



# NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[GlendalesAZ.com/Fire](http://GlendalesAZ.com/Fire)

## Glendale Fire Department

6829 North 58th Drive / Glendale, Arizona 85301

623-930-4400



September 19, 2017

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**Photo attached**

## GLENDALE FIRE'S K-9 PASSES AWAY

**Glendale, Ariz.** — Topaz, the Glendale Fire Department Crisis Canine passed away yesterday after succumbing to a brief illness. Topaz was a yellow Labrador who is best remembered for his work with children and bringing comfort to those whose lives he touched while on emergency calls.

Topaz was a welcomed member in the fire stations, and all firefighters knew him to be a well-trained canine who was always ready to go to work. Topaz's handler, Lynette Pompa, brought Topaz to the Glendale Fire Department from Michigan's Paws with a Cause Foundation.

Originally trained to be seizure service dog, Topaz was career changed and quickly adopted the canine crisis response role for public safety. Whether assisting with a live promo for canine heat exhaustion or responding to the calls involving children, he was always ready to help and serve the community. K9-158 was Topaz's official call sign when assigned to an emergency incident. He was a well-known canine in the community and wore his badge with pride and distinction.

Topaz was semi-retired and was scheduled to be formally retired from service later this year.

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