



# GVFD Quarterly Report

**October:** 0 Calls

**November:** 1 EMS Call

**December:** 1 EMS Call

**Total Year Count:** 40 EMS and Fire calls

Happy New Year everyone. The Gustavus Volunteer Fire Department hopes everyone had a safe and fun holiday season. As a lot of what I am doing is planning for current and future training, I am changing the style of this report. We ended the year with very few calls which is great for our fire department and the community of Gustavus.

As the large part of my job is to look for training opportunities and funding sources for them. I am pleased to have the help from the Juneau Fire Department allowing us to send two volunteers over to their EMT2 class this year. For the ones who do not know, EMT 2 is an additional certification which allows the fire department more ways to stabilize and move patients to the airport and/or clinic.

At the end of each year SEREMS hosts a Code Blue grant which is built to help Alaska fire Department in purchasing emergency medical equipment. The Gustavus Fire Department submitted a request to the Code Blue grant committee to purchase a LUCAS Chest compression device. This would allow the Gustavus fire department team to piece of equipment which would take away most of the physical strain from a cardiac event.

In other events, I have also been working on a training handbook for the first responders. This would be a binder where you will need to have signed off by either the fire chief or a mentor before the volunteer can move on to state accredited classes, like EMT1 and 2. The hope for this handbook is to create a standard of training for the fire department creating a foundation of knowledge for everyone involved in the fire department.

Because it is a new year, I would like to remind folks the 2022 ambulance subscription is now expired. The 2023 Ambulance subscription is now available on the City of Gustavus Website. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the fire chief and we will get your questions answered the best we can.

In the hopes to clarify an announcement that was posted in the last few weeks on how the Gustavus 911 system works. If you were to dial 911 on your land line, you will get the Gustavus 911 Dispatch; however, when you dial 911 on your cell phone, you will get the Alaska State Trooper Dispatch. If you would like to have a more direct number from your cell phone, you can dial 907-697-1000, for emergency EMS and fire help. This is not because of a decision a previous fire chief or city council, this is due to a state or federal regulation that we must follow due to us not having an official dispatch center. I also would like to mention, just because the cell phones get directed to the trooper's dispatch, you will still get help, you will be asked questions, like the town and address you live in, your name and what your emergency you are calling about, they will forward you or the information to us and we will show up to wherever you are. Thank you for the dedicated volunteers who monitor the radios and answer the 911 calls.

I hope everyone had a great start of the new year and wish a happy new year.