



Monthly Newsletter

June 2012

What happened?

Here is a breakdown of the hours I spent with Marion County Fire Rescue and Fire Rescue Support last month...

May	
Accidents	8.5
Ceremonies	1.0
CISD	3.5
Counseling	0.0
Fires	4.0
Funerals	5.0
Hospital visits	0.0
Incidents	9.5
Meetings	5.5
Station Visits	5.5
Training	0.0
Wedding related	0.0
Monthly total	42.5

Call of the Month

On Thursday, May 10, units were dispatched to a vehicle accident on Highway 27 northwest of Ocala. While I was on my way, I was informed that my services were needed. I assumed I would be comforting the family of one of the accident victims, but this was not the case.

I was escorted to one of our rescue units where I met a young man who was very distraught over the accident. He had been driving a box-type truck which had crossed the center median and struck a pick up truck resulting in the death of its driver. The cause of the accident? Texting.

Sadly, two lives were ruined that day; the man who died and the man who lived. There is no up side to texting while driving. Put the phone down and keep your eyes on the road!

What's happening now?

The heartbeat of Fire Rescue Support is to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call. All of this is based upon developing relationships with the men and women who serve. To help develop these relationships, I respond to incidents where I can provide assistance and where I can connect with our crews. To help make sure I'm making my rounds, I've started to log my most recent contact with each station/each shift. This will help me in initiating contact with those I haven't seen in a while.

What's coming up?

I have had a preliminary meeting with the Ocala Fire Rescue about coming on board as their Chaplain. This is very exciting as this will provide a wonderful opportunity to expand the role of Fire Rescue Support in our area.

Thank you!

The chaplaincy has been called a "ministry of presence." Your love, support and generosity make it possible for me to be present with those serving with Marion County Fire Rescue and other local agencies. Being present allows me to thank our crews for what they do day in and day out. Being present gives me the chance to stand with a family as they watch their loved one be extricated from a mangled vehicle. Being present makes it possible for me to comfort those struggling with loss. Thank you for investing in Fire Rescue Support.

