

2018

Annual Report



City of Sheboygan
Fire Department



Sheboygan Fire Department Annual Report | 2018



Thank you citizens, council and city leaders for supporting your Sheboygan Fire Department!

2018 was a great year for the department and the City of Sheboygan. We completed the year with no fire deaths and we improved our stations, apparatus and equipment to meet immediate and future needs. These improvements enhance services to our citizens on each and every medical or fire response.

We are proud of our 2018 accomplishments:

- Exceeded our 2017 ambulance revenue goal of \$1,200,000
- Completed our ambulance refurbishment program, saving \$240,000
- Won a federal health and wellness grant for \$98,000
- Received a State of Wisconsin award of \$87,000 for the successful completion of the 2016 fire inspection program
- Earned the highest satisfaction rating by citizens for fire and emergency medical service
- Successfully implemented the new emergency medical dispatch procedure
- Renovated training room with enhanced technology and a new department-wide teleconference system
- Initiated remodeling and repairs to our 112 year-old Fire Station 1
- Completed all architectural and engineering work for Station 2
- Added new electric extrication equipment
- Purchased two fire suppression tools with \$1,000 Kwik Trip grant
- Implemented new telecommunication system

Our mission is to provide quality professional services to those who live, work, invest, or visit our community. We accomplish this through the talent and commitment of the members of the Sheboygan Fire Department along with the leadership and support of our city leaders and the common council.

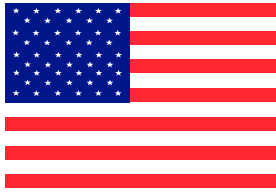
Yours in fire safety and prevention,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike 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



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Sheboygan Fire Department Management and Administrative Staff



FIRE CHIEF – MICHAEL T. ROMAS
CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT



ASSISTANT CHIEF – VERNON KOCH



ASSISTANT CHIEF – CHARLES BUTLER



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



BATTALION CHIEF
ROBERT KOCMOUD

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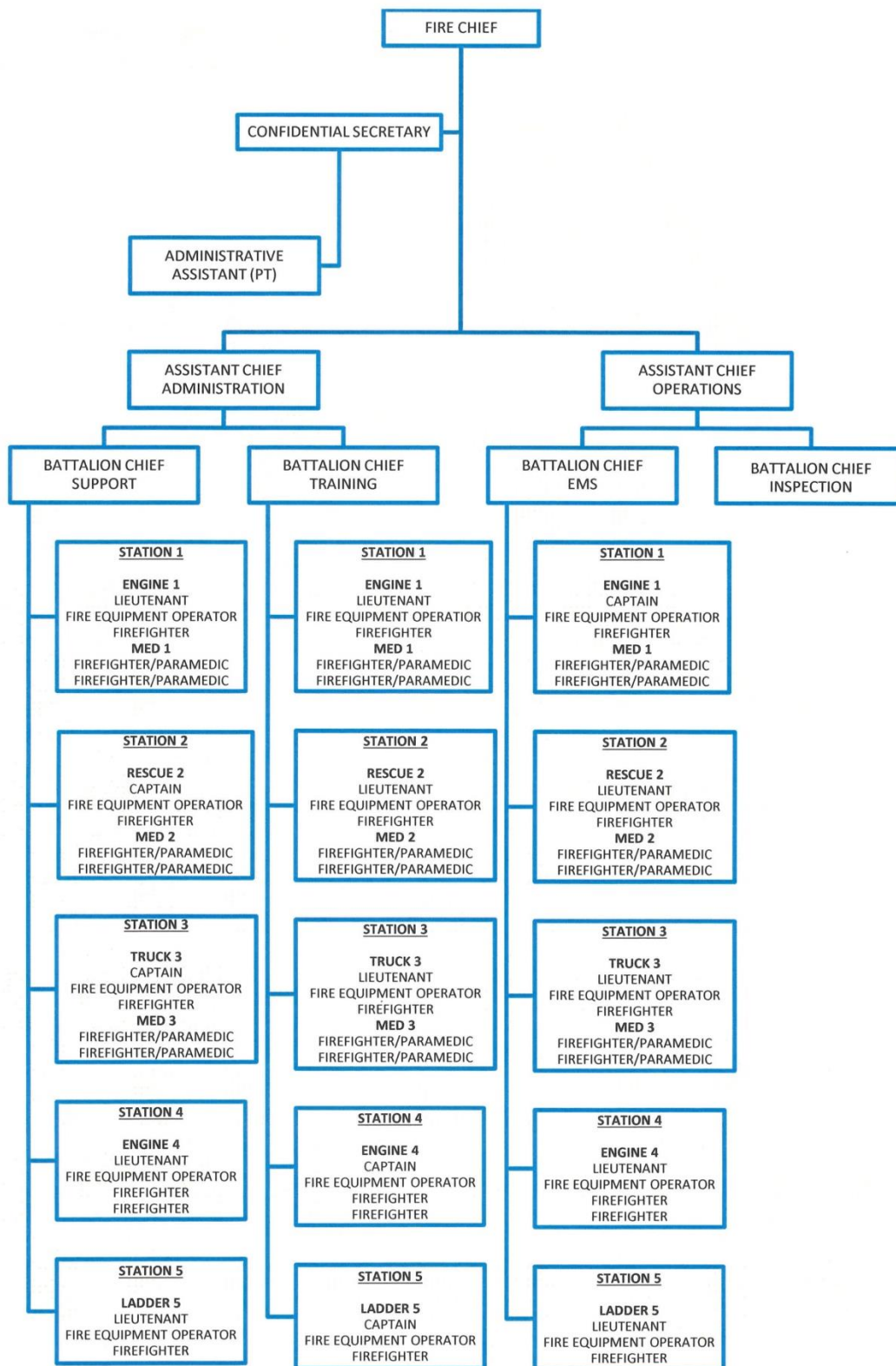
Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
111 - Building fire	48	0.89%
112 - Fires in structure other than in a building	1	0.02%
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	5	0.09%
116 - Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	1	0.02%
118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained	3	0.06%
121 - Fire in mobile home used as fixed residence	1	0.02%
130 - Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1	0.02%
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	12	0.22%
132 - Road freight or transport vehicle fire	1	0.02%
134 - Water vehicle fire	1	0.02%
135 - Aircraft fire	1	0.02%
138 - Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1	0.02%
141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	1	0.02%
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	1	0.02%
151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	8	0.15%
154 - Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	5	0.09%
160 - Special outside fire, other	1	0.02%
162 - Outside equipment fire	2	0.04%
251 - Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	36	0.67%
300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	70	1.30%
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	184	3.43%
320 - Emergency medical service, other	10	0.19%
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	3769	70.20%
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	117	2.18%
323 - Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	9	0.17%
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	16	0.30%
331 - Lock-in (if lock out , use 511)	15	0.28%
342 - Search for person in water	1	0.02%
351 - Extrication of victim(s) from building/structure	1	0.02%
352 - Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	3	0.06%
353 - Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	5	0.09%
361 - Swimming/recreational water areas rescue	2	0.04%
364 - Surf rescue	1	0.02%
381 - Rescue or EMS standby	17	0.32%
411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	11	0.20%
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	26	0.48%
413 - Oil or other combustible liquid spill	14	0.26%
421 - Chemical hazard (no spill or leak)	1	0.02%
422 - Chemical spill or leak	31	0.58%
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	17	0.32%
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	1	0.02%
441 - Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	4	0.07%
442 - Overheated motor	4	0.07%
443 - Breakdown of light ballast	4	0.07%
444 - Power line down	18	0.34%

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445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	17	0.32%
451 - Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected	1	0.02%
463 - Vehicle accident, general cleanup	2	0.04%
500 - Service Call, other	3	0.06%
510 - Person in distress, other	1	0.02%
511 - Lock-out	51	0.95%
512 - Ring or jewelry removal	2	0.04%
520 - Water problem, other	3	0.06%
521 - Water evacuation	1	0.02%
522 - Water or steam leak	8	0.15%
531 - Smoke or odor removal	16	0.30%
542 - Animal rescue	14	0.26%
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	33	0.61%
552 - Police matter	4	0.07%
553 - Public service	94	1.75%
554 - Assist invalid	110	2.05%
555 - Defective elevator, no occupants	1	0.02%
561 - Unauthorized burning	63	1.17%
571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	1	0.02%
600 - Good intent call, other	39	0.73%
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	56	1.04%
621 - Wrong location	1	0.02%
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	31	0.58%
631 - Authorized controlled burning	14	0.26%
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	13	0.24%
652 - Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	6	0.11%
653 - Smoke from barbecue, tar kettle	2	0.04%
661 - EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	6	0.11%
671 - HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	25	0.47%
700 - False alarm or false call, other	1	0.02%
710 - Malicious, mischievous false call, other	2	0.04%
714 - Central station, malicious false alarm	10	0.19%
715 - Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	11	0.20%
730 - System malfunction, other	1	0.02%
731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	12	0.22%
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	39	0.73%
734 - Heat detector activation due to malfunction	2	0.04%
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	44	0.82%
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	14	0.26%
740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	2	0.04%
741 - Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional	5	0.09%
742 - Extinguishing system activation	2	0.04%
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	53	0.99%
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	9	0.17%
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	52	0.97%
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	8	0.15%
911 - Citizen complaint	3	0.06%
TOTAL INCIDENTS:	5369	100.00%

SHEBOYGAN FIRE DEPARTMENT TABLE OF ORGANIZATION



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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

Fire Station #4
2622 North 15th Street
Ladder 4
Engine 6 (Reserve Engine)
Med 6 (Reserve Ambulance)



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

Services Provided by the Sheboygan Fire Department

Fire Suppression and Rescue
Rope Rescue
Excavation Rescue
Confined Space Rescue
Water/Ice Rescue
Automobile and Industrial Extrication
Emergency Management
Advanced Life Support Response
Fire Safety Building Inspections
Smoke Alarm Installations

Code Enforcement
Building Plan Review
Fire Safety Training for Businesses
Medical Transports
Public Service/Assistance
Hazardous Materials Response
School Fire Safety Education
Special Event Standby
Fall Prevention Referrals

Equipment, Facilities, and Vehicles Status Update

Equipment

- All cardiac monitors received preventative maintenance.
- All patient moving equipment, stair chairs and power cots received preventative maintenance.
- As part of a cancer mitigation program, the department continues to add additional sets of 10 new sets of personal protective gear so that each member has a second set while theirs is being cleaned between fires.
- Also as part of the cancer mitigation program a new extraction machine and a drying cabinet has been purchased to better remove contaminants from the personal fire gear. This process lessens the exposure to carcinogens in the by products of fires. Each apparatus also carries personal decon kits to be able to clean contaminants from skin as soon as possible after being exposed during fires.
- All ladders and pumps were tested to industry standards.
- All department fire hoses were inspected and pressure tested.

Apparatus

- In May of 2018 the department took delivery of a new Pierce Pumper now serving as E4.
- Delivery of a Pierce aerial ladder occurred in 2018 and will be placed into service in 2019 as Truck 3.

Buildings

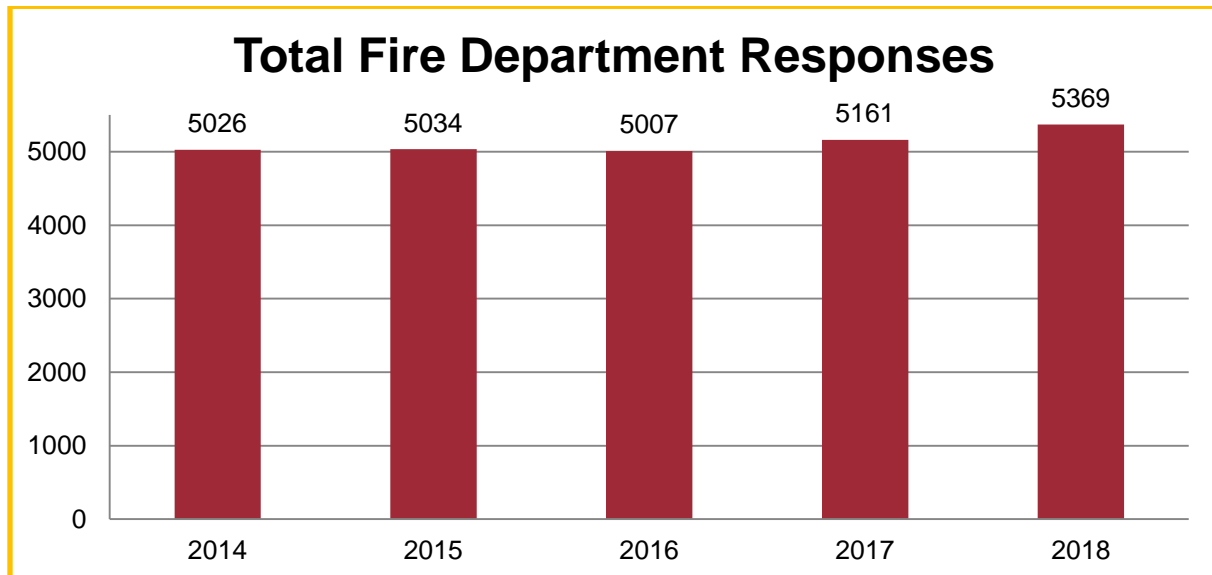
- Work continues on Station #1 as part of a comprehensive maintenance and upgrade project.

Wellness Grant

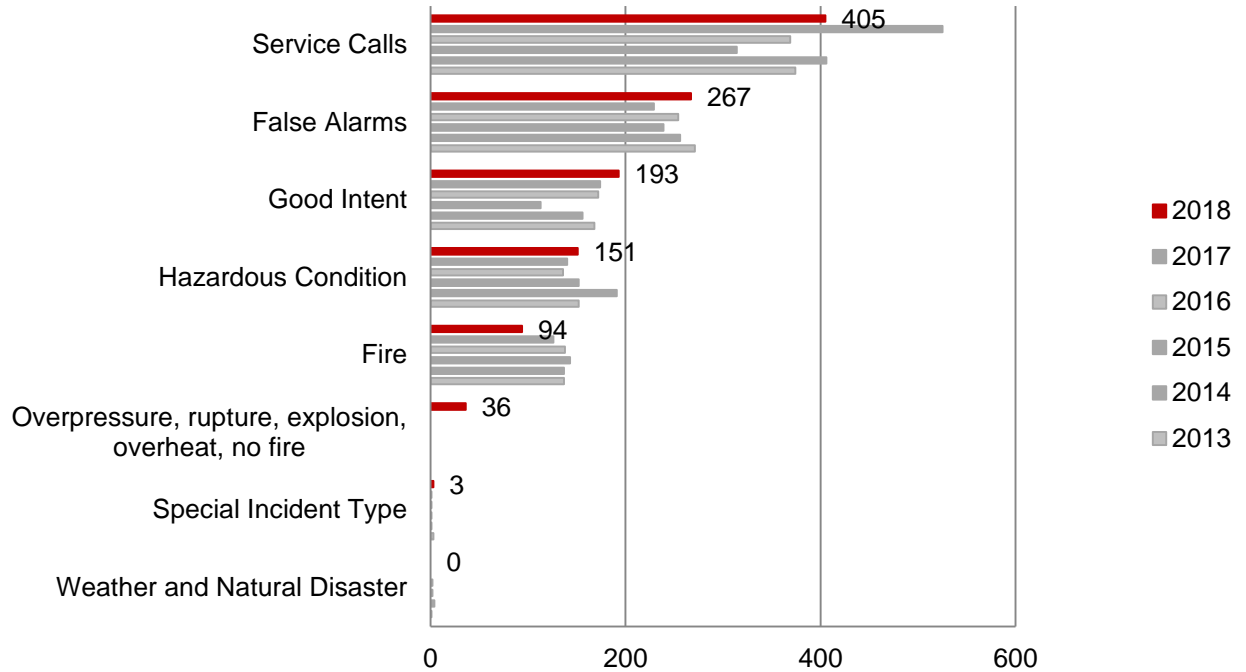
An assistance to firefighters grant through FEMA was awarded to the Sheboygan Fire Department for the improvement and expansion of fitness and general wellness of the members of the fire department. This grant proposal is competitive and the department was fortunate to have their proposal funded. As a result of the grant, the department was able to contract with an outside fitness consultant, purchase a wide variety of exercise equipment for each station, train a core group of department members as fitness trainers, and also provide National Fire Protection Association compliant physicals for firefighters for the entire department. These physicals were designed specifically for the issues that are of concern for firefighters and the hazards they face on the job.

Response Statistics

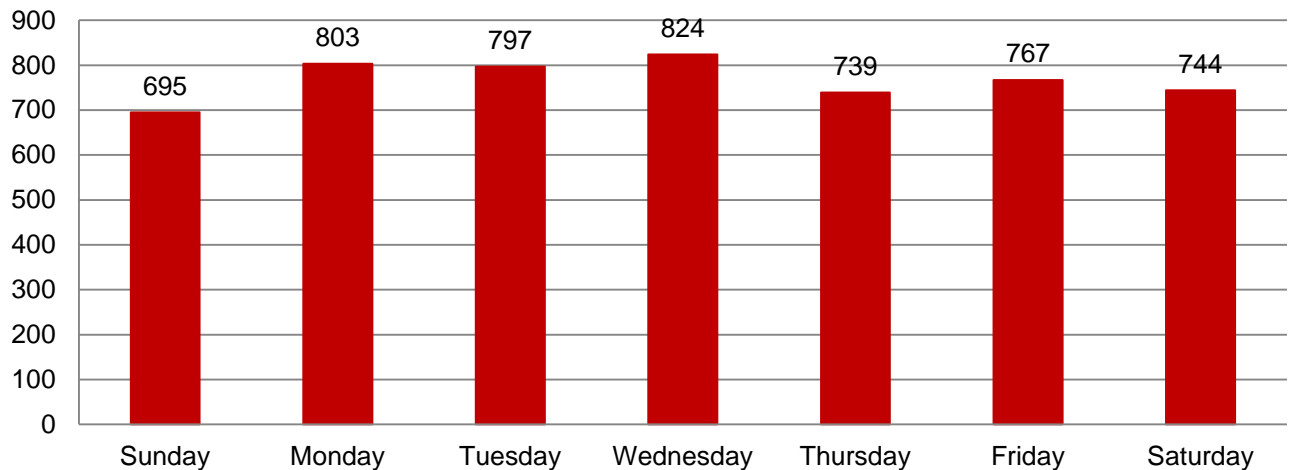
Total Number of Responses



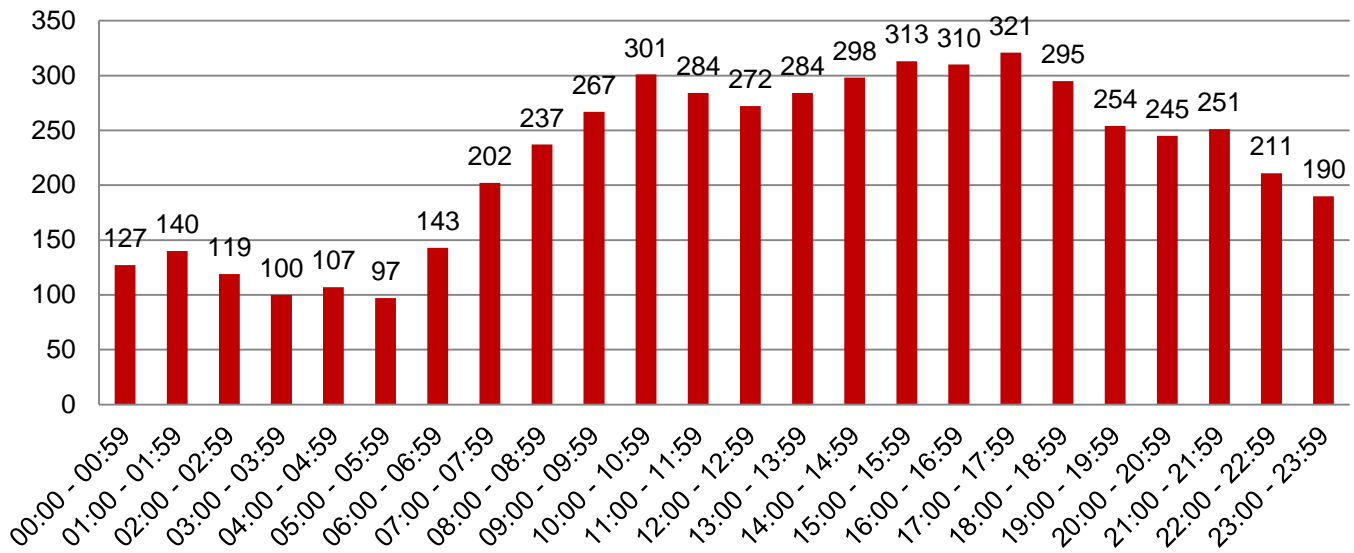
Types of Non EMS/Rescue Incidents



2018 Calls by Day of Week



2018 Incidents 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.

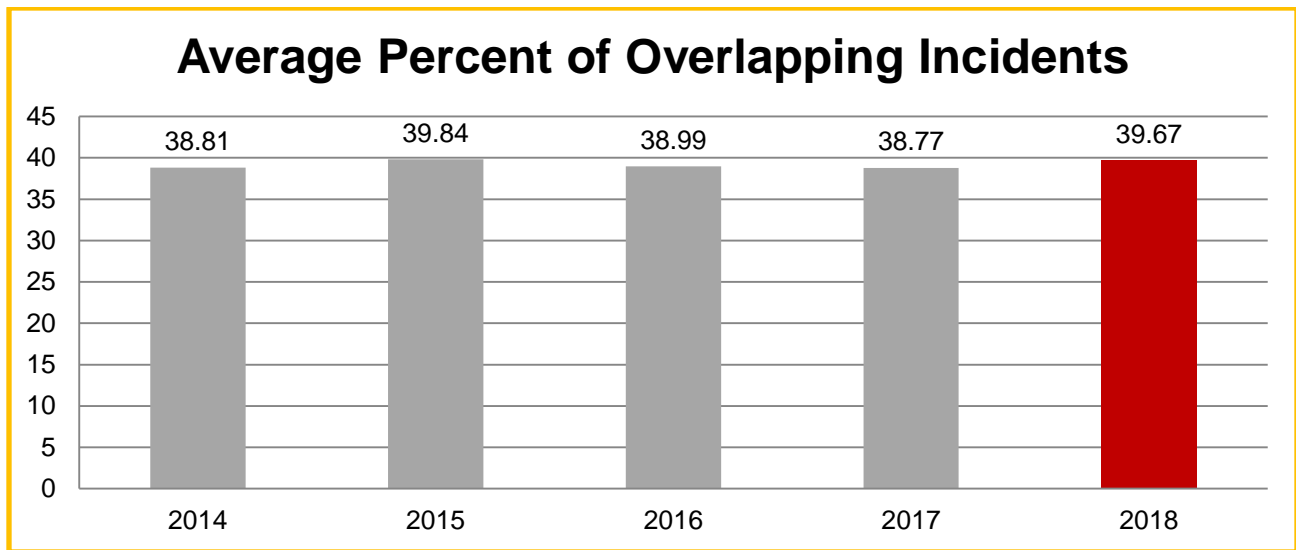
Mutual Aid Given/Received

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Responses Out of City	26	19	21	45	42
Incidents with Mutual Aid Provided	8	8	8	6	8
EMS and Other	18	11	13	39	34
Incidents with Mutual Aid Received	5	5	4	1	5

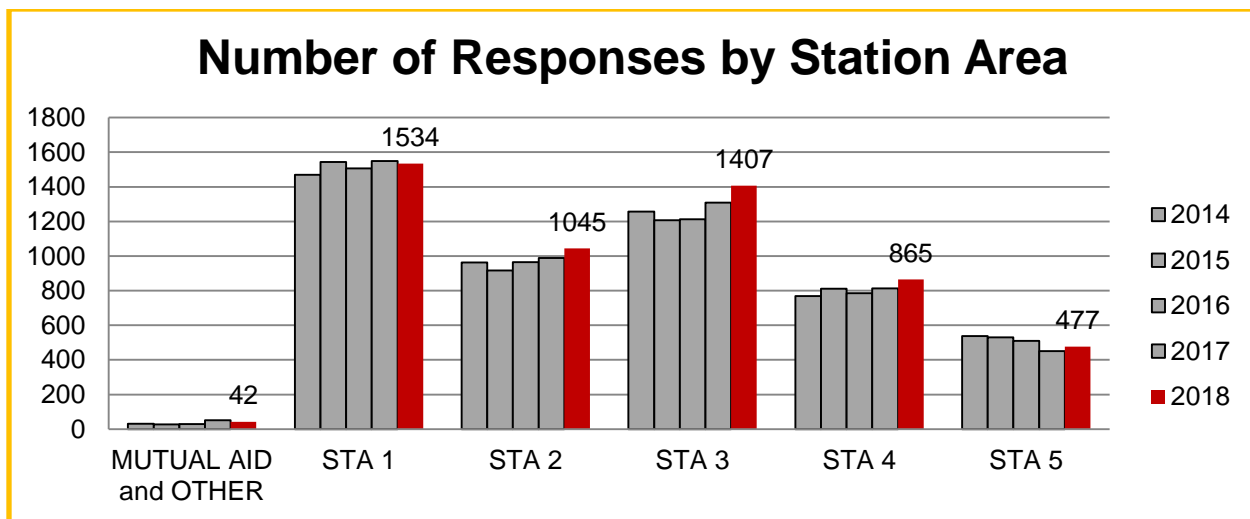
Fire Related Deaths

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Fire Deaths	1	0	1	0	0

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 2018 there was a slight increase in concurrent calls from the previous year, but that increase was insignificant and represented a relatively flat trend, which would suggest a relatively stable call volume overall with a consistent ability to handle the present call volume.

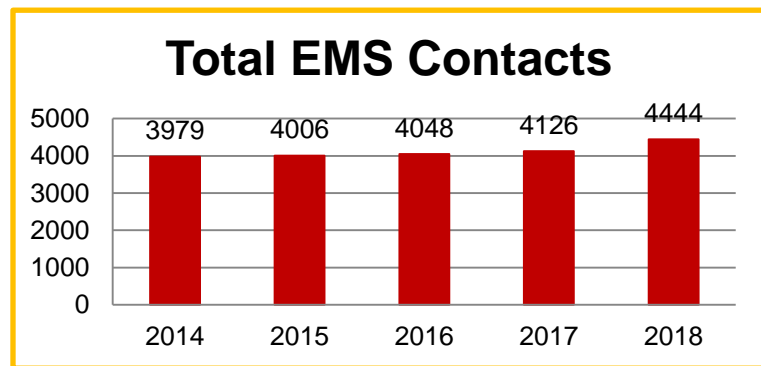


The *Response Requests by Station Area* graph is the total number of incidents as distributed by Fire Station Single Alarm response area as designated by the fire department. These response areas are established to maintain appropriate response times as set forth by the National Fire Protection Association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



Emergency Medical Services

The Sheboygan Fire Department maintains a fleet of four ambulances for providing care and transport to the sick and injured. 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.

The Sheboygan Fire Department is 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.

The Sheboygan Fire Department also is a key member of the recently created Dementia Crisis Care Task Force of Sheboygan County. It is the goal of this task force to improve all aspects of care to persons with dementia and in particular those who are suffering a crisis. The task force has focused on evaluating the current system in place for managing crisis situations, formulating improved, collaborative approaches to better manage those situations, and is providing county-wide education and changes to how these types of calls are being handled.

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.

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.

As fire hazards presented to the public change, so will the program offerings to the public. It is the department's intent to keep educating the public to specific life hazards such as discarding (tossing) cigarettes in or outside of an occupancy and or removing fire safety equipment in an apartment space such as smoke detectors.

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 are 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. We sincerely thank those who contribute to these funds and to this mission.

Using NFPA 1, the use operation and maintenance of all commercial buildings where employees work, and or the public has access and all common areas of 3 family or larger apartment complexes are inspected at least once in a calendar year. The Sheboygan Fire Department uses occupancy records software that tracks annual fire inspections and sends by email any code deficiencies to the owner or occupant. The software also keeps track of building preplan information such as type of occupancy, number of apartment units, chemical storage onsite and types of fire suppression equipment in a building.

Working with the Building and Planning Departments all new construction has a pre occupancy inspection while construction occurs and as fire systems come online in a building. After occupancy, a preplan of the building takes place noting all fire service equipment, utility shutoffs and chemical locations and type of construction are noted and added to our occupancy software. This information is held for the life of the building and is available for pre-incident planning as well as onsite mitigation during an incident.

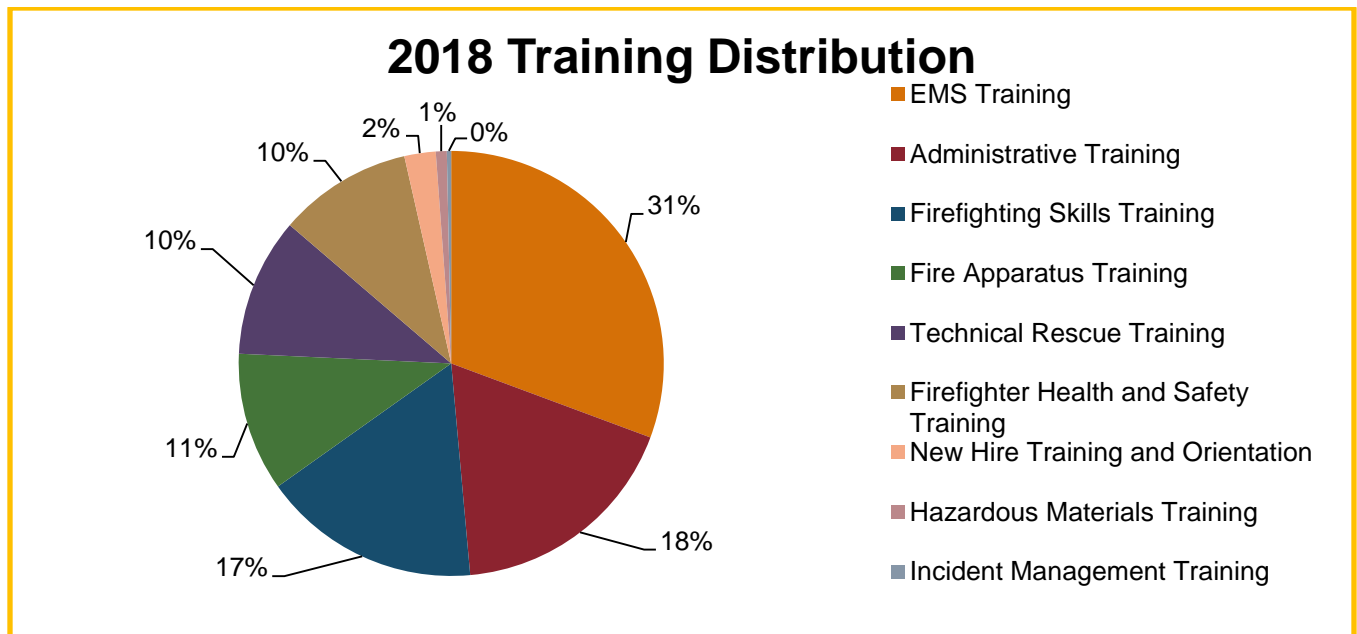


FAMILIES PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITY GAME
DESIGNED AND BUILT BY DEPARTMENT MEMBER

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.

In 2018, a focused effort was made on increasing training and education for Company Officers. This training covered items such as general leadership training, human resource and personnel skills, general supervisory skills, crew readiness, incident management, and many other topics designed to improve relationships and response and to decrease risk to personnel, the public, and to the City. That emphasis is reflected in the large administrative training category.



CATEGORY	TOTAL HOURS
Emergency Medical Services Training	3166
Administrative Training	1849
Firefighting Skills Training	1714
Fire Apparatus Training	1090
Technical Rescue Training	1089
Firefighter Health and Safety Training	1051
New Hire Training and Orientation	246
Hazardous Materials Training	86
Incident Management Training	34
TOTAL TRAINING HOURS	10325

Retirements in 2018



ASSISTANT CHIEF
VERNON KOCH



LIEUTENANT
BLAINE WERNER



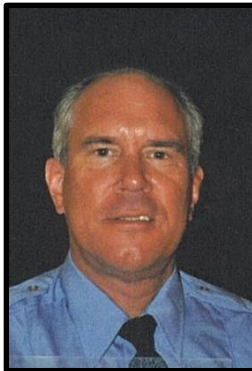
FEO
KURT SPATT



FEO
MICHAEL TOTH



FEO
TODD McLAUGHLIN



FEO
JOSEPH RAML



FEO
MARK ZEMKE

Promotions in 2018



CAPTAIN
JEFFERY SALZMAN



LIEUTENANT
KURT MILLER

New Employees



FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC
STEVEN BOYLE



FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC
ANTHONY WENZEL



FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC
KYLE WAM

New Hire Training

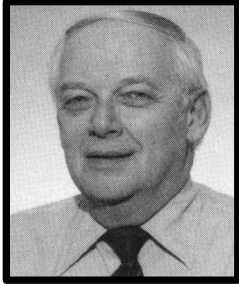
When newly hired personnel enter the Sheboygan Fire Department, it is important for the department to get them up to speed and into their day-to-day positions as soon as possible. It is also critical to their performance and safety that they are properly familiarized with their assignments and how to perform them according to the standards and expectations of the department.

The training division of the fire department works diligently to assure that these new firefighters have all of the tools necessary to perform their jobs. New firefighters are given intensive department familiarization through a year-long probationary period that begins with 3 weeks of direct instruction on 8 hour days prior to moving on to the 24 hour duty rotation. They are issued gear, brought up to speed on pertinent policies and procedures, tested on their driving performance for ambulance vehicles, their medical care and their firefighting skills, and even tested on historical facts and background on the fire department. All of this helps to build a sense of team and family as a member of the Sheboygan Fire Department.

Everyone coming into the department has education, certifications, and licenses as a condition of hire, but it is up to the department to verify that information and skill set and to expand that knowledge with department-specific information related to their new employment prior to placing them in the field providing medical care and entering hazardous situations.

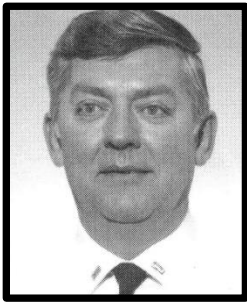


In Memoriam



Vilas Vreeke

Born:
Appointed: 1964
Retired: 1991
Retired as a Fire Equipment Operator
Returned to Quarters: 2018



Thomas Murray

Born:
Appointed: 1961
Retired: 1990
Retired as a Lieutenant
Returned to Quarters: 2018

**“What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and
the world remains and is immortal.”**

Albert Pine