



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

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October 31, 2006

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my final report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of September 26, 2006 to October 31, 2006 and details some of the activities of the Department.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- October is Fire Prevention Month and that leads to several groups coming to the Fire House for tours and talks on fire safety.
- Headquarters personnel gave a tour of the New St. station and apparatus to a WCSU preschool class of 32 children aged 3-5 years.
- C-Grp. E-21 presented a Fire Prevention talk to 30 children from Pembroke School's Kindergarten. They also assisted 55 third graders from Pembroke in recognizing and identifying characteristics of role models by explaining the importance of traits generally found in firefighters. Additionally, E-21 conducted a tour of Hdqts for 18 Girl Scouts, Brownies and their leaders.
- D- Grp did a Fire Safety Demo at King St. School.
- B-Grp performed a training exercise with employees of the F.C.I. in confine space rescue.

- A-Grp. Hosted 20 children from Country Kids Day Care and first graders from Morris St. School. They also hosted King St. School's Tiger Cub Scouts.

- A-Grp. Crews participated in the all day Oktoberfest held at the Emanuel Lutheran Church.

- Pre-incident planning continued on site inspections at: King St. Church and Preschool, King St. Primary and Intermediate Schools, Hancock Hall, Filosa Convalescent Home, Stonegate Estates, Westville Ave. Estates, Bishop Curtis, Woodland Hills, Glencrest, new McDonald's on Rt. 6, Ford Block at corner of Main and Library, Pinney Hall WCSU, Lutheran School and Church, Brookside Rest Home, Sconscet Ridge Development, Putnam Towers, Oil Mill Condos, and Early Childhood Center.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- On Sept. 30th we responded to Fairfield Ridge for a report of a bedroom fire. Upon arrival we found slight smoke coming from the second floor of the structure. The occupants were evacuated and standing outside the fire building. The firefighters entered and found heavy smoke on the second floor. They found a small fire on the floor and a dresser of one of the bedrooms. The fire was put out with an extinguisher. There was smoke damage to the entire home. The occupants of the fire apartment were relocated and the Housing Authority came to secure the building. The Fire Marshal investigated the fire and found that the occupant had been ironing in that room and when she was done she put the iron down on the top of the dresser. She then went downstairs to make lunch when she discovered the smoke from the fire.

- On Oct. 2 we responded to Town Hill Ave. for a report of smoke coming from an apartment. Upon arrival we found a slight smoke haze coming from the second floor apartment window. The young occupant met us and told us she had been cooking eggs in oil and had forgotten about them. She returned to find them on fire. She poured water on the fire thus spreading the flames to the cabinets and

refrigerator. The fire was put out in moments. There was not much damage to the apartment.

- On Oct, 6th we responded to Grasso Hall for a report of a fire. Upon arrival we found that there had been a fire in one of the student kitchens. The person doing the cooking had put the fire out by pouring flour on it. There was a slight smoke haze in the building. We evacuated the smoke. The State Fire Marshal requested that our Marshal investigate the fire.
- On Oct. 8th we responded to Rowan St. for a fire. Upon arrival we found slight smoke coming from the attic of the building. After further investigation we found a burnt out bathroom fan. The damage was contained to the fan and slight smoke to attic.
- On Oct. 9th we responded to Tarrywile Park for a family lost in the woods. We were able to establish voice contact through cell phone and we got a general direction of where they were. We walked about a mile into the woods and made voice contact. The family had gotten off the Blue Trail and had gotten lost. It was pitch dark when we located them and walked them out.
- On Oct. 13th we responded to an MVA roll-over on King St. Upon E-25's arrival they found a victim trapped in a car lying on its side. While E-25, E-22, Trk, E-10 and C-30 FF John Kennedy was inside the vehicle with the victim. He started an I.V. and assured the victim all would end well. Within minutes she was freed from the car and transported to ER.
- On Oct. 17th we responded to an automatic alarm at Danbury Square Mall. Upon arrival we found the sprinkler valve draining water. It took us a while to locate the fire because the alarm at his location does not designate the store where the fire is occurring. It also was a foggy morning which make us look directly into each store and see if anything was amiss. We located a smoke condition in the Jennifer Convertible Store. We gain entry and found a sprinkler head had activated over a love seat which had caught fire during the night. The fire was out but there was smoke through out the store. The Fire Marshal investigated the fire and could not come up with a cause.

- On the evening of Oct. 17th we responded to a fire on Belmont St. While in route we were told by dispatch that they had received several calls stating that flames were showing. Upon arrival we were told by the occupants that everyone was out of the building. We advanced a line to the second floor where the fire was free burning in a front bedroom. We were able to put the fire out within minutes. The rest of our time was spent overhauling the fire. The Fire Marshal found that the fire had been started by an unattended candle. The landlord of the building was able to relocate the occupants to another apartment.
- On Oct. 27th we responded to Summit St, for a structure fire. While in route the responding units could see heavy smoke coming from the area. Upon arrival they found heavy flames coming from the left rear and rear of the two family home. The tenant of the fire apartment was slightly burned while exiting the building. He was taken to the ER for treatment. Two of the first floor tenant's pets were lost in the fire. There was extensive damage to the second floor and attic. The Red Cross came to the scene and provided shelter for the residents.
- While units were still at the Summit St. fire other units were called to 375 Main St. for a fire in the bathroom at the Tuscano Restaurant. Upon arrival they found a fire in the ceiling fan in the Women's bathroom had caught fire. The employees had put the fire out with an extinguisher.

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 Medical /Legal and Ethical issues that face the first responder

Medical, legal and ethical issues are a part of every emergency response. Firefighters occupy a special niche in today's society. Firefighters respond to the request for assistance from civilians thru the 911 system, this request implies a certain level of trust and the expectation of expertise

and professionalism from the Fire Service. The public trusts that when the Fire Dept. is on the scene that what ever emergency exists' it will be handled in an expeditious manner and that the priorities will be life safety and the protection of property.

Fire Department's are expected to be multi-faceted and proficient in many different disciplines' such as Fire Fighting, Technical Rescue, EMS and Haz-mat and this high level of expectation from the public could lead to criticism questioning the strategy and tactics used, leading to claims' of negligence should the outcome of the response be unfavorable.

Firefighters as professional rescuers and patient advocates make difficult decisions during emergency operations every day, sometimes under the worst conditions. Operating within their scope of practice, maintaining their level of training will minimize the level of scrutiny and liability.

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.

Hazardous -Materials

Local:

Boehringer - Ingelheim invited Danbury Fire Haz-Mat Coordinator Rodriguez, Deputy Fire Marshall Wiedl and Provisional Training Officer Slagle to evaluate the Hazardous Materials drill held at their Ridgefield Research and Development facility on Oct. 11,2006. The drill simulated a spill of an unknown chemical in a lab which activated a response by their level A Haz-Mat team. The drill was well organized and demonstrated an internal capability by Boehringer staff to handle small incidents in a manner that insured the safety of their team and mitigate the hazard.

Northwest Regional Haz-Mat team

NWRHMT held its monthly meeting on Oct 4th2006. Chief Field informed the group that following equipment had arrived, two trailers and the salamander personnel accountability system. The Haz-mat vehicle was due to arrive in April of next year and that it is earmarked to be deployed in Danbury and the NFPA 472 standard Haz-Mat Tech training monies had allocated by the state for Region 5. Danbury Fire Dept. Haz-Mat Coordinator Rodriguez was assigned to chairman of the training committee.

Region 5 drill oversight committee

Tony Paquette DEMHS planner for Region 5 has created an oversight committee to assist all the communities in Region 5 to meet the federal mandated requirements for drills. The committee met on Oct.26, 2006 at the DEMHS office, EMS/Haz-mat Coordinator Rodriguez attended as the Fire Dept representative. The intent is assist communities in developing response plans to catastrophic events and the testing of those plans with drills to deal with events that would normally overwhelm the local resources.

These individual drills will be held over a two year period culminating in a region wide drill in 2008

Communcations/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Communications Division

Activity Report -September 25 to October 29, 2006

Operational Issues

Motorola Support has installed a new version of the Mobile Message switch software.

This upgrade package has provided a higher level of connections to Fire and EMS Department laptops. Timeout issues have been greatly reduced.

Upgraded software has also been installed on the mobile computers and onto the replace laptops to be installed in each apparatus.

Call volume has increased slightly over the past month and calls for service have included two serious house fires.

On September 24th another incident occurred involving a hiker in the Tarrywile Park. In this instance a male hiker was lost as the sun began to go down. As the call dialed 911 Dispatcher Rick Gelach answered the call and calmly directed the caller to an identifiable path. Since this caller was not injured he was able to continue making his way toward safety. The caller was in no distress and remained calm. Once the caller was on an identifiable path, the call was disconnected. Dispatcher Gerlach made two unprompted calls back to this hiker to inquire on his whereabouts and well being. The second call was made as the hiker was in fact entering the parking lot.

- This case did not generate an incident report as no other help was needed. However this is a good example of the difference that can be made by a concerned dispatcher.

Training - A/C Charly Slagle

Third quarter training was completed by Rey Rodriguez covering National Incident Management System (NIMS 700). That brings the Volunteer division into compliance with the Federal mandate. Fourth quarter training dates were sent to the Volunteers. This will be live burn training at the new fire school. Updating and reviewing all training records to see who is able to response to emergencies.

New recruit Fire Fighter Justin Bierbower reported on Sept. 28, 2006 to the Training Division in the correct uniform. All the proper paperwork was completed at City Hall including Department ID cards and PAR system. He was issued the Proper Personal Protective Equipment and other equipment he would need at the CT State Fire Academy. FF Bierbower started at the CFA on Oct 2. I have visited the Academy and spoke with the instructors. The Instructors stated that FF Bierbower is "performing very well... He maintains a positive attitude and high level of motivation."

On Oct 11th DFM TJ Wiedl, EMS/HazMat Rey Rodriguez and myself attended a Haz Mat drill at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals.

Their Hazardous Materials Response team was holding a monthly drill. We were all impressed with their team's dedication, team work and professionalism. They are an asset to the company and the City of Danbury.

DFM Wiedl, Ridgefield Fire Dept. Chief Burford and I have met several times this month with Jim Farlay and other Boehringer Ingelheim representatives to assist in starting an Incipient Fire Brigade.

Began training on the City's new 311 system, City line 311 - Your source for City of Danbury services.

On October 25 E21, E25, C30, Trk2 and I conducted a Confine space drill at the Federal Corrections Institute of Danbury. We simulated a man down in a 20 foot deep man hole. We used our tripod, blower, meters, rope systems and Rescue Randy. The FCI

staff was impressed with the technical knowledge and skill of our Fire Fighters.

Prepared the specifications for the bid on the fence at the Fire School.

Began live burn training at the new fire school. Burned a mobile home trailer at the school. Fire Fighters were run through a series of drills on fire fighting operations.

Responded as Safety Officer to a house fire on Summit St. and a small fire at 275 Main St.

Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

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.

The new SCBA equipment purchased last month arrived last week. We ordered nine new Scott Series 50 air packs along with twelve 30 minute carbon wrapped bottles as well as eleven AV3000 face pieces. This SCBA equipment is consistent with our current specifications. We will be marking this new equipment and placing it in service as soon as possible.

This past month we spent a considerable amount of time repairing staff vehicles. Due to the amount of time spent repairing fire apparatus last month (our priority) staff car repairs were accumulating. Currently all staff car are operational.

E-24 was out of service again with problems related to intermittent stalling and not starting. Once again this engine was out of service after running problem free for three weeks. We again went over possible causes and without finding anything

definitive, we placed this unit back in service and it has been problem free again for the past five days.

The Apparatus Division spent a considerable amount of time working with Air Cleaning Specialists during the installation of the new Plymovent Exhaust System. The installation has been completed and the system is currently operational.

We replaced the transmission cooler lines, speedometer head and several gauges in E-23 this past month. We also replaced fourteen tires mostly due to wear on various apparatus this past month.

I was fortunate to attend a foundation brake seminar hosted by Levine Automotive at the Portuguese Cultural Center, I found this seminar to be very informative and useful to the work that I perform here on a regular basis and I thank you for the opportunity to attend.

We winterized the Mass Casualty Decontamination Trailer. Due to the problems with the bay door at are normal storage area, this unit will be forced to stay outside for an undetermined amount of time this fall. It will however give us tremendous peace of mind when we can get this unit into a heated secure facility as soon as possible.

Last week LT. Kirkwood and I traveled to Pierce Manufacturing in Appleton Wisconsin to perform the final inspection on our new E-22. We asked that some minor factory modifications be done to this unit before it heads here to Danbury. Pierce manufacturing will be making our requested changes this week. E-22 should be leaving the plant and arriving soon at Firematic, our Pierce dealer for pre-delivery. This new Engine will be a very welcome addition to our fleet allowing us to retire very tired units.

Good of the Organization

- ❑ FF John Osborne is running an EMT Class at New Milford High School. He also gained his certification in Mass Casualty Management Training.
- ❑ Capt. Meehan attended a seminar on CERT Teams at Mohegan Sun.

- FF Seth Ambruso competed in the Marine Corps Marathon on Oct. 29th in Washington DC, raising funds for the Firefighter Burn Foundation.
- On Oct. 8th we held our Annual Memorial Mass and Awards Ceremony at Fire Headquarters.
- On Oct. 2 FF Justin Bierbower began his training at the State Fire Academy in Windsor Locks.
- On the 10th of Oct. members of the department attended a demonstration of new fire equipment at Firematic in Rocky Hill.
- This past month the Exchange club held it's Local and State wide Firefighter of the Year dinners. Both dinners were well attended.
- FF Chris Ryan is the new President of Local #801. He replaces FF Lou DeMici who has served as President for over 24 years. Other officers elected were FF Tom Corbett-Vice-Pres, FF Tim Smith - Treas. And FF Rob Forbes Sec.
- Lt. Lorinda Arconti has begun planning and preparation for the Dec. 2nd Christmas Party for Local #801.
- FF Jim Lillis, FF John Kennedy, FF Sean Delohery, FF Dean Singer, FF Adam Hughes and Lt. Mike Tyskiewicz took part in the Annual Pumpkin Catapult contest held in Roxbury.

Dates of Importance

- Retirement dinner for T.O. Jim Thorne Nov. 1st Anthony's Lakeside.
- Election Day Tuesday Nov. 7th
- Veteran's Day Nov. 11th
- Thanksgiving Thurs. Nov. 23rd.

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Fires	22
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	2
Rescue/EMS	339
Hazardous Condition	44
Service Calls	32
Good Intent Calls	63
False Alarm/False Calls	97
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	1
No Report/Incomplete	2

Total Fire Calls..602.....

For the month, the City Ambulance Service responded to 744 Emergency Medical Calls. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Total EMS responses	744
No patient EMS Calls	128
BLS Patient Calls	317
ALS EMS Calls	292
EMS Mutual Aid Requests	3
EMS Calls passed to Back-up	22

The total calls into the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center for the month were 3183 with a daily average of 90.94 calls per day. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Fire Response Calls	602
EMS Response calls.	744
Abandoned Calls	458
911 Hang Ups	689
Admin Calls Received	958
Cellular 911 Calls	1070

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.

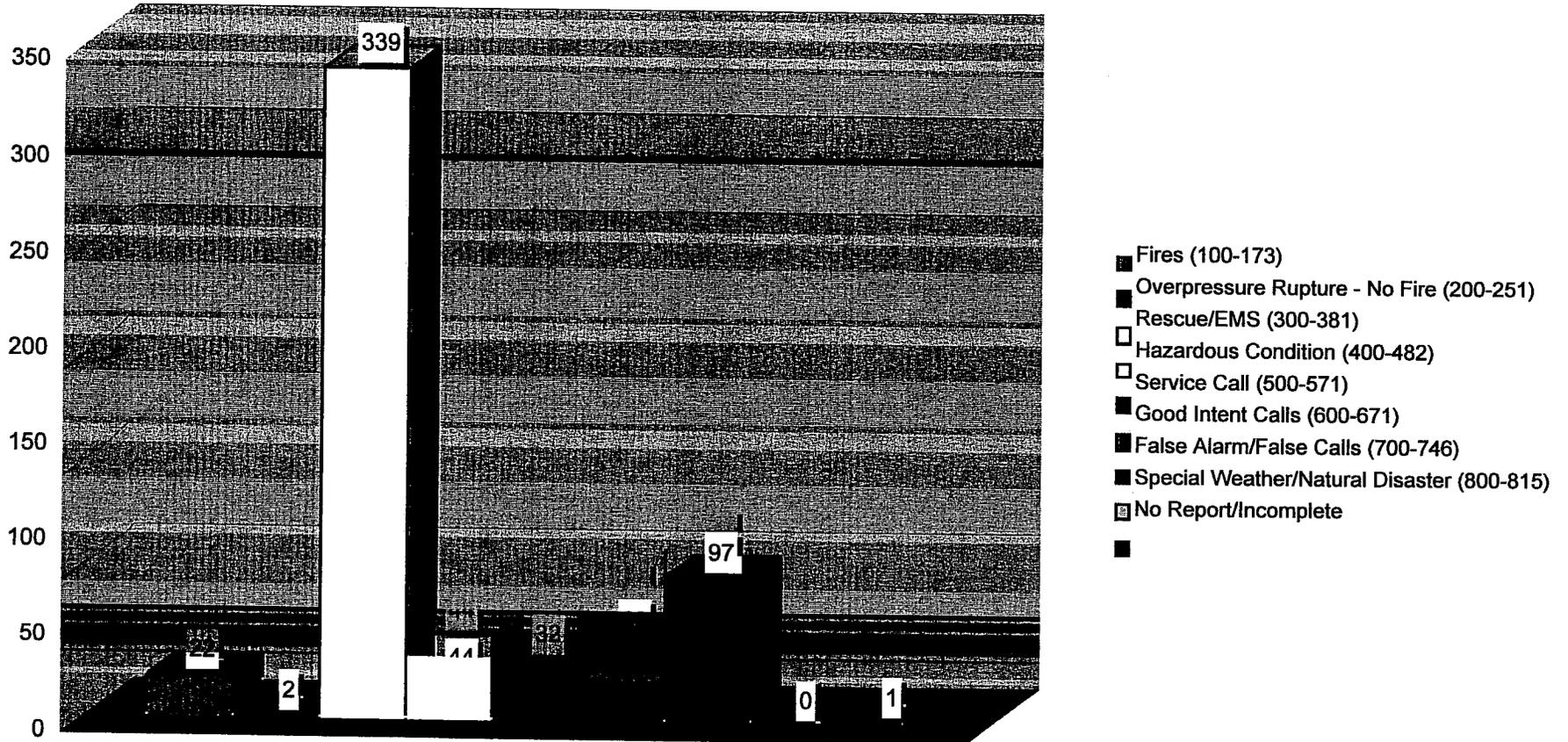
If additional information or clarification is needed, please contact me directly.

Respectfully submitted,

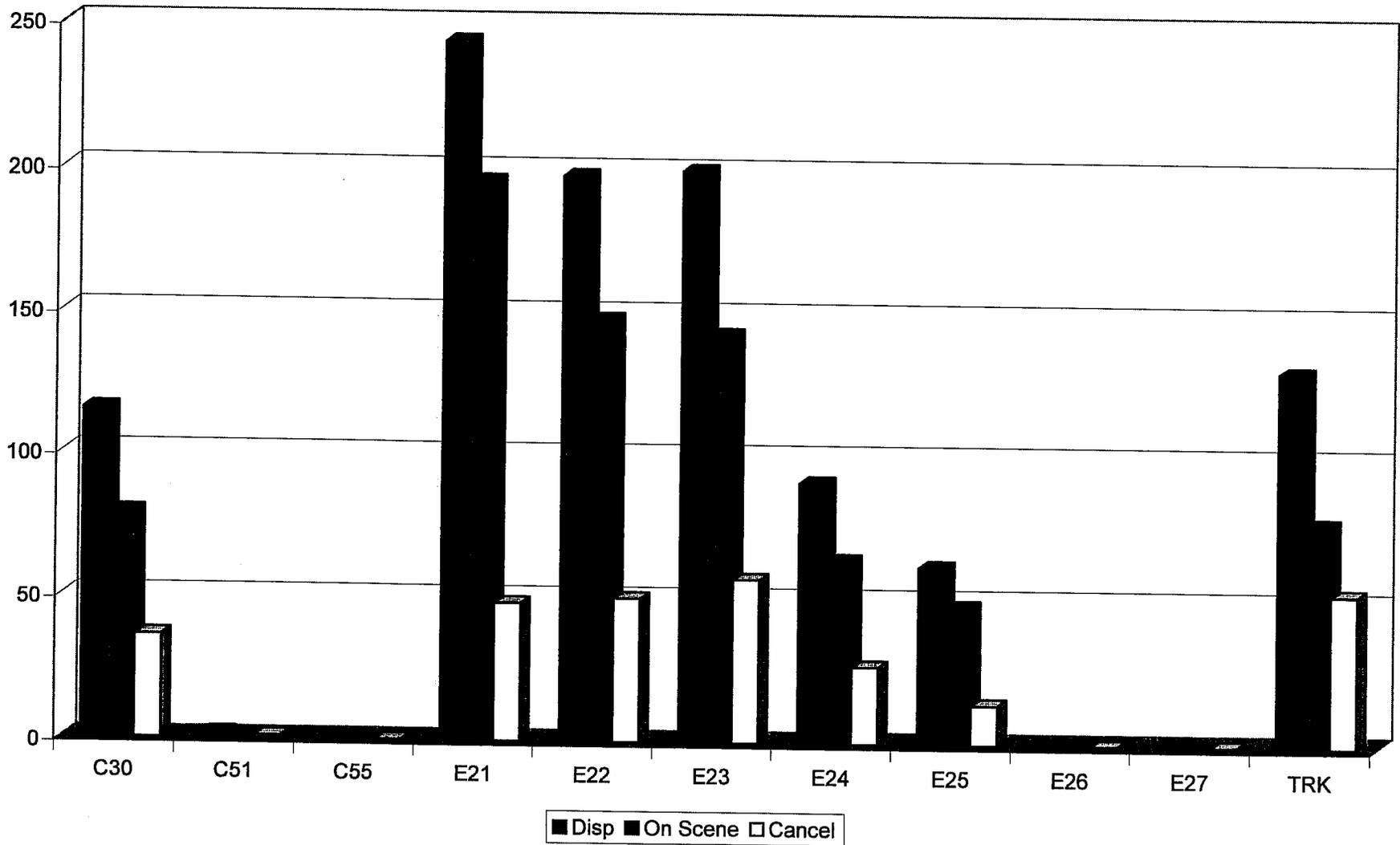
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter J. Siecienski".

Peter J. Siecienski
Fire Chief

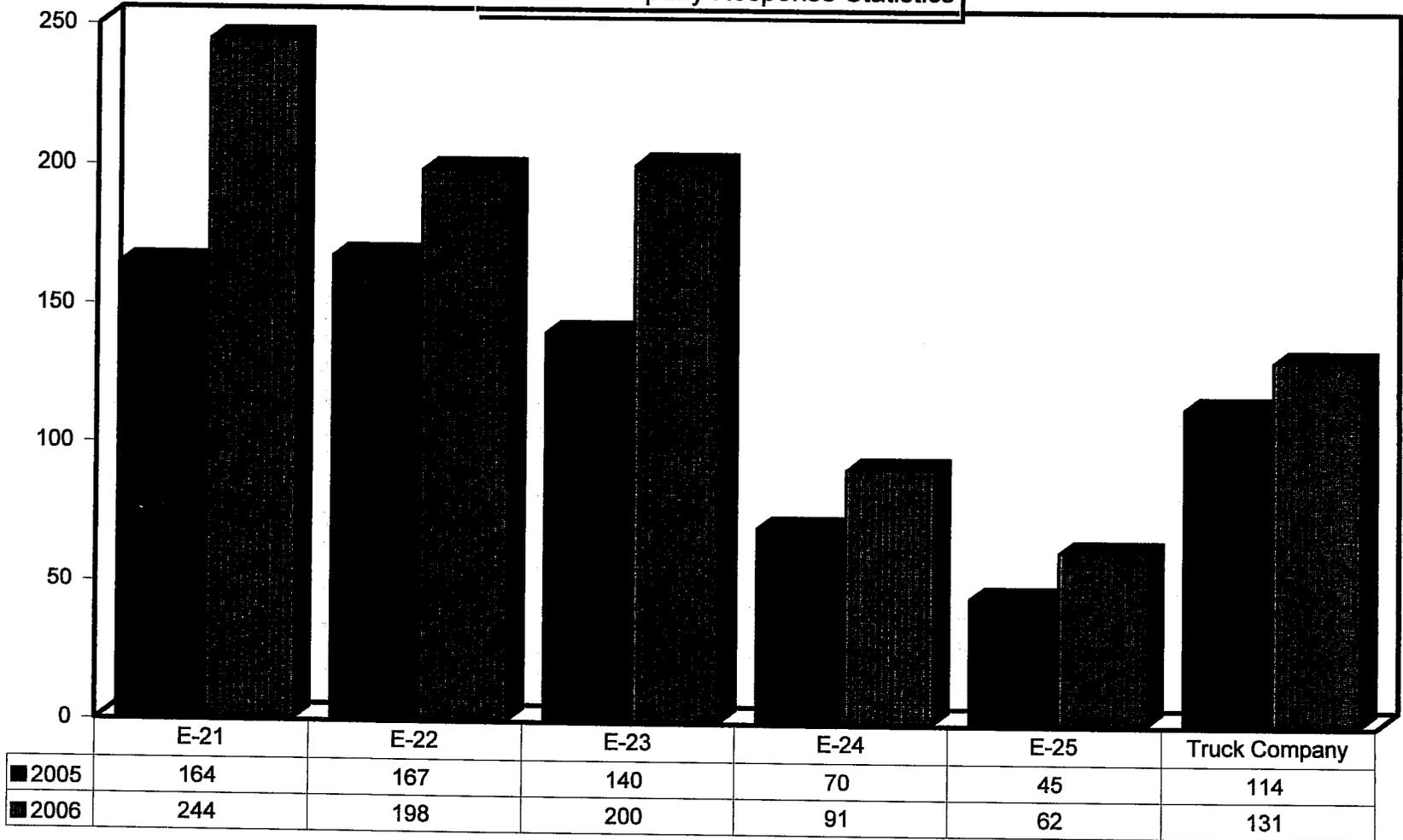
Fire Response Breakdown Sep 25 to October 29, 2006



Career Company Response Sep 25 to October 29, 2006

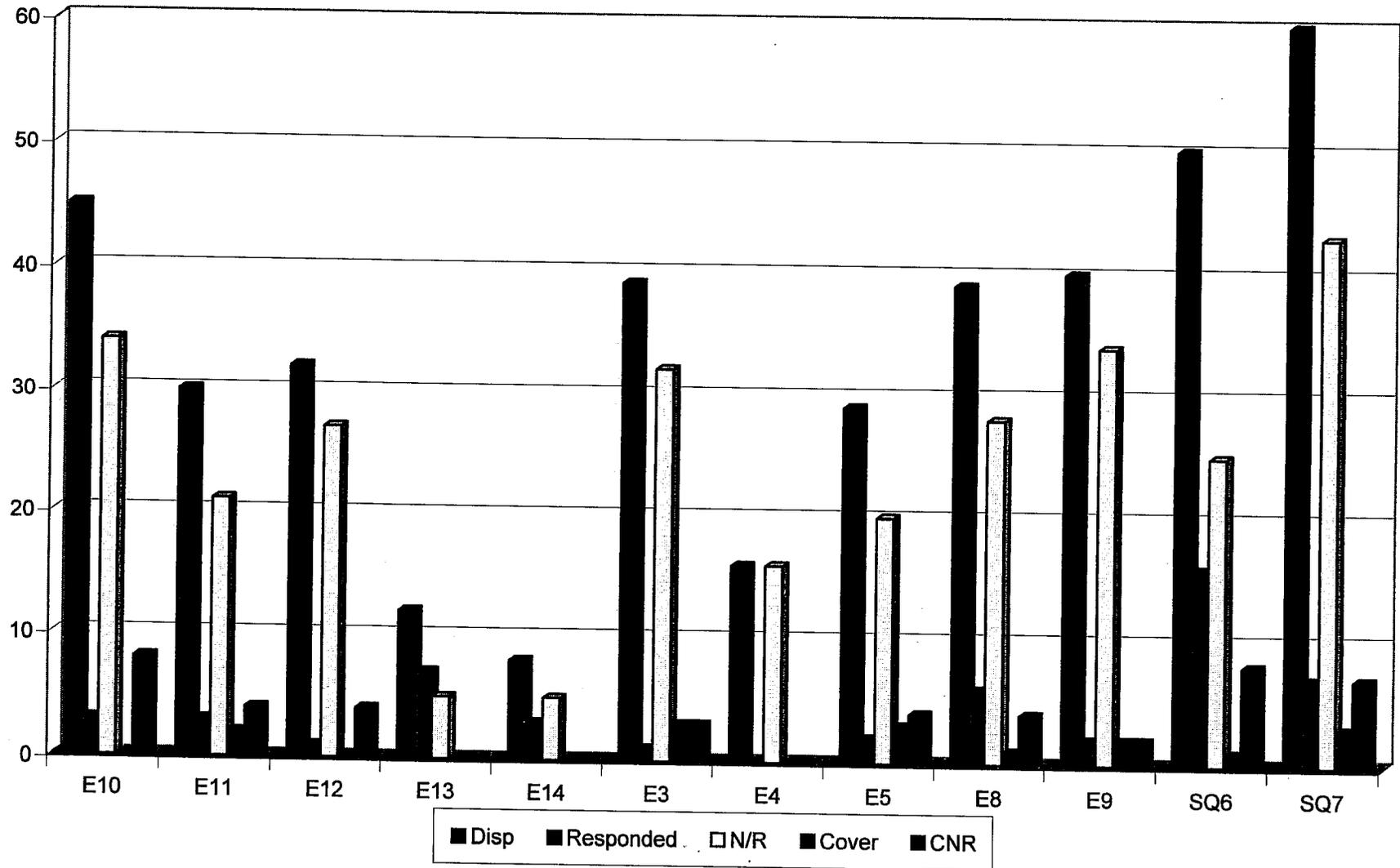


**Danbury Fire Department
October Company Response Statistics**

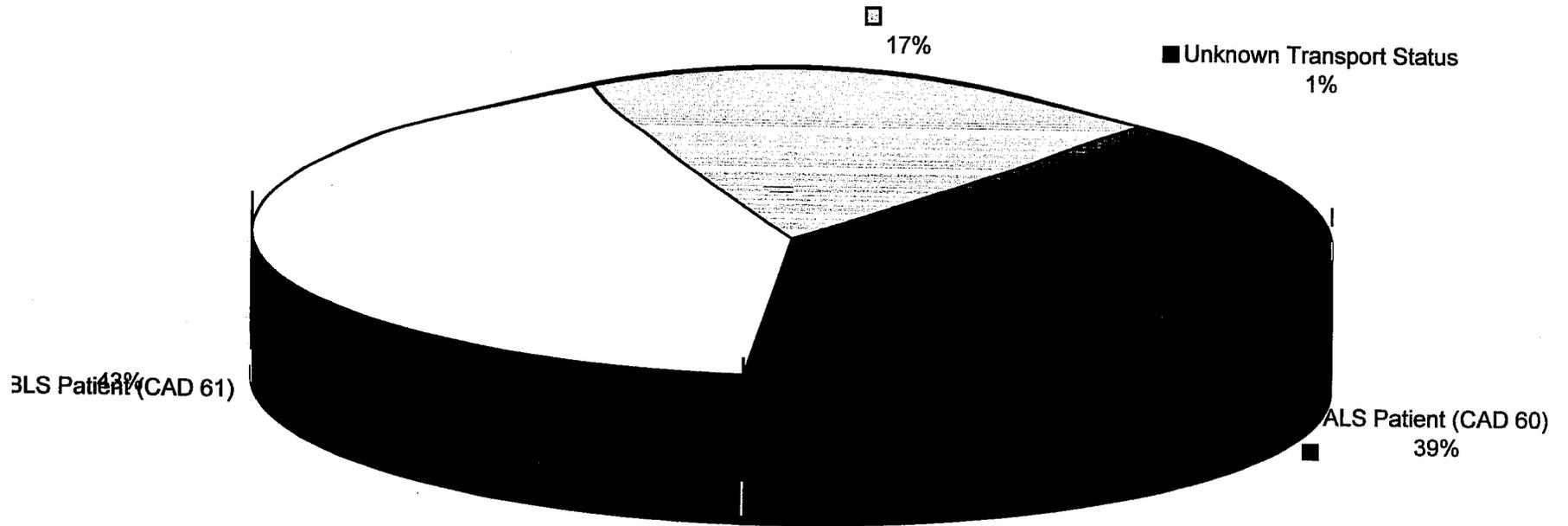


DANBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE RESPONSES						2006		
	October Response Statistics							
	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response Total	No Response Total	% of Response		
E-3	39	3	0	1	35	10%		
E-4	16	0	0	0	16	0%		
E-5	29	3	0	2	24	17%		
S-6	50	1	0	16	33	34%		
S-7	60	3	0	7	50	17%		
E-8	39	1	0	6	32	18%		
E-9	40	2	0	2	32	10%		
E-10	45	0	0	3	42	7%		
E-11	30	2	0	3	25	17%		
E-12	32	0	0	1	33	3%		
E-13	12	0	0	7	5	58%		
E-14	8	0	0	3	5	38%		
Totals	400	15	0	51	332	17%		

Volunteer Call Counts Sep 25 to October 29, 2006



EMS Transport Activity Sep 25 to October 29, 2006



911 Center Activity Sep 25 to October 29, 2006

