



CITY OF DANBURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
19 NEW STREET
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FIRE DEPARTMENT

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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 and 21 January and details activities of the Department.

Strategic planning has been the focus during this month for the command staff. Utilizing the graduate studies program of the University of New Haven, the department has conducted a survey of department members, volunteers and Career. Additionally members of the community including business leaders, members of the City Council, and religious leaders participated. This effort is designed to give the department an over arching view of the internal and external perceptions of the department within the community. The document to be generated will then be used as a template in developing the goals and to focus the strategy of the department.

There are several concerns for the safety of our community at this time of the year surrounding ice and cold water risks. Ponds and lakes are frozen but the thickness of the ice can vary considerably. We would like to remind residents to be very careful when walking or skating on these water bodies. Never step onto the ice or skate in unknown areas unless the safety of the surface as been determined.

Do not skate alone or without letting someone know where you are going and when you expect to return. This applies too to ice fishing and cross country skiing. Dress warmly, covering exposed skin especially in open windy areas. Frostbite can occur quickly in brisk wind. Exposure to cold water can quickly sap the victim who falls through and the results can be hypothermia and perhaps worse. We hope everyone has a safe winter and please enjoy the outdoors keeping these simple safety tips in mind.

Public Education/Prevention/Public Relations

Tours and preplanning included the new sports dome on Great Pasture Rd., King Street School, Kimberly Place, Army Reserve Ctr., Head Start site, Ives Manor, Abbey Woods, construction at Danbury Hospital

The department hosted the Red Cross Blood Mobile here at headquarters on Martin Luther King Day. The drive was successful, exceeding their hoped for donations.

Suppression/Response Activities of Note

Companies responded to 14 Plumtrees Rd., the Putnam Automotive Group on 6 January. On arrival, there was a propane leak of approximately 300 gallons. This was the result of a faulty valve

on a 1000 gallon tank. A crew from Paraco assisted by Engine 24 crew members was able to minimize flow and eventually cap the leak.

Crews responding 19 Main St. on 8 January, Kimberly Pl. discovered a damaged sprinkler head. The head was damaged during cleaning. The resultant water flow damaged the facility. Engine 22 crew members shut down water at the OS&Y (valve) on sprinkler riser in the control room. The truck company used a hydraulic clamp to compress lateral branch line prior to shutting down the system for the 1st floor. Site staff managed the cleanup and restoration. The unit was unoccupied and was the location of a fire a few weeks earlier.

On 10 January the department responded to 70 Main Street for a woman giving birth. Upon arrival, the doctor said woman was having the child and they just needed us for transport. Baby girl was born without issues in the delivery. We provided a driver for the ambulance and then drove the husbands' car to hospital so he could ride in ambulance with his wife and newest child.

A structure fire occurred on 13 January at 8 Scuppo Rd. This fire resulted when combustibles were placed against an electric heat strip which consequently shorted. E22 contained the fire with E21 as support as other units were responding. The unit experienced considerable fire and smoke damage. 5 persons residing in the unit were relocated by the Red Cross. Illegal sleeping areas were discovered in the basement of both the fire unit and an adjacent unit. 2 fish perished. A young girl smelled smoke and alerted her family, re-entering twice to evacuate other residents after calling 911. We received call via the State Police Department. Our investigation found one smoke detector in the residence, with no batteries in it. DFM Osborne investigated. Mike Dubois represented Building Dept. at the scene. Except for the two fish, no injuries were reported.

Command and Staff Activities

- ISO teleconferences
- School Safety Meetings
- Telestaff Software training
- Strategic planning
- FEMA grant work with Danbury Hospital
- State Labor Management Seminar
- Fire Prevention & Safety Grant development
- State wide Honor Guard Meeting
- Bethel Fire Annual Dinner

Donations

The department has received a donation From Doctor Robert Bedoukian in the amount of \$9300.00. This money is given to the department to send 6 staff officers to the University of Maryland National Fire Service Staff and Command Course in March. This program is considered to be of the highest value for fire service command staff members.

Emergency Medical/ Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez

The Topic for this months' EMS Wednesday is Hypothermia and Cold Weather Emergencies

Haz-Mat

In order to enhance the capability of First Due Response Units to detect a possible volatile organic chemical release during Hazardous Material Responses, the Department has placed Regional Haz-Mat team meters on the career Engine Companies and Truck Company 2. The meters have a Photo Ionization Detector that measures in parts per million and can detect minute amounts of potentially toxic chemicals that can pose a threat to responding units and or the public. These devices will allow the first arriving officer to evaluate the risk during the early phase of field investigations and take the appropriate measures to ensure the safety of the public.

Communications/911 - Patrick Sniffin

The Communications Division has been focused on several items this past month including ongoing efforts in the integration of new software into our processes, improved equipment acquisition and training. The city has hired on a consultant to assist in the software integration of our new Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD) platform and we are looking forward to this collaborative program. The CAD program is NexGen.

Training - Mark Omasta

Firefighter I course: Five of the 13 FF1 students passed all three phases of the State certification exam. Most of the remaining students passed 2 out of 3 sections and will re-test the remaining section to gain their FF1 certification.

There currently 136 Volunteers available for response.

Career Division

Fire School: We took delivery of a Propane Training prop in January. This equipment provides propane fueled fires for various fire scenarios in a controlled manor. We are in the process of installing a fixed propane storage tank at the Facility.

Officer Training: Mandatory Officer training is in progress for all company officers. The first half of this training ended December 20. The second half of the strategy/tactics class will be completed on January 24.

Tours: Crews toured the new West side apartment complex, Abby Woods, which will be ready for occupancy by the end of January.

Elevator Emergency Class: The Ct Fire Academy is presenting the elevator emergency class to all crews starting Jan. 22 through Feb. 5.

Structure Fires: The Training Officer was called out as Safety officer to structures fires on Morgan Rd. and WCSU Grasso Hall, west side campus. A Safety Officer was called in for a fire on Scuppo Rd.

Training Hours for 2012: 12, 616 man-hours of training for calendar year 2012

Meetings/events for the T.O.:

- Jan 2 Ct Fire Instructors monthly meeting
- Jan 8 CME Danbury Hospital
- Jan 14 Meet with new Deferred Comp Rep

- Jan 14 Union meeting
- Jan 17 Bullex company Train the Trainer for new Propane Prop
- Jan 18 Staff Meeting with SWOT Analysis



Danbury Fire Department Ice Rescue Drill

Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

Each of the 4 Gas meters are calibrated and in service. The on board charger from Truck-2 could not be repaired as it was old and parts are no longer available. Kussmaul offered us a replacement unit at 40% off, it has arrived and is awaiting installation. E-22 was out of service last month with regeneration issues. The engine thermostats were defective and were replaced by Detroit Diesel under warranty. The fuel tank in Truck-1 sprung a leak due to corrosion. The tank was removed and repaired by our welder, re-installed by our division and this unit was placed back in service. We are currently trying to accomplish the fire extinguisher changeover. This month we performed required flow tests on all of the departments S.C.B.A's. We have several units out of service for repairs that will be flow tested as they are repaired

Other repairs completed:

- Rebuild Bullet saw damaged at Humphrey's fire.
- Replaced engine block heater in Station 26 generator.
- Replaced battery in 06F2.
- Replace turn signal switch in E-26.
- Repair air compressor governor in Squad-2.
- Repair Generator on Mass Casualty Trailer.

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal - James Johnson

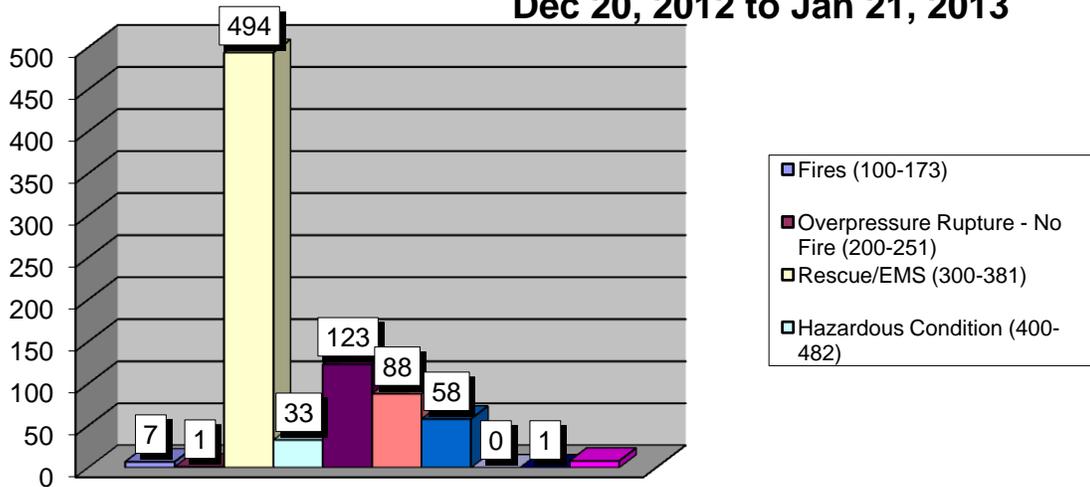
There have been several complaints regarding illegal and un-permitted uses in the city this period. At this writing all matters are resolved. DFM Leach attended the National Fire Academy taking Cultural Competencies in Risk Reduction. DFM Russell is nearing completion on the annual fire poster contest. Recent work includes certificates and winner selection. Deputy Fire Marshals Perry and Russell conducted training on fire extinguishers for employees of the Residence Inn.

On a special note, Deputy Fire Marshal Marilyn Gillotti has assumed the role of acting Fire Marshal during the leave of Fire Marshal Jim Johnson.

Department Statistical Reports

Monthly inspections; 190
 There were no abatement orders written
 6 ticket violations issued

Fire Response Breakdown Dec 20, 2012 to Jan 21, 2013



911 Center Activity Dec 20, 2012 to Jan 21, 2013

