



STOW FIRE DEPARTMENT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

3800 Darrow Rd
Stow, OH 44224



Mission Statement

Mission:

Saving lives and property through fire prevention, suppression, education and quality Emergency Medical Services.

Values:

We value having pride in the organization, the service we provide, the communities we serve, and the stations and equipment we use.

We value the honor of being part of an organization and profession that is trusted by the community.

We value the integrity and honesty of our members and what upholding these values means to our customers and other members.

We value committing to excellence and reliability in everything we do.

We value leadership, teamwork, innovation, labor-management collaboration, respect and tolerance in our organization.

We value cooperation and region-wide planning with neighboring responders so that great service and efficiency are never hampered by territorialism.

We value the social good in what we do as an organization and as individuals.

Leadership



Mayor John Pribonic



Fire Chief Mark Stone

Message From The Chief

Chief Mark T. Stone



Mayor Pribonic and Members of Council,

On behalf of the members of the Stow Fire Department, it is my pleasure to present the SFD 2021 Annual Report. This group of firefighter/paramedics serve with great commitment and integrity and provide the highest quality of service to the citizens of Stow and its surrounding communities.

In 2021, the department responded to 4,920 calls for service, the highest in the history of SFD. This total included 3,546 Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls and 68 fire related calls. The busiest company was at Station 1 with Engine 1 responding to 234 calls and Medic 1 answering 1441 calls for service. The most active district in Stow was, and continues to be, District 3, or the east side of town where Station 3 is located.

This year we continued to feel the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The challenges felt by this crisis impacted our daily staffing, standing operating procedures (SOP) for EMS and other emergency operations. The pandemic also affected our outreach programs in the schools, elderly and public in general. Because we have innovative thinking personnel, we were able to persevere. For instance, our Safety Educator, Firefighter Mel Gammell, created an online learning portal for Safety Town and our local schools to get the message of fire and life safety delivered to our children. These and other challenges were met head-on by our staff.

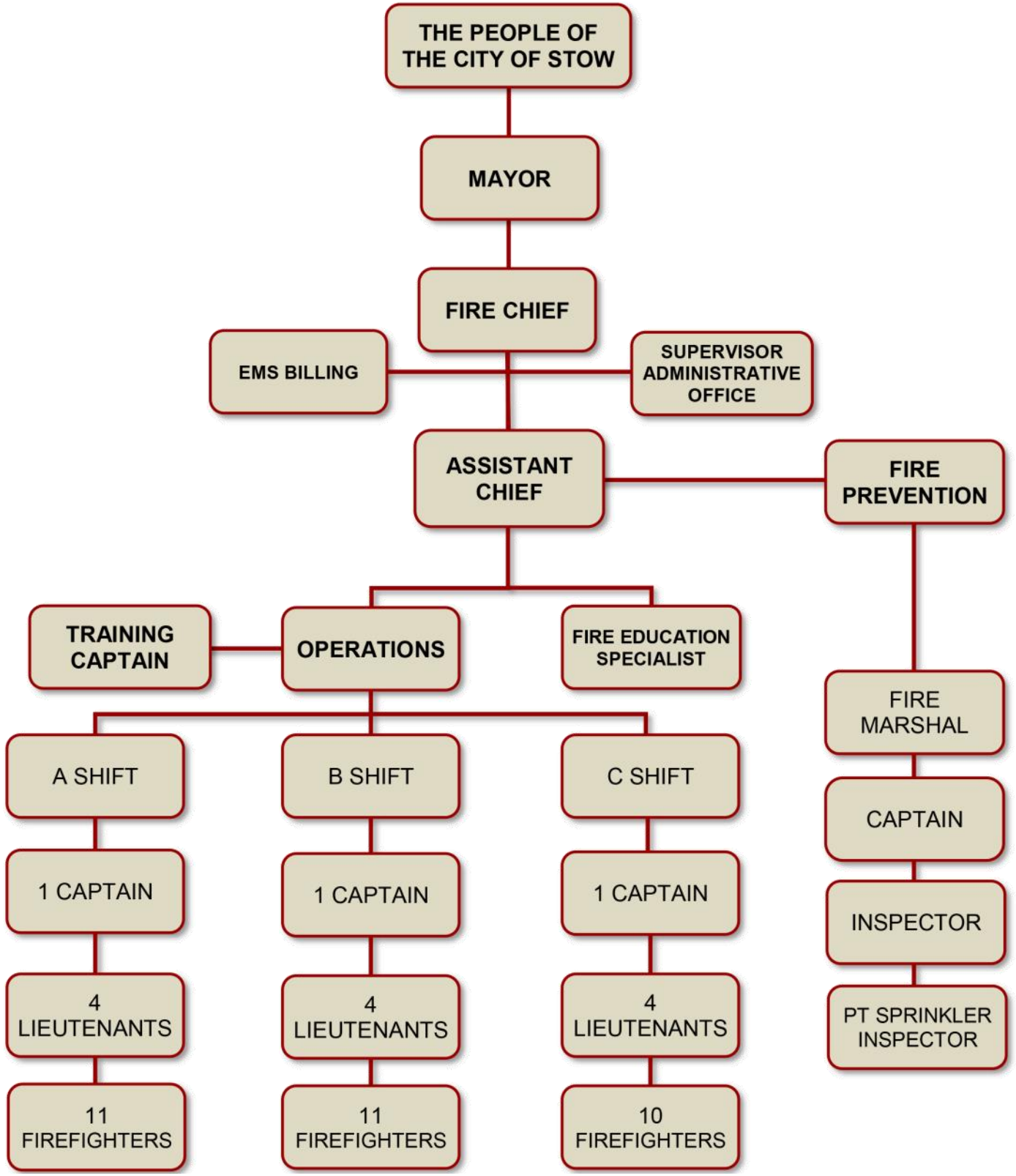
It goes without saying that I am proud of our firefighters & paramedics. During the best and worst of times during 2021, our fire and EMS services never faltered or failed to answer a call. We prevailed, and even grew stronger as a result of the challenges we faced last year. Looking forward, this department is preparing for whatever the future holds. We as an organization are always planning for the future and will meet those challenges again, just as we did in 2021.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark T. Stone".

Mark T. Stone, Fire Chief

Stow Fire Department Organizational Chart



SFD Early History

The following text is an excerpt from a booklet commemorating 50 years of service by the Stow Fire De-

In January 1933 a group calling itself The Citizens of Stow dispensed with the services of a private fire company and named a new volunteer group The Stow Fire Department. (It was suggested at one of its early meetings that the Stow Fire Department be listed in the telephone directory.)

In February 1934 the Stow Fire Station was opened. This was a donated building that had been moved from Oak Road to Kent Road. (House rules requested that the new telephone at the station not be used for private calls)



The department's Ladies' Auxiliary was invited to hold their meetings at the new station house.

To defray expenses; the department sponsored among a number of other fund-raisers) a "picture show", and cleared \$4.66 profit. Dues of 25 cents per month per member were established, "except for those out of employment." (Those were the depression years.) With financial moves like these girding the department's solvency, a 1928 Seagraves fire truck was purchased -- and was fully paid for within five years, helped no doubt by the \$79.04 the department made by selling fireworks in 1938. (What a lot of fireworks that must

have been!) Those were the days when everybody bought 'em, everybody shot 'em off, and the local fire department was the supplier.

Just to pause and wallow in the economy of "the good old days", in late 1941 the annual fire department dinner served 56 people at a cost of \$58.27. That included food, drink, table service, hired help, utilities, and entertainment.

In 1942 eleven checks of \$1.50 each were sent to department members in the armed services. One hopes the boys were frugal with their frivolity, although frivolity cost; in 1944 the department's checks to servicemen had risen to \$3.00 each.



The department's first truck in 1933 was a converted 1913 Model-T Ford acquired from the private fire company. This was quickly followed by a 1926 Lincoln that was converted into a chemical truck, and the purchase of the 1928 Seagraves fire truck in 1934. "In 1940 the department's converted Lincoln went to its reward and was replaced by a converted 1935 Ford truck. In 1945 a school bus was converted into a tanker.

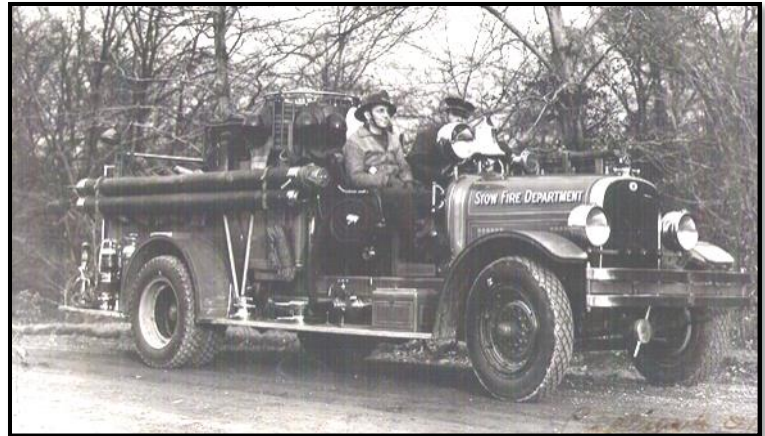
SFD Early History

But in 1948 public monies (the first spent for fire equipment in Stow) paid for an Ahrens-Fox engine that for over thirty years was Stow's Engine #1. (Departed from Stow these four years, it is still in service in a children's home in southern Ohio.)

The years of rising prices and accumulation of department vehicles saw other "revolutionary" suggestions and changes. In the spring of '41 it was suggested that each member of the department have a physical examination ("to have a record in case someone got hurt at a fire") and that new members pass an entrance examination. In 1944 a curtain was purchased for the shower at the station house!

In 1955 the Stow Fire Department turned all of its holdings, property and equipment) over to Stow Township. As Stow went from township to village status in 1957, and to city status and a charter form of government in 1960, the fire department changed from all volunteer.

Prior to Stow's incorporation in 1957, the department consisted of a part-time chief, two full time employees, and thirty volunteers. In 1963, when the department's second fire station opened on Commerce Drive and all full-time firefighters except the chief came under city civil service, there were five full-time men and twenty-one volunteers. Twenty years later



finds a department of twenty-five full-time employees -- a chief, a fire marshal and fire inspector, six line officers, fifteen firefighters, and a clerical aide. From providing fire protection to a largely, rural area known as Stow Corners, it now covers 18.7 square miles housing 26,500 population, with industry valued at over \$215 million. It

provides fire service to Silver Lake as well as to Stow, the days of the runs to Tallmadge having ended in 1943, and to Munroe Falls in 1949.



Fire Stations & Apparatus



3800 Darrow Rd.

Station 1

2007 Pierce 100' Aerial Tower
2007 Pierce 1500 GPM Pumper
2003 General/Rosenbauer Gladiator Heavy Rescue
Medic 1 - 2017 Ford E450 Lifeline Ambulance
Medic 4 - 2015 Ford E450 Lifeline Ambulance
Medic 5 - 2008 Ford E450 Road Rescue Ambulance
Car 1 - Shift Commander 2017 Chevy Tahoe



4199 Hudson Dr.

Station 2

2015 Pierce 1250 GPM Pumper
Medic 2 - 2015 Ford E450 Lifeline Ambulance
3816 - Pierce Lance Hazmat Rescue (Summit County)



4238 Fishcreek Rd.

Station 3

2007 Pierce 1500 GPM Pumper
Medic 1 - 2019 Ford E450 Lifeline Ambulance

SFD Annual Summary

Not every call for service can be handled with a single company or apparatus. This chart lists the number of runs each unit responded to during the course of the year.



Apparatus Responses	
Company	Total
Engine 1	234
Engine 2	225
Engine 3	225
Rescue 1	93
Tower 1	136
Car 1	1103
Medic 1	1441
Medic 2	1136
Medic 3	1404
Medic 4/5	68
Hazmat 3816	4
TOTAL RESPONSES	6067

Additional units not listed include Fire Prevention Bureau callouts and station support vehicles.

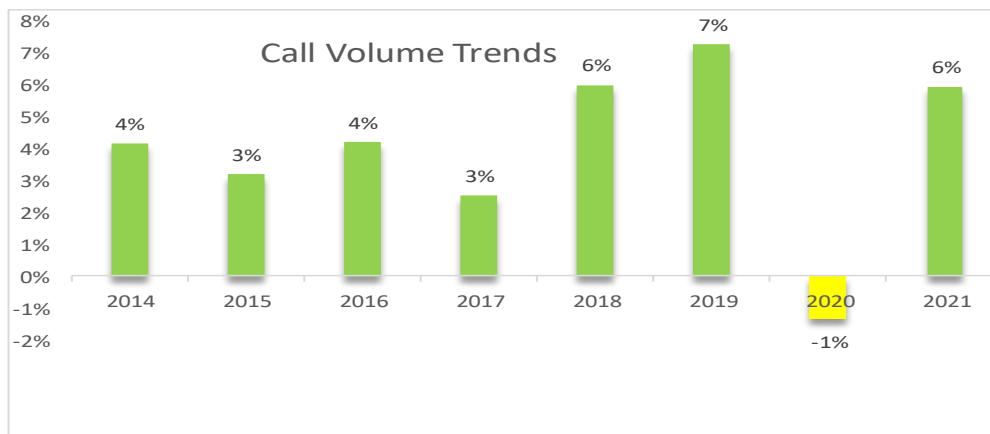
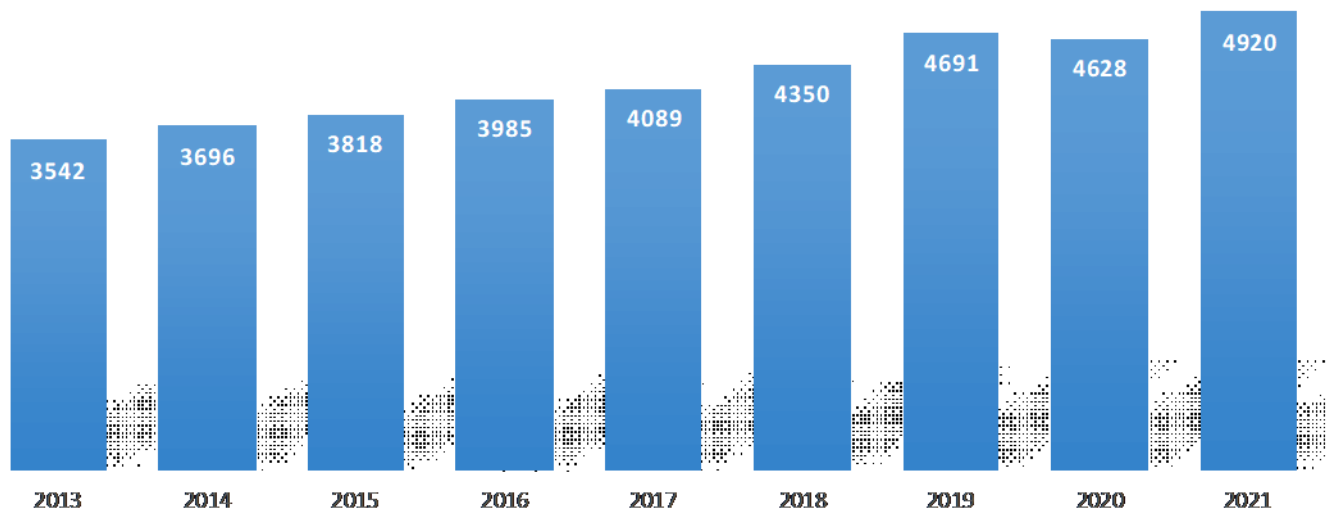
2021 Calls For Service By Station

STATION	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL
1	163	187	196	180	151	200	176	152	176	149	215	169	2114
2	88	130	99	114	116	115	117	82	97	107	121	104	1290
3	136	106	123	136	116	129	132	129	143	128	128	110	1516
TOTAL	387	423	418	430	383	444	425	363	416	384	464	383	4920

Source: ESO Software Database

Call Types

Rescue and Emergency Medical Service	3546	72%
False Alarm and False Call	338	7%
Good Intent Call	213	4%
Service Call	582	12%
Fires	68	1.5%
Hazardous Condition/Explosion - No Fire	140	3%
Special Incident/Weather/Other	29	<1%
Overpressure Rupture/Explosions (No Fire)	4	<1%
Total	4920	100%

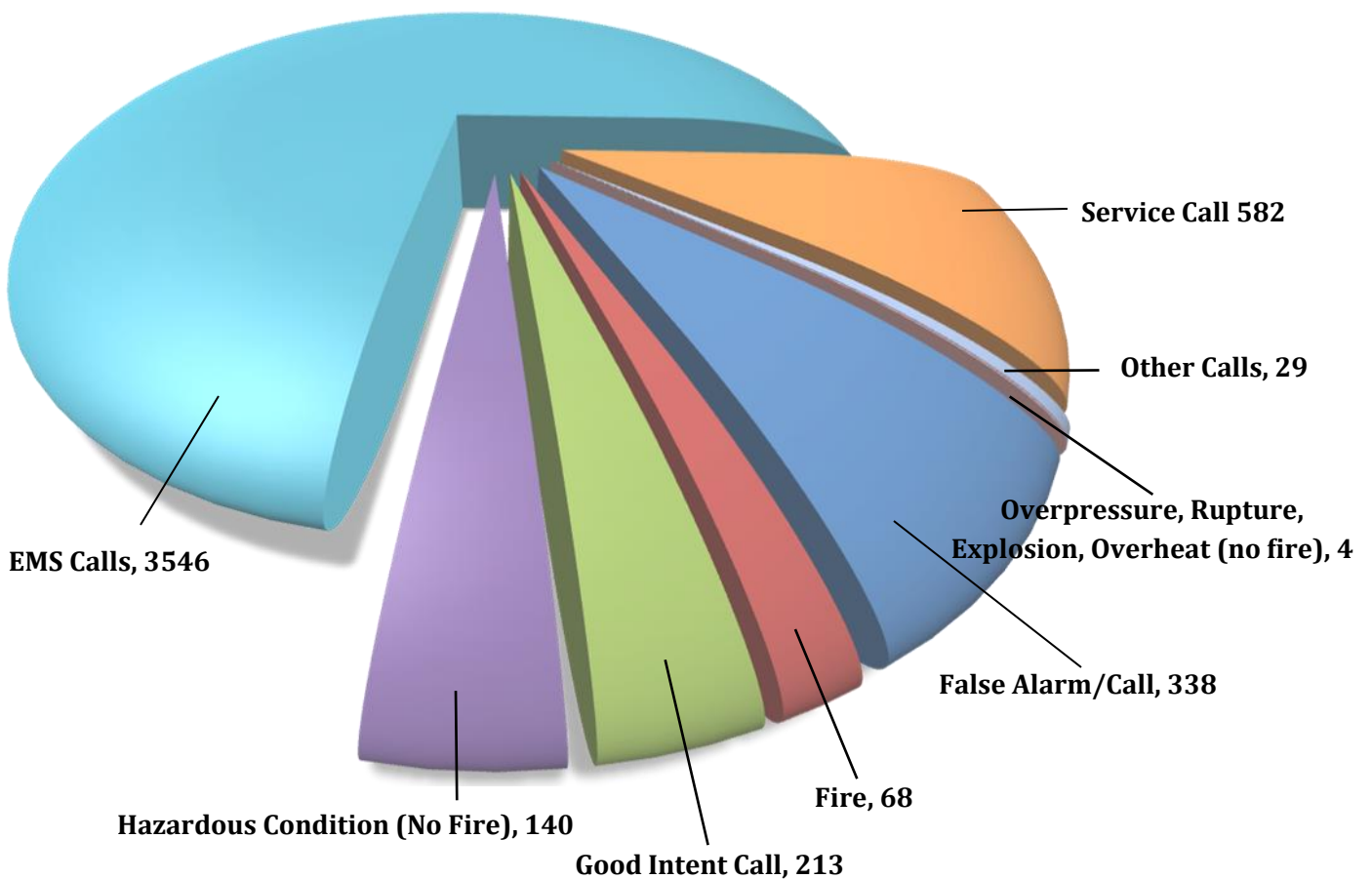


Operations

OPERATIONS

The department has continued to experience an increase in requests for service. In 2021, the Stow Fire Department responded to a total of 4920 calls for service. This represents an increase of 292 responses, or 7.2%, over the previous year. Emergency responses have increased 19% over the past five years.

In addition to the increase of emergency responses, the fire prevention and education programs demands have continued to increase. The department has instituted a company fire inspection program which resulted in a projected increase of 750 fire inspections annually.



Categories are based on the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) code set which is reported to the State Fire Marshal and, in turn, uploaded to the U. S. Fire Administration (USFA) which operates under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). These data are then analyzed and used to determine future trends in fire protection and many other factors which provide guidance for funding at the local level via federal grants.

EMS Trends/Times

EMS Volume By Month

65%

TRANSPORTS
Percentage of Patient Encounters

19%

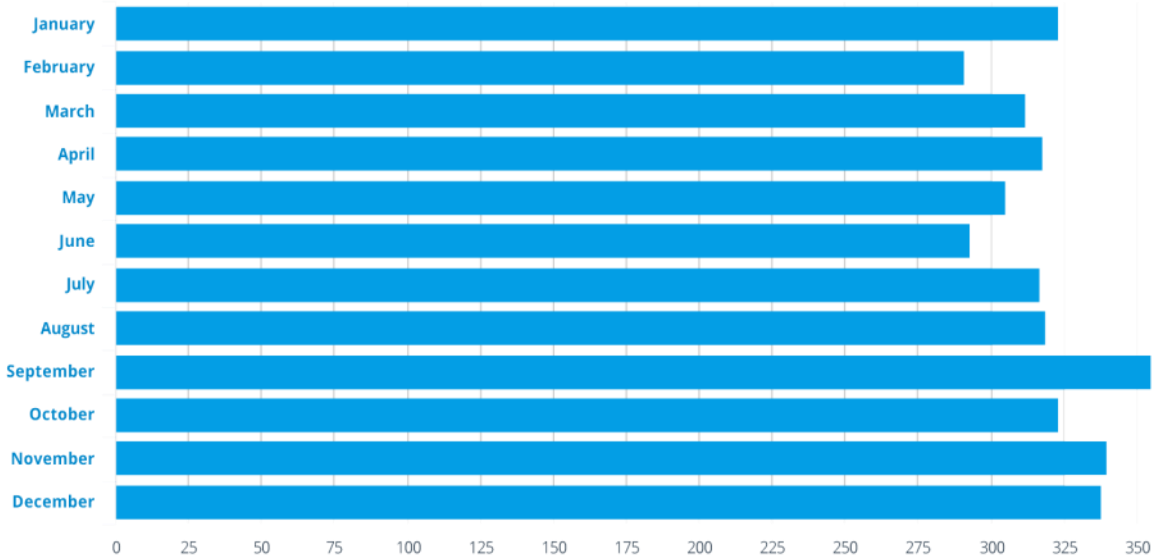
NON TRANSPORTS
Percentage of Patient Encounters

17%

OTHER DISPOSITIONS
Percentage of Patient Encounters

3,834

RECORDS
In Selected Time Slice



EMS Volume By Hour of Day

65%

TRANSPORTS
Percentage of Patient Encounters

19%

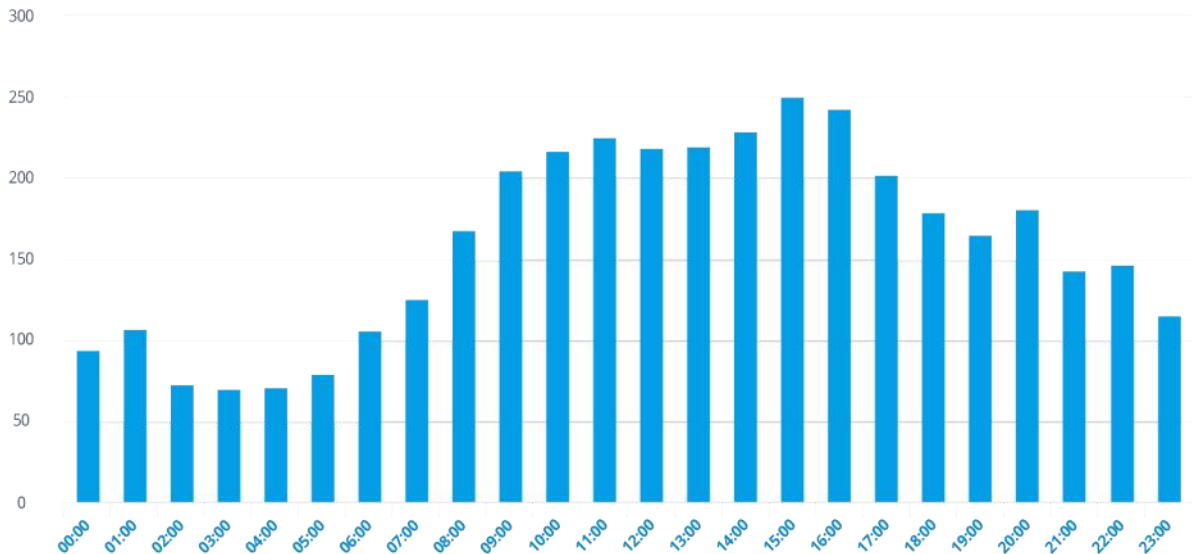
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3,834

RECORDS
In Selected Time Slice



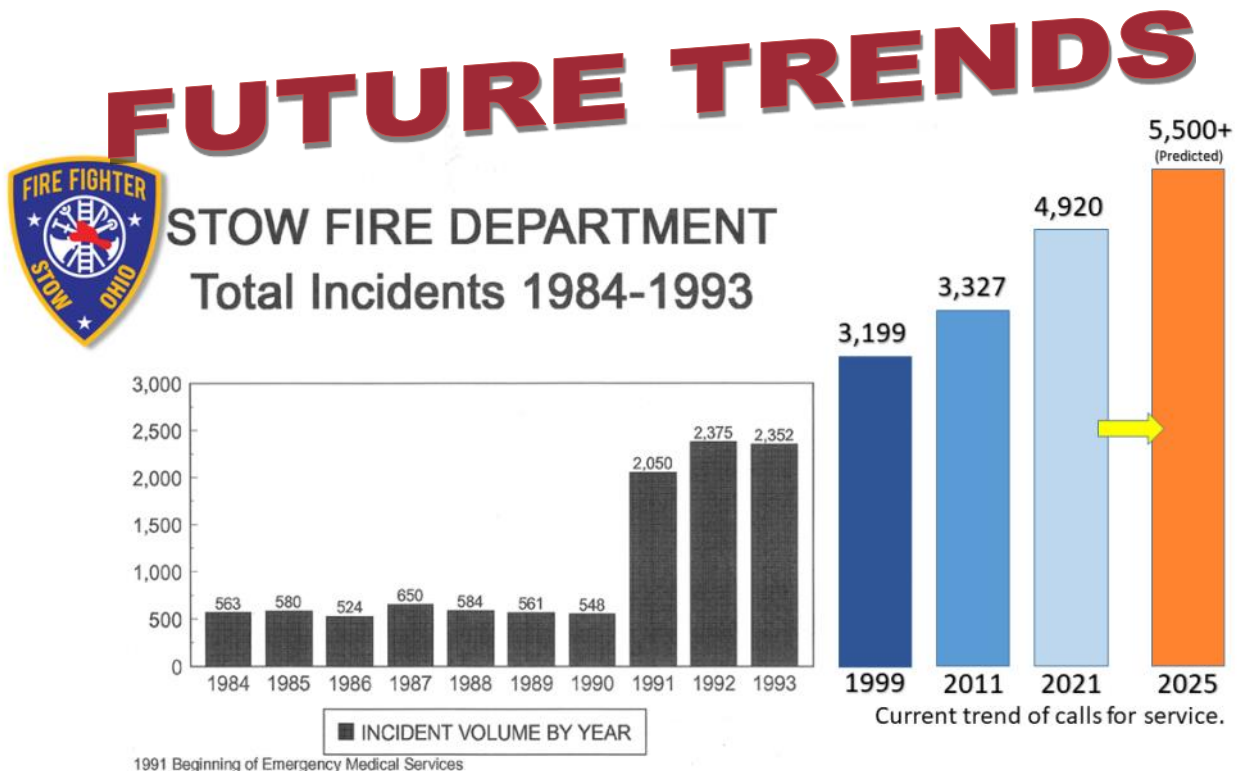
Future Trends

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) makes up the vast majority of calls for any fire service which includes this as a resource. Changes in healthcare, local medical and extended care facilities also have had an impact on not only the volume of calls for service, but also the time spent rendering service to the patient.

As emergency medicine has evolved with advanced EMS services, more treatment can be performed at the scene, prior to transport. This, and the growing demand for pre-hospital services, tends to lengthen the time crews spend on each call, increasing the "time on task" realized throughout the shift.

The future of EMS is clear, more advanced treatment will be performed by paramedics prior to transport. Decisions for specialized care can be made at the scene, offering the patient a destination of their choosing based on information obtained throughout the first minutes of assessment and treatment.

In 2011, the Stow Fire Department saw 2,459 Rescue/EMS calls for service; this number increased to 3,546 just ten years later, an increase of more than 1,000 patients. In addition to these Rescue/EMS calls, SFD answered 1374 fire and other service type calls.



Fire Training Division



Captain Mark Kozak

The goal of the City of Stow Fire Department Training Bureau is to provide the Officers and Firefighter Paramedics with high quality training in order to achieve the Fire Department Mission Statement:

Saving Lives and property through fire prevention, suppression, education, and quality Emergency Medical Services.

The Fire Training Bureau provides and coordinates training for individual firefighters, paramedics, fire inspectors, fire instructors, and fire investigators so they can meet the National, State, or Organizational requirements to recertify their license or certification. This training is also used to help meet the training requirements of the ISO Fire Suppression Rating Schedule for firefighters, fire inspectors, fire officers, and fire investigators. Captain Mark Kozak was promoted to operate the Fire Department Training Bureau in December of 2021.



Fire Training Division

Methodology:

Training is provided in person and online. Some training is conducted for the entire Fire Department at the same time, such as our monthly continuing education for Emergency Medical Services (EMS). This training is taught by our Medical Control Doctor from the Cleveland Clinic Foundation Akron General Medical Center, Doctor Amy Raubenolt. Other training is conducted at the shift level or individual level and is usually taught by one of our fire or EMS Instructors.

The Fire Training Bureau Captain, in conjunction with Fire Administration, is responsible for the development of the training program for the Fire Department. This dynamic allows for consistent training across the entire Fire Department with a basis for the training from the Fire Department Standard Operating Policies and Procedures. This method creates opportunities for constant review of the Policies and Procedures so the Fire Department can stay up to date on current topics and trends in Fire and EMS.



Requirements:

In Ohio, certifications are on a 3 year cycle. A paramedic needs to have 86 hours of specific types of emergency medical education every 3 years and a firefighter needs to have 54 hours of fire training. This means, at a minimum, Stow Firefighter Paramedics need about 50 hours of training per year minimum. Officers must also maintain a fire inspector and fire instructor certification, which is another 30 hours of training every 3 years and a minimum of 24 hours of instruction during that timeframe.

In order to meet the training requirements of the ISO Fire Suppression Rating Schedule, a Firefighter needs a minimum of 218 hours of fire training per year or 18 hours per month. A Fire Officer needs 230 hours of training per year and those assigned to the Fire Prevention and Training Bureaus need 294 hours of training per year or about 25 hours per month.

Fire Training Division

Topics:

In order to meet the various educational needs of the entire department, a variety of topics are covered. In 2022, members of the Stow Fire Department have attended training on but not limited to:

- Electrical vehicle crashes and fires
- EMS Training
- Chimney Fires
- Residential House Fire
- Water Supply
- Search and Rescue
- Fire Attack
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support
- HIPAA
- Blood Borne Pathogens
- Incident Command Training
- Fire Company Training



SUMMARY:

In 2021, the Fire Department completed 7,194.61 hours of training. From January 1st to April 30th of 2022, the Fire Department completed 4,235 hours of training. The department is well on their way to achieving and surpassing 2021's training accomplishments. Continuing Education and training in the Fire and EMS fields is an important and integral component to a successful Fire Department. In summary, all of this training and education prepares the Fire Department to effectively assist the Residents, Employees, and Visitors of the City of Stow in their time of need.

Fire Training Division



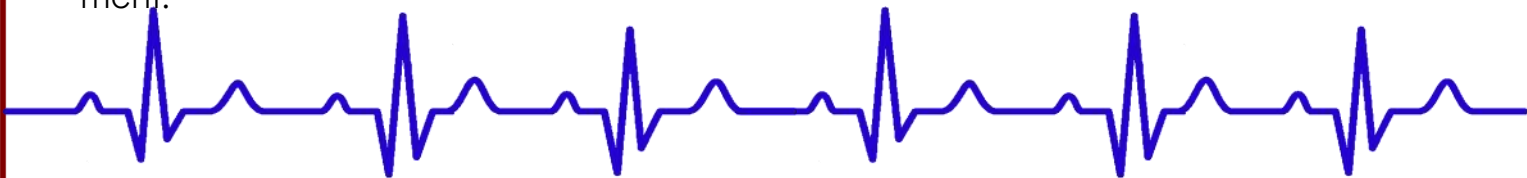
EMS Division

Medical Director

Dr. Amy Raubenolt



Stow Fire Department Emergency Medical Services (EMS) operates under the direction of Dr. Amy Raubenolt of Cleveland Clinic Akron General (CCAG). As the medical director, she provides monthly Continuing Medical Education (CME) to the department including case study review, current trends in emergency medicine, along with skill and procedure review. SFD Paramedics are required to attend monthly continuing medical education lectures and exhibit ability to perform certain tasks throughout the recertification cycle. All new hires are required to be State of Ohio Paramedics (EMT-P) and maintain certification throughout their employment.



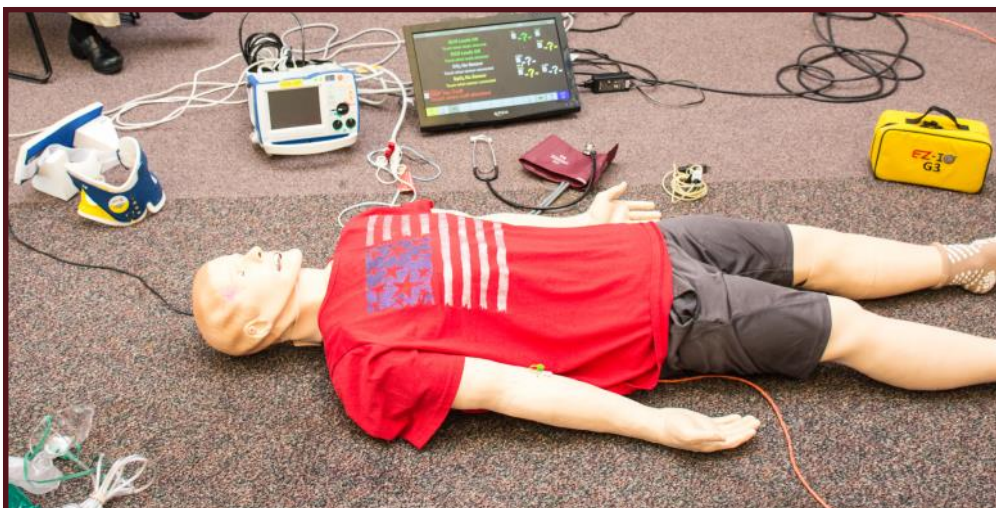
Dr. Raubenolt is not only the Stow Fire Department Medical Director, but also Cleveland Clinic Akron General EMS Medical Director, Akron Fire Department Medical Director, CCAG Paramedic Program Medical Director and Akron Fire/Police Tactical EMS/SWAT Medical Director. She was named 2019 Medical Director of the Year by the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire and Transportation Services, the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, and the Ohio Division of Emergency Medical Services, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

EMS Division

Paramedics must pass Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Basic Life Support (BLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) hands-on and written testing every two years.



The department has invested in simulation mannequins to provide a more realistic training environment when assessing practical skills. SFD also provides CPR training to Stow Police Department, Stow Dispatch and Stow Parks employees.



Fire Prevention Bureau



Captain Jason Hartman

The Bureau is comprised of a Fire Marshal, Fire Captain, Fire Inspector and a part-time sprinkler inspector.

A part-time CAD drawing specialist also assists the Bureau with updating preplans of businesses within the city.

The Stow Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for the following activities:

- ◆ General Fire Prevention inspections in new and existing buildings
- ◆ Fire protection system inspections (Sprinkler, Fire Alarm, Commercial Hood Suppression, Spray Booth, Underground Fire Protection Water Lines, Clean Agent Fire Suppression Systems, Fire Pumps, & Fire Shutter)
- ◆ New Occupancy Inspections
- ◆ Plan Review for New Construction
- ◆ Plan Review for New or Renovated Fire Protection Systems (Sprinkler, Alarm, Fire Suppression - Hood & Clean Agent)
- ◆ Plan Review of Emergency Plans
- ◆ Government required Inspections for Foster Care, Adoption Care, Adult Day Care, & Group Homes Occupancies
- ◆ Pre-Fire Planning of Buildings
- ◆ Witnessing Fire Drills
- ◆ Fire Hydrant Flow Testing
- ◆ Above Ground Storage Tanks Containing Hazardous Materials
- ◆ Fire Cause & Origin Investigations
- ◆ Emergency Knox Key Box Inspections
- ◆ Fireworks Display Inspections
- ◆ Fire Watch and Special Events



Fire Prevention Bureau

Fire Marshal Nevin Nicolson



In addition to the basic Fire Prevention Activities in 2021, the Bureau completed the following tasks:

- Performed 15 fire investigations
- Administration of the fire department Active 911 program which allows firefighters ability to view building pre-plan drawings on iPads while enroute to emergencies.
- Performed 2,358 inspections
- Averaged 60 hours of investigation and inspection specific training per inspector.
- Performed 417 plan reviews.
- Provided 255 consultations.

Activity	Total
PLAN REVIEW - Sprinkler System	74
PLAN REVIEW - Building	128
PLAN REVIEW - Change of Occupancy	28
PLAN REVIEW - Electrical	17
PLAN REVIEW - Fire alarm/Protection	38
PLAN REVIEW - Emergency Planning	12
PLAN REVIEW - General/Site Plan	42
PLAN REVIEW - Hood Suppression/LP Storage	18
PLAN REVIEW - Misc/Other	22
INSPECTION - Hood Suppression	192
INSPECTION - Food Truck	26
INSPECTION - System Testing	228
INSPECTION - Foster Care/Adoption	13
INSPECTION - Fire Alarm	374
INSPECTION - General/Annual	156
CONSULTATION	255

A partial list of activities performed by the Fire Prevention Bureau in 2021.

Fire Safety Education

Public Education

In 2021, we reached 7,771 individuals through 123 programs.

These programs included:

- Safety Town
- Station Tours
- Youth Firesetter Intervention
- Preschool Safety Lesson
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Community Events
- School Education – Bike/Car Safety
- School Education – Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Alarms
- Fire Safety Poster Contest
- NEOSEN—Northeast Ohio Safety Educators Network



Mel Gammell

Fire & Life
Safety Educator

Highlights from Firefighter Mel

Safety Town

Due to COVID, we had to do a virtual safety town again in 2021. We used the Prezi presentation that included 10 safety topics. Those topics included gun safety, online safety, stranger awareness, dog bite prevention, fire safety, pedestrian safety, seat belt safety, water safety, bike safety, and poison safety. Once children completed the virtual portal, they played the game “Safety Land,” which was a board game Toni from Youth Services created to help the kids test what they learned. We had 135 children going into Kindergarten participate in our virtual safety town this year.



Fire Safety Education

We had an in-person graduation this year. We set up different stations at KidStation Playground in Stow. We had a total of 6 stations set up where kids went around to get their safety passport stamped if they answered a safety question correctly. Our bike safety station included individuals from Akron Children's Hospital who fitted them for a donated bike helmet. Our pedestrian safety station took place in our safety town village and gave children the opportunity to practice stopping at stop signs for pedestrians to walk, as well as practicing crossing the street safely. Our fire safety station gave kids the opportunity to look inside and ambulance, learn about the gear firefighters wear, and meet Sparky the



Fire Safety Poster Contest

Due to Covid restrictions, the award ceremony for the annual Fire Safety Poster Contest was held virtually. Fortunately the kids were all quite used to distance learning with technology and were happy to join us. Our poster contest has been an annual event for over 50 years and no pandemic was going to stop us from recognizing their hard work.



Fire Safety Education

Spring School Education Program – Bike/Car Safety

My spring safety lesson was done virtually because the schools were not allowing visitors in the buildings, even though they were back to in-person learning. I sent teachers a safety lesson from Google Slides on the topic of bike/car safety. After the classes finished the lesson, I used Zoom to play a review game with them to see how much they learned. The preschool and kindergarten classes played a game where I asked them 15 questions and they had to tell me whether the statement was true or false. The 1st-5th grade students played a game very similar to Jeopardy, which asked them various bike & car safety questions I covered in the lesson.



Welcome! Click on the picnic table to sign in.

1. Click on the soccer player to learn about car crashes.
2. Click on the slide in the playground to learn more about booster seats.
3. Click on the basketball to watch a video on transportation safety.
4. Click on the sandbox to learn about fitting a bike helmet properly.
5. Click on the sidewalk chalk to watch a demonstration on bike helmets.

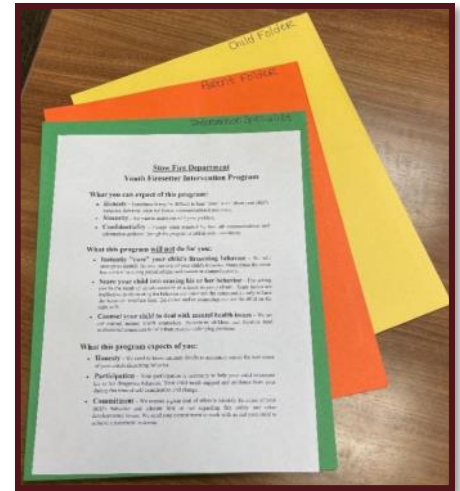
Hey it's me,
Firefighter Mell
Let's learn about
bike & car safety
today.

Fire Safety Education

Youth Firesetter Program

I had 4 youth firesetter cases this year. I completed the Youth Firesetter Program Manager course at the Ohio Fire Academy later in the year, and used updated knowledge on the topic to help these kids. I met with the families in their homes, performed intake interviews, and gave educational lessons based off their individual needs.

Each of these children completed the program, and to date, have not had any firesetting behaviors since. This program not only intervenes with the behavior of the child, but it also teaches fire safety to the family and has potential to alter future tragedy.



Northeast Ohio Safety Educators Network (NEOSEN)

In 2020, Firefighter Mel teamed up with Angela Potter from the State Fire Marshal's Office to create a networking group of fire/police educators in Northeast Ohio. We wanted to build something that would help educators with sharing new/old ideas, continuing education opportunities, and building professional friendships. Our meetings are the first Wednesday of the month. During the pandemic, we continued our monthly meetings virtually. Firefighter Mel arranged who would be speaking at our meetings. Our speakers and topics this year included:

- Akron Children's Hospital – Injury Prevention
- Mel Gammell – Virtual Community Outreach
- Mike Weller – NFA CRR
- Madison FD (Alabama) – CRR Level Up
- Steve Waltman – OFA CRR
- Becky Mundy – ACH Juvenile Firestoppers Program
- Maria Bostian – 2020 NFPA Fire Safety Educator of the Year
- Tricia Streharsky & Lucy Boss (Summit DD) – Teaching People of All Abilities



Special Teams - Dive



Firefighter Kevin Morrow Branch Director

SFD is a member of the Summit County Special Operations Response Team. Area departments provide aid to each other on these specialized incidents which are infrequent, but require a robust and specialized response of highly trained technicians.

All members are trained in SCUBA Rescue diving and Swift water rescue. Stow Fire Department Dive/Rescue 1 is equipped with SCUBA, swift water and surface ice rescue equipment. Summit County's Zodiac boat is also housed at Stow Station 1. The team responds to calls for assistance from all fire departments in Summit, Stark, Portage, and Medina counties when requested.

Team activations were few with none occurring inside of Stow. Three county activations occurred in April, May and August in the Little Cuyahoga River, Summit Lake and Portage Lakes State Park,



Dive team members train in conjunction with TROT team members in swift water rescue training. Team members participate in monthly training which is held locally. The team also participates in an annual swift water drill on the Cuyahoga River in Cuyahoga Falls. Rescue diving is very dangerous in NE Ohio where visibility is often limited to inches on most dives, requiring members to be proficient in SCUBA under the most difficult conditions.



Special Teams - Hazmat

Captain Paul Amonett Branch Director

SFD is a member of the Summit County Special Operations Response Team. Area departments provide aid to each other on these specialized incidents which are infrequent, but require a robust and specialized response of highly trained technicians.



2021 was another busy cycle for the branch. Even with COVID-19, training was still a top priority of our operation and we completed as much of the schedule as possible, either in person or online. Topics for the two years included:

- Area Rae Meter System Technician Certification
- Chlorine Kits
- FBI Sampling
- State Graded Functional Exercise – Leaking Pressurized Cylinders
- Ohio Public Safety Sampling
- Thermo Scientific RadEye Meter In-Service
- HAZMAT Research Specialist
- Cryogenic Emergencies
- HAZMAT Officer and Safety Officer Certification
- Rail Car Incident Response for Crude, Ethanol & Other Flammable Liquids
- Decontamination Operations



Stow Fire Hazmat Technicians had no incidents inside the City of Stow in 2021 but did respond to requests for assistance in Cuyahoga Falls and Macedonia.

Special Teams - TROT



Lieutenant Andy Hopkins Branch Director

There are eight firefighters in the Stow Fire Department who are members of the Summit County Technical Rescue Operations Team. The team is comprised of firefighters from throughout the county. Each member must be trained in several disciplines of rescue to qualify for deployment. These disciplines include; rope rescue, confined space, trench rescue, building collapse and advanced extrication. The team offers training to all of its mem-

bers to keep skills honed which also develops teamwork among the departments throughout the county.

Rigorous training is conducted each month and is open to Region Five trained technicians also. Region Five consists of the following counties; Ashland, Carroll, Columbiana, Holmes, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, and Wayne. Training is scheduled for three days in a row allowing each member to attend training in coordination with their respective fire department. Trainings include review and scenarios to cover each discipline of technical rescue which include; Rope rescue, Confined Space, Trench, Structural and Building Collapse. Many of the technical rescue members are also certified in Swift water rescue as it involves strong rope rescue abilities.

Stow Fire Department has been an integral part of the county team and houses a trench collapse trailer that has been activated in a number of emergencies, both in and outside of Stow. This equipment is essential in the shoring of unstable soil conditions in order for rescuers to safely gain access to victims. In its history, the team has rescued contractors as well as homeowners from trenches that were improperly shored and collapsed on their victims.

Summit County TROT was activated in August for a hiker that had fallen and needed to be evacuated from a ravine.

Some members of the team, including SFD Lt. Hopkins, also belong to Ohio Task Force One (OH-TF1) which responds nationwide to emergencies and natural disasters. OH-TF1 routinely is activated for post-hurricane urban search and rescue (USAR) and in June 2021, was sent to Florida to assess and search for survivors of the Champlain Towers 2 collapse. OH-TF1 was also deployed to Kentucky in December for USAR operations following devastating tornadoes in Dawson Springs. The team search more than 1,900 structures during its deployment.

Keeping Busy



Since 2016, Stow Fire and Police have competed in the team relay of the Akron Marathon. This not only provides friendly competition, but also serves as an excellent team building experience.

A new addition to the department was the Fire Honor Guard. Our honor guard joined the Stow Police Honor Guard on the Day of Remembrance, the 20th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, attacks on our nation.



Community Activities



With our traditional parade cancelled, SFD participated in the "Reverse" parade, or "We'll bring the Fourth of July Parade to your doorstep!"



Stow Fire Department had the pleasure of participating at the annual Touch-A-Truck .



