

# First Coast TIM Meeting Tuesday, March 17, 2009

## Meeting Minutes

The list of meeting attendees and the Meeting Agenda are attached to these meeting minutes.

- Donna Danson began the meeting by welcoming everyone and asking that they fill in all of the information on the sign in sheet. The contact database will be updated and the information on the sign in sheet will assist with this effort.
- Next, Donna stated the purpose of the meeting. This meeting is meant to get all of the TIM Team Members together, improve communications, go over recent incidents and try to find ways to improve.
- Donna then asked if anyone had any objections to the minutes that were handed out for the previous meeting. No objections were made.
- Next on the Agenda was the Construction Update.
  1. Mike Goldman stated that there is a detour at Brannan Field Chafee with a target completion date of 04/06/09. Detours on the Hart Bridge are going smoothly, there will be exceptions for the detour during major events. JSO stated that they have no objections to the size of the detour signs.
- The Emergency Operations Center update was next on the agenda. Ed Ward provided an update on Emergency Operations
  1. No state employees will be attending the hurricane conference due to budget cuts. If there is information available then it will be provided after the conference.
- Donna provided a spreadsheet of the incidents since the last TIM meeting. Ed Ward tracks the incidents and maintains the spreadsheet. This spreadsheet has been attached for reference.
  1. Captain Gaston asked to have mentioned the incident at I-295 and I-95 Northern Interchange on January 27th, Mike Goldman stated that there were a few complaints about the signage in the Construction Area. The incident occurred in the morning hours a semi hit the barrier wall in attempts from avoiding another vehicle, the speed was decided to be a major factor. Also, the area had been re-stripped and the old striping could still be seen. The clean up with the barrier wall hit was very extensive.
  2. I-4 (Volusia County)- Kenton brought up this accident even though it was not in the area, because he wanted to bring up some issues with that incident. He said that 8,000 gallons of fuel was lost, the major issues with this were coordination between agencies and the "clean up" contractor. RISC could have been better equipped to handle this type of incident.
  3. I-295 shutdown last Sunday - Life flight was called and Clay County responded to incident. Pete Vega stated that Carrie should have been called on the incident.
  4. Pete will provide an update on the latest version of SunGuide during the next meeting. The next version of SunGuide will show the FHP CAD.
  5. St. Augustine had a sinkhole on A1A at South 16<sup>th</sup> Street that closed down the road. St. Johns County got the sinkhole fixed and the road open that night.

6. A representative from Jorgensen Contractors stated that he needed to be notified if a guardrail is hit in order to receive insurance payments to help pay for the damage. If they have no CCR number then they have to write off the amount. It was brought up that another Maintenance Contractor, VMS, have stickers that FHP has that they write the case # on the Sticker and then stick it to the damaged guardrail.
  7. Major trucking is expected on 9a (Dames Point Bridge) once the new carrier begins operation at the port and the economy starts to turn around.
  8. Pete wanted everyone to keep in mind that Wildfire season is here. Law Enforcement is asked to provide as much information as possible to the TMC so that 511 could be updated.
- Donna then asked Greg Gaylord for a Road Ranger update
    1. Efforts are focused on I-95 from Pecan Park Rd. and St. Augustine Rd.
    2. Greg brought up an incident where the Road Rangers had put the vehicle in a Construction area and the Construction personnel were trying to document the incident and the vehicle in the construction zone. The actions by the construction personnel were causing more traffic issues and the Road Ranger tried to get them to get the situation under control. Although there were some initial issues, it seemed to work out in the end.
  - Donna asked if there were any agencies not listed on the agenda that may have anything to contribute
    1. Mo Braren, JFRD, stated that they have I-95 cameras not I-10 cameras, the IP addresses needs to be given to Matt to get the other cameras. Jason and Matt need to get together to get this going.
    2. The safety training videos are being worked on and production is underway.
  - Next, Donna asked Pete Vega to provide ITS and 511 updates
    1. FDOT interviewed 3 firms for the Design of ITS on the NE Section of 9A and selection will be done today on March 17, 2009. The Design for the NE quadrant of I-295 will begin in a few months. The SE quadrant will be done in a few years.
    2. Travel times have been put on I-295 DMS and are still being worked on.
    3. The first week in April there is a Buckle Up Campaign that will be on the DMS
    4. Logic Tree will be updated and there is a targeted availability sometime next month.
    5. Sometime early next year there will be a design build project for Phillips Hwy for cameras and signs.
    6. Pete also reviewed the Duval, Clay and Nassau County Projects.
    7. There is some name confusion about what the names of roads are as they are shown on FHP CAD; FHP stated that they use SR for 9A and I-295, because the I-295 corridor is all SR 9A. Mike Goldman said that as for what he had heard that this is still being fine tuned. Pete asked everyone to think about it and it would be discussed in the next meeting.
  - Next on the agenda, were the Announcements.
    1. We have received a compliment where a gentleman was missing and there was a Silver Alert issued. A motorist saw the Silver Alert on one of the local DMS and the gentleman was found safely.
    2. Please provide any comments that you have on the existing Diversion Route Maps.
    3. There will be a statewide TIM Team conference and Donna will get that information out to all of our Team Members.

- Next Donna asked John Bracey from JFRD to share information on a presentation he gave on Haz Mat Emergencies. JFRD has recently been given a Grant for Training.
  1. A story was passed out with the history of the Haz-Mat team.
  2. A simulation was done with a fuel tanker spill during the previous presentation.
- Donna asked if anyone had anything else
- There were no further questions and the Meeting was adjourned.

FIRST COAST TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM

March 17, 2009

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	JOB TITLE	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
8 BEN BRIGHT	FDOT	3600 DOT RD St. Aug., FL 32084	Field Ops Manager	904-825-5062	ben.bright@dot.state.fl.us
9 ED WARD	FDOT	1109 S. MARIAN AVE LAKE CITY 32025	EMERGENCY COORD. OFFICER	386 961-7581	ED.WARD@DOT.STATE.FL.US
10 JEFF GAY	DBI Services	14976 Duval Place Jacksonville, FL 32218	Emergency Response Coordination	904-729-4410	jgay@DBISERVICES.COM
11 Charles Perneck	Sorgensen Contractor	530 Ellis Rd Suite 105 Jax, Fla 32254	Supt.	904-781-7270	Charles Perneck 1601 Sorjensen.com
12 Sabina Volle	Sorgensen Contract Services	530 Ellis Rd. Suite 105 Jax, FL 32254	Project Manager	904-778-2828	gdm-volle@ sorgensen.com
13 Virginia Frederick	ISO 911-Coordinator Office	501 E. Bay #216 Jax, FL 32202	<del>Project Manager</del> ECOTE	630-7611	Ruth, Frederic@ JaxSheriff.org
14 Rodney Ford	T-10 9-11 Coordinator	501 E. Bay St #216 Jax, FL 32202		630-7611	Rodney Ford@jaxsheriff.org

FIRST COAST TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM

March 17, 2009

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	JOB TITLE	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
8 Michelle Sanders	DOT	839 Ellis Rd	field ops mng	360-520	michelle.sanders@dot.state.ga.us
9 Angela Jones	Walt's Wrecker	503 N Ellis Rd	Head of Dispatch	389 6644	waltswrecker@vzw.net
10 D.E. Parsons	JSO	501 E. BAY ST	JSO MORRISON	219-9524	DOUGLAS.PARSONS@JASHERIFF.ORG
11 P.E. GRANT	JSO	501 E. BAY ST	POLICE SERGEANT	690-4335	Patricia.Grant@JasSheriff.org
12 JAY FARHAT	JSO	501 E. BAY ST.	POLICE SERGEANT	573-3155	Edward.Farhat@jassheriff.org
13 MORRISON BRADEN	J.S.R.S	515 JULIA ST	SENIOR PLANNER	630-2474	mbraden@coj.net
14 John Bracey	JFRD				
Greg Cavola	Tom Angus's	6231 W BRANCH	REPRESENTATIVE	378 8000	greg@bradent.com

FIRST COAST TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM

March 17, 2009

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	JOB TITLE	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
8	Derrick Adam SRS/TMC	2198 Edison Jax FL	TMC Supervisor	360-3465	Derrick.Adam@dot.state.fl
9	Peter Vega				
10	Richard [unclear]	2747 Goldish [unclear]	[unclear]	239-010	[unclear]
11	RAKESH SHARMA HNTB	2077 Bausmial	Transp. Eng	596-7992	[unclear]
12					
13					
14					

FIRST COAST TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM

March 17, 2009

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	JOB TITLE	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
1 Donna Danson	FDOT	2198 Edison Ave Jax, FL 32204	D2 ITS Operations Project Mgr	904-360-5635	donna.danson@dot.state.fl.us
2 Chris Ledew	FDOT	11	Assistant Dist. Traffic Ops. Mgr.	360-5633	Chris.Ledew@dot.state.fl.us
3 Phil Donlon Lt	St Johns Co. SIO	7015 Lewis Spiveena St Ave Fl. 32084	Lt / Comm. Services Traffic Ops. Mgr. IWR Command	904-821-5304	donlon@sjco.org
4 Mike Goldman	FDOT	2158 Edison	PIO	360-5457	michael.goldman@dot.state.fl.us
5 Rick Kelley	FHP	Normandy Blvd	Capt.	695-4105	Rick.Kelley@flhsmv.gov
6 Gene Spaulding	FHP	Normandy Blvd	Capt.	695-4115	genespauldin@flhsmv.gov
7 Dave Facko	DOT	2158 Edison Ave	Captain	360-5406	Dave.Facko@dot.state.fl.us

1. JTB/SR-9A INTERCHANGE. (FPN 209278-1)  
Superior Construction Co, \$88 mil, 4 years construction.  
Construction commenced July 2005. Project is 99% complete (\$) with 83% time utilized. The project is scheduled for completion fall 2009. JTB W. to 9A S. ramp opened July 28, 2008. 9A N. to JTB W. ramp opened Aug. 4, 2008. 9A S. to JTB E. ramp opened Oct.17, 2008. JTB E. ramp to 9A N. opened Dec. 24, 2008.
2. JTB (SR-202) LANE ADDITION. (FPN 209733-4) Kernan to San Pablo.  
J.B. Coxwell at \$28 mil. Construction commenced July 9, 2007. Projected completion winter 2009. Project is 80% complete with 66% time utilized.
3. I-10/I-95 INTERCHANGE. (FPN 213243-1)  
The Big I, Archer-Western, \$151.9 million, 6 years construction, 2005 thru early 2011. EPA Superfund ash site. Project is 77% complete with 67% time utilized. Oct.2007 traffic shift, I-95 North to temp. ramp and new bridges. Apr. 12, 2008, I-10 to I-95 North traffic shift to temp. ramp. I-95 N. to I-10 W. ramp opened Aug. 16, 2008. I-95 South traffic shift Dec. 20, 2008.
4. I-295/I-95/SR-9A NORTH ENHANCEMENTS. (FPN 213323-4)  
Superior, \$45.7 mil. Project is 61% complete with 50% time utilized. Completion projected summer 2010.
5. I-10 INTERCHANGE AT BRANAN FIELD/CHAFEE. (FPN 209659-5)  
Superior. The \$61.2 mil. project commenced Jan. 2007. Project is on schedule, 96% complete with 77% time utilized. Completion projected for fall 2009.
6. US-17 DR. INLET BRIDGE. (FPN 208207-1)  
Archer-Western, \$31.9 mil. Project commenced Nov 12, 2007.  
Projected completion winter 2010. Project is 61% complete with 45% time utilized.
7. PAINTING DAMES POINT BRIDGE. (FPN 209722-4)  
ABHE AND SVOBODA, \$13 MIL. Project started Feb 21, 2007 with completion fall 2009. Painting commenced May 28. Project is 75% complete with 73% time utilized. SA for vibration monitoring increase \$1.905 mil. and 192 days.
8. SR 10, BEAVER STREET TRAFFIC SIGNALS. ( FPN 209265-6)  
Hinson at \$350k. Project commenced Feb. 2009 with a spring 2009 completion. Project is 23% complete with 13% time utilized.
9. SR-211 ST. JOHNS AVE. RESURFACING. San Juan to Edison. (FPN 208628-2/  
209342-5) Gibbs & Register at \$2.5 mil. Project start Aug. 26. Completion projected summer 2009. Project is 49% complete with 64% time utilized.

10. SR-21 RESURFACING/TRAFFIC SIGNALS. Spencer to c/l. (FPN 208230-1). Hubbard. The \$4.43 mil. project commenced January 2009. Projected completion winter 2009. Project is 2% complete with 9% time utilized.
11. SISTERS CREEK FENDERS (SR-105). (FPN 209607-3) Coastal Marine Construction. The 3.6 mil. project commenced April 14 with completion projected for summer 2009. Project is 78% complete with 92% time utilized. Jan. 12, 2009 start piling underneath bridge with 20 min. closures.
12. HART BRIDGE PAINTING. (FPN 209720-3) M&J Painting. The \$26.3 mil. project will commence February 9, 2009. Projected completion early 2011. Project is 1% complete with 1% time utilized.
13. I-10 LANE ADDITION. (FPN 213272-4) Hubbard. The \$57.8 mil. project commenced January 10, 2009. Projected completion winter 2012. Project is 7% complete with 3% time utilized.
14. SR-9A/HECKSCHER INTERCHANGE. (FPN 209168-6) Archer-Western. The \$12.68 mil Port Authority project commenced 4/22/2008 with a summer 2009 projected completion. FDOT participation limited to \$9,853,197. Project is 45% complete with 94% time utilized.
15. RESURFACING SR-21. Collins Rd. to 103<sup>rd</sup>. St. (FPN 209698-2) Hubbard. The \$4.6 mil project commenced June 15, 2008. Projected completion early 2009. Project is 87% complete with 93% time utilized.
16. SR-A1A RESURFACING/SIGNALS. St. Johns line to 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. (FPN 208981-2 and 209361-2,3, and 4). Callaway at \$7.67 mil. Project start January 5, 2009, with a winter 2009 completion. Open House held December 17. City project low bidder at \$2.45 mil. Project is 12% complete with 18% time utilized.
17. SR-A1A TRAFFIC SIGNALS. (7<sup>th</sup> St. to NS Mayport) (FPN 208828-3) Hinson at \$1.9 mil. Work commenced January 2009 with late summer 2009 completion. Project is 23% complete with 13% time utilized.
18. SR-21 REPLACE BLACK CREEK BRIDGES. (FPN 208233-2) Leware at \$6.16 mil. Accelerated award. Work commenced January 19, 2009. Projected completion spring 2010. Project is 7% complete with 7% time utilized.
19. SR-15, New Kings Rd. Intersection at Edgewood Ave. (FPN 209642-4) Semper Fi. The \$721k project will commence Mar. 2009. Completion fall 2009.

- Feb. 2009. A1A Resurfacing. SR-101 to Broad St. FPN 208512-2. Est. \$4.38 mil.  
Apparent low bidder: Duval Asphalt @ \$2,531,845.02
- SR 105 Shad Creek Bridge Replacement. FPN 209253-2. Est. \$8.78 mil.  
Apparent low bidder: Superior Construction @ \$4,234,653.51
- US-17 Resurfacing. I-95 to Georgia line. FPN 210673-2. Est. \$1.47 mil.  
Apparent low bidder: Duval Asphalt @ \$536,873.71
- SR-13 Mast Arm repairs. FPN 410216-1.  
Apparent low bidder: United Pest Control @ \$259,800.76.
- Mar. 2009. I-95 Traveler Advisory Sys. St. John's County line to I-295. FPN 213274-5.  
Est. \$3.46 mil.
- SR-224 Kingsley Ave. Traffic Signals. Dr.Lake Drive and Debarry Ave.  
FPN 208236-3. Est. \$650k.
- I-10 Rigid Pavement Repair. Lane to Stockton. FPN 213113-2.  
Est. \$24.9 mil.
- US-17 Resurfacing. CR-220 to Creighton. FPN 208207-3. Est. \$4.5 mil.
- Apr. 2009 A1A Resurfacing/Traffic Signals (7). Mayport Rd. to 9<sup>th</sup>.Ave.  
FPN 403350-3 and -4. Est. \$5.78 mil.
- May. 2009. SR-10 Atlantic Blvd. Resurfacing/Traffic Signal (1). Kings to University.  
FPN 209531-2 & 209574-6. Est. \$7.4 mil.
- CR-209 Black Creek Bridge Replacement. FPN 211560-2. Est. \$19.9 mil.
- Jun. 2009. SR-111, Edgewood Ave. Traffic Signals. FPN 209451-4. Est. \$2.13 mil.
- SR-21 Blanding Blvd. Lane Addition, Old Jennings to Knight Boxx.  
FPN 208211-2. Est. \$14.42 mil.
- SR-23 Safety project. Old Jennings to Kindlewood. FPN 208224-4.  
Est. \$2.9 mil.

1. BEACH BLVD / ICWW BRIDGE / San Pablo to Penman Rd.  
CEI: RS&H /CS. Superior Construction Co, \$64.7 mil.  
Construction commenced June 2006. Project is 77% complete (\$) with 83% allowable time utilized. Permit obtained, underwater demolition complete. East-bound sub-structure 85% complete. The project is scheduled for completion fall 2009.
2. BEACH AND KERNAN INTERCHANGE  
CEI: RS&H /CS. Design-Build, Superior Construction Co, \$32.4 mil. Construction commenced March 2007. Project is 95% complete (\$) with 89% allowable time utilized. Bridge scheduled to be open to traffic 3<sup>rd</sup> week in March. Project is scheduled for completion early 2009.
3. AIRPORT CENTER DRIVE EAST / US-17 (Main St.) to New Berlin Rd  
CEI: ETM. / J B Coxwell Co / Florida Roads Contracting, \$12.6 mil.  
Construction commenced November 2007. Project is 86% complete (\$) with 68% allowable time utilized. Paving underway. Project is scheduled for completion fall 2009.
4. SOUTEL DRIVE / Old Kings Rd to US-1 (New Kings)  
CEI: ETM. / Hubbard Co, \$21.7 mil. Construction commenced December 2006. Project is 99% complete (\$) with 89% allowable time utilized. Structure coarse complete. The project is scheduled for completion summer 2009.
5. MCDUFF AVE. / Roosevelt Blvd to US-90 (Beaver St)  
CEI: ETM. / Callaway Co, \$11.7 mil. Construction commenced December 2006. Project is 62% complete (\$) with 74% allowable time utilized. Paving near Beaver St. Underway.  
The project is scheduled for completion fall 2009.
6. WONDERWOOD SEGMENT III / Wompi Dr to Monument Rd  
CEI: RS&H, Superior Construction Co, \$39 mil.  
Construction commenced July 2006. Project is 99% complete (\$) with 100% allowable time utilized. Contractor is working on punch-list items.
7. HECKSHER DRIVE PHASE 2 Drummond Point to August Dr  
CEI: RS&H, Hal Jones/Coxwell, \$51.8 mil, estimated 920 days construction. NTP Sep 02, 2008. Project is 15% complete (\$) with 14% allowable time utilized. Sub structure work for both bridges underway. Projected completion early 2011.
8. ATLANTIC AND KERNAN INTERCHANGE  
CEI: ECR, Hubbard Const., \$31.9 mil, estimated 750 days construction. Clearing and grubbing to facilitate utility relocations currently underway. Issue NTP on March 02, 2009. Project is 0% complete (\$) with 0% allowable time utilized. Projected completion spring 2011.

#### JTA PROJECTED PROJECTS

I-95 / J. TURNER BUTLER BLVD RAMPS, Mar 2009  
Superior/C. Wicker, Design-Build, \$13.3 mil, 18 months construction.  
Projected completion by Fall 2011.



## FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL PRESS RELEASE

February 25, 2008

Contact: Lieutenant Bill Leeper  
Florida Highway Patrol  
(904) 695-4104

For Immediate Release:

### FHP Locates Silver Alert Subject

A Silver Alert was issued on an elderly male subject (Weldon Geiger, 77) who was missing from Lake County. The individual, who has Alzheimer's, was last seen on February 24, 2008, at approximately 10:30 a.m. in a silver 1998 Lincoln Town car and was possibly heading to Ohio.

A truck driver from Tampa spotted the individual after he observed the vehicle information on the interstate's variable message sign. The truck driver called \*FHP on his cell phone and directed troopers to the vehicle, which was traveling southbound on I-95 in St. Johns County.

Trooper Tom Colalillo and Sergeant David Dupont stopped the vehicle and found a confused individual who did not know where he was or where he was going. Receipts found in his vehicle indicated that he spent last night in a motel in East Palatka. The troopers called his wife in Altoona, Florida to come pick him up and as they waited for her to arrive, he was taken to a nearby restaurant to get something to eat.

On October 9, 2008, Governor Charlie Crist signed Executive Order 08-211 enacting Florida's 'Silver Alert.' The statewide Silver Alert is a plan to aid local law enforcement in the rescue or recovery of a missing elderly person who suffers from irreversible deterioration of intellectual faculties. The Plan recognizes that the most effective response to a missing senior citizen leverages community resources for the search to augment the investigative response by the local law enforcement agency. The Plan further acknowledges Silver Alerts should be activated through the investigating local law enforcement agency which is in the best position to notify the media and disseminate the information through avenues such as neighborhood telephone alerts and other technologies the agency may have to communicate with its citizens.

# U.S. Department of Transportation's Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Announcement

Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department's  
Regional Training Academy  
November 10, 2008

## Today's Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Jacksonville Fire & Rescue's Director Dan Kleman

U.S. Department of Transportation's Carl Johnson

Congresswoman Corrine Brown

Hazardous Materials Demonstration



## Attendees and Participants

Jacksonville City Council Members

JFRD Administration

JFRD Training Academy Staff

IAFF Local 122 Representatives

JFRD's Hazardous Materials Team

Florida D.O.T.'s Motor Carrier Compliance Office

Florida D.O.T.'s Road Rangers

Florida Highway Patrol

Department of Environmental Protection

TraumaOne Shands Jacksonville



## Stepping into the Unknown... and into History

If you responded to the Steuart Petroleum fire in 1993, or if you remember the details, then you have an appreciation for the magnitude and value of JFRD's Hazardous Materials team.

Steuart made headlines for days and demanded the largest concentrated response in the department's recent history. Capt. **Ron Gore** had retired by then, but the "Father of HazMat," remembers other headlines, like the ones that inspired Fire Chief Russell Yarborough to launch the special team three decades ago – a moment that will be celebrated next month. (See *HazMat's 30th Anniversary Celebration, page 8.*)

"Chief Yarborough would read all these newspapers to learn about incidents around the country," said Gore, who retired in 1989. "He saw the need ahead of time, reading about the tanker truck accidents, LP gas companies and chlorine leaks. He gets all the credit for starting the HazMat team."

Members of the original team give Gore plenty of credit, too. After all, Yarborough selected Gore to lead firefighters like **Phil Eddins, Neil McCormack, Brett Pickett** and many others into a new page of JFRD and U.S. fire service history.

"We were stepping into the unknown," said Eddins, who retired last year as a Battalion Chief.

JFRD is credited with launching the first HazMat response team in the country, according to Gore, numerous firefighters and *Firehouse Magazine*. They were truly do-it-yourselfers in the beginning. Much of the early days involved pre-planning by assessing the city's industrial sites to determine what kinds



**Capt. Kurtis Wilson (left) trains with Engineers Matt Kennedy of Station 7 and Raphael Hernandez of Station 11 on a HazMat simulation.**



**Suppressing the Steuart Petroleum fire is one of JFRD's and the Hazardous Materials Team's greatest accomplishments.**

and quantities of hazardous chemicals were present, how they were stored, and other risks around town. Then there was the equipment, or lack of it.

"All the tools we needed weren't around back then . . . We'd come up with an idea of what we think would work and Dad would make it," said Brett Pickett, whose father, a machinist, would craft special wrenches, clamps and other non-sparking devices for use in the field. That went on for about five years until the right tools became available commercially.

Expertise came from inside and outside the team. Eddins and Gore traveled the country to attend training on chemicals, fertilizers and radiology provided by universities and manufacturers as well as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). But many members of the team had second jobs that helped HazMat's cause.

"I worked for the railroad so I knew some of the hazards to look for. Other guys worked for the gas company or shipyard," said McCormack, a JFRD retiree and original member of HazMat. As the team became known, other fire departments sought out Jacksonville to learn techniques.

"It was all trial and error in the beginning, but what we were doing became established practices," said Capt. Stephen Boudreau, an original team member now at Engine 25. "We had people from other countries come ride with us."

While HazMat's major moments and headlines include large-scale fires like Steuart, Gore's defining moment for his team was responding to an overturned diesel tanker on Interstate 10 at McDuff Avenue in the late 1970s. The team contained the spill and contractors cleaned the site in record time, according to Gore, who now runs a hazardous materials safety training company. "We did in two or three hours what would've taken a day and a half before HazMat started," Gore said. "We strived to handle incidents in a timely fashion, and that's when I knew the team was really coming together and all the pre-planning was working. Those were exciting times, and the team was one of the greatest experiences of my life."

