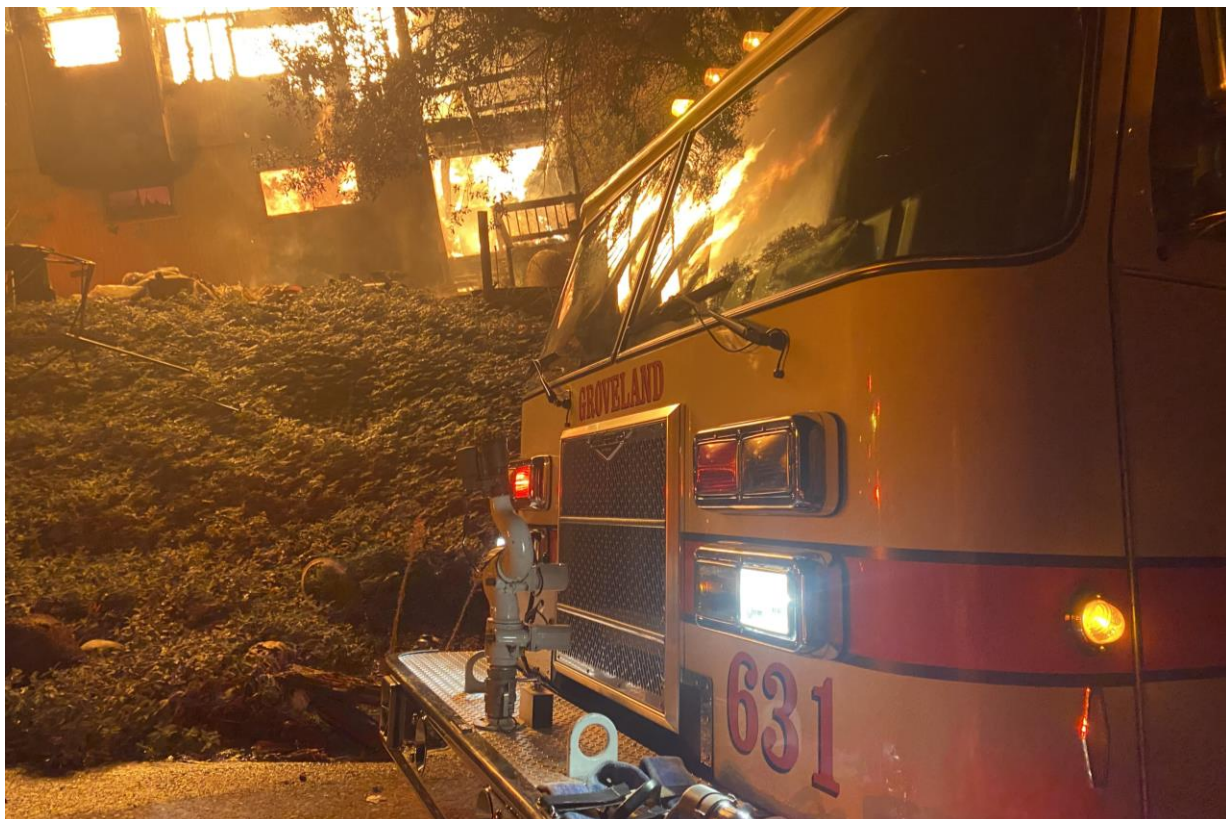


# Tuolumne County Fire Department

*“At-A-Glance”*



**December**  
**2023**

**Tuolumne County Fire Department**

Phone: (209) 533-5100

18440 Striker Ct., Sonora, CA 95370

[www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/717/Fire-Department](http://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/717/Fire-Department)

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# Tuolumne County Fire Department Call Totals

## December 2023

### **Incident Totals:**

Total Incidents: 815

Medical Aids: 560

Structure Fires: 27

Vegetation Fires: 11

Other Type Fires: 71

Hazardous Conditions: 26

Other Incident Types: 120

### **Tuolumne County Station Call Totals:**

Mono Village Station 51: 272

Ponderosa Hills Station 53: 15

Long Barn Station 54: 11 Calls absorbed by other Stations

Pinecrest Station 55: 5

Mono Vista Station 56: 107

Phoenix Lake Station 57: Calls absorbed by other Stations

Cedar Ridge Station 58: 15

Chinese Camp Station 61: 24

Don Pedro Station 64: 22

Jamestown Station 76: 170

Groveland Station 63/78: 51

Columbia Station 74: 49 calls ran by Station 79 personnel

Columbia College Station 79: 74

### **Prevention Division:**

Plans Reviews: 37

Inspections: 19

*\*\*Incident totals include incidents that the fire station was dispatched to, and may have been automatic aid to other agencies through the Tuolumne County Automatic Aid Agreement\*\**

## Significant Incidents

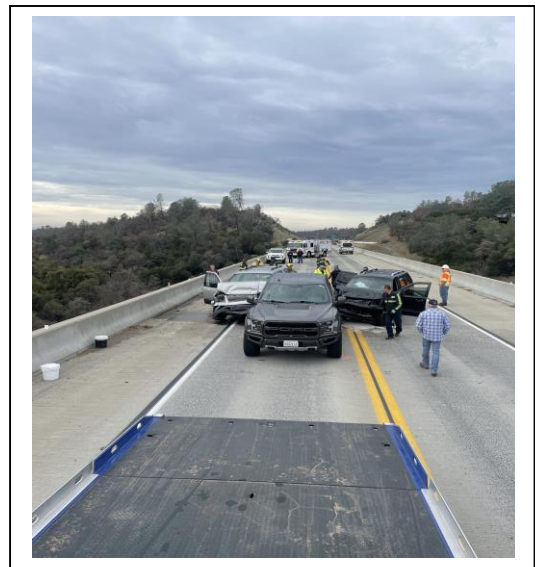
12/23/2023

On Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at approximately 6:15 PM Tuolumne County Fire Department E-631 was dispatched along with resources from the Groveland Community Services District Fire Department and the CAL FIRE Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit to a reported residential structure fire on Merrell Road near the community of Groveland. First arriving resources found a two-story residential structure fully-involved in fire and multiple vehicles threatened by the flames. Strong work by fire crews prevented the fire from spreading to the vegetation or any vehicles and keep the blaze confined to the structure of origin. No injuries were reported in the fire and the cause remains under investigation.



12/26/2023

On Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> at approximately 12:00 PM Tuolumne County Fire Department E-902 from the Mono Village Station responded with Sonora City Fire E-751 and CAL FIRE E-4465 from the Twain Harte Amador Station responded to a vehicle accident on Highway 108 near Hess Avenue. Resources arrived to find three vehicles involved with Highway 108 completely shut-down. Two patients were transported to Adventist Health Sonora by Tuolumne County Ambulance personnel for treatment of their injuries. Highway 108 was cleared of the wreckage and reopened within 45 minutes.



12/26/2023

On Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> Tuolumne County Fire Department E-791 responded as part of a full dispatch to a reported residential structure fire on Marble Quarry Road near the community of Columbia. Resources arrived to find nothing showing from the exterior and proceeded to investigate. Crews from both E-791 and E-761 found light smoke in the attic which originated from a burned out light fixture that extended to insulation. The smoldering insulation was quickly extinguished and removed from the structure while minimizing any further damage to the residence.



12/27/2023

On Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at approximately 3:45 PM Tuolumne County Fire Department E-791 responded to a reported vegetation fire in the area of Yankee Hill Road and Mountain Boy Mine Road near the community of Columbia. Resources arrived to find an approximately ¼ acre fire burning at a slow rate of spread in grass and brush. Quick work by responding crews contained the blaze to the original size and prevented any spread to structures. No injuries were reported and the cause of the fire remains under investigation.



## TCFD Prevention Division News

The Fire Prevention Division provides a safer environment for the citizens of Tuolumne County by preventing the loss of life and property caused by fire or explosion through public education, the enforcement of fire codes, laws, and County ordinances related to fire and life safety.

Senior Fire Inspector Steve Gregory (P701) is primarily responsible for reviewing commercial and residential permits for compliance with currently adopted Fire and Building codes; reviewing applications consisting of Site Development Permits, Development Agreements, Zone Changes, Tentative and Final Maps, Tentative and Final Subdivision Maps, Commercial, Industrial and High/Low-Density Residential Development; and inspections, complaints, code enforcement, issuing appropriate permits, and responding to fire scenes for cause and origin determination throughout the county. Steve has taken on the additional challenges of coordinating the county's fire alarm ordinance implementation, a fee study, and improving the county's mitigation of new development.

Over the first half of 2023, Senior Fire Inspector Jeff Santos (P702) attended classes to become a State Fire Marshal CUPA/APSA (Certified Unified Petroleum Agencies/Above Ground Petroleum Storage Act) inspector and this past summer he completed the steps required to do so. Jeff took on this challenging assignment so TCFD could assist the County in meeting its requirements for inspections and compliance. Jeff will be completing the APSA inspections and maintaining the primary responsibility for fire and life safety inspections in all regulated buildings in the county jurisdiction except for schools and daycares. Jeff also has decades of experience as a fire investigator and responds to fire scenes for cause and origin determination throughout the county.

Fire Inspector I Sonya Klyn (P703) is a fire and life safety inspector and, in addition to performing annual inspections on schools and daycare facilities, with the recent passage of the Short-Term Rental Fire and Life Safety Inspection Ordinance, will be the main point of contact and perform over 1,200 inspections every two years. Along with that, Sonya has become an expert in the County's Hazardous Vegetation Ordinance and has been educating homeowners on those requirements, and PRC 4291 - which go hand in hand - to keep their properties and our firefighters safer.

Over the next few months, we will continue to expand the fire prevention division with the addition of a new position of Supervisory Fire Inspector, an exempt position, and a part-time Office Assistant. The Supervisory Fire Inspector will oversee the day-to-day operations of the fire prevention division and the Office Assistant will help with many of the administrative responsibilities and be located at Striker Court.

Also, you may or may not be aware, there is always a fire investigator on call for TCFD. Even though FIU coverage is shared on a week-to-week basis between CAL FIRE and TCFD, a TCFD fire investigator/inspector is on call for code compliance issues as well as fire investigation in case the CAL FIRE investigator is committed on another incident.

## TCFD in the Community

On November 18<sup>th</sup> members of the Tuolumne County Fire Department and the CAL FIRE Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit participated in the annual Fill the Boot Fundraiser benefitting the Muscular Dystrophy Association. This year has been our biggest success to date raising \$18,300! This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year consecutively we have beat our own record for TCU. Not to mention this was accomplished in 4 hours and in the rain! This year was especially amazing as we had three young boys, which are all brothers, affected by Muscular Dystrophy attend. This hit very close to home to many members at the event as they personally had the opportunity to spend time with the boys and see firsthand how this unfortunate disease effects young children and their families. It was an eye-opening experience to talk with the grandmother as she explained how this disease and the day-to-day struggle of having not one, but three young children, affected by Muscular Dystrophy.

Because of the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the money raised by events such as Fill the Boot, research to discover new medications and treatments for this disease is made possible. Children are showing improvement and can have a better quality of life due to breakthroughs in treatments. Two of the boys who attended have started a new treatment. In most cases the treatment has showed a 9% - 13% increase of slowing the loss of muscle mass. These boys have an opportunity for a better quality of life thanks to everyone who participated.

We are very proud of everyone involved in this fundraiser and wanted everyone to understand the significance, importance, and positive impact we have set forth! We could not have accomplished this without the number of personnel that attended and the support from the community.

