



CITY OF DANBURY

FIRE DEPARTMENT

19 NEW STREET

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

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Fire Chief

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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 26 May through 30 June and details activities of the Department.

We began our annual hydrant testing in May. If you see the trucks on the road in your neighborhood we are just making sure that the hydrants perform. The tests we do are to check the functioning of the hydrant. Very little water is actually flowed. In the event a hydrant is deficient in some manner, the water department is notified and repairs are made. Through frequent and direct cooperation with the water department, this program has proven highly effective in discovering issues and correcting the problems before they become critical.

Although it is after the Fourth of July, many fireworks are still available. Please use any fireworks in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and never allow young children to light or carry any fireworks.

Despite the frequent wet weather we are in summer conditions. Please take note of the weather and if you are planning to be outside please be safe. Wear appropriate clothing when grilling and using fire pits. Wear sunscreen as appropriate and proper protective gear such as bicycle helmets. Have a happy and safe summer!

Good of the Organization

Congratulations to Firefighter Shari and Tim Gies and the family on their new addition, Katherine Michelle. She was 7 pounds 14 ounces, 20 inches long, born on June 14th. Shelly, Jr! Everyone is doing well.

Dates of Importance

11 July, our second annual Fire Service Day. 9 AM through 2 PM. Come to Fire Headquarters on New Street and see the latest in equipment. Members of the Volunteer and Career contingents will be available for demonstrations and questions. We plan to have a “hands on” fire extinguisher demonstration as well as displays and vehicle tours.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Tours for the month have included Kingswood Kitchens, Immanuel Lutheran Church

There were tours of HQ presented to the following groups; South St. School (35 4th graders), Little Friends Preschool (12 five year olds), Hayestown School (60 3rd graders), Roberts Ave. School (60 various elementary) and Broadview Middle School (30 7th graders).

Assistant Chief Keenan has been meeting with DFM Rao and Boehringer Ingelheim representatives on a current construction project. AC Keenan, T.O Omasta, EMS Supervisor Rodriguez and the Ridgefield FD Chief have also met with Boehringer representatives and the staff of the Vivarian Building. This is to discuss response concerns to the facility.

The Headquarters companies hosted 7 students from the Wooster School summer program to assist the firefighters in their daily work. The students washed the headquarters apparatus.

The Truck Company assisted the Deputy Chief with a presentation to 34 students who are participating in the summer science program at Immaculate High School. Hydraulics and geometry were the topics. This was done as part of the STEM program (science, technology, engineering and math)

Lt. Daly presented a Headquarters tour and talk to 60 third graders from Pembroke Elementary School as part of their “History of Danbury” walking tour.

FF Zaniewski gave a talk on firefighting to a first grade class at Bungay Elementary School in Seymour.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES OF NOTE

Units responded to a major natural gas main rupture at a construction site at the intersection of Benson and Ridgebury Roads. This incident occurred on 15 June and involved many resources of the city. Lasting for nearly six hours the situation required evacuation of more than 100 people from neighboring businesses and homes. It also required coordination of the school board to notify parents and the bus company to safely stage and care for several bus loads of students. This incident utilized our HAZMAT training and equipment to assist Yankee Gas

crews. All responders worked together to cap the break and bring the incident to a safe close.

An MVA occurred on Lake Ave. Ext. in which a man received non life-threatening injuries. Due to the situation he was in need of extrication to minimize risk of further injury or pain. A full extrication response provided for multiple tools which were used to remove both passenger side doors including the post separating the two. Although the victim could have been removed from the driver's side, the more deliberate approach provided for better customer service. The operation was explained to the man's daughter, who was the driver. She was clearly appreciative of the consideration given her father.

A hazardous Material response was initiated when an abandoned 55 gallon drum was discovered behind the dumpster at the rear of Stop and Shop on Newtown Rd. E24 was notified of the situation by via a walk-in report from a Hawley employee. Reportedly the drum had been there for approximately two and a half weeks. The city Health Dept. was notified and Dan Baroody responded. When he discovered that there were no labels and could not determine whether or not there was a leak, he called the FD and requested assistance. E24, E23, C30 and HM1 responded. The crew was able to safely classify the contents of the drum as a petroleum product with some oxidizer risk. It was slightly acidic and at ambient temperature. The product filled the drum and when pressure was applied to the lid, some of the product pushed out through a rust spot in the lid, was colored like olive oil and did not mix with water that it contacted on the lid. A representative of the State DEP arrived on scene and was pleased with the fact that reliable information was gathered prior to her arrival.

FIRE MARSHAL - Jim Johnson

Inspections/Activities			
Place of Assembly:	34	Abatements/Reports (hrs):	49.5
Educational:	6	Issued in Fire Zones:	4
Business:	20	Fire Investigations:	17
Storage:	1	Fatal Fires:	0
Health Care:	1	Liquor Inspections:	3
Industrial:	3	Blasting Permits:	2
Mercantile:	19	Complaints	30**
Residential Board & Care:	0	Plan Review (hrs)	44.5
Hotel (units):	87	Fire Prevention Prgs.8	
Apartments:	47	Orders of Abatement:	3 (UNIT)
Rooming Houses:	1	** Resolved or in process.	
Day Care:	1	Some of these complaints originate with the UNIT.	
Misc. Inspections	30		
Special Structures:	2		
Office Duty (hrs):	96.5		
Burn Permits	3		

We continue to find and address illegal occupancies thru UNIT inspections. There were 6 inspections for unsafe occupancy (basement/attic): all situations have been resolved or are being processed. This months Fire Prevention consisted of numerous programs for different groups. At this time of year we are stressing forest fire dangers and non-working smoke detectors. We also presented prevention programs and fire extinguisher training for local business people.

The Bureau completed 21 hrs of continuing education for re-certification for Deputy Fire Marshals. Fire Marshal Johnson and Deputy Fire Marshal are working with HVCEO to get support for our Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Coalition. Both have attended several meetings with a great amount of interest shown by HCVEO.

This years Babysitter class was held on June 27th at Danbury Hospital. Once again the program was well attended. This was the 25th year of the Fire Departments' and Hospital partnership. The Hospital has proved to be a valuable partner and with the time and expertise given by the Danbury Firefighters the program continues to be a great success. The estimated number of graduates is 2250.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/HAZ MAT - Rey Rodriguez

Public Access AED:

Two of the Automatic External Defibrillators that the Danbury Fire Department has deployed in the Public School system in Danbury needed to be serviced. The one at the Danbury High School needed a new circuit board and the one at Rogers Park Middle School required a new battery and software update.

Emergency Medical Technician- Intermediate Class:

Firefighters Justin Bierbower, Gary Bruce, Adam Horosky, Joe Kovalsy and Shawn McGee are in the process of completing the EMT-Intermediate class sponsored by Danbury Hospital. This Intermediate Class has been much harder and more demanding than others offered previously. With an enhanced and challenging curriculum, knowledgeable instructors and case studies, Danbury Hospital has raised the class to a higher level. This program has been an excellent opportunity for members of our Department to interact with local Paramedics in a classroom setting. We usually interact with each other only on scene when working with the ambulance. This face to face classroom contact greatly enhances the relationship between the Firefighters and our EMS compatriots.

Bi-annual EMS certification audit:

The June audit of our EMS providers' files insures that all of our EMS providers' certifications remain current and the proper information is submitted to the State

of Ct. for the renewal of our EMS Certificate of Operations. This information is utilized to generate the Department EMS fiscal year status report.

Region Five Haz-Mat Team

The Mutual aid agreement creating the Region 5 Haz Mat team is complete and the team is now operational.

Communications/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Equipment: On June 18th the low band transmitter that has been problematic was replaced by technicians from Northeastern Communications. This two channel transmitter/receiver combination replaces the main source of radio paging that has been in place since the middle 1980's. In conjunction with this installation the receivers that support field operations are being tuned to provide optimum range from portable radios. Due to the inclement weather a trip to the site on Spruce Mountain was not safe and will be rescheduled as soon as possible.

Further inspections of radio equipment indicated that additional work may be needed to correct a timing issue with the cross-band repeaters used to allow better portable radio usage. Currently a 1 to 2 second delay occurs; this may be due in part to a mix of older and new technologies. Northeastern Communications who did the base transmitter installation has indicated this problem can be resolved.

Training: Monthly dispatcher training continues with another 55 hours of Continuing Dispatch Education. This month we are discussing the impact of services like On Star and of Fords' '911 Assist' on dispatch operations using training materials provided by Ford and GM.

Two more relief dispatchers' voices are now heard over the airwaves. FF Sean Wanat and FF Doug Zaniwski will be used as dispatchers on their respective crews for fill in duties. With other dispatchers these Firefighters are filling a vital spot in our Table of Organization with enthusiasm.

Training - Mark Omasta

Airport –Rescue Firefighters

Airport Firefighting requires specialized training to meet FAA requirements. We brought the 40 hour Airport Firefighter course to Danbury the last week in May. A combination of 14 Firefighters and Officers successfully completed the class and received this FAA Airport Firefighter Certification. This will be our specialized Airport/Rescue group and will be required to receive annual refresher training including a certified live burn.

Volunteer Quarterly Training

Quarterly training is being conducted this month with the OSHA mandated Annual Haz Mat refresher as the main course topic. The Volunteer division is also getting a presentation on Health and Safety from The Foundation for Wellness Professionals, Inc. a national, non-profit organization. Dr. Markowitz

and his staff from the Danbury office of Physicians Health and Injury center are providing the Seminars.

Firefighter I

The 22 Firefighter I students completed their CT State certification testing in early June. Eight students successfully completed ALL sections of testing. The remaining 14 individuals will retake the section(s) of the written exam that scored below the passing grade. The new NFPA standard for Firefighter I includes a large Hazardous Materials component which was the primary issue requiring re-testing.

Classroom Remodel

The major renovation project to our Headquarters classroom started in early June and is nearing completion. The project includes new carpet, ceiling tiles, lighting, furniture, HVAC system, and a state of the art audio visual system. Most of the work is being done on a voluntary basis by our many talented firefighters. This project is funded by a generous donation from Bedoukian Research Inc. This donation was made under the aegis of the State Neighborhood Assistance Act.

Fire Training Facility and School, Plumtrees Rd:

The fire school facility was utilized this period for vehicle extrication drills for both Career and Volunteer Companies. Departments from Brewster, Botsford, and Brookfield rented the facility for live training burns. The Modzelewski Towing Company provided a trailer and vehicles for a combined drill with our department that involved a simulated accident between a tractor trailer and a car. Fire Department crews worked with the Modzelewski crews during this exercise. Valuable knowledge was gained concerning each others equipment and capabilities in heavy rescue situations. We want to thank "Boomer" and Lane from Modzelewski Towing for their expert assistance. The Modzelewski company also delivered a concrete tank to the Fire School (donated by the FCI) to be used for a Confined Space Prop.

Chemistry of Hazardous Materials Class

We are hosting this 10 day- 80 hour National Fire Academy Course which is geared toward Firefighters who respond to Haz Mat Incidents. This is an intense, demanding class. Colleges will grant 3 credit hours to students who successfully complete the course. The class is being held at the Miry Brook Volunteer Station who generously offered to host the class during our classroom renovation.

Acquired Structure

The City of Danbury and the Airport Administrators made available a structure on Miry Brook Road for our department prior to its scheduled demolition. All crews took advantage of this training opportunity and conducted various hands on evolutions at the site.

Mock Crash scenarios at Abbott Tech and Danbury High

Danbury firefighters volunteered their services at a Mock Vehicle Crash held for the Henry Abbott Tech Students and a second for Danbury High. Lt. Lorinda Arconti again organized these very successful annual events

New Driver/Operators

Firefighters Jordon Sherman and Paul Perrotti successfully completed the requirements for Aerial Driver/Operator.

Meetings/Events:

- Participated in the Ridgefield Fire Dept. Golf Tournament (fund raiser) June 3 where a member of our group, Firefighter Greg Korotash scored a hole-in-one!
- Attended the CT Fire Instructors meeting/tour at Bradley field on June 10
- Attended the Westerners Opening breakfast on June 5 (Amber Room)
- Attended classes at the CT Fire Academy June school, June 3
- Participated as a panel member for the testing of applicants for the position of Training Captain, Greenwich Fire Dept on June 23

Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

Engine 9 was fit tested this past week. This testing is required for OSHA compliance in the use of SCBA in fire suppression. With this we have completed the fit testing for both the Career and Volunteer Divisions for 2008/2009.

We received the new waterway for Truck-2 from Pierce and are hoping to complete the installation this week. Once again it was necessary to repair the Jenny Road gate and return it to operation. The gate was offline due to the major gas leak at Benson Road.

Other repairs completed:

- Serviced several staff cars this month and replaced the windshield in one of them.
- Replaced the switch for the front suction in E-21 as well as the cab lift motor.
- Repaired an antifreeze leak in E-22.
- Repaired the rear passenger side door in E-26
- Replaced the battery in MP28
- Replaced the horns in the 01CT
- Performed a brake inspection on R-1
- Replaced a 2" nipple in the pump for the forward cross-lay of R-1
- Replaced an o-ring on a hydraulic valve on Truck -1

Both members of the Apparatus Division recently had an opportunity to attend the June Fire School at the State Fire Academy in Windsor Locks. Apparatus Supervisor Cavo was recertified as a Field Level Technician for Scott Air Packs and Mechanic Beers was newly certified. The members of the division attended a training seminar that was sponsored by the State Mechanics Association in New Haven that began the process for Mechanic Beers to become a Certified Brake Inspector.

The Departments BioSystem meters have been span gas calibrated. All of the department's meters are fully functional. Our SCBA'S are for the most part functional. As is expected, we regularly have two or three units a week that are removed from service due to mechanical issues. Generally, these are repaired and returned to service.

Monthly Statistical Reports

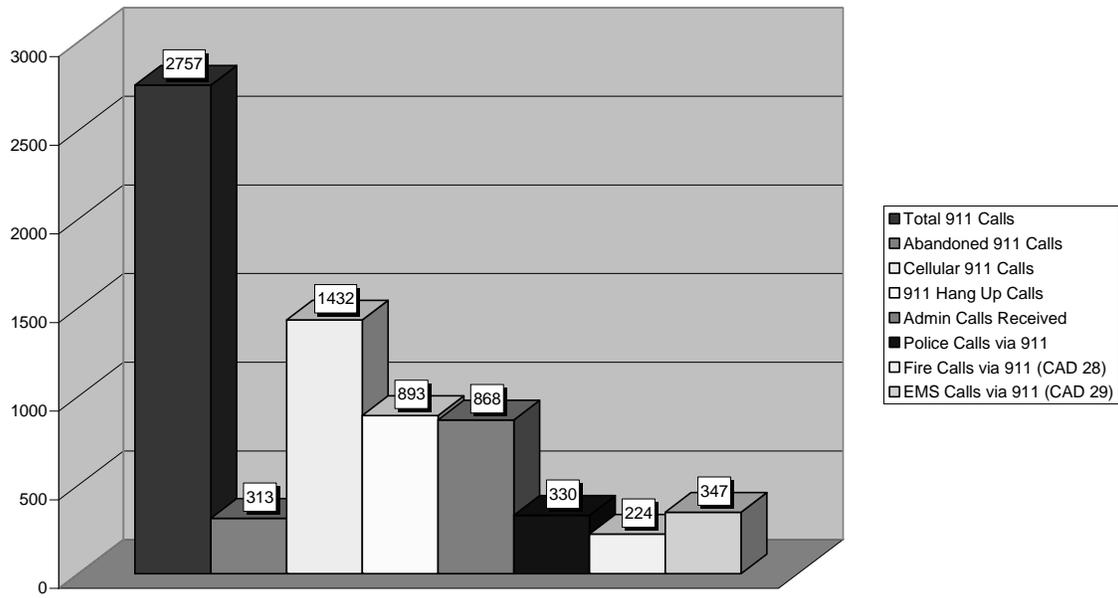
Dispatch Summary

Hazardous Condition (400-482)	28
Service Call (500-571)	71
Good Intent Calls (600-671)	50
False Alarm/False Calls (700-746)	88
Special Weather/Natural Disaster (800-815)	0
Special Incident Type (900-911)	1
No Report/Incomplete	3
Total Fire Responses	626
E911 Statistics	
Total 911 Calls	2757
Abandoned 911 Calls	313
Cellular 911 Calls	1432
911 Hang Up Calls	893
Admin Calls Received	868
Police Calls via 911	330
Fire Calls via 911 (CAD 28)	224
EMS Calls via 911 (CAD 29)	347
Daily Average	91.90
Dispatch Incident Statistics	
Total Fire Responses	626
Total EMS Responses	765
Unknown Transport Status	0
ALS Patient (CAD 60)	337
BLS Patient (CAD 61)	303
No Patient (CAD 62)	125
EMS Mutual Aide Requests (CAD 80)	5
EMS Calls Passed to Backup (CAD 81)	20

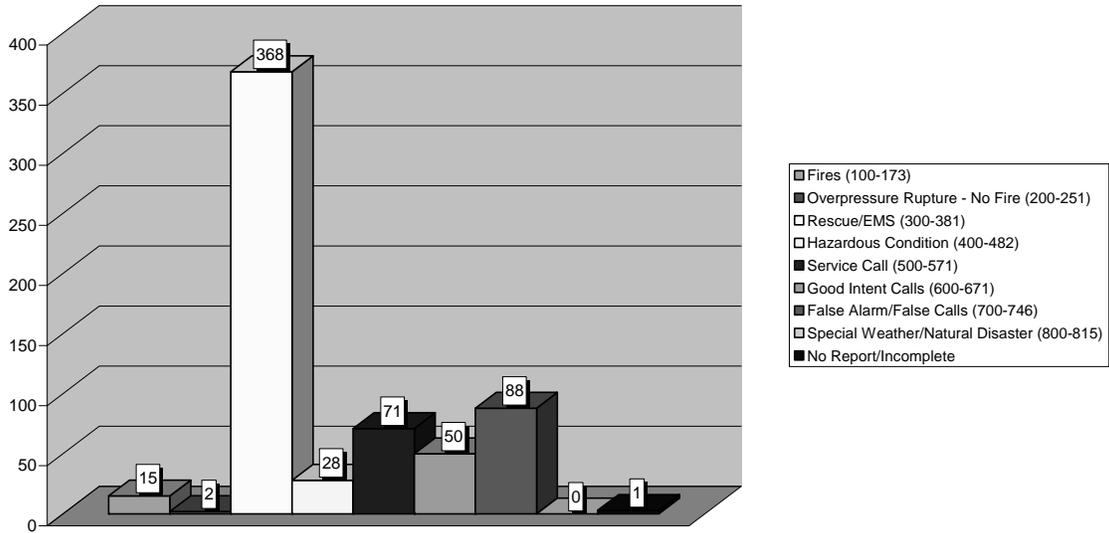
**** NOTE ****

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

**911 Center Activity
May 21 to June 21, 2009**



**Fire Response Breakdown
May 21 to June 21, 2009**



Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Herald, Chief