



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

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May, 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 April 23, 2007 to May 29, 2007 and details some of the activities of the Department.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- E-21 D Grp. Assisted the Fire Marshal's office with fire extinguisher training at Lorad/Hologic Company on Apple Ridge Rd.
- A tour of Headquarters was given for 70 children of the Prince of Peace Day School.
- E-23 C Grp. Replaced a smoke detector for the occupant of 5 Beech St.
- C Grp. was on duty for the Girl Scout "Know your City Day". They also conducted a tour for 22 children from St. Joseph School of Brookfield.
- E-25 and the Truck Comp. covered a Fire Safety detail and talk for the DHS day/care preschool.
- Several members of the Department participated in the Rescue Breathing segment of the Babysitter program at Danbury Hospital.
- Lt. Lorinda Arconti once again did the prep and setup work for the mock DUI Crash presentation at DHS.

- At the writing of this report we have just received word of the passing of a Waterbury Fire Dept. Capt killed in an accident when two responding unit collided. All our crews are once again being reminded to keep safety as our top priority.
- Once again this month an alert Engine company might have prevented an injury to some children playing. E-21 observed some young children playing with water on a hot day and plugging in blow dryers while standing in the water. They made contact with the parents and made them aware of the situation before injury could occur.
- Chief Herald spoke to the Kiwanis Club of Danbury. The talk was regarding the current technology of thermal imaging cameras and the fire service. This club presented the department with our first thermal imaging camera nearly ten years ago.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- On April 24th we responded to a fire on Merrimac St. Driving up Lake Ave. we thought we had a working fire. Upon arrival we found a pile of garbage that had been dumped in the road ablaze. The driver of the truck realized that he had a hot load. In order to save his truck he dumped the load. The fire was put out in short order. Cl&P came and checked out the overhead wires. No other damage was caused by the fire.
- On the 9th of May we responded to a brush fire at the F.C.I. Upon arrival we found 1-2 acres of land on fire. With the help of Volunteers and other career manpower we were able to put the fire out in less than an hour.
- On the 10th of May we responded to a report of a car inside a building at the Danbury Square Mall. Upon arrival we found a car that had crashed through the front door of the store and came to rest approximately 30 feet inside the building. The driver was out of the car and not complaining of any injuries. No one else at the scene was injured. E-21 secured the vehicle and requested a building inspector. While they were waiting for the inspector Dispatch informed them that there was a person choking on a piece of meat at the Olive Garden across the street. E-21 turned the scene

over to the DPD and requested dispatch to send another unit. They responded immediately to the Olive Garden. Upon arrival at the restaurant they found a man on the floor with an obstructed airway. They tried to dislodge the obstruction without any success. With the help of the ambulance crew and the medic they did get some air to the patient. Twice on the way to the hospital the patient stopped breathing. Both times the crews got him back. Much of the credit for this successful save must go to Dispatcher Adam Horosky. Adam realized the seriousness of the choking incident and he was aware of how close E-21 was to the scene. Because of his quick thinking the choking victim was able to survive the situation.

- On the 18th we responded to an MVA at 131 West St. Upon arrival we found a small sewer vac truck with all wheels completely in the still river. The cab of the truck was partially in the water with the driver still in the vehicle. We gained entry by breaking the driver side glass. The driver was conscious but confused and disoriented with a laceration on his forehead. The Truck Company was called to the scene to assist in the removal of the driver to the ambulance. Oil booms were put in the river overnight to collect any fuel or oil that might have escaped from the truck. Units stayed on the scene until the truck was removed from the scene.

- On the 22nd of May we responded to Laurel St. for a report of a car into a house. Upon arrival we found a driver had driven her car through the garage door and into the living area of the home. The driver was unhurt and a building inspector who had come to the scene declared the house was structurally sound. We stayed on scene until the car was removed.

- On the 25th we were called Westwood Dr to investigate an earlier fire. Upon our arrival we found remnants of an earlier fire. We found burnt wood, leaves, orange butane lighter, and a scorched t-shirt. After some investigation we found that three youths had been playing with fire and were trying to light the leaves on fire. One of the boys poured RC Car fuel on the leaves. The flames came back at the fuel and burned one of the boys. He later was transported to Bridgeport Hospital Burn Unit. We are happy to report he is now home and recovering from his burns. The incident is still under investigation.

- Pre-incident planning continued on site inspections at: Mankind Corp. on Casper St., Wesconn Student Center Westside, The Magnet School, Loews Home Center, Lexington Mews Condos, Woodland Hills Condos, Saw Mill Condos, Riverton Condos, Danbury Hospital high risk areas, Saugatuck Ridge, Laurel Ridge, Brookview Commons, Danbury Airport, and the Martha Apts.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/HAZ MAT - Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday

The continuous training program EMS Wednesday is designed to meet EMS re-certification requirements of the Danbury Fire Departments First Responder program. These classes held while Firefighters are on duty, insure firefighters stay proficient with these lifesaving skills.

The focus of this months training has been Pharmacology and Anaphylaxis.

Pharmacology is the study of medications; their sources, characteristics and the effects the medications have on the patient. While anaphylaxis is the human body's exaggerated allergic reaction to an allergen. This can be a true life threatening condition if not properly treated.

The Danbury Fire Departments First Responder EMT/EMT-IVs are trained to quickly assess the patient and immediately treat life threatening conditions and determine whether the patient needs assistance with administering their all ready prescribed medications or if they would benefit from the medications that the EMT/EMT-IV are allowed to administer under standing orders from medical control. The First Responder needs to recognize the desired effects of the interventions that have been administered and at the same time to be prepared to treat the side effects associated with certain medications.

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 the scene of an emergency medical call, this ability coupled with the Danbury Fire Departments community education programs like "CPR

Saturday" and the "File of Life" has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

Communcations/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Communications Division
Activity Report - April 23 to May 28, 2007

Operations

For this reporting period department activity was relatively high with 406 Rescue/EMS assist type calls. EMS also posted a high number of responses with 846 calls dispatched.

On May 16th beginning at approximately 4:00 pm the region was struck with a fast moving high intensity storm. This storm featured high winds, heavy rainfall and a significant number of downed limbs, wires and other assorted problems.

From a 911 Communications standpoint the timing of this storm was opportune in that both day and night shift dispatchers along with the Communications Coordinator were in dispatch at the height of the storm. The major portion of the storm passed over Danbury during an approximately 45 minute period; however 911 calls reporting storm damage were received over the next 6 hours.

During the initial 90 minutes of the storm Dispatchers Lynch, Bonner and Relief Dispatchers Tomchik and Horosky handled 355 911 calls. Another 350 911 calls received by the center were reporting storm damage up until noon the following day.

The Danbury 911 Center has not had such a high level of call volume in such a short period of time since the flood of Tropical Storm Floyd. 355 calls is 3 times the normal amount of calls received for a 24 hour period.

The Communications Center staff also worked closely with CL&P representative of the Newtown 'War Room' to assess and prioritize the most severe outages.

While all Fire Department members on duty during this event worked to a high level, the staff of the Communications Center working under cramped rapid-fire conditions insured that all life threatening calls were attended to in a timely fashion. Their hard work and attention to detail should be noted.

Of all these calls there were 79 dispatched events of consequence, such as wires down, roadway hazards. In one instance EMS was also called upon to assist the Town of Ridgefield with a Mass Casualty accident involving a bus.

Training - Mark Omasta

The Firefighter 1 class for the volunteers continued through May with Practical and Written State Certification Exams scheduled for June 9 and 19 respectively. The ten students in the class continue to work hard towards FF1 certification. This group joined the Brookfield FF1 class at our Fire School for a day of ground ladder training.

Current records show 98 volunteer firefighters are certified to respond to emergencies on the fire ground. Second quarter training will take place in June.

Our Five new recruits successfully completed their 10 week Recruit Training at the Connecticut Fire Academy and graduated on May 16th. They all did well with positive Evaluations. They were sworn in to the Danbury Fire Dept. the next day with a ceremony at City Hall. They had an additional two days of orientation, were assigned to a crew and started on shift the next week.

Training classes held in May:

We had eleven (11) Firefighters pass the Q Endorsement driving test given by the DMV. This is the first step in becoming a Driver/Pump Operator in the Fire Dept.

Tours of the Mannkind Corp. on Casper St. continued for all crews.

Yankee gas completed Safety Training for three of our crews with the remaining crew scheduled for next month.

Training was completed for all crews on the Regional Foam Unit. We are the host department for Foam Unit #6, one of eight Regional Foam Units in the State. Our Foam Unit is ready to respond locally and will soon be in service for Regional Response. The Foam Unit was displayed at a Ct Fire Chief's meeting at Miry Brook on May 23.

The Annual Hydrant Testing Program got underway this Month. We will attempt to test the 1,700 hydrants in town between now and the end of October.

We accepted donations of a mobile home and two vehicles for training purposes. The Training Division is working with a few property owners who are willing to allow Training on structures which are scheduled for demolition.

The Fire Officer 1 Class started in late April and runs through early June. We have 13 people attended this 96 hour Certification Class.

The Pump Operator Certification Class was held in May with a test date scheduled in June. We have four Firefighters going for this Certification.

Meetings with:

The Fire Science degree program Coordinator from N.V.C.C. continued discussion on future college courses for Danbury Fire. The Coordinator met with many students here in Danbury to update transcripts.

The Water Dept. in preparation for the Hydrant Testing Program.

I, EMS Coordinator Rodriguez and Communications Supervisor Sniffin, attended a GIS demonstration at City Hall.

Poet's Landing Representatives concerning an acquired building for training.

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 May. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

All of the Departments BioSystem meters have been span gas calibrated. Currently E-21 and E-22 meters are in for repair. E-21's meter is awaiting a new LEL sensor and E-22's meter is currently being evaluated. The remainder of the department's 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. They are repaired and returned to service.

The 1987 and 1988 Mack pumps were towed from Headquarters last week. These units were worn out after serving this city well for the last twenty years.

On a happier note, the 2007 Pierce Dash Engine that will be the new E-26 arrived this week. One could marvel at all the changes that 20 years newer brings to the world of Fire Apparatus. We are currently acquiring radios, laptops, hand lights and other such equipments so that we can fit out this new unit.

During the storm this month, the rear bumper on Truck-2 was damaged while negotiating the high water that resulted from the heavy rains. We have removed the bumper and it is currently at the welding shop being repaired.

We have experienced problems with the pump shift and the speedometer on E-22. We have recalibrated the speedometer and have located and repaired the pump shift problem.

We scheduled and completed a fleet wide factory service of all our heavy duty apparatus transmissions. Upon inspection, two minor defects were found in both E-23 and E-25's transmissions. The repairs will be scheduled as soon as possible.

We have requisitioned new batteries for the ISG's (Thermal Imaging Cameras) we are hoping to receive them by the end of the week.

This past month we spent a considerable amount of time servicing staff vehicles, some repairs were due to breakdowns and some were scheduled maintenance.

Good of the Organization

- Five new recruits Graduated from the St. Of Ct. Fire Academy on the 16th Nate Chapin, Doug Zaniewski, Ken Stilson, Jonathan DeJoseph and Pat Heron.
- Lt. Handau was awarded the Chris Blackwell Award by the EMS System at Danbury Hospital. Lt. Skip Omasta was also honored as the MRT of the year. The awards were given out at a dinner held at the Stony Hill Inn.
- Lt. Plank and FF Sean McGowan traveled to La. To preview what will be the Ct. Northwest Regional HazMat vehicle.
- FF Scott Newton was filmed in scenes as a FD Hockey extra for the TV show "Rescue Me".
- Ret. Lt. Tom McNulty received 2nd Place award for his chili at a Chili Cook-Off held at Two-Steps Rest.
- Several members of the Department have begun preparing the front of E-23 for the arrival of the Melody-Halas monument which the members of the Department have purchased to honor our Fallen Brothers.
- Four members were sworn into new positions this month A/C Robert Keenan, Capt. Ron Bowers, Lt. Tom Corbett, and Lt. Fred Pollard.

- This month we lost another retired firefighter. Frank Richchi passed away. Frank retired as the apparatus super. He was the oldest surviving retiree. He was 93 when he passed away. Rest in Peace Frank.
- A Grp E-24 and E-11 Beaver Brook helped clean the boat ramp to the Greenway behind the Marriott Inn. Several feet of mud and debris had to be picked up and washed away.
- Several members of the Department were guests at the Annual Prayer breakfast that was held at the Amber Room on the 16th.
- Chief Herald was welcomed as a new member of the Board of Directors for the Salvation Army.
- A large contingent of the department attended the funeral for Captain Keane of the Waterbury Fire Department.
- A Mass of Memorial was held on Wed. the 30th for Ret. FF Roser Gallo who passed away two months ago in Fla.

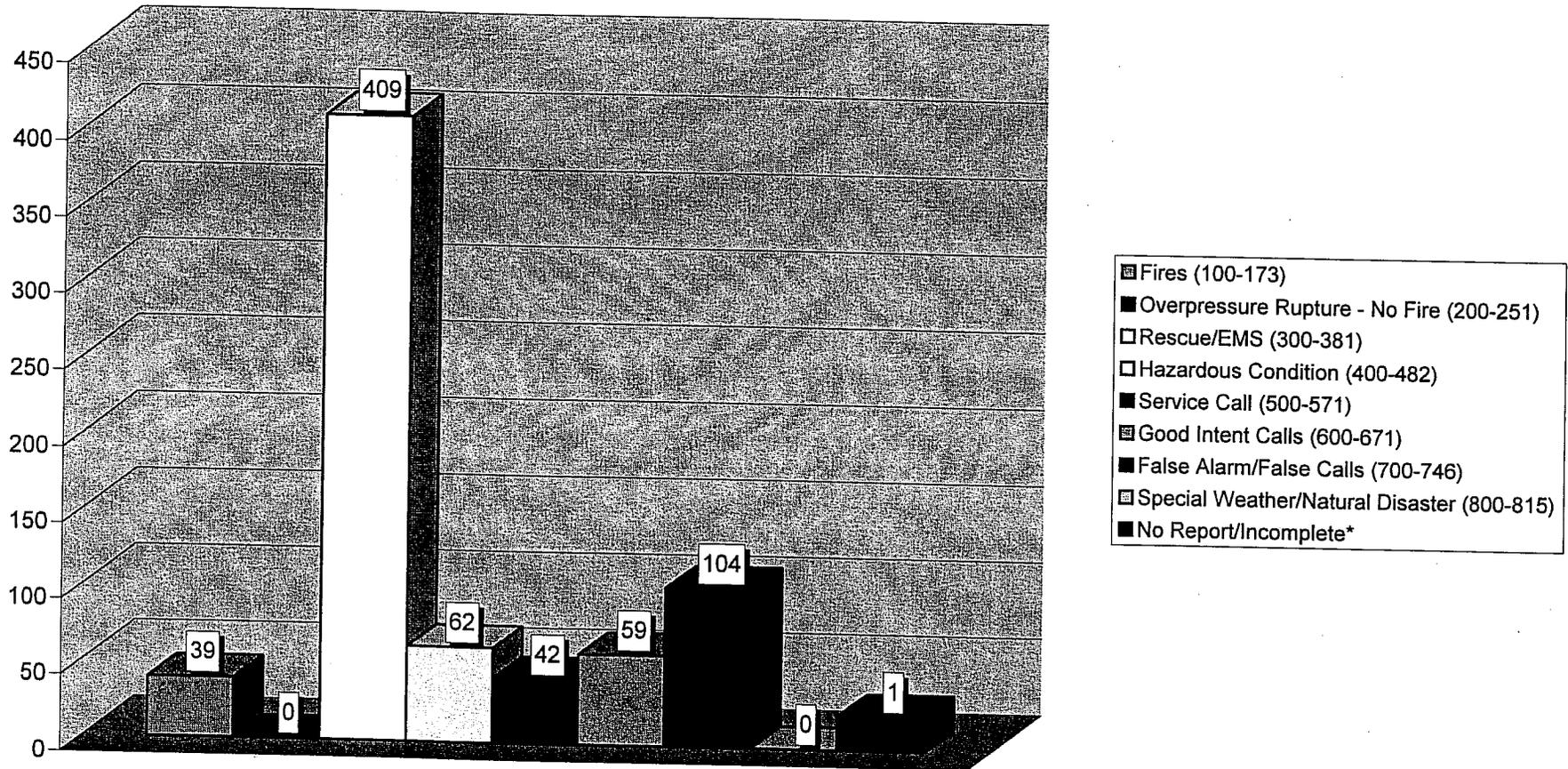
Dates of Importance

- June 6th Westerners Breakfast.
- June 14th Flag Day
- June 17th Father's Day
- June 21st Summer begins June 26th Retirement party for Chief Curran.
- June 26th Fire Recruit Class begins at St. Fire Academy.

Fire Chief

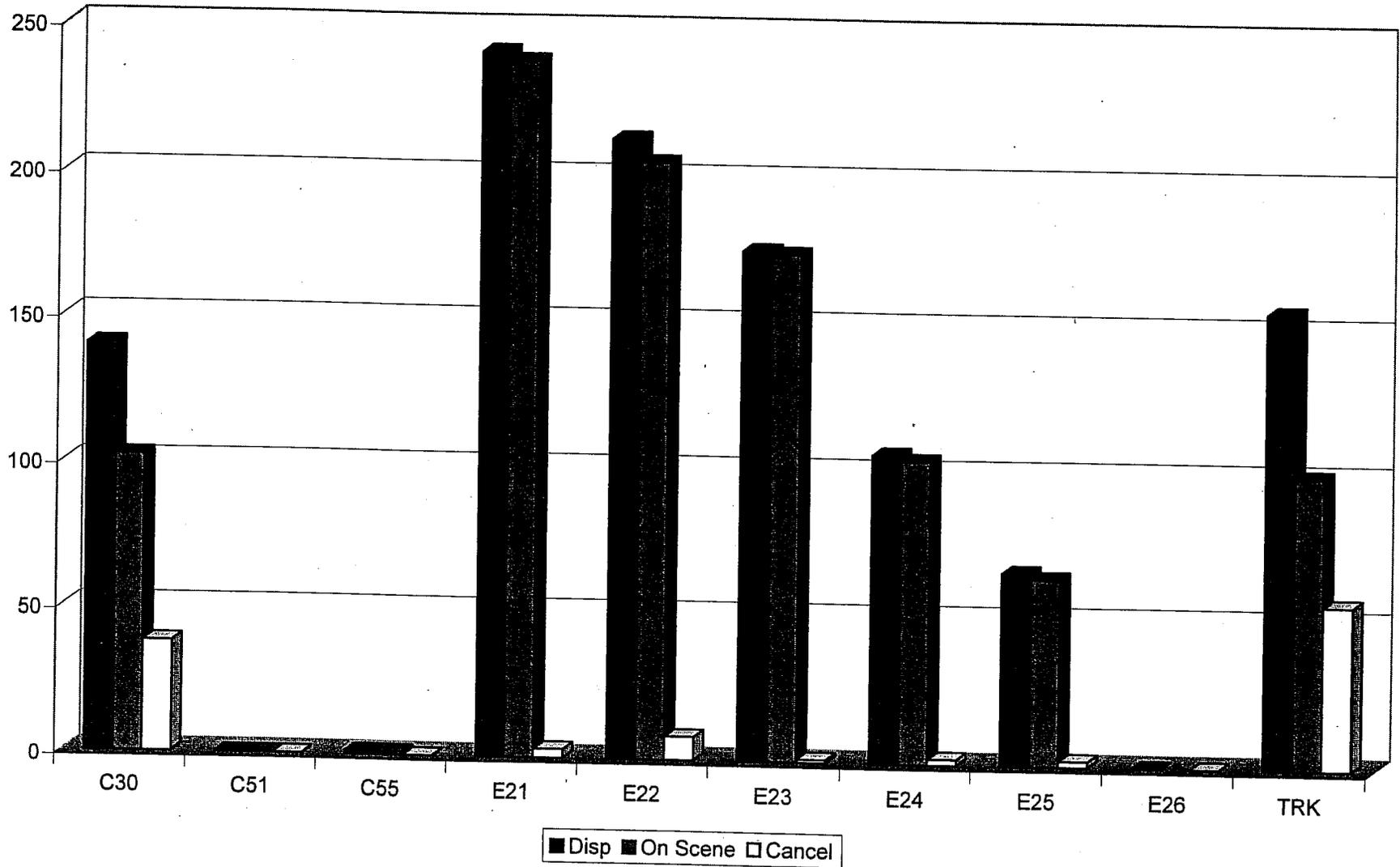
Geoffrey R. Herald

Fire Response Breakdown April 23 to May 28, 2007

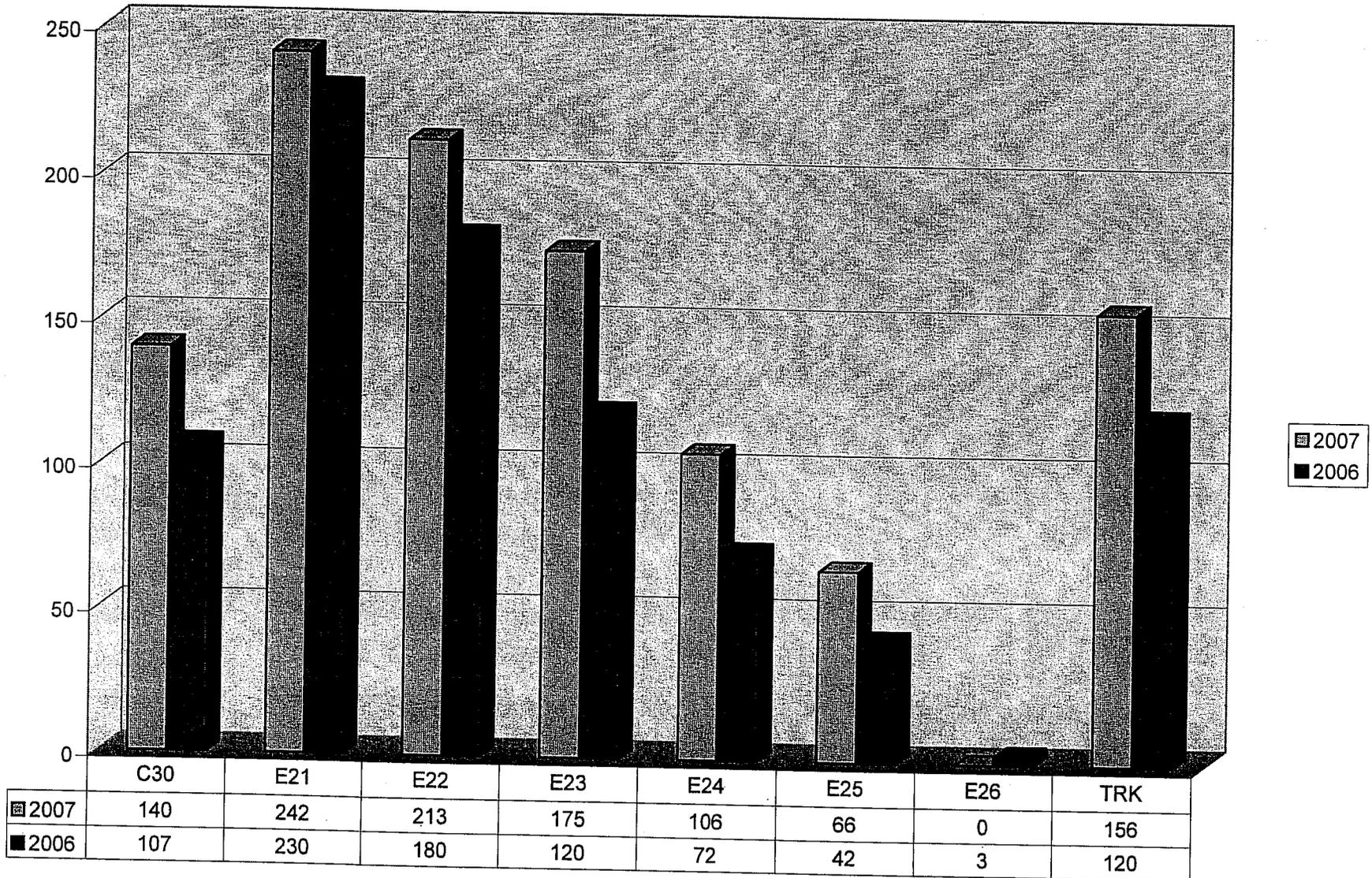


*Volunteer Reports from the Nor'Easter are still being compiled and entered.

Career Company Response April 23 to May 28, 2007



Career Response Comparison for May

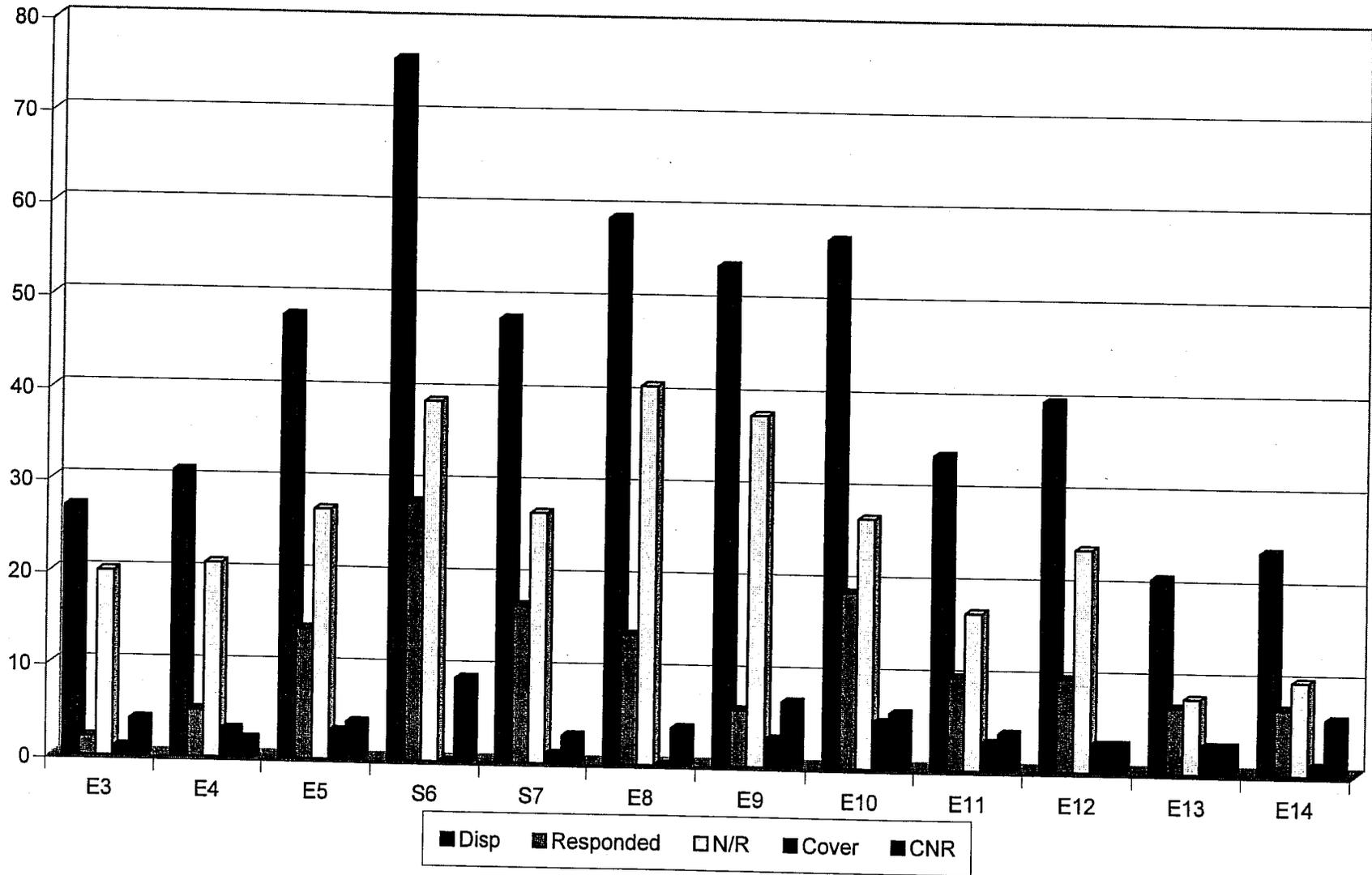


DANBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT

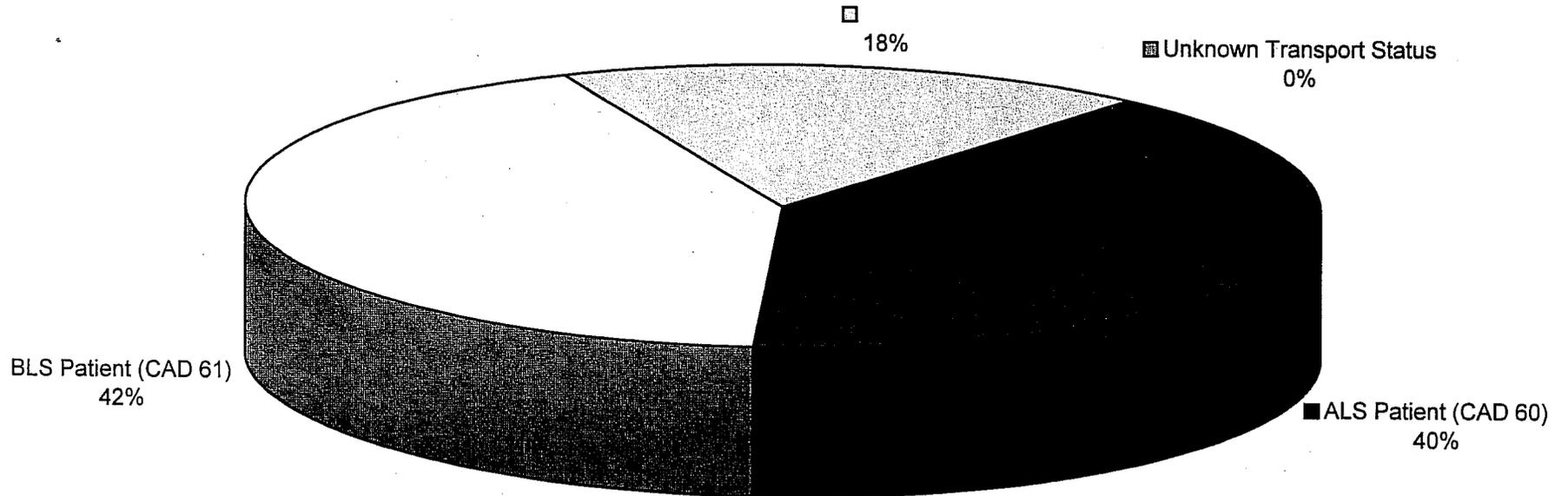
April Response Statistics

	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response Total	No Response Total	% of Response
E-3	27	1	4	2	20	26%
E-4	31	3	2	5	21	32%
E-5	48	3	4	14	27	44%
S-6	76	0	9	28	39	49%
S-7	48	1	3	17	27	44%
E-8	59	0	4	14	41	31%
E-9	54	3	7	6	38	30%
E-10	57	5	6	19	27	53%
E-11	34	3	4	10	17	50%
E-12	40	3	3	10	24	40%
E-13	21	3	3	7	8	62%
E-14	24	1	6	7	10	58%
Totals	519	26	55	139	299	42%

Volunteer Call Counts April 23 to May 28, 2007



EMS Transport Activity April 23 to May 28, 2007



911 Center Activity April 23 to May 28, 2007

