



COLUMBUS DIVISION OF FIRE
ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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Welcome to the Columbus Division of Fire 2023 Annual Report. This document is published by the Division's Public Information Office, and provides a look back on the efforts, priorities and accomplishments of the 1,600 uniformed and 70 civilian professionals serving the citizens of Columbus, Ohio.

Public Information Office

Battalion Chief Jeffrey Geitter, PIO

Rebecca Diehm Assistant PIO

James Miller Photography & Design





To the men and women of the Columbus Division of Fire, I extend my sincere thanks for your unwavering dedication to the safety and well-being of the residents of Columbus. Your service is essential to the strength, resilience, and success of our city.

Each day, you embody the highest ideals of public service. Through your courage, professionalism, and compassion, you place the needs of others before your own—often in challenging and unpredictable circumstances. The sacrifices you make, both on and off the job, are profound, and they do not go unnoticed by the community you serve.

Throughout 2023, the City of Columbus remained committed to supporting public safety and the men and women who answer the call in moments of need. By continuing to invest in our first responders and prioritizing their well-being, we reinforce our belief that caring for those who protect our city is fundamental to building a strong and thriving community.

The Columbus Division of Fire plays a vital role in making our city a safe place to live, work, and raise a family. Your dedication strengthens public trust and reminds us of the importance of service, teamwork, and leadership in times of both routine and crisis.

Please know that you are not alone in this mission. The residents of Columbus stand with you and are grateful for your commitment, your sacrifice, and your continued service. It is an honor to recognize the important work you do every day on behalf of this city.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Ginther
Mayor, City of Columbus



2023 was a year of continued progress and purpose for the Columbus Division of Fire, marked by meaningful investments in safety, wellness, and operational readiness. These accomplishments reflect our shared commitment to protecting both the residents of Columbus and the first responders who serve them every day.

A key focus in 2023 was ensuring our firefighters have the tools they need to perform their duties safely and effectively. The addition of three new fire engines strengthened the Division's response capabilities and reinforced our ongoing commitment to modernizing equipment and prioritizing firefighter safety. These investments support safer operations and enhance service delivery across our community.

Equally important was the celebration of the one-year anniversary of the Public Safety Wellness Center. The center continues to serve as a vital resource dedicated to the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of our first responders. Supporting those who face trauma, stress, and risk as part of their daily work remains a top priority, and the Wellness Center stands as a clear reflection of that commitment.

The accomplishments of 2023 are the result of the dedication, professionalism, and resilience of the members of the Columbus Division of Fire. Your service to this city and to one another does not go unnoticed. It is my honor to support and advocate for you as we continue working together to strengthen safety, wellness, and preparedness for the future.

You have my sincere gratitude and respect.

Kate McSweeney-Pishotti
Director, Department of Public Safety



As we reflect on the accomplishments of 2023, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the Columbus Division of Fire. Your dedication, professionalism, and commitment to service continue to move this division forward and strengthen the safety of the community we serve. This year marked several important advancements for our organization. We invested in the future of our operations with the addition of three new fire engines, ensuring our crews are equipped with modern, reliable apparatus to respond quickly and safely to emergencies across the city.

We were also honored to host two significant fire service events. The 2023 Metro Fire Chiefs Conference and the 2023 Firehouse Expo. These events brought fire service leaders and professionals together in Columbus to collaborate, share best practices, and highlight innovation within our industry. Hosting both reinforced our division's leadership role and commitment to continuous improvement.

In addition, we proudly celebrated the one-year anniversary of the Public Safety Wellness Center. Over the past year, the center has become a cornerstone of our commitment to firefighter health and wellness, supporting the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of our members. Caring for our people remains essential to sustaining excellence in service.

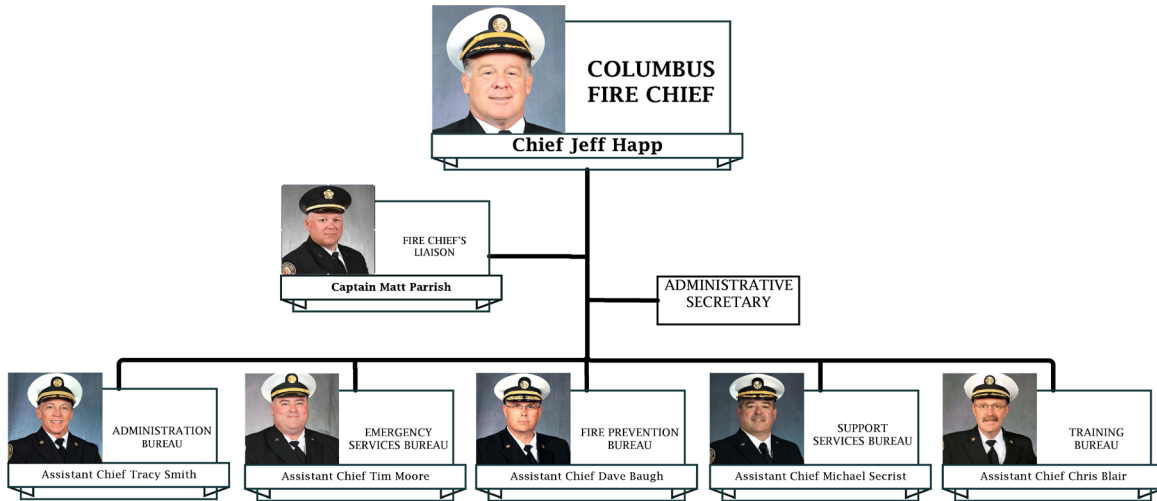
These accomplishments are a direct result of the hard work and dedication of our firefighters, officers, and civilian staff. Every day, you demonstrate resilience, teamwork, and a deep commitment to one another and to the residents of Columbus. Your service does not go unnoticed, and I am grateful to lead such an exceptional division.

As we look ahead, we will continue building on this strong foundation—investing in our people, our equipment, and our mission—while remaining steadfast in our responsibility to protect and serve. “Great things are not accomplished by one individual alone, but by the collective effort of many working toward a shared purpose.”

Thank you for your continued dedication and service. It is an honor to serve alongside you.

Jeffrey Happ
Fire Chief
Columbus Division of Fire

CITY OF COLUMBUS – DIVISION OF FIRE EXECUTIVE STAFF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Revised 07/28/2023

Our mission as the Columbus Division of Fire is to serve our community by:

- Preventing emergencies through education and inspection.
- Minimizing injury, death, and property destruction due to fire natural disaster and other emergencies.
- Minimizing injury, death, and suffering by providing timely and effective emergency medical service

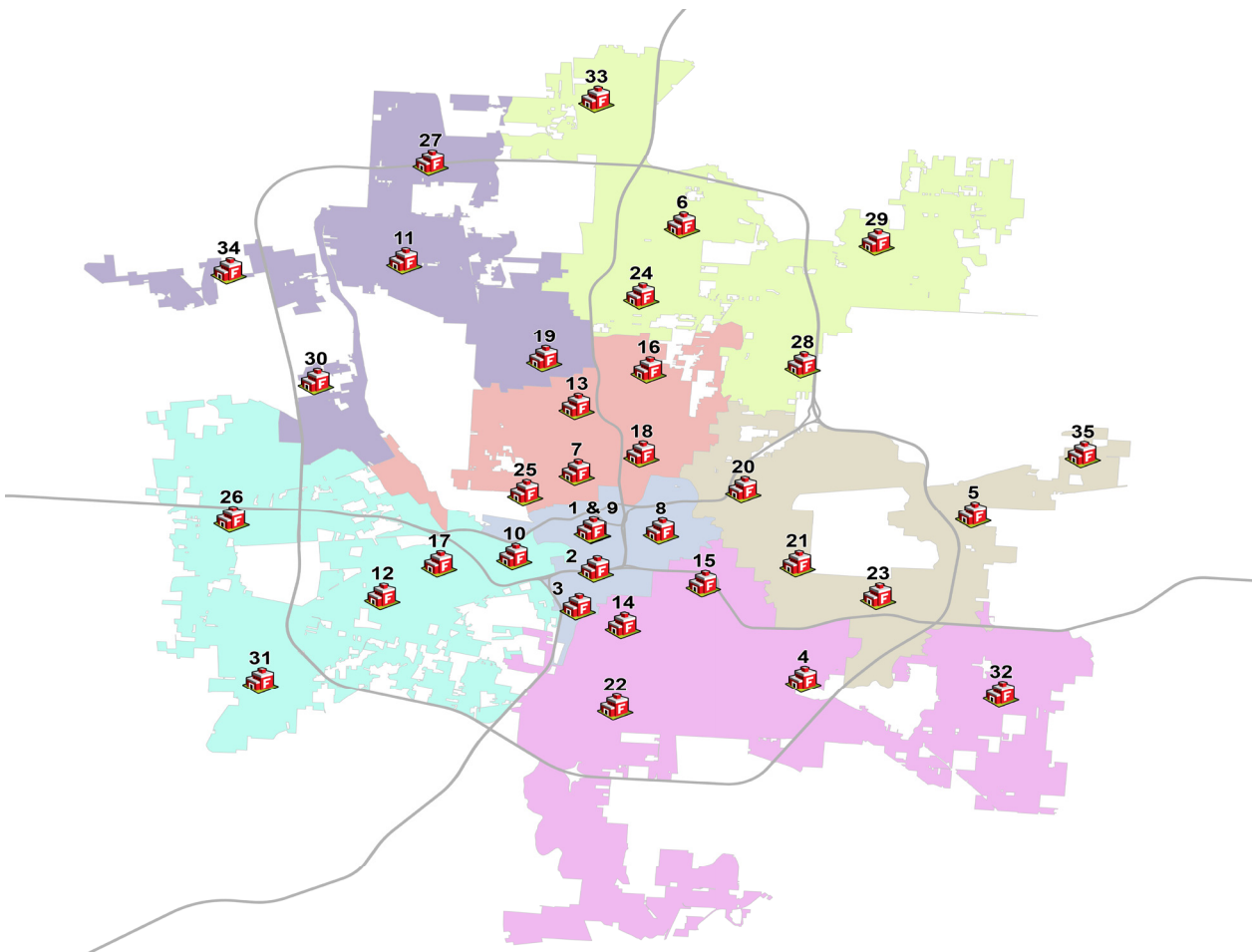
The Mission is accomplished through the efforts of dedicated professional Firefighters

In order to accomplish our mission, we the members of the Columbus Division of Fire, use the following values to guide our actions:

- Preservation of life and property.
- Personal integrity.
- Professionalism.
- Respect for others.

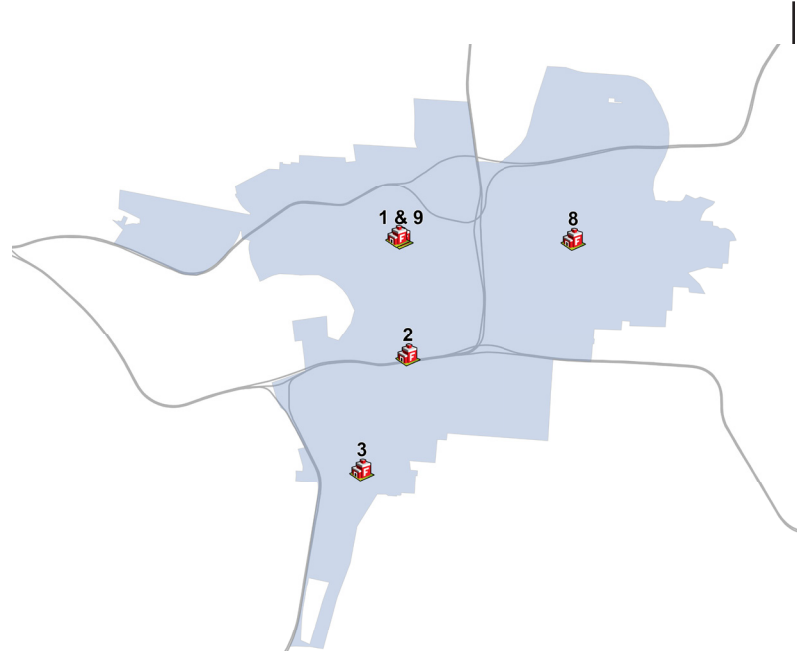
THE COLUMBUS DIVISION OF FIRE

In 2023, The Columbus Division of Fire continued to stand as one of the nation's premier fire and EMS agencies, protecting roughly **220 square miles** and responding to more than 170,000 calls for service throughout the year. Staffed by approximately **1600 sworn firefighters** operating from **34 stations** across **7 battalions**, the division fields a comprehensive array of fire, rescue, and EMS resources to meet the city's growing needs. Its strength lies not only in its capabilities but in its people- **some of the finest fire and EMS personnel in the country**, whose professionalism, training, and dedication consistently elevate the department's performance. The Columbus Division of Fire continues to deliver exceptional service, reinforcing its reputation as one of the **best fire departments in the nation**.



Battalion 1

45,138 Total Runs



STATIONS 1 & 9 300 N Front Street

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 1	2017 Sutphen	2,064
Ladder 1	2021 Pierce	2,150
Engine 9	2018 Sutphen	1,992
Medic 1	2014 International/Horton	4,434
MSU 1	2009 International/Horton	300
ES-2	2020 Ford Interceptor	97
SO-2	2017 Ford Interceptor	868
EMS-10	2018 Ford Explorer	1,324
Station 1 & 9	Total Runs	13,229

STATION 2 150 E Fulton Street

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 2	2017 Sutphen	2,935
Medic 2	2012 International/Horton	4,422
Ladder 2	2020 Sutphen	1,672
DART 2	2013 International/Horton	53
Battalion 1	2018 Ford Interceptor	2,096
Station 2	Total Runs	11,178

STATION 3 222 Greenlawn Avenue

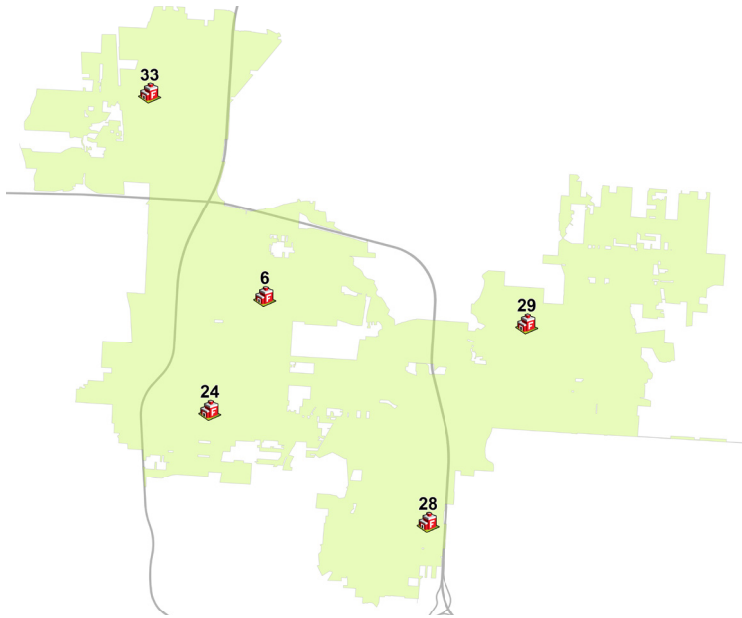
APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 3	2015 Sutphen	2,237
Medic 3	2019 Ford F-550	3,867
Rescue 3	2022 Sutphen/SVI	1,819
EMS-11	2020 Ford Interceptor	2,179
Boat 3	2014 Zodiac	28
RSU 3	2014 International/Horton	50
Bomb Squad 2	2007 Freightliner/Pierce	65
Station 3	Total Runs	10,245

STATION 8 1240 E Long Street

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 8	2015 Sutphen	3,555
Ladder 8	2019 Pierce	1,961
Medic 8	2020 Ford F-550	4,970
Station 8	Total Runs	10,486

Battalion 2

47,671 Total Runs



STATION 6 5750 Maple Canyon Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 6	2019 Sutphen	4,956
Medic 6	2015 International/Horton	4,299
Medic 806	2018 Ford F-550	4,374
Battalion 2	2017 Ford Interceptor	1,539
EMS-12	2017 Ford Interceptor	2,359
Station 6	Total Runs	17,527

STATION 24 1585 Morse Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 24	2015 Sutphen	4,129
Ladder 24	2015 Pierce	2,198
Medic 24	2019 Ford F-550	4,976
Station 24	Total Runs	11,303

STATION 28 3240 McCutcheon Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 28	2015 Sutphen	2,594
Ladder 28	2019 Pierce	1,579
Medic 28	2019 Ford F-550	3,179
Station 28	Total Runs	7,352

STATION 29 5151 Little Turtle Way

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 29	2009 Ferrara	2,656
Medic 29	2019 International/Horton	2,733
Boat 29	2008 Lowe Line	7
Station 29	Total Runs	5,396

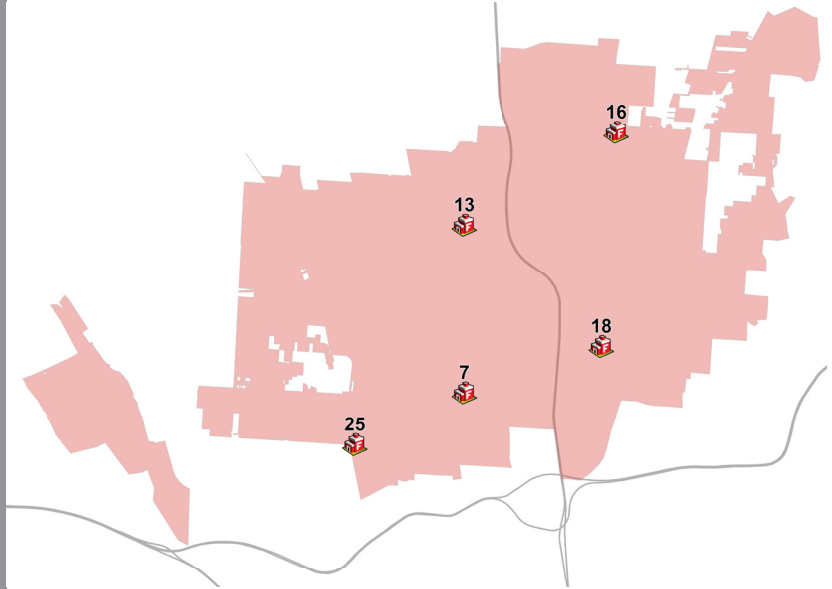
STATION 33 440 Lazelle Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 33	2015 Sutphen	2,431
Ladder 33	2017 Sutphen	1,109
Medic 33	2014 International/Horton	2,553
Station 33	Total Runs	6,093



Battalion 3

44,309 Total



STATION 7

1425 Indianola Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 7	2011 Sutphen	3,084
Medic 7	2019 Ford F-550	4,053
Battalion 3	2020 Ford Interceptor	1,638
Station 7	Total Runs	8,775

STATION 13

309 Arcadia Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 13	2019 Sutphen	2,212
Ladder 13	2012 Pierce	2,294
Medic 13	2019 Ford F-550	3,179
Station 13	Total Runs	7,685

STATION 16

1465 Oakland Park Ave

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 16	2014 Sutphen	3,674
Rescue 16	2022 Sutphen/SVI	2,211
Medic 16	2019 Ford F-550	4,771
Station 16	Total Runs	10,656

STATION 18

1630 Cleveland Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 18	2011 Sutphen	4,148
Medic 18	2018 Ford F-550	5,223
EMS-13	2020 Ford Interceptor	2,761
Station 18	Total Runs	12,132

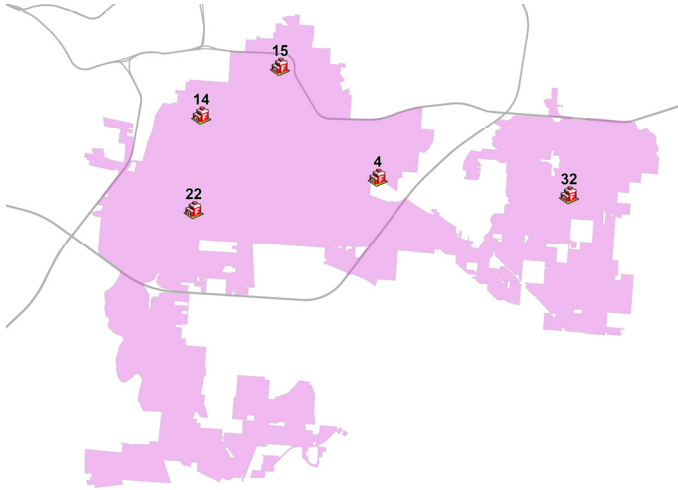
STATION 25

739 W Third Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 25	2017 Sutphen	2,264
Medic 25	2014 International/Horton	2,775
Boat 25	2012 Zodiac	22
Station 25	Total Runs	5,061

Battalion 4

48,504 Total Runs



STATION 4

3030 Winchester Pike

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 4	2011 Sutphen	2,541
Medic 4	2019 International/Horton	2,878
Hazmat 4	2005 HME/Marion	34
Rescue 4	2022 Sutphen/SVI	1,662
Boat 4	2012 Zodiac	15
Hazmat Trailer	2012 Ford350/2011 Nomad	8
Station 4	Total Runs	7,138

STATION 14

1514 Parsons Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 14	2011 Sutphen	3,537
Medic 14	2019 Ford F-550	4,556
Battalion 4	2013 Ford Explorer	1,215
Boat 14	2014 Zodiac	25
Station 14	Total Runs	9,333

STATION 15

1800 E Livingston Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 15	2015 Sutphen	4,100
Ladder 15	2012 Pierce	1,676
Medic 15	2019 International/Horton	4,159
Medic 815	2018 Ford F-550	4,034
EMS-14	2018 Ford Interceptor	2,857
Station 15	Total Runs	16,826

STATION 22

3069 Parsons Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 22	2019 Sutphen	2,951
Ladder 22	2016 Sutphen	1,276
Medic 22	2017 International/Horton	3,257
Boat 22	2005 Rescue One	16
Station 22	Total Runs	7,500

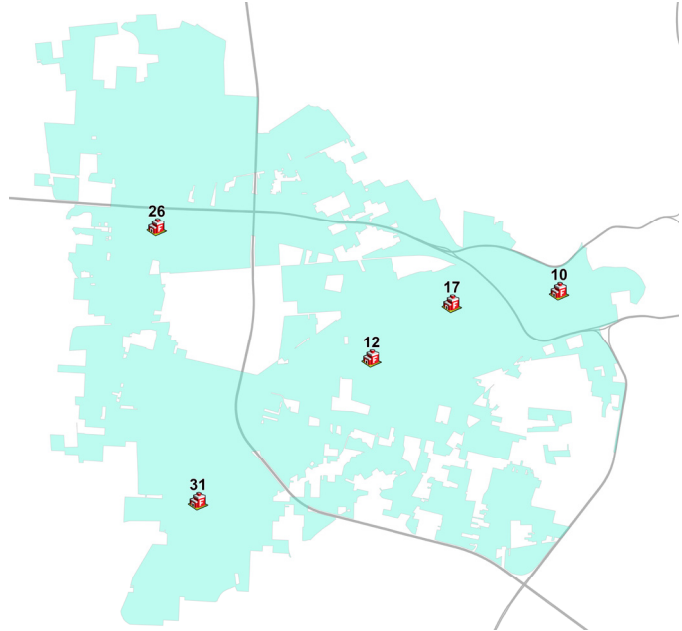
STATION 32

3675 Gender Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 32	2011 Sutphen	2,774
Ladder 32	2011 Sutphen	1,268
Medic 32	2017 International/Horton	3,656
Boat 32	2008 Mercury Marine	9
Station 32	Total Runs	7,707

Battalion 5

49,094 Total



STATION 10

1096 W Broad Street

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 10	2019 Sutphen	3,218
Ladder 10	2013 Sutphen	1,571
Medic 10	2018 Ford F-550	4,583
Medic 890	2017 International/Horton	2,226
Boat 10	2012 Zodiac	24
Station 10	Total Runs	11,622

STATION 12

3200 Sullivant Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 12	2019 Sutphen	3,323
Ladder 12	2012 Pierce	1,405
Medic 12	2017 International/Horton	4,473
Station 12	Total Runs	9,201

STATION 17

2250 W Broad Street

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 17	2020 Sutphen	3,931
Rescue 17	2022 Sutphen/SVI	1,582
Medic 17	2019 International/Horton	3,938
Medic 817	2018 Ford F-550	3,956
Battalion 5	2020 Ford Interceptor	1,363
EMS-15	2017 Ford Interceptor	2,535
Station 17	Total Runs	17,305

STATION 26

5433 Fisher Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 26	2019 Sutphen	2,654
Ladder 26	2019 Sutphen	1,356
Medic 26	2013 International/Horton	3,161
Boat 26	2008 Lowe	14
Station 26	Total Runs	7,185

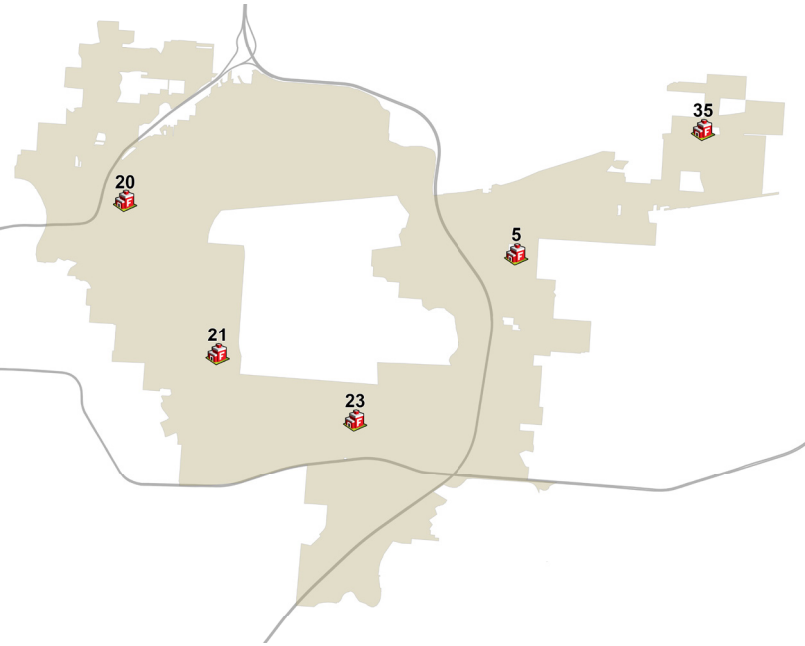
STATION 31

5305 Alkire Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 31	2014 Sutphen	1,542
Medic 31	2015 International/Horton	2,239
Station 31	Total Runs	3,781

Battalion 6

39,401 Total Runs



STATION 5

211 McNaughten Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 5	2015 Sutphen	2,119
Ladder 5	2018 Pierce	903
Medic 5	2018 International/Horton	3,007
EMS-16	2018 Ford Interceptor	1,621
Boat 5	2008 Lowe	12
Station 5	Total Runs	7,662

STATION 20

2646 E Fifth Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 20	2019 Sutphen	2,942
Medic 20	2018 International/Horton	3,998
Station 20	Total Runs	6,940

STATION 21

3294 E Main Street

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 21	2019 Sutphen	4,174
Medic 21	2019 Ford F-550	4,217
Battalion 6	2017 Ford Interceptor	1,783
Station 21	Total Runs	10,174

STATION 23

4451 E Livingston Avenue

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 23	2015 Sutphen	3,251
Ladder 23	2014 Sutphen	1,437
Medic 23	2019 International/Horton	3,354
Medic 823	2018 Ford F-550	3,734
Station 23	Total Runs	11,776

STATION 35

711 Waggoner Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 35	2020 Sutphen	1,218
Medic 35	2019 Ford F-550	1,631
Station 35	Total Runs	2,849



Battalion 7

24,203 Total

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STATION 11

2200 W Case Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 11	2015 Sutphen	2,434
Rescue 11	2022 Sutphen/SVI	1,054
Medic 11	2017 International/Horton	3,023
Battalion 7	2018 Ford Interceptor	915
EMS-17	2020 Ford Interceptor	1,100
Boat 11	2019 Zodiac	3
Station 11	Total Runs	8,529

STATION 19

3601 N High Street

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 19	2011 Sutphen	2,536
Medic 19	2018 Ford F-550	3,421
Boat 19	2012 Zodiac	15
Incident Support Unit 19	2015 International/Horton	406
Station 19	Total Runs	6,378

STATION 27

7560 Smokey Row Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 27	2015 Sutphen	1,818
Ladder 27	2008 LTI LaFrance	849
Medic 27	2020 Ford F-550	2,394
Boat 27	2007 Lowe	2
Station 27	Total Runs	5,063

STATION 30

3555 Fisher Boulevard

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 30	2011 Ferrara	871
Medic 30	2014 International/Horton	1,011
Boat 30	2007 Rescue One	17
Station 30	Total Runs	1,899

STATION 34

5201 Wilcox Road

APPARATUS	MODEL	TOTAL RUNS
Engine 34	2011 Sutphen	1,103
Medic 34	2015 International/Horton	1,231
Station 34	Total Runs	2,334

Division of Fire Public Information Office

The Public Information Office serves as the primary liaison between the Division and the public. The Office manages all public records requests, ensuring timely and accurate responses in accordance with public records laws. The office coordinates media relations, particularly during major incidents, providing clear, factual, and up-to-date information to news outlets and the community. In addition, the Public Information Office supports and promotes Division activities such as recruit graduations, promotion ceremonies, public events, and community outreach efforts. Through these responsibilities, the Public Information Office helps maintain transparency, build public trust, and highlight the professionalism and service of the Columbus Division of Fire.

OFFICE OF HEALTH & SAFETY

The Columbus Division of Fire's Office of health and Safety manages the occupational safety and health program of the division. This office coordinates all of the health, safety, and wellness operations of the the Division, including onsite operational safety reports, facilities inspections, processing reports of workplace hazards, investigating reports of occupational risks and preventing the spread of infectious diseases. This office also administers a health and fitness program overseen by it s Health and Wellness Coordinator and Clinical Exercise Phsyciologist. the program provides Fitness & Wellness instruction, exercise guidance, and nutritional advice in support for the annual physicals exams and divisional fitness training.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

The Community Risk reduction team provides general fire safety education to the public, including fire prevention practices and emergency preparedness. The program offers hands-on fire extinguisher traing and uses interactive tools such as a safe house to teach residents of all ages critical fire safety tips in an engaging way. In addition, the Dvisiion provides free smoke alarm installations for the public, helping ensure early warning and increased safety in homes throughout the community.

MEMBER SUPPORT UNIT

TheMemberSupportUnitinteractswithactiveandretired Columbus Fire members. They assist all ranks, including Recruits and Cadets. 11 Members per week on average interact with them. The unit has also assisted members from other agencies, as well as advised other departments on peer support, mental fitness, and resiliency.

- Provide confidential peer support
- Connect members to mental health, substance abuse, and wellness resources
- Develop and deliver training on wellness and resiliency
- Develop and deliver training to Peer Support Team
- Coordinate CISM activation
- Support Chaplain Team
- Outreach and coordination with local fire agencies and law enforcement.



RECRUITING, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

The Recruiting, Diversity and Inclusion office consists of one fire lieutenant and two firefighters. The mission of the R, D&I office is to find, inform and encourage motivated and qualified candidates that reflect the diversity of the City of Columbus community to apply for this career. We recruit everyone inclusively but our main focus is on the under-represented demographics. Only having three full time members in the R, D&I office creates challenges in accomplishing the large amount of work that needs to be done. For this reason, we depend on Recruitment Mentors who have assignments in other areas but will occasionally help out with recruiting. We also depend on our 1,550+ members to be recruiters throughout their careers by simply being good role models and setting a positive example.





RREACT·SPARC·2023 ADDICTION CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM EXPANDS TO ASSIST FAMILIES

RREACT is a multi-discipline collaborative public safety outreach program that brings evidence-based treatment and harm reduction services for opioid users. Key partners in this project include the Columbus Division of Fire (CDF), Columbus Division of Police (CDP), Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA), Southeast, Inc., PrimaryOne Health, and the Franklin County Family and Children First Council (FCFCFC). RREACT operates within the CDF Training and Emergency Medical Services Bureau.

In 2023, There were a total of 4,169 non-fatal overdoses (ENS) and 425 fatal overdoses (ODMAPS). Of the 4,169 non-fatal overdoses, Columbus Police reviewed 2,632 patients (ENS). In 2023, there were 6,042 attempted patient contacts (3,131 unique patients) and 432 transports to treatment. RREACT teams conducted 2,850 home visits for patients who have experienced a non-fatal overdose. During these home visits, RREACT directly engaged with 690 patients and 423 family members. RREACT teams distributed 2,263 treatment info flyers and 2,222 Nalozone opioid reversal kits. RREACT was unable to make contact on 304 home visits, but left treatment information packets.

MONTH	TRANSPORTS	PATIENT VISITS	LETTERS	TEXTS/EMAILS	PHONE CALLS	TOTAL
JANUARY	32	203	66	99/16	26	411
FEBRUARY	43	219	48	134/45	22	468
MARCH	46	269	55	191/43	16	575
APRIL	37	131	27	152/34	25	469
MAY	39	249	63	186/46	17	561
JUNE	48	281	60	207/55	20	624
JULY	41	261	65	128/59	14	527
AUGUST	38	251	98	175/66	16	507
SEPTEMBER	29	272	51	172/39	11	546
OCTOBER	31	195	43	118/39	10	406
NOVEMBER	23	212	62	177/35	9	496
DECEMBER	25	207	64	111/55	15	452
TOTAL	432	2,850	702	1,750/532	201	6,042

Patient Referral Type	Count of Patients
COAAA	1
Case Management	165
FCFCFC	1
Social Services	9

Referrals to RREACT	
Partner Agency	1
Call/Text	5
CD Police Personnel Referral	2
Encounter	3
ESO CFD Medics	4,698
Premier One	1
Township	18
Other	5

Team Assignments	
RREACT1	1,559
RREACT2	1,060
RREACT3	1,056
RREACT4	338
RREACT5	205
Township	18
Unassigned	27
Premier One	1

Patient Home Visit by Zip Code	
43204	351
43207	272
43211	160
43223	255

SPARC teams are comprised of Columbus Fire paramedics and partner socialworkers who follow up on Fire or EMS incidents where individuals or whole families are found in crisis. The SPARC teams work to link individuals with new ongoing public health and faith-based services to assist them with healthy community living.

In 2023, SPARC gave new referrals to 348 of the 1,690 individual served. Thus, SPARC provided these referrals to 20.59% of the individuals served for a total of 558 total new referrals across these individuals.



Photos (above) the SPARC team of medic Chuck McFadden and social worker Lisa Sacket deliver new winter coats to a westside family who had been referred by CFD medics after a health emergency at the home. (middle) RREACT Alumni Tara Hoover speaks of her recovery during Friendsgiving Dinner in November. (below) RREACT medic Joe Shoaf distributes NARCAN opioid overdose reversal kits during Community Safety Day held twice yearly at the Columbus Fire Administration & Fire Training Academy campus.



Tracy Smith
Assistant Chief

Administration Bureau

Areas of responsibility include the Assistant Chief's Office, Administrative Investigations Unit, Human Resources, Payroll and the Business Office. The Bureau Chief represents the Division of Fire in contract negotiations and disciplinary hearings; adjudicates disciplinary cases; interacts with other city divisions and departments; serves as a project manager on department initiatives; and coordinates with outside agencies.

Assistant Chief's Office

A Captain and an Administrative Assistant work with the Assistant Chief in handling the day to day operations of the office. Office responsibilities include tracking and processing administrative investigations; personnel transfers; administrative assignments; light duty assignments; disciplinary matters; administering the Division's cellular communications program and administering the Division's flower fund.

Business Office

The Business Office, comprised of the Fiscal Manager, Management Analyst II, Management Analyst I, and Fiscal Assistant II is responsible for managing all financial operations for the Columbus Division of Fire.

Fiscal Manager supervises Business Office personnel; prepares and reviews Operating, Capital, and Special Revenue budgets; oversees the legislating and procuring of major and revenue services contracts; manages EMS Billing Lockbox deposits, general budget reservations management, petty cash, etc.

Management Analyst II is responsible for overseeing EMS Supply contracts, ordinance and

“Our mission is to develop and monitor accounting practices, financial measures and administrative procedures which promote achievement of the Division’s goals and objectives. The Bureau coordinates the efficient allocation of funds and the establishment of measures that ensure adherence to established practices and procedures by all Division personnel.”

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

accounts payable; assists Research and Development with formal bids & associated ordinances; manages Grants legislation, and detailed informal procurement specifications etc.

Management Analyst I Manages procurement for Tools and Equipment and Mask Repair informal bids & catalog purchases and accounts payable; manages townships receivables and deposits; handles travel requests, and maintenance contracts, etc.

Fiscal Assistant II oversees Support Services/Supply and Quartermaster informal bids and catalog purchases and accounts payable; processing advanced ledger entries for daily deposits; responsible for mileage, memberships, subscriptions, cellular phone accounts payable, damage claims, etc.

Human Resources Department

Human Resources personnel administer all personnel transactions - hiring, terminations, promotions and retirements. Responsibilities include: administering the Division's collective bargaining agreements while ensuring all employment laws are followed; providing budget projections for staffing overtime and other personnel-related costs; managing the injury leave program; light-duty; FMLA; insurance and tuition reimbursement, and supervision of payroll personnel.

Major accomplishments for 2023 included:

- Hired a total of 128 Recruit Firefighters
- **Class 118- 40 Recruits**
- **Class 119- 43 Recruits**
- **Class 120- 45 Recruits**
- **Processed 67 sworn separations from employment**

Payroll Department

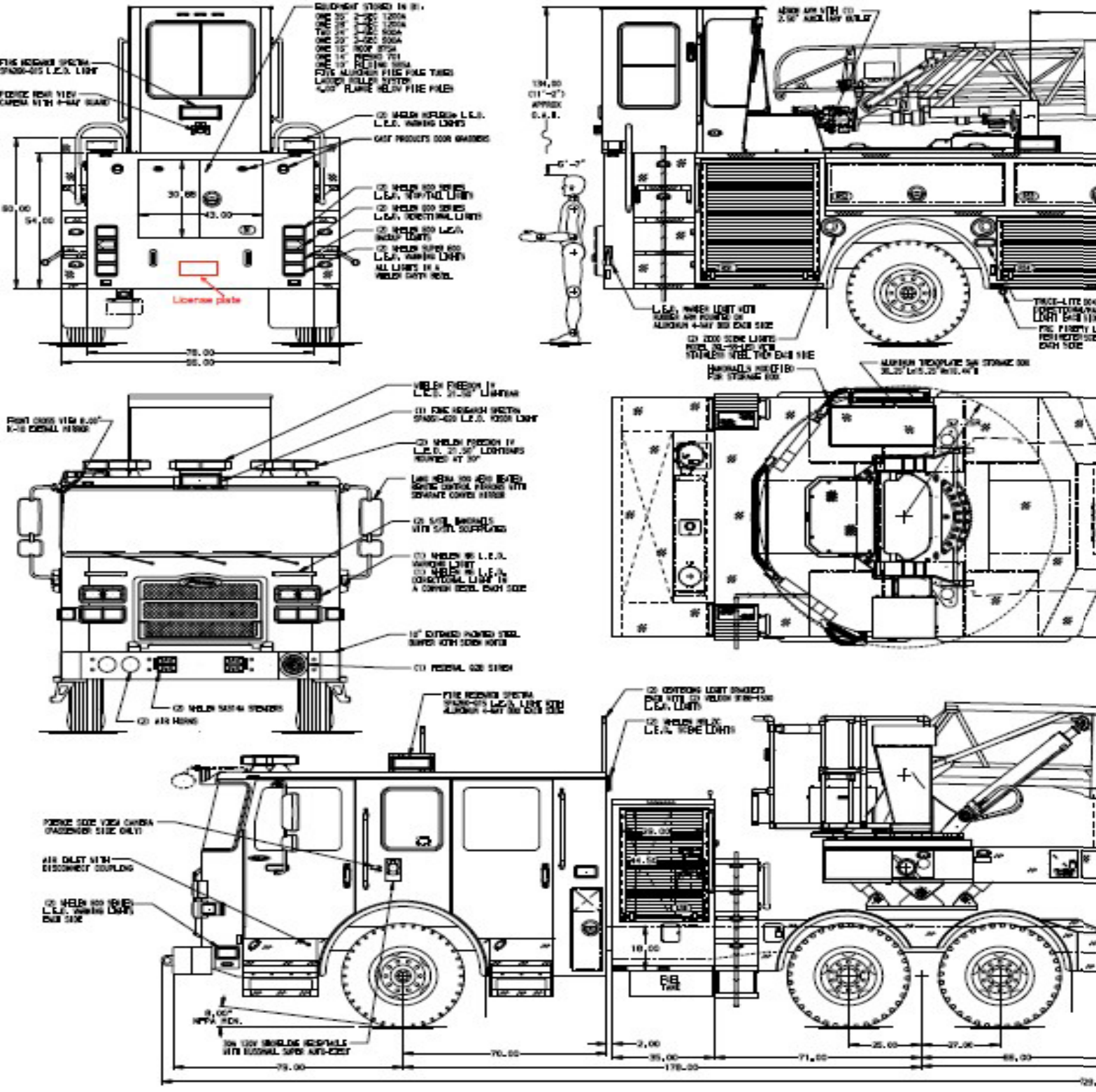
Payroll's function is to ensure that employees are paid accurately and timely. Responsibilities include: tax withholdings and deductions; pay increases; insurance premiums; and union dues per collective bargaining agreements. Payroll major accomplishments for 2022

- Worked to modify and adapt the city's new Dayforce payroll and timekeeping system to meet the special needs of the division.
- Continued the special enrollment period for the new IAFF Health Savings Account Plan November 1 through November 30, 2022.
- Focused on improving and correcting issues with the city's new payroll processing system.

2023 General Fund Operating Budget

Operating Budget		Major Capital Purchases	
Personnel(Payroll)	\$285,732,405.13	7 Horton Ambulances	\$2,213,457.00
Supplies	\$6,281,142.61	Building Improvements	\$1,418,158.29
Services	\$13,576,575.44	FS36 Design	\$631,566.65
Other Expenses	\$1,398,413.06	Apparatus Repairs	\$399,496.29
Transfer, travel, etc	\$31,399.00	4 Ford Fusions	\$80,000.00
Total:	\$307,019,935.24	14 Power Cots	\$434,811.51
		15 LUCAS Devices	\$317,044.90
		50 Radios	\$181,339.83
		Rescue Equipment	\$20,894.80
		EMS Equipment	\$14,435.40
		Training Academy Lift	\$8,820.48
		Hyundai ForkLift	\$39,895.00
		Total:	\$5,759,920.15

**CFD TRACTOR
DRAWN AERIAL**



The Tractor-Drawn Aerial Ladder(TDA) is one of the specialized aerial apparatus utilized by CFD to provide extended reach, enhanced maneuverability, and increased operational capabilities at emergency incidents. Commonly referred to as a "Tiller Truck," the TDA consist of two sections, a tractor (front cab) and a trailer (rear tiller section) which houses the aerial ladder and is steered by a second firefighter. This unique design allows the apparatus to navigate tight urban streets, alleys, and complex environments more effectively than traditional ladder trucks while still carrying a long aerial ladder.

The TDA is equipped with a 107-foot aerial ladder, providing firefighters with the ability to access upper floors of residential and commercial structures, conduct roof operations, and perform elevated rescues. The ladder is capable of supporting multiple firefighters and equipment during ventilation, overhaul, and rescue operations.



**Assistant Chief
Michael Secrist**

The mission of the Support Services Bureau (SSB) is to provide and maintain the facilities, apparatus, equipment, and supplies, to receive emergency and non-emergency calls and to dispatch the necessary response through our Fire Alarm Office so that the Division of Fire can serve the public effectively and efficiently.

Tools, Equipment & Supplies

- Maintains and manages firefighting tools and equipment
- Procures and distributes all medical supplies and station supplies used across the entire division.

Mask Repair & Gear services

- Operates a dedicated SCBA repair shop
- Responsible for cleaning, repair, and laundering of firefighter turnout gear and protective equipment.
- Purchases, distributes and maintains inventory of uniforms and apparel.

Facilities and Property Management

- Acts as the Division's liaison with the City's Facilities Management division to coordinate maintenance and support for buildings, apparatus, and vehicles.



Capital Funding

2022

Pierce Aerial Ladder 27 \$1,983,538
 Sutphen Engine 14 \$863,184
 Sutphen Engine 32 \$863,184
 9 Stryker Ems Cots \$576,408.23
 15 Lucas Devices \$317,044.90
 50 MDC Mounting \$238,124.50
 Horton Medic 6 \$358,608
 Horton Medic 806 \$358,608
 Tow 1 Vehicle \$98,344.00
 Rescue Boat \$112,667
 Radios \$181,340.05

Total: 5,951,050.68

2023

Pierce Aerial Ladder \$2,350,880.00
 Sutphen Engine \$1,092,632
 Sutphen Engine \$1,089,632
 Sutphen Engine \$1,088,432
 Sutphen Engine \$1,086,132
 Sutphen Engine \$1,084,132
 Horton Medic \$378,236
 Horton medic \$378,236
 Horton Medic \$378,236
 Horton Medic \$378,236
 Horton Medic \$378,236
 ISU Repairs \$63,661

Total: 9,368,445





The Research and Development (R&D) section plays a crucial role in advancing the operational effectiveness, safety, and innovation of the Columbus Division of Fire. Positioned to support strategic decision making and continuous improvement, R&D functions as an internal technical resource that helps ensure the Division remains at the forefront of firefighting practices and equipment standards.

Key Responsibilities:

- Apparatus Specifications & Acquisition
- Manufacturing Oversight & Acceptance
- Standards, Procedures & Documentation
- Equipment Evaluation & Innovation
- Technical support for Tools & Equipment







Timothy Moore
Assistant Chief

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Emergency Medical Services and Rescue accounted for roughly 85% of all calls for service in 2023.

The mission of the Emergency Services Bureau is to minimize injuries, deaths, and property loss related to fire, medical emergencies, and other disasters through the efficient delivery of effective fire suppression, pre-hospital treatment, and patient transport.

The Emergency Services Bureau embraces many aspects of Public Safety. The most important accomplishment of these is the delivery of outstanding emergency care to the citizens of Columbus by the extraordinary members of the Division. Your commitment to excellence and compassion for others falls right in line with the Division's Values of Preservation of life and property, safety, personal integrity, professionalism, and respect for others.

As the largest bureau within the organization, the frontline workers continue to serve the citizens of Columbus with dignity and respect. The professional Columbus Firefighters continue to battle through all adversities while still maintaining exceptional emergency medical, fire, and public services day in and day out.

Thank You to All of You.

Bureau Head, Assistant Chief Timothy Moore, along with one 40 hour Deputy Chief of Special Operations and three Deputy Chief Shift commanders are responsible for all emergency scene operations within the Division. The Bureau is divided into seven battalions with three platoons of personnel rotating 24-hour duty shifts. Each shift or unit is commanded by a Deputy Chief who also works a 24-hour shift and coordinates and assures the daily staffing of 35 fire stations consisting of approximately 300 personnel during daytime hours and approximately 337 personnel during nighttime hours.

The Emergency Services Bureau provides the following services:

Emergency Medical Services

Fire Suppression Services

Fire Alarm Staffing

Special Operations Group (staffed), including:

- Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF)
- Bomb Squad and Canine Units
- Counter-Terrorism Liaison Program (CTU)
- Dive and Rescue Team (DART)
- Hazardous Materials Response Team
- Mobile Stroke Treatment Unit (MSTU)
- Heavy/Technical Rescue Team
- Tactical EMS Team (TEMS)

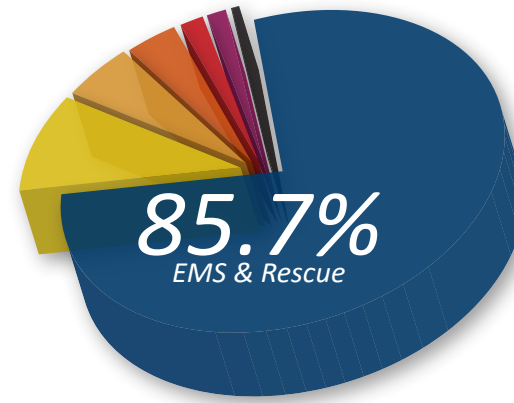
Special Operations Group (non-staffed), including:

- Rescue Boats
- Command One - Mobile EOC
- Drafting Trailers
- Foam Trailers
- Rescue Support Units

The Awards Committee was able to have the ceremony at Villa Milano in February of 2023. The committee worked diligently to ensure our members were recognized for outstanding actions in the year in which they occurred. It is a great opportunity for Command Officers down to your partner to nominate Members for outstanding performances that are sometimes looked at as "just doing our job". This is another opportunity to recognize our people for the great work they do.

561 Daily Calls For Service in 2023

175,944	EMS & Rescue Calls for Service 85.7%
21,161	Fire Alarms & Service Runs 10.3%
5,511	Structure Fire, Including Fields, Electical & Vehicles 2.6%
1,395	Hazardous Conditions: Gas Leaks & Flammable Spills
1,088	Other: Bomb Response, Airport Response, Explosion



205,099 Calls For Service 2023

The Division’s Special Operations section encompasses an enormous area of special functions for the City of Columbus and entire Central Ohio region. ES-3, the 40 hr Deputy Chief, and RS-1, the 40hr Rescue Captain oversee the various teams and offices under the section. We hope to add more positions to bolster the expanding “Spec Ops” section in 2023.

Hazmat continues to respond and track all hazardous materials stored, manufactured, and transported throughout the City. The Captain of Station 4 has also arranged to work with the 52nd Airborne out of Rickenbacker Airbase for Joint Training Opportunities. Captain James Cirola of Station 4 continues to work with the Special Operations Deputy Chief to lessen the number of Techs to a more manageable amount. Thanks to Station 4 and Techs

Tactical EMS continues to support our brothers and sisters in Columbus Police to ensure their safety while under hazardous situations as well as support our department by taking medical runs when available. TEMS is expanding and offering members that have served the opportunity to move on as new members are trained. Thanks to All TEMS members Ohio Task Force 1 and Central Ohio Strike Teams supported numerous regions of central and remote

areas of Ohio for collapse, hurricane, and technical responses. Thanks to Task Force 1

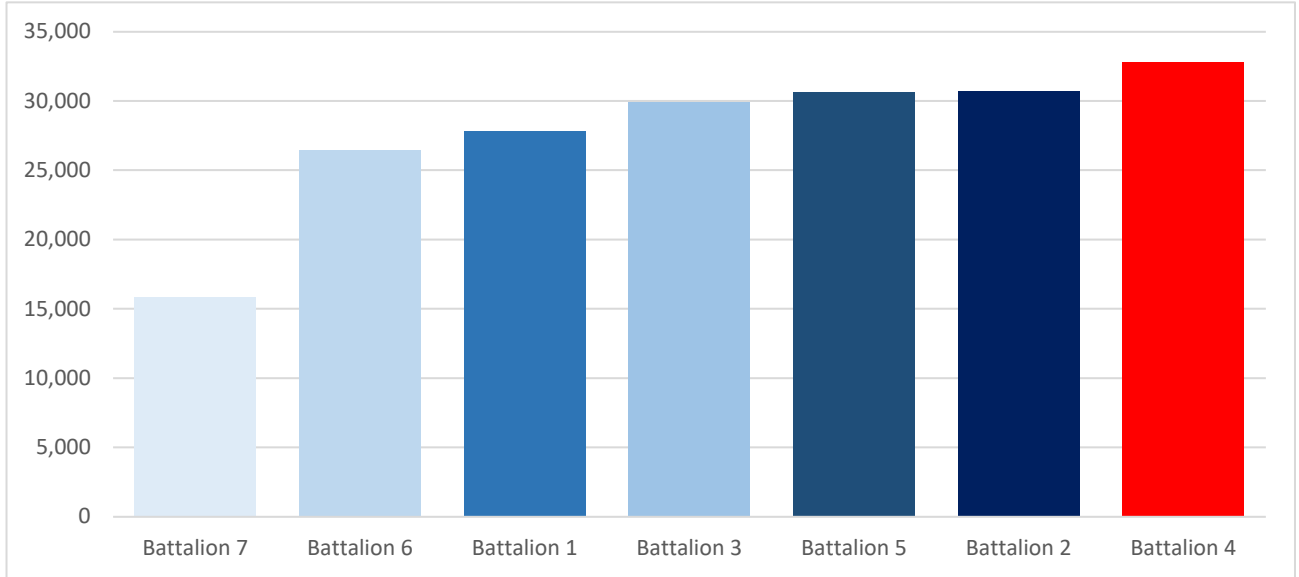
The Mobile Stroke Treatment Unit is in its fourth year of operation and continues to have a significant impact within our community. The partnership with OhioHealth, The Ohio State University, and Mt. Carmel Health Systems proves immediate therapies provided to patients on the scene before transport contributes to the patients having a greater chance to lower or negate deficits from strokes. Thanks to all of you.

The newly formed Emergency Preparedness section of the Special Operations group strives to proactively plan for potential hazardous occurrences within the City of Columbus. It continues to develop areas of the City in need of specialized action plans for a response which will include cooperation with other City partners of safety.

This group will also assist with the planning and oversight for emergency exercises annually supporting the decisions for response run seamlessly. These preparations will be specific to various areas in terrorism, civil unrest, and large environmental disasters.

7 Battalions

177,456 Total Runs by Battalion

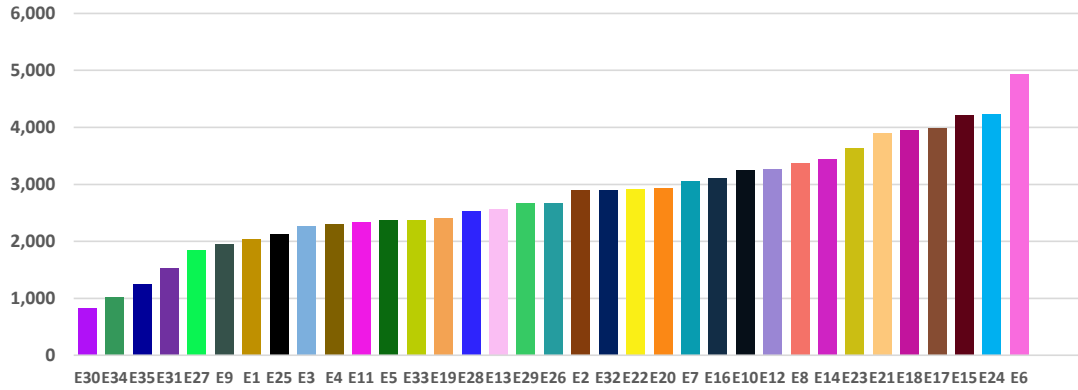


	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Battalion 1	2,168	2,050	2,342	2,271	2,382	2,363	2,472	2,470	2,388	2,393	2,231	2,257	27,787
Battalion 2	2,545	2,357	2,590	2,451	2,766	2,511	2,736	2,601	2,569	2,552	2,558	2,478	30,714
Battalion 3	2,272	2,260	2,439	2,391	2,512	2,446	2,528	2,705	2,660	2,773	2,484	2,456	29,926
Battalion 4	2,499	2,486	2,767	2,798	2,899	2,779	2,957	2,902	2,862	2,748	2,678	2,553	32,928
Battalion 5	2,484	2,218	2,536	2,513	2,664	2,726	2,802	2,665	2,580	2,532	2,432	2,472	30,624
Battalion 6	2,077	1,956	2,240	2,271	2,343	2,203	2,272	2,298	2,212	2,254	2,193	2,123	26,443
Battalion 7	1,293	1,165	1,265	1,243	1,360	1,373	1,286	1,403	1,386	1,413	1,312	1,321	15,820
Headquarters	599	605	738	692	823	742	711	74	727	777	681	628	8,457
Total	14,029	13,265	14,791	14,443	15,474	14,946	15,579	15,611	15,238	15,302	14,385	14,393	177,456



35 Engine Companies

90,533 Total Engine Runs



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
E1	146	144	162	161	197	181	180	172	181	199	169	142	2,034
E2	221	224	257	227	261	268	256	265	251	248	259	246	2,983
E3	14	156	196	154	192	190	208	215	192	206	208	183	2,264
E4	175	172	200	199	223	190	189	187	208	225	206	165	2,295
E5	170	167	204	216	212	205	196	204	194	222	193	187	2,370
E6	427	384	434	338	441	393	458	409	429	412	418	392	4,935
E7	233	218	216	252	239	214	236	303	280	346	297	231	3,065
E8	237	252	266	297	320	289	291	324	302	266	260	278	3,382
E9	140	135	147	154	163	188	173	166	183	211	167	129	1,956
E10	221	231	257	231	311	311	299	301	285	251	291	259	3,248
E11	176	164	193	178	207	212	201	206	192	222	195	186	2,332
E12	254	214	260	284	258	302	309	289	287	281	286	245	3,269
E13	206	194	205	203	208	209	205	238	219	255	237	184	2,563
E14	231	246	247	306	331	307	369	308	278	291	272	265	3,451
E15	288	306	352	346	359	359	362	388	395	369	370	328	4,222
E16	217	197	238	239	312	260	257	278	309	281	267	250	3,105
E17	287	286	359	334	341	377	345	358	336	317	325	315	3,980
E18	299	296	322	312	356	352	339	339	365	326	325	327	3,958
E19	202	167	173	177	204	235	182	233	240	204	194	196	2,407
E20	221	223	243	237	266	230	272	268	236	249	246	236	2,927
E21	276	291	303	325	341	355	341	384	308	340	325	311	3,900
E22	204	225	209	272	261	281	274	237	256	236	229	227	2,911
E23	288	251	295	314	36	306	304	338	336	317	304	285	3,644
E24	324	329	336	320	396	367	363	370	341	379	362	342	4,229
E25	159	147	181	181	168	169	166	177	195	197	193	188	2,121
E26	224	188	206	227	241	222	247	228	205	240	218	229	2,675
E27	150	131	147	146	145	141	129	156	170	191	186	157	1,849
E28	242	179	215	198	237	209	216	180	222	199	218	217	2,532
E29	222	212	198	227	244	225	250	205	203	224	235	226	2,671
E30	66	59	54	64	61	75	78	63	83	78	75	69	825
E31	126	123	143	123	133	124	142	130	118	129	106	131	1,528
E32	217	208	262	259	241	220	235	243	261	252	266	233	2,897
E33	188	159	191	203	204	208	227	195	221	192	198	187	2,373
E34	83	68	99	87	85	95	72	98	86	79	80	93	1,025
E35	85	77	120	107	94	108	126	95	106	107	105	116	1,246
Total	6,883	6,545	7,360	7,370	7,966	7,779	7,975	7,982	7,871	7,900	7,632	7,269	90,533



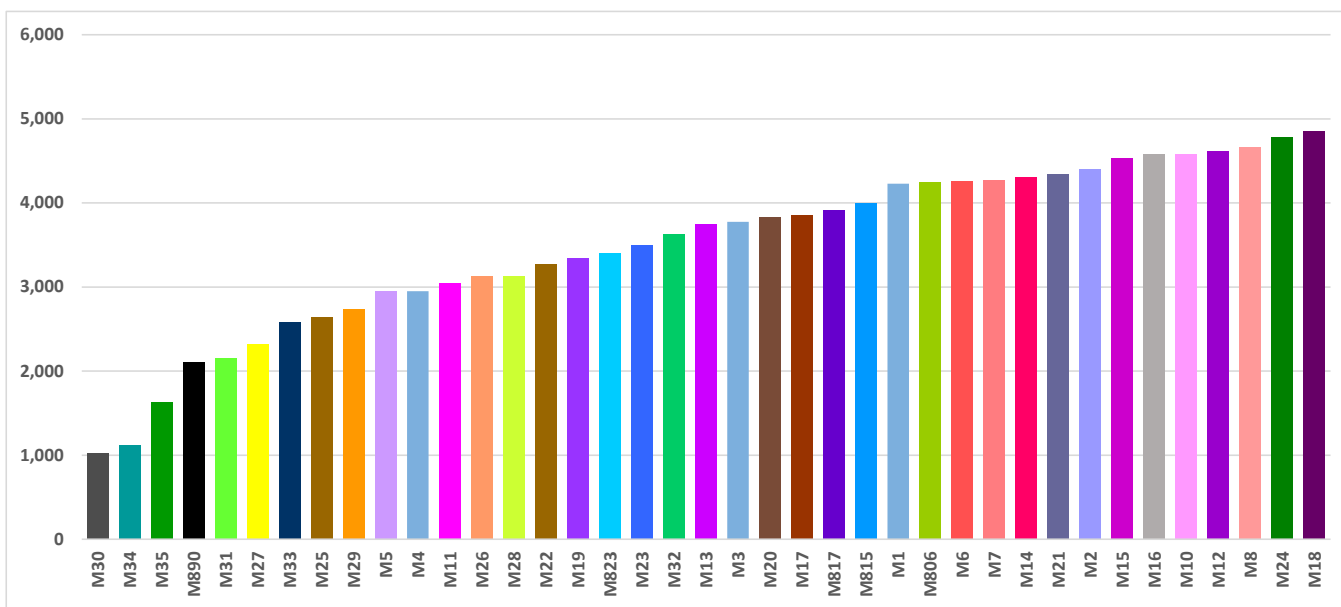


39 Medic Companies 126,693 Total Medic Responses

The medic crews of Station 18 serving the South Linden neighborhood took top honors this year with 5,223 total runs in 2022. The Division's 39 medic units and seven EMS supervisors were dispatched on 136,039 runs in 2022, which represents an eight percent decrease in city-wide medic responses compared to 2021.

Photo Below: Columbus firefighters were called to the city's Dublin Road Water Plant on Sept. 20, 2022 after a worker was injured from a fall while working in a 20 foot deep treatment well. The worker was lucid and calling for help from the bottom of a concrete chamber when firefighters from Grandview Heights and Columbus arrived. Responding officers called on the Division's Technical Rescue Teams housed at Fire Stations 17 on the Hilltop and Station 3 on Greenlawn Ave., two of five dedicated heavy rescue vehicles stationed strategically around the city.

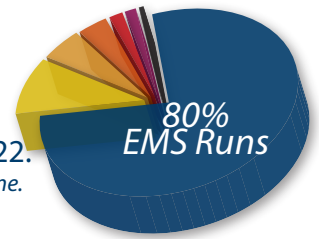
Division medics found the person injured but stable in the chamber, where air quality was tested and found to be safe. Arriving rescue technicians erected a high point directional rescue tripod over the hatch of the chamber while technicians secured the injured worker in a basket stretcher in the chamber below. Once secured, the technicians were able to use a ropes and pulley system to lift the patient from the floor below and maneuver him vertically through an upper access hatch. The patient was then transferred to an ambulance stretcher and waiting medic unit to be transported to the Ohio State University Medical Center, where he was listed in stable condition. Below, Columbus Fire paramedic Patrick Titus, with the help of a Grandview Heights firefighter, assists the victim into a medic for transport.



126,693 EMS & Rescue Responses

EMS responses represent 80% of all 911 Calls for service for Columbus Fire in 2022.

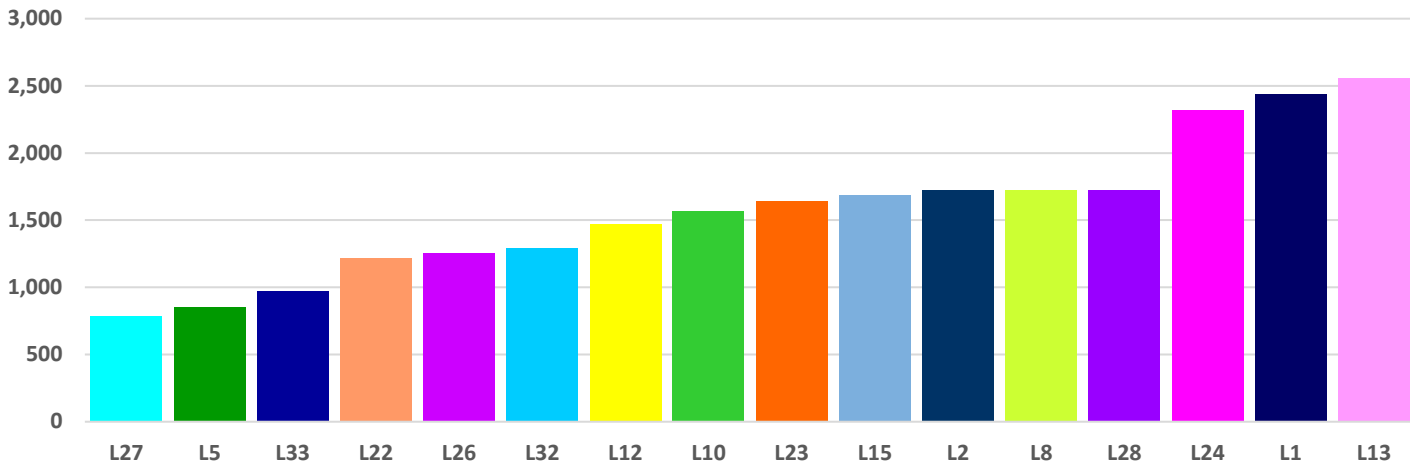
**EMS responses may exceed number of calls for service when multiple Medics respond to a single emergency scene.*



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
M1	310	311	367	346	360	396	374	385	356	364	319	342	4,230
M2	345	364	385	348	391	350	381	384	360	375	342	375	4,400
M3	320	274	352	319	321	297	352	308	285	294	311	344	3,777
M4	235	228	259	232	273	223	246	270	276	240	247	223	2,952
M5	237	210	265	260	256	241	237	240	234	256	260	254	2,950
M6	365	341	369	357	375	311	378	368	347	360	325	362	4,258
M7	310	331	320	386	386	349	365	405	388	390	331	304	4,265
M8	383	348	386	403	382	367	395	405	467	384	360	387	4,667
M10	371	346	394	370	442	397	399	380	392	330	382	381	4,584
M11	254	226	249	257	254	254	246	268	255	277	244	257	3,041
M12	382	334	364	382	350	387	419	420	406	395	373	397	4,609
M13	309	317	318	286	331	314	323	339	334	315	291	271	3,748
M14	330	342	353	387	426	371	419	337	334	336	319	357	4,311
M15	309	311	363	349	369	353	397	518	477	437	324	329	4,536
M16	384	364	405	374	430	397	364	392	383	377	349	361	4,580
M17	295	274	337	316	323	372	356	342	305	320	293	324	3,857
M18	417	427	423	422	466	417	440	438	446	345	296	321	4,858
M19	280	258	267	259	304	279	262	291	296	292	278	274	3,340
M20	315	292	330	318	366	304	343	333	326	313	280	308	3,828
M21	369	332	383	350	382	353	358	360	385	379	339	347	4,337
M22	231	264	265	287	302	290	321	253	278	252	245	287	3,275
M23	263	255	297	311	312	290	294	320	271	298	293	292	3,496
M24	396	376	415	385	435	405	409	403	396	399	383	377	4,779
M25	218	210	230	197	195	221	212	271	235	221	206	222	2,638
M26	252	216	257	258	304	246	279	260	248	267	257	280	3,124
M27	194	156	184	180	192	195	183	198	187	230	191	229	2,319
M28	247	265	250	247	290	255	273	266	265	236	251	281	3,126
M29	238	222	243	204	253	219	226	227	220	228	233	223	2,736
M30	83	80	71	80	86	79	75	99	91	99	99	83	1,025
M31	199	173	187	185	179	189	168	191	174	166	157	187	2,155
M32	290	275	313	306	310	279	292	298	312	296	332	321	3,624
M33	220	190	211	209	232	211	221	218	215	217	221	212	2,577
M34	99	95	106	93	101	107	96	91	79	92	66	95	1,120
M35	132	119	151	140	132	133	143	119	134	141	128	164	1,636
M806	357	341	388	333	368	329	371	386	335	354	324	363	4,249
M815	314	311	355	351	369	340	371	318	296	326	315	329	3,995
M817	320	290	332	322	330	366	358	339	313	334	292	324	3,920
M823	249	258	276	298	314	282	277	315	283	287	282	287	3,408
M890	178	156	188	153	194	197	179	187	187	171	147	167	2,104
Total	10,333	9,830	10,898	10,516	11,274	10,629	10,993	11,103	10,794	10,609	9,999	9,715	126,693

16 Ladder Companies

22,090 Total Ladder Runs



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
L1	201	193	180	185	182	195	181	244	211	250	230	186	2,438
L2	122	152	144	139	143	141	150	150	141	175	149	119	1,725
L5	69	59	72	86	66	75	77	64	79	71	67	64	849
L8	116	123	133	147	149	140	177	153	151	146	150	140	1,725
L10	124	114	144	123	122	134	125	134	138	134	152	121	1,565
L12	128	104	109	136	120	120	131	104	139	135	133	114	1,473
L13	229	196	225	170	156	169	182	254	258	288	239	192	2,558
L15	130	135	148	134	140	133	132	170	130	141	163	125	1,681
L22	87	85	103	113	117	101	101	108	97	113	104	85	1,214
L23	148	132	110	111	165	133	146	136	134	138	167	118	1,638
L24	192	177	170	165	214	195	206	199	207	197	217	176	2,315
L26	126	89	101	108	112	92	124	109	82	113	106	93	1,255
L27	75	54	52	51	52	53	61	76	80	86	70	77	787
L28	151	129	139	159	162	123	161	139	153	166	131	112	1,725
L32	93	80	136	119	111	100	97	116	118	109	106	109	1,294
L33	71	64	77	79	75	84	107	85	94	83	79	73	971
Total	1,815	1,660	1,785	1,736	1,807	1,739	1,914	1,993	1,963	2,074	1,935	1,669	22,090



5 Heavy Rescues, 7 Battalion Chiefs & 7 EMS Officer Units

Heavy Rescue Units

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
R3	131	144	145	167	124	175	177	149	154	190	146	135	1,837
R4	139	117	139	137	154	130	142	138	138	127	168	121	1,650
R11	104	57	85	75	84	84	79	83	86	89	77	86	989
R16	169	171	191	175	202	185	195	158	197	222	197	171	2,233
R17	132	125	148	150	165	158	157	163	150	137	159	116	1,760
Total	636	583	660	672	696	691	705	664	694	734	707	606	8,048

Battalion Chiefs

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
B1	129	111	134	136	116	147	127	112	122	152	161	115	1,562
B2	83	99	91	104	106	100	93	89	103	100	98	88	1,154
B3	111	109	93	105	93	92	108	101	118	115	102	105	1,252
B4	64	76	73	93	79	75	83	77	84	71	93	84	952
B5	97	74	100	99	109	99	99	98	100	98	109	69	1,151
B6	132	109	124	135	124	107	135	124	113	126	141	112	1,482
B7	64	52	62	58	60	70	56	51	57	59	62	65	716
Total	515	484	520	552	525	518	543	511	527	550	597	485	6,297

EMS Officers

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
EMS10	57	63	67	62	76	50	72	69	70	73	62	67	788
EMS11	169	155	172	170	177	175	209	20	192	197	161	179	2,156
EMS12	189	187	170	202	173	208	224	223	203	181	192	177	2,329
EMS13	195	211	228	230	227	216	263	229	241	247	194	189	2,670
EMS14	234	228	222	237	257	244	247	196	204	198	232	194	2,693
EMS15	187	174	198	199	219	229	219	209	190	191	194	192	2,401
EMS16	126	113	129	129	141	142	109	140	134	119	143	113	1,538
EMS17	91	78	83	78	100	76	94	93	76	87	99	87	1,042
Total	1,191	1,154	1,196	1,252	1,308	1,283	1,349	1,287	1,245	1,213	1,209	1,138	14,825

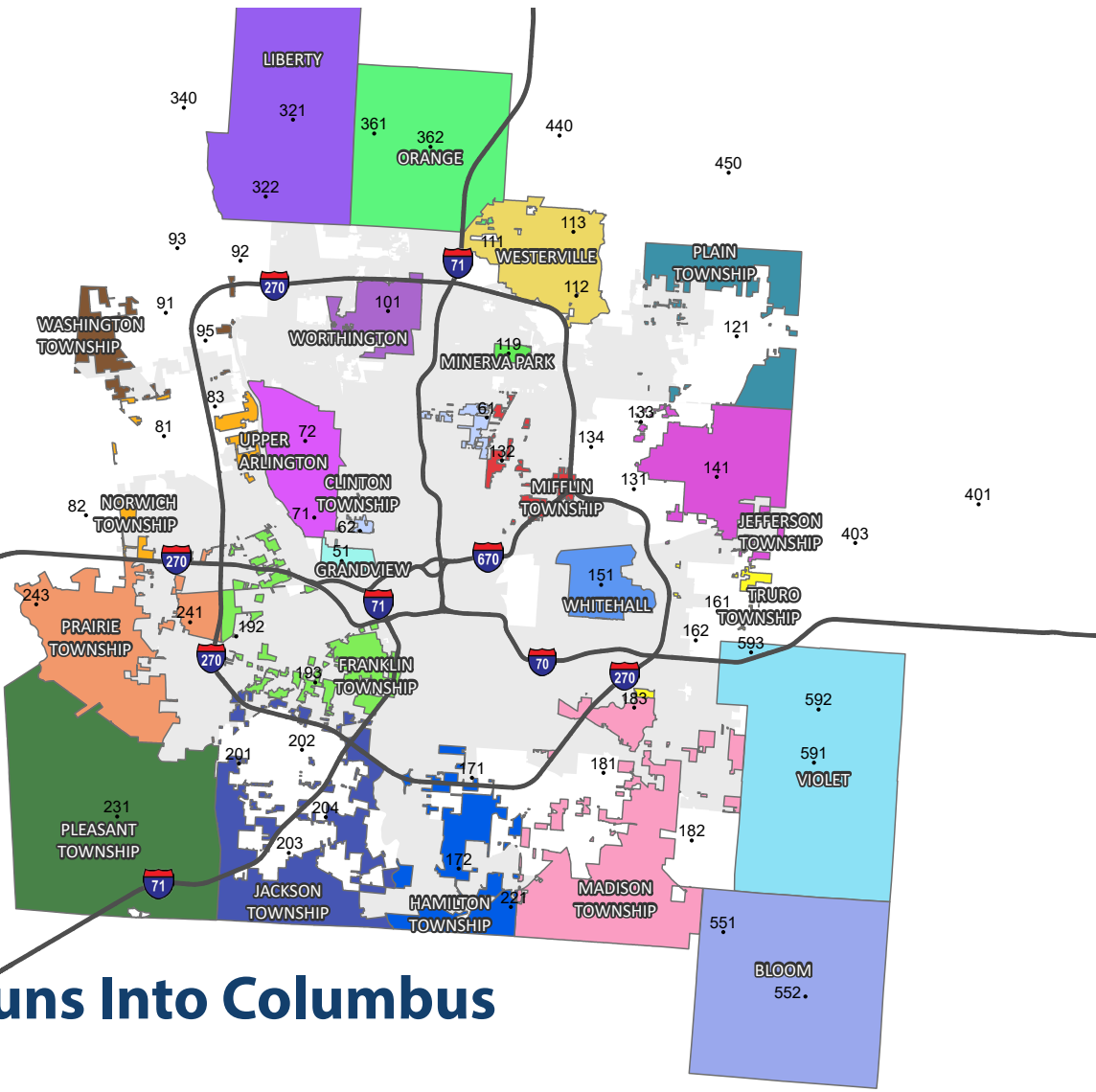


Rescue Boats

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
BO3	0	1	2	1	0	1	3	1	2	0	4	0	15
BO4	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	2	2	0	4	0	11
BO5	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	7
BO10	1	1	1	0	2	3	2	3	0	0	0	0	13
BO11	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	6
BO14	0	2	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	9
BO19	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	7
BO22	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	3	0	11
BO25	1	1	2	0	4	3	5	3	2	0	3	0	24
BO26	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5
BO27	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
BO29	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
BO30	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
BO32	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	6
Total	5	9	10	5	17	14	18	12	13	0	20	0	123

Bomb Squad, Dive Team, Hazmat & Command Center

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
BS2	1	1	7	4	5	4	6	5	4	10	9	6	62
CMD1	0	0	0	2	5	1	3	2	0	0	1	0	14
DART2	2	2	2	1	5	4	4	3	4	0	6	0	33
DECON4	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	3	0	9
FK95	13	8	12	8	18	14	10	16	24	19	16	14	172
FK96	7	6	11	9	16	13	11	11	11	14	14	9	132
FK97	2	2	2	7	8	11	9	4	10	1	0	3	59
ISU19	23	20	30	34	28	28	26	20	19	20	32	30	310
ES1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
ES2	5	5	4	9	8	8	8	4	8	8	9	2	78
HZ4	1	2	4	6	4	5	4	3	5	9	4	0	47
RSU16	4	1	1	5	3	3	2	0	2	2	2	0	25
RSU3	1	1	3	2	2	3	4	1	3	1	0	3	24
MSU1	28	24	21	18	14	20	17	18	19	17	22	20	238
Total	87	72	97	109	116	115	104	88	99	103	118	87	1,195



Township Runs Into Columbus

36,055

<p>BLOOM TOTALS : 2</p>	<p>JEFFERSON TOTALS : 200</p>	<p>PRAIRIE TOTALS : 1,611</p>	<p>WESTERVILLE TOTALS : 1,245</p>
<p>CLINTON TOTALS : 4,540</p>	<p>MADISON TOTALS : 5,808</p>	<p>RICKENBACKER TOTALS : 71</p>	<p>WHITEHALL TOTALS : 674</p>
<p>FRANKLIN TOTALS : 8,723</p>	<p>MIFFLIN TOTALS : 3,178</p>	<p>TRURO TOTALS : 1,919</p>	<p>WORTHINGTON TOTALS : 1,388</p>
<p>GRANDVIEW HTS TOTALS : 1,706</p>	<p>NORWICH TOTALS : 1,006</p>	<p>UPPER ARLINGTON TOTALS : 1,006</p>	
<p>HAMILTON TOTALS : 2,841</p>	<p>PLAIN TOTALS : 2</p>	<p>VIOLET TOTALS : 245</p>	
<p>JACKSON TOTALS : 245</p>	<p>PLEASANT TOTALS : 961</p>	<p>WASHINGTON TOTALS : 368</p>	



**David Baugh
Assistant Chief**

The best possible outcome of any emergency is the one that was prevented. That is why the mission of the Columbus Division of Fire Prevention Bureau is to prevent emergencies through education and inspection, and to minimize injury, death, and property destruction due to fire, natural disaster, and other emergencies.

This mission is accomplished by dedicated women and men that comprise the fire prevention bureau, who together enforce code through regularly scheduled inspections, pre-plan for special events, promote fire and life safety, and investigate incidents of fire to determine origin and cause. The values of preservation of life and property, personal integrity, professionalism, and respect for others guide the abundant and diverse activities of the fire prevention bureau.

The fire prevention bureau is comprised of the following sections:

- Bureau Inspections Office
- District Inspections Office
- Fire & Explosives Investigations Unit (FEIU)
- High Hazard
- Plans Review
- Public Assembly

Accomplishments

- Began using ESO for short term RMS solutions
- Developed an RFP to select a new record management system(RMS)
- Completed over 45,00+ annual inspections
- Conducted 300+ annual inspections of all buildings on The Ohio State University campus
- Added over 1000 new occupancies into the inventory of occupancies
- Continued restructuring and revision of bureau

Job Descriptions

- Continued assignment of High-Risk occupancies including large public assemblies to Lieutenants guided by the High Rise Officer program.
- Continued bureau-specific training regarding orientation, continuing education, and succession planning including implementation of a new three day "Prevention 101" course for newly assigned inspectors.
- Continued transitioning to a new cashing system that will track all associated fire prevention fees from point of sale through remittance to accounts receivables.
- Collected over \$1,500,000 in permit and inspection fees.
- Issued over 10,000 fire permits.
- Began plan review on the new Airport Terminal at John Glenn International Airport
- Expanded our Civilian Staff
- Added an engineer to the Plan Review section to add technical expertise.

Bureau Inspections Office

Bureau inspections is led by a captain and is staffed by five lieutenants, twenty fire inspectors and six office support staff. The section includes offices for public assembly inspections, education/institutional inspections, high hazards inspections and plans review and witness testing. This office inspects high hazard occupancies, underground tank installations and repairs, construction projects, hotels, schools, hospitals and institutions. Bureau inspectors inspected over 5,400 occupancies.

Training classes regarding the High-Rise Fire Safety Director course were held in 202, a comprehensive 24-hour curriculum that focuses on emergency action plans, fire code requirement, record keeping, and fire command center operations. This initiative was further expanded to include key high-risk properties in the city that pose a significant life risk to both citizens and first responders.

District Inspections Office

The District Inspections office continues to thoroughly manage compliance, and oversee escalation of Ohio Fire Code inspections that encompass all areas within the corporate city limits and all city property located outside the city limits. Systematic inspections, as assigned by the FPB, are conducted by district inspectors in all business, commercial, industrial and institutional buildings at least once each year. When violations are identified by the district inspectors, violators are generally given 30 days to correct the issue. The violation is cited on an Inspection Report to define the location and type of infraction. If unresolved after 60 days an Order for Correction form is provided to the City of Columbus Attorney's Office.

Focusing on training new and existing staff in essential office skills, including onboarding and offboarding procedures, to improve efficiency and productivity. Training sessions are to be conducted to ensure all team members are well-equipped to fulfill their roles effectively.

The office continues to be industrious and conscientious. We persevere to stay on track to meet our goals. Focus on addressing the identified issues and refining our strategies will be essential to maintain this momentum to keep communities safe.

High Hazard

The High Hazard section conducts inspections of airports, hotels/motels, distilleries, marijuana facilities, Group H (high hazard) occupancies, and ignitable liquid tank installations. The High Hazard inspectors are Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR) trained and certified to inspect the installation and repair of underground tanks. The inspectors regularly assist the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), BUSTR Corrective Action, and other City and State agencies in mitigating contamination involving ignitable liquid storage tank releases.

The High Hazard inspectors also participate in Hotel/Motel and Environmental Nuisance Abatement Groups (NAG), which are multi-agency efforts to obtain code compliance

Code Compliance

Code Compliance is comprised of 1 Lieutenant, 2 FFs as well as Prevention 18. This section handles prevention-related complaints from businesses, civilians, ES companies, 311 complaints, impaired suppression and alarm systems. The Code Compliance Lieutenant oversees the PACE team, which combs the campus area during OSU Football games and other active holidays.



Plans Review

This section reviews site plans submitted by architects, contractors, and private consultants to mandate compliance with the fire code. In 2023, we reviewed nearly 2,100 of these plans. This important function ensures the safety of our residents going forward. We coordinate these functions with the members of the City of Columbus Department of Building and Zoning Services.



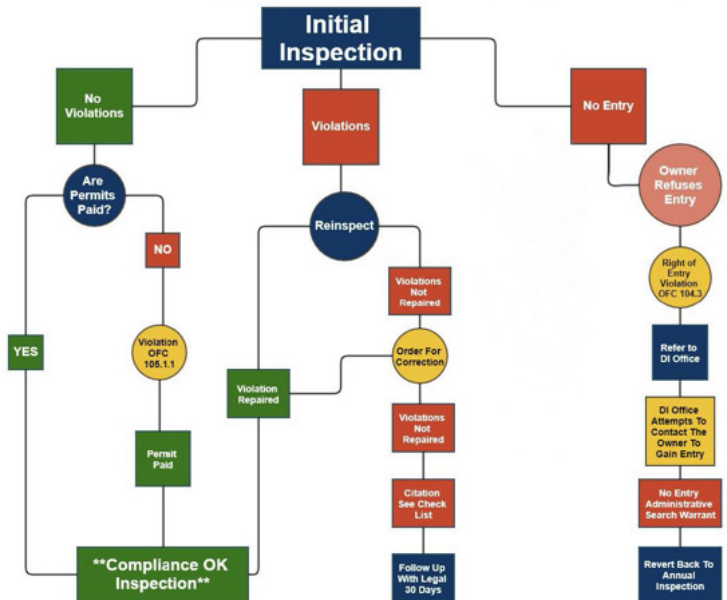
The plans review section also manages the commercial Knox Box program which are close to boxes, padlocks, and gate switches in the City of Columbus, and 334 were purchased this year alone. This Rapid Key Entry System allows fast access without undue property damage. Med vaults are also handled by plans review and these units facilitate drug accountability with audit functions and added security.

The hydrostatic testing of underground fire line systems is scheduled and inspected through this office and several inspectors in fire prevention handle these inspections. This section has processed 261 hydrostatic tests with 73 fire pumps, 17 ERRS reviews/ inspections, and over 1000 fire and sprinkler alarm plans in 2023. We expect continued growth in all phases moving forward and look forward to these challenges.

Public Assembly

The Public Assembly Section oversees the permitting aspects associated with large-scale gatherings and their unique safety concerns. Indoor/outdoor events, mobile food vending, and pyrotechnic displays are all potentially hazardous and require additional safeguards and oversight. Events include Red, White and Boom, Jazz & Rib fest, OSU football games, concerts, soccer games, The Arnold Expo, expo center events, events at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, and many others.

Pathway To Code Compliance



Fire & Explosive Investigations Unit

In 2023, the Columbus Division of Fire responded to 2993 fires. Of those fires, our nine (9) Fire Investigators were called to conduct 1,169 fire investigations. This represents an investigation being conducted on 39.0% of the fires where Columbus Fire Companies responded. Of those 1,169 investigations, 375 or 32% were found to be incendiary in nature, 607 or 52% were determined to be accidental, and 132 or 11% remain undetermined* at this point. The remaining 5% fell into "Good Intent" or other categories.

There were 6 bomb investigations and 3 Hazmat incidents investigated. There were 564 total reported vehicle fires in the city, with investigations being conducted on 343 or 61% of those fires. Of the vehicle investigations, 103 or 30% were determined to be incendiary. As a result of our investigations there were 154 charges filed from 145 fires: 49 for Aggravated Arson, 47 Arson, 11 Open Burning, 28 Attempted Aggravated Arson, 4 Attempted Arson, 2 for Aggravated Burglary, 5 Criminal Damaging or Endangering, 1 Endangering Children, 1 Misconduct at an Emergency, and 6 Aggravated Menacing. There were 81 juveniles involved in 29 fires referred to our Youth Fire Prevention & Intervention (YFP&I) program. 17 of the juveniles that we referred were in Lieu of filing felony charges out of 9 Arson fires. There were 10 referrals to our YFP&I program by the court, 5 by family members, and 1 was referred by the schools. 6 Arson fires were solved by exceptional means and charges are still pending in 3 fires. There were 10 fire related fatalities in Columbus in 2023, all 10 were adults, there were no multiple fatality fires. We also tracked 74 injuries from fires that include 1 firefighter and 73 civilians.

These numbers equate to a solve rate of 42.6% for incendiary fires in Columbus in 2023, exceeding the national average of 24.7% (Statista, 2022) for professional fire investigative agencies.



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Fire Runs	2,396	2,564	2,807	2,855	2,918
Investigator Call-Outs	918 (38%)	948	1,162	1,127	1,187
Incendiary	332 (36%)	348 (38%)	459	386 (34%)	360 (30%)
Accidental	374 (41%)	430	505	526 (47%)	623 (53%)
Undetermined*	135 (15%)	118	131 (11%)	153 (14%)	143 (12%)
Bomb investigations	19	18	19	8	7
Haz-mat Investigations	16	11	7	1	2
Vehicle Fires in Columbus	474	424	507	504	472
Vehicle Fire Investigations	240 (56%)	231	317 (63%)	308 (61%)	292 (62%)
Vehicle incendiary	101 (42%)	113	144 (45%)	125 (41%)	102 (35%)
Fires Resulting in Charges**	56	88	111	96	94
Number of Charges Filed	67	95	146	97	102
Youth Firesetter Prevention & Intervention Referrals	38 from 29 fires	18	7 from 20 fires	37 from 27 fires	40 from 29 fires
Incendiary Fire Solve Rate	25.6%	32.0%	31.4%	24.9%	28.8%
Fire Fatalities	7 Adults 0 Children	5 Adults 0 Children	9 Adults 1 Child	11 Adults 2 Children	13 Adults & 5 Children

*Undetermined includes fires with known causes but lacking sufficient evidence to prove it to the degree of certainty required by NFPA 921 to classify it differently, and includes fires still under investigation. ** These numbers need to be tempered with the fact that many of the JFSP referrals were made in lieu of filing felony charges against juvenile offenders.

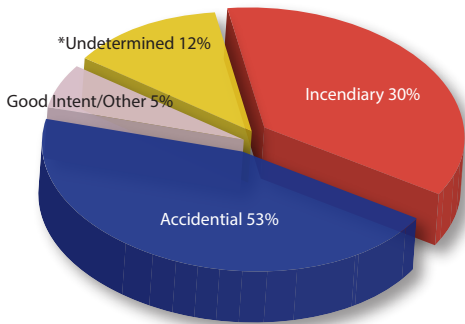


Photo below: Columbus Fire Investigators inspect a scene after a fire ripped through a multi-unit apartment complex on Kimberly Parkway in May of 2022. FEIU Investigators were summoned to 1,187 fire scenes during 2022, resulting in 102 felony charges. James Miller/Division of Fire



FEIU
9 Investigators

1,187
Fire Investigations

360
Fires Deliberately Set

102
Charges Filed

40
Child Referrals to YFP&I

TRAINING BUREAU

133 New Fire Recruits Enrolled in Classes 117, 118 & 119 in 2023.



Christopher Blair
Assistant Chief

Training serves to develop and maintain the muscle memory that each of us rely on when duty calls. The call to action must be flawless throughout ones career and constant training serves as a vital function of the division by equipping personnel with the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform. The training bureau will constantly focus on all characteristics of this noble profession.

The Training bureau provides initial EMS and Fire certification and proceeds throughout an individual's career, maintaining certifications and providing targeted professional development. The bureau is also responsible for ensuring and evaluating the effectiveness of EMS care delivery and contributing to the development of innovative care practices through research. Firefighting and EMS are constantly evolving and continue to present unforeseen challenges, the training bureau continues to stay on the forefront and provide for all division employees.

Recruit Training

The recruit training academy consists of approximately 32 weeks of intense training. The academy is broken into 4 Sections: EMS, Firefighter II, Division Operations, and Physical Training. The Firefighter II course is a basic fire training program of not less than two-hundred and fifty hours, with an additional 64 hours for Driving & Tilling, Haz-Mat Awareness and Operations level course, and 16 Life Safety Initiatives. The Division Operations course is based on periodic evaluations covering material



**THE DIVISION OF FIRE TRAINING BUREAU HAS PROVIDED OVER
21,000 HOURS OF EMS CONTINUOUS EDUCATION TRAINING
51 RECRUITS ATTAINED 100% FIRST-TIME PASS RATE ON NREMT EXAMS**

from the Columbus Division of Fire systems manual, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's), Division Operations subjects (Engine, Ladder, High-Rise, and Saving Our Own), and Battalion Familiarization. After completion of these sections, a recruit will be certified as a State of Ohio: NREMT-Basic and Firefighter II. Passing all four sections is required for graduation.

The Training Academy also coordinates with Columbus Fire in-service training, journeyman training, cadet program, arson bureau, and RREACT to use the grounds, buildings, and/or vehicles. In addition, the training academy has partnered with outside agencies including the Columbus Division of Police, Columbus Police SWAT teams, Central Ohio Strike Team, The Ohio Fire Academy, Franklin County SWAT team, Columbus State Community College, Civil Service Commission, Columbus Recreation and Parks, and Firehouse Expo to utilize various classrooms, buildings, and/or vehicles.

Major Initiatives:

2023 saw an unprecedented amount of recruits at the academy. For the first time, the academy was tasked with housing three different classes at the same time, supporting recruits. The academy continues to use the FTE (Field Training Evaluator) program to ensure the recruits with certifications get all CFD certified check offs prior to graduation.

To support the large volume of recruits, portable showers and additional lockers had to be brought in, and more fire gear lockers had to be fabricated. To make all of this happen, there was extensive coordination between the fire academy, EMS, emergency services, instructors, and fire administration. In addition to recruit training, the fire academy, with the help of support services, the administration bureau, and the City of Columbus Department of Finance and Management, continues to manage various projects on the grounds, including props, facilities and general ground maintenance.

Major Accomplishments:

- Class 117 – 51 Recruits
- Class 118 – 40 Recruits
- Class 119 – 42 Recruits

Firehouse Expo – Columbus Fire Training Academy, working with central Ohio regional partners hosted hands on training sessions at the training academy.

Projects:

- Rebuilding of the flash over simulator and fabrication of the Fire box for Saving Our Own training
- Replacing of the sprinkler pipes in the tower for Hands on Training
- Replacement of the high rise valves and purchase of a new simulator for training
- Updating technology with iPads, smartboards, and E-learning

Community Days:

All Columbus Fire recruits are required to perform community day projects while at the academy to reinforce the division's commitment to the neighborhoods we serve.

Events:

- National Fallen Firefighters Foundation: Recruits participated in the 9/11 memorial stair climb held at Huntington Park.
- Running of the Firefighter mile which is a CME sponsored event for each graduating class

In-Service Training (IST)

The Office of In-Service Training (IST) is tasked with providing professional development and career long training opportunities to the over 1,700 members which comprise the Columbus Division of Fire.

The Office of In-Service Training bears the responsibility for all fire, rescue, hazmat and leadership training initiatives which occurs internally within the organization after the successful completion of recruit training.

In 2023, we provided 24 Lieutenants with Fire Officer I training, 20 Captains with Fire Officer II training, and 20 Captains with ISO (Incident Safety Officer)

In Service Training 2023

Topic	Sum of Duration (hours)
ARFF	229
Driver Training, NFPA 1002	142
Fire Company Level Training	4,299
Hazardous Materials	869
In-Service Training	1456

Instructor Methodologies	469
Fire Safety Inspector Training	6,433
<u>Rescue Training</u>	<u>4,054</u>

Grand Total

****These hours only account for hours delivered by or approved by in-service training. They do not account for all of EMS, Driver/operator, JATC, Officer, etc. **Which is a Grand Total of 180,727 hours of training***

Additionally in 2023, IST served as the lead and helped to organize and facilitate the following:

- First ever Columbus Division of Fire & Ohio State University Foundational Leadership Certificate Program
- Central Ohio Transit Authority – CNG & EV First Responder Awareness training
- Energy Security Agency – lithium ion training for fixed, portable and electric vehicles
- First ever Rescue Technician Bridge Course
- Fire Instructor Certification Course
- Recertification of tunnel rescue technicians through the National Tunnel Institute in preparation for the Lower Olentangy Tunnel Project
- Ice Training
- Monthly rescue training
- Countless small-scale fire training events

2023 looks to be another exciting year for IST as its staff looks to build upon many of the same initiatives currently in place while introducing a few new programs as well. Monthly rescue training will continue to grow and involve as we look to capture new topics and disciplines such as: Elevator/escalator rescue, torch operations, auto/heavy vehicle rescue, trench rescue and more. Additionally, the in-service office will be offering another Fire Officer 1 class for those newly promoted or soon to be promoted to the rank of lieutenant and will run its first ever Fire Officer 2 class for those making the next step from lieutenant to captain.

In terms of leadership development, after overwhelming success with the first cohort in the Ohio State University Foundational Leadership Certificate program, IST looks forward to offering it again in 2023. It is our hope this becomes a mainstay within Columbus Fire for years to come. Another large fire training initiative is also in the works which will mimic the level, veracity, and scale of training which was seen at 222 West Lane.

Thanks for allowing IST to work for you and if you have ideas for other training initiatives or want to get involved do not hesitate to contact us!

Apprenticeship Program

The Office of Apprenticeship Training (JATC) is responsible for building on the foundation laid during recruit training by continuing education, professional development and hands-on training with our apprentice firefighters. This task is accomplished over the course of three years (the first nine months as a recruit firefighter) with a three pronged approach to ensure a valuable learning experience. First is the reading of Columbus Division of Fire manual focused on the five major fire ground disciplines of engine operations, truck company operations, high rise, saving our own and out of class. Written testing ensures understanding and checks acquired knowledge. Finally, through advanced hands-on training taught by subject matter experts, the apprentice reinforces the learning that has occurred through manual.

In 2023, the apprenticeship program continues to provide graduates of the program with the State of Ohio Journeyman certificate. This celebrates them officially meeting the requirements to qualify as "Journeyman" Firefighters. We continue to memorize this accomplishment and take great pride that our office was given the responsibility of preparing these firefighters for the next steps in their careers.

The training bureau had multiple 2023 highlights from apprenticeship training office. This year has been a busy but very productive year in molding the JATC program into what will be the benchmark for other fire journeyman programs in the years to come.

The JATC office has also completed revisions and updates to the high-rise manual, Ladder, and engine operations. The high rise manual has been updated to reflect changes in equipment and deployment packages. In addition to the high rise manual, the engine operations manual has been improved to include a section on freeway responses. The focus is on vehicle placement and crew safety. The amount of knowledge, skills and instruction in the JATC books is a testament to our professionalism. All five of the Columbus Division of Fire manuals, including recent revisions, can be located on Vector Solutions, or each fire station has a hard copy

The JATC staff added another scenario to our final hands-on test. This scenario focused on an offensive to defensive fire. This scenario was added to assess our apprentice firefighter's knowledge in the area of pump operations, residual pressure, fire ground communications and an overall understanding of defensive operations.

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As we look forward to 2023, the JATC office will continue to focus on the education and training needs of our apprentice firefighters. We will continue to provide hands-on training, enhanced job aids and training plans. The staff will be adding



Emergency Medical Services Education

The division's EMS education department is staffed by five full-time civilians and five part-time civilians.

EMS education provides EMS training to a variety of groups to include: uncertified recruits, certified recruits, cadets, and paramedic students. Additionally, EMS education manages and delivers an annual continuing education (CE) program to the division's approximately 1,700 members. Each educational program utilizes a combination of uniformed and civilian instructors to provide training.

.Continuing Education

Approximately 57,912 hours of EMS continuing education were delivered through the division. In total, our members completed 55,517 hours of EMS continuing education from a combination of internal and external EMS classes. Lastly, in 2023, EMS training continued the mobile in station CE that reaches all three units and all 35 stations.

Fire Recruit

Two uncertified recruit classes, a total of 47 recruits, completed the EMT class and had a 100% pass rate on the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) examination. Two certified recruit classes, a total of 53 recruits, completed Columbus Fire EMS in-service training – a 12-week course to orient already certified EMT or paramedic recruits to the division's EMS system and protocol. A cadet class of 17 completed the EMT class and all received their NREMT certification.

Paramedic Training

In September of 2023, 25 future Paramedics started out on their nine-month journey to be certified Paramedics. They have had three weeks of A&P, and then they are put on a unit day with class during the day and clinicals/ride time during the evening. They graduate May 2024.



five new scenarios to the final-hands on testing and test two more classes in May 2023 and October 2023.

In conclusion, as we review the last year, we take a minute to reflect on the success that was achieved through the hard work and dedication of many individuals. We celebrate the accomplishment of our newest "journeyman" and the work they, and their crews, put into this achievement. But we now turn our attention to ensuring the success of all of our apprentice firefighters, through training, studying and sharing the

knowledge that we have learned.

We look forward to seeing you on the training grounds weather at the complex, the back ramp or the kitchen table because a good firefighter knows how, an educated firefighter knows why.

Public CPR & First Aid Program

Our CPR program lead by Robert Kelley and Jillian Gates were able to train 1579 people providing over 910 hours of education. They trained 110 Columbus Fire recruits allowing them to receive a Basic Life Support certification. They trained 138 Columbus Division of Police recruits for the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy CPR/first aid certification. In addition, they also trained 47 Heart Saver CPR/AED classes training a total of 293 participants, 31 Heart Saver First Aid classes training a total of 230 participants, 13 hands only events training 316 participants, and 40 Heart Saver CPR & first aid classes training a total of 400 participants.

Continuous Quality Improvement

The Office of Continuous Quality Improvement’s (CQI) mission is to improve patient care and outcome through quality assurance (retrospective review) and quality improvement (future impacts). This office works directly with the medical director, emergency services, EMS training, support services, and GIS. The CQI Office uses evidence-based medicine to improve policies, programs, and protocol. To further advancement in EMS, the CQI Office is involved in research initiatives with universities and hospitals. In addition, the CQI Office is the administrative hub for the division’s emergency medical services. We manage all patient care records and requests including our patient care recording software, ESO. It is our responsibility to train and supervise EMS officers. Finally, we maintain compliance for requirements relating to HIPPA and the pharmacy board.

2023 Review

The medical records section fulfilled more than 8,000 requests for patient care reports. These include requests from patients and their families, hospitals, and public health agencies.

The CQI Office led a robust collection of data for Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The goal of the collection is to identify how much an EMS incident costs and establish reimbursement guidelines.

The CQI Office continued its active participation in research projects. CFD partnered with Nationwide Children’s Hospital for a national study titled Pedi-Dose. Pedi-Dose’s goal is to evaluate a weight-based sedation for seizing children. In addition, CFD is involved with research in cardiac arrest with the Ohio State University.

Building on the expansion of EMS data we continued to refine our process. We have moved from data collection to analysis. Reports and dashboards were created to identify treatment and protocol concerns. These dashboards are used for daily review of our time-critical incidents, as well as controlled substance administrations and monitoring.

We addressed aging equipment by budgeting money to replace our LUCAS devices, a mechanical chest compression device. These devices proved to be work horses logging thousands of hours of CPR, but had reached the end of their service life.

We continued in-station training with scenarios based on actual incidents. The training focused on crew continuity and resource management combined high performance CPR.

Photo right: Columbus Fire Cadets participate in live fire training at the State of Ohio Fire Training Academy. **Photo below:** The Columbus Fire Training Academy is a \$9.7 million dollar complex that includes a natural gas fire burn building, six-story training tower, practical skills building and various additional training props. These facilities have been utilized extensively for recruit, apprentice, and in-service training evolutions. James Miller/Division of Fire





Fire Cadet Program

2023 was a very busy year for the City of Columbus Fire Cadet Program.

Class 3 had their completion ceremony on August 25, 2023. We celebrated with 14 cadets that made sacrifices and worked extremely hard to get through the two-year program. 11 cadets have become Columbus Firefighters and three are working at Madison and Prairie Township.

Cadet Class 4 started in December 2022. The class of 20 Cadets is comprised of 100% Columbus residents, 55% persons of color, and 45% female. They have completed their EMT-Basic certification and completed the clinical and ride time on medics.

Office of the Medical Director



The year 2023 continued to focus on capability increases for the EMS providers as well as system and oversight Improvements and upgrades. In Early 2023, the position of Battalion Chief for CQI (and EMS) was created and filled. This begins to set leadership of the Office to address the 2020 Matrix Report Recommendation for the Office of the Medical Director and EMS.

The summer of 2023 saw the graduation of 1 EMS Fellow Physician, Dr. Chelsea Kadish. Dr. Kadish has subsequently joined our staff as an Assistant Medical Director. Her back ground in Pediatrics and Pediatric Emergency Medicine is a unique and highly valuable asset for the Division. The Division of Fire now employs a team of Medical Directors to include, Dr. Robert Lowe as our full-time EMS Medical Director as well as Dr. Janine Curcio and Dr. Chelsea Kadish as part-time Assistant Medical Directors. An Additional EMS Fellow, Dr. Hussam “Sam” Salhi started Fellowship in the summer of 2023. EMS Fellows are physicians who have completed their residency training and have opted to pursue sub specialty training in EMS Medicine. The Division of Fire continues to support EMS Fellow physician education via partnerships with OhioHealth and The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center. EMS

Fellows from both institutions are assigned to the CQI office and spend at least 1 day a week acting as both learners and leaders in our system. Functionally, under the guidance of the Medical Directors, they take on Improvement projects, CQI projects and spend time with the EMSOs in the field care of patients. In addition they are afforded opportunities with Special Events and many of the unique operational aspects performed by Columbus Division of Fire.

In addition to routine Medical Protocol updates, 2023 did specifically address updates to our sedation protocols and specifically, the Sedation Assessment Tool (SAT) assigned maximum doses. We also undertook clarification of delegated Medical Direction for such things as Poison Control consults, certain Team Physicians, and receiving Emergency Departments.

On the heels of 2022’s introduction of Rapid Sequence Intubation protocols and medications, in 2023 we were able to obtain initial purchase and deployment of video assisted intubation capability with our adoption of the Glide Scope Go device. Initial data has revealed a significant rise in intubation success rates.

From a Quality Improvement and data tracking aspect, one success we would like to share from 2023 was our improvement in Cardiac arrest survivability. The Division of Fire participates in the CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry for Enhancing Survivability). This allows the Division to benchmark against other organizations participating from the state of Ohio and from across the nation.

Figure 1. Is a summary of the comparisons from our 2023 non traumatic cardiac arrest performance. For the number of patients in our database, this overall survival rate performance represents an additional 35 lives (discharged alive with complete or near complete neurological function) saved in Columbus by our performance above the national average.

2023 CARES Database Survival Rates in non-traumatic Cardiac Arrest

	CFD	Ohio	National
Overall Survival	14.5%	10.4%	10.2%
Bystander witnessed	25.8%	16.3%	15.6%
Unwitnessed	6.5%	4.8%	4.6%
Utstein *	46.1%	32.7%	32.8%
Utstein Bystander *	50.0%	36.9%	36.3%
Bystander CPR rate	26.7%	34.4%	41.2%
Bystander AED rate	8.8%	12.3%	11.7%

Definitions

**Utstein: Witnessed by a bystander and found in shockable rhythm*

**Ustein Bystander: Witnessed by bystander, found in shockable rhythm, and received bystander intervention (CPR and AED)*

Because care for our patients in their time of need actually begins with the 911 phone call, 2023 saw a new effort to evaluate the call taking protocols and systems available nationally and the development of a Request for Proposal project to select the most appropriate capability for our Community and patients. This project will extend into 2024.

In the realm of Research and the advancement of medical and EMS knowledge and sharing of that knowledge 2023 saw multiple presentations by CFD and / or presentations involving CFD by one or more of our research collaborators. Including, national scientific paper presentations and national educational conference presentations including the National Association of EMS Physicians annual meeting, the Fire House Conference, and the Consortium of Major Metropolitan Medical Directors (“Eagles”) conference. Columbus Fire remained actively involved or planning involvement with 3 multi-jurisdictional National Research projects in 2023.



The Metro Fire Chiefs Conference brings together leaders from major city departments (like the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), often called "Metro Chiefs") to network and discuss critical, evolving issues, formulating policy on topics like wildfire-urban interfaces, lithium-ion battery fires, firefighter health, technology (like FirstNet), and data driven strategies, aiming to improve fire and EMS services globally through peer-to-peer learning and collaborative advocacy.

Key Focus Areas:

Emerging Threats: Tackling challenges like large-scale wildfire-initiated urban fires and the dangers of lithium-ion battery fires.

Leadership & Policy: Developing strategies, position papers, and best practices for large fire services, often influencing national standards.

Technology & Data: Using data analytics for better planning, operational efficiency, and supporting initiatives like FirstNet.

Firefighter Health & Safety: Addressing critical issues like cardiovascular health, fatigue, behavioral health, and personal protective equipment (PPE)

Collaboration: Fostering partnerships with other fire service organizations (IAFC, IAFF, NFPA) and international counterparts.



IAFC/NFPA

METROPOLITAN FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

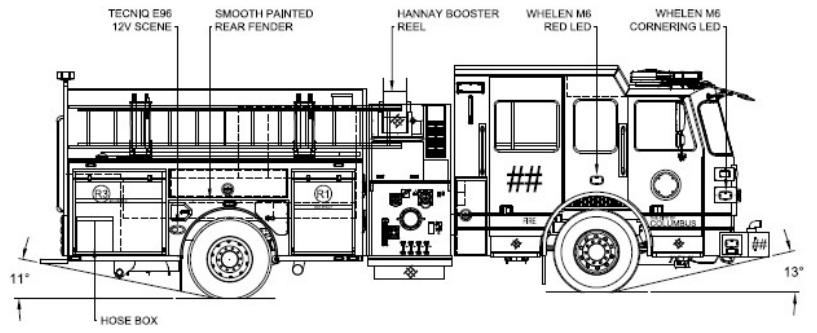
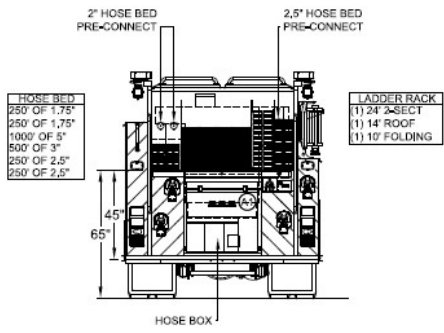
The Metro Fire Chiefs Association brought together Fire Chiefs from all of the world including Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Mexico, the Netherlands, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Metro members belong to both the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the National Fire Protection Association and membership is exclusive to the single highest-ranking uniform officer of jurisdictions with a minimum staffing of 350 fully paid career fire fighters. International membership is an option available to economically disadvantaged cities with populations greater than 750,000 residents.

The Metro Fire Chiefs Association is truly a leader in the international fire service, serving as an educational resource for large-jurisdiction departments, and providing

valuable services to the fire service industry by sharing and promoting best practices for members to follow. Firefighter safety continues to be a primary focus for the Metro Chiefs, as they reach around the globe to promote safe practices. This past year the Metro promoted this firefighter safety message to Latin America and at the 2019 Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Conference they signed a partnership agreement to promote firefighter safety between the two associations. Five Fire Chiefs from Mexico joined the Metro including the President of the Mexico Fire Chiefs Association. The strength of the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association resides within many dedicated members (both active and retired) from the largest Fire Departments in the world who come together to solve the most pressing issues facing the fire service.



APPARATUS SPECIFICATIONS



LEFT SIDE COMPARTMENTS			
COMPT	DOORS	OPENING DIMENSIONS	INSIDE DIMENSIONS
L1	ROLL-UP	30.5" X 55.4"	30.1" X 55" X 27.5"
L2	ROLL-UP	57.5" X 28.2"	57.5" X 28.2" X 12.5"
L3	ROLL-UP	45.5" X 55.4"	45.4" X 55" X 27.5"
P1	LIFT UP	44" X 95"	25" X 15.5" X 30"

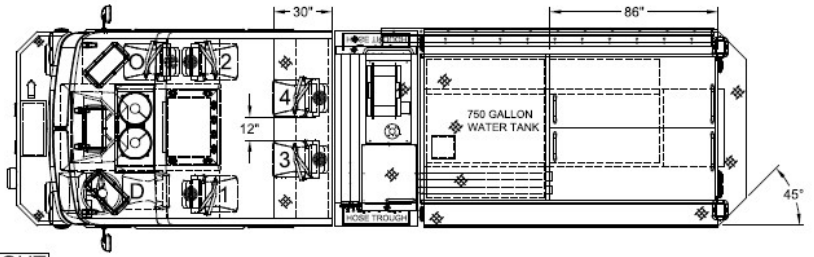
(9" X 12" UPPER)
(26" X 12" UPPER)

RIGHT SIDE COMPARTMENTS			
COMPT	DOORS	OPENING DIMENSIONS	INSIDE DIMENSIONS
R1	ROLL-UP	30.5" X 55.4"	30.1" X 55" X 27.5"
R2	HINGED	57.5" X 18.7"	47.5" X 18.7" X 12.5"
R3	ROLL-UP	50.5" X 36.6"	49.4" X 47.5" X 27.5"

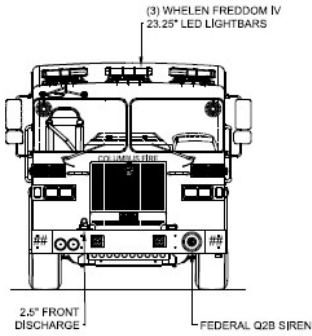
(14.5" X 12" UPPER)

REAR STEP COMPARTMENT			
COMPT	DOORS	OPENING DIMENSIONS	INSIDE DIMENSIONS
A1	ROLL-UP	37.5" X 36.2"	40" X 40" X 28"

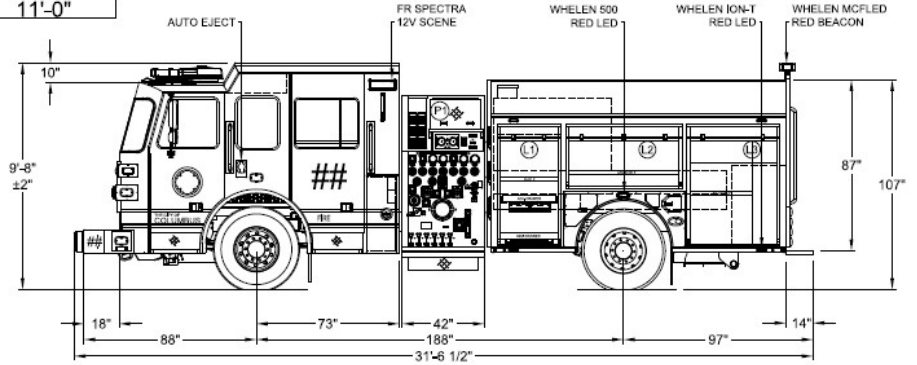
TOTAL: 160.0 CU. FT.



MAX HEIGHT
11'-0"



SINGLE TONE
RED



THE CFD ENGINE

The Columbus Fire Engine is a versatile frontline apparatus designed to meet the diverse operational demands of the department's run districts. It is equipped with a QMAX 1500 GPM fire pump integrated with a Pump Boss Pressure management system, providing precise pump control, enhanced safety, and efficient water delivery during both routine and complex incidents.

The engine carries a full complement of Mercedes Kraken hose lines. All attack lines are paired with Elkhart Nozzles, ensuring reliable flow performance, superior stream quality, and adaptability across a wide range of firefighting operations.

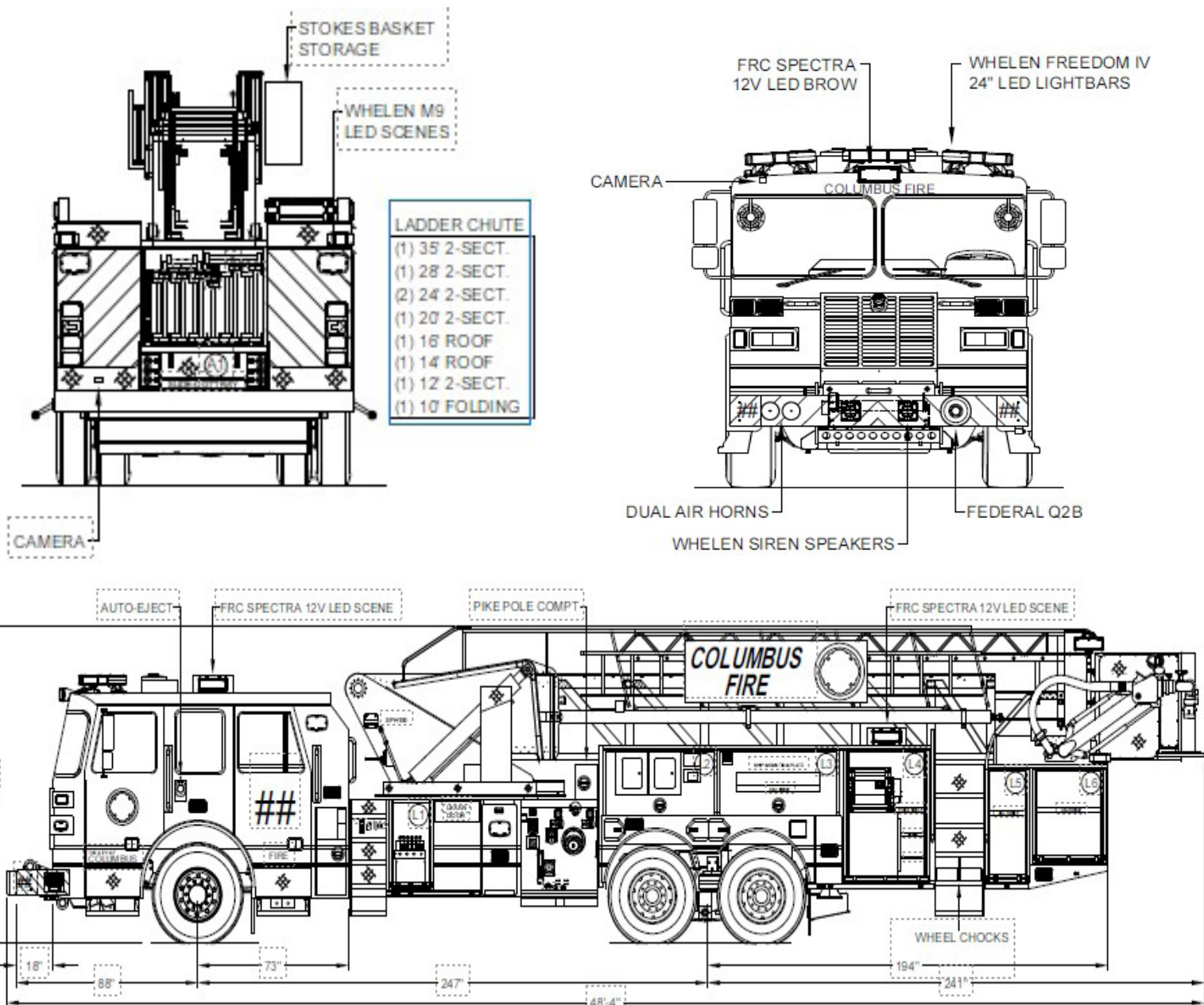
To further enhance operational flexibility, the engine's pump configuration can function as either a single-stage or two-stage pump, depending on specific needs of the response area.

Overall, this engine configuration reflects CFD's commitment to modern apparatus design, firefighter safety, and effective fire suppression across varied response environments.

THE CFD PLATFORM

The Columbus Fire platform is a 100-foot mid-mount ladder designed to maximize rescue and firefighting capabilities. Each apparatus is equipped with a 1,500 GPM pump, with the ability to discharge up to 2,000 GPM when supplied by an adequate external water source. To support this enhanced operational role, the platform ladders are not equipped with onboard water tanks or hose lines, allowing additional space and weight capacity for increased rescue and fire suppression equipment. This configuration ensures the platform ladder is optimized for high-rise operations, large-volume water delivery, and complex rescue scenarios.

The Columbus Fire Ladder Committee is constantly working on improving the Platform and Tiller Ladders to better serve the community.



Letter to My Younger Self



Chris Blair retired after more than three decades of service. He built a reputation for steady leadership, operational expertise, and an unwavering commitment to public service. Blair's legacy is reflected in the people he developed and the standards of professionalism he upheld throughout his career. In this feature of the Firefighters Tribune, Chris Blair pens a letter to his younger self, reflecting on the lessons, sacrifices, and quiet pride earned through a life in the fire service.

New boy,

You don't know yet, but the day you walk into the recruit academy for the first time — nervous, proud, standing a little taller with Columbus Fire on your chest — your life changes forever. You think you're just starting a career, but what you're really beginning is a calling that will test your limits, forge your character, and redefine what words like courage, loyalty, and family truly mean.

You'll quickly learn that firefighting isn't just about fighting fires. It's about people — the ones you protect, and the ones who stand shoulder to shoulder with you when the world feels like it's coming down. Those you meet in the firehouse will become your brothers and sisters, and over the years, you'll share things most people couldn't begin to understand. The laughter, the meals, the late-night talks, and the quiet moments after the tough calls — they'll bond you for life.

For more than half of your career you will serve in Battalion 3 — historically one of the busiest battalions in The Columbus Division of Fire. There will be days when the tones never seem to stop, nights when exhaustion digs deep into your bones, and shifts where every call challenges everything you've got left to give. But you'll keep showing up, not just for the job, but for the people beside you. That battalion will shape you, harden you, and humble you. It will teach you grit, teamwork, and what it means to give your all — not once, but day after day, year after year.



You'll see more than you ever expected — the good, the bad, and the heartbreaking. Some images will stay with you longer than you'd like. The mental and physical toll of this job will be heavier than you can imagine right now. But hear this, kid: you can overcome it. Not alone, but through the strength of your relationships and the support of those who genuinely care about you. Over the years, you'll learn to lean on your crew, your family, and the resources created by those who understand the weight of this work. Asking for help doesn't make you weak — it's one of the bravest things you'll ever do. And it will keep you whole.

Somewhere along the way, you'll feel a calling beyond the alarm bells and the fireground. You'll want to lead. You'll want to make a difference in people's lives the way others did for you. You'll strive to become a Chief Officer — not for the title or the office, but to shape people the right way. To lead with compassion, to build trust, and to serve those who serve others. You'll realize that true leadership is never about authority; it's about humility, empathy, and how you make those around you better.



And one day — after 33 years of service — when the tones no longer sound for you and your gear is set aside for the last time, you'll look back with pride. You'll remember the faces of those you stood beside, the ones who carried you through the toughest moments, and the ones you helped carry in return.

Your legacy won't be written in awards, calls, or statistics. It will be in the lives you touched, the firefighters you helped shape, and the unbreakable bond you built within The Columbus Division of Fire.

So, to you — that young firefighter just starting out — stay humble, stay hungry, and take care of the people around you. But also, take care of yourself. Love this job, but don't let it consume you. Be the kind of firefighter — and the kind of person — others can lean on and never forget that you can lean on them too.

Because when it's all said and done, you'll realize you didn't just wear Columbus Fire on your chest — you lived it. With pride. With honor. With service above self.

With gratitude and brotherhood,

Chris Blair

The Columbus Division of Fire
Service Above Self



2023 RETIREMENTS



Firefighter Glenn Tucker 01/01/23	Lieutenant Stephen Heughebart II 04/11/23	Firefighter Kevyn Duncan 07/18/23
Firefighter Ralph Swartz 01/03/23	Firefighter Arthur J. Lewis Jr. 04/17/23	Firefighter James Amick 08/01/23
Firefighter Dorris Moore 01/06/23	Captain Perry Clark 04/21/23	Firefighter William Burwell 08/03/23
Lieutenant Jeffrey Shaw 01/07/23	Lieutenant David Stewart 04/ 22/23	Firefighter Chad Nicodemus 08/04/23
Firefighter Jeffrey Short 01/08/23	Captain William Griffith 04/25/23	Firefighter James Ferris 08/07/23
Firefighter Richard Farwell 01/15/23	Firefighter Michael Eberts 05/03/23	Firefighter Martin Norris 08/10/23
Lieutenant Robert Cooper II 01/17/23	Firefighter Timothy Weller 05/04/23	Firefighter Richard Lortz 08/12/23
Battalion Chief Richard Richardson 01/20/23	Firefighter Joseph C. Conway 05/12/23	Firefighter William T. Mills 08/19/23
Firefighter Gary Childers 01/31/23	Lieutenant Sean O'Reilly 05/13/23	Firefighter Forrest Goings 08/27/23
Firefighter Michael Calafatis 02/01/23	Firefighter Kimberly Barton 05/29/23 Deceased*	Firefighter Brain A. Wade 09/05/23
Firefighter Dwayne Crum 02/02/23	Firefighter Lester Lash 06/02/23	Firefighter Kenneth Zwayer 08/22/23
Firefighter Bryan Owens 02/03/23 *	Lieutenant Michael Mckeen 06/10/23	Firefighter Sean Kahl 09/24/23
Assistant Chief Stephen Salsman 02/17/23	Firefighter John English 06/14/23	Captain Sean Keiss 10/03/23
Firefighter Anthony Francescon 02/23/23	Firefighter Michael Wanat 06/16/23*	Firefighter Larry Walters 11/04/23
Lieutenant James Detrow 03/01/23	Firefighter Terone Gordon 06/17/23*	Firefighter Carroll Rine Jr. 11/07/23
Firefighter Jeffrey Bowersock 03/04/23	Firefighter Edgar Edwards 06/28/23	Firefighter Scott Parsley 11/11/23
Captain Ballard Armstrong 03/04/23	Firefighter Eric Little 06/30/23	Firefighter John Butchko 11/15/23
Lieutenant Raymond Mason 03/20/23	Firefighter William Herbert 07/06/23	Firefighter James Kranyik Jr. 12/11/23
	Lieutenant Matthew Staker 07/08/23	Firefighter Robert E. Hale 12/14/23*
		Firefighter Ronald Wigle 12/22/23

2023 PROMOTIONS

SECTION TITLE
GOES HERE

2019

Lieutenant Nathan E. Allwein 01/22/23

Lieutenant Daniel A. Mattice 01/22/23

Battalion Chief Paul J. Bender 02/12/23

Captain James M. Cirolì 02/12/23

Lieutenant Douglas D. Tibbs 02/12/23

Captian Bryan J. Sullivan 03/19/23

Lieutenant Lawrence E. Olney 03/19/23

Lieutenant Daniel G. DiCesare 03/19/23

Lieutenant Stephen A. Koslow 04/02/23

Battalion Chief Brandon R. Johnson
04/16/23

Lieutenant Johnathan E. Cannon 04/16/23

Captain Jeffrey D. Cordle 04/23/23

Lieutenant William R. Compton 04/23/23

Captian Elisha R. Holmes 05/14/23

Captain Bryan J. Coffman 05/14/23

Lieutenant Christopher D. Cutright
05/14/23

Lieutenant Ryan D. Birt 05/14/23

Lieutenant Gregory D. Glauner 05/14/23

Lieutenant Mathew G. Thomas 05/14/23

Assistant Chief Michael N. Secrist
05/21/23

Deputy Chief James R. Sancin 06/04/23

Battalion Chief Bryan P. Bishop 06/04/23

Captain Luke A. Ruof 06/04/23

Lieutenant Andrew J. Farrand 06/04/23

Lieutenant Derrick L. Beiler 06/25/23

Lieutenant Daniel L. Blanchard 07/23/23

Captain Ethan M. Heigel 10/08/23

Lieutenant Mark J. French 10/08/23





On November 30, 1957, the ground was broken at Marconi Boulevard and Gay Street, and the Firefighters Memorial became more than just a dream.

Using only private funds, Nothacker and Pishitelli worked tirelessly to coordinate the construction of the Memorial. Nearly all of the labor was donated by firefighters.

The design featured four, 12-foot fluted limestone columns on a 6.5-foot base.

Four matching stone benches were placed around the perimeter of the monument and a bronze tower bell, from a former Columbus fire house, was hung between the columns.

Bronze Maltese crosses were placed at the top of the Memorial. The crosses and the Memorial's plaques were cast from melted fire house bells.

On April 13, 1958, less than five months after the groundbreaking, the Memorial was dedicated by Columbus Mayor M.E. Sensenbrenner. A 30-foot aluminum flag pole on a terrazzo base was added in 1965.

Thirty years later, firefighters undertook a major renovation project at the Memorial site. Under the guiding hand of Captain Jim Ross, the original Memorial was refurbished and the grounds land-scaped.

The funds, materials and labor were provided by members of the Columbus Division of Fire and the Central Ohio community.

A black granite monument was added, to be engraved with the names of all Columbus firefighters who died in the line of duty.

The site was rededicated with the solemn lighting of the new Eternal Flame on October 16, 1988. Today, the Memorial stands as proudly as it did at its dedication over fifty years ago.

Pride is reflected in the Memorial, as firefighters continue to devote time and energy to its upkeep.

Every year, the tower bell is tolled during the memorial service to honor and reflect on the great sacrifices that the men and women of the Columbus Division of Fire made during their service to the community. On November 30, 1957, the ground was broken and

In Memoriam

Honoring our members who have served on The Columbus
Division of Fire. September 9, 2022 to September 1, 2023

Ronald Barnhart

Firefighter
Dates of service: 3/62 to 1/90
Departed: 4/7/2023

Robert Crosby

Firefighter
Dates of service: 1/67 to 6/92
Departed: 2/25/2023

Lewis McCoy

Lieutenant
Dates of service: 11/73 to 6/02
Departed: 9/13/2022

Dwight Stutler

Firefighter
Dates of service: 9/59 to 1/81
Departed: 10/15/2022

Kimberly Barton

Firefighter
Dates of service: 5/98 to 5/23
Departed: 5/29/2023

Gerald Fink

Lieutenant
Dates of service: 8/66 to 4/97
Departed: 7/11/2023

Daniel Parker

Firefighter
Dates of service: 10/71 to 6/98
Departed: 6/18/2023

Henry Warren

Firefighter
Dates of service: 1/77 to 7/11
Departed: 10/13/2022

Michael Calafatis

Firefighter
Dates of service: 9/01 to 2/23
Departed: 2/1/2023

Timothy Gifford

Firefighter
Dates of service: 12/06 to
10/22
Departed: 10/18/2022

Mark Pinkston

Firefighter
Dates of service: 6/93 to 4/19
Departed: 5/7/2023

Gene Wedemeyer

Battalion Chief
Dates of service: 6/53 to 1/83
Departed: 7/25/2023

John Chapin

Lieutenant
Dates of service: 9/58 to 6/84
Departed: 3/6/2023

Leo Hauck

Firefighter
Dates of service: 9/58 to 12/84
Departed: 9/28/2022

Alfred Plesse

Firefighter
Dates of service: 7/65 to 1/90
Departed: 9/2/2023

Paul White

Firefighter
Dates of service: 8/66 to 6/94
Departed: 5/19/2023

Gary Childers

Firefighter
Dates of service: 6/11 to 1/23
Departed: 1/31/2023

Gerald Hoffman

Lieutenant
Dates of service: 9/58 to 2/84
Departed: 1/4/2023

Richard Richardson

Battalion Chief
Dates of service: 7/88 to 1/23
Departed: 1/25/2023

Donald Williams

Firefighter
Dates of service: 8/60 to 7/85
Departed: 1/12/2023

Gary Cox

Firefighter
Dates of service: 3/73 to 3/02
Departed: 9/14/2022

Bryan Humphrey

Firefighter
Dates of service: 4/89 to 4/22
Departed: 7/14/2023

Jack Rowley

Assistant Chief
Dates of service: 9/58 to 1/91
Departed: 9/4/2022

Donald Wilson

Lieutenant
Dates of service: 3/71 to 7/94
Departed: 3/13/2023

Gerald Cox

Lieutenant
Dates of service: 3/71 to 6/97
Departed: 2/9/2023

Larry McCord

Firefighter
Dates of service: 8/60 to 7/87
Departed: 10/1/2022

John Sherman

Battalion Chief
Dates of service: 8/53 to 7/92
Departed: 12/9/2022

