Logan Green**



Engine 1 is a 2014 Ferrara MVP Pumper Truck. It can store up to 750 gallons of water and pump 2000 gallons per minute. It carries up to 768 cubic feet of equipment. The truck is approximately 34' long and 10' in height.

Quint 2 is a 2005 E-One Typhoon Ladder Truck. It can store 360 gallons of water and pump 2000 gallons per minute. 75ft 360 degree aerial ladder.





Our ambulances have a carrying capacity of 2 people, but can be increased if needed.

As a Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU). We are prepared to treat/stabilize and transport patients in almost any medical emergency.

Feature Equipment:

- Video Laryngoscopy Digital video that assists in airway management.
- Lifepak 15 State of the art mobile cardiac monitoring system.
- Doppler Detects fetal heartbeats and peripheral arterial blood flow.
- Powerlift Stretcher Hydraulic assisted lifting system that keeps patients stable.





Brush Trucks are designed to move quickly through areas that other fire apparatuses cannot. They can store up to 400 gallons of water and can be used for light rescue, initial attack or medical support. Our trucks are also equipped with a remote controlled nozzle, which enables the vehicle to fight fire while on the move.

Battalion 1 is operated by the Shift Commander and is used to respond to various events and incidents as a mobile command post. It is equipped with a wide variety of equipment to ensure communication and coordination are performed at the highest efficiency.





"Sometimes we are tested not to show our weaknesses but to show our strengths."

- Unknown

In **2022**, the fire department completed over 4200 hours of fire and EMS training. This training was completed through:

- Target Solutions
- Fire training: hands on training in extrication, rescue, pump operations, hazmat and fire scenarios
- Mutual aid training through live fire scenarios
- EMS training: classroom, hands on with the simulation mannequin, hands on emergency airway training with Dr. Ratcliff, Medical Director, PHTLS with Ft. Hood.
- Stop the Bleed Program (public and City employees)
- Take 10 CPR
- Fire Extinguisher training to citizens and City employees
- Online programs in Fire Instruction, Fire Officer, and Driver Operator training
- College hours in Fire service and EMS
- TEEX fire training through Texas A & M on HazMat liquid, pipeline, and industrial emergencies
- TML training
- Coordinated training with CTC, Paramedic School
- Blue Card training scenarios with all Firefighters
- Hazardous materials incident commander training/certification
- NAEMT instructor certification
- TIFMAS (Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System) training and TIFMAS Conference



Aaron Dunnam is the Battalion Chief of training and coordinates both Fire and EMS training for the Department. Aaron has been with Harker Heights Fire Department for over 11 years.

Training Vision for 2023

Additional live fire training with area agencies to include the Ft. Hood, Temple, and Killeen Fire Departments

Creation of a yearly fire training schedule that will incorporate hands on activities to compliment current online training through Target Solutions

Empowering operations personnel to pursue professional development with in house certification classes utilizing IFSTA Resource One

Creation of dynamic fireground command training scenarios using Simsushare

Certifications

The following certifications are earned and issued through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection

Firefighter Lev	<u>vels</u>	<u>Inspectors</u>
Master	10	7
Advanced	12	Fire Officer
Intermediate	7	FO I 7
Basic	13	FO II 9
Fire Investigato	or 8	FO III 0
<u>Instructors</u>		FO IV 4
Master Instructor Instructor III Instructor II Instructor I	1 1 8 14	Hazardous Materials Technician 5 personnel
Wildland Fire	<u>fighters</u>	
•	18 personnel EMS certifications through The Department of State Health Services	
29 person		EMT Paramedics 38
Arson Investig		EMT Basics 6
3 personnel		

- 100% of the department members are dual certified in Fire and EMS







Certificate of Promotion



Battalion Chief Matt Hogan



Deputy Fire Marshall Johnny Carraway



Lieutenant Justin Lewis



Driver/Operator Stuart Kiefer



Lieutenant Damon Sprouse

IRBURIENIEN



Battalion Chief David Ayer has been an integral part of our department for the last 25 years and his contributions will always be valued and remembered.

We wish him relaxation and good fortune on his retirement!



Driver/Operator Cody Newman retired from the Department in October 2022 with 18 plus years of service. His dedication and hard work will be missed.

Good Luck to Cody in his future endeavors!

New Employees



Corey David



Logan Green



Roman Hernandez

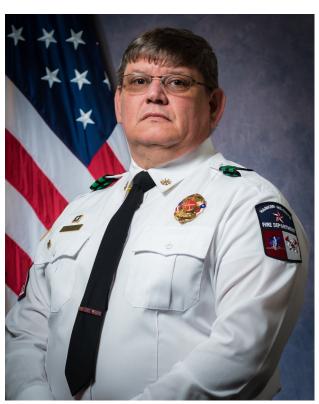




Fire Prevention Division

The Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) is tasked with preventing and/or reducing the incidence of fire, explosions, and other hazards that may cause harm to the residents, visitors and businesses of the City of Harker Heights. We strive to accomplish this goal through quality public education, construction plan reviews, fire and life safety inspections, application of the fire code, fire cause and origin examinations, and criminal investigations.

Our dedicated and highly trained personnel actively participate with our community, by striving to provide safety information, by attempting to serve as role models, by effectively and efficiently utilizing all resources made available, and by providing excellent customer service to the citizens and visitors to the City of Harker Heights, Texas



Top 10 Violations Found

- Improper clearance to electrical equipment.
- Improper or no required signage on exit doors.
- Portable fire extinguishers that haven't had an annual inspection.
- Exit signs and/or emergency lighting not working on battery back -up.
- Fire Alarm systems that haven't had an annual inspection.
- Commercial kitchen vent hoods that require cleaning.
- Failure to acquire proper permits or city business registration.
- Updated keys needed for the location's Knox Box.
- Unsecured or Improperly secured compressed gas cylinders.
- Storage in electrical and mechanical rooms.

Fires and Investigations

Various Fire Responded to	31
Working Fire Investigated by FMO	17
Accidental or Undetermined cause	28
Suspected Incendiary (Arson) Fires	3
Arson Arrests	0



Community Programs



Fire safety education programs for the public are a valuable resource for our community. Our team works hard to educate the public about fire safety. Our firefighting crews are committed to providing educational instruction on fire safety to members of the local community, including at schools, daycare facilities, and community gatherings.

The Harker Heights Lions Club and the Fire Department coordinate an annual Thanksgiving and Santa Pal Basket to help families during the holidays. We appreciate all the generous donations for businesses, community members and all others that make this event possible each year!



Firefighter's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God, wherever flames may rage, give me strength to save a life, whatever be its age.

Help me embrace a little child before it is too late, or save an older person from the horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert,
and hear the weakest shout,
quickly and efficiently
to put the fire out.

I want to fill my calling,
to give the best in me,
to guard my friend and neighbor,
and protect his property.

And if according to Your will
I must answer death's call,
bless with your protecting hand,
my family one and all.





Lt. Lewis teaching fire safety at a local elementary school for Fire Safety Day.

"Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape™." is the national campaign theme of this year's Fire Prevention Week, supported by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). This year's theme strives to educate everyone about the importance of of having a home escape plan and practicing it with everyone in the household.





Firefighter of the Year

Stuart Kiefer is a Firefighter/Paramedic at the Harker Heights Fire Department. Driver/Operator Kiefer has been a dedicated member of the Harker Heights Fire Department since 2015.

Stuart holds a bachelors degree in communications from California State University, Sacramento. He completed fire classes and fire academy in California at Las Positas College. D/O Kiefer has completed a Cal-Fire Wildland Fire academy, his EMT-B in California and EMT-P at CTC in Killeen.

D/O Kiefer has always had the drive to help people, stemmed from his time in the Boy Scouts. He started Boy Scouts as a tiger cub and worked his way up to Eagle Scout. Stuart enjoys engaging with people in the community and making a difference in people's lives.





2022 Mission: Lifeline® EMS Recognition

The American Heart Association proudly recognizes

Harker Heights Fire Department
Harker Heights, TX

Mission: Lifeline® - EMS - GOLD PLUS

Achievement Award - EMS Agency

The American Heart Association/American Stroke Associations recognizes this EMS provider organization for demonstrating continued success in using the **Mission Lifeline*** program. Thank you for applying the most up-to-date evidence-based treatment guidelines to improve patient care and outcomes in the community you serve.*







HARKER HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT 401 INDIAN TRAIL HARKER HEIGHTS, TX 76548 WWW.HARKERHEIGHTS.COM/FD

