Chester County Department of Emergency Services
601 Westtown Road, Suite 012
West Chester, PA 19380

September, 2024

# the Responder

*An informational resource for the responders of Chester County.*

Commissioners: Josh Maxwell | Marian Moskowitz | Eric Roe

# DES purchases new Pumper for Training Center

In June, DES purchased a 2009 Pierce Arrow XLT pumper from the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Company, Hollywood, St. Mary's County, Maryland. The pumper was placed into service immediately upon delivery at the Public Safety Training Campus and has been used in tanker training, basic firefighting and engine company classes.

The pumper is equipped with a 1500 gpm fire pump with electric intake and discharge valves; 750 gallon water tank; 1000 gpm deck gun; foam tank and discharge system; six preconnected fire attack lines; hose beds for 3 inch and 5 inch supply hose; high rise hose pack storage; 24 and 14 foot ground ladders; and an onboard generator.The pumper is equipped with a 1500 gpm fire pump with electric intake and discharge valves; 750 gallon water tank; 1000 gpm deck gun; foam tank and discharge system; six preconnected fire attack lines; hose beds for 3 inch and 5 inch supply hose; high rise hose pack storage; 24 and 14 foot ground ladders; and an onboard generator.














# Welcome to the Team!



Chris Kuklentz, Deputy Director for Law Enforcement Services



Grace Taylor, Executive Assistant



Becket Walters, Community Warning Coordinator



Jason Nichols, Safety & Security Operator



Wyatt Milton, Safety & Security Operator



Todd Oandasan, Safety & Security Supervisor



Quinn Dickens, Safety & Security Operator



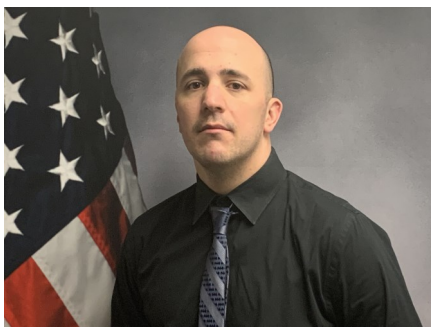
Damien Mossman, Telecommunicator 1



Robert Paradise, Law Enforcement Instructor



Wes Holman, Law Enforcement Instructor



Jared Davis, Law Enforcement Instructor

# Promotions



Amanda Brogan, Deputy Director for 9-1-1 Training



Maddie Rauscher, Telecommunicator 3



Casey Kern, Telecommunicator 3



Gino Petrasso, Telecommunicator 3



Lucas Landis, Safety & Security Supervisor



Tiffany Guth, Telecommunicator 3



Mike Oaster, Telecommunicator 3



Crystal Arnold, Telecommunicator 3



Maria Mondragon, Telecommunicator 2

# Employee Spotlight




Kelly Tinsman, Deputy Director for Emergency Management, presents Ben Fastman, Emergency Management Planner, with his PEMA Associate Certificate.

Congratulations Ben!



Chris Plumley, East Whiteland Township, received his PEMA Municipal Associate Certificate. Chris is also a DES Fire Instructor.

Congratulations Chris!



Kendra Yost, DES Fire Instructor, received her PEMA Professional Certificate.

Congratulations Kendra!

# Hazmat Team Activities

On May 7th, the Hazmat team toured Keehn Tanks in Thorndale along with the Thorndale Fire Co. and members of the Chester County Rescue Task Force to see the hazards in the everyday operations of refurbishing and inspecting over-the-road transport tanks that transport hazardous materials. A manual inspection of the inside of the tanks are done periodically by personnel climbing down into the tank wearing respiratory protection and protective clothing while fresh air is pumped into the tank. It was also learned that they burn off propane using their flaring system on almost a daily basis.

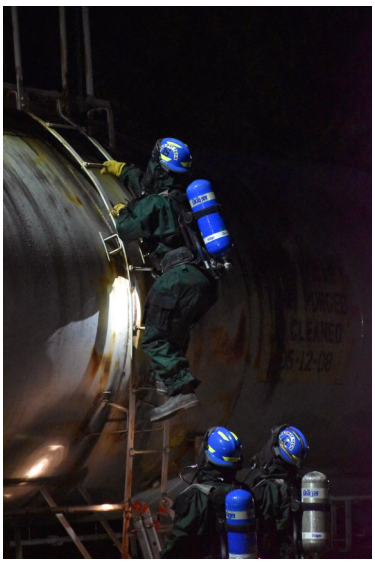



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On Tuesday, August 27, 2024, the Hazmat Team held training at the West Chester Railyard using a retired tank railcar. This training simulated a butane railcar with a leaking pressure relief device and the steps to render the railcar safe. Four team members were dressed in MT94 multi-threat suits and entered the hot zone to simulate securing the relief valve. While on top of the railcar, members were shown the pressure relief device and where shutoff valves are located. Then the team members proceeded through the decon line. Many thanks to the West Chester Railroad for this valuable training.







# Public Safety Training Campus News



Congratulations to the 2024 Summer Firefighter 1 program graduates:

Dan Abreu Braumueller—First West Chester Fire Co

Brandon Castro—Ludwigs Corner Fire Co.

Brooke Cutler - Berwyn Fire Co.

Nathan Bugey—Goshen Fire Co.

Jordan Dilks—Thorndale Fire Co.

Titus Embree—Cochranville Fire Co.

Brandon Ginter—Alert Fire Co.

John Duckett—Berwyn Fire Co.

Evan Gartner—Fame Fire Co.

Chris Loughlin—Fame Fire Co.

Emma Scott—First West Chester Fire Co.

Cory Herbsleb—Goodwill Fire Co., Pottstown

# Campus hosts Jr. Healthcare Camp

On July 26, 2024 the Training Campus hosted a visit from the Coatesville Economic Council's Jr. Healthcare Camp. The students participated in activities including walking with simulated beer & marijuana goggles, fire extinguisher training and CPR/AED training.







# Safety and Security News

We would like to recognize Jonathan Hays and Jesse Ahn for their outstanding performance. Both Safety and Security Operators have gone above and beyond in their efforts to train operators in their respective posts. Providing quality training to new operators is imperative in maintaining high standards in our division. We appreciate what you do!



Jonathan Hays



Jesse Ahn

## Monthly Activities

Number of Incidents:

| | |
|---|---|
| June | 85 |
| July | 109 |
| August | 124 |




Number of Visitor Screenings:

| | |
|---|---|
| June | 968 |
| July | 675 |
| August | 646 |

Weapons/Prohibited Items Denied into the Buildings:

| | |
|---|---|
| June | 19 |
| July | 18 |
| August | 12 |

# Chester County ARES RACES participated in a Field Day

Members of the Chester County ARES RACES (CCAR) participated in a national amateur radio Field Day exercise on June 22 – 23 at Chester County Government Services Center. Since 1933, ham radio operators across North America have established temporary ham radio stations in public locations during Field Day to showcase the science and skill of amateur radio. This event was open to the public.

Field Day is a showcase for how amateur radio works reliably under any conditions from almost any location to create an independent communications network. Ham radio functions completely independent of the internet or cell phone infrastructure, can interface with laptops or smartphones, and can be set up almost anywhere in minutes

There are more than 750,000 licensed ham operators in the United States.  For more information on the CCAR team, visit [www.w3eoc.org](http://www.w3eoc.org)



Comm 1, Hazmat Team, and the Public Education Team have supported many organizations this summer for community events, either with command support, vehicle displays, and table displays.




Upper Uwchlan Township Block Party

Exton Community Day

National Night Out

New Garden Air Show

Downingtown Good Neighbor Day

Malvern Fire Company Fair

West Chester University/Good Fellowship Ambulance Kids Camp

Uwchlan Township Community Day

PA State Police Camp Cadet

First Responder Night, Phoenixville

First Responder Recognition Night, Branch Life Church, Spring City

East Vincent Township Community Day

West Chester Restaurant Festival

West Sadsbury Township Car Show

