



# Warrenton Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.


167 WEST SHIRLEY AVE. WARRENTON, VIRGINIA 20186  
FIRE STATION 1 (540) 347-0522 EMS STATION 1 (540) 347-4873  
BUSINESS SERVICES (540) 347-3232 FAX (540) 347-6513  
FORMED 1872, INCORPORATED 1924



## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

**To:** Darren Stevens, DFREM Chief  
Michael Gilliam, DFREM Assistant Chief

**From:** Samuel F. Myers, Assistant Fire Chief (Acting Fire Chief) 

**Subject:** FS01 emergency staffing proposal/request

The recent media coverage of the WVFC by the subpar newspaper known as the Fauquier Times has caused staffing shortages within our organization. Members are concerned and worried about slander and what potential off-base “news” story may be run next. This has caused low morale and angst as those here now have done nothing wrong and only want to serve their community in time of need.

Due to this, a request for “emergency staffing” is being made by me (acting fire chief) to ensure sufficient operational response(s).

I would like to have Medic 1 moved from EMS Station 1 to Fire Station 1 for the next 30 days. That unit will do shift change and remain at FS01 for this 30-day “trial period”.

I would also like to request an officer and FF (technician) be assigned to Fire Station 1 for the next 30 days. The goal with this is to NOT un-staff/single pull medic 1 due to their high call volume.

Medic 1 will run from FS01 as the primary medic unit, unless a volunteer staffed unit can be placed in service – at which time coordination will occur on the best use of resources for first out calls, other unit staffing, etc.

The WVFC will assign gear and personal lockers to assigned DFREM Personnel. DFREM will also be assigned a bunk room. \*\*\*Due to the bunk room renovation at FS01, there may be times when we will need to move Medic 1 back to EMS Station 1 for the evening to accommodate personnel staying/staffing the night.

This one month timeframe will be used to evaluate the staffing model and allow time for our membership to feel confident again in helping the organization and community without fear from the outlandish tabloid called Fauquier Times.

**ENGINE, TOWER, RESCUE SQUAD, & AMBULANCE CO. #1**



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On/about September 1<sup>st</sup> we will meet to evaluate the staffing situation and potentially modify as needed, based on the WVFC staffing levels and commitment.

CPT Woodward and LT Hayes will be placed on a 7-day schedule to ensure one of them is always working 0600-1800. This will help with overall operations and coordination, and they should be considered the main POCs of the station for day to day functions. They exceed the uniform rank structure requirements by one if not multiple ranks so both can act up accordingly with no issues. They will also coordinate/align station staffing daily based on available personnel.

The minimal goal is for the WVFC to provide the first out driver since DFREM personnel have never been acclimated to any of our units and it will require some training to become familiar. The WVFC Fire Chief will have the ultimate approval if ANY personnel are released on WVFC units. This is to ensure operational consistency and adequate proficiency levels. This will be handled through already in service check off procedures established by the WVFC.

I remind everyone that there are still several units that need to be potentially used daily for responses which will require the flexibility of the WVFC and DFREM personnel to staff them accordingly. Good planning and daily communication between both agencies will allow for many possible staffing scenarios to ensure whichever piece of apparatus can respond. **I think it is important to note, and ensure buy-in from all involved that we still need, want, and expect the WVFC membership to have a major role in daily staffing.**

We will all need to ensure personnel from both organizations remain flexible and accommodating. Being fluid and having daily conversations will be a given so we can handle in station items and call responses with a plan.

We know the aforementioned “plan” will/may require rapid judgement at times due to not being clear cut based on staffing levels. We want to ensure this is known by all and worked through so we can avoid and internal and external conflicts.

The many decades of timeless work by the WVFC membership over the years has paved the way for many great things to include the personal growth for many of us. We would not be where we are today if it was not for the Warrenton Volunteer Fire Company. I sincerely hope we can keep this overall tradition alive and continue to foster a culture of pride, respect, and dedication to this firehouse and the overall community we serve.

Thank you for working with us to ensure the best possible outcome for all involved. Please reach out to me anytime regarding this and/or as we move forward so success is the only option.

**ENGINE, TOWER, RESCUE SQUAD, & AMBULANCE CO. #1**