

Administration

Chapter 3

3.1 VFC Organization

VFC's are organized with an optional administrative board of directors, company training and/or apparatus officers, secretary and/or treasurer, support, EMS and full responders, operators and engineers, lieutenants and a captain.

The VFC membership will typically supervise its internal administrative affairs and non-emergency operations as outlined in this manual and the approved VFC bylaws and articles of incorporation.

The VFC will normally maintain strong community support, participation and may or may not be an incorporated, non-profit organization with assets and contributions to manage.

VFC's are encouraged to have non-profit status 501 C3 or 501 C4. Failure to obtain non-profit status subjects the VFC officers to tax liability and the inability to accept donations.

3.2 Allocations

All VFC's have an allocation of members by rank and total. The number of members allocated may not be exceeded without the approval of the County Fire Chief.

Authorized Volunteer Company Allocations

Company 12, Stirling City	15
Company 21, Cohasset	15
Company 24, Forest Ranch	15
Company 25, Butte Valley	20
Company 26, Butte Creek Canyon	20
Company 33, Upper Ridge	30
Company 37, Golden Feather	15
Company 42, Chico Metro	40
Company 45, Durham	20
Company 52, Feather Falls	10
Company 55, Bangor	15
Company 61, Berry Creek	20
Company 64, Kelly Ridge	30
Company 67, Cherokee	10
Company 71, Richvale	15
Company 74, Gridley	20

Requests to exceed an allocation within a battalion should be submitted in writing through the chain of command to the County Fire Chief. As new companies are formed, allocations will be determined by the Department and specifically authorized by the County Fire Chief.

All volunteer companies will be authorized the position of one VFC Captain and one VFC Lieutenant to help coordinate the VFC operations and maintain span of control.

VFC's shall maintain a Span-of-Control of one officer for every 7 members.

Volunteer Captain

One volunteer captain is authorized per volunteer company.

Volunteer Lieutenant

One VFF lieutenant is authorized per VFC. One additional VFF Lieutenant is authorized for every 7 VFF's.

Training Officer

The Company Captain will appoint the Training Officer, with concurrence of the Career Captain.

3.3 VFC Administration

Each VFC is formed in accordance with the California Health & Safety Code, Section 14825 (attachment 8.45). Each VFC shall comply with the rules and regulations identified in this manual. VFC's organized as nonprofit/charitable organizations shall comply with applicable state and federal regulations. Incorporated VFC's shall comply with applicable federal and California Corporation Code (CC), beginning with section 5000 through 6815. Unincorporated Charitable VFC's shall also comply with applicable state and federal regulations. The California corporation codes shall take precedence over any conflicting sections contained within this manual, only as related to the internal non-emergency operation of the VFC.

The responsibility for the administration of non-emergency operations of a VFC shall be by the appropriate officers of the VFC. All VFC's shall comply with the policies of the department as well as the VFC's bylaws. The County Fire Chief may also issue department policy letters that apply to the VFC's.

The Career Captain will routinely confer with the VFC officers on applicable station level issues. Typically, elected VFC officers will be responsible for the business affairs and routine operational procedures of the VFC. Specific administrative and operational duties may be found in various sections of this manual and in approved VFC bylaws.

3.4 Administrative Documents

- Each VFC is required to meet and maintain professional business-like practices per state law. As the public entrusts a VFC with contributions, all periodic tax returns/reports (state and federal) shall be open for review to any citizen and the County Fire Chief. Donor lists should not be disclosed to the public. VFC records and documents shall normally remain securely stored and/or filed at the fire station, unless otherwise approved by the membership. The Treasurer shall provide the membership with monthly financial reports, including a financial year-end summary. The year-end summary shall also be provided to the County Finance Officer and the County Fire Chief.
- Minutes of the VFC meeting shall follow a standard format (attachment 10.20, Meeting Agenda) and be posted or maintained at the fire station. Draft minutes are not final until approved by the VFC. Confidential VFC (Personnel) issues shall only be discussed by voting members in closed session and the minute contents shall reflect only the action taken, if any. Minute contents from those sessions should be excluded from public view.
- In order to accommodate and encourage business like practices for each VFC, the Career Captain will establish and set aside, a suitable interior area for a VFC desk, a bulletin board, VFC Roster Board, filing cabinet(s) VFC phone, computer and VFC mail trays.
- The use of a VFC funded phone, fax or computer on fire station property shall be limited to appropriate VFC business matters. All computer users must follow and sign the approved department policy (attachment 10.36, Computer Use Policy).

3.5 Unification

The County Fire Chief will establish Fire Station Response Areas. These areas will correspond to the community served by a VFC. A single VFC may serve two or more fire stations. When five or more VFF's (off probation) live in a community where there is not a VFC, the department may consider establishing a new VFC. When two or less VFF's exist in a current VFC, the VFC shall seek unification with the nearest VFC.

Two or more existing unincorporated VFC's may also request unification when local conditions dictate. Incorporated VFC's shall refer to the California Corporation Codes, section 6010-6019.1 for the proper process and approvals which are required to merge incorporated VFC's. All cases require the approval of the County Fire Chief prior to implementation.

3.6 By-Laws

All VFC's shall establish and adopt By-Laws for the independent, business portion of the VFC. The business portion relates to internal company financial matters, business meetings, etc. It is highly recommended that VFC's use attachment 10.19 (By-Laws) as a guide in establishing their by-laws.

VFC by-laws are encouraged to be a document that establishes the foundation and basic administrative framework of a VFC (Incorporated VFC's refer to CC section 5150-5153). The VFC bylaws should not specifically identify meeting or training days/nights and times as these may change from time to time. The VFC bylaws (and Articles of Incorporation, if any) must be adhered to by all members. Disregarding and/or violating these documents may be considered a serious violation and subject to investigation and discipline.

VFC bylaws shall be reviewed annually by the VFC and updates made as necessary. A current set of the VFC bylaws must be on file with the County Finance Officer and placed in the volunteer operating policy manual binder and maintained at the fire station at all times.

3.7 Election of Officers

All elected officers of the VFC must be elected annually by December 15 1st by 50% +1 (or more) of the voting membership, or as outlined in the VFC bylaws (Incorporated VFC's also refer to CC 5210-5227). Members may hold consecutive terms.

VFC elections shall be a democratic process open to discussion and debate. The process shall be free from undue pressure to run for a position, vacate a position, vote for or against a particular VFF member and no promise of reward or threat of discipline pertaining to a position or vote will be tolerated. All ballots for elected positions shall be cast in private.

The Fire Chief can remove a VFC elected officer with compelling documentation processed through the chain of command. The vacated position would be filled by a current VFC Lieutenant. If there is more than one Lieutenant, section 3.7 will be followed to select a new VFC Captain for the remainder of the term.

The Battalion Chief will forward (with a recommendation), to the Fire Chief, nominations of the VFC Captain and Lieutenant(s) from the VFC. The County Fire Chief must approve all officer nominations by January 1st of each year). The term of the VFF Captain and Lieutenant appointment will be for one year beginning on January 1 of each year. In the event an elected VFC Captain or Lieutenant fails to perform at an acceptable level, the County Fire Chief has the authority to remove the individual from the position.

3.8 Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Committee

The Department will establish a committee of representative Volunteer and Career Firefighters to serve in an advisory capacity on issues related to the VFF Program.

The following procedures will apply to the establishment and activities of the VFF Advisory Committee.

- The Committee will be comprised of four Volunteer Firefighters, the Volunteer Liaison Officer, the Volunteer Training Coordinator, one Career Fire Captain, one Career Committee Chair and the County Finance Officer. Committee members will be approved by the County Fire Chief.
- The Committee will meet quarterly during the calendar year and more often if needed. The committee is encouraged to meet after each unit-wide Volunteer meeting.
- The purpose of the SOP Committee will be to address issues of interest or concern on a department-wide basis and to make proposed revisions of the SOP manual.

No department Career employee or VFF may alter, amend, or otherwise change any policy identified in this manual, without following the established process.

Requests for changes to the SOP manual shall be made, in writing, detailing the affected sections and proposed changes (attachment 10.21, Policy Proposal Change Form).

Proposed changes should be submitted to the SOP Committee Chair. The SOP Committee will review and send proposed changes to the Executive Staff for approval. (The County Fire Chief will return recommendations or approvals to the SOP Committee Chairperson).

Notification of results of review will be returned to personnel submitting proposed changes within sixty (60) days.

3.9 Internal Affairs

VFC internal administrative matters, not directly related to public service, are normally the concern of the VFC membership only. Guidance by the Career Captain shall be required only to ensure that each VFC is complying with this manual and the department policy manual. Internal administrative matters directly related to public service are the concern of the County Fire Chief.

3.10 Chain of Command

The administrative chain-of-command will be VFC Captain, to Career Captain (or designee), to Battalion Chief, to Division Chief, to County Fire Chief. Normal communications for day-to-day business is between the Career Captain (or designee) and VFC Captain. It is the responsibility of everyone involved to establish and maintain communications, supervision, and support services for volunteer firefighter companies just as is the case of career engine companies.

Issues should be resolved at the lowest levels (i.e. Career Captain ((or designee) and VFC Captain)). Career Company Officers and/or Battalion Chiefs will supervise VFC drill activities and will be available to attend VFC meetings.

3.11 Business Meetings

The voting membership of each VFC shall determine the best date and time to hold the regular monthly business meeting. Incorporated VFC's shall provide that at least ten (10) days' notice is given before the membership meeting (CC 5511). VFC's may consider posting the anticipated annual meeting schedule (dates and times) at the Fire Station. The Board of Directors of each VFC shall determine the best date and time to hold the regular board meeting, if any.

If the meeting date and time of the Board of Directors of an Incorporated VFC is not fixed, at least 48 hours verbal notice must be given to board members (CC 5211).

At least one of the above meetings should be held when the Career Captain is on duty.

Minutes of VFC business meetings shall be maintained at the station and forwarded to the Career Captain. The membership meeting minutes of Incorporated VFC's shall indicate the number of Yes, No and Abstention votes for each motion voted upon (CC 6325).

VFC Disciplinary Action/corrective counseling proceedings shall be conducted in closed-session. Non-voting members, excluding the Career Captain, are to be excused from these proceedings.

A VFC normally will allow an adjacent VFC officer to attend a company business meeting to discuss issues of mutual interest.

3.12 Administrative Records

Each VFC shall maintain an administrative file for each member. The files shall be in a locked filing cabinet to maintain confidentiality and contain:

- VFC-issued equipment record
- Copies of letters of appreciation
- VFF evaluations
- Department/VFC Disciplinary Action letters
- Signed Oath of Allegiance
- Signed Rules of Conduct
- Signed Computer Use Policy

The Training and Safety Bureau will maintain a file for each member. The files shall be in a locked filing cabinet to maintain confidentiality and contain:

- Copies of all training records
- Copies of training certifications
- Copy of driver's license and endorsements
- Copy of all approval letters to respond and drive apparatus

The County Finance Officer will maintain a file for each member and VFC. The files shall be in a locked filing cabinet to maintain confidentiality and contain:

Member

- VFC Membership Application and interview results
- I-9 form
- Health questionnaire

VFC

- Copy of VFC bylaws
- Copy of 501 C3 or C4 status
- Annual financial statement

These files shall have restricted access, but shall be open to review by the individual, appropriate VFC administrative officer(s), Career Captain, Battalion Chief and/or County Fire Chief. The aforementioned file(s) shall be maintained and stored in a secure location. Individual records must be kept for four (4) years after the member separates from the VFC.

3.13 Fund Raising

In an effort to maintain positive relations with the community served, VFC's are encouraged to consider conducting annual Open Fire-House events, and in order for VFC's to purchase, maintain and replace VFC apparatus and equipment, VFC's may conduct VFC benefit dinners, breakfasts, direct mail fund raising letters and other appropriate fund raising activities.

All fund-raising programs by volunteer companies shall be identified as such, without involving the name or logo of CAL FIRE or BCFD. It must be clear to potential donors and the general public that volunteer fund-raising is to provide local services and/or equipment not provided by the State, County or City.

In order to achieve the aforementioned all new fund-raising activities must be reviewed by and approved by the Battalion Chief. The VFC will maintain the approval letter at the station level. VFC's must meet any State or County regulations controlling the solicitation of donations, including acquiring necessary permits.

Prior to any fund raising activity that involves the preparation of food that will be sold to the public; the VFC must have a lead cook that has attended the food preparation class sponsored by the Butte County Health Department and have the prior approval of the Battalion Chief.

VFC's may not solicit funds outside their response areas without approval of other affected VFC's and approval from the Battalion Chief.

VFC's shall not solicit monetary donations in incorporated cities not under contract with BCFD without approval of the County Fire Chief.

Fundraisers may not be held on department property that involves the sale of any controlled substance (alcohol, tobacco, etc.).

Event flyers and artwork for advertising must be approved two weeks prior to the publication of event by the County Fire Chief or his/her designee.

Use of any department property or equipment for fund raising purposes requires approval of the Battalion Chief.

3.14 Auxiliary Groups

The establishment of an auxiliary group supporting the VFC is encouraged. Auxiliary groups provide an avenue of support for the individual VFC's not available through fire department channels.

The function of auxiliary groups are not limited, but generally confined to the following:

- Fund raising for particular VFC needs and/or desires.
- Social functions outside the department operations like barbecues and gatherings.

The auxiliary creates an opportunity for non-firefighting personnel to support their local VFC.

Members of the auxiliary are considered members of the VFC and must be approved through the application process (including Live Scan) to be covered by insurance. Each auxiliary group will be encouraged to acquire non-profit organization status. Funds generated by the auxiliary will be under direct control of the elected officers of the VFC. All activities of the auxiliary must be compatible with those of the department and complement the services provided by the department.

3.15 Community Cost Share Program

The department maintains a “community cost-share” program. This program’s funding is dependent upon the County’s fiscal abilities for any given fiscal year.

The program provides a share of a Volunteer Fire Company’s costs toward apparatus, equipment, land, and station acquisition.

VFC’s can submit requests (attachment 10.23, Cost Share Agreement) through the chain-of-command, to the County Fire Chief, with detailed descriptions of their proposals in order to access this fund. The County Fire Chief will make decisions based on overall needs of the department.

The department will develop a five-year plan for VFC equipment mobile equipment replacement. The department will commit itself once a “community cost-share” agreement has been signed with a VFC. This agreement is the only process by which the department will commit itself to expend “community cost-share” funds.

3.16 Water Tender and Engine Reimbursement Funds

When BCFD fire engines (career and volunteer, regardless of type) are reimbursed for their use on SRA or FRA wildland fires or for State mission special staffing needs, 100% of the funds generated will be placed directly into the department “community cost-share” program fund.

When BCFD water tenders are reimbursed for their use on SRA or FRA wildland fires or for State mission special staffing needs, 50% of the funds generated will be placed directly into the department’s water tender maintenance fund. These funds are used by fleet management to maintain the Units water tender fleet annually.

The other 50% of the funds generated will be placed directly into the respective VFC’s water tender fund. VFC’s can utilize their water tender funds to make approved purchases from an approved vendor, up to \$2,500 including tax and shipping. Any purchases over \$2,500 will require a Butte County purchasing requisition completed by County Finance and the purchase must be put out to bid.

Prior to purchases being made the County Finance Officer must confirm the vendor is an approved vendor and the items being purchased meet the Butte County purchasing rules.

Examples of purchases that are authorized; apparatus equipment, uniforms for volunteers, volunteer awards, equipment repairs, and can be used as funds towards an approved Cost Share purchase. All purchases to repair or enhancement fire apparatus must be approved by the Shop FEM prior to the purchase.

Examples of purchases that are not authorized; purchasing meals in restaurants, purchasing fuel for personal vehicles, and any items not approved by a majority vote of the VFC members. There may be other excluded items because of County purchasing rules or deemed inappropriate use of public funds.

The County Finance Officer will send out an annual summary of funds earned and placed in each VFC's water tender account and the community cost share account. The annual summary will be sent out around January 1st of each year.

3.17 Inventory Control and Accountability

The VFC is responsible for maintaining two inventory systems. The first system identifies capitalized facilities/equipment (over \$2,500 in acquisition cost) and the second is vehicles.

Accountability includes the control and accountability of assets from date of issue, through recording on inventory listings, until release from accountability of assets.

Account for each item by property number, serial number, and description. A compliment of fixed assets items is established for each facility and vehicle.

Fixed assets assigned to a facility or vehicle must be within that facility or vehicle or have documentation of its location.

3.18 Accountability of Equipment

All VFC owned equipment will be identified by company name or number. The VFC is responsible for the security, maintenance, and annual inventory of all VFC owned and/or operated vehicles and equipment. A current equipment list which includes property serial numbers, equipment make, model and year shall be on file. Photographs are recommended.

Any lost, stolen or damaged equipment must be documented utilizing Form STD 152 and routed through the chain of command.

3.19 Disposal of Fixed Assets

Disposal of all items will be through the Service Center.

If an item cannot be accounted for, complete Form STD 152 “ Property Survey Report.”

If an item becomes unserviceable, complete Form STD 152 “ Property Survey Report.”

3.20 Acceptance of Gifts

The acceptance of gifts (not including cash donations) by a VFC for use in department functions is subject to established department policy, and donors should be advised that acceptance of any gift is subject to review.

Offers of gifts and donations must be in writing with a description of the gift, its cash value and any restrictions on its use clearly set forth. All such offers are to be submitted to the County Fire Chief for review and disposition. Gifts could be vehicles, items normally considered property and equipment, lands, buildings, etc.

3.21 Fiscal Requirements

The VFC Treasurer will handle all funds received or expended directly by a VFC, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, the VFC By-Laws, and these procedures. VFC’s may adopt more restrictive procedures by a majority vote of VFC members.

These procedures do not apply to funds directly expended by autonomous auxiliary or community associations, although there is a similar expectation of public trust. It does cover funds donated to a VFC for direct expenditure by the VFC.

1. Companies shall adopt an Annual Proposed Budget. The budget must be approved by a majority of company members. Adopted budgets and amendments will be provided to the Battalion Chief annually with a copy provided to the County Finance Officer.

The budget may be amended during the year by a majority vote of company members. A sample budget is shown as attachment 10.27, Annual Proposed Budget.

2. All money, checks, warrants, etc. received by the VFC will be promptly deposited in the VFC bank account. Under no circumstances will funds received by a company be placed in a personal bank account or be given directly to a vendor without going through the VFC bank account as an approved expenditure.
3. All checks written or account withdrawals on VFC bank accounts will require two signatures. One signature must always be the Treasurer. The second person must be designated by a majority vote of the company. In no case will the two signatures be of persons related to one another.
4. In addition to maintaining detailed records, an annual financial statement will be prepared by the Secretary/Treasurer. This statement will display actual income and expenditures for the year and will be signed by the Secretary/Treasurer. A copy will be provided to County Finance.
5. Budgets and annual statements for VFC's will be based on each VFC's calendar year.
6. VFC Captains will assure that these procedures are carried out in their VFC.
7. Violation of these procedures may be grounds for termination of VFF status.
8. VFC's are strongly encouraged to have a financial review annually and required to have a financial review every two years by a certified Public Accountant outside of the department.

3.22 Workers Compensation Roster

Due to Workers Compensation Insurance requirements, it is necessary that the department provide an accurate roster of all VFF's. Career Captains responsible for a VFC shall immediately notify the County Finance Officer of any changes to the current VFC membership.

3.23 Insurance and Liability

All VFF's on the active roster will be provided general liability and hold harmless protection by the County of Butte and insurance for property damage and public liability when conducting the business affairs of the VFC and/or when operating department or VFC vehicles in compliance with department policies and regulations.

Liability for damage suffered to VFC-owned apparatus or equipment assigned to emergency incidents rests with the VFC.

The VFC shall obtain and maintain automotive insurance coverage for VFC owned apparatus and enforce safe driving practices and policies at all times.

Privately owned vehicles being operated by Volunteers responding to emergencies are not covered by any department automotive insurance.

Volunteers are subject to all laws regarding the operation of motor vehicles in the State of California.

3.24 Volunteer Subpoena and Deposition

Any subpoena to be served upon a VFF requesting photographs, employee interviews or department reports made by persons outside the department for fire service related items must first be processed through the Fire Prevention Bureau.

3.25 Purchase or Donation of Emergency Equipment

Any purchase of emergency warning lights, siren, new or replacement fire or rescue equipment from VFC funds must be approved by the Career Captain through the Fleet Manager.

No donated fire/rescue equipment is to be placed in service until approved by the County Fire Chief or designee. All equipment must meet department standards.

3.26 Storage or Relocation of VFC Equipment

Placement or storage of VFC purchased or donated equipment in the fire station will be coordinated through the Career Captain. Station use and storage space needs require that approval and planning occur before such equipment is brought to the station. Once such equipment is placed or stored in its approved place (including on specific apparatus), no Career Employee or VFF shall relocate said equipment without consulting the appropriate VFC Captain.

In the event a VFC has difficulties during specific time frames covering certain apparatus that carries specialized rescue tools/equipment, the VFC at its option, may elect and is encouraged to allow certain tools/equipment to be temporarily loaned/placed on other covered apparatus at the station until the VFC responded apparatus can routinely be covered.

3.27 County Acceptance of Volunteer Equipment

Requests for donation or purchase of any volunteer equipment by the County must be submitted for approval, to the County Fire Chief, in writing through channels, with clear description of each item. All fixed assets require County Board approval.

3.28 Hepatitis B Vaccinations

All VFF's will be offered, at department expense, the Hepatitis-B Vaccination. This will consist of a series of 3 vaccinations over a specified time period.

If the VFF elects not to receive the vaccinations, they may respond to Emergency Medical Calls after completing the minimum training specified in this SOP manual and by submitting the Hepatitis-B Certification form, declining the vaccination.

The department highly encourages all personnel to receive this vaccination series.

3.29 Chaplain Program

The purpose of the departments Chaplain Program is to utilize qualified individuals to provide ministry support designed to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of department personnel and/or their families.

The Chaplain shall serve independently, non-denominationally and without compromise of personally held beliefs and convictions.

The Chaplain does not take the place of the family minister, nor does the Chaplain promote doctrinal distinctive to his or her particular church, except by specific request of the person (s) involved.

The roster of department Chaplain's shall be listed in the departments' Emergency Resource Directory (ERD).

3.30 Injury and Accident Reporting Procedures

The following lists procedures for reporting VFF injuries, vehicle accidents, damage to county property or the property of others, and incidents involving potential department liability. Contact the County Finance Officer for the most current accident reporting forms referenced by these procedures.

3.31 VFF Injuries

Supervisors (Career Captain/Battalion Chief) Responsibilities:

Report all injury or illness IMMEDIATELY to the ECC (or IC if at an incident) and report all off duty injuries to the Career Captain.

Follow current department accident reporting and documentation policy.

3.32 Vehicle Collision Reporting Procedures, Department Owned Vehicles

The following procedures will be used to report all vehicle collisions involving department vehicles and VFF vehicles, when used to conduct department business:

- All vehicle collisions regardless of damage or dollar amount will be reported to the ECC immediately. The ECC will promptly notify the covering Battalion Chief and Duty Chief immediately.
- Following the collision, the VFF will complete the current "Field Report of Accident/Damage". Be sure to obtain the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all parties in the collision.
- Submit the "Field Report of Accident/Damage" to the covering Battalion Chief, via the career station. This report should be submitted within 24 hours. The covering Battalion Chief will make the appropriate departmental notifications.
- Do not except liability or discuss the accident with anyone other than the investigating officer, your supervisor, authorized department officials or the county's insurance adjuster .

Career Captains Responsibilities

Within 24 hours of the accident, complete the Accident Investigation Report (Form S-1A) and submit it and the Field Report of Accident/Damage (Form S-1) to the department Head. Note: If the VFF is not capable of completing the Field Report of Accident/Damage (Form S-1) within 24 hours of the accident, then the VFF's supervisor should complete the report and send it to the County Finance Officer.

Other Property Damage

All other incidents resulting in damage of county property or the property of others should be reported to the County Finance Officer as soon as possible utilizing the Field Report of Accident/Damage (S-1) and Accident Investigation Report (Form S-1A).

3.33 Return to Duty Injuries/Illness

If injured or seriously ill (on or off duty), the VFF must notify the department as soon as possible of the injury occurrence. A VFF must have a written statement and a signed VFF stress statement from a qualified physician certifying fitness and health for return to duty.

The injured Volunteer Firefighter will provide to the Career Captain the written documentation. The VFF Stress Statements (attachment 10.30, 10.31 and 10.32) will be the basis for the physician to make his/her determination on the VFF meeting medical requirements and having the ability to resume emergency duties. For serious injuries or illness's Butte County Risk Management reserves the right to require additional clearances through an occupational health care provider. Serious injury or illness is defined as any injury or illness that prohibits a VFF's ability to perform the duties of a VFF. The County finance officer is responsible for keeping risk management informed of all serious injuries and illnesses.

The VFF must provide proper documentation and seek Career Captain and County finance officer approval prior to returning to duty from an injury/serious illness. The Career Captain will assure that all appropriate clearance has been granted. This will include an authorized return to duty clearance, approval from the County Finance Officer, and, if needed, approval from the Battalion Chief. There is no "limited/light" duty status for Volunteer Fire Fighters.

3.34 Public Event Liability Policy

When a VFC holds a public event or fundraiser on property not owned by Butte County and no food is served, a one day (or for the duration of the event) liability insurance policy is required to be purchased to cover the VFC, VFC board members, Butte County and the property owner from liability. The insurance policy shall be for a minimum of \$1,000,000.

When a VFC holds a public event or fundraiser on property owned by Butte County and no food is served, there is not a need to purchase an additional liability insurance policy.

When a VFC holds a public event or fundraiser where food is served to the public either on county property or on property not owned by Butte County, a one day (or for the duration of the event) liability insurance policy is required to be purchased to cover the VFC, VFC board members, Butte County and the property owner from liability. The insurance policy shall be for a minimum of \$1,000,000.

The Butte County Health Department (phone # 538-7581) also requires a permit for any event serving food to the public. The permit must be applied for at least four weeks prior to the events start date.

During events where the VFC prepares and sells food as part of its fundraising event, the VFC shall have at least one individual involved with overseeing the preparation, handling or service of food obtain a California Food Handlers Certification Card; see the following web link.

http://www.buttecounty.net/Portals/21/Env_Health/Food/HandlerCertification.pdf

If a commercial kitchen or licensed food vendor is providing food on behalf of the VFC at its fundraising event no additional certification is are not required.

Public events include car washes, serving meals to the public, festivals, fairs etc. All VFC's planning an event must notify their Career Captain of the event. The Career Captain will notify the Battalion Chief who in turn will notify the Division Chief and County Fire Chief.

3.35 Duty Statements

Duty statements have been developed for the below VFF ranks and are located in chapter 10, attachments.

- Support Responder, attachment 10.37
- EMS Responder, attachment 10.38
- Full Responder, attachment 10.39
- Operator, attachment 10.40
- Engineer, attachment 10.41
- Lieutenant, attachment 10.42
- Captain, attachment 10.43
- Volunteer Liaison Officer, attachment 10.44

3.36 Social Media

To be written