

Eatonville Fire and Rescue

Fire Chief Robert Hudspeth

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Phone: 360-832-6931 Fax: 360-832-2931
www.Eatonvillefire.org

To: Eatonville Resident Firefighters
From: Robert Hudspeth
Date: 03-06-2013
Subject: Resident Firefighter Expectations

As you all know the resident program at EF&R is in its infancy. We all have an obligation to the town of Eatonville, its citizens and ourselves to make this new program a success.

There will be a heightened observation period of at least one year during which time we will be evaluating the effectiveness of the program and the value that is derived from it.

I am not going to create a list of do's and don'ts at this stage, I am however going to list some of my expectations of you three individuals.

I expect you to account for 8-12 hour shifts per month, or as close to that as can be achieved, with a **minimum** total amount of hours equaling 96 hours per month. When you are on duty you will not qualify for stipend points, however if you are a medic unit driver or assist on transports, you will receive the \$50.00 dollar transport payment. The shift volunteer EMT takes precedence over residents when it comes to driving medic units on transports and receiving the pay.

I expect you to keep the resident quarters clean and available for inspections at any time, if you leave your bunk for anything other than an emergency response it will be made and ready for inspection prior to departure of your room.

All three of you have expressed an interest in becoming professional Firefighters, I expect that while you are on duty you will be training, reading, cleaning or finding other ways to be productive in your quest towards that goal.

I expect that if you are not sleeping, at work/school or otherwise involved, your down time will be spent at the station rather than in the resident quarters. The downstairs of the building will be utilized by other town personnel, and your activities could become a distraction.

I demand that if a fire is dispatched you will respond on either the first or second out engines, unless you can prove that due to time frame issues, it would be detrimental to your job or schooling if you did so. When you respond off duty you will get credited with stipend points.

I expect that if you hear an aid call get dispatched you will respond to the station as quickly as possible to ride on the first out unit, if the first out unit has left already, and there is an FF/EMT present you will respond with him/her in the second out unit.

As time goes by and the evaluations of the resident program is completed I will produce an SOP related to our resident program.

Signed *Robert Hudspeth*

Eatonville Fire and Rescue is committed to the preservation and protection of life, property, and environment from the adverse effects of fire, medical, and hazardous conditions. This will be accomplished through sustained training, progressive education, and constant diligence to provide the highest level of public service.

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To: Town of Eatonville elected officials

From: Robert Hudspeth Fire Chief

Date: June 11th 2014

In early 2013 we staffed the upstairs portion of the Lind house with firefighter residents. Two of those residents were students at Bates Vocational Technical Institute that were enrolled in the firefighter training program. The other resident has been preparing himself to qualify for this upcoming Paramedic training course offered by Tacoma Community College, plus working full time for AMR Ambulance Company. His goal is to become a professional Paramedic/Firefighter. All three of these men were made aware of the requirements that a resident firefighter must meet to remain a resident with our department. Both of the Bates students eventually left due to the commitments of school, work and our department taking too much of their time.

We acquired another resident in the third quarter of last year who also works at AMR and his goal is to become a professional EMT/Firefighter.

The resident program has shown itself to be even more important than what we call our in town volunteer staffing. The residents are mandated to be on duty a minimum of 96 hours per month for the privilege of residing in the Lind house. Both of our residents live there full time and are available most all days or nights. More importantly they respond on most every emergency call when they are in quarters, even though they are not on duty.

Their time is tracked via department time sheets, volunteer shift calendar and incident reports. Both of our residents are proficient as driver operators of all of our apparatus.

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The increased staffing of our apparatus with residents, the on-duty FF/PM and our shift volunteer is the same or sometimes greater than what you would see in larger departments such as Tacoma or Central Pierce.

This increased staffing is paramount for increased safety to our personnel and the public, by increasing the medic and fire suppression teams ability provide higher quality patient care and fire extinguishment at a level never seen by this department prior the program initiation.

It takes a minimum of 4 highly trained personnel to adequately provide care and transportation to victims in cardiac arrest or serious trauma, we routinely provide that many personnel to those types of calls.

There is also state law that mandates what is known in the industry as 2 in 2 out. That law states that “unless there are two firefighters outside available to rescue firefighters, there can be no entry into a structure on fire”. Since the resident program has been in existence, there have been no cases of our personnel being unable to make entry into a structure fire due to lack of manpower and many cases of interior firefighting taking place because of the increased staffing.

Resident operational duties include, but are not limited to:

A minimum of 96 hours per month of resident on duty time.

Respond to calls when available even when off duty.

Maintaining the resident quarters (upstairs and kitchen area of Lind House) in a clean, safe, and functional state.

A recent assignment to mow and weed the lawn area.

During daytime hours when they are in town, they are expected to be in station 84 studying, training and/or working side by side with the on-duty FF/PM's.

Maintain their knowledge, skills, and abilities at a higher level than the typical volunteer.

Due to their increased presence, knowledge and skills they are required to assist the paid staff in training volunteers.

Transporting patients on the medic unit (if ALS) or aid car if (BLS) which allows the town to remain protected with on duty personnel during those transport times. Being a third person on M-84 on ALS calls which increases efficiency and safety to the crews during the calls.

Respond with A-83 to calls to assist M-84's crew, or transport the BLS patients thus freeing up the medic to remain in town for other emergency calls.

Provide a minimum of 2-12 hour shifts of coverage per month, which is the same as an in town volunteer.

The costs related to the resident program are:

96 hours of mandated time on duty time equals zero monetary compensation.

All extra hours they are present in station but not officially "on duty" after 96 equal zero monetary compensation.

\$50.00 dollars per transport is paid the same as any volunteer.

Stipend points when the residents are not on duty is paid the same as any volunteer. When they are on duty they get no points.

As of 06-11-2014 the budget category that accounts for payments to our volunteers and residents that transport patients and shift coverage when the two daytime staff are not available was at \$6,587.01 of the \$20,000.00 budgeted amount, which is 33% of that budget line 6 months through the year.

The budget category that pays stipend points to our volunteer and resident staff is a quarterly adjusted amount that will not go over budget no matter what occurs with call volume, drills and meetings.

The Lind house usage value (rent) has never been factored into the Fire Department budget. The Fire Department has maintained the house with painting the exterior last year, paid for fuel oil to heat the house during the winter, and

provided security to the house. Until this spring the lawn, parking area and flower beds were co-maintained with the utility departments.
The downstairs is designated for the utility department.

Signed Robert Hudspeth

Robert Hudspeth Fire Chief

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