



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

Peter J. Siecienski, Chief
(203)796-1550
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June 28, 2005

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of May 23rd to June 26th and details some of the activities of the Department.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- ❑ The department participated in the Nationwide "Stand down for Safety Day" on the 21st of the month. The stand down day was backed by the IAFC, IAFF and 14 other fire related organizations. This year has been an exceptionally high year for injuries and line of duty deaths in the Fire Service. The object of the day was for each Department to look at their safety procedures and practices and improve them if necessary.
- ❑ Held class orientation and monitoring for staff at "The Gardens" in conjunction with Fire Marshal Office. We held a practical exercise with a live burn.
- ❑ E-24 conducted a Fire Department History tour for a third grade class from Park Ave. School
- ❑ Sixty third graders from Pembroke School toured Headquarters. We continue to do several walk in tours from the public at all the Fire Stations. All the firefighters enjoy these opportunities to meet the public and instruct them on fire prevention and safety.

- Other demonstrations were done by E-23 which visited a day care center on Federal Rd. E-25 did a presentation to a first grade class at the Mill Ridge Primary School. The Truck Company demonstrated the new Truck 1 at the Mall and at Deep's market.
- B Group met with Sue Tomaino from the Senior Center. They showed her and some of her members Headquarters. They explained the role of firefighters and showed them some of the equipment we use. They presented B Grp. With a DVD of the day they went to the Senior Center and showed them the new Truck 1.
- Pre-incident planning continued with on site inspections on The Mall, Danbury Square Mall, Lexington Mews, Shepard Hill Condos, New Fire School, Avalon Danbury East, Crystal Bay Condos, Audi/VW/Porsche Dealerships, Hatters Park complex, and Water Treatment plant on Peck Rd.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- The fire department fought a structure fire in a house at 7 Clapboard Ridge Rd. Upon arrival the attic was completely involved in flames. The fire was brought under control with damage to the attic and roof. Smoke and water damage occurred on the other two floors. There were no reported injuries to occupants or firefighters.
- There was a tree rescue at a property located on Forty Acre Mtn. Rd. this month. The incident was a challenging rescue of a man who had been injured when a limb he was cutting went the wrong way and pinned him momentarily. He was trapped approximately 45 ft. up in the tree. Firefighters climbed up the tree and secured the cut limb to the main tree trunk. They put the victim in a harness and were able to lower him to the ground without any further injury. Miraculously, the victim suffered only ligament damage and bruises
- C group rescued 4 ducklings out of a storm drain that they had fallen into after being pursued by a hawk in downtown Danbury. None of the ducklings were considered ugly.
- An injured hiker at Bear Mt. Reservation had to be carried out over a mile when he injured his leg. The rescue

highlighted the department's difficulties in deep wooded areas.

- o Firefighters continue the annual hydrant-testing program this month. This joint effort with the Public Utilities department is designed to ensure operational functionality of City hydrants

Emergency Medical Services/Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday

The continuous training program EMS Wednesday is designed to meet EMS recertification requirements of the Danbury Fire Departments First Responder program. These classes held while Firefighters are on duty, ensure firefighters current with prehospital care techniques and to maintain sharp practical skills.

This month's topic has been recognizing the signs and symptoms of Child Abuse.

As mandated reporters, Conn. State Statue requires Firefighters/EMS First Responders to report suspicion of child abuse or injuries that do not correspond to the explanation of how the injury occurred. The Dept. of Children and Families provided a guest speaker on this topic to insure that out personnel are well informed on what to look for in these situations and the responsibilities placed upon them.

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

EMS/Haz-Mat Coordinator Rodriguez attended a six-day Natl. Fire Academy course hosted by the Conn. Fire Academy June Fire School in Windsor Locks. This course focused on applying the risk management model to health and safety aspects of emergency service operations, including program management, day-to-day operations, and incident safety. Content areas included firefighter and emergency services fatality and injury problems, the risk management process, safety responsibilities of department members, regulations, standards and policies affecting emergency services, safety and appropriate documentation and record keeping pertaining to firefighter health and safety.

Sat. June 18th the Danbury Westerners had their annual free youth baseball clinic at W.C.S.U. Westside Campus. EMS/Haz-Mat Coor. Rodriguez volunteered his services to man the first aid and rehab station.

COMMUNICATIONS/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Mobile Data Terminals

Progress continues on upgrades and corrections to the Mobile Data System. The mobile message switch server was returned from THE last week. This system was being configured to the new software and the vendor performed testing.

Over the next two weeks further visits by the technicians are scheduled to perform local installations and testing, user training and assist with other needed functions.

The planned re-activation date is set for Monday July 17th. With this activation both departments will be using new interface and faster modem technologies that should eliminate the problems of the past.

Computer Updates

Currently the computers in the Fire Department sub-stations are being re-configured for DSL access. When these machines are completed the officers in the sub-stations will be able to enjoy the same speed and security benefits as Headquarters

Dispatcher Training

Relief dispatchers have been scheduled for Emergency Medical Dispatch training to be held at W.C.S.U., Midtown for August 22-24

Additional slots for the State Certification and EMD class have been reserved to accommodate candidates that recently took the Dispatchers promotional exam.

In house reviews of EMS calls are being done for all crews. These reviews are a required component of EMD

Radio Equipment

The bid process for the fixed-site repeater system is underway. Through the Fires Grant process monies were received to upgrade existing infrastructure. Vendors have inspected current equipment and have evaluated the bid spec. Upon completion of the bid process the work of installing the new equipment and reviewing procedures and policies should be fairly timely.

These fixed site repeaters will provide an immediate measure of safety to responders.

Training - Jim Thorne

Helped to prepare material so that the Department could participate in National Stand Down Day for Safety.

All crews worked with the new Cutteredge Diamond saw. The saw blade allows us to cut through rock, cement, glass, and steel while not destroying the blade. The blade is on loan to us for 45 days to see if it is worth purchasing.

Many in the Department spent time studying for the Oral Exams for the positions of Lieutenant and Dispatcher. Which took place this month.

Three Volunteers in the 2005 Firefighter I class passed the written test.

The volunteers are going through the 2nd quarter training. Seven Companies have completed the training with three other companies scheduled for this Wednesday. Training will finish up Sunday July 10th.

Apparatus/Equipment Maintenance

New hose racks were delivered to E-23 and assembled. New hose was delivered to fill the racks.

All the new modems are in the vehicles and according to Pat Sniffin the MDT should be up and running by July 17th.

This month was air conditioning month. We retrofitted the two 93 Cavaliers from R12 to R134a Freon. Eng. 24 needed a new fan and Freon. The 95 Tahoe A/C was also repaired.

We received 30 new batteries for the HT1250 radios.

The Prime Mover vehicle should be delivered shortly. The vehicle will be used to move the Dec-Con trailer and assist the department in various responses.

Good of the Organization

Local # 801 held their annual golf tournament at Richter Park on the 6th of June. Proceeds from the tournament benefit the Union's Scholarship Fund and the Ct. Burn Camp. The weather was excellent and a good time was had by all.

Two former Captains of the Danbury Fire Dept. passed away this month. Capt. Jack Roche retired in 1983 and Capt. William David retired in 1988. We in the Danbury Fire Dept. extend our deepest sympathies to each of their families.

Members of the Department marched in the Memorial Day Parade. After the parade we had our annual picnic at Headquarters with the families of the marchers and those on duty.

Testing was conducted to establish promotional lists for Dispatcher and Lieutenant positions.

Members of the department participated in the City Grand Prix race.

Members of the Department attended the Retirement Dinner for Capt. Bill Cesareo of the Wilton Fire Dept. Bill is moving to N.C. Over the years Bill has taught several St. of Conn. Classes to our members. We all wish Bill many healthy years.

Dates of Importance

July 20th - City of Danbury Summer Employee Picnic

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Fires	24
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	3
Rescue/EMS	351
Hazardous Condition	38
Service Calls	36
Good Intent Calls	46
False Alarm/False Calls	75
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	9
Special Incident Type	1
No Report/Incomplete	2

Total Fire Calls..585.....

For the month, the City Ambulance Service responded to 731 Emergency Medical Calls. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Total EMS responses	791
No patient EMS Calls	114
BLS Patient Calls	339
ALS EMS Calls	278
EMS Mutual Aid Requests	6
EMS Calls passed to Back-up	37

The total calls into the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center for the month were 3440 with a daily average of 122.86 calls per day. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Fire Response Calls	585
EMS Response calls.	791
Abandoned Calls	499
911 Hang Ups	658
Admin Calls Received	814
Cellular 911 Calls	1253

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.

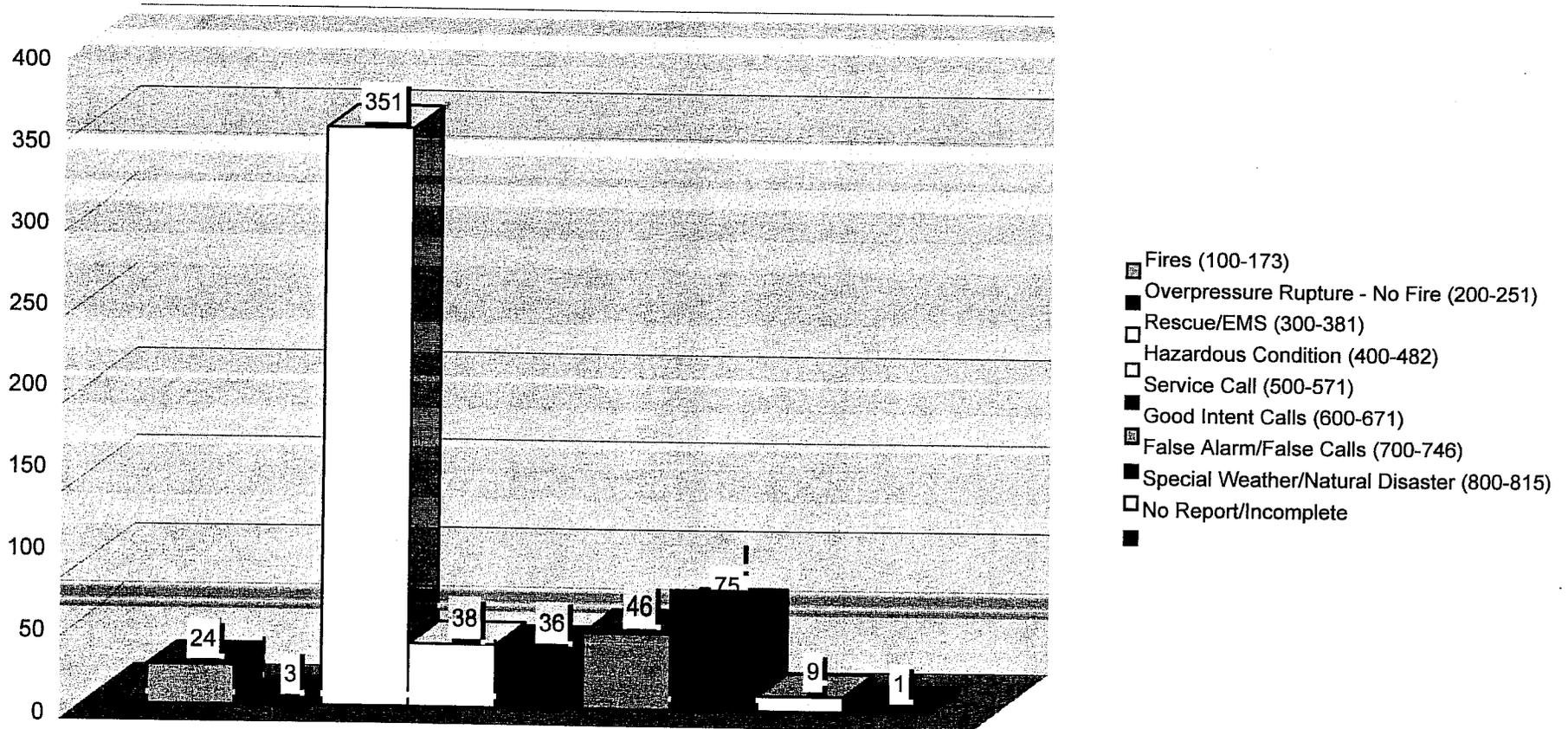
If additional information or clarification is needed, please contact me directly.

Respectfully submitted,

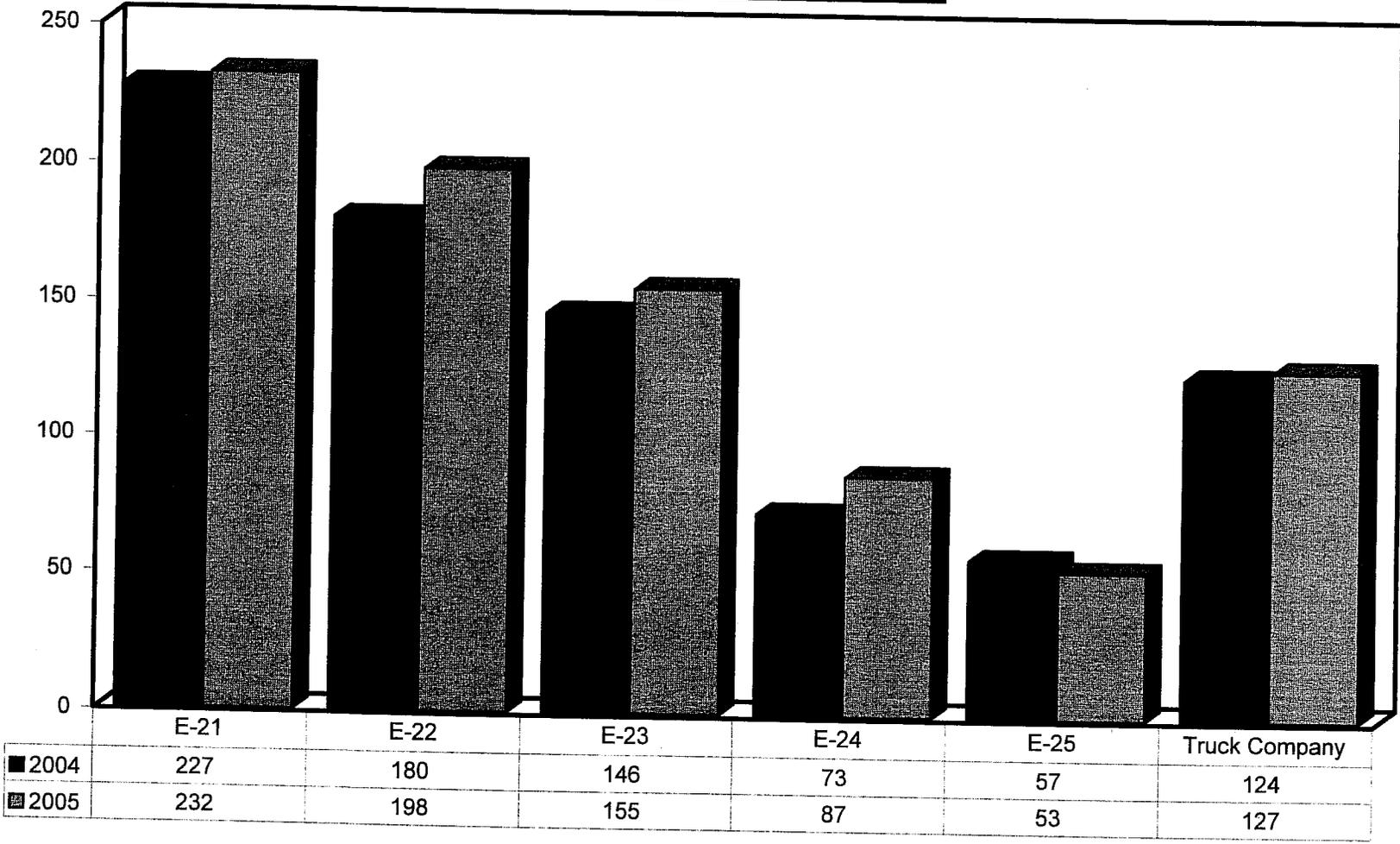
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter J. Siecienski".

Peter J. Siecienski
Fire Chief

Fire Response Breakdown May 23, 2005 to June 26, 2005

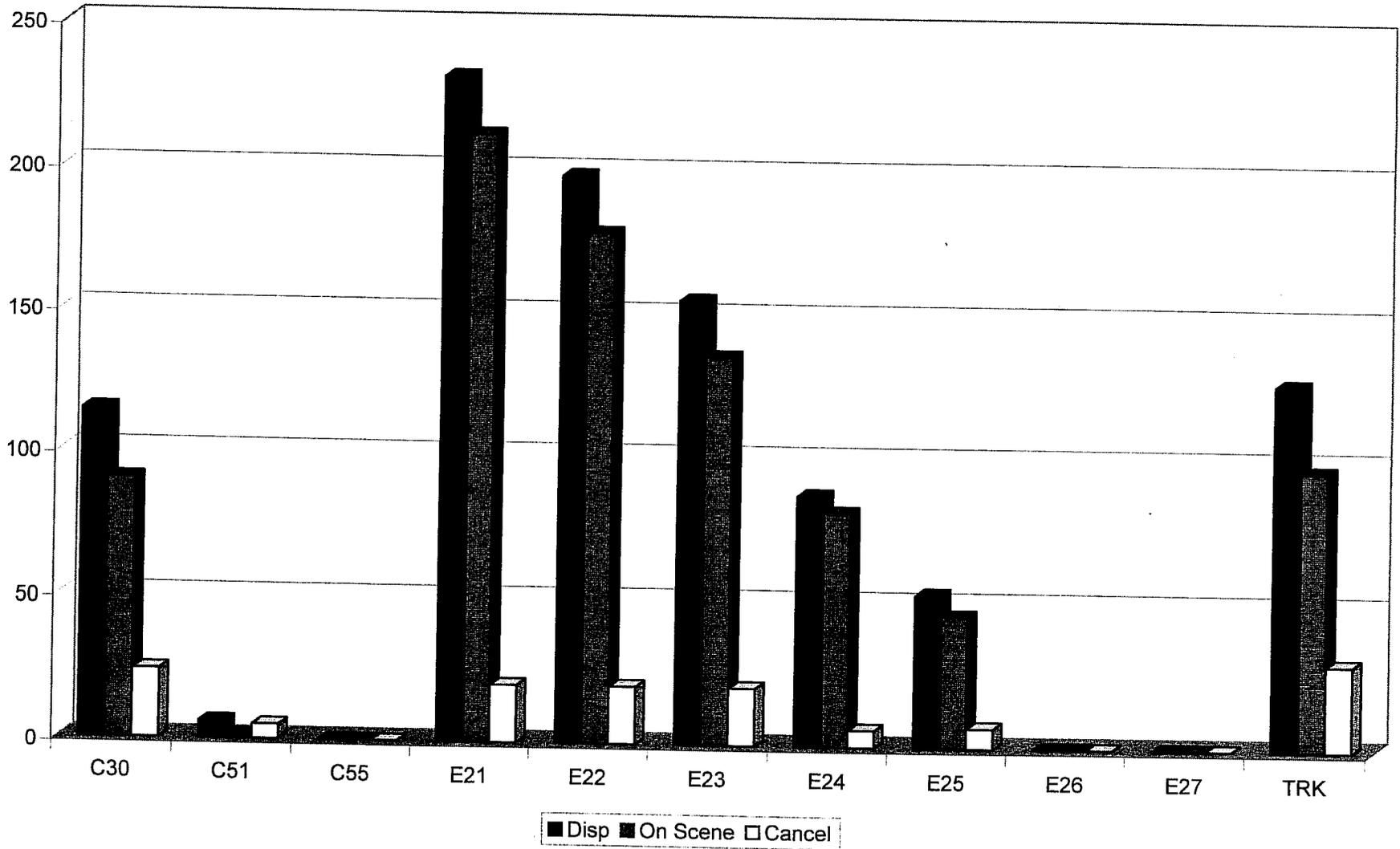


**Danbury Fire Department
June Company Response Statistics**

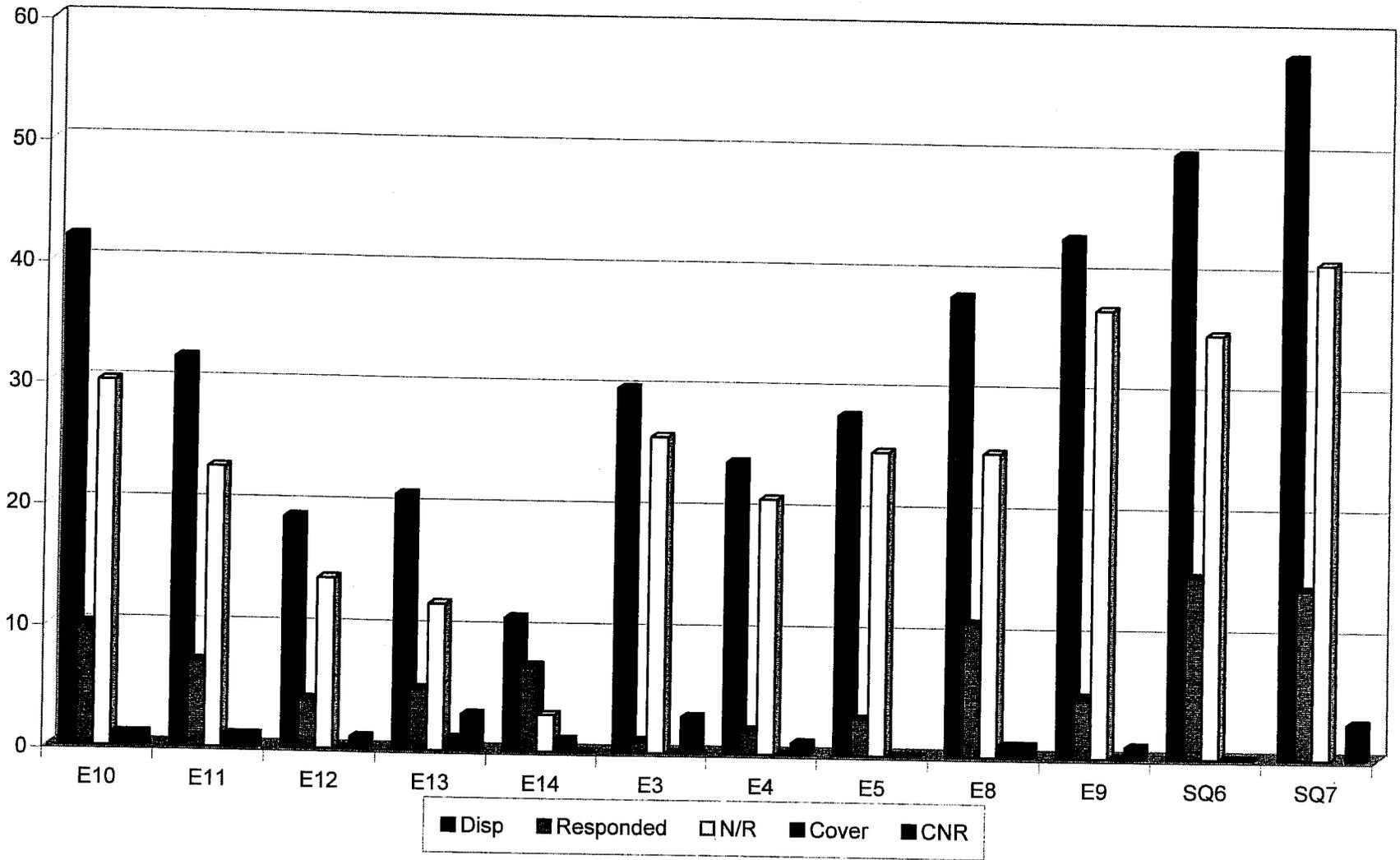


DANBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE RESPONSES						2005		
		<i>June Response</i>		<i>Statistics</i>				
	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response Total	No Response Total	% of Response		
E-3	30	0	3	1	26	13%		
E-4	24	0	1	2	21	13%		
E-5	28	0	0	3	25	11%		
S-6	50	0	0	15	35	30%		
S-7	58	0	3	14	41	29%		
E-8	38	1	1	11	25	34%		
E-9	43	0	1	5	37	14%		
E-10	42	1	1	10	30	29%		
E-11	32	1	1	7	23	28%		
E-12	19	0	1	4	14	26%		
E-13	21	1	3	5	12	43%		
E-14	11	1	0	7	3	73%		
Totals	396	5	15	84	292	26%		

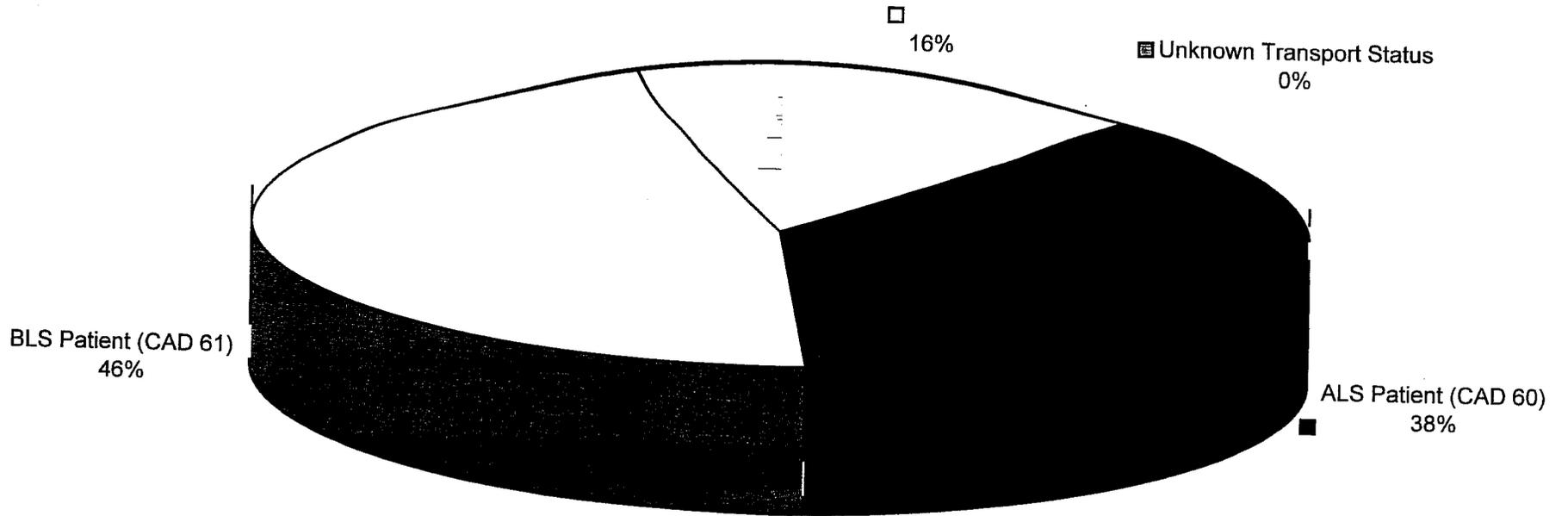
Career Company Response
May 23, 2005 to June 26, 2005



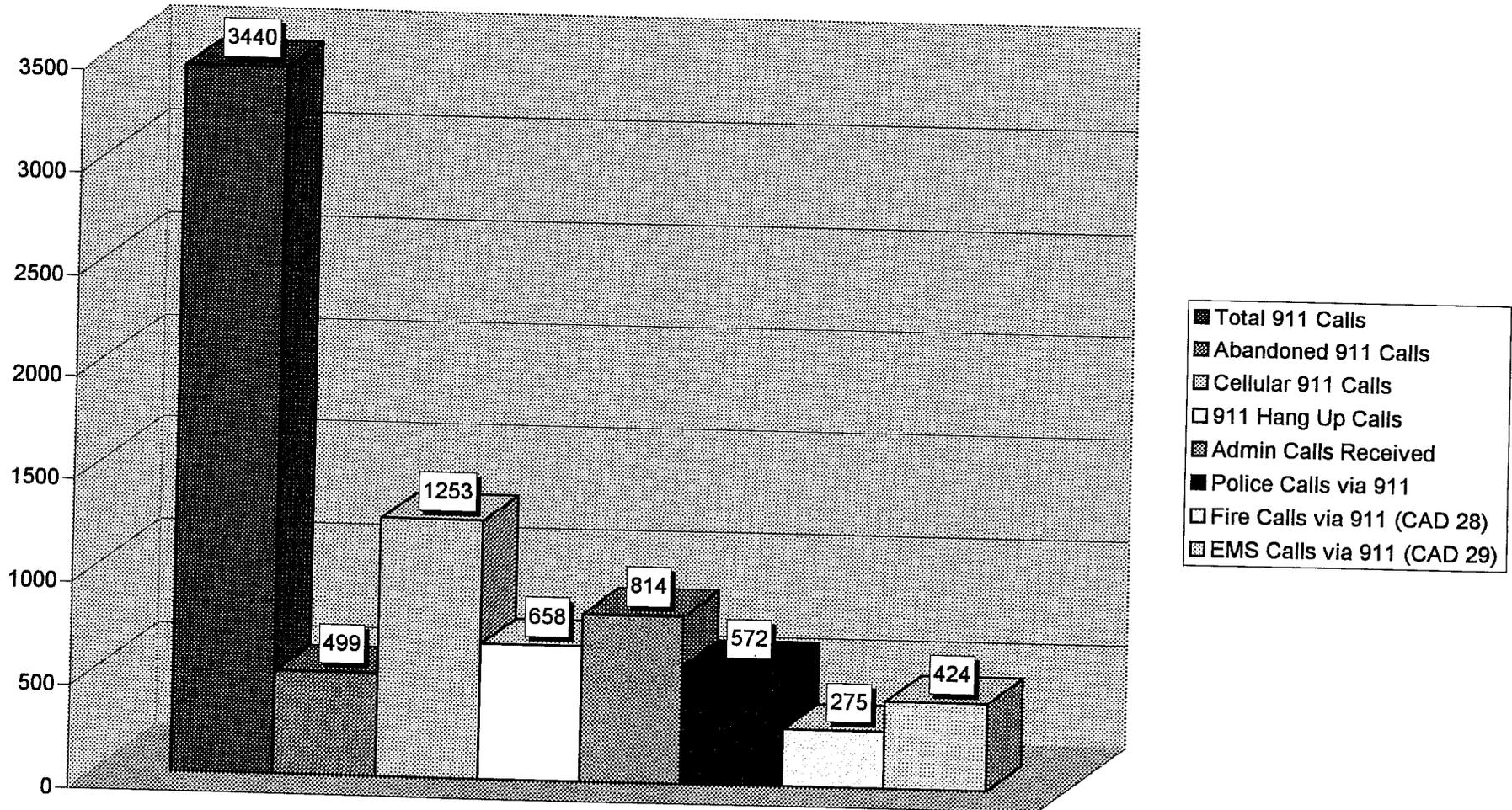
Volunteer Call Counts May 23, 2005 to June 26, 2005



EMS Transport Activity
May 23, 2005 to June 26, 2005



911 Center Activity May 23, 2005 to June 26, 2005



CITY OF DANBURY

FIRE DEPARTMENT

19 NEW STREET

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Peter Siecienski
Fire Chief

Phone 203-796-1555
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June 28, 2005

Mayor Mark D. Boughton
Common Council
City of Danbury
155 Deer Hill Ave.
Danbury, Ct. 06810

**Re: Statement of Condition and Property, Danbury Fire Department
City Code of Ordinances 8-13**

Dear Mayor Boughton and Members of the Common Council,

In accordance with Section 8-13 of the City Charter the following report is offered as to the listing of property and a general statement of condition and affairs of the Department.

The Danbury Fire Department continues to operate as a combination department with five career stations and 12 volunteer stations. The City owns and maintains six volunteer stations, with the remainder owned by the volunteer companies. The current table of organization shows 111 members of the career department. Current membership rosters of the 12 volunteer companies approach 150 individuals inclusive of social and support members. The fire department continues to hold the certificate of operation for the ambulance service and first responder program. The ambulance and paramedic services are currently contracted to Danbury Health Systems, while the department continues to operate the first responder EMS response. The department is the Primary Service Answering Point (PSAP) for all 911 calls in the City.

Facilities and Property

The following City owned fire stations and facilities are currently in operation.

The Joseph J. Bertalovitz Fire Headquarters - 19 New St.

Melody/Halas Station 23 - Osborne Street

Commerce Park Station 24 - Eagle Road

Fire Training Center – Plumtrees Road

Padanaram Hose # 3 – North Street.

Independent Hose # 4 – Hoyt Street.

Wooster Hose # 5 – Coal Pit Hill Road

Citizens Hose # 6 – Jefferson Avenue

Water Witch # 7 - Locust Avenue

Phoenix Hose # 8 - Well Avenue

The Department also has a renewed rental agreement for Station 25 located on South King Street. This rental is paid to the King Street Volunteer Company #14 on an annual basis.

The Division of Prevention/ Education/Inspection operates out of office space at City Hall. The Fire Marshal's office continues to operate under the jurisdiction of the Fire Department.

Status and Condition

All City owned fire stations are operable at this time. We continue to work with the Public Buildings department on matters of repair and maintenance.

The **Fire Training Facility** is being used for outdoor and mobile trailer fires only. The burn facility at the fire school is currently under construction. The facility is nearing completion and we intend to be using it for third quarter live burn training. Cooperative efforts with neighbors have led to some additional tree planting and landscape improvements this year. City engineers are currently working on additional improvements for the grounds. Improved parking and some safety improvements to Plumtrees Road will enhance the area. We continue to seek additional funding on the State and Federal level for scheduled additions of a classroom and training mock-ups.

Fire Headquarters continues to suffer severe space constraints as previously detailed. The addition of equipment via Homeland Security grants has stressed our bay capacity. Many living area improvements have been completed in this structure which is over 30-years old. Lavatories have undergone a complete cosmetic makeover. A commercial grade kitchen and living area have been completed. The bunk area has been modified to include new furniture with study areas and a cardiovascular section for

exercise. Cooperative efforts between the Public Buildings and Finance departments combined with our firefighters make these projects possible.

This year Northeast Utilities completed a conservation program renovation. The update to light fixtures and ballasts is designed to save on energy costs for years to come.

Station 23 Osborne Street is currently operating without major structural issues. All systems are operable. A reoccurring problem with gutter damage by snow build up on the metal roof is being evaluated at this time.

Station 24 Commerce Park is currently operating without major structural issues. All renovations are complete at this time. The City Engineering department continues to evaluate sinking areas of the landscaped property, no determination has been made to date as to a solution. The driveway and parking areas are scheduled for replacement this year.

King Street Station 25 continues to operate. The current facility is not adequate for the needs of the Department. The recent year has brought about progress on paper with the hope of ground breaking this summer. Site approvals, building plans and temporary quarters have been addressed. The project is ready for bid with a completion date of January 1, 2006. Issues of mold and a failing septic system have been remediated this year. The entire septic system has been replaced as part of the new addition project.

Station 26, West Side – Proposed is currently funded. A city owned site off of Kenosia Avenue extension has been selected as the best location. Architects and Engineers have completed initial site and building plans. Construction is expected to begin this year with a completion target of July 1, 2006.

911 Emergency Dispatch Center continues to operate out of the first floor of fire headquarters. This facility, as has been identified in the past needs to be relocated as soon as possible. The new technology that has entered the communications arena render this facility obsolete. Relocation is currently funded at a \$300,000 level. Architects and engineers have evaluated and chosen a site in the emergency operations center to act as a stopgap solution for the current situation. The permanent location will be included in the new police headquarters facility. The remaining equipment will then provide a redundant emergency communications system for major incidents.

Volunteer Stations # 3 Padanaram, #5 Wooster, #6 Citizens and # 8 Phoenix are currently operating without major structural difficulties. Functionally and cosmetically they remain antiquated and marginally meet the operating needs of the companies. These four buildings however are in need of evaluation as they are fatigued. Funding in fiscal year 2005-2006 will initiate a roof evaluation of City owned stations.

Volunteer Stations # 4 Independent and #7 Water Witch are currently operating without major structural difficulties.

Fleet Inventory and Condition

Apparatus and fleet vehicles owned by the department are detailed below. **Our current fleet is totally operational at this time.** The department continues to standardize the fleet for better efficiency in training and maintenance. In January of 2005 our new platform aerial ladder was received and placed in service. The ladder was several months ahead of time and has been of great benefit to the City already. We expect to add to our fleet this year a response and tow vehicle from Homeland Security. This vehicle has been designed to work in tandem with the Decontamination trailer and be used to supplement our emergency response to various incidents. We are in the process of seeking additional Federal funding for a new pumper. The current budget includes funds for three four-wheel drive vehicles. These vehicles will assist the department in severe weather conditions.

<i>Marker#</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Make</i>	<i>Model</i>	<i>VIN #</i>	<i>Mileage</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Condition</i>
NA	81	Gruman	1251 Ladder Truck	16165-HV	14400	2690	Surplus-Fair
52DA	85	Chevrolet	Step-van	1GBJP32M4F3315333	29198		Haz-mat-Fair
27DA	88	G.M.C.	Sierra	1GDJR34W0JJ503710	73525		Arson Van-Bad
236DA	91	Ford	Explorer	1FMDU34XMUD13903	117390		Reserve-Bad
351DA	93	Chevrolet	Lumina	2G1WL54T3P9232877	76854		FPB-Fair
145DA	93	Chevrolet	Cavalier	1G1JC8441P7299936	60657		Reserve-BAD
47DA	93	Chevrolet	Cavalier	1G1JC8447P7299472	70531		FPB-Fair
267DA	93	Chevrolet	Cavalier	1G1JC8443P7299288	71536		FPB-Fair
54DA	95	Chevrolet	Tahoe	1GNEK13K7SJ413654	96564		Backup C30-Fair
225DA	95	Ford	F350 Rehab Van	1FDKE30F95HA29335	154357		Old HART Bus-Poor
34DA	97	Ford	Crown Victoria	2FALP71W0VX178445	32914		Good
43DA	97	Ford	Crown Victoria	2FALP71W2VX178446	42054		Good
251DA	99	Chevrolet	Cavalier	1G1JC1242X7162093	39042		Good
216DA	99	Chevrolet	Cavalier	1G1JC1243X7162197	17100		Good
66DA	99	Chevrolet	Cavalier	1G1JC124XX7161340	40900		Good
44DA	01	Chevrolet	Tahoe	1GNEK13T11J217863	46751		Good
NA	87	Mack	CF686FC	1M2A142C6HM-1668	111375	9272	Poor
NA	88	Mack	CF688FC	1M2A152C4KM-1312	116551	10496	Poor
NA	94	Pierce	Arrow	4P1CA02D2SA000127	85854	9884	E24-Good
NA	96	Pierce	Sabre	4P1CT02U7TA000426	79386	8464	E25-Good
NA	00	Pierce	Sabre	4P1CT02U6YA000232	58663	6396	E23-Good
NA	00	Pierce	Sabre	4P1CT02U5YA000237	55922	6477	E22-Good
NA	00	Pierce	Dash	4P1CT02S8YA000750	28894	3868	T2-Good
NA	03	Pierce	Sabre	4P1CT02UX3A002798	31470	3289	E21-Good
NA	04	Pierce	Dash Platform	4P10D01H74A004530	4187	547	T1-Excellent
59DA	03	Ford	Taurus	1FAFP52U73G154371	23900		FPB-Good

142DA	03	Ford	Taurus	1FAFP52U53G154370	19320		FPB-Good
26DA	03	Ford	Taurus	1FAFP52U93G154369	21980		EMS-Good
51DA	03	Ford	Taurus	1FAFP52U73G154368	40721		Training-Good
2247	03	Advanced Containment Systems Inc	Decon-Trailer	1A9VFLT2031247556	NA		Good
317DA		Sullair	Compressor	004-142661	NA		Good
297DA		Ingersol-Rand	Light Tower	342308JA0789	NA		Good
313DA	01	5-Starr	Boat Trailer	5A4XJRJ1X12001639	NA		Good
	01	14' Quicksilver	Inflatable Boat/25HP	KR-USA99650F001	NA		Good
B.S.I. 22DA	93	Ford	F-350	1FDKE30M7PHA42798			Fair
B.S.I. 880	05	Ford	F-350	1FDWE35P85HA60616			Excellent
B.S.I. 883	98	Chevrolet	CK10706 Tahoe	1GNEK13R9WJ356036			Good
B.S.I. 68DA	01	Ford	Crown Vic	2FAFP71W11X187226			Good
B.S.I. 1274	00	Ford	F-350	1FDWE35F7YHA72672			Good
B.S.I. 2309	01	Ford	F-350	1FDWE35F21HB34162			Good

Equipment

The department continues to purchase and replace equipment to meet the needs of an evolving fire service. The department continues to receive substantial funding and equipment from State and Federal sources, however the horizon seems to indicate reductions in security and preparation funding. The funding has made a dramatic impact in the quality of equipment the department is using. The Department of Homeland Security continues to provide funding to assist our City in preparing for terrorist activity. The Mayor and Common Council have provided support to enhance these initiatives, some results are listed below. A recent example is the improvements scheduled for radio communications. The department will shift to fixed site repeaters via a grant from FEMA and a 30% match from the City. This communications endeavor had been identified as an important improvement for over a decade and has now been funded.

Current purchases and initiatives include the following:

1. The continued replacement of protective clothing for firefighters to a new higher-grade material and construction.

2. The continued purchase of replacement of vehicle extrication equipment on our apparatus to meet the new materials and construction we encounter in accidents.
3. The continuing addition of technical rescue equipment and training for new hazards being encountered.
4. The addition of approximately one million dollars in equipment and training funds from the Department of Homeland Security to assist in response to potential acts of terrorism.
5. The continued scheduling of advanced rescue and WMD classes in an in-house format to maintain our high level of preparedness.
6. The continued installation and enhancement of Mobile Data Terminals to enhance firefighter response capabilities and information.
7. The continued purchase and training of rope rescue equipment for low and high angle rescue situations.
8. The continued purchase and training of hazardous materials response equipment. The upgrade of the Department response to an actual technician level team continues to evolve.
9. The delivery and implementation of a decontamination trailer to enhance our current capabilities.
10. The continued development of relationships with vendors and technical experts to maximize the benefit of available funding to our City.
11. The delivery of the 2005 Pierce Aerial Platform ladder truck.
12. The deliver of the multi-purpose response/tow vehicle from Homeland Security.
13. The replacement of all front line metering and monitoring equipment.

General Statement of Affairs

The conventional operations of our department are sound. Equipment, current and proposed facilities will continue to assist our firefighters in delivering quality emergency services. Funding for apparatus and facility improvements on the local level have been greatly appreciated. The support of the City Administration and Common Council has made a visible difference in the fire department over the past 3-½ years.

The department continues to prepare and train for the prospect of future incidents and the potential use of weapons of mass destruction. Despite the challenge to our Department's response capabilities we will continue to explore all options on a local regional and State wide level. The continued challenge will be in the arenas of preparedness and finance as well. We will continue to take advantage of training opportunities provided and funded by the Department of Homeland Security. Grant opportunities will be explored and pursued diligently. The development of certain Regional response initiatives is being encouraged by State and Federal agencies. We expect to participate on a State and Regional level for the benefit of our community.

The status of our volunteer contingent remains a concern, as this component is critical to the success of delivering quality service. Membership over the past year has been static. Initiatives of consolidation and Civil Service incentives are currently being explored. A recent benefit for volunteer firefighters has been restored, volunteers will get points for entry level testing based on their training and commitment to the fire service. We must continue to work hard in these areas. Historically, in times of crisis our volunteers have stepped forward to assist in great numbers. These past events have been shining moments for the department and this City.

There remains a concern on adequate staffing in working emergency incidents. Combined with the development of our volunteer contingent, the City must begin to understand in greater detail the need for additional staffing on a regular basis. The current administration has noted this concern and the opening of the Westside station will address a major shortcoming in our response. OSHA safety standards and National agency recommendations will inevitably increase minimum staffing levels. We have seen with increasing frequency the difficulties encountered with our current minimum staffing levels. As a City that has grown to the seventh largest in the State, the challenges of expansion need to be continually addressed. Areas of development both commercial and residential have stretched current resources. The analysis of future growth trends and the services required is prudent.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment as per section 8-13 of our City Code of Ordinances. Your comments as to the format or considerations with regards to this report and our Department as always are greatly appreciated. If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Very truly yours,


Peter J. Siecienski
Fire Chief