



Thurston County Fire Protection District 8 South Bay Fire Department News

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WWW.SOUTHBAYFIRE.COM

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BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS:

Gloria Zvirzdys
gzvirzdys@southbayfire.com
Milt Harper
mharper@southbayfire.com
Pamela Long
plong@southbayfire.com
Douglas Kilpatrick
kilpatrick@southbayfire.com
Daniel Bivens
dbivens@southbayfire.com

FIRE CHIEF:

Brian VanCamp
vancamp@southbayfire.com

ASSISTANT CHIEF:

Brandon LeMay
lemay@southbayfire.com

DISTRICT SECRETARY:

Heidi Stumpf
heidis@southbayfire.com

Fire Chief's Corner



Chief Brian VanCamp

The COVID-19 pandemic "marches on!" Our day-to-day operations providing public safety services continue to be more complicated and our efforts to provide a safe and healthy work environment continue to present us with new challenges. The good news is that many of our members are now in the process of receiving their vaccinations.

Public Use of Facilities

The public's use of our firestations, which has been curtailed during the coronavirus pandemic, depends on the determination by our Governor and local health authorities that it is safe to do so. We have been preparing for the re-opening and will let everyone know when that happens.



Community Protection Classification

The Washington Survey & Rating Bureau (WSRB) is an independent organization that evaluates the capabilities and performance of fire departments and provides ratings that insurance companies may use in determining homeowners' insurance premiums. Fire District 8 just completed a regular WSRB review last year and as a result, our rating was improved from class 5 to class 3. WSRB classes range from 10 (little or no capability) to 1 (exemplary fire protection capabilities). Please refer to our District website for details regarding these changes. You may also want to contact your insurance provider to see if they are aware of this significant change.

Monthly Reports

Every month I provide an informational status report to our Board of Fire Commissioners about the department. Copies of each month's report can be found on our District's website. I encourage you to visit our website www.southbayfire.com and learn more about your Fire Department!



South Bay Fire Department

**DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES
to be a volunteer Firefighter/EMT?**

Learn more - Southbayfire.com



Free for Our Community!

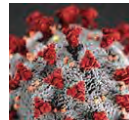
Blood Pressure Checks

Stop by our South Bay Station 8-1 any time and receive a free blood pressure check.

Home Address Markers

We can't help you if we can't find you. If you need a free home address marker, please call us or order one on our website.

Covid-19 Vaccines for Washington Residents



Many residents are frustrated that they can't easily find out how to get a Covid-19 vaccine. The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) continues to make progress with their COVID-19 vaccine distribution planning.

The best place to locate current information is the DOH website. At <https://www.doh.wa.gov/> you can see if you are eligible for the vaccine as well as find locations that are administering them. There is a Covid-19 Data Dashboard and you can also read Washington State's distribution plan.

Likewise, you can also visit our website at southbayfire.com for many useful links to programs and services that may be helpful to you and your family regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.

Goodbye to Commissioner Richard Gleckler



Commissioner Richard Gleckler retired in December, following a historic, 35-year Commission that began when he was appointed to the North Olympia District Board. He joined the Southbay Fire Department on January 1, 2015, as a result of the merger between the two Districts. Mr. Gleckler has been a fiscally conservative Board member who believes in spending taxpayers' money wisely.

Prior to becoming a Fire Commissioner in 1974, Mr. Gleckler joined the North Olympia Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter, an emergency medical technician (EMT) and was promoted to a Lieutenant. Rich retired as an active responder in 2010 after having served his community for 36 years.

Rich and his wife Jan have been Thurston County residents for over 40 years, raising their two children and now enjoying their seven grandchildren. During that time,

Mr. Gleckler worked as an auditor with the State Auditor's Office and as an internal auditor and contracts specialists with the State Department of Transportation. He was also the owner of Northwest Seamless Gutters and co-owner of Design One Inc. He retired from employment in 2013.

Before the restrictions of the pandemic, Rich and his wife loved to travel all over the world. When he's not traveling, he enjoys working outside in his yard – pruning trees and cutting firewood. He looks forward to discovering new hobbies as part of his newest retirement adventure! We wish him the very best! He will be missed and his replacement, Daniel Bivens, has big shoes to fill.

South Bay Fire Dept. News

Thurston County Fire Protection District 8
3506 Shincke Rd. NE Olympia, WA 98506
(360)491-5320 | www.southbayfire.com

JOIN US!

Join us for our monthly Board meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, beginning at 5:30 pm, normally held at our South Bay Station 8-1.

During the Covid-19 pandemic and Washington State's phased re-opening approach, meetings may be held virtually.

See our website for link. www.southbayfire.com

Welcome Commissioner Daniel Bivens!

Commissioner Daniel Bivens and his wife Cheryl moved to the Olympia area in 2013. They currently live in Seashore Villa. In 2018 he volunteered as a receptionist for the South Bay Fire Department.

Daniel volunteered for many years with the Department of Emergency Services in Spokane County. He worked with members of the Sheriffs' Department as President of the Explorer Search and Rescue Teams, supporting the Underwater Dive Teams, and as a photographer for the DES community missions teams. He volunteered his time to teach BLS/ALS First Aid, CPR, and AED for the Red Cross and the American Heart Association for nearly 25 years and for more than 20 years he taught hunter education with the last three years as the Chief instructor. Dan also helped to organize an outdoor safety group in Spokane that focused on survival and mountain rescue.

In his spare time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, woodworking and relaxation and solitude in the mountains. In recent years, he learned to knit hats and has produced a number of them that have been donated to those in need. Daniel also enjoys writing and will soon be publishing his first book.

Commissioner Bivens enjoys volunteering and helping the community. We look forward to having him on our Team!



South Bay Fire Partners with The Thurston County Food Bank!

We are pleased to share that both of our Fire Stations (*South Bay 81 located at 3506 Shincke Road NE and North Olympia 83 located at 5046 Boston Harbor Road*) are now official drop-off locations for donations to the Thurston County Food Bank. We are happy to be able to help our community and we encourage those who can, to donate.

Times are tougher than ever and there are people who are facing hunger in our community. Our local food bank relies on the donations they receive from people to help keep their shelves stocked.

If you are a community member in need of help - please reach out to the Thurston County Food Bank by visiting them at their main location in downtown Olympia, located at 220 Thurston Avenue NE 98501. With the COVID-19 pandemic – and out of concern for the community – they have implemented safety measures for picking up donations. For more information, visit their website at <https://thurstoncountyfoodbank.org/> or you can call them at (360) 352-8597. Let's rally together to help meet the needs of our neighbors!

