



**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 Interim Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of 21 June through 21 July 2014 and details activities of the Department.

This is the time of year when many of us may be traveling so please be safe when on the road. Vacations and business travel make hotels and motels our home away from home. It is just as important to be prepared and know what you would do in a hotel/motel emergency as it is in your own home.

- Choose a hotel/motel that is protected by both smoke alarms and a fire sprinkler system.
- When you check in, ask the front desk what the fire alarm sounds like.
- When you enter your room, review the posted escape plan.
- Take the time to find the exits. Make sure the exits are unlocked. If they are locked, report it to management right away.
- Keep your room key by your bed and take it with you if there is a fire.
- If the alarms sounds, leave right away, closing all doors behind you. Use the stairs – never use elevators during a fire.
- If you must escape through smoke, get low and go under the smoke to your exit.

If you can't escape:

- Shut off fans and air conditioners.
- Stuff wet towels in the crack around the doors.
- Call the Fire Department and let them know your location.
- Wait at the window and signal with a flashlight or light colored cloth.

On average, one of every 12 hotels or motels reported a structure fire each year. The majority of hotel fire deaths result from fires that started in the bedroom. Cooking equipment is the leading cause of hotel/motel fires.

Public Education / Prevention / Public Relations

Crews toured Martha Apartments on Main Street and the new WCSU Westside Performing Arts Center.

Truck assisted DFMs Bruce and Leach with a presentation to children at 80 West Street. We hosted 6 Tours of HQ for school children.

After taking care of an MVA, FF Arteaga and FF McGee noticed a state trooper was changing her flat tire and they assisted her. D-group assisted the Senior Center in moving 150 chairs from the Old Jail to the Senior Center and also went over all the rope bags in the department, reorganized, re-allocated equipment, and standardized all bags.

The Region 5 Mobile Communications Vehicle was introduced to the crew, as this is a new State Asset that is hosted and housed by the City of Danbury.

DC Meehan attended the New England Fire Chiefs Convention in West Springfield, Mass. Lt. Ryan performed community work with the Appalachian Service Project in the mountains of Virginia. DC Meehan attended a swearing in ceremony at the Torrington Fire Department for 12 new firefighters.

Smoke detector installations continue.

Suppression / Response Activities of Note

On two separate occasions this month, flash flooding occurred across the city and fire units were pressed into service to rescue several motorists stranded in their cars in deep water. Motorists were rescued on West Street, Main Street, and White Street during these sudden downpours. A late night motor vehicle accident on South Street involved a SUV vs. a house. The house was seriously damaged and required our crew to utilize the Rescue truck equipment to shore up the house that was in danger of collapsing.



Command and Staff Activities

- State Wide Emergency Drill
- Lt. Tyskiewicz's Retirement Dinner
- Volunteer Council Meeting
- New Haven Fire Chief Michael Grant's Retirement Dinner
- Retirement Luncheon – John Pirro, Danbury News-Times
- Connecticut Fire Education Committee Meeting
- Monthly Staff Meeting
- Chief Herald's Flag Ceremony at Fire HQ
- Danbury Area Retired Firefighter Meeting

Emergency Medical / HazMat - Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday

The continuing training program EMS Wednesday continues to provide and maintain the emergency medical certification training needed by our First Responders, and this training is scheduled while they are on duty. The topic for the month of July has been Firefighter Rehabilitation.

CO Poisoning Training and Regional Firefighter Rehabilitation Training

Masimo Industries, the maker of the Masimo Rad-57 pulse carbon monoxide oximeter, has agreed to provide training on Carbon Monoxide poisoning and the proper use of the Masimo Rad-57 to the four crews of the Danbury Fire Department on July 23 & 30 and August 6 & 20, 2014. They have also agreed to present a Region wide class on Firefighter Rehabilitation open to all Fire/EMS personnel and that class is being held at Ridgefield Parks and Recreation on Wednesday August 6, 2014 at 6 PM.

Advanced EMT Test

The following Firefighters took and passed their Advanced EMT Certification test with our sponsor Hospital, Danbury Hospital: FF Kennedy, FF Horosky, FF Kovalsky, and D/C Williams.

Communications / 911 - Provisional Communications Supervisor Steven Rogers

See Department Statistical Reports.

Training - Mark Omasta

Volunteer Division

Quarterly

Second quarter training is complete. 105 Volunteer members participated in the standpipe operations training.

Tanker Shuttle Class

King St. Volunteer Station 14 hosted the two day Tanker Shuttle water supply class on July 19 and 20. Day two consisted of a large scale tanker shuttle operation at Lake Kenosia with many Danbury companies as well as neighboring Volunteer Departments participating.

Career Division

Foam Trailer training

All crews are participating in the Foam firefighting refresher and practical skills training with our State at a tire warehouse in Torrington.

Hydrants

The annual hydrant testing program is underway, with the goal to test all 2,100 hydrants in the City by the end of October.

Fairfield County Trauma Recovery

This group is talking to all crews concerning post-traumatic stress, symptoms, treatment, and prevention.

Various drills

Engine and Truck Companies are training with our Technical rescue equipment as well as various drills at our Fire School and other locations.

Meetings/Events for the T.O.:

- Annual Mayor's Cup Benefit Golf Tournament at Richter Park
- Regional Fire School Committee meeting
- Safety Officer – 107 Osborne St. structure fire
- Staff meeting with B group
- Chief Geoffrey Herald retires – Flag ceremony
- Tour of new Elk's Lodge facility on Starrs Plain Rd



Hose drills with "D" group



Confined space at WCSU



Foam Trailer drills



Chief Herald receives flag at Retirement

Apparatus / Equipment - Joe Cavo

The new Special Operations vehicle TAC-1 went into service July 1st and seems to be well equipped and working out well. We did add a cargo net to the rig box in order to hold gear and equipment inside the box while the truck is in motion. Truck-2 suffered a rear tire failure while on Interstate 84. As a result of the blowout, the inner fender was heavily damaged and had to be “altered” in order for this unit to be returned to service. Truck-2 had a Power Take Off failure which caused the ladder not to operate. This was on a weekend and a mechanic call back was required. A defective electrical connector was found and repaired. We had ordered quite a few body parts for Truck-2 that was damaged in an accident some time ago. We took the opportunity while this unit was down to refit and mount two new outrigger covers, one bottle door, electrical outlets, emergency lights and miscellaneous body hardware. The side of this unit looks complete once again. We have received several new four gas meters and are working with the EMS/Haz-Mat Coordinator on mounting solutions for the meter charging stations inside our Apparatus.

Other repairs completed:

- Replaced several coolant hoses and upper radiator hose in E-23
- Replaced turn signal switch in E-23
- Replaced right rear inside tire E-22
- Replaced the batteries in the Decon Unit
- Replaced the transmission in 06F5
- Replaced turn signal switch in E-23
- Replaced coil pack and battery in 03FT (51DA)
- Performed full service, repaired power steering, replaced batteries on E-26
- Performed full service on E-22
- Removed foam pump from State of Connecticut foam unit for rebuilding

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Jim Russell

Inspections

This month we inspected the Ethan Allen Hotel (192 rooms) and several multi-family units for a total of 268 apartments. We also inspected Harrison Square, Kimberly Place, and the Eden Drive apts. There were 7 misc. inspections, 27 liquor inspections, 45 places of assembly, 32 businesses, and 26 educational occupancies. There were 25 health care inspections, most of them at Danbury Hospital. We also did 7 mercantile inspections, and 7 special structures (7 tents).

Danbury Public Schools

We have inspected all but Park Avenue and Mill Ridge Schools, on their annual inspections. These two school renovations are not complete at this time. We will inspect them as they are completed. All other public schools are ready for the new school year.

Fire Investigations

This month we investigated three vehicle fires, three building fires, an outside equipment fire at a nursing home, and a small electrical fire. The three building fires were located at 96 E.Liberty St., 11 Division St., and 26 Homestead Ave.

Plan Reviews

Our team spent 38 hours this month reviewing plans for several projects in the city. Renovations or store fit-outs include the Danbury Mall, Wooster School, and two small renovations at Pembroke Elementary School.

Continuing Education

This month, Bill Weber, Mark Perry, and Gary Bruce have a total of 40 hours of continuing education combined.

Large Projects within the City

Danbury Hospital and Belimo are winding down at this point. Mannkind Corporation is in the beginning of a major renovation which will increase their production capacity by three times.

Department Statistical Reports

Community Risk Reduction

Monthly inspections	652
Abatements issued	2
Violations issued	0
Complaints	8
Fire Investigations	10
Fire Safety Programs	17

Public Safety Answering Point

Total 911 calls	3793
Abandoned 911 calls	370
Cellular 911 calls	2149
Admin calls received	791