



Corpus Christi Firefighter Cancer Screening



City Council Brief
June 10, 2025



Challenges



- Occupational cancer is the leading cause of death among firefighters today
 - Cancer caused 66% of the career firefighter line-of-duty deaths from 2002 to 2019
 - Firefighters have a 9 percent higher risk of being diagnosed with cancer and a 14 percent higher risk of dying from cancer than the general U.S. population
 - Research spanning decades and more than 80,000 firefighters validates the connection between firefighting and occupational cancer
 - In the CCFD, at least 25 firefighters, both active and retired, have faced or are currently battling cancer
 - Tragically, in the past five years, two active CCFD firefighters have lost their lives to the disease
-



Opportunities



- Cancer is often found too late, when survival rates are lower
 - Cancer treatment costs more when diagnosed in later stages
 - The Galleri test identifies DNA in the blood that is shed by cancer cells
 - Screens for many aggressive cancers, before symptoms appear
 - Galleri detected a signal shared across 50+ cancer types in clinical studies - including 45 cancer types without recommended screening
-



Next Steps



- Cancer screening is part of the Wellness Program in the 2024-2028 CBA
 - Testing is voluntary but recommended
 - 75% of firefighters tested in FY25, and the remaining 25% will be tested in FY26
 - Schedule testing for firefighters in July and October
 - Results are returned to the firefighter in 2-3 weeks
-



Questions?
