




October Re-Cap


Monthly Summary


October 2025 marked a milestone month for Cathedral City Fire & EMS, highlighted by the department's achievement of ISO Class 2 designation, a distinction held by fewer than 185 municipal agencies in California. The month featured significant leadership developments, including the welcoming of Battalion Chief Dyjuan Washington and the successful completion of the department's Leadership Academy. Throughout the month, the department responded to 777 emergency service calls, including 602 EMS incidents with 505 billable transports and 15 fire-related calls. The successful Annual Pancake Breakfast welcomed approximately 300 community members, while personnel continued their commitment to excellence through wildland refresher training and community engagement initiatives. From receiving the \$877,703 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant to participating in the Great California ShakeOut, October demonstrated CCFE's unwavering commitment to operational readiness, professional development, and community service. The month also saw continued progress on fleet management improvements, peer support program development, and preparations for the upcoming Holiday Posada in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club.


Key Achievements


 **ISO Class 2 Designation** Cathedral City Fire & EMS upgraded to ISO Class 2 rating, effective January 1, 2026. CCFE is now one of only 185 agencies in California with this status and the only CPSE internationally accredited Class 2 agency in the Coachella Valley.


 **Leadership Development** Welcomed Battalion Chief Dyjuan Washington from Victorville Fire Department with 27+ years of fire service experience, including 20 years in the United States Air Force. Successfully completed the Leadership Academy for newly promoted Engineers, Captains, and Battalion Chiefs.


 **FEMA AFG Grant Awarded** Received \$877,703.63 through the FY 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program (total project budget \$965,474) for Hazardous Materials Technician, Swift Water Rescue Technician, and Technical Rescue training for 24 personnel.

 **Annual Pancake Breakfast** Hosted approximately 300 community members at Station 1. Distinguished guests included Supervisor V. Manuel Perez and Lucas Piñon representing Congressman Dr. Raul Ruiz's office. Unveiled ISO Class 2 designation and announced Second Annual Holiday Posada partnership with Boys & Girls Club.

 **Wildland Fire Readiness** Completed annual Wildland Refresher training across all three shifts, reinforcing critical safety practices, tactics, and situational awareness for Santa Ana wind season.

 **Strong EMS Response** Maintained excellent response times while handling 602 EMS calls with 505 billable transports, demonstrating continued operational excellence.

 **Community Partnerships** Participated in Great California ShakeOut, Boys & Girls Club safety initiatives, school events including Career Day and Walk to School Day, Northgate Church Fall Festival, and the Spooktacular community event.

 **Personnel Development** Three new Ambulance Operators onboarded (Bryce Poist, Niall Baxter, Edward Hwang). Firefighter/Paramedic testing and interviews conducted. Two Acting Battalion Chiefs appointed for succession planning.

Operational Stats

WEEKLY BREAKDOWN

- OCTOBER 2: 168 CALLS (124 EMS, 100 TRANSPORTS, 5 FIRES)
- OCTOBER 9: 147 CALLS (117 EMS, 100 TRANSPORTS, 3 FIRES)
- OCTOBER 16: 165 CALLS (124 EMS, 106 TRANSPORTS, 4 FIRES)
- OCTOBER 23: 150 CALLS (119 EMS, 100 TRANSPORTS, 2 FIRES)
- OCTOBER 30: 147 CALLS (118 EMS, 99 TRANSPORTS, 1 FIRE)

Category	Totals
Total Calls	777
EMS Calls	602
Billable Transports	505
Fire Calls	15
Fire Inspections Passed	129

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



- **Annual Pancake Breakfast at Station 1 with approximately 300 attendees**
- **Supervisor V. Manuel Perez and City Council members in attendance**
- **Fire crews at Cathedral City High School Parent-Palooza**
- **Walk to School Day at Rio Vista Elementary and James Workman Middle School**
- **Fire Cadets participating in KESQ Radio interviews**
- **Crews at the Fall Carnival and Resource Fair at the amphitheater**
- **Northgate Church Fall Festival**
- **A Shift Crew at the Spooktacular**
- **Hands Only CPR/Stop the Bleed Workshop at EOC**
- **Fire Cadets practicing forcible entry at Station 1**

Mutual Aid & Major Incidents

Significant Fires

- **Structure Fires:** October included multiple working structure fires requiring coordinated attack operations, including incidents at Tramview Mobile Home Park. Quick knockdown times and effective ventilation prevented extension to adjacent structures in all cases.
- **Vehicle Fires:** Multiple vehicle fires on Interstate 10 and local roadways were successfully suppressed with minimal traffic impact through effective incident management, including a traffic collision on Varner Road.
- **Vegetation Fires:** One brush fire was quickly contained before significant spread. Continued vigilance during Santa Ana wind season maintained community safety.

MUTUAL AID SUMMARY

Agency	Aid Received	Aid Given	Aid Denied	Cancelled
AMR	0	2	2	3
Riverside County Fire (RIVCO)	4	0	0	0
Palm Springs Fire (PS Fire)	2	2	0	0

Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention Activities

- 129 inspections passed out of 165 conducted in October
- Reviewed fire protection plans for multiple developments including Nirvana residential, Newport 17 Apartments, and proposed storage facilities
- Completed Fire Prevention Week activities and school programs
- Processed fire sprinkler plans for Circle K, Trader Joe's, Starbucks, and residential properties
- Reviewed hood suppression systems for Mark's Burgers and CA Behavioral Health
- Issued permits for Aerni's Christmas Tree lot
- Attended Riverside County Fire Prevention Officers meeting
- Met with Building Official regarding 2025 code adoption resolution

Code Enforcement

- Approved multiple business licenses including Boomers, Dutch Bros, Mark's Burgers, Cove Smoke Shop, Sky Nails and Spa, and others
- Conducted site visits for King's School modifications and access road questions
- Reviewed and approved Special Activity permits for community events
- Coordinated with IT to address Energov system issues
- First read of 2025 code adoption presented to City Council

Community Risk Reduction & Community Engagement

Annual Pancake Breakfast

This past weekend, we hosted our Annual Pancake Breakfast welcoming approximately 300 attendees throughout the two-hour event. The breakfast continues to be one of our most successful community outreach traditions, bringing together families, local leaders, and our fire personnel. The event featured the official unveiling of our ISO Class 2 designation and announcement of the Second Annual Holiday Posada in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Cathedral City and Supervisor Perez's office.

Great California ShakeOut

On October 17, CCFE participated in the statewide earthquake preparedness drill at 10:17 AM. Participation in this event reinforces our commitment to ensuring both our personnel and community are prepared for seismic emergencies. Crews reviewed response protocols and emergency communications to ensure readiness for potential disaster scenarios.

Public Education Achievements

- Station crews attended Cathedral City High School's Parent-Palooza with CPR demonstrations
- Participated in Rio Vista Elementary and James Workman Middle School's Walk to School Day
- Cathedral City High School Career Day
- Fall Carnival and Resource Fair at the amphitheater
- Northgate Church Fall Festival
- Spooktacular community event (Fire Chief served as costume contest judge)
- Hands Only CPR/Stop the Bleed Workshop at EOC

Cadet Program Development

Fire Cadets participated in Individual Development Plan (IDP) creation, live KESQ Radio interviews during the Pancake Breakfast providing valuable public-speaking experience, and forcible entry training at Station 1. Their professionalism, enthusiasm, and dedication continue to represent the future of the department.

Recruitment & Staffing

Personnel Updates

- Welcomed Battalion Chief Dyjuan Washington from Victorville Fire Department (27+ years experience, including 20 years USAF as a firefighter)
- Chief Washington completed onboarding and will transition to field operations by November 1st
- Three new Ambulance Operators onboarded: Bryce Poist, Niall Baxter, and Edward Hwang
- Two Acting Battalion Chiefs appointed due to Worker's Compensation impacts, a positive opportunity for professional development and succession planning
- Firefighter/Paramedic testing and interviews conducted with candidates entering background
- Continued recruitment process for anticipated retirements
- Implemented new employee onboarding improvements

Professional Development

- Leadership Academy completed for newly promoted Engineers, Captains, and Battalion Chiefs
- Academy covered leadership principles, communication, human relations, and decision-making under pressure
- Fire Chief attended leadership summit with leaders from various industries focusing on maximizing team potential
- Fire Chief attended California Fire Chiefs Association Annual Conference in Anaheim
- Peer Support Program development with referral pathways, supervisor quick-guides, and early-recognition training
- Fleet Management program advancement with Michael Walla (Fleet Coordinator)

Recruitment & Staffing



Leadership Development & Training

Leadership Initiatives

- Battalion Chief/Leadership Academy launched with theme "Leading Today, Preparing for Tomorrow"
- Command staff participated in county-wide emergency preparedness exercises
- Fire Chief met with Riverside County Fire Chiefs to discuss regional issues including recruitment/retention and apparatus delivery delays
- Explored mutual aid strategies and collaborative solutions for apparatus shortages
- Identified opportunities for joint training initiatives, shared resources, and regional standardization

Training Accomplishments

October training focused on leadership development, wildland fire preparedness, and maintaining operational readiness:

- Leadership Academy sessions covering operational concepts and efficiency improvements
- Annual Wildland Refresher training across all three shifts
- Peer support program class completion
- Cadet program training including forcible entry practice
- Task book ride-outs for Acting Battalion Chiefs
- FEMA AFG Grant planning for upcoming Hazmat, Swift Water, and Technical Rescue training
- CPR demonstrations at community events
- Customer service and public relations training

Training & Professional Dev.

Monthly Total Training Hours

October's training metrics reflect the department's commitment to continuous improvement and leadership development. The high training hours (2,173.25) demonstrate sustained commitment to professional development, with increased emphasis on leadership training, wildland fire preparedness, and suppression skills.

Program	Monthly Total Hours
Administrative	343.25
Apparatus Ops	108.50
Clerical & Budget	20.00
Construction	11.00
EMS	120.75
Hazmat	3.00
Instructor Training	5.00
Physical Fitness	315.50
Portable & Small Equip	123.25
Prevention	514.25
Rescue	67.50
Suppression	487.25
Training, Non-College	54.00
Total	2,173.25

Training & Professional Dev.



Resident Safety Awareness

Fall/Winter Safety Campaign

As October brought the transition to fall and winter, Cathedral City Fire & EMS emphasized seasonal safety concerns:

- **Wildfire Prevention:** Maintain defensible space during Santa Ana wind season, report suspicious smoke immediately, follow burn regulations
- **Great California ShakeOut:** Participation reinforced earthquake preparedness—Drop, Cover, and Hold On
- **Heating Safety:** Service heating systems before first use, check chimneys and vents, never use ovens for heating
- **Holiday Preparation:** Fire safety reminders for decorations and cooking safety
- **School Zone Awareness:** Continued vigilance with Walk to School Day participation

Emergency Preparedness Reminders

- Update emergency kits for fall/winter needs
- Review and practice family evacuation plans
- Test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Register for emergency alerts if not already enrolled
- Prepare for potential power outages during wind events

Upcoming Events

Community CERT Training Series

Date: November 1, 8, and 15, 2025 | 8:00 AM - 5:00

PM Location: EOC Description: Three-day comprehensive emergency response training:

Day 1: Disaster preparedness and fire safety

Day 2: Medical operations and light search & rescue

Day 3: Practical exercises and final drill

Hands-Only CPR & Stop the Bleed Training

Date: December 6, 2025 | 9:00 AM Location: 32100

Desert Vista Rd (EOC) Description: Join us for an important training event where you'll learn life-saving skills through two essential courses. Free training open to the public.

Looking Ahead

As Cathedral City Fire & EMS enters October 2025, key priorities include:

- Executing comprehensive Fire Prevention Week activities
- Maintaining heightened wildland fire vigilance
- Continuing school safety programs and education
- Advancing CPSE accreditation preparations
- Implementing wellness program enhancements
- Strengthening regional training partnerships
- Planning for year-end equipment and apparatus needs
- Preparing for seasonal staffing adjustments

The department's dedication to excellence, combined with strong community support through Measure W, ensures CCFE remains prepared to meet the evolving needs of Cathedral City residents while maintaining the highest standards of emergency service delivery.

CATHEDRAL CITY FIRE & EMS



32100 DESERT VISTA RD

CATHEDRAL CITY, CA

92234

760-770-8200

www.cathedralcityfire.org

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA



FIRE STATIONS

STATION 1

68950 BUDDY ROGERS AVE.

STATION 2

32100 DESERT VISTA RD

STATION 3

27610 LANDAU BLVD