

2016

Annual Report



City of Sheboygan
Fire Department

Sheboygan Fire Department Annual Report | 2016



I am honored to present the Sheboygan Fire Department's (SFD) 2016 Annual Report. The report summarizes the department's achievements, statistics and services provided to the City of Sheboygan over the past year

As I complete my third year as Chief of the SFD, I reflect on progress made and challenges overcome. This annual report will highlight statistics in categories such as budget, response types and times. It confirms that the SFD has not only a rich history of 129 years of community service, but also a progressive and professional approach to emergency response, public education, and prevention.

The SFD recognizes its importance within the community. Our members are dedicated to protect the community, its citizens, and visitors with courage, honor and integrity. It is because of this dedication that the department is highly regarded in the community as evidenced by the 2016 citizen survey.

As the emergency services industry has grown, so have the demands on this department. We now assume an "all-hazards" approach in order to best serve the community. Therefore, in addition to fighting fires, the organization and our paramedic program is a leader in emergency medical service delivery and efficiency. In addressing 21st century challenges with a spirit of collaboration and efficiency, the department supports and participates in several Sheboygan County emergency teams including the Sheboygan County Hazardous Material Response Team, the Sheboygan County MABAS Division 113 Dive Rescue Team and the Sheboygan County Fire Investigation Unit.

I am proud that our personnel consistently answer the call of duty; meeting and often exceeding expectations. Since we expect the best of each other, we deliver the best to our customers. The department is measured on quick response times, but equally important is the knowledge, training and overall professionalism our members possess. Our firefighters' passion, expertise and dedication ensure that our citizens experience world-class firefighting, making our members the Department's most valuable resource.

We thank the Police and Fire Commission, Mayor Vandersteen, City Alderpersons, and Administrator Hofland for their continued support, which allows us to provide great services. We also value our excellent relationships with the other City departments, allowing us to work in the context of the larger City team to maximize responsiveness and efficiency.

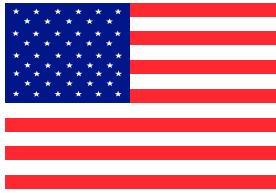
Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael T. Romas".

Mike Romas

Fire Chief

City of Sheboygan



Department Mission

The Sheboygan Fire Department is dedicated to serving all who live, visit, work and invest in the City of Sheboygan through excellence in fire protection, rescue, emergency and non-emergency medical services, code enforcement, and education, and at the highest professional level in a compassionate, ethical, and cost effective manner.

Courage * Honor * Integrity



Sheboygan Fire Department Management and Administrative Staff



FIRE CHIEF – MICHAEL T. ROMAS
CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT



ASSISTANT CHIEF – VERNON KOCH
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT



DEPUTY CHIEF – CHARLES BUTLER
EMS/HEALTH AND SAFETY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



BATTALION CHIEF – PAT NICOLAUS
A SHIFT
EMS



BATTALION CHIEF – DEAN KLEIN
B SHIFT
SUPPORT SERVICES



BATTALION CHIEF – KEITH RISSE
C SHIFT
TRAINING

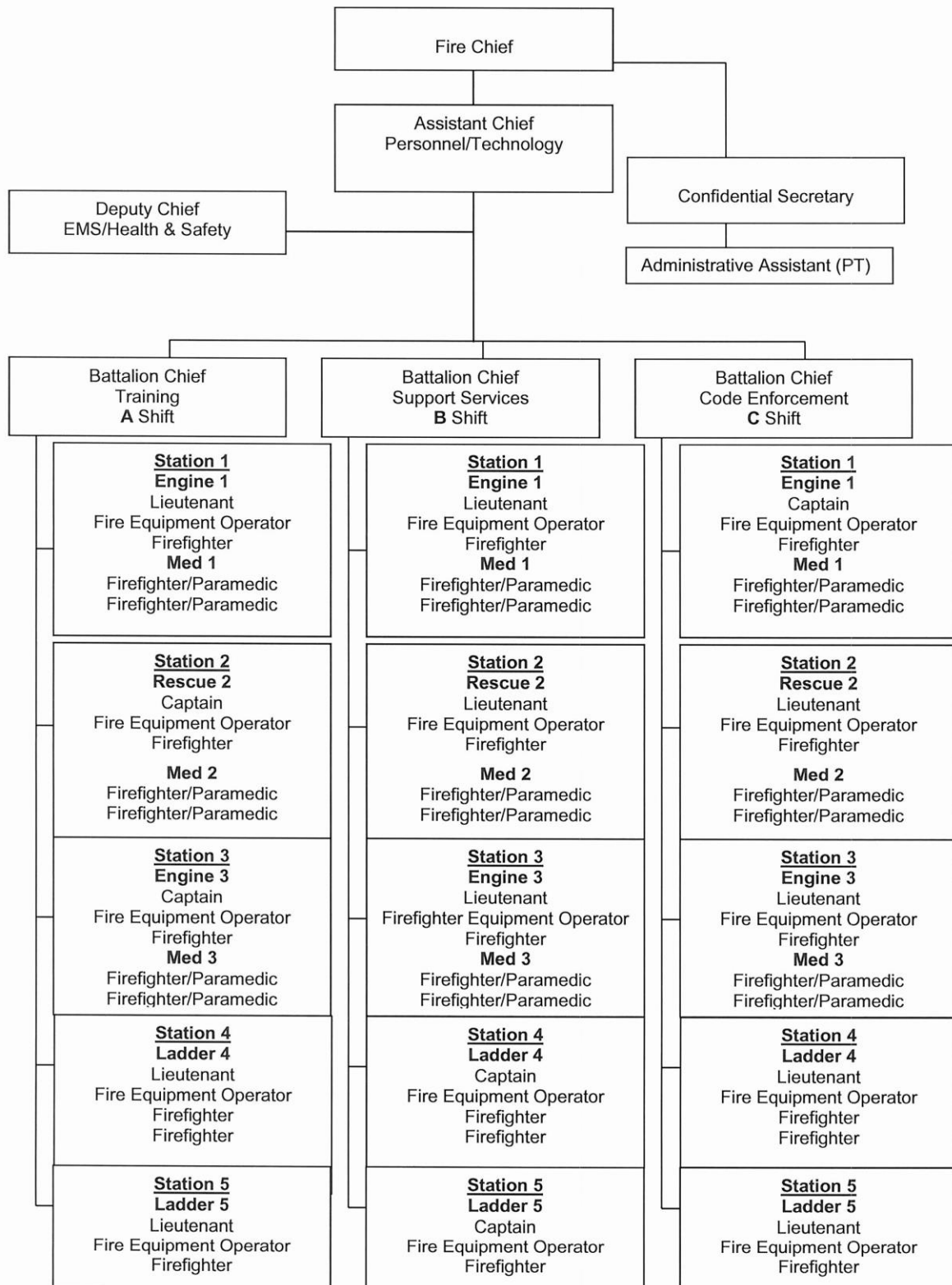


CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY
LISA HORN



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
JENNIFER ALBRIGHT

SHEBOYGAN FIRE DEPARTMENT TABLE OF ORGANIZATION



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Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type		
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
111 - Building fire	61	1.22%
112 - Fires in structure other than in a building	1	0.02%
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	31	0.62%
118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained	2	0.04%
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	16	0.32%
138 - Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1	0.02%
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	7	0.14%
143 - Grass fire	5	0.10%
151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	1	0.02%
154 - Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	3	0.06%
160 - Special outside fire, other	2	0.04%
162 - Outside equipment fire	7	0.14%
171 - Cultivated grain or crop fire	1	0.02%
211 - Overpressure rupture of steam pipe or pipeline	1	0.02%
251 - Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	3	0.06%
300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	69	1.38%
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	138	2.76%
320 - Emergency medical service, other	7	0.14%
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	3506	70.02%
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	133	2.66%
323 - Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	18	0.36%
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	24	0.48%
331 - Lock-in (if lock out , use 511)	11	0.22%
341 - Search for person on land	2	0.04%
352 - Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	5	0.10%
353 - Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	6	0.12%
356 - High-angle rescue	2	0.04%
361 - Swimming/recreational water areas rescue	2	0.04%
381 - Rescue or EMS standby	8	0.16%
400 - Hazardous condition, other	2	0.04%
411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	16	0.32%
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	27	0.54%
413 - Oil or other combustible liquid spill	13	0.26%
420 - Toxic condition, other	1	0.02%
422 - Chemical spill or leak	29	0.58%
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	21	0.42%
441 - Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	2	0.04%
442 - Overheated motor	5	0.10%
444 - Power line down	6	0.12%
445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	7	0.14%
451 - Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected	4	0.08%
463 - Vehicle accident, general cleanup	3	0.06%
500 - Service Call, other	2	0.04%
511 - Lock-out	45	0.90%
512 - Ring or jewelry removal	3	0.06%

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521 - Water evacuation	2	0.04%
522 - Water or steam leak	9	0.18%
531 - Smoke or odor removal	2	0.04%
542 - Animal rescue	10	0.20%
550 - Public service assistance, other	1	0.02%
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	19	0.38%
552 - Police matter	2	0.04%
553 - Public service	60	1.20%
554 - Assist invalid	136	2.72%
555 - Defective elevator, no occupants	4	0.08%
561 - Unauthorized burning	74	1.48%
600 - Good intent call, other	42	0.84%
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	31	0.62%
621 - Wrong location	4	0.08%
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	9	0.18%
631 - Authorized controlled burning	16	0.32%
641 - Vicinity alarm (incident in other location)	1	0.02%
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	11	0.22%
652 - Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	11	0.22%
661 - EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	11	0.22%
671 - HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	36	0.72%
700 - False alarm or false call, other	6	0.12%
711 - Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm	1	0.02%
712 - Direct tie to FD, malicious false alarm	1	0.02%
714 - Central station, malicious false alarm	4	0.08%
715 - Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	3	0.06%
731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	26	0.52%
732 - Extinguishing system activation due to malfunction	1	0.02%
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	45	0.90%
734 - Heat detector activation due to malfunction	2	0.04%
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	45	0.90%
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	24	0.48%
740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	3	0.06%
741 - Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional	9	0.18%
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	33	0.66%
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	8	0.16%
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	34	0.68%
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	9	0.18%
812 - Flood assessment	1	0.02%
814 - Lightning strike (no fire)	1	0.02%
911 - Citizen complaint	1	0.02%
TOTAL INCIDENTS:	5007	100.00%

**Fire Station #1**

833 New York Avenue
Engine 1
Med 1

Fire Station #2

2413 South 18th Street
Rescue 2
Med 2
Trench Rescue Trailer

**Fire Station #3**

1326 North 25th Street – Department Headquarters
Engine 3
Med 3
Battalion Chief Car
Med 6 (Reserve Ambulance)

Fire Station #4

2622 North 15th Street
Ladder 4
Engine 6 (Reserve Engine)

**Fire Station #5**

4504 South 18th Street
Ladder 5
Engine 7 (Reserve Engine)

Services Provided by the Sheboygan Fire Department

Fire Suppression and Rescue	Code Enforcement
Rope Rescue	Building Plan Review
Excavation Rescue	Fire Safety Training for Businesses
Confined Space Rescue	Medical Transports
Water/Ice Rescue	Public Service/Assistance
Automobile and Industrial Extrication	Hazardous Materials Response
Emergency Management	School Fire Safety Education
Advanced Life Support Response	Special Event Standby
Fire Safety Building Inspections	Fall Prevention Referrals
Smoke Alarm Installations	

Equipment, Facilities, and Vehicles Status Update

Equipment

In 2016 all fire department self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) were replaced with new Scott equipment including tanks, harnesses, and facepieces. All employees were fit tested to the new facepieces.

A complete set of electric extrication tools are being investigated for purchase and use in 2017.

A full set of hose ramps capable of providing access over two charged 5" hoselines was received from Acuity Insurance to provide egress from their parking structure should lines be stretched across the egress drive. These ramps will also be useful for similar situations in other areas around town. Our thanks to Acuity for their generosity.

Apparatus

Two of the three ambulances that were being remounted to new chassis were received and put into service in 2016. Each of these vehicles has had a vehicle router and wifi capable components added to them to provide wifi signal around the vehicles and to leverage a single data card rather than pay for individual data cards for each single piece of equipment. (Narcotic Safe, Lifepak 15 Heart Monitor, Toughbook computer for EMS Patient Care Records and other applications, and Mobile Data Terminal)

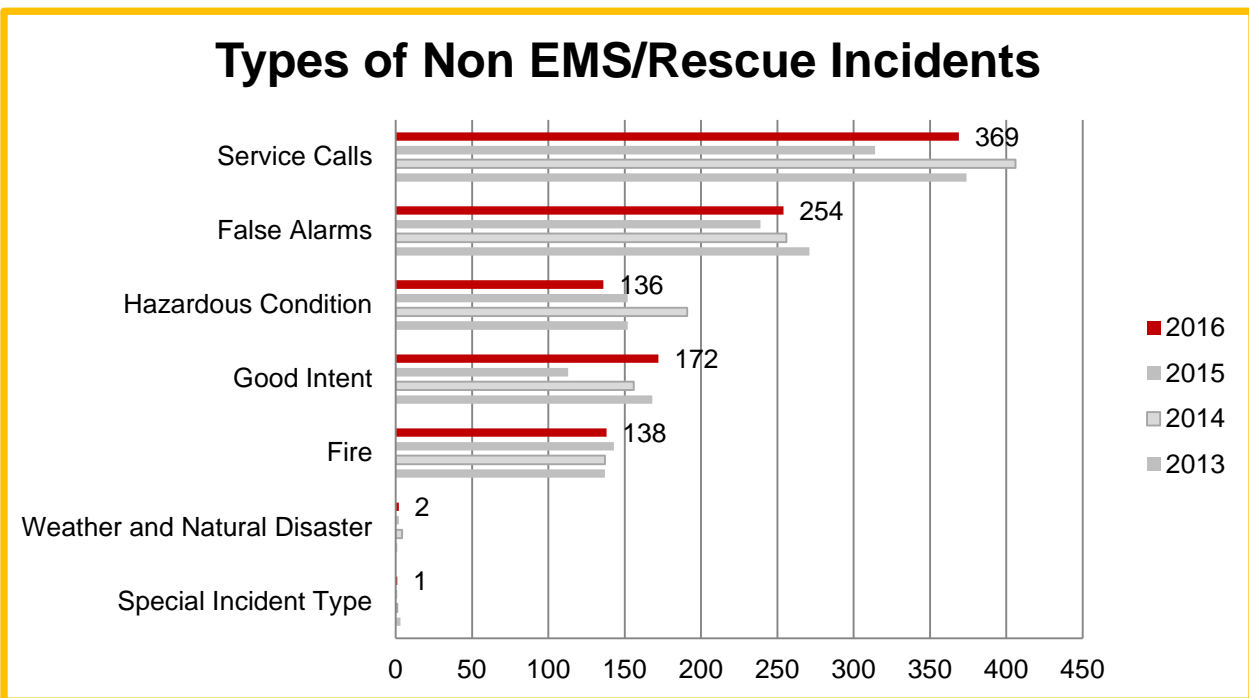
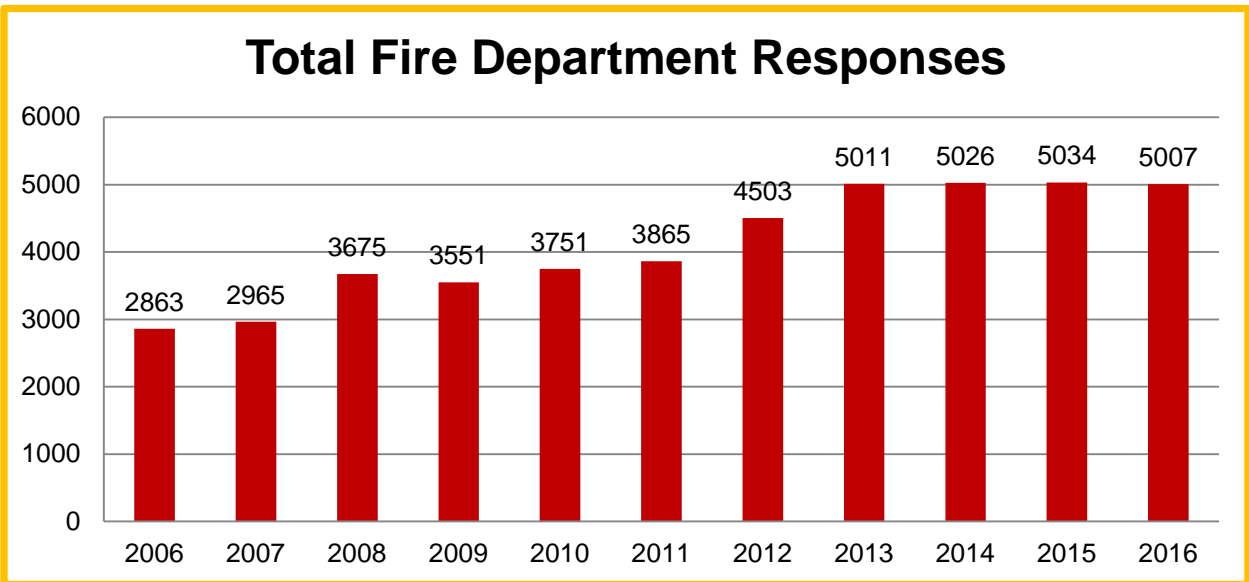
In 2016 all fire apparatus have been equipped with the Utility Rocket Vehicle Routers. These will provide a more stable connection for the Mobile data Terminals and will also provide a WiFi signal for responders to access important information in the field as needed.

Buildings

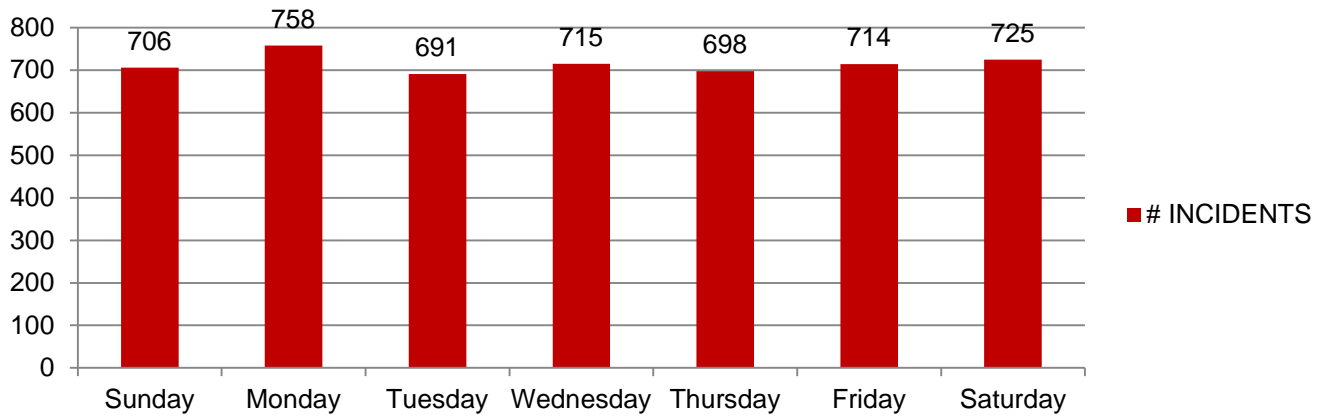
In 2016 there was only general maintenance performed on the fire stations with the exception of remodeling upgrades to the Station #3 Headquarters Training Room and the current City/County Emergency Operations Center. There was a great deal of study and deliberations on major repairs needing to be performed on Station #1 and Station #2. This work, based on the building surveys, is scheduled to begin in 2017 and beyond as part of the Capital Improvement Projects.

Response Statistics

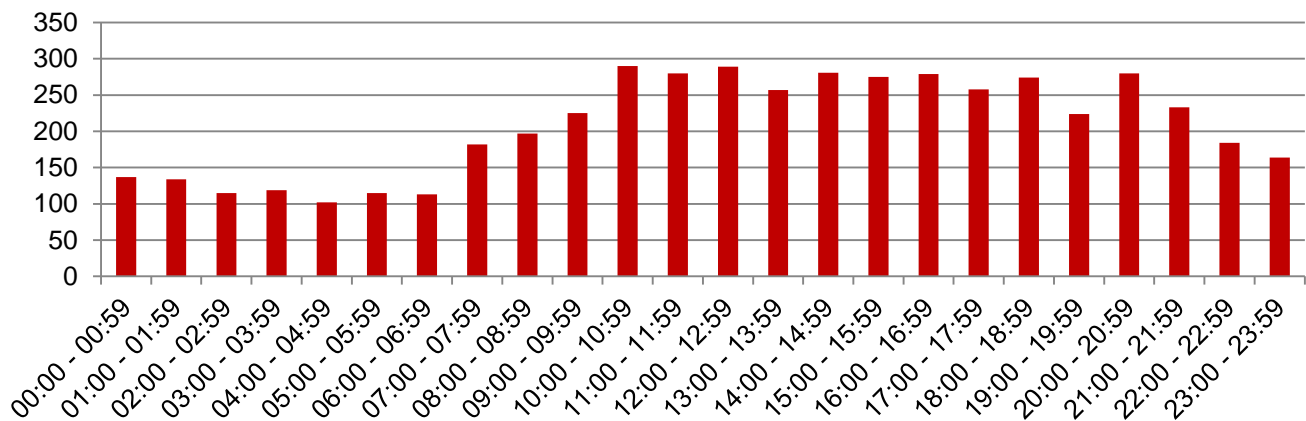
Total Number of Responses



2016 Calls by Day of Week



2016 Calls by Time of Day

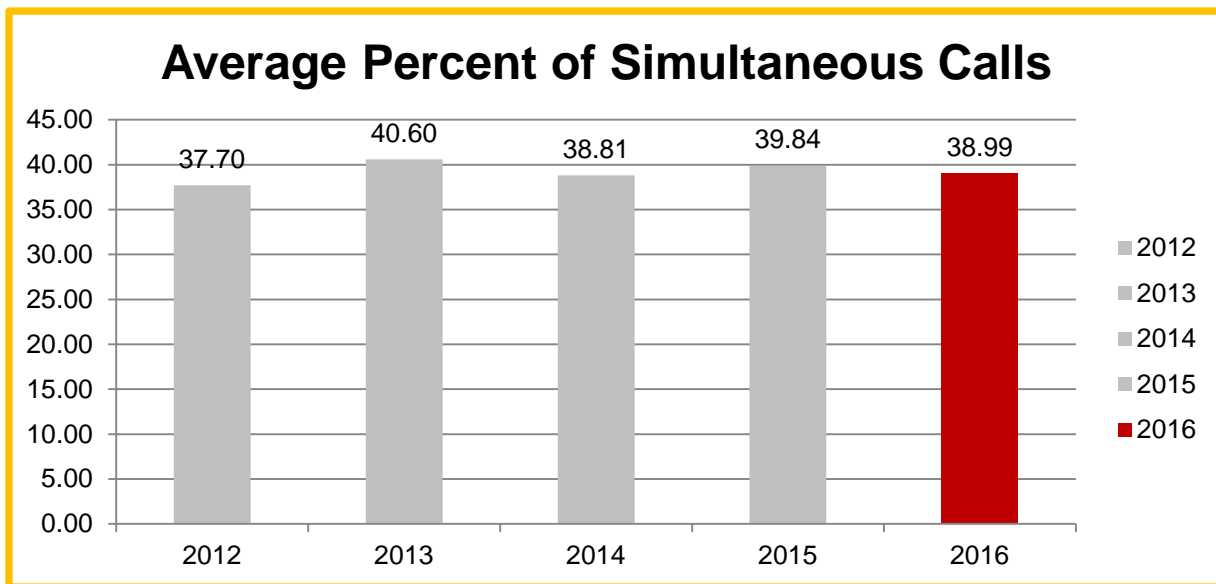


The *Calls by Day of Week* and *Calls by Time of Day* graphs are indicators of when requests for the Fire Department occur in Sheboygan. While there are some patterns that are seen, these graphs match trends nationally overall and also indicate that requests happen at all times.

Mutual Aid Given/Received

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Incidents with Mutual Aid Received	5	7	5	5	4
Incidents with Mutual Aid Given	8	9	8	8	8
Other Responses Outside of City	5	20	26	19	21

Concurrent Calls

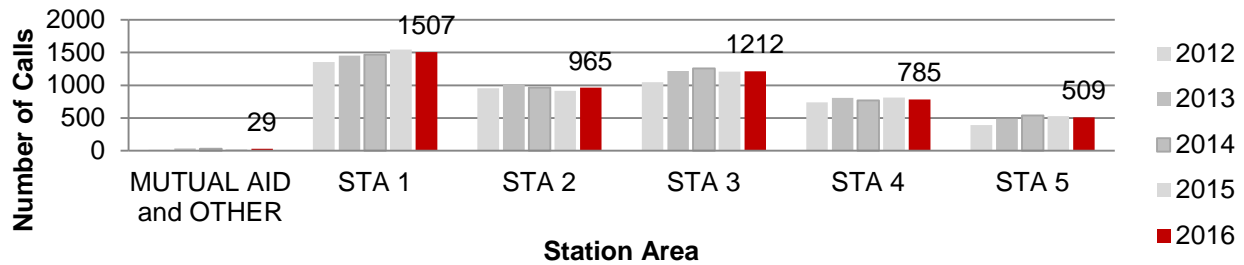


The measure of simultaneous calls represents the percentage of total call requests for the fire department while another call or multiple calls are already in progress. Generally speaking the call requests are random and in 2016 there was a slight decrease in concurrent calls from the previous year, but that decrease was insignificant and represented a relatively flat trend, which would suggest a relatively stable call volume overall.

Fire Related Deaths

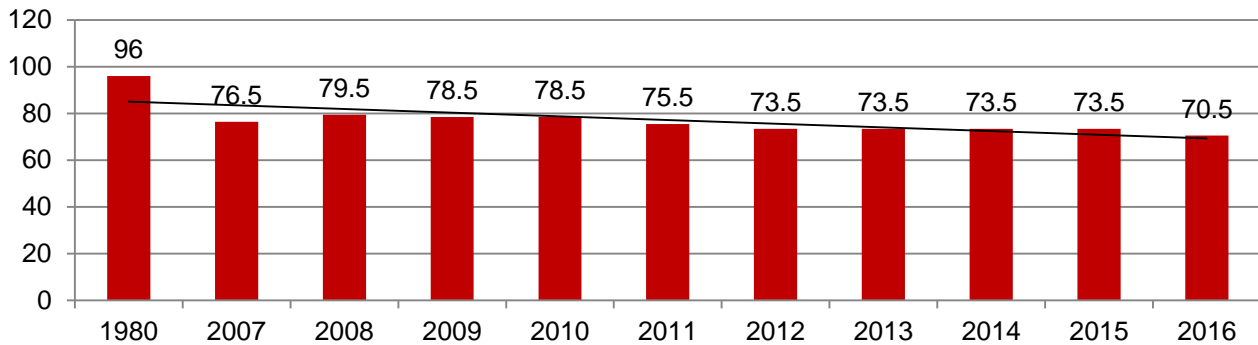
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Fire Deaths	0	1	1	0	1

Number of Responses by Station Area

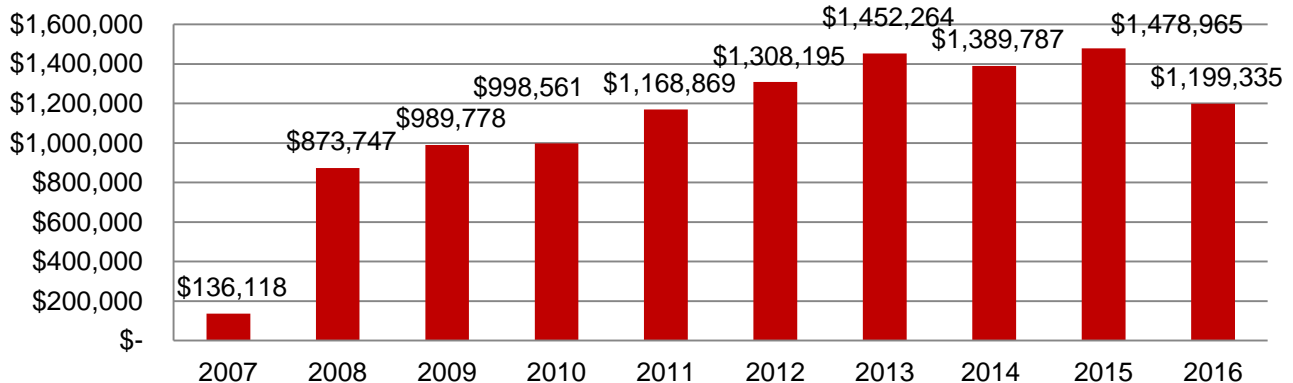


The *Response Requests by Station Area* graph is the total number of incidents as divided by Fire Station Single Alarm response area as designated by the fire department. These response areas are established to maintain appropriate response times as set forth by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

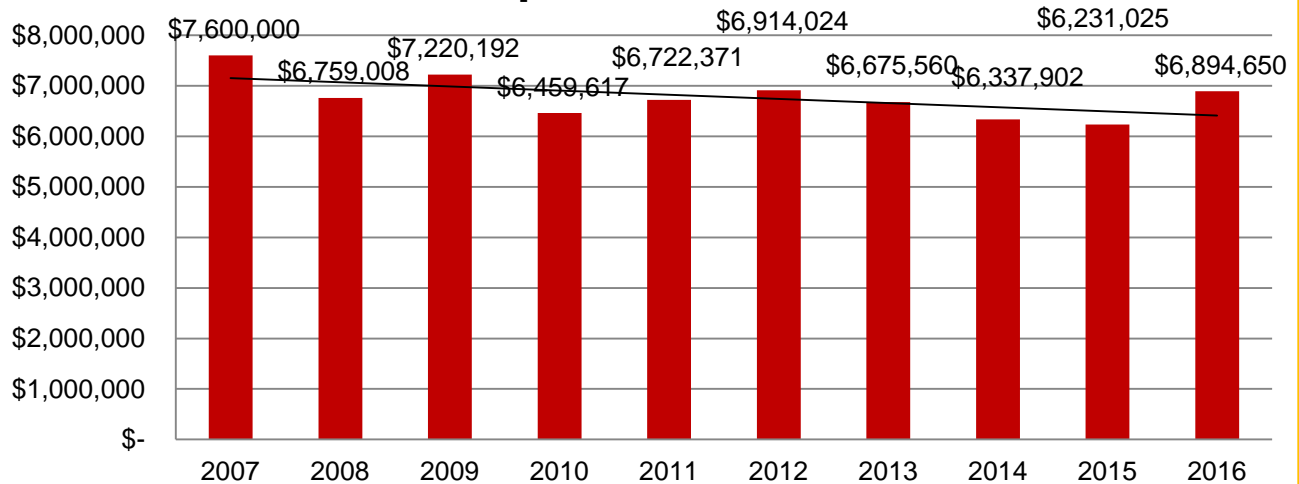
Fire Department FTEs



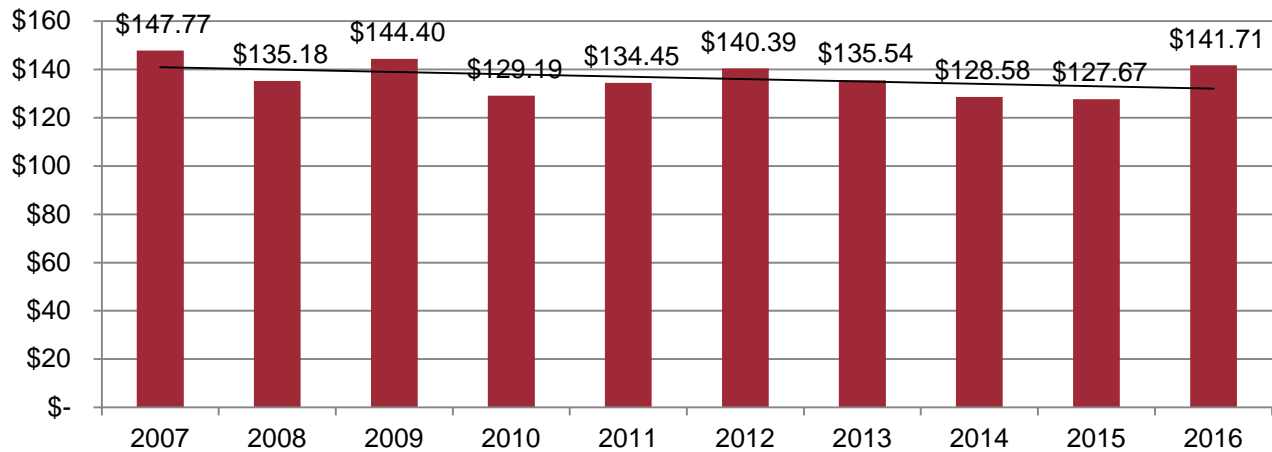
Fire Department Revenues



Fire Department Net Cost



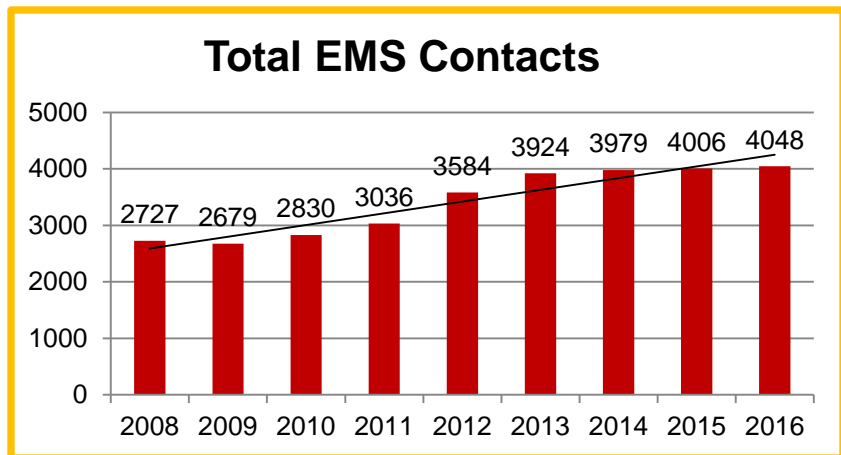
Fire and EMS Service Net Cost Per Capita



Emergency Medical Services

The Sheboygan Fire Department is nearing its tenth year of providing paramedic level EMS transport services to the citizens of Sheboygan.

The Sheboygan Fire Department maintains a fleet of four ambulances for providing care and transport to the sick and injured. During the past 9 years the department has continued to provide a quality, consistent, and compassionate service to the community.



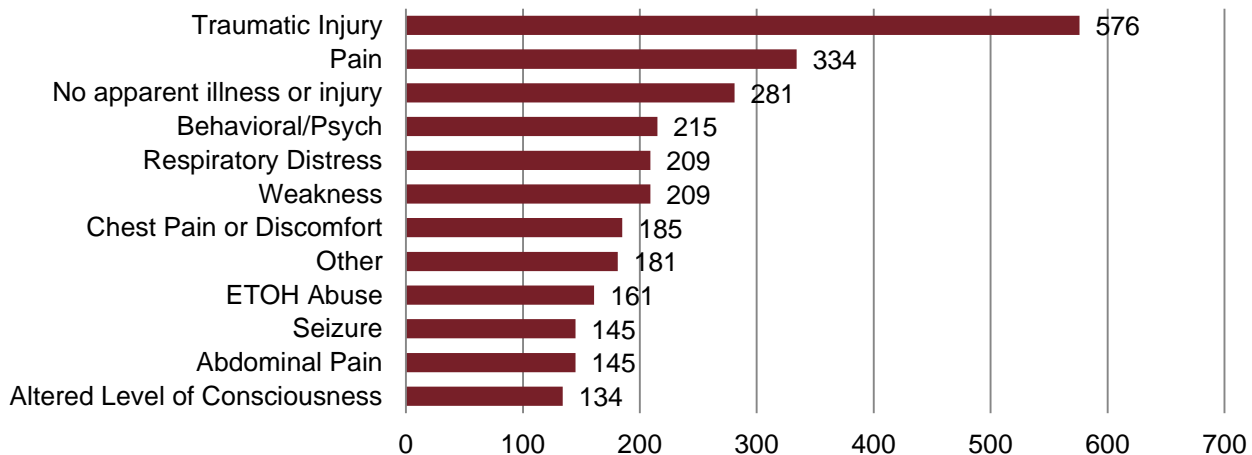
As a value added service of the Fire Department, the revenues generated through the provision of the ambulance service aid in offsetting the cost of a effective and efficient fire department. This is done through the use of cross-trained personnel with a great deal of education and training and who are prepared to meet the emergency and non emergency needs of those it serves, whether it be a medical emergency, a fire, or another service need. Each ambulance vehicle also carries firefighting equipment for the firefighter/paramedics who staff those vehicles. This allows those personnel to also be able to respond to fires should they occur.

Recently, all four of the Fire Department ambulances have been refitted to new vehicle chassis to cost effectively provide service for many years to come. Each of these vehicles is now equipped with a liquid spring suspension system designed to provide a safer and more comfortable ride.

The Sheboygan Fire Department is also interested in preventing injury that might cause need for someone to use an ambulance. As part of our injury prevention efforts, we have partnered with the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) in assisting with a referral program that provides for education and support from the ADRC for those who may need assistance or education about preventing falls in the home. When it is recognized through our contact, that a person might be in need of assistance or support, our crews will offer the referral and we will make contact with the ADRC to have them make contact with the individual and offer assistance. Our goal is to encourage every ambulance service in the county to provide this service and connection to the resources they need.

Year	Total Patient Contacts	Total Transports	No Transport Rate
2016	4048	3208	21%
2015	4006	3285	18%
2014	3979	3287	17%
2013	3924	3274	17%
2012	3584	2975	17%
2011	3036	2478	18%
2010	2830	2361	17%
2009	2679	2172	19%
2008	2727	2282	16%

2016 Top 12 EMS Call Types



Fire Prevention and Public Education

In an effort to reduce the loss of life, injury, and property loss in the City of Sheboygan, the Sheboygan Fire Department is dedicated to providing education to the public as part of its mission.



As the hazards presented to the public change, so will the program offerings to the public. It is the department's intent to keep the education of our firefighters current to better offer training to the public about the hazards faced by members of the public and how to better avoid them.

While it is a core mission of the Sheboygan Fire Department to respond to and mitigate incidents in the City of Sheboygan, it is also the department's mission to reduce the number and severity of those incidents by proper code development and

enforcement, effective and efficient response, and ongoing public education. It is through this continuous and comprehensive program of education that the department maintains a culture of safety in the community.

This general program area of public education is vital to the success of the fire department mission. The funding for the materials used for the school programs is largely generated through a program developed and operated by the National Fire Safety Council (NFSC). Each year, local businesses are solicited for donations toward the program by NFSC on the department's behalf and those funds are used by the department to purchase all of the fire prevention materials used in the public education programs delivered in the schools.



FAMILIES PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITY GAME DESIGNED AND BUILT BY DEPARTMENT MEMBER

Training and Resource Development



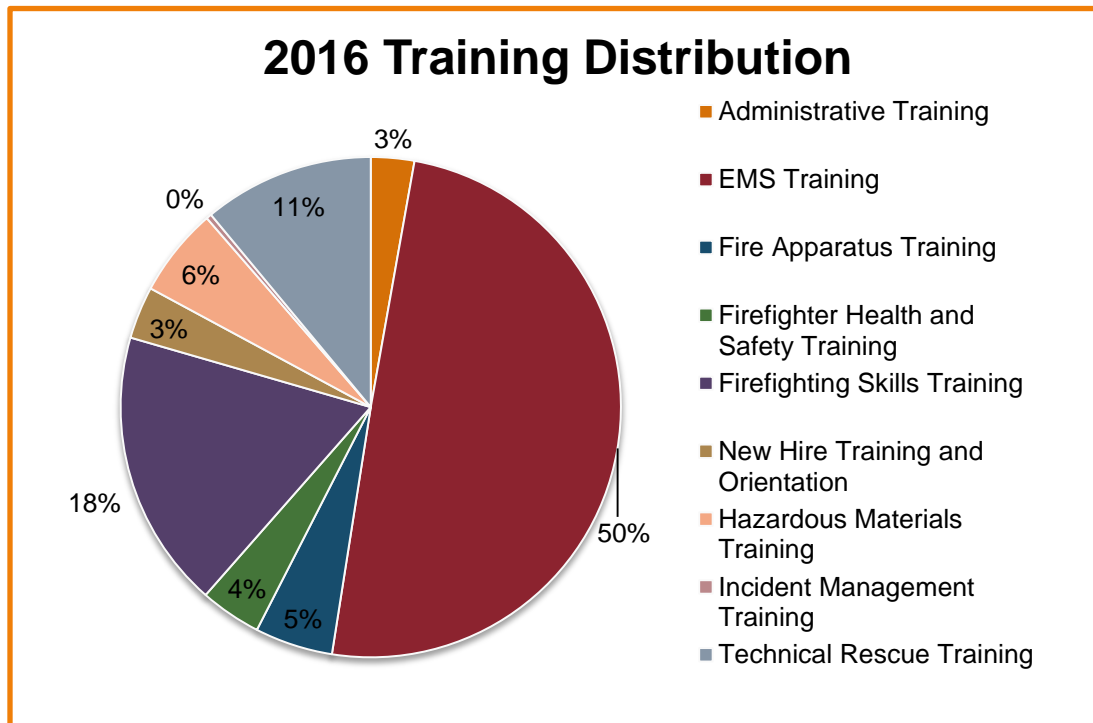
The nature of the responsibilities of a fire department requires continuous training of its personnel to assure the best possible chance of a positive outcome when critical incidents occur. This is especially important when those events do not happen very often and you get one chance to get it right. Training and preparation is tailored to create effectiveness, efficiency, and safety when the fire department responds to incidents. The Sheboygan Fire Department provides for training of its employees through many different programs using a variety of methodologies that are designed to best meet the needs of the department

both fiscally and operationally. Because of the inherent dangers present in the job, many of the training areas are statutorily mandated for the protection of both the employee and the citizens they serve.

The elimination of staff positions within the department has made it necessary to alter how the department plans, prepares, and delivers training. The duties have been redistributed to numerous personnel in an effort to maintain adequate training and monitored compliance with mandatory training requirements. Training for the department is coordinated through Battalion Chief Keith Risse. One of the ways the Sheboygan Fire Department works to maintain cost effective training is through the development and utilization of in-house instructors. These instructors are from both the line and staff of the fire department. Thirteen of the department's instructors are certified through the Wisconsin State Technical College System in various areas including Emergency Medical Services, Technical Rescue, Firefighting, and Incident Management. Where no qualified instructor is available from within the department the department will occasionally send an individual to train-the-trainer education for that topic, or an outside instructor is brought to the department.



Much of the training and education in the department is conducted through the use of internet based learning management systems that contain a wide variety of topics in almost every area of fire/rescue response. In 2016 the Sheboygan Fire Department training room received a much-needed update and makeover. In early 2017, the project will be complete with a state-of-the-art two-way videoconferencing system that will allow training and meetings to be conducted to all of the stations from a central point. Training can be also delivered from outside of the department to each of the stations. This system will significantly improve communications in the department and will allow for more time with response vehicles in their own running areas rather than having to always head to the headquarters station for training. This will reduce response times, risk of vehicles on the road, and lessen duplication of instructor time. All content delivered through the system can be recorded and watched at a later date for review or make up for personnel who are absent during the initial delivery.



CATEGORY	TOTAL HOURS
Administrative Training	246
EMS Training	4359
Fire Apparatus Training	442
Firefighter Health and Safety Training	347
Firefighting Skills Training	1580
New Hire Training and Orientation	447
Hazardous Materials Training	505
Incident Management Training	30
Technical Rescue Training	1137
TOTAL TRAINING HOURS	9093

Retirements in 2016*



CAPTAIN ROBERT IRISH

*Firefighter/Paramedic Siewert left the Sheboygan Fire Department in 2016 to pursue other employment opportunities.

Promotions in 2016



CAPTAIN
EFREM CAPETILLO



LIEUTENANT
ANDREW QUACKENBOSS



LIEUTENANT
STEVEN ZIBELL

New Employees



FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC
ROY BRION



FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC
JESTIN DEMERATH

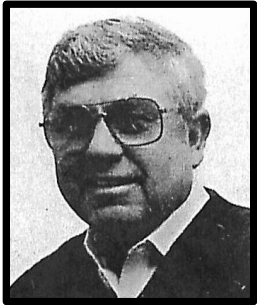


FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC
RANDALL KISER



FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC
WILLIAM CHEREK

In Memoriam



Robert Weinberger

Born: 1933
Appointed: 1948
Retired: 1985
Retired a Deputy Chief
Returned to Quarters: 2016



James Hengst

Born: 1926
Appointed: 1953
Retired: 1985
Retired a Firefighter
Returned to Quarters: 2016

Thank you to Asher Heimermann of Incident Response for his photographs that appear in this annual report.