

# AVRA VALLEY

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# FIRE DISTRICT

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## PRESS RELEASE

Re: Emergency Medical Services and Equipment - Extrication Tools

The Avra Valley Fire District (AVFD) has received \$25,587.00 through the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) to purchase advanced extrication tools to stabilize overturned vehicles and safely remove trapped occupants and seriously injured patients. This equipment is commonly referred to as "Lift Bags".

The GOHS is supporting the need to rapidly deploy advanced extrication tools along Interstate 10 as well as within the Avra Valley Fire District.

Historically, the AVFD responds to over 50 motor vehicle accidents on Interstate 10 between MP232 and MP212 each year. Having these advanced extrication tools at the scene of these serious accidents will greatly improve the District's goal of extricating and transporting an ALS "rapid" patient that is critically injured within 30 minutes or less of our arrival on the scene. These times are part of the big picture, the golden (trauma) hour – our goal is getting the patient to the trauma center within one hour from the time of the accident. To meet this goal, we need to extricate and transport the patient from the scene in less than 30 minutes.

The Avra Valley Fire District is thankful to the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway and Safety for assisting in meeting the unmet needs of the community by providing the funding for the purchase of this much needed equipment.

*"Our Family Helping Your Family"*