



Newport News Fire Dept.

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



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Chief's Message

Dear: Citizens of Newport News

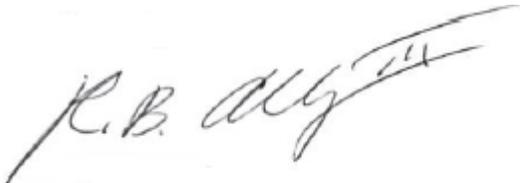
I am honored on behalf of the 379 dedicated men and women of the "Great" Newport News Fire Department to provide you with our 2014 Annual report for your review and information. We the members of the Newport News Fire Department are all honored to serve all citizens and visitors in our "Great" City of Newport News each and every day. We are committed to excellence and we are focused on providing the best care possible to our customers. We fully realize that providing outstanding customer service is why we exist.

The Newport News Fire Department is a full service fire department. We are one of twenty six (26) fire departments in our nation to have an ISO 1 classification and to be also Accredited by the Commission on Fire Service Accreditation International. Our service delivery and daily responsibilities include: Fire, Emergency Medical Services, Hazardous Materials, Marine Incidents, Dive team, Bomb team, Technical Rescue, Fire and Life Safety Education, Fire Inspections, Fire Investigations, Pre-Fire Planning, Construction Plans review, Fire and Emergency Medical Training, Airport Fire /Rescue and Emergency Management. The fire department is made up of six Divisions which include Fire Administration, Fire Suppression, Fire Marshal's Office, Fire Training, Emergency Management and Emergency Medical Services. The fire department has an annual budget of \$30,324,386 and responds to approximately 29,000 calls for service.

Our fire department is focused on training, mentoring and succession planning for the future. We currently have over 100 members who are eligible for retirement. Over the next five years many of these senior members of our "Great" fire department will make the decision about retirement. We have adopted the thought process that succession planning and mentoring of our personnel must be a daily activity. We remain focused on preparing our fire department members to be ready for change and to strive to be great leaders in our department and in the community.

As your Fire Chief, I am dedicated to you and our "Great" City of Newport News. Our members stand united in providing the best customer service possible. We are honored and privileged to serve you. We hope that this report is informative and valued by you.

Sincerely,



R.B. Alley III
Fire Chief



Mission, Vision, Core Values

Mission

To appropriately respond to any situation that may threaten life or property while continually advancing community-wide education, prevention, and preparedness.

Vision

Our Community Confident In Its Safety

Core Values

- *Leadership Culture*
- *Community Stewardship*
- *Universal Opportunity*
- *Individual Accountability*
- *Dedicated Professionalism*
- *Creativity & Innovation*



Department Highlights

RECOGNITION

Medal of valor
Lt. Doug Meier

Employee of the year
FF/Medic Sergio Nardi

Firefighter of the year
Senior FF/Medic Jason Prather

EMS PROVIDER of the year
Capt. Eric Gaskins

RETIREES

Asst. Fire Marshal Thomas Geiger
Capt. Michael Kowalik
Capt. James Todd
MFM Julianne (Sheila) Wanner

ACHIEVEMENTS

NEW FIRE CHIEF STARTED
JANUARY 1ST

FIRST ANNUAL FIRE
DEPARTMENT PICNIC

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW
RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

PURCHASED TWO AMBULANCES
AND TWO ENGINES

COMPLETED EVALUATION BY
INSURANCE SERVICES
ORGANIZATION (ISO)

COMPLETE UPGRADE OF
TRAINING CLASSROOM
AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT

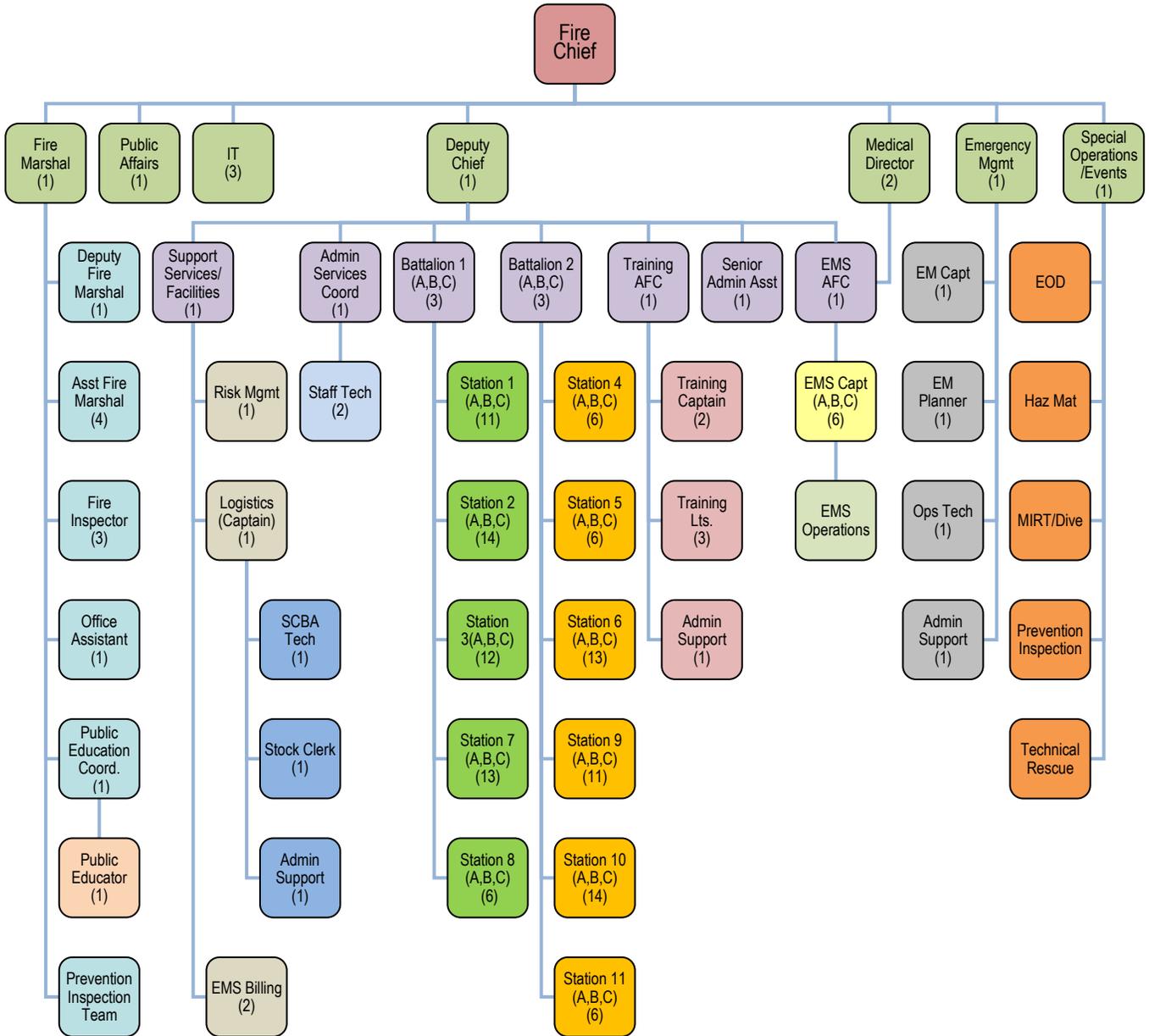
Department Overview

The Newport News Fire Department (NNFD) is an All Hazards Fire Department consisting of 379 employees, 356 uniformed and 23 civilian personnel, operating from 11 stations and 5 administrative/support facilities. The annual Operating Budget for the department for FY14 was \$30,324,386.00. The department operates 3 shifts, staffed with a minimum of 84 personnel on each shift. Operations are divided between two battalions, each of which is managed daily by a Battalion Chief. The department operates 12 Engine/Squads, 6 Ladders, 2 Heavy Rescues, 12 Advanced Life Support (ALS) transport medic units, 2 Battalion Chiefs and 2 EMS Captains daily. Minimum staffing for all fire apparatus is 3 (except for battalion) and for medic units (except for EMS Capt.) it is 2. In addition to Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the department also provides Technical Rescue, Hazardous Materials, Bomb, and Marine Incident Response services both within its borders and regionally. The department has averaged 27,340 calls for service over the last 5 years, with the largest portion of calls being EMS, followed by Other, Special Operations, then Fire calls. The NNFD has been accredited twice through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International and currently has an ISO rating of 2 through the Insurance Services Organization.

**HONOR, INTEGRITY,
LOYALTY**



Organizational Chart

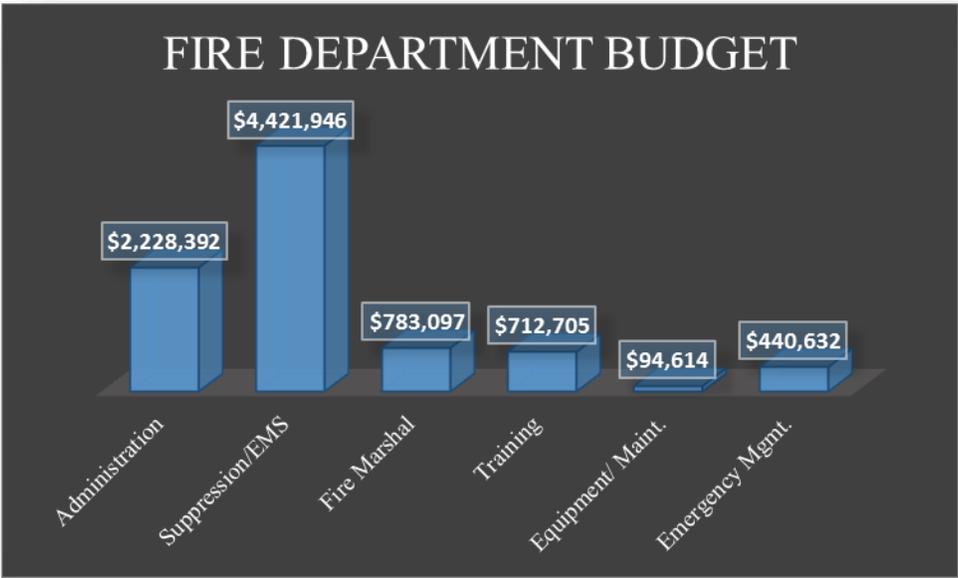
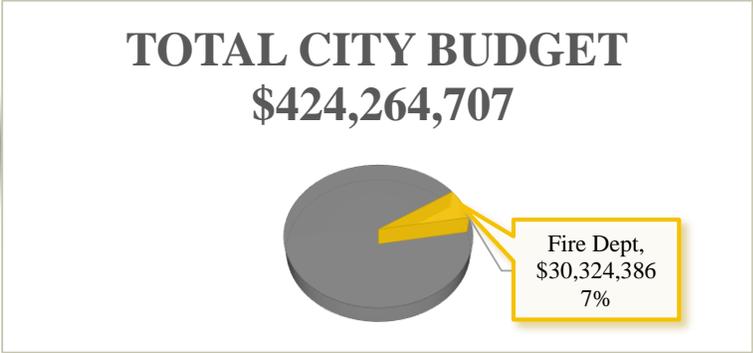


Fire Station Information

Station Number	Address	Year Built	Resources
1	200 34 th Street Marine Incident Response Team	1998	Engine (Squad) Aerial Tower EMS Capt. Medic Unit Dive Van
2	2303 Wickham Avenue Technical Rescue Team	1985	Engine Aerial Ladder Medic Unit Rescue
3	10454 Jefferson Avenue	2013	Engine Aerial Ladder Medic Unit Battalion Chief
4	13561 Jefferson Avenue	1988	Engine (Squad) Medic Unit High Water Veh.
5	17300 Warwick Boulevard	2005	Engine (Squad) Medic Unit
6	685 Oyster Point Road Hazardous Materials Team	1995	Engine (Squad) Aerial Ladder Medic Unit Battalion Chief HazMat Vehicles
7	5844 Marshall Avenue E.O.D. Team	1973	Engine (2) Medic Units (2) EOD Vehicles
8	531 J. Clyde Morris Boulevard	1958	Engine Medic Unit
9	14417 Old Courthouse Way	1958	Engine Aerial Ladder Medic Unit
10	12455 Warwick Boulevard Technical Rescue Team	1979	Engine Aerial Tower Medic Unit Rescue EMS Capt.
11	1000 Bland Boulevard	2009	Engine (Squad) Medic Unit

Financial Management

The Newport News Fire Department administration prides itself on being good stewards of the financial resources provided to the department by the city. Understanding that the department's financial resources come from the community, the administration reviews past budgets and future proposals to ensure that funds are being utilized in the most effective and efficient manners.



Note: Suppression encompasses most of the department's personnel

Personnel

As with every agency and organization, human resources are the most valuable assets, and the Newport News Fire Department is no different. While sworn personnel make up the largest component of personnel, non-sworn or civilian personnel perform many vital jobs daily such as payroll, accounts payable, purchasing, human resources administration, and emergency medical services billing in addition to the many other administrative functions. Personnel, such as the breathing apparatus repair technician, help the department save money by performing repairs in-house avoiding long out of service times and costly third party costs.

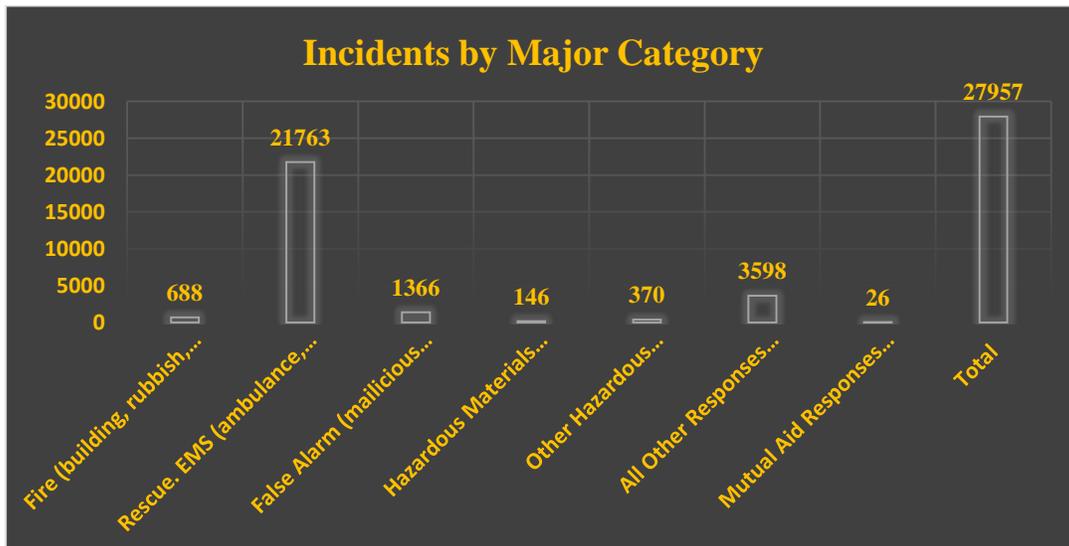
Civilian Employees	FT
Acct. Asst- Sr	1
Admin. Asst II- Admin	2
Admin. Asst II- Training	1
Admin. Asst. II- FM	1
Admin. Asst. II-EOC	1
Amin. Services Coordinator	1
Deputy Coordinator- Emerg. Mgmt.	1
Emergency Operations Planner II	1
Emergency Operations Tech	1
Fire Prevention Inspector II	3
Fire Public Education Coordinator	1
Fire Public Educator	1
Information Technology Analyst	2
SCBA Technician	1
Staff Technician	2
Supply Assistant II	1
Vacancies	2
Total	23



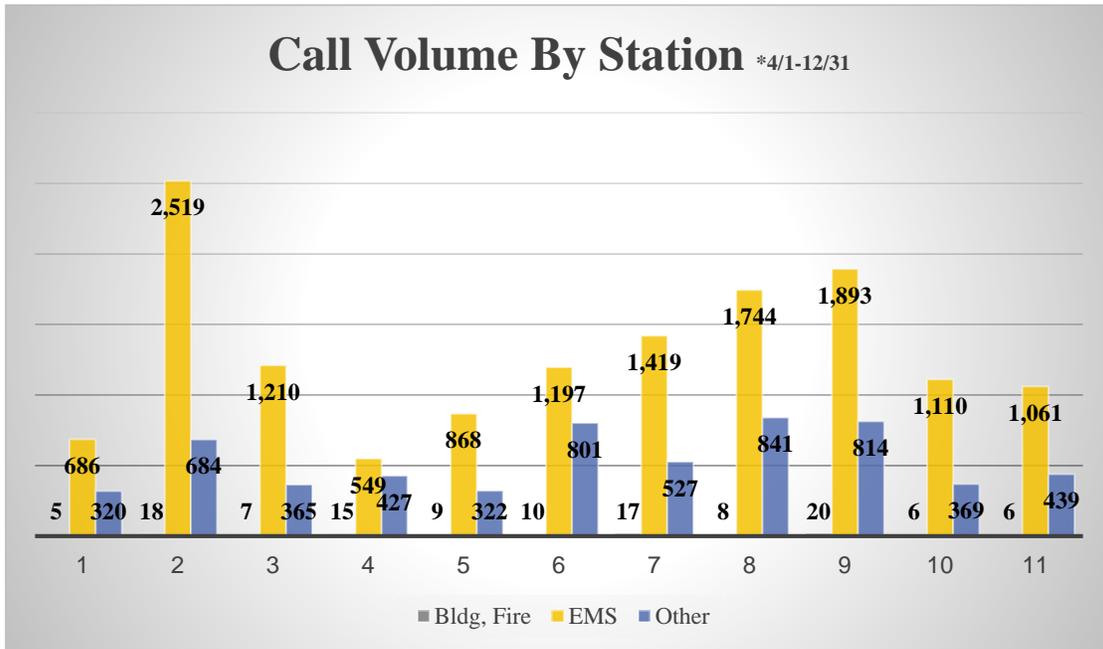
Sworn Employees	FT
Fire Chief	1
Deputy Chief	1
Assistant Chief	1
EMS Chief	1
Fire Battalion Chief	8
Fire Captain	40
Fire Lieutenant	31
Master Firefighter Specialist	16
Master Firefighter Medic Tech	14
Master Firefighter	17
Master Firefighter Medic	11
Senior Firefighter Medic Tech	1
Senior Firefighter Medic	88
Firefighter Medic	87
Firefighter Medic Recruit	41
Vacancies	0
Total	358

Operations

The Operations Division is the largest division of the department and has the most contact with the community, whether through public education events, smoke detector installations, inspections, or responding to calls. Operations consists of Fire, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and Special Operations which is separated into the Bomb team, Hazardous Materials Team, Marine Incident Response Team and Technical Rescue Team. Providing multiple operational components allows the department to respond to most any call for service without delay or relying on outside resources, while maintaining the ability to continue to respond to other calls. The goal of operations is to provide effective and efficient response to every call for service, whether it is in Newport News or in support of our neighboring departments.



Operations (cont.)

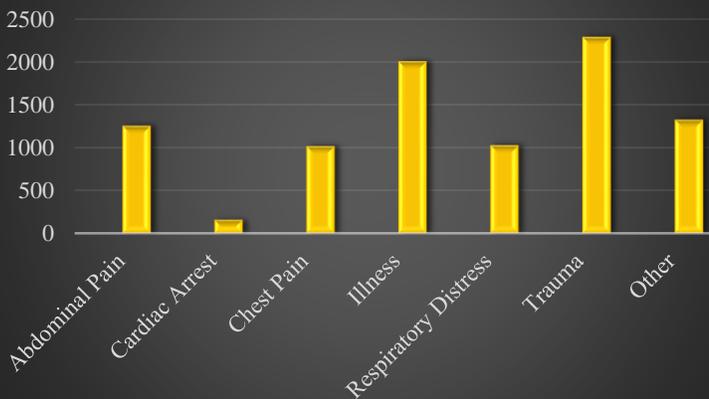


Emergency Medical Services

The Newport News Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) division is one of the busiest on the Peninsula, responding to over 20,000 emergent and non-emergent calls annually. The department strives to maintain a progressive and proficient service, providing annual refresher training for employees, purchasing state of the art equipment, and adopting industry best practices in pre-hospital medicine. Annually, the department seeks out grants to fund everything from heart monitor upgrades to ambulance purchases in order to remain responsive to the community needs. Quite frequently we hear from the community, "I only need an ambulance, why did a fire truck come?" Well, the answer is simple. Sometimes fire trucks are closer to calls, and responding them allows the department to provide medical services quicker. Sometimes it is because the nature of the call may require additional personnel.



Major EMS Incident Types



Fire

Despite improvements in fire and building codes, prevention programs, and public education, fire remains a significant risk to the community. In order to help reduce the risk to the community, personnel assigned to stations frequently assist the Public Education Bureau with school programs, public education displays, and smoke detector installations. The department strives to maintain a progressive and proficient Fire Division that utilizes current and best practices firefighting techniques. As an accredited department, we continually update policies and procedures, evaluate firefighting effectiveness through post incident analysis, continually train as fire companies, and evaluate response effectiveness through data analysis. Utilizing effective budgeting, fire department personnel respond to calls in the community with well maintained, up to date fire apparatus, personal protective equipment, breathing apparatus, and firefighting tools.





Explosive Ordnance Disposal

Explosive device response emergencies, and the mitigation of these incidents, are a specialty function performed by the Newport News Fire Department for the citizens of the City of Newport News. Explosive device responses are a complex undertaking, and considerable knowledge and resources are required to cope with these types of emergencies. Such incidents may ultimately require the integration or coordination of several internal, as well as external, agencies. The Newport News Fire Department Hazardous Device Team (Bomb Squad) has generally become the lead agency during the crisis management portion of the emergency incident.





Hazardous-Materials

The department's Hazardous Materials (Haz-Mat) team provides specialized response capabilities to nuclear, chemical, and biological emergencies in Newport News and the Peninsula as regional response team. The team is part of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management's (VDEM) statewide Haz-Mat assets and receives partial funding from VDEM to pay for training, equipment replacement and maintenance and response reimbursement. The Haz-Mat team provides rapid response to incidents in Newport News, minimizing impacts to both the environment and the residents.



Marine Incident Response Team

The Marine Incident Response Team (MIRT) was developed to respond to emergencies in the city's pools, retention ponds, lakes, drainage culverts, as well as the 30 miles of shoreline on the James River and Hampton Roads harbor. Team members are trained rescue swimmers, divers and boat operators capable of operating small rigid hull boats and the department's fire boat to respond to any waterborne emergency. The MIRT works to ensure that inland and open waterways are safe for all residents and visitors to enjoy for all recreational activities.



Technical Rescue

The fire department's Technical Rescue Team (TRT) provides specialized equipment and trained personnel to respond to complex rescue situations for the City of Newport News, and upon request of various agencies and surrounding jurisdictions with whom the city maintains memorandums of understanding (MOUs). The team has the ability to perform high-angle rescues, vehicle extrications, trench collapse rescues and rescues within confined spaces. The fire department is a participating agency for FEMA Urban Search & Rescue VA-Task Force 2 that is based out of the Virginia Beach Fire Department. FEMA US&R Virginia Task Force 2 has 72-persons available for national missions on a moment's notice.

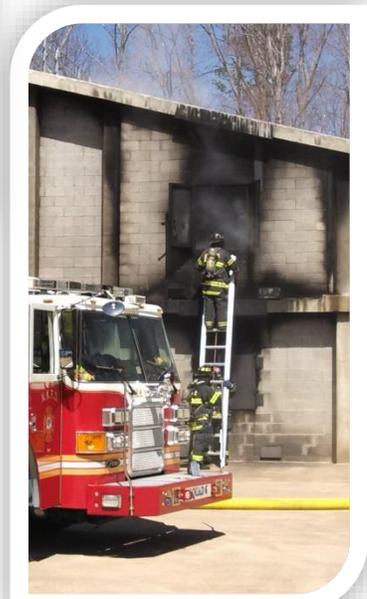


Training

The Newport News Fire Training Bureau is responsible for providing all fire and emergency medical services (EMS) for newly hired and incumbent department personnel. The bureau delivers programs developed by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) and the National Fire Academy (NFA). All of the initial EMS training is delivered through a partnership with Tidewater Community College (TCC) and annual or in-service is delivered through a partnership with Riverside Regional Medical Center. The training center campus houses classrooms, offices, a four story training tower, and a two story live burn building as well as various specialized training props. The goal is to ensure that department personnel receive and maintain the most current training according to accepted standards.

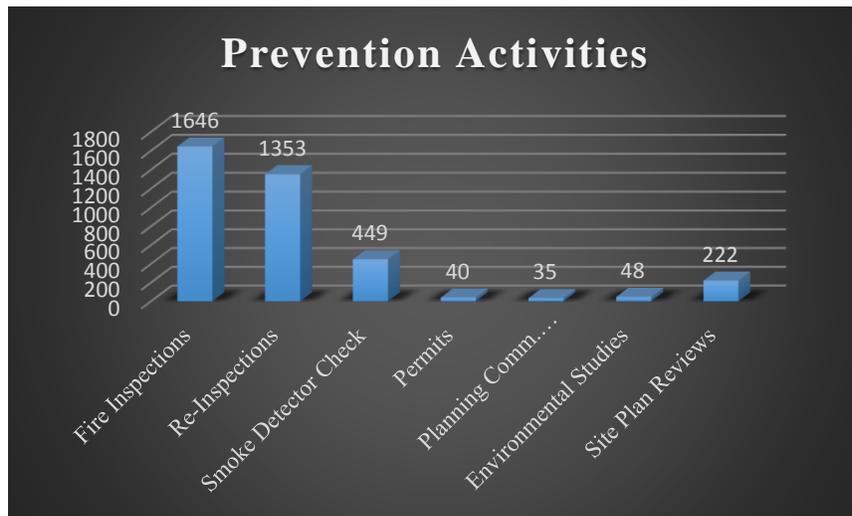
2014 Accomplishments

- Recertified 398 people in advanced life support (ALS) classes
- Converted a retired ambulance into an EMS mobile classroom
- Graduated 33 recruits from 3 jurisdictions from the Tidewater Regional Fire Academy
- Graduated 22 recruits from the TCC EMS program hosted in Newport News
- Conducted 33 CPR classes to recertify all department personnel
- Conducted promotional processes for department personnel
- Hosted various classes to include: Fire Inspector, Fire Instructor, FEMA Large Area Search, NFA Health & Safety Officer, FBI Post Blast Explosive Ordinance Device Course, Fire Officer 1 and Driver Operator Courses.

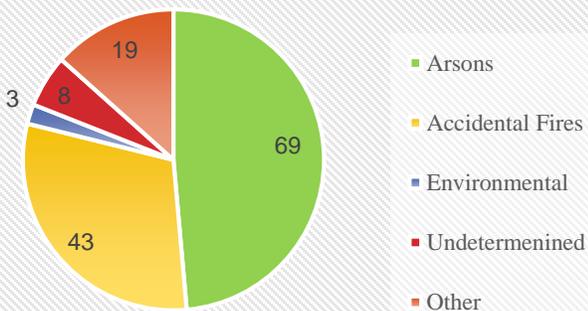


Fire Marshal

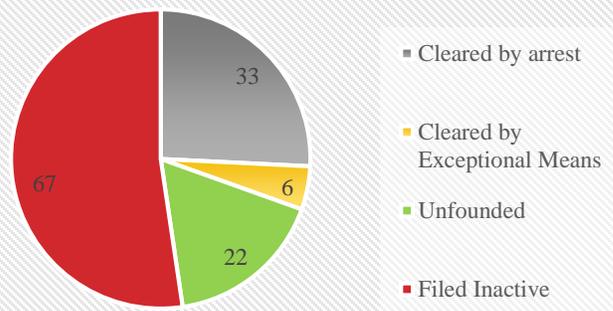
The Newport News Fire Marshal's Office is a multi-faceted bureau responsible for enforcement of the Virginia Statewide Prevention Code within Newport News. Consisting of seven sworn and five non-sworn staff members, the bureau conducts all commercial fire inspections, plans reviews, fire cause and determination investigations and joint inter-agency enforcement activities. The bureau inspectors are augmented by station personnel for the purposes of conducting commercial fire inspections and code enforcement.



Investigations



Investigation Outcomes



Public Education

The Public Education Bureau is responsible for the development and delivery of Public Education programs to residents of all ages, communities and businesses in Newport News. In addition to the many public events and displays coordinated with station personnel, the Public Education Bureau also coordinates the Newport News Fire Department's Smoke Detector Program and child safety seat installations. The bureau also provides seasonal safety messages for the community as well as community updates through social media. In 2014 the Public Education Bureau delivered a total of programs 929 and reached 33,291 people.

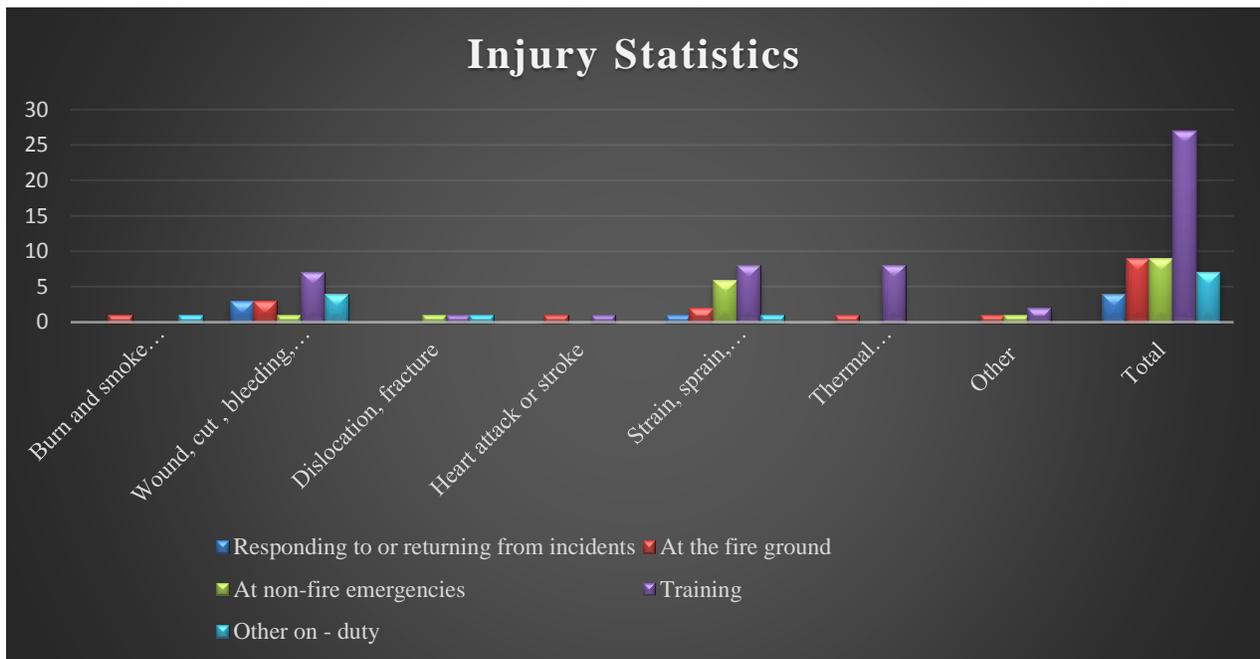
Public Education Programs Summary			
	# of programs	# of persons	Total hours
FD Services	1	30	21
Fire Extinguisher Training	0	0	0
Fire Safety for Adults	4	281	8.5
Fire Safety for Employees	2	75	6.5
Fire Safety for Seniors	15	358	39
Fire Safety for Children	52	2302	79
Career Day Fairs	3	1090	17
Juvenile Fire Setter Programs	1	5	9
Apparatus Displays	160	5,137	151.5
Station Tours	93	1679	112.5
Pre-School Trunk	4	90	8
Child Safety Seat Installations	69	69	67
SAFE House	256	7125	996
Fourth Grade Program	48	1386	144
Smoke Detector Installations	157	224	78.5
Public Displays	64	13440	160
Total	929	33291	1897.5





Risk Management

Risk Management is responsible for the overall health and safety concerns of the department, employees, and residents. Some of the duties of the office are filling the Safety Officer role during working incidents, management of the Infection Control Plan, accident and injury reporting/investigations, facility and equipment inspections, as well as department wide risk management functions. Risk Management and the department faced some significant challenges in 2014 with the national concerns of the Ebola outbreak, as well as an increase in residents creating hoarding and unsafe living conditions. Working in concert with many agencies and individuals, Risk Management created response plans to be implemented by the Operations Section when responding to these types of incidents. Throughout the course of handling regular duties, a total of 132 facility safety inspections were conducted, and 69 employee injury/ illnesses were documented, in addition to conducting presentations for Company Officer in-service, National Traffic Incident Management course and completing the annual update for the department Infection Control Plan.





Emergency Management

The city's emergency management system is operated by the Fire Department's Division of Emergency Management (DEM) and addresses legal and administrative requirements pertaining to emergency management, and coordinates direction and control to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) in the Emergency Support Functions. The Division of Emergency Management provides staff support to the Emergency Management Director (the City Manager) in large scale emergency situations, and advocates emergency preparedness within the community. The goal of the Department of Emergency Management is to identify hazards impacting the community, develop response and mitigations plans and coordinate the response to natural and man-made disasters.

2014 Accomplishments

- Developed disaster plans for Refugees of Last Resort, Rail Emergencies, Family Assistance Centers, Pet Shelters, and Radiological Emergencies.
- Facilitated training for Incident Command/ Emergency Operations Center Interface and supported five training scenarios for the Newport News Police Department.
- Conducted exercises for Hollydazzle, Regional Anthrax drill, regional hurricane evacuation, Colonial Pipeline and the One City Marathon
- Conducted two (Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes for over 30 participants, and conducted three CERT programs for over 260 participants.
- Over 70,000 volunteer hours given by CERT participants.



Fire Station Map

