



## OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF

South San Joaquin Fire Authority  
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### MEMORANDUM

Date: June 12, 2023  
To: Board of Directors  
From: Chief Bradley  
Subject: Monthly Fire Chief Update – May 2023

#### Water Watchers Program

During the month of May, South San Joaquin County Fire Authority re-launched our Water Waters Program. The focus of this program is to educate the public on different aspects of water safety including assigning a water watcher, proper pool barriers and fencing, and that children drown without a sound. Engineer McClellan is managing the program and has worked with the City to get a list of Tracy properties that have a pool, so we can make contact and send information to property owners. We launched the first video of the series with a focus on assigning a water watcher and what is considered an adequate barrier around a swimming pool, and our goal is to release a new video each month while the weather is warm. During May, crews worked to design and print an educational brochure that will be available on all rigs, fire stations, the Administration Building and at community events. The website was also updated with the Water Waters Program information and resources.



### **Explorer Post 900**

The recruitment period for the Explorer Program ended on April 29<sup>th</sup> and we received 21 applications. Interviews were held on May 18<sup>th</sup> and ten new recruits were accepted into the program. We have a total of 21 Explorers in the program and the Academy will kick off June 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **EMS Manager Recruitment**

On March 8<sup>th</sup> the Board approved the temporary over hire of the EMS Manager position and approved a 10% pay increase for the position in an attempt to attract highly qualified candidates. This position is currently being filled by Captain Meineke due to an extended absence of the EMS Manager. The position was launched on March 9<sup>th</sup> and recruitment efforts continued during the month of May. We are pleased to announce interviews are scheduled for early June.

### **CFED Conference**

Chief Bradley and Captain Meineke (Interim EMS Manager) attended the annual CFED Conference in Indian Wells during the week of May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The week-long conference featured speakers and presentations with a focus on fire, EMS and disasters. The conference focuses on increasing awareness and providing tools, resources, and lessons to effectively respond to emergencies. Part of the SSJCFA Strategic plan is to evaluate the necessity of medical transport and this conference was a valuable tool to help strategize, develop, and implement this plan.

### **ICC Tri-Chapter Annual Business Meeting and State Fire Marshal Centennial Anniversary**

On May 19<sup>th</sup>, Fire Marshal Spears attended the International Code Council (ICC) Tri-Chapter Annual Business Meeting held in Santa Cruz. The ICC Tri-Chapter is a coalition comprising of the Monterey Bay, East Bay, and Peninsula Chapters, and consists of building and fire safety representatives from across the Bay Area. During the meeting, Fire Marshal Spears delivered a presentation to the attendees, highlighting the role and activities of the Northern California Fire Prevention Officers Association and Region I of the International Code Council.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Fire Marshal Spears also attended the California Office of the State Fire Marshal Centennial Anniversary. In attendance were several representatives from the California Fire Service, CAL FIRE, and 6 of the previous State Fire Marshals. Fire Marshal Spears serves as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Northern California Fire Prevention Offices Association and he attended representing the Fire Authority and the members of his association.

### **Fire Prevention and Safety Grant**

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, the South San Joaquin County Fire Authority was awarded \$39,000 through the FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety (FPS) Grant Program. The funding for this grant will be utilized to prepare a Community Risk Assessment. The Request for Proposal (RFP) was made available to the public on April 5<sup>th</sup> and closed on May 1, 2023. Two responses were reviewed and the contract was awarded to AP Triton to conduct a Community Risk Assessment and Standards of Cover Study. The contract will go before the Board for approval at the Regular Board Meeting scheduled on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Training Facility Update

Staff continues to meet regularly to make forward steady progress on the development of the Training Facility. The construction drawings are approximately 70% complete and we continue to wait on the CEQA approval. Once the CEQA process concludes, the item will go to City Council for dedication of the land. We are hoping that this continued progress will allow us to complete the public bidding process for a general contractor by the end of September, 2023.

## Training

During May, the South County Fire Authority Division of Training continued to facilitate all risk emergency training events.

- All personnel completed Rope Rescue training with a focus on reviewing ropes and open field ladder utilization for rescue operations
- 16 department personnel attended a Boat Operations class at Brown Sands and the San Joaquin River
- All three shifts participated in Live Fire Training at an acquired single-family home on Arbor Road
- All personnel attended the introductory training on our new hotel pack
- All three shifts were provided Ladder Truck refresher training

At the company level our firefighters are training daily to better prepare themselves for mitigating emergencies in our community. The Authority logged over 1,000 hours of training during the month of May.

The Division of Training is dedicated to supporting the mission of the Fire Authority to provide a well-trained and professional fire department to serve our community.



## Vacant Property Obtained for Training Purposes

Staff identified a vacant property on Arbor Road to use for training purposes. During March and April individual companies used the property for small scale training and practice runs including pulling hose and throwing ladders. During the week of May 8<sup>th</sup>, staff conducted large-scale training scenarios where all three shifts were able to utilize the property for live organized drills including residential structure firefighting, victim searches, arrival reporting, communications, command post location, firefighter down and first due engine responsibilities. The week of training provided ample opportunity for crews to exercise the SSJCFA Residential Fire Policy (Policy 200) and concluded on May 12<sup>th</sup>, with a controlled burn of the property.



## Boat Operations

Water Rescue 9 was officially put into service on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Water Rescue Team is now fully trained on Boat Operations and Open Water Rescue and will continue to receive specialized training. The goal within two years is to have all personnel assigned to Station 92 to have a minimum of three State certified classes to include Boat Operations, Open Water/Swift Water & Flood, RRT/Low Angle/RS1/Rope Competency courses. While SSJCFA did not respond to any water rescue calls during the month of May, our neighboring agencies had multiple calls and Water Rescue 9 is fully staffed, in service, and prepared to respond to emergency calls.

## Emergency Response Highlights

- **May 15, 2023** – Crews responded to a call at approximately 7:00 am for a solo vehicle accident on Eastbound 205 just west of the 11<sup>th</sup> Street off ramp. One patient was transported to the County hospital in critical condition.
- **May 18, 2023** – Crews responded to two vehicle accidents within the span of a couple hours. Luckily, no injuries were reported in either incident.
  - A solo vehicle on the guard rail was drug by a truck for approximately 200 yards before coming to a rest on westbound 205 at Grant Line Road.
  - A vehicle caught fire just before 5:00 pm on westbound 205 at the Tracy Boulevard exit. The fire appeared to have started in the engine compartment.
- **May 25, 2023** – A call for an overturned vehicle came in at approximately 2:30 pm on 580 between International Parkway and Corral Hollow. The driver required extrication and was transported with moderate injuries.



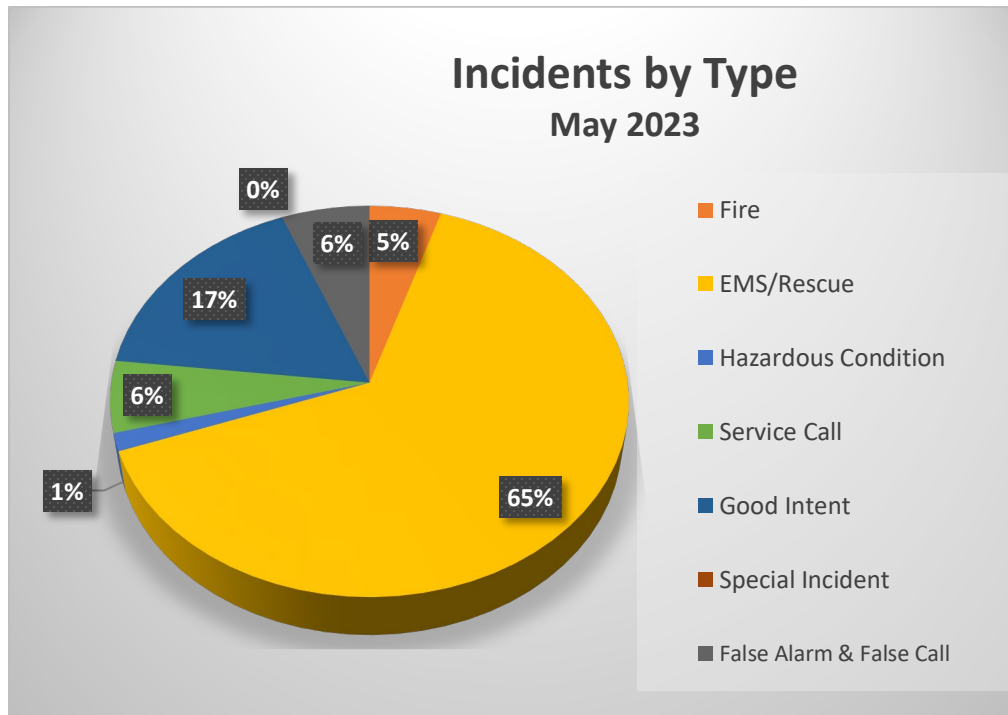
## Community Events

- **May 23, 2023** – Engine 95, Chief Bagley, and CRR staff attended the City of Tracy’s first annual Public Works Open House to celebrate Public Works Week. Crews talked to fifth grade students from several community elementary schools about fire safety, smoke alarms, calling 911, protective equipment, and the kids also got to climb through the rig to learn about all of its functions.
- **May 25, 2023** – Inspector Stephanie Caughey and Plans Examiner Daniel Stowe had the privilege of visiting Mr. Larry, a dedicated Crossing Guard from Tom Hawkins Elementary. Mr. Larry was presented with a SSJCFA Challenge Coin symbolizing our appreciation for his contributions to the safety and well-being of our community and to congratulate him on his retirement after 14 years.
- **May 28, 2023** – Chief Officers and multiple Engine Companies attended the Memorial Day Ceremonies at the Tracy Cemetery and the Tracy War Memorial. Chief Bradley gave a speech and placed a wreath at the Unknown Veteran’s Grave. Together our ladder truck and DLA’s ladder truck flew the American Flag for the ceremonies honoring our Veterans.



## May 2023 Response Data

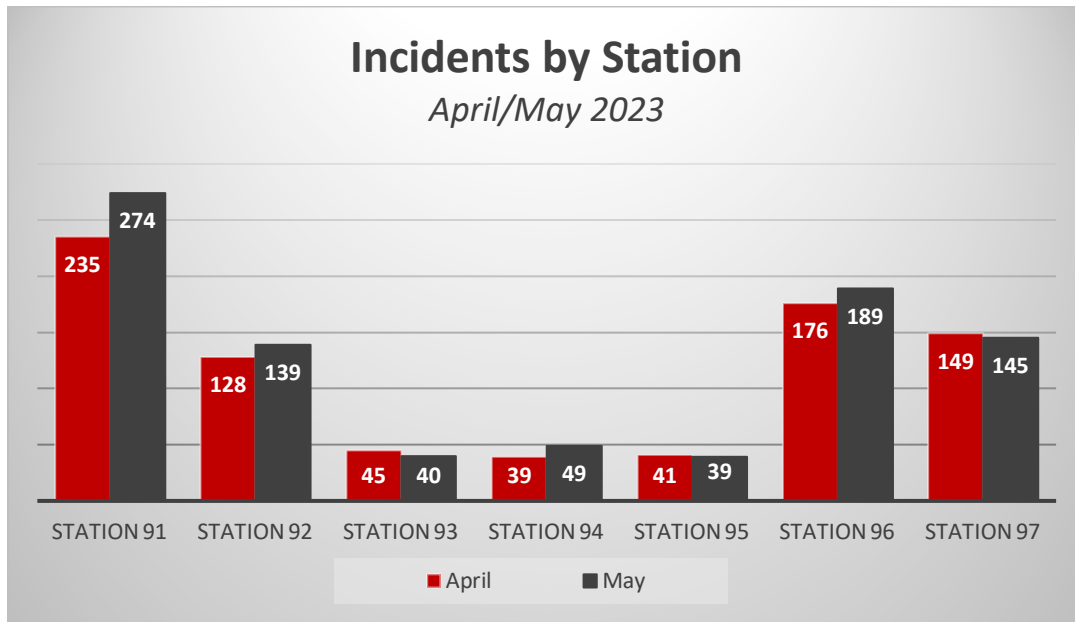
There were **880 reported incidents** in the month of May 2023. EMS incidents continue to be the predominant incident type (568 incidents comprising 65% of all calls for service). While there were 880 calls for service, it is important to note that some calls require multiple apparatus. In total there were **1,375 total apparatus responses** in May.



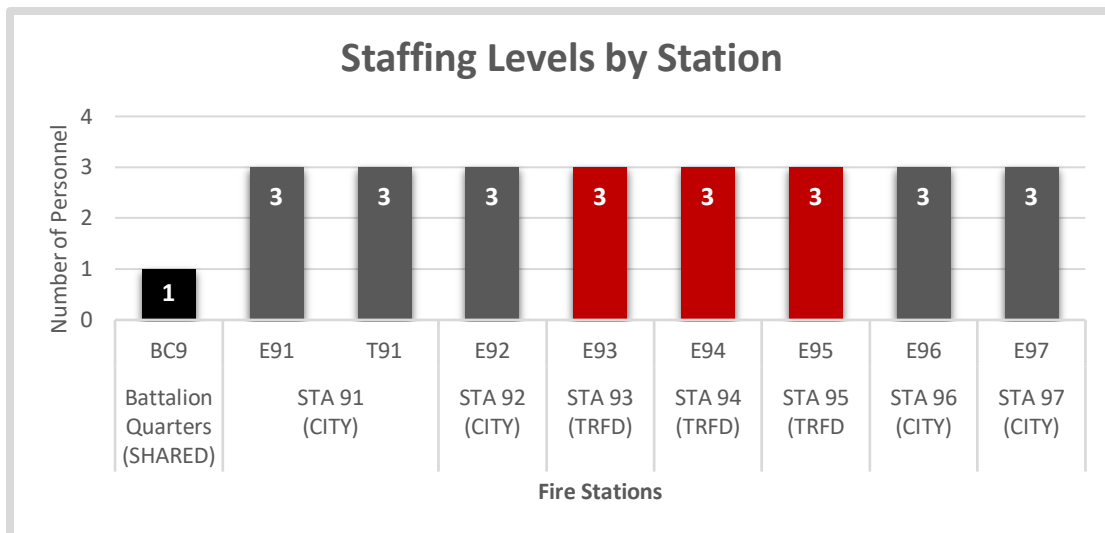
Incident by Type	#Incidents	% of Total
Fire	43	4.89%
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, no fire	0	0.00%
EMS/Rescue	568	64.55%
Hazardous Condition	13	1.48%
Service Call	52	5.91%
Good Intent	151	17.16%
Special Incident	0	0.00%
False Alarm & False Call	53	6.02%
Total	880	100.00%

Station 91 continues to be the busiest fire station in the month of May. There are two staffed units responding from Station 91; Truck 91 and Engine 91. As the weather continues to warm, the call volume for May increased.

**May 2023 Response Data (continued)**



The Joint Powers Agreement of the South San Joaquin County Fire Authority states the Chief Executive Officer will provide the Board of Directors a report on the staffing levels at each station. Authority fire engines and the ladder truck are staffed with 3 persons each. There is one Battalion Chief on duty each day to supervise one of three shifts.





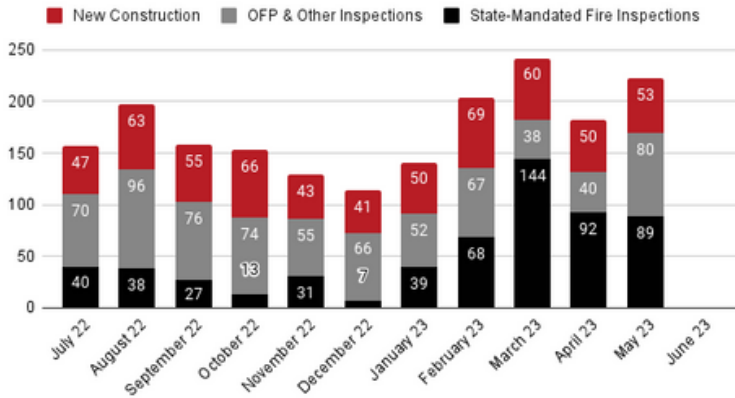
# Community Risk Reduction Statistics

## May FY22/23

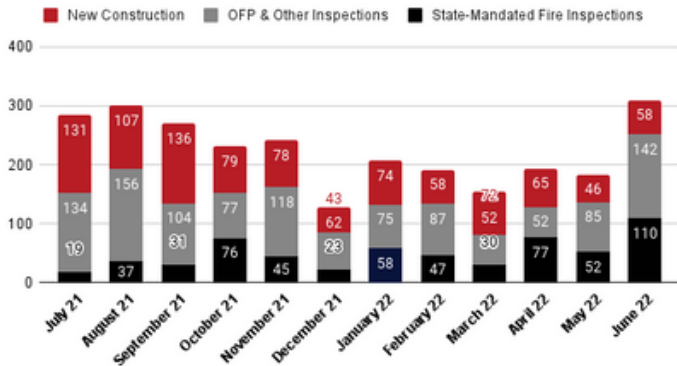
### FIRE INSPECTIONS

#### Fire Inspection Totals:

FIRE INSPECTIONS FY 22/23



FIRE INSPECTIONS FY21/22



#### YTD STATE-MANDATE INITIAL FIRE INSPECTIONS

	Completed	Total	%
Multi-family Residential and Hotel/Motels	175	175	100%
Schools (K-12)*	35	35	100%

### Annual Revenue

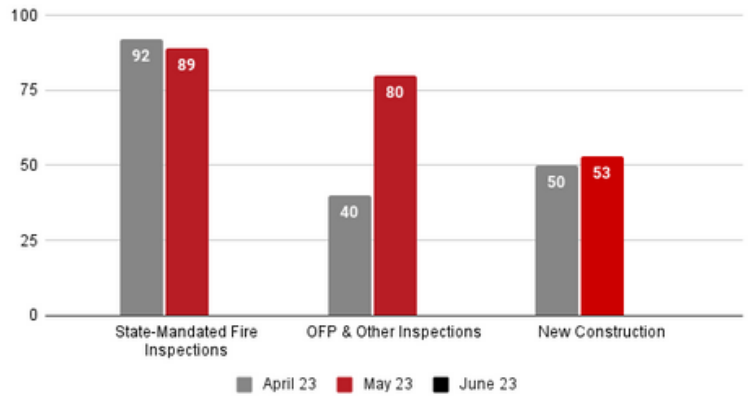
COT CRR Fees

\$510,327.82

TRFPD CRR Fees

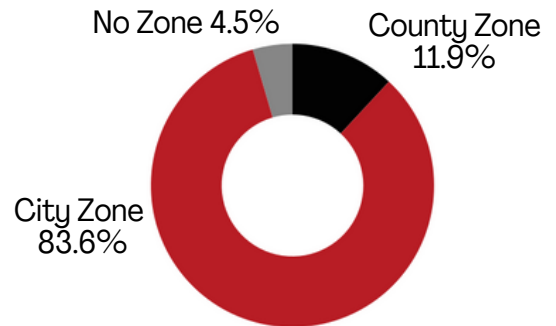
\$57,164.08

MONTHLY COMPLETED INSPECTION COMPARISON

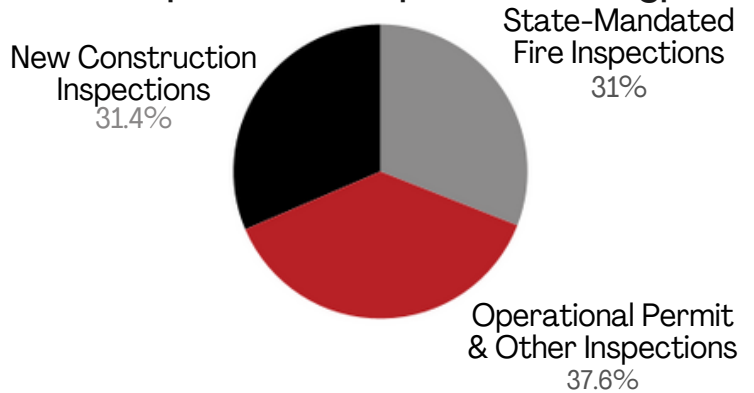


### YTD FIRE INSPECTION OVERVIEW

#### Completed Fire Inspections Per Zone:



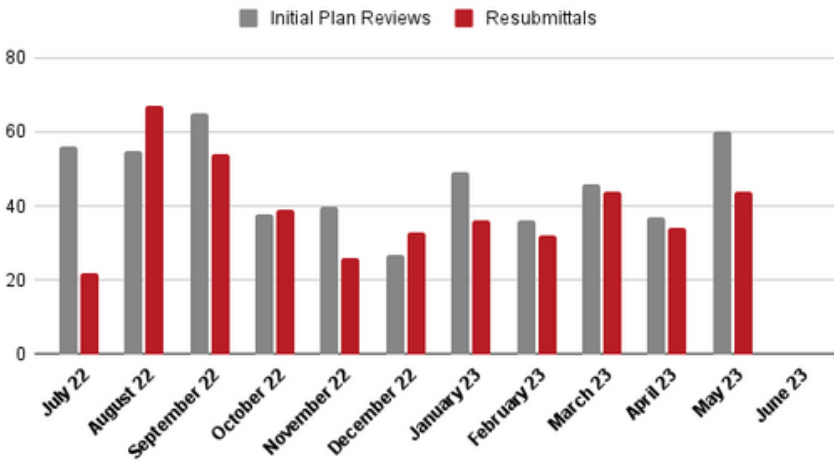
#### Completed Fire Inspections Per Type:



# Community Risk Reduction Statistics

## May FY 22/23

### PLAN REVIEWS FY22/23



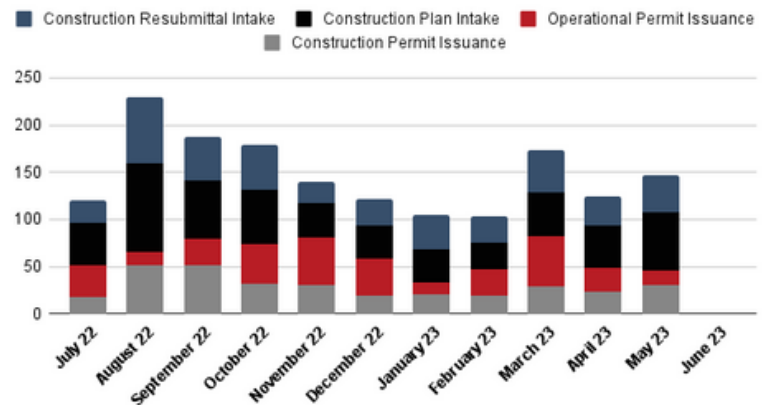
### PLAN REVIEW ACTIVITIES

- There were 104 plan check activities in May
- In May, 58% of the plan check activities were initial submittals and 42% were resubmittals
- The average plan check turn around time in May was 1 day
- In May, there were no occurrences where a plan check exceeded its due date

### ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- 30 new construction permits were issued in May
- We received and processed 61 new plan submittals
- We received and processed 40 resubmitted construction documents
- 16 operational fire permits were issued in May

### ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES FY 22/23



### MAY SOCIAL MEDIA OVERVIEW

**4.3K**

Facebook Page Followers

**157**

New Facebook Followers

**37K**

People reached on Facebook

**1.7K**

People reached on Instagram

South San Joaquin County Fire Authority - Tracy, CA is in ...  
 Published by Nicole Boswell · May 15 at 2:17 PM ·

South County Fire crews responded to a call at approximately 7 am this morning for a vehicle accident. Upon arrival, crews found a single vehicle on Eastbound 205 just west of the 11th Street off ramp. One patient was transported to the County hospital in critical condition. No other vehicles were involved and there were no other injuries.

#tracyrural #firefighters #tracyca #tracyfirefighters #fjctfire #tracyfire #tracyfiredepartment #sjsjca #tracycafire

Reach: 33.7K  
 Engagement: 31.1K  
 Reactions: 656  
 Comments: 227  
 Shares: 63

South San Joaquin County Fire Authority - Tracy, CA is with Tracy Rural and Tracy ...  
 Published by Nicole Boswell · May 15 at 10:50 AM ·

SSJCA crews had a busy afternoon responding to multiple vehicle accidents in the span of a double hour.

A T-1000 was involved in a single-vehicle accident on approximately 205 at Spurr Lane Road. The vehicle on the ground sat on its side approximately 200 yards before coming to a rest and fully no injuries were reported.

A T-1000 involved in a double-vehicle accident on approximately 205 at the Tracy Boulevard exit. A vehicle caught fire due to a fire in the engine compartment and no injuries were reported.

It has been a busy week with multiple emergency responses to vehicle accidents on or near the Pacific. Please stay safe and drive.

#tracyrural #firefighters #tracyca #tracyfirefighters #fjctfire #tracyfire #tracyfiredepartment #sjsjca #tracycafire

Reach: 2.6K  
 Engagement: 1.9K  
 Reactions: 69  
 Comments: 4  
 Shares: 7

South San Joaquin County Fire Authority - Tracy, CA is in ...  
 Published by Nicole Boswell · May 25 at 11:08 AM ·

South San Joaquin County Fire Authority would like to wish Mr. Larry a happy retirement and thank him for his service in keeping our children safe at school. Mr. Larry has been a crossing guard for over 14 years and has been at Tom Hankins Elementary since 2020.

As a small token of our appreciation for all of his service to the community, Inspector Caughey and Plans Examiner Stowe presented Mr. Larry with a challenge coin from the SSJCA. Please join us in congratulating him! See more

Reach: 2.6K  
 Engagement: 711  
 Reactions: 157  
 Comments: 17  
 Shares: 5