



EL CERRITO-KENSINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



10900 San Pablo Avenue ▪ El Cerrito ▪ CA ▪ 94530
(510) 215-4450 ▪ FAX (510) 232-4917
www.el-cerrito.org

DATE: November 16, 2024
TO: Mary Morris-Mayorga: General Manager
FROM: Eric Saylor: Fire Chief
RE: **Fire Chief's Report for the November 2024 Fire District Board Meeting**

Operations



E51 responded to a shooting at a residence on Elm St. The victim was rapidly treated and airlifted to a trauma center. Most shooting victims succumb to massive hemorrhaging and require immediate medical intervention and surgery. The crew on E51 is always staffed with at least one paramedic and ready to treat all forms of trauma. They know time is of the essence and worked with El Cerrito PD to ensure the scene was secure so they could provide rapid care.

Training

El Cerrito fire participated in a large-scale PG&E drill that simulated a ruptured underground gas line. The crews assisted with incident command and the suppression of the fire, demonstrating their skills to PG&E and neighboring agencies.



Mission: Protect Lives and Property
Integrity Accountability Teamwork Respect Professionalism



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Public education and outreach



El Cerrito Fire demonstrated auto extrication at the annual West County Safety Day (formerly Tri-City Safety Day) in the Plaza parking lot. Participation included the Cities of El Cerrito, Albany, Richmond, community of Kensington, American Medical Response and the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Dept. Auto extrication is a critical skill performed by firefighters involving cutting and prying into deformed automobiles to rescue victims. This skill requires extensive training and specialized equipment carried on every El Cerrito fire engine.



Every October the crews of the El Cerrito Fire Department participate in bringing Breast Cancer Awareness month to the forefront by proudly wearing pink emblemed shirts. Captain Gagne, Engineer/Paramedic Birdsell and Firefighter Rosas posed with E51 in support of the campaign.



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Engine 52 (Captain/Paramedic Cheshareck, Engineer Janes and Firefighter/Paramedic Ratliff) visited Madera Elementary School to talk about fire safety. Young children are especially susceptible to the dangers of house fires and require additional training. The firefighters talked about what to do in a house fire and what to expect when a firefighter crawls into a house to look for children. The students had the opportunity to meet our firefighters and see what they looked like when they were wearing their firefighter gear.