

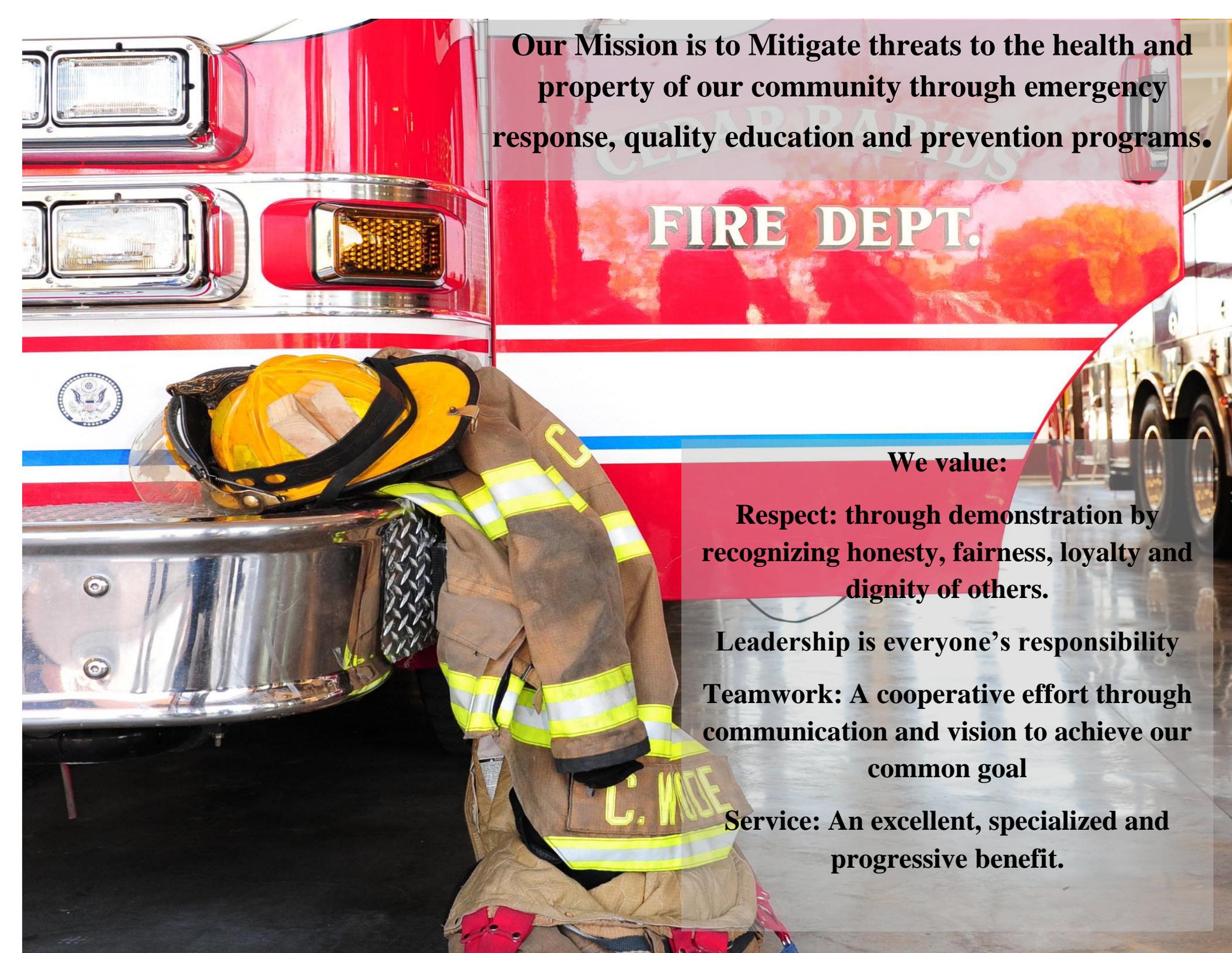
# CEDAR RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

## 2014 Annual Report



-We are very thankful for the quick response that saved our house from burning down. Thank you.

---Anonymous Cedar Rapids Resident---



**Our Mission is to Mitigate threats to the health and property of our community through emergency response, quality education and prevention programs.**

**FIRE DEPT.**

**We value:**

**Respect: through demonstration by recognizing honesty, fairness, loyalty and dignity of others.**

**Leadership is everyone's responsibility**

**Teamwork: A cooperative effort through communication and vision to achieve our common goal**

**Service: An excellent, specialized and progressive benefit.**

# 2014 Fire Chief's Report

It is my honor as the Fire Chief of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department to present the following summary of our activities for the 2014 calendar year. Our city saw 10,589 incidents that required our Firefighters/Paramedics to respond. This is a record number of incidents for our department. This year saw EMS required services roughly equal to all other types of responses from the Fire Department combined (approx. 51%). The other half were divided among fire related calls (approx. 5%), False alarm related calls (approx. 10%), Hazardous Conditions related calls (approx. 4%) and service/Good Intent related calls (approx. 30%) The demand for Fire/EMS services from our community is continually growing. We are meeting these demands through progressive training, state-of-the-art equipment, and advances of technology within the fire service. If you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you.



Mark A. English  
Fire Chief

The fire department did an excellent job containing the fire and isolating the damage to one portion of the building. While we obviously are saddened by our fire damage, we are extremely grateful to all of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department for not only doing an amazing job with the actual fire, but for all of the invested parties as well.-

---Anonymous Cedar Rapids Resident---



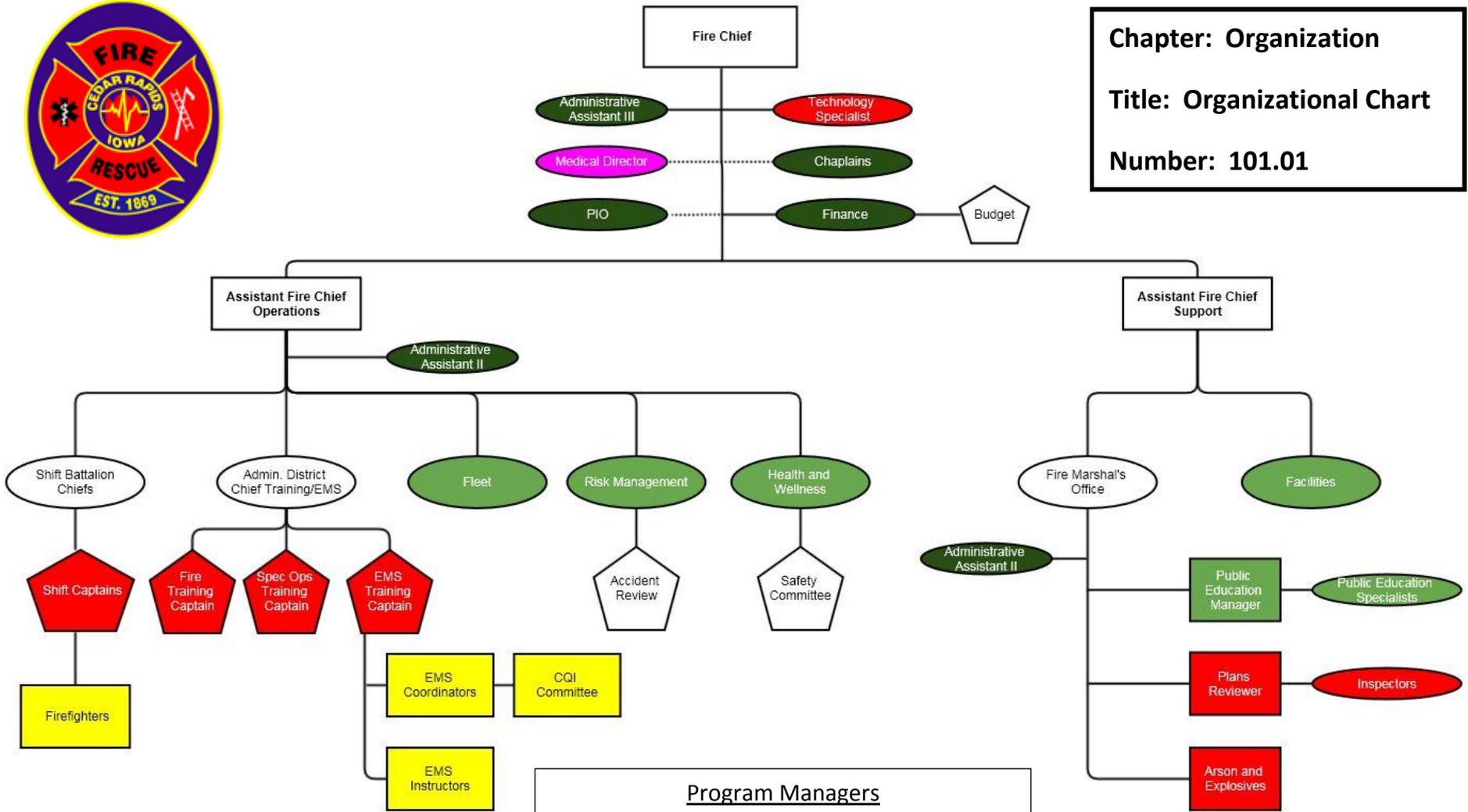
# Cedar Rapids Fire Department Annual Report 2014

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**Chapter: Organization**  
**Title: Organizational Chart**  
**Number: 101.01**



**Program Managers**  
 BC Giachino: Accreditation / Safety  
 BC Olesen: Special Projects  
 BC Dall: USAR  
 BC Brown: Preplans  
 BC Gibson: Apparatus / Tools / Equipment  
 BC Trimble: Hydrants / Water Supply  
 Capt. Cheney: Hazmat  
 Capt. Halleran: Special Operations / Fitness  
 Capt. Andrews: EMS Program  
 Capt. Miles: Honor Guard

# APPOINTMENTS



Andrew Roder



Jacob Corell



Jason Campbell



Jesse Lennox



Megan Wichmann

Shift Firefighters Appointed July 2014



# RETIREMENTS



Thomas Moats- Shift Firefighter

January 01, 2014



David Hill- Shift Firefighter

March 08, 2014



Thomas Clearman- Shift Firefighter

June 12, 2014



John Pulver- Battalion Chief

October 31, 2014



James Siebels- Shift Captain

December 31, 2014

2014 Command Staff



**MARK ENGLISH**

**FIRE CHIEF**

**28.9 YEARS OF SERVICE**



**GREGORY SMITH**

**ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF  
OPERATIONS**

**20.7 YEARS OF SERVICE**



**CURTIS HOPPER**

**ASSISTANCE FIRE CHIEF  
SUPPORT**

**19.4 YEARS OF SERVICE**



**VANCE MCKINNON**

**FIRE MARSHAL  
21.5 YEARS OF SERVICE**

## BUDGET- FISCAL YEAR 2014

### REVENUES

Special Fire Services	\$278,000
Protective Inspection Fees	\$480,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$25,000
Operating Transfer-In	\$1,767,473
Printing & Duplication of Forms	\$500
Sale of Maps and Publications	\$300
<b>TOTAL REVENUE:</b>	<b>\$2,551,303</b>

### EXPENDITURES

Personal Services	\$15,936,301
Discretionary Non-Personal Expenditures	\$440,138
Non-Discretionary Non-Personal Expenditures	\$1,987,728
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>	<b>\$18,364,167</b>

The Fire Department's primary funding source is the taxpayer-funded City General Fund. The Fire Department receives 16 percent of the General Fund's expenditure budget. The Department charges a fee for fire inspections and permits, gas line breaks, and false alarms. It also collects revenue for Tier II and confined space agreements. These revenues are designed to reduce the amount of property taxes needed for the Department's operations.

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

Property tax revenue allocated to the Fire Department from the Police and Fire property tax levy is \$1.7 million. Personal services account for 87 percent of the Department's entire budget. The City contributes \$2.8 million to MFPRSI, Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa, which is the state retirement fund for associated Fire and Police Departments.

Discretionary Non-Personal Expenditures include the Fire Department's contribution to Health Services (\$55,000), books, periodicals and subscriptions, office supplies, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) supplies, personal protective gear, clothing, buildings and grounds repairs, and postage.

Non-Discretionary Non-Personal Expenditures are for City Accounting, Fleet Services, Information Technology, and the Fire Department's contribution to the Joint Communications Center (\$772,409). Expenditures also include electricity, liability insurance and gasoline/diesel fuel.

# BUDGET



Helmet & Nomex Hood  
\$ 201

New York Hook  
\$ 89

Gloves  
\$56

BlowHard Fan  
\$ 3,250

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus  
\$ 4,025

Thermal Image Camera  
\$ 8,950

Survivor LED  
\$53

Radio with Strap  
\$4,624

Bunker Gear  
\$ 1,964

Bunker Boots  
\$56

Firefighting Ensemble  
\$26,087

# OPERATIONS



Thank you very much for helping the plant operators control the situation safely.

-Anonymous Cedar Rapids Business-

# OPERATIONS DIVISION

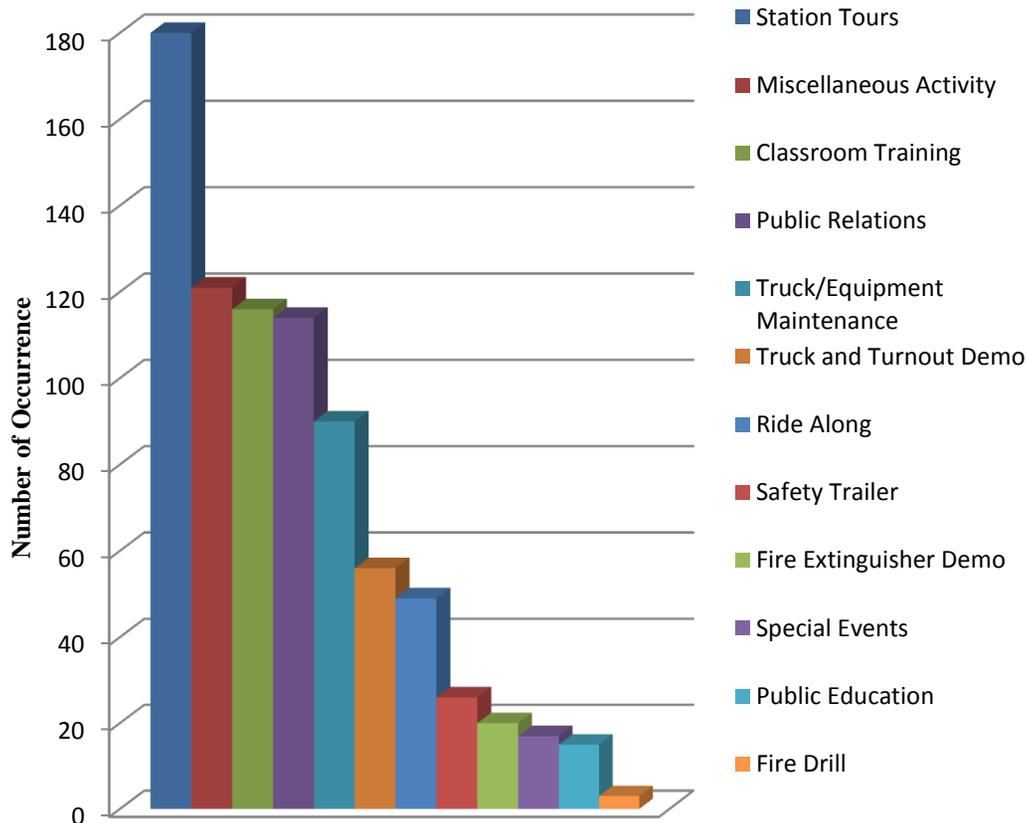


Gregory Smith  
Assistant Fire Chief

The Operations Division, under the leadership of Assistant Fire Chief Greg Smith, includes Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services, Training Division, Urban Search and Rescue, Hazardous Material, Special Operations, Fitness Committee, Fleet and the Honor Guard. There are six Battalion Chiefs, a Training Chief, two Training Captains, 33 Shift Fire Captains and 92 Shift Firefighters.

Emergency services are provided around-the-clock. In 2014, the Fire Department responded to 10,586 incidents. The Fire Department used 9 fire stations to provide emergency response and also participated in a multitude of community relations and activities.

## Shift Personnel Activity Log



David Brown  
Battalion Chief



Dan Dall  
Battalion Chief



Brian Giachino  
Battalion Chief



Brian Gibson  
Battalion Chief



Andrew Olesen  
Battalion Chief

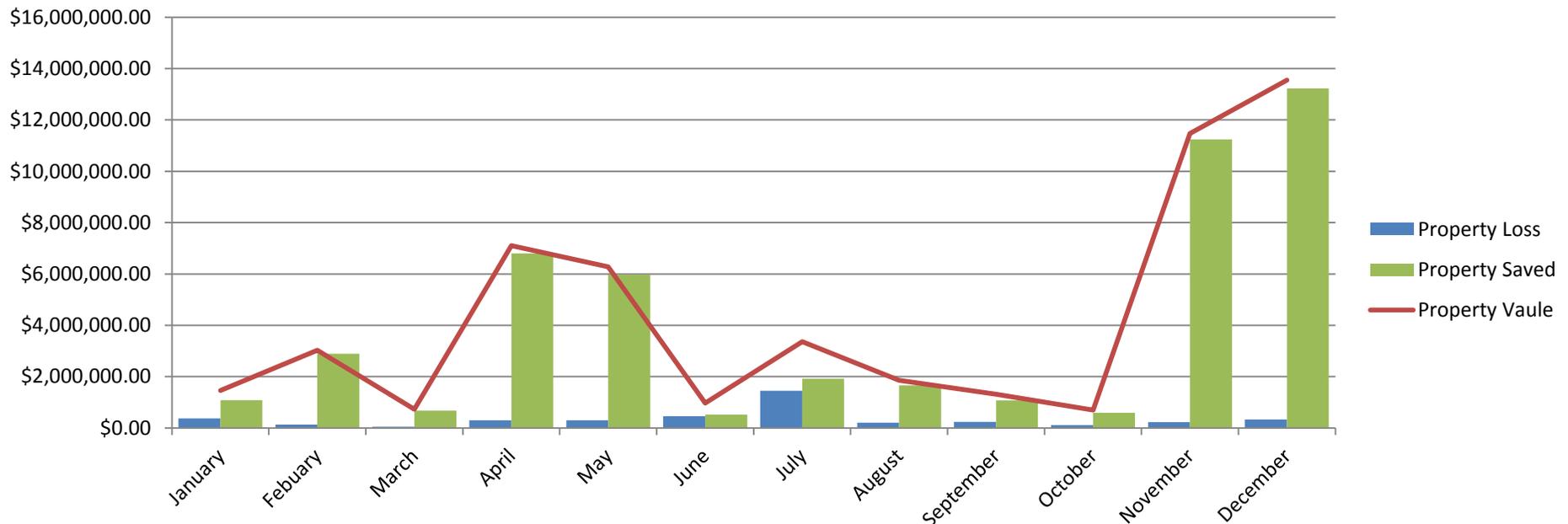


John Pulver  
Battalion Chief

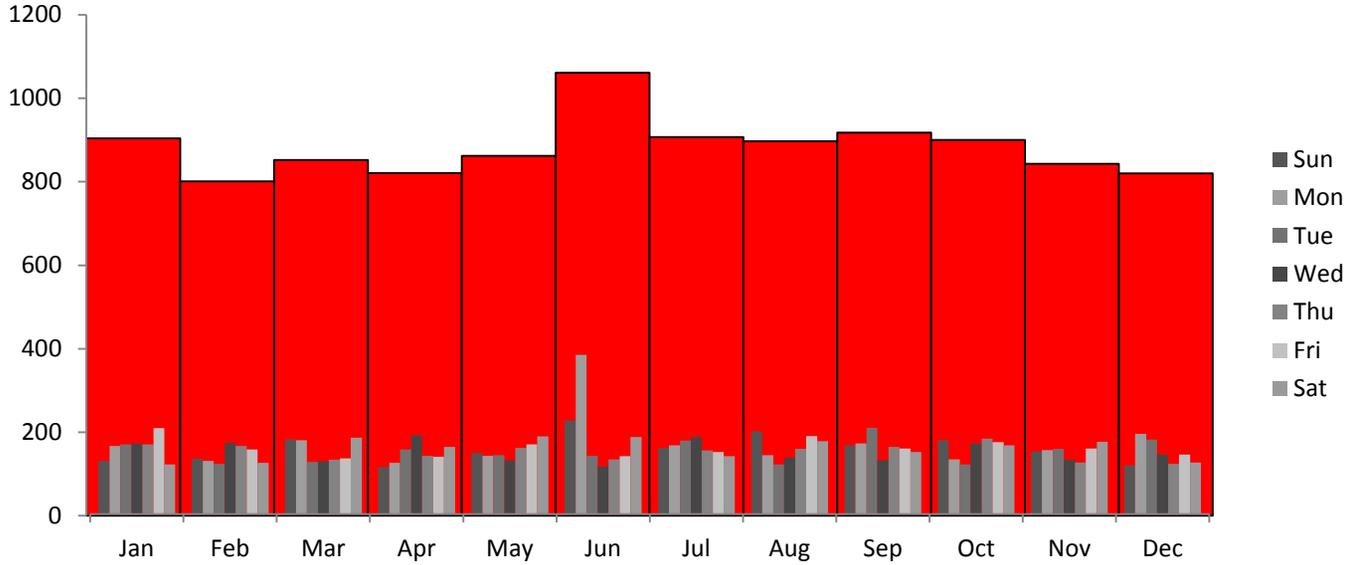
During 2014 there was \$51.8 million dollars' worth of Property and \$10.9 million dollars' worth of Content at risk due to fire.

92 % of the community's property was saved

2014 Fire Property Dollar Loss

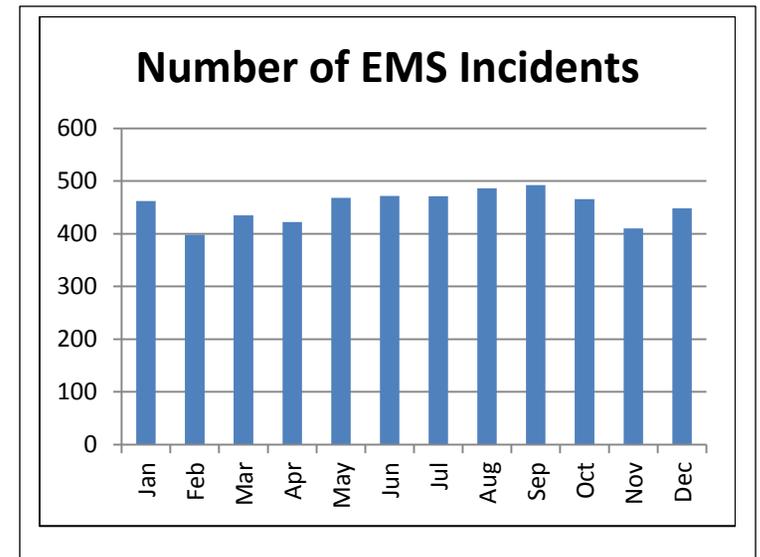
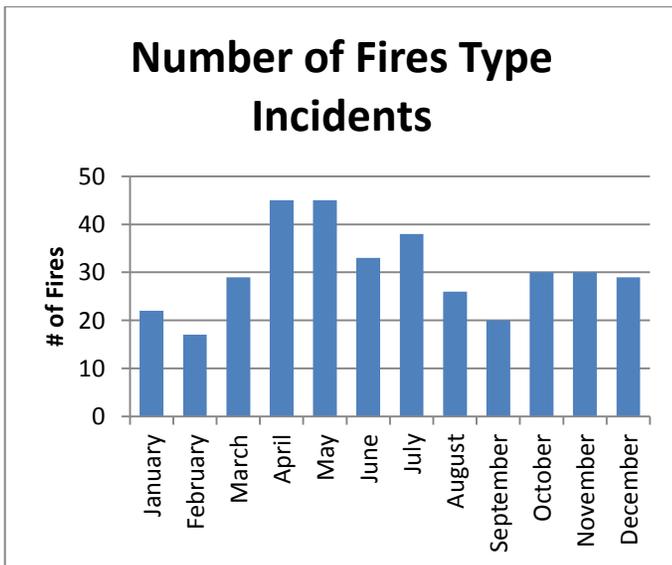


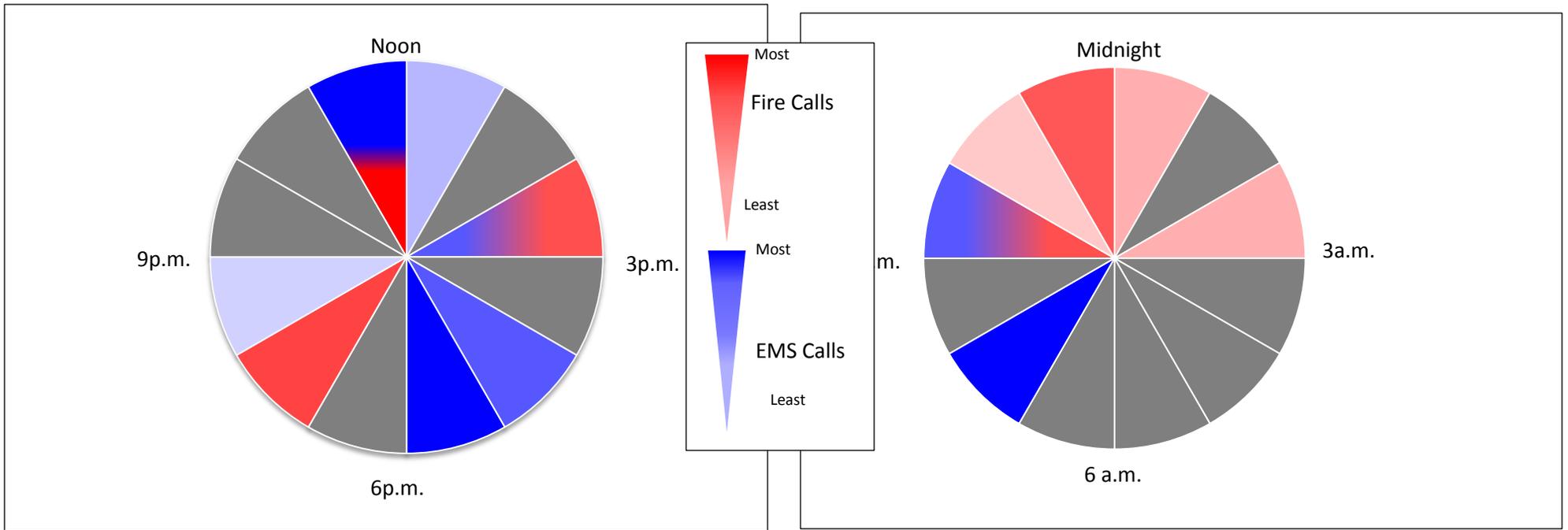
## Emergency Incident By Month and Day of the Week



Johnson Ave. May 14, 2014

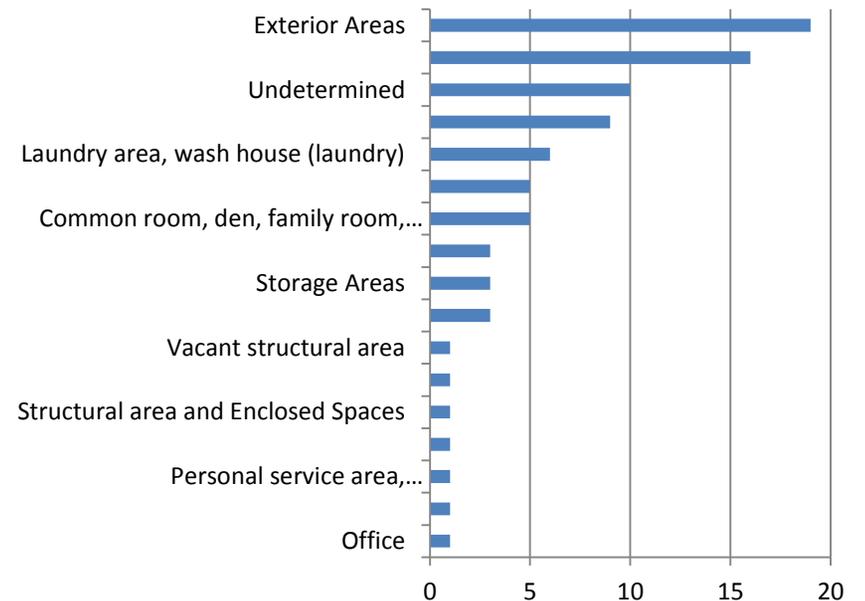
- You are most likely to see a Cedar Rapids Fire Department emergency apparatus responding to an incident on a Monday Between 5:00p.m. – 5:59p.m.





- You are most likely to see a Cedar Rapids Fire Apparatus responding to Emergency Medical call between 12:00p.m. – 12:59p.m. and 5:00p.m.– 5:59p.m.
- You are most likely to see a Cedar Rapids Fire Apparatus responding to a Structure fire Between 11:00a.m – 11:59a.m.
- The City’s busiest day was June 30, 2014 with 151 calls handled by fire units. Cedar Rapids experienced a flash flooding event starting around 10:00 p.m. June 29<sup>th</sup> and wind storm on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Both events accumulated in 205 responding incidents.
- Majority of structure fires started on the exterior areas and the second leading cause was from cooking.

### Fires Started in Single and Multi Family Dwellings

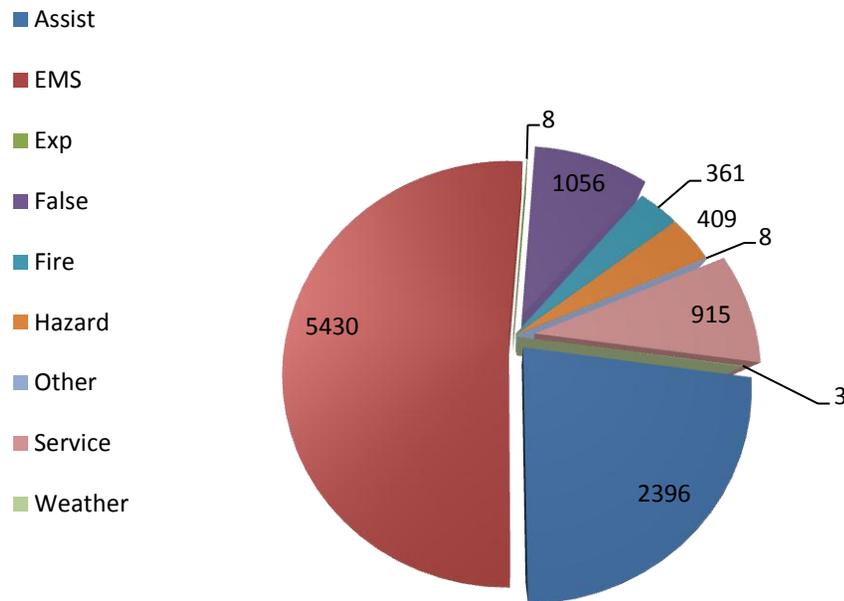


*Cedar Rapids Fire Department gathers data based on the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), this data has evolved over the years as has the fire service evolution in response. Our department responds to a multitude of incidents, these incidents follow NFIRS uniform system.*

Sub-Station Fire 6/20/2014  
Edgewood Rd and 42<sup>nd</sup> ST. NE



## 2014 Incident Response by NFIRS Categories



### 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

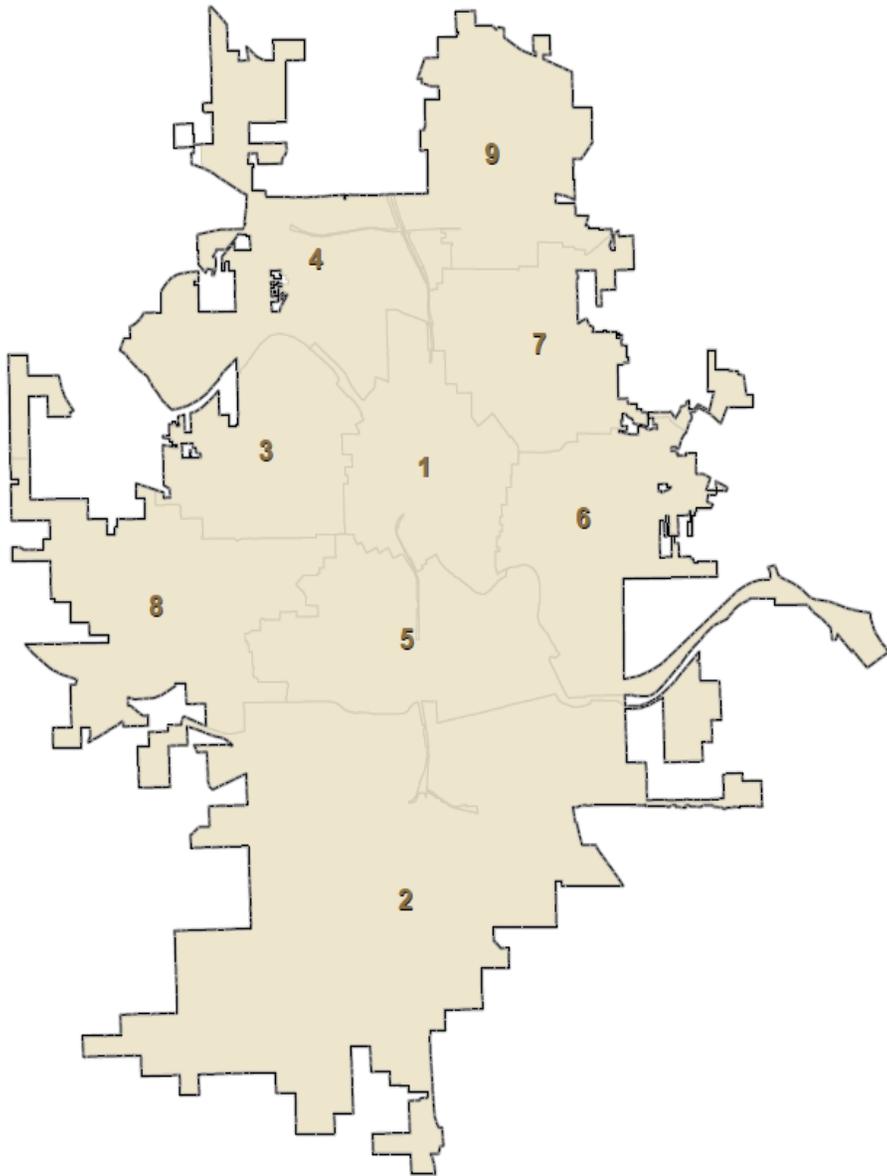
**Hazardous Condition** – gasoline or oil spill, carbon monoxide incident, downed power line, general clean-up of vehicle accident, toxic condition

**Service Call** – Lock-out, public assistance, citizen assist, unauthorized burning

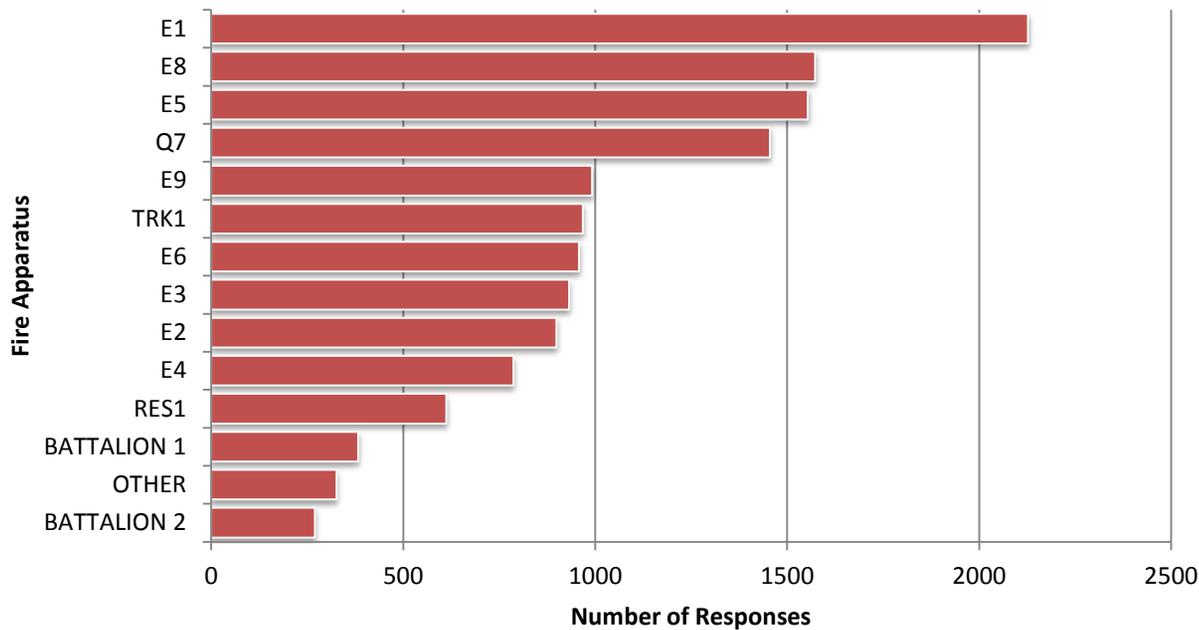
**Good Intent** – smoke scare, cancelled on scene, investigation

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

Our Department utilized nine permanent fire stations in 2014. The Fire Department offers fire protection and other services to 71.8 square miles.



## Total Responses by Fire Apparatus



The Cedar Rapids Fire Department responded to 10,589 incidents in 2014. 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, day staff and inspector vehicles, fire investigators, and hazardous materials/ special operations vehicles.

**The total number of responses made by all fire department apparatus was 13,836.**



House Fire 15<sup>th</sup> St. 11/14/2014



House Fire on D Ave. NE 2/11/2014



I-380 Car Accident 7/23/14



Search for Missing Teen 7/1/2014

## Fires in Structures by Property Use

1 or 2 family dwelling	62
Bar or nightclub	1
Mercantile, business, other	5
Department or discount store	1
Electrical distribution	1
Food and beverage sales, grocery store	1
High School/Junior High School/Middle School	1
Laundry, dry cleaning	2
Manufacturing, processing	3
Multi-Family dwellings	25
Outbuilding	2
Parking garage, (detached residential garage)	6
Restaurant or cafeteria	2
Service station, gas station	2
Vehicle storage, other	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>115</b>



Kitchen Fire 2014

Unattended cooking fires are one of the leading causes of residential fires in Cedar Rapids.

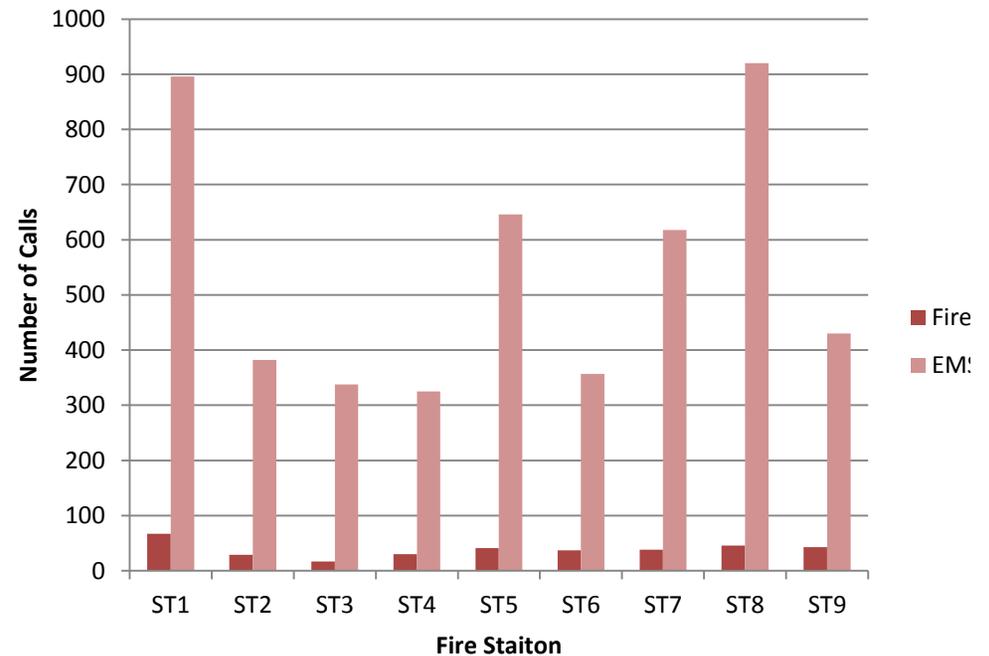


A basement washed out after Junes flash flooding



Junes Wind Storm 2014

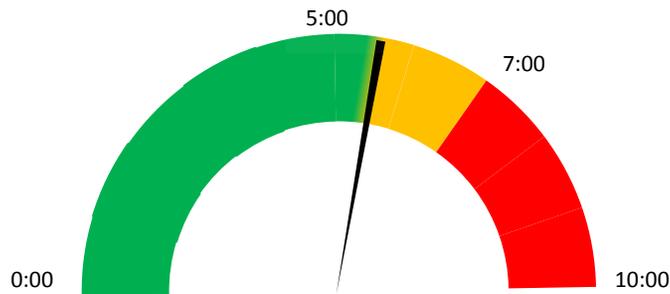
## EMS and Fire Calls Per Station



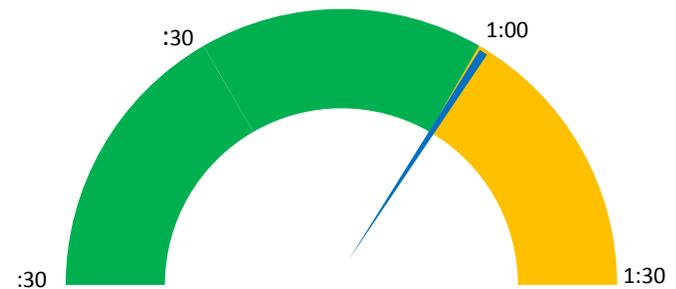
# PERFORMANCE METRICS

Performance metrics become the building blocks of any good fire service lesson plan. Performance metrics are also part of the Cedar Rapids Fire Department's quality assurance process.

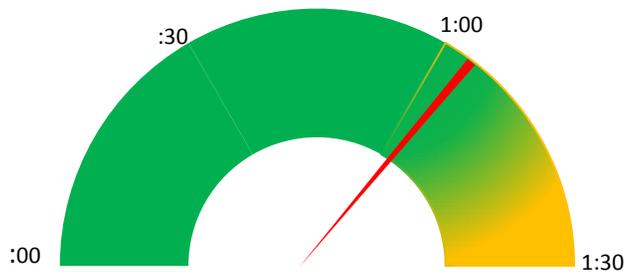
Essentially, a performance metric describes what the Fire Department will be doing when demonstrating mastery of an objective. For example, the Fire Department strives to arrive on scene of an emergency within five minutes of receiving the 911 call. Monthly results are posted on the Fire Department's Web site at [www.cedar-rapids.org/fire](http://www.cedar-rapids.org/fire).



Cedar Rapids average Fire Response Times for Suppression 2014: NFPA recommends a response time five minutes



Cedar Rapids Fire Departments average Turnout times for EMS Incidents 2014  
NFPA Recommends a Turnout Time of one minute or less.



Cedar Rapids Fire Departments average Turnout times for Fire Calls 2014.  
NFPR Recommends a turnout time 80 seconds for Fire and Special Operatoin responses.

NFPA 1710 –Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments.

Turnout Time –The time interval that begins when the emergency response facilities (ERFs) and emergency response units (ERUs) notification process begins by either an audible alarm or visual annunciation or both and ends at the beginning point of travel time.

NFPA 1710 requires that turnout time should be 80 seconds for fire incidents and 60 seconds for EMS incidents

# SUPPORT DIVISION

We've always been treated well by the CRFD -  
thank you!! - Anonymous Cedar Rapids Business



Curtis Hopper  
Assistant Fire Chief

The Support Division, under the leadership of Assistant Fire Chief Curtis Hopper, includes Facilities and the Fire Marshal's Office.

Chief Hopper has worked closely with the City's Facility Maintenance Service for repairs and improvements to the fire stations; our goal is to maintain the stations and to make improvements to enhance the services provided to the citizens and visitors of Cedar Rapids while maintaining functionality and security for our personnel.

Top accomplishments for 2014 have been:

- Completed a contract to purchase Plymovent (engine exhaust removal system) to be installed in the Central Fire Station early 2015.
- Made repairs to the sprinkler system at Fire Station 7, and replaced larger water pipe in the ceiling.
- Replaced blinds in living area at Fire Station 2
- Worked with warranty items for Fire Station 3 and the Central Fire Station.

The Fire Marshal's Office provides a valued service to our community with life safety and public education opportunities; my goal is to help provide that division with the resources necessary for their continued success.

There are several opportunities for facility maintenance for 2015, among those the top three would include:

- Reroof Fire Station 7
- Assess options for better security at the fire stations.
- Assess the retaining wall at Fire Station 2 and work with Facilities Maintenance for budgeting to replace it.

# FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



Vance B. McKinnon III  
Fire Marshal

The Fire Marshal's Office, managed by Fire Marshal Vance B. McKinnon III, consists of three divisions: Inspections, Public Education, and Fire Investigations. There are nine personnel assigned to the Fire Marshal's Office: Fire Marshal Vance B. McKinnon III, Fire Plans Reviewer Captain Steve Dunham, East Side Inspector Captain Peter Schmit, West Side Inspector Captain Scott Saylor, Inspector At Large Firefighter Clarence Hillebrand, Fire Investigator Al Brockhohn, Public Education Manager Nicky Stansell, Public Education Specialist Julie Popelka, Administrative Assistant Molly Knock, and Public Education Specialist/Seasonal Angela Johnstone. The entire Fire Marshal's Office is overseen by Assistant Fire Chief Curtis Hopper.

The Inspection Division provides building plan review; enforces the International Fire Code; and conducts fire safety inspections of schools, stores, factories, and industries, with over 6,000 inspection activities conducted annually.

- Fire inspectors are involved in sprinkler system and smoke detection plans; hazardous materials site assessments, hydrant flow test information and state licenses in daycares, healthcare facilities and correctional facilities.
- The Fire Marshal's Office Inspection Division is involved in several aspects of fire prevention and Fire Code enforcement, including inspecting new and existing buildings, issuing permits, and conducting plan reviews.
- Field Inspectors conduct fire inspections and provide inspection and permit data to the administrative staff that manage the inspection records and issue required permits. In addition, Inspectors obtain current emergency contact information of businesses which is then used by the 911 Joint Communications Center in cases of after-hours fire or police emergencies.
- The Inspection Division also completes site assessment requests received from environmental companies inquiring about a specific site, requesting information on the most recent fire inspection, any emergency responses for hazardous materials spills or incidents, and any fire permits issued for installation or removal of underground or aboveground storage tanks.
- Our Public education department has grown by one with the addition of Firefighter Julie Popelka. FF Popelka was previously assigned to Truck 7 and will now be concentrating her efforts in new areas of Public Education, while helping with some existing programs as needed.

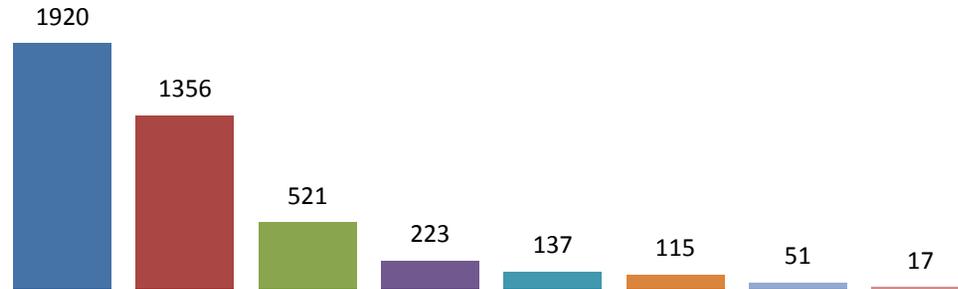
2015 will be an exciting year in the Fire Marshal's office as we transition to mobile inspections with the institution of the City's new software "Ener-Gov" and the purchase of I-Pads for all inspectors. This process is in line with the City's vision of having one software package to track land development from start to finish.



Captain Dunham conducts plan review

## 2014 Fire Marshal's Office Activities

- Annual Inspections
- Annual Bussiness Permits Inspection
- Plan Review
- Other Required Permits
- Special Events
- State Licenses
- Site Assessments
- Hydrant Flows



### State Licenses

- Care Centers
- Daycares and Pre-Schools
- Group Homes
- Correctional Facilities

### Plan Reviews

- Sprinkler Systems
- Fire Alarms
- Administrative Reviews (site developments)
- Construction

### Other Required Permits

- AST (Above Ground Storage Tanks)
- UST (Under Ground Storage Tanks)
- Temporary LP Tanks
- Limited Time Operational Permits.

# FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

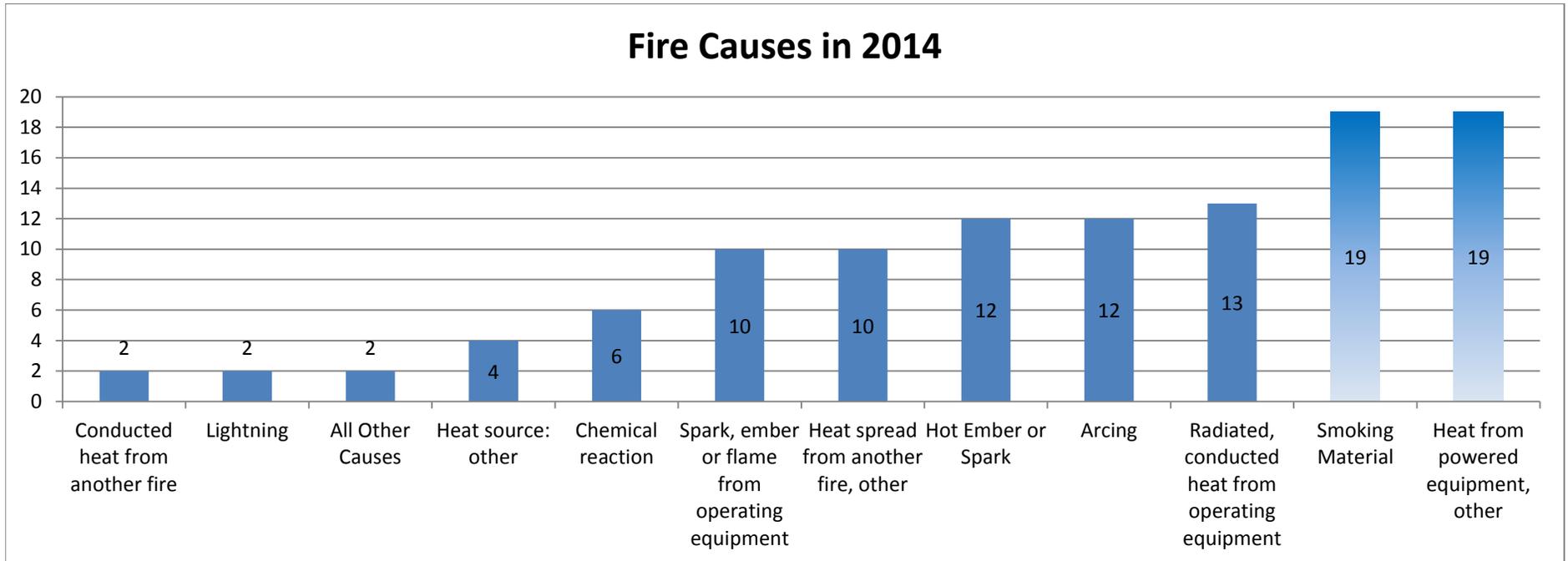


Captain Al Brockhohn is the primary investigator for the Cedar Rapids Fire Department and is responsible for determining cause and origin of fires. Captain Brockhohn’s partner, Ember, is a canine that is able to detect trace amounts of ignitable liquids. Ember, in her tenth year of service, has a perfect record of identifying the presence of ignitable liquids – every sample that Ember has detected has been confirmed by the state crime laboratory.

Captain Brockhohn investigated 48 fires scenes in 2014. He also served as a member of the Bomb Squad until voluntarily resigning in November. Captain Brockhohn had served as a member of the Bomb Squad since 1985. He will continue to provide assistance as needed to the squad until his retirement.

The primary investigator is assisted by Captain Scott Saylor, who investigated 9 fire scenes.

Also, Firefighter Steve Mast has been assisting Captain Brockhohn with some fire scenes in 2014.



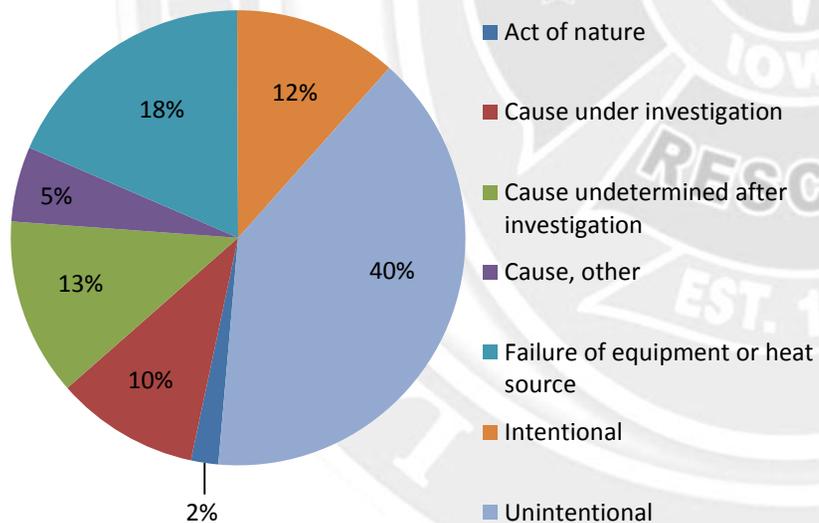
*Roughly 45 fires causes were undetermined.*

## Training Log Summary Report for Ember

Other (Vehicle) Searches	4
Yard Searches	0
People Searches	22
Basic Imprinting	612
Scent Discrimination	36
Basic Floor Exams	63
Fire Scene Exams	16
Number of Reps	5702
Number of Finds	867
Demonstrations	26
Number of People at Demos	1400
Number of Samples Taken	15
Number of Samples Confirmed	15



## Fire Investigation Causes



# TRAINING DIVISION

The only place success comes before work is in  
the dictionary – Vince Lombardi





Michael Fredericks  
Admin. District Chief

A better understanding of today's service environment and the impact of new technologies have allowed for organizations to transform and improve their operations. The fire service is no different in this regard. The Cedar Rapids Fire Department is continuously striving to provide the community with optimal levels of performance based on these factors. A significant element of this goal is the training provided to CRFD personnel. 2014 brought many opportunities for Cedar Rapids firefighters to become more proficient in their operations through instructional and hands-on training. The department recorded 16,913 fire and rescue-related training hours in 2014, in addition to those hours attained through the EMS program. This is more than any other previous year in the history of the department.



Fire Training Captain  
Don Ransford

Training Chief Mike Fredericks and Fire Training Captain Don Ransford have worked to expand the Division's programs to meet the increasing demands allotted to the modern fire service. Monthly department-wide fire/rescue training classes were continued in 2014, offering instruction and practice in such topics as building alarm systems, airport response, firefighter safety and survival, high-rise response techniques, hose handling techniques, among many other topics inside and outside of the classroom. Outside training opportunities included State and CITA Fire Schools, and FDIC.

In addition to the classes provided, the Division continued to emphasize the Minimum Training Requirements in 2014 for all CRFD firefighters – a directive that set a specific number of training hours for departmental and company-based training activities. This endeavor has proven to be a successful way to ensure that all front-line personnel have the training they need to be as proficient as possible, but will also help the department in meeting the national standards established by the modern fire service. All CRFD training events, whether internal or from outside sources, are then entered into a comprehensive training record program, which in turn is integrated into one database for better tracking and accountability.

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

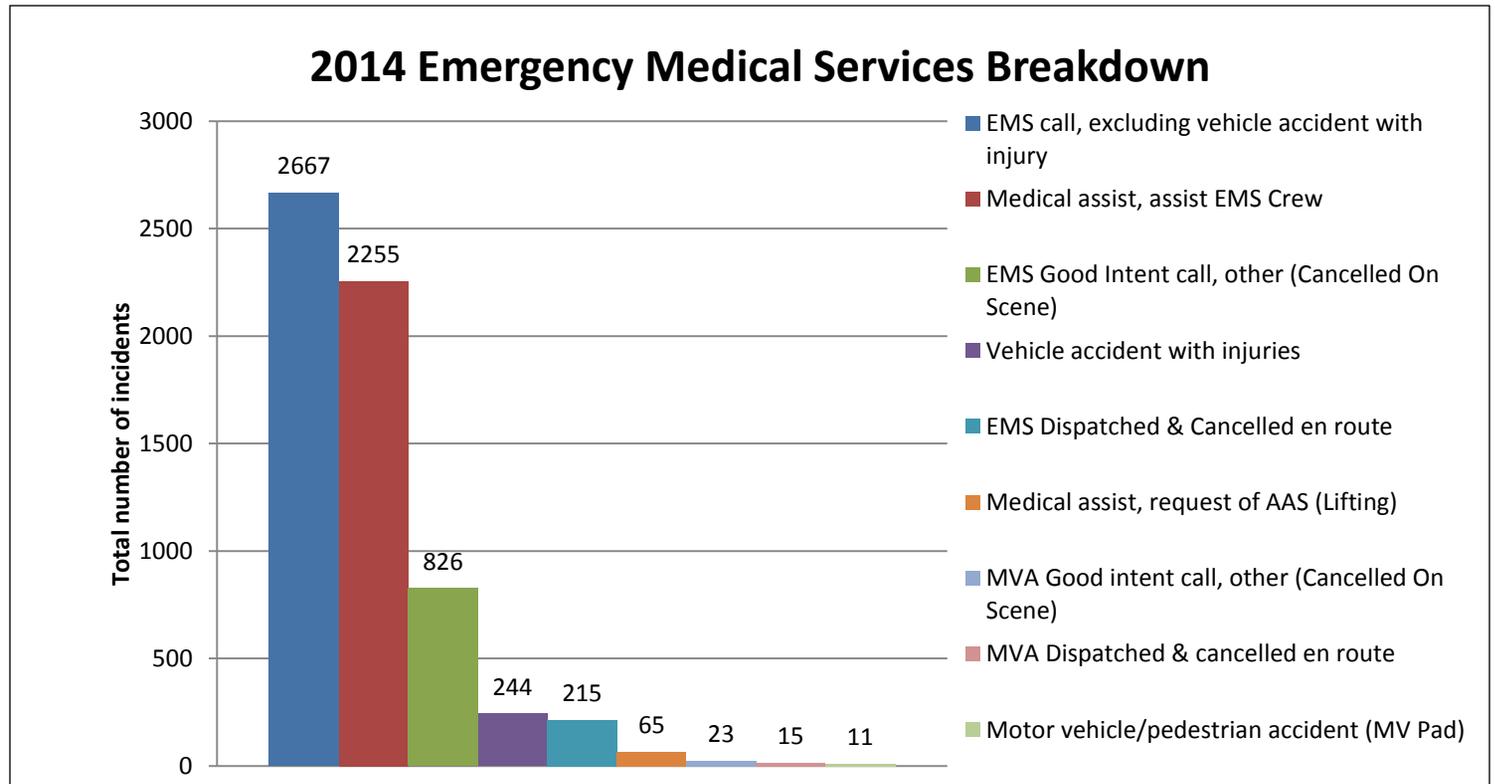


Jason Andrews  
Captain

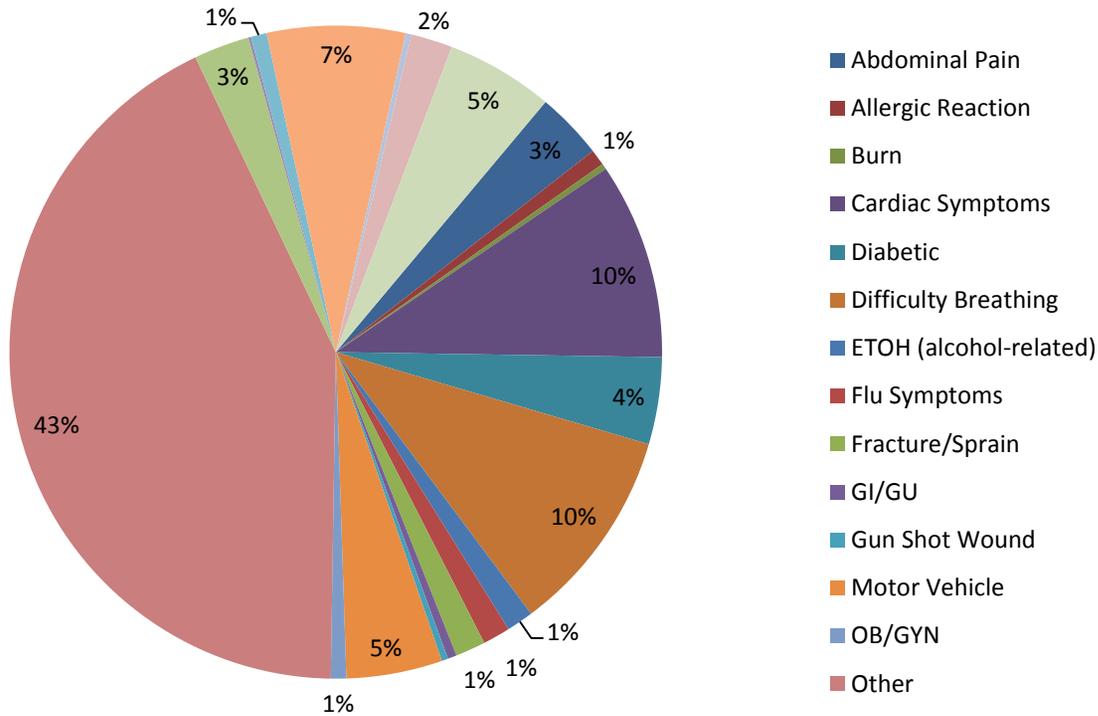
In 2014, 18.7 percent of medical calls required advanced life support skills, while 81.3 percent included basic life support. Highlighting the improved standard of care, the cardiac arrest save rate in Cedar Rapids was 12.3 percent – a patient with no breathing and no pulse was revived and released from the hospital without any neurological deficit.

The Fire Department has 146 emergency medical providers, including 90 Emergency Medical Technicians, four Advanced EMTs and 47 Paramedics.

There were over 100 EMS training sessions offered in 2014 resulting in 6,407 training hours



## Nature of Medical Problem



The Fire Department responded to 6,321 EMS/rescue calls. The pie graph demonstrates the major categories of medical problems as described by patients when firefighter/paramedics arrived on scene.

*Note: Due to rounding, the percentages do not add up to 100 percent*

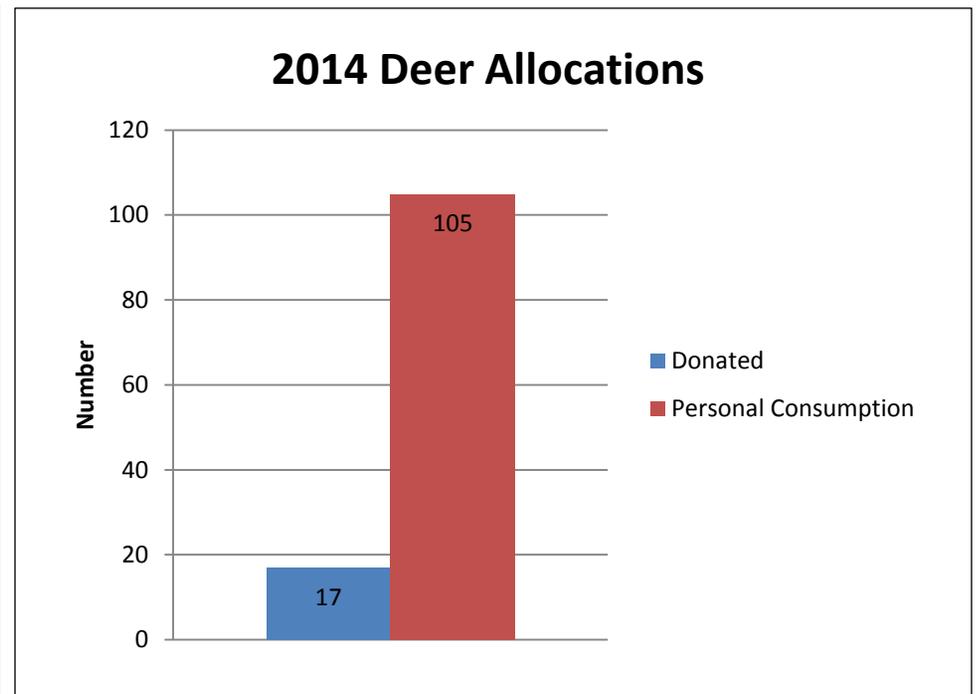
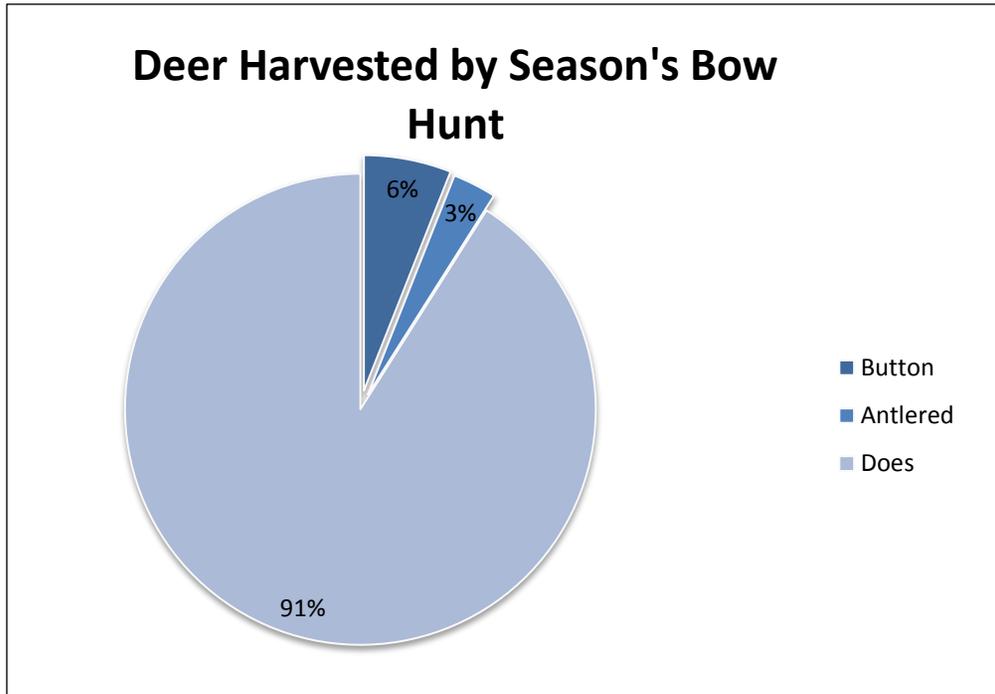


I am a retired Assistant Fire Chief (career) and Chief Paramedic. The engine crew and ambulance service was excellent, comforting and highest caliber.

- – Anonymous Cedar Rapids Resident.-

# DEER MANAGEMENT STATISTICS

The Cedar Rapids Deer Management Program was over seen by Captain Andrews and concluded the 2014–2015 bow hunt season on January 10<sup>th</sup> with no reported injuries. A total of 74 hunters qualified for the urban bow hunt; 37 of the 74 hunters were successful in harvesting at least one deer. There were a total of 122 deer taken during this season’s bow hunt. This is decrease of 49 deer from last season.



Hunters who donated had the choice of either donating their deer to the HUSH program or to a local program to feed the hungry at the Mission of Hope. The opportunity to donate to the local program was new this year. This was a cooperative effort between the Newhall Locker, Hush, the Cedar Rapids Fire Department and local ENT Physician Dr. Kevin Carpenter M.D. The two main goals of donation include reducing the deer populations and providing high-quality red meat to the needy in Iowa.

One hunter took the lead harvesting with eight deer. Eleven have harvested five or more does with this season’s hunt and will be eligible for 2015–2016 incentive buck tag. Since the inception of the hunt in 2004 the City of Cedar Rapids has shown a nearly 57 percent reduction in the number of deer killed on the roadway.

# SPECIAL OPERATIONS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS



Cedar Rapids Fire Department Special Operations Teams is comprised of Firefighters/EMT's, Firefighter/Paramedics and Company Officers. These teams provide emergency services for special situations that extended beyond the core services the fire department provides, such as: Confined Space, Swift Water Rescue, Haz-Mat/WMD, Trench Rescue and Rope Rescue. Although the Special Operations Teams don't respond as often as the core services, they are important services that need skill, competency and equipment to provide a technical discipline to those that live and work in Cedar Rapids, as well as those who travel through our city. Additionally, the City of Cedar Rapids has many businesses that rely on Cedar Rapids Fire to support their daily manufacturing and operational needs to keep their employees, contractors and business's safe.

**Special Operations Manager – Captain Rick Halleran**

Cedar Rapids Shift Leads:

Swift Water – FF Justin Jensen

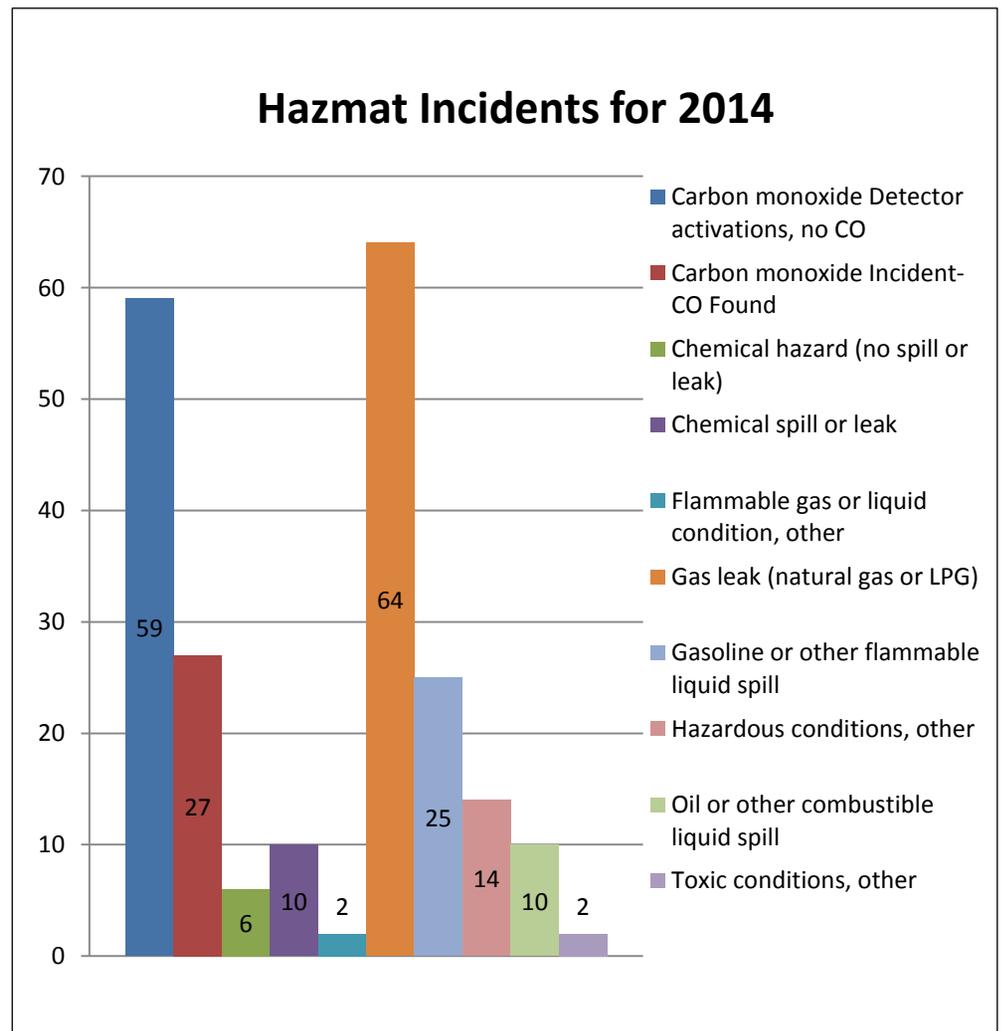
Trench Rescue – Captain Glen Heims

Haz-Mat – Captain Mike Cheney

Confined Space – Captain Corey Archer

Rope Rescue – FF Marc Michael

All special disciplines adhere to NFPA 1006, NFPA 1670 and NFPA 472. In 2014 Cedar Rapids Fire adopted JPR's (job performance requirements) check sheets for each member of the fire department for each discipline.



## 2014 Special Discipline Training

- Swift Water – Swim Qualifications at Cherry Hill Pool, Boat Operations on Cedar River
- Trench Rescue – Paratech Class at Frankfort, Illinois, Trench Rescue Technician Training in Wisconsin
- Haz-Mat / WMD – IAFF 80 hr. Tech Class, WMD exercise in Davenport, DuPont Table Top, General Mills Ammonia Drill, 71<sup>st</sup> CST Tech. Class
- Confined Space – C St. Rubble Pile Drill for missing child, DuPont Drill, Quaker Oats Drill, Cargill Drill, Confined Space Awareness Refresher, ADM Drill
- Rope Rescue- Skills stations for Tech., Rope Rescue Awareness Refresher, Tri-Pod with Entry Refresher Training, C St Rubble Pile, ADM Drill, Tower Rescue Class in Iowa City, Industry Skills Demonstration at Kirkwood

**SPECIAL DISCIPLINE TRAINING HOURS FOR 2014 = 3,564**



# Iowa Haz-Mat Technician of the Year – Nick Miller



Cedar Rapids Firefighter Nick Miller was awarded the Iowa Haz-Mat Technician of the Year award on Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at a Hazardous Materials conference in Ames.

In August 2013, Firefighter Miller was asked and accepted the challenge of coordinating logistics for the CRFD Hazmat and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) teams.

According to the award nomination submitted by a fire-fighting colleague, this collateral position was no small undertaking since Miller is assigned to one of the busiest engine companies in the City, which meant that he would have to find time to maintain the equipment. Miller manages to get some of it done between runs, training, public events and other duties, but the majority of his logistics work is done in the evening.

For the following key points, Miller was chosen for the award.

- Conducted a complete inventory of all the equipment on both the hazmat vehicle and the WMD trailer
- Calibrates and repairs all monitoring equipment
- Tests Level A hazardous materials suits
- Ensures that any equipment used on a hazmat call is in good working order after or replaces it immediately
- Trains the rookie firefighters on hazmat operations
- Assists with conducting the annual department wide hazmat refresher

Further, Firefighter Miller has completed the following training:

- International Association of Fire Fighters 80 hour Hazmat Technician Course
- Chemistry for Hazardous Materials – National Fire Academy
- Joint WMD Exercise
- FEMA EWMDS Certification

FF Miller's dedication to the Haz-Mat community is an example for those to follow. He is an invaluable asset to the CRFD and State of Iowa.

# Planning Ahead for the Future...

In 2015 Cedar Rapids Special Operations will be conducting training each month to prepare and be ready for the unknown.

Calendar year for 2015:

January – Ice Rescue

February – Rope Rescue

March – Swift Water Swimming Qualifications

April – Trench

May – Swift Water Boat Operations & “Go Rescues”

June – Confined Space

July – Rope Rescue

August – Trench

September – Haz-Mat

October – No formal Training (Pub Ed Month)

November – Confined Space

December – Ice Rescue





# IOWA TASK FORCE 1 URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE



USAR: Under the management of Chief Dall

IA-TF1 responds as an “All Hazards” Search and Rescue Team to natural and manmade disasters to provide technical search and rescue. The team’s goal is to deploy as a Type III US&R, Type II or multiple Type III Swift Water, and Type III Wilderness SAR team.

IA-TF1 rosters 46 team members and are available 24 hours a day for the State of Iowa as well as out of state responses through the EMAC system. Components of the Task Force can be “out the door” within an hour, and a goal of the entire task force within three hours. IA-TF1 can be self - supporting for a minimum of 72 hours, provide 12 hour operational period for up to 10 day deployments.

IA-TF1 trains at a minimum quarterly in the areas of Structural collapse shoring, technical rope rescue, trench rescue, communications, land navigation, heavy lifting and moving, cutting , breaking and breaching.

For the coming year IA-TF1 has been tasked by the State to produce an “initial actions search and rescue video series and develop and deliver a “Train the Trainer” course on the use of the United States National Grid System and initial actions for Wilderness and Wide Area Search events. The video course will be streamed through the IA-TF1 website [www.iowataskforce1.org](http://www.iowataskforce1.org) <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Iowa-Task-Force-1/727198517370058?ref=hl>.



Heavy lifting exercise



Land navigation exercise in Jones County



Younkers building deployment, Des Moines

# PUBLIC EDUCATION

“Fire is Everyone’s Fight” – U.S Fire Administrations (USFA)

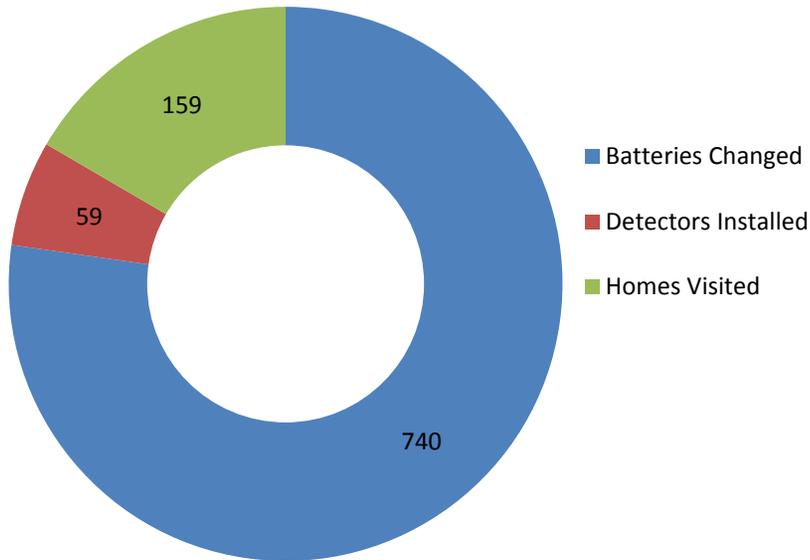




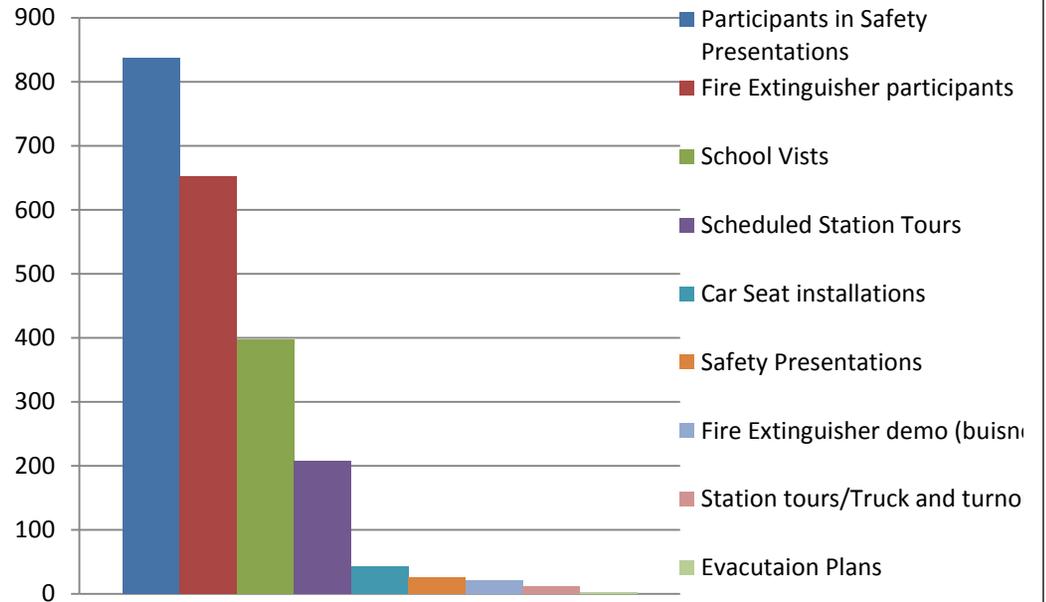
Nicky Stansell  
Public Education Manager

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department’s Public Education and Community Relations Division provides the community with over 20 programs throughout the year, including a Kids’ Fire and Life Safety Camp, Battery Up, evacuation planning, and pre-school fire safety. In 2014, 159 homes were visited in our annual Battery Up program in which firefighters assist senior citizens and physically-challenged members of the community change batteries in their smoke alarms. The number of senior citizens participating in the program has increased each year and will likely continue to grow in need and demand as the older adult demographic increases.

### Smoke Detector Installation



### Public Education Activity Log





Kids' Fire and Life Safety Camp



The Public Education Division has one full time position, the Public Education Program Manager Nicky Stansell, as well as a part time temporary position, the Public Education Assistant, Angela Johnstone.

The Adopt a Firefighter program continued into its fourth year. Three firefighters including Captain Ron Van Hoeck, Cory Burkle and Julie Popelka, and Administrative Assistant Stacy Mason, are assisting with the Learn Not to Burn fire safety program in the schools.



Truck and Turnout



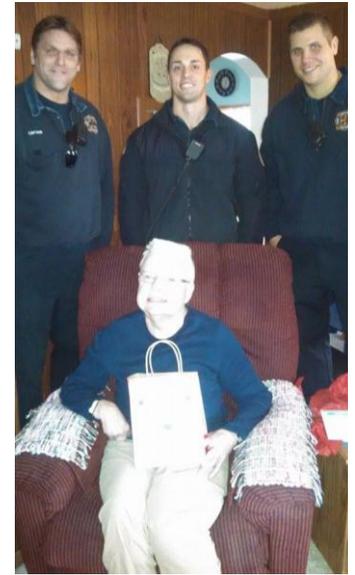
Truck and Turnout



There were over 2,000 3<sup>rd</sup> graders throughout the Cedar Rapids area, who submitted posters for the Fire Prevention Week contest, the top ten were chosen and invited to attend a pizza party at the Central Fire Station.

Community outreach programs include:

Toys for Tots: All nine fire stations plus 12 other City buildings had toy collection boxes for the Toys for Tots campaign. When all the toys were collected, the City of Cedar Rapids donated 17 and ½ boxes of toys, 4 bicycles, and \$200 in donations.



Santa to a senior

Be a Santa to A Senior: The Cedar Rapids Fire Department partnered with Home Instead Senior Care for the ninth year to deliver gifts to seniors and test smoke alarms in the seniors' homes. 52 homes were visited, 18 new smoke alarms were installed and 19 batteries were replaced during those visits.

America Reads Day: The CRFD also participates in America Reads Day. CRFD personnel read at 9 schools, 15 classrooms. 8 member participated (Chief English, Captain Joel Miles, Captain, Matt Woerner, FF Skip Johnstone, FF John Cannon, Pub Ed Assistant Angie Johnstone, Administrative Assistant, Stacy Mason, and Pub Ed Manager Nicky Stansell)

The Linn County Safe Kids Coalition held many events in 2014 including: International Walk to School Day, bike helmet give-a-ways at the Cedar Rapids Downtown Farmers Market, New Bo Market and Marion Farmers Market, several bike rodeos, Heroes' Safety Camp, and National Bike to School Day. Additionally, the Linn County Safe Kids Coalition partnered with two schools to provide free helmets to the schools.





Brent Smith Captain



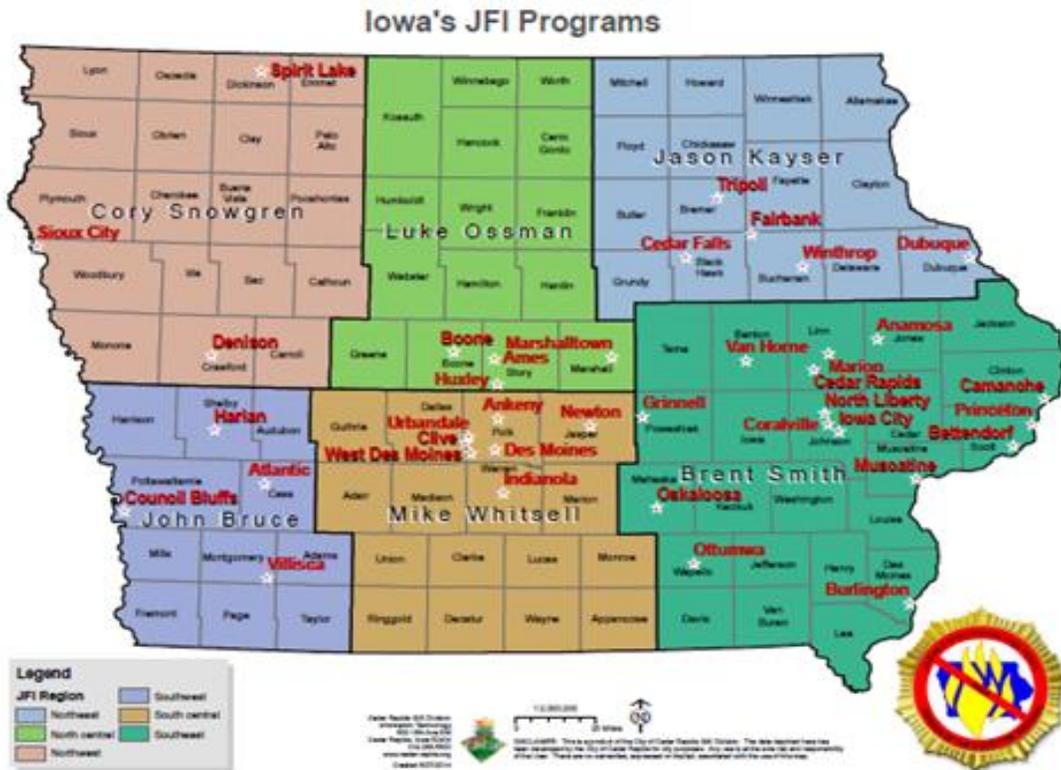
## How Our Program Serves Our Community

Our program goal is to reduce the number of child fire deaths and injuries as well as reduce the amount of property damage created by children setting multiple fires in our community and our state. Under the leadership of Captain Brent Smith and assisted by Public Education Manager Nicky Stansell and Fire Fighter Amy Kunkle, our program also serves as the Regional Coordination Center for 23 South East Iowa counties. Captain Smith also oversees the 5 other Regional Coordinators for the Iowa Program through the State Fire Marshal's Office.

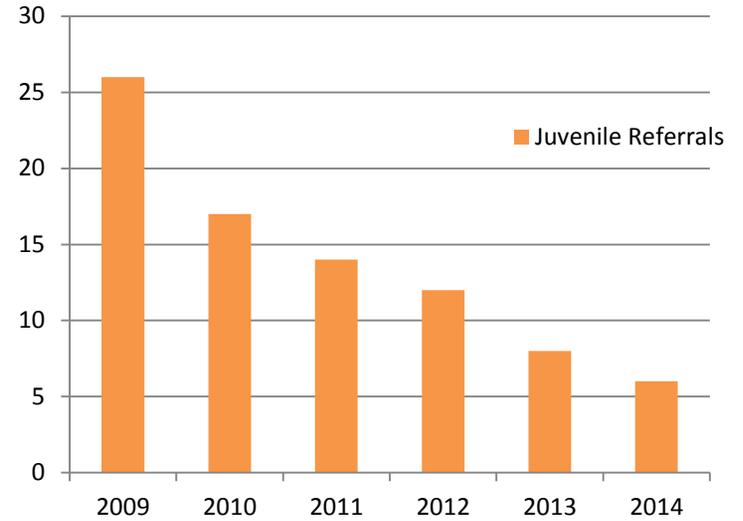
The Fire Department's Juvenile Fire Intervention Program (JFIP) provides evaluation, education, and redirection assistance to children that exhibit fire setting behavior.

In 2014 our program saw all 6 referrals from Juvenile Court Services. Children who participated in the program ranged from 13-17 years old and came from the communities of Cedar Rapids, Coggon and Belle Plaine. Captain Smith also assisted in coordinating 22 regional referrals in 16 counties.

In 2014 Captain Smith continued his work through the IAFF on the development of a National Juvenile Fire Database. CRFD played a crucial role in piloting this program. This database will be completed in 2015 and will be rolled out to all US fire departments beginning in July. This project will assist in defining the true scope of the problem of juvenile fire setting nationally.



## CRFD Juvenile Referrals



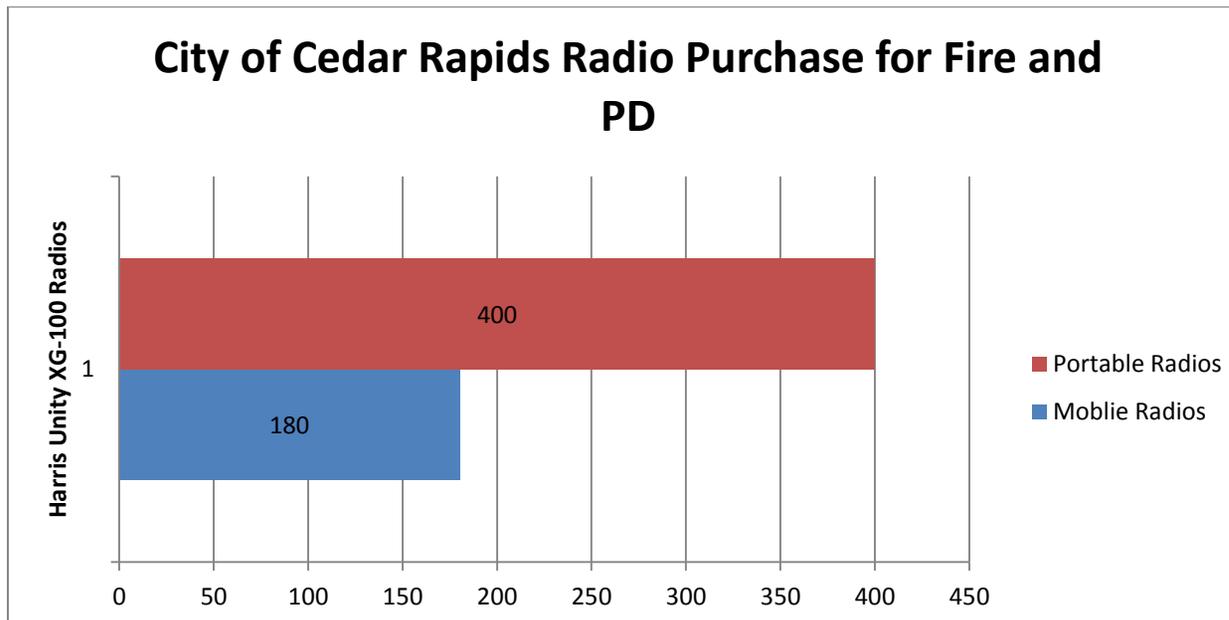
Think of the damage just one fire can create; not just the devastation and destruction of property but to the lives of our community members. Our program trends prove that this program works and has decreased property loss in our community

# COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY



Captain Curtis Walser

On February 11, 2014, the City of Cedar Rapids Public Safety entities transitioned from our aging Motorola SmartZone radio system, over to the new Harris County-Wide P25 radio system. This marked the end of a nearly six year project involving the cities of Cedar Rapids and Marion, along with the Linn County Board of Supervisors. This project, totaling 21 million dollars, now supports nearly 1800 public safety and public works radio users throughout Linn County. The project involved the build out of infrastructure at eight tower sites throughout Linn County. Also included in the project was a connection to Johnson County's Harris P25 radio system, allowing the ability for all Linn County and Johnson County users to roam seamlessly between both counties. This new system allows ALL users highly reliable operability as well as interoperability. CRFD users deployed Harris Unity mobile and portable radios giving access to four radio frequency bands; this means seamless interoperability should CRFD users leave the footprints of Linn or Johnson counties to provide mutual aid to surrounding entities.



# Honorary Police Appreciation Award



Captain Curtis Walser, commonly known to many of us in Public Safety as “Wally”, has dedicated countless hours not only to his own department, but to the Joint Communications Agency and the Cedar Rapids Police Department. Wally started working with Joint Communications in late 2007 during the Federal re-band. His knowledge and experience with Land Mobile Radios is so impressive, that Fire Chief Steve Havlik was asked to assign him to the Joint Communications Agency to assist with the completion of the Federal mandate.

In June, 2008, the worst natural disaster in Iowa, and the 5th worst disaster (at the time) in the nation struck Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The flood of 2008 took out the prime site (CRPD) for the public safety radio system.

Wally provided immediate emergency radio support to the Cedar Rapids Police Department and continued to assist all disciplines (Police, Fire, EMS, and Dispatch) throughout the event. In February, 2009, the department heads of the three major law enforcement agencies in Linn County met in Marion with their respective PSAP Managers to discuss the implementation of a countywide radio system. By March of 2009, funding was approved to seek consulting services to assist with the implementation of the system, and by December of 2009, a Request for Proposal was released. Once again Wally was asked to assist the Joint Communications Agency (PD) to provide professional radio knowledge and assistance with the multi-year project. In the name of mutual aid, Fire Chief Mark English approved Wally to assist Police and Joint Communications, even when it meant paying overtime or covering his hours at CRFD expense. Clearly this is a testament to the excellent working relationships between our departments and the sharing of resources between Public Safety agencies.

Now, in 2014, the Cedar Rapids Police Department has successfully cutover to a countywide radio system. Looking back over the last five years, Captain Walser has been directly responsible for providing assistance in many different areas. Wally went far beyond his duties as a firefighter, routinely giving up his personal time and modifying his schedule to help the officers and dispatchers of the Cedar Rapids Police Department. This is the essence of selfless service. Captain Walser is a credit to himself, the Cedar Rapids Fire Department, and the City of Cedar Rapids.

# FIRE CHAPLAINS



Phil Saunders



Rick Gail



James Coyle



2014 was a prolific year that magnified the value of our chaplains as they responded to many tragedies. Their roles included crowd control, assisting with search and rescue teams, negotiations, group crisis counseling, family crisis counseling, individual crisis counseling, death notifications, marriages, and funerals. Along with providing comfort and aid to the firefighters, their families, and those suffering as a result of traumatic events and circumstances, the Chaplains are very active in community diligence to promote the value of safety and the betterment of all areas of the fire and emergency service.

The Chaplains offer non-denominational, non-sectarian emotional support. The Fire Department and Police Department Chaplains work as a united group to provide 24-hour a day on-call access for traumatic incidents or other events that benefit from the Chaplain's service.

Members of the Fire Department and Police Department Chaplain Program include:

- Reverend Clyde Bailey, The People's Church
- Reverend Rick Gail, First Assembly of God
- Reverend Dan Hoeger, St. Patrick's Catholic Church
- Imam Taha Tawil, The Mother Mosque of America
- Reverend Ken Glandorf, Mercy Medical Center Chaplain, Pastoral Care
- Reverend Timothy Carter, First Church of the Nazarene
- Reverend Tim Pridegon, Lifeline Ministries Church
- Reverend William Graham, Grace Baptist Church
- Deacon Phil Saunders, St. Matthew's Church
- Reverend Pat Rieck, New Covenant Bible Church
- Dr. Jim Coyle, Neighborhood Church

# HONOR GUARD





Bret Sunner Memorial 5/15/2014

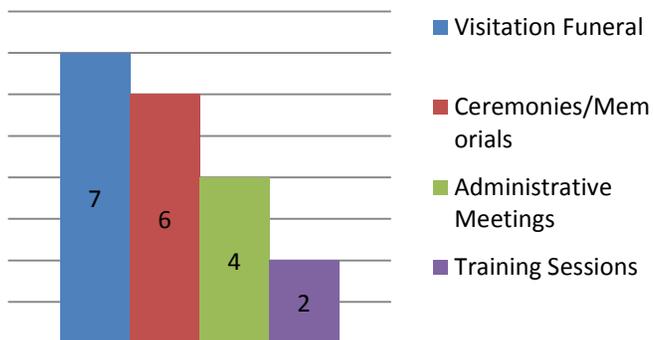
The Cedar Rapids Fire Department Honor Guard is a special unit of the department that performs ceremonial duties at memorials, funerals, and special events. Cedar Rapids was one of the first fire departments in the state of Iowa to establish an Honor Guard unit when it was created in 1997 following the death of Firefighter Bob Chapman. The original unit consisted of 12 members and now has 21 members.

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department Honor Guard pays tribute to firefighters who have answered their final alarm. This special division of the Fire Department is also present at official Fire Department functions such as the Fire Station 3 Grand-Opening, Fire Bowl, and other related ceremonies.

In fact, in 2014, Honor Guard members contributed over 295 hours of service by participating in 19 events. This included 127 on-duty hours and 168 off-duty hours.

Two Honor Guard members retired in good standing in 2014; Chief John Pulver and Captain Mick Langguth. Both were founding members of the Honor Guard.

### 2014 Honor Guard Events



The Cedar Rapids Fire Department wishes to remember the following retired Cedar Rapids firefighters who died in 2014:

- Edward "Jim" Dulin
  - Jerry Buol
  - Robert Salasek



# FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY



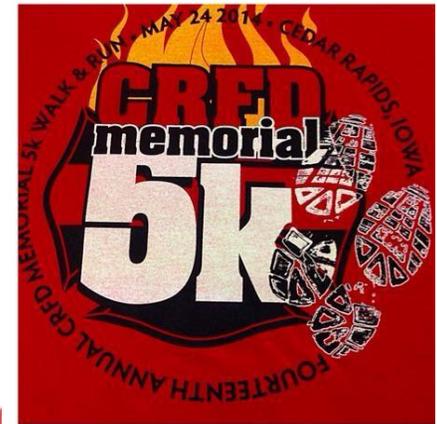


Philanthropic efforts by firefighters have provided over \$70,000.00 dollars in charitable organizations over the past year. The men and women of the Fire Department are dedicated to raising both money and awareness of issues in the community.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Fire Bowl was geared toward supporting the victims of fires; every \$800 raised sent one child to burn camp. Through this event, the Cedar Rapids Firefighter Foundation was able to raise enough money for 38 children treated for burns to attend the Miracle Burn Camp.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Cedar Rapids Fire Department Memorial 5K Walk/Run was held Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. The first CRFD Memorial 5K was held in 2000 following the on-duty death of Administrative District Chief Kevin Sterenchuk, who passed away in 1999 from sudden cardiac death. An avid runner, Chief Sterenchuk often competed in 5K races and was an instrumental Chief for our department. In 1998, Chief Sterenchuk helped form the Special Operations program at the Cedar Rapids Fire Department. This event has grown to consist of nearly 500 registered participants, with 464 finishers in 2014. The monies raised go towards the families of Iowa firefighters who died performing their duties.

- A check for \$1,000 was sent to the family of a Ft. Dodge firefighter
- A denotation of \$100 was made to have Brett Henderson's name added to the police/firefighter memorial located on Valor Way by the PD



The International Association of Fire Fighters Local #11 and the Cedar Rapids Fire Department partnered to “Fill-the-boot” for MDS. This is the 30th year that firefighters have participated in the MDA campaign and were once again the top fund raisers in Iowa, raising \$34,122.67

Firefighters raised \$2,950.22 for Mercy Medical Center's Especially for You fund. During the month of October, firefighters wore pink t-shirts and navy blue t-shirts with a pink ribbon while on duty. The International Association of Fire Fighters Local #11 designed the shirts, which firefighters purchased to raise money. Shirts were also sold to the public for \$20.



The Cedar Rapids Fire Department and the Cedar Rapids Police Department are co-lead agencies for the Linn County Safe Kids Coalition, under the direction of the Public Education Program Manager Nicky Stansell and Police Officer Shannon Stokesberry. The Coalition is made up of close to 40 members from various safety and health organizations from around Linn County. The goal of the Coalition is to reduce the number of unintentional injuries and deaths in children 19 and under. The Coalition is funded solely on grants and donations and the money raised is used to purchase life-saving materials such as bicycle helmets and child safety seats which are then given out to families in the community for low to no cost.