

City of  
*Mayfield Heights*

# FIRE DEPARTMENT



# 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY:

FIRE CHIEF BRUCE E. ELLIOTT





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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide the most efficient service for the community, we will act and perform in a safe, courteous, and professional manner. As members of the fire service, we have chosen to protect the lives and property of the citizens of our community. Our highly trained and motivated members have chosen to be part of a team that takes pride in representing the Mayfield Heights Fire Department. We will strive to create a strong bond with the community by involving them in fire education, prevention, and protection.



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF**



In an effort to provide you with a variety of information about the actions of the Mayfield Heights Fire Department in 2014, this annual report has been created. In keeping with our mission, vision, and core values, Mayfield Heights Firefighters consistently demonstrate a personal commitment to protect the quality of life and property in Mayfield Heights. As we move into 2015, we will continue to provide a high level of service to the community in the most efficient manner, with the safety of our residents and firefighters as our highest priorities. Truly, it is the members of the department who deserve to be recognized for their outstanding contributions to our community.

Our department continues to accept the challenges presented by the economy, demands for service, and ever changing technology. We constantly evaluate and, when needed, make necessary changes to our operational platform to ensure it provides efficient and effective services to the community.

Mayfield Heights Firefighters responded to 3603 incidents in 2014. Of those 3603 total incidents, 2918 were Emergency Medical Service (EMS) related, and 685 were fire related. These numbers are important to us, the citizens of Mayfield Heights, as each number represents when someone within our community experienced an unexpected, and many times unfortunate, event that led them to call for assistance. We understand the loss and pain that is often associated with an incident that requires our service and it is my hope that we have provided not just the professional response necessary to mitigate these emergencies, but also the appropriate compassion to support the individuals and families involved in these situations.

Beyond answering emergency calls, we prepare ourselves for the challenges we face through a comprehensive training program that meets or exceeds national standards established for both fire and EMS service. Countless hours are also spent in fire prevention and code enforcement inspections, as well as public fire safety education activities.

We are very grateful for the continued support from our community, city administration, other city departments, and elected officials; without your support, meeting our mission would not be possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Elliott".

Bruce Elliott  
Chief of Fire



## **FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORY**

The origin of the Mayfield Heights Fire Department can be traced back to 1927 when Village Marshal Nick Wright captured a bootlegger who was transporting moonshine in a 1920 Studebaker truck. Marshal Wright confiscated the truck and had it converted into the village's first fire truck.

Marshal Wright, who also served as Fire Chief, had at his disposal a group of volunteer firefighters, some of whom also served as police officers. It was during this period that the village began installing underground water mains and fire hydrants along main routes and thoroughfares. Marshal/Chief Wright served 1927 through 1933, when Bert Johnson defeated him in an election. In 1941, the department purchased its first real fire truck, a Chevrolet that was equipped with a 300 gallon water tank, a 500 gallon-per-minute pump, and 600 feet of fire hose. In 1946, Marshal/Chief Johnson resigned and his assistant, Deputy Marshal Clarence "Jack" Smith, became the new Police and Fire Chief.

The postwar era saw a building and population boom. During this time, the Fire Department purchased a new American LaFrance Quad fire truck. It was housed in their brand-new fire station, which is the basis for the present facility.

In 1952, Bernard Pirk became the city's first full-time Fire Chief. Being appointed Chief seemed to be a natural progression for Pirk, for he had been a volunteer firefighter since 1935. Along with Chief Pirk, the city also appointed James Kearns as another full-time firefighter. The city maintained five full-time firefighters and continued to maintain a sizable volunteer staff. A new era came to the department with the 1953 hirings: at least one full-time firefighter was on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

In 1960, the fire department traded its 1941 fire truck for a 750 gallon-per-minute pump, which was mounted to the tanker, making it an invaluable piece of firefighting apparatus. More men were hired and the city now had eight full-time firefighters. A new American LaFrance pumper was purchased. Along with the two fire engines, the fire department maintained a small fleet of support vehicles that would bring them into the 1970's. Because of new construction such as Hillcrest Hospital and Gates Mills Towers, the city, in 1970, purchased a Pierce Snorkel Truck. With its 85-foot articulating boom and pump capabilities, the Snorkel was a welcomed addition to fight fires in high-rise apartments and strip shopping centers. This truck was refurbished in 1985 and was used until the purchase of a 2000 E-One 100-foot ladder truck.

A marked increase in emergency medical calls caused the department to direct its efforts into starting Emergency Medical Service (EMS). Glenn Munthe, who was promoted to Chief in 1971, saw a need for men to be trained in more than basic first-aid. In 1973, three firefighters became the city's first Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), and most of the remaining firefighters soon became EMT's.

A tremendous amount of business growth meant these highly occupied buildings needed to be safe. In 1976, the Fire Prevention Bureau was established with Howard Fibich appointed as the city's Fire Marshal. He and his team of fire inspectors checked each business once a year



to ensure that they were fire safe. They also enforced the fire codes for new and existing construction.

In 1980, Wayne Jacobson was promoted to Chief, and the department now had 24 full-time firefighters. Emergency medicine continued to evolve and there was a growing need for paramedics. In 1982, firefighters Marano, Patty, and Forte became the city's first paramedics. This allowed rescue squad personnel to administer the advanced life support needed that has saved many lives. At the present time, 30 of the department's 32 firefighters are certified paramedics.

The fire station, built in 1950, was expanded in 1986, giving the crews triple the space. The station housed two fire engines, a Snorkel aerial apparatus, two rescue squads and two utility vehicles. After the station's completion, Chief Jacobson retired.

In 1987, Captain Michael Forte was promoted to Chief. Chief Forte continued to keep the department moving forward by increasing staffing to meet the needs of the community and overseeing several major purchases and projects including new pumpers, a new ladder truck, many rescue squads, and a new City Hall complex which was opened in late 2002. This new complex included a new fire station that housed two fire engines, a ladder truck, three rescue squads, a regional technical rescue vehicle, and two utility vehicles.

On September 11, 2011, Chief Forte retired, making him the longest serving Fire Chief for the City of Mayfield Heights. Captain Bruce Elliott was promoted to Chief and continues to keep the department moving forward by implementing a smoke detector program, a residential lock box program, community CPR classes, and public education programs.

From the use of the bootlegger's truck in 1927, to the state-of-the-art equipment used today, through different personalities and events that helped shape it, the Mayfield Heights Fire Department has truly evolved into a modern suburban fire department.



## DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS

### UPDATES FOR PROGRAMS STARTED IN 2013

**RESIDENTIAL LOCK BOX PROGRAM:** This safe-like box assists firefighters/paramedics with quick and easy access into a structure, reducing entry time and the risk of potential damage.

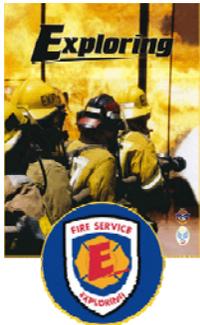


*The Residential Lock Box Program continues to be successful.* Fire Crews installed 30 lock boxes to residential homes in 2014.

**SMOKE DETECTOR PROGRAM:** This program provides Mayfield Heights homeowners with photoelectric smoke detectors, including installation, free of charge. Funding for this program is made possible through federal grants and donations.

*The Smoke Detector Program continues to grow each month.* In 2014, fire crews installed 346 detectors in 127 homes.

**EXPLORER POST PROGRAM:** Mayfield Heights joined forces with the Lyndhurst and South Euclid fire departments to establish an “Explorer Post”. This post is comprised of young men and women, ages 14-20, who have an interest in the fire service. After training requirements are met, the Explorers are able to participate in ride-along time with the departments, assist on fire scenes, etc.



*Enrollment and interest have increased since Mayfield Heights joined this post.* Our Fire Explorer Post continues to be active, and assisted with the parade and Mayfield Heights’ Community Unity Days activities.

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** The Fire Department regularly uses social media (Facebook and Twitter) to convey important information and “safety tips” to anyone following our pages.



*The number of people following the Fire Department page has increased drastically since last year.* It is obvious that people use social media to obtain information quickly. We continue to use this medium to convey important and general safety information to the people following us.

The Mayfield Heights Fire Department will continue to meet the needs of our diverse community. To that end, we challenge our employees to deliver their best every day and to continually strive to better assist our customers. I look forward to serving the residents and visitors of Mayfield Heights as we seek solutions to meet the challenges of the future together.



## **MAJOR MILESTONES IN 2014**

### **JANUARY 1, 2014**

The Mayfield Heights Fire Department ran a total of 3461 emergencies in 2013.

### **JANUARY 6, 2014**

Lieutenant Braccia sworn in as Assistant Chief. Firefighter Bill Mandich promoted to Lieutenant. Keith Faron sworn in as Firefighter.

### **JANUARY 19, 2014**

Fire crews responded to a working laundry room fire on Marshfield.

### **JANUARY 27/28, 2014**

Sponsored an area-wide “National Traffic Incident Management” class provided by the Ohio Department of Transportation. This class attended by many Police and Fire personnel.

### **FEBRUARY 24, 2014**

Fire Department completed an eight hour Haz-Mat technician refresher course.

### **MARCH 18, 19, 20, 2014**

Hillcrest Hospital provided 8 hour “Advanced Cardiac Life Support” refresher course.

### **APRIL 10, 2014**

Fire crews responded to a working house fire on Longwood.

### **APRIL 14, 2014**

Inspector Terry Simonian hired as full time Fire Safety Inspector.

### **APRIL 23, 2014**

The Fire Department took delivery of a new command vehicle (550).

### **MAY 1, 2014**

Several Fire Officers attended an off-site seminar, titled “Managing Major Fires” presented by a well-known author.

### **MAY 24, 2014**

Fire crews responded to a working apartment fire at Gates Mills Place Apartments.



**JUNE 2, 2014**

Lieutenant Dennis Linsky promoted to Captain. Firefighter Jeff Lanhan promoted to Lieutenant. Oska Sayavongsa sworn in as a Firefighter.

**JUNE 3, 2014**

The Fire Department was able to obtain a house on Commonwealth for "live fire training." Live burns are important to advance firefighter skills and techniques.

**JUNE 7, 2014**

Captain Mark Phillips' last day after serving 31 years with the City

**JUNE 11, 2014**

Fire crews responded to a working house fire on Commonwealth.

**JULY 3, 2014**

Safety Town graduation

**JULY 14, 2014**

Fire crews responded to a working apartment fire at Gates Mills Place Apartments.

**JULY 17, 2014**

Safety Town graduation.

Fire Department also placed in service a new "power load" cot loading system. Funds for this equipment were obtained from the Bureau of Workers Compensation.

**JULY 19, 2014**

A powerful summer storm generated our highest run totals of the year, topping out with over 30 incidents.

**JULY 28, 2014**

Eleven Firefighters completed week-long "Honor/Color Guard" training.

**AUGUST 1, 2014**

Safety Town graduation

**AUGUST 8, 9, 10, 2014**

Fire Department participated in the City's Community Unity Days events.

**AUGUST 11, 2014**

Fire crews responded to a working house fire on Commonwealth.



**SEPTEMBER 1, 2014**

Fire crews collected donations over Labor Day weekend, for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Firefighters collected over \$20,000 over the four-day weekend.

**OCTOBER 1, 2014**

Lander Road School stops by City Hall for facility tour.

**OCTOBER 15, 2014**

Fire education program (Play safe, Be Safe) was conducted at Lander Rd. School and several pre-school locations over a 4 week period. The program was conducted by Firefighter Matt Bobinski.

**OCTOBER 17, 2014**

Department members spend countless hours attending meetings, providing education, and preparing for suspected "Ebola" that entered into Northeast Ohio.

**OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014**

Mayfield Heights Firefighters provided public educations to Lander Rd. School and several local Pre-schools/Daycare. The program used was "Play Safe, Be Safe".

**NOVEMBER 1, 2014**

Mayfield Heights Firefighters participated in Community Partnership on Aging's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Chili Cook Off". For the second year in a row, Mayfield Heights wins the "People's Choice" award.

**DECEMBER 4, 2014**

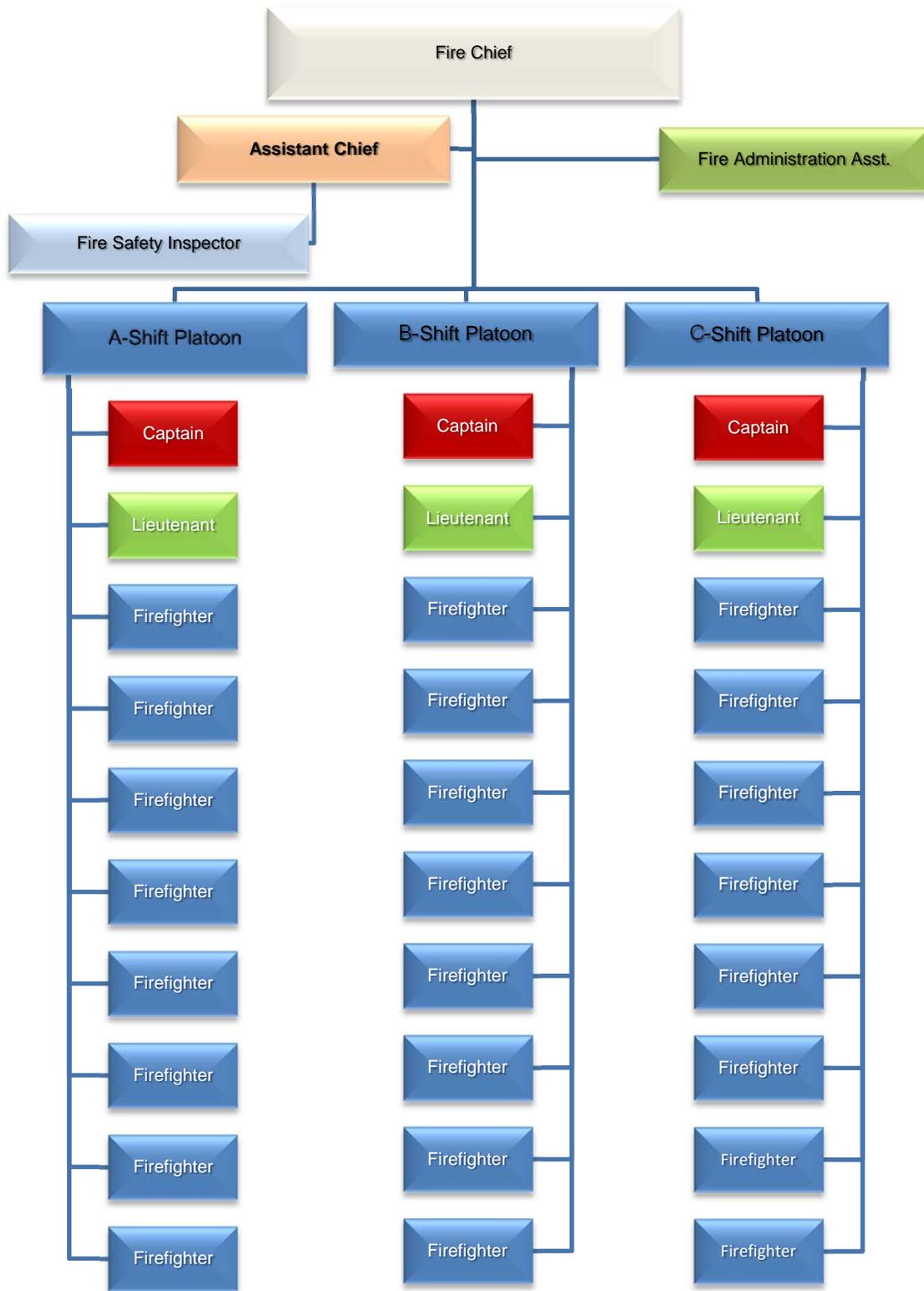
Mayfield Heights Fire and Police Departments participate in the "Heroes and Helpers" program at Target Department Store.

**December 2014**

Mayfield Heights Local 1500 helped to keep the kids of Lander School warm this winter by providing a box of hats and gloves for children who forget theirs, or do not have their own.



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



**CURRENT FIRE DEPARTMENT ROSTER**

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>RANK OR TITLE</u>	<u>SHIFT</u>	<u>INITIAL YEAR OF SERVICE</u>
BYNANE	TIM	CAPTAIN/EMT	B-SHIFT	1984
WARNER	GARY	FIREFIGHTER/EMT	C-SHIFT	1984
SHREWSBURY	JOHN	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	1987
DURICHKO	GEORGE	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	1987
BELLIAN	MIKE	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	1989
KRAUS	JOHN	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	1992
BRACCIA	MICHAEL	ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF	ADMINISTRATION	1992
ELLIOTT	BRUCE	FIRE CHIEF	ADMINISTRATION	1993
PAROS	STEVE	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	1995
LINSKY	DENNIS	CAPTAIN/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	1995
LANHAN	JEFF	LIEUTENANT/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	1995
GOODWIN	MIKE	CAPTAIN/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	1995
ZDANOWICZ	TOM	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	1995
MADAN	BILL	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	2001
MARTINITIS	CHRIS	LIEUTENANT/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	2001
CUDO	JEFF	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	2001
MANDICH	BILL	LIEUTENANT/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	2001
SMITH	JEFF	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	2002
LANZARA	NICK	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	2002
COSTANTINO	KEVIN	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	2002
BAUMGARDNER	LAURA	ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.	ADMINISTRATION	2003
HORNYAK	MATT	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	2003
PALUMBO	MARK	LIEUTENANT/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	2004
GVORA	JUSTIN	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	2007
PUIN	MIKE	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	2007
PRIMIANO	MIKE	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	2007
BOBINSKI	MATT	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	2008
BAMBRICK	ROB	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	2009
GVORA	RYAN	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	2011
BROYLES	ZACH	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	2012
BROCKWAY	ALEX	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	C-SHIFT	2013
FARON	KEITH	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	B-SHIFT	2014
SIMONIAN	TERRY	FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR	ADMINISTRATION	2014
SAYAVONGSA	OSKA	FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC	A-SHIFT	2014



## **SHIFT INFORMATION**

The Mayfield Heights Fire Department currently operates out of one Fire Station, located at 6154 Mayfield Road. Housed in our Fire Station are two fire engines, one 100' aerial ladder, two paramedic-equipped rescue squads, one command vehicle, and one paramedic supervisor vehicle. These vehicles are in-service every day to serve the citizens and visitors of our community.

The Fire Department operates on a three shift rotation, referred to as A, B, and C Shifts. Each shift has one Captain, one Lieutenant (one shift has a floating Lieutenant) and eight Firefighters. The total number of line Firefighters is 30.

The Fire Department Administration staff consists of the Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, Fire Administration Assistant, and a Fire Safety Inspector.

## **RETIREMENTS, PROMOTIONS & NEW HIRES**

### **RETIREMENT**

CAPTAIN MARK PHILLIPS RETIRED

JUNE 7, 2014





**PROMOTION TO ASSISTANT CHIEF**

MICHAEL BRACCIA,

JANUARY 6, 2014



**PROMOTION TO CAPTAIN**

DENNIS LINSKY

JUNE 2, 2014





**PROMOTION TO LIEUTENANT**

WILLIAM MANDICH  
JANUARY 6, 2014

JEFF LANHAN  
JUNE 2, 2014



**NEW HIRES TO FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC**

KEITH FARON  
JANUARY 6, 2014

OSKA SAYAVONGSA  
JUNE 2, 2014





# DEPARTMENT STATISTICS



## GENERAL STATISTICS

- In 2014 the Mayfield Heights Fire Department responded to 3,603 calls for service, an all-time high for the Fire Department.
  - 2918 Rescue/EMS related
  - 685 Fire related
- 81% of overall call volume was EMS
- Calls were up from 4.1 % in 2014 and up 19.26 % from 2010
- The busiest day of the week in 2014 was Monday
- The slowest day of the week in 2014 was Saturday
- The busiest hour of the day in 2014 was 4PM
- The slowest hour of the day in 2014 was 3AM
- Total property and content loss in 2013 was \$420,500.00. This figure is up 460% from 2013.
- 920 overlapping calls (25.53%) in 2014
- No civilian fire fatalities reported in 2014
- No firefighter injuries from fires in 2014
- The average years of service (per firefighter) is 14 years
- Average response time from dispatch to arrival was 3:33 min
- Average time spent on scene was 15:42 min
- A-Shift responded to 1304 incidents
- B-Shift responded to 1144 incidents
- C-Shift responded to 1155 incidents
- Average cost per incident: \$1,309
- Yearly cost per resident (based on population of 18,974): \$248.52

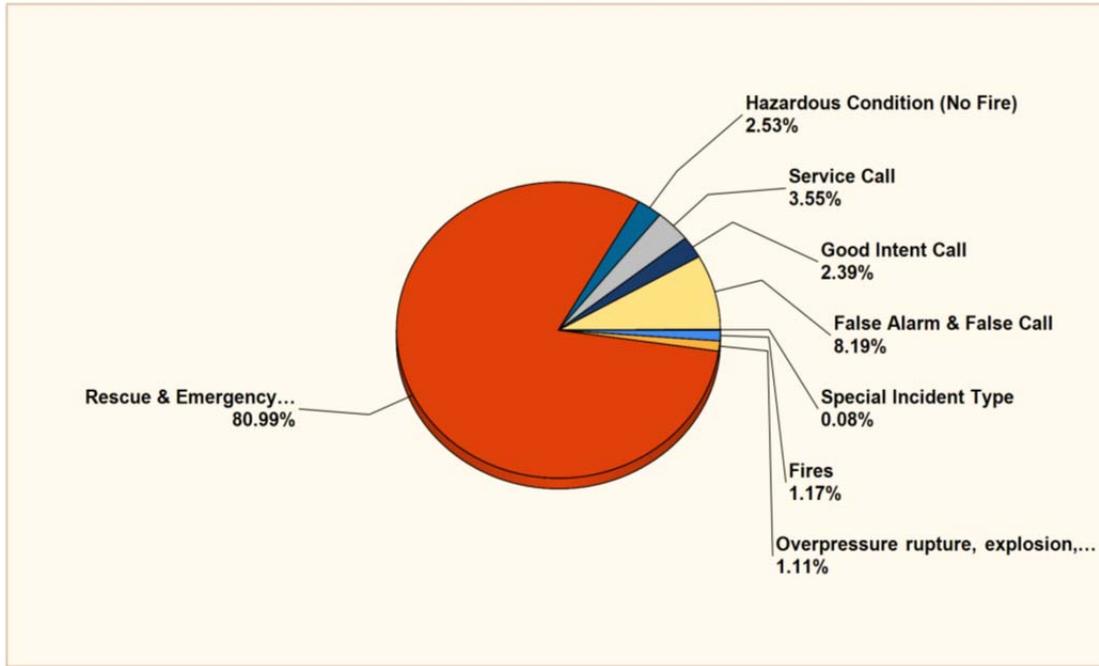


## DEPARTMENT BUDGET

2014 FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET VS. ACTUAL		
DESCRIPTION	2014 APPROVED BUDGET	2014 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES
SALARIES	3,014,675.00	2,952,578.39
FRINGE BENEFITS	1,460,600.00	1,443,205.99
MATERIALS/SUPPLIES	88,200.00	76,173.43
CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	174,650.00	132,207.56
EQUIPMENT/IMPROVEMENT	87,600.00	78,842.83
OTHER EXPENSES	34,900.00	32,554.37
<b>2014 TOTALS</b>	<b>4,864,325.00</b>	<b>4,715,562.57</b>
		<b>-3.15 %</b>
PAST ACTUAL ANNUAL EXPENDITURES		
2012		\$4,384,469.88
2013		\$4,523,108.02
2014		\$4,715,562.57
2014 GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED/DONATIONS		
OHIO BUREAU OF WORKERS COMP (BWC)		\$40,000.00
STATE OF OHIO – TRAINING/EQUIPMENT		\$2,750.00
STATE FARM INSURANCE		\$1,450.00
WALMART		\$2,500.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$46,700.00</b>



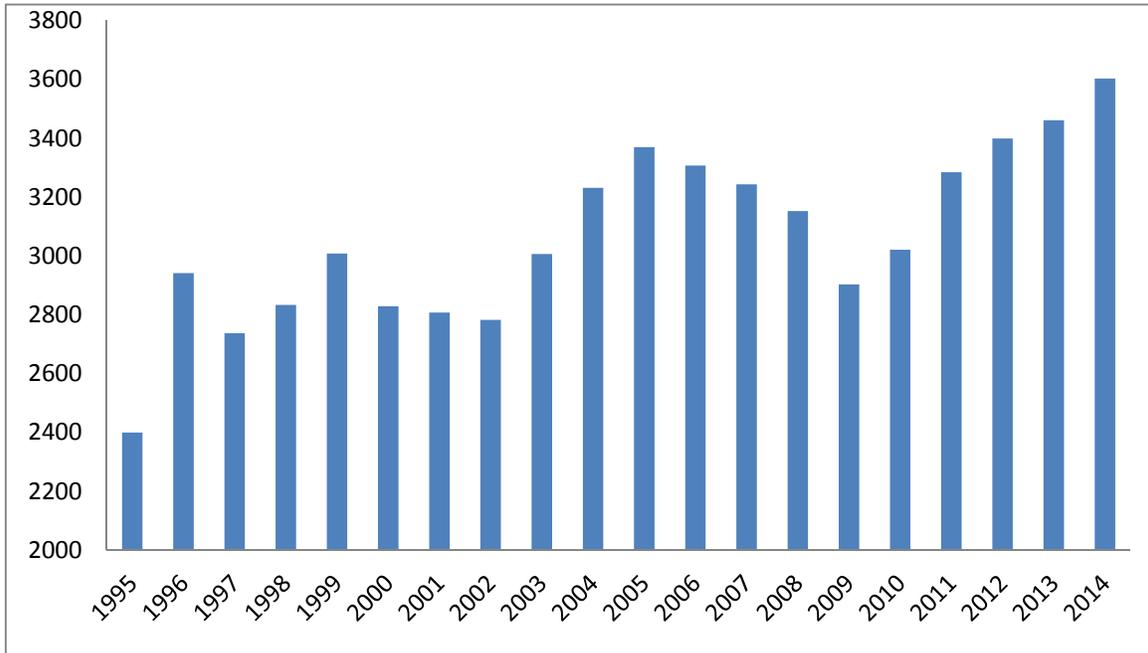
## MAJOR INCIDENT TYPES FOR 2014



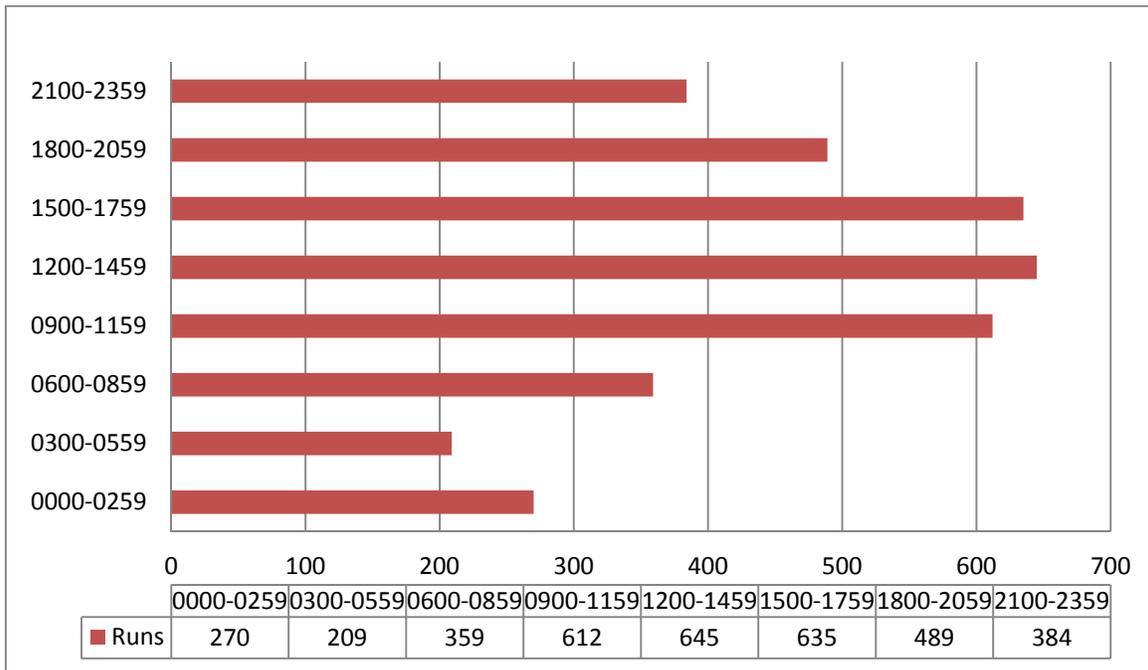
MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% OF TOTAL
FIRES	42	1.17
OVERPRESSURE RUPTURE, EXPLOSION, OVERHEAT	40	1.11
RESCUE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE	2,918	80.99
HAZARDOUS CONDITION (NO FIRE)	91	2.53
SERVICE CALL	128	3.55
GOOD INTENT CALL	86	2.39
FALSE ALARM & FALSE CALL	295	8.19
SPECIAL INCIDENT TYPE	3	0.08
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,603</b>	<b>100%</b>



## 20 YEAR HISTORY RUN



## 2014 RUNS BY TIME OF DAY



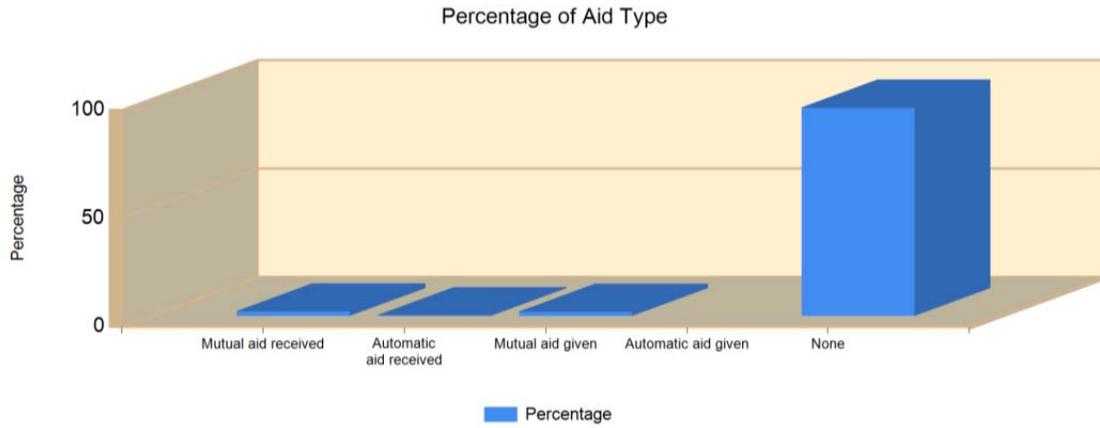
**2014 FIRE LOSS DATA**

TOTAL INCIDENTS	TOTAL PROPERTY LOSS	TOTAL CONTENT LOSS	TOTAL LOSSES	AVERAGE LOSS
17	\$290,100.00	\$130,400.00	\$420,500.00	\$24,735.00

INCIDENT NUMBER	DATE	Incident Type	PROPERTY LOSS	CONTENT LOSS	TOTAL	% of Total
2014-1242	05/09/2014	251 - Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	0.10%
2014-1261	05/12/2014	131 - Passenger vehicle fire	\$3,500.00	\$200.00	\$3,700.00	0.88%
2014-1382	05/24/2014	111 - Building fire	\$15,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$20,000.00	4.76%
2014-1562	06/11/2014	111 - Building fire	\$80,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$130,000.00	30.92%
2014-191	01/19/2014	111 - Building fire	\$125,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$175,000.00	41.62%
2014-1927	07/14/2014	111 - Building fire	\$5,000.00	\$100.00	\$5,100.00	1.21%
2014-2113	08/04/2014	251 - Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.24%
2014-2185	08/11/2014	111 - Building fire	\$1,500.00	\$500.00	\$2,000.00	0.48%
2014-2454	09/08/2014	131 - Passenger vehicle fire	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.12%
2014-2714	10/02/2014	440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.24%
2014-2838	10/15/2014	132 - Road freight or transport vehicle fire	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	1.19%
2014-353	02/05/2014	131 - Passenger vehicle fire	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.48%
2014-71	01/08/2014	522 - Water or steam leak	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	3.57%
2014-74	01/08/2014	522 - Water or steam leak	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	7.13%
2014-749	03/19/2014	113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	0.19%
2014-828	03/28/2014	131 - Passenger vehicle fire	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	0.29%
2014-975	04/10/2014	111 - Building fire	\$20,000.00	\$7,800.00	\$27,800.00	6.61%



## MUTUAL AID GIVEN AND RECEIVED IN 2014



AID TYPE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
MUTUAL AID RECEIVED	71	2.0%
AUTOMATIC AID RECEIVED	6	0.2%
MUTUAL AID GIVEN	64	1.8%
AUTOMATIC AID GIVEN	1	0.0%
NONE	3461	96.1%



## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE BILLING RECEIPTS FOR 2014**

The Mayfield Heights Fire Department bills patients for transportation to medical facilities. The funds received from EMS (Emergency Medical Service) billing are distributed into the City's General Fund. Listed below are the 2014 EMS billing totals.

<b>MONTH</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
JANUARY	\$55,450.73
FEBRUARY	\$46,048.61
MARCH	\$49,254.74
APRIL	\$47,425.56
MAY	\$54,748.80
JUNE	\$50,332.74
JULY	\$53,882.81
AUGUST	\$54,190.33
SEPTEMBER	\$54,538.61
OCTOBER	\$53,445.30
NOVEMBER	\$46,834.67
DECEMBER	\$56,499.96
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$622,652.86</b>



**OFFICERS**  
**&**  
**SPECIAL TEAMS**  
**2014 YEARLY REPORTS**



# COMPUTER SYSTEM

BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF MICHAEL BRACCIA

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND RELATED SOFTWARE

This year, the Mayfield Heights Fire Department implemented a new system that ties our report writing software directly into the Police Department’s computer aided dispatch (CAD)



**SUNDANCE SYSTEMS, INC.**

**SOFT SOLUTIONS TO HARD PROBLEMS**

system. This enables the dispatch center to fill data fields directly into the Fire Department’s reporting software as they are creating the run in the dispatch center,

thus reducing the redundancy of having firefighters re-enter this same information when they return to the station to write their report. Information such as times, addresses, and pertinent patient information is already entered by dispatch increasing efficiency. This is accomplished by the two software companies working together to allow both systems to “talk” to each other, and, in doing so, does not create any extra work for the dispatchers. The information gathered in the reporting software is information that is already entered into the CAD system; it is now automatically uploaded directly into the Fire Department reporting software.

The Fire Department uses mobile data terminal’s (MDT’s), which are rugged laptop computers located in the frontline apparatus, used to assist us in responding to calls and when on scene at working incidents. The MDT’s allow us to have access to data and resources located online and through the City’s CAD system, including the Fire Department’s reporting software.



Because of outdated software located on the older system that is no longer being supported, the Fire Department was required by the State of Ohio to update their MDT’s. The Fire Department chose to replace the units rather than try to upgrade the software due to the age of the laptops and because the new operating system software was not compatible with the current units. Five new MDT units were purchased and placed in service in the frontline apparatus in November.

The Fire Department server infrastructure and desktop computers were again maintained both in-house and by DataServ Business and IT Services. In house, the desktops were routinely cleaned physically, both internally and externally, with various scans run to maintain the



integrity of the operating system. DataServ was only used when repair or major configuration issues were necessary.

Monthly EMS and NIFIRS report information was sent to the State of Ohio Fire Incident Reporting System which tracks and confirms that the fire department is compliant with all of the information required by the State of Ohio when filling out our Fire and EMS reports. The Mayfield Heights Fire Department once again has an acceptance rate of well over 99% on each of the initial monthly filings.



## **FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF MICHAEL BRACCIA AND FIRE INSPECTOR TERRY SIMONIAN

### **FIRE PREVENTION/PUBLIC EDUCATION**

The Mayfield Heights Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau consists of a full-time Fire Inspector who is directly supervised by the Assistant Chief. The Bureau is charged with the following duties:

- Inspecting all business occupancies for fire safety code compliance
- Reviewing site plans prior to site approval from City Council
- Plan review prior to building permits being issued
- Certificate of Occupancy inspections with the Building Department prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy
- Inspecting homes prior to adoptions (county requirement)
- Inspecting prospective foster homes (county requirement)
- Issuing yearly fire prevention permits

Witnessing a variety of system tests:

- New underground fire line hydrostatic test
- New sprinkler system hydrostatic test
- New sprinkler system acceptance test
- Sprinkler system yearly maintenance test
- Pre-Action Sprinkler systems yearly maintenance test
- Standpipe hydrostatic test (every five years)
- New fire alarm acceptance test
- Fire alarm yearly maintenance test
- New hood system acceptance test
- Hood system bi-yearly test
- FM200 yearly system test
- Yearly fire door drop test
- Bi-annual CO2 system test
- Yearly HVAC smoke control test
- Yearly HVAC duct smoke detector test
- Yearly foam system test



# 2014 FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU ACTIVITY

This year, the Fire Prevention Bureau witnessed or inspected the following, seeing to it that corrective action was taken when necessary:

FIRE PREVENTION INSPECTION REPORT 2014	
FIRE ALARM TESTS (ALL TYPES)	155
OCCUPANCY INSPECTIONS	34
SPRINKLER TESTS (ALL TYPES)	114
HOOD SUPPRESSION SYSTEM TESTS	107
HVAC DUCT DETECTOR TESTS	15
CLEAN AGENT SYSTEM TESTS	14
STANDPIPE TESTS	10
FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS	287
UNDERGROUND FIRE-LINE	1
<b>TOTAL FIRE INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>737</b>

**Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives**

**Test Yours Every Month!**

Fire Prevention Week  
October 5–11, 2014  
Go to [FPW.org](http://FPW.org)



The Fire Prevention Bureau is also charged with overseeing the Department's Public Education programs. This year, the Fire Department has expanded its public education program to include educational programming for our two local pre-schools and at Community Unity Days.

In 2014, a well-respected fire safety education program for preschoolers was implemented with the aid of University Hospitals Safe Kids of Greater Cleveland agency. The program is called "Play Safe! Be Safe" and was developed over twenty years ago by child development and fire safety specialists to help fire departments and other fire safety educators effectively teach fire safety to preschool children. The program is taught one day per week for four weeks by a member of the Fire Department and then reinforced on the remaining four weekdays by the preschool teacher. The program has proven to be the most effective way to promote fire safety to young children and research has shown that the majority of the children who have gone through this program retain the information for a lifetime, versus those who are given a one day lecture. The program was designed for preschoolers in the 3-5 year old range and was extremely well received by both the children and the teachers. The Fire Department will be implementing this program again in 2015.

The Fire Prevention Bureau also participated in the annual Safety Town courses given over six weeks in the summer. The children participated in various fire safety lessons including "Stop! Drop! And Roll!", "Crawl Low Under Smoke!" As well as learning the importance of E-D-I-T-H (Exit Drills in the Home).



The Fire Prevention Bureau once again went out to our local business community and instructed a number of businesses in the proper use of fire extinguishers. This year, the program was expanded with the use of a new laser based extinguisher training system borrowed from a neighboring community. The ease of use of the new laser based system allowed the Bureau to reach out to more businesses in the city since "live" fire and real extinguishers are no longer needed to obtain realistic training.



The Fire Department also purchased a number of educational resources through grants in 2014. These included a 911 simulator for students to practice calling 911 and talking to a dispatcher. A "hazard house" that allows the Fire Department to set up a large model "doll house" in a classroom, complete with actual smoke and working smoke alarms that can be activated, which allows us to run through various fire safety scenarios, including what to do in certain fire related situations. The hazard house was used this year at Lander Elementary School at our annual fire safety program given during Fire Safety Week in October. The program was well received and the students



appreciated the visual effects and cues given to them through the hazard house, as witnessed by the many excellent questions they had after the program.

And lastly, a “Sparky” the Fire Dog costume was purchased with grant funds for the younger children. Sparky is a hit wherever he goes as he helps to introduce fire safety concepts to younger children in a non-threatening way that they respond to, positively. Sparky made his debut at the 2014 Community Unity Days and was used during the Play Safe! Be Safe! educational program in the preschools. He also, on occasion, may make an appearance for the school children touring the fire station with their class.



### **GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR 2015**

In 2015, we hope to begin replacing at least half of our aging desktop computer systems. The current systems have served us very well, but are beginning to show their age and have needed some tweaking within the past year. The Department would like to begin a program of replacement before the need becomes urgent.

The Department would also like to look at consolidating many of our redundant printers, some of which are more than eight years old and are beginning to show signs of age. We would like to replace as many printers as possible with network capable printers and do away with the older peer to peer connected systems from which many of our printing issues seem to stem.

We will continue the development of our Emergency Reporting system and dispatch center tie-in which allows the Fire Department and the Police Department to consolidate information. This allows both departments to be made aware of important issues when responding to calls for assistance within a single software framework, increasing efficiency and reducing redundancy and the chance for errors.

The Fire Prevention Bureau will continue with its current program of inspections and systems testing. The Bureau will continue to work closely with the Building Department to ensure that all fire safety codes and ordinances are followed, and that all safety systems are installed and maintained to the current code.

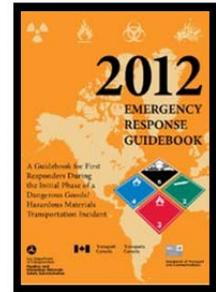


## **BUILDING AND GROUNDS/HAZMAT/WMD**

BY: CAPTAIN TIM BYNANE

### **WMD AND HAZMAT**

Once again, the Mayfield Heights Fire Department was fortunate enough to qualify for the grant-sponsored eight hour hazardous materials refresher training provided by Cleveland State University. The instructors are present or retired City of Akron Fire Department members with years of practical hands-on hazmat experience. This year, we reviewed the 2012 Emergency Response Guidebook and Methamphetamine Labs. We hope to qualify for this training again in 2015.



### **STATION MAINTENANCE**

The city has committed a considerable amount of money to the heating and air conditioning in the fire department and city hall. The efforts are starting to show as the system has been more reliable than in past years. The new preventative maintenance contract should help keep us on the right track.

J & L Door continues to provide maintenance for the bay garage doors and also provides emergency service as needed. These doors get quite a daily workout and J & L does a good job of getting them back in service quickly.

Fred's Appliance continues to take care of most of our appliance repair needs. This year, they repaired "C" shift's refrigerator as well as the upstairs washing machine before it finally had to be replaced.

Total Appliance replaced the igniters, bake burner, and thermostat on our commercial Wolf stove. (Fred's Appliance does not work on Wolf products.)

F & M Mechanical continues to be the service provider for our vehicle diesel exhaust system known as the Neiderman. In an effort to keep costs down, we perform in-house repairs as much as possible and only call them when absolutely necessary. The Neiderman is an important safety component as it reduces the amount of diesel exhaust that we are exposed to.

B & C Communications replaced the faulty circuit board in the main dormitory for the Zetron station alerting system.

Zenith Systems provided service for our electric door locks as needed. Usually, these locks only need cleaning when they fail, and, in those situations, the locks were cleaned by on-duty personnel. This year, the parking lot door lock needed to be replaced.



In March, four new rolling command center chairs were purchased from Costco.

In April our annual spring cleaning of the station took place once again. Over the last couple of years, we have greatly reduced the amount of clutter around the station which results in spring cleaning taking less time. The object of spring cleaning is to clean the items that we don't get to on a weekly or monthly basis.

In May, the Service Department stripped and waxed the kitchen, watch office, and basement floors. The winter months are very rough on our tile floors.

John Schbrocco continued to provide plumbing services to the fire department as needed. Many plumbing repairs are handled in-house and he is only utilized when the job is beyond our capabilities. This year, the "B" shift duty crew replaced the kitchen faucet.

In September, a new dishwasher and clothes washer were purchased from Snow Brothers in Lyndhurst. The dishwasher was installed by on-duty personnel.

Many miscellaneous repairs are made by on-duty personnel on a regular basis such as vacuum cleaner repairs, minor painting and dry wall repairs, steam cleaning of furniture, and fitness equipment repairs. The guys are very talented and they enjoy the change of pace that these projects provide.

### **APPARATUS INVENTORIES**

Apparatus inventories are updated as needed at the end of each year to match new or retired equipment. These are good training aids and they are used frequently.

### **APPARATUS SPECIFICATIONS**

A new Ford Interceptor command vehicle was received by the department and put in service this year. The cars are rotated to less urgent positions as they age in order to get the most life out of them.



### **ACCOUNTABILITY TAGS AND STATION SIGNAGE**

All tags and signage are updated as personnel are hired or promoted.



# VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

BY: CAPTAIN MICHAEL GOODWIN

## PRIMARY VEHICLE FLEET

**ENGINE 512  
2004 E-ONE**



**ENGINE 511  
1989 PIERCE ARROW**



**LADDER 521  
2000 E-ONE**



**SQUAD 541  
2009 LIFELINE**



**SQUAD 542  
2005 LIFELINE**



**SQUAD 543  
2000 HORTON**



**COMMAND 550  
2014 EXPLORER**



**MEDIC 553  
2010 EXPLORER**



**UTILITY TRUCK 555  
2012 DODGE RAM 2500**





The Mayfield Heights Fire Department has a fleet of 12 vehicles which require routine preventative maintenance to ensure their dependability. A great number of hours are spent each week cleaning, waxing, and making repairs to each vehicle. The vehicles are on a schedule to ensure the preventative maintenance is completed on a consistent and regular basis.

Repairs are completed both in-house and, at times, by outside vendors. The outside vendors are used to ensure we remain compliant with NFPA 1911, the standard for the inspection, maintenance, and testing of in-service fire apparatus. Great effort is put forth to ensure the vehicles are maintained in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

Three of the department’s vehicles have onboard water pumps to supply sufficient water pressures for firefighting: Engine 511, Engine 512, and Ladder 521. The water pumps were tested this year, as they are each year. All three performed to their expected standard. In addition to pump testing, the department’s ground ladders require annual testing. Ladder Testing is performed by an outside vendor as special equipment is needed for the testing. The ladders are thoroughly inspected for wear, and repairs are made as needed. The ground ladders also undergo a weighted test to ensure they remain complaint with the fire department standard.

Ariel Ladder 521 also undergoes ladder testing, and, in addition to the ladder testing, the pre-piped waterway is pressure tested and flow tested. The pre-piped waterway is permanently attached to the ladder and extends its full 100” length. This allows for great volumes of water to be applied to fires from above, or out of the reach of ground forces.

Car 554, a 2005 Crown Victoria, was taken out of service and replaced with our 2008 Ford Explorer, which had served as the shift officer’s command vehicle (550). A new 2014 Ford Interceptor SUV now serves as the command vehicle.

**VEHICLE INVENTORY**

VEHICLE	YEAR	MANUFACTURER
ENGINE 511	1989	PIERCE
ENGINE 512	2004	EMERGENCY ONE (EONE)
LADDER 521	2000	EMERGENCY ONE (EONE)
SQUAD 541	2009	LIFELINE ON FORD ECONOLINE CHASSIS
SQUAD 542	2005	LIFELINE ON FORD INTERNATIONAL 4300 CHASSIS
SQUAD 543	2000	HORTON ON FREIGHTLINER FI-50 CHASSIS
COMMAND VEHICLE 550	2014	FORD INTERCEPTOR SUV
CHIEF CAR 551	2009	FORD FUSION
ASST. CHIEF CAR 552	2007	FORD TAURUS
EMS CHASE VEHICLE 553	2010	FORD EXPLORER
FIRE PREVENTION VEHICLE 554	2008	FORD EXPLORER
UTILITY VEHICLE 555	2012	DODGE RAM 2500 4X4



## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

BY: CAPTAIN DENNIS LINSKY

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) had a very productive year in Mayfield Heights responding to 3603 emergency calls. Of those, 2918 were EMS related. The Mayfield Heights Fire Department consists of thirty (30) full-time Firefighter/Paramedics (FF/PM) and two full-time Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technicians (FF/EMT).

Our secure, on-line reporting system provides access to all of our reports and has proved to be a very user-friendly reporting system. We can generate many reports with the data including, but not limited to, call volumes, type of emergencies, type of fires, carbon monoxide incidents, training hours, time sheets, fire inspections, EMS instant review and feedback with medical control, hydrants, and preplans.



Under the direction of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation Department of EMS, the fire department received a new Medical Director, Dr. James Sauto Jr., MD. Dr. Sauto graduated from Baldwin Wallace College, went to Wright State University School of Medicine, and then completed his residency at MetroHealth Medical School Center. Currently, Dr. Sauto works for the Cleveland Clinic Foundation at our Hillcrest Hospital campus. Dr. Sauto worked as a Firefighter/Paramedic before becoming a doctor and knows and loves the job we do. Under his direction and training, Hillcrest continues to provide EMS continued education (Con-Ed) classes for each of our three shifts on a monthly basis.

The following educational topics were covered in 2014:

- Understanding Diabetes
- EMS Jeopardy and Difficult Airways
- Ebola: Prepare, Prevent, and Responding
- PPE Donning and Doffing
- EKG Emergencies
- Sudden Death in the Young
- Pediatric Trauma
- Burns from Dr. Khandelwal of Metro Burn Unit
- Infectious Diseases and TB Testing
- Stroke in the Prehospital Setting
- Airway Competency
- Bed Bugs from Mr. Barsa of Cuyahoga County Board of Health
- Pediatric Emergencies and Case Scenarios



In addition to classroom training, the department uses online education and training that certifies our paramedics and EMT's with up-to-date continuing education hours. A total of 886 hours of continuing education for EMS was completed, broken down as: 125 hours for trauma, 75.5 hours for pediatrics, 40 hours for geriatrics, and 645.5 hours of miscellaneous education.



We sent four FF/PM to the Northern Ohio Trauma Symposium (NOTS) for a two day trauma training seminar. Four FF/PM attended the Metro Life Flight Symposium for continuing education. We had ten FF/PM's recertify their state certifications this year and all were approved. All FF/PM passed the medical director's yearly competency exam on EMS protocols.

EMS Advisory meetings are held every-other month at Hillcrest. The meetings are run by the Medical Director and the Hillcrest EMS staff, with representatives from Pediatrics, Adult ED, Trauma, Neurology, and upper level administration.

The department received \$2,750 in grant money from the State of Ohio, Division of EMS. The grant money was used to purchase various new EMS equipment and Mass Causality Kits. The fire department also received a grant from the Bureau of Workers Compensation for \$40,000 to purchase two new power load systems for both of our ambulances. This system is safer for the patient and the worker to prevent injuries and lower workers Compensation claims.



The department now has four members who are CPR Instructors. Twelve classes were taught throughout the year with a total of 53 people being certified in CPR. The department offers CPR classes to the public the second Wednesday of every month.



**AUTHORIZED TRAINING CENTER**

The department has one certified Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Instructor, one certified Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Instructor, and one EMS Instructor. The City of Mayfield Heights Fire Department is a State Certified Continuing Education Site, which allows our instructors to teach Con-Ed for EMS within our own department.

The Fire Chief, along with the EMS Officer, attended many meetings on a local, county, and state level for the response treatment of Ebola patients. We have created policies and conducted training exercises on preparation, prevention, and treatment, and plans are in place, along with specified safety equipment, to handle an outbreak.



The department continues its involvement with our Social Services Department to create a better way to handle cases involving hoarding and bed bugs.



### **GOALS FOR 2015**

- Apply for and receive our annual EMS Grant from the Ohio Department of EMS.
- Continue and expand our community CPR course offerings, including offering AED training to our local businesses.
- Certify two more Department members to be ACLS and PALS Instructors.
- Offer Con-Ed to our department and outside agencies on a monthly basis.





## **TRAINING PROGRAM**

BY: LIEUTENANT MARK PALUMBO

The Training Division is responsible for coordinating and scheduling the majority of department training. All suppression personnel must receive initial training and skills must be continually maintained. The maintenance of firefighter skills is done through in-service training, accomplished in a variety of ways including: outside instructors, company level training, online web-based computer training, and multi-departmental drills. Personnel are also sent to conferences and classes outside of the department for specialized training. Training operates in compliance with requirements established by the Ohio Fire Academy and the standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). As standards change, training programs, records, and policy must be continually evaluated and updated to remain in compliance.

When Mayfield Heights firefighters are not responding to calls for service, much of their time is spent training. The Department strives to make training an essential component of our firefighters' daily routine so they are prepared to manage and respond to all types of emergencies.

2014 exceeded the number of training hours of any previous years for the Mayfield Heights Fire Department. Fire training was obtained daily on the shift level, which included business inspections and building familiarization along with scenario-based discussion about firefighting strategy and tactics. Larger-scale drills were held on a monthly basis incorporating classroom education, demonstration, hands on manipulation, and scenario-based situations. Firefighting training is also obtained outside of the department by area experts and colleges that members of the department attend. The total training hours attended by fire department personnel amounted to 1,863. This was an increase of approximately 20% from the previous year hours of 1,539. This amounts to approximately 56.45 fire training hours annually per member of the department, including administration. This figure far exceeds the 54 hours required by The State of Ohio in a three year period to recertify as a Level II Firefighter.

Training priorities for the department meet and exceed those set by the State. Areas of training include forcible entry into structures, ventilation of both commercial and residential buildings, auto extrication and rescue, incident command and accountability, search and rescue, and hazardous materials identification and control, along with many other areas throughout the year. Additionally, much emphasis is placed on self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) familiarization, and firefighter self-rescue.



## LIVE FIRE TRAINING

The Department acquired a vacant residential structure in the spring on Commonwealth Avenue. Immediate preparation began in hopes to conduct live fire training that has not been done for quite some time. MHFD worked with the Ohio EPA and the Division of Air Quality for Cuyahoga County to assure all forms and permits were processed properly.



Live Fire Training is necessary in order to prepare firefighters for the dangerous and challenging environments in which they are expected to perform. Members of Mayfield Heights, Lyndhurst, and Richmond Heights Fire Departments participated in an all-day training event. The morning began with a safety walk-through of the structure and a briefing of the day's events. Members were assigned groups for assignment throughout the day. Crews rotated through fire attack teams, back-up/observation groups, ventilation, Rapid Intervention Team (RIT), exposure protection and REHAB. The fire attack group is responsible for actively seeking out and extinguishing the fire. The backup group ensures the protection of the attack group and keeping a safe means of egress available for the groups. Ventilation group keeps a constant



eye on fire conditions and will cut holes in the roof if necessary to allow the products of combustion to escape from the structure. The Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) is a quick deployment of four fully equipped firefighters to assist in the aid or rescue of any member within the structure if an emergency should arise. Lastly, groups were rotated into a REHAB structure to take a break from the rigorous work being performed.

The training utilized the fireground incident command system that is used to properly coordinate all departments, their functions, and their location during an emergency. The accountability system was also used to assure that all members' whereabouts are known at all times. Using these tools allows for a better organized scene that improves efficiency and mitigation of the emergency. At the end of the day, a debriefing was held with all members expressing a positive review of this much needed and critical training opportunity.





### **TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT COURSE**

The department hosted a Traffic Incident Management Course. This class was formulated by collaboration between ODOT, state and local law enforcement, Fire, EMA, and towing services. This program was initially intended as a way to protect our first responders by providing training on traffic control at highway incident scenes. This concept soon developed into an all-encompassing incident management system that not only provides for the safety of responders and motorists but adds economic benefit by keeping traffic and commerce moving. Numerous neighboring police and fire departments were in attendance for this great training opportunity.

### **INTERNET SPECIALIZED COURSE OFFERINGS**

With the rise in technology, members of the department were able to participate in outreach programs from several acclaimed institutions in a wide area of specialties, thanks in part to the internet. Members received credit from the University of Michigan, Cleveland State University, New Mexico Tech, Ohio Department of Justice, and Ohio Fire Academy in a wide array of specialized course offerings that would otherwise be difficult to obtain.



Academic Center for Technology



### **RECRUIT TRAINING**

In 2014, we saw the addition of two new Probationary Firefighters to the department. Recruit training is accompanied by two separate manuals for the first two years of their employment and focuses on the policy and procedures of the department, city familiarization, vehicle operations, tools, and equipment, fireground strategy and tactics, EMS protocols, and many other areas throughout the year. When not responding on calls, much of the recruit's time is spent training to the high standards of the department.



## **RAPID INTERVENTION CREW TRAIN THE TRAINER COURSE**

**Rapid Intervention Crew Train the Trainer Course:** in 2014, the department hosted a Rapid Intervention Crew Train the Trainer course. Seven neighboring communities sent instructors to participate. The goal of the course was to establish a curriculum for a standard response to structure fires. The purpose of a Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) is a team of two or more firefighters dedicated solely to the search and rescue of other firefighters in distress. RIC's shall have no other operational assignment during an incident. Multiple alarm fires may require multiple RIC teams. When a firefighter becomes lost, is injured, or runs out of air from their Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), the RIC team would be activated to search for and rescue the firefighter in trouble. Each department trainer in attendance was guided



through the classroom instructional portion and then participated in a set of skills to teach their department firefighters how to self-rescue from a multitude of scenarios. Some of these skills include: “bailing” out of a window if fire conditions deteriorate, freeing themselves from “entanglements”, breaching through walls in hopes to find a way out or safe area from the raging fire, and negotiating through tight areas while wearing the bulky firefighter equipment.

## **OHIO FIRE ACADEMY SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAILER**

Members also participated in the Ohio Fire Academy Search and Rescue Trailer. This training aid was acquired for use by Highland Heights Fire Department. The trailer simulates a residential structure on the first floor complete with a bathroom, kitchen, bedroom, and common areas. The second floor is comprised of multiple confined spaces that the firefighter must work through while in complete darkness and while not running out of air stored in their Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). This trailer assists firefighters with familiarity of equipment, conducting a proper search of possible victims in a structure fire, and builds confidence with use of tools and protective equipment.



In 2014, we continued to train to the highest standards and meet all requirements. Monthly, the Hillcrest area Training Officers meet to discuss training ideas, resources, and training opportunities, while developing area-wide standard operating procedures.

For 2015, our goal is to focus expanding the training program and encompassing more outside resources to host advanced training courses for our members and area departments.





# PRE-PLANS/CAR SEATS/UNIFORMS

BY: LIEUTENANT CHRIS MARTINITIS

## CAR SEATS

In 2014, the fire department helped install 64 car seats. Safe Kids Worldwide reports that motor vehicle crashes are the number one leading cause of death among children ages 1 to 19. Children ages 2 to 5 who use safety belts prematurely are 4 times more likely to suffer a serious head injury in a crash than those in child safety seats or booster seats. Children should ride in the back seat until they are at least 13 years old.

**STAGE 1** Rear-facing car seats

For infants  
5-35 lbs,  
19-32 inches  
in height\*



See all Rear-facing Car Seats ▶

**STAGE 2** Forward-facing car seats

For children over one,  
22-50 lbs,  
29-45 inches  
in height\*



See all Forward-facing Car Seats ▶

**STAGE 3** Booster seats

For children  
40-100 lbs,  
38-57 inches  
in height\*



See all Booster Car Seats ▶

\*Always check the manufacturers' instruction manual as weight and height specifications can vary between models



**Find the right seat for your baby!** Use child car seat selector tool ▶

## TURNOUT GEAR

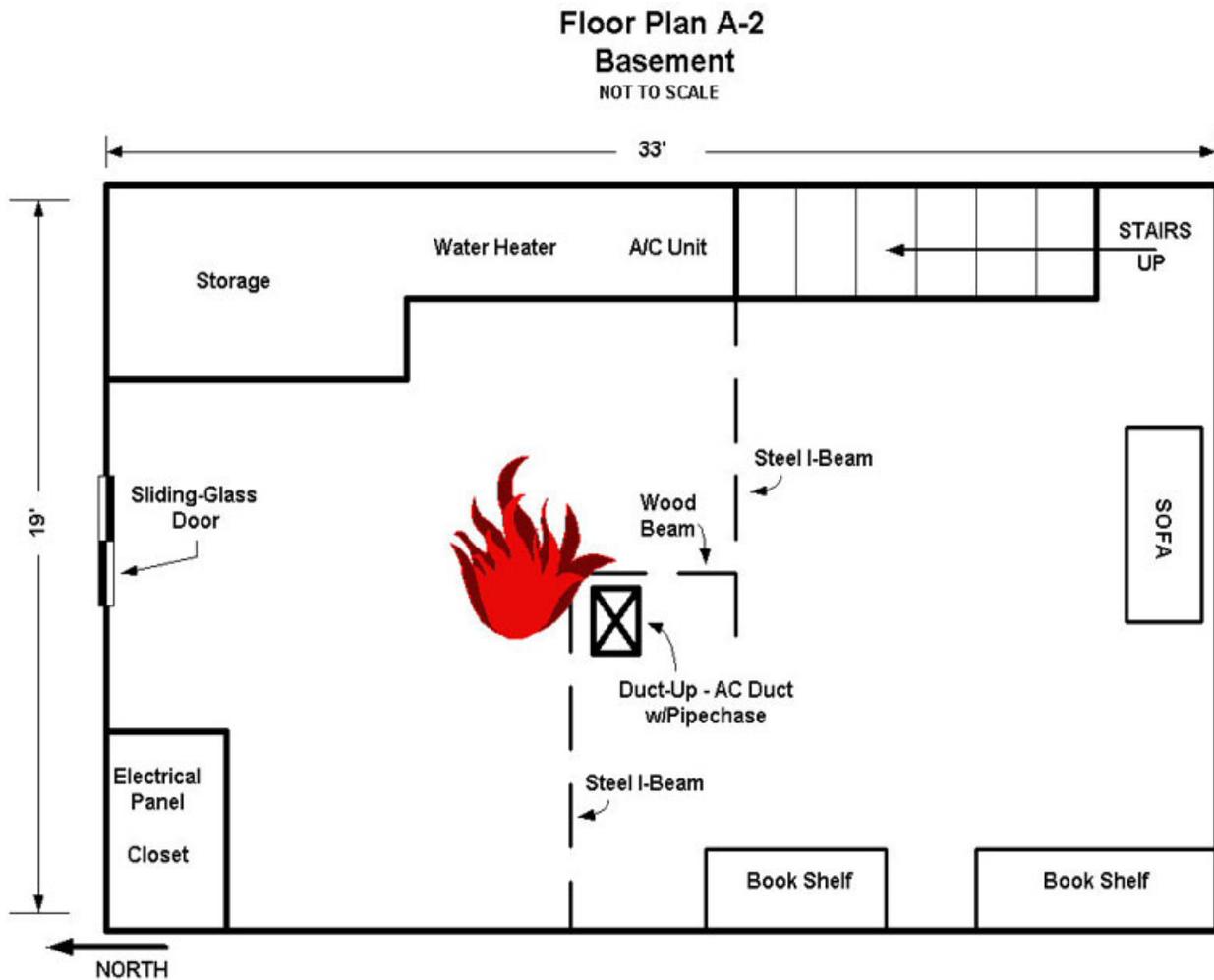
In 2014, the fire department purchased two new complete sets of gear for two new firefighters. Also, to make sure our current gear was safe and in good repair, we contracted Shamrock Gear to inspect and repair all current gear. The inspection Shamrock Gear conducts is an advanced inspection including a visual and hands-on inspection, a light degradation test, and a hydrostatic test to check for leakage through the moisture barrier. All 30 sets of gear we sent out passed inspection and repairs were made where needed.





### PRE-PLANS

This year, pre-plans were completed for 180, 200, and 220 Fox Hollow. These buildings are five-story condominiums located in the Woodhawk subdivision. Pre-plans were also started for the Golden Gate Gardens area which includes 18 buildings in total. These buildings can be very challenging for the fire department because they are connected and share a common attic space which can lead to the spread of fire from one building to the next. Another challenge is long hose lays because of the distance of fire hydrants from certain buildings. These pre-plans play an important role to help incident commanders make fireground decisions.







### **SMOKE DETECTOR PROGRAM**

The Smoke Detector program continues to be a success for the Fire Department. In 2014, the Fire Department installed 346 photoelectric detectors in 127 homes throughout the city. Purchased with funds obtained through a Fire Prevention grant, photoelectric detectors are highly recommended throughout the fire service, with several tests and studies done to support that recommendation; they detect smoldering fires faster than ionization detectors, and cut down on nuisance alarms that could possibly result from cooking.

The installations are being completed by Fire Department personnel, with each residence receiving a maximum of three detectors. The installs are completed once a month, usually on the last Saturday of the month, with scheduling being completed by the Fire Department Secretary, Laura Baumgardner. The goal of the installation is to protect each level of the residence, with special attention given to means of egress, specifically stairways, and close to sleeping areas.



*Working*  
**SMOKE ALARMS  
SAVE LIVES**

**Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery**

*"Dedicated To Life Safety"*



## **FIRE HOSE/ FIRE HYDRANTS / SMALL TOOLS**

BY: LIEUTENANT JEFF LANHAN

### **FIRE HYDRANTS**

The Fire Department maintained a total of 988 fire hydrants in 2014. All hydrants are inspected, operated, and maintained annually by flushing, lubricating, and checking each one for proper operation. All fire hydrants are also visibly inspected for damage and proper drainage. Hydrants that do not drain properly are pumped dry to prevent freezing.

Fire hydrants that are found to be damaged and non-operational are placed out-of-service and reported to the Cleveland Water Department for repair or replacement. Out-of-service hydrants are marked so that in case of a fire, crews will know they are not operational. This year, new out-of service placards were used. These placards are more aesthetically pleasing and more easily identifiable than those used in the past.



In 2014, the Fire Department established new contacts within Cleveland Water and was able to have many of our out-of-service hydrants repaired and/or replaced.

### **FIRE HOSES**

The Fire Department tested 2400 feet of 5-inch hose, 800 feet of 3-inch hose, 2,250 feet of 2-1/2 hose, and 2,000 feet of 1-3/4 inch fire hose in 2014. Testing is performed to the manufacturer/NFPA standard. All hose, with the exception of one section, passed testing. The failed section was a reserve section of hose and was placed out-of-service.

Hose testing takes place June through August, to be completed no later than August 31. All fire hose is inspected for damage or wear-and-tear; any damage or excess wear found should be repaired or replaced. Each shift is responsible for inspecting and testing an equal amount of hose.



The GHT-15 gasoline-powered hose tester has been in service for two years and has proven to be a valuable piece of equipment, affording us the ability to test several lengths of hose in a safe and efficient manner.



### **SMALL TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT**

In an effort to maintain the small tools that are carried on each truck, each shift is assigned one specific truck and required to maintain all of its hand tools. This enables the department to split the workload evenly between the shifts and provides the opportunity to track who maintained a specific tool and what maintenance was required/performed. As needed, each tool is sanded, painted, and oiled.

The power tools are maintained on a weekly basis, ensuring that the tool is clean, well lubricated, and starts easily. The fuel level must be full at all times and all oils must be maintained at a full level. Each tool is also visually inspected for any excessive wear and tear. In an effort to maintain our power tools to the highest level, we have switched our fuel to an **ADVANCED FORMULA ETHANOL-FREE FUEL**. This fuel is engineered for hotter-running engines and delivers precise fuel and lubrication. This fuel has stabilizers which ensure it stays fresh for at least two years after opening, and more than five years unopened.

With proper maintenance and early detection of any possible problems, these tools should give us years of trouble-free operation.





# SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA) AND BREATHING AIR SYSTEM

BY: FIREFIGHTER JOHN KRAUS

## SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS

The Department's 24 SCBA units have been in service approximately seven years and are in good working order. Required annual flow-tests on these units were completed on August 15, 2014. This equipment should meet the needs of the Department for several years to come. Our Department has 52-4500 psi air cylinders for use with the SCBA units - these cylinders were hydrostatic tested on March 14, 2013 by ABCO Fire Protection, Inc. The next scheduled test will be in 2018.



Every member of the Fire Department who is assigned to fire suppression duties is issued their own SCBA face piece; additionally, five face pieces are located on responding apparatus. All SCBA face pieces successfully completed the required annual testing conducted by Fire Force Inc. on August 15, 2014.

## BREATHING AIR SYSTEMS

The "in-house" breathing air compressor, air storage system, and fill station are a regional resource with all costs shared equally between nine communities in the Hillcrest area. The system is currently serviced by Breathing Air Systems and the required air quality testing is also conducted by Breathing Air Systems. The most recent analysis was completed on December 5, 2014 and meets guidelines for CGA D (G-7.1, 2004). Also, preventive maintenance was conducted on the breathing air compressor on November 20, 2014. Report reads that the compressor performed well and the technician also advised that the cascade needs to be hydro-tested this coming year.



The system is currently serviced by Breathing Air Systems and the required air quality testing is also conducted by Breathing Air Systems. The most recent analysis was completed on December 5, 2014



## **TRI-COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM**

BY: PAUL BERNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JODY WIDMANN, LIAISON OFFICER, CHERYL GARINGER, FINANCE OFFICER, TOM FERENCE, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, SARAH FANGER, LOGISTICS OFFICER, PAT GREGORIC, TRAINING COORDINATOR, THERESE MARSCHALL, RECRUITING COORDINATOR, SGT. RICHARD WHITEHEAD, SAFETY FORCES LIAISON



The Tri Community CERT added seven new members during 2014. Our current roster includes 61 members. We presently have 13 applicants approved for our next class, which should start within the next three months. There are an additional 17 individuals that have expressed interest in joining the team.

During 2014, the Tri Community CERT continued to receive outstanding support from our member communities and Safety Forces. Chiefs provided trainers in a variety of topics, facilities for training, and addressed the team during graduation. We have adequate supplies on hand for all projected new members, and to increase the roster beyond the current level of applicants.

In 2014, our team provided support to Safety Forces at: Mayfield Heights Unity Days and parade, the Debbie Hudacko Run, Highland Heights Community Day, St. Paschal's Fair, Mayfield Heights 5k Run for Life, Mayfield Village 50's Cruise Night, and Mayfield Village Fireworks.

Some of the key training conducted during 2014 included:

- HAZMAT response training exercise.
- Sheltering training arranged by Sgt. Richard Whitehead of the Mayfield Village Police Department at the American Red Cross facility in Cleveland.
- SKYWARN adverse weather recognition training.
- Pandemic response training.
- Traffic control support training by the Ohio State Highway Patrol.
- Emergency Preparedness for Pets and training in dealing with Service Animals during an emergency.
- CPR training.
- A Search and Rescue class and field exercise conducted by the Metro Park Rangers.
- Preparation for CERT support to MIPOD (Mass Inoculation Point of Dispensing).
- Training Coordinator Pat Gregoric completed the national program in Train-The-Trainer and CERT Management.



In addition, during 2014 we created a CERT Pet Section that includes about five members. This group will focus on caring for resident's pets during an emergency. We also participated in an Active Shooter Drill at Cleveland Hopkins Airport, a tour of the Coast Guard facility, and an American Meteorological Society tour.





# HILLCREST TECH AND RESCUE TEAM

BY: DIRECTOR LT. RYAN PROCOP



**Serving:**

Gates Mills, Lyndhurst,  
Highland Hts., Pepper Pike,  
Mayfield Hts., Mayfield Vill.,  
Richmond Hts.

## Hillcrest Area Technical Rescue Team

Established 1995

The Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team completed its nineteenth year in 2014. Firefighter Don Balog served as the team Commander until April 3, 2014. Lieutenant Ryan Procop was selected by the Hillcrest Fire Chiefs' Association to take over as the newly titled Team Director.

The team continued to train and be incident ready in the disciplines of Rope Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Trench Rescue, Building Collapse Rescue and Water Rescue. Members participated in monthly training sessions as well as more advanced specialized training opportunities. HTRT and HASRT have continued their collaborative efforts in training, operational procedures and equipment purchases. Collectively, the two regional rescue teams received just under \$28,000 in grant funds. This money was used to purchase all new Confined Space Rescue equipment. These purchases helped ensure that both teams were 100% compatible with their breathing air equipment as well as increase interoperability with other County resources.

### 2014 CALL OUTS

DATE	TYPE OF CALL OUT	CITY
MAY 29, 2014	ROPE RESCUE, FEMALE WITH LEG INJURY	GATES MILLS
JUNE 27, 2014	MOTOR VEHICLE ROLLOVER ACCIDENT INTO WATER	MAYFIELD VILLAGE
JULY 28, 2014	WATER RESCUE, 2 PEOPLE TRAPPED IN RIVER	GATES MILLS
AUGUST 12, 2014	SWIFTWATER, CAR STUCK IN RISING FLOOD WATER	RICHMOND HEIGHTS
AUGUST 22, 2014	WIDE AREA LOST PERSON SEARCH	CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK
SEPTEMBER 20, 2014	ROPE RESCUE, FEMALE WITH A BACK INJURY	PEPPER PIKE

### TRAINING

In 2014, team members participated in a total of 1604 hours of monthly drills. Below is a breakdown of training hours per discipline.

Type of Training	Hours
ROPE	180
CONFINED SPACE	231
TRENCH	166
BUILDING COLLAPSE	659
WATER	291





In addition to the monthly training sessions, Team members participated in: Ice diving specialty course, Heavy Equipment Rigging Specialist, Advanced Sonar, Dry Suit Repair, Dry Suit Diver Specialty and Technical Search Specialist Class. Two of these classes were sponsored through the Ohio Region 2 Collapse Strike Team which covered tuition and personnel costs.

After months of preparation, the Team participated in a full scale exercise with the Ohio Region 2 Collapse Team. This exercise tested our functional capabilities in Confined Space Rescue, Building Collapse operations, Wide Area Search, Technical Search, Communications and resource tracking. This drill included resources from Hillcrest Technical Rescue, Heights Area Rescue, Ohio

Region 2, Cuyahoga County Public Works, Ohio Search Dog Association and Private contractors. This exercise was a culmination of multiple specialized training classes that members attended throughout 2014.

**HILLCREST FIRE UNIT**

BY: DIRECTOR SHAUN LUTZ

The Hillcrest Regional Fire Investigation Strike Force is made up of 9 communities that annually fund a team of highly trained fire investigators for the purpose of determining the origin and cause of fires. The FIU unit has been in existence since 1997 and currently has a 15 person roster.

In 2014 the unit responded to 10 requests for the Hillcrest Regional FIU investigations:

DATE	STREET	CITY
1/19/2015	2130 MARSHFIELD RD.	MAYFIELD HTS.
1/31/2014	440 RICHMOND ROAD	RICHMOND HTS.
2/4/2014	4480 CATLIN	RICHMOND HTS.
2/16/2014	691 RICHMOND ROAD	RICHMOND HTS.
4/10/2014	1722 LONGWOOD	MAYFIELD HTS.
8/11/2014	1356 COMMONWEALTH	MAYFIELD HTS.
9/11/2014	1315 MAYDOR LN	SOUTH EUCLID
9/12/2014	6091 WILSON MILLS	HIGHLAND HTS.
9/20/2014	4129 PRINCETON	SOUTH EUCLID
12/10/2014	23430 HARMS RD	RICHMOND HTS.

The Hillcrest FIU meets bi-monthly for 2 hours of case review and continuing education. The Team was fortunate this year to attend a training given by an electrical expert on fire investigation, Ralph Dolence. Dolence Electric Technical Consultants are a great resource to have and offer many services to the fire investigation service.

This year has been a year of finalizing the new trucks layout and upgrading outdated tools and equipment. We were able to replace some tools and equipment that were no longer serviceable and at the same time the new equipment's size and technology allows for a better fit to the new vehicle. The team also purchased new hardhats and headlamps for each member to have during a fire investigation.





# CHAGRIN/SOUTHEAST HAZMAT TEAM

BY DIRECTOR MARK VEDDER

## CHAGRIN/SOUTHEAST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

2014 EXECUTIVE BOARD		
PRESIDENT	FLETCHER BERGER	MAYOR OF BEDFORD HEIGHTS
VICE PRESIDENT	SUSAN RENDA	MAYOR OF MORELAND HILLS
SECRETARY	BRAD SELLERS	MAYOR OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS
TREASURER	MARK CEGELKA	MAYOR OF GLENWILLOW
FISCAL OFFICER	JOHN VERES	GLENWILLOW VILLAGE
HAZMAT DIRECTOR	MARK VEDDER	CHAGRIN FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

### PROUDLY SERVING THE FOLLOWING COMMUNITIES

Bainbridge Twp	Hunting Valley	Richmond Hts
Beachwood	Lyndhurst	Russell Twp
Bedford	Maple Heights	Shaker Heights
Bedford Heights	Mayfield Hts	Solon
Chagrin Falls	Mayfield Village	South Euclid
Cleveland Hts	Moreland Hills	South Russell
Euclid	North Randall	University Hts
Garfield Heights	Oakwood	Walton Hills
Gates Mills	Orange	Warrensville Hts
Glenwillow	Pepper Pike	Woodmere
Highland Hts		

### HAZMAT TEAM ORGANIZATION AND HISTORY

The Chagrin / Southeast Haz-Mat Response Team was formed in 1990 by the Chagrin/Southeast Council of Governments to assist Local fire departments in responding to incidents involving industrial chemicals.

The team has since evolved into a regional asset which responds 24/7 to incidents involving hazardous materials in transportation, storage, and industrial facilities. In addition, the



team is responsible for responding with law enforcement and bomb teams to incidents involving drug synthesis labs, explosive labs, and potential terrorist incidents.

The team consists of 30 specially trained firefighters certified as Hazmat/WMD Technicians. In addition, 5 of our members are trained as Hazmat Specialist with intensive training in Rail Tank Cars, and/or Highway Cargo Tanks.

Every hazmat team member has completed hundreds of hours of training in chemical identification, instrumentation, packaging, chemical and physical properties of materials, chemical protective clothing, spill control and fire control.

In 1995, the team also began responding to Confined Space Rescues. The team purchased extensive technical rescue equipment and conducted training of all its members to the Confined Space Rescue Technician level to meet the challenge.



In 1999, prior to the events of September 11, 2001, the Chagrin/Southeast Haz-Mat Team began special Domestic Preparedness training for response to terrorist incidents. All of our team members are currently trained as WMD Technicians, and all of our team members have attended specialized federal training centers to learn about response to terrorist bombings, chemicals weapon attacks, biological weapons, and radiological attacks.



Since the terrorist attack of 2001, the focus of the team has changed. More than half of our training and much of our equipment is specific to terrorism response. Our team members have adapted well to this challenge and we along with our other haz-mat teams of Northeast Ohio. We have mutual aid agreements with Lake, Portage, Summit counties, Westshore Hazmat, Southeast Emergency Response Team and have close working relationships with the City of Cleveland and Geauga County Hazmat Team.

We continue to exchange service with the Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team and the Heights Area Special Rescue Team. We provide their communities with haz-mat emergency response and they provide our communities with technical rescue response.

This regional approach to hazmat and WMD response, as well as technical rescue, is cost-effective, maintains a high skill level and insures our communities are ready to respond.

In 2010, our team joined with the Cleveland Fire Hazmat Team, Southwest Emergency Response Team and the





Westshore Hazmat and Technical Rescue Team to form a new Cuyahoga County Type 1 Hazmat/WMD Response Team. This team is made up of select members of each of the four teams who will respond to terrorism and large scale incidents throughout the State of Ohio.

In August 2010, the Ohio Hazmat Technical Advisory Committee conducted a Team Typing verification visit to inspect the four county hazmat teams and newly formed Cuyahoga County Type 1 Hazmat/CBRNE Response Team and serve as one of the specialized terrorism response teams in the Ohio Fire Emergency Response Plan.

The Chagrin/Southeast Hazmat Team was verified independently as an Ohio Type 2 Hazardous Materials Response Team by the Ohio Hazardous Materials and Decontamination Technical Advisory Committee. We are a regional response team for the Ohio Fire Emergency Response Plan.

### **CURRENT OPERATIONS**

Although, the team is governed by the Chagrin/Southeast Council of Governments, the day-to-day operations are run by the Hazmat Committee. It is comprised of the fourteen fire chiefs who serve the region, as well as the team coordinator and representatives from hospitals, police departments, and service departments.



The team is staffed with cross-trained firefighter/paramedics with an interest in hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction emergency response. Each team member receives extensive training and participates in monthly training. Most members also attend specialized schools throughout the county each year.

When a fire department needs the special skills and equipment of the haz-mat team, they contact their dispatch center and the team is paged out. Various levels of response are available based upon the product and the nature of the incident.

Team members use specialized detection and identification tools, including high tech meters and instruments. They wear chemical protective clothing and “suits” to allow the option of offensive tactics. They can utilize specially designed equipment for plugging, patching, neutralizing, collecting, stopping, reducing, or mitigating the hazard of the incident.



# MISCELLANEOUS FIRE DEPARTMENT PHOTOS



