

Cache County CONNECTION

JULY 2024



FROM YOUR COUNTY EXECUTIVE

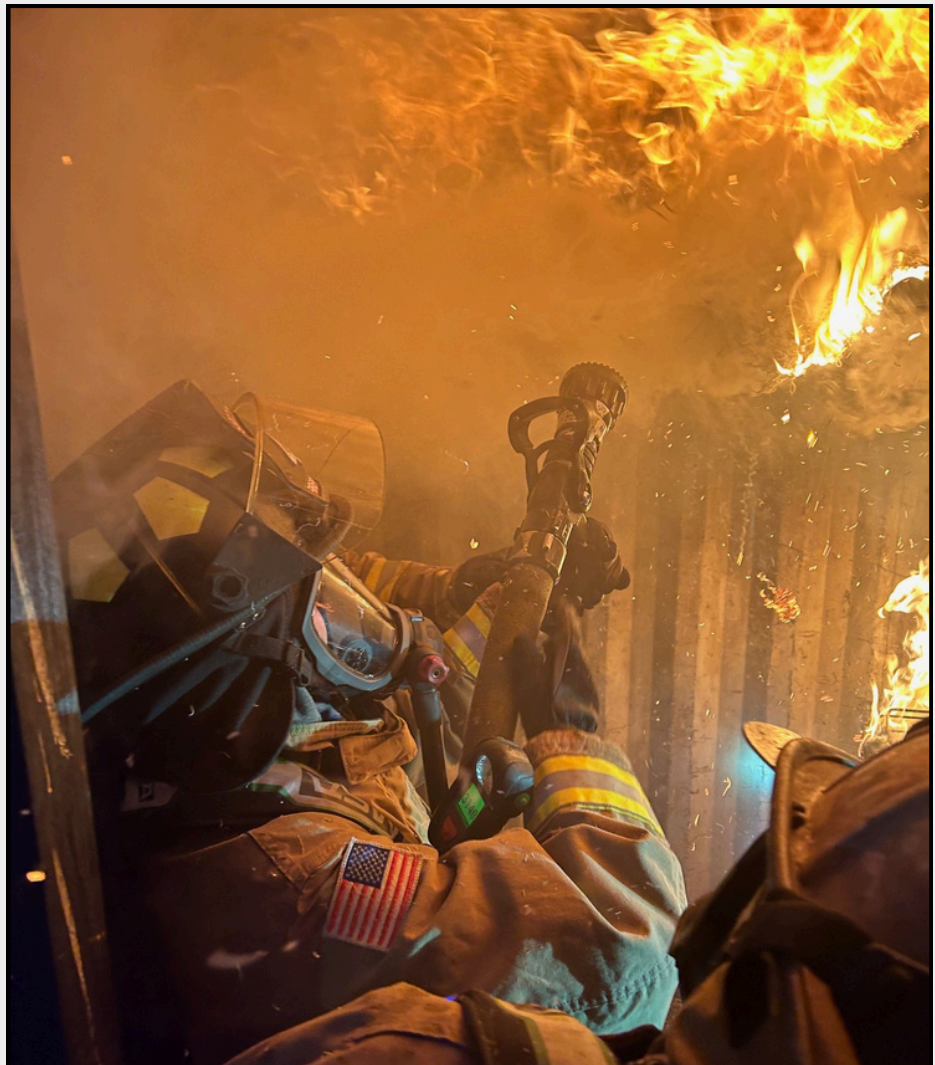
When I was a teenager, my friends and I were playing basketball in my driveway when we heard a sound that we knew wasn't good. I had never heard a car accident before, but we all knew what that sound must have been. We ran to the main road at the end of our street and, through the tunnel vision that comes with an intense moment, we saw car parts and people strewn across the scene, a car on fire, and what used to be a motorcycle. I knew I needed to try to help, but I wasn't sure exactly what to do. I tried to control the motorcyclist's bleeding and support his breathing, but I felt so powerless waiting for fire and paramedic crews to arrive. Hearing the sirens approach and handing his care over to professionals was a relief. That experience inspired me to learn more about how to help people in need and I later got trained as an emergency medical technician. But I learned that, even with the proper training, you still need the equipment and extra manpower summoned by a 911 call.

It's important for us to be confident that, when we call 911, highly-trained and well-equipped professionals will be there soon.

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MEET THE CACHE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

The Cache County Fire District was established in 1965 to provide fire protection to the residents of Cache County and to support the volunteer fire departments in the county. We do this by providing training, equipment, funding, and education as well as responding to incidents across the county. There are currently over 220 dedicated volunteer and full-time firefighters who are ready to serve on a moment's notice. These are your neighbors and friends. Every time the pager calls, they drop everything to respond to your emergency.



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Our Cache County Fire District and the agencies we partner with are staffed by professionals who have spent countless hours training so that they can serve and protect Cache County citizens. I'm grateful for them, for their service, and sacrifices.

As a community, we have a responsibility to take care of each other, to help those in need, and to equip our first responders with the training, equipment and facilities they need to be able to respond when emergencies arise. Those men and women give up a lot to serve as firefighters and EMS providers. I've thought a lot about our fire district and whether or not we are sacrificing as much as we should or could to ensure they have the resources they need. I believe there are opportunities for us to better support our fire and EMS staff and our volunteer departments. We need to consider how we fund and deliver services. The way our County Fire District has historically been funded hasn't been fair. We are planning to hire a consultant to analyze the district's funding sources and to compare them to staffing, facility and equipment needs. I am confident we will get recommendations for how we can improve and better serve our residents, so that when you call 911, you can continue to be confident that help will be there soon.

CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Our Code Enforcement division works with Cache County's Development Services Department to conduct zoning clearances, business license inspections, plan reviews, public education, and fire investigation. We do this by following state and national fire codes to ensure public safety through planning and design.



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TRAINING DIVISION

Our training division provides basic and advanced fire and emergency medical services (EMS) classes to any firefighter who is a member of one of the fire departments in Cache County. Our goal is to ensure quality training that will result in Utah Fire and Rescue Academy certification. We want to make sure that cost, or class schedule and availability are not reasons for firefighters to be uncertified. Certification levels include: Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, Hazmat Awareness, Hazmat Operations, Wildland Firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician and Advanced Emergency Medical Technician. It takes hundreds of hours of training to be certified.





FIRE ENGINES

The Fire District purchases new fire engines to support the 10 departments in the county. A new fire engine costs almost \$500,000 and takes from three to four years for delivery. These engines have a 20 – 25 year life span. Our operations division makes sure all equipment is in good working order. We also have a traveling wash service to clean firefighters' gear after structure fires to reduce the risk of cancer to firefighters.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Fire District also operates the ambulance service in the south part of the county and is one of three ambulance agencies in Cache County, in addition to Smithfield in the north, and Logan in the central area. We operate one full-time station in Hyrum with four firefighters on duty at all times. We also operate an ambulance out of Wellsville and Mendon. We also run a first responder unit in the Millville/Nibley area. These are staffed with volunteers who are paid when they respond to an emergency. Finally, we staff two firefighters in Richmond from 8:00 to 5:00 during the week. These firefighters respond to fires and EMS calls on the north end of the county.



FIRE DISTRICT BY THE NUMBERS

- 17** Full-time personnel
- 28** Part-time personnel
- 10** Departments



- 795** EMS Calls
- 120** Service Calls
- 65** Fires
- 14** Hazmat Calls

CURRENT CACHE COUNTY FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Cache County is currently under Stage 1 fire restrictions. These restrictions prohibit open fires on unincorporated or state lands.

The complete restriction list can be found at:

[Cache County Fire Restrictions](#)

[Click here for Cache County Fire District Information](#)

*Cache County's Mission is
"To Make life better for our residents."*