



SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE
Regular Board of Directors' Meeting
April 7, 2025
9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO

I. REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 4:00 P.M. – Board Room

A. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

D. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

E. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Conduct at Meetings. Comments by members of the public shall be made only during the “Public Comment” portion of the meeting or a specified “Public Hearing,” and shall be limited to three minutes per individual and five minutes per group spokesperson unless additional opportunity is given at the Board’s discretion. Each member of the public wishing to speak shall identify themselves by name, address, and agenda item, if any, to be addressed. Disorderly conduct, harassment, or obstruction of or interference with meetings by physical action, verbal utterance, nuisance or any other means are prohibited. Such conduct may result in removal of person(s) responsible for such behavior from the meeting, a request for assistance from law enforcement, and criminal charges filed against such person(s).

G. EXECUTIVE SESSION (UPON MOTION)

1. Pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(e), C.R.S., for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators related to the Fire Chief’s Contract.
2. Pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(b) and (e), C.R.S., for the purposes of a conference with the District’s legal counsel for purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions and determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding the Station 15 construction project.

H. PRESENTATIONS

1. Wellness Program – CCTA Project Update – Dr. Burns
2. EMS Pre-Hospital Blood Program - Pietrzyk

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items are provided for study in the Board packets and introduced in the General Session for the Board’s review. They can be adopted by a single motion. All resolutions and proposed actions must be read by title prior to a vote on the motion. Any Consent Agenda items may be removed at the request of a Director and heard separately or tabled.

J. ACTION ITEMS

1. National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week Proclamation – Richardson
2. (after 6:00 p.m.) Public Hearing: Order by Board of Directors of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District for Exclusion of Real Property (Svitlana Syvokon) – Dell’Orfano
3. Fire Chief’s Employment Contract (Curtis) - Albee
4. Fire Chief’s Employment Contract Amendment (Baker) - Albee
5. Station 15 Project Budget – Weller & Corbo

K. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. IGA Update – Dell’Orfano
 - a. N/A

L. DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

With a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the board members in attendance, the board has the discretion to amend the Agenda to move any Discussion/Potential Action Item to an Action Item.

1. Revenue Initiative Discussion

M. NEXT MEETING(S)

Special Board of Directors’ Meeting to be held on April 21, 2025, 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO

Regular Board of Directors’ Meeting to be held on May 5, 2025, 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO

N. ADJOURNMENT

South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District
Regular Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2025

Present:

Jim Albee, Chair	Bob Baker, Fire Chief
Renee Anderson, Vice Chair	Mike Dell'Orfano, Chief Govt. Affairs Officer
Rich Sokol, Treasurer	John Curtis, Deputy Chief– Emergency Services
Sue Roche, Secretary	Kristin Eckmann, Deputy Chief – Community Services
Kevin Leung	Matt Weller, Deputy Chief – Employee Services
William Shriver	Stephanie Corbo, Chief Financial Officer
Bruce Stahlman	Camie Chapman, CHRO Employee Services
	Allison Ulmer, Legal Counsel

Others Present: Magellan/Public Alignment Team, SMFR Staff Members & citizens

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chair Albee called the Regular Meeting of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District to order at 6:04 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Albee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

All of the Board members were present in person.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Director Roche motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Director Shriver seconded the motion. 7 were in favor, 0 opposed. The motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Chair Albee asked if there were any changes to conflict of interest affirmation:

- Director Stahlman – no changes
- Director Roche – no changes
- Director Anderson – no changes
- Chair Albee- no changes
- Director Shriver – no changes
- Director Sokol – no changes
- Director Leung – no changes

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

02/03/25 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Regular Board Meeting Minutes

02/24/25 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Special Board Meeting Minutes

Director Shriver motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Stahlman seconded the motion. 7 were in favor, 0 opposed. The motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

N/A

DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

1. **Revenue Initiative: Survey Results Discussion – Magellan/Public Alignment** – Chief Dell’Orfano reintroduced the team who are here to review the survey results and the next step.

Courtney Sievers & Ryan Winger from Magellan Strategies provided the methodology and results from the preliminary citizen survey to measure the support and opposition for two potential additional funding ballot measures as well as opinion on potential messaging on why SMFR needs additional funding.

Bryan Blakely and Sara O’Keefe from Public Alignment Communications provided information on what was learned and heard from the survey, strategy and outreach programs, messaging and audience, timeline and deliverables, the Board and Staff roles and participation as well as providing three key messaging points.

The Board requested:

- Copies of the preliminary citizen survey responses
- Use the word inform rather than educate
- Sensitivity to some of the merged organizations that have experienced mill levy increases in the last 20 years.
- Clearly outline what will be impacted to avoid perception of scare tactics. The general point is status quo cannot continue without a change.
- Provide a list of key stakeholder meeting dates so the Board can attend as many as possible; confirmed focus more on the city councils to prioritize the Board’s time.
- Provide guidance on how to navigate the opposition to the legislation for sales tax.

The Board thanked the team for the very informative presentations.

A break was taken at 8:04 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 8:21 p.m.

2. **3/17/25 Board Meeting Reschedule** – Chief Dell’Orfano stated that the next few weeks will be strategizing on the fly with the consulting teams, working with the card deck of materials to create the most effective presentations for Board review, so no need to reschedule the meeting. At the end of March, would like to get together with a couple of Board members at a time to review the card deck, get feedback and do some train-the-trainer to make sure there is a clear message and consistent back story information. CFO Corbo added that it is an informational campaign with three top messages, reiterating no decision has been made. Staff will be polling the Board to determine their availability & in the meantime, provide feedback to Chief Dell’Orfano or CFO Corbo and they will forward it to the consultants.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **12/31/24 Financial Statements** – CFO Corbo informed that the statements were placed in the packet for review and noted that there are almost \$2M in outstanding journal entries and an updated presentation will be provided in May that will include the capital project details.

At Chair Albee’s request, CFO Corbo stated that Station 15 is not over budget at this time and that the cost over run item listed in the summary is because the project is not completed due to some weather delays. Chief Weller added that the project is tracking within budget so there is no specific risk right now but there is some critical path work

that needs to be done. Chief Milan reported that the punch list walk through is scheduled for this Friday, substantial completion expected on the 10th and still on budget.

At Chair Albee's request, CHRO Chapman stated that she does know that we had higher claims than anticipated in the self-insured medical fund. CFO Corbo will look into it further to see if the 4th quarter trend will continue & if there are any concerns for the 2025 budget. At Director Shriver's request, Staff will also look into whether the stop loss had kicked in or not & at Director Sokol's request to see if there is a seasonality to medical expenses.

At Chair Albee's request, Chief Richardson will provide a schedule of what apparatus we have on order and when it is expected. Chair Albee suggested a quarterly update.

2. **JSF Gym Project Update** – Chief Weller reminded that the Board put \$60K in the budget for a new JSF gym floor & asked Staff to go out to bid. The bid went to 4 vendors and the low-cost bid came in at \$25K. The Board approved going forward under the existing authorizations.
3. **2025 Board Election Update** – Chief Dell'Orfano reminded that the deadline to submit Self-Nomination and Acceptance Forms was Friday and the Write-In Candidate deadline was today. Chief Dell'Orfano reviewed the list of candidates for each district seat & stated that the lot drawing to determine the order of the names on the ballot will be conducted in the next few days. On March 7th the ballot will be certified, and Staff will be moving forward with securing the consultant to help coordinate printing ballots, envelopes & finalizing mailing lists. Ballot boxes have been secured with all three counties & continue along in the process.

Director Anderson reminded to put the election information back up on the website about only one name on the ballots for two of the districts. Chief Dell'Orfano stated that the information is also included on the secrecy sleeve in the envelope with the ballot. After discussion, Chair Albee asked Legal Counsel Ulmer to look into what the risks are for not running an election in the two districts where Board candidates have already been chosen. The Board agreed they are okay with it if Legal Counsel cannot find a reason where the risk is too high.

4. **IGA Update** – Chief Dell'Orfano
 - a. The Colorado Water Conservation Board TJTC Easement Agreement is an agreement to clean up old boundary conflicts on the site of the training center. In the process of performing a survey for the new fence installed a few years ago, they realized the property line goes through the storage container and fire hydrant in the northwest corner of the site, and therefore that portion of the site is actually outside of our property line. After two years, the agreement has been signed to have an easement over that area, that is a 25-year renewable lease. The cost was about \$5,600 in fees to get the easement recorded.

Correspondence items in the Board's packet are summarized below as well as other information items that were communicated:

- Chief Curtis:
 - In the coming weeks, he will be transitioning with Chief Baker, he's excited about that, and outlining the initial communication to the organization.
 - It is a huge priority using the information presented tonight to present to our constituents.
- Local President Dzengelewski:
 - The Foundation Hockey Tournament is May 16-18. On Saturday May 17th the NHL Avalanche Alumni are playing against SMFR. Suggested the Board come out to support this great fundraising opportunity.
 - He had the opportunity to meet with Chief Curtis today, which went well, and look forward to getting the E-Board up to speed and moving forward.
 - Director Leung offered to come and speak before the membership about the revenue initiatives, if they would like him to do so.
- Director Shriver:
 - Parker had a couple nice events last week where Chiefs Baker and Dell'Orfano were in attendance.
- Chair Albee:

- Reminded that it is the time of the season for the state of the cities & towns. These are open to everyone and thinks it is good if the Board members are able to attend and build those relationships.
- Thank you notes:
 - Maps of SMFR's US Representatives and Senate, Colorado State Senators and Colorado House of Representatives were provided in the packet.
 - A Happy Valentine's Day Card & Thank you Letter to the Awesome Firefighters were received.
 - Letter from MDA for SMFR's support in their Fill the Boot campaign, recognizing the hard work of Jessi Scrivner, Jacob Gamboa and Drew Schwiethale.
 - Letter from Central Pierce Fire Rescue to SMFR's HPO Division for meeting with their team answering questions and showing them around the impressive facilities.
 - Note thanking SMFR for helping save a coyote that had entered a citizen's back yard.
 - Note thanking E38 and M12 A Shift for their assistance with a citizen who fell in their kitchen.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (UPON MOTION)

A motion was made by Chair Albee at 9:03 p.m., pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(e),C.R.S., for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators related to the Fire Marshal's Office services. Director Sokol seconded the motion. 7 were in favor, 0 opposed, the motion carried.

The regular meeting resumed at 9:38 p.m. with no action taken.

A motion was made by Chair Albee at 9:40 p.m. pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(e),C.R.S., for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators related to the Fire Chief's Employment Contract. Director Shriver seconded the motion. 7 were in favor, 0 opposed. The motion carried.

The regular meeting resumed at 10:35 p.m. with no action taken.

NEXT MEETING

Special Board of Directors' Meeting to be held on March 17, 2025, 3:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

Regular Board of Directors' Meeting to be held on April 7, 2025, 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Albee adjourned the meeting at ____ p.m.

Attested by: _____

Date: _____

South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District
Special Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2025

Present:	Jim Albee, Chair	Bob Baker, Fire Chief
	Renee Anderson, Vice Chair	Mike Dell'Orfano, Chief Govt. Affairs Officer (absent)
	Rich Sokol, Treasurer (absent)	John Curtis, Deputy Chief – Emergency Services
	Sue Roche, Secretary	Kristin Eckmann, Deputy Chief – Community Services (absent)
	Kevin Leung	Matt Weller, Deputy Chief – Internal Services (absent)
	William Shriver	Camie Chapman, CHRO - Employee Services (absent)
	Bruce Stahlman	Stephanie Corbo, CFO - Business Services (absent)
		Bob Cole, Legal Counsel (absent)

Others Present: SMFR Staff, Citizens

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chair Albee called the Special Meeting of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Albee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Director Sokol's absence was excused. All of the other Board members were present in person.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Director Leung motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Shriver. All were in favor and the motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Chair Albee asked if there were any changes to conflict of interest affirmation:

- Director Stahlman – no changes
- Director Roche – no changes
- Director Anderson – no changes
- Chair Albee- no changes
- Director Shriver – no changes
- Director Leung – no changes
- Director Sokol –(absent)

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

ACTION ITEMS

N/A

DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

1. **Revenue Initiative Discussion** – Chair Albee stated he wanted to take the opportunity to make sure that we are being thoughtful and prudent in the identification of items that the Board needs to be better prepared to discuss revenue needs. He encouraged the Board to review the raw comments provided by the consultant. And, if there is anything that is missing, send the information to Chief Dell'Orfano and cc him.

After some additional conversation, it was recommended that on April 7th it be a work group setup and may want to move up the start time.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Correspondence items in the Board's packet are summarized below as well as other information items that were communicated:

- Chief Baker:
 - Attended the Littleton Elks Lodge Awards Banquet where Becky Grantham and Justin Comfort were recognized as the Chief Troy Jackson Staff and Firefighter of the Year, respectively. Lori Jackson was in attendance and the Lodge presented her with a check for \$500 as a contribution to the memorial highway project.
 - Advised the Board that his last day will be June 2nd. He will be staying on to assist with the transition to Chief Curtis.
 - We received the temporary CO for Station 15 today.
- Chief Curtis:
 - Staff are keeping a close eye on the federal funding decreases. Chief Richardson has done a great job working on the UASI grant asks. We have had some challenges with the FEMA reimbursements and the National Fire Academy, which has been a constant source of education for us, is closed.
 - Today was a red flag day with the high winds and dry conditions. Chief Burke added that today was our first legitimate red flag day. There was one fire in district which we were able to keep under an acre with a good aggressive response and provided auto aid to Aurora that they were able to keep small. There were also several fires over the weekend that were all handled quickly and efficiently.
- Chief Powell:
 - Week 6 of the Academy and one cadet that was injured last year is back, so the class is now at 21.
 - Wellness began the next set of physicals & cardiac scans. Although not alarming, they are still finding some pretty significant blockage within the 35-year-old age group. Dr. Burns has been encouraged by one of the high level CCTA doctors to do research papers and has been accepted to be a presenter at an upcoming conference using our information and data.
- Local 2086 President Dzengelewski:
 - The membership met recently and passed some good and welfare motions, one of which was to recognize the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol, who operate out of Station 12, and made a donation for equipment and PPE.
- Chief Richardson:
 - Last week, completed the 1st Regional ARFF Academy consisting of 23 participants from three fire agencies. Since it was in-house training, enough was saved to cover overtime for the instructors, propane and materials for the class and our own instructors got to teach the 3-day course. The hope is to have an ARFF class for the non-ARFF departments, so they are prepared to handle air crashes in their district.
 - The two dive boats have arrived from Canada and will be placed in service April 1st and 10th at Stations 19 and 31. Four new engines went into service, and they are running out of Stations 11, 19, 31, and 22.
- Director Stahlman:
 - Asked Local President Dzengelewski to thank Roxy for offering career advice to a Paramedic that belongs to his church.
- Director Anderson:
 - Reported that Senate Bill 25-172, our bill that clarifies that special districts may cancel an election in a director district, passed the senate and now goes onto the house.
- Chair Albee:
 - He is getting questions regarding Station 15 having a grand opening or open house. Chief Baker stated that the soft plan is in place but would like to wait for Chief Eckmann to officially announce the plan. Chief Curtis stated that they are working to get the crews into the station in the first week of April.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (UPON MOTION)

1. Chair Albee motioned to convene to Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(e), C.R.S., for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators related to the Fire Chief's Employment Contract. Director Leung seconded the motion. 6 in favor and 0 opposed the motion carried.

The regular meeting was reconvened at 7:36 p.m. with no action taken.

NEXT MEETING(S)

The next Regular South Metro Fire Rescue District Board of Directors' meeting will take place on April 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

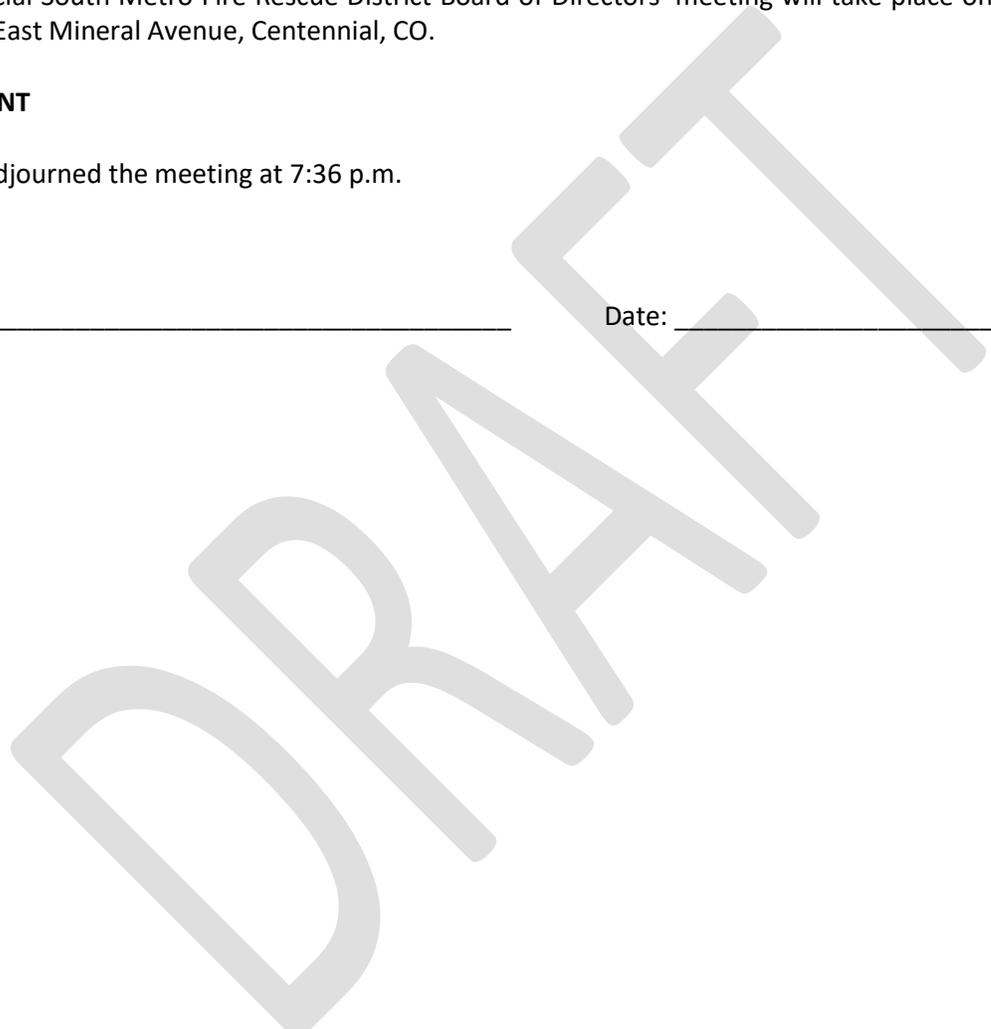
The next Special South Metro Fire Rescue District Board of Directors' meeting will take place on April 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Albee adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Attested by: _____

Date: _____



BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEM STAFF REPORT



Meeting Date: 4/7/2025
Agenda Item Type: Action Item
Agenda Item: National Telecommunicators Week
Submitted By: Chief Richardson
Approved: Chief Baker

SUMMARY:

SMFR Proclamation No. 2025-01 – A resolution proclaiming the week of April 13-19, 2025 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

BACKGROUND:

In 1991, Congress approved House Joint Resolution 284, designating the week beginning April 12, 1992, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Similar resolutions were passed in the following two years, and eventually, the designation became permanent. These resolutions were created to provide a dedicated time for citizens to express their gratitude to public safety professionals who dispatch emergency responders and equipment during times of crisis.

According to the National Emergency Number Association, over 6,000 emergency call centers across the U.S. handle more than 240 million 911 calls annually. Around 100,000 professionals work in this critical field, and approximately 10,000 new dispatchers are hired each year to support the nation's emergency services.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Click or tap here to enter text.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

Click or tap here to enter text.

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

Staff recommends approval of the proclamation.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Click or tap here to enter text.

ATTACHMENTS:

SMFR Proclamation No. 2025-01



A Proclamation by South Metro Fire Rescue Board of Directors Recognizing April 13-19, 2025 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Proclamation No. 2025-01

WHEREAS, South Metro Fire Rescue's Emergency Services Dispatchers are the first and most critical contact that our citizens have with emergency services; and

WHEREAS, these Dispatchers are the vital link to those calling for help and to firefighters and emergency medical personnel; and

WHEREAS, Dispatchers monitor the activities of emergency personnel by radio and telephone and provide them with life-saving information to ensure their safety; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our firefighters and emergency medical personnel is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained by Dispatchers from the citizens who telephone the Dispatch Center; and

WHEREAS, these Dispatchers have contributed significantly to the suppression of fire and the treatment of patients in life-threatening situations; and

WHEREAS, each Dispatcher, the unseen individual providing a calm voice when emergencies arise, has exhibited compassion, care, empathy, integrity and professionalism, keeping our citizens safe.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the South Metro Fire Rescue Board of Directors recognizes April 13-19, 2025 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

ADOPTED this 7th day of April, 2025.

By: _____
SMFR Board Chair

**ORDER BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
FOR EXCLUSION OF REAL PROPERTY
(SVITLANA SYVOKON)**

WHEREAS, there was filed with the Board of Directors of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District (the “District”) a duly acknowledged Petition, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference, signed by Svitlana (Lana) Syvokon, one hundred percent (100%) of the fee owners of the real property described in the Petition, requesting that the Board of Directors exclude such property from the District; and

WHEREAS, such Petition was heard at a public meeting of the Board of Directors of the District on April 7, 2025, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. at 9195 E. Mineral Avenue, Centennial, Colorado, after publication of notice of the filing of such Petition, the place, time and date of such meeting, the name and address of the Petitioner, and a general description of the property to be excluded, in the *Douglas County News-Press, Golden Transcript, and Aurora Sentinel* on February 20, 2025, copies of which proofs of publication are attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated herein by this reference; and

WHEREAS, no written objection to the exclusion was filed by any person; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors, having reviewed such Petition and all relevant information related thereto, hereby determines that:

A. The exclusion of such property will be in the best interests of all of the following: (i) the property itself; (ii) the District; and (iii) the counties in which the District is located;

B. The relative costs and benefits to such property justify exclusion from the District’s services;

C. The ability of the District to provide economical and sufficient service to both the property to be excluded and all of the properties within the District’s boundaries will not be adversely affected;

D. The District will be able to provide services at a reasonable cost, but the costs that would be imposed by other entities in the surrounding area to provide similar services are also reasonable;

E. There will be no effect from either granting or denying the Petition on employment and other economic conditions in the District and surrounding area;

F. There will be no economic impact on the region, District, surrounding area, or State as a whole if the Petition is granted or denied;

G. There are economically feasible alternative services available from other entities in the surrounding area; and

H. The additional cost to be levied on other property within the District as a consequence of the exclusion is nominal.

WHEREAS, it is deemed to be in the best interest of the District and the Petitioner that such property be excluded from the District.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that such Petition be granted as to the real property described herein, and that the boundaries of the District shall be altered by the exclusion of the real property described herein; and that the District Court of Douglas County, Colorado, in which Court an Order was entered establishing this District, be requested to enter an Order that such real property be excluded from the District.

I certify that the foregoing Order was unanimously passed at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District, duly called and held on April 7, 2025, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., and that the undersigned is the duly acting and authorized Chairman of the District.

SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT

By: _____
James Albee, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sue Roche, Secretary

EXHIBIT A TO BOARD ORDER OF EXCLUSION
(Petition for Exclusion)

PETITION FOR EXCLUSION OF LAND

IN THE MATTER OF SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DISTRICT:

The undersigned Petitioner, being the fee owner of one hundred percent (100%) of the real property hereinafter described ("Property"), hereby prays that such Property be excluded from the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District, as provided by law, and for cause, states that:

1. Assent to the exclusion of such Property from the District is hereby given by the undersigned, who is the fee owner of such Property.
2. Petitioner understands that there shall be no withdrawal from this Petition after publication of notice by the Board, without the consent of the Board.
3. The exclusion of such Property from the District shall be subject to any statutory condition of exclusion, as well as all terms and conditions established by the Board and accepted by Petitioner.
4. This Petition is accompanied by a deposit of \$_____, to be applied toward all costs of the exclusion proceedings, as required by statute.
5. The Property is accurately described as follows:
See Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.
6. It is in the best interests of the Property that the Property be excluded from the District.
7. It is in the best interests of the District that the Property be excluded from the District.
8. It is in the best interests of the county or counties within which the District is located that the Property be excluded from the District.
9. The relative costs and benefits to the Property justify the exclusion.
10. The District will still be able to provide economical and sufficient service to all of the properties within the District's boundaries following exclusion of the Property.

EXHIBIT A

(Legal Description of Property to be Excluded)

24346 E. CANYON DR., AURORA, CO 80016

Neighborhood: Timber Ridge / WHISPERING PINES

Neighborhood code: 2297.0

Acreage: 0.1380

LAND USE: TRADITIONAL

Legal description: LOT 3 BLK 1 TIMBER RIDGE SUB Flly NO 1 EX
MIR's

EXHIBIT B TO BOARD ORDER OF EXCLUSION
(Proof of Publication)

SENTINEL
PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF COLORADO
COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE }ss.

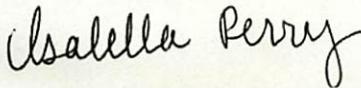
I DAVID PERRY, do solemnly swear that I am the PUBLISHER of the SENTINEL; that the same is a weekly newspaper published in the Counties of Arapahoe, Adams, and Denver; State of Colorado and has a general circulation therein; that said newspaper has been published continuously and uninterruptedly in said Counties of Arapahoe, Adams and Denver for a period of more than fifty-two consecutive weeks prior to the first publication of the annexed legal notice or advertisement; that said newspaper has been admitted to the United States mails as second-class matter under the provisions of the Act of March 30, 1923, entitled "Legal Notices and Advertisements," or any amendments thereof, and that said newspaper is a weekly newspaper duly qualified for publishing legal notices and advertisements within the meaning of the laws of the State of Colorado.

That the annexed legal notice or advertisement was published in the regular and entire issue of every number of said weekly newspaper for the period 1 of consecutive insertions; and that the first publication of said notice was in the issue of said newspaper dated February 20 A.D. 2025 and that the last publication of said notice was in the issue of said newspaper dated February 20 A.D. 2025.

I witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of February A.D. 2025



Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public in the County of Arapahoe, State of Colorado, this 20th day of February A.D. 2025.



Notary Public



**NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING
FOR HEARING ON PETITION
FOR EXCLUSION OF REAL PROPERTY
FROM THE SOUTH METRO FIRE RES-
CUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all interested persons that a Petition for Exclusion of real property has been filed with the Board of Directors of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District. The Board of Directors has fixed Monday, the 7th day of April 2025, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., at 9195 E. Mineral Avenue, Centennial, Colorado 80112, as the date, time, and place of an open meeting at which such Petition shall be heard.

The name and address of the Petitioner is:
Svitlana Syvokon
24346 E. Canyon Drive
Aurora, CO 80016

The property to be excluded from the District is generally described as follows:
LOT 3, BLK 1, TIMBER RIDGE SUBDIVISION FILING NO 1 COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE, STATE OF COLORADO

All interested parties may appear at such hearing to show cause in writing why such Petition should not be granted.

BY ORDER OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.
SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
By: James Albee, Chair
Attest: Sue Roche, Secretary

Publication: February 20, 2025
Sentinel

Colorado Community Media
750 W. Hampden Ave. Suite 225
Englewood, CO 80110

South Metro Fire Rescue FPD (ccwu) **
c/o Collins Cole Winn Ulmer
165 Union Boulevard, Suite 785
Lakewood CO 80228

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of Colorado }
County of Douglas } ss

This Affidavit of Publication for the Douglas County News Press, a weekly newspaper, printed and published for the County of Douglas, State of Colorado, hereby certifies that the attached legal notice was published in said newspaper once in each week, for 1 successive week(s), the last of which publication was made 2/20/2025, and that copies of each number of said paper in which said Public Notice was published were delivered by carriers or transmitted by mail to each of the subscribers of said paper, according to their accustomed mode of business in this office.



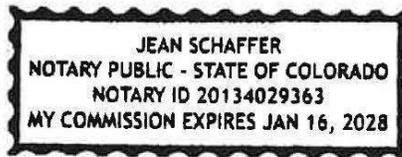
For the Douglas County News-Press

State of Colorado }
County of Arapahoe } ss

The above Affidavit and Certificate of Publication was subscribed and sworn to before me by the above named Linda Shapley, publisher of said newspaper, who is personally known to me to be the identical person in the above certificate on 2/20/2025. Linda Shapley has verified to me that she has adopted an electronic signature to function as her signature on this document.

20134029363-385039

Jean Schaffer
Notary Public
My commission ends January 16, 2028



Public Notice

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR EXCLUSION OF REAL PROPERTY FROM THE SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all interested persons that a Petition for Exclusion of real property has been filed with the Board of Directors of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District. The Board of Directors has fixed Monday, the 7th day of April 2025, at the hour of 6:00 p.m., at 9195 E. Mineral Avenue, Centennial, Colorado 80112, as the date, time, and place of an open meeting at which such Petition shall be heard.

The name and address of the Petitioner is:
Svitlana Syvokon
24346 E. Canyon Drive
Aurora, CO 80016

The property to be excluded from the District is generally described as follows:

LOT 3, BLK 1, TIMBER RIDGE
SUBDIVISION FILING NO 1
COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE,
STATE OF COLORADO

All interested parties may appear at such hearing to show cause in writing why such Petition should not be granted.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTH METRO
FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT.

SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT

By: James Albee, Chair
Attest: Sue Roche, Secretary

Legal Notice No. DC 9802
First Publication: February 20, 2025
Last Publication: February 20, 2025
Publisher: Douglas County News-Press

Colorado Community Media
750 W. Hampden Ave. Suite 225
Englewood, CO 80110

South Metro Fire Rescue FPD (ccwu) **
c/o Collins Cole Winn Ulmer
165 Union Boulevard, Suite 785
Lakewood CO 80228

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of Colorado }
County of Jefferson } ss

This Affidavit of Publication for the Jeffco Transcript, a weekly newspaper, printed and published for the County of Jefferson, State of Colorado, hereby certifies that the attached legal notice was published in said newspaper once in each week, for 1 successive week(s), the last of which publication was made 2/20/2025, and that copies of each number of said paper in which said Public Notice was published were delivered by carriers or transmitted by mail to each of the subscribers of said paper, according to their accustomed mode of business in this office.



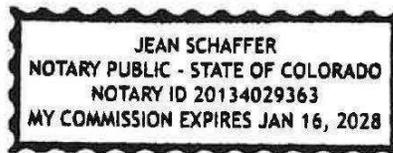
For the Jeffco Transcript

State of Colorado }
County of Jefferson } ss

The above Affidavit and Certificate of Publication was subscribed and sworn to before me by the above named Linda Shapley, publisher of said newspaper, who is personally known to me to be the identical person in the above certificate on 2/20/2025. Linda Shapley has verified to me that she has adopted an electronic signature to function as her signature on this document.

20134029363-644237

Jean Schaffer
Notary Public
My commission ends January 16, 2028



Public Notice

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR EXCLUSION OF REAL PROPERTY FROM THE SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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COUNTY OF ARAPAHOE,
STATE OF COLORADO

All interested parties may appear at such hearing to show cause in writing why such Petition should not be granted.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTH METRO
FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT.

SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT

By: James Albee, Chair
Attest: Sue Roche, Secretary

Legal Notice No. Jeff 1378
First Publication: February 20, 2025
Last Publication: February 20, 2025
Publisher: Jeffco Transcript

PIN: 035085112
AIN: 2071-31-1-09-003
Situs Address: 24346 E Canyon Dr
Situs City: Aurora

Full Owner List: Syvokon Svitlana
Ownership Type: Sole Ownership
Owner Address: 24346 E Canyon Dr
City/State/Zip: Aurora, CO 80016-4413

Neighborhood: Timber Ridge/Whispering Pines
Neighborhood Code: 2297.00
Acreage: 0.1380
Land Use: Traditional
Legal Desc: Lot 3 Blk 1 Timber Ridge Sub Filing No 1 Ex M/R's

Notifications!

	Total	Building	Land
2024 Appraised Value	695,900	545,900	150,000
2024 Assessed Value	42,940	32,890	10,050
		2024 Mill Levy:	93.895

<i>Sale</i>	Book Page	Date	Price	Type
	D906 2211	06-19-2019	0	
	D812 2883	12-14-2018	0	
	D603 8793	04-03-2016	0	
	D513 2391	11-10-2015	445,595	
	D401 8227	02-28-2014	4,150,000	

<i>Building</i>	Building	Attributes	Recorded
	1	Quality Grade	Good
		Improvement Type	Traditional
		Bedrooms	2.00
		Bathrooms	2.00
		Architectural	1 Story/Ranch
		Heat Method	Forced Air Unit
		Cool Method	Central Air
		Year Built	2015
		Roof	Asphalt/Composition Shingle Roof
		Fireplaces	1.00
		Exterior Wall	Brick & Conc Block
		Construction Type	D - Wood or Steel Studs Frame

<i>Area</i>	Building	Description	SqFt
	1	Attached Garage	420
		Basement Total	1844
		Covered Porch	81
		Covered Porch	250
		First Floor	1844
		Bldg Total Area:	1844

<i>Land Line</i>	Units	Land Use
	1.0000 LT	Single Family Residential

Note: Land Line data above corresponds to the initial appraised value and does not reflect subsequent appeal related adjustments, if any.

* Not all parcels have available photos / sketches.

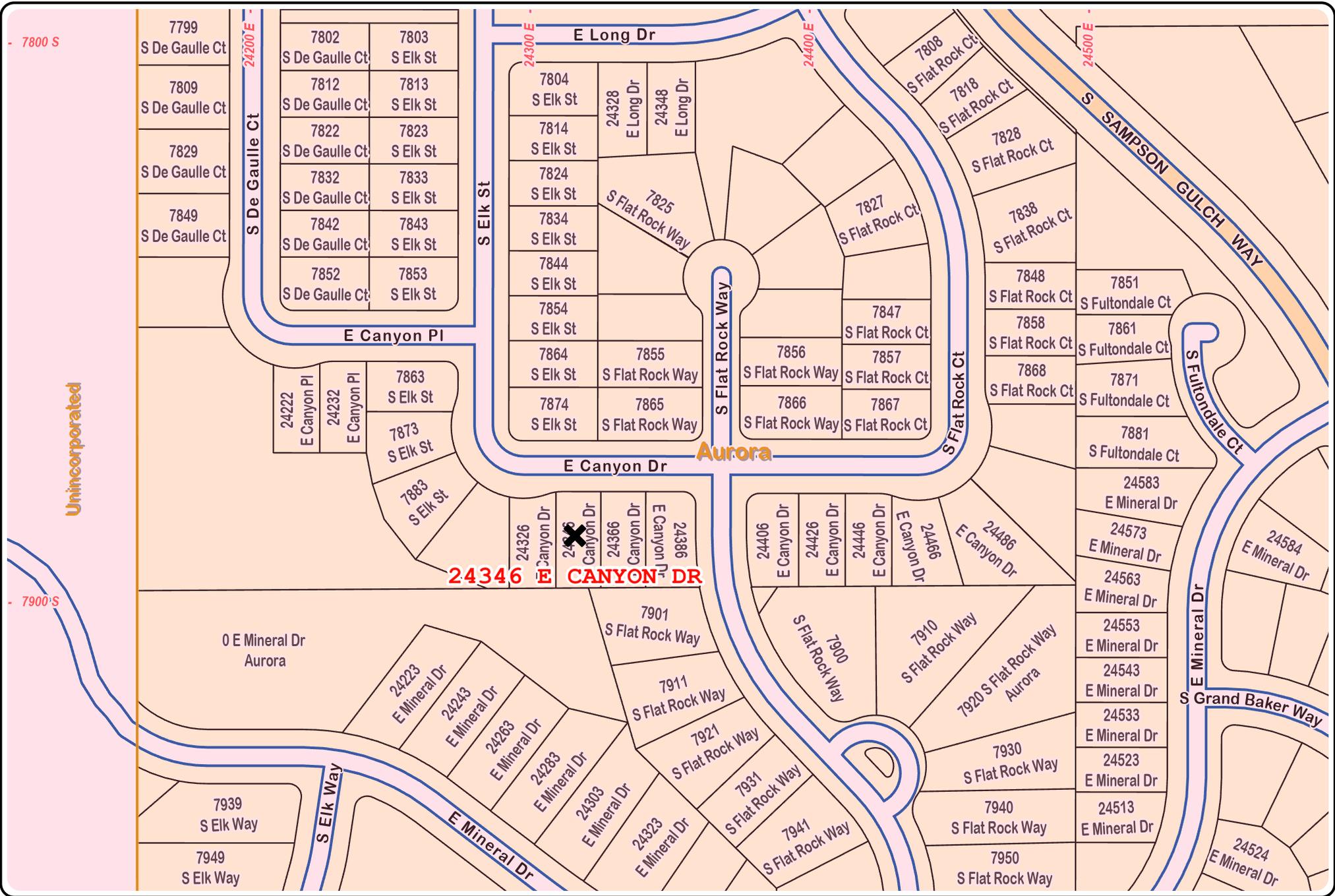
In some cases a sketch may be difficult to read. Please contact the Assessors Office for assistance. Measurements taken from the exterior of the building.

The Arapahoe County Assessors Office does not warranty the accuracy of any sketch, nor assumes any responsibility or liability to any user.

Although some parcels may have multiple buildings and photos, at this time our system is limited to 1 sketch and 1 photo per parcel number. Sorry for any inconvenience.

2024 Tax Levies for Taxing Authority 0211

Code	Taxing Authority	Levy
0501	Cherry Crk School Dist 5	53.9620000000
2998	Arapahoe County	15.8850000000
2999	Developmental Disability	01.0000000000
3001	City Of Aurora	06.6130000000
4026	Arapahoe Library District	05.7150000000
4100	Smfr Fire Protection District	09.2900000000
4131	Cherry Creek Basin Auth	00.4300000000
4528	Regional Transportation	00.0000000000
4712	Urban Drainage & Flood	00.9000000000
4713	Urbn Drnge&Fld (S Platte)	00.1000000000
4744	W. Arap. Conservation Dis	00.0000000000
	Total:	93.8950000000



- 7900 S

- 7800 S

Unincorporated

Aurora

24346 E CANYON DR



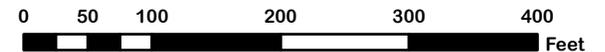
Map Location

Arapahoe County makes no representation or warranty as to the accuracy of this map or the data that it displays.

Arapahoe County assumes no responsibility or liability to any user.

THIS MAP IS NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT
It is intended to serve as an aid in graphic representation only.

Created by ArapaMAP



Not to scale



Map created: 4/2/2025

SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE



6th NOTICE

December 12, 2024

Svitlana Syvokon
24346 East Canyon Drive
Aurora, CO 80016

VIA Certified Mail

Re: Fire District Exclusion

Dear Property Owner(s):

This letter is to inform you that your residence is currently located within both the City of Aurora and the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District (SMFR). Since the City serves you through the Aurora Fire Department, it is no longer necessary to also be within SMFR's boundaries. **Therefore, you are eligible to remove (or exclude) your property from SMFR.**

SMFR has sent notices to your address on September 24, 2020, November 2, 2020, November 17, 2021, November 2, 2022, and November 6, 2023. We encourage you take advantage of this notice, as you are currently paying unnecessary taxes for your fire service. In order for you to discontinue paying SMFR taxes in 2026, we need to have the exclusion process completed by May 1, 2025. Therefore, we need your portion of the process completed by January 31, 2025.

The property "exclusion" process requires the following:

- Enclosed Petition must be completed by the property owner(s)
- Enclosed Petition must be notarized
- A legal description of your property (e.g., legal description from deed)

SMFR will not charge you fees to exclude your property. You have several options to complete this process:

- We can set up an appointment at your home with a Notary Public, or
- E-mail the completed petition to Barb Andrews at barb.andrews@southmetro.org, or
- Mail the completed petition to Barb Andrews at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO 80112

We appreciate your time. If you have any questions about the process, please contact us at (720) 989-2292.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Dell'Orfano
Chief Government Affairs Officer

eFAST to OR: Determining the Quality of Paramedic Conduction and Interpretation of eFAST Exams in Prehospital Settings

Emily Roberts, MS¹; Alexa Carboni, BS¹; Michael Miller, MPH¹; Aleesa Rosas, BS¹; Ryan Shelton, MPS, NREMT-P²; Jodi Peterson, EMT-P³; Jonathan Apfelbaum, MD^{3,4}; Amanda Toney, MD⁴; Anthony LaPorta, MD⁵; K. Dean Gubler, DO MPH¹

ABSTRACT Traumatic injuries are a leading cause of morbidity and mortality, particularly among young adults. Direct transport to the operating room has been associated with reduced mortality by minimizing treatment delays. The extended Focused Assessment with Sonography for Trauma (eFAST) is a critical diagnostic tool in trauma care, identifying life-threatening conditions that may require urgent surgical intervention. This study aims to assess the diagnostic accuracy of eFAST performed by paramedics in a prehospital environment, comparing their interpretations to those of expert physicians. A retrospective observational cohort analysis was conducted on trauma cases ($n = 64$) attended by South Metro Fire Rescue from January to December 2022. Paramedics underwent comprehensive training in ultrasound use and interpretation before performing eFAST exams in transit to medical facilities. Exam findings were compared to interpretations by an expert ultrasonographer, with sensitivity, specificity, and predictive values calculated. The cohort consisted primarily of males (63%), with a mean age of 46 years. The most common injury mechanism was motor vehicle crash ($n = 20$). Paramedic-conducted eFAST exams demonstrated a sensitivity of 80.0% and specificity of 95.8%. Positive and negative predictive values were 50% and 95.8%, respectively. False positives were largely due to difficulty in interpreting normal anatomy or identifying pathologies. Paramedics can reliably perform eFAST exams with high diagnostic accuracy, suggesting that prehospital eFAST could enhance trauma care by reducing time to surgical intervention. Future research should explore the integration of eFAST into prehospital protocols across diverse settings to improve trauma outcomes.

INTRODUCTION

Traumatic injuries remain a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among young adults worldwide, necessitating rapid and effective interventions to improve patient outcomes. The

“golden hour” concept underscores the importance of minimizing time from injury to definitive care, particularly in cases of severe trauma where early surgical intervention is crucial.^{1,2} Direct transport to the operating room (DOR) has been shown to decrease mortality by reducing delays in treatment.^{3–5} However, the challenge remains in accurately identifying patients who would benefit most from such expedited care.

The extended Focused Assessment with Sonography for Trauma (eFAST) has emerged as a critical diagnostic tool in the assessment of patients with blunt or penetrating torso trauma.⁶ eFAST provides rapid, noninvasive imaging across five key anatomical windows: the right upper quadrant (RUQ), subxiphoid, left upper quadrant (LUQ), suprapubic region, and bilateral lung apices.⁶ These windows allow for the detection of free fluid or air, which may indicate life-threatening conditions such as hemoperitoneum, hemothorax, or pneumothorax, potentially requiring urgent surgical intervention.^{6,7}

Previous studies have demonstrated the efficacy of eFAST in hospital settings, with the modality being widely integrated into trauma resuscitation protocols.^{3,6} The ability of eFAST to rapidly identify intra-abdominal and thoracic injuries has been

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⁴Department of Emergency Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver Health Medical Center, Aurora, CO 80045, USA

⁵US Army Colonel (Ret)

Preliminary results were presented as a poster presentation at the annual MHSRS Conference August, 2023.

The views expressed are those of the author(s) and do not represent the official views of South Metro Fire or any of its affiliated entities, Rocky Vista University, DoD, or the U.S. Government.

Corresponding author: Alexa Carboni, BS, USA

(alexajcarboni@gmail.com).

doi:https://doi.org/10.1093/milmed/usaf008

Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States 2025. This work is written by (a) US Government employee(s) and is in the public domain in the US.

well-documented, contributing to its status as a cornerstone of trauma care in emergency departments.^{3,6} Moreover, recent advancements have explored the role of point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) in pre-hospital settings, suggesting that its early application by paramedics could further reduce time to the operating room and improve patient survival.^{8,9}

Several studies have investigated the feasibility and diagnostic accuracy of pre-hospital ultrasound. For example, paramedics have been shown to successfully utilize ultrasound during cardiac arrest scenarios, supporting the integration of POCUS into paramedic protocols.^{8,10} Additionally, improvements in the management of abdominal trauma through prehospital ultrasound imaging have been demonstrated, underscoring the potential of this technology in out-of-hospital settings.¹¹ Despite these promising findings, the specific use of eFAST by first responders to decrease time to the operating room following trauma has not been comprehensively examined.

Given the increasing interest in expanding the scope of practice for paramedics, including the use of ultrasound in prehospital care, it is imperative to assess the impact of paramedic-performed eFAST on trauma outcomes. This study aims to fill this gap by evaluating the diagnostic accuracy of eFAST conducted by paramedics in a prehospital environment and comparing their interpretations to those of an expert physician ultrasonographer. By analyzing the reliability of paramedic-conducted eFAST and its potential to streamline the trauma care continuum, this research could inform future protocols and training programs, ultimately enhancing the prehospital management of trauma patients.

METHODS

A retrospective observational cohort analysis including all trauma cases ($n = 64$) responded to by the South Metro Fire Rescue between January to December of 2022 was performed. Before the implementation of eFAST, a robust training protocol was implemented for all emergency medical services (EMS) and paramedic providers at South Metro Fire Rescue who participated in the study. Paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) were required to attend multiple courses in ultrasound use and interpretation, including a didactic presentation by an ultrasound-specialized emergency medicine physician and hands on scanning and interpretations of pulmonary, cardiac, inferior vena cava, abdominal, and pelvis exams. Course participants were required to examine more than 25 control patients, identify pathologies in 6 SonoSimulator scenarios, and complete scans accurately in under 2 min. Finally, trainees were given a postcourse primer video and required to take a postcourse evaluation. A pilot study was conducted to ensure that course material was accurately implemented, high-quality images were obtained, and paramedic interpretation of pathologies were accurate.

All eFAST exams were conducted and interpreted by paramedics in transit to medical facilities. Paramedics recorded specific exam findings (RUQ, LUQ, Pelvis, Cardiac,

Table 1. Patient Population: Descriptive Assessment of Patient Population.

	eFAST exam (physician diagnosis)		
	Negative	Positive	Total
	($N = 53$)	($N = 10$)	($N = 63$)
Patient characteristics	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Age (mean)	44.9 ± 19.0	50.3 ± 24.5	45.8 ± 19.8
Gender			
Female	18 (78.3)	5 (21.7)	23 (36.5)
Male	35 (87.5)	5 (12.5)	40 (63.5)
Race			
Asian	1 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (1.6)
Black of African American	2 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (3.2)
Hispanic or Latino	5 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	5 (7.9)
White	30 (75.0)	10 (25.0)	40 (63.5)
Unknown	15 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	15 (23.8)
Mechanism of injury			
Auto/Ped/Bike	5 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	5 (7.9)
Blunt	3 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	3 (4.8)
Fall from standing height or less	6 (60.0)	4 (40.0)	10 (15.9)
Fall from greater than standing height	6 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	7 (9.5)
Gun shot wound penetrating/stabbing	0 (0.0)	2 (100.0)	2 (3.2)
Motor vehicle crash	17 (94.4)	1 (5.6)	18 (28.6)
Motor vehicle crash with ejection	1 (50.0)	1 (50.0)	2 (3.2)
Other	15 (88.2)	2 (11.8)	17 (27.0)

Other mechanism of injury includes the following criteria: older adult (>55 years), anticoagulant or bleeding disorders, end-stage renal disease, pregnancy (>20 weeks), hypothermia suspicion, abdominal injury suspicion, seatbelt sign, burns >10% TBSA (2nd or 3rd degree), EMS provider judgment, low impact mechanisms for older individuals, suspicion of nonaccidental trauma.

and Lungs) as positive, negative, or indeterminate, as well as an “overall” score. All imaging collected by paramedics during eFAST examination were saved to Butterfly Cloud Network and evaluated retrospectively by an expert (gold standard) fellowship trained ultrasonographer, who is a double board-certified, emergency medicine and pediatric emergency medicine physician, and is the director of pediatric emergency ultrasound. Access to both EMS and hospital medical chart information via Colorado Regional Health Information Organization was utilized in expert evaluation with retrospectively feedback provided to paramedics electronically. Expert assessment criteria included image quality, sensitivity, and specificity for injury, and images were evaluated using physician findings as the gold standard.

RESULTS

As seen in **Table 1**, the majority of the cohort was male (64%), aged 46 (± 20 years), and white (64%). The most common mechanism of injury was motor vehicle crash ($n = 20$), followed by other mechanisms of injury ($n = 17$), and falls from less than standing height ($n = 10$).

Table 2. Paramedic and Physician Assessment of Ultrasound Findings on eFAST Exam: Paramedic and Physician Interpretation of Ultrasound Images Obtained While Performing the eFAST Exam During Trauma Response.

	Physician interpretation		
	Positive eFAST exam	Negative eFAST exam	Total
Paramedic interpretation	<i>n</i> (%)	<i>n</i> (%)	<i>n</i> (%)
Positive eFAST exam	9 (56.3)	7 (43.8)	16 (25.4)
Negative eFAST exam	2 (4.3)	45 (95.7)	47 (73.4)
Total 11	(17.5) 52	(82.5) 63	

Interpretation compared the “overall” scores reported by paramedics with the physician gold-standard eFAST exam findings (2 = positive, 1 = negative, 0 = not determined). Paramedics rated 56 images as good, 6 as fair, and 1 as poor. We compared these results to the physician interpretation or gold standard, which rated 60 images as good, 2 as fair, and 1 as poor.

Of the 63 eFAST exams performed by paramedics/EMTs, 15 were considered positive by the EMTs/paramedics performing the scan. Analysis using gold standard review determined that 8 out of 15 cases were true positives, resulting in a positive predictive value of 56%. Among the 48 eFAST exams considered negative by paramedics/EMTs, analysis using gold standard review determined 46 were true negatives, yielding a negative predictive value of 95.7%. Sensitivity and specificity were 81.8% and 86.5%, respectively (**Table 2**).

Of the 8 false positives performed and interpreted by EMS, 1 was considered an outlier as the patient had a pre-existing pericardial effusion, and this was removed for a total of 7 false positives. Six scans were called positive by paramedics due to difficulty identifying normal anatomy or inability to confidently interpret the scan; one of these scans involved a pregnant patient, making the anatomy difficult to discern. All 7 scans were reported positive for free fluid (4 RUQ, 3 LUQ, and 1 pelvis). Two had contradictory paramedic reports regarding positive versus negative findings.

DISCUSSION

With sufficient training, paramedics have demonstrated not only the ability to perform eFAST exams with high accuracy, allowing for subsequent interpretation by ancillary medical teams, but also the potential to provide critical in-transit assessments and inform care plans at the next level of care. This study highlights the feasibility of training first responders to accurately conduct eFAST exams, with promising results for clinical implementation. As explored by Nelson et al., ultrasound utility has been further engineered to be suitable for limited resource environments like field deployments and

in this case, EMS transit.¹² The evolution of ultrasound equipment has been revolutionized with advances in pocket-sized devices to allow for space conserving, life-spacing efforts, and ultimately presents far fewer inconveniences for EMS to utilize when indicated in trauma assessment.¹² Following common trauma patient assessments protocols, the implementation of eFAST can be integrated at any stage of assessment when indicated during both the primary and secondary assessment; having direct visualization of trauma pathology via ultrasound can guide immediate and indicated intervention such as pneumothorax management, for example. The expectation of eFAST in the medical transit setting is to be used as an adjunct to the assessment while prioritizing other necessary interventions as unique to each patient scenario. Further training to reinforce time allocation to ultrasound use is recommended, but it is reassuring that our pilot study showed no direct harm to patient care when eFAST was conducted. However, it is important to acknowledge the study's limitations, including a small sample size and the use of retrospective data.

Given the high sensitivity, high specificity, and low false-negative rates demonstrated by first responders in accurately performing the eFAST exam, there is potential in implementing such training with clinical significance. At a minimum, this could enable live ultrasound images and videos to be streamed in real time for interpretation by the receiving hospital's medical team. Among the false positive exams, no coalescing themes were found regarding eFAST findings, eFAST operators, or patient characteristics. This suggests that a more robust training period for first responders might decrease false-positive rates, or that improvements in eFAST interpretation could be observed if the study were extended over a longer period.

A larger sample size and the inclusion of multiple prehospital agencies could yield more generalizable results. Additionally, the study's reliance on retrospective data introduces potential bias and limits the ability to establish causality. Future research with larger sample sizes is needed, including correlating results with hospital discharge data to provide a more comprehensive evaluation of patient outcomes. Specifically, exploring whether the time to an operating room decreases with first responders' interpretation compared to the current standard of emergency/trauma bay assessment could reveal a significant impact on patient survival. If such an impact is found, adding POCUS training to the first responder scope of practice could revolutionize prehospital care, leading to more effective trauma patient assessment and intervention protocols. Evaluating the effectiveness of prehospital eFAST for implementation in DOR protocols is indicated, particularly in diverse geographic and demographic settings.

This study is unique in its use of retrospective cohort analysis to evaluate first-responder ultrasound diagnostic accuracy, unlike other studies that have employed simulated models. The real-world application and assessment provide valuable insights into the practical challenges and

benefits of paramedic-conducted eFAST exams. Future studies should employ larger sample sizes and more specific criteria regarding the factors influencing paramedic/EMT image interpretation. Additionally, research should focus on evaluating the impact of prehospital imaging on the time to OR and survival rates, which could further substantiate the integration of eFAST into emergency medical services protocols.

Moreover, the training protocol implemented in this study, which included didactic presentations, hands-on practice, and rigorous evaluation, proved effective and could serve as a model for other EMS agencies. Exploring the scalability and adaptability of this training program in different EMS systems would be valuable. Investigating the cost-effectiveness of prehospital eFAST implementation could also provide critical data for policymakers and healthcare administrators.

CONCLUSION

Paramedics can conduct eFAST exams with reliable image quality, suitable for further interpretation by medical professionals specialized in ultrasonography. Paramedics conducting and interpreting eFAST exams independently show a high level of reliability as a screening tool.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This research was supported by South Fire Metro Paramedics personnel.

FUNDING

None declared.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

None declared.

DATA AVAILABILITY

The data underlying this article are available in the article and in its online supplementary material.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD

This study was approved for exemption by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of Rocky Vista University under IRB protocol number 2022-074. All procedures performed in this study were conducted in accordance with the ethical standards of the institution and the 1964 Helsinki Declaration and its later amendments.

The study involved performing noninvasive ultrasound assessments on patients in transit to the hospital for quality improvement of standard of care with de-identification of participants. No treatment or intervention that could pose harm to participants was conducted. As such, the IRB determined that obtaining informed consent was not required due to the minimal risk nature of the ultrasound procedure and the observational focus of the study.

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC)

Not applicable.

INSTITUTIONAL CLEARANCE

Institutional clearance approved through Rocky Vista University.

INDIVIDUAL AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

R.S., J.P., and J.A. collected the data. A.T. reviewed raw images and videos of eFAST reports retrospectively. E.R., A.C., A.R., and M.M. analyzed the data and drafted the original manuscript. A.L., K.D.G., R.S., and J.A. designed this research. K.D.G. reviewed and edited the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Military Medicine, 00, 0/0:1, 2025, doi:<https://doi.org/10.1093/milmed/usaf008>,

Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States 2025. This work is written by (a) US Government employee(s) and is in the public domain in the US.

03/27/25, 5:34 PM

Spencer Ogden

I am the 911 caller for the house fire earlier this morning at 6610 S Oneida Ct, and I want to reach out to thank you guys for arriving so fast. I firmly believe that SMFR is one of the greatest fire districts in the country, and your response times are phenomenal. If that fire had been uncontained for any longer, I feel my neighbors would've been at risk of losing their house, and the possibility of more lives lost. I'm sending good wishes to all of the responding firefighters.

Not Started

03/28/25

Compliment



03/27/25

Yes

No

web-form@smartsheet.com

03/27/25, 5:34 PM

02/27/25, 4:47 PM

Benjamin Johnson

Really appreciate the assistance from SMFD EMS today at Sky Ridge medical center, while i was donating blood in a third party laboratory, I lost consciousness and their staff needed some backup to get me sorted out. Everyone was very caring and professional and I was greatly relieved to have them helping out on a relatively minor issue, but one was pretty scary for me. Great work!

Attached : elevator selfie with the crew while I go to the lobby to wait for a family member to pick me up :)

Not Started

02/28/25

Compliment



02/27/25

Yes

No

web-form@smartsheet.com

02/27/25, 4:47 PM



thank you

Dear Firefighters of South Metro
Fire Marshall Office

The Columbine High School community expresses our deepest gratitude for your swift and professional response to the fire on February 26th. Your prompt action and expertise were invaluable in containing the situation.

We are incredibly thankful that, thanks to your efforts, no one was injured. The safety of our students and staff is our top priority, and your dedication ensured that everyone remained unharmed.

Your bravery and commitment to our community are truly appreciated. We recognize the risks you take every day, and we are profoundly grateful for your service.

Thank you again for your vital work.

The Columbine Rebels

We are all Columbine



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

March 20, 2025

Barbara Andrews
South Metro Fire Rescue
9195 East Mineral Avenue
Centennial, CO 80112



Welcome to the NFFF Giving Circle – Thank You for Your Support!

Dear Ms. Andrews,

We are thrilled to share some exciting news with you! Due to your generous contribution last year, you have been officially entered into the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) Giving Circle. Your commitment to our cause has made a significant impact, and we are incredibly grateful for your support.

As a member of the Giving Circle, you will receive a range of special benefits, including exclusive updates on the work your donation is helping to fund, invitations to private events, and recognition in our annual reports. We hope these rewards will give you a closer connection to the important work we are doing and the difference you are making.

Your generous gift of \$2,700.00 in 2024 qualifies you as a member at the Lieutenant Level. As such, you will receive acknowledgement on our website, a discount at our NFFF Store, and more. Enclosed you will find a brochure detailing the NFFF Giving Circle and the associated benefits.

Your name as it will appear in acknowledgement publications is Barbara Andrews. If you would like to make a change in how you are listed, please contact Amy Esposito at aesposito@firehero.org. Other donors are greatly encouraged by testimonials from peers, so if you can, please also send Amy a brief testimonial about why the Foundation is important to you.

We could not achieve our mission without dedicated supporters like you, and we are so pleased to welcome you into this distinguished group of donors. Your support is helping to shape the future of the NFFF, and we can't wait to share the results of your generosity.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support. We look forward to connecting with you and keeping you informed about the ongoing impact of your gift.

Warm regards,


Victor Stagnaro
Chief Executive Officer

P.S. Your Giving Circle discount code for use in our online store located on the home page of our website www.firehero.org, is GC15. This code will be active for one year.

EMMITSBURG

16825 South Seton Avenue | PO Drawer 498 | Emmitsburg, MD 21727
301-447-1365 ★ 301-447-1645 (FAX)

CROFTON

2130 Priest Bridge Drive | Suite 6 | Crofton, MD 21114
410-721-6212 ★ 410-721-6213 (FAX)

WWW.FIREHERO.ORG ★ FIREHERO@FIREHERO.ORG



West Metro Fire Protection District

433 S. Allison Parkway
Lakewood, CO 80226

Bus: (303) 989-4307
Fax: (303) 989-6725
www.westmetrofire.org

March 10, 2025

Fire Chief Bob Baker
South Metro Fire Rescue
9195 E. Mineral Avenue
Centennial, Colorado 80112

RE: BATTALION CHIEF NICK GROSCH, BATTALION CHIEF RYAN KNUITSEN, DIVISION CHIEF JENS PIETRZYK, AND TRAINING CHIEF JEREMY BARTELL

Dear Chief Baker:

On behalf of the West Metro Fire Protection District's Civil Service Committee, Division Chief Doug Hutchinson, and the entire Training Division staff, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chiefs Nick Grosch, Ryan Knutsen, Jens Pietrzyk, and Jeremy Bartell for participating in our recent assistant chief promotional examination.

Their professionalism contributed to an outstanding testing process, and we are extremely grateful to them for taking the time to assist us in this endeavor.

West Metro welcomes the opportunity to return the favor during a testing process at your organization in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Lombardi', written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Don Lombardi
Fire Chief

South Metro 16 March 2025
Dear Men of Engine 33 —

I want to thank all of you who responded to the accident on the afternoon of March 12TH at Quebec and Dry Creek. You guys were there in seconds and helped me and the other driver move out of rush hour traffic to a safe place and checked us out to see how we were physically. Every one of you was terrific and am so grateful to you all for assisting in such an unexpected event. I was in the red Toyota Solara that got hit, at speed, by a 17 yr old girl. Each of you did your jobs with honor and helped me remain calm enough to go to Littleton Hospital to get checked out further. Am proud of all of you and forever grateful.

Sincerely - Charlene Roddie

THANK YOU THANK YOU

Thank you THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU THANK YOU

THANK YOU Thank you

Thank you THANK YOU

THANK YOU THANK YOU

THANK YOU THANK

THANK YOU you

Station 18

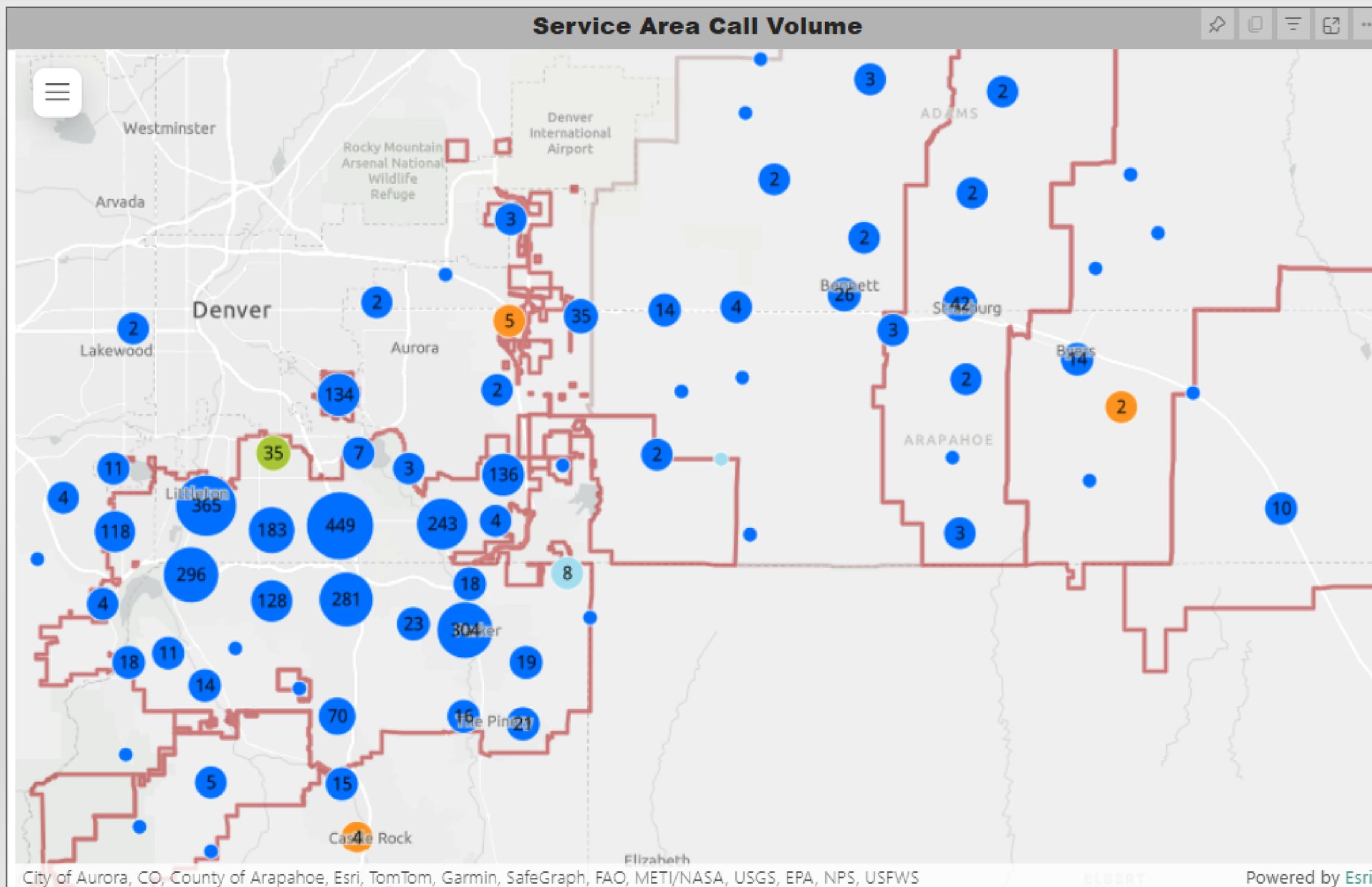
I JUST
CAN'T
thank you
ENOUGH.

T. Brian

1005 2/13/25 approx. 7a



Emergency Services: Emergency Communications



Quality Assurance Standards	Date
	Last <input type="text" value="1"/> Months (... <input type="text" value="..."/>
📅 2/1/2025 - 2/28/2025	
<p>The data in these charts is updated at the end of the prior month.</p> <p>For best results, set date filter to last month (calendar) at minimum.</p>	<h4>Call Taking</h4> <p>99.6%</p> <p>0.0% 100.0%</p>
<h4>EMD</h4> <p>92.0%</p> <p>0.0% 100.0%</p>	<h4>Radio</h4> <p>98.4%</p> <p>0.0% 100.0%</p>
<h4>SSM</h4> <p>99.7%</p> <p>0.0% 100.0%</p>	<h4>Customer Service</h4> <p>99.93%</p> <p>0.0% 100.0%</p>



Emergency Services: Emergency Communications

Emergency Communications: Performance

Jurisdiction	Total Calls	Disp Time 90th	Disp Avg
Bennett Watkins Fire Rescue	85	00:00:56	00:00:33
Byers Fire Rescue	25	00:00:36	00:00:24
Deer Trail Fire Rescue	11	00:00:33	00:00:21
Outside Agencies	85	00:00:40	00:00:16
Sable Altura Fire Rescue	26	00:00:41	00:00:27
South Metro Fire Rescue	3828	00:00:53	00:00:32
Strasburg Fire Rescue	60	00:00:54	00:00:32
West Douglas Fire Rescue	9	00:00:58	00:00:39
Total	4129	00:00:53	00:00:32

The data in these charts is updated at various times.

For best results, set date filter to last month (calendar) at minimum.

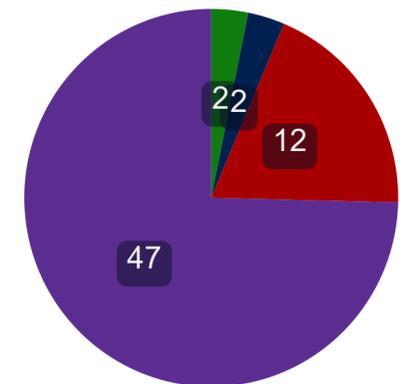
Date

2/1/2025 - 2/28/2025



Emergency Communication: Hours

- IDT Deployment
- Pub Ed
- Ride Time
- Training



Emergency Communications: Telecom Compliance

911 Calls	911 Ans < 10 sec	911 Abn	Alarm Calls	Alarm Ans < 10 sec	Admin Calls	Admin Ans < 10 sec
2,711	98.86%	2	738	99.32%	2,443	99.10%

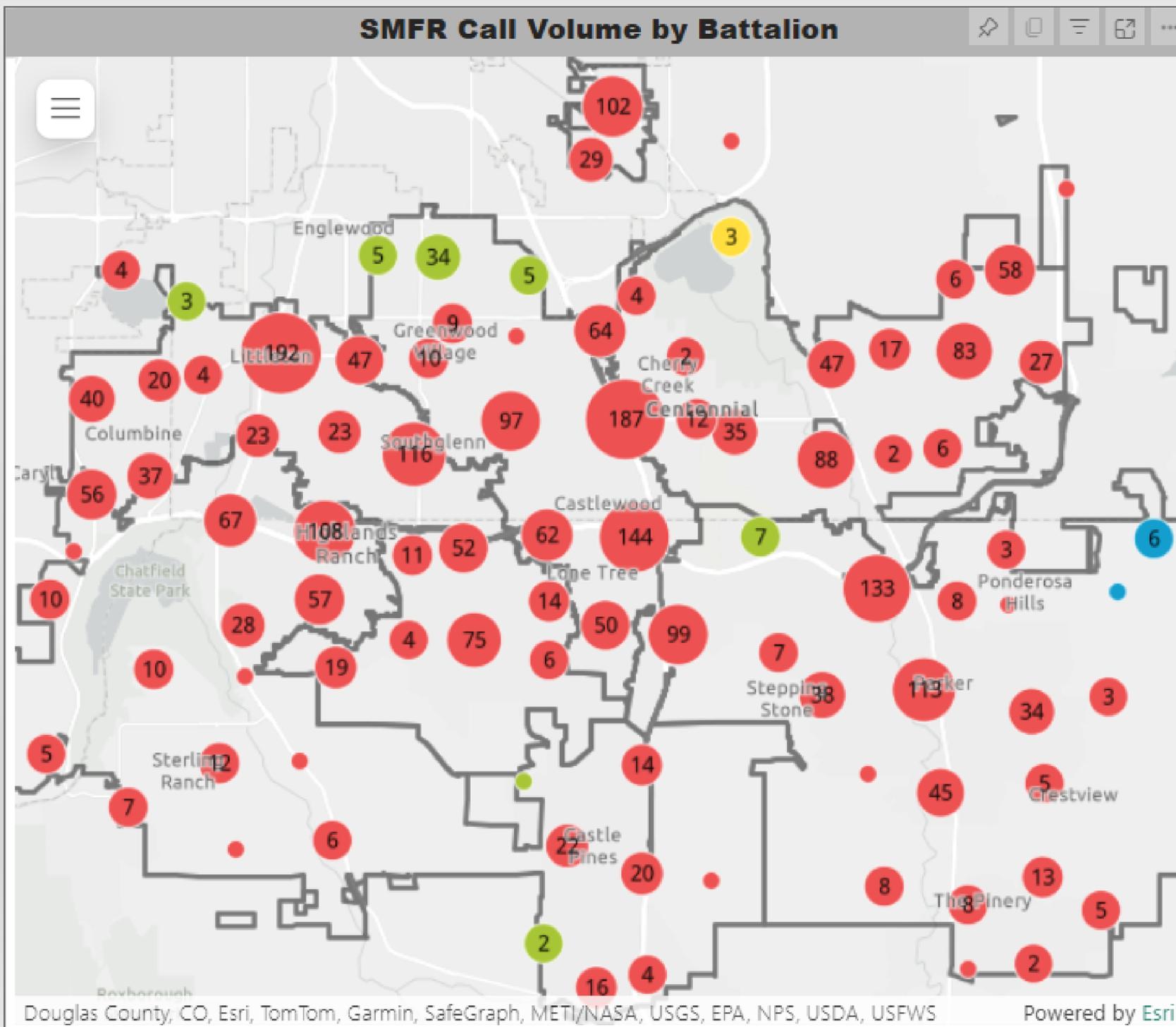


Emergency Services: Operations CAD Statistics

FULLDATE

Last 1 Months (Calendar)

2/1/2025 - 2/28/2025



In District	Num Calls	Turnout 90th PCTL	Turnout % Met Goal	Travel 90th PCTL	Travel % Met Goal
No	90	00:01:37	84.09%	00:11:18	42.31%
Yes	3,828	00:01:48	75.90%	00:07:35	61.43%
Total	3,918	00:01:47	76.09%	00:07:39	61.03%

Time Goals:
 00:01:30 for Turnout | 00:05:12 for Travel

