

MODESTO
FIRE DEPARTMENT
- 1939 -

FIREHOUSE

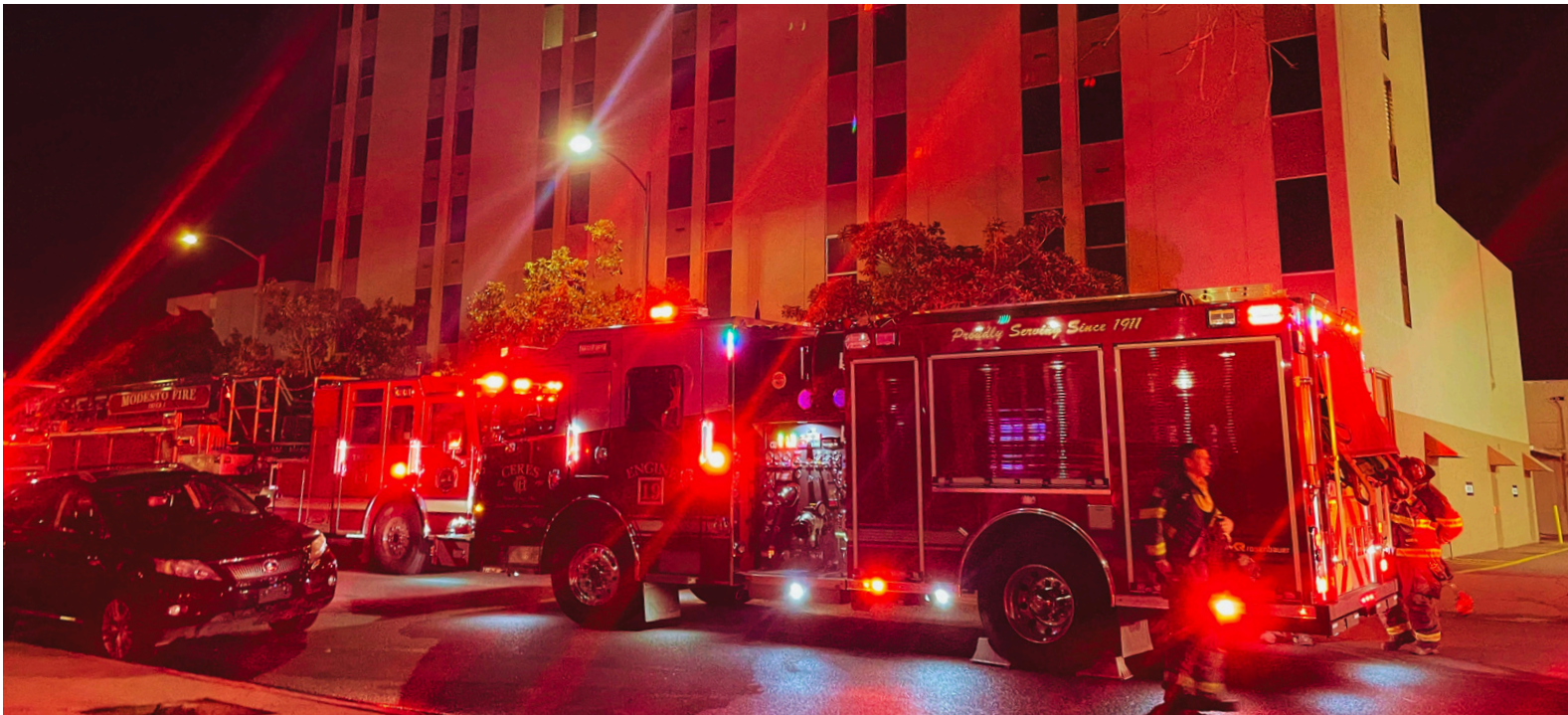
ENGINE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARED BY:
MODESTO FIRE DEPARTMENT

About Us

We are a professional, community service-driven organization that provides all-risk emergency services to meet the needs of our community. Today, our organization is made up of three agencies: Modesto Fire Department, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District and Turlock Fire Department, collectively known as MST.



Together, we serve the communities of: Modesto, Ceres, Oakdale, Knights Ferry, Valley Home, Riverbank, Empire, Waterford, La Grange, Turlock and Salida. Through our regionalization efforts and contracts for services, our goal is to provide services more efficiently and to improve the quality of those services throughout Stanislaus County. To learn more, please visit our website:

www.modestofire.com

Our Mission

Proudly serving,
protecting and partnering
for a safer community.

Guiding Principles

1

WHY DO WE EXIST?

To serve, protect, and partner for a safer community

2

HOW DO WE BEHAVE?

- Honesty and trust that preserves public confidence
- Professional customer service
- Lead in innovation and training
- A team whose members are empowered and enthusiastic in their service
- Role models in our community and leaders in our profession

3

WHAT DO WE DO?

Provide all risk fire and administrative services to the communities of Modesto, Ceres, Oakdale, Oakdale Fire District, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire District, Turlock and Salida

4

HOW WILL WE SUCCEED?

- Be innovative
- Be progressive
- Results driven
- Transparent



From the Interim Fire Chief

On behalf of the Modesto Fire Department, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District and Turlock Fire Department, I am pleased to present our annual report for 2023.

As the Interim Fire Chief, it has been an honor to witness the hard work and perseverance of this great organization which we know as MST. Each division has worked consistently and tirelessly to provide exceptional service to our communities.

One of our biggest accomplishments of 2023 was establishing the Central Valley Incident Management Team (CVIMT) agreement between Modesto Fire, Stanislaus Consolidated, Turlock Fire and Cal Fire Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit (TCU). This multi-agency, multi-jurisdiction, all-hazard Type III team has played a critical role in mitigating major incidents such as flooding and fires across Stanislaus and neighboring counties. More recently, the team led the planning of several services for fallen fire personnel.

Looking ahead to 2024, we are excited to develop plans for increased staffing, capital improvements and continuous training, both field and administrative.

I would like to thank each and every member of our organization for their professionalism and dedication to our community. I would also like to thank the City Council and Board of Directors from each jurisdiction, as well as IAFF Locals 1289 (MFD), 3399 (SCFPD) and 2434 (Turlock) for their continued support. Through our regionalization efforts and partnerships, we have been able to enhance the fire service delivery, and I am grateful for everyone's contributions to our success.

Sincerely,



KEVIN WISE
Interim Fire Chief



A Year in Review

	Total Calls for Service	EMS Calls	Vehicle Accidents	Fire Calls	Working Structure Fires
MFD	33,259	25,859	1,888	1,728	228
OAK	2,273	1,612	106	54	10
OFPD	960	637	120	119	10
CER	5,363	4,182	386	364	48
SAL	1,722	1,199	133	106	10
SCFPD	5,963	4,280	303	439	45
TFD	8,311	5,471	302	298	107
TOTAL	57,851	43,240	3,238	3,108	458

Emergency Operations

A firefighter in full gear, including a helmet and mask, is the central focus of the image. The firefighter is wearing a black helmet with a silver face shield and a clear visor. The gear is black with bright yellow reflective stripes. The background is slightly blurred, showing other firefighters and equipment, suggesting an active emergency scene.

The Emergency Operations Division (overseeing Modesto, Stanislaus Consolidated, and Turlock) continues its commitment to operational alignment in accordance with the MST philosophy.

Quarterly Battalion Drills have been instrumental in aligning our operational procedures, particularly focusing on commercial fires, attic fires, basement fires, attached garage fires and high-rise operations. In collaboration with local law enforcement agencies, we have conducted active shooter training drills within the City of Modesto and City of Ceres, focusing on Unified Command and integrating with law enforcement during a high-risk dynamic emergency. In addition, Joint Protocol Response training was completed with all of our partnering law enforcement agencies.

A notable achievement includes the completion of our truck manual, followed by the participation of our truck companies in the MST truck academy. Our truck academy reinforced common operational principles across MST agencies, bolstering a cohesive approach with our MST emergency response.

Special Operations

Our Hazmat Team remains dedicated to its mission of preventing, containing and mitigating hazardous materials incidents. In addition to providing a hazmat team for Stanislaus County, our team is part of the California Office of Emergency Services (OES), staffing OES Hazmat 41. Through monthly trainings and drills, our team is certified and equipped to handle a wide range of hazardous materials scenarios, maintaining proficiency essential for an effective hazmat response. In 2023, The Hazmat Team dedicated over 500 hours to discipline-specific training. The team was activated to respond to 21 incidents.



Our Technical Rescue Team consists of Truck 1, Truck 5 and Squad 11, providing rescue services to the City of Modesto and Stanislaus County. Team members are trained to mitigate complex rescue incidents certified with core competencies in trench rescue, rope rescue, structural collapse, confined space rescue, tower rescue and more. In 2023, the Technical Rescue Team dedicated over 250 hours to discipline-specific training, ensuring proficiency and readiness. The team was activated to respond to 18 technical rescue incidents

In 2023, our Special Operations Teams participated in a Sentinel Drill, working alongside firefighters from across the state. Team members were challenged with mitigating complex hazmat and technical rescue scenarios over a 48-hour period.

Operational goals for 2024 center on further alignment of our MST agencies:

- Mass Casualty Incident training to enhance our response to large-scale emergencies
- Uniform specifications for both light and heavy fleets to optimize fleet management and resource allocation
- Type 1 certification with the state for our hazmat team
- Tech Rescue participation in FEMA USAR Team 4 to enhance our preparedness and response capabilities



Business Operations

The Fire Department's Business Operations Division saw a year of robust activity and notable achievements in 2023.

- Secured new position allocations through Measure H funding (3 EMS Captains, EMS QI Coordinator, HazMat Inspector, Public Safety Business Services Analyst)
- Received grant funding through Cal Fire to improve firefighting capacity throughout the state
- Onboarded 23 new employees
- Helped facilitate 15 promotions
- Established the MST Insider, a monthly email newsletter including highlights and interviews
- Business Ops representatives participated in IMT training and received FEMA certifications
- Addressed more than 360 station maintenance requests
- Processed more than 1,250 purchasing requisitions
- Started the Station 1 project process
- Purchased 5 new engines
- Honored 14 employees for reaching their 20 years of service with MFD
- Celebrated 4 employee retirements: Battalion Chief Antonio Miranda, Captains Michael Beidleman and Jeff Adney, Deputy Chief Michael Shockey, and Fire Chief Alan Ernst

Looking forward to 2024, the division would like to:

- Seek alternative funding sources through grants
- Deploy unified recruitments with Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District and Turlock Fire Department
- Continue to assess the needs of our growing department and scale the administrative staff accordingly

Emergency Medical Services



In 2023, the Modesto Fire EMS division made significant strides in enhancing its services and capabilities, with the help of approved funding through Measure H.

- Launch of the Medic 1 Program consisting of three fire captain paramedics who respond to medical emergencies, providing an additional resource to the community
- Expansion of administrative support by hiring an Administrative Office Assistant III to allow personnel to focus more on core responsibilities and improve overall efficiency
- Creation of Clinical Quality Improvement Coordinator position which involves implementing measures to assess and improve clinical practices and ensuring adherence to local and state protocols, standards, and best practices
- Purchase of state-of-the-art training equipment with additional plans for 2024
- Supplying of all our first-out apparatus with ALS equipment, allowing paramedics to provide those services when they're working on non-dedicated ALS apparatus

Overall, these initiatives reflect the Modesto Fire EMS division's proactive approach to enhancing emergency medical services. Next year, the EMS division will continue to focus on areas of improvement and remain dedicated to their mission of providing exceptional emergency medical services to the community.

Community Risk Reduction

The Community Risk Reduction Division focused on organizational alignment, streamlining processes, and strengthening partnerships. Within our Fire Prevention Bureau, we are operating as one cohesive unit throughout the MST organization, sharing, collaborating, and solving fire prevention-related issues MST wide to provide a higher level of customer service. The Stanislaus Fire Investigations Unit (FIU) continued to work as an efficient, multi-jurisdictional task force, providing an increase in successful arson investigations and arrests.

FIU personnel continued to train and coordinate succession planning through certification and on the job training. Our hazard mitigation / fuel reduction group expanded its capabilities with the purchase of new equipment to address risks within the community. Our MST Public Information Team efforts provided consistent and timely release of public information and public education to the communities that we serve.

What's Next?

Looking forward to 2024, the Community Risk Reduction Division will continue to build, expand, and streamline processes to provide exceptional customer service and to keep our residents and first responders educated and safe.



Training Division

In 2023, the Training Division continued to grow, improve and tackle the projects and logistics required to handle the training needs for MST.

Notably, we brought on Engineer Jeremy Eldredge as the MST Health and Wellness Coordinator and Captain Matt Curless to support training program alignment between MST and the RFTC.

The training division coordinated multiple promotional tests and ran two new recruit firefighter academies. Significant accomplishments included the formation of a new partnership agreement with the Modesto Junior College. Under the partnership agreement, an MFD chief officer provides director-level oversight to the MJC RFTC Fire and EMS programs. This relationship is viewed as mutually beneficial to both the College and MFD. This relationship enables both parties to leverage available resources and personnel to support program needs.

In addition, we set up an Instructional Services Agreement (ISA). The ISA enables

our firefighters to attain college credit for work-related training. This arrangement also allows for revenue sharing of student apportionment. For every training or instructional hour generated, MST agencies will receive \$3.69 per hour.

The new Station 17 training tower project began in 2023 and is now fully funded. Foundation work is complete, and the rest of the project is currently out to bid.

There have been numerous site improvements to the RFTC. A new forklift and vertical ventilation prop have been ordered, and new forcible entry props have been fabricated and additional ones will soon be ordered.

We look forward to continuing our efforts to operate as unit and provide our current and future fire personnel the best training, ensuring their safety and efficiency.



Health & Wellness



A big part 2023 revolved around establishing roles and responsibilities within the Health and Wellness Program, determining where the needs within them are, and developing the relationships to accomplish this.

September 2023 was the beginning of the scheduling and management of both the Modesto Fire Department and the Stanislaus Consolidated's NFPA 1582 annual physicals. These physicals, conducted by Life Scan, consist of comprehensive blood panels and physical assessments, including heart stress tests, mobility testing, and ultrasound. These physicals have proven to be an enormous benefit and potentially even lifesaving for several of our members, by providing early detection of several cancers and heart issues.

Whereas 2023 revolved around determining goals, 2024 is about gaining momentum to work towards these goals. Some steps include:

- A monthly workers' compensation committee that includes several chiefs, representatives from HR and the Health and Wellness Coordinator, which will aim to identify areas of improvement and injury trends in order to make the process more efficient for our employees
- An informational training for all fire department employees to have a fundamental understanding of how the workers' compensation system
- Expanding Modesto's Peer Support Team to a joint MST team, which will help provide a consistent approach towards mental health education and assistance for all three agencies
- Identifying how to effectively reduce systemic, material and practical influences that impact our workplace exposures
- Continue to evaluate our policies and practices to ensure OSHA compliance, and to identify outdated, unclear, or unestablished policies that are related to health and wellness

From Stanislaus Consolidated

I am honored and blessed to have the privilege of representing the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District as their Fire Chief within our contract with the Modesto Fire Department. As an organization, SCFPD has accomplished great things in 2023, and we are looking forward to an incredible year in 2024.

The men and women of SCFPD are what make us great! It's the dedication and sacrifice of everyone for the betterment of the citizens that make me most proud. Every day, we go above and beyond to serve our communities with pride, compassion, and empathy in their time of need, and we're only growing.

In 2023, we welcomed eight new employees to the SCFPD ranks with six firefighters and two captains. We were also pleased to promote four engineers, one captain, one battalion chief and one deputy chief. All of these new additions are thriving and doing well in their new assignments.

As we embark on 2024, we are excited about our partnership with MST, which includes Modesto and Turlock. As it has been said many times before, we are stronger together! The sky is the limit for SCFPD and our MST partners, as we strive every day to serve and protect our communities, regardless of the boundaries or the patch on our sleeve. I am honored to serve alongside the great men and women of MST and will strive for excellence as I continue to lead this great organization into another year.

Sincerely,

Tim Tietjen

TIM TIETJEN

Assistant Fire Chief





SCFPD Highlights

Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District (SCFPD) achieved a number of accomplishments in 2023 while continuously striving to provide excellent service to the community and partnering agencies, including the following:

- We welcomed our new facility dog Tank who was donated from Thor's Hope Foundation. Tank has provided emotional support not only to our members in their time of need, but also our neighboring agencies and citizens.
- We received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to send 10 of our current employees to paramedic school at Sacramento State. Six of them will be fully certified and working in the field as Paramedics in July 2024. The remaining four will finish towards the end of the year.
- We received the VFA grant which allowed us to purchase new wildland PPE.
- We purchased a new Type 1 Fire Apparatus with planned delivery in September 2024, as well as invested in new vehicles for the training officer, battalion chiefs, and FIU battalion chief.
- Our fire prevention team and station crews had the pleasure of participating in October's Fire Prevention Month by attending numerous education school visits, occupational Olympics, and career expos.

Overall, 2023 was a year of growth and improvement for the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District. These internal accomplishments and improvements not only benefit the SCFPD staff but also the community we serve. We take pride in our community and partnering agencies and we look forward to continued growth and success in the years to come.

From Turlock Fire Department

As we embark on a new year, I am thrilled to share some of our noteworthy achievements of Turlock Fire Department from 2023 and provide a glimpse into our exciting plans for 2024.

In 2023, we successfully secured two Pierce Velocity Fire Engines, with an anticipated delivery date in 2026. We eagerly await the arrival of two Pierce fire engines ordered in 2022, set to be delivered by November of this year.

The MST Training MOU continues to yield valuable results, enhancing the training of our new recruits and maintaining the quality of ongoing training for our line personnel. We now have five lateral fire engineers on board and look forward to the four firefighters hired at the end of last year who will soon complete their 14-week academy training then go on shift.

In our commitment to implement recommendations from the Citygate

study completed in 2022, we have established a dedicated committee from members of the Department to drive progress and make recommendations.

We are now entering our second full year of the administrative contract with Modesto Fire Department, which began in January 2022. During this time, we have witnessed substantial enhancements to our organization, and we are eager to continue building upon our successes in the year ahead.

Sincerely,



ANDREW HUNTER
Deputy Fire Chief





Turlock Fire Highlights

The Turlock Fire Department (TFD) achieved significant milestones and undertook key initiatives to enhance its operations and community engagement.

- TFD was approved for a fleet maintenance agreement with the City of Modesto. This agreement ensures efficient maintenance and upkeep of firefighting vehicles, ensuring optimal readiness for emergency response.
- We welcomed four new firefighters and six lateral engineers, filling all line assignments and a majority of relief positions, ensuring adequate staffing levels.
- We saw numerous promotions within the department, as well as the retirement of two notable figures: Captain Frank Saldivar and Division Chief Bill Becker, whose contributions to the department and the community are deeply appreciated and celebrated.
- We organized a highly successful open house for Fire Prevention Week on October 14th, engaging the community and promoting fire prevention and safety awareness.

Overall, 2023 was a year of progress and achievements for the Turlock Fire Department, marked by investments in equipment, personnel, and community engagement, all aimed at ensuring the safety and well-being of the residents it serves.

Contacts



Phone Numbers:

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SCFPD: 209-869-7470

TFD: 209-668-5580



Administration Offices:

Modesto Fire Dept.

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Stanislaus Consolidated

3318 Topeka Street, Riverbank 95367

Turlock Fire Dept.

244 N. Broadway, Turlock 95380



Websites:

www.modestofire.com

www.scfpd.us

www.cityofturlock.org/firedepartment