



Fire Department

June 30, 2021

Aaron Lipski
Fire Chief

Joshua Parish
Assistant Chief

Andrew Timm
Assistant Chief

Russell Rivard
Assistant Chief

Contact:
Firefighting Deputy
414-286-8950

MEDIA RELEASE

WHAT: MILWAUKEE FIREFIGHTERS ASSIST CITIZEN IN CRISIS

DETAILS: The members of the Milwaukee Fire Department strive to provide excellent service to our constituents every time we are called. We know every call is unique, and we are aware of the risks we may face at any given moment. Although every sworn member of this department has voluntarily taken an oath to serve and protect our citizens regardless of the circumstances, as humans we hope never to find ourselves in any situation where our lives may be at peril. Thanks to our great training and preparation we are able to selflessly make quick decisions in order to help others and keep them safe.

One such instance took place in the afternoon of Thursday, June 24. Engine Company 9 was responding to a single motor vehicle accident on the North Teutonia Avenue overpass which goes over West Silver Spring Drive. A female bystander alerted Fire Paramedic Nyles Wray about the driver involved in the accident who was experiencing a mental health crisis and had threatened to end his life by jumping off the bridge. The driver climbed over the guard rail and lower himself over the side. Fire Paramedic Wray was able to get to him quickly, reaching out to grab his hand just as he let go of the guardrail. Fire Paramedic Wray was quickly assisted by Fire Paramedic Rita Muzia, Heavy Equipment Operator Joshua LaDue, and Fire Lieutenant Colin Thomas. Putting their own lives at risk as all of their feet came off the ground, they were able to bring the man over the guard rail to safety and continue providing medical assistance to him until members of the Milwaukee Police Department arrived to assist.

The valor and dedication of these members not only resulted in saving this man's life, it portrayed the foundation of our Milwaukee Fire Department and its members.