



Clallam County Fire District 3

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Clallam County Fire District #3 Grateful for Community and Fire Service Support Following Line-Of-Duty Death

(SEQUIM, Wash.) – Following Saturday’s procession and memorial service honoring the district’s fallen firefighter, Captain Charles “Chad” Cate, the Clallam County Fire District #3 (CCFD3) fire chief is expressing his appreciation for the support of the community and of fellow first responders from across the state. Captain Cate passed away while on duty on January 12.

“Captain Cate was an especially well-loved member of this agency, this community and – most importantly – his family so his loss has been deeply felt by many,” says CCFD3 Fire Chief Ben Andrews. “The outpouring of support has been a true comfort to us all.” Crowds lined the route of the procession on Saturday that was led by an antique fire engine carrying fallen firefighter Captain Chad Cate, and included as many as 80 other emergency vehicles. Law enforcement agencies contributed escorts, traffic control and drone coverage. An estimated 1,000 people attended the memorial service that followed at the Sequim High School gymnasium. Firefighters from around the region covered CCFD3’s stations during the procession and service, ensuring that Captain Cate’s closest colleagues could participate in all of the events. CCFD3’s Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers came out in force to support the efforts. Multiple local businesses donated products and services.

The goals of any fallen firefighter service are to honor the family, honor the department and honor the community. CCFD3 members worked with the Washington State Local Assistance State Team (LAST), a program of the non-profit National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, and an incident management team (IMT) composed of members from fire departments and local governments across the state. Most of the participants volunteered their time as they helped CCFD3 to attain those goals. Washington State LAST provided expert guidance with planning the events and brought resources such as honor guards, pipes and drums and more while the IMT coordinated and oversaw the events’ complex logistics.

A recording of the service is still available to view through a link on the CCFD3 homepage (www.ccf3.org). Also on the homepage is a link to the fund that has been established to benefit Captain Cate’s family. The fund has already raised about \$4,600. The memorial’s guest book pages still have space for additional sentiments, and anyone interested in adding their thoughts to the book can stop by CCFD3’s administrative offices (363 Carlsborg Road, Unit C, Carlsborg, WA 98324) during business hours.

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