



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

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Feb. 28, 2006

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Acting Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of January 23, 2006 to February 28, 2006 and detail some activities of the Department.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- Members of D Group spent half a day at WalMart Dept. Store Parking Area explaining FD operations to the general public and also explained the EMS System at the same time.
- E-23 spoke to some residents of Capitola Rd. who had concerns about the News-Times article about the weight limit for Padanaram Rd. and assured them that the Fire Department response would not be delayed.
- Lt. Lorinda Arconti met with Jackie Dinardo to discuss the 5/26/06 Mock DUI Crash planned for DHS.
- Gave several tours of Fire Headquarters to Girl Scout troops and other small groups.
- Pre-incident planning continued on site inspections at YMCA pre-school, Padanaram Rd. bridge issue, Loew's Theater, BRT project on Crosby St. WCSU New Student Ctr., Lexington Mews, Shepard Hill Condos, Boston Billiards Complex, Condo's at Wildman's Landing, WCSU parking facility, Hampton Inn, Branson Sonic Power, Putnam Towers.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- E-21 responded to a car hit by a train at the Great Pasture Rd. Crossing during the snowstorm on Feb. 12th. The operator of the car got hung up on the tracks and apparently burned out his clutch. Before he could get help, a train came along at 50 MPH. The operator jumped out of

harms way but the car was hit and impaled on the steering knuckle on the front of the train. The train came to a stop about a quarter of a mile from the point of impact. E-21 used their chain hooked to the car and the track as the Engineer backed the train to get the car off the front. There were only two passengers on board the train at the time. A/C Omasta came to the scene and gave the passengers a ride to the Danbury train station so they could get on with their day. Thankfully there were no injuries from the incident.

- On Feb. 9th units responded to 24 Cross St for a structure fire. Upon arrival the units encountered a two family home heavily involved in flames. They were told by the home owner that everyone was out of the building. An interior attack was attempted but in a short time it was determined that the building was no longer structurally sound. All personnel were ordered to evacuate the building. Shortly after the evacuation the roof fell in. The remaining time was spent wetting down the debris. A demolition contractor had to be called to the scene to help in the overhaul. The building was an entire lost. Three residents of the house were taken to the Hospital primarily for smoke inhalation. No fire service injuries were reported.
- On Feb. 22 there was a small kitchen fire at 175 Briar Ridge Rd. Upon arrival the fire had been put out by the landlord who had heard the smoke detector going off. The tenant had fallen asleep. There was slight damage to the stove and the cabinet above the stove. Without the smoke detector the outcome might have been much more tragic.
- The heavy snowfall on the 12th of the month forced us to increase the manpower on the engines to assist in any emergencies. During the storm we were fortunate in not having a major incident. The Volunteers manned their stations during this time. After the storm was over all the Engine Companies shoveled out key hydrants in their districts.
- On the 23rd of the month we responded to a fire at 78 W. Redding Rd. A woodstove had malfunctioned and caused a fire in an exterior wall. The fire was quickly extinguished with minimal damage to the home.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/HAZ MAT - Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday

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 Topic for this months EMS Wednesday was Diabetic Emergencies and Altered Mental Status. These emergencies require that First Responders recognize and treat the condition that diabetes or poor management that may cause this condition, determine what type of patient you are dealing with and what modalities of treatment are appropriate. The chief sign is an altered metal status, proper assessment of the patient and good patient history will determine whether the patient is a diabetic or is a victim of a stoke or cerebral vascular accident

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-B Recert

The following Firefighters are scheduled to renew their EMT –B certification. The Test is scheduled to be held on Monday March 27th 2006

A-Group	B-Group	C-Group	D-Group
Croswell	Ambruso	Arconti	Grover
Drentwett	Horosky	Kovalsky	Keenan
Leach	Mion	McCleary	Miguel
Lillis	Newton	Rogers	Silk
Omasta	Ryan		Speed
Pollard	Sable		Tyskiewicz
Russell	Stillson		Vosburgh
Schiller			
Tierney			
40 Hr. personnel			
Gillotti	Rodriguez		
Perry	Sniffin		
Rao	Wiedl		

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.

During the weeks of Februarys 6-8, 2006 and February 21-23, 2006 all members of the Danbury Fire Department attended classes held at Western Connecticut State University and is now the

first in the state to achieved 100 % compliance with the Presidential Directive on training and implementation of the National Incident management System

Communcations/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Communications Division
Activity Report -January 23, 2006 - February 26, 2006

Mobile Data Terminals

Fire Department mobile data units have been operational for over one month with no appreciable software issues.

Installation of software on EMS units has begun. Following installation and end user training for EMS staff, these units will be deployed.

Radio System

The radio components being installed as part of the FIRES grant that was received is nearly complete. A final pair of receivers is awaiting a lease amendment prior to being installed at the Boxwood Lane Water facility. This approval is expected in the near future.

HQ Intercom System

During the week of February 20, 2006 the public address system at Fire Headquarters was replaced. A new amplifier, additional speakers and shielded cabling was installed. This system replaced the old system that had parts that dated back to the early 80's. As a part of the installation the sound levels were matched to the area of the building, the apparatus floor had additional speakers installed. The net result is that the sound quality of emergency alerts and intercom paging is much better.

Training - James Thorne

First quarter training for the Volunteer Division will be completed tonight. We had six scheduled classes for Bloodborne pathogen training. The first class was scheduled the last week of January. We had no problems with any Volunteer Company not receiving the schedule information from the Fire Department web site. All training information will be through the web site until further notice. This communication information was told to all Volunteer Companies with no objections. Eighty nine (89) firefighters attended this training so far.

The last OSHA trench class is finished

The NIMS training is finished for the entire Department.

Six new recruits will start this Thursday. They have all been in my office and should be dressed in their work uniforms when they report for duty. The Deputy and myself will have them equipped and on their way to the CFA by Friday.

Worked as the Safety Officer at a structure fire on Cross Street.

Attended NIMS training for three days

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- Volunteer 1st quarter training
 - Fire School still going forward
 - Fire Service Instructor & Fire Officer classes completed and tested
 - OSHA trench class in finished
 - NIMS training finished
 - Two vehicles donated for training
 - Safety Officer

Meetings

Fairfield Chief's

Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo - Apparatus Mechanic

Superintendent Randall Morits official retirement date is today February 27, 2006. I have been in contact with him several times since he started his vacation back in January. He has

settled into his new home in chilly Wisconsin and is enjoying retirement immensely

Last month we reported to you that the generator on the ladder truck failed. The unit was removed and sent to Hartford to an authorized Onan Dealership for repairs. The Onan Dealer has informed us that the problem with the generator was due to its exposure to the elements, more specifically road sand and salt. Expecting that this will only happen again we contacted Firematic, our Pierce dealer and filed a request for some engineered modifications. We were informed this week that some dialog has occurred between Pierce and Onan engineers as to the best way to rectify this problem. We will keep you posted on the progress.

The Division with the assistance of the Communications Supervisor conducted an inventory of portable radios and started the conditioning of portable radio batteries. This "conditioning" will be ongoing this month as well, with the end result of an accurate count on useable batteries

All of the Departments BioSystem meters have been span gas calibrated. We are experiencing some problems with the meters and with the help of our dealer Field Services it has been determined that the problems are being caused by static electricity. As each meter comes in for calibration we have been also cleaning the units with an anti static cleaner in the hopes that this will cut down on the problems we are having. BioSystems engineers are currently working on a permanent solution.

The windshield, gasket and spine have been installed in Engine 21

All out of service SCBA have been evaluated. The parts lists for the repairs that can be done in house have had a purchase order issued. All the SCBA'S that have been sent to the factory for repairs have had a purchase order issued and work on them has begun. They should be returned to Headquarters within the next week.

The 2006 Ford Expedition has arrived. This unit will be replacing the 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe being used by the Assistant Chiefs. We are currently working with the Communication Supervisor on a layout plan for radios, MDT's, portables. We also are currently receiving quotes for lettering.

With the promotion of two new Captains this month we have extended our current discussions as to the purchase of the two new rescue saws to replace the twenty five year old units currently used on the truck companies in order to include their input into the process.

Engine 25 suffered a broken main leaf spring. After closer inspection it was determined that both front leaf packs have tremendous fatigue and wear on them. In order to affect a safe repair both leaf packs were replaced.

This past month we spent a considerable amount of time re-organizing the office and work area with the hopes of being able to better respond to the needs of the department. We still have some work to do and will squeeze it in as time allows.

Good of the Organization

- Six new recruits will start work this week. They start March 6th at the State Fire Academy. The six new recruits are: Gary Bruce, Keith Sellick, Theodore Mourges, Adam Hughes, Michael Sedgewick, and John Whitehead.
- We had the swearing in of our new Officers on Feb. 14th. The new Officers are: A/C Geoff Herald, Capt. Bernie Meehan, Capt. Dave Easter, Lt. Shaun McQuade, and Lt. Karl Drentwett.
- This past month has seen the retirements of A/C Ed Vachovetz, App. Sup. Randy Morits, Disp. Doug Doran and FF Ron Hollister.
- All members of the Department completed the Nims Course given at WCSU. We are the first Department in the State to be certified in the NIMS System.
- FF Mark Miguel attended a Health and Safety Seminar at UCONN sponsored by the Stamford FD.
- FF Steve Sedlak has the starring role in Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde in Thomaston Theater.
- Lt. Gary Arconti has been elected to the PAL Girls Softball Board of Directors.
- A/C Herald attended the Enhanced Incident Command Unified Command class in Texas at Texas A & M Univ.

- Capt. Meehan and FF Charlie Payne designed and made a RIT Stretcher by using a folding ladder.
- The Department hockey team continues to practice for the game on Apr. 2nd against the Police Dept.
- Members of A Group participated in the East Coast Ski Race at Hunter Mountain. The team consisted of Joe Halas, Karl Drentwett, Jaime Schiller and Mark Omasta. The team placed 5th out of 60 teams.
- March 5th there will be a Fundraiser for Chris Lyle hosted by Local 801 at Molly Darceys. Chris's Dad FF Doug Lyle was killed this past year in a motorcycle accident while on vacation.
- The construction of the new E-25 is on schedule for a mid-April completion. The new concrete was poured this week and it has a 14 day curing period.

Dates of Importance

- March 5th - Chris Lyle Fundraiser at Molly Darcys.
- March 6th - New Recruits start at St. of Ct. Fire Academy.
- March 17th - St. Patrick's Day
- March 19th - Hibernian Parade 2:00 PM
- Apr. 2nd - Charity Hockey Game Danb.Fire vs. Danb. PD

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Fires	13
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	0
Rescue/EMS	264
Hazardous Condition	37
Service Calls	44
Good Intent Calls	64
False Alarm/False Calls	73
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	1
No Report/Incomplete	3

Total Fire Calls..499.....

For the month, the City Ambulance Service responded to 677 Emergency Medical Calls. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Total EMS responses	677
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No patient EMS Calls	101
BLS Patient Calls	284
ALS EMS Calls	284
EMS Mutual Aid Requests	7
EMS Calls passed to Back-up	16

The total calls into the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center for the month were 3121 with a daily average of 91.79 calls per day. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Fire Response Calls	499
EMS Response calls.	677
Abandoned Calls	519
911 Hang Ups	795
Admin Calls Received	892
Cellular 911 Calls	1087

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.

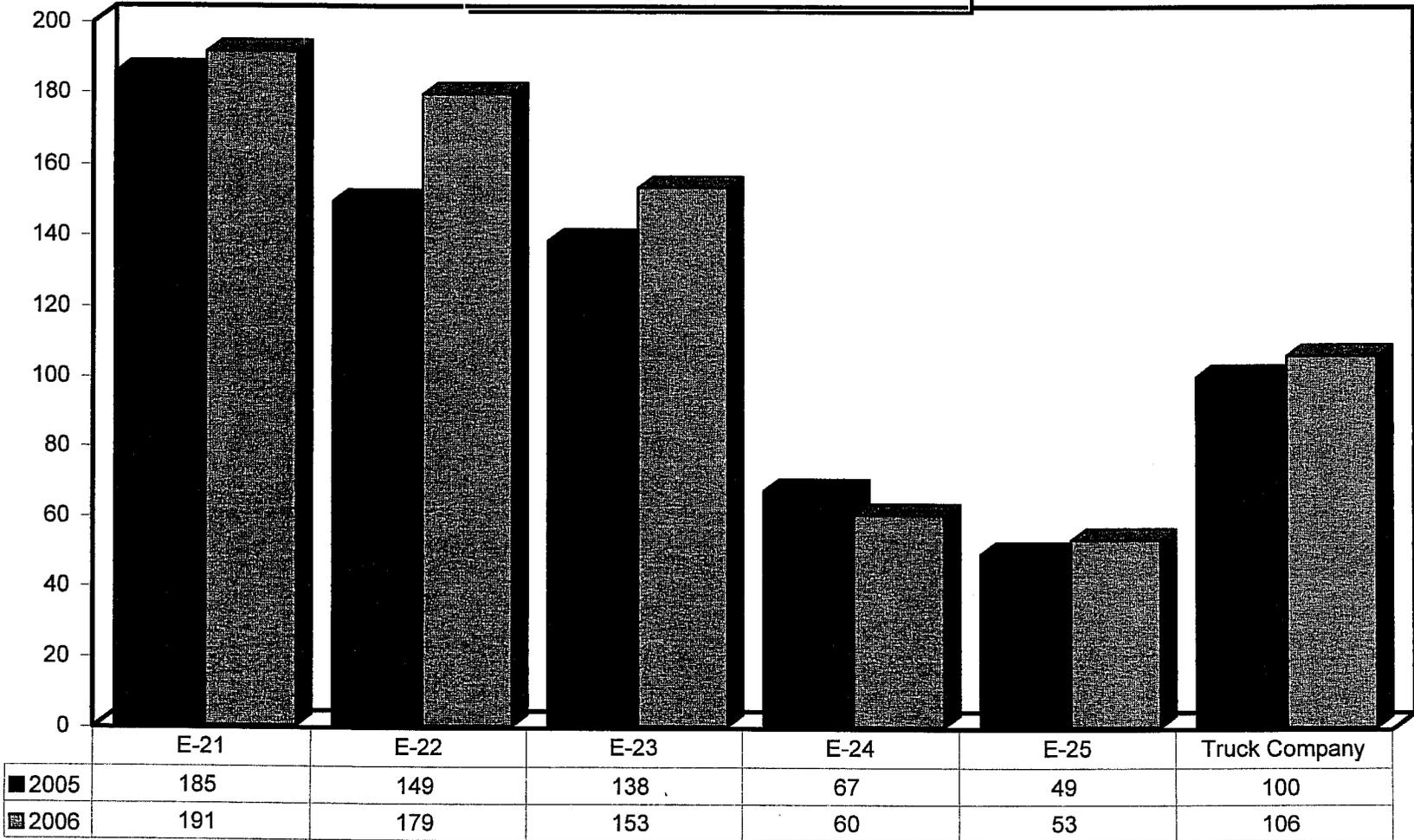
Respectfully submitted,



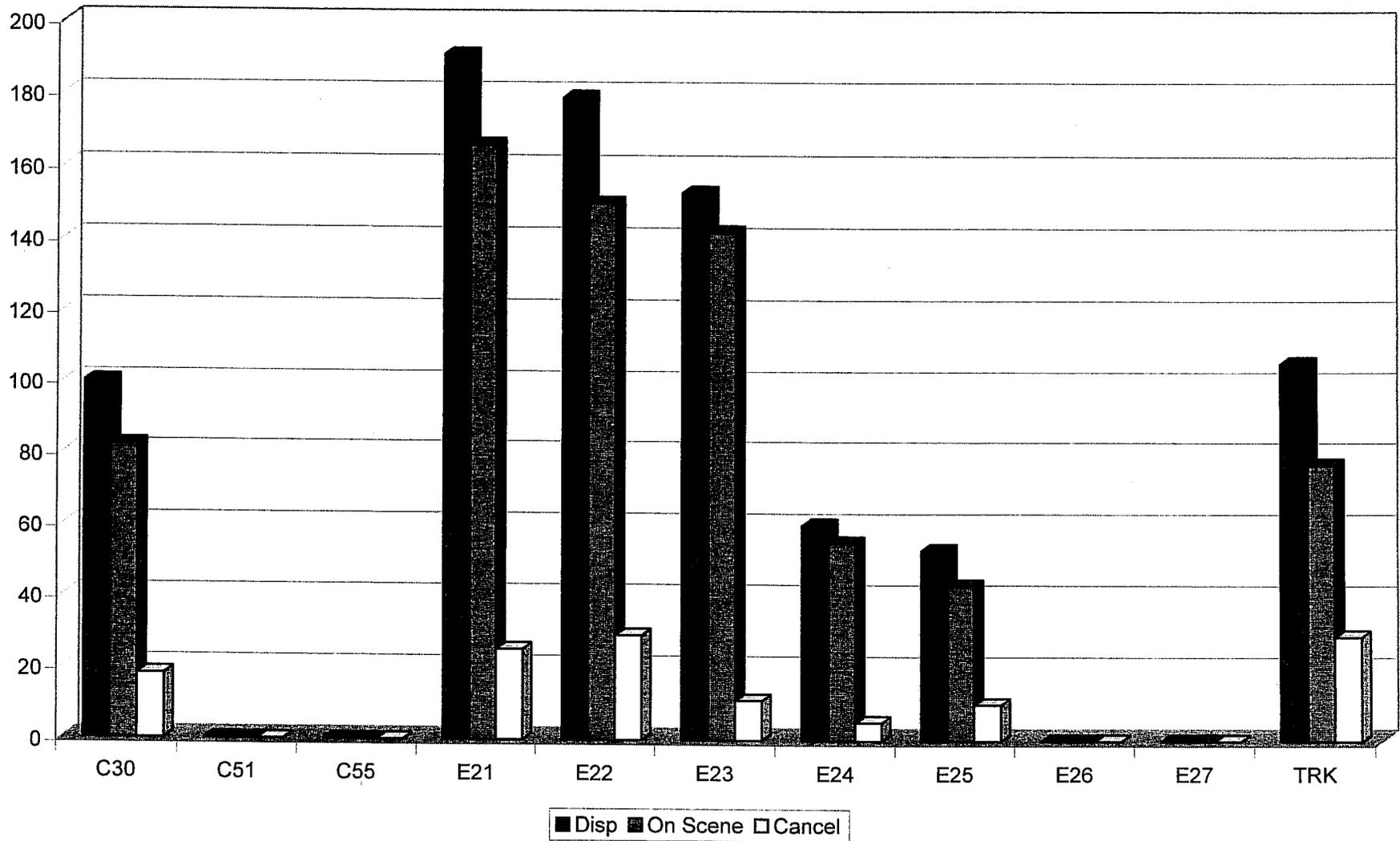
Philip Curran
Deputy Fire Chief

Fire Chief

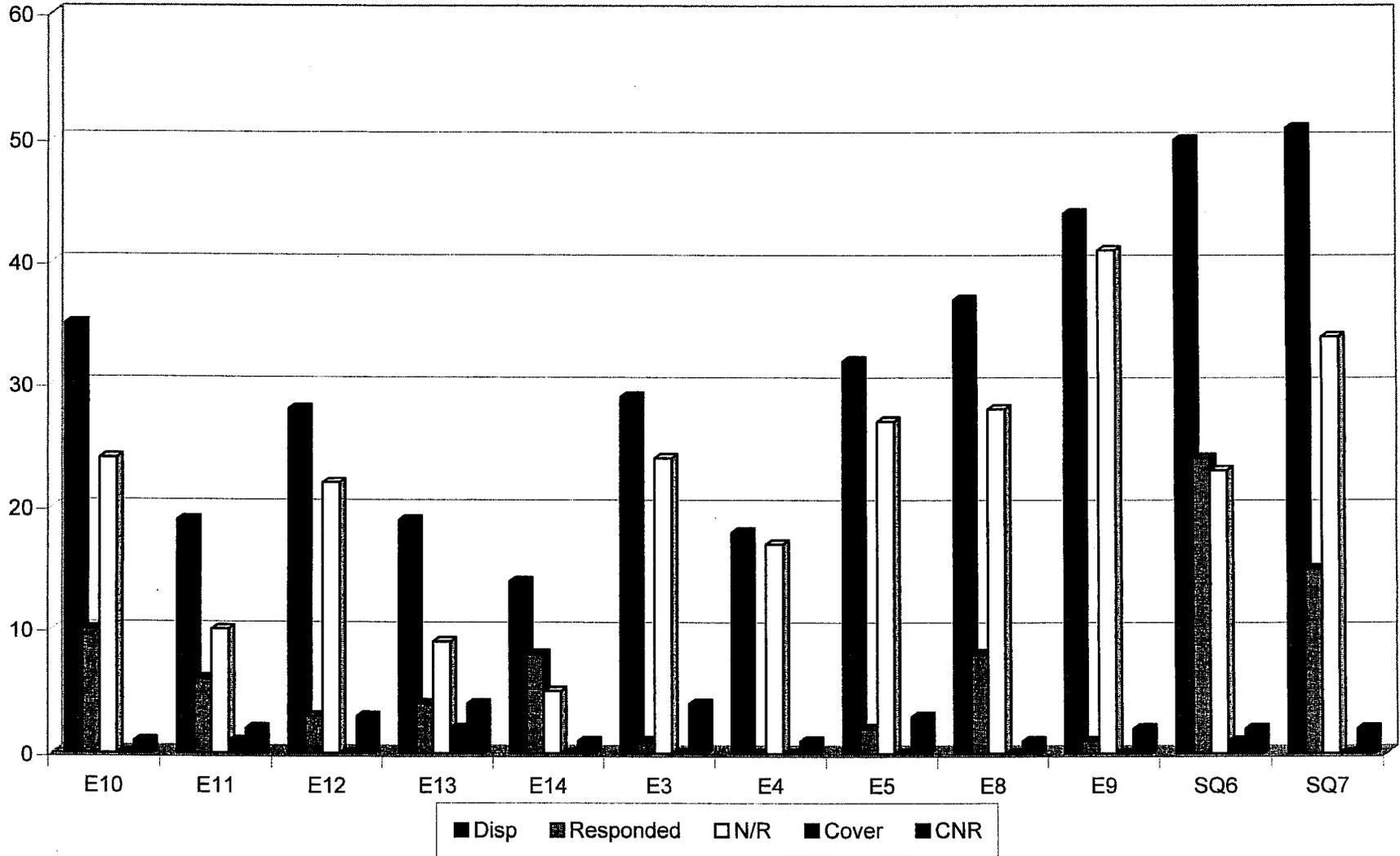
**Danbury Fire Department
February Company Response Statistics**



Career Company Response Jan 23, 2006 to Feb 26, 2006

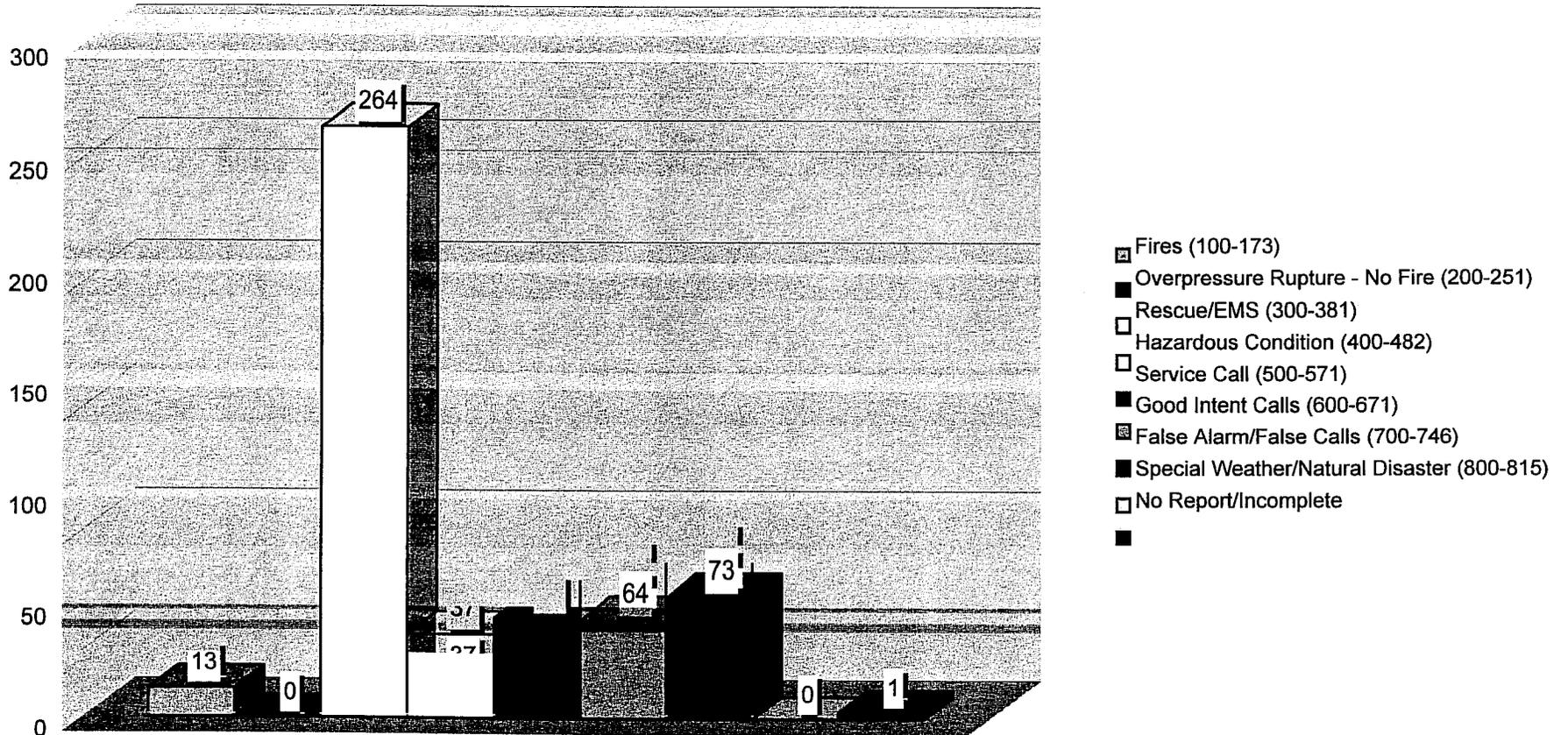


Volunteer Call Counts Jan 23, 2006 to Feb 26, 2006



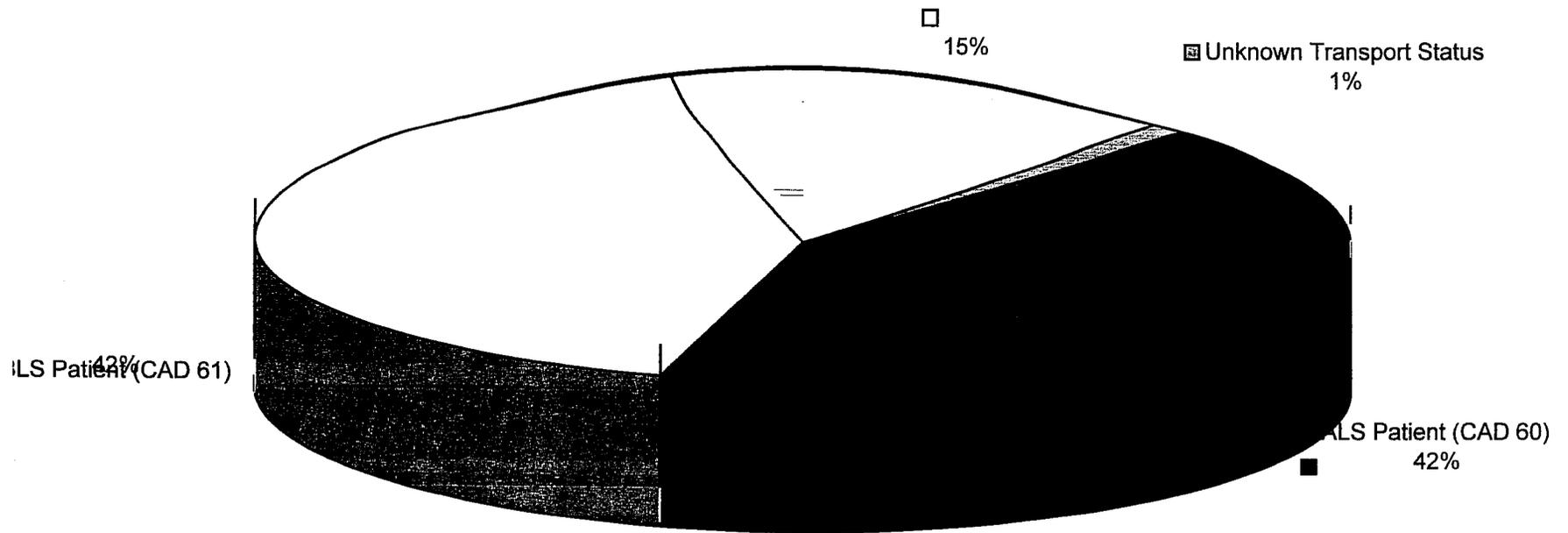
DANBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE RESPONSES						2006		
		February	Response	Statistics				
	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response	No Response	% of Response		
				Total	Total			
E-3	29	0	4	1	24	17%		
E-4	18	0	1	0	17	6%		
E-5	32	0	3	2	27	16%		
S-6	50	1	2	24	23	54%		
S-7	51	0	2	15	34	33%		
E-8	37	0	1	8	28	24%		
E-9	44	0	2	1	41	7%		
E-10	35	0	1	10	24	31%		
E-11	19	1	2	6	10	47%		
E-12	28	0	3	3	22	21%		
E-13	19	2	4	4	9	53%		
E-14	14	0	1	8	5	64%		
Totals	376	4	26	82	264	30%		

Fire Response Breakdown Jan 23, 2006 to Feb 26, 2006



EMS Transport Activity

Jan 23, 2006 to Feb 26, 2006



911 Center Activity Jan 23, 2006 to Feb 26, 2006

