

**Verde Valley Fire District
Public Safety Personnel Retirement Board Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2021, Station 31 and via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER: 8:37 a.m.

ROLL CALL:	Ken Bishop, Chairman (absent)	Jacob Marx (via Zoom)
	Chris Heyer (via Zoom)	Louis Newell (absent)
	Tim Irwin	Lisa Elliott

Others Present: Chief Danny Johnson

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chris Heyer.

Roll Call:

Three Board Members were present. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Tim Irwin to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2021 meeting. Second was made by Chris Heyer. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. Application for Survivor Benefits – Discussion and possible action regarding the application for survivor benefits for Ashli Bell.

Chief Johnson explained that this request was to approve the Line of Duty Death benefits for Tyrone Bell's spouse, Ashli Bell. Chief Johnson explained the sequence of events that led to Tyrone's death as follows:

- 10/4/2021 – at 11:48, Tyrone and his crew were dispatched to a COVID patient for breathing problems. The patient was treated and transported to the hospital by Tyrone. At 18:11, Tyrone and his crew were dispatched to another COVID patient for breathing problems. The patient was treated and transported to the hospital by Tyrone.
- 10/7/2021 – Tyrone started to not feel well in the late morning and began having chills and minor aches.
- 10/8/2021 – Tyrone woke up feeling sluggish with chills and body aches continuing throughout the day. He notified his supervisor that he was not feeling well. Tyrone's wife stated that he was acting sluggish and lethargic that evening.
- 10/9/2021 – At approximately 0100, Tyrone's wife found him in the bathroom throwing up and he began having seizures. 911 was called and Tyrone was transported to Verde Valley Medical Center. Upon arrival he tested positive for COVID. Tyrone was flown to St Joseph's hospital in Phoenix due to the continued seizure activity.
- 10/18/2021 – Tyrone passed away from complications due to COVID.

Chief Johnson stated that witnesses to the COVID exposures were Justin Sandoval, Ivan Anderson, and David McIlvoy. Supervisors notified of the illness were Cody Harkey and Shaun McCallum.

Chief Johnson explained that the District's workers compensation provider, Securis Insurance Pool, Inc., accepted the claim as a line of duty death on 11/29/2021 and have awarded death benefits to Tyrone's wife and son, Ashli and Tyson Bell.

With this documentation, the request being made to the PSPRS Local Board is to approve Line of Duty Death survivor benefits for Tyrone Bell's wife, Ashli Bell.

Motion was made by Jacob Marx to approve the application for Line of Duty survivor benefits for Ashli Bell. Tim Irwin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Comments: None

Adjournment: With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:43 a.m.

Lisa Elliott, Board Secretary

Date: _____