



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 December through 21 January and details activities of the Department.

With the very moderate weather, we have had a surprisingly calm month. Storm related incidents have been few. A commonly rise in calls for heating and cooking responses has been noted and expected. The department continues to distribute smoke detectors and assist citizens with these devices.

Despite the mild season to date, the month of February is upon us and we still expect severe and difficult winter conditions. We remind everyone to be mindful of black ice and slippery road and sidewalk surfaces. When snow fall does occur, we are asking that all businesses and residents take the time to dig out the fire hydrants on or near their property. It is often difficult for fire crews to find buried hydrants during fire responses after heavy snowfalls.

In the fire responses included with this report, please note that the Christmas tree and subsequent house fire of Christmas Eve has been determined to have started as a result of faulty lights on the tree. Though this was a serious fire, the presence of the operating smoke detector saved the lives of the three occupants. We urge that everyone turn off the holiday lights before retiring for the night. And please remember to install and maintain smoke detectors in your home. They can save your life!

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

We all extend our congratulations to Melissa and Jon DeJoseph on the birth of Henry James DeJoseph. May he be healthy and wise!

Engine 23 provided a ride to school for three children of Great Plain School. This was the third year the ride was offered as an award through the Great Plain PTO. The PTO reports that this has become a sought after prize!

Pre-incident tours included Danbury Hospital Parking Garage, Main St., Rivington site, Pocono La. and White Oak Estates, LaQuinta Inn and Courtyard by Marriott and the Palace Theater.

The department hosted the annual Blood Mobile at Headquarters on Martin Luther King Jr. day. The collection rate appeared steady throughout the day.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES OF NOTE

Just before midnight on Christmas day a fire was reported on Hayestown Heights. On arrival, heavy fire was showing at sides A and B (front and left). Luckily, the owner and his two sons, who had been sleeping in a rear bedroom, were awakened by a smoke detector. They discovered heavy black smoke in the kitchen and exited through a bedroom door to the exterior. With no nearby hydrants, tankers were dispatched to provide water for extinguishment. Ten fire department units were involved with this fire. Additional resources included CL&P to secure power. Deputy Fire Marshal Osborne conducted the investigation and worked with an insurance investigator to conclude that defective lights on a live Christmas tree in the front room caused the fire. No injuries were reported.

On 31 December, crews responded to a structure fire at 55 Wildman St. The initial calls indicated a possible basement fire. First arriving companies found nothing showing from the exterior. Further investigation discovered the entire common hallway in the basement was charged with smoke. A quick search found the fire which was quickly extinguished. Ventilation was also done rapidly eliminating the smoke risks. Residents were very appreciative to get back into their homes as it was also New Years Eve and most had plans for the evening. DFM Leach responded to investigate. No fire fighter or civilian injuries were reported.

On 1 January units responded to a possible structure fire on Summit St. The first arriving unit saw what appeared to be a detached garage behind #21 fully involved in fire. At closer look there was a satellite dish on the garage and a man standing in the backyard. It turns out this was an apartment. He had gotten home after celebrating New Years and accidentally started a fire in his home. Unfortunately, he lost most everything he owned, but he was not injured. DFM Leach again responded to investigate and also investigated the house at #21 Summit St. for possible code violations. The displaced man had local relatives he could stay with for the time being.

On 4 January units responded to a home on Seminole Dr. This was in response to a water heater failure. Several crews eventually responded to the scene. They were able to evacuate the water and clean up sufficiently so that the homeowner was able to remain in the home.

On 4 January units responded to a home on South King Street. On arriving the crews found a chimney fire. The fire was extinguished with a powder gun (extinguisher) shot into and up the chimney. Inspection of the upper floors, flue and attic determined that the fire was wholly contained in the chimney. The homeowners were advised to have the chimney inspected and also to add numbers to the roadside mailbox to ensure that the address could be more readily located in the future.

On 4 January an incident occurred on Smith St. This was a reported fire in a residential structure. Quick actions by the tenant protected the home. On arrival, crews found there had been a small fire in the kitchen fan. The fire was extinguished by the tenant. The fan stalled as a result of the blades contacting insulation and the motor overheated. All residents were able to stay in their units.

A structure fire was reported on 14 January on Darrell Rd. The fire started when an ATV caught fire in the garage of a straight ranch home. Occupants attempted, unsuccessfully, to extinguish the fire with a dry chemical extinguisher. Although the garage was attached, the fire was contained to the garage and its contents. The responding crew was able to get water on the fire through the open garage until the garage door activated and closed. They rerouted their attack through the house and a kitchen door to the garage. Additional crews arrived to ensure all occupants and pets were safe, check extension, extinguish exterior fire, secure utilities and ventilate the house. DFM Weber investigated the fire. Building inspector Ed Schullery responded to assist in isolating involved electrical circuits. The house was turned over to the owners. No injuries were reported.

Command and Staff Activities

- Volunteer Council Meeting 12-26-11
- Mayors Leadership mtgs.
- Dispatch meeting with P.D. 1-5-12
- DARF Dinner mtg.
- 2 Day FEMA seminar on grant administration
- Mayors' Cabinet mtg.
- Board of Awards 1-11-12
- Red Cross Blood Drive 1-16-12
- Annual Dinner Padanaram Hose Company 1-16-12
- Release of Statewide Regional PSAP study
- Several PSAP Dispatch meetings with P.D.

Donations

Boehringer-Ingelheim has donated \$3500.00 to the department. This will be put toward acquisition of vehicle and trench rescue equipment.

Emergency Medical/ Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez

The continuous education program EMS Wednesday is designed to meet the EMS 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.

The recent classes were held to complete the CPR for the professional rescuer recertification, which includes adult, child infant and automatic external defibrillation for the entire department.

The Danbury Fire Department currently has thirty-seven Advanced EMT personnel assigned to our various companies. Most of our other personnel are EMT basic certified. These rapidly deployed Firefighter/ EMS responders insure that the citizens of Danbury receive the highest level of care during Emergency Medical Calls.

These Firefighters work under the medical control of the Danbury Hospital Emergency Department Director. In order to maintain their advanced certification they are required to attend additional training and apply yearly for a renewal of medical Control from the Danbury Hospital.

By January 16 all thirty-seven A-EMTs submitted complete Medical Control packets to our sponsor Hospital and are expecting to receive their medical control renewal by the end of the month.

Communications/911 - Patrick Sniffin

During this past month we have had a number of meetings and discussions regarding the upcoming move of our 9-1-1 center, the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). These meetings have been very fruitful and there are many agencies working together. This move is going to create a modern 9-1-1 center which will dispatch from a single point all public safety agencies. The improved process which will result from this move will ensure even more rapid and accurate response of Fire, Emergency Medical and Police personnel.

Training - Mark Omasta

Volunteer Division

For calendar year 2011, the Volunteer division logged 4,400 man hours of training through the training division. These hours do not include the training that was conducted through the individual Vol. fire stations. Quarterly training is scheduled for February and March. The annual Firefighter I class starts in February.

Career Division Driver/Operators

Fire Fighter DJ Ricard completed the Pump Operator/Driver qualification requirements January.

S.O.P. class

The division completed the mandatory training for all crews on our Standard Operating Procedures.

Ongoing tours include the new BMW complex on Danbury Road.

Hybrid/ Electric Vehicles

All crews are taking the NFPA class on Hybrid/Electric Vehicle identification and awareness, covering safety procedures when dealing with extrication and fire incidents.

Training time

Training man hours for the Suppression personnel on all four crews totaled 14,446 for calendar year 2011. This is an average of 150 hours per firefighter.

Meetings/ events for the T.O.:

- Jan 4 monthly CT Fire Instructors meeting and tour of the E.O.C. in Hartford.
- Jan 5 Critique the Crosby St, fire.
- Jan 17 Staff meeting
- Jan 11, 18, 25 Mentor at Rogers Park Middle School
- Jan 18 Annual dinner with Padanaram Hose Co. #3
- Jan 24 Continuing Ed at Danbury Hospital

Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

E-25s 4—Gas meter has been repaired and placed back in service. The thermal imaging cameras assigned to E-23 and E-25 are at the manufacturer and will be evaluated for repair costs. A replacement Sawzall was received and assigned to E-22. E-22s previous unit was damaged at a structure fire. E-14 was fit tested this month. The cab lift motor on E-23s failed, it was rebuilt and reinstalled. Other repairs completed this month are listed below.

- Serviced E-23 and E-25.
- Replaced the tail light assembly in Car 30.
- Replaced circuit breakers in Trk-1 scene lights.
- Replace right front tire on E-25 and perform alignment.
- Replaced the Officers seat in E-23.
- Repaired LDH Gate valves on R-1 and E-26.
- Repaired the lock mechanism on the Bauer air compressor.
- Repaired multiple S.C.B.A. units.
- Replaced ignition switch in E-25.

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal - James Johnson

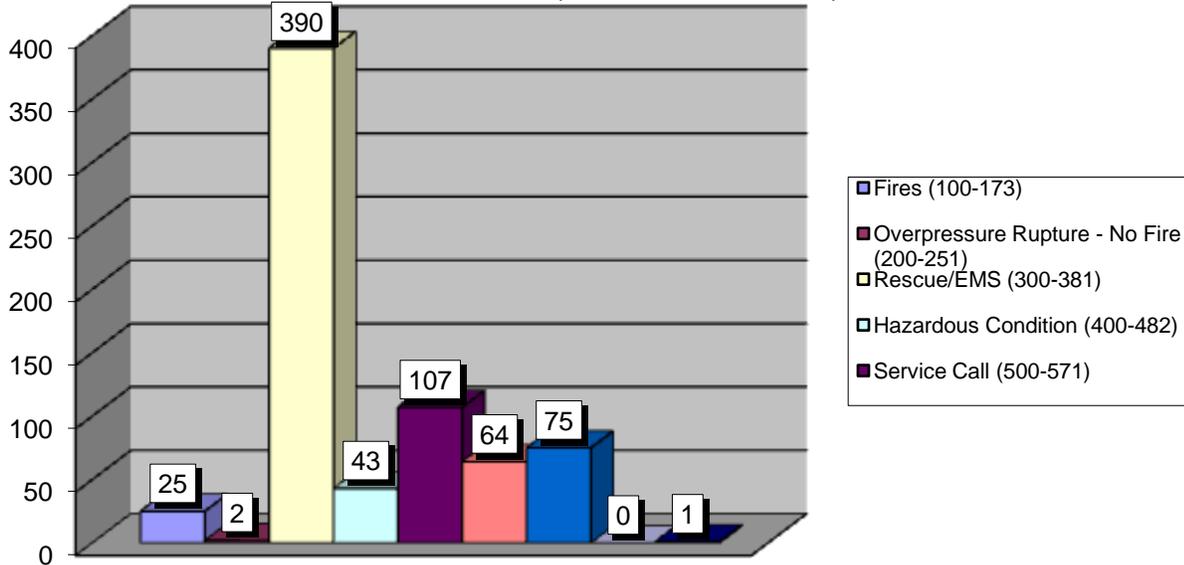
We continue to find illegal occupancies thru UNIT inspections. This resulted in several inspection(s) for unsafe occupancy (basement/attic). Each situation was resolved or is about to be concluded. We continue to monitor several locations as there have been repeat offences.

We completed 20 hours of continuing education for annual Fire Marshal Certification. Our office investigated several fires, with no injuries. Two of these were classified as intentional and continue to remain under investigation by our office along

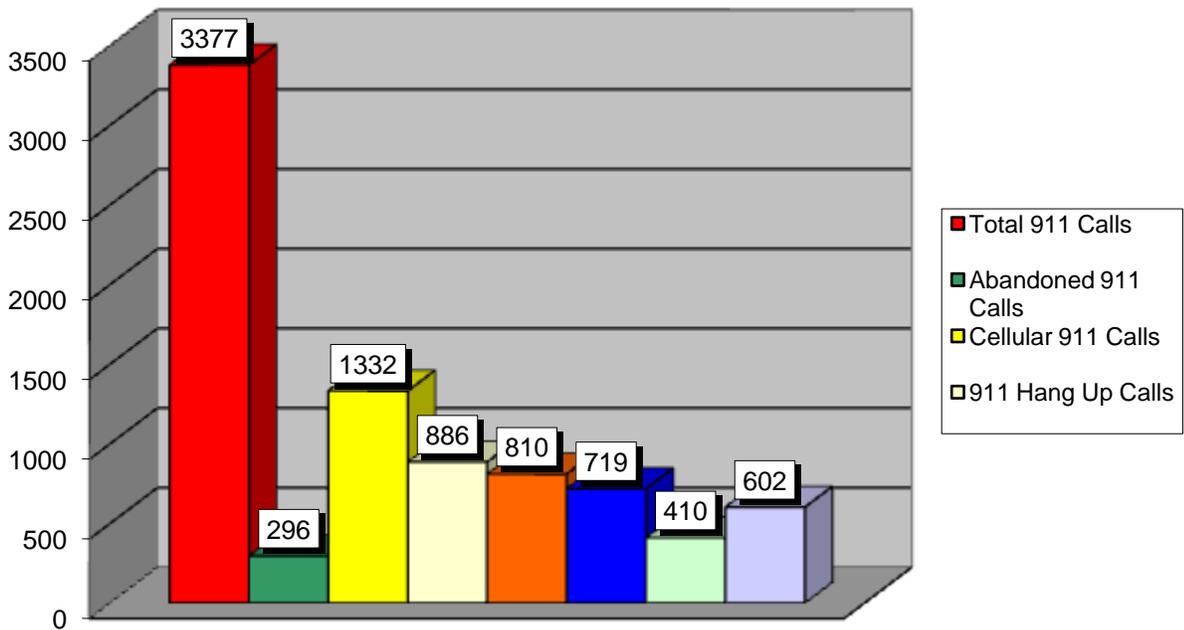
with Danbury PD. Construction and blasting has started for foundation work at both Danbury Hospital and Abbey Woods.

Department Statistical Reports

**Fire Response Breakdown
Dec 21, 2011 to Jan 19, 2012**



**911 Center Activity
Dec 21, 2011 to Jan 19, 2012**



Inspections and permits

Type	Units
Apartments	391
Business	40
Day Care	7
Education	6
Fuel Trucks	2
Hazmat (Tank Install)	0
Health Care	5
Hotel (Rooms)	50
Industrial	0
Liquor	13
Mercantile	28
Misc.	18
Place of Assembly	28
Res. Board & Care	0
Rooming House	1
Service Stations	1
Special Structure	2
Storage	0
TOTAL	592

Topics

Topics	Amount
Abatement/Reports (Hrs.)	46
Blasting Permits	4
Burn Permits	2
Complaints	12
Cont. Ed. Hours	36
Fatal Fires	0
Fire Investigation	12
Fire Safety Prgms.	10
Meetings (Hrs)	12
Office Duty (Hrs.)	187
Orders of Abatement	0
Plan Review (hrs.)	73
Tickets Issued	10
TOTAL HRS.	354

Monthly Breakdown NFIRS Ver 5.0 Coding	
No Report/Incomplete	36
Fires (100-173)	25
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire (200-251)	2

Rescue/EMS (300-381)	390
Hazardous Condition (400-482)	43
Service Call (500-571)	107
Good Intent Calls (600-671)	64
False Alarm/False Calls (700-746)	75
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster (800-815)	0
Special Incident Type (900-911)	1
Total Fire Responses	743
E911 Statistics	
Total 911 Calls	3377
Abandoned 911 Calls	296
Cellular 911 Calls	1332
911 Hang Up Calls	886
Admin Calls Received	810
Police Calls via 911	719
Fire Calls via 911 (CAD 28)	410
EMS Calls via 911 (CAD 29)	602
Daily Average	116.45
Dispatch Incident Statistics	
Total Fire Responses	743
Total EMS Responses	730
Unknown Transport Status	2
ALS Patient (CAD 60)	292
BLS Patient (CAD 61)	296
No Patient (CAD 62)	124
EMS Mutual Aide Requests (CAD 80)	8
EMS Calls Passed to Backup (CAD 81)	8

**** NOTE ****

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