

CLARK COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Unincorporated Las Vegas Valley and Laughlin

Today, the Clark County Fire Department is the largest fire department in Nevada. The department has a total of 42 fire stations, 29 fully staffed and 13 volunteers, with over 1,000 personnel. Of the 29 fully staffed stations, 2 fire stations are located in Laughlin and one in Jean. The department has a total of one Fire Chief, one Senior Deputy Fire Chief, four Deputy Fire Chiefs, three Assistant Chiefs, and nine Battalion Chiefs commanding three platoons consisting of over 650 fire suppression personnel, 88 fire prevention personnel, six fire investigators, 64 ancillary personnel and approximately 300 volunteer personnel. There are six divisions within the organization. These divisions include: Fire Operations, Training, Fire Prevention Bureau, Homeland Security, Administration, and Support Services.

The department maintains a total of 69 frontline units in urban and Laughlin areas plus 49 units in the rural areas. These units respond to fire, medical emergencies and other related emergencies in the Las Vegas Valley and rural communities. The table below lists the total number and the type of units.

	Urban Area	Laughlin Area	Rural Area
Engine	25	2	13
Rescue	24	1	11
Ladder Truck	5	None	None
Water Tender	1	None	9
Squad	None	None	13
Rehab	2	None	1
Swift Water Rescue	None	1	None
Aircraft Rescue Firefighting	4	None	None
Other Support Units (BCs, Mass Casualty, etc.)	4	None	2

Clark County Fire Department operates under the authority of Clark County Code 2.04. Pursuant to Chapter 475 of the 1979 Statutes of Nevada as amended by Chapter 407 of the 1981 Statutes of Nevada, there is created, effective July 1, 1982, a Clark County fire department. (Ordinance 787 § 2, 1982). The Clark County Fire Department serves the area of the county designated on maps referenced to the ordinance and entitled Clark County Fire District. The district of the Clark County Fire Department is comprised of the territory of Clark County, excluding all land which is owned by the United States of America and under the control of the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. Geographical boundaries have been established by State of Nevada, County of Clark and incorporated entities, such as City of Las Vegas, City of

North Las Vegas, City of Henderson, and Boulder City, which encompasses over 425 square miles. These geographical boundaries include street and local highway networks and jurisdictional boundaries. Mutual and automatic aid agreements are in place with all Las Vegas Valley Fire Departments.

Clark County has divided the community into townships. These townships have land-use plans developed by Clark County Comprehensive Planning Department and approved by the Board of Clark County Commissioners. Departments within Clark County, including the fire department, and in conjunction with Comprehensive Planning, analyze the needs of the community to address zoning for buildings, public facilities, roads, flood control, sanitation, etc. The fire department has organized its operations into battalions for command and control. Needs assessment of the services provided are analyzed on a department level. The various operations, such as fire operations or emergency medical services, are analyzed department wide and by specific location depending on the scope of the concern.

Fire stations are assigned by a primary service area or a first-in response area. Under normal circumstances, a service call is first responded to by the station in the response area. If the station is occupied with a number of calls or is otherwise unavailable, a different station may respond. In 1997, Clark County entered into an automatic aid agreement with City of Henderson Fire Department. This agreement enhances local fire protection services by removing jurisdictional boundaries. This means that, in most situations, the nearest fire station with an available unit will respond to an emergency call. Besides the City of Henderson Fire Department, the department also maintains automatic and mutual aid agreements with other surrounding jurisdictions, i.e., the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Boulder City.

Rural Fire Departments

The Clark County rural area encompasses approximately 7,000 square miles with fire protection being provided by 13 volunteer fire departments that respond to all types of emergencies. Their services often extend into adjoining states and counties to provide assistance in fire suppression, medical emergencies, search and rescue, and environmental emergencies.

On November 24, 1974, the Clark County Board of Commissioners placed the administrative responsibilities of the volunteer fire departments under the direction of the Clark County Fire Chief. To coordinate the efforts of the volunteer fire departments, the Community Services Division was created.

The Community Services Division was later changed to the Rural Services Division and assumed a training role as well as an administrative role for the rural fire districts. The Rural Services Division has the responsibility of providing the volunteers with basic and advanced fire-fighting techniques, basic and advanced first-aid training, and is responsible for writing specifications for stations and equipment.

The Rural Services Division is dedicated to being the most resourceful and competent volunteer department in the country. Resources are devoted to support the highest standards of efficiency within the range of economical feasibility. A customer-oriented organization, the Division

constantly strives to provide excellence and cost-effective methods of support for rural fire prevention and protection, rescue service, property conservation, environmental protection, and emergency management.

The Rural Services Division is overseen by the Clark County Fire Department Fire Chief, a Deputy Fire Chief, and an Assistant Fire Chief who are responsible for over 40 fire apparatus and 300-plus volunteers. There are 13 volunteer fire departments, each with a volunteer fire chief, and 10 volunteer ambulance coordinators.

Rural Volunteer Fire Departments

Blue Diamond	Indian Springs	Overton
Bunkerville	Logandale	Sandy Valley
Cal-Nev-Ari	Moapa	Searchlight
Cold Creek	Mt. Charleston	
Goodsprings	Mt. Springs	

Procedures to ensure proper formation and administration of the volunteer fire departments and volunteer ambulance services are contained in Administrative Guidelines No. 10 (effective date 2/15/79) and No. 11 (effective date 2/15/79).

Please call 455-7700 if you have any questions.