



Ocean City-Wright Fire Control District

October 13, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council, Town of Cinco Bayou
RE: Monthly Report, Fire Department, Month of October 2026

Honorable Mayor and Council Members,

To help keep you informed about the activities of the Ocean City-Wright Fire Control District, the following provides a brief summary of significant events, initiatives, and accomplishments from the past month. This update highlights emergency preparedness, personnel and professional development, community engagement, regional partnerships, facility improvements, and other efforts that support our mission of providing high-quality fire protection, emergency medical services, and all-hazards response to the communities we are privileged to serve.

Department & Community Activities

- **Texas Wildfire Deployment:** Four District members, one fire engine, and I returned safely from our deployment to northern Texas, where we assisted with wildfire operations as part of a statewide mutual aid response. Our personnel represented Ocean City-Wright and the State of Florida exceptionally well. The deployment also provided valuable experience and strengthened relationships with emergency response partners across the country.
- **September 11th Honor Run:** Truck 2 personnel and I participated in the 7th Special Forces Group's annual September 11th Honor Run for the third consecutive year. We are honored to be among the few nonmilitary organizations invited to participate, reflecting the strong relationship our department has developed with the military community.
- **Community Water Rescue Presentation:** Chief Sasser, Firefighter Stewart, and I presented our recently implemented water rescue program to the Fort Walton Beach Rotary Club. The presentation highlighted our new rescue boats, the training required to operate them, and how this investment directly improves emergency response capabilities for our community.

- **Fire Prevention Education:** Division Chief/Fire Marshal Arne presented a program to the Emerald Coast Exchange Club addressing lithium-ion battery hazards and safe-use practices. These presentations help citizens better understand emerging fire risks and reinforce the District's commitment to preventing emergencies before they occur.
- **Community Leadership Engagement:** I attended the Elevate leadership and networking event at Northwest Florida State College, providing opportunities to strengthen relationships with community leaders and share information about the District's activities and services.
- **Property Tax Reform Education:** We continue engaging with community organizations and leaders regarding proposed changes to Florida's property tax system. Our focus remains on helping citizens understand how potential changes could affect the funding and long-term sustainability of local fire protection and emergency services.

Personnel & Professional Development

- **Paramedic Certification Progress:** Two of our recently certified paramedics completed the medical director's clearance process and is now practicing as a paramedic on an engine company. One additional member is completing their required field evaluations, while a fourth continues working toward certification. These additions will further strengthen our ability to provide advanced life support services throughout the District.
- **Promotional Opportunities:** The District announced promotional testing for Captain and Engineer positions, scheduled for October. These opportunities allow qualified personnel to advance within the organization while supporting our commitment to developing future leaders.
- **2027 Training Plan Development:** Chief Good began gathering input from personnel across different ranks and shifts to guide development of next year's training plan. This collaborative approach helps ensure our training priorities reflect operational needs while giving employees a meaningful voice in their professional development.

Training, Apparatus & Facilities

- **Water Rescue Scenario Training:** All three shifts completed realistic water rescue scenarios designed to evaluate the entire response process, from dispatch and travel to boat deployment and victim recovery. Every shift successfully completed the simulated rescue in less than ten minutes, demonstrating the effectiveness of our training and the operational value of this new capability.
- **Station 1 Training Facility Expansion:** The District began a significant upgrade to our live-fire training facility at Station 1. Two aging training containers have been removed and will be replaced with four containers configured into a two-story training structure. Much of the project will be coordinated internally, reducing costs while creating a facility specifically designed around our training needs.

- **Station 3 HVAC Repairs:** Contractors continued investigating and addressing humidity and condensation issues at Station 3. Additional building testing was completed to identify potential air infiltration problems, and the findings will guide the remaining corrective work.

Emergency Response & Community Service

- **Community Assistance:** Our personnel continue demonstrating that serving the community extends beyond traditional emergency calls. Following a recent Mary Esther City Council meeting, a council member expressed appreciation for firefighters who had assisted him with a garage door problem. The crew had not mentioned the interaction or sought recognition, reflecting the everyday service mindset we strive to develop throughout our organization.
- **Operational Readiness:** Although no major emergency incidents were highlighted during this reporting period, personnel remained actively engaged in emergency response, specialized training, and preparedness activities designed to ensure the District is ready to meet the needs of our community.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of the Ocean City-Wright Fire Control District. We value the opportunity to serve your community and remain committed to building strong relationships, developing exceptional personnel, and continuously improving the services we provide. Our goal is not simply to respond effectively when emergencies occur, but to be an organization our citizens know, trust, and are proud to call their fire department.

Respectfully,



Jeff Wagner, Fire Chief