



BERRIEN COUNTY
FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN



Call to Order: 0830-0935

Date: July 19, 2023

Presentation: Jeanine Lewis gave presentation on victim services unit. Folders with information on the victim services unit were passed out to everyone. If you would like a folder please contact Chief Jamie Flick. Victim services unit is a service of the Berrien County Sheriff's Office. Agency request must go through BC Dispatch. Response time approximately 30 minutes. Respond in teams of two. Staff will have identification on ID lanyard. The VSU is available for victims, families of victims, as well as first responders. VSU will be attending National Night out and be at the Berrien County Youth Fair. The Under Sheriff advised the VSU is a great resource and thanked them for their service.

John Godush of Macqueen Emergency products (previously Apollo) gave a short presentation and handouts. Contact info: 269-757-2334; john.godush@macqueengroup.com.

Old minutes: Old minutes emailed out. Motion to accept old minutes by Chief Weich. Seconded by Chief Steinke. Motion passed. None opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Starting Balance: \$6247.00. No changes. Ending balance: \$6247.00. Motion to accept treasurers report by Chief Weich. Seconded by Chief Whitney. Motion passed. None opposed.

Communications/Bills: None

New Chief/Visitor: Sec./Treas. DeLaTorre introduced Deputy Chief Nick Gowen from Niles Fire Department.

Committee Report:

Red Cross: None

Great Lakes Drone: See attached report

DNR: None

EMS:

Medic-1: Chief Weich discussed the expansion of Medic-1 in the north county due to PrideCare no longer operating in Berrien County. Medic-1 was overstaffed now under staffed. Looking to add two additional 24hr staffed units, with possibility of a third.

S.M.C.A.S.: None

Med Flight: Mark stated Med Flight has moved to Elkhart airport as of June 01, 2023. Move will add 10 minutes to responses. LZ classes available.

Med Control: Al discussed the no bag policy that has started at Corwell. Have a metal detector in the ER. Asked EMS services to advise patients and families to leave bags/purses at home or in vehicles. Construction continues.

Funeral Protocol: Berrien Springs.

Dispatch: Tower moving forward. Still waiting on ground study. Have 1 dispatcher in training, and 3 call takers in training. Still have 4 openings. Completed radio training with SJCDPS reserves. Received fire dispatch training at 911 conference. Will be attending the MI-MABAS 101 training in future. Discussed training on MADAY and requested MADAY policy. Discussed the use of 11PG911 for dispatching multiple departments. BC Dispatch has a couple departments that have 5 agencies on initial dispatch. Use of 11PG911 and initial dispatch moved to communications committee. Discussion on radio traffic. Still many departments having most if not all apparatus announce to dispatch they are enroute/on scene, etc.....BC dispatch needs to know the following: Agency clear the call; first unit enroute; first unit on scene; when clear the scene. All other unit radio traffic should be with agency/scene command.

BC dispatch willing to have agencies come to dispatch and see how dispatch works. BC Dispatch held a training with SJT station 1. Went very well. BC Dispatch willing to come to FD for training.



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BCFA: Gerry thanked everyone that helped with the car show. Car show brought in just under \$10000.00. Funds split between BCFA and BCSD. Thank you to the BC Sheriff Posse for their assistance at car show. BCYF around the corner. Have fire education center sign up available. Currently 28% filled. Discussed the Battle of the Badges Blood Drive. See attached fliers. BCFA will be hosting a waterball tournament during national night out. The September 2023 BCFA meeting will feature a training. Step Up and Lead Workshop. Short meeting followed by training. Mission BBQ serving dinner. Next meeting August 02, 2023 at the BCYF grounds.

Training: BHDPS graduation is on Friday. 14 will be graduating.

HazMat: Got called out.

Emergency Management: None

LEPC: none

SHERIFF: 1 in academy. 2 more in August. Follow up discussion Battle of the Badges Blood Drive. In need of blood donors. All three disciplines Fire/EMS/Police encouraged to participate. See the attached fliers.

MITRT5: None

MABAS: Will be hosting a Legislative Day on August 18, at the MOB, in Holy MI. The focus will be MI-MABAS vision, purpose, capabilities and recent responses with demonstrations. Michigan MABAS will be taking over the ordering, receiving and dissemination of the Emergency Response Guideline. Plan Coordinators Meeting - on-going discussion of EMS boxcards and AVI response. The Region 3 Technical Response Team, Divisions 3301 and 3302, was validated in Confined Space and Rope Rescue Technician Level in May. Also, the newly formed Grand Traverse and Otsego Hazmat Company, Division 3701, was validated as a Type II in June. MI-TF1 has started the process of developing an internal UAS Capability. MITF1 has sent a swift water rescue team to Vermont for the flooding.

Old Business: Discussion on the BCFA meeting time survey that was sent out. Due to the clos numbers VP Flick tabling it until executive board can meet to discuss. 16 for morning meeting. 11 for evening meeting. Remember new bylaws allow for agency to delegate an authorized representative if Chief unable to make BCFA meetings.

New Business: Discussion on holding the August BCFA meeting at the BCYF. We have been holding the August meeting there for some time now so continue having August meeting at the BCYF. Discussion on creating a committee to create a MADAY procedure for the county. Question on this discussed previously. Sec./Treas. DeLaTorre discussed MI-MABAS had created a MAYDAY policy at the request of our and many other divisions that were in same predicament we are, with no MADAY policy or needing an updated one. BCFA formed a committee in January 2022 of MABAS department to review the MI-MABAS draft MAYDAY policy/procedure. Approved MI-MABAS MAYDAY policy/procedure was brought back to the body at the May 2022 meeting. Committee of: Chief Weich, Chief Chairello, Chief Whitney, Capt. Kniesly, and Caitlin to look at MI-MABAS MAYDAY policy/procedure and work on MAYDAY policy/procedure for our county.

Justin turner brought BCYF fire coverage. Has schedule with him if interested.

Chief Weich mentioned good job to New Buffalo City Fire on calling out hydrant location for structure fire this morning.

Next Meeting: **August 16, 2023 at the Berrien County Youth Fair, 0830hrs.**

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Asst. Chief Kableman, seconded by Chief Jesswein. Meeting adjourned 0935.



How to Request VSU:

Victim Services Unit volunteers can be requested by any police department, fire department or hospital within the county, or by the victims themselves.

We will respond 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to the scene, police agencies or other locations.

To request the VSU, contact the Berrien County Sheriff's Office Dispatch.

269-983-3060 Ext. 1



Berrien County Victim Services Unit DONATIONS & GRANTS:


DONATIONS

- ◆ Whirlpool Corporation
- ◆ David and Barbara Whitwam Foundation
- ◆ 1st Source Bank
- ◆ Bank of America
- ◆ Benton Harbor - St. Joseph Exchange Club
- ◆ Conybeare Law Office

GRANTS

- ◆ Michigan Sheriff's Association
- ◆ Berrien Community Foundation
- ◆ Frederick S. Upton Foundation
- ◆ St. Joseph/Benton Harbor Rotary

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
BERRIEN COUNTY
VICTIM SERVICES UNIT
919 PORT STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085
L. PAUL BAILEY, SHERIFF
WWW.BCSHERIFF.ORG



NON-EMERGENCY
(269) 983-7111 EXT. 7242
EMERGENCY 911

VICTIM SERVICES UNIT



A Service of the
Berrien County
Sheriff's Office



Sheriff L. Paul Bailey

Call **VSU** at
269-983-7141
Ext. 7242

for more information
(Please leave message)

What the Berrien County Victim Services Unit Is and What We Do

The Berrien County Victim Services Unit is a trained volunteer group under the direction of the Berrien County Sheriff's Office and the Michigan Sheriff's Association.

Dedicated to helping victims, survivors and their loved ones work through a crisis or crime, we are the helping hands of the police, fire and medical personnel.

Our presence frees authorities to do their job without leaving victims alone or feeling ignored.



The **Victim Services Unit** is designed to comfort and help victims immediately after an incident by providing short-term crisis intervention. Having no previous experience in traumatic events, most victims feel lost and in need of guidance.

We can offer answers to such common questions as what happens next, funeral preparations, why an autopsy is needed, why a crime scene takes so long to process and who will guide them through the court system.

Referrals can also be made to appropriate agencies and services within the community.



On scene, **VSU** plays a vital role by lending support and assisting victims and witnesses through the initial shock of trauma. We can separate victims from the scene of an investigation while maintaining a link to officers for victim's questions and concerns.

At a secondary site, **VSU** can stay after the officers leave, working to pull a support system of close friends, family or church personnel into place.

When to Request Our Services

- ◆ Homicide, Suicide, or any Death or Serious injury
- ◆ Traffic Accidents or other Traumatic Events
- ◆ Criminal Sexual Conduct
- ◆ Breaking and Entering (especially senior citizens)
- ◆ Death Notifications
- ◆ House Fires
- ◆ Natural Disasters
- ◆ Lost Children
- ◆ SIDS Deaths
- ◆ Natural Deaths
- ◆ Whenever Requested



**Interested in being
trained as a
Victim Services Volunteer?**

**Please contact the
Berrien County
Sheriff's Office
at
269-983-7141 x 7242
(Please leave message)**

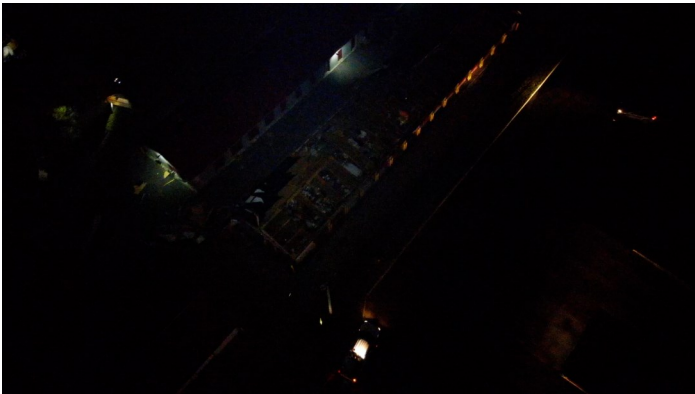


Great Lakes Rescue

July 2023 Report

Response Review

UPDATES



On July 12th, 2023 GLR responded to St Joe County to assist in damage assessment at night from an EF1 tornado touchdown. Working with local Fire and SJCSO we were able to further evaluate the extent of damage from thermal imagery and aerial spotlights to assist responders in their mitigation of the incident.

1. Total calls in Berrien County 2023: 85
2. Total Calls in 2023 to Date: 207
3. As of June 27th, GLR provides MFR services to three municipalities with the addition of Hagar Township on June 26th, 2023.
4. GLR provided support to St Joe City Public Safety for their firework event on July 3rd, 2023
5. Call Statistics 2023 to Date

Bomb Threats—2

Event Standbys—4

LEO Assists— 15

Medicals—72

Missing Persons—41

Public Assists—8

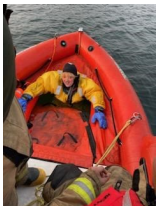
Structure Fires—12

Suspect Searches—40

SWAT Responses—7

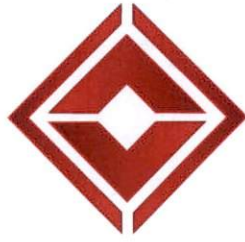
Water Rescues—5

Wildland Fires—1



Unit 4589, our 17ft catamaran style inflatable dive boat is in service. We recently did training events with 4 departments over the past month about it's capabilities and use. Anyone interested in having it out for training, please let us know. This unit is fully capable of day and night work, allows for through hull deployment of our ROV or divers, able to function as a floating LZ for our aerial drones and has an 8 person transport capability.

2022 PRODUCT LINE CARD



MACQUEEN EMERGENCY

Compressors:

Arctic Compressor
Air Systems International
SCBAS

Extrication/Stabilization:

HURST Jaws of Life
Rescue 42
Vetter
Plastix Plus
PAC Tool Mounts
ZICO Ziamatic Corp
Power Hawk Technologies/Auto CRIB-IT
GlasMaster
Ajax Tools
Turtle Plastics
LION Gloves
Dragon Fire
Majestic Gloves
Desert Diamond

Fans/Ventilation:

Blowhard
Unifire, Inc.
Tempest
Euramco
Desert Diamond

Fire Suppression:

Elkhart Brass
Red Head Brass LLC
Kocheck
TFT
North American Fire Hose
Snap-Tite Hose
Phos-Check
Brooks Extinguishers
Harrington, Inc.
South Park Corp.
Rice Hydro Inc.
Firequip Co.

Gas Monitors:

MSA
GASCO

Hand Tools:

Lonestar Axe LLC
Firehooks Unlimited
Leatherhead
End of the Road, Inc.

Ladders:

Duo-Safety Ladder Corporation

Lighting:

Streamlight
FRC
Tele-Lite, Inc.

Portable Containment/Pumps:

Husky Portable Containment
C.E.T.

PPE Disinfection/Decon/Sanitizing:

Circul-Air Corp
Citro Squeeze
Responder Wipes

Rope/Technical Rescue:

Lakeland

SCBA:

MSA Safety
CMC Rescue
Air Systems International
EVAC Systems
R&B Fabrications
SCBAS Inc.
True North

Storage Solutions:

Rescue 42 Pod Runner

Thermal Imaging:

MSA

Traffic Control:

VIZCON
CORTINA Safety Products
Lakeland
Radians Gloves & Vests
Orion
Turbo Flare

Turnout Gear:

LION
MSA Cairns
Dragon Fire
Thorogood/LION
HAIX
Majestic Gloves
Holik Gloves
Quest Fire Apparel
Hammerhead-Gear Keeper
Lightning-X
Fire Innovations
YAKTRAX/ICE Trekkers
Propper
5 Alarm Fire Strong
Blackinton Badges

Vehicle Tool Mounts:

PAC Tool Mounts
Plastix Plus
ZICO Ziamatic Corp.

Water/Ice Rescue:

Firstwatch Gear
CMC
Machovec/Pick-of-Life
Sea Pearls
Gear Aid, Inc.

Wildland Tools/Equipment:

LION
Forestry Supply
Propper
HAIX

Additional Vendors Not Otherwise Specified:

Euramco
Saint Gobain
Hannay Reels
Kussmaul Electronics
Pacific Reflex Signs / Firefly
PAC-KIT - First Aid
ZOLL AED'S

SCAN THIS QR CODE
TO FIND YOUR LOCAL
SALES REP



IF A PRODUCT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR IS NOT LISTED HERE, DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT YOUR SALES REP.



MACQUEEN
EMERGENCY

MACQUEENGROUP.COM • 800-615-6789



Go to MI-BCFA.org and [Announcements](#) for the following documents:

North Berrien Firefighters Association Car Bash August 4th, 5th, 6th
North Berrien Firefighters Association



Battle of the Badges July 28th & 31st and August 1st & 2nd

