



# 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

## Cedar Rapids Fire Department





## ***Cedar Rapids Fire Department Annual Report***

**Honorable Mayor Ron J. Corbett, Members of the City Council, and City Manager Jeffrey A. Pomeranz:**

**The Cedar Rapids Fire Department is pleased to present the 2010 Annual Report. As you will see in this Annual Report, the employees of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department care about the community and are working towards making the City a better place to live, work or visit.**

**From the construction of a new Central Fire Station and Fire Station #3 to the Fire Bowl, Fill-the-Boot Campaign and holiday food drives, the Fire Department is committed towards improving the quality of life and providing dependable public safety to the citizens and businesses of Cedar Rapids.**

**During 2010, the Fire Department established Working Committees, implemented a Strategic Planning Committee, upgraded firefighter entrance requirements, and had 99 firefighters pass Firefighter II certification. The Fire Department is updating Standard Operating Procedures and Administrative Regulations to ensure firefighter and citizen safety, as well as provide more efficient operations. All employees are continuing the process of becoming compliant with the National Incident Management System.**

**Fire Chief Steve Havlik retired on March 1, 2010 and Fire Chief Stephen Reid became the twelfth paid Fire Chief in Cedar Rapids history on May 10, 2010. During Chief Reid's time in office, he promoted four firefighters to Fire Captain, re-implemented the Annual Awards Ceremony to recognize the contributions of fire department employees and citizens, started Project Harvest and Project Christmas to support members of our community in a time of need, and organized the Linn County Fire Chief's Association.**

**The Fire Department received two significant grants that will improve our ability to provide emergency coverage and promote firefighter wellness. The Fire Department was awarded a \$6.6 million I-JOBS Grant to improve the new Central Fire Station and construct a new Fire Station #3 on the west side of the City. We also received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant for \$446,406 to purchase self-contained breathing apparatus, hose and exhaust systems for fire stations.**

**The 150 employees of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department hope that you will find this Annual Report to be a positive reflection of the value of the services that we are able to provide to all of you and the community.**

The mission of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department is to mitigate threats to the health and property of our community through emergency response, quality education and prevention programs.

## PROMOTIONS



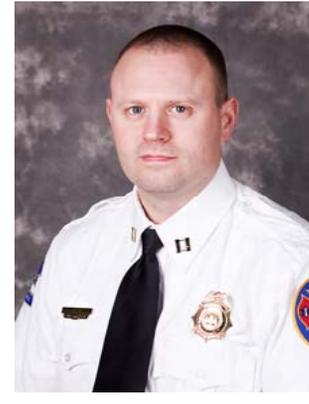
John Panek was promoted from Shift Firefighter to Fire Captain on 02/27/2010 (Assigned to Operations Division)



Matthew Woerner was promoted from Shift Firefighter to Fire Captain on 05/14/2010 (Assigned to Operations Division)



Peter Schmit was promoted from Day Firefighter to Fire Captain on 08/17/2010 (Assigned to Life Safety and Education Division)



Curtis Walser was promoted from Shift Firefighter to Fire Captain on 08/17/2010 (Assigned to Office of the Fire Chief)



Scott Wolfe was promoted from Shift Firefighter to Fire Captain on 11/06/2010 (Assigned to Operations Division)

## TRANSFERS

Gregory Smith transferred from Shift Battalion Chief to Acting Assistant Fire Chief on 09/08/2010

# APPOINTMENTS



Stephen M. Reid was appointed Fire Chief of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department at the Cedar Rapids City Council meeting on April 13, 2010. Chief Reid was sworn-in as the twelfth paid Fire Chief in Cedar Rapids history on May 10, 2010.

Mayor Ron Corbett delivered the Fire Chief's Oath of Office, while members of Stephen Reid's family presented collar brass and accessory uniform badges.



Stacy Mason was appointed as an Administrative Assistant I on January 4, 2010.



Six firefighters celebrated their one-year anniversary in 2010. Pictured left-to-right are: Patrick Hoyt, Landon Merkle, Christopher Hinrichs, Sean Beard, Kurt Kroemer, and Brady Hunt. They were hired on October 5, 2009.

Firefighters must complete one year of service as a probationary firefighter before they receive their Firefighter badge. The first year on the job includes mentoring by a Fire Captain, skills assessments and testing to ensure fitness for duty.

The following Captains served as supervisors for the rookies: Brian Hall, Dan Lubben, Terry McAtee, Joel Miles, Andrew Olesen, and Emma Pulver.

## RETIREMENTS



Terry Buelow  
retired as  
Shift Fire Captain  
on February 8, 2010



Larry Stusak  
retired as  
Battalion Chief  
on March 31, 2010



Rickie Scofield  
retired as  
Shift Fire Captain  
on April 14, 2010



William Hanlon  
retired as  
Shift Firefighter  
on April 30, 2010



John Killean III  
retired as  
Day Fire Captain  
on July 16, 2010



Duane Usher  
retired as  
Shift Firefighter  
on July 31, 2010



Guy Williams, Jr.  
retired as  
Day Fire Captain  
on August 16, 2010



Leonard Drake  
retired as  
Shift Fire Captain  
on October 31, 2010

# FIRE CHIEF HAVLIK RETIREMENT



Stephen Havlik retired as the Cedar Rapids Fire Department's eleventh paid Fire Chief on March 1, 2010. Fire Chief Havlik spent nearly 30 years on the Fire Department and served as Fire Chief from November 18, 1998 to March 1, 2010.

During his administration, the Cedar Rapids Fire Department became a sponsoring organization of Urban Search and Rescue Iowa Task Force-1, the majority of the fire stations began staffing firefighter/paramedics, the public education program expanded, an annual Citizens' Fire Academy was created, and the Honor Guard was expanded. Chief Havlik also encouraged firefighter health and wellness by equipping all fire stations with cardio and resistance training fitness equipment.

There were 54 firefighters hired during Chief Havlik's leadership. The Fire Chief promoted 33 firefighters to Captain during his nearly twelve years as the head of the Department. Also, Chief Havlik made the promotion of five Administrative District Chiefs, one Fire Marshal, one Assistant Fire Marshal and two Assistant Fire Chiefs.

Chief Havlik was the Incident Commander during the historic flood of June 2008. The Fire Department performed 423 boat rescues and evacuated over 25,000 residents. There was no loss of life during the disaster that involved the Cedar River cresting at 31.12 feet.



Fire Chief Steve Havlik was honored with a public reception on February 25<sup>th</sup> for his nearly 30 years of service to the Cedar Rapids Fire Department.

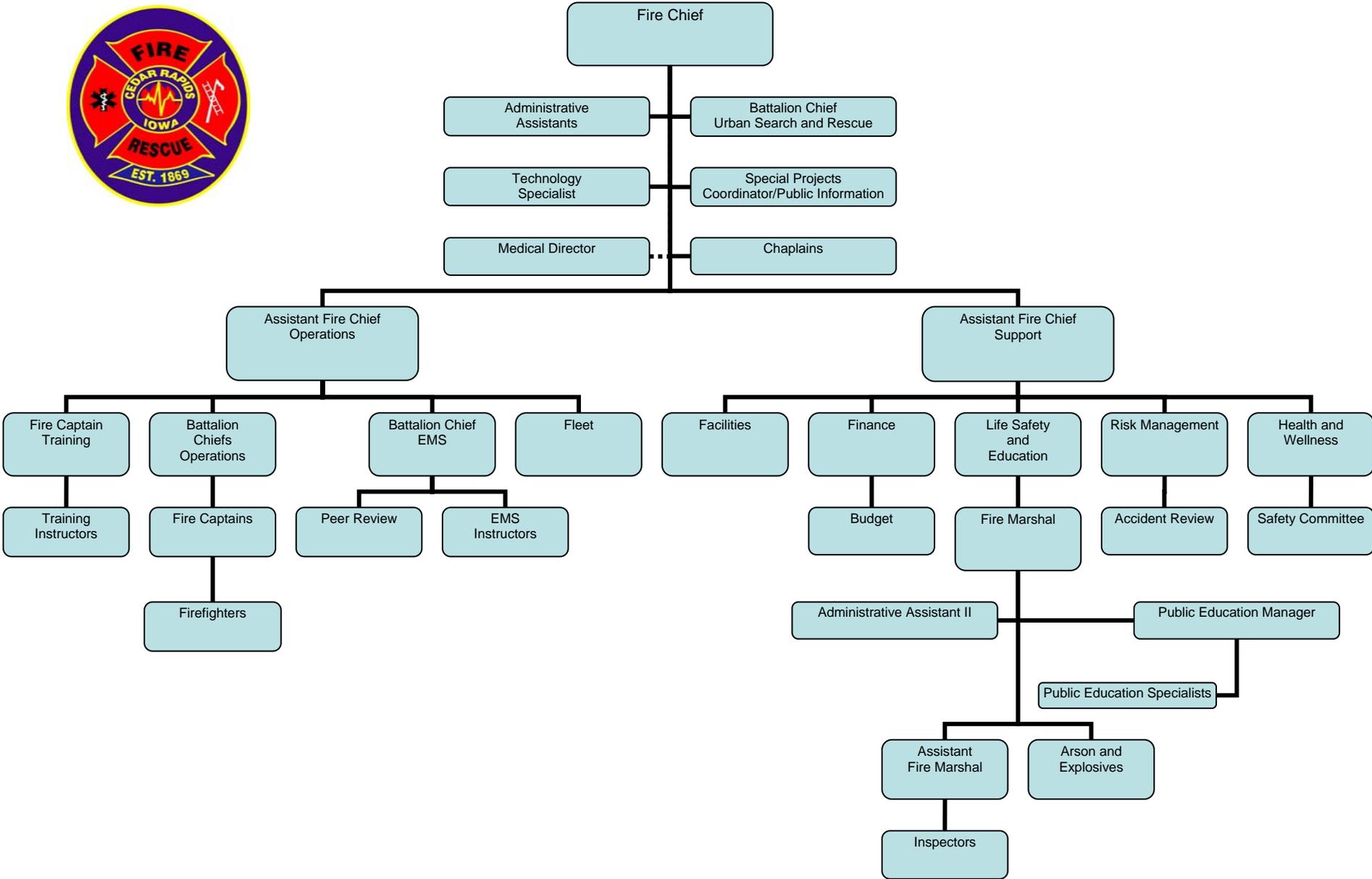
Police Chief Greg Graham presented Chief Havlik with an honorary police officer badge, quipping that Chief Havlik really wanted to be a police officer.

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The Gazette,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa*

## CEDAR RAPIDS FIRE CHIEF HISTORY

1893 – 1897	L.M. Ayers
1897 – 1900	John Starman
1900 – 1909	Joseph Cook
1909 – 1921	W.A. Mohrbacher
1921 – 1927	James Kennedy
1927 – 1932	Paul Dolan
1932 – 1953	Emil Kohout
1953 – 1971	Jess Hunter
1971 – 1991	Edsel McMickle
1991 – 1998	Joseph Gorman
1998 – 2010	Stephen Havlik
2010 - 2011	Stephen Reid

# CEDAR RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# OPERATIONS DIVISION



Mark English  
Assistant Chief

The Operations Division includes Shift Firefighters, Shift Fire Captains, Battalion Chiefs, Training, Special Operations, Hazardous Materials, and Emergency Medical Services.

The Operations Division consists of seven Division/Battalion Chiefs, 35 Fire Captains, and 90 Firefighters. There are ten fire stations, including two temporary fire stations at 1010 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW (Central Fire Station) and at 1825 Edgewood Road SW (Fire Station #10). The temporary fire stations will be used until a new Central Fire Station is constructed in 2013. Emergency services are provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Department responded to 9,562 incidents in 2010.



The Fire Department placed a new Triple Combination Pumper into service in September at Fire Station #8, 100 Wiley Boulevard SW.

In September, the Fire Department placed a new Triple Combination Pumper into service at Fire Station #8, 100 Wiley Boulevard SW. The pumper is a 2010 Pierce Velocity Engine equipped with a 1,500 gallon Waterous pump, 750 gallon water tank, and a Husky 12 foam system capable of delivering Class A foam from a 25-gallon on-board cell or Class B foam from a draft, through pre-connected hose lines. This is the second Velocity Engine that the Fire Department has purchased, both with Husky 12 foam capabilities. The Velocity model replaces the Dash model that Pierce Manufacturing has phased out to meet new emission standards. Cedar Rapids currently has five Dash pumpers in service.

Each and every fire department apparatus is specifically designed by the Apparatus Committee, which is chaired by Fire Captain Brian Gibson. The Apparatus Committee includes fire administration, shift firefighters, and Fleet Services representatives. Apparatus is purchased through Capital Improvement Project funding.

## Shift Personnel Activity Log:

Fire Drills	10
Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations	32
Neighborhood Meeting	109
Public Education Events	23
Public Relations	132
Ride-Along	60
Special Events	23
Station Tours	81
Training	213
Truck and Turnout Demonstrations	77



Pictured on the left is Chief John Pulver at a house fire in southeast Cedar Rapids. Pictured on the right is Chief George Bockenstedt in a command center at an ethanol spill exercise. Battalion Chiefs provide Incident Command at fires, hazardous materials and other major incidents. The Battalion Chiefs are responsible for supervision of shift Fire Captains and firefighters.

Assistant Chief Mark English served as interim Fire Chief from March 1<sup>st</sup> through May 9<sup>th</sup>. Chief English also coordinated a firefighter working group to compile station location criteria so that a Citizens Fire Station Relocation Advisory Committee could make a site recommendation to the City Council for the new Central Fire Station. The Fire Department wanted to ensure that the Central Fire Station was located outside of both the 100-year and 500-year flood plain and had access to major thoroughfares (1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and U.S. Interstate 380). The Central Fire Station will have specialty apparatus, including hazardous materials, special operations, boats and ladder trucks, which need to be deployed efficiently to any location in the City. On September 14<sup>th</sup>, the City Council selected the 700 block of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE as the location for the new station.

Throughout the year, the Fire Department has been working on programming sessions for the Central Fire Station and the new west side fire station that will be constructed with I-JOBS funding and City Capital Improvement Project funding. The sessions have included input from all levels within the organization.

Last year, the total fire loss for all incidents was \$1,929,040. More importantly, however, was that the total value of the properties that had a fire, rupture or explosion was \$33,062,422, demonstrating that the fire service preserved over \$30 million of property value by efficient and effective fire response.

### **MAJOR FIRES OF 2010**

- Residential Fire, 1925 20<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
February 16th - \$154,000 damage
- Residential Fire, 430 20<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
December 8<sup>th</sup> - \$147,000 damage
- Residential Fire, 901 Oakland Road NE  
May 10<sup>th</sup> - \$115,000 damage
- Cedar Memorial, 4200 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE  
May 9th - \$98,093 damage
- Residential Fire, 201 27<sup>th</sup> Street Drive SE  
April 20<sup>th</sup> - \$85,000 damage



The house fire at 1925 20<sup>th</sup> Street NW was the result of faulty electrical wiring.



A car fire spread from the attached garage to the home at 430 20<sup>th</sup> St. NW.



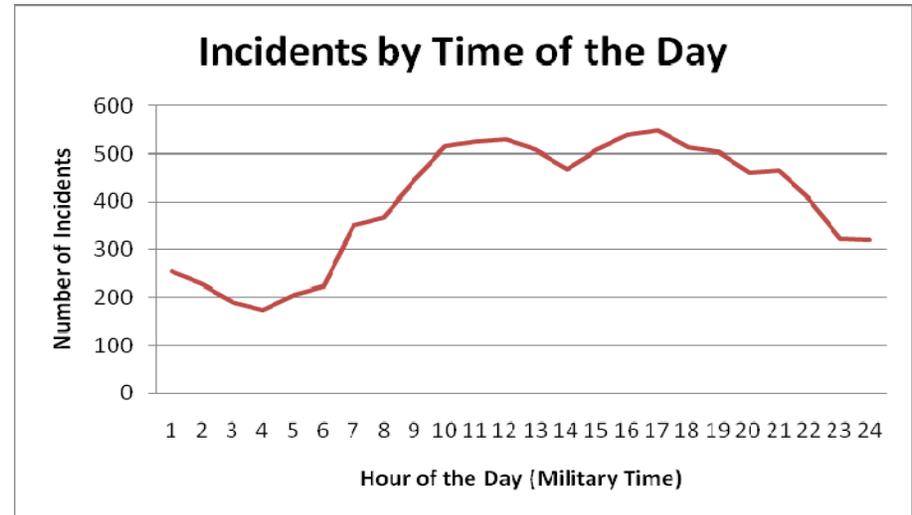
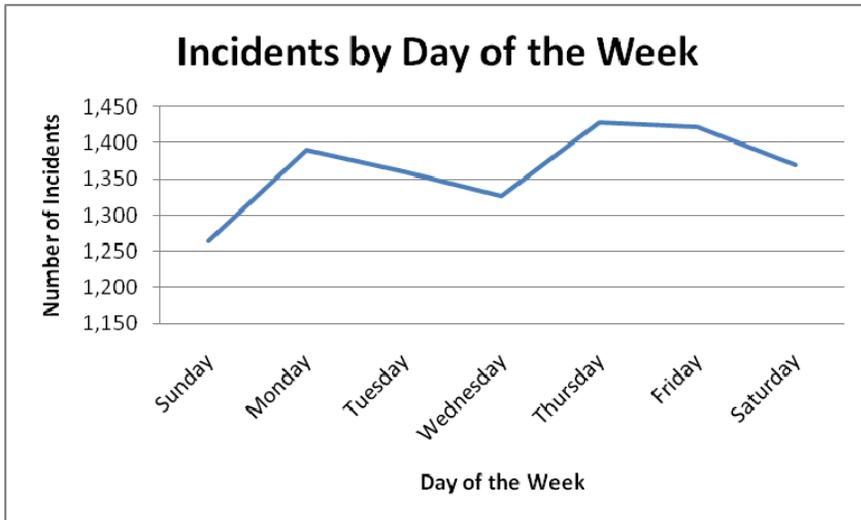
A cooking fire was the cause of the fatal fire at 901 Oakland Road NE.



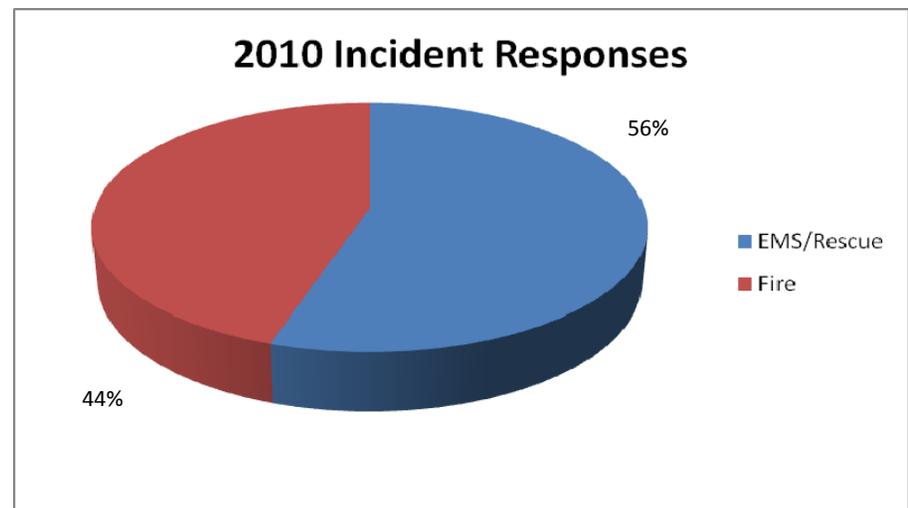
Failure around a crematory stack caused damage at Cedar Memorial.



You are most likely to see a Cedar Rapids Fire Department emergency vehicle responding to an incident on a Thursday between 5:00 – 5:59 PM.



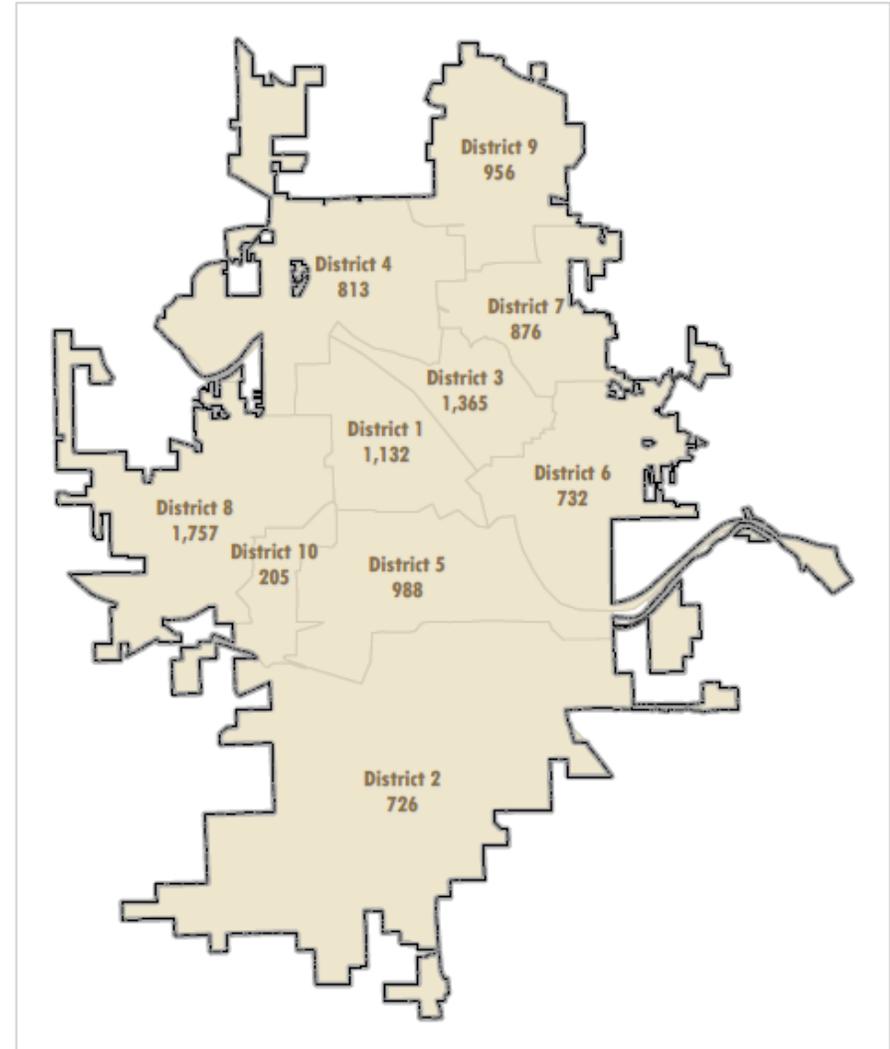
- Firefighters responded to 4,245 fire-related calls and 5,317 emergency medical services/rescue calls in 2010.
- Mutual aid was given to surrounding communities twelve times, while mutual aid was received by Cedar Rapids five times.
- There were two civilian fire fatalities in 2010. Rodney Noye died in his apartment at 901 Oakland Road NE on May 10<sup>th</sup> as the result of a cooking fire. Ernest Moomey died in an apartment fire at 3009 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW on October 7<sup>th</sup> with the cause attributed to carelessly discarded smoking materials.
- There were no firefighter deaths in 2010.



## FIRE STATION AND FIRE DISTRICT INFORMATION

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department utilized eight permanent and two temporary fire stations in 2010. The Fire Department offers fire protection and other services to 71.8 square miles.

FIRE STATION DISTRICT	LOCATION	SQ. MILES	TOTAL DISTRICT INCIDENTS
1	1010 1 <sup>st</sup> Street NW	4.1	1,132
2	442 50 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Court SW	21.2	726
3	1424 B Avenue NE	2.8	1,365
4	3600 42 <sup>nd</sup> Street NE	9.6	813
5	509 Wilson Avenue SW	7.3	988
6	2416 Mount Vernon Road SE	6.8	732
7	206 29 <sup>th</sup> Street NE	4.1	876
8	100 Wiley Boulevard SW	8.8	1,757
9	415 Broderick Drive NE	5.4	956
10	1825 Edgewood Road SW	1.7	205

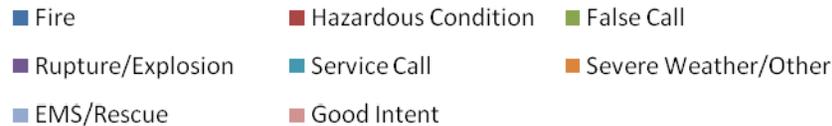
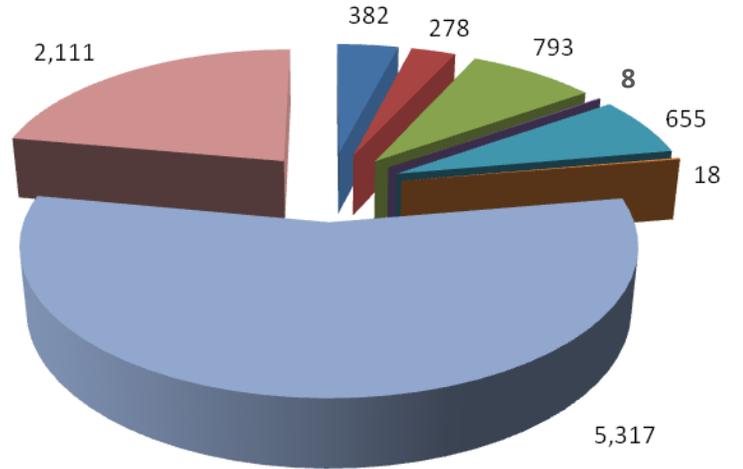


Incidents per Fire District graphic courtesy of City of Cedar Rapids GIS Department, Information Technology.

Note: There were twelve mutual aid calls in 2010 that are not reflected in the map. There were a total of 9,562 incidents within the corporate limits of Cedar Rapids.



## INCIDENT SUMMARY BY INCIDENT TYPE



\* There were a total of 9,562 incidents in 2010.



## INCIDENT HIGHLIGHTS

- 101 building fires (house, business, garage)
- 53 passenger vehicle fires
- 31 brush/grass fires
- 199 vehicle accidents with injuries
- 16 water/ice rescues
- 46 gas leaks
- 6 chemical spills/leaks
- 27 carbon monoxide calls (CO present)
- 442 Citizen Assists
- 74 unauthorized burnings

### Definition of Categories

**Fires** – building, grass, passenger vehicle, trash

**Rupture/Explosion** – overpressure rupture, steam, gas, gas pipe, excessive heat

**EMS/Rescue** – medical emergency, motor vehicle accident with or without injury, extrication, high angle rescue, water and ice rescue

**Hazardous Condition** – gasoline or oil spill, carbon monoxide incident, downed power line, general clean-up of vehicle accident, toxic condition

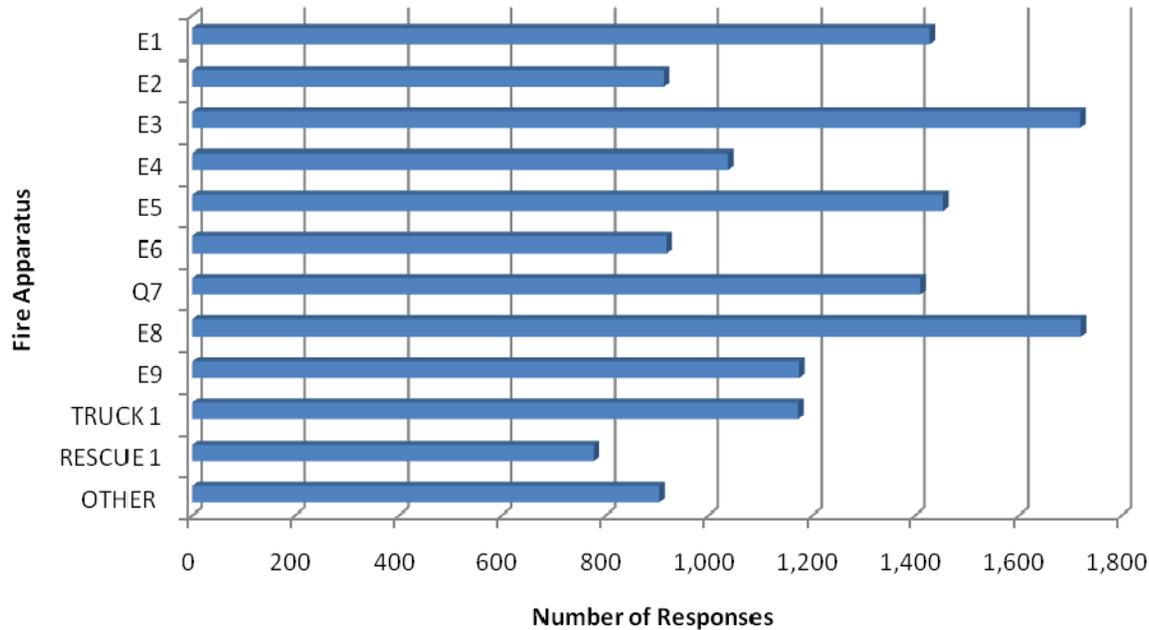
**Service Call** – Lock-out, public assistance, Citizen Assist, unauthorized burning

**Good Intent** – smoke scare, cancelled on scene, investigation

**False Call** – false alarm, alarm malfunction, unintentional alarm



## Total Responses by Fire Apparatus



The Cedar Rapids Fire Department responded to 9,562 incidents in 2010. Depending upon the type of emergency, more than one apparatus may be required for an incident. For example, a report of a house fire would have an initial dispatch of three engines, a ladder truck, rescue vehicle and Battalion Chief. The chart to the left reflects total responses by all apparatus. The “Other” category includes responses by rescue boats, brush trucks, command vehicles, fire investigators, and hazardous materials/ special operations vehicles.

**The total responses made by all fire department apparatus was 14,638.**

## Fire & Rescue Incidents by Property Use

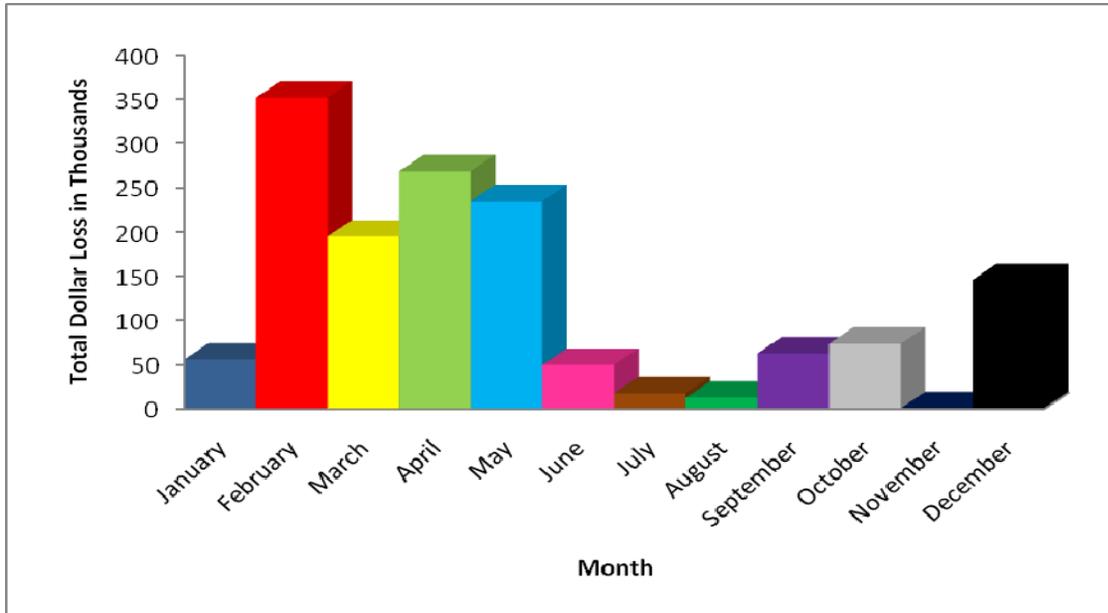
Assembly	227
Educational	121
Healthcare, Detention & Correction	336
Industrial, Utility, Defense, Agriculture	20
Manufacturing, Processing	138
Mercantile, Business	284
None or Undetermined	1
Outside or Special Property	700
Property Use/Other	5
Residential	2,128
Storage	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,992</b>



Firefighters respond to a vehicle collision on Blairs Ferry Road NE above U.S. Interstate 380. Firefighters may provide medical care, extrication operations, and fire suppression during this type of incident.

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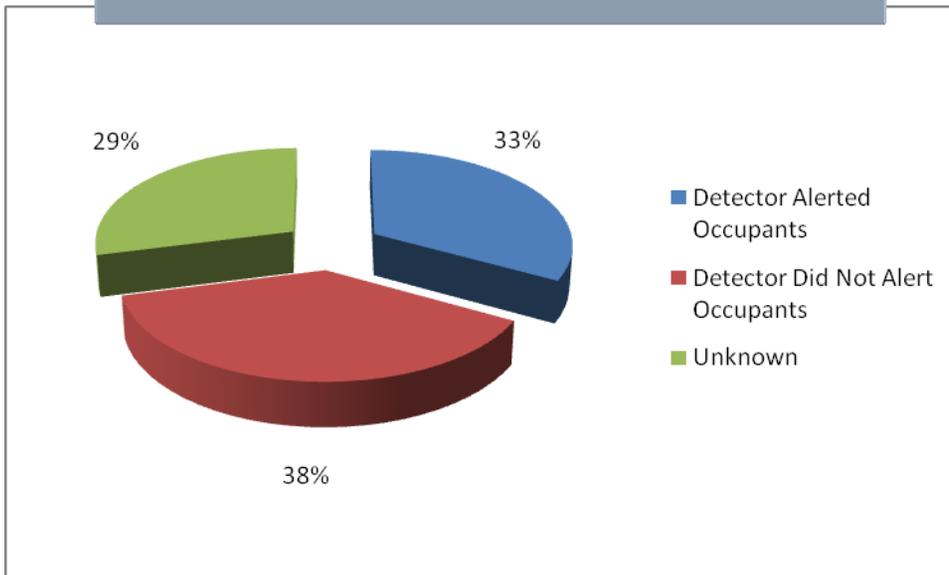
## RESIDENTIAL FIRE LOSS BY MONTH



<u>Month</u>	<u>Fires</u>	<u>Total Loss</u>
January	6	\$56,092.00
February	4	\$351,697.00
March	12	\$194,975.00
April	6	\$268,798.00
May	13	\$234,724.00
June	4	\$50,037.00
July	8	\$18,339.00
August	8	\$13,168.00
September	9	\$63,397.00
October	17	\$74,363.00
November	4	\$603.00
December	10	\$148,790.00
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>\$1,471,967.00</b>

\* Cooking fires are not included in fires or total loss.

## RESIDENTIAL SMOKE ALARM NOTIFICATION



There were 60 cooking fires in 2010, accounting for 37 percent of all fires in residential properties.

Working smoke alarms were verified in only 33 percent of all residential fires in Cedar Rapids.



## SAFETY DIVISION

To create a safer working environment for firefighters, the Cedar Rapids Fire Department has a seven member Safety Committee that evaluates standard operating procedures, personal protective clothing and equipment. In 2010, the Committee members included Chief Greg Smith, Chief David Brown, Captain Scott Wolfe, Firefighter Jim Porter, Firefighter Nathan Goodlove, Firefighter Erik Moen and Firefighter Nick Miller. Chief Smith replaced Chief Brad Brenneman as the Safety Committee Lead in December 2010. Captain Rick Halleran and Firefighter Landon Merkle will replace Chief Brown and Firefighter Goodlove in 2011.

A City-wide accident and injury group meets on a regular basis to discuss accidents involving employees, City vehicles, and equipment. The purpose of the meetings is to garner a broader perspective of accident issues throughout all City departments and discuss methods of reducing accidents. Employees produce safety bulletins that are distributed amongst all city departments to show means of preventing the injury or accident.

In 2010, there were nine reportable Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cases that resulted in lost work days and restricted duty days. The most common OSHA reportable injury was sprains and strains, which is often the result of lifting and moving patients. Firefighters must be able to perform all aspects of the job, such as entering a burning building or moving patients, before returning to unrestricted duty assignment.



The safety of firefighters and civilians is the main concern at any fire or emergency incident.

### INJURIES REPORTED BY FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

Lifting, Back, Shoulder	17
Respiratory	12
Miscellaneous	7
Contact Exposure	6
Slip, Trip, or Fall	5
Blood Borne Exposure	3
Eye, Face, Ear, Head	2
Foot/Ankle	1
Animal Bite/Scratch	1

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



Curtis Hopper  
Battalion Chief - EMS

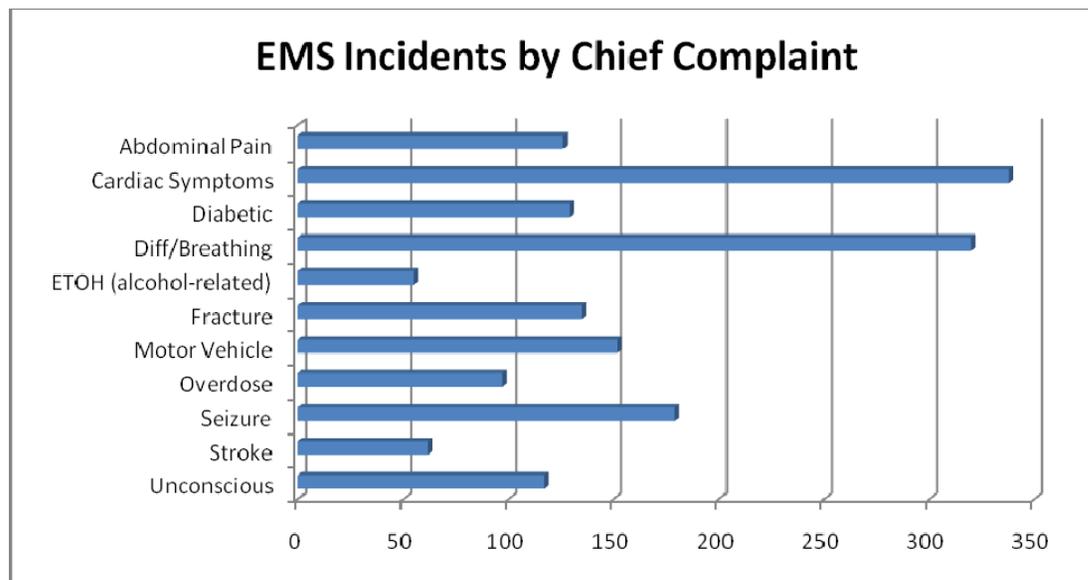
The Cedar Rapids Fire Department is authorized as an Emergency Medical Services program by the Iowa Department of Public Health. The Fire Department is approved to provide care up to the skills and proficiencies of the Paramedic Specialist level, provided minimum staffing is available. In other words, the Fire Department has the capability of providing Paramedic service to the citizens and visitors of Cedar Rapids when the department has the personnel to staff the designated Advanced Life Support or Paramedic apparatus, which is 90 percent of the time. To provide out-of-hospital care to the acutely sick and injured, the Department has 90 EMT-Basics, six EMT-Intermediates, 16 Iowa EMT-Paramedics, 26 Paramedic Specialists, and one Iowa Law Enforcement Emergency Care Provider. Currently, there are seven apparatus equipped to provide Paramedic Specialist response, including Engine 1, Engine 4, Engine 5, Quint 7, Engine 8, Engine 9 and Truck One. The Fire Department's Medical Director, Brad Wisnousky, provides updated medical information and quality assurance.

The EMS Division Training Committee analyzed EMS training delivery methods and formulated a strategy to utilize training opportunities outside of the department. For example, in 2011, the Department will have a pediatric High Fidelity simulation training program from Blanks Children's Hospital and, a National Guard medical unit will deliver a program about triaging patients. In August 2010, the Fire Department served as a pilot program for responding to emergencies that involve deaf and hard of hearing patients. In addition to online EMS training, the Division offered 3,329 hours of medical training throughout the year.



Firefighters provide emergency medical care to victims of injury or sudden illness. Fire stations are located throughout the community to provide emergency care as part of a tiered response with police and ambulance personnel.

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The Fire Department responded to 5,317 EMS/rescue calls. The bar graph demonstrates the major categories of chief complaint indicated by patients.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS & SPECIAL OPERATIONS



Greg Smith  
Battalion Chief

Over 5,000 training hours were invested in preparing Cedar Rapids firefighters to respond to hazardous materials, special operations and weapons of mass destruction incidents. The Cedar Rapids Fire Department is one of seven regional state asset Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Response teams in the State of Iowa. The Department was provided with a Hazardous Materials response trailer and a cache of WMD response equipment.

In 2010, the Hazardous Materials and Special Operations Division purchased a Midland Railcar Capping Kit, which is designed to be applied to compromised and leaking railcar valves to contain the emergency release of hazardous materials from the valves. The kits provide temporary mitigation until the railcar can be off-loaded or the valves are repaired.

The Division continues to employ a team leader aspect to Hazardous Materials and Special Operations specialties. Team leaders and firefighter crews meet with facility personnel at industrial locations throughout the community to increase awareness of the hazardous materials and confined space challenges of each facility.



Firefighters performed an ethanol railcar derailment exercise at Hawkeye Downs on October 12, 2010.

### Team Leaders:

Boat /Swift Water Rescue – Captain Brian Hall and Committee\*  
Confined Space - Captain Michael Fredericks  
Hazardous Materials Response – Captain Andrew Olesen  
Rope Rescue/High Angle - Captain Dan Dall  
Trench Rescue - Captain Don Ransford and Captain Terry McAtee  
WMD Response – Firefighter Michael Cheney

\* Committee includes Captain John Panek, Firefighter Nathan Goodlove, Firefighter Justin Jensen, Firefighter Josh Jensen and Firefighter Brad Cowdin

### Team Numbers:

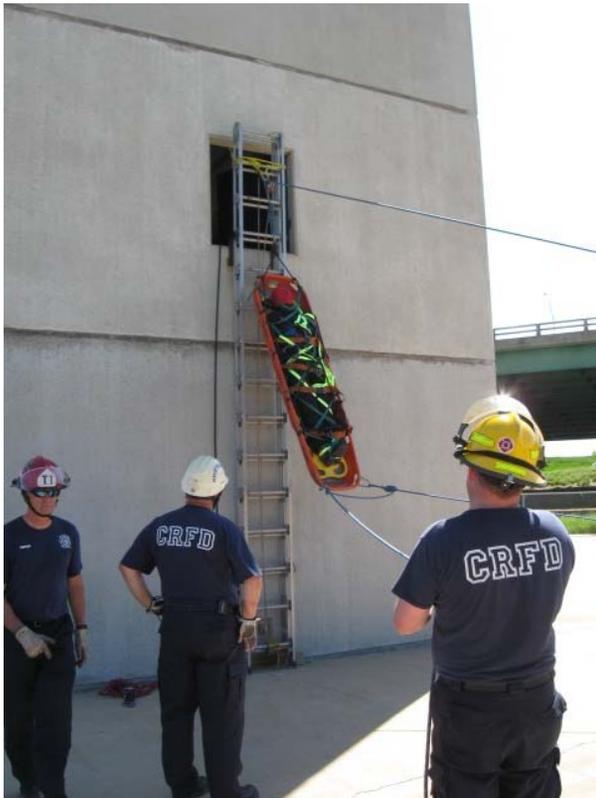
Hazardous Materials Technicians – 39  
Hazardous Materials Operations Level – 81  
Special Operations Technicians – 56  
WMD Response Technicians – 19  
Emergency Worker Monitoring and Decontamination Station Workers - 25



Firefighters worked with United States Postal Inspectors on an anthrax drill at the Main Cedar Rapids Postal Facility on May 14, 2010.

The Fire Department is in the process of upgrading all firefighters to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1670 Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents, as well as the Operations and Technician level of the NFPA 472 Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents.

Throughout the year, firefighters participated in joint training exercises, including a WMD training delivered by the 71<sup>st</sup> Civil Support Team of the Iowa National Guard, Hazardous Materials IQ training, ethanol spill response training, and hazardous materials technician training. Various members of the Hazardous Materials and Special Operations teams participated in training programs or drills throughout the year that enhanced response capabilities to incidents involving ammonia, aircraft terrorism, confined space, swift water rescue, rope rescue, propylene oxide, and anthrax.



### TRAINING HOURS BY DISCIPLINE

Confined Space	772
Hazardous Materials	1,059
Rope Rescue	1,140
Trench Rescue	503
Water/Boat Rescue	634
WMD	1,051

Training throughout the year in specific disciplines of Hazardous Materials and Special Operations help firefighters prepare for actual emergencies in the community.

Pictured to the far left is a firefighter being lowered from a window of the Fire Department's training tower as part of rope rescue training.

The top picture to the left features firefighters preparing to practice river rescue techniques on the Cedar River.

The bottom picture to the left is an actual emergency in which an overturned tanker truck spilled sodium hydroxide on August 4, 2010.

## TRAINING DIVISION



David Brown  
Battalion Chief

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department Training Division offered a variety of programs and increased the level of firefighter certification in 2010.

Ninety-nine firefighters completed Firefighter II certification requirements in December. Firefighter II promotes firefighter safety, increases proficiency and helps minimize damage at fire incidents. It is a national certification that is part of the Fire Department's career development program. The certification is intended to bring credibility to the organization, knowledge and skills proficiency.

In May, in conjunction with Human Resources, nearly 40 Fire Captains and acting fire officers participated in Officer Development courses. This was an effort to continue professional management skills for officers supervising firefighters and included team-building, time management and Lean Process Improvement.

Part of the training process includes Fire Captains conducting "in-house" training at individual fire stations with their firefighting crew. For example, in May, fire crews reviewed ladder skills. This involved training on the proper methods of carrying, raising and working from a ladder.

In April, firefighters participated in extrication training. Extrication is required when a patient is trapped in a motor vehicle or other type of machinery. Fire crews used damaged vehicles donated by Sunline, Inc. of 4000 6<sup>th</sup> Street SW. The training incorporated patient assessment skills, which simulated a "victim" being removed from an automobile and the initiation of treatment.



Firefighters stabilize a vehicle as they prepare to extricate a simulated victim during a training exercise in April.

Other programs presented throughout the year included a methamphetamine awareness class and autism awareness program. The methamphetamine class discussed the scope of the drug problem in Iowa and instructed firefighters on what to look for to recognize hazards that are inherent with the manufacture of methamphetamine. The autism awareness class detailed the three main form of autism including Aspergers, Pervasive Development Disorder and Classical Autism. Autism patients can create unique challenges in fire and rescue response, especially given that autism patients reaction to loud noises or seizure-like activity that could make patient stabilization difficult.

Throughout the year, between formal training sessions and the training opportunities afforded firefighters by their Fire Captains at individual stations, there are over 2,500 hours of training hours delivered department-wide.

## URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE



Brian Giachino  
Battalion Chief

Iowa Task Force-1 is a state asset funded with federal Homeland Security grants and must be requested and deployed through Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The HSEMD administrator is authorized to use the Task Force in support of local operations. In addition to Cedar Rapids, the Sioux City Fire Department, along with fire and rescue professionals from across the state, are also members of the Task Force, which was built through the equipping, training and enhancement of local capabilities. Since its inception in 2003, Iowa Task Force-1 has been deployed to seven incidents.

The Cedar Rapids Division of Iowa Task Force One, the state's Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Team, assisted in the investigation of a fire in Oelwein, Iowa. Iowa Task Force One (IA-TF1), Cedar Rapids Division, was deployed through HSEMD to Oelwein on Sunday, May 9 to assist the Iowa Fire Marshal's Office and Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) agents with a fire investigation by stabilizing two severely damaged buildings.

Stabilization was needed to allow agents to gain access to structurally questionable parts of the building to complete their investigation. The buildings, which are part of West Charles Mall and are located near 17 West Charles Street in downtown Oelwein, were heavily damaged by a fire on May 7. Task Force Leader, Cedar Rapids District Chief Brian Giachino, and 14 members of the team arrived at the scene Sunday afternoon and worked throughout the evening and nighttime hours to shore two, 20-foot spans that were destroyed by fire.



The rescue personnel constructed various types of shores to support surrogate floor joists positioned by rescue personnel. A demolition phase, ongoing spot fires, and lengthy spans of the building required the task force to work until 4 a.m. to complete the mission. The self-sufficient team utilized their own fuel, power-generating systems and communication suite to continue to work unsupported into the morning hours. This was not the first time that Iowa Task Force One has assisted the ATF. The Task Force and ATF established their relationship at the Burlington Munitions explosion deployment in 2003.

Pictured is a member of Iowa Task Force-1; the unit was deployed to Oelwein on Mother's Day in 2010. Members of the USAR team worked with ATF and Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office agents to shore up a building on the verge of collapse so that investigators could gather crucial evidence from the scene.

The work of the USAR team was featured in Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management's SECURED AND PREPARED newsletter.

# LIFE SAFETY AND EDUCATION – PUBLIC EDUCATION



Nicky Stansell  
Public Education  
Manager

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department’s Public Education Division provides over 20 different fire and life safety programs for the citizens of Cedar Rapids, providing fire prevention methodologies and reducing the risk of injury and death from fire and other hazards. These programs include a Citizens’ Fire Academy, Kids’ Fire and Life Safety Camp, Safe Kids Coalition and older adult fire safety presentations.

Battery Up, a partnership between the American Red Cross and the Fire Department, involved 143 households, helping senior citizens or physically challenged citizens install smoke alarms and/or change smoke alarm batteries. The “Be A Santa to a Senior” program had firefighters visiting 109 homes and installing 28 smoke alarms to replace old or non-functioning alarms and replacing 21 worn or missing batteries. Nine citizens learned what it was like to be a firefighter by participating in the nine-week Citizens’ Fire Academy during the summer. During Safe Kids Week, Life Safety and Education staff gave away 300 bicycle helmets to children.

Public Education personnel continued to deliver fire safety curriculum to third graders in 28 elementary schools throughout the community. Fire safety educators conduct five visits to 62 classrooms throughout the year teaching home fire escape and smoke alarm information, as well as instructing the children how to call for help in an emergency. Students also practice getting out of a simulated house fire during the fifth and final visit which involved a smoke simulation machine that fills a bedroom, sounds a smoke alarm and requires children to use a fire escape plan. Firefighters assist with the fire truck and firefighter turnout gear presentation, as well as the fire safety house visit.

The Public Education Division also began delivering the 911 simulator presentation to four College Community elementary schools in 2010.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION ACTIVITY LOG:

School Children Contacts	8,575
Classroom Fire Safety Visits	373
Fire Safety Presentations (Civic Groups, Senior Citizens, College)	45
Fire Safety Presentation Contacts	2,043
Video Production Hours	104
Child Safety Seat Installations	100
Residential Smoke Alarm/ Battery Installations (Number of Homes)	44
Juvenile Fire Intervention Program Assessments	17
Fire Drills/Evacuation Planning Sessions	12
Health and Safety Fairs	4



Life Safety and Education personnel participate in a Health and Safety Fair at Rockwell Collins.



Angela Johnstone  
Firefighter/Public  
Education Specialist

To measure the effectiveness of Public Education programs in the elementary schools, fire safety educators administered a pre-test and post-test to the students with 20 core fire safety curriculum questions.

Students improved on nearly every question. The students took the test in August prior to the Fire Department's first visit that encompasses smoke alarms, home fire escape plans, and proper procedures to follow in the event of a fire in the home.

The second visit includes an overview of the tools and equipment that firefighters use and how firefighting gear keeps firefighters safe. Children build upon the previous lessons and are instructed not to fear or hide from firefighters if they are trapped inside of a home.

The third visit concentrates on winter and holiday fire safety (cooking, heating and electrical fires).

The fourth visit is about recognizing an emergency and calling 911 on a simulated telephone system. Fire safety educators act as an emergency dispatcher and have the children describe a simulated emergency, and then provide their name, address and telephone number. Students learn proper phone techniques to stay calm and get help to their location as quick as possible.

The school year culminates with the fifth and final visit – the fire safety house.

For the 2009-2010 school year, there were 1,201 students who took the pre-test and 1,437 students who took the post-test. The analysis of each of the questions and the corresponding student responses helped fire safety educators revise fire safety curriculum and develop homework assignments to reinforce lessons. One of the assignments required students to develop a home fire escape plan with their parent or guardian and then practice the plan.



Firefighters show children their firefighter turnout gear at local elementary schools.



Students "escape" from a smoky bedroom inside the fire safety house. Fire safety educators fill the room with simulated smoke, a smoke alarm sounds, and students must follow a fire escape plan to safely exit the house.

The photo to the left shows children crawling down a ladder as a mean of egress after they had checked the door to the bedroom and discovered that the door was hot to the touch. The hot door simulated fire behind the door, requiring children to find a second escape route.

## ADDITIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:



The Division was awarded a \$1,500 "Love Our Kids Grant" from the Iowa Department of Public Health to purchase 32 child passenger safety seats for families that could not afford them.



Fire Department personnel attended parent-teacher conferences, school events, or had an informational poster at 38 elementary schools through the greater Cedar Rapids community to promote and hand out surveys to find families that needed smoke alarms. 496 families signed up for new smoke alarms and/or a fire safety inspection. This is a state-wide effort through the Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office.

## JUVENILE FIRE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The Fire Department's Juvenile Fire Intervention Program provides a regional program that provides a cohesive partnership amongst community agencies, interacting together as a coalition, to reduce the number of fire injuries and deaths by providing evaluation, education, and redirection assistance to children that exhibit fire setting behavior. There is no cost to participate for the families affected.

Managed by Firefighter Brent Smith, and assisted by the Public Education Division, the program saw a 53 percent decrease in the number of children referred to the program compared to the previous year. This is the largest decrease in the number of children referred since the program's inception in 2000. Seventeen children participated in the program in 2010 and came from Cedar Rapids, Marion, and Central City. Two case referrals originated from the Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office. The program has gained notoriety over the past few years with recognition from the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, as their Midwest Regional example for a juvenile firesetter program. Further, the Department's Juvenile Fire Intervention Program has been a key component of the Juvenile Court Office's probationary program. There has not been a case of recidivism by any child that has participated in the program in the past five years.



Firefighter Brent Smith, Juvenile Fire Intervention Program Manager, presents After the Fire kits to fire departments throughout Linn County at the Salvation Army headquarters in Cedar Rapids. The After the Fire kits are given to fire victims to help them with immediate needs after a devastating residential fire. The Coalition raised over \$10,000 to assemble the kits.

The program includes an interview of the child and the child's parents or guardians to try to determine the rationale for the fire play or fire start. Based on the assessment, the Fire Department helps determine the likelihood of recidivism and can provide fire and life safety instruction for the child and family. Often it is recommended that the child receive professional counseling, so the Fire Department has partnered with local mental health agencies to offer indigent families the opportunity to receive help.

The Juvenile Fire Intervention Coalition put in six months of work and received over \$10,000 in donations for a community service project to develop "After the Fire" kits, filled with living essentials to distribute to fire victims displaced by a residential fire. The kits included free food certificates and items like toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo and deodorant. The Coalition also assembled baby kits that included such items as diapers, bottles, toys, blankets and bathing soaps to assist families with infants in a time of need.

The Coalition was able to donate ten kits to each of the 26 fire departments in Linn County, as well as the Linn County Sheriff's Office. Coalition members include the Abbe Center, Linn County Department of Human Services, Cedar Rapids Police Department, Mercy Medical Center, St. Luke's Hospital, Marion Fire Department, Hiawatha Fire Department, Kirkwood Community College, Linn County Juvenile Court, University of Iowa Burn Center, Innovative Marketing Solutions, and Service Master 380.

## FIRE CODE DIVISION



Gary Jensen  
Assistant Chief

The Fire Code Division provides an array of inspection services that provide an enhanced level of fire safety for people who live, work or visit the community. Fire Code Captains conduct inspections of businesses, schools, daycares, and hospitals. Each inspector has nearly 800-1,000 inspections annually. The Fire Marshal, Assistant Fire Marshal and a fire plan reviewer work with developers and contractors with building plan reviews. Collectively, the Division enforces and ensures compliance with all phases of the International Fire Code and directs the Life Safety Code of Iowa. The Fire Code Division also supports the other inspection services offered by the City of Cedar Rapids, including the building, electrical, housing, mechanical and plumbing divisions.



Jim Thatcher  
Battalion Chief/  
Fire Marshal

Inspections of business and industry help reduce fire and life safety hazards. Inspectors ensure that hazardous materials are properly stored. They also make sure that means of ingress and egress are clearly marked and accessible. Also, there are inspections of sprinkler and fire alarm systems. Collectively, the inspection process can reduce a business or industry's insurance premiums, but, more importantly, create a safer environment for employees and guests.

The administrative staff of the Fire Code Division documents and files all Fire Code programs and inspection information. The staff also provides site assessment information and other public records, including inspection forms and documentation. Staff coordinates updated emergency contact information from field inspectors to the City's Joint Communication Center, ensuring that there is a point of contact for after-hours emergencies at business and industry through the City.



Vance McKinnon  
Assistant Fire Marshal

The Fire Code Division is located at the Community Connections Center at 1501 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE. The Fire Code Division shares offices and resources with the Police Department, Cedar Rapids Community Schools, and Code Enforcement Division, as a means of being responsive to neighborhood code and safety concerns.

The Code Division has contact with over 5,000 business and industry personnel annually.

### FIRE CODE DIVISION MISSION STATEMENT:

**The Mission of the Cedar Rapids Fire Code Division is to build quality relationships with our citizens and the business community, and to provide essential fire prevention programs in an efficient and effective manner.**

## 2010 FIRE CODE DIVISION ACTIVITY LOG AND INSPECTIONS:

• Beer/Liquor Permits	303	• Hazardous Materials/Industry Permits	509
• Certificate of Occupancy	225	• Initial Company Inspections	2,364
• Change of Business	112	• Other (Complaints, Citizen Inquiries)	187
• College/School/Daycare Permits	374	• Pyrotechnics Permits	40
• Fire Alarm Systems	35	• Special Events Permits	170
• Fire Plan Review	282	• Sprinkler System Inspections	43
		• Underground/Aboveground Storage Tanks	8

### Other numbered permits issued:

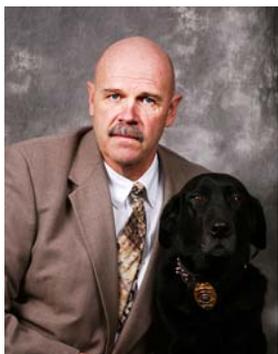
• Events/Trade Shows	13
• Hazardous Materials	2
• Hydrant Flow Test	1
• Open Burning	5
• Open Flames or Candles	1
• Outdoor Place of Assembly	6
• Spray Booths	2
• Temporary LP Tanks	32
• Tents	10



Fire Code Division staff perform fire inspections at over 5,000 businesses and industries in Cedar Rapids. For example, inspectors check the sprinkler standpipe systems and emergency exit doors for proper function.

Pictured in the photographs are Fire Captain Pete Schmit and Firefighter Steve Dunham performing an inspection at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids.

# FIRE INVESTIGATIONS



Al Brockhohn and Ember  
Fire Investigation Team

Fire investigators, charged with determining cause and origin of fires, worked 85 fire scenes in 2010. Effective and accurate identification of fire cause, whether accidental or incendiary, reduces fire loss in the community. By analyzing and interpreting the cause of fire, fire investigators identify and prosecute those responsible, if applicable. An effective investigation team can reduce a community's fire insurance premiums and preserve tax revenues. Lead investigator is Captain Al Brockhohn, with assistance provided by Captain Scott Saylor.

Ember, a K-9 obtained through a scholarship program sponsored by State Farm Insurance, is able to detect the presence of trace amounts of ignitable liquids and is an integral part of the investigation team. In 2010, samples were obtained from 19 fire scenes that Ember detected an accelerant. The samples were sent to the Iowa Department Criminal Investigation laboratory and the accelerant was confirmed in every case.

Captain Brockhohn is a certified peace officer and is a member of the City's Bomb Squad. The Bomb Squad mitigates events involving suspicious packages, improvised explosive devices, and examines and reconstructs post-blast scenes.

## Fire Causes

Unintentional	134
Underdetermined After Investigation	35
Intentional	45
Radiated, Conducted Heat from Operating Equipment	40
Heat from open flame or smoking materials	12
Cigarette Lighter	9
Hot Ember/Ash	6
Candle	5
Match	5
Fireworks	4

## Training Log Summary Report for Ember

Other (Vehicle) Searches	8
Yard Searches	5
People Searches	3
Basic Imprinting	594
Scent Discrimination	46
Basic Floor Exams	151
Fire Scene Exams	65
Number of Reps	5,201
Number of Finds	1,037
Demonstrations	4
Number of People at Demos	100
Number of Samples Taken	19
Number of Samples Confirmed	19

## PUBLIC INFORMATION



Greg Buelow  
Special Projects  
Coordinator/Public  
Information Officer

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department serves 128,056 residents and a community that swells to nearly 200,000 people during the weekday with fire and life safety response and prevention programs. The Department has an obligation to provide timely, accurate information to the community. In 2010, there were 118 media releases sent by the Fire Department, including detailed information about emergency incidents, fire prevention advice, or departmental programs. Public information is also shared through the weekly Cedar Rapids City Progress Newsletter, E-City Newsletter, cable television and the City's Web site. Media releases, permit applications, employment requests and customer survey feedback forms are available through the departmental Web site. Fire Department spokespersons also provide instant updates to over 100 members of the media through Twitter, an instant messaging tool. To demonstrate the efficiency and effectiveness of the Fire Department, monthly performance metrics are reported. Some of these metrics include the number of structure fires, turnout time (time from firefighters receiving an alarm to leaving the fire station) and response times.

The Fire Department complies with the Iowa Open Records Law and receives nearly 150 requests for copies of reports, documents or other statistical information. Administrative Assistants Susan Frischkorn and Stacy Mason help provide many of these reports to the public, such as site assessments and incident reports. Firefighter Tim Gavin, who manages the City's Urban Deer Management program, also provides data and incident summaries to citizens regarding the deer hunt. The Annual Report is a compilation of the accomplishments of the organization over the calendar year. It is an opportunity for the public to learn more about the value of the services provided by the Fire Department.



Public Information Officer Greg Buelow demonstrates how to test a dual sensor smoke alarm for a television interview with KCRG TV-9.

During June 2010, a study was conducted to determine the value of public information to the organization. The basis of the publicity study was to determine the dollar equivalent to the amount of "air time" that the Cedar Rapids Fire Department received on the four local network newscasts (ABC, CBS, FOX and NBC affiliates). If an organization wanted to get publicity on the news, then they would likely have to pay for a 30-second advertisement. Based on the length on the news stories and their placement in the newscast, the Fire Department received the equivalent of \$10,209 worth of advertising for nine stories. The most valuable story was a 1 minute, 48 second segment on pet oxygen masks. The story aired at 10 PM on the most popular newscast and was the equivalent of \$7,450 advertising dollars. Invisible Fence Company of Cedar Rapids donated pet oxygen masks to the department and firefighters were able to successfully use one of the masks to revive a dog in a southwest side residential fire. Based on the percentage of stories that aired in June compared to other months throughout the year, it was determined that the Fire Department receives over \$150,000 in advertising dollars annually.

## FIRE CHAPLAINS



Phil Saunders



Rick Gail

Following a fatal fire on May 10, 2010, the Cedar Rapids Fire Department reinstated the Fire Chaplain Program, which is designed to provide spiritual and emotional support for Fire Department personnel and their families, as well as support for fire victims and the community.

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department Chaplain is a volunteer clergy who serves in the local area and is a religious leader in the community. The Chaplain is also a member of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department. The Chaplain offers a caring friendship to the Fire Department and represents a positive liaison between firefighters and the local community.

Phil Saunders, who is a Deacon at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, is a retired firefighter. In March 1965, Saunders began his career as a firefighter with the Cedar Rapids Fire Department. In 1969, he went into the Fire Prevention Bureau and retired in 1995. Saunders served as the Department's Fire Marshal. From 1995-2001, Saunders continued in the fire prevention field as the Midwest Regional Manager for the National Fire Sprinkler Association, which is a trade association for the fire sprinkler industry. His job was to promote and market the use of fire sprinklers. Saunders used seminars and other educational means to help people understand the value of fire sprinklers.

Rick Gail, who is Pastor at First Assembly of God Church, was a member of the Cedar Rapids Police Department. He served on the Police Department as a patrol officer until a nearly fatal accident forced him into a disability retirement. After retirement, Gail moved to Springville, Missouri and attended seminary at Central Bible College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree. After graduation, Gail went to Southwest Missouri State and transferred to Evangel University, where he earned a Bachelor's degree in business administration. When Gail moved back to Cedar Rapids, he was asked by the Cedar Rapids Chief of Police to serve as a Police Department Chaplain. Later, he was asked by the Fire Chief to serve as a Fire Department Chaplain as well.

Saunders and Gail represent the Fire Department at City Council meetings once a month by conducting the invocation. By the same token, the Chaplains have been important parts of the Fire Department's One-Year Rookie Ceremony and Recognition Ceremony.

Both Chaplains are on-call and respond to fires or other emergencies involving serious injury or death. The Chaplains are able to provide comfort to the families. The Chaplains are also available to assist fire department personnel with any personal issues as well.

## HONOR GUARD



The Cedar Rapids Fire Department Honor Guard is a special unit of the department that performs ceremonial duties at memorials, funerals, and special events. Cedar Rapids was one of the first fire departments in the state of Iowa to establish an Honor Guard unit.

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department Honor Guard attends funerals of active duty firefighters and members of their immediate family. The Honor Guard also attends funerals of retired firefighters, firefighters and police officers from surrounding communities, and members of Cedar Rapids local government.

In 2010, the Honor Guard had all 20 members actively participating in events. The Honor Guard was requested for their services at 19 events, including an administrative meeting, four formal training sessions, five ceremonial events, and nine visitations and/or funerals. Of these 19 events, the Honor Guard members performed 363 ½ hours of service, including 223 off-duty hours.



### **THE CEDAR RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD REMEMBERS THE FOLLOWING RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS WHO DIED IN 2010:**

- Wilbert Beckman
- William Mueller
- Wilmer Verba
- Jerry Hruby
- Ralph Rauch
- Ralph Wyatt

## RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department held a Recognition Ceremony to recognize nine retirements, eight appointments, nine promotions and several awards to both firefighters and citizens. The Recognition Ceremony, which was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> at Kirkwood Community College, began with a Presentation of Colors by the Cedar Rapids Fire Department Honor Guard and Highland Bagpiper James D. Jenkins of Cedar Rapids. Next, Fire Department Chaplain Rick Gail presented the Invocation. Guest speaker was Geoffrey Eastburn of Ryan Companies US, Inc., who is Vice President of Operations. Ryan Companies is the City's construction manager for the new Central Fire Station and the new west side Fire Station #3 project.

Fire Chief Stephen M. Reid presented the following awards:



**Award for Heroism** – Captain Dan Ripley, Firefighter Gerald Johnstone, and Firefighter Bryan Johnson for rescuing a baby from a burning apartment at 3000 J Street SW on October 8, 2009.

**Award for Heroism** – Captain Leonard Drake (retired) and Firefighter Mark Lange for rescuing a 61-year old man from a house fire at 3220 Dalewood Avenue SE on June 29, 2010.

**Award for Heroism** – Ryan Walker of Cedar Rapids for rescuing a 59-year old male from a burning apartment at 3009 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW on October 7, 2010.

**Award for Distinguished Action** – Captain Robert S. Bemer, Firefighter Christopher Slaughter, and Firefighter Scott Tomash (retired) for saving a person trapped in fast moving water near Prairie Creek on June 12, 2008.

**Award for Distinguished Service** – Captain Andrew Olesen and Special Projects Coordinator/Public Information Officer Greg Buelow for research, preparation, and presentation of the I-JOBS application that resulted in \$6.6 million award to build two new fire stations.



Heroism Award recipients: Top Row (left-to-right): Daniel Ripley, Gerald Johnstone, Bryan Johnson; Bottom Row: Leonard Drake and Mark Lange

**Award for Distinguished Service** – Firefighter Brent Smith for the creation of “After Fire” kits for fire victims and dedication to the Juvenile Fire Intervention Program.

**Award for Distinguished Service** – Firefighter Patrick Hoyt, Firefighter Kurt Kroemer, Firefighter Brady Hunt, Firefighter Sean Beard, Firefighter Christopher Hinrichs, and Firefighter Landon Merkle for organizing the First Annual Cedar Rapids Fire Department Fire Bowl, which raised over \$3,000 to purchase automated external defibrillators which will be placed into the Greater Cedar Rapids Community.

**Letter of Commendation** – Captain Craig Dirks and Firefighter Julie Popelka for helping to carry a 61-year old man from his burning home at 3220 Dalewood Avenue SE on June 29, 2010.

**Letter of Commendation** – Captain Richard Halleran for successfully performing the Heimlich maneuver on another fire department employee who was choking.

**Letter of Commendation** - Firefighter Steven Dunham for his dedication and work ethic as an inspector and plan reviewer in the Fire Department’s Life Safety and Education Division.

**Letter of Commendation** – Dennis Clinton of Center Point who was passing by 201 27<sup>th</sup> Street Drive SE on April 7, 2010, when he noticed smoke coming from a residence, pounded on doors and windows, and awoke the occupant who was able to safely escape just before flames became visible from the home’s roof.

**Letter of Commendation** – Donna Blin of Marion who has volunteered over 300 hours at the City’s Community Connections building at 1501 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE assisting the Fire Department’s Life Safety and Education staff with customer service and projects.

**Fire Chief’s Award** – Greg Buelow, Special Projects Coordinator/Public Information Officer, for his dedication to the Fire Department and the community, including work on the department’s budget, successful \$6.6 million I-JOBS Award, and public relations efforts. This is the first Fire Chief’s Award presented.



Ryan Walker of Cedar Rapids is presented the Heroism Award by Fire Chief Reid.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY



The Cedar Rapids Fire Department sponsored the First Annual Fire Bowl at Clark Field on the Coe College campus on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. A group of Cedar Rapids rookie firefighters spearheaded the program that helped purchase automated external defibrillators in public places where a person may become victim of sudden cardiac arrest. The event featured flag football between three teams, including the Cedar Rapids Fire Department, Hiawatha Fire Department and St. Luke's Emergency Room. Free CPR and defibrillator training was available.

Some other community events held throughout the year included the "Christmas Toy Shop Campaign" (also known as "Toys for Tots"), "Be Santa to a Senior" (firefighters deliver presents and check smoke alarms in senior citizens homes), and America Reads (firefighters reading to school children).



The Fire Department provided Thanksgiving meals to 19 families due to the generosity of fire department employees, the general public and local businesses as part of "Project Harvest." Firefighters delivered food baskets, including hams, potatoes, corn, dressing, green beans and other non-perishable goods, to families selected through Linn County Options. During the week of Christmas, ten area families were provided food assistance as part of "Project Christmas."



Firefighters held the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Cedar Rapids Fire Department Memorial 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. The event is held to maintain a Memorial Fund for fallen firefighters.

Firefighters also continued a 26-year tradition of "Filling the Boot" for Jerry's Kids over Labor Day weekend. The International Association of Fire Fighters Local #11 and the Fire Department partnered to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The efforts of the firefighters and the community helped raise \$32,555.28 – more money than any other fire department in Iowa.



## NEW FIRE STATIONS



The Fire Department continued to work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to complete a cost effective analysis for the new Central Fire Station. The Fire Department also received a \$6.6 million I-JOBS Disaster II Grant from the State of Iowa to provide an emergency operations/command center, community room and storm shelter in the Central Fire Station. The I-JOBS Grant was intended to fill in any funding gap from FEMA's Public Assistance Program.

The Department's Central Fire Station, which was destroyed by the June 2008 flood, needed to be constructed outside of the 100-year and 500-year flood plain. The strategic location of the Central Fire Station was required to have ready access to U.S. Interstate 380 and First Avenue to allow efficient response routes to all areas of the community. The Central Fire Station houses an engine company, truck company and rescue unit, as well as hazardous materials, special operations, urban search and rescue specialty response vehicle that are designed to respond to chemical, biological or environmental emergencies, or incidents involving technical rescue strategies such as high angle, confined space, or entrapment/entanglement.

The City hired Ryan Companies US, Inc. as the construction manager and Solum-Lang Architects as the architect/engineer for programming and design. Ryan Companies and Solum-Lang received the contract to help with site selection and fire station design phases on both the Central Fire Station and Fire Station #3 projects. Central Fire Station is scheduled to have construction completed by fall 2013.

The Fire Department will be relocating Fire Station #3 from 1424 B Avenue NE to a west side location in proximity of O Avenue and Edgewood Road NW to provide uninterrupted emergency response coverage to all geographic areas of the community. The relocation will help improve the department's response time to areas west of the Cedar River so that emergency crews can arrive within five minutes of an emergency to most homes or businesses in the City. The relocation of Fire Station #3 will increase the area of the City that is within one and one-half miles of a fire station by 8.93 square miles, or 12.5 percent. There will be an additional 2,151 residential and 61 commercial and exempt properties within the one and one-half mile coverage zone. The area on the west side is projected to grow by up to 40,000 citizens over the next 30 years. The strategic location of all fire stations is a key factor in the flood and economic recovery efforts of the City. The City received \$1.6 million from I-JOBS specifically for the Fire Station #3 construction and land acquisition. The total construction and land acquisition cost for Fire Station #3 is expected to be \$2.8 million. The remaining funds will come from the City's Capital Improvement Projects funding and the sale of the current Fire Station #3.

# BUDGET – FISCAL YEAR 2010

## REVENUES

Special Fire Services	472,750
Protective Inspection Fees	404,875
Misc. Revenue	25,000
Printing & Duplication of Forms	500
Sale of Maps and Publications	330

**TOTAL REVENUE: \$903,455**

## EXPENDITURES

Personal Services	13,533,931
Discretionary Non-Personal Expenditures	1,272,177
Non-Discretionary Non-Personal Expenditures	863,466
Capital Outlay	185,300

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$15,863,879**



The Fire Department provides emergency services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to the citizens and businesses of Cedar Rapids. The Department also provides prevention programs to reduce the risk to lives and property.

The Fire Department is principally funded by the City's General Fund, which is based on property tax receipts. The Department charges a fee for some services, including false alarms, fire inspections, permits, and gas line breaks. These revenues offset a portion of the costs of providing the service, which reduces the amount of property taxes needed for departmental operations.

Personal Services include regular employee wages, overtime, group insurance, social security and retirement contributions, workers' compensation and other employee benefits.

Discretionary Non-Personal Expenditures include the Fire Department's contribution to the Joint Communications Center (\$812,596.94) and Health Services (\$55,000) for laboratory work and fitness testing for firefighters. Other expenditures include books, periodicals and subscriptions, office supplies, EMS supplies, personal protective gear, clothing, buildings and grounds repairs, and postage.

Non-Discretionary Non-Personal Expenditures are for City Finance, Fleet and Information Technology services. Expenditures also include electricity, liability insurance and gasoline/diesel fuel.

Capital outlay is for the purchase of capital equipment, which includes monies for a mobile data computer system for fire apparatus.



**City of Cedar Rapids  
Fire Department  
1010 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405**

**Phone: (319) 286-5200**

**Web Site: [www.cedar-rapids.org/fire](http://www.cedar-rapids.org/fire)**



**2010 Fire Department Annual Report**