



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Recent years have brought tragedy into our communities which we never would have imagined. The fire service has had to learn to respond to a new type of incident, and has done what we always have - adapt and overcome. In the past seventeen years (2000-2017), there have been 250 active shooter incidents in the US, resulting in 799 deaths and 1,418 wounded. Mass shootings have occurred in locations such as schools, music venues, and religious establishments, just to name a few. These events unfold quickly and seconds count when it comes to getting medical personnel where they need to be in order to do what they do best - save lives. Two minutes is all it takes for someone to bleed out. Delaying medical personnel could prove to be detrimental in these situations.

The Community Volunteer Fire Department, with the help and support of Fort Bend/Harris County ESD 100, has taken the necessary steps to be prepared by implementing a tactical medic program (TEMS). Since the beginning of this year, we have been training alongside law enforcement agencies, such as Fort Bend County Constable's Office Precinct 3, developing knowledge and skills, and building relationships which will be paramount to effectively handling these incidents. Keeping the communities, we protect safe, as well as the law enforcement agencies, and our members, is our ultimate goal of this program.

Today, Community VFD has taken possession of a very unique vehicle which will help in maintaining that goal - armored personnel transport. Just like our dedicated rescue truck, foam truck, or mobile command vehicle, this unit will serve a specific purpose in allowing our department to function more efficiently and safer at these incidents. We sincerely hope this unit is never called into action, but it will be ready if called upon. When seconds count, the unique capabilities of this unit will allow our department to safely tend to the injured and remove them from harm's way. Law enforcement agencies can focus on their responsibilities and know that we are ready and capable to reach them should they need us.

The Community Volunteer Fire Department strives to provide the communities we protect with the highest level of service available. This new addition to our fleet will help provide the tools that the great men and women of this department need to carry out exceptional service.