



Fire Rescue Support exists to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call

Before the Call

One Down – One to Go



Recently I had the opportunity to become certified as a teacher with the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation in the area of Group Crisis

Intervention. Later this month, I will travel to Pittsburgh to be certified in the area of Individual Crisis Intervention.

These certifications will allow me to teach the basic critical incident stress management courses for Marion County Fire Rescue and Ocala Fire Rescue. In addition, I hope to be able to connect with other departments to bring them this much needed training.

FFCA Presentation



In the last newsletter I shared that I had the honor of presenting at the Safety and Health Conference and was looking forward to

presenting at Fire – Rescue East. While I will NOT be presenting at Fire – Rescue East (due a misunderstanding on my part), I do hope to have a display set up for Fire Rescue Support at the trade show.

Toy Drive



Fire Rescue Support had the opportunity to team up with Marion County Fire Rescue to be part of this year’s Toy Drive. Together, we were able to provide Christmas gifts for over 300 children from 17 schools.

New Hires



Several times year, I get the privilege of spending some time with the newest



people to become part of the first responder community in Marion County. Both Marion County Fire Rescue and Marion County Public Safety Communications invite me to meet with their new hires as they are involved in training to come on the job. I spend time talking about my role as Chaplain, as well as helping them prepare for the stress of the job.



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During the Call



From mid-December to the beginning of January, Fire Rescue Support was on the scene of six significant events. During these times, our role is to provide support to fire crews and comfort to victims. On the calls listed on the right, we were able to be with relatives of the deceased and help others take first steps of recovery.

Ocala fatal house fire – 12/17

Motorcycle fatality – 12/23

Fort McCoy house fire – 12/26

Ocala house fire – 12/27

Vehicle fatality – 12/31

Extended extrication – 1/2



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After the Call

Sometimes it All Comes Together

"A recent cardiac arrest survivor was recognized by Dr. Fraunfelder at a MRMC Board meeting on December 16th. An off duty MRMC paramedic who witnessed the arrest, dispatch personnel, OFR and MCFR responders and MRMC staff were credited for saving the life of Mrs. Leary. Talk about the Chain of Survival components coming together for a successful conclusion! We thank all the health care professionals for a job well done, and wish Mrs. Leary many years of happiness and good health."



Above is a photo of a cardiac arrest save. Ocala firefighters from left to right: Garry Kirby, Adam McCormick, Bradley Cortez, Mr. & Mrs. Leary, Dr. Fraunfelder, Justin Fales.

Feedback from the Field

Chaplain Joe,

Hello, I just wanted to take a minute to express my gratitude. In our line of work it is inevitable that we will face scenes that are difficult and work intensive at times. As a Captain at OFR I try and reflect back on these calls to find ways we can improve our abilities to further help the citizens of Ocala. I also try and make sure I personally let everyone know how good of a job they have done. During my reflection on the vehicle accident today I realized I did not get a chance to thank you personally for what you do. I speak for everyone when I say we appreciate what you do and thank you for your participation at our more intense scenes. I know you have been to two of my recent scenes (this accident and the structure fire with a fatality) and your presence is known and felt. Everything that you provide is much appreciated. Thanks again for your great service as our Chaplain.





Monthly Newsletter
January 2014

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Thank you!

Thanks for your interest in and partnership with Fire Rescue Support. Because of you, we have the opportunity to support fire rescue personnel before, during and after the call. Visit www.firerescuesupport.com for more information or find us on Facebook (you can simply click on the images below.) And please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance personally or professionally. You can reach me at 352-425-1643 or joe@firerescuesupport.com.

