A firefighter in full gear, including a helmet and jacket, is climbing a red ladder against a brick wall. The firefighter is positioned on the left side of the frame, reaching up towards a window. The background shows a brick wall with a window and a door. The overall scene is in black and white, with the firefighter's gear and the ladder providing some color contrast.

**Winchester**  
fire and rescue  
department *Virginia*

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# ANNUAL REPORT

## FROM THE CHIEF

The following report outlines the Winchester Fire and Rescue Department's (WFRD) activities for the calendar year 2014. We take great pride in serving our community in this combination fire and rescue system comprised of career and volunteer firefighters, EMS personnel, and hazardous material responders.

The four volunteer-owned and operated fire stations provide an unsurpassed amount of state-of-the-art fire and rescue apparatus, equipment, and facilities as well as operational and administrative personnel. The City of Winchester, in-turn, supplements this infrastructure with guaranteed 24 hours a day, 365 days per year fire and rescue personnel.

This combination of equipment and personnel strives to provide the community with the highest level of professional public safety services that include fire protection, advanced emergency medical care, hazardous materials response, public education, and facility inspections/testing that is always focused on being fiscally responsible. We take great pride in presenting this year's annual report.



*Allen Baldwin*  
Chief

### Department Services

- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Suppression
- Hazardous Materials Mitigation
- Fire Investigations
- Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention
- Public Education
- Child Safety Seat Installations
- Honor Guard Services
- Smoke Detector Installations
- Fire/EMS Coverage for Local Public Events
- Tactical Emergency Medical Operators for the Police SWAT Team
- Operation of the Regional Fire Training Center

### Commitment to Our Customers

- Develop and execute a realistic, obtainable and sustainable long range strategic plan for the department.
- Provide the highest quality of service to the citizens and visitors
- Support and maintain a safe, healthy, well-trained workforce
- Be a community resource for life safety information and knowledge
- Attract and retain a qualified and diverse career and volunteer workforce
- Be accountable to our community for demonstrable results
- Be a recognized leader of a fire and rescue service that is dedicated to excellence
- Support the combination system of career and volunteer system
- Be innovative and proactive in our approach to community issues
- Believe in our role as stewards of public trust

### Our Mission

To develop and deploy a coordinated service delivery mechanism through which the Community is provided public safety services in a professional and cost effective manner. The mission will comprehensively address Emergency Communications, Fire, EMS, and Hazardous Materials Operations involving career and volunteer personnel, while coordinating operational and support functions with internal and external agencies and individuals.

### Our Leadership Philosophy

We believe that all members want to do the best work possible. When all of us share responsibility for creating a work environment with clear goals, mutual support and opportunities for continuous learning, we can achieve our goals. We realize our full potential through teamwork, respect for each other, sharing information and support for individual creativity and initiative. Teamwork, Common Goals and Leadership at all levels, will result in SUCCESS!



Questions concerning this report or our services can be directed to our office at 540-662-2298.



**ONE DEPARTMENT. ONE GOAL.**



## 2014 Accomplishments

- Handled 5,888 calls for service - increase of over 283 incidents from 2013
- Saved over \$7.6 million in property from fire incidents - estimated fire loss of \$395,605
- Engaged over 6,912 citizens of all ages with our public education programs
- Completed 127 child safety seat installations
- Installed 21 smoke detectors and replaced numerous batteries in existing detectors
- Participated in over 21,020 hours of continuing education training
- Hired eleven (11) career personnel to include a new Executive Secretary, EMS Billing Manager and ten (10) Firefighters to fill vacancies and new budget requests
- Promoted one (1) Battalion Chief and three (3) Lieutenants
- Participated in the Annual Christmas parade with department personnel and families
- Continued support and attendance at the National Fire Academy and the Virginia Fire Officer Academy
- Collected \$20,186.00 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during the Fill-the-Boot campaign over Labor Day weekend in partnership with the Winchester Professional Firefighters Local 3401
- Raised \$3,908.33 for the Free Clinic for Every Woman's Life program during the breast cancer awareness campaign where members of the Winchester Professional Firefighters Local 3401 sold pink t-shirts
- Instituted a pilot program with Rouss Fire Company that utilizes a smaller EMS licensed vehicle for medical responses to help reduce operating costs
- Conducted first annual Command and Leadership Conference
- Begun the strategic planning process with the four (4) volunteer fire companies and career staff
- Initiated a fire apparatus replacement study
- Submitted an application to the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grant for the standardization of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) department-wide
- Implemented several recommendations of the Department Hose Standardization Committee to standardize hose loads amongst department fire engines
- Completed first Handley High School EMT Program
- Established department canteen program with a donated vehicle



## 2015 Goals

- Develop and execute long range strategic plan for the department.
- Increase staffing levels to move toward compliance with the NFPA 1710 consensus standard
- Increase recruitment and retention efforts for volunteers
- Conduct a facilities study
- Ensure the health and safety of our career and volunteer personnel
- Complete implementation of the 800 MHz radio communication project
- Complete a fire and rescue facility and training center master plan
- Implement an officer development program
- Develop volunteer operational criteria
- Advance the fire department foundation
- Risk analysis planning to meet NFPA 1500
- Honor guard program
- Develop in-house billing for the Revenue Recovery program



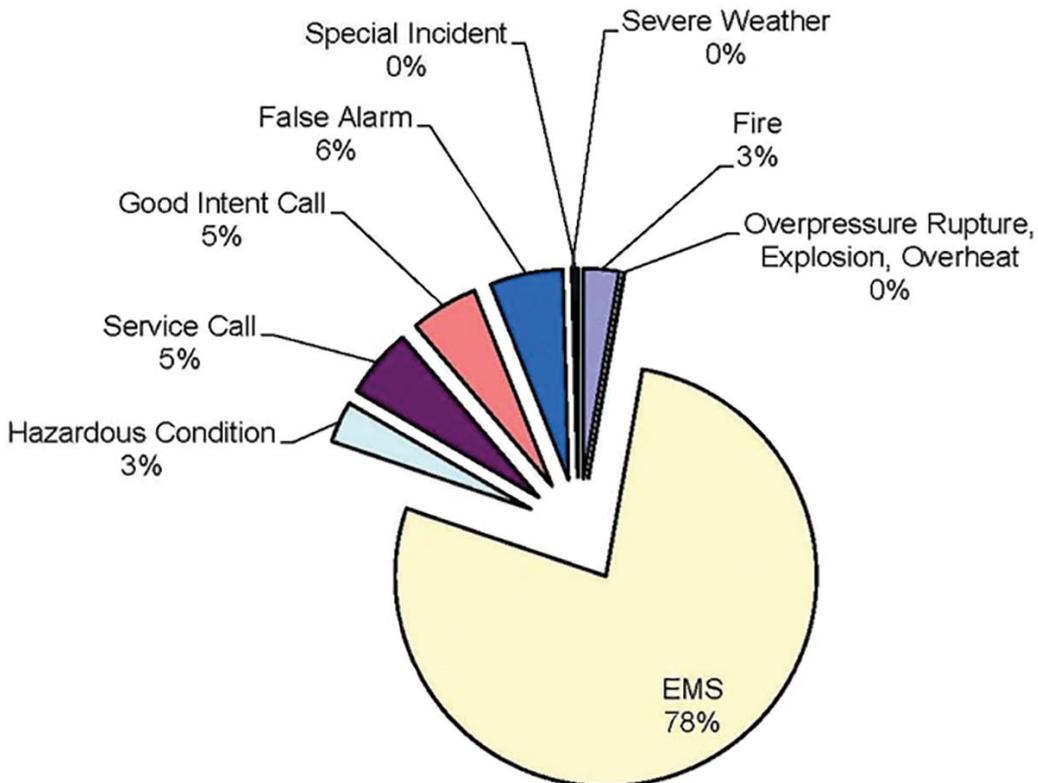
# Emergency Activity



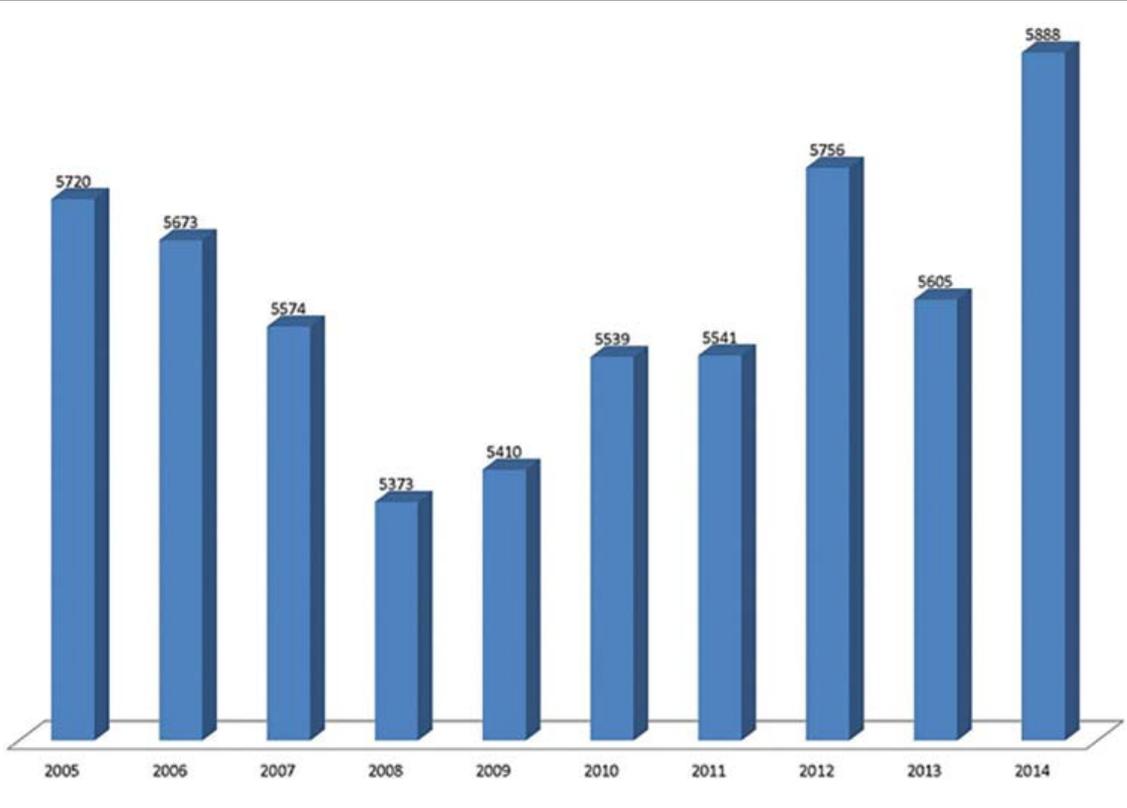
Activity	Total
Total Incidents	5,888 (4,560 EMS, 1,328 Fire)
Mutual Aid Given	604
Mutal Aid Received	146
Dollar Loss vs Saved	\$395,605 Lossed \$7,627,617 Saved
Incident Casualties	1 Firefighter Casualty 4 Civilian Casualties



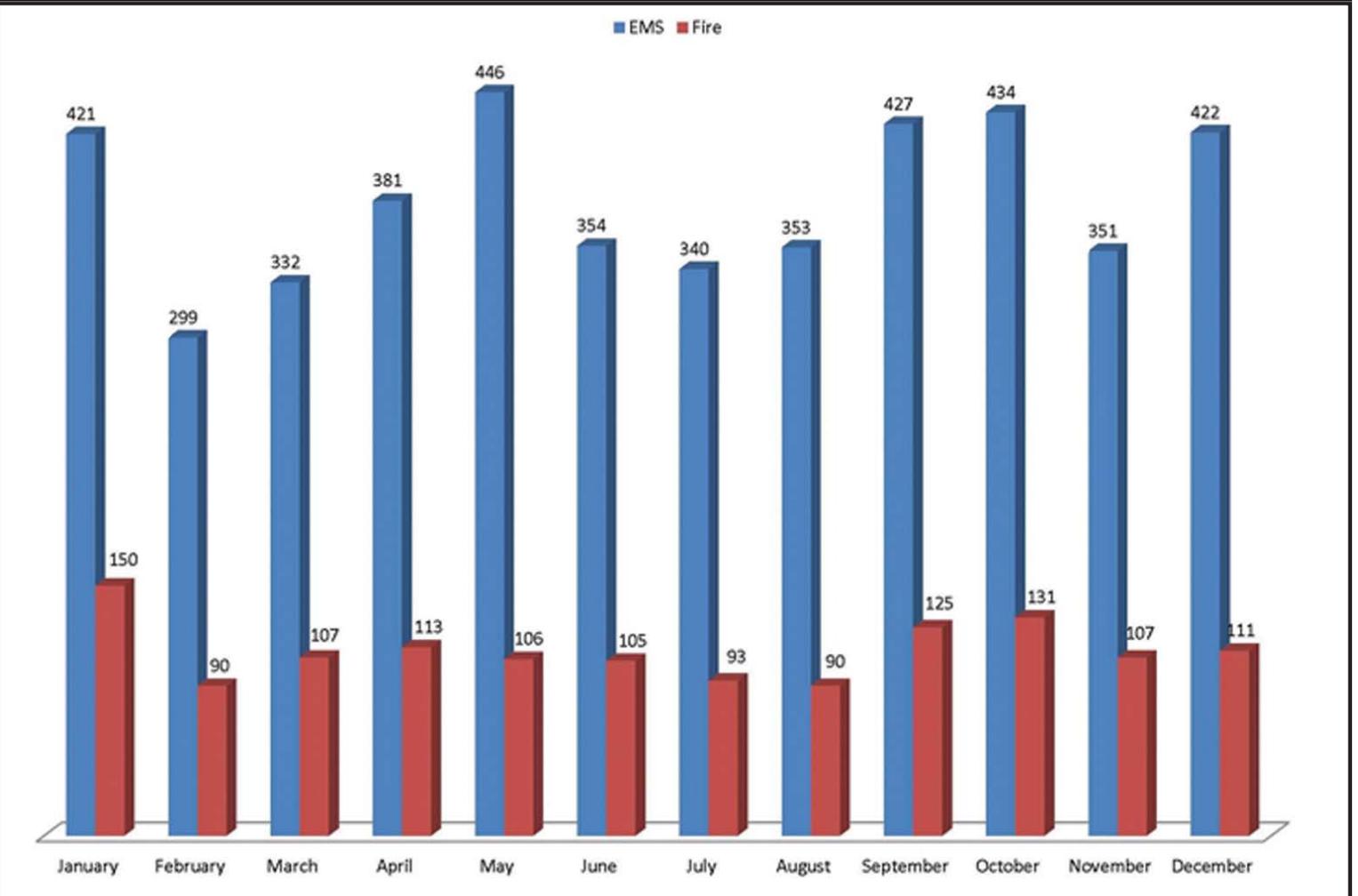
## Incident Type Summary



## 10-Year Incident Summary

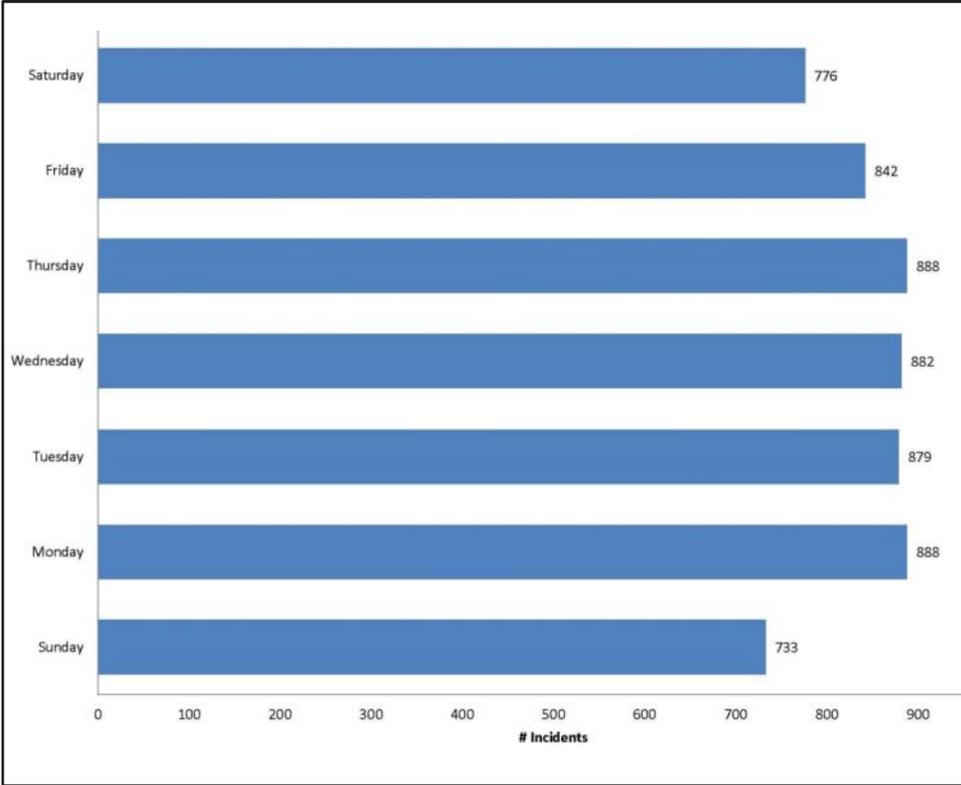


## Incidents by Month

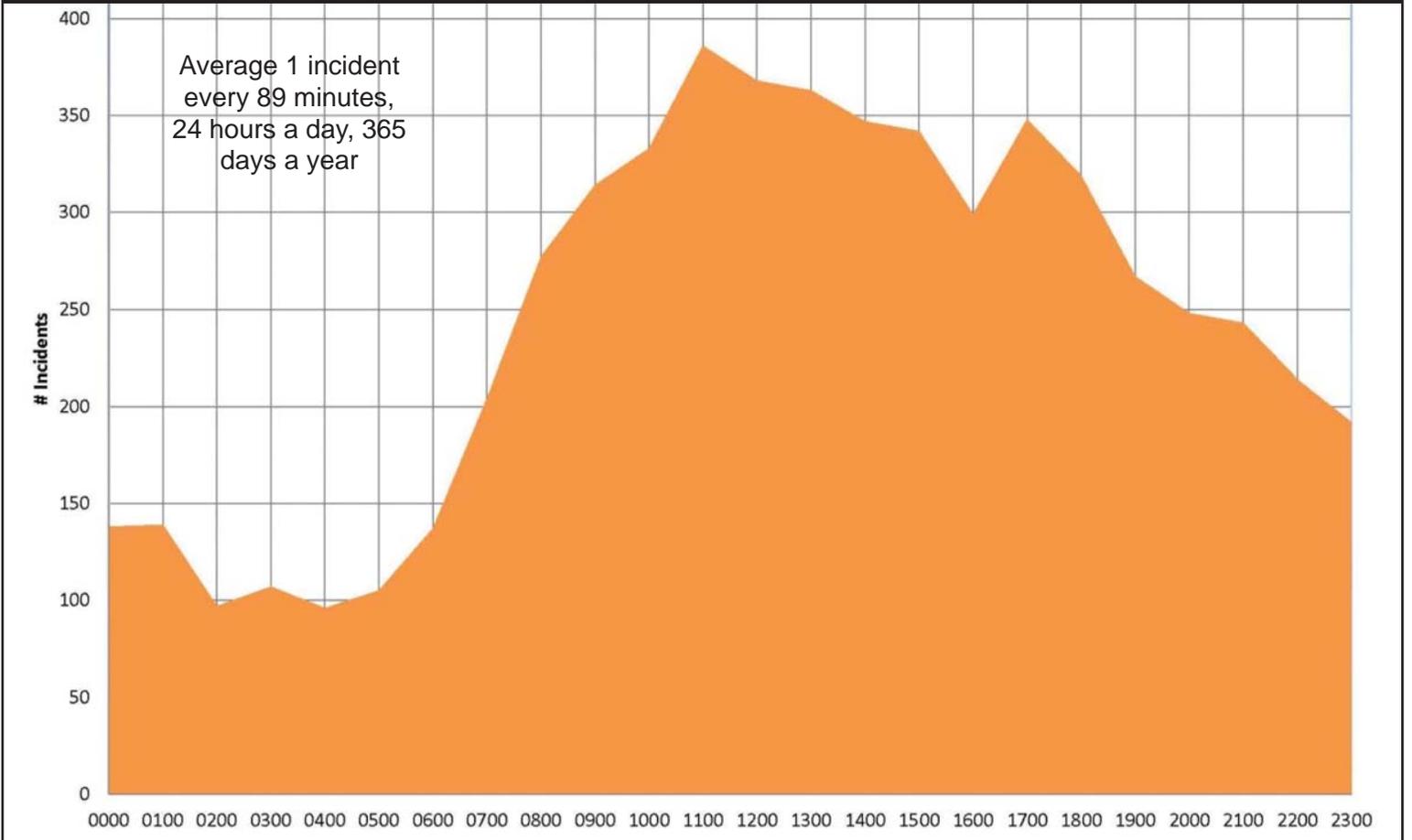


# Emergency Activity continued

## Incidents by Day of the Week



## Incidents by Day of the Week

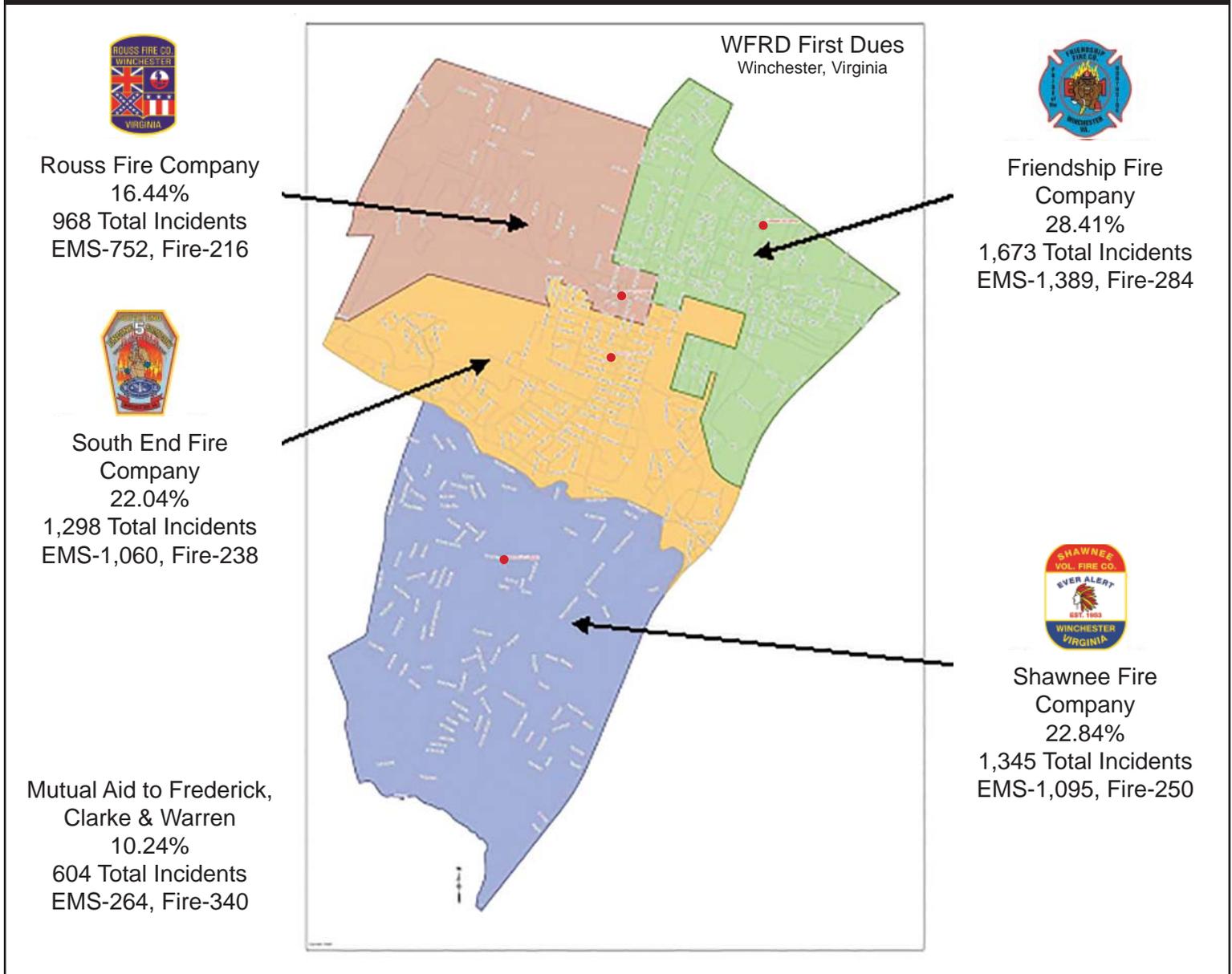


# Responses by Districts

First due districts are geographic response designations designed to provide the most direct and expedient fire and rescue response to an emergency incident. Depicted below is how the City of Winchester is divided to provide public safety coverage for emergency responses. For Fire and EMS incidents, South End fire station covers the area designated for Rouss fire station as Rouss only provides aerial ladder service for fire and first responder service for EMS incidents. The percentages depict the number of incidents that originated in these areas.

Fire Station	Company	Address
Friendship Fire Station	Company 1	627 North Pleasant Valley Road
Rouss Fire Station	Company 2	3 South Braddock Street
Shawnee Fire Station	Company 4	2210 Valor Drive
South End Fire Station	Company 5	17 West Monmouth Street

## Incidents by First Due Districts



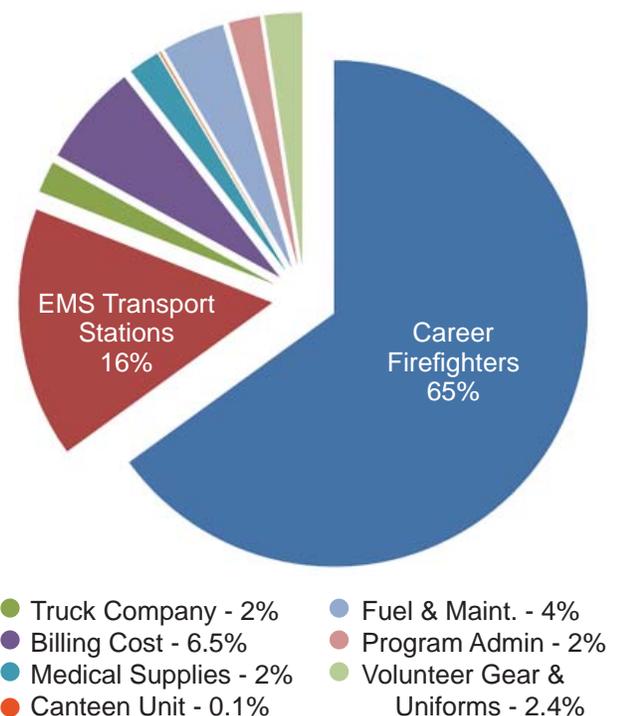
## Department Funding, Grants & Other Revenue Generation

Name of Funding Source	Description	Amount Received
General Fund Fire Budget	FY2015 approved funding provided by City revenues to support Fire and Rescue Fire/EMS services	\$5,199,600.00
General Fund Hazmat Budget	FY2015 approved funding provided by City revenues to support Fire and Rescue Hazmat services	\$46,700.00
Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)	Funding from VDEM to support the Winchester/Frederick Area 4 Contract Hazmat Team	\$15,000.00
Department of Homeland Security Hazmat Equipment & Training	Grants awarded to be used for Hazmat training and equipment	\$55,500.00
Virginia Department of Fire Programs "Aid to Locality Fund"	State funding derived from fees collected from the insurance industry and distributed to localities based on population for the purchase of firefighter safety equipment and public education materials	\$78,695.00
Virginia Department of Fire Programs "Technology Grant"	Grant funding awarded for computer technology to support fire incident reporting to the state	\$1,000.00
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services "Four-for-Life" Fund	State funding derived from DMV fees used for Emergency Medical Services equipment and training	\$23,290.80
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services "VPHIB"	Grant funding awarded for computer technology to support EMS incident reporting	\$40,771.00
Factory Mutual Insurance	Grant awarded for equipment to support the fire investigations for the Fire Marshal Division	\$255.00
Fire Marshal Division	General fund revenue generated from new construction plan review and fire suppression system inspections	\$5,835.44
EMS Revenue Recovery	Department funding generated from fees for providing Emergency Medical Services transports	\$1,011,665.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$6,478,302.24</b>

## Emergency Medical Services

The Winchester Fire and Rescue Department provides Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to the residents and visitors of Winchester by utilizing six EMS transport units that are owned and maintained by three of our volunteer stations. The department staffs three of the EMS transport units at the Advanced Life Support (ALS) level each day. Also, the fire apparatus that is owned by the four volunteer fire companies and the fire department administration vehicles are licensed by the Virginia Office of EMS and equipped to provide Basic Life Support (BLS) services as EMS quick response vehicles. Additionally, the department has two John Deere Gators and a volunteer staffed bicycle EMS response team equipped and available to assist with providing EMS at special events in the City and region.

The EMS community in Virginia is governed and regulated by the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (VOEMS). It is through VOEMS that Winchester Fire and Rescue Department is inspected bi-annually and licensed to provide EMS in the City of Winchester. In addition, the department is part of the Lord Fairfax EMS Council (LFEMSC) region, a contract agency of the VOEMS.



The LFEMSC is comprised of EMS agencies from the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah, Warren and the City of Winchester. Each jurisdiction has three representatives on the LFEMSC board of directors. The LFEMSC is responsible for developing regional patient treatment guidelines that the Winchester Fire and Rescue Department utilizes. We provide EMS to Winchester under the Medical Direction of emergency room physician Dr. Chris Turnbull.

In 2014, department members responded to 4,560 EMS related incidents or 78% of the total call volume experienced for the year. Of these 4,560 incidents 3,699 patients were treated and transported to Winchester Medical Center to receive further medical treatment. This resulted in 1,572 needing Basic Life Support services and 2,127 needing Advanced Life Support services. Long-term care facilities accounted for 406 or 9% of the EMS related incidents.

The department prides itself on being a regional leader in the advancement of EMS care. In July 2014, the department initiated a change in CPR to a concept known as High Performance CPR. This model of CPR focuses on performing continuous chest compressions with no pauses for rescue breathing. It has proven to be successful in other parts of the country with an increase of survival (discharged from hospital neurologically intact) for patients that are initially found to be pulseless presenting with a rhythm known as ventricular fibrillation. In 2014, we had seven cardiac arrest victims found in ventricular fibrillation. We were able to get a return of spontaneous circulation on six of these victims (86%), two of the seven were discharged from the hospital neurologically intact, one died shortly after discharge due to a terminal illness.

BLS is provided by personnel certified at the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) level or higher. These personnel are trained to perform pre-hospital treatment procedures that may sustain life for victims of various medical and traumatic emergencies including cardiopulmonary arrest, diabetic emergencies, falls, lacerations, motor vehicle collisions and strokes.

ALS is provided by personnel certified at the EMT - Enhanced, Intermediate or Paramedic level. ALS is a set of life-saving protocols and skills that extend BLS to further support circulation and provide an open airway and adequate ventilation (breathing). ALS personnel are trained and certified to perform skills such as intravenous cannulation, manual cardiac defibrillation, 12-lead EKG interpretation and medication administration.

We want our citizens to know that no one will ever be denied service because of inability to pay or for lack of health insurance. Our commitment is to provide the best EMS care possible. We are proud and honored to serve you!

A vital component of the department's EMS division is the "Fee for Service" Revenue Recovery Program (RRP). The RRP went into effect July 1, 2006. This last fiscal year the program generated more than one million dollars in revenue for the city that offsets cost associated with fire and rescue service. The RRP has allowed the department to hire an additional seven Firefighter/EMT's to serve the City. In addition, since the program's inception more than 1.5 million dollars has been returned to the four volunteer stations to offset their expenses.

Our RRP is based on concern for the medical and financial health of our city residents. We have designed the program to minimize the out-of-pocket costs for city residents. During fiscal year 2014 less than eight percent of the revenue generated comes from patient payment.

	Gross Revenue	Manual Contractual Allowances	Automatic Contractual Allowances	Refunds	Net Collectable	Payments from Patients	Payments from Insurance	Total Deposits
JANUARY	\$185,524	\$11,029.19	\$41,344.94	\$264.06	\$132,885.81	\$6,093.49	\$98,396.35	\$104,489.84
FEBRUARY	138,159	4,126.97	26,314.77	50.00	107,667.26	7,989.94	77,949.95	85,939.89
MARCH	151,307	9,888.64	24,140.06	1,103.67	116,174.63	9,631.01	86,129.80	95,760.81
APRIL	167,035	7,107.34	35,794.07	954.59	123,179.00	7,291.69	85,055.23	92,346.92
MAY	175,087	7,781.18	31,534.11	10.00	135,761.71	6,455.88	76,122.81	82,578.69
JUNE	143,359	9,730.60	27,547.01	0.00	106,081.39	9,345.49	85,882.18	95,227.67
JULY	137,770	9,086.48	25,204.96	572.00	102,906.56	7,553.06	74,152.83	81,705.89
AUGUST	152,144	5,850.90	28,995.09	86.20	117,211.81	5,639.83	73,382.75	79,022.58
SEPTEMBER	167,371	5,788.36	32,894.74	0.00	128,687.90	3,870.80	65,254.01	69,124.81
OCTOBER	176,373	13,803.42	30,490.83	481.21	131,597.54	5,531.26	104,650.23	110,181.49
NOVEMBER	150,539	11,969.51	23,077.46	4,606.49	113,885.54	5,146.74	87,407.18	92,553.92
DECEMBER	172,016	7,560.54	34,430.04	0.00	130,025.42	4,406.02	86,192.37	90,598.39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,916,684.00</b>	<b>\$103,723.13</b>	<b>\$361,768.08</b>	<b>\$5,128.22</b>	<b>\$1,446,064.57</b>	<b>\$78,955.21</b>	<b>\$1,00,575.69</b>	<b>\$1,079,530.90</b>

Uninsured residents are treated with compassion and provided with options to ensure financial hardship is avoided. A total of \$229,000 was written off as financial hardship in fiscal year 2014. There is no charge for emergency medical treatment if the patient is not transported.

# Staffing and ISO

Winchester Fire and Rescue currently has twenty (20) personnel assigned to each of the three 24 hour rotating shifts to help supplement the volunteer staffing. The department maintains a minimum of twelve (12) personnel working each day. NFPA 1710 is a standard that sets minimum criteria for the effective and efficient emergency operations to protect the safety of the public and fire department employees.

The Winchester Fire and Rescue Department was evaluated by the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) in 2012 for our fire protection capability and then updated again in 2014 to meet the new Public Protection Class (PPC) rating system. "ISO collects and evaluates information from communities in the United States on their structure fire suppression capabilities. The data is analyzed using our Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS™) and then a Public Protection Classification (PPC™) number is assigned to the community."



The City of Winchester earned a revised PPC rating of class 3 from this re-evaluation. "Class 1 represents an exemplary fire suppression program, and class 10 indicates that the areas fire suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria." Our PPC rating of class 3 places us in the top 15% of fire departments nationwide and in the top 6% in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Geographically ISO recommends that the City of Winchester maintain three engines and one aerial device in service each day. In addition, to maintain our Emergency Medical Services needs on a daily basis we must also maintain three Advanced Life Support ambulances in service. The following chart depicts the personnel/apparatus recommended by NFPA and ISO compared to our current situation.

NFPA 1710 Recommendation	ISO Recommended Apparatus	Current WFRD Minimum
4 personnel on each engine	3 Engines- 4 personnel	3 Engines-1 personnel
4 personnel on each truck	1 Truck – 4 personnel	1 Truck-1 personnel
2 ALS personnel on each medic unit	-	3 Medic Units-2 ALS/BLS personnel
2 Command Officers	Command Officer - 1	Command Officer – 1
<b>Total 24</b>	<b>Total 17</b>	<b>Total 12</b>

NOTE: 1 Engine or Truck will have 2 personnel



# Cost of a Firefighter

The first year of employment is the most critical in developing a firefighter for a long career in the emergency services field. Personnel selection is based on many factors but the number one goal is to employ the best possible person that can provide the service expected from our citizens.

The chart on the right is a comprehensive list of first year expenditures that are endured by the city to bring a new firefighter on board. New personnel are required to train for a minimum of six months before being considered operational and counted towards our minimum daily staffing level.



This cost analysis does not include the additional man hours that are needed by existing department personnel to ensure these individuals are trained to meet the both the Department's and industry's standards.



## New Firefighter Cost Analysis

Item	#	Cost/Item	Total
Starting Salary			\$36,524.80
Benefits			\$10,957.44
Holiday Pay			\$2,107.15
Background Investigation			\$75.00
Polygraph			\$0.00
Physical Evaluation			\$300.00
Physical			\$700.00
Training Manual			\$30.00
Firefighter Handbook			\$75.00
Department IDs	3	\$1.00	\$3.00
Accountability Tags	6	\$0.50	\$3.00
Street Map			\$.25
Bunker Jacket			\$1,278.90
Bunker Pants/Suspenders			\$1,169.53
Leather Fire Boots			\$339.72
Gloves			\$90.00
Hood			\$32.00
Helmet			\$218.72
Helmet Shield			\$39.00
Gear Bag			\$49.99
Scott Mask			\$262.47
40mm Adapter			\$0.00
Scott Cartridge			\$0.00
Coveralls			\$157.08
Safety Glasses/Case			\$8.08
Ear Plugs			\$1.24
Bail-out System			\$170.36
Station Uniforms/Wk.	52	\$6.25	\$325.00
T-Shirts	5	\$7.00	\$35.00
Work Boots			\$144.00
Beanie Hat			\$11.12
Baseball Hat			\$16.60
Rain Jacket			\$85.00
Winter Jacket			\$212.50
PT Hooded Sweatshirt			\$33.30
PT Shorts			\$17.30
PT Pants			\$23.60
Running Shoes			\$83.00
Shirt Badge	2	\$80.00	\$160.00
Patches	10	\$0.99	\$9.90
Class A Uniform			\$351.16
Written Test			\$12.50
PAT Test	8	\$25.00	\$200.00
Locker			\$464.41
<b>TOTAL COST</b>			<b>\$56,785.12</b>

## Employee Spotlight

Name	Rank	Date
<b>New Hires:</b>		
Matthew Morris	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	3/8/14
Caleb Sherwood	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	3/8/14
Christopher Dunn	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	7/26/14
Ben Hoopengardner	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	7/26/14
Tyler Lonas	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	7/26/14
Nichole Hounshell	EMS Billing Manager	9/15/14
Jadon Carr	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	10/4/14
Gidget Bryan	Executive Secretary	12/1/14
Johnathan Hartzel	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	12/29/14
Thomas Harrison	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	12/29/14
Joseph Konczal	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	12/29/14
<b>Operational Clearance:</b>		
Jeffrey Hartman	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	1/6/14
Scott Matthews	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	6/3/14
Jeremy Greenbacker	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	6/21/14
Matthew Morris	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	9/11/14
Caleb Sherwood	Probationary EMT/Firefighter	10/9/14
<b>Advancement to EMT/Firefighter:</b>		
Tyler Brown	EMT/Firefighter	4/19/14
Jeffrey Hartman	EMT/Firefighter	5/31/14
Scott Matthews	EMT/Firefighter	7/12/14
Jeremy Greenbacker	EMT/Firefighter	11/15/14
<b>Advancement to EMT/Firefighter Technician:</b>		
Matthew Atkins	EMT/Firefighter Technician	1/25/14
Brandon Buchanan	EMT/Firefighter Technician	3/8/14
<b>Promotion to Lieutenant:</b>		
Sam Bohus	Lieutenant	1/4/14
Blane Johnson	Lieutenant	1/4/14
Branyon Williams	Lieutenant	5/31/14
<b>Promotion to Battalion Chief:</b>		
Kevin Duckwall	Battalion Chief	5/31/14
<b>Retirements:</b>		
Kevin Yost	Battalion Chief	4/1/14
Joyce Vance	EMS Billing Manager	7/1/14
<b>Separations:</b>		
Greg Amerault	EMT/Firefighter	3/18/14
Michael Bender	EMT/Firefighter	3/20/14
Betsy Maynard	Executive Secretary	5/8/14
Chad Wilson	EMT/Firefighter Technician	7/3/14
Stephanie Joseph	EMT/Firefighter Technician	7/11/14
Andrew Funk	EMT/Firefighter Technician	12/19/14
<b>Deaths:</b>		
Retired Wayne Braithwaite	Lieutenant	3/21/14

## Awards & Recognitions



**Jon Henschel**  
Battalion Chief  
VA Fire Officer  
Academy Graduate



**Gerald Bohus**  
Lieutenant  
VA Fire Officer  
Academy Graduate



**Matthew Gearhart**  
Assistant Fire  
Marshal  
VA Fire Marshal  
Law Enforcement  
Academy Graduate



**Jon Henschel (Battalion Chief),  
Christopher Clark (Firefighter), Carroll  
Richardson (Lieutenant)**  
Lord Fairfax EMS Council Awards

# Health and Safety

## Health and Safety

The Health and Safety division of the department was created to provide assistance in addressing risk as it pertains to the first responders, the department, the city and its citizens. As the safety of the public is inherently a dangerous job to protect the welfare of the community, the fire industry as a whole have taken great measures to help reduce this risk by developing programs that address the various issues that we face day to day.

In the Winchester community we are not immune to this risk and preparing our first responders is of high importance to risk reduction. As with the military our industry has seen an increase in suicide and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). We have addressed this issue head-on by hosting awareness classes on firefighter stress first aid. The eight-hour course led by the National Fallen Firefighter's Foundation provides vital recognition methodologies for peer behavior and the ability to render aid.

In addition, it is a proven fact that people in our profession are more susceptible to injuries and/or death. This past year we suffered one (1) firefighter injury and four (4) civilian injuries that were all non-life threatening. Other health and safety programs instituted in 2014 were the addition of firefighter self-rescue equipment and training, addition of DOT approved traffic safety vests, infectious control awareness training, communicable disease training, breathing air management training, and apparatus driver training updates to name a few.

### 2015 Goals for Health and Safety:

- 100% fit testing for all staff (NFPA 1404)
- Reduce injury/illness to Winchester Fire and Rescue personnel
- Review policy and procedures to confirm compliance with today's trends

**CREED: We “all go home” after each shift**

## Training

Training of public safety personnel remains a huge challenge to ensure proficiency. The ever changing threat to our community from natural and manmade disasters is our charge in the understanding of providing a safe place to live for our citizens and visitors.

In 2014, the department logged over 21,020 hours of continuing education for our personnel. With the inclusion of nine (9) new Probationary EMT/Firefighters, this equates to over 28% of our training efforts to assist them to become operational. In addition, existing staff must engage in continuing education as well to stay proficient.

Every one of our first responders are required to be certified in Firefighter I, EMT, Emergency Vehicle Operations, and Hazmat Operations prior to responding to emergency incidents. Many of our providers are certified at levels that are above the minimum qualifications which adds to the level of service provided to the community. The following provides a glimpse of our goals and the training requirements that are set as a department.

### 2015 Goals for Training Division:

- High Risk, Low Frequency training in all aspects of firefighter survival
- Complete all skills proficiency training for EMS/Fire
- Meet all requirements for driver operator training to facilitate safety for our personnel and citizens
- Continue to provide training that is beneficial to the department and citizens who we provide our services
- Increase training opportunities for both department personnel and the public



# Training Requirements

Type	Requirement	
<b>Virginia OEMS Recertification</b>		
EMT-A	36 hours	Every 3 years
EMT-I	48 hours	Every 3 years
EMT-P	72 hours	Every 3 years
CPR Certification	3 hours	Every 2 years
<b>National Registry EMS Certifications</b>		
EMT-P	72 hours	Every 2 years
EMT-I	72 hours	Every 2 years
LFEMSC		
ACLS (EMT-I & EMT-P)	8 hours	Every 2 years
<b>Winchester Fire &amp; Rescue Department Certifications</b>		
ITLS (EMT-I, EMT-P and TEMO)	8 hours	Every 2 years
PALS (EMT-I, EMT-P and TEMO)	8 hours	Every 2 years
ACLS (EMT-I, EMT-P and TEMO)	8 hours	Every 2 years
<b>Child Safety Seat Installer Certification</b>		
Installers	8 hours*	Every 2 years

\* Plus seat installs in front of an instructor



## Winchester/Frederick Fire Academy

We are in a partnership with Frederick County Fire and Rescue to instruct a fire academy and an EMS academy each year. Volunteers must spend more than 600 hours to become certified firefighters/EMT's.

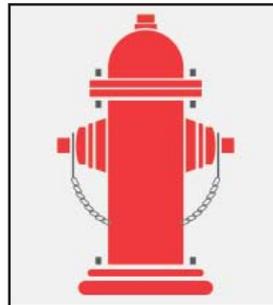
## EMS Training

In the past year our providers have recertified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and International Trauma Life Support (ITLS). Both courses are requirements of our department to be an ALS provider in our system. With the requirements set forth by the state and our regional council, we must attend refresher courses and skill's evaluation. This is another check and balance to make sure our care is up to the national standard. We strive as a department to give the best care possible.

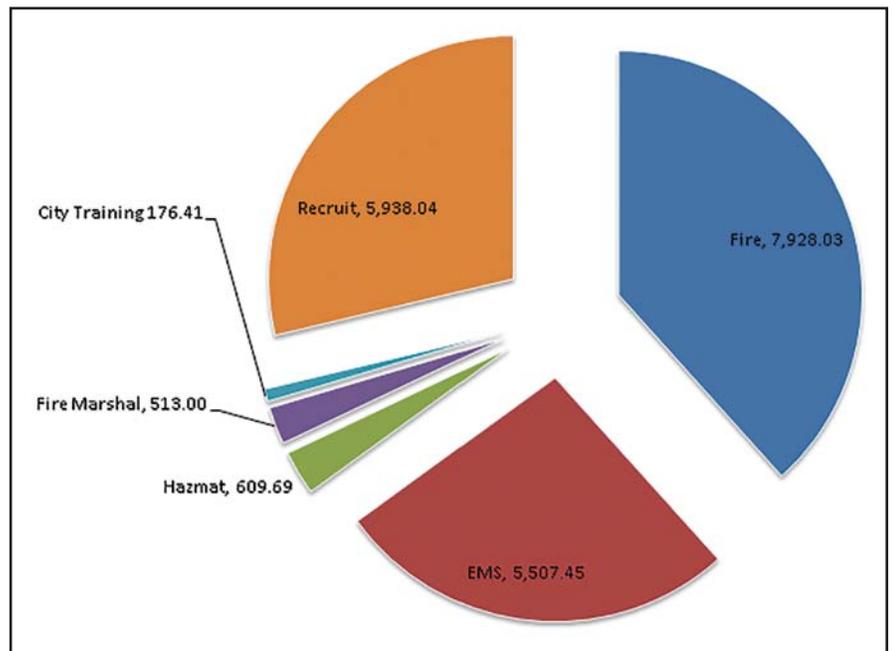
## Fire Training

The department spent numerous hours on fire related training to include:

- hose deployments
- search and rescue techniques
- fire attack
- firefighter down
- vehicle extrication
- pump operations
- aerial operations



The training division and life safety division work together; in order to gain access and do walk-throughs of buildings under construction for increased firefighter knowledge in the event of an emergency. It is documented through many historical fires that building construction/building codes have been contributing factors in fires where there has been a large loss of civilian life. We have instituted a bail-out system for our department in the case that one of our own would become trapped on an upper floor due to fire. This system would enable us to bail-out of a window on the upper floor. As the City has acquired many buildings throughout the year the department has taken advantage of those structures to perform training that is the most realistic, without the hazards of the real incident.



## Hazmat Training

Winchester Fire and Rescue Department is the lead fiscal agent for a state funded Regional Hazardous Materials contract team. This team that is comprised of hazmat technicians from the Winchester and Frederick County Fire and Rescue Departments. Initial training to become a Hazardous Materials Technician is 80 hours in length and conducted by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. Each year Hazmat team members are required to complete 24 hours of continuing education requirements to maintain certification. The Hazmat team covers emergency response to hazmat mitigation for the northern Shenandoah, Frederick, Warren, Clarke counties as well as the City of Winchester.



## TEMO

We continue to support the Winchester Police Department with a team of Tactical Emergency Medical Operators (TEMO). These individuals have received 40 hours of specialized training that allows them to provide emergency medical assistance to the Winchester Police Department SWAT team. This year we conducted a joint training with Shenandoah University's performing arts class. This training was held at the SU Health Professions building. This is a great example of community partnerships that teaches the dynamics of active shooter incidents and how the first responder roles will be in these types of events.



## Child Safety Seats

The department has 13 personnel certified as child safety seat inspectors/installers. This certification is a vigorous 40 hour course that contains a practical component for the participant to properly install the various styles of child safety seats. This certification is valid for a two year period and requires eight hours of classroom/practical training to maintain certification.



## EMS Training for the Community

We have joined forces with the Winchester Public School System to enhance their health profession educational track. In doing so, we are providing Healthcare Provider level CPR to the students at John Handley High School (JHHS). In the fall of 2014 we had personnel instruct an Emergency Medical Training course to these students as well. Students successfully passing this course will be certified in the Commonwealth of Virginia as Emergency Medical Technicians and have a marketable job skill that can be translated to our profession in the future.



# Life Safety Division

The Life Safety Division is charged with conducting plans review, fire inspections, public education and the investigation of fires, explosions, code complaints and environmental crimes. Included with that is the enforcement of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, City of Winchester Fire Prevention Code, and the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code. The work of the Life Safety Division is carried out by two full-time employees, the Fire Marshal and Assistant Fire Marshal along with assistance from the department's operational personnel, Frederick County Fire Marshal's Office, and the Winchester Police Department.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Prevention of fire through proactive public education, inspections, investigation, and fire code enforcement.
- Mitigation of the effects of hazardous materials accidents and crimes on human life and the environment.
- Maintain or improve the existing level of customer service and flexibility in application of the codes.

## 2014 ACHIEVEMENTS



### Fire Marshal's Office

Assistant Fire Marshal Matthew Gearhart graduated from the Virginia Fire Marshal Academy Law Enforcement program. The program consisted of ten weeks of law enforcement training in the areas of arson and criminal law, defensive tactics, firearms training, traffic stops, crime scene investigation, forensic fire scene investigation, and court room procedures. This training program is developed by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Department of Fire Programs as required by the Code of Virginia 27-34.2:1 for authorization of police powers for fire marshals.



### Community Education:

Our department continued our fire safety education for kindergarten through fourth grade in all four of the city's elementary schools. The department's Public Education Committee continued these presentations with our puppet program. This year's program was unique in the way that members of our Public Education Committee wrote their own puppet skits and built their own props for the presentations.

This year's puppet program highlighted the importance of maintaining your smoke alarms by testing them once each month and replacing the batteries when you change your clocks for day-light savings time. In addition to smoke alarms maintenance the puppet's message also stressed the importance of staying in the kitchen while you're cooking.



## Investigations

After a fire is extinguished the Fire Marshals have the responsibility of determining how that fire occurred and the circumstances surrounding the situation. This is accomplished by first locating the area of origin and then narrowing that down to a specific point of origin and then determining an exact cause. The cause of a fire is classified in one of four ways: unintentional, incendiary, natural, or undetermined. At the completion of the investigation an investigative report and case file is put together to document the activities of the investigation. In the event that a fire is determined to be incendiary in nature and found to be a criminal offense, the Fire Marshal will work with the Commonwealth Attorney's Office to have the offender prosecuted and brought to justice. In some situations this will be a joint investigation with the Criminal Investigations Division of the Winchester Police Department.

In 2013, the Winchester Fire Marshal's Office and Police Department Criminal Investigations Division opened a joint fire investigation into a fatal fire that occurred on June 18, 2013 that sadly took the life of two year old Christian Cruz. Investigators ultimately determined that the fire was intentionally set and arrested Sherry Cruz, Christian's mother. Christian had four other siblings that were also at home when the fire occurred but they were able to get out safely.

In March of 2014, after a four day jury trial, Sherry Cruz was found guilty of Murder, Arson, and four counts of felony child abuse and received a sentence of 36 years in prison. The collaborated effort from the Fire Marshal office, Winchester Police Department, ATF, and others were instrumental in bringing this case to justice.



Cause of Ignition - Structure Fires	Qty
Intentional	1
Unintentional	11
Failure of equipment or heat source	1
Act of nature	0
Causer under investigation	5
Cause undetermined after investigation	2

Investigation Statistics	Qty
Fire Marshal Investigations	26
Arrests Made (includes juveniles)	4
Civilian Fatalities	0
Civilian Casualties	3
Fire Service Casualties	1

Area of Fire Origin - Structure Fires	Qty	Est. Loss	% of Fires
Other	1	0	3.84%
Exterior stairway, ramp or fire escape	1	26,000	3.84%
Common room, den, family room	1	700	3.84%
Cooking area, kitchen	6	115,850	23.07%
Bathroom, lavatory, locker room	4	50,500	15.38%
Storage room, area, tank, bin	1	25,000	3.84%
Chute/container - trash, rubbish, waste	1	0	3.84%
Conveyor	1	0	3.84%
Structural area	1	0	3.84%
Exterior balcony, unenclosed porch	2	2,000	7.69%
Wall assembly, concealed space	1	15,000	3.84%
Wall surface: exterior	4	40,250	15.38%
Outside area, other	1	500	3.84%
Undetermined	1	0	3.84%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>\$275,800</b>	<b>100%</b>



# Life Safety Division continued...

## Plan Review

The new development or redevelopment of properties and buildings requires a regulatory process to ensure that all fire safety and code requirements are complied with. The Fire Marshal reviews site development plans for the need and placement of fire department access to roads, hydrants, and other fire service features. They also review new construction plans for fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, and special hazard suppression systems so that a fire protection permit can be issued for a contractor to conduct the approved installation. This responsibility fosters a great working relationship between the Fire and Rescue Department and the City's Zoning and Inspections staff.

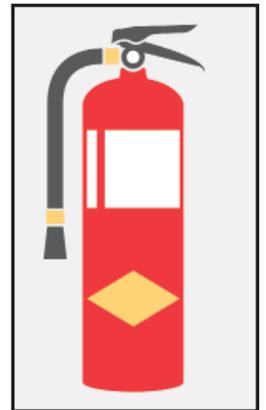
Plan Review Type	Qty	Revenue
Site Development Plans	38	\$0
Fire Suppression Systems	18	\$1,080.69
Fire Alarm Systems	15	\$1,420.86
Fire Sprinkler Systems	26	\$3,356.29
Fire Pump Installation	1	\$81.60
Clean Agent/FM200	2	\$65.28
<b>General Fund Totals</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>\$6,004.72</b>



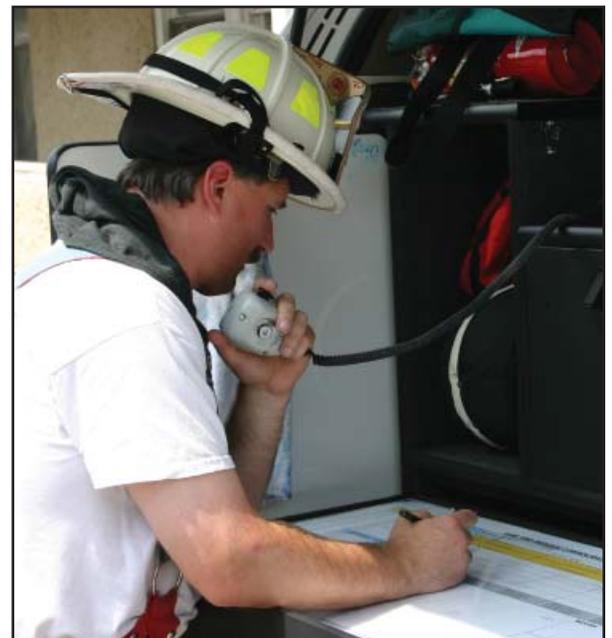
## Fire Inspections

Through fire code inspections we are able to educate owners and occupants of commercial properties in how to maintain a fire safe environment for their customers. We accomplished this with our two Fire Marshals along with the assistance of our operational firefighters. Our operational firefighters conduct annual inspections on all City owned and operated properties and our Fire Marshals conduct annual inspections in our healthcare, daycare, and other state regulated care facilities. In addition, the Fire Marshals also conduct seasonal and special event inspections throughout the year. Our special event inspections include the inspection of vendor stands and tents for the various festivals sponsored by the City. These inspections are conducted at no charge to the occupants and/or owners.

In addition to fire code inspections, the division is responsible for conducting acceptance testing on the fire protection systems that we approve through plan review. Once a contractor has completed their project they contact the Fire and Rescue Department to schedule an inspection of their installation. These inspections are conducted as part of the permitting process at no additional charge to the contractor.



Inspection Type	Qty	Revenue
Fire Inspections	251	\$0
Fire Re-Inspections	140	\$0
Massage Establishment Inspection/Reinspection	14	\$0
Fire Alarm Acceptance Tests	20	\$0
Fire Sprinkler Acceptance Tests	20	\$0
Hood Suppression Acceptance Tests	20	\$0



# Public Recognition and Community Support

The Department actively engages in public education and safety awareness activities and supports various charitable organizations.



## Retirements

### **Kevin M. Yost** Battalion Chief

25 Years of Dedicated Career Service  
Serving the the Citizens of the City of Winchester  
August 1988 to April 2014

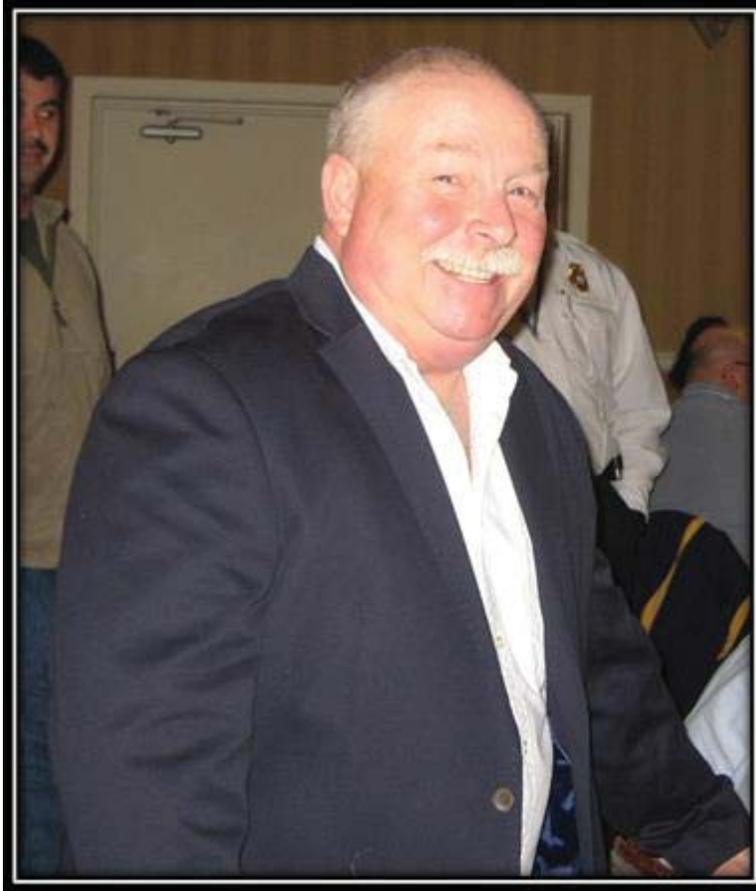


### **Joyce A. Vance** EMS Billing Manager

8 Years of Dedicated Public Service  
Serving the the Citizens of the City of Winchester  
April 2006 to July 2014



Thank you for your service!



**Wayne E. Braithwaite**  
**Lieutenant**

September 4, 1952 - March 21, 2014

30 Years of Dedicated Service to the City of Winchester

# STATION 1 - Friendship Fire Company

**Friendship Fire Company**  
627 North Pleasant Valley Road  
Winchester, VA 22601

(540) 667-6961



## 2014 Leadership

Brian Bannister	President
Kim Wallace	Vice President
Bobby Luttrell	Chief
Brian Jenkins	Deputy Chief/Treasurer
Danny Alger	Assistant Chief
Carmen Disney	Secretary



*Year built 1976*



Engine 1 - 2010 Pierce Arrow XT



Wagon 1 - 1997 Seagrave Marauder



Utility 1 - 2001 Chevy Suburban & Gator 1



Medic 1-1 - 1999 Freightliner FL-50



Medic 1-2 - International 4300

# STATION 2 - Rouss Fire Company

**Rouss Fire Company**  
3 South Braddock Street  
Winchester, VA 22601

(540) 662-5529



## 2014 Rouss Fire Company Leadership

Tim Clark	President
Dusty Bowers	Chief
Jesse Walther	Deputy Chief
George Dove	Treasurer
Dawnette Jones	Secretary



*Year built 1895*

*Photo by Brandon Jones*



Ladder 2 - 1992 Simon/LTI Spartan



Truck 2 - 1998 Pierce Dash



Serv 2 - 2002 Ford F-350

# STATION 4 - Shawnee Fire Company

## Shawnee Fire Company

2210 Valor Drive  
Winchester, VA 22601

(540) 662-0855



## 2014 Shawnee Fire Company Leadership

Karl Liedke	President
Tracey Umbenour	Vice President
John Pine	Chief
Laurie Varnau	Deputy Chief
Jay Bailey	Treasurer
Samantha Hart	Secretary



*Year built 2001*



Engine 4 - 2006 Pierce Lance



Wagon 4 - 1996 Seagrave Marauder



Utility 4 - 1999 Ford F-350



Medic 4-1 - 2009 International  
4300



Medic 4-2 - 1998 Ford E-450

# STATION 5 - South End Fire Company

**South End Fire Company**  
17 West Monmouth Street  
Winchester, VA 22601  
  
(540) 665-0007



## 2014 South End Fire Company Leadership

Brandon Krippner	President
Billy Moreland	Chief
Tom Zirkle	Deputy Chief
Emily Jackson	Treasurer
Heather DeCristofaro	Secretary



*Year built 1958, Addition added 1981*



Engine 5 - 2002 Pierce Dash



Wagon 5 - 2008 Pierce Contender



Medic 5-1 - 2007 GMC



Medic 5-2 - 2001 Ford E-450



Utility 5 - 2001  
Chevy Tahoe

# Timbrook Public Safety Center

## Winchester Fire & Rescue Headquarters

231 East Piccadilly Street, Ste. 330  
Winchester, VA 22601

(540) 662-2298



*Year built 2002*



FC-6 - 2010 Ford Explorer



OPS-6 - 2007 Ford Explorer



EMS-6 - 2010 Ford Explorer



FM 6-1 - 2008 Ford Explorer



FM 6-2 - 2005 GMC 2500



BAT 6 - 2014 Chevy Tahoe



Safety 6 - 2006 GMC 2500



Hazmat 6 - 1990 International



Leak & Spill - 2006 International



Leak & Spill Trailer



Mass Casualty Tent



Canteen 6 - 2001 GMC Yukon

Cover photo and many other photos in this report are courtesy of Shenandoah Valley Fire.



Picture above: Structure fire at 116 E. Cork Street on April 7, 2014



For more information regarding this report or any other questions please contact:

Winchester Fire & Rescue Department  
231 East Piccadilly Street, Ste. 300  
(540) 662-2298  
winfrd@winchesterva.gov  
[www.winchesterva.gov/fire](http://www.winchesterva.gov/fire)