

MONTHLY REPORT

OCTOBER 2024

PREPARED BY:

Kendra Williams

Location:

1672 S Ridgewood Ave
South Daytona, FL 32119



Message from Chief Brant...

As Fire Chief of South Daytona, I want to express my profound gratitude and admiration for the resilience shown by our community and the dedication displayed by our firefighters and emergency personnel during Hurricane Milton. This unprecedented storm brought significant challenges to our city, testing our strength and unity as a community.

The South Daytona Fire Department prepared for the storm with meticulous planning, securing resources, and coordinating efforts with neighboring agencies. As Hurricane Milton approached, our team remained on alert, responding rapidly to emergencies, managing evacuations, providing medical aid, and mitigating property damage under hazardous conditions. The commitment of our firefighters to your safety, often at the risk of their own, has been truly inspiring.

During the storm's peak, we had all hands-on deck, with firefighters working tirelessly around the clock to ensure South Daytona's safety. We managed numerous calls for assistance, ranging from medical emergencies to flood rescues. Our team maintained regular patrols and stayed in constant communication with city leadership and regional emergency teams, working collaboratively to bring the storm's impact under control as swiftly as possible.

Thanks to the resilience of our emergency response systems and the unwavering dedication of every firefighter, we were able to minimize harm and expedite recovery efforts across the city. I am incredibly proud of the department's actions and grateful for the support and cooperation from our residents, who helped us navigate this challenging time.

As we move forward, please know that we are here to support our community's recovery. The South Daytona Fire Department is committed to learning from each experience, ensuring we are even better prepared to protect and serve you in any future emergencies.

Thank you for your trust and solidarity. Together, we will rebuild stronger than ever.

With deepest respect and gratitude,

John K. Brant

**Fire Chief
South Daytona Fire Department**



A-SHIFT

Lieutenant Jacklyn Kirby - Paramedic
Ernie Jarvis - Driver Engineer/Medic
Nichole Maverick - Firefighter/EMT
Scott Ryan - Firefighter/EMT

October was a demanding month for the South Daytona Fire Department. A-shift ran a total of 77 calls for various emergency and non-emergencies including falls, respiratory issues, overdoses, structure fires, downed trees, water rescues, powerlines down, altered mental status, chest pain, lift assists, motor vehicle accidents, water leaks, and cardiac arrests.

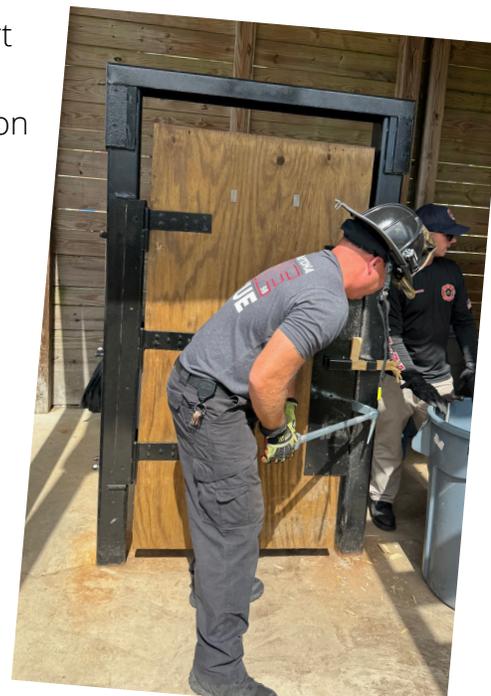
During Fire Prevention Month, the team visited local schools and hosted students at the station, teaching fire safety to children in hopes of fostering life-saving awareness. We thoroughly enjoy this because it gives us the chance to interact with and make an impression on the children in our community.

Hurricane Milton hit our area on October 9th and into the early morning of the 10th as category 3 hurricane. This has created a very devastating time for our community, as a lot of our citizens are dealing with a significant amount of destruction and flooding to their homes. During Hurricane Milton, the fire department continued to respond to calls for help, including structure fires, down powerlines, fire alarms, medical emergencies, and more. Once the storm passed, we had multiple crews out in the community completing water rescue efforts. We also expressed gratitude to Café con Leche for providing the crews delicious food and coffee just before the hurricane, they are so generous!

In preparation for the November 1st launch of Operative IQ, a system to streamline medical supply management and equipment readiness—the team put in extensive hours to ensure a smooth transition.

Between calls, A-shift managed to conduct valuable training in the art of reading smoke and scene size up with Daytona Beach Fire Department, rope rescue, forcible entry, rescue drags, and medication administration.

- Total Combined Training Hours for A-shift - 185.97 (recorded through Target Solutions)



B-SHIFT
Lieutenant Jason Taylor - Paramedic
Chad Hubeck - Driver Engineer/Medic
Michael Matos - Firefighter/EMT
Cameron Fischer - Firefighter/EMT

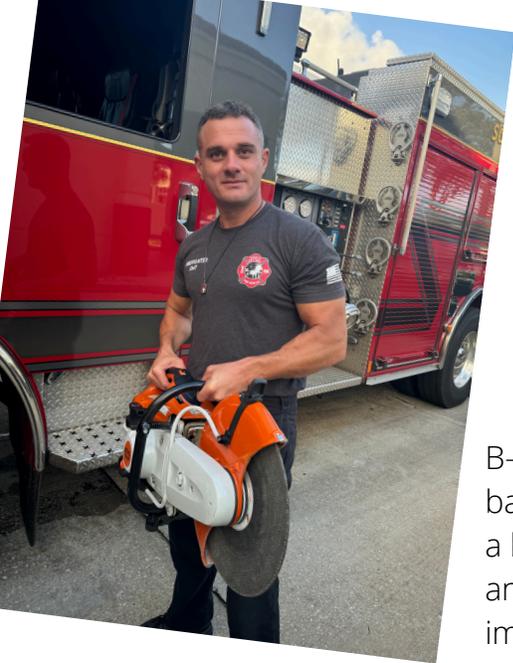


Throughout October, your B-shift firefighters, along with the entire South Daytona Fire Department, faced an exceptionally demanding month. Incidents ranged from vehicle lock-ins involving children and pets to cardiac arrests, advanced life support calls, and multiple structure fires. The devastation from Hurricane Milton swept through Volusia County, bringing widespread flooding, downed power lines, fallen trees, and requiring airboat rescues across the city. In addition, October was Fire Prevention Month, during which we hosted station tours to promote fire safety and connect with our community. Despite the pace and intensity, your firefighters met each challenge head-on with dedication and a positive spirit, embodying what it takes to work in a busy 9-1-1 system.

Training in October focused on two critical tools: our new circular saw and the updated Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG). The circular saw is a powerful tool used in various firefighting and rescue scenarios. It allows firefighters to quickly cut through materials like metal, wood, and other barriers, making it essential for gaining access during vehicle extrications, forcible entry, and ventilation operations. Proper handling and maintenance are crucial for safe and effective operation, so this training emphasized starting procedures, blade selection, and safety measures to maximize efficiency and minimize risk on the scene.

The ERG (Emergency Response Guidebook) is a key resource for handling hazardous materials incidents. It provides critical information on identifying dangerous substances, determining appropriate isolation distances, and guiding safe evacuation and decontamination procedures. This training ensures that each firefighter is familiar with the new guide, especially regarding spill sizes, protective actions, and potential health risks, enabling quick and effective decision-making in hazardous situations.

Our physical agility training prepared firefighters for victim rescues through gear workouts, dummy drags, and door-forcing drills, building essential strength and skills. We concluded our quarterly ISO (Insurance Services Office) training at the Volusia County Training Facility. The ISO assesses fire departments on readiness and effectiveness, impacting insurance ratings and community safety. During the training, firefighters tackled three stations - focused on forcible entry, victim drags, and a simulated structure fire with a live victim, reinforcing critical rescue techniques under realistic, high-stress conditions.



B-SHIFT Continued

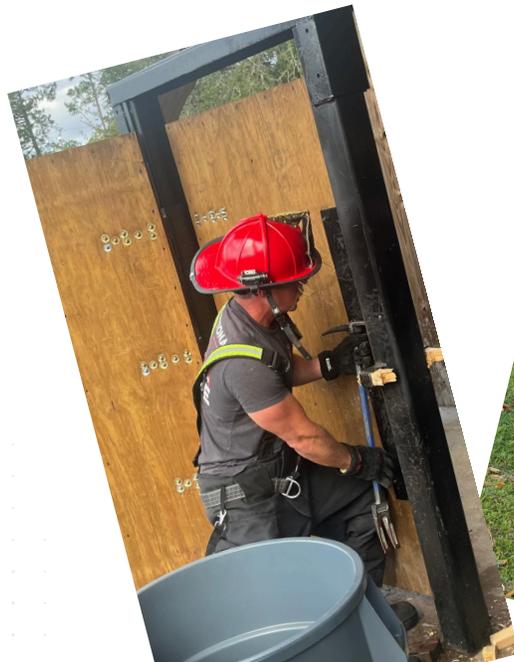
Lieutenant Jason Taylor - Paramedic
Chad Hubeck - Driver Engineer/Medic
Michael Matos - Firefighter/EMT
Cameron Fischer - Firefighter/EMT

B-shift firefighters updated Central Dispatch with premise notes for bariatric-type emergencies, ensuring that they can efficiently send a bariatric ambulance right away. This proactive communication and resource management prevents delays in patient care and improves our response to specialized needs in the community.

October was packed with community outreach focused on fire prevention, engaging students from South Daytona Christian School, Kids Cabana, Warner Christian, and Loads of Smiles School. We also participated in the "Light the Night" Halloween event and supported several baseball games at James Street Park, connecting with the community and promoting fire safety awareness.

Each month through Target Solutions, firefighters engage in structured learning, track progress, and meet mandatory training requirements to stay current on best practices and emergency response skills. Target Solutions is an online platform for fire departments that offers modules on essential skills, safety protocols, and technical knowledge that helps maintain our department's readiness and compliance. Additionally, B-shift attended an in-person class at Daytona Beach Station 1 on the Art of Reading Smoke, further enhancing our ability to assess fire conditions accurately.

- Total Combined Training Hours for B-shift - 100.7 (recorded through Target Solutions)



C-SHIFT
Lieutenant Chad Kirby - Paramedic
Steven Evancho - Driver Engineer/Medic
Jordan Nield - Firefighter/EMT
Logan Gindner - Firefighter/EMT

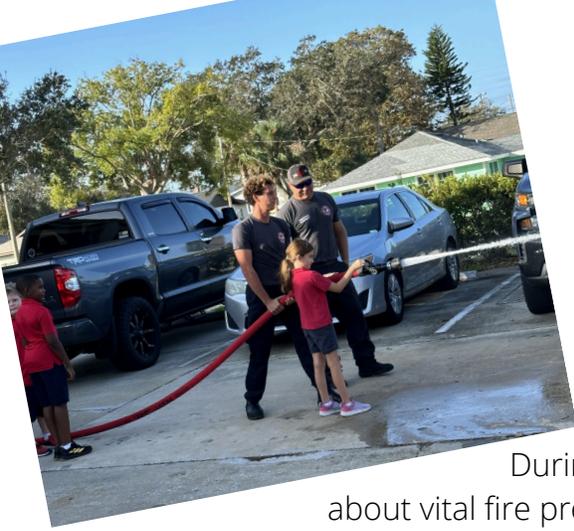
October is designated as Fire Prevention Month, an essential time for fire departments to make a significant impact. This month conveys a long history established to heighten awareness about fire safety and prevention. It observes the Great Chicago Fire of October 1871, a catastrophic event that resulted in extensive loss of life and property, driving home the critical need for improved fire safety practices.



Hurricane Milton impacted South Daytona significantly, bringing severe flooding and widespread destruction. Many homes faced water damage, and infrastructure was compromised, with roads becoming impassable in certain areas due to high water levels. The community had to contend with cleanup efforts and emergency services were stretched as we responded to various incidents related to the hurricane's aftermath. Other municipalities, as well as citizens of the community, came together with their resources, including high-water vehicles and airboats, to assist with rescuing people from the floodwaters.

During the month, C-Shift responded to two structure fires. The first incident took place in Daytona's district, where we were the first unit on the scene. We quickly brought the fire under control, which had spread to the kitchen and living room areas. Thankfully, a child inside was able to escape through a rear window, as the fire had blocked the front door, preventing any exit that way. The second fire occurred in our district and involved the attic. Fortunately, there were no occupants in the building, and it was later found to have been caused by an electrical issue.

Training continued throughout the month with dedicated sessions at the Volusia County training grounds. This hands-on training focuses on honing our forcible entry skills and search techniques, both of which are essential in emergency situations where every second counts. Mastering efficient forcible entry methods allows firefighters to quickly access a structure, facilitating the search and rescue of trapped occupants. This is especially critical during residential fires when lives are on the line.



C-SHIFT Continued

Lieutenant Chad Kirby - Paramedic
Steven Evancho - Driver Engineer/Medic
Jordan Nield - Firefighter/EMT
Logan Gindner - Firefighter/EMT

During Fire Prevention Month, our focus is on educating the public about vital fire prevention strategies. Most of our focus is on the children in our community. Our goal is to educate all the schools and daycares in our district. We emphasize the correct use of smoke alarms, the importance of creating effective home escape plans and understanding various fire hazards. Each year, we promote specific themes that address key areas of fire safety, all to reduce fire-related incidents and save lives. Driver Engineer Evancho coordinates the scheduling and ensures that all of the area schools are educated.

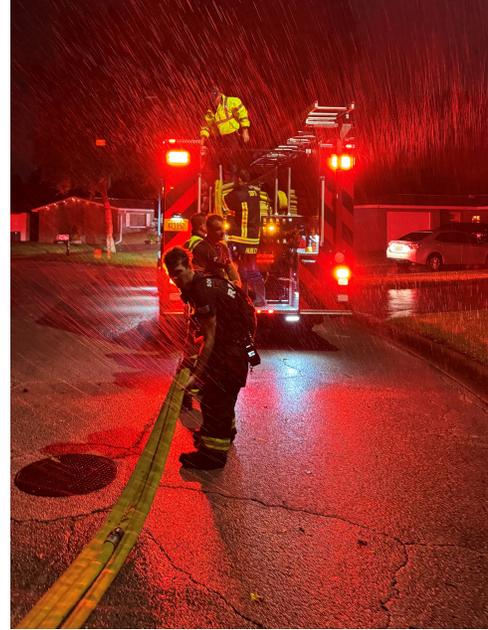
- Total Combined Training Hours for B-shift - 100.7 (recorded through Target Solutions)



South Daytona Fire Department



29 Total number of completed Annual Fire Inspections for October.



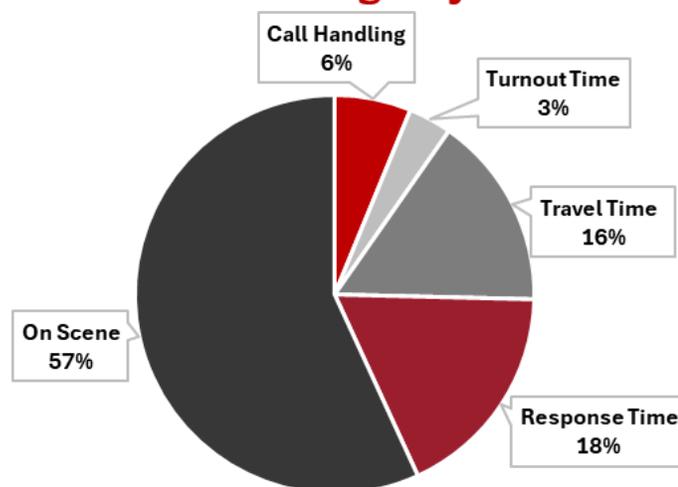
DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Oct. 1st - A mandatory station meeting was held for the entire department where it was announced the Shift changes that will take place starting January 6, 2025, along with issues with communication, and Executime issues.
- October is Fire Prevention Month. During the entire month our dedicated firefighters teach the children of our community all about Fire Safety and what exactly it is that the Fire Department does to help protect our community. This year even despite Hurricane Milton our department was still able to educate approximately 700 kids on Fire Prevention and Safety.
- Oct. 9th & 10th - During Hurricane Milton we ran 2 shifts at a time to cover our City, along with having the Fire Marshal and Fire Chief working during the storm. We converted our Battalion into a rescue truck, had our Engine fully stocked, along with our boat prepared to respond. Milton started hitting our area late in the evening on October 9th, during which our crews had to respond to a structure fire and downed lines. As Milton continued to cross through the state into October 10th, our crews continued to respond to downed powerlines, medical emergencies, and assisted with water rescues along side Volusia County Marine Company 30 as flood waters rose.
- Following the exit of Hurricane Milton our crews continued for the next several days responding to multiple calls for downed powerlines, sparking powerlines, water rescues, and various other emergency calls.

Non-Emergent On Scene Time: 0:25:58



October Emergency Calls



■ Call Handling ■ Turnout Time ■ Travel Time ■ Response Time ■ On Scene



Operations Commander Don Howard

In October the neighboring departments in the area responded to multiple calls within District 98. Port Orange responded to 29 calls, while Daytona Beach responded to 5 calls.



288 Total Calls

40 Calls to the County

The month of October was especially busy for the department. Historically, October is recognized as Fire Prevention Month. During this time, schools and daycares in the city either visit the department or we go out to their locations for educational events.

Additionally, this October, Hurricane Milton struck the area, causing significant flooding throughout the city. Many residential homes were inundated with water, and navigation on the streets became either difficult or impossible due to high water levels. The department was able to rescue people using a boat that the city had purchased during Hurricane Ian. We had personnel stationed at the county Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Having these individuals at the EOC provided valuable resources to our crews in the field, enhancing the efficiency of our rescue operations.

Our department has also been working on flowing and painting hydrants throughout the city for the last few months. To date we have painted 108 hydrants and flowed 103 of those.

The chart below represents the 90th percentile of all calls. While most of the times are self-explanatory, the processing time may require clarification. The processing time refers to the duration it takes for our dispatch system to alert our apparatus.

90th Percentile Times (HH:MM:SS)						
Incident Type	Incident Count	Processing Time	Turnout Time	Travel Time	Response Time	Total Processing Time
All Incident Types	284	0:03:48	0:01:34	0:08:10	0:09:09	0:12:18