



Fire Department



Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department

50 Member Volunteers

- ☐ Respond to fire, rescue or EMS needs
- ☐ Leadership includes President, Vice President and Board of Directors
- ☐ Volunteer positions include firefighter, associate, EMS, cadets and administrative

15 Full-Time Employees (Plus Part-Time)

- ☐ Supplement volunteer response
- ☐ 1 full-time career EMS Captain
- ☐ 12 full-time firefighter/paramedics
- ☐ 1 full-time firefighter/EMT-B
- ☐ 1 full-time administrative assistant

Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department



**2,060 calls for service
in 2019**

☐ **1,762 EMS calls**

☐ **298 fire calls**

Facilities

South Station | 911 Ocean Parkway

- ☐ Main facility
- ☐ Serves south end of Ocean Pines
- ☐ Houses administrative offices



North Station | 249 Ocean Parkway

- ☐ Secondary facility
- ☐ Services north end of Ocean Pines



Equipment

- ☐ 2 Class A pumpers
- ☐ Heavy Rescue engine
- ☐ 104ft tower ladder
- ☐ Rescue boat
- ☐ Special Operations unit
- ☐ Utility vehicle
- ☐ 3 command vehicles
- ☐ 3 state-of-the-art ALS (advanced life support)-equipped ambulances



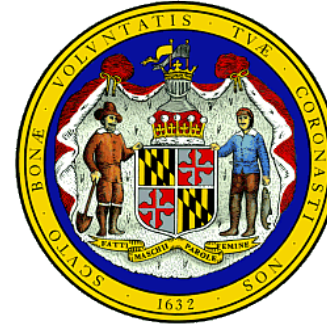
Funding Sources



**Ocean Pines
Association**



**Worcester
County**



**State of
Maryland**



**Donations /
Fundraisers**

Partnerships & Programs

- ❑ OPVFD receives and provides **mutual aid** to all surrounding communities
- ❑ **Fall open house** promotes fire safety and community awareness
- ❑ **Reflective sign program** allows first responders to easily identify Ocean Pines homes (information online at opvfd.com and at South Station)



Fire Department

Volunteer

Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department member roles:

- ☐ Firefighter
- ☐ Emergency Medical Technician
- ☐ Fire Police
- ☐ Administrative
- ☐ Cadet

*Equipment
& training
provided!*

To become a member:

- ☐ Download application at opvfd.com and return, completed, to the South Station
- ☐ Interview with the membership committee
- ☐ Must possess **valid Maryland license** or Identification card. Firefighters must pass **criminal background check**.

Meet OPVFD Firefighter/Paramedic Glenn Shockley

Age: 36

Years of Experience: 15 w/OPVFD (19 Total)



Tell us about yourself:

I grew up in Snow Hill, MD. The only other member in my family that was in the fire service was my grandfather as a member of Snow Hill for 40+ years. I knew since the time I was 12 that I wanted to be a paramedic. With that said, I never thought I was smart enough to become one. My passion drove me to become an EMT in 2005. I was surprised that I breezed through the class and I learned I had a knack for medical stuff. I am married (2008) w/ 2 kids (10 & 2). I love the outdoors; bow hunting is a major passion of mine. Outside of work and family, I spend my time setting corn, checking trail cams, hunting, doing carpentry, and I enjoy building things.

Why should a resident of Ocean Pines join the OPVFD?

With everything in life, people often don't think they have the time to achieve and maintain what is required to be a volunteer. With that said, we are a combination department and we always will be. Career staff is heavily reliant on volunteers and the volunteers can rely on the career staff to assist them through their initial and annual training. From Chief to cadet and in between, we are all one big team. In the end, we all have one goal and that is to serve the public and to serve it at the highest standard and level of training.

What made you join the OPVFD and did you have any prior experience?

I was initially hired as an EMT/Driver and eventually transitioned to a full-time paramedic in 2009 after graduating Paramedic School at Chesapeake College. I am the 2nd longest tenured employee of the OPVFD. I wanted to pursue a career as a paramedic and saw this as a natural next step and opportunity to learn more. Prior to joining the OPVFD, I joined the Snow Hill VFD at 18 and earned my Firefighter 1 and EMT Certifications while a member of the SHVFD on my quest to be a paramedic.

How do you manage the stress of this career and not let it impact your personal life?

If you have a good group of people working with you, it is easy to manage the high stress calls and situations. We have good people that anyone can talk to and vent/express what you feel. In my career, I have seen a lot of bad things but have also learned how to leave things at the firehouse.

What has been a moment that gives you the greatest satisfaction since becoming a firefighter?

About two years after I became a paramedic, we were dispatched for a second call and I was the sole provider on the scene for a patient suffering from a cardiac incident. When I arrived, the patient was unconscious and unresponsive. I was able to perform a synchronized cardioversion on the patient and by the time others arrived and we put the patient in the back of the medic unit en route to the hospital, the patient was alert and talking. The very next week I was able to meet with the patient again at their house and share a cup of coffee. This was a prime example of being at the right place at the right time with the right skills set and everything worked just as it should. It showed me that all the knowledge and training that I was taught paid off in a moment of high stress and intensity. Everything worked out with a positive outcome.

What was your biggest fear or concern in becoming a Paramedic?

My biggest fear was wondering if I was competent and smart enough to be able to get through the classes and passing all of the tests. As I began my classes, I quickly learned that my desire and determination would help everything become effortless.

www.OPVFD.com



Meet OPVFD Firefighter Jasmine Mentzer

Age: 20

Years of Experience: 1



Tell us about yourself:

911 dispatcher, an avid lover of animals and outdoor enthusiast.

What made you join the OPVFD and did you have any prior experience?

I wanted to help others and give back to my community so I thought it would be something that I would enjoy being a part of.

How do you manage your schedule between personal life and work and volunteering?

As well as someone who works a 42 hour a week minimum does. I go to work, come home, sleep, and do it all over again. On my days off, I'm catching up on sleep, responding to fire calls, and taking time for myself.

What has been a moment that gives you the greatest satisfaction since becoming a firefighter?

Completing the Firefighter 1 course was definitely my most satisfying moment so far. The class was a fast paced, rigorous class. It tests your strength, agility, mind, and fears all in one while giving an insane sense of gratification once completed.

What are some key things that you've learned as a firefighter that have helped other areas of your life?

Always expect the unexpected and be ready to change plans in an instant. It's kind of cliché but you really don't understand the importance of being ready for anything and everything until you see all types of emergencies happening at all times of day. You never know what is going to happen next while on scene and staying vigilant even while off scene can help prevent emergencies happening in the future.

What was your biggest fear or concern in joining?

Falling. My weakness is my strength and I'm working on getting stronger but I struggle with some of the heavy lifting and my biggest fear was not being strong enough to effectively contribute as a member.

Why should a resident of Ocean Pines join the OPVFD?

Being a member of OPVFD isn't just about fighting fires, in fact most of our calls that we run are not fires. You learn a lot about yourself as an individual and a teammate while being a part of a fire department. You develop a second family. You get to serve your community and find yourself all in one. Also, who doesn't like riding in a fire truck?

www.OPVFD.com



Contact

Emergencies Only

911

Non-Emergencies / Administration

410-641-8272

Online

www.opvfd.com



The Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department strives to achieve and maintain the highest level of professionalism and efficiency in providing fire suppression, emergency medical services, technical rescue, hazardous materials mitigation, fire prevention, public education and emergency preparedness for the Ocean Pines community.

- Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department
Mission Statement