



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

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**FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT**

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

The entire department participated in a medical sleep study through Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. This study is being conducted to determine the depth of sleep disorders in the fire service. This is a nationwide research endeavor funded through FEMA. There have been many studies conducted during the past decade or so which have illustrated that there is a serious concern with sleep deprivation and sleep disorders in the fire service.

These disorders are attributed to the variable sleep patterns created by long shifts and disrupted sleep. This study will go beyond defining the problem and will research the actual breadth of the problem and determine the numbers of fighters affected. From this the fire service will gain understanding and develop tools to address the issue.

One of the Department members, Firefighter Terry Timan, has been recognized for his exceptional educational efforts. Naugatuck Valley Community College has awarded Terry an Academic Achievement Award for his performance in the Fire Science and Technology program. Congratulations Terry.

The weather is finally turning favorable and there are bicyclists and pedestrians using our streets. Please stay aware of the others on our roads and have a safe, though late spring.

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

Tours: Matrix, Pocono Rd. Danbury Hospital, 40 Acre Mtn. Rd., Sterling Woods, Avalon Apartments, Eden Drive, Hocon Gas, Danbury High School, Rose Lane, Cally Lane, Poets Landing, Crystal Bay, La Quinta Inn, Danbury Hospital, Sterling Woods Condos,

Touch-a-Truck and fire engine photo ops: Danbury Plaza, 8 May, Kenosia Park, 10 May, St. Gregory School 14 May, Deeps Hardware, Babies R. Us

On 20 May Engine 21 and Deputy Fire Marshal Russell attended a Daisy/Brownie Girl Scout Troop award ceremony at South Street School. On 9 May Engine 24 participated in the Career Day at Shelter Rock School. E21 crew provided a tour of Headquarters for 75 fifth grade students from King St. Primary School. Headquarters companies presented a tour for 60 first graders from Morris St. School.

Three Fire Service familiarization outreach days were conducted this month. On duty engine companies participated at each of the High Schools in Danbury. This program is designed to interest students in possible careers in the Fire Service.

Responding engine and truck companies continue to hand out and install smoke detectors and batteries. This program has successfully delivered and installed many of these life safety devices in our community. These batteries, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are donated to the department by concerned citizens and local businesses. Our current supply is running quite low and we are once again in need of these critical items.

Engine Company 22 participated in a public relations event for the anniversary of the Family Literacy Center at 49A Osborne St.

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

Inc # 3156: On 16 May E26 lead by Lt. Kenneth Appley responded to a lock-out. This was an unusual call in that the keys were lost down the toilet! Not only did E26 open the vehicle for the owner but they were able to secure the keys by opening the trap in the basement. They really went the extra mile for the woman once again providing excellent customer service.

Inc #3115: On 14 May the Truck Company responded to Delay St. for an entrapment. 9 ducklings were found trapped in a storm drain. They were retrieved and returned to an anxious mother who was waiting near-by.

Incident # 2956: On 6 May a cooking fire was reported. This fire extended to include the electric stove, range hood and cabinets above. Oil heating in a pot, unattended, was the cause of the fire. An elderly male occupant extinguished the fire with a garden hose. Luckily, the application of water to the burning oil did not spread the fire and no

injuries were reported. This is not a recommended method for extinguishing this type of fire. DFM Weber investigated and no injuries were reported.

Incident # 3060: On 11 May an outdoor fire was reported. This report from Park Ave., Village Square condominium indicated a fire involving a homeless person's lean-to tent and campsite on the far side of the railroad tracks behind the condos. On arrival, E21 encountered 20' high flames in the 16' x 20' campsite, which was fully involved. A camper insert from a pickup truck was part of the campsite appurtenances. E21 extinguished the fire with a water can and bucket brigade from a nearby stream. DFM Osborne investigated. No residents were located.

### **Command and Staff Activities**

- Tri-Tech Software demo
- Peer Leaderships presentation, Danbury High School
- Police Officer / Firefighter of the Year Dinner
- Salvation Army Breakfast
- Consolidated Dispatch Planning mtg
- Connecticut Career Chiefs mtg
- Western Ct. Prayer Breakfast
- Honors Night NVCC Danbury Firefighter Terry Timan
- Mentor Breakfast Amber Room
- Ct Conference of Municipalities Emergency Symposium
- Connecticut Fire Academy Graduation

### **Donations**

50.00\$ Rhonda and Andrew Smith 15 Paulding Terrace Danbury, Ct. 06810

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

The focus of this month's EMS Wednesday has been Childbirth and MRSA. The Danbury Fire Departments First Responders have a comprehensive knowledge of Emergency Medicine and can recognize the progression of symptoms which directly impacts patient survivability. Thru rapid deployment and the use of Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support skills, firefighters can stabilize the patient; assist in the care and delivery of the patient to definitive care.

The Danbury Fire Department First Responder Program is a key part of the EMS system, cross-trained firefighters that have the knowledge of these lifesaving skills are rapidly deployed to an Emergency Medical call, this advanced life support training coupled with the Danbury Fire Departments community education programs like CPR training and the "File of Life" has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

### **Statewide Strategic Hazardous Materials plan**

Representatives from the State of Connecticut's Five Regional Hazardous Materials Response groups met to draft a plan that would address the current and future needs of the five regional teams, those needs include funding, sustainability, activation, standard operating procedures, mutual aid agreements and a collaborative

agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection. When completed, the plan will be sent to the Commissioner of DHEMS for his review, approval and signature.

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

Planning is underway for the consolidation of the Fire and Police Dispatch functions. A great deal of work will be done over the next several months to assess all equipment in use within the Fire Department communications area for serviceability and the ability to be integrated into to the communications area at 375 Main St.

Additionally, items such as the engineering and installation of duplicate radio circuits and 911 equipment may create other time consuming problems therefore it is important to identify these challenges. I will reach out to all associated vendors and request cost estimates and specifications as needed.

All department dispatch procedures will similarly be examined to insure that there is no lapse in operational responses.

Senior Police and Fire officers are meeting with management from Northwest Ct Public Safety Communications representatives are being held to formulate an appropriate consolidation timeline.

### **Training - Mark Omasta**

Volunteer Division:

The Fire fighter 1- Haz Mat Operational class ended May 7 with all 19 students successfully passing the Connecticut Practical skills exam! Fire fighting and Hazardous Materials skills were part of the exam. The written certification exam is scheduled for May 26. All students worked hard during the 160 hour, four month course. One more hurdle to go with the written test.

Second quarter training dates are posted. The training will be focused on Technical Decontamination.

Career Division:

Company Officer Class

We were able to host the CT Fire Academy comprehensive class "Streetwise Skills for Company Officers" class in Danbury over four days in late April-early May. This was required training for our recently promoted Lieutenants and veteran officers as well as potential officers took advantage of this training opportunity held at Fire Headquarters.

Large area search/rescue

WCSU allowed the Fire Dept. access to the Old Roberts Ave School prior to the commencement of demolition work. This has given us the opportunity to conduct drills including search and rescue, hose advancement and Forcible entry.

Fire School

New steel shutters were installed on all second floor windows of the burn building. Jim's Welding fabricated and installed the shutters. Mel Powers donated equipment for the installation.

#### Safety and Electricity

A representative from the Safety division of CL&P is presenting a class to all crews on Electrical Emergencies and Safety for First Responders.

#### Tours

All first due companies are in the process of getting familiar with the Matrix facility (formerly Union Carbide) on Old Ridgbury Rd. The Matrix staff is updating our crews on recent changes to the facility in preparation for any potential emergency situations.

Recruit Firefighter Tim O'Hanlon graduated from the Ct Fire Academy as a member of recruit class #47. The Graduation Ceremonies were held May 19 at the Manchester Community College. Tim was the Class #47 platoon leader and will start his career in Danbury on "C" platoon on May 23 after a brief orientation.

#### NVCC

The college class, "Sprinklers and Fixed Extinguishing Systems" ended on May 11 at Fire Headquarters. We are planning to host a Physics class in Danbury for the summer semester.

#### Annual Hydrant Testing

The annual hydrant testing program runs May 16- Oct. 30.

#### Meetings/ events for the T.O.:

- April 25, Software Demo by Tri-Tech
- April 26 , Observed The Tweed New Haven Airport Triennial ARFF Disaster Drill
- April 28, attended the Rotary Club Police Officer/Firefighter of the year Dinner
- May 4, Connecticut Fire Instructors meeting and presentation by Kaplan University.
- May 10, CME at Danbury Hospital
- May 17, Staff meeting with "C" group
- May 19, Danbury Public School mentoring program annual breakfast
- May 19, CT Fire Academy Recruit class #47 Graduation at Manchester Comm. College
- Mentoring a student for an hour per week at Rogers Park Middle School

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

The former "R-1" (primary reserve) has been re-lettered as R-2 (secondary reserve). Fit testing for the Volunteer contingent is proceeding as planned. The spill box for our gasoline tank that was damaged by snow plowing this winter has been repaired. A two way radio was installed in the Region 5 Haz-Mat unit. Two new compressors were installed at Headquarters. A third is in the delivery queue to be installed at E-23

station. The division serviced the departments' snow plow and put it away for a much needed vacation.

Other repairs completed:

- Replace defective scene light on E-26.
- Replace Smart Docks in Squad -1.
- Replaced the front rotors and pads in the 03PS.
- Serviced 03T3 and 03T4 of the Community Risk Reduction fleet.
- Service front brakes on Truck-1.
- Repair Hurst Cutter on Truck-2.

### **Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal - James Johnson**

Illegal occupancies have been found thru UNIT inspections. There were 3 inspections for unsafe occupancy (basement/attic) and all situations have been resolved.

This months' Fire Prevention education included Fire Extinguisher training for 50 employees of Danbury Airport and the Courtyard by Marriott.

Members of the Community Risk Reduction division completed 18 hours of continuing education for annual Fire Marshal Certification.

DFM Russell and FM Johnson met with school officials about security fencing at DHS  
DFM Russell met with Fair Plan people about the Fire Prevention Poster Contest.

The office investigated one serious fire and no injuries were reported.

### **Department Statistical Reports**

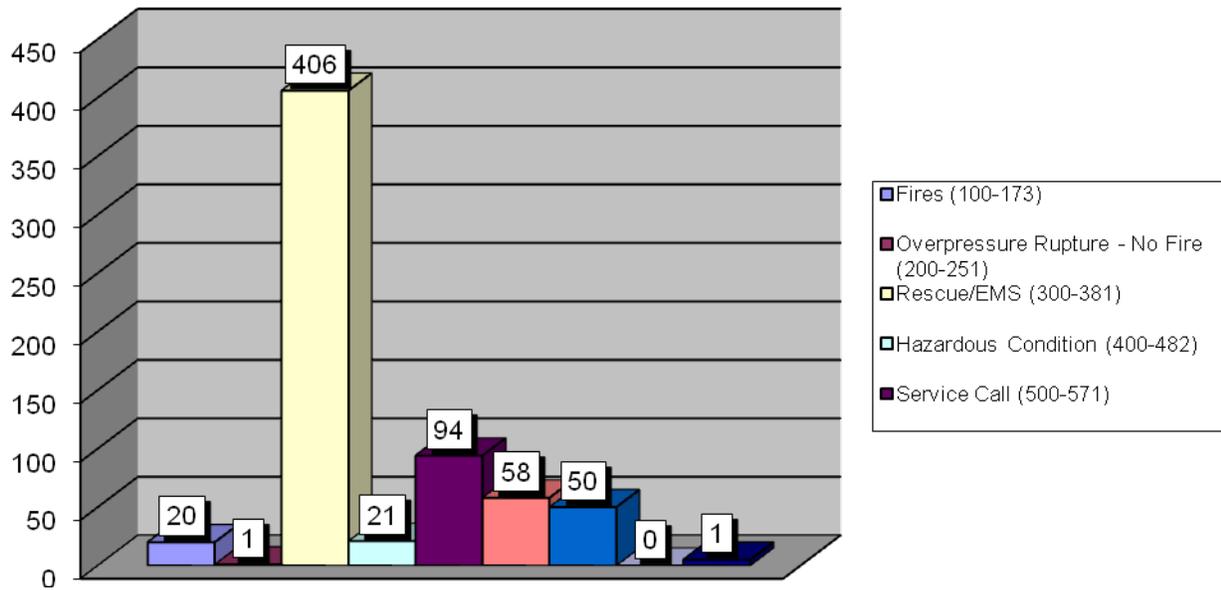
Abatements/Reports (hrs):	16	Place of Assembly:	39
Issued in Fire Zones:	12	Educational:	4
Fire Investigations:	13	Business:	21
Fatal Fires:	0	Storage:	2
Liquor Inspections:	19	Health Care:	3 (78 rooms)
Blasting Permits:	2	Industrial:	2
Complaints	28**	Mercantile:	18
Plan Review (hrs)	65	Residential Board & Care:	0
Fire Prevention Prgs.	6	Hotel (units):	276
Orders of Abatement:	1	Apartments:	398
** Resolved or in the process of being resolved.		Rooming Houses:	0
		Day Care:	4
		Misc. Inspections	22
		Special Structures:	2
		Office Duty (hrs):	152
		Burn Permits	2
		Service Stations	2

<b>Monthly Breakdown NFIRS Ver 5.0 Coding</b>	
Fires (100-173)	<b>20</b>
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire (200-251)	<b>1</b>
Rescue/EMS (300-381)	<b>406</b>
Hazardous Condition (400-482)	<b>21</b>
Service Call (500-571)	<b>94</b>
Good Intent Calls (600-671)	<b>58</b>
False Alarm/False Calls (700-746)	<b>50</b>
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster (800-815)	<b>0</b>
Special Incident Type (900-911)	<b>1</b>
No Report/Incomplete	<b>5</b>
Total Fire Responses	<b>656</b>
<b>E911 Statistics</b>	
Total 911 Calls	<b>2628</b>
Abandoned 911 Calls	<b>321</b>
Cellular 911 Calls	<b>1412</b>
911 Hang Up Calls	<b>917</b>
Admin Calls Received	<b>697</b>
Police Calls via 911	<b>351</b>
Fire Calls via 911 (CAD 28)	<b>203</b>
EMS Calls via 911 (CAD 29)	<b>333</b>
Daily Average	<b>93.86</b>
<b>Dispatch Incident Statistics</b>	
Total Fire Responses	<b>656</b>
Total EMS Responses	<b>782</b>
Unknown Transport Status	<b>8</b>
ALS Patient (CAD 60)	<b>353</b>
BLS Patient (CAD 61)	<b>293</b>
No Patient (CAD 62)	<b>128</b>
EMS Mutual Aide Requests (CAD 80)	<b>3</b>
EMS Calls Passed to Backup (CAD 81)	<b>30</b>

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

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

## Fire Response Breakdown April 22 to May 22, 2011



## 911 Center Activity April 22 to May 22, 2011

