

MONTHLY REPORT

SOUTH DAYTONA FIRE DEPARTMENT
APRIL 2025

PREPARED BY:

Kendra Williams

Location:

1672 S Ridgewood Ave
South Daytona, FL 32119



Message from Chief Brant...

As we reflect on the month of April, I am proud to share the progress, dedication, and professionalism demonstrated by the men and women of South Daytona Fire Rescue. Our department remains committed to protecting our community through preparedness, training, and outreach. Throughout the month, all three shifts engaged in diverse and intensive training initiatives, including hazardous materials scenarios, forcible entry, ladder deployment, EMS protocols, and physical conditioning. These efforts are not only essential for skill refinement but are foundational to safe and effective emergency response. In total, our personnel recorded over **350 combined training hours**.

Operationally, our crews responded to **262 calls for service**, including **three residential structure fires and five cardiac arrest incidents**, some of which required mutual aid due to overlapping emergencies. These statistics reinforce the importance of regional cooperation and highlight our ongoing reliance on neighboring agencies, particularly during high-demand periods.

We also took substantial steps forward with our **pre-incident planning efforts**. A total of **35 new plans** were completed across shifts, enhancing our readiness and familiarity with local occupancies. This includes expanded use of the **FlowMSP system**, which now incorporates detailed data on apartment complexes, hydrants, and hazard points. This tool significantly improves situational awareness and coordination—both internally and with mutual aid partners.

Our **Community Risk Reduction Program**, led by Kendra Williams, identified and assisted residents in need through the S.A.F.E. outreach initiative. This targeted approach connects vulnerable individuals with necessary health and safety resources, reinforcing our mission of holistic public safety.

Additional department highlights from April included:

- Hosting **Friends & Family CPR** and **Mass Casualty Incident** trainings.
- Conducting **Lieutenant promotional interviews** to fill key leadership positions.
- Continuing physical exams to ensure the health and readiness of our firefighters.
- Participating in community events like the City's **Easter Egg Hunt** and engaging with local children during **station birthday visits**.

The commitment of our personnel—whether through emergency responses, public education, or behind-the-scenes operational readiness—is a testament to their character and professionalism.

To the **City Council** and **City Manager**, thank you for your unwavering support. To our **firefighters and staff**, your dedication continues to raise the standard of service. And to the **citizens of South Daytona**, we remain honored to serve and protect you.

Sincerely,



Fire Chief
South Daytona Fire Department



A-SHIFT

Lieutenant Steven Evancho - Paramedic
Ernie Jarvis - Driver Engineer/Medic
Logan Gindner - Firefighter/EMT

Throughout April, A-Shift focused on advancing training initiatives and continuing progress on our pre-incident planning, which remained a central priority for the month. Training efforts included deploying attack lines from our apparatus, hose advancement techniques, ladder operations, and EMS training with Firefighter Gindner to help prepare him for his paramedic school test and scenarios. Additionally, our team completed our monthly Hazardous Materials **training at Station 2 on Brian Avenue.**

A-Shift made significant strides in updating and enhancing our pre-incident plans. Crews visited businesses listed on our planning sheets to familiarize ourselves with layouts, update contact information, and identify potential hazards. By the end of April, we successfully completed **12** additional pre-incident plans.

Beyond our core training and planning objectives, A-Shift remained active in several other areas:

- Continued efforts to organize and clean the apparatus bay at Station 98.
- Participated in a community outreach event at the South Daytona Church on Kenilworth Avenue for their Easter celebration, where we engaged with local residents.
- Responded to numerous emergency incidents, including motor vehicle accidents and structure fires in South Daytona, Daytona, and Port Orange.
- Participated in having a Daytona State College student ride along
- Perform our fit for duty physicals at Florida Health Care
- Rescue 42 training for our next month's extraction training
- Advance airway I-gel in service training at Port Orange
- April's Total Combined Training Hours for A-Shift - **153** (recorded through Target Solutions)

During April, the South Daytona Fire Department conducted a new hire process. Driver Engineer Evancho contributed by assisting with the physical agility testing and EMS scenario evaluations for candidates.

Despite a busy schedule, A-Shift consistently met all operational responsibilities. These included completing daily and weekly truck checks, responding to both EMS and fire calls, submitting timely reports, fulfilling daily station duties, completing required Target Solutions training, and maintaining physical fitness routines.

With the month of April celebrating Easter holiday, A-shift leaves you with this quote:

“Having faith does not mean having no difficulties, but having the strength to face them, knowing we are not alone.”

~Pope Francis~



B-SHIFT

Lieutenant Chad Hubeck - Paramedic
Julian Valiente - Firefighter/Medic
Michael Matos - Firefighter/EMT
Shawn Mercready - Firefighter/EMT



B-Shift, had a productive and impactful month of April. The team completed Target Solutions training, covering critical fireground operations and individual skill development. In-person training included forcible entry (techniques for safely gaining access to locked or obstructed areas during emergencies), single firefighter ladder deployment (solo ladder placement for rescue or access), primary search and rescue, thermal imaging camera (TIC) operations (locating heat signatures in low-visibility conditions), and SCBA bottle consumption circuit drills (simulated high-exertion activities to measure air use and improve respiratory discipline). These exercises not only reinforced foundational skills but also emphasized endurance, air management, and decision-making under stress.

Explanation of the above Training Terms:

- **Forcible Entry:** Gaining access to a building or vehicle when doors or windows are locked, stuck, or damaged. Firefighters use tools to force their way in quickly during emergencies.
- **Ladder Use:** Ladders help us reach high places like rooftops and windows for rescue, ventilation, or access when stairs aren't usable.
- **TIC Operations (Thermal Imaging Camera):** A tool that sees heat, allowing firefighters to find people in smoke or darkness and detect hidden fires behind walls.
- **Friends and Family CPR:** A public class that teaches basic CPR skills, including chest compressions and AED use, so bystanders can help save lives before EMS arrives.
- **Air Consumption Drills:** Exercises that test how long a firefighter's air tank lasts during physical work. It builds awareness, stamina, and safety during real emergencies.

In addition to hands-on and online training, the crew led a Friends and Family CPR class at the Piggotte Center, offering community members life-saving instruction in hands-only CPR and AED use. The event was well attended and received positive feedback, strengthening the department's connection with the public and promoting early intervention during cardiac emergencies.

B-Shift also completed **6** pre-incident plans, emphasizing building access, utility control points, and hazard identification for high-risk occupancies. These walkthroughs help maintain up-to-date knowledge of commercial and multi-residential structures in our district, ensuring faster, safer, and more informed tactical decisions during emergencies.

- April's Total Combined Training Hours for A-Shift - **83.5** (recorded through Target Solutions)



C-SHIFT

Lieutenant Jason Taylor - Paramedic
Jordan Nield - Firefighter/EMT
Cameron Fischer - Firefighter/EMT

Throughout the month of April, C-Shift remained highly active across a wide range of operations and projects. The crew conducted **17** pre-incident plans, mass casualty incident training, and smoke detector installations, while also welcoming children for birthday visits at the station. We responded to two structure fire incidents, completed firefighter physical exams through Florida Healthcare, and evaluated prospective future lieutenants. Additionally, we managed pediatric emergency's, seizure calls, worked with intern ride-along for potential openings, carried out driver training, finalized the kitchen remodeling project, and completed our monthly Hazmat scenario.



Fire and EMS Responses

C-Shift responded to multiple fire and EMS calls this month, including two structure fire incidents and several pediatric medical emergencies and a seizure call that required advanced life support decision making. Crews remained vigilant in delivering high-quality patient care and efficient fireground operations, ensuring the safety of both the public and fellow firefighters.

Training Highlights

This month's primary training focus centered on a hazardous materials scenario involving methamphetamine and mobile drug labs, commonly referred to as "shake and bake" operations. Firefighters reviewed the Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) to identify appropriate guide pages, isolation distances, and PPE selection when responding to suspected drug lab incidents. The scenario emphasized decontamination, Hazmat coordination, and establishing hot, warm, and cold zones — reinforcing operational awareness for these high-risk, low-frequency events.

Intern Riders and Candidate Evaluations

We hosted intern riders from Daytona State College, as well as potential firefighter/EMT candidates following interviews. Daytona State interns completed 12-hour ride-alongs under the supervision of the lead paramedic, focusing on EMS skills and fire operations exposure. Candidate riders completed 8-hour shifts, participating in EMT tasks and firefighter-related responsibilities to assess their readiness for potential department positions.

Physical Fitness and Conditioning

Physical fitness remained a top priority this month, with firefighters participating in strength training, circuit workouts, and fireground conditioning drills. Several sessions included full PPE scenarios alongside intern candidates, focusing on tasks such as pumping and stretching handlines to maintain operational endurance and teamwork.





C-SHIFT Continued

Lieutenant Jason Taylor - Paramedic

Jordan Nield - Firefighter/EMT

Cameron Fischer - Firefighter/EMT

Community Outreach

C-Shift continued its commitment to community outreach by attending local baseball games at James Street Park, supporting young athletes and engaging with the community. Crews also installed smoke detectors in local homes and hosted children at the station for birthday visits, providing full tours and letting them spray water with our child-rated fire hose — a fun and educational experience.

Mass Casualty Incident Training

Lieutenant Taylor developed and delivered a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) training session using a detailed PowerPoint presentation. The training covered triage systems, incident command, resource management, and interagency coordination. Attendees included the Citizens Alert CERT Team, the Police Department, volunteer police, and the fire department, reinforcing preparedness for large-scale emergencies.

Annual Physicals and Health Assessments

This month, all C-Shift members completed their annual physicals through Florida Healthcare, including bloodwork, cardiac evaluations, lung function tests, hearing, and vision screenings. These comprehensive health checks ensure each firefighter remains medically cleared and fit for duty, safeguarding both personal health and crew readiness.

- April's Total Combined Training Hours for C-Shift - **122.5** (recorded through Target Solutions)



South Daytona Fire Department



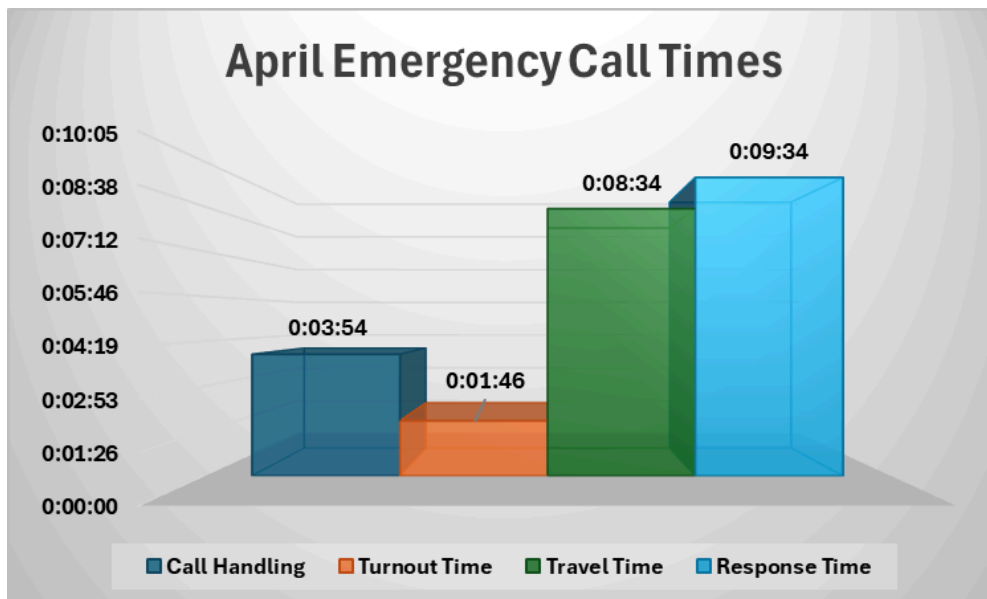
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Total number of completed Annual Fire Inspections for April.



DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Apr. 2nd - Friends and Family CPR training was held at the Piggotte Community Center.
- Apr. 3rd - Mass Casualty Class held at the Piggotte Community Center for Citizens Alert.
- Apr. 4th, 5th, & 6th - Daytona State College EMT student ride-alongs.
- Apr. 8th-10th - All certified firefighters completed their annual Fit for Duty Health Screenings by completing their blood work, lung function test, etc.
- Apr. 12th - Annual City Easter Egg Hunt held at Reed Canal Park.
- Apr. 15th & 16th - The department held our Lieutenant Promotional Interviews and exam to fill the 2 vacant Lieutenant positions within the department.
- Apr. 22nd- 24th - All certified firefighters completed the second portion of their annual Fit for Duty Health Screening by completing the physical portion.





Community Risk Reduction Program

Kendra Williams

S.A.F.E. Resident Outreach Program:

S - Spot the Need **A** - Assess the Situation **F** - Facilitate Assistance **E** - Educate & Evaluate

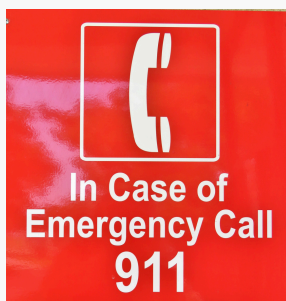
The new intake form created last month and put into place is more effective than trying to identify the residents in need through the report entered into the Zoll program. This form allows the responding crew members on the truck to be able to complete the form on scene with pertinent information for me to be able to reach out to the resident to try to help them with resources that they may be lacking or in need of.

During April, 2 residents were identified as possibly needing assistance through the S.A.F.E. Resident Outreach Program. During the intake process it was determined that both of the identified residents needed some help with resources and education from resources that the program could assist with.

The program currently has 4 residents enrolled. During April, the S.A.F.E. Resident Outreach Program worked with residents from issues ranging from needing a new battery for their glucose monitor to needing education on the importance of personal hygiene and why it is important to only use the 9-1-1 system for emergencies only.

Below are some statistics concerning the misuse of the 9-1-1 System:

- An estimated **240** million calls are made to 9-1-1 in the U.S. each year.
- **80%** or more of the 9-1-1 calls are from wireless devices.



Calls to 9-1-1 should be reserved for emergencies such as:

A serious medical emergency (chest pains, seizures, bleeding, etc.)

Any type of fire (structure, vehicle, brush, etc.)

Any crime in progress (robbery, burglary, prowler, fights, etc.)

Any other life threatening situations (traffic accident with injuries, etc.).

Operations

Commander Don Howard



262 Total Calls

17 Calls to the County



Due to overlapping incidents, Port Orange and Daytona Beach, responded to our district **23** times while our crews were occupied with other 911 responses. Notably, there were five cardiac arrest (CPR) calls within our district; **three** of these were handled by neighboring cities due to our crew being responding to other active incidents.

During the month of April the department responded to three residential structure fires, resulting in a combined property loss of approximately **\$47,000**.

FlowMSP System Update

The department continues to advance its use of FlowMSP, a pre-planning system adopted across several regional cities. This technology maps out critical data for businesses and fire hydrant locations, enhancing situational awareness for responding units.

We have expanded this effort to include all apartment complexes within the city, integrating details such as building fire loads, nearest hydrants, and contact points. FlowMSP provides real-time visual data, including images of all four sides of commercial structures, hazard identifications, Knox Box locations, electrical panels, and fire department connections (FDCs). Importantly, this system is accessible not just to our department but also to mutual aid agencies, ensuring seamless, informed responses across jurisdictions.

