



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

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September 28, 2004

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of August 23rd to September 23rd and details some of the activities of the Department.

October serves as Fire Prevention Month. Activities throughout the month are planned to showcase the department's expertise while delivering important messages on fire prevention through education.

The Department's annual awards ceremony and memorial service will be held at Fire Headquarters on October 10th. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30am with the service and awards to begin at 10:15. All Council members and families are invited to attend.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- a. The department participated in several educational program opportunities this month. A wonderful display at the Taste of Danbury generated great interest and a perfect venue to spread our prevention messages.
- b. We also participated in Sharefest, the safety Fair on the Green, the Hispanic Center Festival and a Safety program at Trader Joe's. It becomes increasingly clear that any opportunity to showcase our firefighters and deliver our prevention message is well received. The department is at times overwhelmed with requests to participate in community events. It is extremely motivational to experience the strong

support and interest the community has towards the fire department.

- c. Preplanning activities continued this month with inspections/tours at: Wal-Mart, Marshal's, Westcon Science building, Westcon new dormitory, Clapboard Hill Road, Commerce Drive, Lexington Mews, White Oak Estates, Woodland Hills, Arlington Woods, Wooster School, Republic Foil and Sugar Hollow Volkswagen.
- d. Preplan software is being tested for mobile data apparatus mounted units.
- e. The department has embarked on another cutting edge endeavor. Over the next two months daily classes will be conducted through an agreement with the Ct. Fire Academy to upgrade virtually the entire department to a Hazardous Materials Technician level. The thrust behind this initiative is not to have a one hundred person Haz-Mat team, but rather have officers equipped with the highest level of training available in an effort to make exceptional on scene decisions.
- f. IV Techs participated in Child Abuse forums this month. The information is critical in addressing the legal reporting and response issues of these sensitive calls.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- a. A major fire in a storage barn adjacent to South St. School was fought early this month. While the barn and contents were fully involved upon arrival, firefighters protected all adjacent buildings and exposures. The result of their actions noted damage only to inventory stock while the business and operation was salvaged. No injuries were reported.
- b. A motor vehicle accident proved to be fatal for a truck driver this month. The major accident involved a truck driver on Interstate 84 and a resulting crash that ended on Lake Avenue/Mill Plain Road. The major rescue/extrication call turned to body recovery and Haz-Mat incident as rescuers became aware of the fatality shortly after arrival. Major fire, police and tow company resources were expended to secure the scene and reopen roadways.

- c. An apartment fire which started in the kitchen was quickly extinguished this month. The fire, which produced large volumes of smoke to the downtown area, was handled efficiently. Fire and smoke damage were held to a minimum much to the appreciation of the property owner. The minimal damage is in part a product of the preplanning efforts of firefighters while participating in the "Big Sweep" initiative.

- d. A major life hazard incident was avoided this month with quick action from residents of Crosby Manor and firefighters. A light fixture at Crosby Manor created a hazardous smoke condition on the sixth floor of the elderly complex. Calls to the 911 center a newly opened bridge on West Wooster Street and quick action by firefighters averted tragedy. Firefighters took extra care to comfort residents on each floor during the incident. Mayor Boughton also responded to lend his support and compassion to residents. The facility was host to a prevention/inspection tour last month.

- e. Department Hose testing and Hydrant testing continued in the month of September. The hydrant inspection program will conclude for the season in October. Significant progress has been made this year due to the diligence of the fire and public Utilities Department. Continued funding by the Mayor and Council has resulted in many improvements to the reliability of our fire protection system.

Emergency Medical Services- Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday 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 topic for this month's EMS Wednesday is Respiratory and Airborne Precautions: Influenza, SARS and Emerging Diseases.

Each year, influenza kills more than 30,000 people in the United States alone. In 2003, SARS emerged, sickening at an alarming rate and paralyzing economies. Recently the media has reported the threat of an "overdue" flu pandemic. SARS could be such an outbreak. With cold and Flu season approaching First Responders need to know how to recognize signs and symptoms of infections,

proper treatment modalities and how to protect themselves *from* infection.

The Danbury Fire Department First Responder Program is a key part of the EMS system, cross-trained firefighters that have the knowledge of lifesaving skills are rapidly deployed to the scene of a medical calls, this ability coupled with the Danbury Fire Departments community education programs like "CPR Saturday" has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

EMD

Representatives from our current EMS provider BSI and I have met in order to help the Fire Department Communications center make the transition to Emergency Medical Dispatch. Jim Stead and I have brainstormed on updating the Unicode's currently used by our dispatchers to match the algorithms provided by Powerphone. The target for completion of the updates is by 9/30/04 with submitting of updated EMS responses for approval by Dr Broderick by the first week of October.

Public Access AED

The American Heart Association has initiated a program called Public Access Defibrillation. The goal of this program is to extend the AED's early defibrillation capability to the greatest number of people possible.

The goal of the Danbury Fire Department is to support the idea of public access to defibrillation and increase the survivability of sudden cardiac arrest. The Danbury Fire Department has taken the first step toward the public access of defibrillators in the City of Danbury by placing four units in areas designated as priority areas by the AED committee two years ago. The sites are:

- c. City Hall
- d. King Street Intermediate School
- e. Mill Ridge Primary School
- f. Danbury High School, (one in the nurses office and one purchased by Board of Education in the Athletic Office)

Community Education

At the request of Sacred Heart School a two hour in-service was provided to the teaching staff on accident prevention, how determine whether a playground injury requires further evaluation and how the 911 system works and what to expect when it is activated.

COMMUNICATIONS/911

Dispatchers continue to work with Communications Supervisor Pat Sniffin to enhance the Emergency Medical Dispatch protocols. The initiatives and State mandates complicate response protocols which necessitate input from the medical, fire and communications community.

A Monthly quality assurance program enables supervisors to determine if any changes in policy or training are needed.

TRAINING

- a. Our "Big Sweep" inspection program completed an additional phase this month. As highlighted in the local media this month firefighters are assigned two days a week towards this prevention project. The department continues to ride the wave of not having a serious incident in an inspected facility in the three years that this program has been in place.
- b. Plans for the fire school demolition and construction are completed. The bids for the project have been opened. Bids are currently being evaluated prior to a Board of Awards.
- c. The department is continuing training on live burn vehicle fires and exterior fires at the Plumtrees facility. These drills assist the department in meeting our State mandates.
- d. Our Three new recruits have graduated from the Ct. Fire Academy. At a gala graduation ceremony Danbury was well represented. Danbury had the honor of having the first and second highest scores as well as the overall platoon leader and a squad leader. The chief had the honor of being the main speaker on behalf of the Career Chiefs Association.
- e. 3rd Quarter Training for Volunteer Firefighters is completed. The volunteer component continues to average 80-100 individuals for continuing training and response. Training this quarter involved ladders, SCBA, self-rescue, supply and attack lines.
- f. Firefighters toured the new dormitory at WCSU this month. This new Westside addition features State of the Art protection systems and an increased life hazard potential to the West side of our City.

Apparatus/Equipment Maintenance

- a. All pieces of apparatus are currently in service. The month has seen some major repairs as well as routine preventative service handled by our apparatus division.
- b. Construction of the new Pierce aerial platform truck has begun. Delivery remains firm for the beginning of the year (05).
- c. All breathing apparatus cylinders have been serviced and hydrostatic testing is complete.

Good of the Organization

- a. The Exchange Club of Danbury honored Lt. John Gillotti as the Firefighter of the year at their September meeting. John a 28-year veteran of the Department was selected for his enduring tenacity and devotion to his firefighters.
- b. The renovation of the bunk area of fire headquarters has been completed. Fire Department and Public Buildings personnel have worked hard to paint and redesign this area. Savings in the use of State bid contracts helped stretch the dollars available for this overdue project.
- c. Boehringer Ingelheim and the Olive Garden catered meals of appreciation to firefighters this month. The sincerity that these businesses exhibited to our personnel was deeply appreciated.
- d. The department participated in the 911-memorial dedication ceremony on September 11th. It was a moving tribute for all in attendance.
- e. Firefighters continued to participate in our juvenile fire setter intervention program with several interviews this month.

Dates of Importance:

October - Fire Prevention Month

October 10th - Annual Memorial Mass & Awards Ceremony
Fire Headquarters

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Fires	9
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	2
Rescue/EMS	314
Hazardous Condition	48
Service Calls	29
Good Intent Calls	66
False Alarm/False Calls	79
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	1
Special Incident Type	0
No Report/Incomplete	24

Total Fire Calls..572.....

For the month, the City Ambulance Service responded to 779 Emergency Medical Calls. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Total EMS responses	779
No patient EMS Calls	131
BLS Patient Calls	365
ALS EMS Calls	283
EMS Mutual Aid Requests	25
EMS Calls passed to Back-up	31

The total calls into the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center for the month were 3138 with a daily average of 98.06 calls per day. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Fire Response Calls	572
EMS Response calls.	779
Abandoned Calls	445

911 Hang Ups	503
Admin Calls Received	869
Cellular 911 Calls	1089

Note - Since multiple 9-1-1 calls are received for many responses, call volume is reflected as a total. Multiple calls received are recorded on individual fire reports and not on CAD generated totals.

Attached please find graphic displays and the Fire Response Breakdown, Company Response, Volunteer Company Call and Response Statistics, and EMS Transport Activity Statistics for the reporting period.

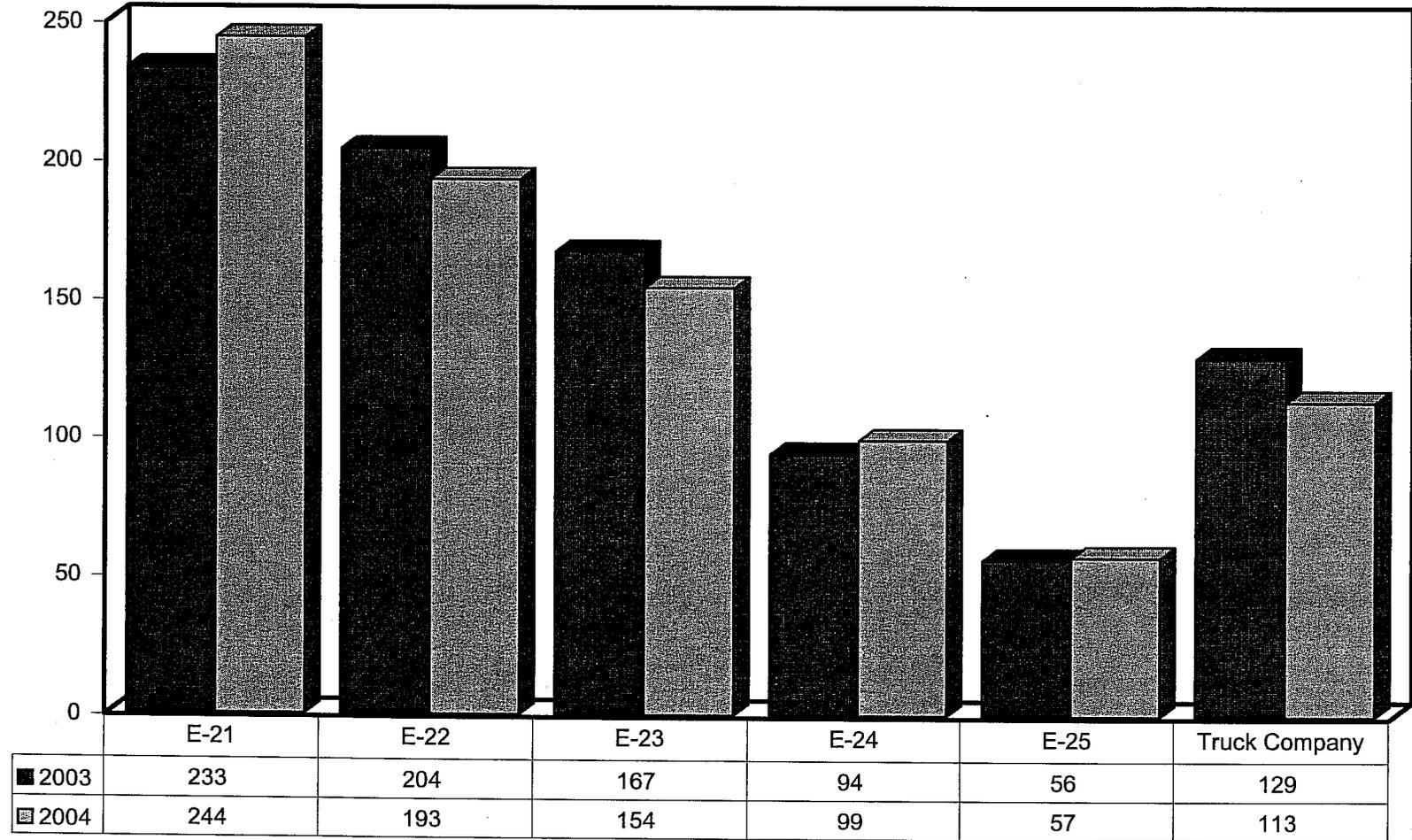
If additional information or clarification is needed, please contact me directly.

Respectfully submitted,



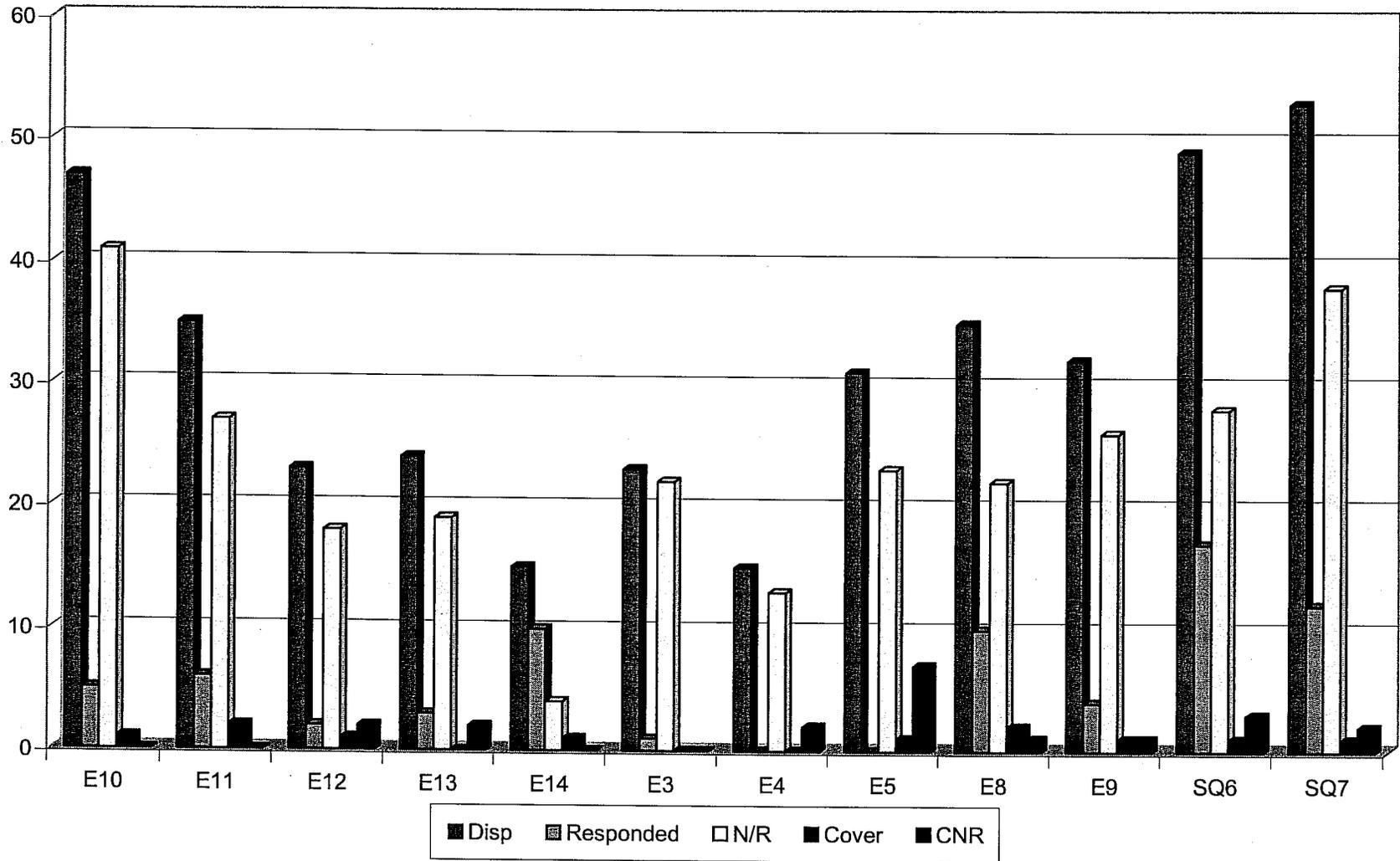
Peter J. Siecienski
Fire Chief

Danbury Fire Department
September Company Response Statistics

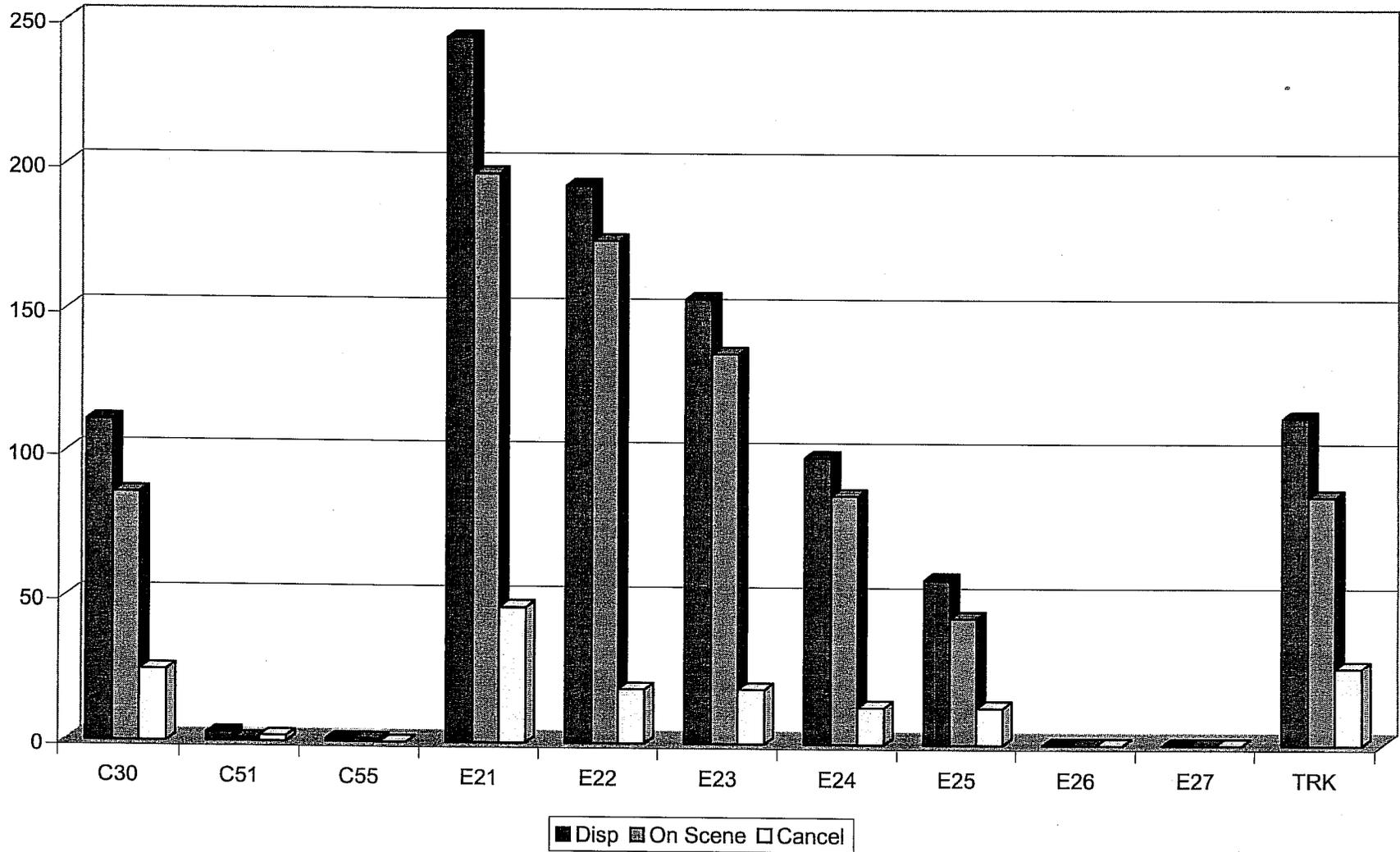


DANBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE RESPONSES									
	September Response Statistics								
	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response Total	No Response Total	% of Response			
E-3	23	0	0	1	22	4%			
E-4	15	0	2	0	13	13%			
E-5	31	1	7	0	23	26%			
S-6	49	1	3	17	28	43%			
S-7	53	1	2	12	38	28%			
E-8	35	2	1	10	22	37%			
E-9	32	1	1	4	26	19%			
E-10	47	1	0	5	41	13%			
E-11	35	2	0	6	27	23%			
E-12	23	1	2	2	18	22%			
E-13	24	0	2	3	19	21%			
E-14	15	1	0	10	4	73%			
Totals	382	11	20	70	281	26%			

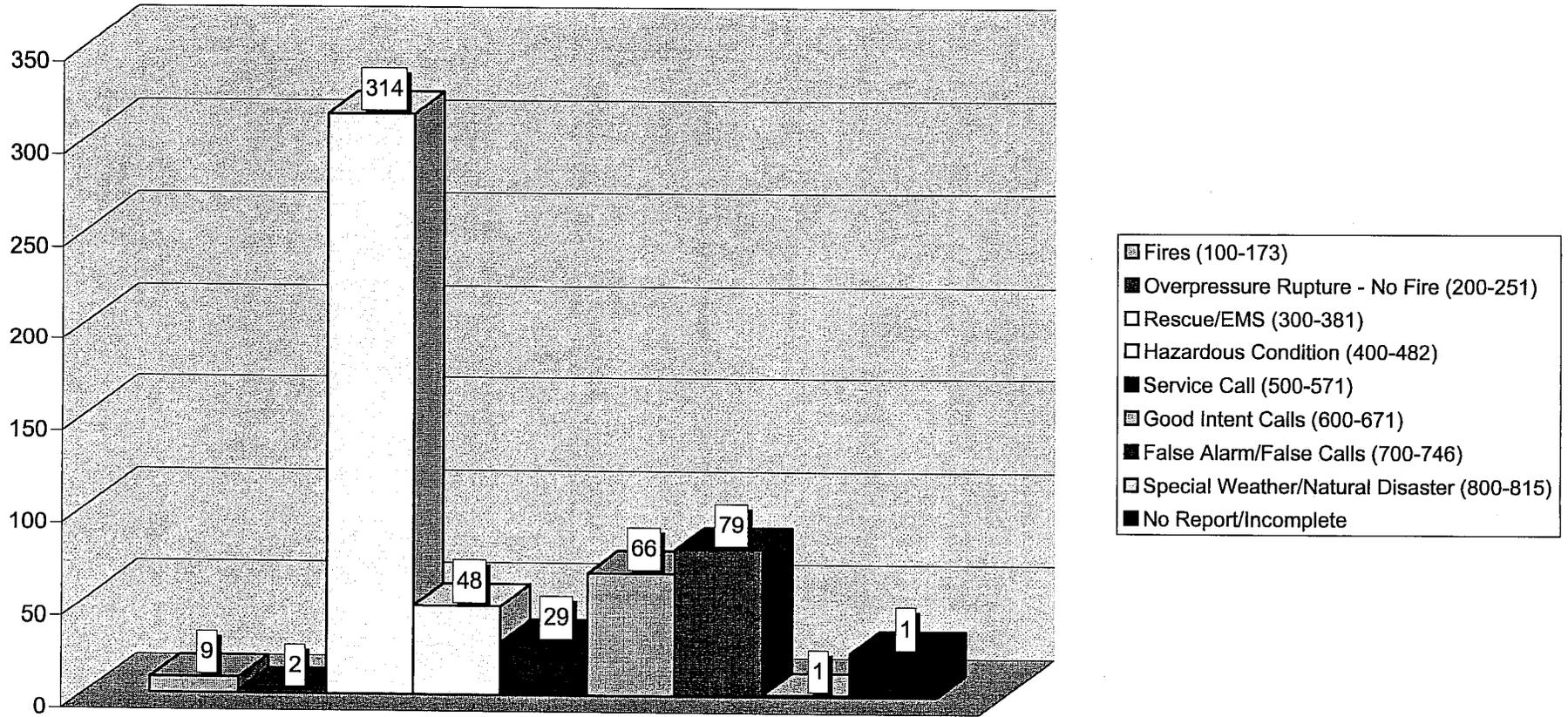
Volunteer Call Counts August 23, 2004 to September 23, 2004



Career Company Response August 23, 2004 to September 23, 2004

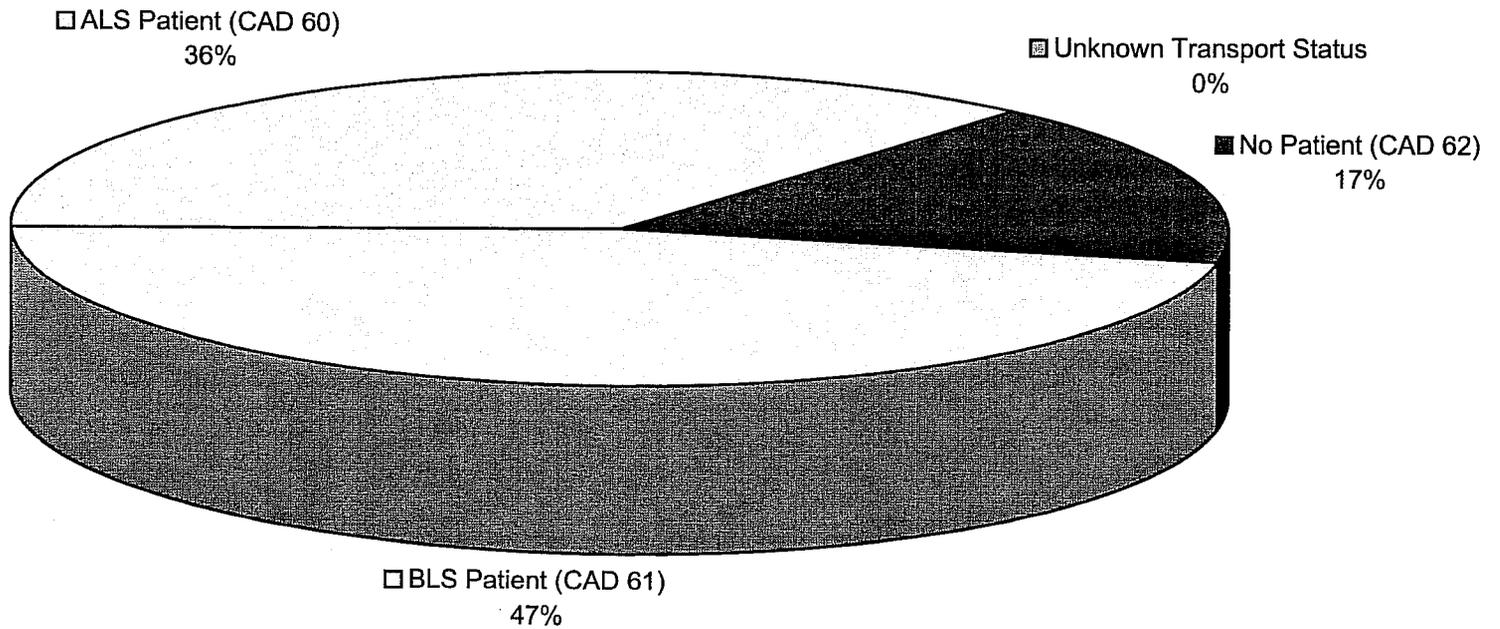


Fire Response Breakdown August 23, 2004 to September 23, 2004



EMS Transport Activity

August 23, 2004 to September 23, 2004



911 Center Activity August 23, 2004 to September 23, 2004

