



City of Akron
FIRE DEPARTMENT



2014 Annual Report



Mission Statement	2
Senior Management	3
Message from the Chief	4
Organization of the Akron Fire Department.....	5
2014 Deputy & District Chiefs.....	6
2014 Retirees & Resignations.....	7
Safety Officer	8-9
Operations Subdivision	10
Battalion Districts.....	11
Fire Statistics	12
Alarm Responses by the Akron Fire Department Per Census Tract	13
Building Fires	14
Fire Losses at \$50,000 and Over	15
Loss Classification of Building Fires.....	16
Summary of Activities and Fire Statistics	17
Alarms Where No Fire Was Involved.....	18
Special Services Subdivision	19
Emergency Medical Services Bureau	20
Total Responses by Med Unit and Total System Review	21
Medical Runs by the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Per Census Tract.....	22
Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS)	23
Fire Prevention Bureau	24-25
Code Enforcement Section.....	28
Akron Fire Department Honor Guard	29
Fire Investigation Section.....	30-31
Incendiary Fires Per Census Tract	32
Bureau of Fire Training	33-35
Administrative Subdivision	36
Accounting and Services Bureau.....	37
Safety Communications	38
Monthly Alarm Data.....	39
Hazardous Materials/Rescue Bureau	40
Dive/Swift Water Rescue Team	41
Technical Rescue Operations Team	42
Personnel	43
Fire Maintenance Bureau	44-45
Fire Stations & Equipment	46
Hydrant Maintenance Section	47
In Recognition	48-49
In Memoriam	50
Firefighter's Prayer	51
Historical Stop.....	52



AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

The Akron Fire Department exists to protect the lives, property, and environment within our community by minimizing the impact of fire, medical emergencies, and hazardous conditions.

We will accomplish this mission by providing:

- *Fire suppression forces capable of mitigating all fire events*
- *An Emergency Medical System designed to provide excellent prehospital care*
- *Enforcement of fire codes, investigation of fire cause, and public education*
- *Special operation teams trained for hazardous material response, technical rescues, water emergencies, and tactical EMS*

Our members are committed to the following values:

- *For our citizens - We will provide the highest quality of service possible and treat all with compassion, respect, and dignity*
- *For our profession - We will maintain the highest level of readiness through training, education, fitness, safety awareness, and responsible utilization of resources*
- *For our organization - We will foster a culture of enthusiasm, diversity, mutual respect, and teamwork*

*Our Motto
"Dedicated to Service"*



Donald L. Plusquellic
Mayor



Robert Ross Jr.
Chief





Akron Fire Department

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

As Chief of the Akron Fire Department and on behalf of the men and women dedicated to protecting the lives and property within our city, I am pleased to present to the Honorable Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic, his cabinet, members of Akron City Council, and the citizens of our fine city, the 2014 Akron Fire Department Annual Report.

The Akron Fire Department delivered a consistent level of excellent emergency services throughout the year. Specific successes in 2014 include the procurement of a new ambulance for Station 12 and placing the new Tower 10 engine in service. We also implemented a smoke alarm and home safety program, targeting our most at risk population. Additionally, I am pleased to share that the Akron Fire Department graduated 15 new firefighters from our training academy in 2014!

The members of the Akron Fire Department remain committed to the goal of providing our community with excellent, compassionate emergency services. As Chief, I pledge to provide our organization with the training, equipment, and leadership needed to fulfill this goal.

On behalf of the men and women of the Akron Fire Department, I would like to offer our sincere appreciation to Mayor Plusquellic, his cabinet, Akron City Council, and the citizens of Akron for their assistance and support.

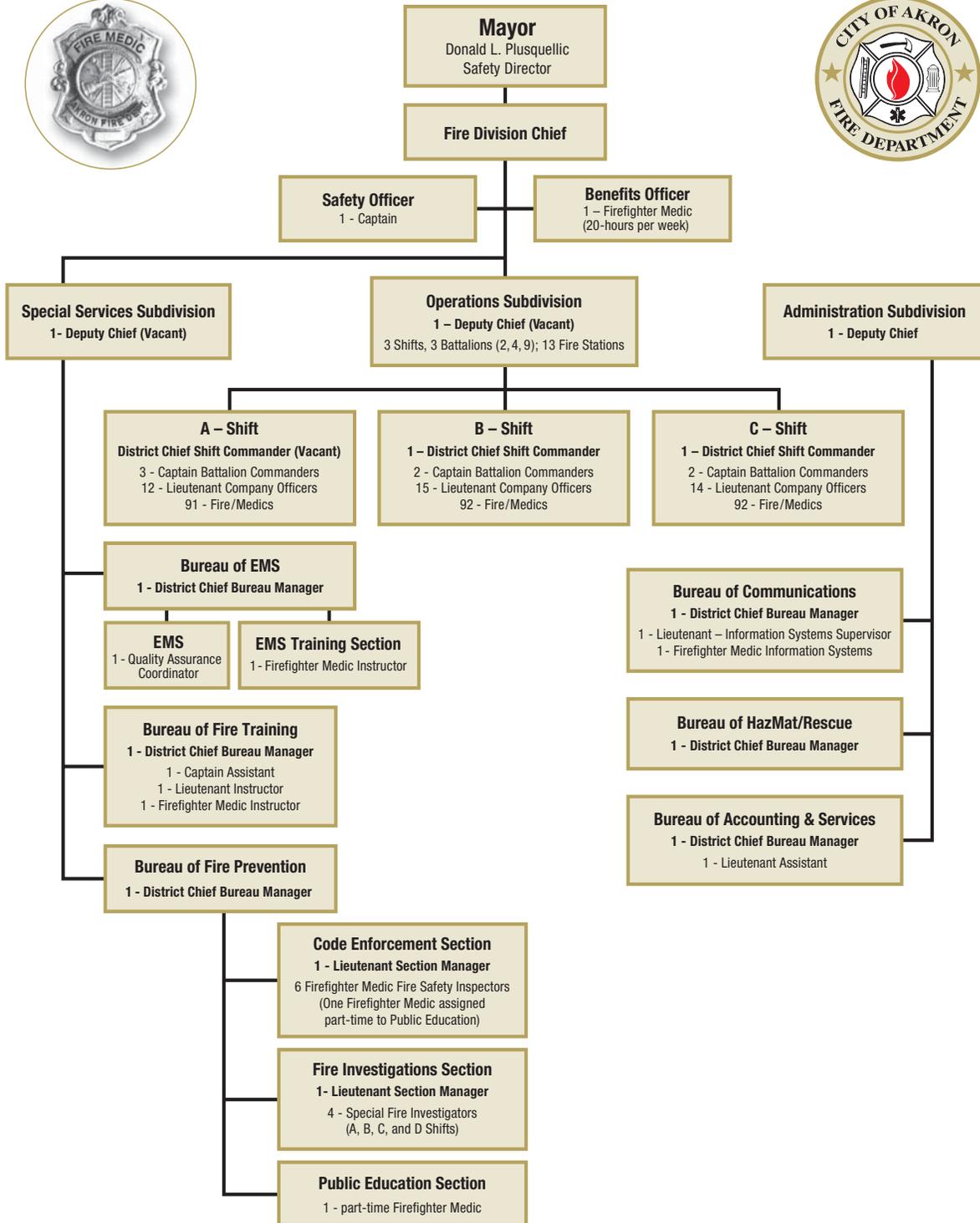
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Plusquellic", written in a cursive style.

Fire Chief

SAFETY DEPARTMENT/DIVISION OF FIRE ORGANIZATION CHART

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014



— 2014 —
DEPUTY AND DISTRICT CHIEFS



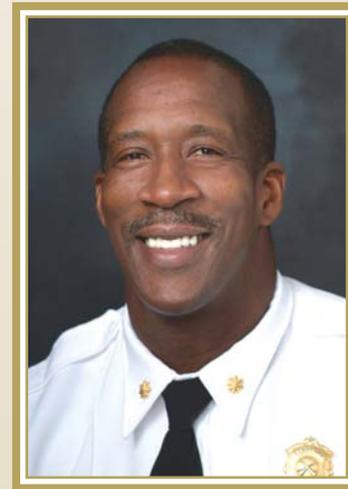
Edward Hiltbrand
Deputy Chief



Dale Evans
Deputy Chief



Dennis Stoneman
District Chief



Anthony Law
District Chief

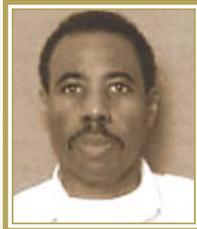
2014

RETIREMENTS

Uniform Retirements



Russell Gross
Firefighter/Medic
March 8, 2014



Lowell Weir
Firefighter/Medic
March 14, 2014



Ronald Breznak
Lieutenant
March 15, 2014



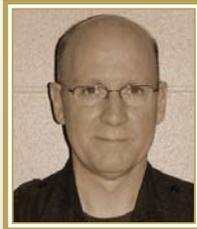
Emmitt Bush
Firefighter/Medic
March 21, 2014



Jeffrey Derrenberger
Captain
April 5, 2014



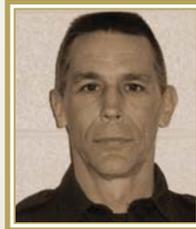
John Walker
Lieutenant
April 5, 2014



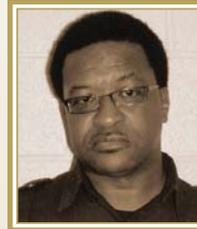
Michael Emich
Lieutenant
May 1, 2014



Rodney Stewart
Captain
May 1, 2014



Jeffrey Warner
Firefighter/Medic
May 9, 2014



Ronald Wright Jr.
Firefighter/Medic
May 31, 2014



Michael Reed
Lieutenant
June 1, 2014



Albert Smith
Captain
June 1, 2014



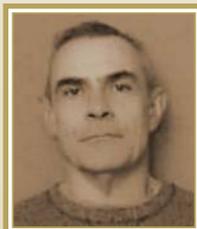
Albert Bragg Jr.
Captain
June 1, 2014



Dale Evans
Deputy Chief
August 1, 2014



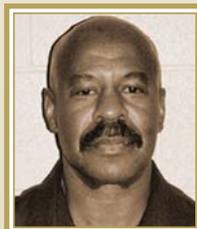
William Howe
Captain
October 1, 2014



Bradley McKittrick
Lieutenant
November 22, 2014



Edward Jetter
Lieutenant
December 2, 2014



Doston Jones
Firefighter/Medic
December 13, 2014



Michael Steele
Lieutenant
December 13, 2014

SAFETY OFFICER



Captain Richard Vober
Safety Officer

The duties of the Akron Fire Department's Health and Safety Bureau continue to be fulfilled by Captain Richard Vober. As Safety Officer I am proud to share the following report.

Our community continues to remain safe and healthy because the Safety Bureau ensures fire department personnel are healthy, knowledgeable, and physically able to respond.

Goal:

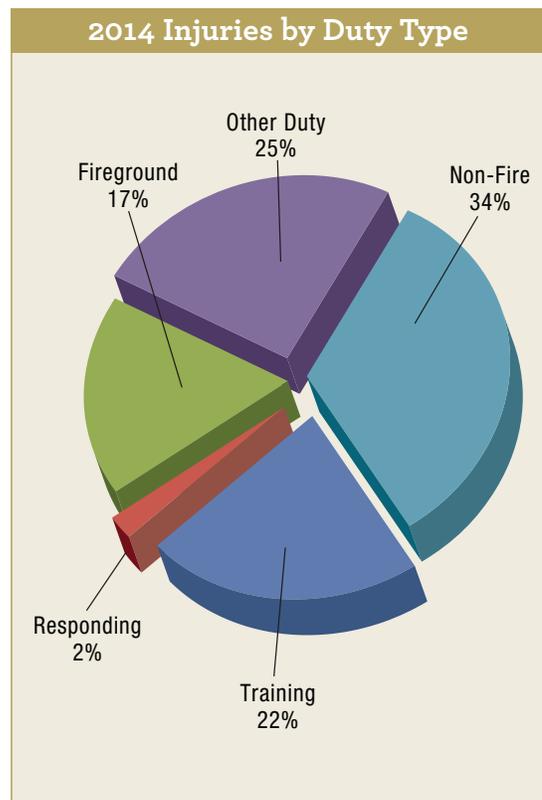
The goal of the Safety bureau is to reduce the number and severity of the on the job injuries. At the same time, the bureau intends to improve the overall health and wellness of all members.

Firefighters are able to extinguish fires and safely respond to emergency medical calls, as a result of the continuance of the "Fit for Fire" program which instills the need to exercise daily and eat healthy.

The Akron Fire Department continues to look at the trends for injuries and exposures as well as looking at compliance with the regulations set by the state and Federal government.

I am pleased to report that we had no significant injuries or fatalities, and most of the

on duty injuries did not require any loss of time. For the annual report I will be discussing the goals of the bureau, analyzing the information for 2014 and looking at the national statistics as compared with the statistics for Akron.

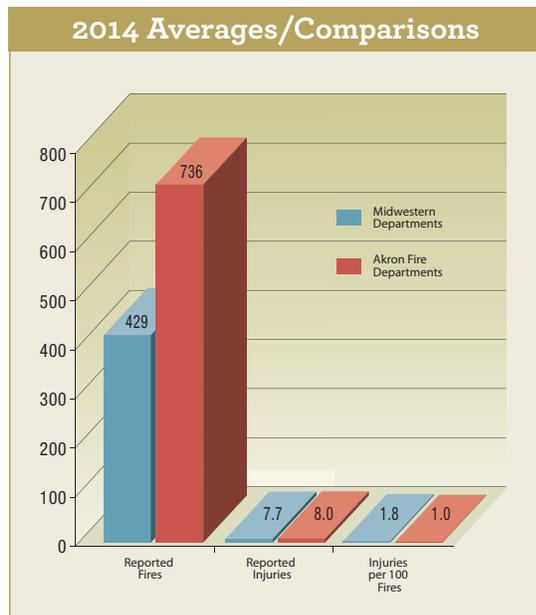


SAFETY OFFICER

For 2014 we had total of 45 on the job injuries and 132 exposures. As you can see in table one: 38% of those occurred on the fire ground. The larger concern is the increasing number of exposures. Of the 132 exposures, 52 were from infectious disease. For 2015 the safety division intends to reduce the number of exposures through education and remediation.

Comparing to the National average:

In comparing Akron fire across the Midwest to similar sized departments we can see that the number of fires we respond to is higher than the average. Moreover, the number of injuries per one hundred fires is lower than the national average; nationally there are 1.8 injuries per 100 fires. In Akron that number is 1.0 per 100 fires.



In Akron, our fire medics were exposed to infectious disease 52 times in 2014, this puts AFD at .7 per one thousand medical calls. This is more than twice the national average.

For 2015 the Safety bureau, through increased training and education, is attempting to reduce the number of on-the-job sprains and strains, and reduce the number of exposures from infectious disease.

The fire department will continue an aggressive station inspection process to help ensure the safety of all members.

OPERATIONS SUBDIVISION



Dennis Stoneman
District Chief - B Shift



Anthony Law
District Chief - C Shift

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.

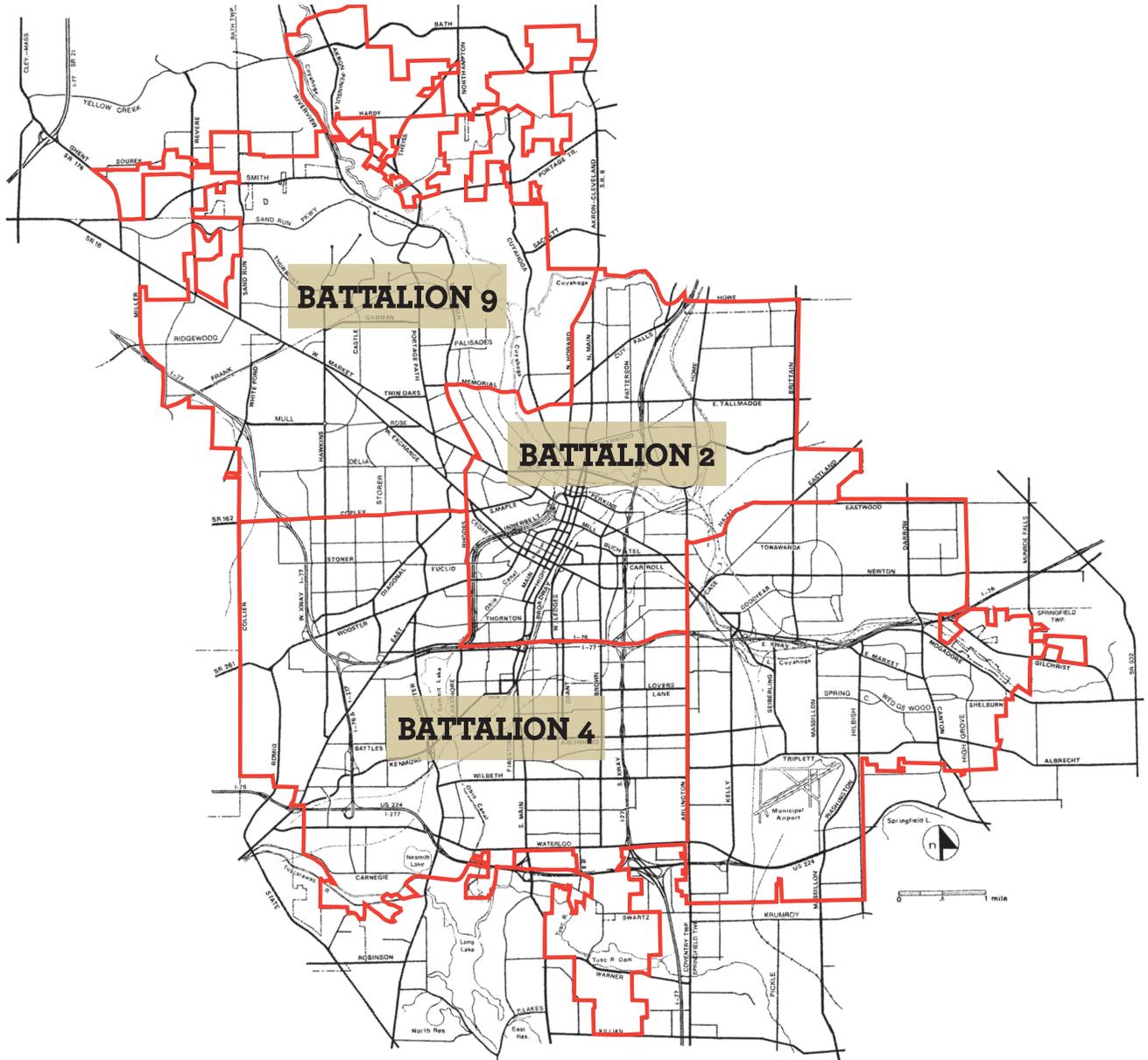
The City of Akron is geographically divided into three sections, known as Battalions. Each Battalion has several stations within its boundaries. Each shift has three Battalion

Commanders (Battalions 2, 4, 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 incidents with the appropriate vehicle. In addition, other EMS units are staffed with 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



FIRE STATISTICS

INDIVIDUAL FIRE UNIT RESPONSES & GRAND TOTAL – 16,441



ENGINES		
Engine 2		1,106
Engine 3		972
Engine 4		1,082
Engine 5		326
Engine 6		489
Engine 7		869
Engine 8		551
Engine 9		769
Engine 10		719
Engine 11		196
Engine 12		359
Engine 13		408
Engine 14		330
Total		8,176

LADDERS		
Ladder 4		890
Ladder 7		434
Ladder 8		682
Ladder 9		1,058
Ladder 10		120
Total		3,184

BATTALIONS		
Battalion 2		1,180
Battalion 4		1,463
Battalion 9		1,131
Total		3,774

HAZMAT, RESCUE		
HazMat 4		42
Rescue 4		59
Total		101

OTHER FIRE UNITS		
Total		1,206

GRAND TOTALS		
Total Engine		8,176
Total Ladder		3,184
Total Battalion		3,774
Total Rescue		101
Other Fire Units		1,206
Total		16,441

ALARMS	
<i>Times</i>	
A.M.	2,751
P.M.	5,150
Total	7,901
Causes For	
Fire	741
False	703
Accidental	488
Other Emergencies	2,356
Miscellaneous	3,613
Total	7,901
Types of Fires	
Buildings	378
Motor Vehicles	173
Grass, Rubbish & Dumps	181
Miscellaneous	9
Total	741
Occupancy of Building Fires	
Public Assemblies	12
Educational	1
Institutional	4
Residential	320
Store & Office	12
Basic Industries	0
Manufacturing	5
Storage	19
Special	5
Total	378
Casualties to Citizens	
Injuries	23
Fatalities	2
Casualties to Firefighters	
Injuries	45
Fatalities	0
In Services	
Engine Companies	13
Ladder Companies	5
Medics & Medic Combos	13
Personnel	373
Alarm Boxes	215

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>Unknown-Mutual Aid</i>	<i>Total</i>
Incendiary/Suspicious	2			33	1		2	1			39
Children Playing				4							4
Careless Smoking				27		1	2				30
Heating-Furnace, Chimney, Water Heater				11			1	1			13
Cooking	4		1	118							123
Electrical Distribution-Wiring, Light Ballast	2		1	26	1		3				33
Appliances-Air Conditioning, Tools, Refrigerator	1	1	1	12		1					16
Open Flames	2			19							21
Other Heat: Fireworks, Explosives, Friction, Hot Material				4		1					5
Other Equipment-Commercial, Medical, Electronic				5	2	2					9
Natural-Lightning, Chemical Reaction				2							2
Exposures	1		1	20	2		4	3			31
Unknown				39	6		7				52
TOTAL	12	1	4	320	12	0	5	19	5	0	378

FIRE LOSSES AT \$50,000 AND OVER

DATE	ADDRESS	FIXED PROPERTY USE	BUILDING	CONTENTS	TOTAL
1/10/14	345 W. Cedar St.	Business Office	100,000.00	50,000.00	150,000.00
1/11/14	726 Fleming Dr. Suite C	Multifamily Dwelling	150,000.00	40,000.00	190,000.00
1/31/14	959 S. Arlington St.	Business Office	120,000.00	90,000.00	210,000.00
2/13/14	64 W. Long St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	62,000.00	5,000.00	67,000.00
2/16/14	2240 17 St. SW	Church	150,000.00	15,000.00	165,000.00
3/4/14	67 N. Arlington St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	50,000.00	25,000.00	75,000.00
4/6/14	880 W. Waterloo Rd.	Manufacturer	0.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
4/8/14	295 Shawnee Path	One or Two Family Dwelling	65,500.00	30,000.00	95,500.00
4/30/14	884 Glenn St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	50,000.00	7,500.00	57,500.00
5/21/14	1020 Brown St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	49,000.00	5,000.00	54,000.00
6/2/14	263 S. Main St. Suite 12th	Multifamily Dwelling	60,000.00	10,000.00	70,000.00
6/13/14	2199 17 St. SW	One or Two Family Dwelling	66,000.00	20,000.00	86,000.00
6/26/14	40 Eastholm Ave.	One or Two Family Dwelling	50,000.00	15,000.00	65,000.00
7/1/14	80 E. York St.	School	200,000.00	150,000.00	350,000.00
7/15/14	763 Vernon Odom Blvd.	One or Two Family Dwelling	50,000.00	2,500.00	52,500.00
8/13/14	612 Lansing Rd.	Garage	50,000.00	40,000.00	90,000.00
8/18/14	161 Hilbish Ave.	One or Two Family Dwelling	50,000.00	20,000.00	70,000.00
10/5/14	843 Barbara Ave.	One or Two Family Dwelling	45,000.00	25,000.00	70,000.00
11/26/14	1023 Roslyn Ave.	One or Two Family Dwelling	60,000.00	30,000.00	90,000.00
12/1/14	356 S. Main St.	Bar	175,000.00	45,000.00	220,000.00
12/5/14	720 N. Cleveland Massillon Rd.	One or Two Family Dwelling	300,000.00	40,000.00	340,000.00
12/6/14	1437 Minson Way	Multifamily Dwelling	50,000.00	50.00	50,050.00
12/17/14	1060 W. Exchange St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	50,000.00	25,000.00	75,000.00
12/22/14	135 S. Broadway St.	Multifamily Dwelling	50,000.00	25,000.00	75,000.00

LOSS CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDING FIRES

	NUMBER OF FIRES	PERCENTAGE OF FIRES	ESTIMATED LOSS	PERCENTAGE OF LOSS
Under \$5000	219	58	\$174,392	3
5000-9999	42	11	\$261,720	5
10000-19999	43	11	\$567,091	11
20000-29999	29	8	\$681,281	13
30000-39999	13	4	\$425,500	8
40000-49999	8	2	\$341,500	7
50000+	24	6	\$2,817,550	53
Total	378	100	\$5,269,034	100



SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

The following is a summary of the activities of the Division of Fire from the year 2014 including a comparison with the activities from the year 2013.

	2014	2013	Up	Down
Total Response	16,441	15,513	928	
Alarm Total	7,901	7,261	640	
Types of Incidents:				
Building Fires	378	392		14
Vehicles Fires	173	157	16	
Grass, Rubbish Fires	181	188		7
Miscellaneous Fires	9	8	1	
False Alarms	703	671	32	
Accidental Alarms	488	428	60	
Emergency Alarms	2,356	2,103	253	
Misc. Calls (No fires involved)	3,613	3,314	299	
Fire Loss:				
Total	\$6,026,329	\$6,931,837		
Per Capita	\$30	\$35		
Population of Akron (2010 census)	199,000	199,000		

FIRE STATISTICS

BUILDING	VALUATION	LOSS
Public Assembly	\$5,165,500	\$427,145
Educational	\$906,000	\$350,000
Institutional	\$41,080,000	\$52,010
Residential	\$113,462,953	\$3,633,689
Store & Office	\$5,002,370	\$467,370
Basic Industry	0	0
Manufacturing	\$5,935,000	\$60,600
Storage	\$840,200	\$274,600
Special	\$5,600	\$3,620
Building & Contents Total	\$172,397,623	\$5,269,034
Motor Vehicles	\$1,400,496	\$737,647
Miscellaneous	\$250,330,211	\$19,648
Grand Total	\$424,128,330	\$6,026,329

ALARMS WHERE NO FIRE WAS INVOLVED

Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)		
Overpressure rupture from steam (no ensuing fire)	5	
Overpressure rupture from air or gas (no ensuing fire)	2	
Explosion (no fire)	3	
Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	5	
Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident		
Medical Assist	2,290	
Lock-in	8	
Search for lost person	5	
Extrication, rescue	47	
Water and ice-related rescue	4	
Electrical rescue	2	
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)		
Combustible/flammable spills and leaks	184	
Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition	61	
Radioactive condition	0	
Electrical wiring/equipment problem	595	
Biological hazard	0	
Accident, potential accident	12	
Explosive, bomb removal	4	
Attempted burning, illegal action	4	
Hazardous condition (no fire), other	0	
Service Call		
Person in distress	41	
Water problem	190	
Smoke, odor problem	237	
Animal problem or rescue	98	
Public service assistance	270	
Unauthorized burning	392	
Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up	0	
Service call, other	0	
Good Intent Call		
Dispatched and cancelled en route	405	
Wrong location, no emergency found	368	
Controlled burning	50	
Vicinity alarm	3	
Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke	303	
EMS call where party has been transported	0	
HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat found	152	
Good intent call, other	19	
False Alarm and False Call		
Malicious, mischievous false alarm	179	
Bomb scare (no bomb)	12	
System or detector malfunction	496	
Unintentional system or detector operation (no fire)	488	
False alarm and false call, other	16	
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster		
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	208	
Special Incident Type		
Citizen Complaint	2	
Special type of incident, other	0	
TOTAL	7,160	

SPECIAL SERVICES SUBDIVISION



Dale Evans
Deputy Chief

The Special Services Subdivision is made up of the Emergency Medical Services Bureau, and the Fire Training Bureau. The Fire Prevention Bureau and the Haz-Mat/ Rescue Bureau are jointly administered by the Special Services and the Administrative Subdivisions.

The Emergency Medical Services Bureau is the most visible component of the Akron Fire Department. The largest percentage 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. We now serve the community with 13 ambulances and over 150 paramedics. The goal of our EMS system is to continue the tradition of competent, compassionate and timely service to those individuals who live in, work in and visit the City of Akron. The Emergency Medical Services Bureau offices are located at Fire Administration and was managed by Captain Joseph Natko. The EMS Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2071.

The Haz-Mat/Rescue Bureau supervises the specialized teams of the Akron Fire Department 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/Rescue). The Dive Rescue Team based at Station 10 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 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 emergencies involving hazardous chemicals and materials and also deals 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 team members have received considerable training in their specific disciplines and attend continuing education on a regular basis in order to provide the highest level of service. The Haz-Mat/ Rescue Bureau office is located at 25 E. Thornton St. (Fire Station 4) and was managed by Captain Clarence Tucker. The Haz-Mat / Rescue Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2164.

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, implements and tests on the wide variety of knowledge and skill based topics in which expertise is essential in today’s fire service. 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 excellent emergency services in a safe, efficient manner. The Fire Training Bureau offices are located at the Akron Fire Department Training Center located at 1636 Armory Road and the bureau was managed by Captain Richard Vober. The Fire Training Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2635.

EMS BUREAU



Joseph Natko
Captain

The Akron Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services Bureau presents the following summary of the 2014 year:

Akron Fire Department provides Advanced Life Support to the City of Akron with 13 medical units that are available 365 days per year. These units are staffed with a minimum of two paramedics under the supervision of a medical control physician.

During the past year Akron Fire responded to 37,904 emergency medical runs, a 5% increase from the previous year.

Akron Fire also supported many special events with medical units on standby. The following are a few of those events: The OHSAA softball tournament; A County Mass Casualty Incident Drill; The Rib, White, and Blue Festival and fireworks display; The Italian Fest; The Soap Box Derby; The Hardesty Park Expo; The Bridgestone Golf Tournament; and The Time Warner Akron Marathon.

The Quality Assurance program for Akron Fire's Emergency Medical Service is coordinated

by Rita Chambers in conjunction with the AFD Medical Advisor, Dr. Richard Gradisek. The QA program not only handles dealing with professional complaints and report reviews, it also encompasses initial EMT training and continuing education for Akron Fire EMS. Monthly run reviews and optional CE classes were also coordinated to keep medics up to date with the latest information in EMS.

A total of 24 fire/medics started paramedic school in 2014 with anticipated graduation dates in 2015. These students are attending the paramedic training programs at Akron General Medical Center and Summa. We continue to work with these area hospitals and agencies to insure that Akron has one of the best educated EMS systems in the country.

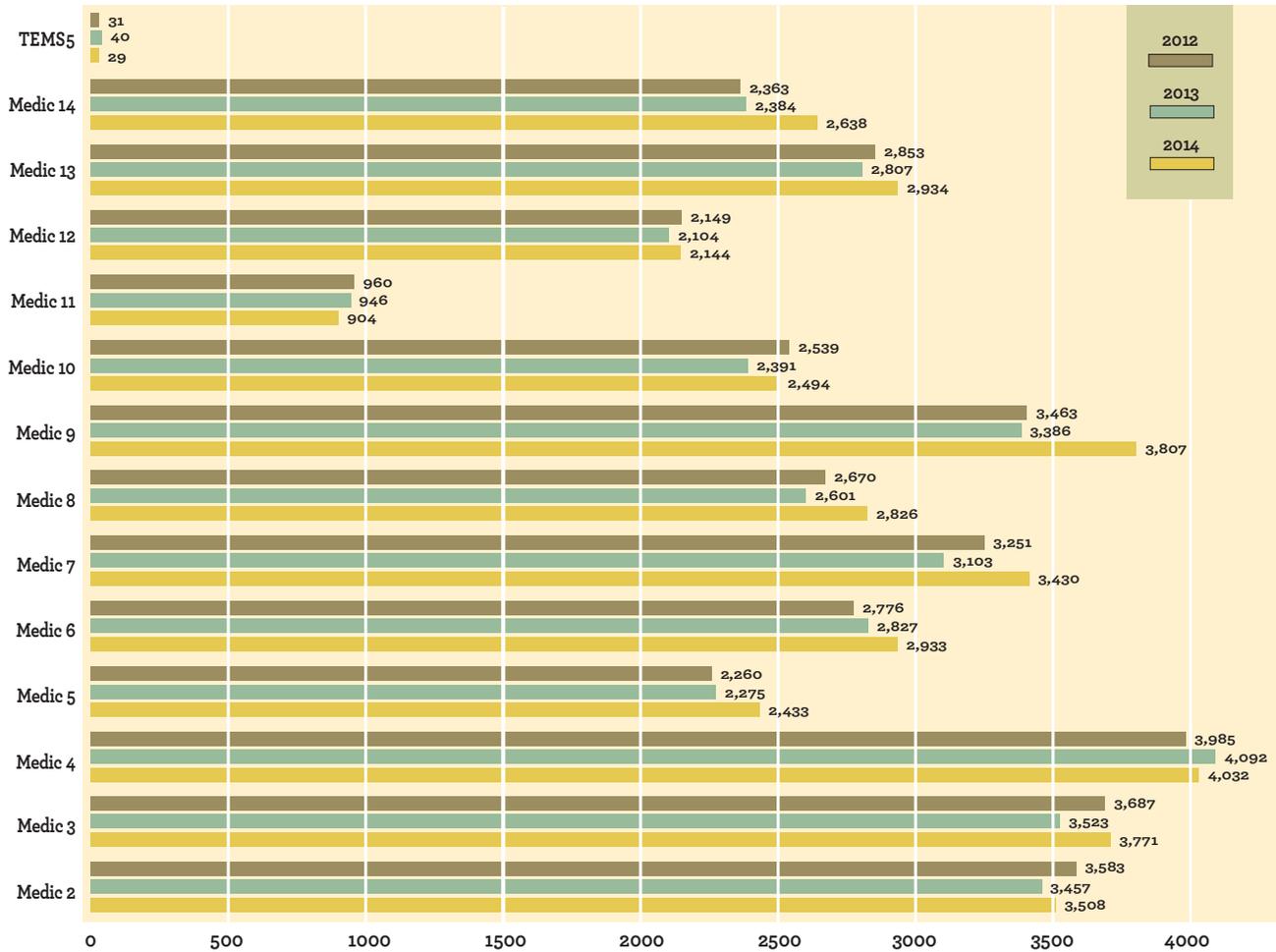
The AFD Tactical EMS Team currently consists of 15 tactical paramedics specially trained to treat wounded officers and civilians in hazardous environments such as drug interdiction, hostage negotiations and barricaded subjects. The team supports the Akron Police Department SWAT team and the Summit County Bomb Squad. The TEMS medic role is to provide immediate treatment to injured persons during high-risk law enforcement operations, provide the scene commander with a medical threat assessment, and promote the safety and health of law enforcement personnel.

EMS is a vital component and integral part of the Akron Fire Department and continues to evolve and provide outstanding services to the citizens of Akron. This has been accomplished by dedicated, well trained personnel, who are committed to maintaining the highest standard of care the citizens of Akron have come to expect.

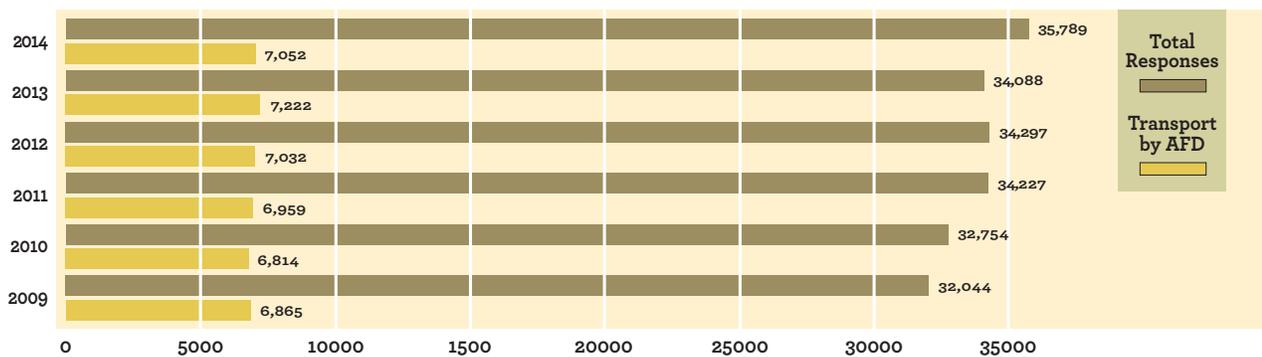
Additionally the Emergency Medical Services Bureau would also like to recognize the following individuals for their support of Bureau functions: Captain Leslie Gaiser and Ray Minnich of EMS Training.



TOTAL RESPONSES BY MEDICAL UNIT

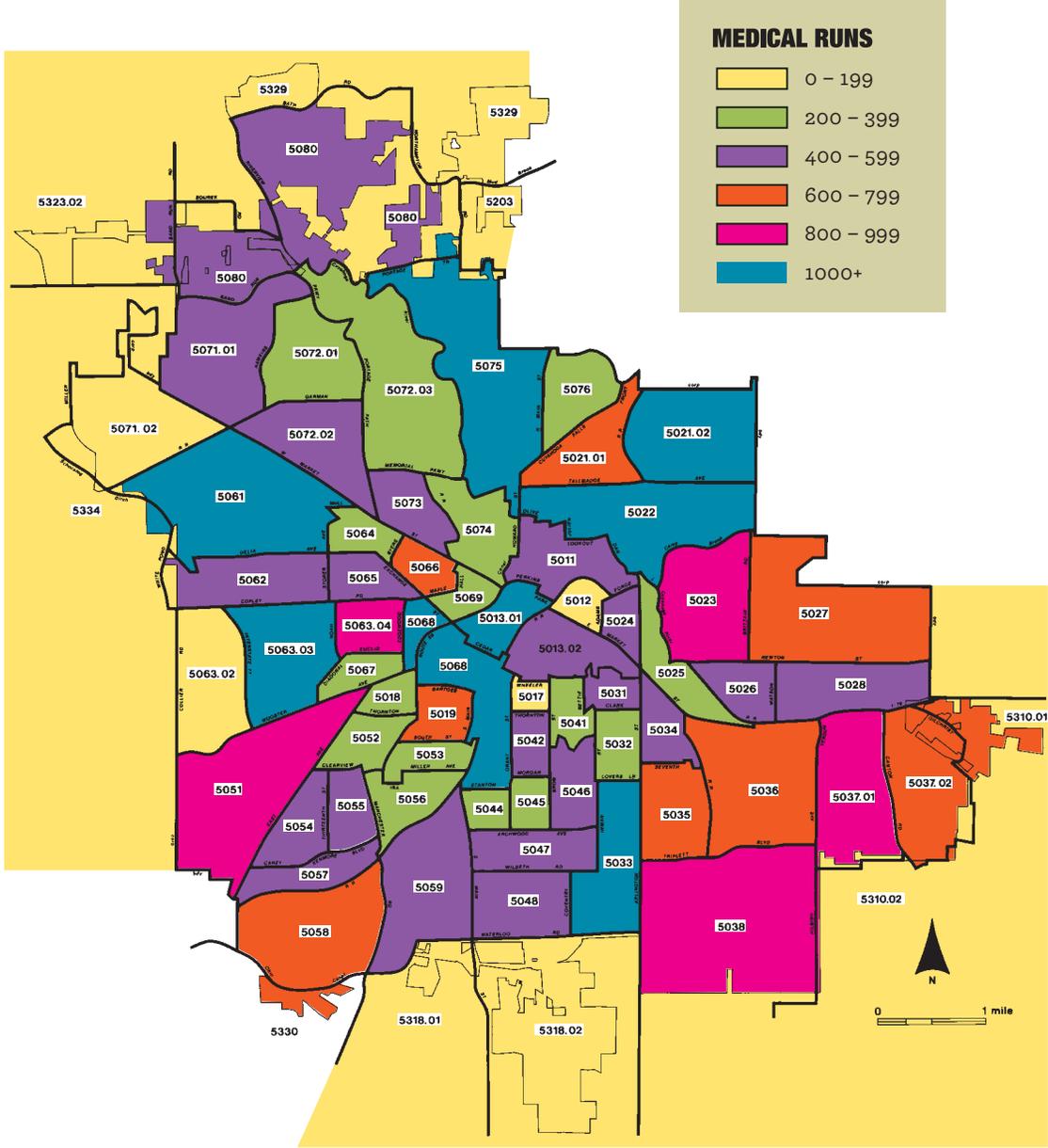


TOTAL SYSTEM REVIEW



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

Total Alarms – 35,789



TACTICAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (TEMS)

The Fire Department TEMS team is comprised of fifteen specially trained and equipped paramedics dedicated to provide emergency medical support for the Akron Police Department SWAT team during tactical missions and training. The team acts as a liaison between the fire and

police department during tactical operations and provides emergency medical care to sick or injured civilians and police officers in situations where standard medical personnel are not equipped to operate.



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU



Clarence Tucker
Captain

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

The Akron Fire Department Prevention Bureau works hard to keep fires from occurring by providing code enforcement, fire safety public education, and fire investigation. We accomplish this by using education, engineering and enforcement.

Code Enforcement Section

The Code Enforcement Section is charged with enforcing the City of Akron's fire codes, which include fire safety standards from the City of Akron Municipal Code, Title 93, the Ohio Fire Code, Ohio Building Code, and the National Fire Protection codes along with a list of other codes and standards. Inspections are conducted in all buildings and facilities with both private and public use within the city.

The purpose of the code enforcement section is to provide fire safety inspections in the city of Akron to guard against:

- The hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling, or use of structures, materials or devices.
- Conditions hazardous to life, property, or public welfare in the occupancy of structures or premises.
- Fire hazards from occupancy or operation in the structure or on the premises.
- Matters related to the construction, extension, repair, alteration, or removal of fire suppression or alarm systems.

Plans Review Section

The Plans Review section reviews construction plans and other related documents

of all structures proposed for construction to assure fire safety codes are followed. In 2014, the Code Enforcement section performed plan reviews on 549 sets of building plans. These plans were reviewed for egress, fire suppression, fire alarm systems and other safety issues.

In 2014, the Fire Prevention Bureau had five full-time inspectors who performed 1,489 inspections, 931 recalls and cited 5,840 violations

The bureau issued ninety-two tent permits and six open burning permits to community groups and for special events in 2014. We also inspected tents and food vendors for every event held in the City of Akron in 2014.

In 2014, fifty-four fire companies performed 1,080 primary inspections on small mercantile and business occupancies, freeing up fire safety inspectors for inspections of larger, more complex, and more hazardous occupancies.

Our inspectors attended a fireworks update given by the State Fire Marshalls office and we monitored all twenty-eight fireworks displays held in the city of Akron in 2014, as required by the State Fire Marshall.

The Fire Prevention Bureau worked closely with University of Akron interns from the Fire Science Program and performed fire safety

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU



evacuation drills on all 58 Akron Public Schools and thirty private schools located in Akron, as required by the State Fire Marshalls office.

Public Education Section

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, deaths, and property losses as a result of avoidable behavior.

In 2014, the Public Education Section partnered with several community organizations to provide comprehensive public safety education and fire prevention programs. These programs provide the knowledge, skills, and education necessary to prevent the loss of life and/or property damage due to avoidable fire in the City of Akron. We routinely provided fire safety information to schools, community events, and senior citizen facilities in the City of Akron.

The Fire Prevention Bureau was awarded a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters grant to provide and install smoke alarms in 520 homes on each level in the home and in each bedroom focusing on the zip codes in the city where the majority of fires occurred during the previous five years. The grant also focused on the new immigrant population and provided a free home safety inspection, a DVD on home safety, and printed information about how to make our citizens homes safer. We received help with the installation of the smoke alarms from Lowes in Montrose who provided personnel on a weekly basis to assist.

The department would like to thank Captain Albert Bragg, Lieutenant Ed Jetter, Lieutenant Brad McKitrick, and Inspector Lowell Weir, who retired from the Fire Prevention Bureau in 2014. Thank you for your dedication and service.





CODE ENFORCEMENT SECTION

	INSPECTIONS	RECALL REINSPECTIONS	VIOLATIONS
Church	35	15	184
Night Clubs/ Bars	33	21	193
Restaurants	124	98	469
Recreation Centers	14	10	166
Miscellaneous Assemblies	24	20	99
Business			
Professional Offices	254	101	472
Medical Offices	57	36	136
Barber / Beauty Shop	0	0	0
Banks	24	9	38
Miscellaneous . Business	129	80	421
Educational			
Daycare	96	32	277
School Elementary	55	16	171
School Jr. High	13	5	96
School High	16	3	62
Miscellaneous . Educational	9	2	23
Factory / Industrial			
Plastic Manufacture	8	3	7
Dry Cleaning	3	1	2
Machine Shop	17	7	15
Print Commercial	9	5	18
Miscellaneous Factory / Industrial	45	27	355
Hazardous			
Miscellaneous Hazardous	0	0	0
Institutional			
Hospitals	25	5	24
Jails	2	0	11
Miscellaneous Institutional	27	31	261
Mercantile			
Department Stores	21	14	57
Grocery Store	49	33	265
Furniture Store	19	14	52
Miscellaneous Mercantile	190	144	752
Residential			
Foster Homes	71	29	176
Apartments	111	39	138
Hotel / Motel	11	1	6
Boarding House	35	16	135
Miscellaneous Residential	38	6	62
Storage			
Auto Repair	43	35	175
Miscellaneous Storage	66	37	325
Utility			
Miscellaneous Utility	26	10	71
Miscellaneous			
Vacant / Secure	257	26	126
Miscellaneous	0	0	0
Total	1956	931	5840
Other Activities			
Plans Review	549		
Site Visits	64		
GRAND TOTAL	2569	931	5840

AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD



Firefighter Memorial Service assisted by the Cleveland Pipe and Drum Corps.

The Honor Guard's primary responsibility is to represent the Akron Fire Department at funerals of both active and retired members. This includes offering any assistance needed to the family of the deceased, providing pallbearers, standing Honor Guard watch at the casket, posting colors, and coordinating any logistical plans with the funeral home.

The Honor Guard also participates in various civic functions when requested, such as flag raising ceremonies, Firefighter Memorial service, and community parades. Participation in the Honor Guard is voluntary and we utilize personnel both on-duty, off-duty, and retired.



FIRE INVESTIGATION SECTION



Robert Wroblewski
Lieutenant

The Fire Investigation Unit conducts several types of investigations for the Akron Fire Department. The primary responsibility is to assist fire officers and commanders make an accurate fire cause determination of fires occurring within the City of Akron. Fires determined to be Incendiary are then

investigated as crimes, with identification, apprehension, and successful prosecution of the responsible person(s) as the goal. Other unit responsibilities include internal investigations of Akron Fire personnel at the direction of Fire Administration, and comprehensive pre-employment background investigations of all potential fire recruit candidates. The Akron Police Department also provides additional assistance in any of the above investigations when requested.

In 2014, the Fire Investigation Unit conducted 232 fire investigations: 172 residential structure fires, including 49 vacant residential structures, 17 commercial structure fires, including 3 vacant commercial structures, 20 residential garages, and 33 exposures to other fires. Also investigated were 35 vehicle fires, and 7 other miscellaneous fire incidents. Of these 232 fire investigations, 58 were determined to be incendiary fires: 34 were residential structure fires, including 27 vacant residential structures, 2 commercial

structure fires were determined to be incendiary, both of which were vacant commercial structures. 18 vehicle fires were determined to be incendiary, 11 of which were stolen autos, 3 were exposures to other set fires, and there were 4 miscellaneous incendiary fire incidents. In addition, in 2014 the Fire Investigation Unit responded to 367 service calls: 261 Carbon Monoxide detector checks, and 106 Open Burning complaints.

Fire Investigation Unit criminal investigations resulted in 5 arrests with 5 convictions in 2014. The Fire Investigation Unit investigated 3 fires in 2014 involving civilian fatalities. 2 fires were determined to be incendiary, with 1 homicide victim and 1 victim who died of a heroin overdose prior to an incendiary vehicle fire. The fire cause for the remaining fire fatality was determined to be unintentional.

In anticipation of hiring additional Akron Fire personnel to fill numerous vacancies that are occurring and are expected to continue to occur throughout 2014 and into 2015, Akron Fire Administration had authorized an additional 70 comprehensive pre-employment background investigations to continue throughout 2014 into 2015, and a class of 14 new recruits began their Fire Training in Spring 2014 and graduated in August 2014. Additional new recruits are expected to be hired in Spring 2015. The Akron Fire Department is fortunate to be able to continue with these hires and maintain safe, adequate staffing levels due to the City of Akron applying for and being awarded a Federal SAFER

FIRE INVESTIGATORS

Robert Wroblewski, Lieutenant

Bradley McKittrick, Lieutenant

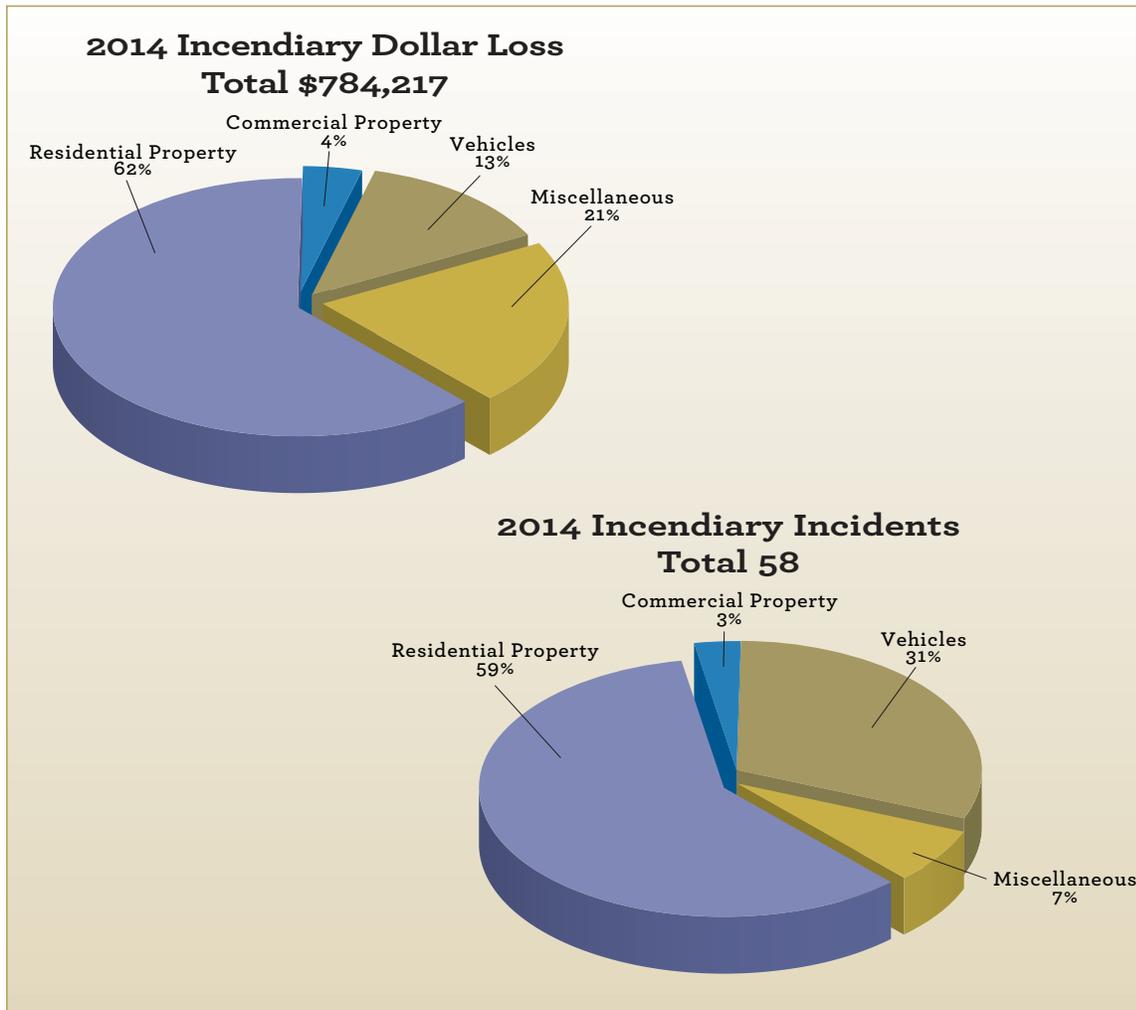
Retired 11/22/14 - 33 Years of Service

Matt D'Avello, Investigator

Todd Webb, Investigator

Ellis Polk, Investigator

FIRE INVESTIGATION SECTION



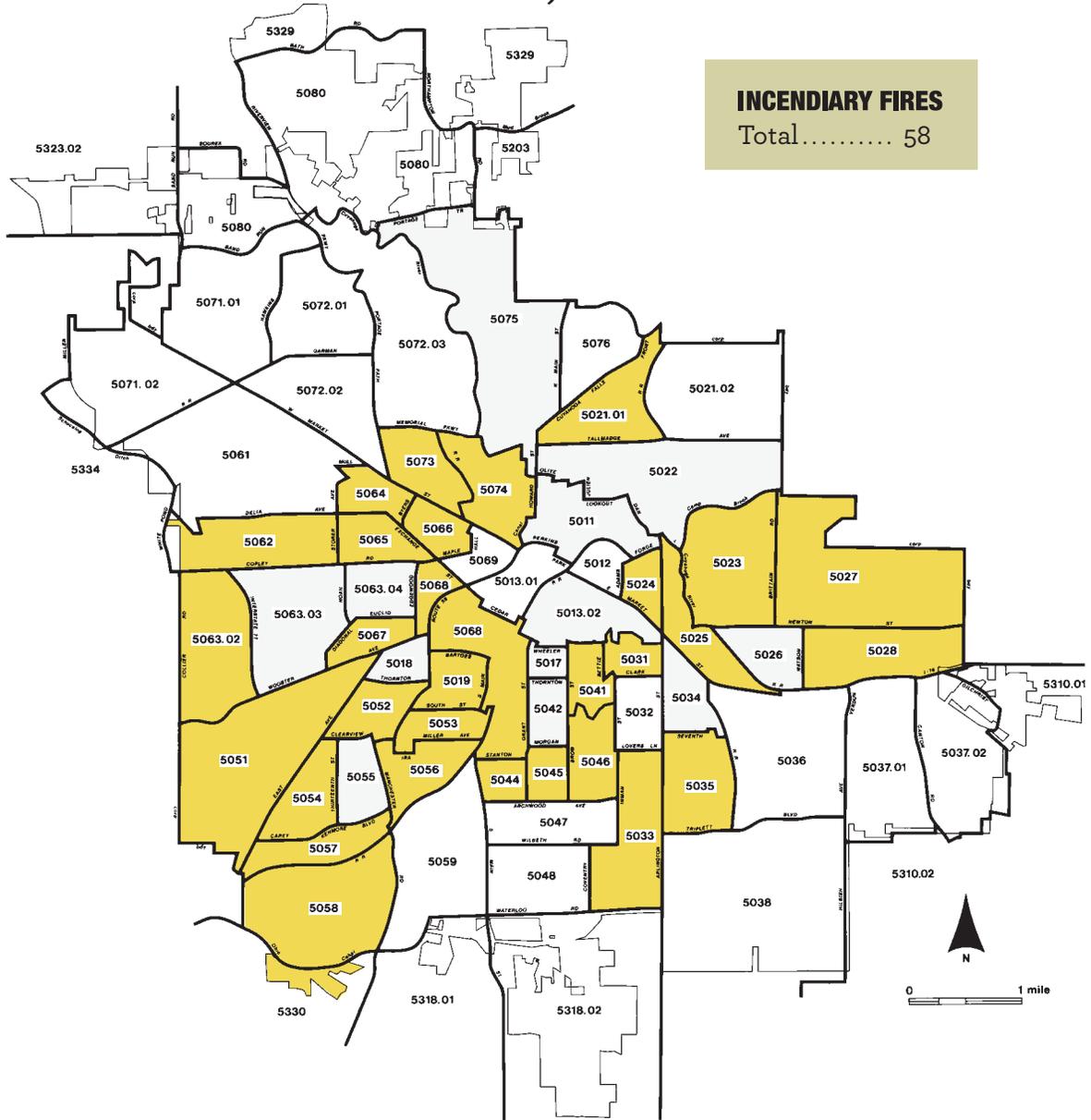
Grant which provides the funding for these additional positions. In addition, in 2014 the Fire Investigation Unit conducted several internal investigations for Fire Administration, and some Fire Investigation Unit members were able to attend several training seminars in 2014.

The Fire Investigation Unit continued to be the regional reporting location for fire/burn injuries during 2014. As required by Ohio law, information re: suspicious fire/burn injuries is forwarded from area hospitals to our office where it is retained for potential investigative purposes.

In 2014, the Fire Investigation Unit also provided assistance to other local communities and law enforcement agencies when requested throughout the year. We would also like to thank the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office, their Forensic Laboratory, as well as other County, State, and Federal agencies, with a special thanks to the Akron Police Department for their continued assistance and support throughout 2014. The Fire Investigation Unit looks forward to continuing to provide dedicated service to the Akron Fire Department and to the citizens of Akron in 2015.

INCENDIARY FIRES PER CENSUS TRACT AKRON, OHIO

INCENDIARY FIRES
Total..... 58



INCENDIARY FIRES

- 1-4 Per Tract
100% of Total Alarms
- 5-7 Per Tract
0 of Total Alarms
- 8-25 Per Tract
0 of Total Alarms

PROPERTY LOSS

- \$822,942
100% of Total Loss
- 0
0 of Total Loss
- 0
0 of Total Loss

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING



Richard Vober
Captain



Leslie Gaiser
Captain

The Akron Fire Department Training Bureau's mission is to provide and maintain a highly trained and competent department. The bureau has worked diligently to achieve and maintain the high standards required by the State of Ohio, our own city and Fire Administration. AFD has its own Training Charter. Maintaining our Fire and EMS Charters along with the Training data base has streamlined continuing education requirements as well as further the development of all our employees.

Goals for the Bureau of Training

Our goal is to provide the tools to make all members of the Akron Fire Department the best trained and safest fire departments anywhere.



2014 Apprenticeship

Recruit Class #1

The City of Akron again received the S.A.F.E.R. grant for 2013 and we added 42 new recruits 25 of which also have military service. The recruits started their Fire Training at our Training facility on



August 12th, 2013. Twenty members of this class attended and successfully passed EMT training and now are all attending Paramedic training at AGMC or Summa. All are in their second year of the Fire Apprenticeship program.

Recruit Class #2

In August 2014, 15 new recruits were sworn in. They successfully passed the State Fire fighter II program taught at the Akron Fire Training Center. All recently passed their probation test and are in their first year of the apprentice program. Four are in E.M.T. school and three are attending Paramedic school at Summa.

Apprenticeship Program/Company Level Monthly Training

The Company Level Monthly Training program is up and running. This program provides training

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING



materials, tests and answer keys, reference materials, and parallels the apprenticeship program in content. Its design goal was to provide consistency in training across the department, meet re-certification requirements and to provide a method for introduction and review of materials as needed. It is one stop shopping when looking for monthly training. The bureau continues to have training for all disciplines listed on this page.

Emmitt Road Facility

The Emmitt Road facility better known as the Howard E. Woodford facility continues to grow. Significant strides have been made in improving both habitability and function. The facility though well suited to the needs of the bureau and the Department has been a challenge to maintain within the constraints of budget and limited availability of staff.

The facility has continued to be used extensively. Including classes held by EMS, Haz Mat, Summit County Haz Mat, Akron Police Department,

the University of Akron, and the City of Akron Personnel Department for training classes. Other departments including Tallmadge and Springfield have begun using the facility for Drivers training as well as for mayday training.

Firefighter Recertification and C.E.

The Training Bureau continues to monitor the process and provide assistance with respect to the recertification process. We continue to track certification and Continuing Education to ensure compliance with the State standards.

Electronic Training Documentation & Resources

The Training database used to document all levels of training activities has become a mainstay. In addition to significantly reducing the time needed to enter training data, and standardize entries. The data is now accessible to search queries.

Tim Smith continues to work with the Bureau to improve access to reference materials, monthly

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

training information, and the latest revision of the Operations manual. The Training page continues to change almost daily, thanks to the hard work of Tim Smith our web page guru.

The training and classroom calendars, located on the Akron Fire Web site, have become crucial for those individuals responsible for scheduling or requesting use of the Training Facility and almost eliminated conflicts.

On Going Training

The Training Bureau was able to continue its focus to ongoing and mandatory training for all members. Shown here is the list of some of the activities undergone by the training center in 2013:

- Fit for Fire Testing – with the help of the Fitness Coordinators and the Shift Commanders.
- Review of AFD Drug Policy.
- Review of HIPAA Policy.
- Officer development
- High-rise training
- Hazmat operations refresher
- Incident investigations
- EMT Scope of Practice
- Hose Testing
- Pump testing
- Accountability
- Pre-incident Planning
- Channel 1911 video production
- Video production by Mike McDonald (Video One).

Upcoming events for 2015

The City of Akron Fire Department Training center intends to improve the quality of life for the citizens in this great city by enhancing the skills and abilities of all Akron Firefighters through these classes:

- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) basic and refresher training
- Paramedic Continuing education classes: Advanced Cardiac Life Support for adults and children, Pediatric Trauma courses, and monthly Continuing Education
- New recruit class
- Fire simulator training classes on command and procedures
- Drivers training C.E. and trailer training
- Pump Operations School

The fire department will be conducting a full scale high rise drill in March, and a full scale mayday drill in May. Live fire training is on the Schedule for the spring as well and FTA will continue to introduce new training methods and materials as well as assist in all levels of training.

Personnel

The Training Bureau was fortunate to have Lt. John Shepard, Mark Harper Sr., the EMS staff and Carol Baughman, again many thanks for a job well done!

ADMINISTRATIVE SUBDIVISION



Edward Hiltbrand
Deputy Chief

Through the diligent efforts of the many employees that comprise the Administrative Subdivision, I am pleased to report that in 2014 we continued to fulfill our mission of providing the equipment, tools, supplies, and support necessary for the smooth operation of the Division

of Fire. I also wish to thank all of the employees of the subdivision for their individual and collective contributions in support of the ongoing mission to protect the lives and property of the citizens and visitors here in the City of Akron. The Administrative Subdivision oversees the day-to-day activities of the administrative and clerical staff, the Accounting and Services Bureau, the Communications Bureau, and (in conjunction with the Special Services Subdivision) the Fire Prevention Bureau and Haz-Mat/ Rescue Bureau.

The **Administrative and Clerical Staff** provide the essential services necessary to allow our division to operate continuously and smoothly. Purchasing, payroll, incident record management, personnel records, public reception/inquiries, and injury/exposure tracking are just some of the many duties carried out by the administrative and clerical staff.

The **Accounting and Services Bureau** is responsible for many “behind-the-scenes” activities necessary for the continued operation of the division. These include the preparation and oversight of the annual budgets utilized by the Akron Fire Department; the development of specifications used to purchase vehicles, tools, equipment, and supplies; the maintenance of buildings, vehicles, and equipment; and the acquisition, storage and distribution of materials and supplies necessary for operations. The Fire

Maintenance Section, Hydrant Maintenance Section, and the Fire and EMS Storeroom Section report to the Accounting and Services Bureau and work diligently to ensure the needs of the firefighting and EMS companies are met on a continuous basis.

The **Communications Bureau** provides the important task of providing fire and EMS supervision at the City’s Safety Communications Division (9-1-1 center). They also work closely with the Akron Communications Division to insure all means of communication used by our division remain functional and reliable. It also provides oversight to the Fire employees assigned to the Safety Forces Information Technology Section, which is a joint operation between police and fire providing support for various Information Technology systems such as our computer-aided dispatching system, SafetyNet network, and records management systems.

The **Fire Prevention Bureau** (co-managed by the Special Services Subdivision) provides critical safety support services on a daily basis. The Code Enforcement Section provides plans review and fire inspections which help to reduce fire loss and insure the safety of both the citizens and the firefighters. Our code enforcement inspections are conducted by certified inspectors assigned to both the section itself and also assigned to firefighting companies. The Public Education Section provides important life safety education to a wide cross-section of the community including schools, businesses, senior residences, government agencies, and other entities as required. The Fire Investigation Section provides cause and origin determinations for all fire incidents, along with internal and new-hire background investigations as required. All personnel assigned to the Fire Investigations Section are not only experienced firefighters but also hold Ohio Peace Officer commissions and are Akron Police Department reserve officers.

ACCOUNTING AND SERVICES BUREAU



Charles Twigg
Captain

The Accounting and Services bureau, located within the Fire division's main administrative offices, provides a broad range of vital services to the Fire Department. While our work is largely behind the scenes, there is not an area of the Department that could function

without the efforts of our Bureau. Along with our downtown offices, the bureau encompasses several other separate sections, each responsible for their own particular specialty, including Fire Maintenance, Hydrant Maintenance, and the Fire Storeroom. Each of the aforementioned sections is located within our Triplett blvd. facility.

The primary mission of the accounting and services bureau is to support the efforts of the various components of the Fire Department. Our main goal is to efficiently utilize the funding provided to us by our citizens, Akron City Council, and the city Administration. Our focus is to operate in a fiscally responsible manner, while simultaneously providing high quality services to every person that lives, works, or visits our city. Obviously, the safety and security of the public and our personnel is always the top priority.

In addition to our primary mission, 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 2014, the combined budgets totaled approximately 48 million dollars. Over 89% was earmarked for salaries and benefits with the remainder being utilized for operating costs such as building maintenance, vehicle maintenance, vehicle refurbishment, station supplies, EMS supplies, and station utilities. It is worth noting that AFD was the fortunate recipient of 8.3 million dollars of federal grant money in 2014. Those federal dollars were

used for funding of designated employees' salaries and benefits, new heart monitors, new hydraulic extrication equipment, and additional firefighting equipment.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the personnel of the Accounting and Services Bureau for their dedication, hard work, and cooperative effort, without which we would not be unable to accomplish our vitally important mission. I would like to also thank city Council and the City Administration for their continued support; most importantly however, I would like to thank the citizens of Akron for the opportunity to serve and help safeguard them and all they hold dear - it is truly my privilege.



SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS



Capt. MG Prebonick, Technical Services Commander of Planning & Research (P&R), Police Record Room, Information Systems (I/S) and the interim Director of the Safety Communications Center

The telephony software used in the Safety Communications Center to answer telephone calls was upgraded to a new VESTA/Sentinel 4.0 R3 platform offered by the vendor Airbus DS Communications (formerly Cassidian Communications). The upgrade required every Safety Communications Technician to receive training with the new software. There were also administrative and supervisory advanced training required to access specific features of the software. Our training staff had everyone trained prior to the cut over and due to the efficient work they performed our staff handled the cut over without incident. Members of our I/S Office will receive advanced training out of state for the administrative functions with the software.

Patricia “Regina” Thompson was the Employee of the Month for the City of Akron in

January 2014. Ms. Thompson works in our Safety Communications Center.

A major goal for the Center is to upgrade the HVAC and electrical systems to ensure the safe operation of the Center for the employees working here and the electrical equipment used by these employees. Failure of the HVAC and/or electrical system in the Center would be catastrophic for the City and the citizens served by the Center.

The Safety Communications Center staffing is still well below budgeted strength. Although several new hires were made in 2014 the Center still bled employees. A goal for 2015 is to again work to staff the Center at a respectable level. Bringing the staffing level up will decrease overtime and provide the staff with more free time away from the Center.

The Center utilizes Priority Dispatch for the processing of Medical Calls for EMS. A goal for 2015 is the purchase of Priority Dispatch’s software for Police and Fire calls. This may be an allowable expense for the use of 9-1-1 tariff Funds.

The following table provides numbers for comparison between 2013 and 2014.

2014 Calls Received	Individual Categories	Total Numbers
Wireless 9-1-1 calls received	133,556	
Landline 9-1-1 calls received	29,498	
Total 9-1-1 calls received		163,054

MONTHLY ALARM DATA 2014

FIRES					NON-FIRES				
Month	Buildings	Grass/ Rubbish	Motor Vehicles	Misc	False	Accidental	Emergency First Aid	Misc	Total Alarms
January	36	1	20	0	80	52	213	324	726
February	29	4	8	0	51	38	162	236	528
March	24	5	16	1	62	35	188	256	587
April	44	30	22	2	53	39	200	326	716
May	38	21	18	1	44	36	169	376	703
June	35	21	10	2	45	41	208	326	688
July	29	30	15	1	58	40	205	354	732
August	26	17	15	0	50	50	174	309	641
September	25	17	20	0	63	39	194	279	637
October	21	11	10	2	71	37	212	234	598
November	29	11	10	0	81	48	219	386	784
December	42	13	9	0	45	33	212	207	561
Total	378	181	173	9	703	488	2356	3613	7901

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/RESCUE BUREAU



Jim Feeman
Captain

The Hazardous Materials/Rescue Bureau is managed by Captain Jim Feeman (330) 375-2164. The Bureau oversees the activities of the Hazardous Materials (HazMat), Hazardous Materials Decontamination Team (DECON), Technical Rescue and Water Rescue teams.

The Bureau is responsible for all annual site inspection of Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) facilities in Akron and develops risk and hazard analysis of those facilities for submission to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) of Ohio.

All Akron Fire Department specialty teams are a part of the Summit County Special Operations Response Team (SORT) and train monthly to maintain their skills. We have team members who participate on the following state and local committees: SORT Zone Coordinators, Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Domestic Preparedness Steering Committee, Joint Hazard Assessment Team (JHAT) and multiple State of Ohio Technical Advisory Committees (TAC). The Bureau would like to thank all team members for their hard work and commitment to excellence.

Hazardous Materials Rescue Team

Lieutenant Roy Wilkinson, Team Leader

In 2014, the HazMat team responded to twenty-four hazardous materials incidents while the rescue responded to fifty-nine incidents involving the need for extrication. One notable hazardous materials team response involved the release of chemicals due to an over pressurization of a container during a polymerization process. The incident involved the southern area of Akron.

In addition to responding to the daily incidents, the hazmat team provided Weapons of Mass

Destruction (WMD) security and support for the Akron Road Runner Marathon and Gay Games (GG9). The Gay Games included the formation of the JHAT which teamed with multiple agencies including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Summit County HazMat Response Team (SCHMRT), Summit County Bomb Squad, Akron Police Department and the 52nd Civil Support Team (CST) based in Columbus, Ohio. The JHAT will continue to provide support for large venues in the coming years.

The Akron HazMat, DECON and Summit County HazMat Response Team make up the highest State of Ohio team typing (Type 1) due to their knowledge, commitment and equipment base. To maintain the hazmat team status, thirty-six partnered monthly trainings were completed. The monthly trainings included a multi agency drill in Mogadore, mass decontamination scenario and the State of Ohio HazMat Safety Officer certification class. In addition to the monthly trainings, an annual Akron Fire HazMat drill was held in September involving a Hydrogen sulfide release in the lower levels of an Akron parking deck.

The Akron HazMat Team performed twenty-four Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) site inspections and risk/hazard analyses at Akron industrial facilities. These inspections allow for team familiarization and preplanning of the locations.

I would like to thank all of the team members for their countless hours of hard work, training and commitment in 2014.



DIVE/SWIFT WATER RESCUE TEAM

Lieutenant Scott Duber, Team Leader

In 2014, the Water Rescue Team responded to 19 calls for flooding, evidence recovery, vehicle recoveries from the water, body recoveries, swift water rescues, surface ice rescues and SONAR operations. Several of our most challenging missions included a multi-day, multi-jurisdictional swift water deployment to the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, as well as a mutual aid response to Springfield Lake, utilizing SONAR imaging and divers to locate and recover a missing swimmer. In addition to complex recovery operations, our team also conducted several rescue operations in 2014.



Training was the main agenda for the team this year. Eleven new personnel participated in swift water technician training, and eight new personnel received Public Safety Diver certifications. In addition to training new members, we set the ambitious goal of transitioning the entire team to a new certifying agency, Dive Rescue International. This was no small task, and I would like to thank all team members for their diligence and hard work in making the transition a smooth one. Team members also participated in monthly trainings on a wide variety of topics including underwater search patterns, ice rescue, swift water rescue, boat handling and SONAR operations.

Akron Fire's Water Rescue Team continues to play a major role in the Water Branch of Summit County's Special Operations Response Team, a FEMA Type I response team. In addition to housing and maintaining dive equipment at Station 10, AFD water rescue personnel are now responsible for Summit County's water rescue equipment trailer 4216, which will respond to all County swift water and dive calls plus out of county deployments. This asset is now housed at Station 11, a very strategic location ensuring rapid response to the Cuyahoga River and its tributaries.

Our team continues to grow stronger by developing relationships and training with response partners such as The US Coast Guard, Ohio Division of Watercraft, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and The National Park Service. Looking forward to the future, we hope to carry our momentum from 2014 into 2015 by continuing to be a leader in public safety diving, SONAR operation and swift water rescue in Akron, Summit County and Northeast Ohio.



TECHNICAL RESCUE OPERATIONS TEAM

Captain Michael Hausch, Team Leader

The Akron Fire Dept. Technical Rescue Operations Team (TROT) specializes in the areas of High Angle Rope Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Trench and Structural Collapse Rescue. The Akron team also has a large membership in

the Summit County Technical Rescue Team as well as the State of Ohio region 5 team. We continue to host training scenarios for both the county and regional teams



PERSONNEL

Number of Employees for each Classified Position

TITLE	2013	2014
UNIFORM		
Fire Chief	1	1
Fire Deputy Chief	2	2
Fire District Chief	2	2
Fire Captain	19	18
Fire Lieutenant	53	51
Firefighter	283	246
Total Uniformed Personnel	360	320
SUPPORT		
Fire Equipment Supervisor	0	0
Fire Equipment Foreman	1	1
Fire Equipment Mechanic	5	4
Fire Hydrant Repair Supervisor	0	0
Fire Hydrant Maintenance Worker	3	3
Secretary IV	0	1
Secretary III	5	4
Secretary II	3	3
Secretary II (Temp)	0	1
Secretary I	0	0
Storekeeper II	1	1
Stores Clerk	1	1
Programmer Analyst I	1	1
Quality Assurance Coordinator	1	1
Total Support	21	21
Total Division	381	341

PERSONNEL DATA FOR			
Appointments	18	Separated (Temporary - COE)	0
Retirements	19	Demotions	0
Resignations	9	Promotions	0
Reinstated (Safer Grant)	0	Transfers	1
Dismissal	0	Deceased (Active)	0
Lay Offs	0	Deceased (Retired)	7

FIRE MAINTENANCE BUREAU



Michael Hoard
*Fire Equipment
 Foreman*

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 and the Fire Training Academy.

Following is a summary of the activity of this Division for the year ending December 31, 2014:

JOBS	
VEHICLE REPAIRS - MAJOR Includes engines, drive train, fire pumps, transmission, clutches, collisions and rust damage, etc.	245
VEHICLE REPAIRS - MINOR Includes tune-up, ignition and wiring, lights, brakes, steering, etc.	8,710
PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE Includes general inspection, lubrication and road tests.	380
BUILDING REPAIRS Includes heating & cooling, plumbing, elevators, gas pumps, electrical, structural, appliances, and lawn & garden equipment.	2,147
SCBA REPAIR - MAJOR Includes complete overhaul of breathing air equipment.	215
SCBA REPAIR - MINOR Includes maintenance and repair of all self-contained breathing apparatus and medical equipment	2,243
MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE Includes driver training, Underwriter tests (pump, hose, and aerial), response to multiple alarms and support services pertinent to the Fire Department.	253

FIRE MAINTENANCE BUREAU

In 2014, Fire Maintenance placed these new vehicles into service:

2014 Pierce 75' Aerial. 1500GPM pump assigned to T-10

2014 Chevrolet G4500 HD chassis fitted with modular ambulance body assigned to MED-11

2013 GMC G4500 HD chassis fitted with modular ambulance body assigned to MED-13

The following vehicles were reassigned within the Department:

63503 L-10 was reassigned to L-8

62205 L-8 became spare ladder 622 SL-5 at Station #5

61507 E-10 was reassigned to E-13

60101 E-13 became spare pumper 601 SE-13 at Station #13

63807 M-13 became spare at Station #13

667A0 M-11 became spare at Station #3



FIRE STATIONS AND EQUIPMENT



Station No. 2 - 952 E. Exchange St.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2001 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2011 GMC
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2012 Ford Expedition

Station No. 3 - 59 S. Maple St.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2003 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2011 GMC
Shift Commander Vehicle, 2010 Ford Expedition

Station No. 4 - 25 E. Thornton St.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2005 Sutphen
2500 GPM Quint Ladder, 2001 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2011 Chevrolet
Heavy Rescue, 1993 Pemfab
Haz-Mat 3826 County Owned 2012 Kenworth
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2009 Ford Expedition

Station No. 5 - 2460 E. Market St.

1500 GPM Mini Tower, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2012 Chevrolet
Foam Truck, 1996 Pierce

Station No. 6 - 1685 S. Hawkins Ave.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2011 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2012 Chevrolet
Air Source Truck, 1995 Chevrolet

Station No. 7 - 541 E. Tallmadge Ave.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2010 Pierce
75' Aerial, 1997 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2009 Ford
Technical Rescue Truck, 1992 Chevrolet
Technical Rescue Trailer, 2006 United

Station No. 8 - 1277 E. Archwood Avenue

2000 GPM Pumper, 2009 Pierce
75' Aerial, 2003 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2009 Ford
Haz-Mat Decon, 2011 Kenworth

Station No. 9 - 98 Dodge Ave.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2008 Pierce
75' Aerial, 2007 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2009 Ford
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2009 Ford

Station No. 10 - 2225 4th St. SW

1500 GPM 75', 2014 Pierce Mini-Tower
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2009 Ford
Dive Truck, 1998 Chevrolet
14' Boat, 1980 Myers
Boat Trailer, 1984 B&M

Station No. 11 - 1688 Akron Peninsula Rd.

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2014 Chevrolet

Station No. 12 - 1852 W. Market St.

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2006 Ford

Station No. 13 - 1544 Brown St.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2007 Pierce
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2013 GMC

Station No. 14 - 766 Brittain Road

1500 GPM Pumper Mini-Tower, 1991 Sutphen
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2009 Ford

HYDRANT MAINTENANCE SECTION

The following is a summary of activities of Hydrant Maintenance for the year ending December 31, 2014:

Hydrants Inspected	1,131
Follow-up Inspections after Use by Fire Companies	42
Alarms Responded to	16
New Hydrants Turned	15
Hydrants Rebuilt	65
Hydrants Winterized	481
Hydrants Repacked	21
Hydrants Serviced	435
Hydrants Painted	21
Flow Tests Conducted for/by Fire Underwriters	11
Hydrants Hit by Vehicles	84
Hydrants Broken	164
Law Claims for Hit Hydrants	16
Hydrants Flushed	13,684
Hydrants Raised to Grade	13

Hydrant coding specifications:

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

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



IN RECOGNITION

Glad to include Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Coleman in a group of past recipients who continue to proudly serve the Citizens of Akron in a way that distinguishes them as individuals worthy of recognition.

The Optimist Club of Akron

FIRE/MEDIC OF THE YEAR



IN RECOGNITION



Proclamation

To The People of Akron:

Whereas: The Optimist Club of Akron is honoring Firefighter/Medic Matthew Coleman with its Optimist Firefighter/Medic of the Year Award at its Annual Luncheon. Firefighter/Medic Coleman is being honored for his dedication to keeping our kids warm during Ohio's harsh winters and his record of competent, honorable professionalism; and

Whereas: Optimist International is an association of more than 2,900 Optimist Clubs around the world, all dedicated to Bringing Out the Best in Kids. Adult volunteers conduct over 65,000 community service projects each year, aimed at providing a helping hand to more than 6 million youth each year and empowering them to reach their highest potential; and

Whereas: Firefighter/Medic Matthew Coleman started his career with the Akron Fire Department in 2008. After graduating from Kenmore High School in 2003, he received the Akron Fire Department's EMS Scholarship and graduated from the AFD's EMT class in 2004, with an EMT-B certificate. In 2005, Coleman graduated from the St. Thomas Hospital Paramedic Program. In 2012, Coleman and Local 330 introduced "Operation Warm" to Ohio, the first "Coats for Kids" program in the State. In its first year, Coleman and Local 330 raised nearly \$5K. In 2013, contributions soared to \$10K, thanks to several fire departments joining the cause, and with matching donations from Clear Channel and the State of Ohio. To date, Operation Warm has outfitted close to 1,700 children in the region with winter coats; and

Whereas: Firefighter/Medic Matthew Coleman is also very involved in fundraising for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. He began volunteering his time for MDA fundraising in 2013 and is currently Local 330's MDA Chairperson. Coleman also has coached youth football in Kenmore for several years.

Now Therefore: I, Donald L. Plusquellic, Mayor of the City of Akron, Ohio, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, November 4, 2014 as:

"FIREFIGHTER/MEDIC MATTHEW COLEMAN DAY"

in the City of Akron and thank him for his service to our youth and community, and ask all to honor him for his service to our young people and note that he serves as an example of the very best among our safety forces.

In Witness Whereof: I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Akron to be affixed hereto the 3rd day of November, 2014.

*Mayor
City of Akron*

IN MEMORIAM



To those faithful firefighters 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. The following firefighters are members of the Local Chapter 7 Firefighters Hall of Fame.

STEVE KELLY

BORN 4/28/1945
APPOINTED 8/7/1969
RETIRED 1/17/1987
DIED 4/4/2014

GEORGE WILLOUGHBY

BORN 7/8/1936
APPOINTED 3/16/1961
RETIRED 4/30/1998
DIED 5/10/2014

CHARLES GEERS

BORN 5/17/1928
APPOINTED 2/5/1953
RETIRED 1/2/1987
DIED 7/1/2014

ROBERT V. BOSS

BORN 4/13/1924
APPOINTED 11/1/1948
RETIRED 4/19/1978
DIED 7/6/2015

ROBERT C. ROSS SR.

BORN 2/16/1935
APPOINTED 11/1/1956
RETIRED 2/4/1989
DIED 9/14/2014

ROBERT A. CHATMAN

BORN 3/27/1946
APPOINTED 12/2/1971
RETIRED 4/29/2001
DIED 10/23/2014

VICTOR J. DONATELLI

BORN 8/31/1927
APPOINTED 1/1/1952
RETIRED 4/12/1986
DIED 11/15/2014

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

HISTORICAL STOP

Akron History Trails wind through time



At Akron Fire Station No. 2, photos of firefighters from 1926 line the wall, above, and an 1883 something of a firefighter museum, is among central Akron sites the city is encouraging family

PROGRAM STARTED IN 2006

Established the Akron Station No. 2 Fire Museum which became the number one stop on the Historic Downtown Akron Passport Program in 2006. Station No. 2 is now an official stop of the City of Akron History Trails Program (2007)

Dennis Stoneman's love for the history of the Akron Fire department has turned into 26 years of collecting, from soot-stained uniforms and a safety net to old hose equipment and ancient metal fire helmets. Framed old newspaper clippings tell stories of past fires, alarms and emergencies.

Now, District Chief Dennis Stoneman's hobby can be viewed by the public at:

Fire Training Academy
1309 Emmit Road
Akron, Ohio 44306
Hours: Daily 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.



Akron Fire History Exhibit:
The fountain at Akron Fire Station #2



Donald L. Plusquellic
Mayor