SOUTH MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Battalion Chief of Safety and Training

Montgomery County ESD#8

South Montgomery County Fire Department

Battalion Chief of Safety and Training

The South Montgomery County Fire Department seeks a highly motivated, experienced fire service professional to serve as the Battalion Chief of Safety and Training. This is an exceptional opportunity to provide training and leadership to a rapidly growing, progressive fire department.

The Emergency Services District #8 has a rich, rewarding quality of life and community spirit. Located 30 minutes north of Houston, Texas, the area offers the family atmosphere of a small community with the proximity to cultural dining, professional services, and entertainment venues of a big city.

The Battalion Chief of Safety and Training is responsible for managing the Training Division, serving as the Health and Safety Officer, managing members' TCFP certifications, and facilitate professional development.

THE DEPARTMENT

The South Montgomery County Fire Department is directed by Fire Chief Troy Koteras. Under his direction are 136 sworn personnel, and 7 civilian employees as listed below.

Rank/Title	No. of Positions
Chief	1
Assistant Chief - Operations	1
Assistant Chief - Administration	1
Battalion Chief - Preparedness	1
Battalion Chief - Safety/Training	1
Battalion Chief - Operations	6
Lieutenant -Training	1
Operations Lieutenants	21
Safety Officer/Training Officer	3
Engineer/Operator	30
Firefighter	66
Fire Inspector	3
Logistics Coordinator	1
IT Manager	1
Fleet & Facilities Maintenance	2/1
Fire Prevention Manager	1
Personnel Manager	1
Executive Assistant Administrative	1
Support	1

Operations Division

The South Montgomery County Fire Department operates 6 fire stations across the District's 53 square miles. Services provided by the Fire Department include fire suppression, fire prevention, basic first response emergency medical services, accident response, and water rescue. Departmental front line apparatus include 5 engine companies, 2 quint companies, 1 cascade service truck, 2 brush trucks, 2- 3300 gallon tanker/ tenders, 2 all-terrain vehicles, 3 swift water rescue boats, 1 flat bottom evacuation boat, 2 high water vehicles, 2 Battalion Chiefs, and 1 Safety Officer/District Training Officer.

Training Division

The Training Division, organized under Operations, is responsible for the professional development of all staff. Training Division personnel includes the Battalion Chief of Safety and Training, a Training Officer, and three on-shift District Training Officers (one on each shift). Training is scheduled each day of the week to keep all firefighters proficient. This is accomplished with the department's Class A live burn/flash-over facility, 2-story training house with maze, A/V Training room, Incident Command tablets, various on-line delivery systems, and a five-story training tower. Additional training facilities are currently under construction. In 2022, the training division logged over 47,000 combined hours of continuing education and external classes for staff.

Fire Prevention/Inspections

In addition to responding to fires and other incidents within our District, we have an inspections division that handles annual life safety inspections. We will soon have 3 inspectors assigned to administration who verifies compliance with the 2018 International Fire Code.

The Fire Department has a strong commitment to public education. We instruct CPR classes throughout the year, conduct Fire Warden Training, and also offer fire extinguisher training to local businesses. Our Community Risk Reduction program teaches children and adults about fire safety and other personal safety skills.

Fleet & Facilities Maintenance Division

The Maintenance Division is a full service operation responsible for the preventive and routine maintenance repairs of all apparatus, facilities, and equipment. There are three personnel assigned to this division, working out of a climate controlled, dedicated facility at Fire Administration.

Montgomery County ESD #8

The South Montgomery County Fire Department operates under the authority of the Montgomery County Emergency Services District (ESD) #8. An ESD is a political subdivision of the State of Texas established in the State Legislature under the Health and Safety Code chapter 775. An ESD is much like a School District, as it has the legal authority to levy ad-valorem property taxes for the services it provides. Though an ESD works closely with County Government, they are their own entity. An ESD Board consists of five members of the community appointed by Commissioner's Court to oversee the funding for emergency response.

In 2009, Montgomery County Emergency Services District #8 terminated the contract with their prior Fire Department service provider, and formed its own Fire Department. Robert Hudson was hired as the first full-time career Fire Chief.

The South Montgomery County Fire Department is responsible for the delivery of fire/rescue and basic life support emergency response to an unincorporated area encompassing nearly 53 square miles, including two major thoroughfares.

Timely service is accomplished through the strategic placement of six fire stations, all of which are permanently staffed. South Montgomery County Fire Department works in conjunction with the Montgomery County Hospital District (MCHD), who provides the Mobile Intensive Care transport units for the County Emergency Medical Service. MCHD currently co-locates at two of our facilities

After many improvements to the fire department since its creation in 2009, the department requested the Insurances Services Office (ISO) conduct a regrade. On March 11, 2014, we received notice from ISO that our district wide classification was changed to a Class 1 rating. The members at South Montgomery County Fire Department work tirelessly to ensure our public safety exceeds expectations.

SCPFFA - Local 4683

The South Montgomery County Fire Administration works closely with the South County Professional Fire Fighters Association (SCPFFA) Local 4683 to provide a solid relationship with operations personnel. Local 4683 is an affiliate of the International Association of Fire Fighters and the Texas State Association of Fire Fighters.

THE COMMUNITY

South Montgomery County Fire Department is located along Interstate 45, about 30 minutes north of downtown Houston and just east of The Woodlands, Texas. The area is experiencing explosive growth in infrastructure and population due to the addition of a second major highway and the relocation of the Exxon Mobil World Headquarters along our southern border.

The Conroe Independent School District maintains a top rating in the nation, adding to the attraction for families to relocate here. Current District population is close to ninety thousand with another fifteen to twenty thousand residents expected to call this home within the next five years.

The local area population, including our initial aid partners, is over three-hundred thousand, with all area Districts experiencing the same growth potential.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

The Battalion Chief of Safety and Training is a key leader of the Training Division, requiring highly developed technical and organizational skills, polished communication and presentation abilities, the capacity to meet deadlines, and the ability to develop and maintain programs within the department in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations. The ideal candidate for this position will possess the competencies, knowledge, skills, and abilities described below:

- Have an aptitude and passion for training career firefighters based on significant operational experience in the various ranks of a fire department.
- Have the ability to plan, develop, and implement comprehensive training programs and curriculum.
- Manage personnel, budgets, calendars, programs, and training records with an eye for continuous improvement to meet the needs of the department.
- Have an understanding of Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) requirements for training subjects, certifications, and standards.
- Maintain the ability to instruct TCFP courses and administer skills testing in accordance with minimum standard requirements.
- Operate as the Health and Safety Officer, reporting all department injuries to TCFP in the department FIDO system.
- Manage the Health and Fitness program to ensure all Operations personnel are fit for duty.
- Manage the Safety Committee which investigates incidents and makes recommendations for safer conditions and operations.
- Manage the Training Division budget for accurate planning, development, purchases, and execution.
- Coordinate training events with Operations Battalion Chiefs and manage tasks, assignments, and training delivery by Training Officers.
- Establish and maintain highly effective, collaborative working relationships with administration, managers, employees, and neighboring department training personnel.
- Proficient in the use of software programs such as Microsoft Office Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Teams, Adobe, and Target Solutions.

- Be astute, display impeccable character and candor, and maintain a professional reputation.
- Operate as a decisive leader willing to collaborate with staff while remaining responsible and accountable for final decisions.
- Possess strong communications, educational, and management skills.
- Demonstrate professional resolve, strength of character and resilience in the face of criticism or challenges.
- Be committed to a long-term relationship and dedicated to the benefit of the South Montgomery County Fire Department and the community.

EXPERIENCE, EDUCATION, AND CERTIFICATIONS

- 12 or more years of fire service experience
- TCFP Master Firefighter
- TCFP Instructor II (obtain Instructor III within 1 year of hire date)
- TCFP Fire Officer II (obtain FO III & IV within 1 year of hire date)
- TDSHS or National Registry EMT Basic
- FEMA NIMS 100, 200, 700, & 800 (300 & 400 within 1 year of hire date)
- Texas Class B Driver's License within 6 months of hire date
- Associates Degree or equivalent college hours

Applicants outside the State of Texas must be eligible for certification through TCFP and TDSHS
https://www.tcfptexas.gov/services/transferring-to-texas

Texas County and District Retirement System

The South Montgomery County Fire Department participates in the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS). TCDRS is a defined contribution plan that is funded through a required 7% employee contribution with a 17.5% District match with a guaranteed 7% compound yearly interest contribution.

TCDRS is a portable retirement that is one of six retirement plans that work together for overall employee vesting. Those include: Employees Retirement System of Texas, Teacher Retirement System of Texas, Texas Municipal Retirement System, Judicial Retirement System, and City of Austin Employee's Retirement System.

Our plan requires an 8 year vesting with retirement eligibility after 30 years, or the rule of 75 (age plus years of service equals 75) or 60 years of age.

COMPENSATION

Annual salary is approximately $89,000 to $97,000, commensurate with experience and qualifications. A department cell phone is issued, as well as an attractive benefits package. Benefits include group health, dental, vision, and life/disability insurance package. 12 paid holidays per year, vacation and sick leave plans, pension plan, 457 deferred compensation plan, longevity and non-tobacco and certification incentives.

HOW TO APPLY

For additional information on this opportunity, please contact Fire Chief Troy Koteras at 281-363-3473 or email to employment@mcesd8.org

On-line application and resume must be received by June 9, 2023 at 1630 hours.

Use the QR Code below or go to www.mcesd8.org/employment/

SMCFD is an Equal Opportunity Employer. SMCFD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, sex, age, marital status, national origin, political ideas or disability in employment of the provision of services.

MISSION STATEMENT

The South Montgomery County Fire Department is committed to the preservation of life and property through our dedication to excellence in emergency response, prevention and education.

SOUTH MONTGOMERY COUNTY

www.mcesd8.org