



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

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January 31, 2006

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of December 27th to January 22, 2006 and details some of the activities of the Department.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- Firefighter Kovalsky presented a Powerpoint session on Rapid Intervention Teams/MAYDAY/Firefighter Safety in two classes with C Group.
- C Group took part in a drill at the airport for a FAA Inspector to evaluate DFD response capabilities.
- Lt. Lounsbury is working on coordinating a breakfast to be put on by the Peer Leadership Group from Danbury High School. The event is tentatively scheduled for March of this year.
- Pre-incident planning continued on site inspections at the new Student Center at WCSU Westside Campus. 24 Thorpe St. was inspected with U.N.I.T. members for an illegal boarding house. E-25 checked out the new homes being built on Peterson's La. In the King's St. Area. Stew Leonard's, Home depot, Bob's Dept. Store, Brookside Commons, Danbury Sq. Mall, Plum trees Shopping Center, Brair Woods Condo's, and 111 Main St.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- The weather patterns of this past month caused the department to respond to a myriad of calls. Many volunteer

companies responded to requests for basement flooding, power lines down, and road closures. Utility companies were so busy during the ice and wind storms that several Fire Police units were utilized.

- o A major fire incident this month happened on January 2nd at 111 Main St. The first arriving units encountered heavy smoke in the front of the building coming from the first and second floor. After several minutes it was determined that the fire was centered in the store on the first floor. The fire was extinguished with minimal damage to the building. There was smoke damage throughout the structure. The building has 20 apartments in it and after the fire was over the building department allowed all but six of the apartments to be occupied again. The Red Cross assisted the occupants of those six apartments.

- o We responded to a James Street residence for a fire that started in the wall due to a crack in the fireplace. There was minor structural damage to the building but the occupants had to be relocated. Thermal imaging assisted in minimizing damage.

- o We had two calls of specific interest during the month that was brought on by the harsh weather. A homeowner on Golden Hill was attempting to defrost a frozen pipe with two space heaters and accidentally caught a towel on fire which quickly spread to the rest of the bathroom. On Middle River Road a tree came down causing the power to ground via the garage door circuit igniting a small fire in the garage wall. Making this situation worse was the fact that a tree branch had come down across the long driveway blocking our trucks from gaining access to the house. Luckily it was a small fire and the firefighters were able to put it out with two water extinguishers.

- o On the morning of January 2nd we responded to 40 Williams St, Danbury Towers for an automatic alarm. Upon arrival we encountered smoke on the fourth floor due to cooking. All the tenants of that floor had to be evacuated until we could get rid of the smoke. The tenants were all moved to the Community room on the first floor where they were checked by EMS. Two patients were taken to the ER for further evaluation. The Fire Marshal determined that the smoke came from a faulty grill. No structural fire damage was incurred.

Emergency Medical Services/Haz Mat

EMS Wednesday

EMS Wednesday

The continuous education program EMS Wednesday is designed to meet the EMS recertifications 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 months EMS Wednesday is Patient Assessment. Patient Assessment is a systematic approach to determine what type of patient you are dealing with and what modalities of treatment are appropriate. This step-by-step approach insures that life-threatening injuries are deal with first and by building off your initial assessment that no small detail is overlooked. 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 an Emergency Medical call, this advanced life support training coupled with the Danbury Fire Departments community education programs like CPR training and the "File of Life" has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

EMT-Intermediate

The following Firefighters have met the requirements for renewal of medical control by our sponsor the Danbury Hospital at the EMT-Intermediate level.

A-Group	B-Group	C-Group	D-Group
F.F. Forbes	F.F. Joe Halas	F.F.Cianciollo	F.F.Bergemann
Lt M Omasta	F.F. Kennedy	Lt Daly	F.F. Corbett
F.F. Pollard	F.F. McQuade	Disp Gerlach	Lt Easter
F.F. Schiller	Lt Mion	Lt Meehan	Lt Handau
F.F. Smith	A/C Slagle	A/C Omasta	Capt.Herald
Capt. Williams		Lt Plank	Lt Lounsbury
		F.F. Tomchik	F.F. Sedlak
		Lt Lorinda Arconti	F.F. Speed
			DFM Perry

NIMS Training

Homeland Security Presidential Directive – 5 requires that Federal, State and local agencies adopt the National Incident Management System and to use it in their individual incident management and emergency preparation by Oct.1st 2006.

All members of the Danbury Fire Department will be afforded the opportunity to attend a NIMS training class during the month of February that exceeds the standards that was set by the Department of Homeland Security making the Danbury Fire Department compliant a full nine months before the deadline

Communcations/911

Mobile Data Terminals

Fire Department MDT's are in use for further testing. Many of the software issues that have plagued connectivity have been resolved. It is important to note that due to the reduced features set used by the fire Department that we were able to go 'live'. The Police Department has other issues that prevent that department from performing needed functions.

At the present time there is no set timetable to activate EMS units in this system.

Headquarters Intercom System

The bid process has begun to replace the loudspeakers in Fire Headquarters. Over time the existing system has degraded to the point where voice messages are difficult to understand. This system is used for in-house intercom and Alarm Messaging within the building.

Training

First quarter training for the Volunteer Division is scheduled to start January 29th.

The Training Officer scheduled a four hour class before the State test for Fire Officer this month. The Danbury FSI class was completed in November. The members were very grateful for this class and all passed the state test given at Fire Headquarters this month.

The last OSHA class on trench identification issues is scheduled for this Tuesday January 31st on C group.

The entire Department toured the Hart Bus company on Federal Road. This took eight secessions to complete.

Training on the Prime Mover is in progress. About half of the potential drivers are familiar with the truck and have towed the DECON trailer with it.

The FAA surprised us with a drill at the Airport. Everything went very well with C group on duty. The FAA inspector checked records in the Training Office after the drill and was very satisfied.

The six new recruits graduated from the academy and were assigned to the training division. After two weeks they were assigned to a group and started normal shift work in January.

Driver training qualified Firefighter Kelly Grover. Firefighter Grover was the pump operator on the first in Engine on a structure fire on Main Street and pumped one 2 ½ hand line and two 1 ¾ lines. She received water from a 5" supply line from a city hydrant.

Assisted Civil Service with recommendations for the selection of books to study from for the Assistant Chief test.

We did two critiques which went very well. Both critiques followed our SOP.

National Guard Civil Support Team displayed their function and equipment at WCSU. We were invited by the WCSU Police Department. Three Fire Companies, the Assistant Chief, EMS and Training attended.

Apparatus/Equipment

The generator on the ladder truck failed, the unit was removed and sent to Hartford to an authorized Onan Dealership for repairs, it has been returned and re-installed with a few modifications that will make future removal and installation easier. Most of the repair work should be covered under warranty.

The Departments snow blower had a gearbox failure and was rebuilt and placed back into service.

The Hurst Tool power unit and cutters came in for some routine maintenance. The power unit and cutters were serviced and placed back on Engine 22

The Division assisted the Communications Supervisor with the "re-roll out" of the MDT units.

All of the Departments Biosystems MultiPro meters have been span gas calibrated. A new bottle of span gas was ordered and received.

The windshield, the driver's seat and the starter have been replaced in Engine 24 (94PA)

Truck 1 experienced a major air loss while returning from a call one evening, the truck was taken out of service, and was "limped" back to Headquarters with the helpful assistance of an escort from the Danbury Police Department. One of the springs inside a brake chambers failed puncturing the diaphragm thus causing the air leak. While the unit was out of service the air compressor governor was repaired, and four of the truck's rear tires were replaced. The Unit was placed back in service.

The windshield, gasket and spine have been ordered for Engine 21 and will be replaced on February 2, 2006. The unit should only be out of service for a half hour or so.

All out of service SCBA have been evaluated. A parts list for repairs that can be done in house has been promulgated and SCBA'S that are in need of factory service have been sent to the factory repair facility for evaluation and estimates.

The 2006 Ford Expedition has arrived at the dealership and is being dealer prepped; we expect delivery sometime in the last week in January or the first week in February. This unit will be replacing the 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe currently being used by the Assistant Chiefs.

We are currently discussing the purchase of two new rescue saws to replace the twenty five year old units currently used on the truck companies.

Engine 25 suffered a broken main leaf spring and is scheduled to go to the spring shop for repair. This unit should be out of service for only a day or two.

Good of the Organization

Several members of the Department were present at the Swearing in of Deputy Chief Terry Shanahan of the Police Department.

Our Acct. Clerk Janet Kutschinski was named the Employee of the Month. Congratulations Janet.

Work continues to progress on the new E-25. The new station is due to be completed by the middle of April weather permitting.

The six new recruits have been assigned to crews and all seem to be very enthusiastic about their new careers.

The Captains test has been completed. We have one Captain's vacancy at the present time.

The test for Assistant Chief was given on Thursday the 26th.

By the end of Feb. we will have vacancies in the ranks of Assistant Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, Dispatcher and Superintendent of Apparatus.

Dates of Importance

Feb. 23rd - 24th Anniversary of the deaths of Lt. Butch Melody and FF Joe Halas in the line of duty.

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Fires	13
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	1
Rescue/EMS	242
Hazardous Condition	59
Service Calls	30
Good Intent Calls	64
False Alarm/False Calls	57
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	1
No Report/Incomplete	13

Total Fire Calls..480.....

For the month, the City Ambulance Service responded to 554 Emergency Medical Calls. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Total EMS responses	554
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No patient EMS Calls	108
BLS Patient Calls	243
ALS EMS Calls	203
EMS Mutual Aid Requests	12
EMS Calls passed to Back-up	33

The total calls into the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center for the month were 2627 with a daily average of 101.04 calls per day. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Fire Response Calls	480
EMS Response calls.	554
Abandoned Calls	361
911 Hang Ups	591
Admin Calls Received	743
Cellular 911 Calls	1033

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 for Fire Response Breakdown, Company Response, Volunteer Company Call and Response Statistics, and EMS Transport Activity Statistics for the reporting period.

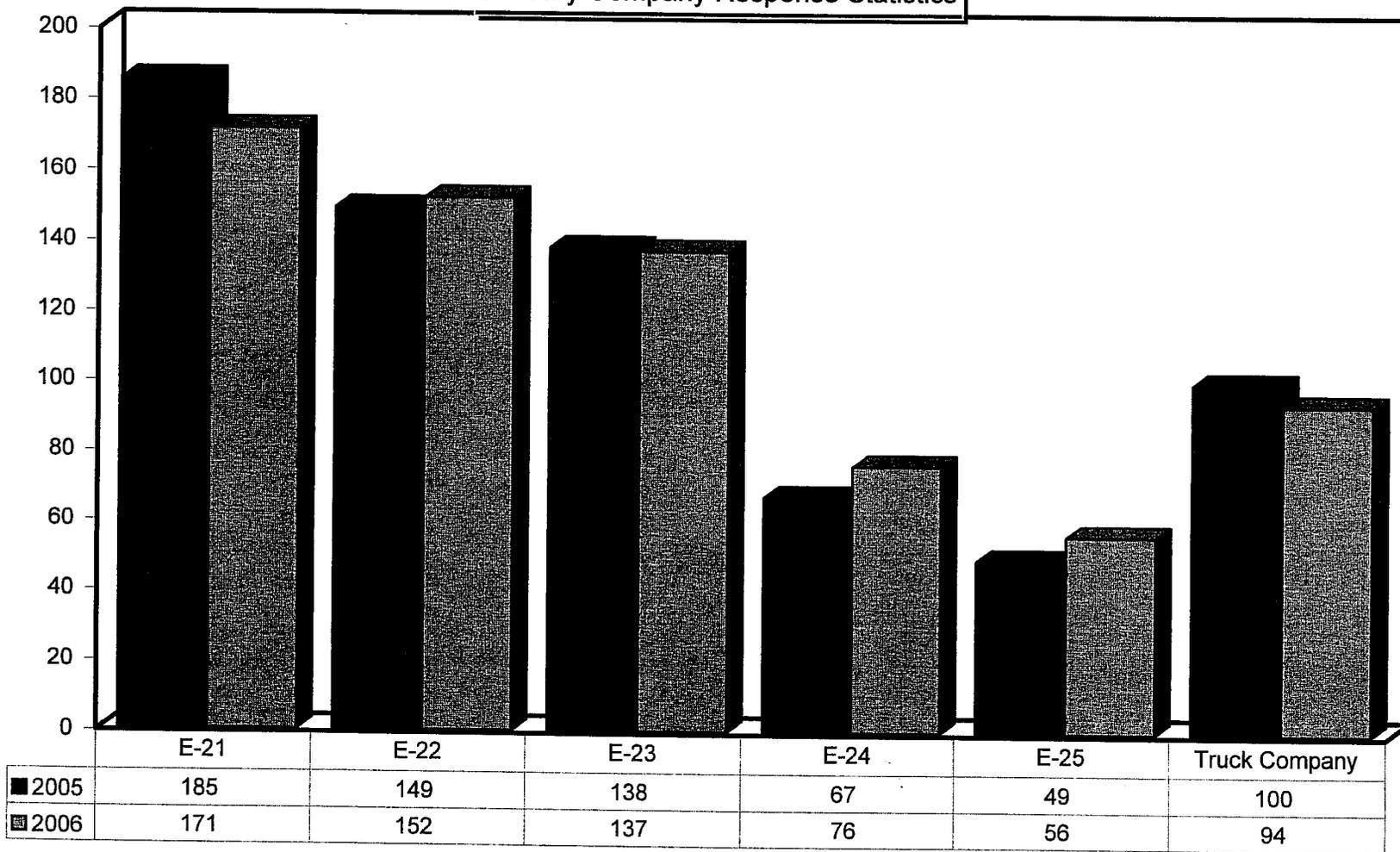
If additional information or clarification is needed, please contact me directly.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter J. Siecienski
Fire Chief

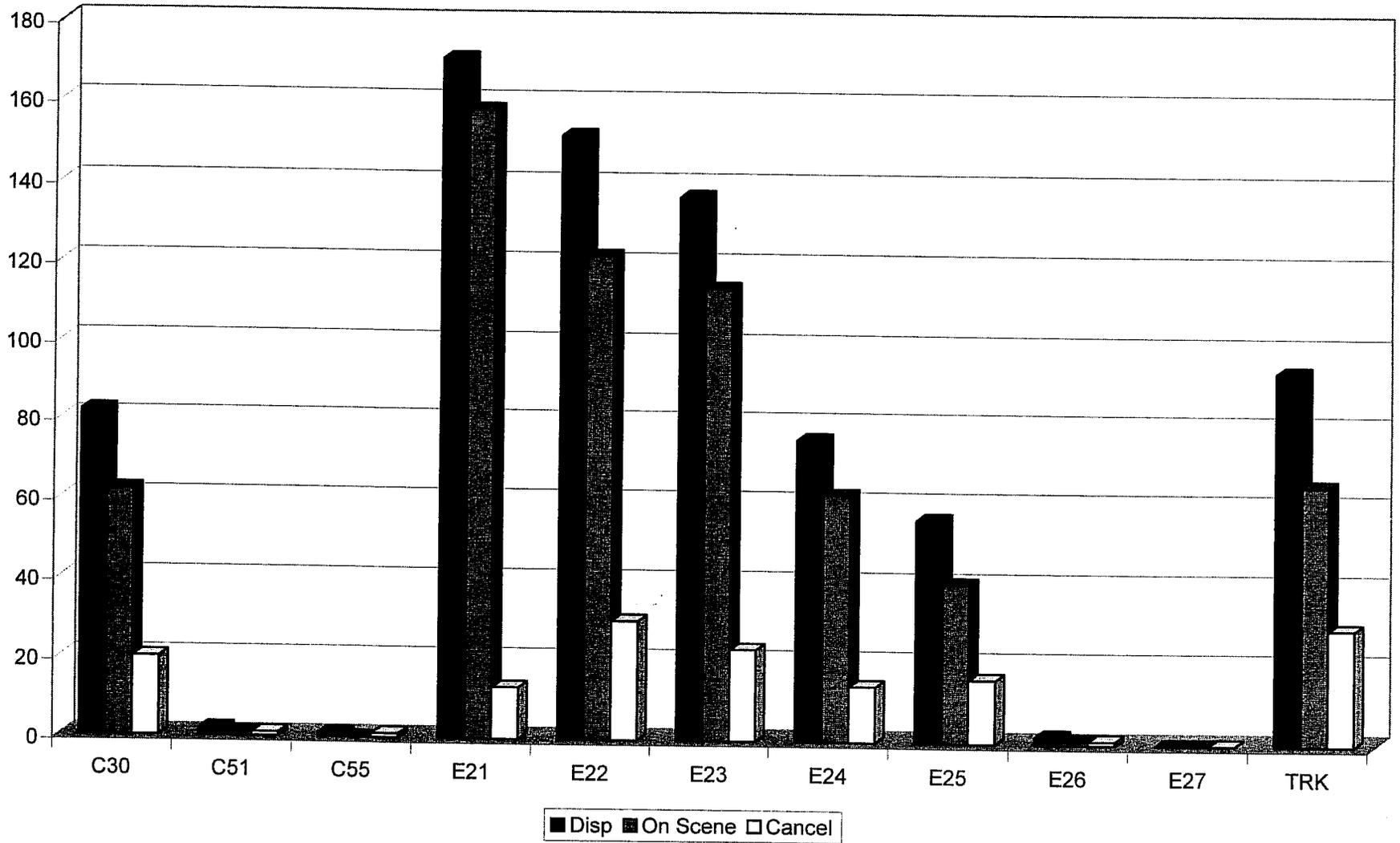
**Danbury Fire Department
January Company Response Statistics**



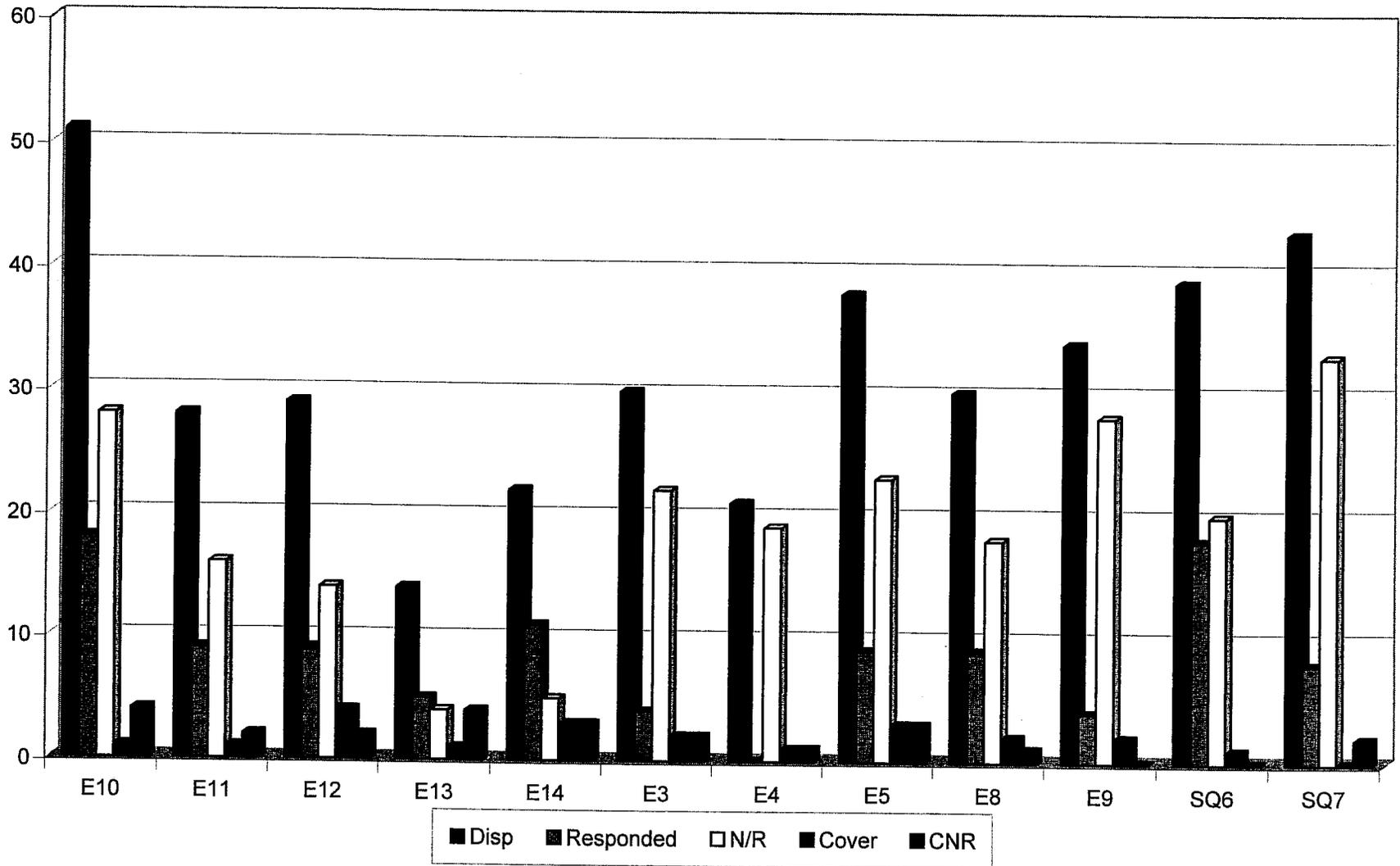
DANBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE RESPONSES						2006		
		January	Response	Statistics				
	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response	No Response	% of Response		
				Total	Total			
E-3	30	2	2	4	22	27%		
E-4	21	1	1	0	19	10%		
E-5	38	3	3	9	23	39%		
S-6	39	1	0	18	20	49%		
S-7	43	0	2	8	33	23%		
E-8	30	2	1	9	18	40%		
E-9	34	2	0	4	28	18%		
E-10	51	1	4	18	28	45%		
E-11	28	1	2	9	16	43%		
E-12	29	4	2	9	14	52%		
E-13	14	1	4	5	4	71%		
E-14	22	3	3	11	5	77%		
Totals	379	21	24	104	230	39%		

Career Company Response

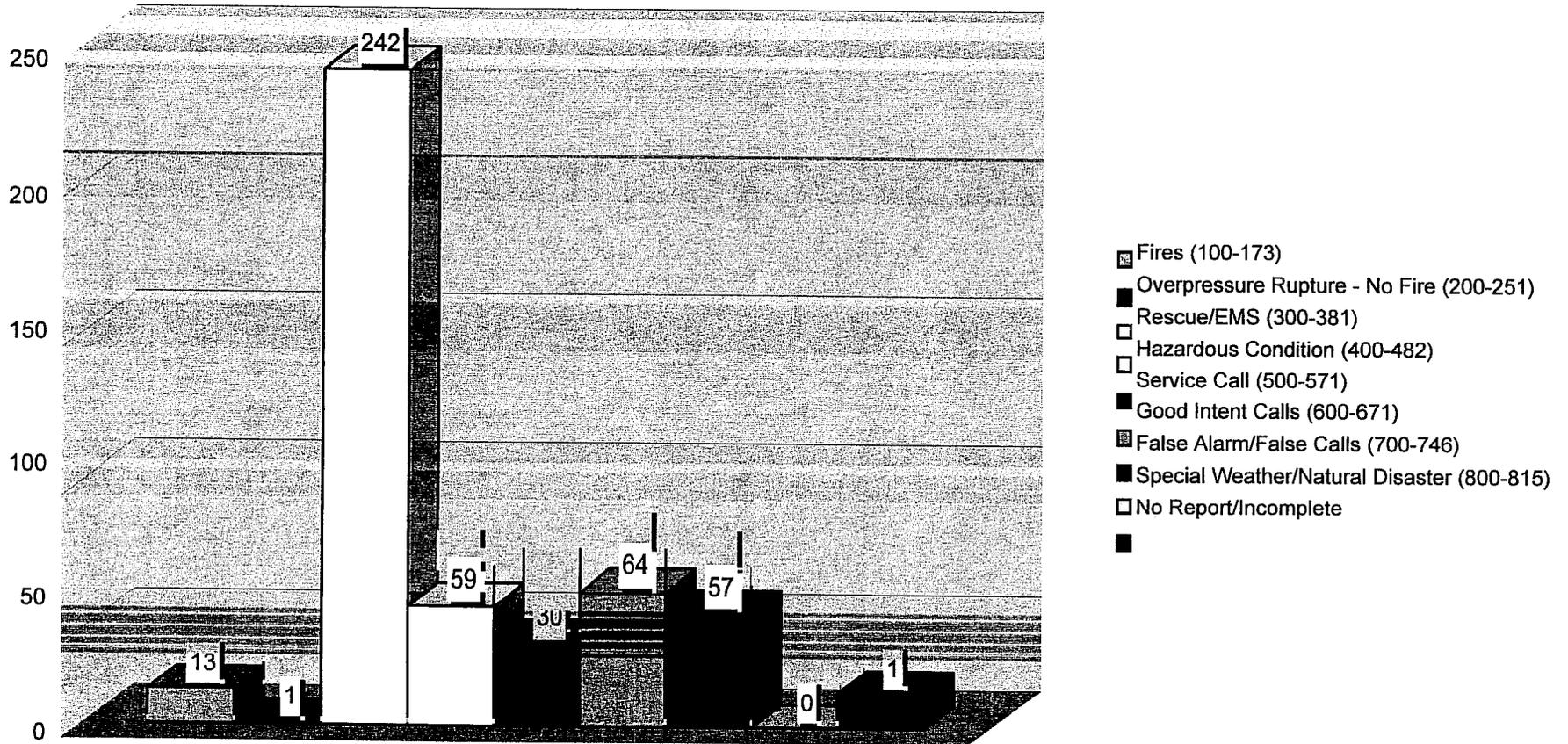
December 27, 2005 to January 22, 2006



Volunteer Call Counts December 27, 2005 to January 22, 2006

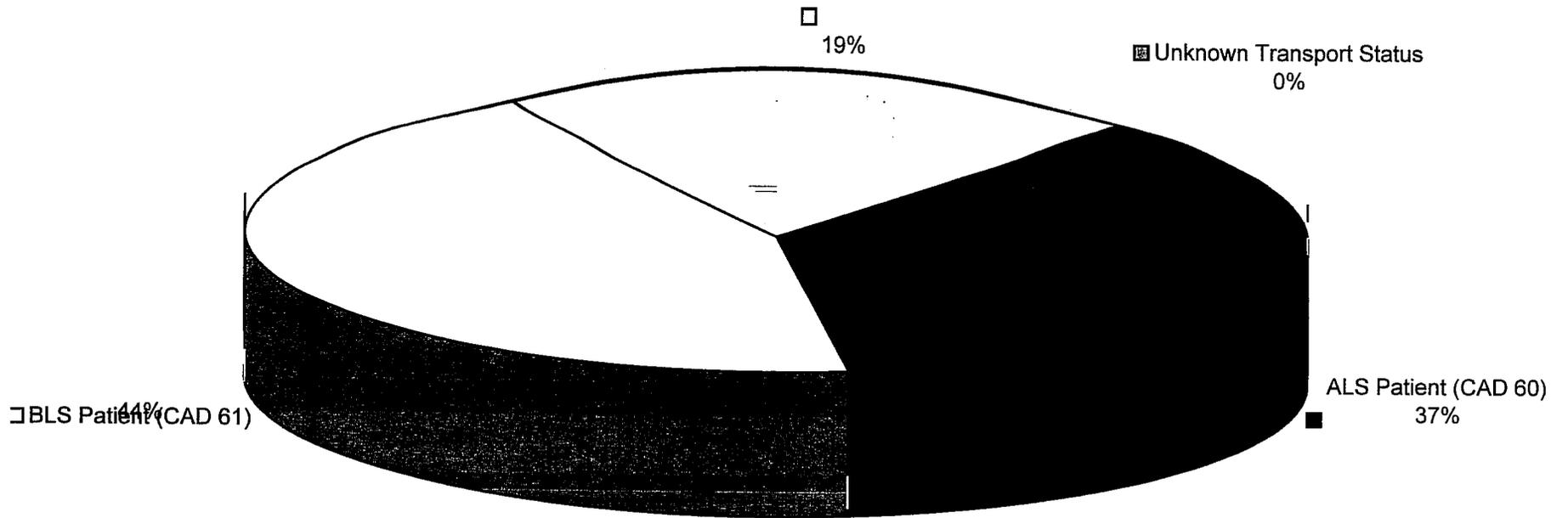


Fire Response Breakdown December 27, 2005 to January 22, 2006



EMS Transport Activity

December 27, 2005 to January 22, 2006



911 Center Activity December 27, 2005 to January 22, 2006

