

St. Charles Fire Department

2018 Annual Report



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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

CHIEF JOE SCHELSTREET

"Life is a journey and not a destination."

-- Lynn H. Hough



It is at this time of year when I have always found myself struck with the greatest feelings of anticipation. This is true for a couple of reasons. First, the budget has moved through its process and we understand the funding that we have to work with. Second, this document is being completed and, with its memorialization of the previous year's accomplishments, we can identify the new starting point for the upcoming year's goals and achievements. We will celebrate what we do well and what we have completed. We will look forward to what we can do better and what comes next.

Knowing the starting point and what resources are available are only minor variables within the equation when striving for success. The indivisible constant must be the strength of the membership. As an organization, we are so very fortunate to be comprised of a group of people who love to achieve and are very proud of their profession, their department and the reputation that they have earned. Certainly, we have not been afraid to take on the greatest of challenges.

We have dedicated ourselves to continuous improvement and, in 2018; the Fire Department was reaccredited through the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). Our Emergency Management Agency (EMA) was also reaccredited through the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA).



Additionally, the Tri City Ambulance Association has started the reaccreditation process through the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS).

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

CHIEF JOE SCHELSTREET

This past year we witnessed the retirement of several members who gave a great deal to the Fire Department. While this has been the continuation of a recent trend and is certainly the natural order of things, we lost well over 100 years of experience when we thanked them for their service and wished them all the best for the future. These bittersweet events require us to say goodbye for the last time however; they allow for the celebration of successful careers and for fresh opportunities due to available promotions and the start of new careers. Our department was furthered a great deal through the shared knowledge and experiences of those who have left; we will profit much from the new ideas and outlooks of those who take their place.



As a high performance organization, the St. Charles Fire Department has always met challenges as they have come. As you read this in-depth report on the previous year's activity, you will see how each division and program has not only met but has also surpassed expectations for service delivery and operation. Incident numbers continue to increase, enhanced training hours and performance builds better firefighters and more aggressive inspection and public education activities serve to minimize fire loss and injury. The members of this fire department rise to the occasion every shift and serve the community with distinction.

By their nature, firefighters revel in a contest and achieve satisfaction when the test has been overcome. Because of this, the most important maxim to acknowledge and remember is that the desire to improve and achieve must not end. We will always continue to confront and excel as no finish line exists. The true joy in this profession is reaped along the way, as it always has been, through taking the journey with each other.

Administration

FOREIGN FIRE INSURANCE TAX BOARD

FIREFIGHTER/PM STEVE REHAK

The Foreign Fire Insurance Board (the Board”) consists of six (6) full-time, sworn members of the Department elected by their peers in addition to the Fire Chief by virtue of rank. It is the mission of the Board to receive and account for revenues from the tax on fire insurance policies sold by foreign (out of state) insurance companies, and to use such funds for the maintenance, use, and benefit of the Department. 2018 proved to be another busy year for members of the Foreign Fire Insurance Board. The largest single expenditure approved this year was three (3) curved treadmills at an amount of \$16,451. These treadmills replaced aging equipment in the station and include a 10 year warranty. The Foreign Fire Insurance Board also helped supplement the department purchase of five (5) Zoll cardiac monitors for all frontline fire apparatus. The 2018 budget was approved with a starting balance of \$270,694.19 and the Board approved expenditures just over \$100,000 throughout the year. The Board approved requests for station equipment, apparatus upgrades, personal safety equipment, and station exercise equipment throughout the year.

Notable Purchases Made in the 2018 Budget Year Include;



Public Education Trailer Design and Wrap
 Curved Trainer Treadmills
 R.E.D. Uniform Shirts
 Leatherman Tools
 Zoll Cardiac Monitor

2018 Foreign Fire Insurance Board Members:



FF/PM Steve Rehak- Board Chairman
 Lt. Anthony Cavallo- Vice Chairman
 FF/PM Mike Pyzyna- Secretary
 FF Phil Kuhn- Treasurer
 Lt. Guy Gresser- Trustee
 Capt. Tony Centimano- Trustee
 Fire Chief Joe Schelstreet- Trustee

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

COORDINATOR MARK CHMURA

Administration

2018 continued to be a year of change, transition and improvement for the St. Charles Emergency Management Agency.

Over the course of the year, EMA personnel responded to a wide variety of emergencies and call-outs which tested the knowledge and resolve of our members. The early part of the year, Team members assisted the Fire Department with structure fires within the City, providing rest and rehabilitation service to them, as well as safety through traffic control measures. In April, the group assisted the Police Department with the follow-up and investigation from an "officer-involved-shooting". Members exhibited extreme professionalism in working through a situation that rarely occurs. Into late summer and early fall, EMA members were called for a variety of gas leaks that occurred from on-going construction improvements within the City. November saw another flurry of activity when they assisted the Fire Department with another structure fire, assisted the Police Department with an outdoor investigation, as well as staffing the Emergency Operations Center during Winter Storm Bruce, which occurred over Thanksgiving weekend. Moving forward into next year, EMA remains prepared to answer any challenges put to them.

The Team itself also went through some changes this year. Over the course of the year, we said "so long" to three members; **Barry Lafayette, Jason Douglass and Rick Mercado**. We are sad to lose their dedication, education and experience, but wish them the very best in their endeavors in the future. The Team looks forward to filling their positions in early 2019. However, the most noticeable loss is when Coordinator Emily Kies submitted her resignation in March to pursue a position in the private sector. Her vision and dedication to Emergency Management in the City of St. Charles is ever appreciated, and shall serve as a foundation to future growth in safety and preparedness. We also wish her well, and great success.



In August, I was sworn in as the new Coordinator of the St. Charles Emergency Management Agency. I come to St. Charles from the Naperville Fire Department, where I retired after 30+ years of service. My outlook and vision for St. Charles Emergency Management is one of growth and forward progress, and I am anxious to meet the new challenges head-on.

Administration

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY CONT.
COORDINATOR MARK CHMURA

One of the biggest accomplishments for the Team this year is the re-accreditation of the St. Charles Emergency Management Agency through the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. Extensive time and effort was put forth to provide the necessary paperwork and exhibits for consideration. The City of St. Charles holds the honor of being one of only a few municipalities to be accredited, something which the entire Team is proud. Another major accomplishment for the Team this year is the revamping and updating of our fleet. Early in the year, Team members welcomed a repurposed vehicle from another City Department as a front line response vehicle. Some funds were invested, as well as time and effort from Fire Department members and Team members to get the vehicle ready for duty. Then, in December, the City Council considered and approved a brand new vehicle to replace the older one which had reached its maximum age and usefulness. This new vehicle will be the first ever “factory new” vehicle that the St. Charles Emergency Management Agency will have .



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY_{CONT.}
 COORDINATOR MARK CHMURA

Administration

Over the course of the year, even though emergency responses were down slightly from previous years, member’s special duty hours and training continued to grow.

St. Charles continues to embrace community spirit, and the number of parades, festivals, and sporting events continues to grow in both number and size. Members have answered that call to duty, and look forward to the future. Furthermore, all members are looking forward and anxious to different training opportunities and skills sessions to broaden their knowledge and awareness in the Emergency Management field. Looking ahead to 2019, the future holds many opportunities. Outside of the initiatives and events listed above, there are many other things in the future that members look forward to. In addition to even greater training and education opportunities, equipment updates and modernization continue to be a goal of the Team.

2018 SCEMA Activity	Sum of Hours
Christmas Parade	31.50
EMA Call Out	220.25
EMA Training	272.00
City Hall Security	481.50
General Activity	2,504.25
Grand Total:	3,509.50



Emergency Preparedness Technician Jeff Morris manning the children’s smoke trailer at the 2018 Fire Department Open House

Operations

OPERATIONS

ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

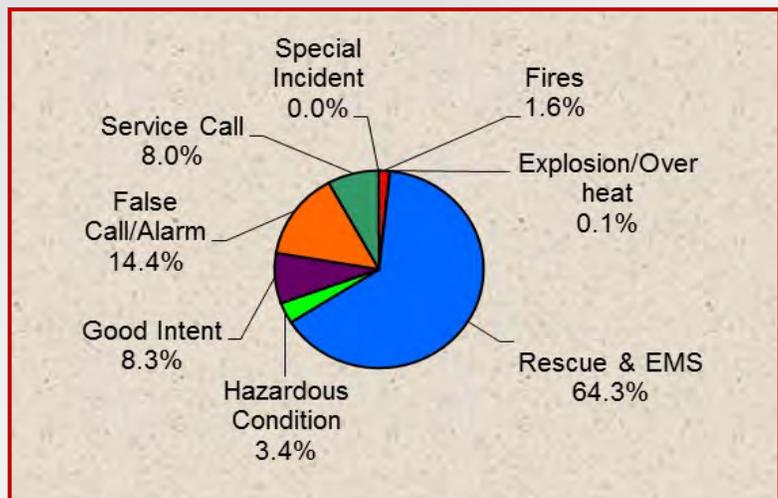
The men and women of the operations division of the St. Charles Fire Department are proud to have the privilege and responsibility to provide emergency and non-emergency services to the citizens, business owners, and visitors who find them in need of our assistance. Among the services provided by the St. Charles Fire Department include fire suppression, rescue operations, emergency medical responses, and special team functions.

The St. Charles Fire Department was dispatched to a total of 4,964 incidents during 2018. The personnel from the St. Charles Fire Department handled an average of 13.6 incident responses each day throughout 2018. This was a 3.57% increase in daily call volume over the previous year.

2018 ST. CHARLES FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS BY INCIDENT TYPE

Incident Type	Number
Fires	80
Overpressure/Explosion	4
Rescue & Emergency Medical Services	3191
Hazardous Condition	170
Service Incident	395
Good Intent Incident	410
False Call or Alarm	712
Special Incident Type	2
Total	4964

Types of Incidents 2018



OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations

Type of Fire Incident	Number
Structure/Building Fires	40
Appliance/Cooking/Chimney Fires	11
Vehicle Fires	10
Grass/Brush/Wildland Fires	11
Dumpster/Rubbish Fires	8
Other Fires	
Total	80

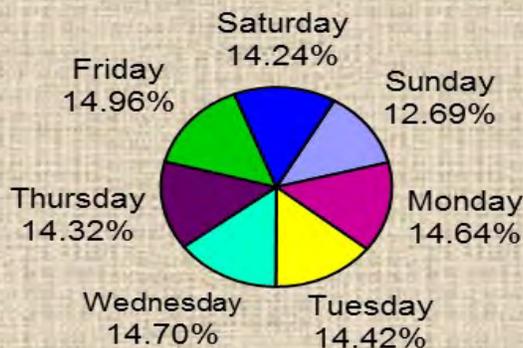
The St. Charles Fire Department responded to 80 fires of various types, constituting less than 2% of the total incidents handled. The total fire loss for 2018 was \$192,875. The firefighter's efforts resulted in saving more than 99.61% of the property in which fire occurred.

The Department responded to 3,191 Rescue and EMS incidents during 2018. These calls comprised 64.3% of the total responses for the St. Charles Fire Department.

A breakdown of these incidents identifies the different types of rescue incidents.

Type of Rescue Incident	Number
EMS, Excluding Vehicle Accidents	2815
Medic Assistance	86
Vehicle Accidents	241
Pedestrian vs Vehicle Accidents	7
Water Rescue	3
Extrication Incidents	30
EMS Stand-By	9
Total	3191

2018 Incidents By Day of the Week



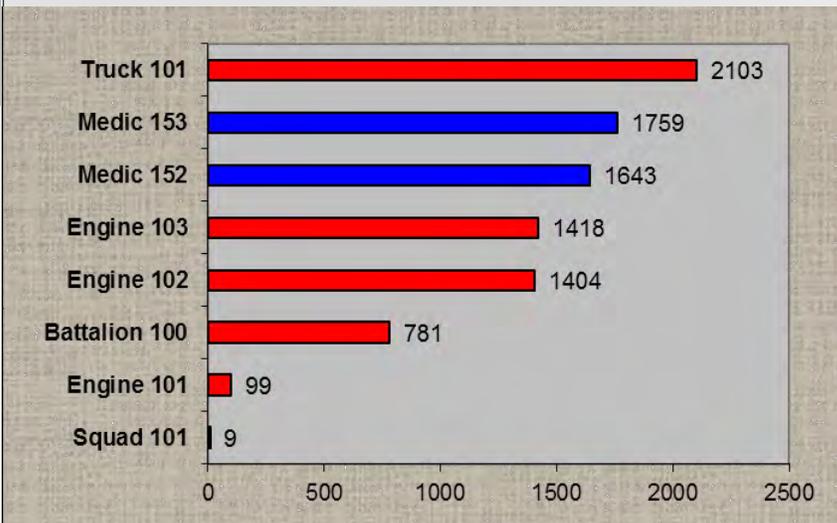
Operations

OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Friday, with 743 incidents, was the busiest day of the week in calendar year 2018. Wednesday and Monday were close behind with 730 and 727 incidents.

Day of the Week	Total Incidents	Average Daily Incidents
Sunday	630	12.12
Monday	727	13.72
Tuesday	716	13.77
Wednesday	730	14.04
Thursday	711	13.67
Friday	743	14.29
Saturday	707	13.60

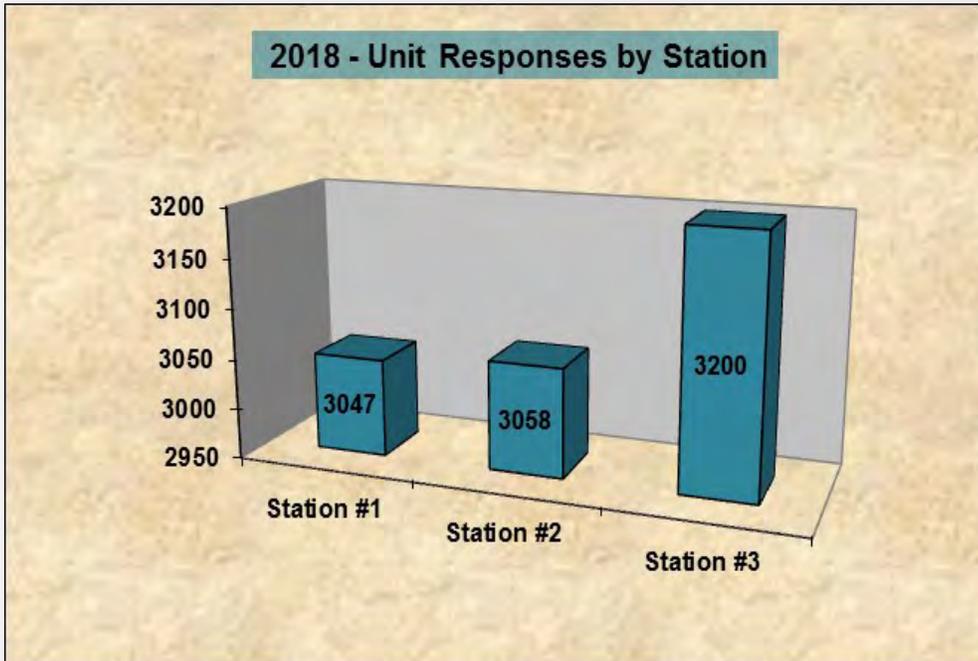
Truck Company 101 continued their status as the busiest company within the St. Charles Fire Department, surpassing the 2,000 call mark again in 2018, with **2,103** responses. This equates to an average of 175 responses per month or 5.76 incident responses every day.



SCFD
2018
Responses
By Unit

OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations



Fire Station #3 retained the distinction of being the busiest station location by unit responses, with 3200 Total Unit Responses in 2018.



Operations

OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON



STATIONS AND PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS AS OF DECEMBER 2018



Fire Station #1 – 112 N. Riverside Avenue
Central Station – Downtown
Truck 101-Engine 101-Squad 101-Battalion 100

Battalion 100	Acting Battalion Chief Tony Centimano	Battalion Chief Jeremy Mauthe	Battalion Chief Jim Kurczek
------------------	---	----------------------------------	--------------------------------

Truck 101	Lt. Tony Cavallo	Capt. Jason Peterson	Lt. Walter Voelsch
		Lt. Joe Davila	Lt. Jeff Tarro
	Steve Rehak	Mike Pyzyna	Brian Hansen
	Steve Siwy	Chad Tinsley	Steve Dries
	Andrew Kidd	Megan Funk	Patrick Lacey

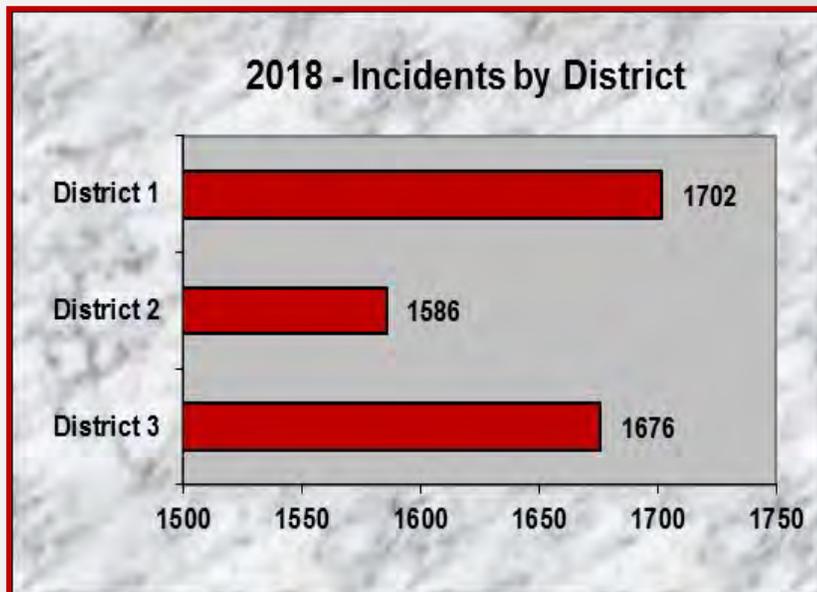
OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations



FIRE STATION #2 – 2900 PRODUCTION DRIVE
East Side

Engine 102	LT. CLIFF LO	Lt. Mike Schaben	Capt. Darin
	Tim McCarthy	Nick Marqui	Don Fruland
	Trevor Kelly	Brandon Paus	Chris Thomas
	OPEN	OPEN	Andrew Cichon
Medic 152	DYLAN MUIR	John Roth	Mike Wigder
	SAMANTHA SEBECK	Kristen Fitt	Maurice Chabolla



Fire Station #1 maintained the Title as the Busiest Station District. Their response district had 1,702 incidents occurring during the year 2018.

Operations

OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON



FIRE STATION #3 - 2901 CAMPTON HILLS ROAD
West Side

Engine 103	LT. GUY GRESSER	Lt. Dave Chmelar	Lt. Allen Wade
	Kelly Malone	Phil Kuhn	Brad
	Wes Gosser	Ryan Gleason	Scott Sulak
	Ben Gore	OPEN	Andrew
Medic 153	TRENT MOSER	Joe Kay	Steve
	KAYLA PAXSON	Marta Burak	Chris Swon



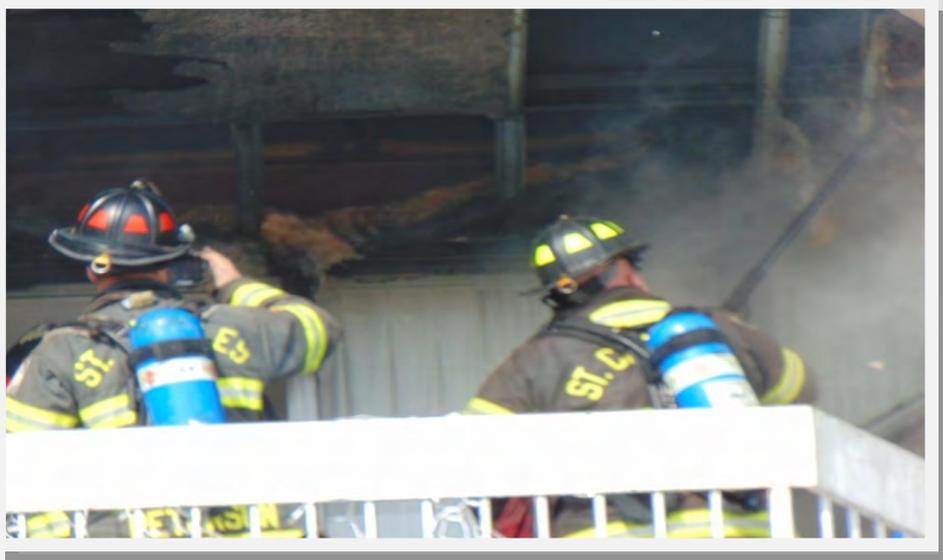
OPERATIONS CONT.
 ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations

The dedication and efforts of the St. Charles Fire Department personnel has continued to manifest in the provision of exceptional service and protection to our citizens, business owners, and visitors to our community. One positive benefit of this exceptional level of service is the total fire loss for the entire year of 2018 was held to \$ 192,875. The fire loss equates to our services protecting and saving an amazing 99.61% of the property that was affected by fire situations.



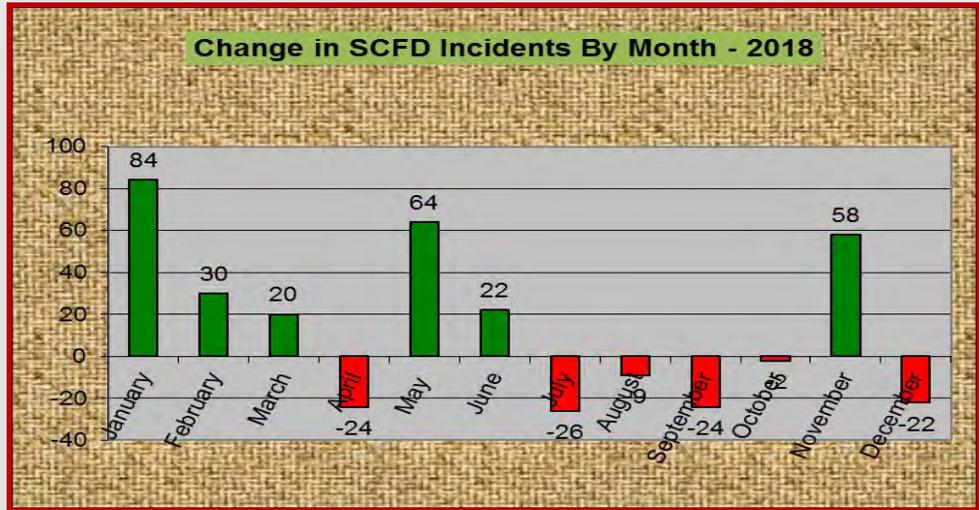
YEAR 2018	Amount	Percentage
Value of Property	\$ 49,483,146	100.00%
Fire Losses	\$ 192,875	.39%
Property Saved	\$ 49,290,271	99.61%



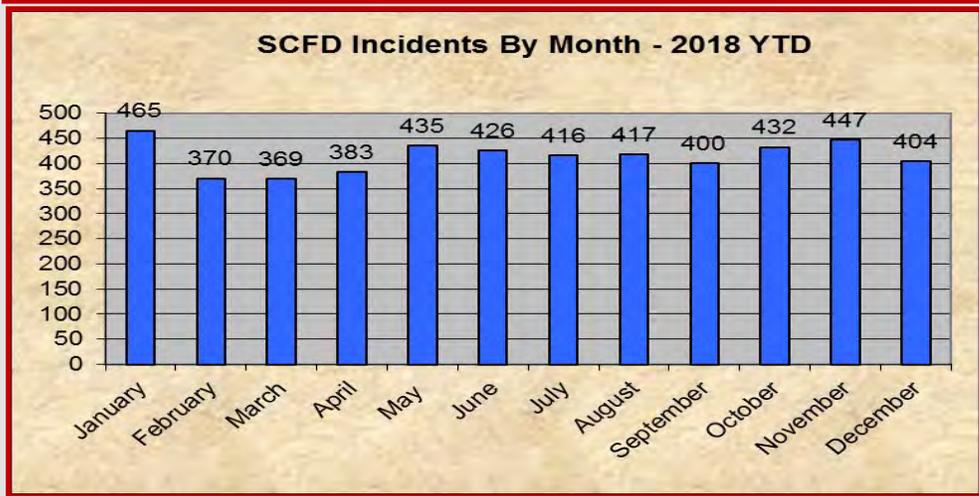
Operations

OPERATIONS CONT. ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

During 2018, three months experienced a substantial increase in call volume per month over the previous year. The year started faster than 2017 and then had a relatively quiet summer and fall. The year 2018 ended with an increase of 171 calls over the previous year.



The year 2018 started out busy, with 465 calls in January. The months of November, with 447 and May with 435, were the next busiest periods during the year.



OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations



**Incident #
18-000565**

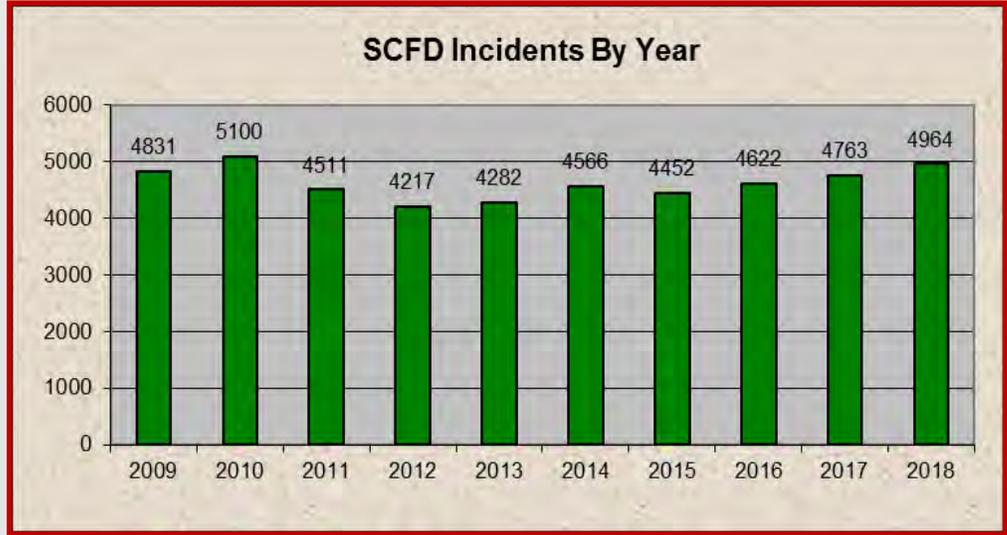
201 N. Tyler Rd.

**February 7,
2018**

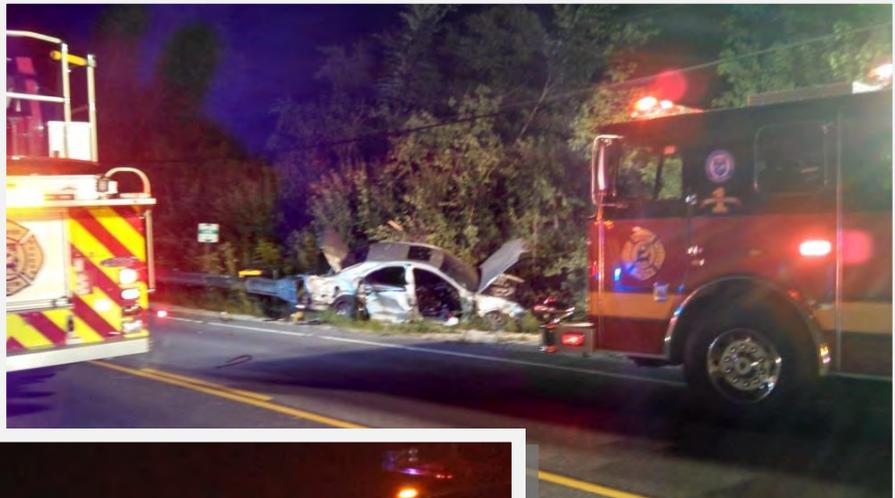
Operations

OPERATIONS CONT. ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

The number of calls handled by St. Charles Fire Department continued to increase, this year by 171, to a total of 4,964 incidents during 2018. This was a 3.57% increase in call volume over 2017. The total annual responses over the past ten years are displayed in the chart below.



Car Accident on Route 25

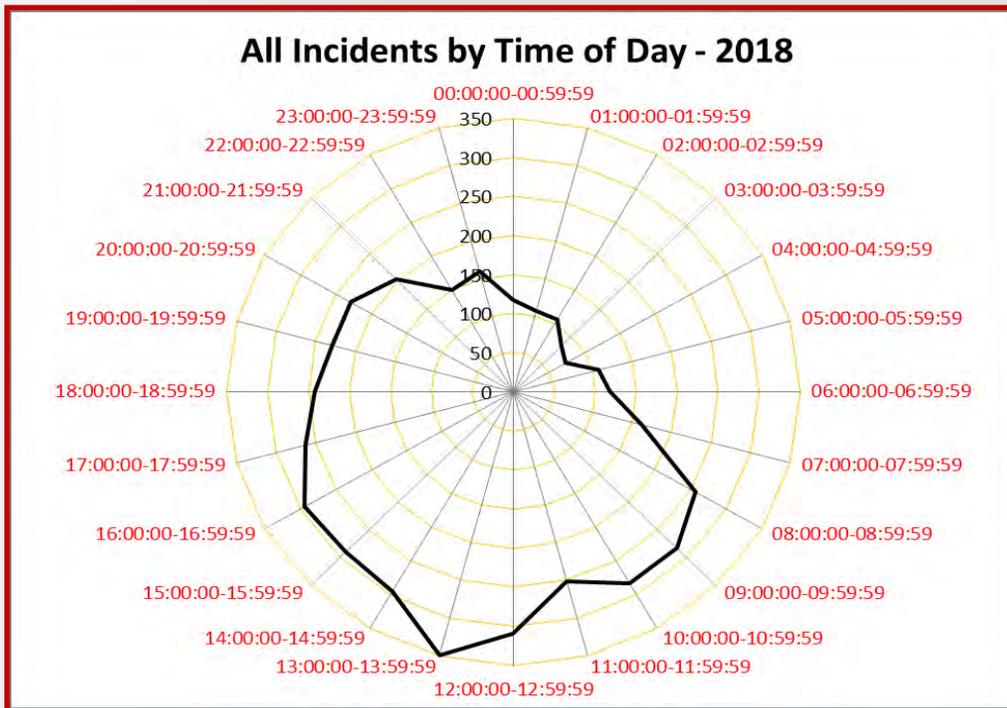


Patient Transported Via Helicopter From Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parking Lot

OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations

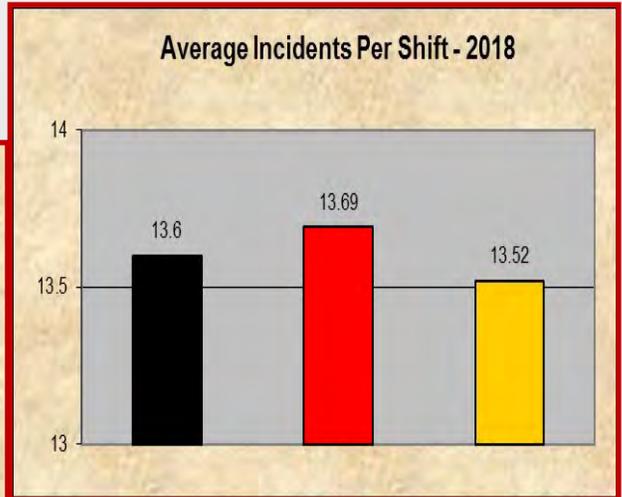
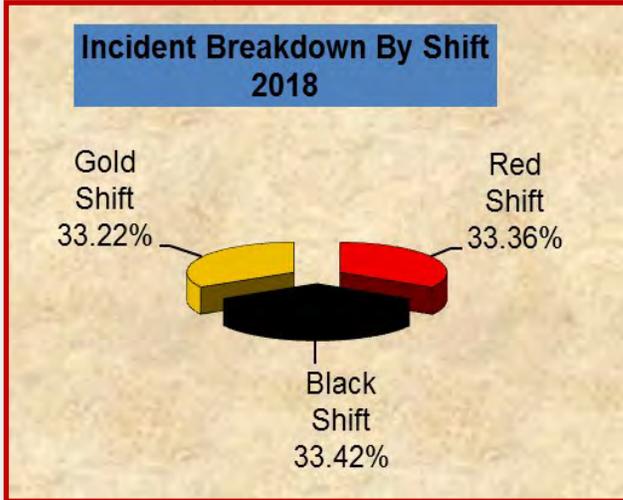
Since the type of emergency incident and the time at which any incident might occur is unknown, the St. Charles Fire Department must be prepared and ready to respond twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week. Reviewing the time of day that emergency incidents occurred during 2018, the bulk of the total incidents continued to occur during the daytime into the evening period. In 2018, the time from 7:00 a.m. through midnight was busy, with a peak period from 8:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m. daily.



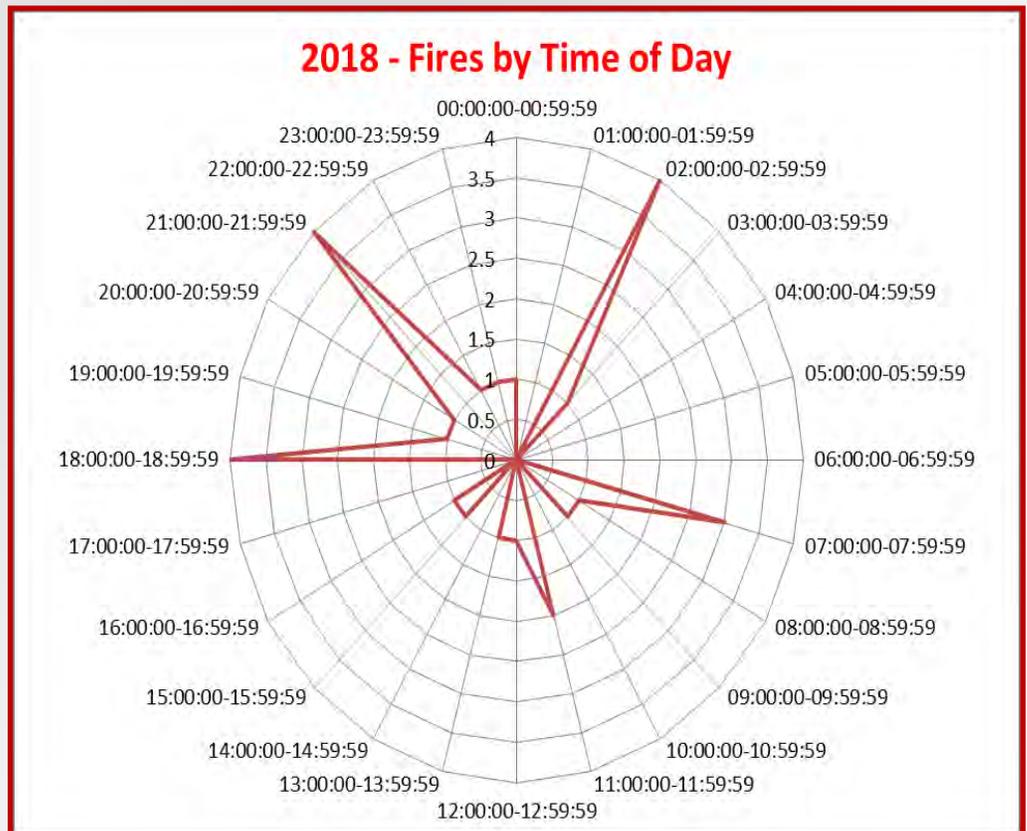
Time of Day	# of Calls	Time of Day	# of Calls
00:00:00-00:59:59	118	12:00:00-12:59:59	310
01:00:00-01:59:59	107	13:00:00-13:59:59	349
02:00:00-02:59:59	107	14:00:00-14:59:59	295
03:00:00-03:59:59	83	15:00:00-15:59:59	289
04:00:00-04:59:59	73	16:00:00-16:59:59	295
05:00:00-05:59:59	108	17:00:00-17:59:59	263
06:00:00-06:59:59	118	18:00:00-18:59:59	242
07:00:00-07:59:59	163	19:00:00-19:59:59	229
08:00:00-08:59:59	257	20:00:00-20:59:59	229
09:00:00-09:59:59	283	21:00:00-21:59:59	203
10:00:00-10:59:59	283	22:00:00-22:59:59	150
11:00:00-11:59:59	251	23:00:00-23:59:59	159
		Total Incidents	4964

Operations

OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON



During 2018, fire incident calls actually occurred throughout the 24 hour period. The most active periods are illustrated by spikes occurring in the morning, afternoon, and evening.



OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations



**House Fire
at
506 Pin Oak Court**



Operations

OPERATIONS CONT.
 ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Incidents by Response Zones

Station District	Response Zone	Incidents in 2018
1	1A	325
1	1B	139
1	1C	435
1	1D	301
1	1E	84
1	1F	218
1	1G	63
1	1H	36
2	2A	239
2	2B	728
2	2C	408
2	2D	49
3	3A	169
3	3B	356
3	3C	382
3	3D	280

OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations



**Surrey Hill
Apartments**

201 N. Tyler

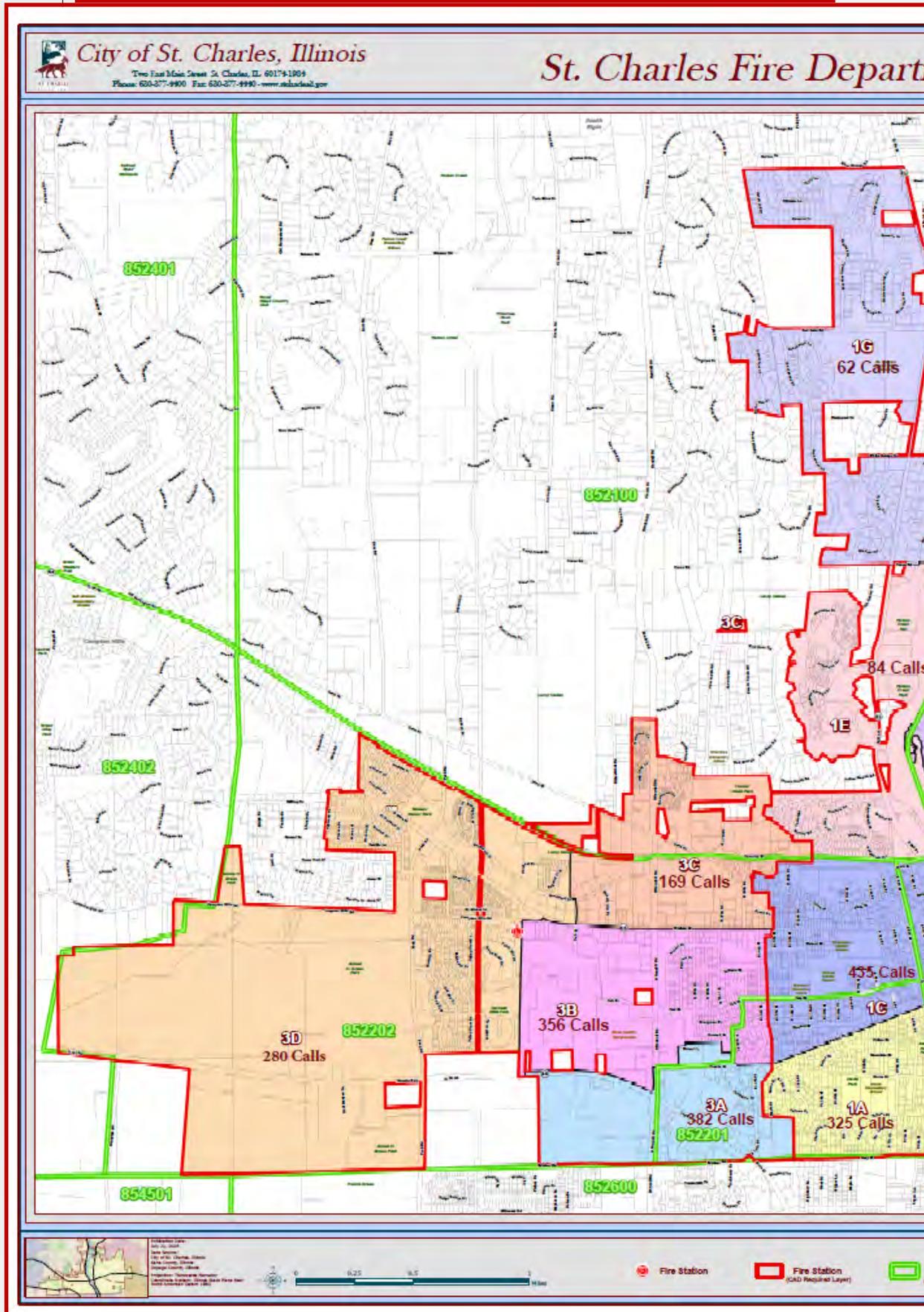


More From

**506 Pin Oak
Court**

Operations

OPERATIONS CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

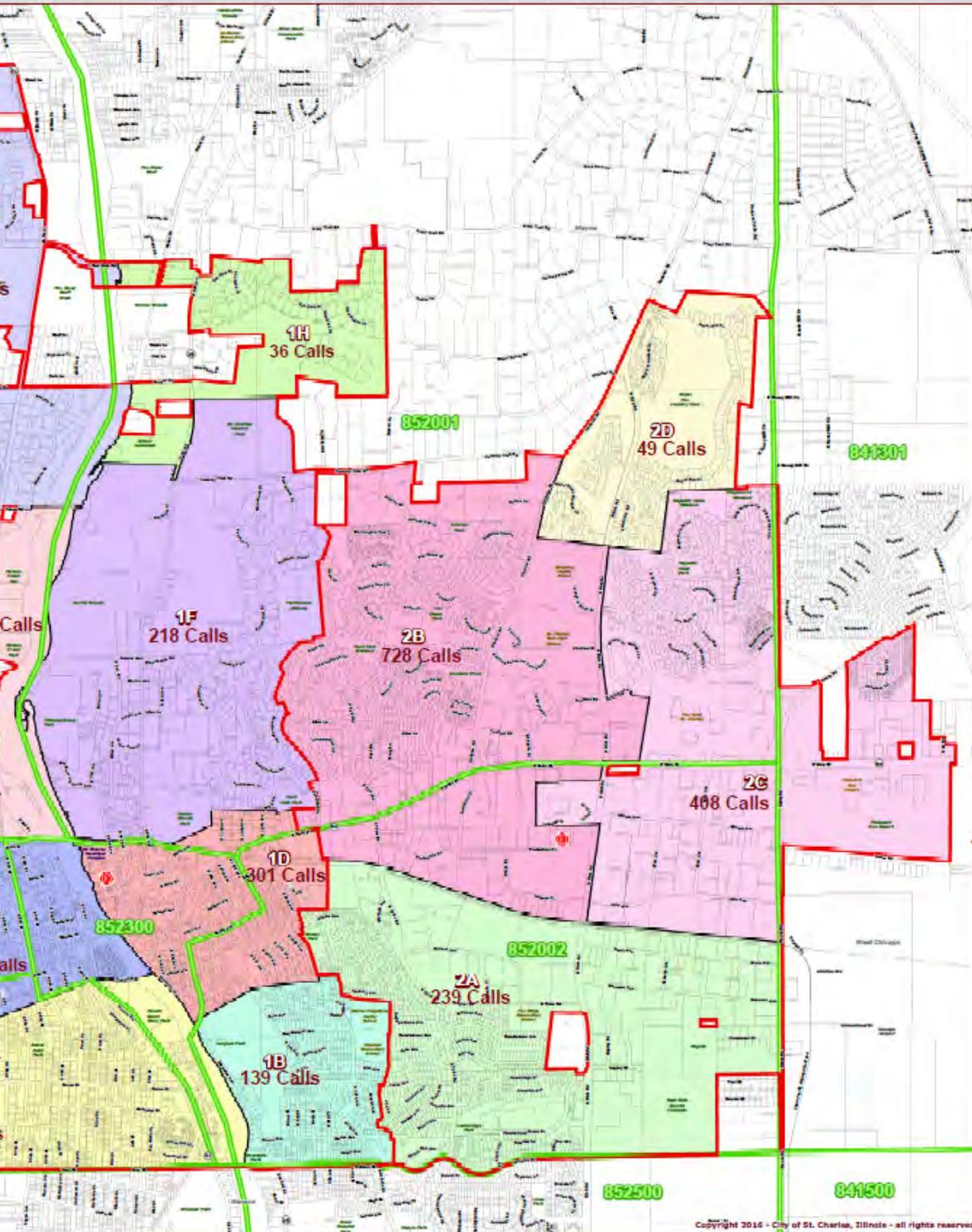


OPERATIONS CONT. ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations

Department 2018 Calls

RAYMOND ROGINA Mayor
MARK KOENEN City Administrator



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Fire District (Fire Reporting Layer)

1A	1C	1E	1G	2A	2C	3A	3C
1B	1D	1F	1H	2B	2D	3B	3D

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Operations

ACCREDITATION ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

The St. Charles Fire Department achieved Accredited status from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) of the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) on August 15, 2013. To maintain Accreditation the St. Charles Fire Department has to monitor all facets of our organization, operations, and performance. During the five year Accreditation cycle, we must complete an annual review of our performance, planning, and improvements. This Annual Compliance Report (ACR) is submitted to CFAI for review and acceptance each July throughout the cycle.



The Accreditation decal is proudly displayed on the St. Charles Fire Department apparatus and vehicles.

Throughout 2017, the St. Charles Fire Department ramped up the activity in preparation of the formal re-Accreditation process. The requirements continue to evolve and become even more challenging with each cycle, as the required standards are constantly being modified and improved with each edition of the accreditation standards.

Through the combined efforts of all the members of the St. Charles Fire Department, the required documentation, reports, performance measures, and supporting information were all submitted by the March 2018 deadline. CFAI assigned a site team to review all the information provided by our Department. The peer assessors from the site team spent several weeks examining all aspects of the St. Charles Fire Department from the information provided and asked questions about any items needing clarification or explanation. The site team then confirmed the submittal was of sufficient quality and acceptable, so the site visit to St. Charles was confirmed. The site visit involved four chief fire officers, all from states outside of Illinois, traveling to St. Charles for four days. During that period, the peer assessors performed interviews with individuals from fire, dispatch, water, human resources, finance, and city administration. The peer assessors spent time visiting, examining, and reviewing the resources, personnel, operations, and responses of the St. Charles Fire Department. During the site visit, the peer assessor were able to confidently confirm that our Department was indeed operating as the documents explained and at a high level of performance.

ACCREDITATION CONT. ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations

The site visit concluded with a briefing for the City of St. Charles and the St. Charles Fire Department where the peer assessors provided a brief narrative of their findings. The report was positive, allowing the St. Charles Fire Department to once again prove it was worthy of earning Accredited status.



The members of the St. Charles Fire Department Accreditation Leadership Team with the Peer Assessors at the successful conclusion of the site assessment visit. Pictured, left to right; Chief Joe Schelstreet, Carole Murphy, Floyd Fritz, Ron Prettyman, Site Team Leader Mike Stallings, Richard Mascarella, Asst. Chief Scott Swanson and Asst. Chief Kevin Christensen.



Operations

ACCREDITATION CONT. ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

The St. Charles Fire Department was the ninth fire department to appear before the Commission on August 8, 2018, the first of the three days of hearings.



Commission on Fire Accreditation International

CFAI Commission Hearings Wednesday, August 8

0915-1015 Hours	1245-1345 Hours
Overland Park Fire Department <i>Overland Park, Kansas</i>	Loveland Symmes Fire Department <i>Loveland, Ohio</i>
Amarillo Fire Department <i>Amarillo, Texas</i>	Frisco Fire Department <i>Frisco, Texas</i>
Bowling Green Fire Department <i>Bowling Green, Kentucky</i>	St. Charles Fire Department <i>St. Charles, Illinois</i>
1030-1130 Hours	1400-1500 Hours
Springdale Fire Department <i>Springdale, Arkansas</i>	City of Clovis Fire Department <i>Clovis, California</i>
Rocky Mount Fire Department <i>Rocky Mount, North Carolina</i>	Murrieta Fire & Rescue <i>Murrieta, California</i>
Washington Township Fire Department <i>Dayton, Ohio</i>	Sioux Falls Fire Rescue <i>Sioux Falls, South Dakota</i>
	LaGrange Fire Department <i>LaGrange, Georgia</i>

The St. Charles Fire Department was awarded Accreditation Status from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International on August 8, 2018 at the commission hearings held in Dallas Texas.



ACCREDITATION CONT.

ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Representing the culmination of a successful effort to retain Accredited Agency status through the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Assistant Chief Swanson, Assistant Chief Christensen and Chief Schelstreet traveled to Dallas and presented our documentation to the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. Assisted by Chief Mike Stallings, our Team Leader, we answered questions on our submittals during the St. Charles Fire Department's hearing before the Commission. The Commission found that we submitted high quality documentation of our efforts and that all requirements were met successfully. We received a unanimous vote of approval for retaining Accredited Agency status for the next five years.



Operations

The official Accreditation plaque awarded to the St. Charles Fire Department on August 8, 2018 following our appearance at the CFAI Hearing and the Commission on Fire Accreditation International approval of all documentation and Peer Team Site Review.

Operations

ACCREDITATION ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

With our accomplishment, The St. Charles Fire Department remains one of only 250 departments that currently have earned accredited status. This achievement indicates to our citizens and elected officials that our department is not only comprised of dedicated professionals, but that we are also truly a leader in the provision of fire and rescue services our industry. Our ability to obtain funding for our apparatus, equipment, and personnel needs is significantly enhanced by our capability to demonstrate and validate needs through the use of the information and documentation produced during the accreditation process.



St. Charles Fire Chief Joe Schelstreet and Mayor Raymond Rogina proudly display the official Accreditation plaque from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

ACCREDITATION CONT.
ASSISTANT CHIEF SCOTT SWANSON

Operations

St. Charles Fire Department Intra-Department Memorandum



Date: August 9, 2018

To: All Fire Department Personnel

From: Chief Joe Schelstreet

Re: Achievement of Reaccreditation through CPSE

Reviewed: Station _____

Black Shift: _____ Date: _____

Red Shift: _____ Date: _____

Gold Shift: _____ Date: _____

- Information Operational Update #
 New Policy Personnel Change
 Revised Policy Other

This document may be removed from the Department Correspondence file on: **December 31, 2018**

Representing the culmination of a successful effort to achieve reaccreditation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence, Assistant Chief Swanson, Assistant Chief Christensen and I traveled to Dallas and presented our documentation to the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. Assisted by Chief Mike Stallings, our Team Leader, we answered questions on our submittals during our hearing. The commission found that we submitted high quality documentation of our efforts and that all requirements were met successfully. We received a unanimous vote of approval for reaccredited status.

I would like to extend my most sincere thanks to everyone who participated in this process. Led by Assistant Chief Swanson, our Accreditation Manager, the time and effort expended was significant with extra hours being the norm for several months. With our accomplishment, we remain one of only 250 departments that currently enjoy this designation. Please understand that this achievement indicates to our citizens and elected officials that our department is not only comprised of dedicated professionals, but that we are also truly a leader in our industry. Our ability to obtain funding for our apparatus, equipment, and personnel needs is significantly enhanced by our capability to demonstrate necessity through the use of the documentation produced during the accreditation process. We have long realized here that it is not enough to just do a great job on the street, it is necessary to document it and be transparent with our results.

Through our combined efforts, we continue to achieve and progress. During an upcoming meeting of the City Council, we will celebrate this accomplishment. It is my hope that many of you will be able to attend the meeting and share in the moment. I will offer updated information on the date of the meeting as it is confirmed. Please contact me with any questions.

Operations

SOPs include the requirements of service, of the following:

- Illinois Department of Public Health. EMS Systems Act

(210 ILCS 50/1 Chapter 111).

- Illinois Administrative Code. Title 77 – Part 535.

The total EMS response capability includes:

- Two ALS Ambulances *
- Two ALS Engine Companies *
- One ALS truck company.

EMS

CAPTAIN TONY CENTIMANO

The St. Charles Fire Department provides the community of St. Charles with a high level of out-of-hospital emergency medical care. Personnel are trained to deliver advanced life support, (ALS) services. To maintain acceptable travel times for service, the Department provides ALS capable primary response units in each firehouse. The total EMS response capability includes: two ALS ambulances, two ALS engine companies and one ALS truck company.

Department policy requires medical personnel to adhere to the Standard Operating Procedures, (SOP) established by the Southern Fox Valley EMS System (SFVEMSS).

Responsibility for medical control rests with the Southern Fox Valley Emergency Medical Services System, based at Delnor Hospital in Geneva Illinois. Citizens access the system primarily through use of an enhanced 911 telephone system located at Tri-Com Central Dispatch.

The Saint Charles Fire Department's standard operating procedures requires this agency meets its staffing, response time, apparatus and equipment deployment objectives for each type of emergency medical incidents.

Emergency medical response comprises over 60 % of Fire Department emergency activity. The Saint Charles Fire Department provides 24-hour response coverage for Emergency Medical Services to the City of Saint Charles. Personnel are trained to deliver advanced life support, (ALS) services. The Department is providing response times of within six minutes 85 percent of the time as represented by the Department Standard of Coverage. In order to minimize travel times, the Department provides ALS capable primary response units in each firehouse. Saint Charles Fire Department staffing, apparatus and equipment demonstrate the municipal government's commitment to delivering excellent levels of EMS care to residents. Department policies, practices and agreements establish not only paramedic ambulance companies, but also ALS capable engines and a truck company. ALS companies are maintained at all times in each district as call volume allows. This allows efficient utilization of available resources while adhering to State Statutes, IDPH Rules and Southern Fox Valley EMS System Regulations.

At least once a year an annual report is generated and examined to determine the impacts of the Emergency Medical Services Program. During this evaluation period the department uses the System Protocols, department SOPs, Commitment Papers and our Scope of Practice to evaluate performance.

EMS CONT.

CAPTAIN TONY CENTIMANO

Operations

With our 35 EMT-P and 5 ALS non-transport vehicles, the department is staffed and equipped well to service our citizens.

After careful and thoughtful evaluation the program purchased new cardiac monitors for all transport and non-transport vehicles. The new cardiac monitors enable our providers enhanced abilities such as “see through CPR” to enhance better outcomes during cardiac arrest.

2018 also saw a force multiplier with addition of Northwestern Medicines Mobile Stroke Unit. The MSU, or Medic 34, is based out of Northwestern Medicine-Central DuPage Hospital and is a dedicated pre-hospital stroke care vehicle with access to stroke medication and treatment protocols normally reserved for hospitals.



The vehicle is equipped with a Magnetic Resonance Imaging machine enabling personnel on Medic 34 to conduct scans to establish the type and location of strokes in the field.

The program will be seeking a hands free CPR device in 2019; that equipment is currently being evaluated and a selection will be made shortly. Having these devices available for use will allow our personnel to transport patients experiencing cardiac arrest to the emergency department sooner with better outcomes than traditional CPR.

Also being trialed in St. Charles, in partnership with Northwestern Medicine-Delnor-Community Hospital and Southern Fox Valley EMS System, is new technology that will allow providers direct access to physicians and the emergency medical team in the emergency department. This technology allows EMS to video conference while in the ambulance directly to the ED. This program is piloting in St. Charles transport units for eventual system wide use. This will allow our total EMS Team to have better patient outcomes by directing early interventions and giving the ED a much better preview of the patient prior to arrival at the hospital.



Special Teams

TRT Members:

Lt. Voelsch
 FF/PM Siwy
 Lt. Gresser
 Lt. Galliano
 Lt. Cavallo
 FF/PM Pyzyna
 FF/PM Dries
 FF/PM Tinsley
 FF/PM Lacey

TECHNICAL RESCUE FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC STEVE SIWY

The St. Charles Technical Rescue Team consists of 9 members of various ranks, spread among the three shifts on the Department. This has been a very busy year for the team. Not only did we participate in the four quarterly drills, but we also acquired some new personal protective equipment that required an in-service training. New harnesses, as well as some specific high-angle safety equipment were obtained. The past year has also seen several of our members finishing up their training requirements to become fully certified at the Technician level. Unfortunately, the team lost one of our members to the promotion process. B/C Mauthe's expertise will be missed on the team, but he has said that he will be available for consultation as needed.

The first drill of the 2017 year was a joint drill by the MABAS training division held at the SKCTA site in February. This drill was a confined space technician level drill with three victims. All victims were below grade with confined space entry required to rescue/retrieve two of them. Our team members were in charge of rigging for the vertical environment on both drill days, with different participants, and were able to aid in the successful extrication of all victims.



The second drill for 2018 was a high angle rope rescue drill hosted at the SKCTA site by Batavia in May. This drill was

performed in two parts. The first part, in the morning, was a familiarization exercise in all of the rigging of the complex systems involved. These systems aren't utilized on a regular basis, and extra care was taken to provide appropriate instruction. Once all of the teams were up to speed, a high-to-low line was constructed and a simulated victim, with an attendant, was transferred from the ground level to the top of the SKCTA facility, and back down again.

TECHNICAL RESCUE FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC STEVE SIWY

Special Teams

The third drill was a trench drill in August hosted by Geneva. This drill was a one day drill due to the complexity of the scenario involved. The training division thought to make a real-world scenario, and had a “distracted driver” run her car into a trench with “workers” inside. This caused a partial collapse, and created many opportunities for our team members to work on several skill levels. The car had to be stabilized, not only to rescue the victims within, but also before any work could begin in the trench itself.



The last drill of the year was hosted by Aurora in conjunction with ATMI Precast concrete in September. ATMI Precast fabricates reinforced concrete walls and parking garage floors. They gave us one large section of wall, and garage floor and allowed us to practice techniques for breaching through. Several hours were spent on site, working with different tools in the cache spread throughout the MABAS division.



The open house in October once again, gave the team a chance to showcase our abilities. This year, we were able to utilize the portable training tower from Dekalb for a rappelling demonstration, as well as showing off our equipment on the trailer.

As we move into 2018, we have already received our schedule for the quarterly drills, and we will be hosting one here in town. We look forward to getting the remainder of our members finished with their classes and fully certified at the Technician level, as well as finding a replacement for B/C Mauthe to put us back to 10 members.

Special Teams

WATER RESCUE & RECOVERY

LT. MICHAEL NEUMAIER

The St. Charles Fire Department Underwater Rescue and Recovery team is currently made up of twelve divers, all of which are certified Paramedics. The majority of the team members are certified at the Public Safety Diver level, with Ice diving and Swift Water Rescue certifications. At this time we are well equipped and trained to handle most any type of water related incident in the area that we serve with a high degree of professionalism and safety for our personnel.

Water Rescue Team Members:

Lt. Neumaier
B/C Mauthe
Capt. J. Peterson
Lt. Chmelar
Lt. Galliano
FF/PM Rehak
FF/PM Thomas
FF/PM Wilton
Lt. Tarro
FF/PM Fruland
Lt. Centimano
Lt. Cavallo



In 2018 we participated in six team training exercises as well as several members attending outside classes for advanced certifications.

In February the team participated in a pool drill at the Norris Recreation center. Divers practiced body bag recoveries with the use of the lift bag, and entanglement extrication. Divers also took the opportunity to practice mask clearing and buddy breathing techniques in clear, uncontaminated water.

In April all regulators, Masks and BCD's were sent to Dive Right In SCUBA for their annual service testing. The team conducted another pool drill focusing on equipment familiarization, pattern work and bail-out procedures.

The team participated in an evidence recovery drill at a pond adjacent to the Hilton Garden Inn in June. Divers practiced shore patterns, evidence recovery, chain of custody and documentation.



WATER RESCUE & RECOVERY CONT.

LT. MICHAEL NEUMAIER



In August all members of the team completed the annually required International Association of Dive Rescue Specialists Watermanship test. The test consists of five exercises with not more than 15 minutes rest between each one.

The exercises consist of a 500 yard swim, a 15 minute tread with hands out of the water for the last 2 minutes, an 800 yard swim with mask, snorkel and fins, retrieving an object from a depth of 9 feet or more and a 100 yard inert rescue tow of a diver in gear.

October brought the team to a pool drill focusing on Diver/Tender communication and documentation as well as equipment familiarization. The team was also called out to West Chicago for a pond search and a successful vehicle recovery.

The team was called out in November to Elgin for an evidence search for items connected to a homicide. The team was successful in locating the items that the police were looking for.



In December we were once again back at Norris pool practicing pattern work and testing demo model Haz-Mat dry suits that the team will be replacing as our current dry suits reach the end of their useful life.

Congratulations to Lt. Rainier Galliano, FP. Chris Thomas and FP. Steve Rehak for becoming ERDI-1 Dive Technicians in 2018 and earning their team Trident. The Trident is the symbol seen at the top of this page and is a medal worn on their class A uniforms signifying that they are certified Public Safety Divers and a member of the St. Charles Fire Department Dive Team.

And congratulations as well to Lt. Dave Chmelar for achieving ERDI Ice Diving Operations certification and to FP Chris Thomas and FP. Brad Wilton for achieving Swift Water Rescue Technician.

Special Teams

A special thanks to the following agencies that have assisted our team in its success:

- * City of St. Charles
- * St. Charles Fire Department
- * St. Charles Foreign Fire Insurance Tax Board
- * Hilton Garden Inn
- * Norris Recreation Center
- * Otter Cove Water Park
- * Dive Right In SCUBA

* And I can't forget Father Peck and Tony Hyler for bringing donuts to our drills, always appreciated.

Special Teams

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS LEIUTENANT JOSEPH DAVILA

Our Meter Fleet

- 15 CO Detectors
- 8 Combustible Gas
- 5 Multi-Gas
- 5 Pump Modules
- 1 Ammonia
- 1 Chlorine
- 2 Hydrogen-Sulfide
- 1 Photo Ionizing Detector

Just Some of the Repairs in 2018

- Battery Changes
- Filter Replacements
- Meter Warranty Work

2018 saw some big changes for the MABAS 13 team leadership with long time coordinator Don Davids retiring from the Aurora fire department. Before being formally transformed into a true cooperative team in 2004/2005, Aurora fire department provided hazardous materials mitigation for all of the MABAS division, received all of the assets provided by the state and generally kept everything "in house". When the cooperative team concept began, the leadership of this team and assets provided remained with the Aurora fire department until 2018. With the departure of Chief Davids, an opportunity presented itself to open up the MABAS team coordinator position to members outside of the Aurora Fire Department. I am happy to report that the new MABAS coordinator of the Haz Mat team is Lt. Jim Lloyd of the Elburn Fire Department. Lt. Lloyd has been busy with restructuring of some of the leadership positions within the team and giving all participant departments in the division a greater voice in the direction the team is going. There is now a diverse leadership group within the team that represents many of the departments within our MABAS division. A training committee has been established to provide more relevant and cooperative training, some of the MABAS assets have been moved to different departments to provide more access to the equipment for incidents and training.

The changes happening with the MABAS team directly impacts the St Charles hazmat group as we structure our standard operating procedures to mirror the MABAS SOP's. The eventual goal would be to have all of the initial functions at an incident be performed by the stricken community's on-duty staff so that when the MABAS team arrives, there is little to no delay transitioning into offensive operations. Locally, department members have been training on just that. Performing "first-in" training along with our hazmat team members. We continued to maintain our equipment and the hazmat trailer in 2018, consumable items were replaced as needed and our level A suit testing was performed by team member Wes Gosser and I am happy to report that all 6 level A suits passed. We received the new MSA G1 self contained breathing apparatus and spare cylinders this reporting period, the SCBA committee did a great job by consulting with the team leadership about specific needs and ordered hazmat specific SCBA's.

The atmospheric monitoring program continues to enjoy success with calibrations taking place every 30-45 days. Lt. Joe Davila and FFP Wes Gosser perform the calibrations and make in house repairs.

We are now on a regularly spaced out replacement schedule, working with the administration and the budgeting process, we should enjoy stability with our program. We appreciate the continued support of the administration and the City to allow us the opportunity to keep our community safe from the potentially devastating effects from hazardous materials.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

A/C KEVIN CHRISTENSEN

**Support Services
Division**

The function of the Fire Prevention Bureau is to manage all fire prevention and life safety programs. The bureaus activities include the enforcement of codes, standards, plan reviews and inspections. The Fire Prevention Bureau reviews and inspects all projects from simple remodels to new building construction. Fire company personnel inspect all occupancy spaces and buildings annually. This process ensures compliance with all adopted codes and applicable standards.

The Fire Prevention Bureau follows the International Code Council (ICC) 2015 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC) with local amendments and the 2015 edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101 Life Safety Code by ordinance.

The Fire Prevention Bureau is managed by Assistant Chief Kevin Christensen who oversees two Lieutenants assigned to the bureau - Lieutenant Mike Neumaier and Lieutenant Rainier Galliano.

The Lieutenants assigned Fire Prevention Bureau concentrate on plan reviews and inspections (fire alarm, sprinkler system, kitchen suppression, above/below ground hydrostatic test, underground flush, hydrant flow test, final occupancy) related to remodels and new construction.

Fire company personnel are assigned monthly property maintenance inspections for occupancies located in each of the three still districts. These inspections rotate annually between the three shifts therefore different personnel inspect these occupancies each year.

The fire company personnel continue to use an electronic tablet and software to schedule, track and complete their annual occupancy inspections which provides real-time reporting, accuracy in data collection and reduction in paper filing.

**The following is the inspection activity for calendar year
2017-18**

Inspection Activity	2018	2017
Annual Occupancy Inspections	1863	1892
Annual Occupancy Re-Inspections	909	1032

Company Fire
Inspections
Activity

Inspection Activity	2018	2017
Final Occupancy Inspections	159	105
Pre-Occupancy Inspections	394	275
Plan Reviews	334	236
Event Inspections	44	n/a

Fire Prevention
Bureau Activity

**Support Services
Division**

76 Blood Pressure Screenings

8 Block Parties

13 CPR Training Classes

18 Station Tours

2 School Visits

4 Lunch with the Fire Chief

13 Fire Extinguisher Training classes

22 Fire Drills

5 FPW School Visits

37 Engine Visits

4 4th of July Parades

1 Halloween Parade

**PUBLIC EDUCATION
FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC STEVE SIWY**

The Public Education Team and the suppression companies had a busy year in 2018. This year during Fire Prevention week, we performed our prevention program at 5 schools. We also had 2 additional school visits outside of Fire Prevention Week. The Department also participated in 2 scheduled school fire drills. We regularly have people stop in for a station tour, check out the apparatus when we are out, and just have a chance to visit with us. Unfortunately, those spontaneous pub Ed opportunities aren't tracked. We did, however, have 18 scheduled station tours, 37 scheduled engine visits, and 8 scheduled block parties.

The Pub Ed team also conducts educational classes throughout the year.



PASS

Fire Extinguisher training is one such class, and 13 sessions were conducted.

**PULL
AIM
SQUEEZE
SWEEP**



Another class that we offer is CPR training. There are two CPR certifications that we offer; Health Care Provider to our Firefighters & Paramedics and Heartsaver classes to the public. We held 13 classes, certifying 88 people in Health Care Provider, and 120 people in Heartsaver.

Our open house, at the conclusion of Fire Prevention Week in October, was once again a huge success.



We had a full house with several demonstrations from Special Teams, auto extrication, a fire-fighter obstacle course for the kids, and a giant fire truck slide.

Since the weather participated, we were also able to perform the side-by-side burn room demonstrations.



PUBLIC EDUCATION CONT.
FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC STEVE SIWY

**Support Services
 Division**

The Reverse Trick-or-Treat has become extremely successful over the past few years. We filled 900 bags with fire prevention messages, handouts, and a little candy. Our 3 front-line apparatus then went out on Halloween and handed out every bag, reaching children across the community.

A very happy unicorn



Your Public Education Team

Lt. Cliff Lo *
 FF/PM Steve Dries
 FF/PM Chad Tinsley
 Lt. Mike Neumaier
 FF/PM Scott Sulak*
 FF/PM Chris Thomas*
 FF/PM Megan Funk*

Lt. Jeff Tarro
 FF/PM Mike Pyzyna
 Capt. Jason Peterson
 FF/PM Steve Siwy*
 Lt. Rainier Galliano
 FF/PM Brandon Paus*

*CPR Instructor



Finally, several members of the team attended a State Certified class for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator. This class provided the opportunity to learn proven and effective techniques for teaching both children and adults about Fire Prevention.

We are looking forward to 2019 being a productive and fruitful year for public education and fire prevention.

**Support Services
Division**

**SAFETY & HEALTH COMMITTEE
A/C KEVIN CHRISTENSEN**

The Occupational Safety and Health Committee meets monthly and is composed of both union and management members who are responsible for discussing matters relating to the health, safety and welfare for members of the department.

The 2018 Occupational Safety & Health Committee members were represented by the following individuals:

Fire Chief Joe Schelstreet
Assistant Chief Kevin Christensen
Battalion Chief Jim Kurczek
Captain Darin Peterson
Captain Jeremy Mauthe *January-September
Captain Tony Centimano
Captain Jason Peterson *October-December
Lieutenant Tony Cavallo

The committee is responsible for discussing the following actions throughout the year.

Review workplace recommendations on possible hazards to safe and healthy job assignments and workplace conditions.

Review department accident and injuries to discuss the reasons why the incident occurred and provide recommendations to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

Review the safety aspects of apparatus, equipment and protective clothing with the goal of improving safety and operations within the department.

Overseeing periodic inspections of fire department facilities, apparatus, protective equipment, protective clothing and other equipment related to safety.

Fire Department Work Related Injuries

The previous year, the committee reviewed 13 fire department employee work-related injuries. This included 2 OSHA recordable and 11 OSHA non-recordable injuries resulting in a total of 42 days of lost time at work and a total of 266 days assigned to light duty.

Year	Number of Employee Injuries
2018	5
2017	13

SAFETY & HEALTH COMMITTEE CONT.
A/C KEVIN CHRISTENSEN

**Support Services
 Division**

OSHA 300 Log - 2018

Loss Cause Detail	Number of Employees
Slip/Trip/Fall	1
Overexertion	1
Reaching	1
Body Reaction	1
No Specific Incident	1



Fire Department Work Related Vehicle Accidents

For calendar year 2018, the committee reviewed 6 fire department employee vehicle accidents. The previous year there were 2 accidents.

Year	Number of Vehicle Accidents
2018	6
2017	2

Vehicle Accidents - 2018

Nature of the Accident	Number of Accidents
Collision with Fixed Object	4
Collision with Moving Vehicle	2



Support Services Division

TRAINING

A/C KEVIN CHRISTENSEN

The function of the Training Division is to ensure effective and efficient performance of fire department members by assuring all personnel are taught and qualified to City and department benchmarks as well as any relevant mandatory or elective standards as adopted by the fire department.

Training Division responsibilities include: management of the department training program, coordination of Specialty Team training (Technical Rescue Team, Water Rescue Team, Hazardous Materials Team, Fire Investigation Team, Public Education Team), liaison with ancillary training organizations (Illinois Fire Service Institute, Illinois Society of Fire Service Instructors, Illinois Fire Inspectors Association, Office of the State Fire Marshal, MABAS), evaluation of program effectiveness and maintenance of training records and reports.

The Training Division is responsible for developing and distributing a monthly training calendar identifying objectives and schedules for each month. Company Officers are responsible for the training program delivery for each of their members.

The department uses a records management software program which consists of online training courses, scheduling modules and electronic reports specifically built to meet the department's Insurance Service Office (ISO) training standards and report tracking.



An ISO training credential is assigned annually to department members based upon each individual's job classification for the period January 1 through December 31. There is a "minimum" of 240 hours of annual training assigned to the credential which is further broken down into the following training categories and hours.

Training Category	Training Hours
Company Training	192
Facility Training	18
Officer Training	12
Driver Training	12
Hazardous Materials Training	6

TRAINING CONT. A/C KEVIN CHRISTENSEN

Support Services
Division

The ISO training credential establishes a minimum 240 hours of training. A majority of the department members not only met but exceeded the minimum hours in each of the training categories. Department members who did not attain the minimum training requirements were due to long term medical leave, military leave, mid-year hiring, mid-year retirements or changes in job classification due to promotions. The ISO training credential is based upon in-house firefighting related training activities.

In addition to the ISO training credential hours, department members also completed non-firefighting training (emergency medical services, technical rescue, outside schools, etc.) activities for a combined 14,555 hours of total training for the year compared to 13,795 hours of training from the previous year.

The following is a breakdown of the total annual training hours by department members.

Annual Total Training Hours	Number of Department Members - 2018	Number of Department Members - 2017
0 - 49	0	0
50 - 99	0	1
100 - 149	0	1
150 - 199	0	1
200 - 249	1	0
250 - 299	1	3
300 - 349	11	11
350 - 399	11	17
400 - 449	9	3
450 - 499	2	1
500 - 549	2	0



LEARN

**Support Services
Division**

TRAINING CONT.

A/C KEVIN CHRISTENSEN

Department members attending outside schools attained a combined 1,288 hours of training. The previous year there was a combined 764 hours. The following is a breakdown of attendance at outside schools by category and hours.

Outside Schools Attendance by Category & Hours

Training Category	Training Hours - 2018	Training Hours - 2017
Special Teams Training	377	270
Officer Training	911	494

Department members complete emergency medical service training hours as a license requirement for the Illinois Department of Public Health. There are currently 41 emergency medical technicians who attained a combined 1,920 hours of training for 2018. The previous year there were 42 emergency medical technicians with a combined 1,594 hours of training.

The following personnel are recognized for attaining the following certifications during the 2018 calendar year.

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Lt. Tony Cavallo	Structural Collapse Operations Structural Collapse Technician
Lt. Joe Davila	Fire Department Incident Safety Officer Fire Officer I
FP Steve Dries	Structural Collapse Technician Vehicle & Machinery Operations Fire Department Incident Safety Officer
FP Megan Funk	Vehicle & Machinery Operations Advanced Technician Firefighter Fire Service Vehicle Operator
Lt. Rainier Galliano	Structural Collapse Technician Trench Technician
FP Andrew Kidd	Fire Apparatus Engineer Vehicle & Machinery Operations
FP Pat Lacey	Structural Collapse Technician Fire Officer I - Provisional Fire Service Instructor I

TRAINING CONT.
A/C KEVIN CHRISTENSEN

Support Services
Division

Office of the State Fire Marshal cont.

Lt. Mike Neumaier	Fire Inspector II
FP Brandon Paus	Advanced Technician Firefighter
FP Andrew Perry	Advanced Technician Firefighter Fire Service Vehicle Operator Fire Apparatus Engineer Hazardous Materials First Responder – Operations Vehicle & Machinery Operations
Capt. Darin Peterson	Public Fire & Life Safety Educator
FP Mike Pyzyna	Fire Officer II – Provisional Fire Service Instructor II Rescue Specialist – Confined Space Trench Technician
FP Steve Rehak	Fire Service Instructor II
FP Steve Siwy	Fire Officer I Fire Service Instructor II
AC Scott Swanson	Chief Fire Officer
FP Chad Tinsley	Structural Collapse Technician Structural Collapse Operations Fire Department Health & Safety Officer Fire Officer I – Provisional
FP Brad Wilton	Fire Service Instructor II Rope Operations

National Fire Academy

BC Jeremy Mauthe	Command and Control of Incident Operations
Capt. Tony Centimano	Command and Control of Incident Operations

**Support Services
Division**

**TRAINING CONT.
A/C KEVIN CHRISTENSEN**

Water Rescue

Lt. Dave Chmelar	ERDI Ice Diving Operations
Lt. Rainier Galliano	ERDI 1 Dive Technician
FP Steve Rehak	ERDI 1 Dive Technician
FP Chris Thomas	Swift Water Rescue Technician ERDI 1 Dive Technician
FP Brad Wilton	Swift Water Rescue Technician

American Heart Association

FP Chris Thomas	BLS Healthcare Instructor
FP Megan Funk	BLS Healthcare Instructor
FP Brandon Paus	BLS Healthcare Instructor

Illinois Emergency Management Agency

Lt. Tony Cavallo	Incident Command System 300 & 400
Lt. Rainier Galliano	Incident Command System 300 & 400
Capt. Jason Peterson	Incident Command System 300 & 400

Romeoville Fire Academy

Lt. Dave Chmelar	Fire Officer Academy
FP Steve Dries	Fire Officer Academy
Lt. Rainier Galliano	Fire Officer Academy
Lt. Cliff Lo	Fire Officer Academy
Lt. Jeff Tarro	Fire Officer Academy

FLEET

B/C JIM KURCZEK

The big challenge for our fleet in 2018 was the discovery of Truck 102's failing engine. The decision was made to install a rebuilt engine rather than chipping away at multiple problems of the existing aging diesel engine. It was also assumed that the turnaround time would be quicker by replacing rather than repairing the engine. Unfortunately, this assumption wasn't as accurate as we had hoped it would be. Several months passed as we waited to resolve continual problems that arose with the remanufactured engine as well as aging components of the truck itself that failed as they were removed and reinstalled. As a result of the extended period out of service, Truck 101 was required to endure an extended period between regular maintenance intervals challenging the apparatus to continue to serve our needs. Luckily, she held up and got a lengthy visit to our Fleet Department for much needed extensive preventative maintenance and repairs.



As a result of multiple issues with the remanufactured engine on Truck 102, Interstate has extended the warranty on the rebuilt engine for an additional year which will help keeping our reserve truck in service. Max VanDeMark and A.J. Reineking were instrumental in getting through the lengthy process of getting the truck back and securing the additional warranty along with fire department staff.

E108 got a replacement rear chassis frame due to extensive corrosion. Powder coating the replacement will hopefully extend its life. Installation took time, but, went fairly smoothly.

**Support Services
Division****FLEET** CONT.
B/C JIM KURCZEK

The new Pierce engines, E102 and E103, have settled in and are our front-line backbone for fire suppression. E103 had a cracked windshield replaced and we also developed a problem with the front pulley assembly for the engine having problems with loose pulleys. Global/Temco stepped up and investigated the problem and extended our warranty for the assembly after rectifying the problem, providing regularly scheduled inspections to ensure the solution was a success. E102 also made several trips to Global/Temco for warranty issues and both should provide years of service to our department and community.

Smaller problems such as several electrical issues and recalls for the command staff cars and diesel engine regeneration problems with Brush 101 also kept our Fleet Department busy.

EMA also had both 192 and 193 taken out of service due to multiple issues and extensive corrosion. Both Dodge hand me downs served EMA well until 2018. Luckily they were able to obtain another hand me down from the city's Public Works Department which has filled the gap nicely for one of the decommissioned trucks enabling their budget to order a brand new replacement for the other vehicle. This may be the first time EMA has acquired a new vehicle for its use.

Our main mechanic with our Fleet Department is still Stan Iglehart who has served us well keeping our rigs on the road. Nick Montalbano has also reinstated his EVT status and will be assisting with our repairs and maintenance giving us the much needed back-up mechanic when necessary.

FACILITIES

B/C JIM KURCZEK

Support Services Division

In an effort to maintain the readiness of our crews and apparatus, annual repairs, maintenance, and upgrades are a constant necessity for our three fire stations. Despite the proactive approach at attempting to stay ahead of the game, additional problems and challenges arise on a regular basis. The HVAC systems at the satellite stations have proven to be worn out due to age and struggled to maintain comfortable temperatures during an unusually hot spell in the summer of 2018. A decision to upgrade all of the HVAC units at stations 2 and 3 led to the discovery of an accumulation of mold in the insulation lined ductwork at both stations. Air quality testing at both stations revealed levels of mold that could have potentially caused health issues for those with mold sensitivity. During the course of replacing the HVAC units, the decision was made to replace half of the ductwork at station 2 and all of the ductwork at station 3 to prevent any problems from occurring. Air quality testing was done at all three stations and will be repeated on a scheduled basis.

The main bathroom at station 2 was also remodeled in the same fashion as station 3 and both should provide years of continued service.

In an effort to reduce accidents, the timers were removed from all overhead doors and new, longer range remotes were installed enabling crews to open and close the overhead doors more easily.

Station 2 had high visibility “no parking” signs installed temporarily, then eventually permanently to assist with eliminating the nuisance of trucks parking and obstructing the station’s access.

Century Station received an awning and lighting upgrade to the main entrance and a capital improvement project in the future will provide more needed upgrades for the building’s main entrance.

The humidity levels at station 1 are still a challenge to control and are still being worked on by Johnson Control and our HVAC contractors. In the interim, portable humidifiers and dehumidifiers have been handling the issue.

In addition to medium and large scale projects, day to day repairs and maintenance have kept staff and contractors busy. Tony Whittaker and Scott Ludke from the City of St. Charles’s Public Works Department have diligently helped with the bulk of the work and coordination.

Many thanks to them.



TRI CITY AMBULANCE STEPHANIE HANSON

2018 brought a few significant changes to Tri-City Ambulance. Amongst these changes were personnel, equipment, and a new service provided to patients potentially suffering from a stroke. One of the first changes began at Southern Fox Valley EMS System office staff. In January, members of the Southern Fox Valley EMS System (SFVEMSS) began the New Year with a new Medical Director, Dr. Arthur Proust and Associate Medical Director, Dr. Parkson Lin. Previously Dr. Proust was the SFVEMSS Associate Medical Director for ten years. Later in the year, we acquired a new SFVEMSS System Coordinator, Douglas Mendlik. We are excited to collaborate with Dr. Proust and Dr. Lin and the rest of the SFVEMSS staff in leading the way in providing exceptional patient care and innovation in pre-hospital emergency medicine.



The next newest change and leading edge patient care came in April when we partnered with Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage's Mobile Stroke Unit, informally known as Medic 34. This ambulance carries a CT scanner that will take an image of a patient's brain who paramedics determine to be having stroke-like symptoms. The image, patient, and crew members are connected to a neurologist at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital via telemedicine. The crew will begin interventional patient care (i.e. clot-busting medication) as directed by the neurologist. Medic 34 is requested by TriCom if determined at the time of dispatch the patient may be having a stroke. Fire/EMS personnel may also request Medic 34 after arrival on scene for patient having a stroke. From April to November 60% of patients with a

TRI CITY AMBULANCE CONT. STEPHANIE HANSON

primary impression of “stroke/TIA” have received an intercept by Medic 34, and transported Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital. Of the patients who were transported by Medic 34 50% had a diagnosis of stroke/TIA of which 27% received tPA/reversal agent/interventional radiology. These patients received these interventions on average 48 minutes from the time the ambulance was dispatched.

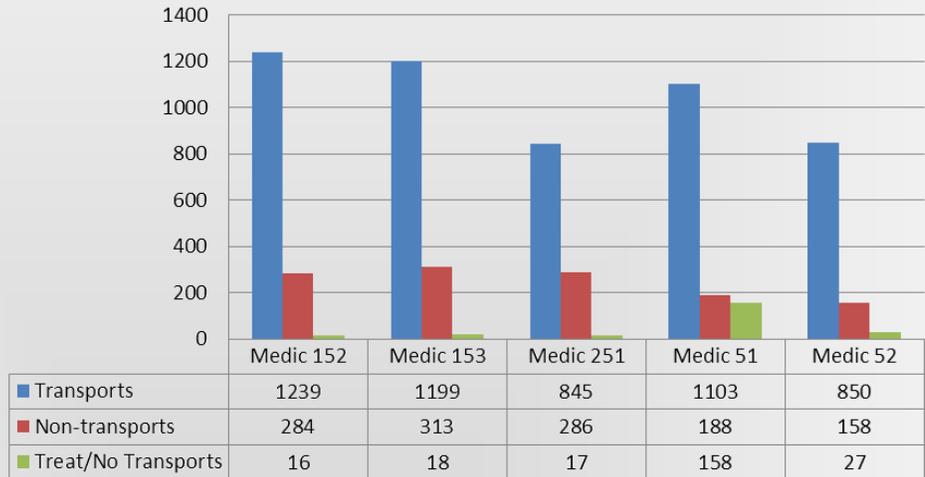
Moving forward in the year, we began the request for proposal process (RFP) to purchase new cardiac monitors/defibrillators. This purchase was made as a result of an FDA recall of the Philips MRx cardiac monitor/defibrillator. The personnel participated in a field trial of the Styrker Lifepak 15 cardiac monitor/debrillator and the Zoll X series cardiac monitor/defibrillator. Ultimately, the RFP was awarded to the Zoll X series cardiac monitor/defibrillator. The Zoll monitor allows paramedic personnel to upload the patient’s vital signs, 4 lead, and 12 lead rhythm strips directly into the patient care report. Another important feature of the monitor is the real-time CPR feedback and CPR see-thru technology. Fire/EMS personnel that are performing chest compressions during CPR are given visual cues on the depth of chest compression, the rate they are pushing, and allowing for complete chest recoil. This technology is something that personnel have not had with the previous cardiac monitor. The technology improves the performance of the fire/EMS personnel’s quality of CPR. The Zoll monitor was put in service during the month of August. Since the point of inception, we have seen a significant increase in our return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) for our cardiac arrest patients.

In 2018, the ambulance personnel assessed essentially the same amount of patient as in 2017, however, we did witness the number of patients transported to the hospital increase by 2.25%. Medic 152 continues to maintain the number of patients assessed and the number of transports to the hospital.

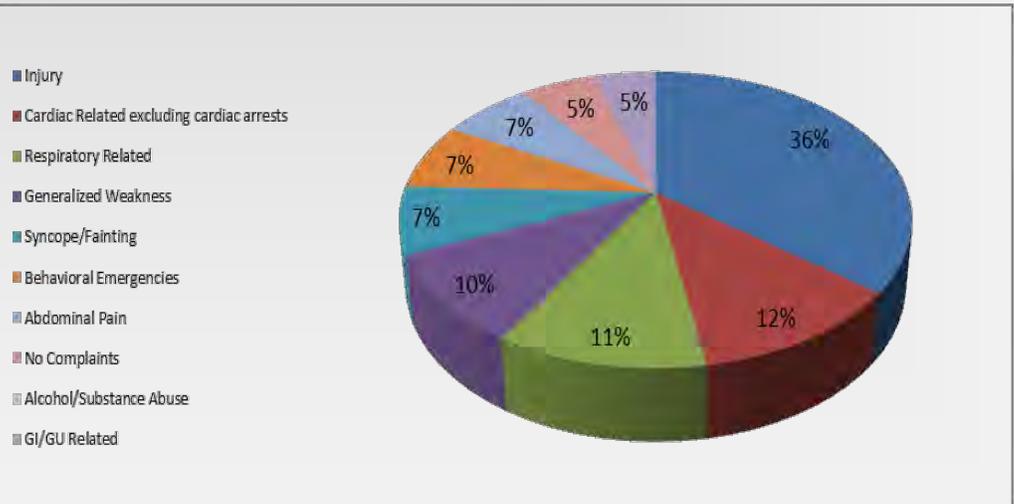


TRI CITY AMBULANCE CONT. STEPHANIE HANSON

2018



In 2018, we have seen a 9% increase in our responses to injury-related emergencies. Additionally, there was a 2% increase in patients with the complaint of weakness. These two categories are part of the driving force of the implementation of a Mobile Integrated Healthcare program. In conjunction with the St. Charles Fire Department, Tri-City Ambulance has applied to begin a pilot program of geriatric fall prevention. We are currently waiting for approval from Illinois Department of Public Health Regional Coordinator to begin the program.



TRI CITY AMBULANCE CONT.

STEPHANIE HANSON

The end of June, EMS personnel assisted with an internal mass casualty drill at Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital. The trauma department developed a drill that would test various in hospital departments' responses to a sudden influx of patients that was not the result from an external disaster. Medic 55 "transported" ten patients to emergency department that were from multiple scenes.



We ended the year with the beginning of a field trial of mechanical CPR devices. These devices will provide automatic chest compressions for a patient in cardiac arrest. The device will allow personnel to move the patient while effective chest compressions are still being performed. Personnel will be able to remain safely seat belted during transport instead a member standing over the patient providing chest compressions in a moving ambulance. The two devices that we are trialing are the Stryker Lucas Device and the Zoll Auto pulse.

Support Services Division

FIREMAN'S PENSION FUND

FF/PM NICK MARQUI

The St. Charles Firefighters Pension Fund saw some changes and activity for 2018.

I will review some of the highlights of the year.

The Pension Fund Board is composed of five Trustees: two Active Firefighters, one retired, and two appointed by the Mayor. Mayor Rogina reappointed Finance Director Chris Minick, and Chief Schelstreet. The appointees now mirror the Police Officer Pension Fund with the Department Head and Finance Director. Statutes require an election of officers annually. The Board elected Nick Marqui as President, and Tony Centimano as Secretary. Lance Maxwell is currently the retired member on the board.

Existing Pension Board members are required to complete 16 hours of pension and ethics training every year. All of the board members completed this training through the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association. Any New members must complete a 32 hour training course. This training can be done online, or they may attend one of several conferences held throughout the year.

Some other items that were acted on by the Board:

- Several new pension members were added to the fund.
- Four members retired after many years of service.
- The Board renewed the Fiduciary Liability Insurance.
- Under performing investments have been replaced with new ones.



- The fund total as of December 31st 2018 is \$ 37,359,381.82 (This amount can change rapidly due to market fluctuations).
- Firefighters contributed approximately \$ 477,541.00
- Employer contributions \$ 1,749,113.00
- The fund paid out an estimated \$ 1,674,951.00 in pensions to beneficiaries, consisting of regular, disability, reciprocal and survivor pensions.

The Boards diligence and hard work in 2018 saw the Firemen's Pension Fund remain steady. This work is a combination of efforts through the Boards Investment Policy, fund stewardship, and maintaining proper funding levels. Looking forward to 2019 the Board of Trustees will continue to work to maintain a healthy and sustainable pension fund by continued monitoring of investments and ensuring the Investment Policy remains relevant.

INVESTIGATIONS

CAPT. CENTIMANO/FFPM MARQUI

Support Services Division



The Fire Investigations Team has the responsibility of investigating all fires within the St. Charles Fire Departments jurisdiction on behalf of the Fire Chief. Fire Investigators attend initial training through an Office of the State Fire Marshal approved course. This course is delivered in three 40-hour modules and is based on NFPA 1033, the Standard of Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator, and NFPA 921 the Guideline for Fire and Explosion Investigation. NFPA 1033 lists who and what the fire investigator is to be and know. NFPA 921 is how the fire investigator is to conduct investigations. Additionally, each Fire Investigator is to participate and demonstrate proficiency through continuing education and experience to re-certify with OSFM every four years. The team investigates all significant fires of an accidental and incendiary nature.

Our team deployment model provides, at minimum, one trained investigator assigned to each shift. The team is lead by Firefighter/Paramedic Nick Marqui, and team members include Captain Tony Centimano, Lieutenants Tony Cavallo and David Chmelar, Firefighter/Paramedics Christian Thomas and Steven Rehak. Two additional members have been approved for 2019 and those individuals will attend their initial training early in the year. Fire Investigators perform several functions during the course of a cause and origin investigation to include scene analysis, photo documentation and preparing reports. Furthermore, investigators are occasionally required to work with third party private investigators, law enforcement officials, the Coroner's Office and attorneys who work on the civil and criminal legal aspects of fire cause and determinations.

In 2018, the Investigations team responded to and conducted 23 separate fire investigations. Fires occurring in buildings, vehicles and appliances are a few examples of the types of fires investigated. All reported and investigated fires are considered significant. A thorough investigation allows the Fire Department to better understand the threat of fires in the community and proactively take steps to ensure the safety of residents, business owners and visitors. It can also be a source of information should there be a heightened perception that fires are posing a significant risk in the community. The Fire Department can then educate the community on risks and how we are proactively mitigating them through fire codes, code enforcement, education and incident responses.

MILESTONE EVENTS



A combined total of 128 years of service!

Firefighter Mike Thomas

BC John Kessler

Firefighter Tim Masinick

BC Marty Friel

Promotions



Battalion Chief Jeremy Mauthe

Captain Jason Peterson

Lieutenant Joe Davila

MILESTONE EVENTS CONT

Welcome To
THE TEAM

Chris Schukas - Administrative Assistant

Andrew Cichon - Firefighter/Paramedic

Mark Chmura - EMA Coordinator

Kayla Paxson - Paramedic

Maurice Chabolla - Paramedic

Marta Burak - Paramedic

Christopher Swon - Paramedic



MOVING ON TO NEW ADVENTURES

Emily Kies - EMA Coordinator

Luke Wroblewski - Firefighter/Paramedic

Michael Noto - Paramedic

Jason Douglass - EMA

Barry Lafayette - EMA

Rick Mercado - EMA

2018 DEPARTMENT ROSTER

Administration

Fire Chief Joe Schelstreet
 Assistant Chief Scott Swanson
 Sr. Administrative Assistant Carole Murphy
 TCA Administrator Stephanie Hanson
 EMA Coordinator Mark Chmura

Support Services/Fire Prevention Bureau

Assistant Chief Kevin Christensen
 Lieutenant Mike Neumaier
 Lieutenant Rainier Galliano
 Administrative Assistant Maggie Walsh
 Administrative Assistant Chris Schukas

Black Shift

Acting Battalion Chief Tony Centimano
 Lieutenant Tony Cavallo
 Lieutenant Dave Chmelar
 Lieutenant Guy Gresser
 Firefighter/Paramedic Mike Pyzyna
 Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Hanson
 Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Kidd
 Firefighter/Paramedic Steve Rehak
 Firefighter/Paramedic Brandon Paus
 Firefighter/Paramedic Wes Gosser
 Firefighter/Paramedic Chad Tinsley
 Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Cichon
 Firefighter Phil Kuhn
 Paramedic Trent Moser
 Paramedic Michael Noto
 Paramedic Samantha Sebeck
 Paramedic Kayla Paxson

Red Shift

Battalion Chief Jeremy Mauthe
 Captain Jason Peterson
 Lieutenant Mike Schaben
 Lieutenant Joe Davila
 Lieutenant Cliff Lo
 Firefighter/Paramedic Nick Marqui
 Firefighter/Paramedic Patrick Lacey
 Firefighter/Paramedic Kelly Malone
 Firefighter/Paramedic Megan Funk
 Firefighter/Paramedic Tim McCarthy
 Firefighter/Paramedic Steve Siwy
 Firefighter/Paramedic Luke Wroblewski
 Paramedic John Roth
 Paramedic Kristen Cuciti
 Paramedic Joe Kay
 Paramedic Marta Barak

Gold Shift

Battalion Chief Jim Kurczek
 Captain Darin Peterson
 Lieutenant Chip Voelsch
 Lieutenant Jeff Tarro
 Lieutenant Al Wade
 Firefighter/Paramedic Trevor Kelly
 Firefighter/Paramedic Don Fruland
 Firefighter/Paramedic Chris Thomas
 Firefighter/Paramedic Steve Dries
 Firefighter/Paramedic Brad Wilton
 Firefighter/Paramedic Scott Sulak
 Firefighter/Paramedic Ben Gore
 Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Gleason
 Paramedic Steve Williams
 Paramedic Mike Wigder
 Paramedic Maurice Chabolla
 Paramedic Chris Swon

EMA

David Arevalo
 Chris Diehl
 Jason Douglass
 Marge Evans
 Mike Haase
 Joe Hojnacki
 James Kratochvil
 Barry Lafayette
 Joe Linder
 Rick Mercado
 Jeff Morris
 Mike Mustard
 Kurt Pfothenauer
 Paul Pfothenauer
 Brian Schmitz
 Jerry Schmitz
 Mike Scott
 Wendy Stanton

MANY THANKS.....

The St. Charles Fire Department would like to sincerely thank the Accreditation Site Evaluation Team for their hard work, assistance and professionalism during their on and off site review of all aspects of our Fire Department.



The Accreditation Site Team members, left to right:
Floyd Fritz, Ron Prettyman,
Team Leader Mike Stallings, & Richard Mascarella

The St. Charles Fire Department would like to thank John Tulipano, JLT Photography for taking the time to photograph our Firefighters in action. Your photographs are a wonderful way to show our Firefighters utilizing their training to the fullest.