



CITY OF AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT



2003 ANNUAL
REPORT

*Photos —
Courtesy Chris McCune*

*Training Photos —
Courtesy Dennis Stoneman*



AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT **MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission is to improve the quality of life within the community by providing a high quality emergency medical service, by providing an excellent fire prevention program, including public education and arson investigation, by providing a firefighting force capable of handling emergencies, which may include structural firefighting, hazardous materials mitigation, all types of rescues and miscellaneous emergencies and catastrophes.

We will accomplish this mission while maintaining a high regard for the safety and health of our personnel. We will maintain a high standard of training, a quality occupational and health program, and a superior communication system. We will receive superb backing from our fire and hydrant maintenance programs.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

I am very proud to present the 2003 annual report to Mayor Donald Plusquellic and his cabinet, members of Akron City Council, members of the Akron Fire Department and support staff, and the Citizens of Akron.

The year 2003 was my seventh year as Fire Chief, and we continued to build on past accomplishments to maintain the excellent level of service we strive to deliver. Two vacancies at the Deputy Chief level were filled through promotions to provide leadership, guidance, oversight and control. In addition, a new class of 24 rookie Firefighter/Medics was hired to help fill vacancies in our operational level.

In 2003 the Akron Fire Department applied for and was awarded a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant worth a total of more than \$351,000. As a condition of accepting this award the City of Akron will provide matching funds on a percentage basis. This money is used exclusively to enhance Firefighters/Medic safety and communications, both critically important elements of our job. We were able to replace our five command vehicles with new Ford Expeditions; a much-needed upgrade due to the increased demands placed upon us by homeland security issues. Additionally, we placed into service a new 75 foot aerial ladder truck at Station 10 in Kenmore, a new 2000 GPM pumper at Station 3 near downtown and a new advanced life support ambulance at Station 8 in the Joy Park area.

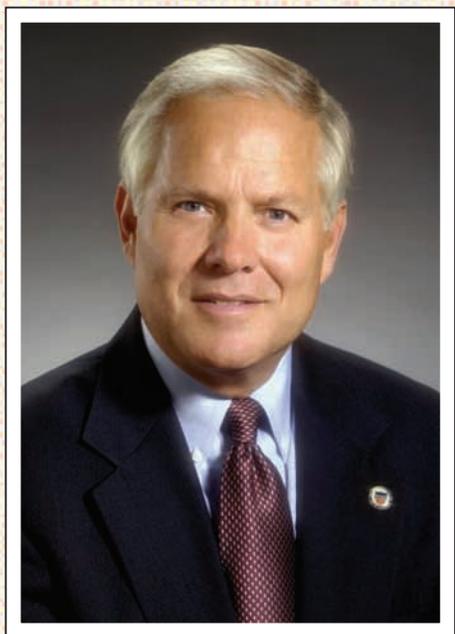
I would like to express my gratitude to Mayor Plusquellic, Deputy Mayor George Romanoski, Akron City Council and the citizens of Akron. Thanks to their understanding and on-going support, our dedicated and committed members can continue to provide vital services to all people who visit, work and live in the City of Akron.

Sincerely,

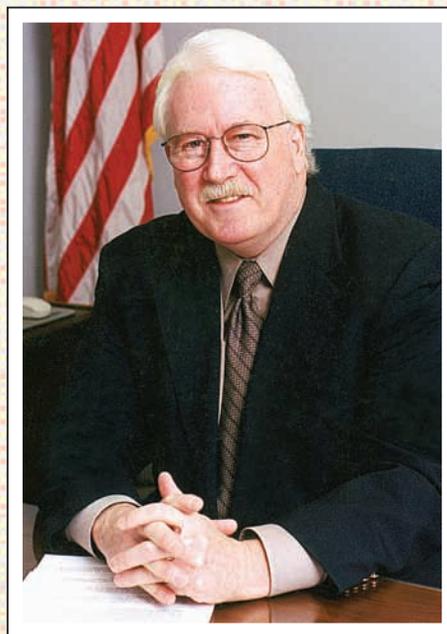
Charles R. Gladman
Fire Chief



Charles R. Gladman
Chief

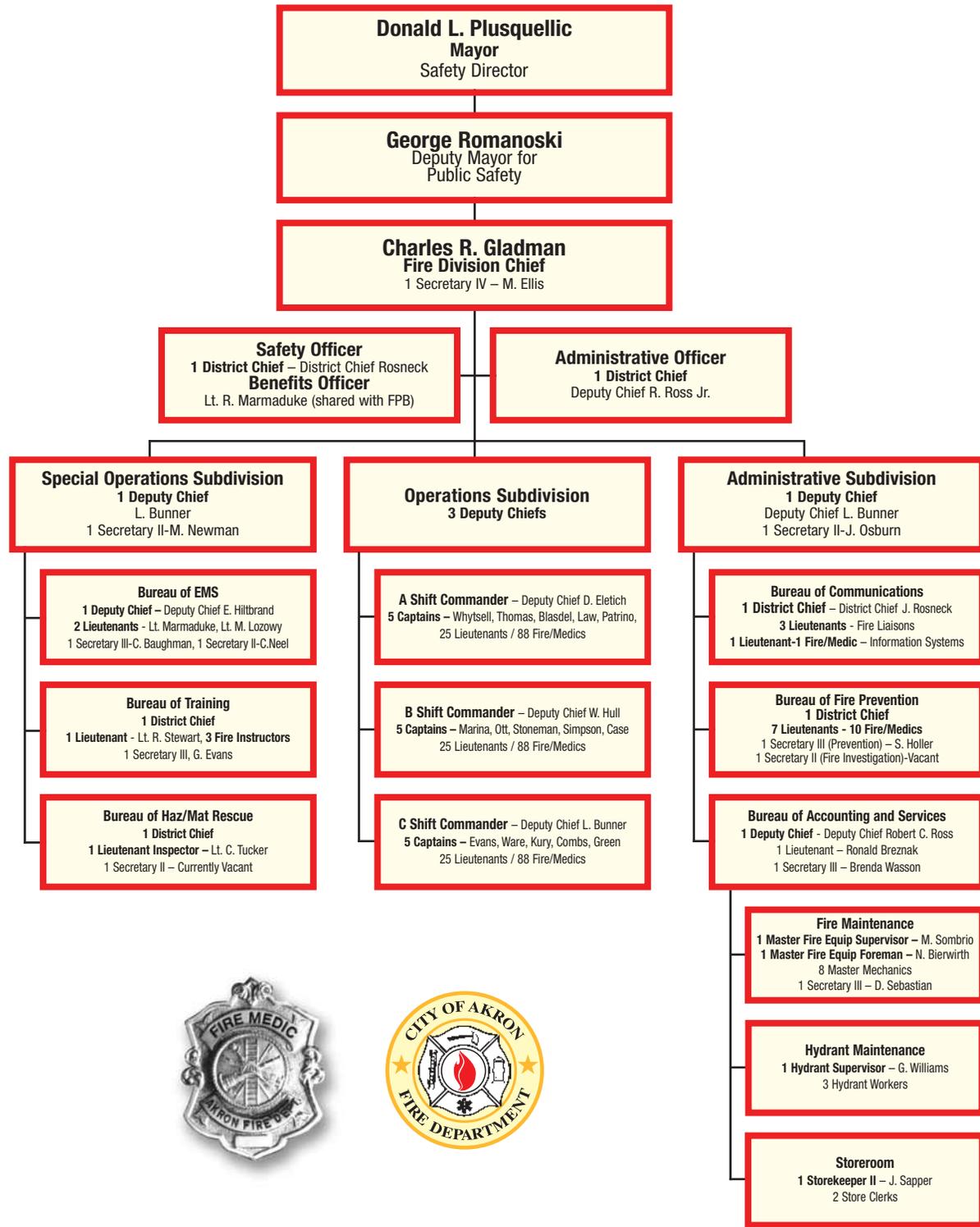


Donald L. Plusquellic
Mayor



George Romanoski
Deputy Mayor

ORGANIZATION OF THE AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT



ADMINISTRATIVE SUBDIVISION



L. Bunner
Deputy Chief

Through the combined cooperation and effort of the many employees that make up the Akron Fire Department, the Administrative Subdivision was able to provide our firefighters and paramedics with the equipment, tools and support they needed to protect our citizens from the ravages of fire, illness and injury. I wish to show appreciation to the following bureaus or divisions for their efforts in helping the Administrative Subdivision operate smoothly in 2003.

- Administrative and Clerical Staff
- Fire Investigation Section
- Fire Prevention Bureau
- Code Enforcement Section
- Public Education Section
- Accounting and Services Bureau
- Fire Maintenance
- Hydrant Maintenance
- Fire and EMS Storeroom
- All non-administration Offices and Bureaus

The Accounting and Services Bureau is responsible for providing the administrative support, equipment, and

facilities required to operate a first class organization such as the City of Akron Fire Department. They are responsible for the long and short term strategic planning for the department's future while managing the various funds, grants and budgets that finance the daily operations of the Akron Fire Department. They maintain all records and incident reporting. They produce or manage the production and design of all specifications for our facilities, vehicle purchases, equipment and supplies. They supervise the Fire Maintenance Bureau, the Hydrant Maintenance Bureau and our department storeroom who repair and maintain all of our safety equipment, vehicles, hydrants and facilities as well as providing the stock the department requires for uninterrupted operations. The Public Education Section provides the community with aggressive and innovative programs designed to instruct our adult citizens and our children about fire safety. The Fire Prevention Bureau combines residential and commercial property inspections with code enforcement to reduce or eliminate fire damage while ensuring the highest quality of occupant safety. The Fire Investigation Section consists of investigators that are both trained police officers as well as professional firefighters. They conduct fire investigations throughout the city while being responsible for internal affairs investigations and background checks.

FIRE INVESTIGATION SECTION



Dennis Nelson
Lieutenant

In 2003, the Fire Investigation Section received 319 referrals, of which 236 were structure fires, 56 vehicle fires, and 27 other miscellaneous incidents.

Of those 102 incidents that were determined to be incendiary fires, 54 were residential structure fires, 5 were commercial building fires, 24 were vehicle fires, and 19 were other miscellaneous incendiary incidents.

Incident investigations resulted in 9 arrests with convictions in all cases.

The Fire Investigation Section also conducted 6 investigations involving

10 civilian fire fatalities during the year of 2003.

The Fire Investigation Section conducted pre-employment background checks on 75 potential fire candidates, with the assistance of the Akron Police Department.

The Fire Investigation Section continued to be the regional reporting location for burn injuries during 2003. The information is forwarded to our office and kept on a database for possible investigative purposes.

The Fire Investigation Section provided assistance to other communities and law enforcement agencies throughout the year. We extend our thanks to the Ohio State Fire Marshall's Office, other state and federal agencies, with special thanks to the Akron Police Department for their continued support and assistance in 2003.

FIRE INVESTIGATORS

Dennis Nelson, Lieutenant

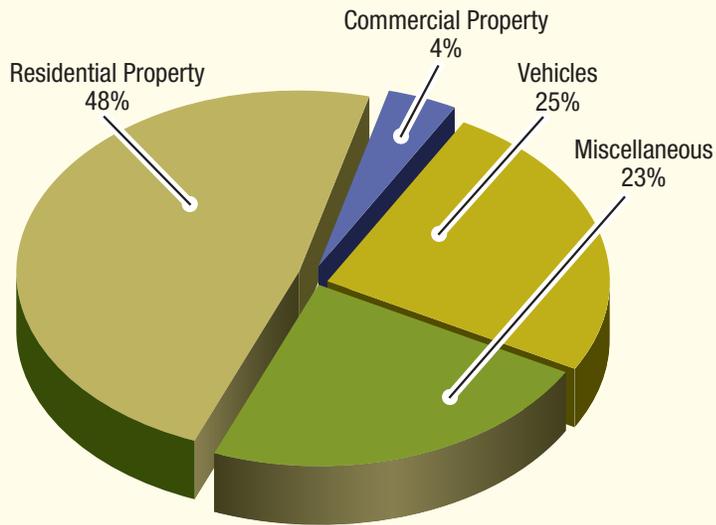
Bradley McKittrick, Lieutenant

Robert Wroblewski, Lieutenant

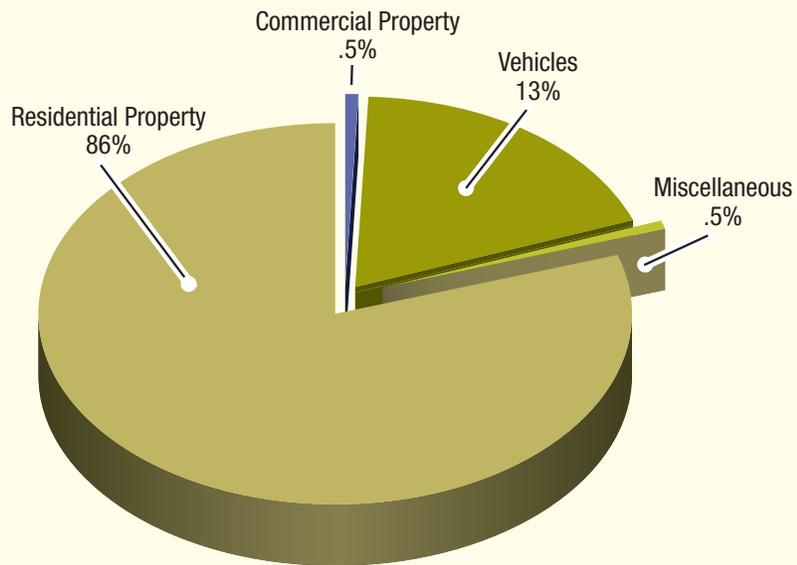
Todd Webb

INVESTIGATION SECTION

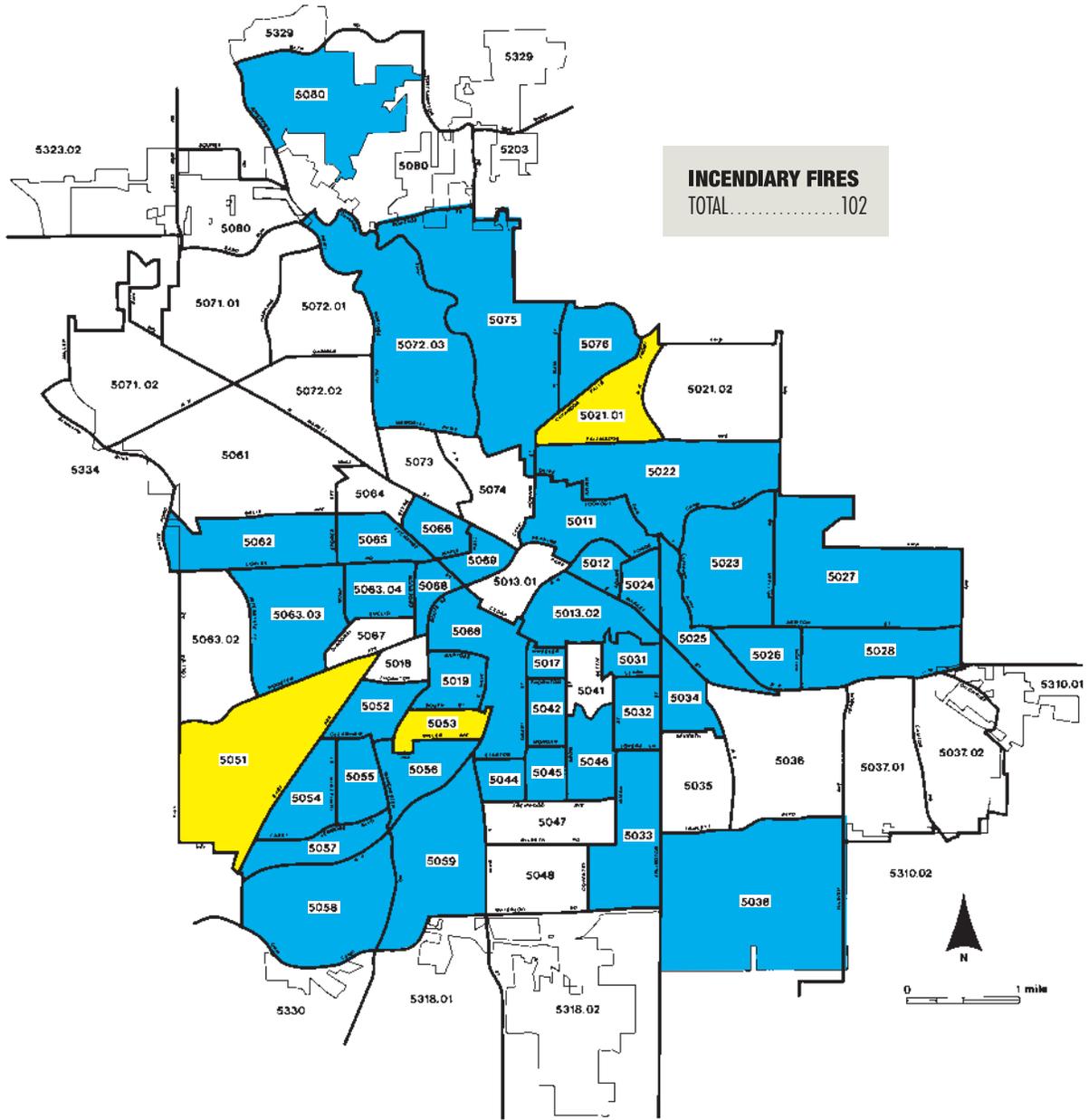
2003 INCENDIARY INCIDENTS



2003 INCENDIARY DOLLAR LOSS – \$619,415



INCENDIARY FIRES PER CENSUS TRACT AKRON, OHIO



INCENDIARY FIRES
TOTAL.....102

INCENDIARY FIRES

- 9-25 Per Tract
0% of Total Alarms
- 5-8 Per Tract
18.63% of Total Alarms
- 1-4 Per Tract
81.37% of Total Alarms

PROPERTY LOSS

- \$ - 0-
0% of Total Alarms
- \$66,400 Per Tract
10.72% of Total Alarms
- \$553,015 Per Tract
89.28% of Total Alarms



THE ACCOUNTING AND SERVICES BUREAU



Robert C. Ross
Deputy Chief

The Accounting and Services Bureau provides the Akron Fire Department with a wide range of important services. In most cases these services are very much “behind the scenes”, but nonetheless are essential to the smooth operation of the Fire Division.

In addition to the administrative offices located at the Fire Division’s main offices downtown, the Accounting and Services Bureau is comprised of several other sections responsible for their particular specialties. The Fire Maintenance Section maintains and repairs our extensive fleet and all of our stations and facilities. The Hydrant Maintenance Section maintains all the fire hydrants in Akron and in some adjoining cities and J.E.D.D. areas. Our Fire Storeroom orders, stores, and distributes the various supplies required to keep the Fire Division operating. These sections are all located at our Triplett Blvd. facility.

The primary mission of the Accounting and Services Bureau is to support the efforts of the various other components of the Akron Fire Department. From the purchase of the most basic items, such as office supplies, to the most sophisticated repairs on a fire or EMS apparatus, the Accounting and Services Bureau provides those items and services required to allow the Fire Department to fulfill its mission statement. The main goal of the Accounting and Services Bureau is to efficiently utilize the generous funding made available by the citizens, the Akron City Council, and the City of Akron Administration. We always strive to be fiscally responsible, while always providing the level of service the public deserves. The safety of our Fire Department personnel and the public they serve will always be paramount.

One of the major responsibilities of the Bureau is to prepare, submit, administer, and oversee the Operating, Capital, and Grant Fund budgets of the division. In the calendar year 2003, the combined expenditures of the various budgets were approximately \$36.4 million. The

majority of these expenditures are personnel costs, such as salaries and fringe benefits. Another large portion of the budget is dedicated to our vehicle purchases and major station repairs. The remainder of the budget funds the everyday operations of the Fire Division, such as the facility’s utility bills, the purchase of necessary parts and supplies, the contractual services provided to us by other agencies and contractors, and all the other expenses we incur. Some of the major accomplishments of 2003 are as follows. This last year we replaced station 4’s driveway & apron, and station 8’s rear driveway. Akron Fire Department also received delivery of five battalion vehicles, several fleet vehicles, and three new Fire/EMS apparatus (Engine 3, Medic 8, and Ladder 10). We also purchased 18 new Lifepak 12 heart monitors. Akron Fire Department was able to acquire 172 new SCBA Drager units, 4 Long Duration Drager SCBA’s (4 Hour), and a SCBA air compressor for refilling SCBA’s at Station 6 through the funds awarded by the FEMA “Firefighter’s Assistance Grant 2002”. Akron Fire Department received new handheld and apparatus radios with the merger of City and County radio systems.

Acron Fire Department was able to hire and provide initial equipment for 19 Firefighter / Medic cadets. Late in year 2003 Akron Fire Department was notified that we were awarded the FEMA “Firefighter’s Assistance Grant 2003” grant to upgrade our communications while wearing SCBA’s and to provide upgrades to City/County radio communication coverage area.

The Accounting and Services Bureau is also responsible for most of the record keeping required of the Fire Division: personnel records, financial records, purchasing records, fire incident reports, and a host of other records that document all of our daily activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the personnel assigned to the Accounting and Services Bureau. It is through their hard work, dedication, and team spirit that we are able to accomplish our mission. I also would like to thank Akron City Council and the City Administration for their support and guidance throughout the years. And lastly, I would also like to thank the citizens of the City of Akron, for it is a privilege to serve.

PERSONNEL

Number of employees for each classified position

TITLE	ACTUAL	AUTHORIZED
UNIFORM:		
Fire Chief	1	1
Fire Deputy Chief	6	5
Fire District Chief	1	6
Fire Captain	14	17
Fire Lieutenant	85	90
Firefighter	258	281
Total Uniformed Personnel	365	400
SUPPORT:		
Fire Equipment Supervisor	1	1
Fire Equipment Foreman	1	1
Fire Equipment Mechanic	7	8
Fire Hydrant Repair Supervisor	1	1
Fire Hydrant Maintenance Worker	3	3
Secretary IV	1	1
Secretary III	5	5
Secretary II	3	4
Secretary I	1	0
Storekeeper II	1	1
Stores Clerk	2	2
Programmer Analyst I	1	1
Quality Assurance Coordinator	1	1
Total Support	28	29
Total Division	393	429

PERSONNEL DATA FOR:

Appointments19	Separated (Temporary – COE)0
Retirement14	Demotions0
Disability Separation0	Promotions2
Reinstated0	Positions not filled36
Resigned2	Deceased (Active)0
Dismissal0	Deceased (Retired)4
Transfers to other Departments1	

FIRE MAINTENANCE FACILITY



Michael Sombrio
Fire Equipment Supervisor

The Equipment Maintenance Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Fire Department vehicles and equipment as well as the maintenance of thirteen Fire Stations.

Following is a summary of the activity of this Division for the year ending December 31, 2003:

JOBS

VEHICLE REPAIRS - MAJOR	187
Includes engines, drive trains, fire pumps, transmissions, clutches, collisions and rust damage, etc.	
VEHICLE REPAIRS - MINOR	7,926
Includes tune-up, ignition and wiring, lights, brakes, steering, etc.	
PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE	379
Includes general inspection, lubrication and road tests.	
BUILDING REPAIRS	2,406
Includes heating & cooling, plumbing, elevators, gas pumps, electrical, structural, appliances, and lawn & garden equipment.	
SCBA REPAIR - MAJOR	143
Includes complete overhaul of breathing air equipment.	
SCBA REPAIR - MINOR	3,119
Includes maintenance and repair of all self-contained breathing apparatus and medical equipment.	
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE	907
Includes driver training, Underwriter tests (pump, hose and aerial), response to multiple alarms and support services pertinent to the Fire Department.	

FIRE MAINTENANCE FACILITY

(Continued)

In 2003 Fire Maintenance placed the following vehicles into service:

- One 2003 Ford Chassis fitted with an ambulance body to Med 8.
- Two 2004 Chrysler Sebrings assigned to the Arson Bureau and Haz Mat.
- Five 2004 Ford Expedition's assigned to Battalion's 2-4-8-9 and the Shift Commander.
- One 2003 Pierce 2000 GPM Pumper assigned to Engine 3.
- One 2003 Pierce 75' Aerial Ladder assigned to Ladder 10.
- Two 2003 Ford F-450 Service Trucks assigned to Fire Maintenance and Hydrant Maintenance.
- One 2003 Ford Cargo Van assigned to Hydrant Maintenance.
- One 2003 Chevrolet 4WD Pickup truck assigned to Haz Mat.

The following vehicles were reassigned within the Department:

- 064907** was reassigned as a spare Med Unit.
- 060309** was reassigned as a spare Tower.
- 065300** was reassigned as a spare Ladder.
- 066209** and **065609** were reassigned to the Training Bureau.
- 0696A5** was reassigned to the Safety Officer.
- 068409** was reassigned to Haz Mat.
- 068909** was reassigned to EMS.
- 069009** was reassigned as a spare Battalion vehicle.

The following vehicles were removed from service and turned in to Motor Equipment for auction or reassignment:

063507	064202
061104	064102
065205	0679A3
065805	0683A3
069205	067508
067202	0636A3
066104	



FIRE STATIONS AND EQUIPMENT

Station No. 2 - 952 E. Exchange St.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2001 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 1998 Ford
Battalion Commander Vehicle,
2003 Ford

Station No. 3 - 59 S. Maple St.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2003 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2000 Ford Shift
Commander Vehicle, 2003 Ford

Station No. 4 - 25 E. Thornton St.

1500 GPM Haz-Mat Pumper, 1993 Pierce
2500 GPM Quint Ladder, 2001 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 1998 Ford
Haz-Mat/Heavy Rescue, 1993 Pemfab
Battalion Commander Vehicle,
2003 Ford

Station No. 5 - 2460 E. Market St.

1500 GPM Mini Tower, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 1998 Chevrolet
1996 Pierce Foam Truck

Station No. 6 - 1685 S. Hawkins Ave.

1500 GPM Mini Tower, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle,
2000 Ford

Station No. 7 - 541 E. Tallmadge Ave.

1500 GPM Pumper, 1994 Sutphen
75' Aerial, 1997 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2002 Ford
Technical Rescue Truck, 1992 Chevrolet
Technical Rescue Trailer, 1989 Haulmark

Station No. 8 - 1277 E. Archwood Ave.

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Pierce
75' Aerial, 1995 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2003 Ford
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2003 Ford

Station No. 9 - 98 Dodge Ave.

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Pierce
75' Aerial, 1996 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 1998 Chevrolet
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2003 Ford

Station No. 10 - 2225 4th St. SW

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Pierce
75' Aerial, 2003 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2002 Ford
Boat Trailer, 1984 B & M
14' Boat, 1980 Myers
Dive Team Truck, 1989 International

Station No. 11 - 1688 Akron Peninsula Rd.

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2000 Ford

Station No. 12 - 1852 W. Market St.

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 1998 Ford

Station No. 13 - 1544 Brown St.

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2000 Ford

Station No. 14 - 766 Brittain Rd.

1500 GPM Pumper Mini-Tower,
1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2000 Ford

HYDRANT MAINTENANCE



Gailon Williams
Fire Hydrant Repair Supervisor

The following is a summary of activities of Hydrant Maintenance for the year ending December 31, 2003:

Hydrants inspected	3,975
Follow up inspections after use by fire companies	220
Alarms responded to	1
Additional hydrants installed	104
New hydrants turned	82
Hydrants rebuilt	175
Hydrants winterized	315
Hydrants repacked	210
Hydrants serviced	4,120
Hydrants painted	90
Flow tests conducted by fire underwriters	0
Hydrants broken	375
Hydrants flushed	11,423
Hydrants elevated above grade	70

Hydrant coding specifications:

-  **White:** 1,500 gallons per minute and above
-  **Green:** 1,000 – 1,499 gallons per minute
-  **Orange:** 500 – 999 gallons per minute
-  **Red:** Less than 500 gallons per minute

Matching color on steamer cap and dome indicates last hydrant on the main.

SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS



John Rosneck
District Chief

In 2003, the new countywide radio system was implemented. The Akron Radio System now utilizes three broadcast sites within the City of Akron. In addition, Akron radios have the capability to broadcast on the two new county broadcast sites located in Twinsburg and The City of Green, allowing the potential for communications with surrounding fire departments, as well

as Summit County and Ohio law enforcement agencies and Special Operations Response Teams. The hope is that one day all Summit County Fire and Police Departments will utilize this system, thus providing seamless interoperability and improved coverage at less cost than what individual communities now must devote to radio communications.

In conjunction with the new system we replaced our radios. The new radios are smaller and are configured with zones and talkgroups designed with future interoperability needs in mind.



MONTHLY ALARM DATA 2003

Month	FIRES				NON-FIRES				Total Alarms
	Buildings	Grass/ Rubbish	Motor Vehicles	Misc	False	Accidental	Emergency First Aid	Misc	
January	43	9	18	7	39	100	131	253	600
February	45	5	20	3	22	65	114	271	545
March	44	24	18	5	19	89	97	317	613
April	46	58	29	18	31	80	112	262	636
May	53	20	12	10	32	69	87	373	656
June	44	33	30	12	29	76	82	344	650
July	55	38	25	18	23	110	98	605	972
August	44	25	22	13	30	93	126	418	771
September	41	16	20	10	31	84	103	305	610
October	40	11	24	10	29	80	104	320	618
November	38	19	27	7	41	75	85	326	618
December	32	7	21	5	28	36	99	253	481
TOTAL	525	265	266	118	354	957	1,238	4,047	7,770

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU



Woodrow W. Walker
District Chief

The office telephone number is 330-375-2211. The Fire Prevention office consists of the following sections: Code Enforcement section, Public Education section, and Arson section.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Akron Fire Prevention Bureau is to safeguard life, property and public welfare from the hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling, or use of substances, materials, or devices and from conditions hazardous to life, property, or public welfare in the use or occupancy of buildings, structures, sheds, tents, lots, or premises.

VISION STATEMENT

The Akron Fire Prevention Bureau and fire companies on line working together as a team of fire safety professionals dedicated to preserving life and property in our Community through fire safety inspections and the enforcement of fire codes.

- Inspecting the storage and use of explosives, flammables and hazardous materials
- Inspecting the installation, testing, and maintenance of automatic and other private fire alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment
- Inspecting the means and adequacy of exits, in case of fire, from factories, schools, hotels, boardinghouses, asylums, hospitals, churches, halls, theaters, amphitheaters, and all other places in which numbers of persons work, live, or congregate, from time to time, for any purpose

In 2003, thirty-five fire fighters were trained and certified by the state of Ohio Department of Safety as Fire Safety Inspectors. These new inspectors join the ranks of the seventy-five fire fighters trained and certified in previous years giving the department a total of one-hundred ten fire safety inspectors.

In 2003 the department implemented the Fire Company Inspections Program. This program has helped increase the number of fire inspections done in the City of Akron. In 2003 the number of inspections completed increased by 28 percent from 3920 total inspections in the year 2002 to 5478 in the year 2003.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

(Continued)

The number of hazards (violations) identified by inspectors increased by more than 100 percent from 2789 identified in the year 2002 to 5883 identified in the

year 2003. Teamwork between the Fire Prevention Bureau and the fire companies have contributed to making the City of Akron a much safer place to work and live.



CODE ENFORCEMENT SECTION

PUBLIC BUILDINGS	INSPECTIONS	HAZARDS	REINSPECTIONS
Government Bldgs. (1-1)	65	24	2
Hospitals, Institutions (1-2)	178	120	21
Schools, Colleges (1-3)	304	224	46
Churches (1-4)	76	70	12
Theaters (1-5)	7	12	3
Amusements, Halls (1-6)	84	105	14
Foster Homes (1-7)	166	117	22
Day Care Centers (1-8)	117	81	15
Group Homes (1-9)	4	4	0
Nursing Homes (1-10)	0	0	0
DWELLINGS			
Hotels, Boarding Houses (2-1)	3	1	0
Apartments, Rooming Houses (2-2)	227	331	63
Dwellings (2-3)	12	1	0
MERCANTILE			
Offices and Mult. Merc. (3-1)	1090	1239	285
Restaurants, Taverns (3-2)	575	952	157
Miscellaneous Merc. (3-3)	1137	1702	364
Warehouses (3-4)	140	204	43
MANUFACTURING			
Metal Working (4-1)	49	83	16
Wood Working (4-2)	31	22	6
Packing Plants (4-3)	0	0	0
Bakeries (4-4) 4	17	22	3
Laundries (4-5) 10	3	0	0
Cleaners, Tailors (4-6)	33	77	22
Rubber Manufacturing (4-7)	0	0	0
Misc. Manufacturing (4-8)	125	259	45
MISCELLANEOUS			
Trucking Companies (5-1)	4	5	0
Outbuildings (5-2)	0	0	0
Lumber & Coal Yards (5-3)	2	0	0
Railroad Property (5-4)	1	1	0
Bulk Oil Storage, Refineries (5-5)	0	0	0
Garages, Filling Stations (5-6)	158	199	52
Power Plants, Pump Houses (5-7)	0	0	0
Creameries, Dairies (5-8)	0	0	0
Hangars (5-9)	1	0	0
Misc. Structures (5-10)	54	48	5
TOTAL	4,663	5,883	1,196
MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES			
Blueprints	553		
GRAND TOTAL	5,478	5,883	1,196

PUBLIC EDUCATION SECTION



Albert A. Bragg, Jr.
Lieutenant

The mission of the Public Education Section is to create a positive change in the Life Safety behaviors of the citizens of Akron, through various educational strategies, thus reducing the incidence of injuries and death as a result of avoidable behavior. The Job of promoting community safety is both vitally important and a monumental task. No one organization has the resources to accomplish this mission alone, thusly, in the world of public/community safety education the terms collaborative and coalition are essential. The Public Education section has always used the T.E.A.M (together everyone achieves more) approach with our educational efforts, but in the year 2003, which can be called the Year of Collaborations, we took the T.E.A.M approach to a new level.

As part of the Watch your Step coalition, we played a key role in the development and implementation of the Safety Seekers program. Safety Seekers was designed to teach the average citizen how to perform a safety inspection of their personal residence, as well as the homes of family and close friends. Three Safety Seekers trainings were conducted in 2003 (June, July and October) with 51 people completing the six hour class. The Watch Your Step coalition is an unintentional injury prevention program (fires and falls) specifically targeting the 65 and over population.

We continue to have a collaborative relationship with NEOUCOM (North

Eastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine) and assisted with their student projects dealing with novelty lighters and older adult citizen safety.

In conjunction with Akron Children's Hospital, Summit County Safe Kids Coalition and the First Energy Foundation we were able to produce an Internet based safety game, "Welcome to Smokey's Safe House".

Additionally, we helped coordinate the American Cancer Society Relay for Life walkathon and helped organize the screening of 140 firefighters for prostate cancer.

With over 73 years of fire service experience, our office, which is comprised of firefighters John Gordon, Mark Harper and John Gardner, continue to take the lead on the unintentional injury front.

The following is an example of services we provide:

- Home inspection services.
- General fire safety classes
- Portable fire extinguisher training
- Juvenile Firestoppers program.
- Smoke alarm awareness, distribution, and installation.
- Weekly radio safety tips (WAKR).
- Child car seat checkups.
- Emergency Preparedness plans for businesses.
- Fire Safety House visits to festivals and schools.
- Open House at Stations.

This list, while not complete, serves as an example of what our office accomplishes on a daily basis.

— continued on page 22

PUBLIC EDUCATION SECTION

(Continued)

The Public Education office continues to receive invaluable support from Deb Lancaster and Sharon Johnson of the American Red Cross and Mary Mondozzi and Julie Klein of Akron Children's Hospital Medical Center, and Karla Wilkinson of the Akron Health Department.

Also, a special thanks to the numerous volunteers of the American Red Cross and the men and woman of the Akron Fire Department for their continued assistance with our education efforts.

PUBLIC EDUCATION STATISTICS

■ CHILDREN ATTENDING/COMPLETING THE JUVENILE FIRE STOPPERS PROGRAM	110/76
■ COMMUNITY GROUPS	313
■ BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY	150
■ SCHOOL VISITS	210
■ FIRE SAFETY HOUSE	92
■ GROUP HOMES	22
■ DETENTION CENTERS	13
■ SENIOR CITIZEN GROUPS	30



BENEFITS OFFICER



Robert G. Marmaduke II
Lieutenant

The responsibilities of the Benefits Officer include assisting members of the Akron Fire Department in obtaining and submitting the necessary forms to obtain benefits

when ill or injured, when contemplating retirement, or in matters relating to any other employee benefits. The Benefits Officer can also act as the Employee representative in matters concerning claims filed with the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation. Members of the Akron Fire Department generated 150 Supervisor's Reports of Injury resulting in 82 claims being processed through the

Bureau of Worker's Compensation. All injured personnel combined missed a total of 428 workdays.

The Benefits Officer assists members of the department in obtaining the health care benefits to which they and their family members are entitled. The Benefits Officer also serves as a liaison with Employee Benefits, Medical Mutual of Ohio, the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, and all entities involved in Worker's Compensation cases. There were 736 such encounters in 2003 serving the families of 261 active and retired firefighters.

Members of the Akron Fire Department desiring Service or Disability retirement may use the Benefits Officer as their representative. This representation is confidential.

The following were the 14 members of the Akron Fire Department who retired in 2003:

FF Ted Ball.....	Retired on 3-23-03
DC Michael Bogner.....	Retired on 4-27-03
FF Stephen Derrig.....	Retired on 3-20-03
LT. Terry Harriman.....	Retired on 3-30-03
DPTC Richard Luxeder.....	Retired on 6-1-03
CAPT. Terry Miller.....	Retired on 5-18-03
FF Reese Miller.....	Retired on 12-5-03
FF Michael Shaughnessy.....	Retired on 7-6-03
CAPT. James Simpson.....	Retired on 3-30-03
DC Woodrow Walker.....	Retired on 7-4-03
FF Robert Washnock.....	Retired on 6-14-03
DC Frederick Williams.....	Retired on 7-27-03
FF Oscar Williams, Jr.....	Retired on 6-15-03
FF Wilbert Williams.....	Retired on 5-4-03

SAFETY OFFICER



John Rosneck
District Chief

In 2003, the Akron Fire Department saw the total number of injuries and exposures decrease.

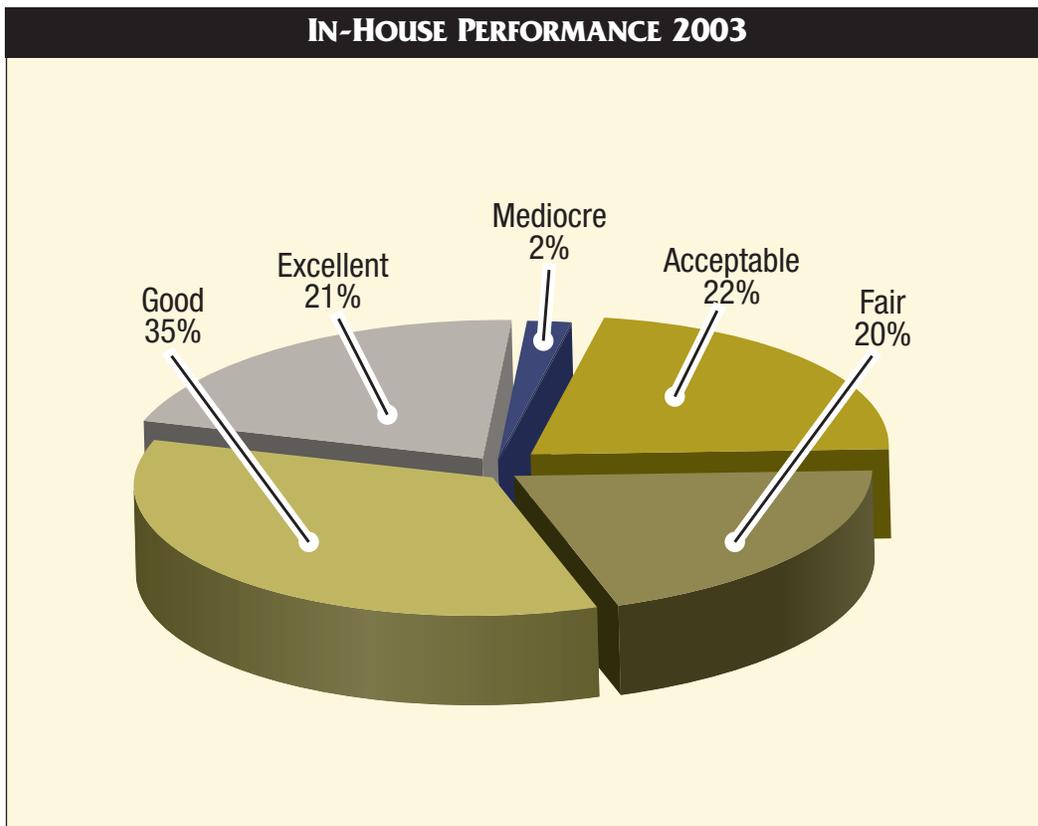
The annual TB testing was administered to all personnel. Flu shots were made available to the Akron Police Department, the Communication Center and the Akron Fire Department.

COMPARISON OF INJURIES FOR THE PAST 7 YEARS

Type of Data	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total Number of Injuries/Exposures	237	212	186	187	262	285	318	292
Injuries sustained at structural Fires	34	31	28	26	26	34	39	46
Injuries sustained at EMS Incidents	34	32	39	39	24	25	62	45
Respond/Return Fire & EMS	3	6	5	1	6	9	7	10
Burns	6	5	2	6	6	10	3	6
Fractures	1	0	1	2	3	3	0	1
Sprain/Strains	60	70	64	48	36	66	80	72
Back Injuries	28	27	37	28	20	22	34	32
Exposures to Infectious Disease	38	71	39	38	25	49	66	54
Exposures to Hazardous Material	94	60	30	31	132	30	124	88
Days lost/Injuries	875	415	413	256	285	82	88	143

FIT FOR FIRE

This year 338 Firefighters took the **Fit for Fire** performance evaluations. Two hundred and thirty-five personnel performed the Drill Field test, and all achieved a passing score. One hundred and three chose the In-House evaluation. The following chart reflects the AFD's In-House performance.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUBDIVISION

The Special Operations Subdivision is overseen by the Special Operations Subdivision Deputy Chief and is made up of the Emergency Medical Services Bureau, the Fire Training Bureau, and the Haz/Mat-Rescue Bureau.

The **Emergency Medical Services Bureau** is probably the most visible component of the Akron Fire Department today. The largest percentages of all calls to the Fire Department today are EMS calls. The Akron Fire Department initiated a municipal emergency medical system in 1978 with just 3 ambulances and a handful of paramedics. Our EMS system is regarded as one of the finest in the country and our goal is to continue the tradition of excellent service we provide to the citizens of the City of Akron. The Emergency Medical Services Bureau offices are located at Fire Administration and the Bureau currently is managed by Deputy Chief Edward Hiltbrand. The EMS Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2071.

The **Fire Training Bureau** has responsibility for the oversight and coordination of all training conducted by the Department. Instruction begins on a Fire/Medic's first day as a member of the Akron Fire Department and continues until that person retires from the fire service. Fire Training researches, develops, delivers and tests on the wide variety of topics that the Fire/Medics of today's ever-changing world need to be skilled. Fire Training also administers the Apprenticeship program that assists in developing new recruits into Journeyman Fire/Medics. The goal of all of our training is to further develop our personnel and deliver the Fire Department's services in a safe, efficient manner. The Fire Training

Bureau offices are located at 766 Brittain Rd. (Fire Station 14) and the Bureau is currently managed by Lt. Rodney Stewart. The Fire Training Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2635.

The **Haz/Mat-Rescue Bureau** supervises the specialized teams which provide emergency services outside of the realm of "normal" fire or emergency medical incidents. These teams are the Dive Rescue Team, the Technical Rescue Operations Team (TROT) and the Hazardous Materials-Rescue Team (Haz/Mat). The Dive Rescue Team based at Station 10 in Kenmore responds to all water related situations in the city, including swift-water rescue, ice diving and evidence recovery diving. The Technical Rescue Operations Team based at Station 7 in North Hill mitigates emergencies requiring expertise in high-angle and rope rescue, trench rescue and confined space entry. The Hazardous Materials-Rescue Team based at Station 4 handles the growing problem of emergencies involving hazardous chemicals and also deal with rescue situations requiring vehicular extrication and heavy-rescue incidents. All of these groups supplement the county teams when necessary due to large incidents that occur outside of the City of Akron. All of these team members have received considerable training in their specific disciplines and attend continuing education on a regular basis to ensure their skills are kept top-notch. The Haz/Mat-Rescue Bureau offices are located at 25 E. Thorton St. (Fire Station 4) and the Bureau is currently managed by Lt. Clarence Tucker. The Haz/Mat-Rescue Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2164.







HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESCUE BUREAU



Clarence I. Tucker
Lieutenant

The Hazardous Materials/Rescue Bureau Acting Manager is Lieutenant Clarence I. Tucker; telephone 375-2164.

The Hazardous Materials/Rescue Bureau and team responded to 305 emergency responses in 2003. The Haz/Mat Rescue Bureau oversees the activities of the Haz/Mat Team, the Dive Team and the Technical Rescue Team. This year we conducted site visits and Risk and Hazard Analysis on 31 Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) facilities in the City of Akron. This information is made available to all fire companies. We also keep files on all 126 SARA Title III (Superfund Amendment & Reauthorization Act) facilities and inspect all 200 oil/gas wells in Akron.

In 2003 we trained 8 firefighters to the Haz/mat Technician Level and the entire department received Haz/mat Awareness/Operations refresher. In

addition, all of our dispatchers received Haz/mat Awareness training. Our Haz/mat technicians were able to train extensively on duty as well as with Summit County Haz/mat Team. In September, we held a drill at Brown and Graves run by the Center for National Response which included Summit County Bomb Squad, Summit County Haz/mat Team, the 52nd CST (Civilian Support Team) of the National Guard, and Summit County Emergency Management Agency.

In keeping with our commitment to work with the emergency response teams of Summit County, we continue to have members work in key positions such as Zone Coordinators, Asst. Director of Operations, SCSORT Executive Board and the LEPC. Thanks to all team members for their dedication and professionalism.

District Chief F.C. Williams recently retired from the bureau. We would like to thank him for his tireless dedication and numerous contributions to the development of our program.



WATER RESCUE UNIT

In 2003 the Water Rescue Team responded to 15 calls, ranging from the swift moving waters of the Cuyahoga River to the shores of Nesmith Lake, and from drainage ditches along State Route 224 to ice covered Summit Lake. As a team, 218 dives were completed either on emergency runs or during training sessions. This translates into 129 hours under water as a team or an average of just over 4.5 hours per man. The dives were dispersed throughout the year so team members had to deal with all types of water conditions. Whether it was for a rescue operation when someone tried to drive across a frozen lake, or for the recovery of a stolen vehicle buried in the silt bottom of one of the many lakes and ponds located around the city or at one of the monthly training sessions, team members performed in a skilled and professional manner.

Many of the candidates who began their training in 2002 were able to

contribute to team efforts as both tenders and, in certain limited applications, as divers. Most of the trainees have achieved their goal of attaining advanced diver status. They will soon begin training in the ice diving specialty so that they can become full functioning team members.

In 2003 we also made progress in bringing the team's SOG into compliance with standards prescribed in NFPA 1670 for water rescue teams. The dive committee has put many hours into creating a document that will serve to keep our personnel safe while operating in a professional manner.

We also strengthened our affiliation with the water rescue branch of the Summit County Technical Rescue Team. We received a new portable boat and motor, 2 dry suits, and a vehicle recovery system to house for the county and to utilize as needed



TECHNICAL RESCUE OPERATIONS TEAM

In 2003, all of the personnel assigned to Station 7's Technical Rescue Team attended a 40-hour class for "Building Collapse Operations". The class was sponsored by the State Fire Academy. This elevated our team to a level of capability that is equaled by only a few teams within the State.

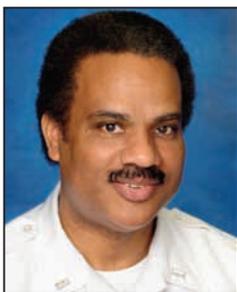
A k r o n
Fire's Technical



Rescue Team is also a part of the Summit County Technical Rescue Team. The Summit County Team is qualified as a Regional Strike Team with the ability to

respond across the State of Ohio. There are only five teams awarded this honor within the State and ours was the second team to qualify.

BUREAU OF TRAINING



Rodney Stewart
Lieutenant

The Training Bureau is multi-faceted in its responsibilities to the members of the Akron Fire Department. From indoctrination of new recruits through the course of a member's career, training remains an integral part of every firefighter's profession.

New ideas and equipment are constantly evolving which necessitate training and education before any novelties are implemented. Whether it is a change in procedure or the introduction of a new piece of equipment, the Bureau of Training will play a vital role in educating and training the department's members. Information is abundant and readily accessed via the internet, our association with FETN (Fire and Emergency Training Network), and supplemental training offered through the Ohio and National Fire Academies.

Our involvement with the University of Akron as our chartering organization affords us even greater access to training opportunities outside the department. Through this affiliation, our ability to network and partner with surrounding communities and fire departments is enhanced. Consequently, our resource pool is expanded due to the sharing of information and training aids. As the Training Bureau is responsible for documentation of all training, good record keeping is necessary to function efficiently. In essence, training records will be kept from a recruit's first day in the Academy until their career is concluded.

As in the previous year, the Akron Fire Department was involved with inter-agency drills addressing possible terrorist attacks and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). Scenario-based training is beneficial to all that participate and is deemed a high priority by the Federal Government, even to the point of funding these drills. Grants specifically designed for the reinforcement of Homeland Security are routinely awarded to front line safety forces. Local fire and police departments establish initial response to any WMD event, and the training of these safety forces is absolutely paramount. As is rehearsed in the scenarios, there will be a Unified Command at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), where high-ranking officials from various safety agencies will convene and direct the incident.

When called upon to do so, the Bureau provides training services to other agencies, such as the Akron Police Department, Water and Sewer departments, and area fire departments. In conjunction with the Safety Officer, Training personnel administer the annual department fitness testing. Annual pump testing of fire apparatus is also conducted by Training personnel and annual hose testing by company personnel is scheduled and coordinated by Training.

COMPANY TRAINING:

SCBA Training and Testing / Maze Training: This testing was developed by Fire Training instructors to fulfill the mandate of NFPA 1500 which requires fire personnel to demonstrate their ability to meet the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) performance standard. Each person must be able to demonstrate knowledge of SCBA use and inspection of their protective gear, including fit test for each face piece used. Testing begins in the first quarter of the year.

— continued on page 35

BUREAU OF TRAINING

(Continued)

A.M. Training: Fire Training Instructors prepared 40 morning training subjects for the five 10-week morning training modules in 2003. This training provided officers with the tools to deliver hands-on, oral, and textbook training for their fire company.

Fit for Fire: Fire Training instructors assisted in the annual "Fit for Fire" evaluation of fire personnel. In addition to scheduling and follow-up, they assisted in the coordination of monitoring and timing participants and setting up and dismantling equipment used for testing evolutions.

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Training Resources and Data Exchanges (TRADE): Fire Training personnel attended the Regional and National meetings of the TRADE organization. This is a national network sponsored by the U.S. Fire Administration. The purpose of this organization is to foster the exchange of training information, resources and ideas among its members. In this new age of possible homeland terrorism, it is vitally important that departments have the means to continuously exchange knowledge and a viable means of communicating useful training ideas and information.

Recruiting: Since being made aware by city officials that an entrance test for firefighter/medic was planned, recruiting

efforts were put into full gear. Area events and various cities were targeted to encourage career-minded individuals to become professional firefighters. We expanded our advertisements to include radio, TV, billboards, Metro bus panels, etc. Our efforts resulted in over 1,600 applications submitted and over 900 actually sat for the test. From the pool of applicants that passed the Civil Service exam, we were able to begin a new recruit class on December 29, 2003.

Rescue Harness / Emergency Bailout Training: New rescue harnesses were issued to the department and installed in each member's turnout gear. Bailout training followed on the heels of receiving the new gear. Training was implemented by the Manager of Training and supplemented with other department instructors.

Haz/Mat Operations/Awareness: The department underwent Haz/Mat recertification to the awareness level with assistance from the Training Bureau. Training sites were divided between the Training classroom for the didactic portion and station 4 for the hands-on and practical application.

CFSI Class: The Training Bureau also assisted in facilitating the training of 30 new Certified Fire Safety Inspectors. Now-retired District Chief Walker taught the class.

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM:

In 2003 the Training Bureau administered the apprenticeship program to

31 Fire/Medic Candidates. The breakdown by year is as follows:

Third-year Fire/Medic Candidates	— Class of September, 2000	14
Third-year Fire/Medic Candidates	— Class of April, 2000	17

— continued on page 36

BUREAU OF TRAINING

(Continued)

SPECIAL TRAINING CLASSES:

During 2003, Akron Fire Department personnel attended a variety of training and continuing education courses to increase job proficiency and skills relating to their assignment. Many courses were administered by area organizations and certificates of completion were issued under the auspices of the following universities or organizations.

Akron Fire/EMS	National Fire Academy
Barberton Fire Department	Ohio Department of Public Safety
Bowling Green State Fire School	Ohio Fire Academy
Children's Hospital of Akron	Stark State College
City of Akron Personnel Department	Summit County Emergency Management Agency
Cuyahoga Falls Police Department	Summit County Sheriff's Office
Drager	Toronto, Ont.-St. Johns Hospital
Fire Department Instructors' Conference	University of Akron
IFSAC/OFA	U.S. Department of Homeland Security

EQUIPMENT TESTING:

In conjunction with Fire Maintenance, Fire Training personnel performed pump tests on 10 fire department vehicles.

Hose tests were scheduled by training instructors and companies tested the entire complement of first line hose, including the following:

Description	Hose Tested	Defective	Description	Hose Tested	Defective
1" & 3/4" hose	2,550 ft.	0	5" hose (LDH)	9,950 ft.	300 ft.
1-3/4" hose	29,650 ft.	450 ft.	5" hose (soft suction)	25 ft.	0
2-1/2" hose	30,500 ft.	750 ft.	5" hose (hard suction)	Not testable	0
3" hose	0	0	6" hose (hard suction)	Not testable	0
4" hose (LDH)	8,925 ft.	600 ft.	Chemical Resistant hose	600 ft.	150 ft.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BUREAU



Edward C. Hiltbrand
Deputy Chief

On behalf of the Akron Fire Department Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Bureau it is my pleasure to present this summary of responsibilities and activities for the year 2003. One of our many objectives within the Akron Fire Department is to improve the quality of life within the community by providing a high quality emergency medical service. It is our priority in the EMS Bureau to provide this service in a competent, efficient and professional manner. In order to accomplish this we provide our paramedics with the highest quality vehicles, equipment and training that our budget permits.

We experienced another busy year in 2003. Our units responded to 30,954 request for emergency medical service. We transported 7991 patients to the area Emergency Departments. In addition our Tactical EMS team responded with the

Akron Police Department 23 times. We also responded 156 time outside the city to aid other communities.

In 2003 we were able to continue with updates to our vehicles and equipment. We replaced one of our older units with a new vehicle assigned as Medic 8. We also took delivery of additional Lifepak 12 monitors and now have 12-lead EKG capabilities on all of our units. This new 12-lead EKG capability has enhanced our ability to recognize serious cardiac issues and implement positive intervention.

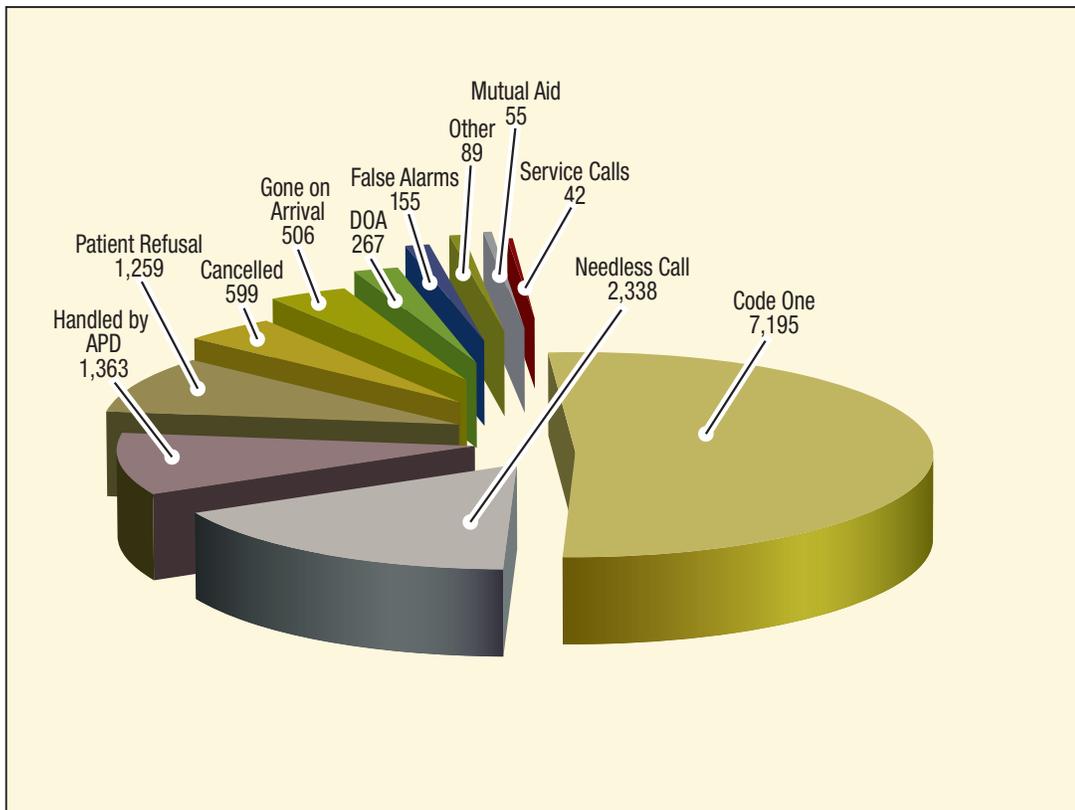
The EMS Bureau would like to gratefully acknowledge the support we receive from the Mayor, city council, the EMS advisory board chaired by Dr. Michael Moser, and Dr. Richard Gradisek who serves as our medical advisor.

Finally I would like to thank the men and women of the Akron Fire Department who deliver our service on a daily basis. The dedication and professionalism of these individuals continues to be the key to our successful delivery of emergency medical services within the City of Akron.

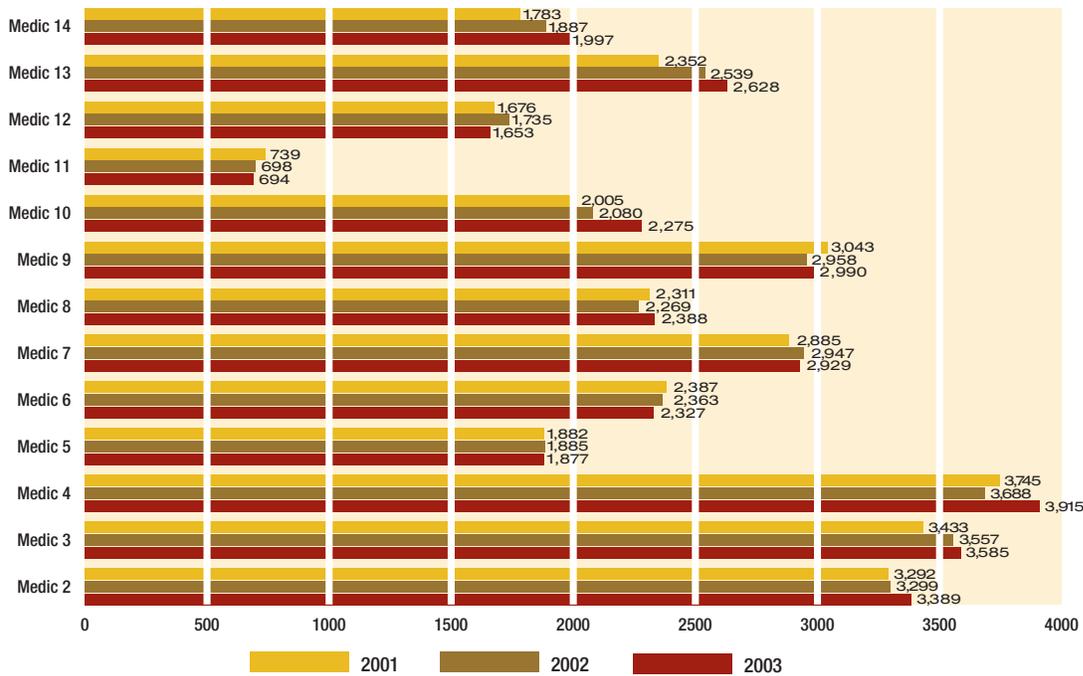


EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

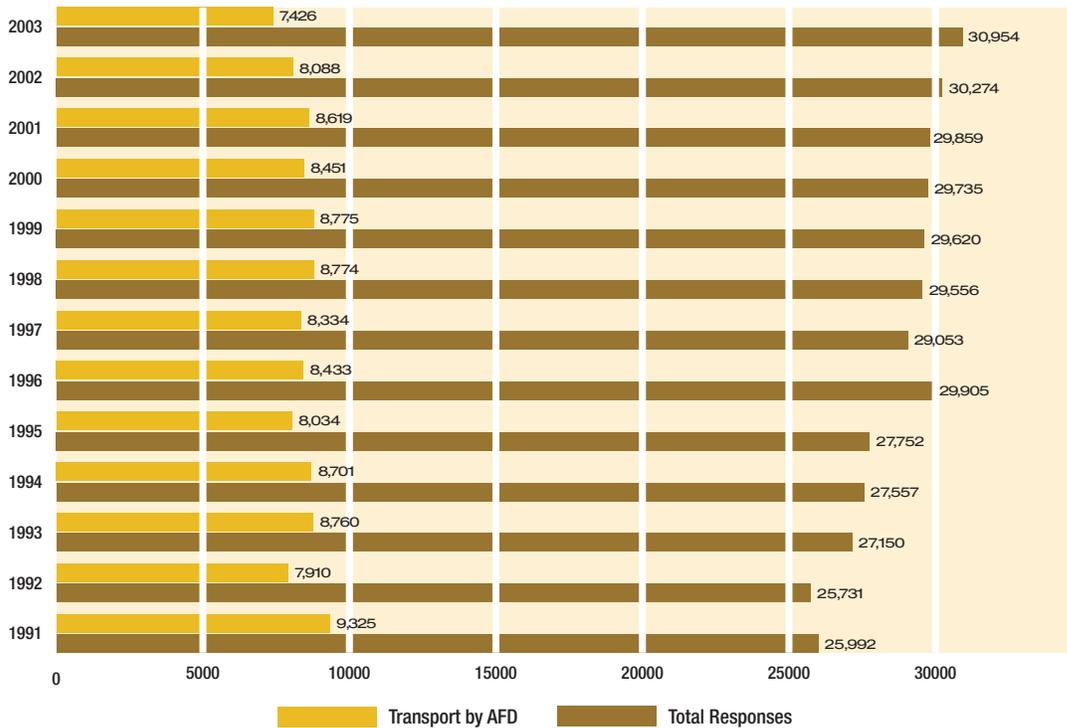
Non-Transport Profile



TOTAL RESPONSES BY MEDICAL UNIT

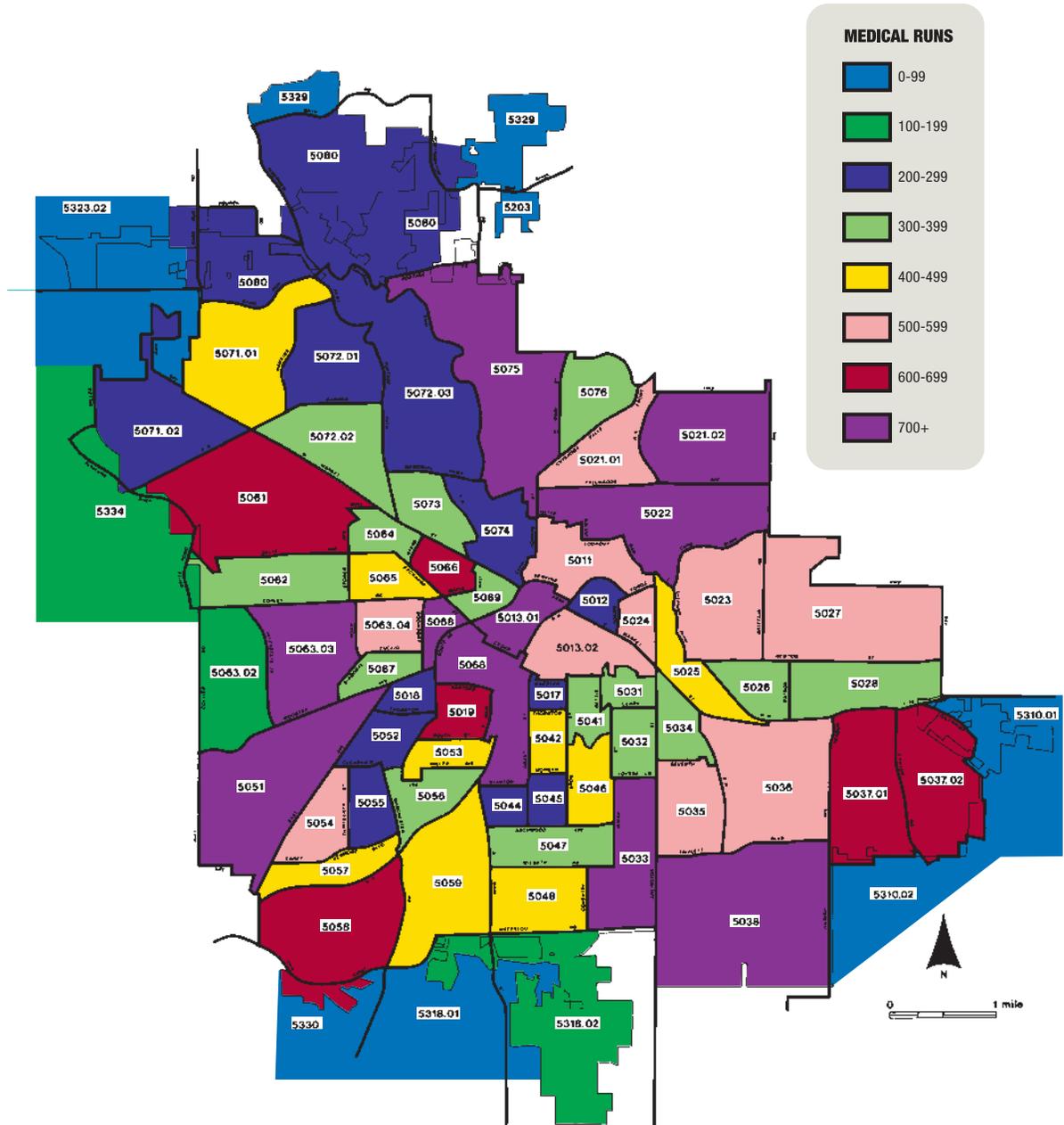


TOTAL REVIEW SYSTEM



MEDICAL RUNS BY THE AKRON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS) PER CENSUS TRACT

TOTAL ALARMS – 30,954



EMS TRAINING OFFICE



Michael Lozowy
Lieutenant

As an integral component of the Fire Department, EMS Training is a combination of many duties and responsibilities. With the constant advent of new technology, techniques and requirements, EMS Training's goal is to update, inform or train on these issues to the rest of the Department

The re-certification for EMT-As progressed through 2003 with two, 32 hour Refresher Classes totaling 41 students. Updating AFD's Master Database in conjunction with the State EMS Database helped keep all information in check.

To help promote the Fire Department and EMS as a career choice to high school students, a new program for EMS Training

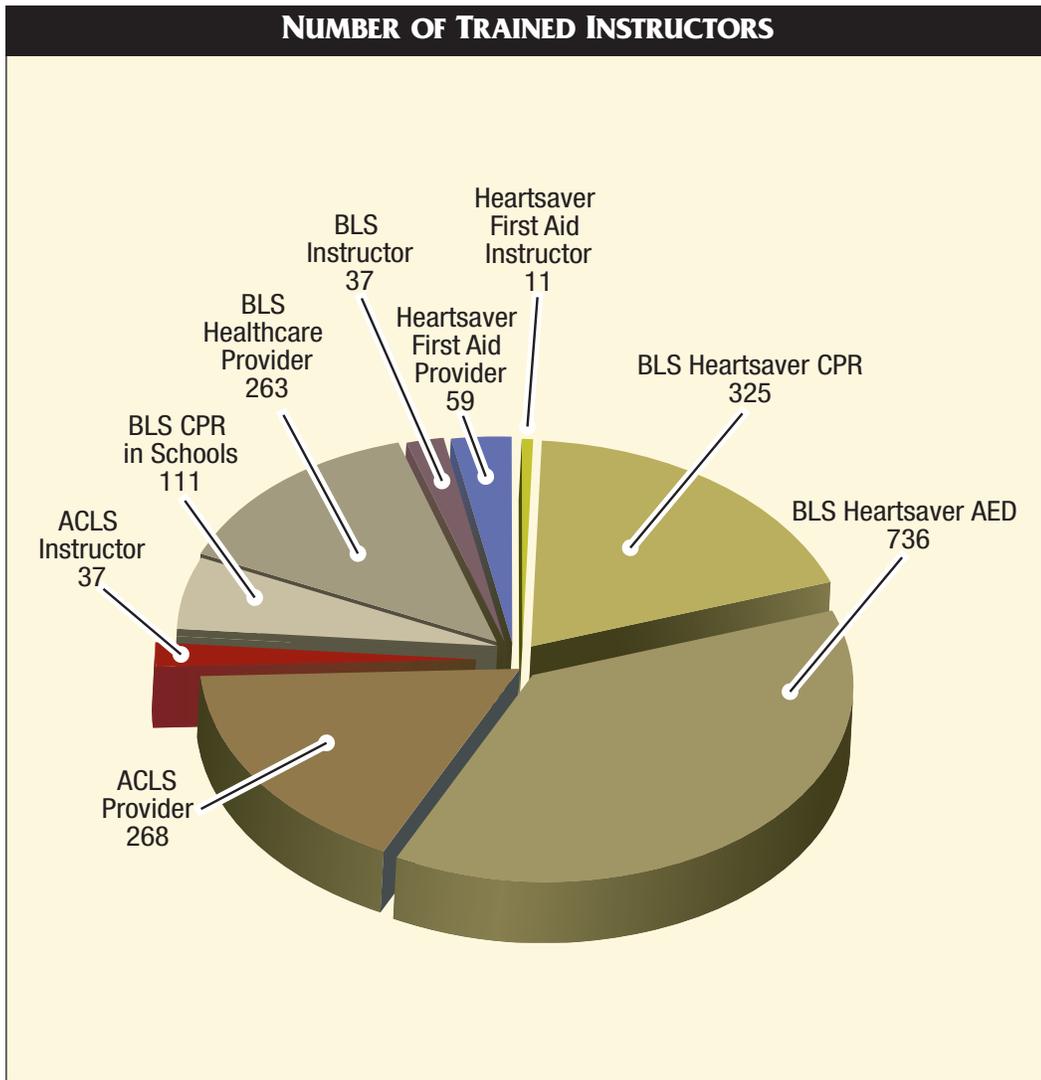
was the High School EMS and Fire Scholarship Program. EMS Training was the training center for 8 high school graduates for the 130 hour EMT Basic Course and the initial Healthcare Provider CPR Course. There are plans to promote this program to continue for 2004.

Special events for the City of Akron continue to expand. The major events include the MAPS Air Show, 4th of July Celebration, NEC Golf Tournament and, in 2003, the first RoadRunner Marathon. EMS Training is called upon to provide the EMS coverage with manpower, scheduling, and equipment placement.

EMS Training is also involved in some advisory committees, including EMS Grants, Regional Hospitals and Physicians boards, and EMA for WMD.

Preparation for all Run Reviews, med report auditing & categorizing come from this office

EMS TRAINING



OPERATIONS SUBDIVISION



Daniel Eletich
Deputy Chief – A Shift



Wesley Hull
Deputy Chief – B Shift



Larry Bunner
Deputy Chief – C Shift & Administration

The majority of the personnel who work in the Fire Division are assigned to the Operations Subdivision. Operations is where the Fire Division organization is broken down into the individual firefighting and EMS companies which perform the day-to-day public safety activities of the Akron Fire Department.

Operations is divided into three shifts (the A, B, and C shifts), which work a 24 hour-on / 48 hour-off shift. A Deputy or District Chief fulfills the role of Shift Commander and supervises each shift. The Shift Commanders handle the daily staffing issues and the scheduling of training and other activities for their shift. They also act as the interface between their shift and Fire Administration. The Shift Commanders will assume command of larger (second-alarm or greater) incidents that occur on their shift. The Shift Commander's office is located at Station 3. The telephone number is (330) 375-2219.

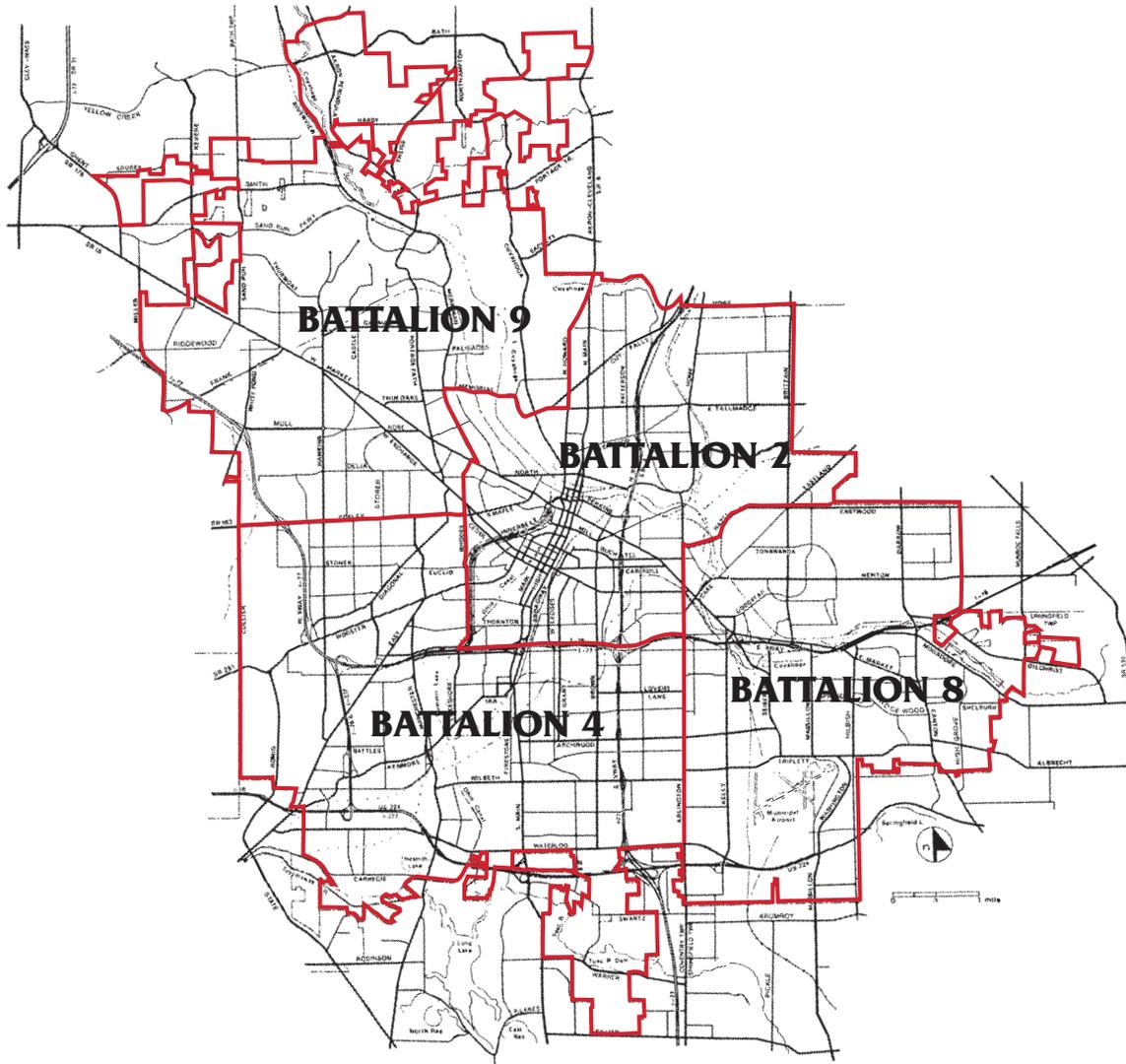
The City of Akron is geographically divided into four sections, known as "Battalions". Each Battalion has several stations within its boundaries. Each shift has four Battalion Commanders (Battalion 2, 4, 8, and 9) that are

responsible for Command and Control of most emergency incidents in the City. The Battalion Commanders supervise the individual companies in their respective Battalions.

Each individual fire company is made up of a Company Officer (usually a Lieutenant) who supervises two to three Firefighter/Medics. The Company Officer is responsible for the supervision and safety of the company members assigned to him or her at all times. The Company Officer is responsible for all reports and communications relating to the operation of their company.

Akron Fire EMS units may be staffed in one of two ways. EMS units may be combined with a fire unit and therefore have a four-person crew. These "Combo" companies respond with their entire crew to either fire or EMS incident with the appropriate vehicles. In addition, other EMS units are manned with only a two-person crew, supervised by the fire officer in the station where they are housed. All Akron Fire paramedics are also firefighters and rotate duty assignments between fire and EMS companies on a regular basis.

BATTALION DISTRICTS



BATTALION 2
 A-Capt. Whytsell
 B-Capt. Marina
 C-Capt. Kury

BATTALION 4
 A-Capt. Patrino
 B-Capt. Ott
 C-Capt. Ware

BATTALION 8
 A-Capt. Thomas
 B-Capt. Stoneman
 C-Capt. Combs

BATTALION 9
 A-Capt. Blasdel
 B-Capt. Case
 C-Capt. Green

FIRE STATISTICS

FIRE ALARM RESPONSE

GRAND TOTAL – 17,621

Engines

Engine __21,168	Engine __9706
Engine __3974	Engine __10628
Engine __41,147	Engine __11201
Engine __5379	Engine __12491
Engine __6523	Engine __13457
Engine __7812	Engine __14334
Engine __8454	

Ladders

Ladder __4903
Ladder __7575
Ladder __8764
Ladder __91,012
Ladder __10247

Total Engine8,274

Total Ladder3,501

Total Battalion ...4,981

Total Rescue386

Other Fire Units ...479

Battalions

Battalion __21,295
Battalion __41,705
Battalion __8724
Battalion __91,257

Haz Mat, Rescue

Haz Mat __4113
Rescue __4273

Alarms

Received by:

Phone / 9-1-17,156
Box440
Municipal39
Walk-ins8
Radio76
Miscellaneous22
Transfers from elsewhere29

Time of Day:

A.M.2,793
P.M.4,977

Type of Alarms:

Still3,300
First4,441
Second28
Third1
Fourth0

Causes for:

Fire1,174
False354
Accidental957
Other Emergencies1,238
Miscellaneous4,047

Alarms (continued)

Types of Fires:

Buildings525
Motor Vehicles266
Grass, Rubbish & Dumps265
Misc.118

Occupancy of Building Fires:

Public Assemblies15
Educational6
Institutional15
Residential422
Store & Office20
Basic Industries0
Manufacturing10
Storage23
Special14

Casualties to Citizens:

Injuries63	Fatalities10
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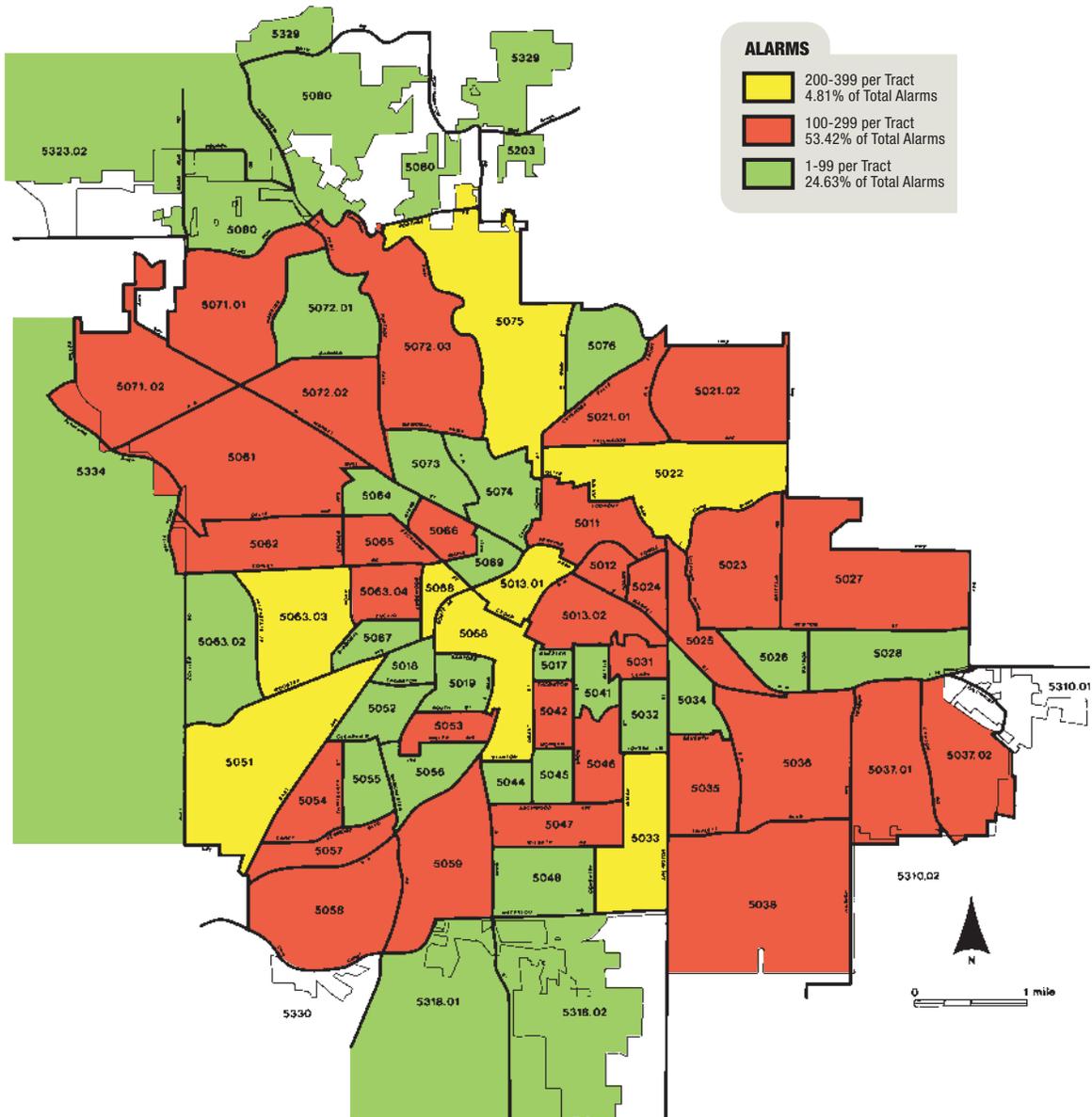
Casualties to Firefighters:

Injuries292	Fatalities0
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In Services:

Engine Companies13
Ladder Companies5
Medics & Medic Combos13
Personnel365
Alarm Boxes215

RESPONSES TO ALARMS BY AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT PER CENSUS TRACT TOTAL ALARMS – 7,805



SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Following is a summary of the activities of the Division of Fire for the year 2003 including a comparison with the activities of the year 2002.

	2003	2002	Up	Down
Total Response	17,621	17,867		246
Alarm Total	7,770	7,805		35
Types of Alarms:				
Still Alarms	3,300	3,372		72
First Alarms	4,441	4,382	59	
Second Alarms	28	50		22
Third Alarms	1	1	0	0
Fourth Alarms	0	0	0	0
Types of Incidents:				
Building Fires	525	516	9	
Vehicles Fires	266	283		17
Grass, Rubbish & Dump Fires	265	290		25
Miscellaneous Fires	118	137		19
False Alarms	354	381		27
Accidental Alarms	957	1,037		80
Emergency Alarms	1,238	1,274		36
Misc. Calls (No fires involved)	4,047	3,887	160	
Fire Loss:				
Total	6,860,484	8,105,426		
Per Capita	30.76	21.32		
Population of Akron	223,000			

FIRE STATISTICS

Building	Valuation	Loss
Public Assembly	\$43,055,000	\$60,180
Educational	\$28,420,000	\$3,045
Institutional	\$973,300,000	\$42,170
Residential	\$208,139,250	\$5,036,169
Store and Office	\$2,123,449,000	\$197,620
Basic Industry	0	0
Manufacturing	\$69,350,000	\$661,600
Storage	\$6,727,250	\$173,430
Special	\$3,922,500	\$153,700
Building & Contents Total	\$3,456,363,000	\$6,327,914
Motor Vehicles	\$1,288,000	\$506,505
Miscellaneous	\$3,534,385	\$26,065
Grand Total	\$3,461,185,385	\$6,860,484

FIRE LOSSES AT \$50,000 AND OVER

Date	Fixed Property Use and Address	Building	Contents	Total
1/3/2003	125 Locust Street Apartments over 20 units	\$50,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$60,000.00
1/14/2003	40 S Rhodes Avenue Apartments 7-20 units	\$65,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$80,000.00
1/19/2003	523 Elbon Avenue One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$60,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$75,000.00
1/29/2003	198 Berman Avenue Apartments 3-6 units	\$45,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$50,000.00
2/13/2003	2418 Lancaster Road One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$200,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$300,000.00
2/18/2003	1489 Kelly Avenue Plastic Manufacture	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$600,000.00
2/23/2003	899 Rosmond Avenue Hotel, Motel, Inn	\$100,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$135,000.00
2/25/2003	1873 S Arlington Street Apartments 3-6 units	\$200,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$250,000.00
3/9/2003	199 S Portage Path Barber, Beauty Shop	\$40,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$60,000.00
3/12/2003	1567 Delcon Drive One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$80,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$120,000.00
3/21/2003	612 Treeside Drive Apartment 3-6 Units	\$60,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$65,000.00
4/21/2003	81 E Brookside Avenue One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$70,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$100,000.00
5/16/2003	1054 Hampton Ridge Drive Apartments 7-20 units	\$400,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$500,000.00
6/6/2003	441 Zahn Drive Parking Garage	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$60,000.00
6/12/2003	704 Ridgecrest Road One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$20,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$50,000.00
6/28/2003	1444 Alphada Avenue Apartments 7-20 units	\$40,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$60,000.00
7/3/2003	347 Earl Court One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$75,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$100,000.00
7/6/2003	607 Madison Avenue One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$45,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$60,000.00
8/30/2003	25 Berkshire Court Apartments 7-20 units	\$80,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$100,000.00

— continued on page 50

FIRE LOSSES AT \$50,000 AND OVER

(Continued)

Date	Fixed Property Use and Address	Building	Contents	Total
9/5/2003	110 Bittman Street Vacant Property	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00
9/15/2003	1911 Brittain Road Clothing Store	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$50,000.00
9/21/2003	865 W Waterloo Road Machinery Storage	\$15,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$55,000.00
9/29/2003	918 Iredell Street One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$40,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$50,000.00
10/3/2003	549 Carroll Street Two Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$30,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$50,000.00
10/6/2003	1421 Barcelona Drive One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$75,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$115,000.00
10/16/2003	226 Crosby Street One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00
11/24/2003	7 Ascot Parkway Other Manufacturing	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
11/30/2003	1400 Redbush Road One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$40,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$50,000.00
12/2/2003	1171 Yukon Avenue One Family Dwelling: Year Round Use	\$40,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$60,000.00
12/11/2003	111 Hollinger Avenue Apartment 7-20 Units	145,000.00	5,000.00	150,000.00



LOSS CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDING FIRES

	Number of Fires	Percentage of Fires	Estimated Loss	Percentage of Loss
Under \$5000	358	68.19	\$307,914	4.87
5000-9999	45	8.57	\$264,000	4.17
10000-19999	30	5.71	\$360,500	5.7
20000-29999	28	5.34	\$631,000	9.97
30000-39999	22	4.19	\$704,500	11.13
40000-49999	12	2.29	\$505,000	7.98
50000+	30	5.71	\$3,555,000	56.18
Total	525		\$6,327,914.00	



BUILDING FIRES

	<i>Public Assembly Property</i>	<i>Educational Property</i>	<i>Institutional Property</i>	<i>Residential Property</i>	<i>Store & Office Property</i>	<i>Basic Industry, Utility, Defense</i>	<i>Manufacturing Property</i>	<i>Storage Property</i>	<i>Special Property</i>	<i>Total</i>
Careless Smoking	1		1	26	1		1		2	32
Children Playing with Matches/Lighters		1		11			2			14
Unattended Food on Stove	2			102						104
Overheated Food, Grease, Resins, etc.			2	13						15
Defective Wiring, Transformers/Short Circuit	4		3	36	6		2	1		52
Defective Electrical Appliances/ Overheated	1	1	2	13	2	1				20
Open Flames, Lights, Candles, Matches				20						20
Design/Construction	1			28	2		1	2		34
Overheated Furnaces, Stoves & Heaters										0
Combustibles near Heaters, Stoves, Furnaces	1		2	23	1					27
Incendiary & Set	1	2		37				7		47
Careless Use of Flammable Liquids				2			1			3
Defective Heating & Cooling				3	2	1	1			7
Leaking Gas Pipes and Appliances	1			6						7
Automotive Fires in Buildings					1		3			4
Lightning				3						3
Spontaneous Ignition			1							1
Sparks from Welding, Cutting Torches			1	4		1		1		7
Hot Ashes near Combustibles				1			2			3
Overheated Clothing/Lint in Dryer			2	13	1					16
Sparks from Chimneys, Incinerators										0
Static or Friction Sparks				1		2				3
Mental/Physical Impairment										0
Fireworks/Sparklers				2						2
Kerosene Heater Fires										0
Miscellaneous	2	1	1	29	3	1	1	1		39
Undetermined & Suspicious	1	1		49	1	3	10			65
TOTAL	15	6	15	422	20	0	10	23	14	525

NON BUILDING FIRES

Causes	Vehicles Auto, Trucks, & Buses, Misc. Vehicles	Grass & Rubbish	Misc.	Total
Open Burning		48	4	52
Children with Matches/Lighter		24	2	26
Careless Smoking	2	13	18	33
Backfire	18			18
Gas Line Leak	8		2	10
Defective Wiring-Short Circuit	34	1	4	39
Part Failure-Mechanical Defects	107		1	108
Sparks from Welding, Cutting Torches	2	1	1	4
Hot Ashes near Combustibles		2		2
Result of Collision	6			6
Incendiary & Set	28	13	9	50
Careless Use of Flammable Liquids	4		3	7
Fireworks/Sparklers		4	2	6
Undetermined & Suspicious	35	60	27	122
Miscellaneous	19	13	15	47
Abandoned Discarded Material	1	32	20	53
Misuse of Heat of Ignition	2	54	10	66
TOTALS	266	265	118	649

ALARMS WHERE NO FIRE WAS INVOLVED

	False Alarms (Malicious intent or by pranksters)	354
	Accidental Alarms (Defective signal equipment, mistakes of judgement)	957
Emergency First Aid	Assist Medics on EMS Calls	1099
	Assisting Invalids / Fallen or aged persons	16
	Rescue	
	Release children caught in banisters, chairs, etc.	1
	Remove people caught in mechanical devices	2
	Remove people from cave in	1
	Remove rings from fingers	1
	Remove people from vehicles involved in collisions	59
	Remove people from elevators	52
	Search / Remove bodies from water	7
	Airplanes in trouble	0
	Animal Rescue/Removal	200
	Assisting other municipal departments	26
	Assisting other fire departments outside city limits	21
	Bomb threats	2
	Cancelled	195
	Carbon Monoxide calls	356
	Checking defective heating and cooling systems	35
	Checking defective or short circuited wiring	83
	Checking defective or overheated electrical appliances	1
	Cook out	81
	Electric service wires fallen or short circuited	359
	Flushing spilled or overflowing gasoline, acids, oils, etc.	87
	Good intent calls	489
	Investigating smoke odors, gas odors, and fumes	725
	Investigating chemical hazards, odors, and spills	33
	Lightning strike (no fire involved)	0
	Lock-out /Lock-in	80
	Removing/Investigating water problems in buildings	74
	Service calls	675
	Shutting off utilities	0
	Trees/Limbs Down	216
	Wrong Location given	3
	Miscellaneous calls (not otherwise classified)	306
	TOTAL	6,596

IN MEMORIAM

To those faithful firemen who have answered their last alarm, but whose loyalty and devotion to duty will ever remain paramount in the annals of the City of Akron and its Fire Department.

DENNIS BRUMBAUGH

BORN5/21/26
APPOINTED1/16/48
RETIRED5/31/78
DIED10/16/03

RICHARD HALL

BORN7/9/36
APPOINTED11/29/62
RETIRED5/26/90
DIED9/3/03

RALPH HOLTZAPFEL

BORN7/31/22
APPOINTED2/1/47
RETIRED4/4/75
DIED5/27/03

ROBERT HOWD

BORN7/4/31
APPOINTED2/7/57
RETIRED7/2/73
DIED10/31/03



A FIREFIGHTER'S PRAYER

GIVE ME CONCERN FOR OTHERS

*A willingness to seek out
those in need ...*

GIVE ME COURAGE

*The boldness of spirit to face
and conquer fear,
to share and endure the ordeal
of one who needs me ...*

GIVE ME STRENGTH

*Strength of heart to bear whatever
burden might be placed upon me ...
and strength of body to deliver to safety
all those placed within my care ...*

GIVE ME WISDOM TO LEAD

*the compassion to comfort, and the love
to serve unselfishly wherever
You take me ...*

**AND PLEASE, THROUGH IT ALL,
BE AT MY SIDE**



Donald L. Plusquellic
Mayor