

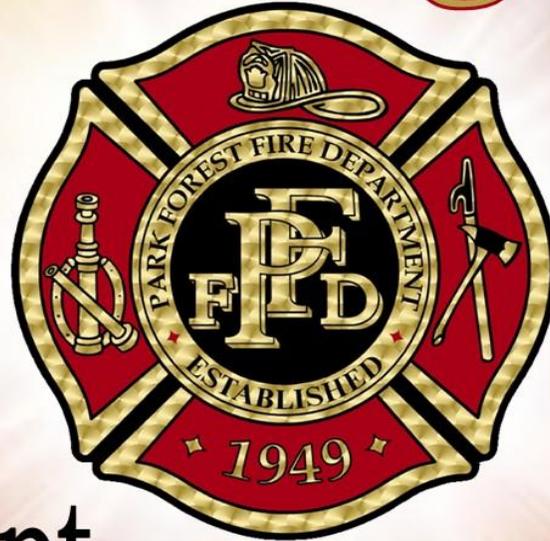
compassion



courage



commitment



Park Forest Fire Dept



2024

Annual Report



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

On behalf of the men and women of the Park Forest Fire Department, it is my honor to present the 2024 Annual Report of Activity for the Park Forest Fire Department. This report reflects our commitment to protecting life, property, and the environment through professional fire suppression, emergency medical services, rescue operations, and fire prevention efforts.

Over the past year, our department responded to a record setting 5,189 emergency calls, ranging from structure fires and medical emergencies to hazardous materials incidents and technical rescues. This is the highest call volume in our department's history. Our dedicated firefighters, paramedics, and support personnel have worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents and visitors.

In addition to emergency response, we have remained proactive in community risk reduction through fire prevention programs and public education initiatives. Our training division has also continued to advance our skills, working in partnerships with other local departments to conduct multi-agency drills. Our EMS division has taken a leadership role hosting advanced training for area paramedics and ensuring our personnel are prepared for any challenge.

This past year, we made significant strides in improving our department's capabilities, including the acquisition of new radio equipment, advancements in technology, and ongoing facility improvements. These enhancements are part of our ongoing commitment to providing the highest level of service to our community.

I want to extend my gratitude to our firefighters, staff, village leaders, and community members for their unwavering support. The success of our department is a reflection of the dedication and collaboration within our community. As we look ahead, we remain committed to innovation, excellence, and service.

Thank you for your trust in the Park Forest Fire Department. Together, we will continue to make our community a safer place.

*Sincerely,
Chief Tracy Natyshok*



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



CORE VALUES

RESPECT

TRUST

LOYALTY

INTEGRITY

TEAMWORK

HONESTY

MISSION STATEMENT

The men and women of the Park Forest Fire Department are highly trained and skilled individuals dedicated to serving the citizens of Park Forest by protecting lives and property from the adverse effects of fire, medical emergencies, and hazardous conditions.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

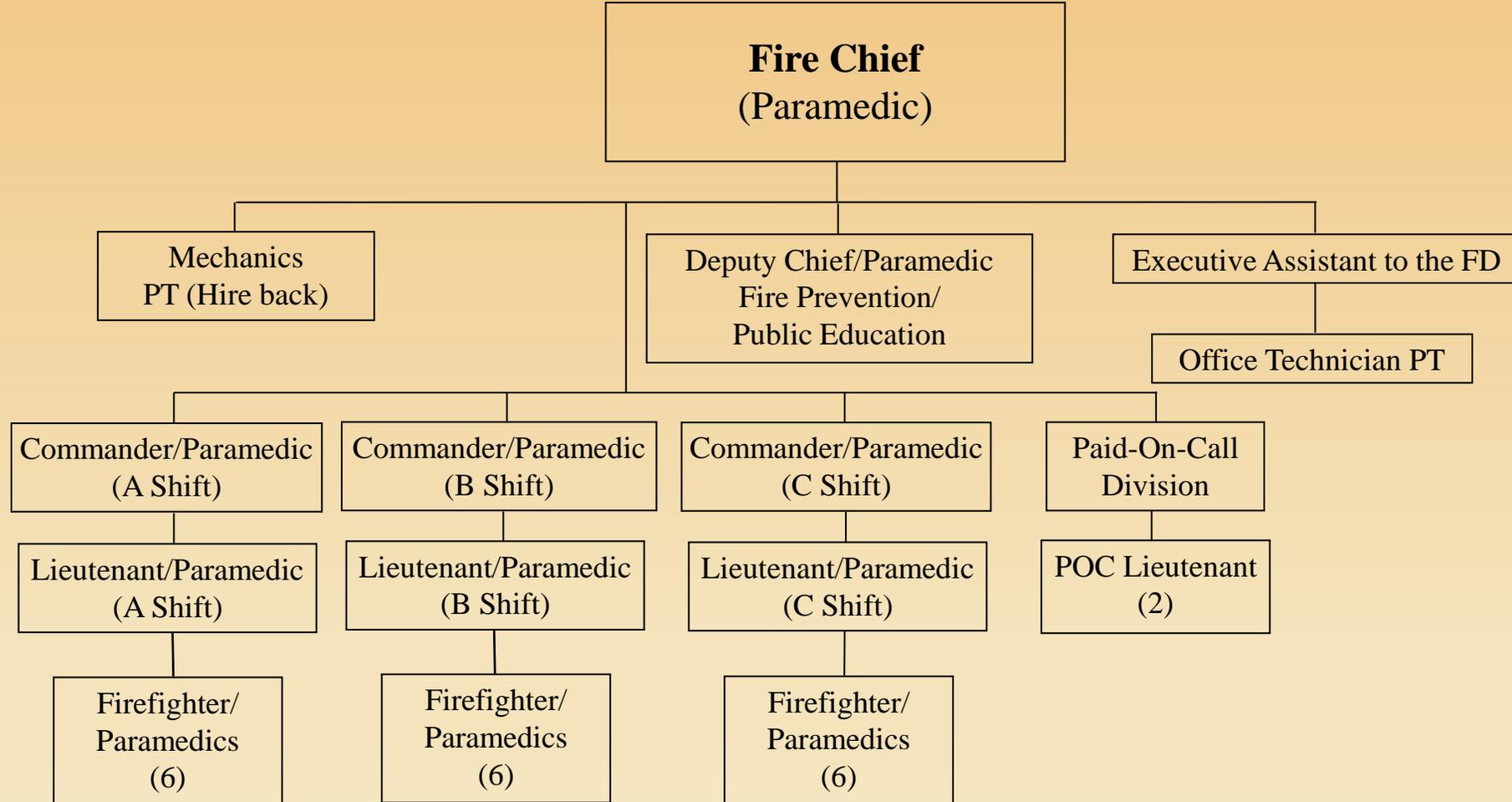


2024 ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Park Forest Fire Department is a combination department, employing career and paid on call personnel.

In 2024, the career division consisted of 28 members including the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, a full-time Executive Assistant to the Fire Department, a part-time Office Technician & 24 shift members. The paid-on-call division currently has 2 members.





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

No history of the Fire Department would be complete without mentioning its darkest moment.

On February 8, 1963 the Department recorded its only "Line of Duty Death". Captain Adolph "Shorty" Pfeifer sustained fatal injuries in a fall while fighting a fire at a commercial building under construction.

In honor of "Shorty's" ultimate sacrifice, the Department dedicated its Training Site in his memory on October 2, 1965.

59 years later this facility is still in use, training a new generation of firefighters, and remains a tribute to our fallen comrade.

NEVER FORGET





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**January 6, 2024
Girl Scout Troop
Fire House Visit**



Highlights



**January 16-18, 2024:
31st Annual Honor Guard Convention**



**February 17, 2024:
Department Award Ceremony**



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Highlights

**May, 2024:
Regional Combined
EMS Training**



**August 2, 2024
Retirees at the FD Reunion Picnic**



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Highlights



**September 28, 2024:
Markham Local 3209 Boxing
Fundraiser Benefiting
Project Fire Buddies**



**October 5, 2024:
Fall Fest @ Somonauk Park**



**August 20, 2024:
Swearing-in Ceremony
Commander Tyler Triemstra,
Lieutenant James Baum
Firefighter Ed Bush**





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Highlights



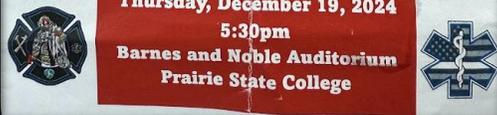
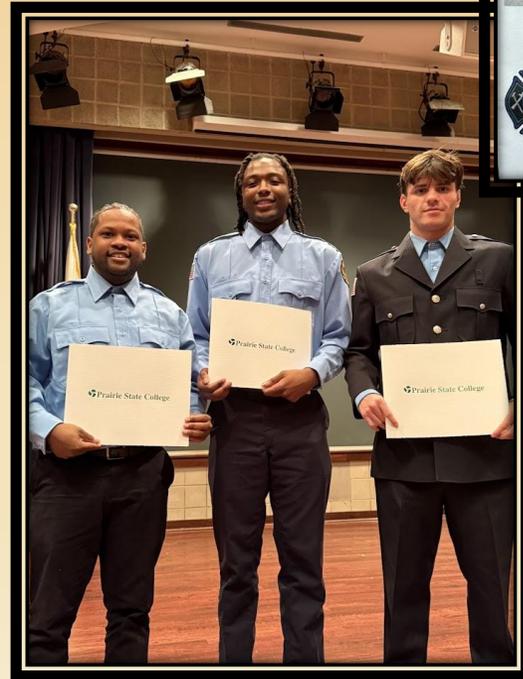
**October 11, 2024
Fire Prevention Week
Open House**



**Basic Operations Firefighter and
Emergency Medical Technician
Graduation Ceremony**



**Thursday, December 19, 2024
5:30pm
Barnes and Noble Auditorium
Prairie State College**

**December 19, 2024
Basic Operations Firefighter
and EMT Graduation
Prairie State College**



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



The Park Forest Fire Department is proud to support:
Project Fire Buddies
and the
South Suburban Humane Society.





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Milestone

SERVICE AWARDS

Shane Krivanec
5 Years of Service



Kevin Meredith
10 Years of Service



Nicky Hallberg-Stoll
15 Years of Service



Carolyn Lopez
20 Years of Service





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Milestone

RETIREMENT



In November, after completing 23 years of service to the Village of Park Forest and the Park Forest Fire Department, Firefighter/Paramedic Edward Wright retired.

Ed will be missed, and we wish him all the best in this next chapter.





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**Firefighter/Paramedic Cory Murdoch
2023 Firefighter of the Year**



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Park Forest Fire Department 2023 Award Recipients

PRIDE - HONOR - DUTY

Award of Merit: Presented for outstanding accomplishments bringing credit to the organization.

- R. Miller

Meritorious Commendation: Presented to those individuals or units who performed and exhibited exceptional skills in a coordinated action.

- J. Chavez, S. Dees
- K. Meredith

Individual Citation: Presented to those individuals who performed exceptional skill with personal risk.

- K. Meredith

Unit Citation: Presented to a unit that exhibited exceptional professional skill and conduct during a coordinated action with personal risk.

- K. Grove, J. Baum, J. Chavez, C. Lopez, N. Marconi
- D. Sparks, E. Wright, K. Young
- P. Hisel, J. Baum, J. Chavez, N. Marconi, E. Vlahakis, E. Wright
- P. Hisel, K. Grove, J. Baum, S. Dees, N. Marconi, E. Vlahakis
- N. Grove, T. Marconi, R. Miller, D. Sparks, E. Wright, K. Young
- M. Paradise, K. Meredith, C. Murdoch
- M. Paradise, J. Chavez, R. Miller, D. Sparks, K. Zelhart
- T. Triemstra, J. Baum, J. Campbell, J. Chavez, C. Murdoch, E. Vlahakis

Life Saving Medal

An award given to a member of the Department for an act in which the life of another is saved.

- T. Bordewyk, S. Dees, R. Miller, J. Spanier, D. Sparks, E. Wright, K. Young
- T. Bordewyk, M. Paradise, J. Baum and University Park Firefighter/Paramedics G. Denison, S. Spathis
- T. Triemstra, J. Boren, S. Dees, S. Krivanec and SouthCom Dispatchers B. Bronson and M. Rodriguez
- J. Boren, R. Miller

Firefighter of the Year

This award will be presented to the Firefighter who best exemplifies by his/her performance the principles and purposes of the fire service and the Park Forest Fire Department. The Committee, when considering nominees shall review the record of the nominee with special attention given to the preceding year.

- Cory Murdoch



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**Award
Ceremony**

02/17/24





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

BUDGET



Personnel Services	• \$3,307,140
Insurance	• \$ 499,457
Employee Support (including pensions)	• \$1,936,309
Professional Services (SouthCom Dispatch)	• \$ 117,120
Operating Supplies	• \$ 75,675
Maintenance	• \$ 28,000
Capital Outlays	• \$ 102,450
Miscellaneous Expenditures	• \$ 2,600
Leases/Rentals (Vehicle Services)	• \$ 481,845
Utilities	• \$ 18,000



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Citizen Complaints: In 2021, the Fire Department began to track citizen complaints. All complaints that include any allegation of misconduct, poor job performance, breach of duty, or violation of policy or procedures are investigated by administration and each case is closed with one of the following dispositions:

Unfounded - when the investigation discloses the alleged acts did not occur or did not involve a department member.

Exonerated - when the investigation discloses the alleged acts occurred, but the act was justified, lawful and/or proper.

Not Sustained - when the investigation discloses there is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the member.

Sustained - when the investigation discloses sufficient evidence to establish the act occurred and it constituted misconduct.

PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT CITIZEN COMPLAINTS					
YEAR	TOTAL COMPLAINTS	OUTCOME			
		UNFOUNDED	EXONERATED	NOT SUSTAINED	SUSTAINED
2024	0				



ANATOMY OF A 9-1-1 CALL



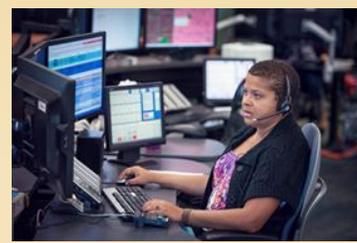
INCIDENT

community member has an emergency



CALL

community member calls 9-1-1



CALL PROCESSED

9-1-1 center processes the call



DISPATCH

9-1-1 operator dispatches the fire dept.



TURNOUT

time from when the unit is dispatched until the crew is dressed and in the vehicle



TRAVEL

time from when the unit starts moving until it arrives on scene

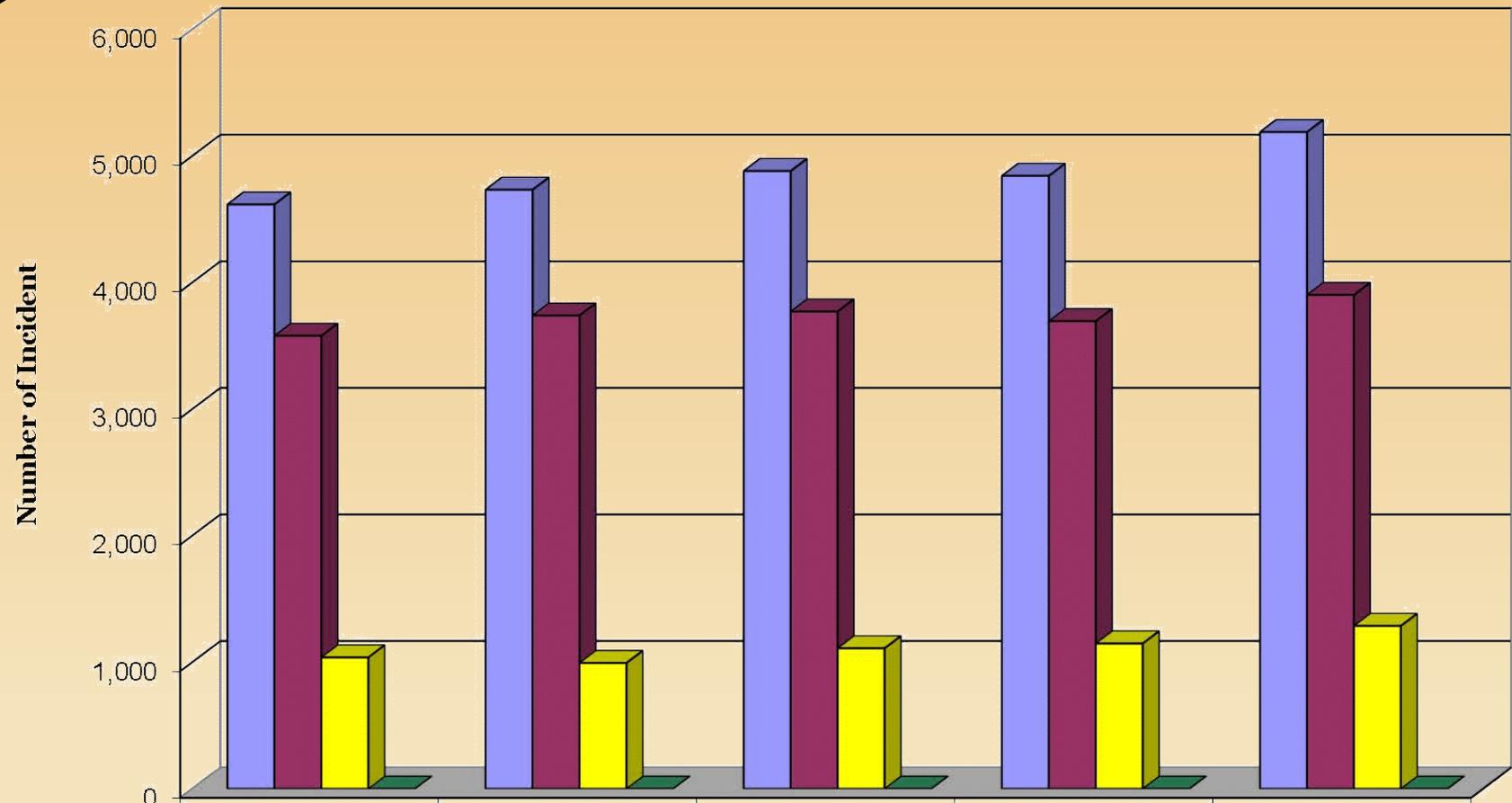




PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**ALARM
ACTIVITY
BY
CALENDAR
YEAR**

■ Total Calls	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
■ EMS	4,617	4,733	4,881	4,843	5,189
■ Fire	3,579	3,739	3,771	3,695	3,902
■ % Change	1,038	994	1,110	1,148	1,287
	1.85%	2.51%	3.13%	-0.78%	7.14%



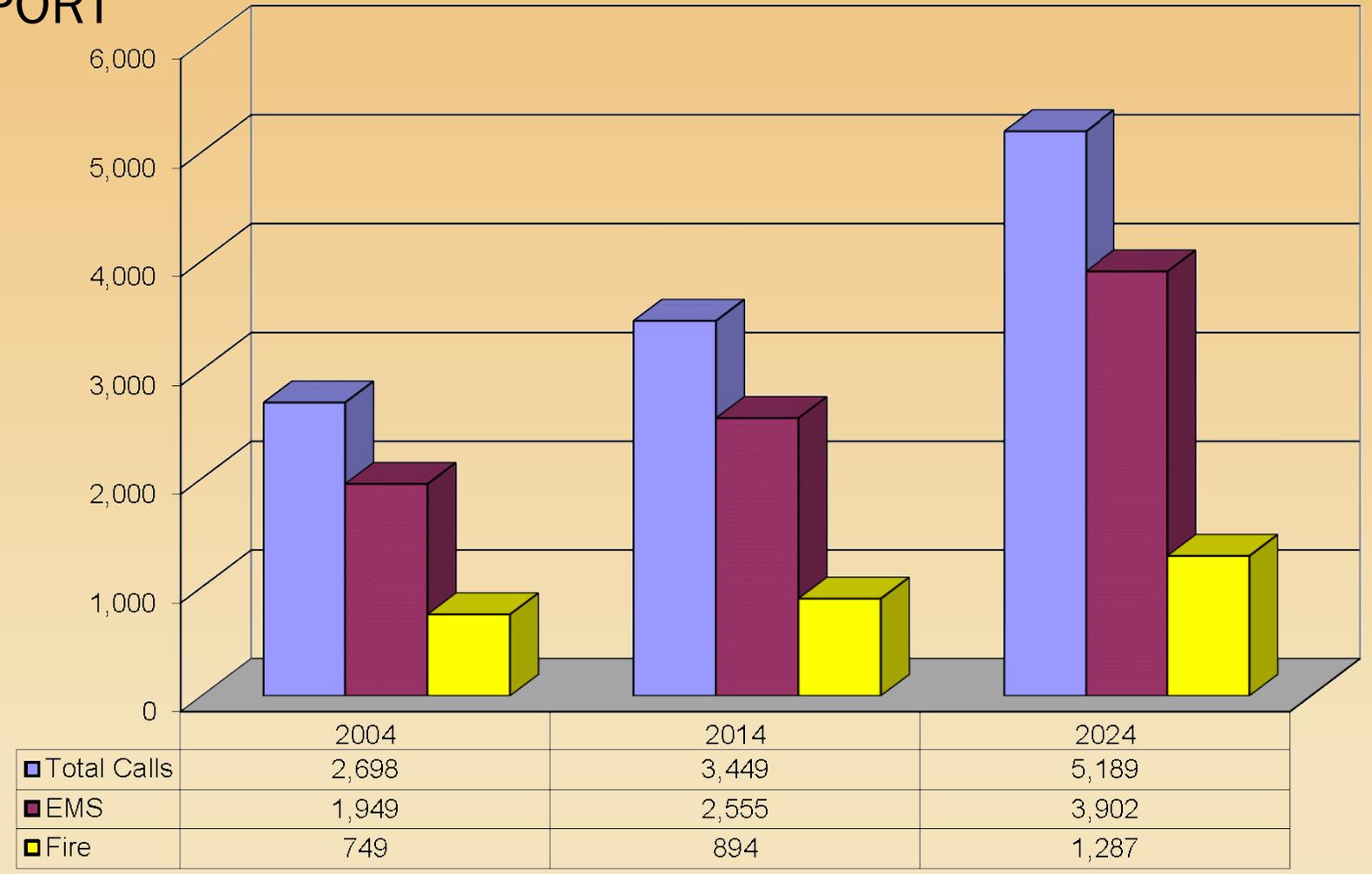
PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

**ALARM
ACTIVITY
BY
CALENDAR
YEAR
20 YEAR
COMPARISON**

Number of Incident



Note: Fire Department Staffing remained the same from 2004 to 2014 (7 members per shift with 5 person minimum staffing daily). In 2021, thanks to a grant, we were finally able to increase staffing to 8 members per shift with 6 person minimum staffing daily. Call volume increased 92% from 2004 to 2024 and 50% from 2014 to 2024.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

TOTAL AID GIVEN
Fire & EMS: 378

TOTAL AID RECEIVED
Fire & EMS: 203

Note: On most incidents, multiple departments are responding on mutual or automatic aid. If we tracked aid received by department, as opposed to by incident, the number would be much higher.



**MUTUAL/
AUTOMATIC
AID ACTIVITY
BREAKDOWN**

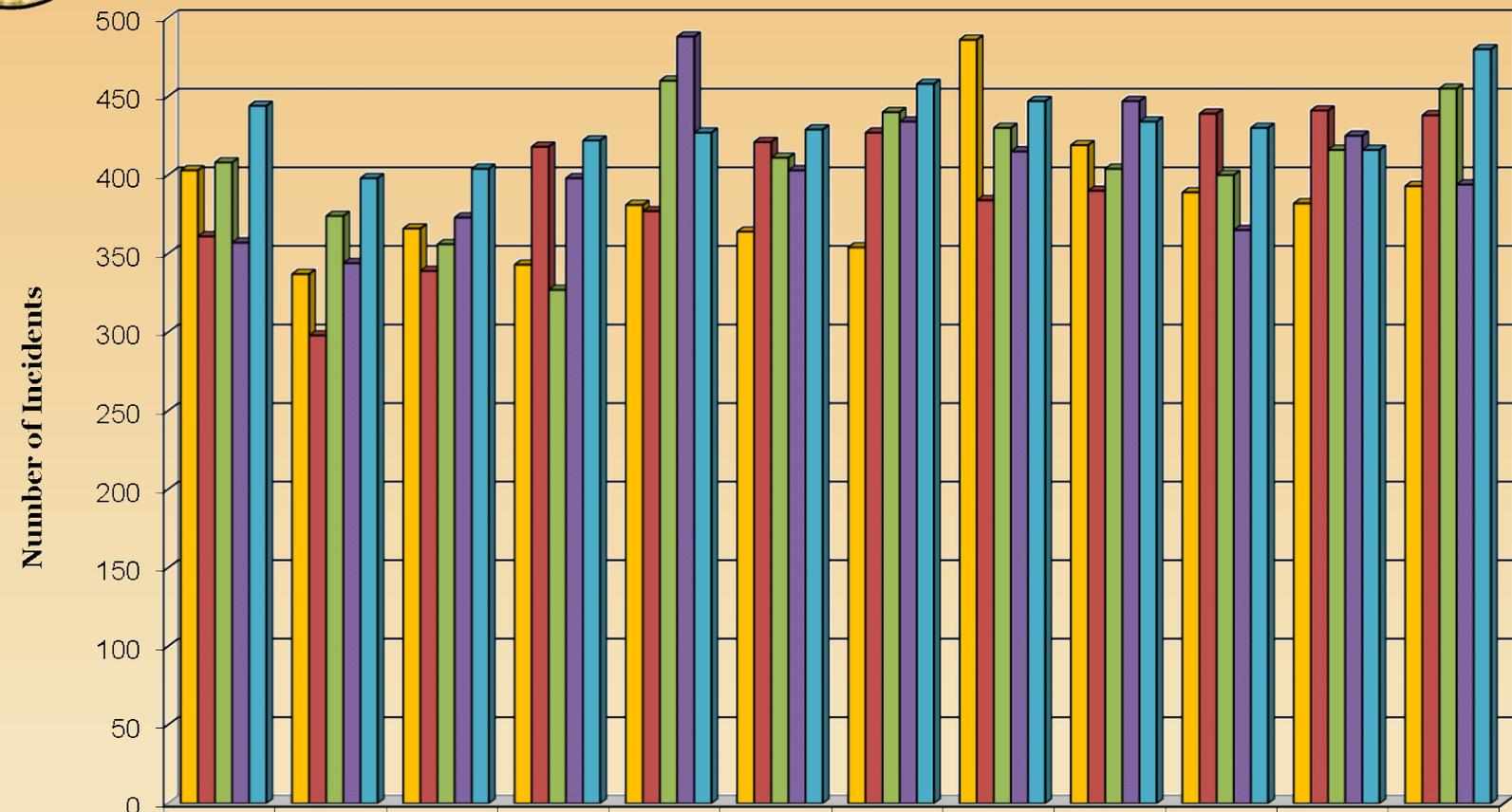
**TOTAL AID
581**



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2020	403	337	366	343	381	364	354	486	419	389	382	393
2021	361	298	339	418	377	421	427	384	390	439	441	438
2022	408	374	356	327	460	411	440	430	404	400	416	455
2023	357	344	373	398	488	403	434	415	447	365	425	394
2024	444	398	404	422	427	429	458	447	434	430	416	480

**ALARM
ACTIVITY
BY
MONTH**

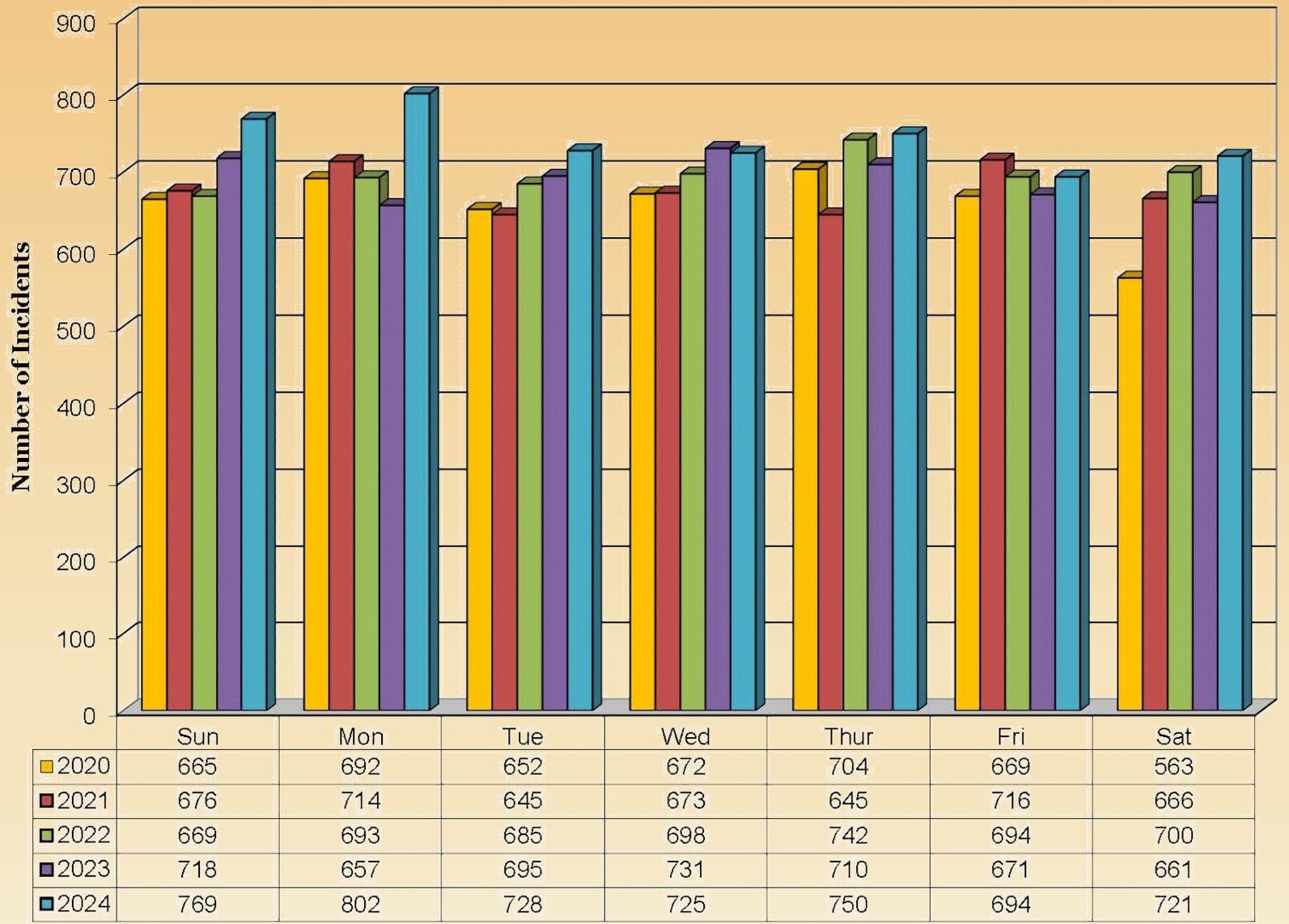


PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

**ALARM
ACTIVITY
BY
DAY OF WEEK**

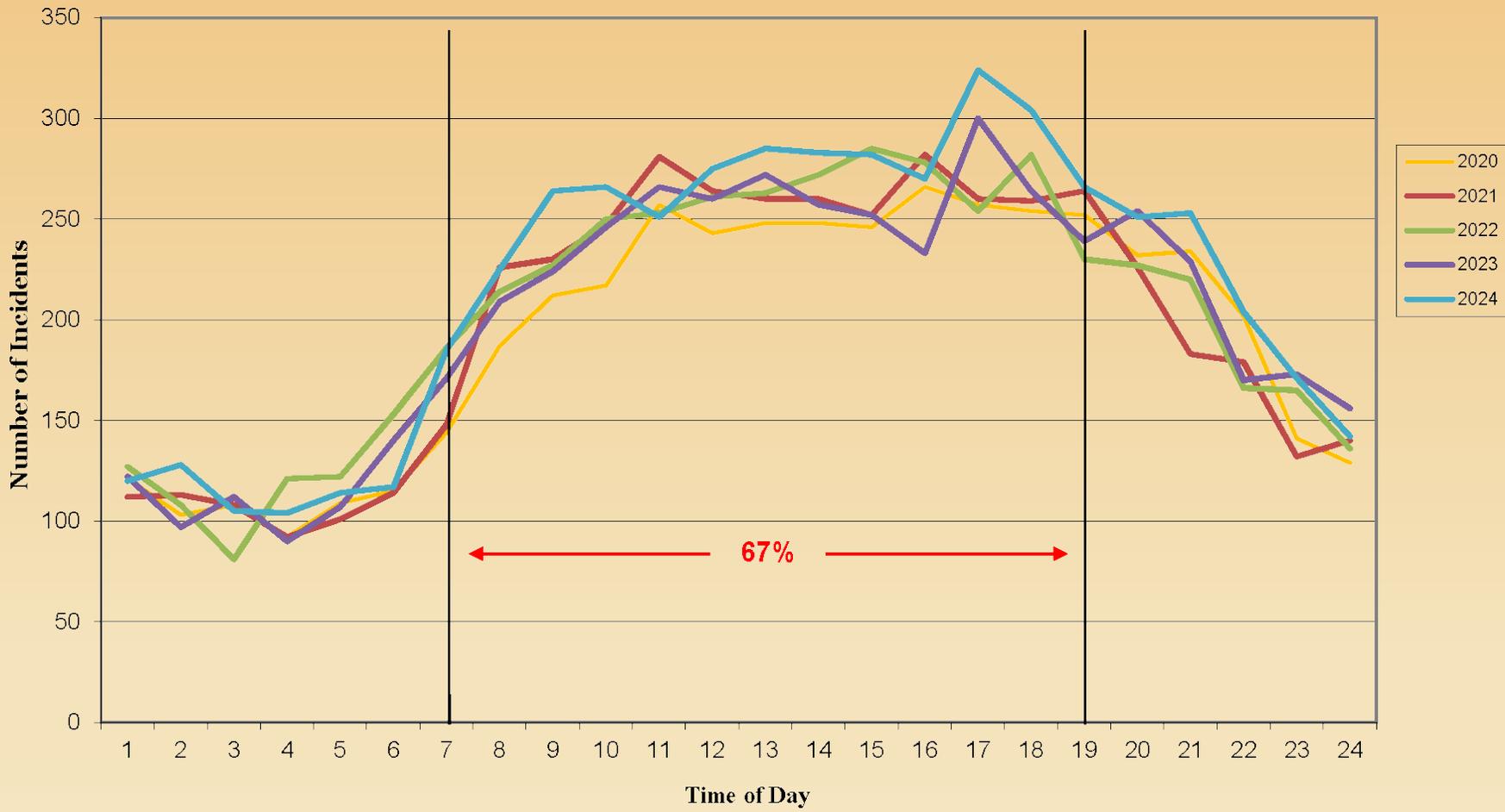




PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**ALARM
ACTIVITY
BY
TIME
OF
DAY**

67% of our call volume occurs during the time period of 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. (the time frame where Paid On Call members have limited or no availability due to their full-time job commitments).

It should also be noted the most deadly and damaging fires occur between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**5,189
CALLS FOR SERVICE**



(record setting year)



**1,287
TOTAL
FIRE
RESPONSES**

**2024 CALL VOLUME
AT-A-GLANCE**



**3,902
TOTAL
EMS
RESPONSES**

**BUSIEST
MONTH OF THE YEAR
DECEMBER
480 CALLS**

**BUSIEST
DAY OF THE WEEK
MONDAY
802 CALLS**

**BUSIEST
TIME OF DAY
5 P.M. – 6 P.M.
324 CALLS**



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

1,287 FIRE CALLS



**HAZARDOUS
CONDITIONS**

129



*Good
Intent*

367

**FALSE
ALARM**

525

SERVICE
CALLS

173



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

FIRE CALL BREAKDOWN





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Mission: To assist firefighters and EMS providers and their immediate families diagnosed with cancer by providing badge to badge support, training and guidance.

**FIREFIGHTERS & CANCER
THE HIDDEN DANGER**

Firefighters have a higher risk of cancer than the general population

HIGHER RISK

9%
HIGHER RISK OF CANCER DIAGNOSIS

Lung & Leukemia Cancers

72%
LINE-OF-DUTY DEATHS FROM OCCUPATIONAL CANCER

Firefighters face cancer rates substantially greater than most Americans

- Testicular cancer - 2.02 times greater
- Multiple myeloma - 1.53 times greater
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma - 1.51 times greater
- Skin cancer - 1.39 times greater
- Brain cancer - 1.31 times greater
- Malignant melanoma - 1.31 times greater
- Prostate cancer - 1.28 times greater
- Colon cancer - 1.21 times greater
- Leukemia - 1.14 times greater

The most likely causes are the chemicals emitted from regular household products when they burn.

**CANCER AWARENESS
FIREFIGHTERS ARE AT RISK!**

FIREFIGHTERS HAVE A HIGHER RISK of contracting **ALL** types of cancer than the general U.S. population.

Synthetic building materials used in modern structures, including furniture and paint, **RELEASE CARCINOGENS** when burned.

WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE LIVES!
Cancer is a leading threat ALL to firefighters.

FOR EVERY 5° INCREASE IN TEMPERATURE, SKIN BECOMES UP TO 400% MORE ABSORBENT.

The hotter you are, the more carcinogens your skin absorbs

MORE THAN 60% Since 2002, the IAFF has attributed more than 60% of its firefighter LODDs **TO CANCER** MORE THAN ANY OTHER CAUSE

FIVE THINGS YOU CAN DO

1. Wear your SCBA from the fire attack through overhaul to limit inhalation of carcinogens.
2. Clean yourself off during gross decont to remove soot as soon as possible.
3. Keep contaminated gear out of your station's living and sleeping quarters. Also, don't take contaminated gear home.
4. Make sure your gear is cleaned and inspected regularly by a verified ISP.
5. Maintain a personal exposure log of all fire calls.

NotInOurHouse.com

STOP CANCER IN THE HOME

LION vispa NVFC DuPont Nomex



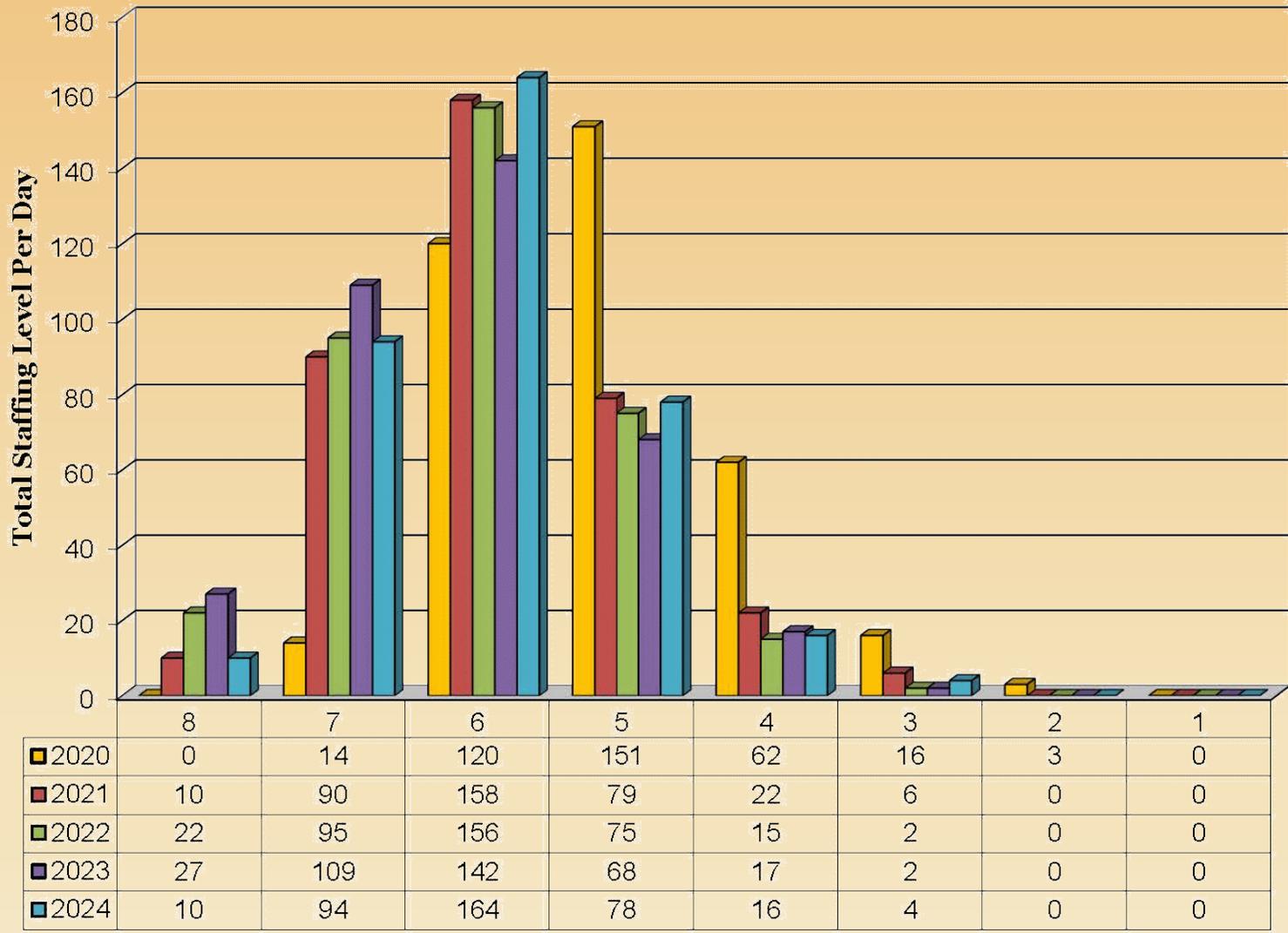
2024 ANNUAL REPORT

DAILY STAFFING LEVELS

The daily minimum staffing level had been at 5 since the late 1990s. In 2021, thanks to a SAFER Grant, we were able to increase shift staffing from 7 to 8 and daily minimum staffing from 5 to 6.

On any day where there are less than 6 shift members on-duty, the department is required to pay overtime to bring the minimum staffing level to 6.

In 2024 this occurred on 98 days; an increase of 11 occurrences over the 87 days in 2023.



Shift Personnel on Duty Per Day



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

EMS DIVISION

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

The EMS Division, overseen by EMS Coordinator Bess Vlahakis, is responsible for the licensure and equipping of ambulances and the advanced life support engine, as well as overseeing licensing of the Department's paramedics in cooperation with the South Cook County Emergency Medical System.



- Park Forest continues to lead the division as a teaching department. In January of 2024 we began to offer high quality, relevant EMS training to neighboring departments with the goal of fostering good relationships with their members to improve our interagency operability when responding to mutual aid calls. These trainings were heavily attended and supported by surrounding departments (Flossmoor, Matteson, Richton Park, and University Park).
- Park Forest is honored to have excellent relationships with nurses, doctors, and staff at Franciscan Health Olympia Fields. We had the opportunity to host Dr. Arjun Batchu from the Emergency Department during our March EMS training focused on cardiac care, 12-lead EKG acquisition and transmission. Crews used pig hearts, acquired from a local butcher, to review anatomy and physiology.
- July's training focused on the treatment of a patient with suspension trauma. A rise in incidents where teenagers were becoming stuck in playground swings necessitated a refresher training on how to successfully remove patients suspended in swings and the treatment that follows.
- New policies and medications were reviewed and tested on as part of Region VII SMO updates.
- Many newly licensed paramedics have been hired by departments in the area which led to September's training dedicated to the development of the new PIC (paramedic in charge) aimed at boosting their confidence in taking the lead on running a team of paramedics.
- Other successful monthly EMS training topics included:
 - * January – team building and patient packaging
 - * February – pediatric full arrest management
 - * April – hemorrhage control
 - * May – burn care and burn victims (in-service of McGrath Video Intubation equipment)

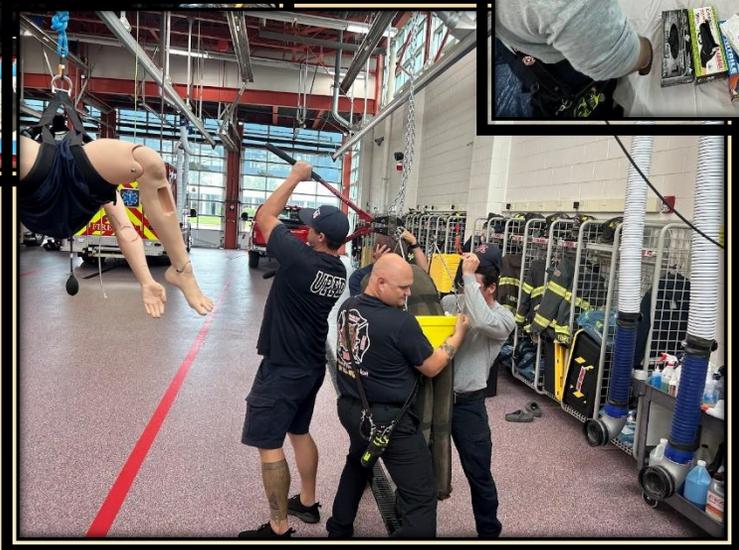
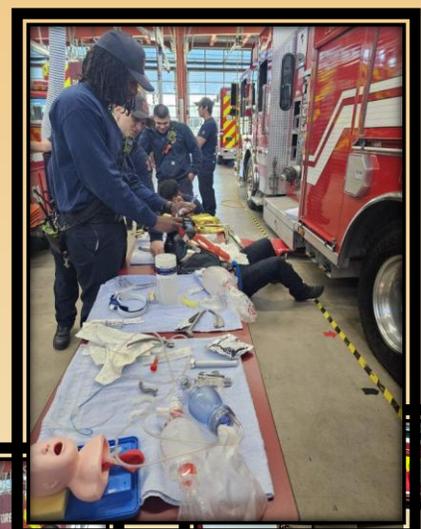


PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



EMS DIVISION - TRAINING



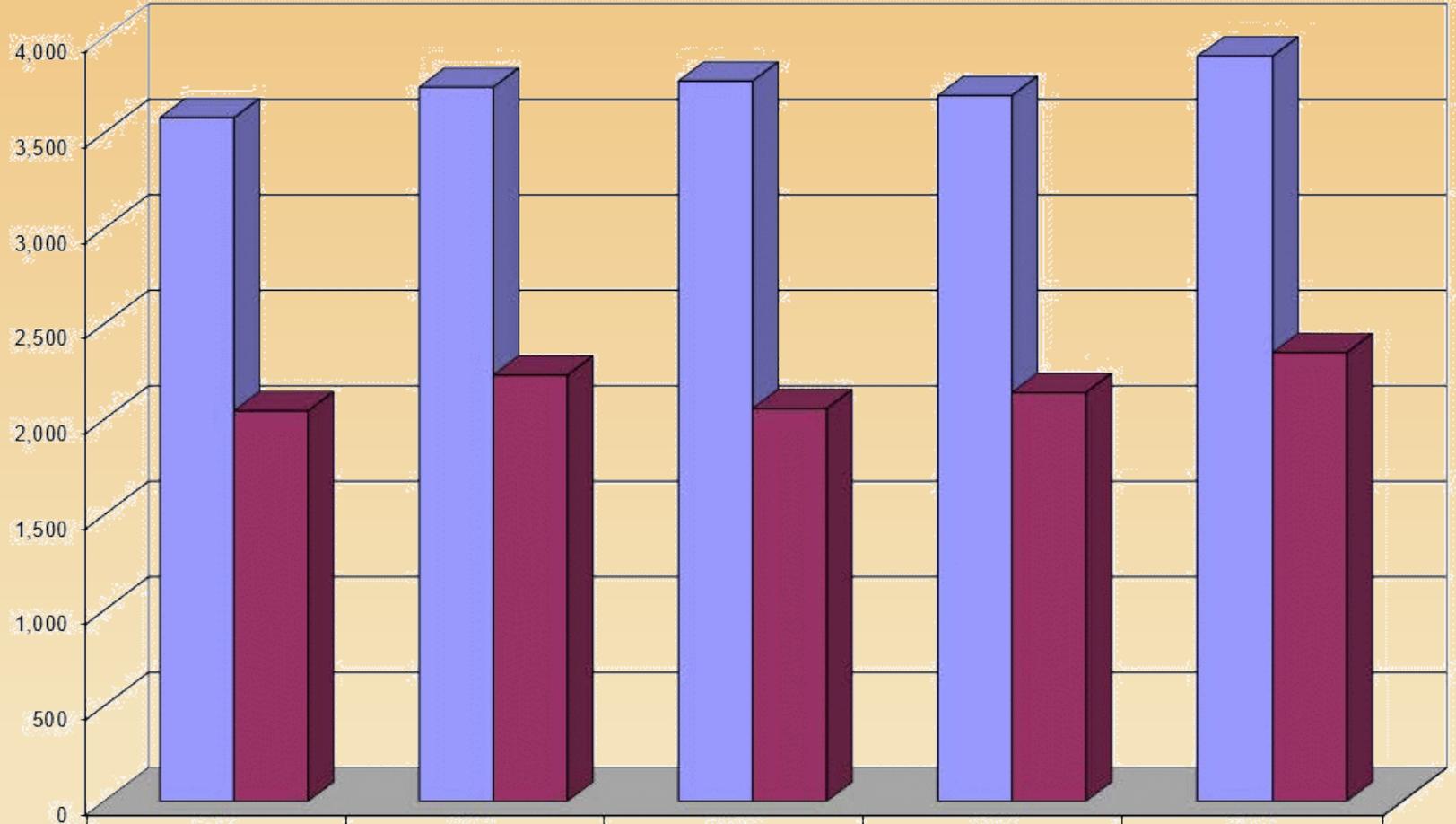


PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

**TOTAL
AMBULANCE CALLS
VS.
AMBULANCE
TRANSPORTS**



	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Ambulance Calls	3,579	3,739	3,771	3,695	3,902
Total Ambulance Transports	2,044	2,231	2,056	2,140	2,349

Note: 60.2% of the total ambulance calls resulted in the transportation of a patient to the emergency room.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

2,349 AMBULANCE TRANSPORTS

MEDICAL EMERGENCY
1056

TRAUMA
41

CARDIAC - 311

PSYCHIATRIC
246

ACCIDENT
127

PREGNANCY ~
14

CHEMICAL ABUSE
14

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT - 66

OTHER
474

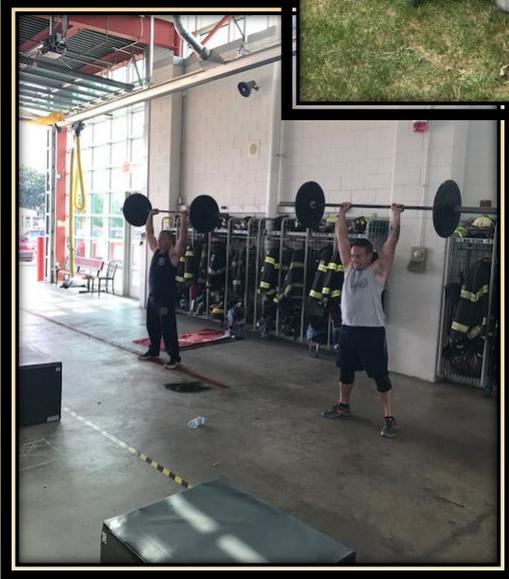
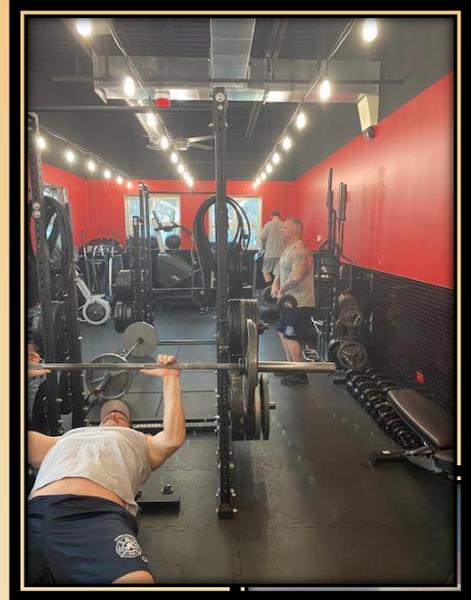


PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



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PHYSICAL FITNESS



The International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) worked together to create the Fire Service Joint Labor Management Wellness-Fitness Initiative's Peer Fitness Trainer Program. This program provides a certificate program through the American Council on Exercise (ACE). The purpose of the IAFF/IAFC/ACE PFT certification program is to provide a fitness training standard consistent with the health and fitness needs of the Fire Service throughout the United States and Canada. The Park Forest Fire Department has a three certified Peer Fitness Trainers on shift.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



TRAINING DIVISION

Required Classes	Hours
Basic Operations Firefighter <ul style="list-style-type: none">Courage To Be SafeNIMS 100 and 700Hazardous Materials AwarenessTechnical Rescue Awareness	360 Hours
Rope Operations	40 Hours
Confined Space Operations	40 Hours
Fire Service Vehicle Operator	24 Hours
Hazardous Materials Operations	40 Hours
Blue Card Command	64 Hours
EMT-Basic	96 Hours
EMT-Paramedic	950 Hours



Lexipol provides a unified solution - content, policies and training - for fire departments. Their Fire and Rescue solution provides a full library of customizable, state-specific policies as well as thousands of hours of online learning content - all accessible 24/7 through station computers or smartphones. With constitutionally sound, continuously updated policies and training from Lexipol, The Park Forest Fire Department can face our challenges with the confidence that our firefighters are following best practice guidelines.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

TRAINING DIVISION

The Blue Card online training program is a 40 to 50 hour course that teaches the cognitive portion of the Blue Card Incident Command certification program. The online program is based on the Fire Command curriculum package.

The training material is organized around the IC's checklists and the professional qualifications of the Blue Card Incident Command standard. All of the online content has been developed in a manner to support, compliment, and integrate with NIMS.



FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

A well-trained firefighter is a safer, more effective firefighter. That's why TargetSolutions has created the industry's most powerful fire department training system.

With TargetSolutions, you can track employee training records, save time and reduce costs. This program will simplify the delivery of training to all personnel. TargetSolutions provides hundreds of prepared courses, covering critical EMS training, emergency vehicle operations and NFPA approved content. It also tracks all training hours in one location for ISO and Accreditation and allows other fire departments using TargetSolutions to share training materials.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



TRAINING DIVISION

SOUTH SUBURBAN COMBINED AGENCY TRAINING (SSCAT)



The Park Forest Fire Department completed the process to enter into the South Suburban Combined Agency Training Enterprise. This organization consists of 12 Departments who conduct monthly multi-company training exercises. These drills allow our members to complete mandatory continuing education that would be difficult to conduct without the other departments.





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

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TRAINING DIVISION



EMS Training



Rescue Training



CPR Class

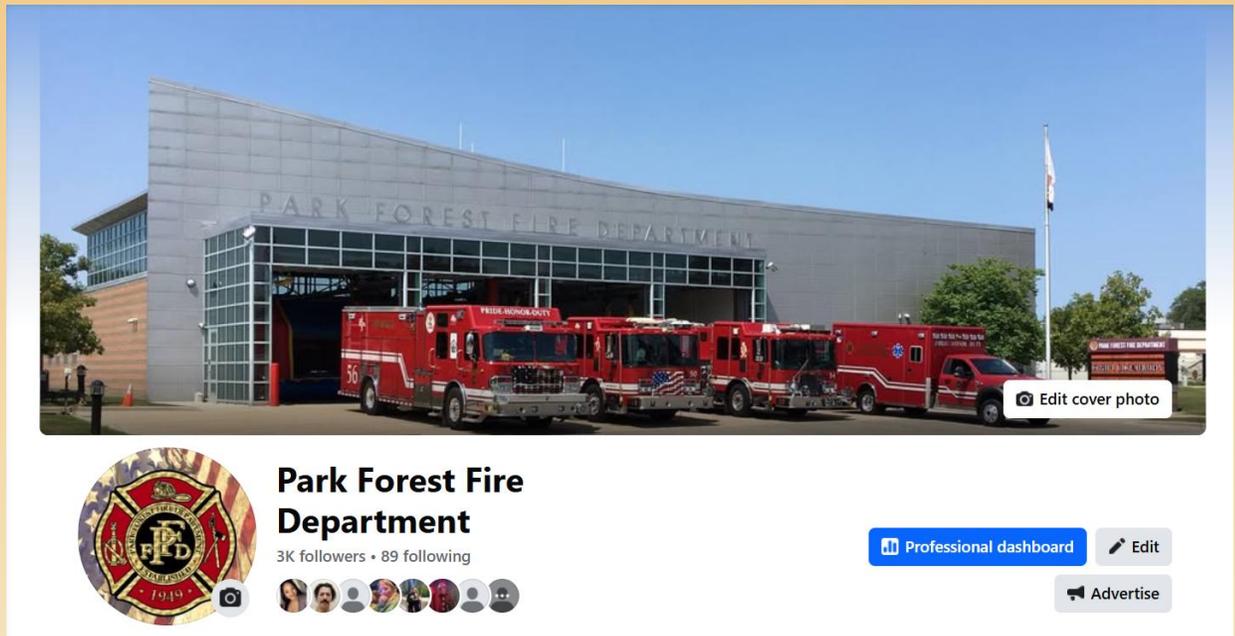
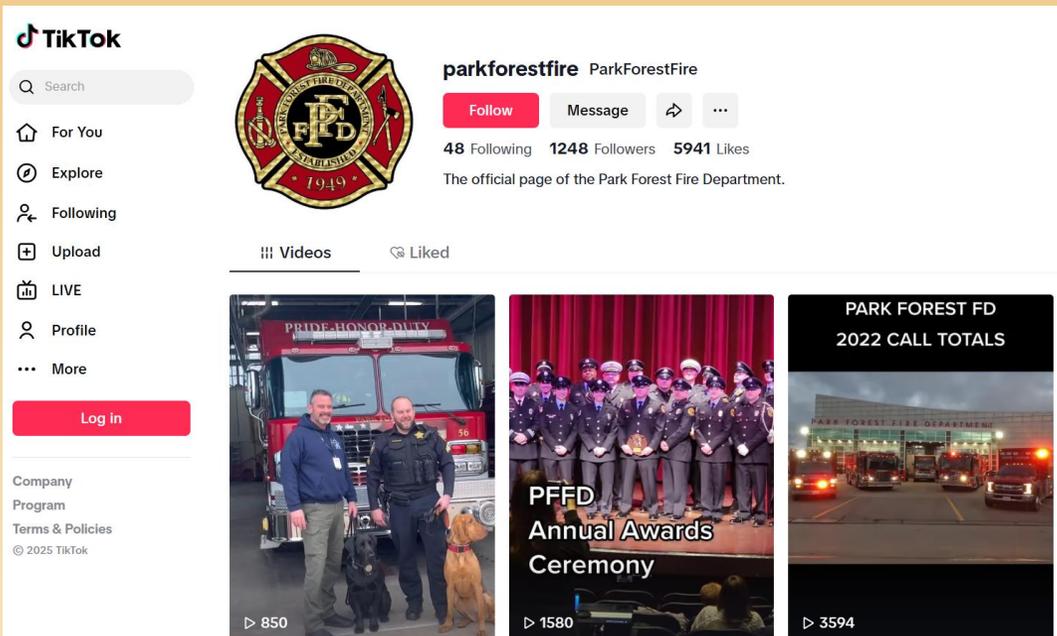


PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Department goal: Develop and implement outreach programs for residents needing special services in order to meet mission objectives. Staff concentrated outreach and educational programs to coincide with events such as Main Street Nights, Open House, and the Farmer’s Market. The Department increased messages on social media platforms and our public educators participated in multiple zoom classes with local students.

The Department’s Facebook page has 3,068 followers.

The Department’s TikTok account has 1,248 followers with 34.7K views on our most popular post.



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Department goal: Maintain fire prevention inspectional activities to include minimally one original inspection for all businesses each year, with high hazard & assembly properties inspected a minimum of twice each year, to safeguard current businesses from the threat of fire.

Total number of inspections completed in 2024 = 217.

Department goal: Assist Community Development activities by providing timely technical support and plan review of prospective businesses.

All Internal Plan Reviews were completed within 10 working days in 2024.





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Fire Prevention Week
October 6 – 12, 2024
Open House

Park Forest Fire Department
Open House

Park Forest
Live Grow Discover
Department of Recreation, Parks & Community Health

CELEBRATING
PARK FOREST
75
YEARS
LIVE. GROW. DISCOVER.





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

GRANTS



FEMA



Fire Department staff works diligently to apply for grant funding to help off-set costs for a variety of things. Over the years, we have been awarded millions of dollars in grant funding to help purchase equipment and hire staffing. Though no grants were received in 2024, we continue to apply for grant funding from a variety of sources.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Shift Commander Patrick Hisel serves as the Department’s Emergency Management Coordinator. 2024 highlights:

- Completed the process for the 2024 Cook County Multi-jurisdictional Hazardous Mitigation Plan with was accepted and adopted.
- As required by Cook County, transitioned from a paper-based Village Incident Action Plan to an online based system.
- Attended Illinois EMA Public Information Officer training in Will County and received certification as a PIO.
- Attended and received certification in FEMA Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents and FEMA Advanced Incident Command System for Complex Incidents.



Important Information About Tornado Sirens

Sirens are for **OUTDOOR** warning purposes and are not meant to be heard indoors.

Hearing a siren is a signal to get indoors and seek additional information.

It does **NOT** mean the threat has ended when the sirens stop sounding.

Sirens are activated by city or county officials, not the National Weather Service.

Park Forest has 4 outdoor weather warning sirens:

- Talala School
- Winnebago (near the dog park)
- Western Avenue (at the railroad tracks)
- Western Avenue at Steger Rd.

The sirens are tested on the first Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. Don’t worry if you aren’t able to hear them indoors. The sirens are used to alert people outside that severe weather is coming and to seek shelter indoors.



PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

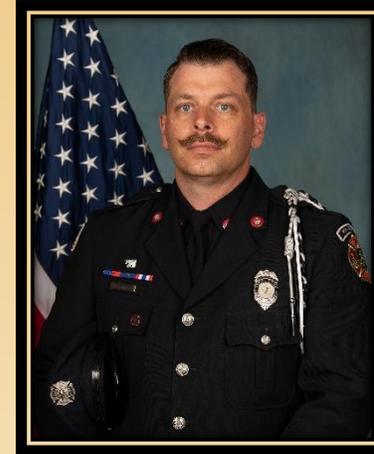
2024 ANNUAL REPORT



MAINTENANCE DIVISION

The Park Forest Fire Department prides itself on readiness. Just as our firefighters must be in peak condition to respond to emergencies, so must our vehicles and equipment. All members are trained and efficient in routine inspections of equipment, with additional members skilled in advanced repairs.

The department employs four career members on a hireback basis to fulfill the role of “maintenance personnel” to work on the vehicles, small tools, equipment, and building. Shift Commander Taylor Bordewyk heads up the maintenance team assisted by Firefighter/Paramedics Ryan Miller, Joseph Spanier, and Kyle Zelhart. These members work additional hours outside of their assigned shifts to keep the department ready to deploy. They are responsible for the management of the department fleet, fire and rescue equipment, and contribute to building and grounds issues.





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

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MAINTENANCE DIVISION

Vehicle maintenance duties include oil changes, preventative maintenance, troubleshooting/diagnostic, obtaining NFPA required pump testing on all fire engines, and coordinating repairs with outside maintenance contractors.

In addition to vehicle maintenance, hireback members perform and coordinate repairs and inspection on fire hose, power tools, hand tools, SCBAS, air compressors, generators, extrication equipment, and many other pieces of mission critical equipment.

The maintenance division continues to oversee the progress of the Department's purchase of a new fire engine expected to be delivered in 2025. This new engine will be a smaller, streamlined apparatus, designed for use in areas of limited access in Park Forest such as the co-op parking lots. This will allow us to better serve our residents in times of emergencies.





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MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM



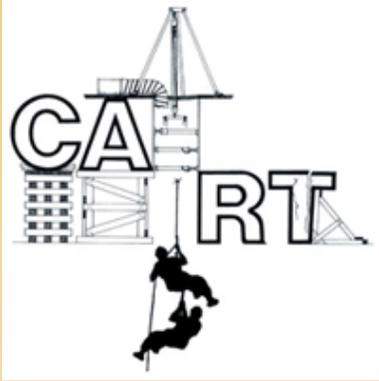
Mission Statement

“MABAS-Illinois serves local fire agencies, MABAS Divisions, State of Illinois Departments, and Cook County UASI-DHSEM by providing a systems-based resource allocation and distribution network of robust traditional and non-traditional fire-EMS-rescue and special operations teams for emergency and sustained response within and outside of the State of Illinois. Accomplishment of services requires cooperation, standardization, reliability, partnering, brokering and ongoing communication and compliance with customer specifications and expectations. Customer trust and reliance on the MABAS system is built upon personal relationships, credibility, and ongoing customer support.”



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SPECIAL TEAMS



Mission:

The Combined Agency Response Team (CART) exists to provide highly trained responders to specialized rescue incidents in a quick, efficient manner. CART responds to rescue incidents with a multi-million dollar cache of member owned and CART supplemented equipment to support the efforts of the technical rescuers. There are over 400 Rescue Technicians who are annually tested by the CART organization.





2024 ANNUAL REPORT

SPECIAL TEAMS



Members of the MABAS 27 Hazardous Materials Response Team are responsible to be trained and certified to the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal Hazardous Materials Technician B level. The team is comprised of approximately 40 members and advisors.

This team is responsible for responding to hazardous materials incidents and acts of terrorism in the South Suburbs, when called upon by a department of MABAS 27 or 24.

The purpose of the Haz-Mat Team is to provide a team of personnel with specialized hazardous materials training and equipment when the need arises. The team is capable of responding to hazardous materials incidents in order to contain and/or control the incident and to prevent further damage to life and property.



SPECIAL TEAMS



The mission of the MABAS Division 27/24 Dive Team is to provide a professional response to water rescue and/or recovery incidents to the Villages located within both Divisions.



Due to the variety of waterways in the area (lakes, rivers, ponds, drainage ditches, etc.) the Dive Team must be prepared for multiple types of water rescue situations.

- Evidence Recovery - assist law enforcement agencies in crime scene investigations and evidence recovery operations.
 - River Diving - rescue or recovery of victims using underwater search patterns in a moving water environment.
- Surface Water Rescue - rescue of accident victims while they are still on the surface of lakes, ponds, and other types of still water.
 - Swift-water Rescue - rescues performed anywhere near rivers and other types of moving water.
 - Underwater Rescue - SCUBA divers performing underwater search patterns to locate near-drowning victims.



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SPECIAL TEAMS



The Mission of the AFFI Honor Guard shall be to promote the Associated Firefighters of Illinois, the Locals therein, and the fire service as a whole, to the public, in a positive and proper fashion. To provide, as a line of duty death benefit, dignified, honorable services for fallen AFFI members, their surviving family members, and union brothers and sisters through organization of and participation in funeral and memorial services.





PARK FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



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SPECIAL TEAMS



The primary goal of the Will-Cook-Grundy County Fire Investigation Task Force is to provide training, education, support, and assistance to local municipalities by investigating and determining the origin and cause for large loss fires, multiple fire fatalities and providing staffing assistance within stricken jurisdictions throughout Will, Cook and Grundy County.