

These individuals standing before you today joined this class with one goal in mind – to become Washington State firefighters. As a team, they have achieved that goal. Having succeeded, they are found worthy to carry on the proud tradition of the Washington State Fire Service – giving service back to communities in Washington State.

These new firefighters have completed twelve weeks of rigid and demanding classroom, practical, and physical training at the Washington State Fire Training Academy. Their newly learned skills and abilities will assist them in fulfilling the mission of the fire service – saving lives and property. They leave here prepared to serve their communities with confidence as highly trained firefighters.

The Fire Training Academy is very proud of these individuals who have worked so hard and dedicated themselves to become Washington State firefighters. Their success could not have been achieved without the support, encouragement, and sacrifice of their families and loved ones.

Chief John R. Batiste

Washington State Patrol



# Washington State Patrol Fire Training Academy



## GRADUATION CLASS 2023-02

Thursday, 27 July 2023

The Club at Snoqualmie Ridge

Snoqualmie, WA



**Master of Ceremonies:** Commander Kelly Merz

**National Anthem:** Asst. Commander Katie Rasmussen

**Introductions:** Commander Kelly Merz

**Invocation:** Ret. Chaplain Martin Redmond

**Award Presentations**  
 Most Improved  
 Most Inspirational  
 Ultimate Bulldog  
 First Due Engine Company  
 First Due Truck Company  
 Valedictorian

**Presentation of Diplomas:** DSFM Brian Smith

**Guest Speaker** State Fire Marshal Chad Cross

**Benediction** Ret. Chaplain Martin Redmond

**Recruit Presentations** Michael Knapp & Ridge Pellow

**Dismissal:** DSFM Brian Smith

**Washington State Fire Training Academy**

**Company Officer:**

South Whidbey Fire & Rescue  
 Firefighter/EMT Brian Boyd

**Washington State Fire Training Academy**

**Recruits:**

Anacortes Fire Department  
 Justin Boyle \*

Mount Vernon Fire Department  
 Eric Brooks

Central Mason Fire & EMS  
 Austen Czuleger \*

Jonathan Schampier \*  
 Garrett Weekly \*

Grand Coulee Fire Department  
 Corey Hense

North Mason Regional Fire Authority  
 Ridge Pellow

Kennewick Fire Department  
 Colton Lucas \*  
 Conner Budzeck \*  
 Kent Hagen  
 Scott Miller \*

Olympia Fire Department  
 Michael Knapp  
 Reina Pineda

South Whidbery Fire/EMS  
 Lewis Townsend

*\* Annotates Class Leader*