



SPRING 2023

ON SCENE

WITH GIG HARBOR FIRE & MEDIC ONE

CHIEF'S CORNER

Spring has arrived! The days are growing longer, tulips are breaking ground, and daffodils are blooming. Soon the weather will warm, and more of us will be out and about in this beautiful area we call home.

I write this update having just celebrated my second anniversary as Fire Chief here at Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One - and what a busy two years it has been! With your support, we passed a Bond Measure and an EMS levy, began staffing three-person engine companies, modernized our financial software, hired a Finance Director, celebrated retirements, added new family members, participated in parades, and resumed CPR classes; the list goes on and on!



FIRE CHIEF DENNIS DOAN

Our capital bond projects are moving toward permitting and groundbreaking - you can find additional information about those projects on our website. Logistics and operations personnel are busy planning station moves and training alternatives for our personnel during the remodel and building phases of our capital bond projects. Rest assured, we will continue to put our customers first and provide the best possible service, regardless of the projects underway.

Call volumes continue to rise by approximately 10% when compared to the same time last year. Our priority project list for 2023 has been presented to our Board, and our Command Staff team has rolled up their sleeves for another great year of projects and fun.

All of our work is only possible with your support, creating a reciprocal relationship. Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One has a history of being good stewards of your tax dollars. At the same time, we strive to provide exceptional service to our community, protecting life, property, and the environment.

I welcome your questions at (253) 851-3111 or DDoan@gigharborfire.org. Thank you for your continued support!

Now Scheduling
CPR/AED/FIRST AID

	CPR/AED Fee: \$35.00 <i>(2 year certification)</i> Saturday Classes Available 3 hour class	FIRST AID/CPR/AED Fee: \$45.00 <i>(2 year certification)</i> Saturday Classes Available 6 hour class
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WE SERVE TO SAVE

TIME IS MUSCLE

Did you know that a blockage in an artery in your heart often produces a distinct signature on an EKG? The remedy for that blockage is rapid recognition and transport to an appropriate healthcare facility where a doctor will determine the best way to treat the patient. Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One personnel use several pieces of equipment, including the ZOLL X Series Heart Monitor, to perform EKGs on patients experiencing chest pain. Our paramedics then interpret the EKG and notify the receiving hospital of our findings. Early recognition and notification allow the hospital to prepare for your arrival while transporting you to the appropriate facility.



Calling 911 when you feel the symptoms associated with a Myocardial Infarction or Heart Attack is the most important step you can take:

- Pain, pressure, or squeezing in the chest
- Shortness of Breath
- Discomfort in the arms, shoulder, neck, or jaw
- Lightheaded or fatigue

By calling 911 and having our paramedics diagnose a potential blockage in the field, you can significantly reduce the time it takes to receive the appropriate treatment. In this case, time is muscle, and that equates to better outcomes for our citizens.



CLIMB FOR A CAUSE

Ten members from Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One competed against 1600 other firefighters from around the world in the annual Columbia Tower Stair Climb. The competition requires firefighters to don all their firefighting gear (50-60 lbs.) and do the grueling climb up 69 flights of stairs to the top of the Columbia Tower in downtown Seattle.



Not only did retired Assistant Chief Steve Nixon climb the tower for his 31st time, GHFMO also had some of the top finishers from the climb: Jackson Moseley placing 110th, Ryan Shervanick placing 178th, and Nick Martin placing 253rd.

The Gig Harbor team raised over \$25,000 for blood cancer research.



GigHarborFire



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