



**CITY OF DANBURY**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**19 NEW STREET**  
**DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810**

**Geoffrey R. Herald**  
**Fire Chief**

**Phone 203-796-1550**  
**Fax 203-796-1533**

**FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT**

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of 21 August through 21 September and details activities of the Department.

October is fire safety month and our public fire safety education program is very busy. The Fire prevention team will be in our schools throughout the month.

Halloween and Halloween activities will be taking place during the month of October, so please be careful with lit candles in pumpkins or luminarias, keep front porches well lit, and drive with extra caution on trick-or-treat night.

With the onset of the heating season, we are urging all citizens to install carbon monoxide detectors. Each year these devices save lives through alerting residents and businesses to potential risks. If you have a furnace, wood stove, or other combustion heating device in your home, these devices should be installed as well. Further information is available from the Fire Marshal.

**Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Engine 26!**

Engine 26, which opened on September 11<sup>th</sup> 2007, has proven to be most effective in reducing response times on the West Side of our City. This welcome addition to the Fire Department continues to protect our citizens and on the West Side.

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

The Fire Department Crews have completed the Muscular Dystrophy Association donation collections for this year.

Fire extinguisher training was performed by Deputy Fire Marshal Jim Russell and the crew of Engine 26 for all Airport employees.

Susan Peryea stopped by with her now two year old daughter Caden. Caden who was born very pre mature was assisted into this world by Lt. Ken Appley, F.F. Paul Perrotti, and F.F. Jim Lillis. Caden is doing very well. Ms. Peryea presented the fire department with a wonderful framed thank you letter and two beautiful pictures of Caden.

## **SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES OF NOTE**

On 8/21/10 at 278 Main St. there was a situation in which a woman had dropped her car and house keys into a storm drain. E22 removed the grate and retrieved the keys with a lockout tool and then bleached the keys to remove contamination... a good provision of customer service.

On 9/15/10 at 175 Briar Ridge Rd. there was a gas odor call. E26 investigated. Apparently an alarm was received by Spectra Gas in Brewster, resulting in an intentional purging of piping in the vicinity of Saw Mill Rd. Yankee Gas received numerous calls regarding the odor. Normally Boehringer Ingelheim is notified when a planned natural gas purge occurs. They were not this time, causing concern for DFD, RFD and Yankee Gas, as well as the neighbors. The situation cleared in a short time with no other significant issues.

On 9/19/10 at the Danbury Fair Mall, 7 Backus Ave. there was an extrication call where E26 was able to free a 3 year-old child's arm which had become stuck in an escalator handrail. They also provided EMS care to an employee who had fainted due to the incident.

On 8/26/10, E26, C30 with the Gator, the Truck Company and EMS crews responded to Bennett's Farm Park in Ridgefield, to find and rescue a man that had a mountain biking accident about ¾ mile into the woods. The crew worked with Ridgefield Fire, EMS and PD to find, treat and remove the seriously injured man from the woods.

On 9/14/10, the on-duty crew responded to a working structure fire at the Avalon Valley Apartment Complex. The fire heavily involved the maintenance building in the rear of the property. A minor eye irritation to a firefighter was the only reported injury.

On 8/25/10 an extrication assignment was needed at exit 3 of I-84 east bound. A car was off the highway. E26, E21, Truck 1, Squad 23 and C30 responded.

On 9/6/2010 an extrication took place at exit 3 of I-84 Westbound. Extensive use of spreader and cutter were required by E22 personnel. E21, E22, Squad 23 & C30 with 3 ambulances and two medics treated 6 victims from a three car MVA.

## **Command and Staff Activities**

Chamber of Commerce Leadership Danbury  
Facility Task Force  
Education Committee meeting  
Quarterly Staff Meeting  
Friends of Heroes Luncheon at Headquarters  
Wisconsin trip to inspect new fire trucks  
Taste of Danbury

## **Emergency Medical/ Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez**

### EMS Wednesday:

The continuous education program EMS Wednesday is designed to meet the EMS re-certification requirements of Fire Department First Responders. These classes held while on duty allow firefighters to stay current with pre-hospital care techniques and to maintain sharp practical skills.

Firefighters while performing their duties in the field are potentially at risk from diseases transmitted either by contact with body fluids, such as blood or airborne particles.

Cross-trained firefighters that provide pre-hospital care, as first responders are likely to encounter a variety of patients suffering from a wide range of illnesses under many different conditions. The possibility of contracting an infectious disease is real if the proper precautions are not taken.

For the month of September, EMS Wednesday has focused on a review of the proper precautions to reduce the potential of an occupational exposure to a disease. Included is a review of the departments Infectious control policy and the OSHA standard 1910:1030

### Hazmat Thursday:

The third Quarter Hazmat training class for all on duty firefighters is focusing on proper decontamination procedures. Two classes are being held on Thursdays to accommodate all on duty personnel in the set up of a technical decontamination station for hazmat team members and a quick strip and dip station for civilians who may have been exposed to a contaminate and need to be evaluated by EMS.

### Volunteer Firefighters Training:

Three classes on the use of the four gas meter and proper Metering and Monitoring techniques have been held for the Volunteer component of the Danbury Fire Department.

## **Communications/911 - Patrick Sniffin**

Continuing dispatch education is taking place with Q&A sessions in the dispatch center. Refinement of dispatch protocols is ongoing. We have recognized the need for re-districting of some of the response areas and we will be updating as needed.

## **Training - Mark Omasta**

### Career Division

#### Regional Foam Trailer

All crews did a classroom review and practical training exercises with our State Regional Foam trailer #6 in August and early September. We house the trailer at station 26, and are on call 24-7 for responses in the Western half of the state.

#### Fire School

DPW delivered and leveled millings at the School property which allows for more usable space for our apparatus and training evolutions. Lt Pollard completed renovations to the rear entrance.

The Danbury Police Dept. SWAT team and teams from area departments utilized the Fire School grounds for a joint Drill on Sept. 15.

#### Pump Operator

We have 20 Fire Fighters currently enrolled in the CT Fire Academy Pump Operator Certification Class. We are hosting this class in Danbury from Sept. 13 through the 24<sup>th</sup>. This certification is required by the department prior to the fifth year of employment.

#### Recruit Fire Fighter

Recruit Fire Fighter William Ratajack started his career on September 1 with three days of orientation before heading to the CT Fire Academy on Sept. 8 to start his 14 weeks of Recruit training. The Academy class ends in late December.

#### Fall Semester NVCC

The three credit class "Water Supply and Hydraulics" started on September 1 and runs to mid December. There are 18 students enrolled in the class which is held every Wednesday evening at Fire Headquarters.

#### Special Calls

The Training Officer was called out to a Structure Fire at Avalon Valley on Sand Pit Rd on Sept. 13.

## Volunteer Division

Third quarter training is underway for all companies. We will be talking about the proper way to operate the 4-gas meters and how to identify a Hazardous atmosphere with meters and other indicators.

## Meetings/events for the T.O.

- Attended the wake for Lt Shaun McQuade's son Brenden on Aug 29
- Attended the Funeral for Brenden McQuade on Aug 30
- Haz Mat 472, 2008 addition, Education sub-committee meeting Aug 26
- State Firefighters Education Committee meeting on Aug. 26
- Command Staff meeting at City Hall on September 16
- Wake for retired Fire Fighter Moose Lynch's father
- Met with Honeywell Corp. staff to discuss a joint training exercise
- Borrow tables and chairs from St. Paul's Lutheran Church for the "Friends of local Heroes" luncheon at Headquarters on Sept. 17
- Critique for Structure Fire (53 Sand Pit Rd) on Sept 14
- Connecticut Fire Dept. Instructors Association annual meeting Sept 1 at the Fire Academy

## **Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo**

The apparatus department has calibrated all of the Departments' 4 Gas meters. The Oxygen and LEL sensors in Truck 1's meter were replaced as well as the turbo oil drain tube on Truck-1. We repaired a major oil leak on E-22. Atlantic Detroit Diesel came here to address an intermittent problem with the transmission in E-22. We traveled to Wisconsin to inspect and approve the construction of two new fire engines. The Officers seat belt in E-21 was replaced. The large roll out shelf unit in Squad-1 needed repair. We have spent some significant time preparing for the delivery of our two new engines (ordering supplies and equipment) to outfit these units and place them in service as soon as possible.

## Other repairs completed:

- The air line that operates the fan clutch on Squad-2.
- A grab handle on E-26.
- The air dryer on Truck-1.
- A brake air line on Truck-1.
- The right front rotor on Truck-1.
- The smoke ejector on Truck-2.
- The LDH gate on E23.
- Cleaned the inside lens on HQ's security cameras.
- Replaced a fan belt in the air handler at E-26 station.
- Serviced the pump transmission on E-24.

## Fire Marshal - James Johnson

Re: Monthly Report 8.21.10 to 9.22.10

Abatements/Reports (hrs):	35	Place of Assembly:	21
Issued in Fire Zones:	1	Educational:	18
Fire Investigations:	16	Business:	25
Fatal Fires:	0	Storage:	1
Liquor Inspections:	13	Health Care:	4
Blasting Permits:	4	Industrial:	0
Complaints	21**	Mercantile:	21
Plan Review (hrs)	58.5	Residential Board & Care:	0
Fire Prevention Prgs.	12	Hotel (units):	195
Orders of Abatement:	3 (unit)	Apartments:	362
** Resolved or in the process		Rooming Houses:	0
of being resolved.		Day Care:	2
Some of these complaints		Misc. Inspections	57
were thru and with the UNIT.		Special Structures:	0
		Office Duty (hrs):	172
		Burn Permits	2
		Service Stations	11

We continue to find illegal occupancies thru UNIT inspections, there were 4 inspections for unsafe occupancy (basement/attic) all situations have been resolved or are in the process of being resolved.

This month's Fire Prevention consisted of numerous programs for different groups. The highlight of the month was the Taste of Danbury.

DFM Russell once again is the Fairfield County representative for the Fire Prevention Poster Contest. The program will be implemented at the start of Fire Prevention Week. We will be at all schools with this year's Fire Safety Message.

DFM Leach met this month in Hartford and continues to work on the implementation of a regional Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program. With that, three Danbury youths were interviewed this month with a positive outcome.

Deputies Russell, Gillotti and Osborne attended a conference on Residential Sprinklers.

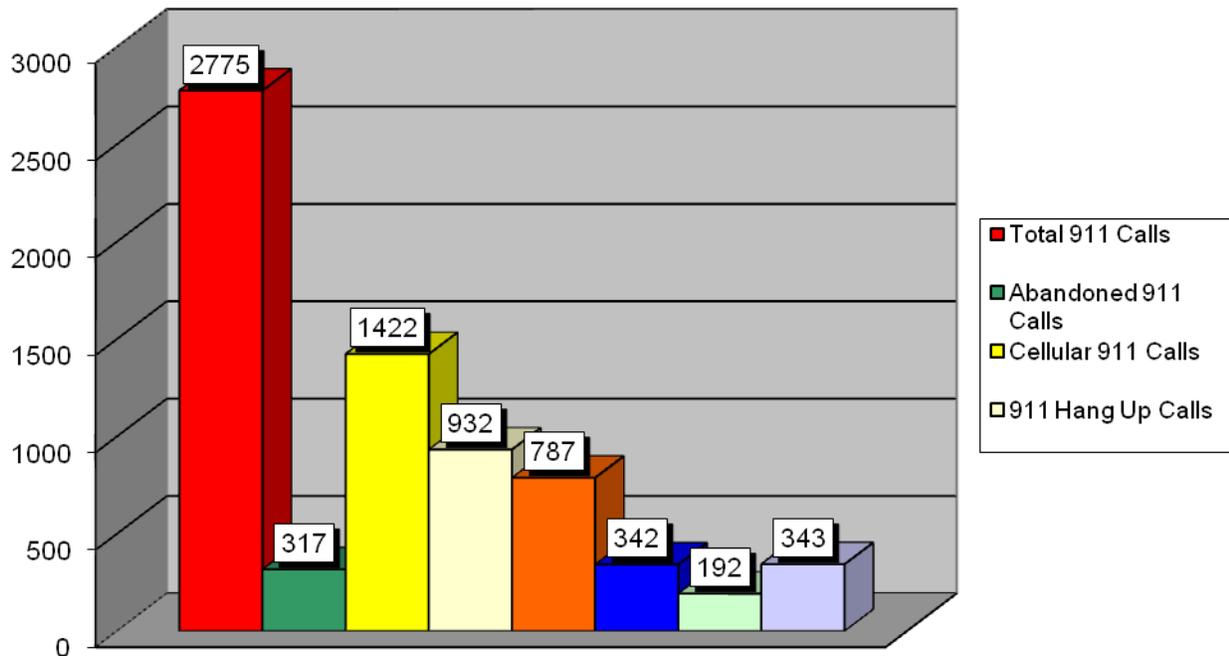
## Department Statistical Reports

<b>Monthly Breakdown NFIRS Ver 5.0 Coding</b>	
Fires (100-173)	<b>16</b>
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire (200-251)	<b>2</b>
Rescue/EMS (300-381)	<b>375</b>
Hazardous Condition (400-482)	<b>31</b>
Service Call (500-571)	<b>83</b>
Good Intent Calls (600-671)	<b>75</b>
False Alarm/False Calls (700-746)	<b>73</b>
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster (800-815)	<b>0</b>
Special Incident Type (900-911)	<b>0</b>
No Report/Incomplete	<b>5</b>
<b>Total Fire Responses</b>	<b>660</b>
<b>E911 Statistics</b>	
Total 911 Calls	<b>2775</b>
Abandoned 911 Calls	<b>317</b>
Cellular 911 Calls	<b>1422</b>
911 Hang Up Calls	<b>932</b>
Admin Calls Received	<b>787</b>
Police Calls via 911	<b>342</b>
Fire Calls via 911 (CAD 28)	<b>192</b>
EMS Calls via 911 (CAD 29)	<b>343</b>
Daily Average	<b>99.11</b>
<b>Dispatch Incident Statistics</b>	
Total Fire Responses	<b>660</b>
Total EMS Responses	<b>833</b>
Unknown Transport Status	<b>13</b>
ALS Patient (CAD 60)	<b>338</b>
BLS Patient (CAD 61)	<b>360</b>
No Patient (CAD 62)	<b>122</b>
EMS Mutual Aide Requests (CAD 80)	<b>8</b>
EMS Calls Passed to Backup (CAD 81)	<b>26</b>

**\*\* NOTE \*\***

Multiple 911 Calls received for Fire And EMS Incidents are attached to Fire Incident Reports

## 911 Center Activity August 22 to September 21, 2010



## Fire Response Breakdown August 22 to September 21, 2010

