



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

(203)796-1550
Fax (203) 796-1533

January 29, 2007

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of December 26, 2006 to January 29, 2007 and details some of the activities of the Department.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- We instructed and assisted Boeringer-Ingelheim in forming and Incipient Fire Brigade. A final exercise was held on Jan. 24th. They now have a fully functional Incipient Fire Brigade. DFM Wiedl and A/C Slagle were the prime movers and instructors for this happening.
- Several school children were given tours of Fire Hdqts.
- A tour of Hdqts. was given to Mr. Bill Evans and his 4 Tiger Cubs on Jan. 5th.
- C Grp. E-21 provided a Hdqts. Tour for 40 Morris St. School preschoolers.
- A/C Paul Omasta fielded questions regarding CO poisoning symptoms and causes during a taped session with WLAD radio.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- On Dec. 27th we responded to Palace View Apartments. Upon arrival we encountered a slight smoke haze in the first floor hallway. We were met by the building manager who

informed us that the maintenance man Angel Graman had put out a small fire in a bathroom of apartment #110 which was caused by an unwatched candle. There was slight smoke and fire damage to the apartment due to the fast action of Mr. Graman.

- On Dec. 29th FM Rickert received a call from C.S.P. Sgt. John Kannowicz who stated he was responding to the Union Carbide property for a machine roll-over on top of a blasting site. Upon arrival at the site C-30 assumed command and began to gather information in regards to the accident. The basic problem was a 50 ton excavator had rolled over and landed on a preset pattern of demolition holes which had been loaded and set to shoot. All non-emergency or unneeded personnel were restricted to a safe area. The machine operator was not hurt. After determining that our goal should be to remove the machine and detonate the blasting agent we set about developing a tactical plan for moving the machine. After several hours and four heavy duty wreckers Hilarios was able to get the machine off the blasting site. The blasting company was able to reset the charges. They put a double layer of blasting mats over the holes and the blasting agents were detonated. Readings at the seismograph were 0 after the blast. All units returned to service.

- The evening of the 29th we responded to the corner of Madison and North Street for an MVA. Upon arrival we found a two car accident. In order to remove one of the victims we had to use the Hurst tool to remove the roof. The victim was removed within minutes however she later died at the Hospital.

- On Dec. 30th quick action by E-25 saved a residence at 205 Clapboard Ridge Rd. The home owner had left the house and realized that she had forgotten needed medicines. When she arrived back home she found heavy fire in her living room. E-25 arrived within minutes and made a quick attack on the fire. At their arrival they had fire and smoke coming out the front door. By the time the units from Headquarters arrived the fire was out. E-25's quick action saved the whole house from being destroyed.

- Minutes after the fire on Clapboard Ridge came in other units responded to 22 Scuppo Rd. stove fire. Upon arrival they encountered slight smoke. The home owner's son had put

most of the fire out. The cabinets were scorched and there was smoke damage through the home.

- On Jan. 1st we responded to an automatic alarm at 22 Westview Dr. Upon arrival E-23 reported they could see a small fire burning in the house. After forcing the front door they found the house full of smoke and a candle left burning inside a Christmas wreath. The wreath burned and did some damage to the top of a dresser. E-23 put the fire out with a water can. Thanks to the alarm system there was little damage to the residence.
- On Jan. 7th we responded to 13 Park Pl. for a report of a fire. Upon arrival we found a smoke haze in the cellar. The Trk. Comp. was able to locate a small fire in the wall using the ISG camera. After overhauling the fire the Fire Marshal was able to determine the fire was started by a staple which had pierced the romex cable at one time causing a short. Power to the building was turned off until a licensed electrician could fix the damaged wire.
- On Jan. 16th we responded to a 14 month old child that had caught his hand in a paper shredder. The hand was so badly jammed into the machine that he had to be transported to the ER with his hand still in the shredder. At the ER our crew helped dismantle the machine from around the boy's hand. The child did lose two fingers and a lot of blood. The good news is he will recover.
- On Jan 23rd we were dispatched to Putnam Towers for a man having difficulty breathing. Upon arrival E-22 found the building had no power and no emergency lighting. They called for the Fire Marshal. After investigating and having CL&P arrive on the scene. It was determined that it would take several hours to fix the problem. A/C Williams arrived and put the Emergency Disaster plan in motion. Several heads of Depts. Arrived and it was best determined that we evacuate the residents to another building. With the help of several agencies all the residents were moved by Hart buses or ambulances to Ives Manor where they were given food and comfort. By early evening CL&P was able to fix the problem and all the residents were returned to their apartment in Putnam Towers.
- On the 24th we responded to 15 Great Pasture Rd at the request of Yankee Gas because they found high readings of CO and they also had an occupant with carbon monoxide

symptoms. The entire building had to be evacuated. Three occupants were treated by EMS. A Dr. from the ER came to the scene to help in the evaluation of the occupants. The occupants of the building were told to go home until the entire building could be inspected by the City inspectors, Fire Marshal, and OSHA. The building was inspected on the morning of the 25th. Several violations were cited.

- On the 26th we responded to the DMV on Lee MAC Ave for a report of an odor of gas and some employees feeling ill. On arrival units metered for CO and combustibles. Nothing was indicated. Four employees were evaluated by EMS but refused transport. Some employees reported odor of gas, some reported odor of exhaust. Investigation confirmed both a minor gas leak-repaired by Yankee Gas, and high likelihood of exhaust from Laidlaw Bus Co. due to many buses idling due to cold weather, and a favorable wind to bring the exhaust directly into the building's fresh air intakes.
- Pre-incident planning continued on site inspections at: Candlewood Trailer Park, Shady Knolls, Driftwood, Hemlock Shores, Aqua Vista, Cedar Terrace, Lake Waubeeka, Putnam Towers, major development on the Bethel line, Timber Oaks development, 185 and 275 Main St. 30 Osborne St., Poet's Landing, and 128 E. Liberty St.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/HAZ MAT - Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday

The continuous education program is designed to meet EMS certification requirements of the Fire department First Responder program. 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 Patient Assessment.

Patient assessment is a systematic approach to discover immediately life-threatening problems so that treatment can be provided by the Fire Departments First Responders to stabilize the patient's condition during Emergency medical calls before transport to the Hospitals Emergency Department

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 medical calls, and this ability coupled with the Danbury Fire Departments community education programs like CPR training has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

Community Education Recently the Housing Authority of Danbury's representative Kevin Barry contacted the Danbury Fire Depts. EMS/Haz-Mat Coordinators Office to assist them in meeting their training needs. As a result of that conversation two Blood Borne Pathogens classes were provided to maintenance and management staff in order to help them comply with OSHA mandated training.

Communcations/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Communications Division
Activity Report -December 22, 2006 to January 22, 2007

Training

Beginning this month a new continuing education program has been initiated within the Communications Division. This program will consist of monthly communications training for all Dispatchers and Relief Dispatchers. Topics to be covered will be geared toward improving overall 911 call-taking and processing, along with maintaining a high degree of proficiency with respect to Emergency Medical Dispatch techniques. Other lessons and drills will be devised to test and improve communications skills while under pressure of emergency operations.

Feedback so far has been favorable from dispatchers assigned to A and B Shifts.

Equipment

With the addition of the more powerful Panasonic Toughbook computers in the apparatus the Pre Fire Planning program will be revitalized with the installation of a software package called "First Look Pro". This software was purchased in late 2004; however problems with screen resolution and storage space prevented installation.

The Toughbooks have a greater capacity and will easily run this completely visual software. With this package Officers can fully use the touch-screen capability to view Facility information that can also include photographs, maps and technical drawings. All on board the fire apparatus.

Engine 26 and Response Districts

The task of assigning the response district to Engine 26 is beginning. Asst Chief Omasta along with Lts. S. Omasta and C. Daly will be assisting the Communications Division with establishing the response district for Engine 26. Along with this new district creation, other districts will be examined and adjusted to apply the best possible response by all companies.

All adjustments will be made to the CAD system that will allow the system to continue to function with the current 5 Engine setup and easily transition to 6 engines when E26 opens.

Training - Mark Omasta

I started in the Training Office on January 8th as the Provisional T.O. I worked two days with Asst. Chief Charly Slagle who brought me up to speed as to the status of past, current, and future training activities. Chief Slagle returned to his former position as Asst. Chief of B Group. I continue the transition into this position as I am getting oriented with the filing systems as we track and document the certifications of the 200 career and volunteer members of the department.

The Career division trained on extrication techniques and conducted live burns on two donated vehicles at the Fire School. All crews were briefed on upcoming scheduled training classes and other optional classes. On duty training continues such as driver/pump operator training for our newer firefighters. We trained with Eng 26 (Airport Crash/Rescue) at the Fire School using the dry chemical system with success.

I assisted Eng 11 and a few members from Eng 10 with a live burn exercise at the Fire School involving a donated Box type truck. An upcoming FFI class was posted with seven volunteers signed up at this time.

I joined Ridgefield Fire Dept. Chief Burford, DFM Lathrope, DFM TJ Wiedl and Asst. Chief Slagle on two occasions as work continues with Boehringer Ingelheim setting up their Incipient Fire Brigade. The above mentioned and on duty personnel participated in Boehringer's "final exam" live drill on the 24th. Overall the simulated live fire and evacuation went well. The Incipient Fire Brigade is now functional. We feel this is a good step forward for both Fire Departments and Boehringer.

Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

The following is a partial list of some of the highlights and activities of the Apparatus Division for the month of January. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

All of the Departments BioSystem meters have been span gas calibrated. All of the Departments meters are fully functional.

The department's SCBA'S are for the most part functional. We still have two or three units a week that are removed from service due to mechanical issues.

With the addition of the 2006 Pierce Pump, (E-22) we have declared the 1987 and 1988 Mack pumps surplus. After some discussion with the purchasing department they will be put out to public auction sometime in March.

The two I.S.G. Thermal Imaging cameras that were out for repairs last month have returned and have been placed back in service.

Truck 1 has experienced a generator failure for the fifth time. Because of the lack of dependability, we have complained to Pierce once again, and this time insisted that it be relocated. Pierce had finally decided to see things our way and they have agreed to pay Firematic (our local Pierce dealer) to relocate the generator to a more suitable location. With some creative thought, we were able to find a spot on the truck that will be much more agreeable to long term dependability without sacrificing any operational functions of the truck or the ladder. That relocation happened last week and we couldn't be happier with the outcome.

We did a full service on E-25 including, but not limited to engine service, replace the front brakes as well as complete brake service, exhaust service and fuel system repairs and front end work. We also took advantage of this unit being out of service and installed a new laptop computer, which replaced the older style data terminal.

The new radio in E-22 that had failed last month has been replaced and is working fine.

We had a State Trooper from the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicle Truck Safety Division here on January 11, 2007 and again on January 18, 2007 to conduct a safety inspection of our fire apparatus. We are extremely proud as well as pleased to report that no out of service defects were found on any of our equipment.

Truck 1 has a defective turbocharger and will be replaced under the engine warranty as soon as the part becomes available.

We replaced the heater core in the 94 Pierce Arrow.

The 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe went to Fair Chevrolet for a mandatory recall. It was repaired and returned to service that same day.

Good of the Organization

- FF Jim Beers has been appointed provisional mechanic. A test is being scheduled to fill the permanent vacancy.

- A/C Herald and Capt. Dave Easter have helped the City of Bridgeport put together their next Captain's test.
- Two members of the Department and one retired member are in the running for the Asst. Chief's position in the Ridgefield Fire Dept.
- Lt. Tyler Bergemann has returned from his annual tour with the USAF Reserves. This year he did his tour at Yokota AB, Japan.

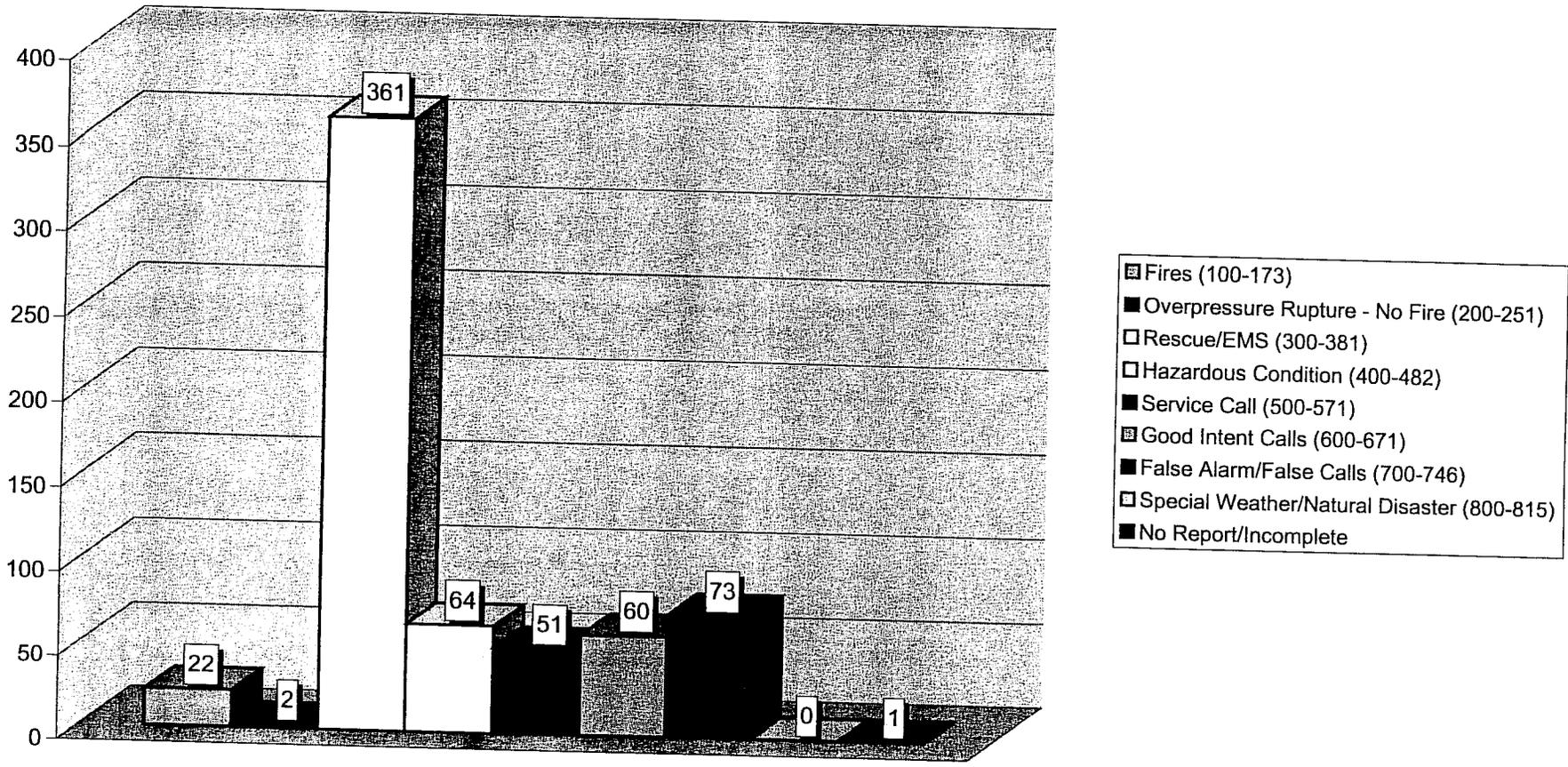
Dates of Importance

- Feb. 25th the 25th Memorial Ceremony for Lt. Martin Butch Melody and FF Joseph Halas will be held. It will begin with a Memorial Mass at St. Peter Church at 12:30PM. We will then march back to Hdqts. Anyone who wishes to join in the march will be welcome. A ceremony will be held at Hdqts. where the Department will present the Medal of Honor to both firefighters' widows. After the Ceremony at Hdqts you are all invited to TWO STEPS for refreshments.
- Feb. 3rd the Peer leadership Class from Danbury High School will host a breakfast for all on duty Police and Firefighters at Fire Hdqts.

Acting Fire Chief

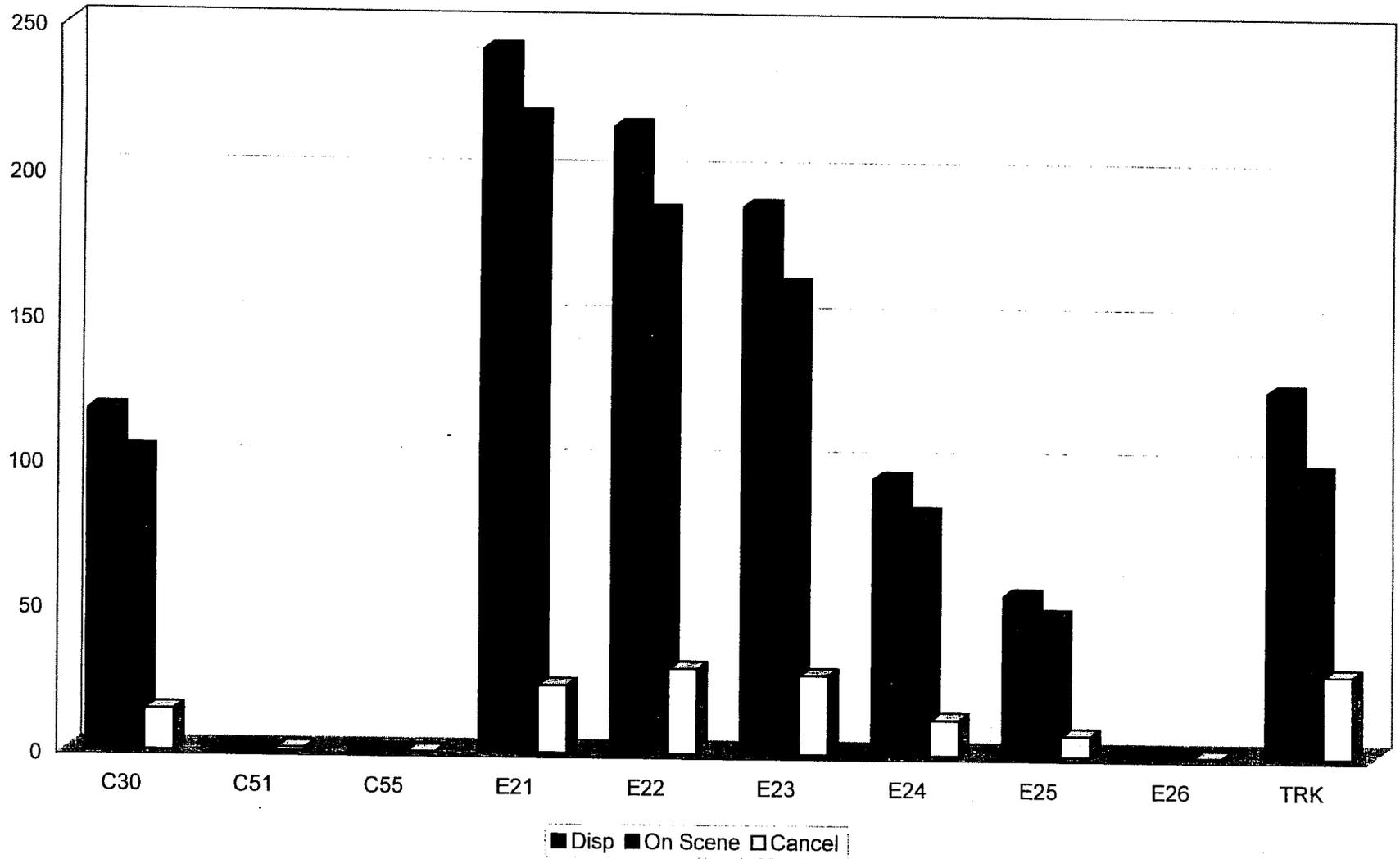
Philip D. Cuan

Fire Response Breakdown December 22, 2006 to January 29, 2007

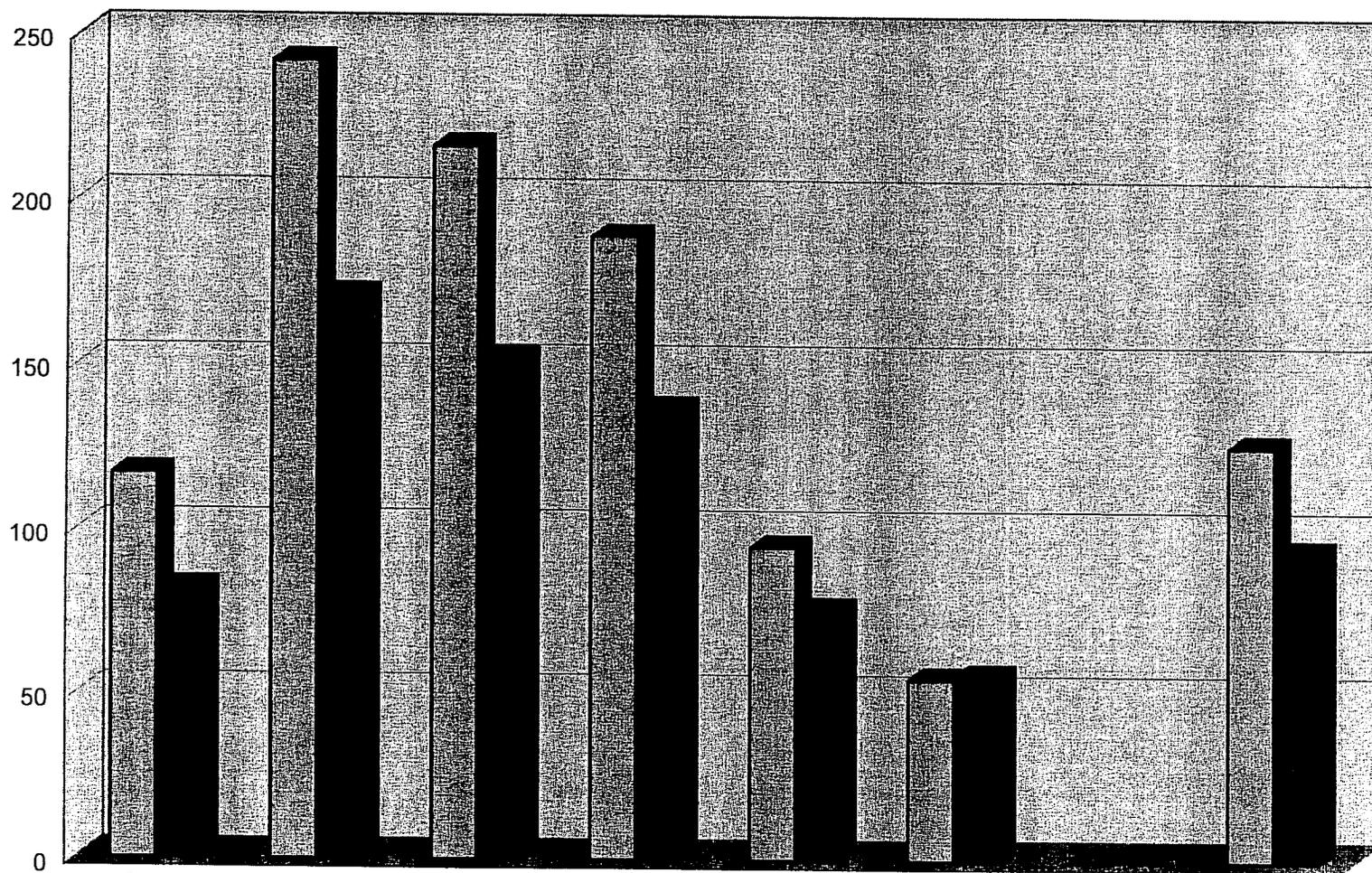


Career Company Response

December 22, 2006 to January 29, 2007



Career Response Comparison for January



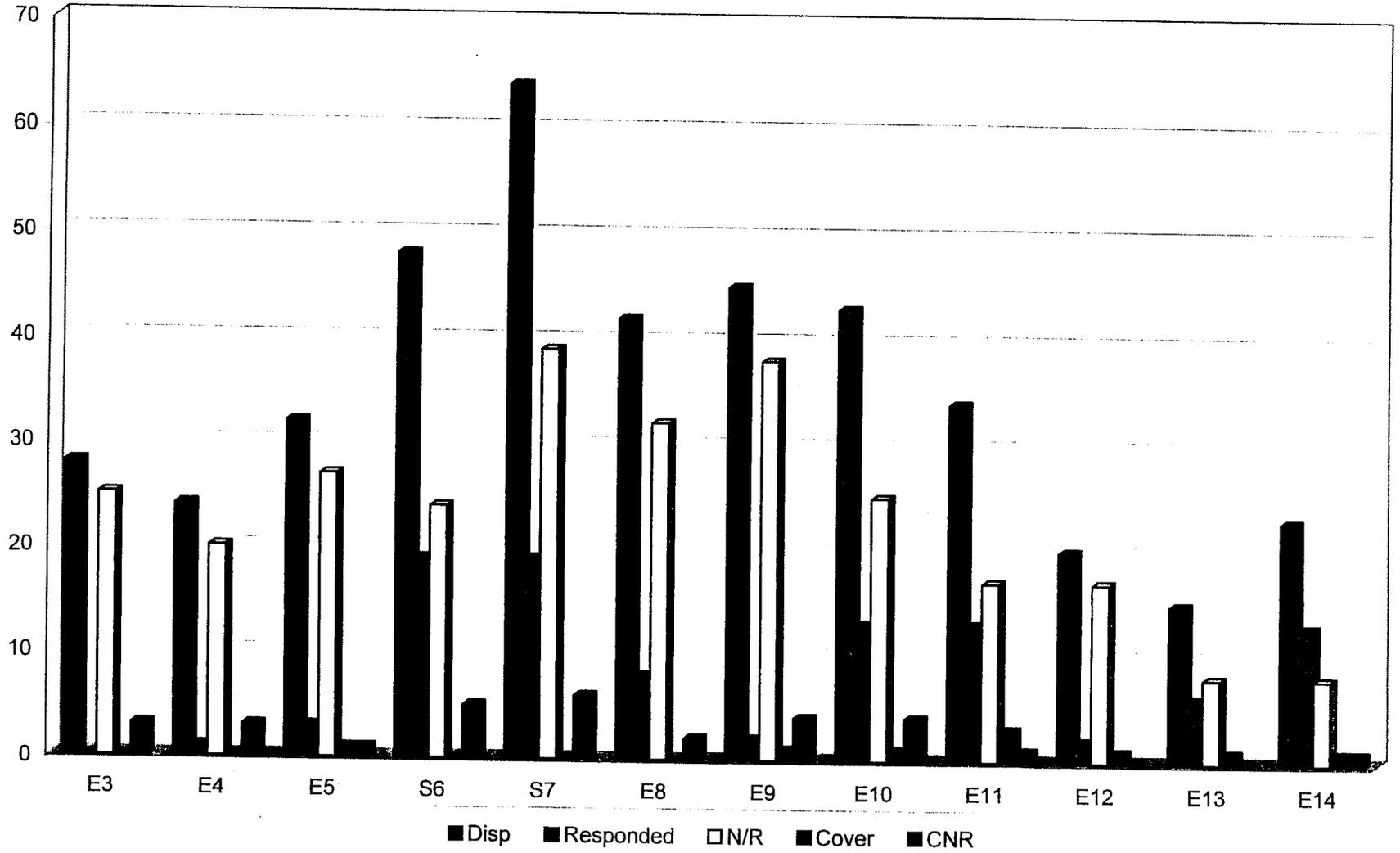
2007
 2006

	C30	E21	E22	E23	E24	E25	E26	TRK
2007	117	242	216	189	95	55	0	126
2006	82	171	152	137	76	56	2	94

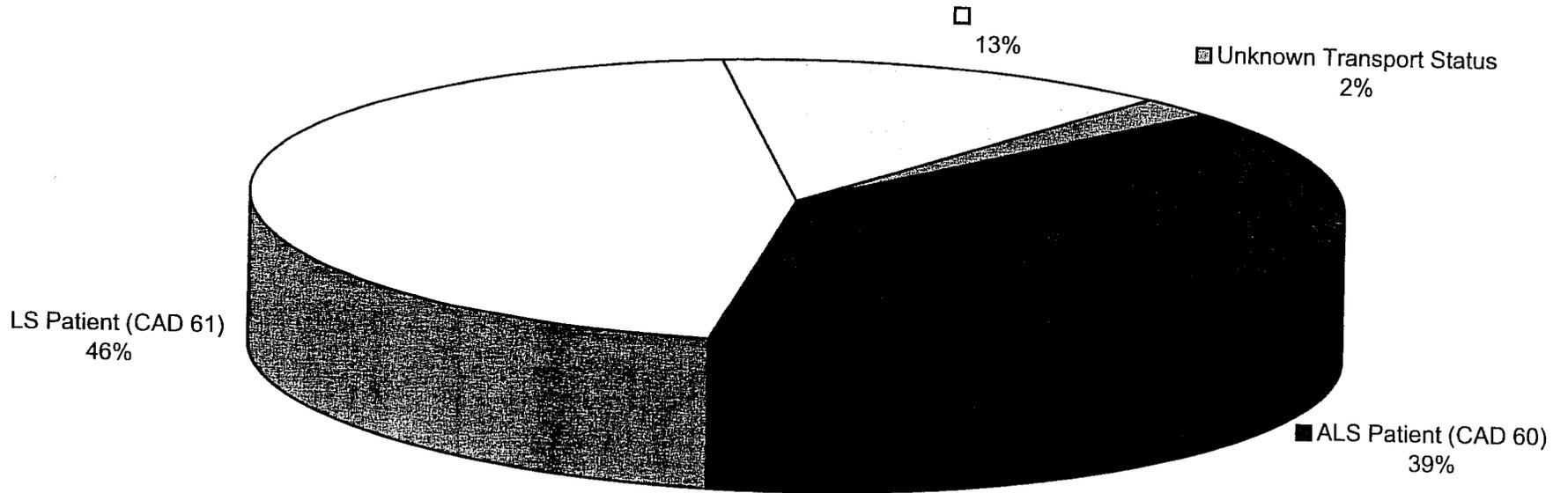
DANBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT
January Response Statistics

	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response Total	No Response Total	% of Response
E-3	28	0	3	0	25	11%
E-4	24	0	3	1	20	17%
E-5	32	1	1	3	27	16%
S-6	48	0	5	19	24	50%
S-7	64	0	6	19	39	39%
E-8	42	0	2	8	32	24%
E-9	45	1	4	2	38	16%
E-10	43	1	4	13	25	42%
E-11	34	3	1	13	17	50%
E-12	20	1	0	2	17	15%
E-13	15	1	0	6	8	47%
E-14	23	1	1	13	8	65%
Totals	418	9	30	99	280	33%

Volunteer Call Counts December 22, 2006 to January 29, 2007



EMS Transport Activity
December 22, 2006 to January 29, 2007



911 Center Activity December 22, 2006 to January 29, 2007

