



# CKFR NEWSLADDER

CENTRAL KITSAP FIRE AND RESCUE

## 19 New Firefighters Join CKFR's Ranks

PRESS RELEASE: MARCH 15, 2022

Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue welcomed nineteen (19) new firefighters on March 14, 2022 as a result of recent retirements and continued community growth. This is the largest recruit academy for CKFR in many years and the candidates come from varying, rich and diverse backgrounds, including two lateral firefighters from other departments.

The unique skillsets and knowledge these recruits bring from their personal and professional experiences will help CKFR continue to be a forward thinking and innovative organization. This class of recruits complete their orientation with the divisions of the Department this week before beginning our first in-house, CKFR hosted fire academy where they'll attain practical firefighting and medical skills, as well as become well versed in Kitsap County emergency policies.

All nineteen (19) of the recruits joined the organization because of a shared commitment to CKFR's vision and mission and are excited to serve the Central Kitsap community.

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# CKFR NEWS



**Kara Putnam**  
Assistant Chief

## Assistant Chief Promotion

Kara Putnam has been offered an accepted the position of Assistant Chief. While the scope and quality of AC Putnam’s work speaks for itself, most recently on display with the in-house academy, it’s her character, integrity and her dedication to the profession that will make her an excellent Assistant Chief for our organization.

Please join us in congratulating AC Putnam on this well-deserved promotion!

## Oath of Office

On Wednesday, March 16th, Fire Chief John Oliver led our 19 new recruits in their Oath of Office at Station 41. You can check it out on our Facebook!



**R. E. “Dick” West**  
Commissioner & Retired Fire Chief  
Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue

## Memorial Service for R. E. “Dick” West

[Link to Obituary.](#) A memorial service for Commissioner Dick West will be held April 2nd, 1:00 PM at the Crossroads Neighborhood Church located at 7555 Old Military Rd NE, Bremerton.

In lieu of flowers and/or cards, the West family would like donations to be made to the CK Medic One Foundation that he loved and supported for years.





## Retirement Announcement

Please join us in congratulating Assistant Chief Rick O'Rourke on his upcoming retirement! AC O'Rourke will be retiring on April 1st after 25 years of service to CKFR.

**Please save the date** - CKFR will be hosting an open house style BBQ lunch for Chief O'Rourke on Friday, April 1st from 11am-1pm down at the CKFR Maintenance Shop building (5350 NW Newberry Hill Rd, Silverdale.

### Rick O'Rourke

Assistant Chief

## Senate Bill 5565 Update

We are very pleased to report that **SB 5565** (Fire District Treasurers Authority Legislation) has passed the legislature and has been delivered to Governor's desk for signature!



# MEET YOUR VOLUNTEERS



### Seth Sullivan

Volunteer Firefighter

Seth lives in the Silverdale community with his family. He is a US Coast Guard Veteran and has been a volunteer of Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue since 2013.

During the spring thru the fall, he works as a Wildland Firefighter, with this spring marking the start of his 20th year of service.

He enjoys reading, fishing, hiking and spending time with his family in his off time.

"I enjoy being able to serve my community and assist others who need help. I am honored to be able to work with a department that takes pride in training and serving the community in which they are entrusted to protect "

**The application period for the Spring Open House has closed. CKFR is now accepting applications for Volunteers for the Fall Open House. If you are interested in serving your neighbors in an extremely rewarding position, go to: [CKFR Volunteers](#)**





## Team CKFR @ Firefighter Stairclimb

Congratulations Team CKFR on a successful Firefighter Stairclimb at Seattle's Columbia Center! The annual stairclimb is a fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and Team CKFR raised just under \$10,000!

- **CKFR participants:** PM Doug Bekenyi, FF Casey Collins, FF Cameron DeSalvo, FF Chris Egland, FF Courtney Flynn, Capt. Kara Putnam, FF Nate Rettberg, PM Alex McCracken, FF Jen Sargeant, BC Tom Sullivan
- **CKFR members assisting with bottle changes:** Accounting Specialist Heidi Robnett, Volunteer FF Brian Voss



**69 Floors  
1,356 Steps  
788' Elevation**





## DC Brian Danskin retires from CKFR after 34 years of service!

On February 24th, CKFR held a retirement event for Division Chief Brian Danskin at Station 41. We would like to share some photos from the event! Chief Danskin has made a huge impact on CKFR over the years and helped shape the department into what it is today.

### His Career:

DC Brian Danskin began volunteering with Fire District #15 in 1988, where he was later hired in April 1992.

Chief Danskin promoted to Lieutenant in January 1998 with District #15. After the mergers, he was later promoted to Captain in April 2010, then to Battalion Chief in April 2013, and then to Division Chief in February 2017. As a Division Chief, he has overseen the District's Support Services and Training Divisions.

Brian Started on Local 2819's Executive Board just after probation as the Political Action Coordinator. A couple years later he moved into the Assistant Vice President position and later became the Vice President. Then, after taking the position of Secretary, he was nominated to the position of President.

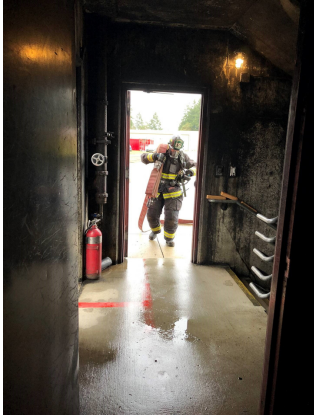
Over the years, Brian pushed for the creation of the Kitsap Fire Fighters Union Honor Guard, helped create the Kitsap County Benevolent Fund, and established a partnership with Silver City Brewery.

During his career, he worked all shifts, A, B, C (some of them twice), and has been assigned to Stations 41, 45, 51 and 56.

**Congratulations Chief Danskin on your retirement! We thank you for your significant contributions to our organization and for your service to our community!**



# OPERATIONS



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**Pictured:**  
Moments for the 3rd  
Quarter BC Evaluations  
for our probationary  
firefighters.

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**Pictured:** A-shift Probationary Firefighter Casey Collins training on “bail out” techniques. Full safety harness and belay lines are in place during these evolutions on the drill ground.



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**Pictured:**  
On a beautiful, blue-sky Friday,  
A-shift was training on the  
elevated master stream  
evolution from Ladder 51.

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**Pictured:**  
Rescue Swimmer Drills at the  
Kitsap Tennis & Athletic Center!



**Pictured:**  
B-Shift units and Airlift NW back in  
February. A multi system trauma flown  
from Leisureland Airport. Destination  
Harborview Medical Center.



## Upcoming Events

**March 20**  
First Day of Spring!



**March 21**  
Board of Commissioners  
Special Meeting

**March 28**  
Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting

**April 1**  
Open House/BBQ for AC  
O'Rourke's Retirement

**April 2**  
Commissioner R. E. West's  
Memorial Service