



# Monthly Newsletter

## March 2013

### What happened?

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

<b>February</b>	
Accidents	9.0
Ceremonies	2.0
CISD	1.5
Counseling	5.0
Fires	12.5
Funeral related	7.0
Hospital visits	8.0
Office	0.0
Incidents	1.0
Meetings	5.5
Station Visits	11.0
Training	0.0
Wedding related	0.0
<b>Monthly total</b>	<b>62.5</b>



**On Scene**

### Call of the Month

February 14 was a very rainy day. As I left the office, I stopped by a traffic accident that was on my way home. After leaving that scene, I came upon a second accident. But it was on the third accident I responded to that I was reminded about what being a chaplain is all about.



At about 1630, units were dispatched to a single vehicle accident on 484 in Marion Oaks. The driver, a high school freshman, was dead on scene. As crews were waiting for the medical examiner, the young man's parents pulled up.

No words can capture the grief expressed by the parents as they found out about the death of their son. And, no words could be said that would ease their pain.

The chaplaincy is referred to as a "ministry of presence." Our role is to quietly support our crews and victims through prayer, a hand of comfort and a respectful presence.

## What's happening now?

How did Fire Rescue Support get its start? What is it that drives me to do what I do? The answers to these questions were captured in a service at Church @ The Springs on September 11, 2011. You can see this newly posted video on our website ([www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com)) by going to the "Our Beginnings" page.

I was recently awarded a Fire Instructor III certificate from the Bureau of Standards and Training. This designation will allow me to develop and deliver courses in the fire service. Specifically, I want to teach current and prospective chaplains how to be more effective with what they do. I also want to teach fire rescue crews about stress management, dealing with grief, how to help their families be successful and leadership.

## What's coming up?

Fire Rescue Support is intensely pursuing funding for the work it does. Grants have been written to the Wal-Mart Foundation, the Publix Foundation and the Winn-Dixie Foundation to support a program called Fire Rescue Cares. This program is designed to provide tangible support (gift cards) to fire victims as they recover from their loss.

In addition, we are contacting American Legion and VFW posts, as well as fire-related businesses in our area, with the prospect of their becoming financial partners with Fire Rescue Support.

If you are interested in becoming a financial partner, please go to our website ([www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com)) and click on the "Become a Financial Partner" page.

## Thank you!

Thanks for your interest in and support of Fire Rescue Support. We exist to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call. Visit [www.firerescuesupport.com](http://www.firerescuesupport.com) for more information or find us on Facebook. You can simply click on the images below.

