



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

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February 26, 2007

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

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

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- A/C Herald continues to meet with the Water Dept. regarding the hydrant planning and replacing procedures.
- New employees Safety orientation at City Hall.
- Dep. Fire Marshal T.J. Wiedl took part in Student Shadow Day at City Hall.
- DFM Bill Weber did a Fire Safety Program at Babies R US.
- During the month there were several walk in tours from the public.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- On January 30th we responded to a structure fire at 58 Driftway Rd. While in route dispatch radioed that they had received calls stating that fire was coming out two of the windows. Upon arrival we found heavy flame coming out the

windows on the left side and rear of house. An off duty DPD officer stated to us that there should not be anyone home but he was not sure. We gained quick entry and knocked most of the fire down. We make a complete search of the house and we did find a deceased dog on the second floor. The home had considerable damage. The Red Cross was called and came to the scene to assist the family of five. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

- On February 11th we were dispatched to the Town Park area of Lake Candlewood for an ATV which had gone through the ice. It turned out to be a long day and part of the early evening at the Town Park. By the end of the evening we had to help pull four ATVs out of the lake. Fortunately no one was injured. One of the ATV required a heavy duty wrecker to pull it back up onto the ice. It turned out being a good training exercise for our people in the cold water rescue suits. Thankfully no one was injured.
- On February 12th we responded to 59 Old Ball Pond Rd. for a brush fire. Due to the dryness of the ground and the wind condition the fire quickly spread to almost an acre of land. By the time the fire was brought under control several fire companies from Danbury and one from New Fairfield were pressed into service. All residences in the area were spared any damage.
- In the area of unusual calls we responded to Quail Run for a possible water problem on the 18th. Upon arrival we found water coming from a basement wall. No one was home at the time so we had to make forcible entry through a basement window doing no damage. The heat was not running in the house. Ice had broken a water pipe causing heavy water damage to the house. The water in the toilets was frozen solid so the heat had been off for some time. The neighbor informed us that the owners were in China and were not expected back until the middle of March. We called the number on the furnace and a furnace repair man came to the scene. After talking with him it was determined to keep the heat off. We drained the water from the pipes that we could and with the help of E-12 we pumped out as much water as we could. We continued to try and reach the home owner the next day through his place of work. A friend of the home owner did finally respond to us and he said he would get in touch with the owner. Our personnel went beyond what was expected of them in order to not only keep down the damage but to try and contact the owner.

- On the 19th once again one of our crews went beyond what was required of them. They responded to an EMS call involving a mother with three children in her car experiencing chest pains. At first they assisted the ambulance crew with the mother taking care of her needs. It then became apparent that there was no one able to take care of the children. Our crew calmed the children down and then drove the children to the ER. They brought the children into the ER to be with their mother. They then locked her car and returned to service.

- Pre-incident planning continued on site inspections at: Crews visited Abbott Tech to take a look at their new alarm system, 30 Germantown Rd., 233 White St., Mall, Vacant buildings on Library Pl., Crown Point Reserve, 114 South St., East Ridge Condos, and 111 Main St.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/HAZ MAT - Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday

The continuous education program EMS Wednesday is designed to meet the EMS certifications 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 focus of this month's EMS Wednesday has been Soft Tissue and Musculo-Skeletal Trauma.

Although these types of injuries are the most common they also can have the greatest impact on the patient as a whole. Depending on the mechanism of injury, depending on the amount of kinetic energy that is transferred to the patient during the accident will determine the extent of the injury to the patient and what body systems/ functions are compromised

The Danbury Fire Departments First Responders have a comprehensive knowledge of Emergency Medical treatments and can recognize the progression of symptoms which directly impacts patient survivability. Thru rapid deployment and the use of Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support skills, firefighters can prevent organ failure, system failure and organism death.

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.

Communcations/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Communications Division
Activity Report -January 29 to February 25, 2007

Dispatcher James Leonard has given his notice that at the end of this month he be will be retiring from the department. Jim was promoted to the position of Dispatcher in May 1988. During the course of his service as a dispatcher Jim was instrumental in setting up the first version of an emergency medical dispatch program that was used when the department operated the ambulance. The professionalism and quick manner in which Dispatcher Leonard worked undoubtedly has been an untold part of many emergencies in the past 19 years. Jim's knowledge of the city and his committed spirit to the department will be missed.

Work on several keys projects within the department continues.

- The growth of buildings in the city keeps the division busy updating street records and response areas within the CAD system.
- With new personnel transitioning into new jobs, training and familiarization of computer systems, dispatch policies and procedures is ongoing.
- The city has begun the process of evaluating prospective consultants for a radio system project being led by the Police Department.

Training - Mark Omasta

In conjunction with the Fire Marshall's Division an N.F.I.R s (National Fire Incident Reporting System) class was scheduled for

the four crews. This is a no-cost class offered through the CT Office of Education and Training. Trainer JoLynn VanWart provided the department with updated NFIRS manuals, reviewed existing codes and explained changes in the system. B and C group received the class with A and D group are scheduled within the next two weeks.

The 2Q driver certification class began on February 22, 2007. This is a 30 hr. class given by the Ct Fire Academy at our Headquarters. The course will continue with two dates in March, with a test by the DMV in early April. We have 9 career and one volunteer FF in the program.

The training division qualified two FF's from C group as Pump Operators (per S.O.P. 403.01, Driver Qualification and Training). They successfully completed the 4 step procedure spelled out in the S.O.P. and passed the written and practical testing.

We have 20 individuals registered for the Incident Safety Officer class scheduled for March 6 and 7 at Headquarters. This class is being offered by the Ct Fire Academy through a grant.

Seven individuals registered for Connecticut Officers Weekend at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland to be held the last weekend in March.

Volunteer FF 1st quarter Training and the Upcoming Firefighter I class was posted on the City Web site in early February. 26 volunteers attended the first two sessions of 1st quarter training (Bloodborne and Haz Mat Ops Refresher). Two more classes are scheduled. Capt. Meehan and FF Osborne are instructing the bloodborne refresher portion.

We accepted a donation of a car for training purposes at the Fire School. We took down a non-load bearing wall in the trailer at the Fire School to make the space more usable for a classroom. Addressi Fencing adjusted the gate to swing "in" for safer access for our Apparatus at the School.

We met with Barry Groman, the coordinator for the Fire Science Degree program at N.V.C.C. (Naugatuck Valley Community College). Councilman Duane Perkins, a teacher at NVCC also attended. We are in the process of reviewing transcripts from our personnel as we plan to work with NVCC with offering college classes here in Danbury. There are approximately 35 Firefighters enrolled in the degree program and we expect those numbers to increase with the addition of many new recruits. We hope to start offering classes this coming fall.

We met with representatives from Electro- Energy and Boehringer Ingelheim to help answer questions they had concerning fire safety issues.

I am working with Melissa Adams from the I.T. Department who is developing an improved excel program to track and document our ongoing training for the volunteer and career divisions. She has been a great help and knowledgeable resource.

Chief Slagle and I participated in a table top exercise on Friday, February 23, to review Emergency Procedures at the Airport with the Airport Administrator and Assistant, the PD, BSI Coordinator, and an air traffic Controller.

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 February. 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.

We have declared the 1987 and 1988 Mack pumps surplus. It is our hope that the purchasing department will be putting these units out to public auction sometime in March.

Truck 1 had a defective turbocharger and it was replaced (under warranty) earlier in the month. Currently this unit is fully operational.

This past month we spent a considerable amount of time completing the installation of laptops in our apparatus. With the help of Communication Supervisor Patrick Sniffin we have completed the transition from the older Data 911 units to the new Panasonic Toughbooks.

This past month we also spent a considerable amount of time doing routine maintenance on staff cars, as well as small repair items on fire apparatus.

Currently E-21 is out of service due to a possible defective differential. We are currently investigating the situation.

Good of the Organization

- The Danbury High Peer leadership class cooked and served a delicious breakfast for the on duty Police and firefighters on Sat. the 3rd of Feb.
- E-26 construction is moving along thanks to the mild winter we are having.
- The Fire Chief Search committee had its first meeting this month. Interviews will begin on March 6th.
- Five new recruits for the Department will report to the Ct. ST. Fire Academy on March 5th to begin classes.
- On Sunday the 25th hundreds of people turned out for the 25th Anniversary of the deaths of Lt. Butch Melody and FF Joseph Halas. Both widows were presented post humorously the Department's Medal of Honor. Throughout the ceremony there were plenty of smiles and plenty of tears from all those that attended. Everyone who attended agreed that the committee had done a wonderful job in honoring both Lt. Melody and FF Halas for their actions on Feb. 23, 1982.
- On Feb. 23rd A/C Slagle and T.O. Omasta participated in a required table top exercise at Danbury Airport.

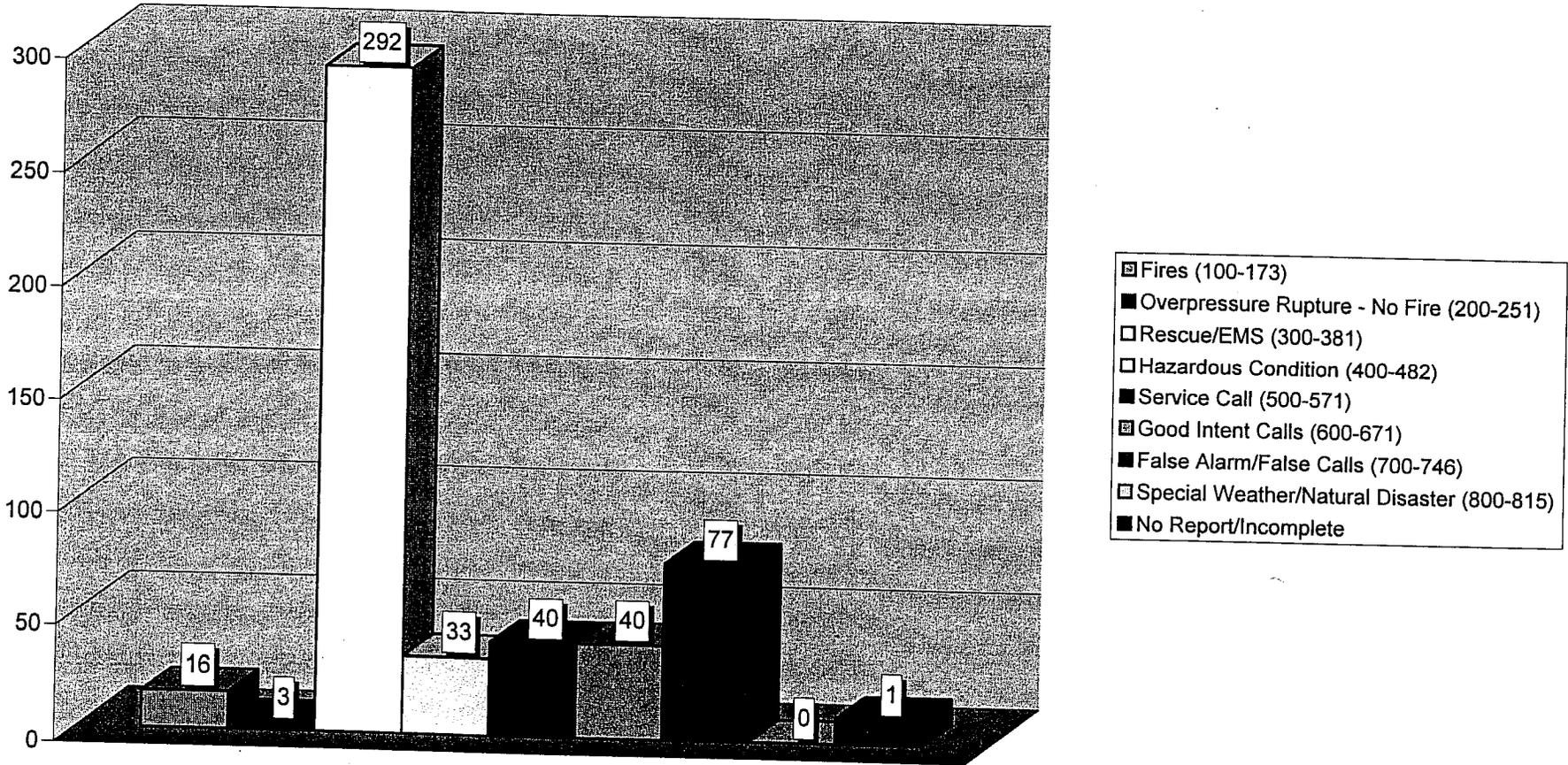
Dates of Importance

- March 5th new recruits start at Ct. St. Fire Academy in Windsor Locks.
- March 10th. Volunteer Annual Ball at the Amber Room.
- March 17th Annual Danbury Hospital Safety Day 10:00AM-2:00PM in the fifth floor lobby.

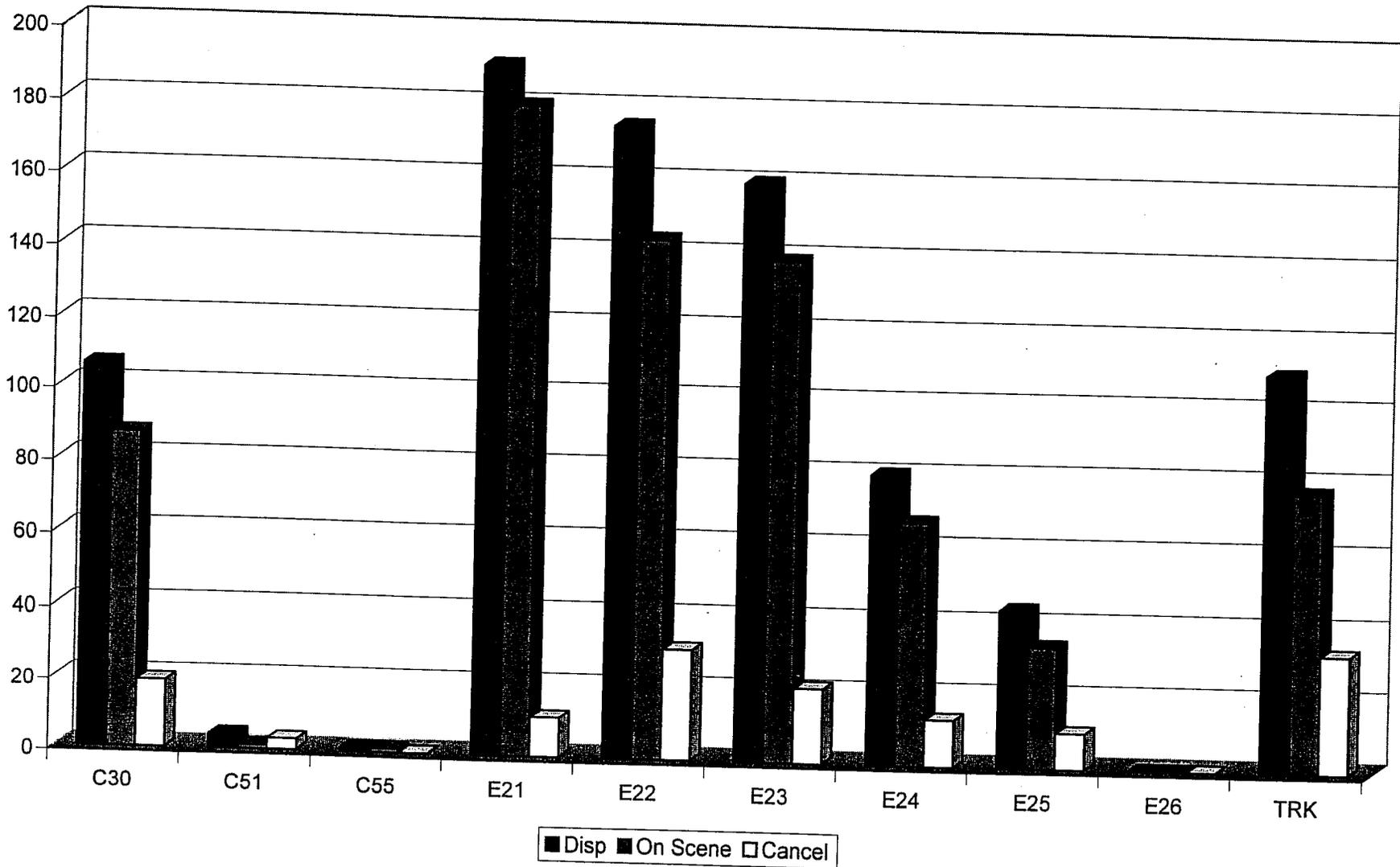
Fire Chief

Philip D. Curran

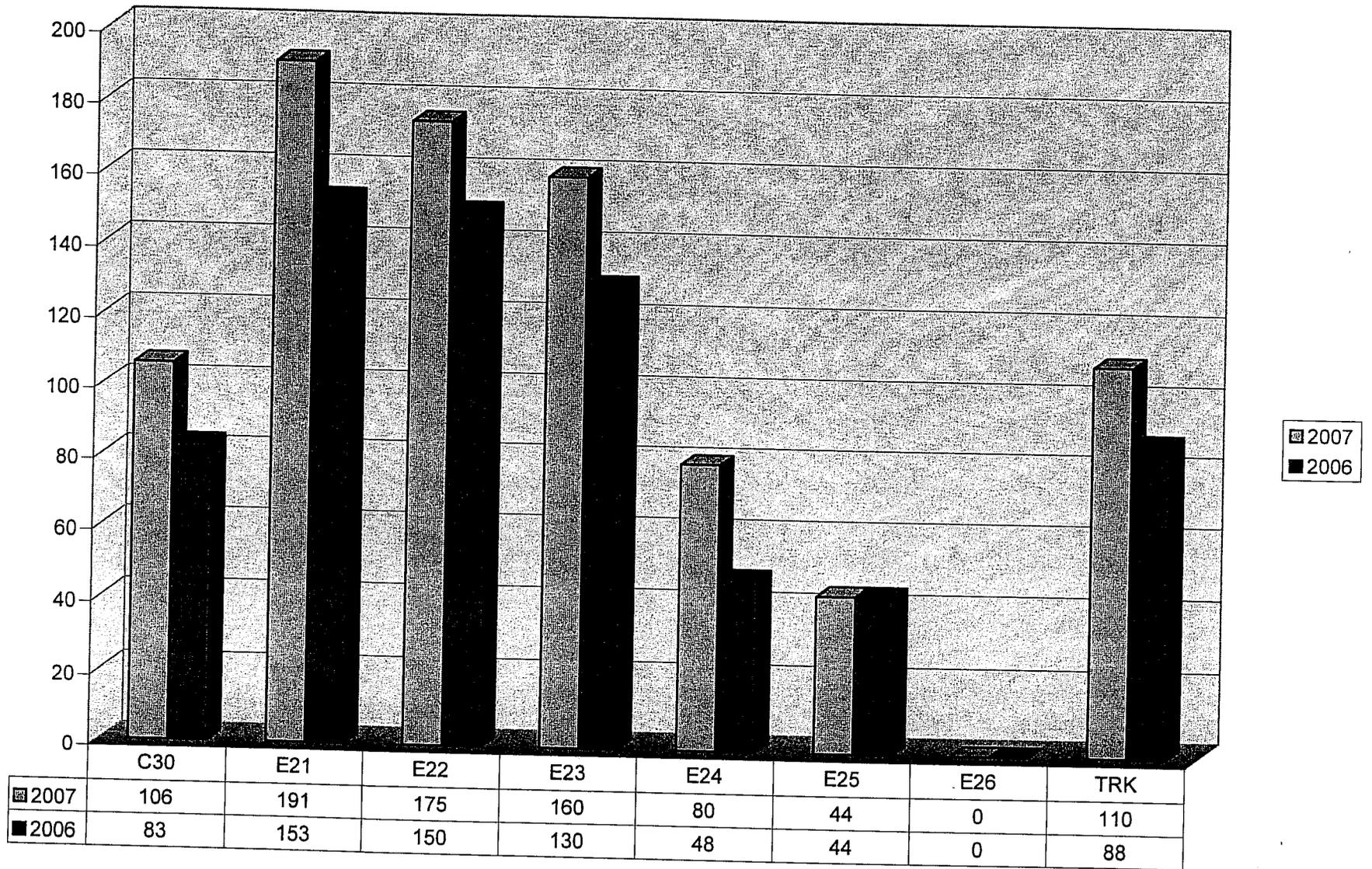
Fire Response Breakdown January 29, 2007 to February 25, 2007



Career Company Response January 29, 2007 to February 25, 2007



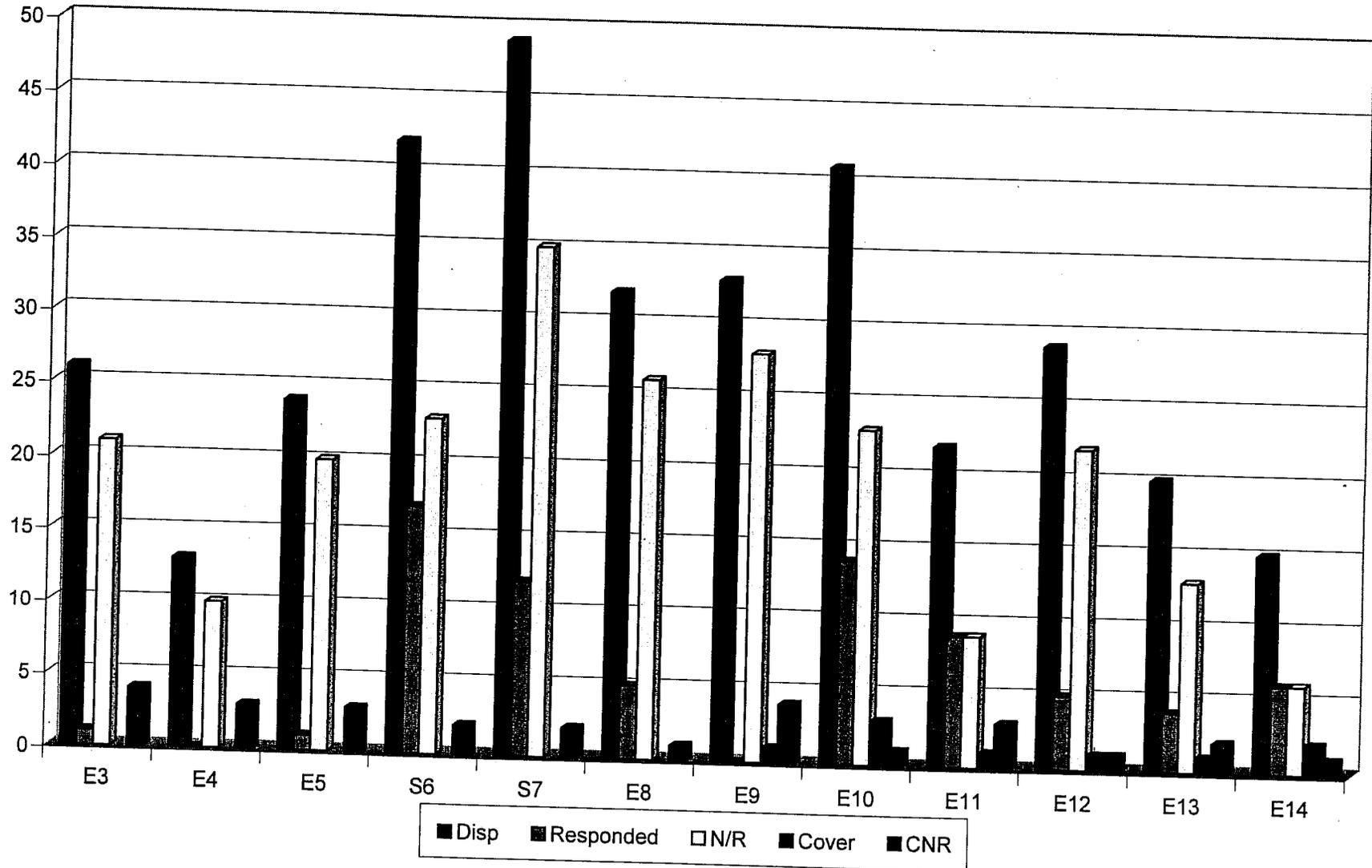
Career Response Comparison for February



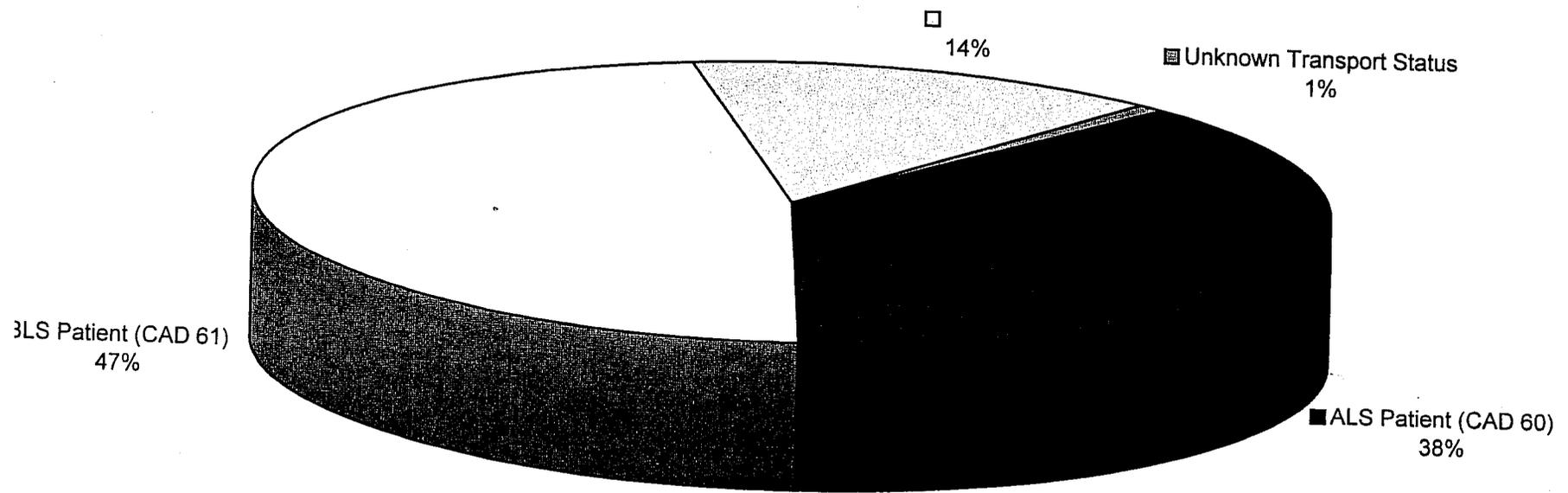
DANBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT
February Response Statistics

	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response Total	No Response Total	% of Response
E-3	26	0	4	1	21	19%
E-4	13	0	3	0	10	23%
E-5	24	0	3	1	20	17%
S-6	42	0	2	17	23	45%
S-7	49	0	2	12	35	29%
E-8	32	0	1	5	26	19%
E-9	33	1	4	0	28	15%
E-10	41	3	1	14	23	44%
E-11	22	1	3	9	9	59%
E-12	29	1	1	5	22	24%
E-13	20	1	2	4	13	35%
E-14	15	2	1	6	6	60%
Totals	346	9	27	74	236	32%

Volunteer Call Counts January 29, 2007 to February 25, 2007



EMS Transport Activity
January 29, 2007 to February 25, 2007



911 Center Activity January 29, 2007 to February 25, 2007

