

MAYOR
James Thomas, Jr.
CITY MANAGER
Billy Edwards
CITY CLERK
Sarah Lumpkin
CITY ATTORNEY
Linnie L. Darden, III



MAYOR PRO TEM
Charles Frasier
COUNCIL MEMBERS
Jason Floyd
David Anderson, Sr.
Keith Jenkins
Kenneth Shaw

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Krystal R. Britton
Public Relations Manager
City of Hinesville
(912) 876-3564 office | (912) 271-6421 cell
kbritton@cityofhinesville.org

HFD firefighters train to respond at any time

Hinesville, GA— Any visitor to the Hinesville Fire Department looking for firefighters sitting around waiting for a call may be surprised. Instead of waiting to respond to a call, firefighters spend a majority of their time training and preparing for calls to save property and possibly a life. Ventilation training exercises conducted May 9 for Hinesville firefighters is just one of the many types of trainings the firefighters must complete.

“Ventilation training is conducted to hone the skills that are needed to effectively and efficiently clear a building of heat, smoke, and toxic gases to make a safer environment for not only the firefighters inside, but the occupants as well,” Capt. Kris Johanson, HFD training officer and public information officer said.

Through the ventilation training exercise, firefighters must evaluate the proper location to perform ventilation, conduct equipment checks, correctly raise and place ladders, get on the roof, cut a hole with a chainsaw, pull the panel that is cut, open the ceiling below the hole, get off the roof, and retrieve all equipment— all of this while transmitting proper radio transmissions.

This tactic would be performed at structure fires where there is a large volume of smoke, heat, and toxic gases inside of a structure. Ventilation is done for several reasons to include but not limited to prevention of a backdraft or smoke explosion, clear smoke to allow a safe escape for occupants, or provide a smoke-free area in a building for occupants until the firefighters can get them out, explained Capt. Johanson.

The Hinesville Fire Department ensures that all firefighters are thoroughly trained in numerous areas to keep the community safe. The department conducts other types of training such as vehicle

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“Home for a Day or a Lifetime”

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extrication and rescue, firefighting strategies and tactics, survival, instructor training, rescue, medical, and more. Currently the department is working on the Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate program, which will increase the number of medical services offered to the community. All of these trainings ensure that the firefighters are ready to respond to calls at any time.

According to the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training and the Insurance Services Office, firefighters are required to train for a set number of hours based on their rank. A lieutenant and below must train a total of 240 hours annually and an officer such as a captain or above must train at least 40 hours annually.

For any questions about training or more information on public safety, contact the Hinesville Fire Department at (912) 876-4865.

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The City of Hinesville is the county seat and largest city in Liberty County. It is a progressive and pro business community that welcomes all. With a population of more than 30,000, Hinesville is also one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Georgia in both size and population. For more information, please visit www.cityofhinesville.org or find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @HinesvilleGA.

For more information and interviews, contact Krystal Britton at (912) 876-3564 or kbritton@cityofhinesville.org.

Photos and cutlines by Krystal R. Britton



Hinesville Firefighters getting on a model roof to perform ventilation training on May 9.

"Home for a Day or a Lifetime"

115 East M.L. King, Jr. Drive Hinesville, GA 31313 (912) 876-3564
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Hinesville firefighter preparing to set a roof ladder for safe ventilation during training May 9.



Hinesville Firefighter sounding a model roof to ensure its stability prior to ventilating during training exercises on May 9.

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