

Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department



Annual Report

2017

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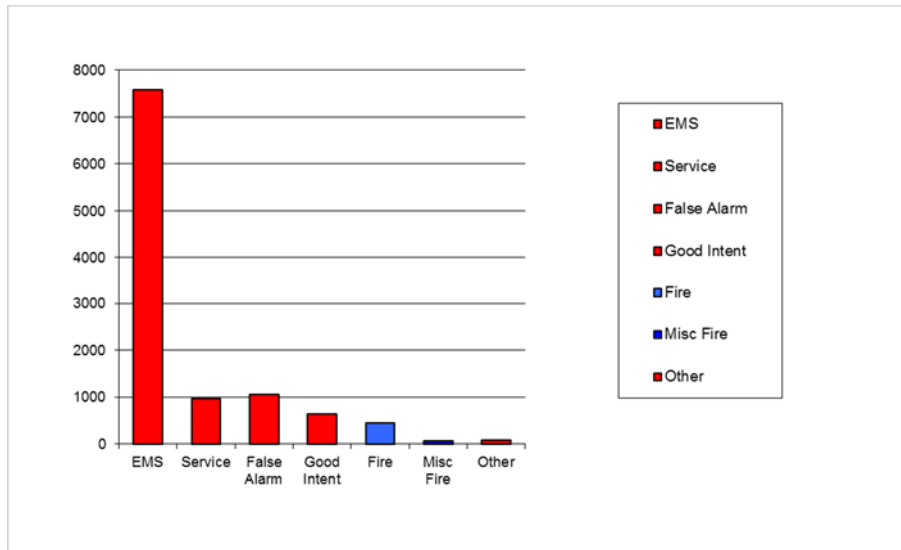
Introduction

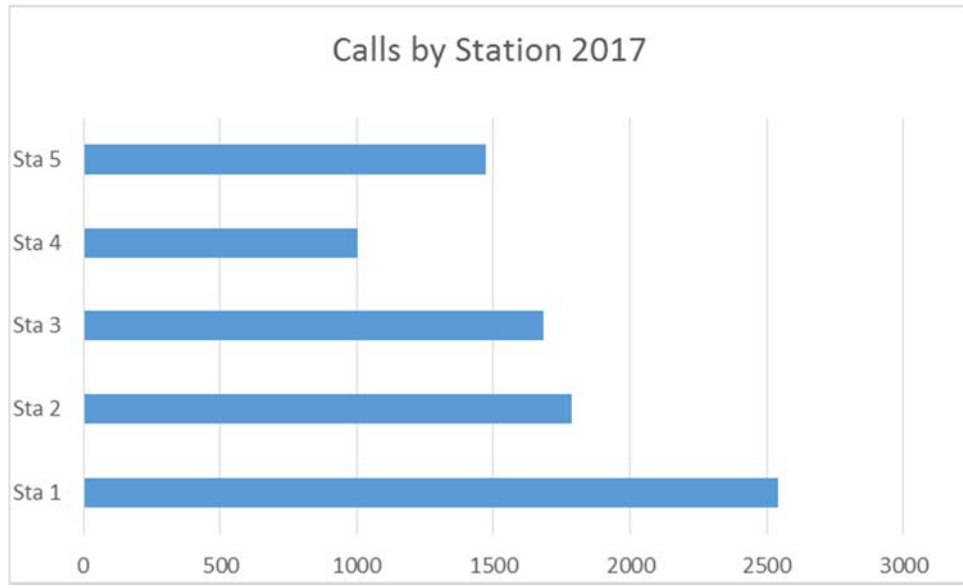
The Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department in 2017 continues to transform to the needs of the Community. The Department has actively chosen to address the opiate situation directly with one of the first Quick Response Teams (QRT) in the State. One paramedic, one police officer, and one counselor from the Summit County ADM Board meets with an individual and their family, to assist with positive alternatives to addiction. Within a week of an overdose event, the team will attempt to meet with, and help in moving the individual toward rehabilitation. This is the first area the Department has stepped into the realm of community paramedicine. Firefighters have answered the call, and addressed the most recent need of the community.

The Department had a total call volume of 8553 calls. 300 of these were from the new QRT Program. The Department continues to provide 80% of its services in EMS, 10% Fire, and 10% to Special Operations.

The Department

Unit Response by Type 2017	
EMS	7585
Service	965
False Alarm	1063
Good Intent	637
Fire	445
Misc Fire	64
Other	80





Totals by Station and Month														
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Percentage
Station 1	216	187	196	202	234	215	221	227	208	228	206	202	2542	29.71
Station 2	142	137	150	152	155	159	170	140	152	135	131	164	1787	20.88
Station 3	152	118	143	144	136	151	136	135	148	145	139	137	1684	19.68
Station 4	90	69	72	69	83	91	82	96	86	97	78	89	1002	11.71
Station 5	130	123	127	100	131	117	117	108	135	134	118	131	1471	17.19
By Month	738	644	695	670	746	735	730	712	735	750	676	725	8556	



We have recently installed an exhaust capture system (pictured above) to “capture” the exhaust fumes from the vehicles while they are running. The arm automatically ejects from the vehicle as it drives away. The fire fighter reconnects the arm once they arrive back at the station house.

Honor Guard

The Honor Guard marched for the Memorial Day Parade. A long standing, proud tradition of Cuyahoga Falls Fire.

On March 10, 2017 the Guard stood for the funeral of Retired Fire Fighter Fred Ousterhout. FF Ousterhout proudly served the citizens of Cuyahoga Falls from June 16, 1956 until retirement on February 17, 1981.

Born at home on Andover Street, he was an 89 year resident of Cuyahoga Falls.

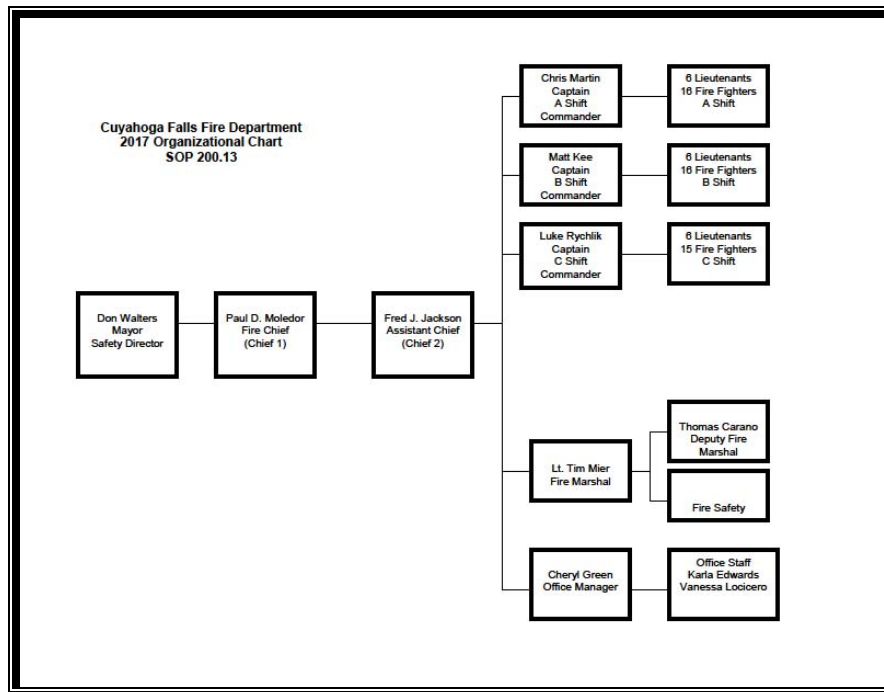
He attended Falls Schools, then enlisted in the U.S. Army serving 1945-1947. Fred bought his first car (A Model T Ford) at age 11. His dad helped him get it running, then taught him to drive. Forever "Hooked", he traded cars like others bought bread - frequently! He enjoyed his career with the City of Cuyahoga Falls, serving first as a mechanic at the City Garage, then for more than 24 years as a Firefighter with CFFD.

An empty Chair at the Clifford's Auto Museum will remind us of Fred's avocation and lifelong friendship with Bill, Dottie and Family.



Organization

The Fire Department is organized as below:



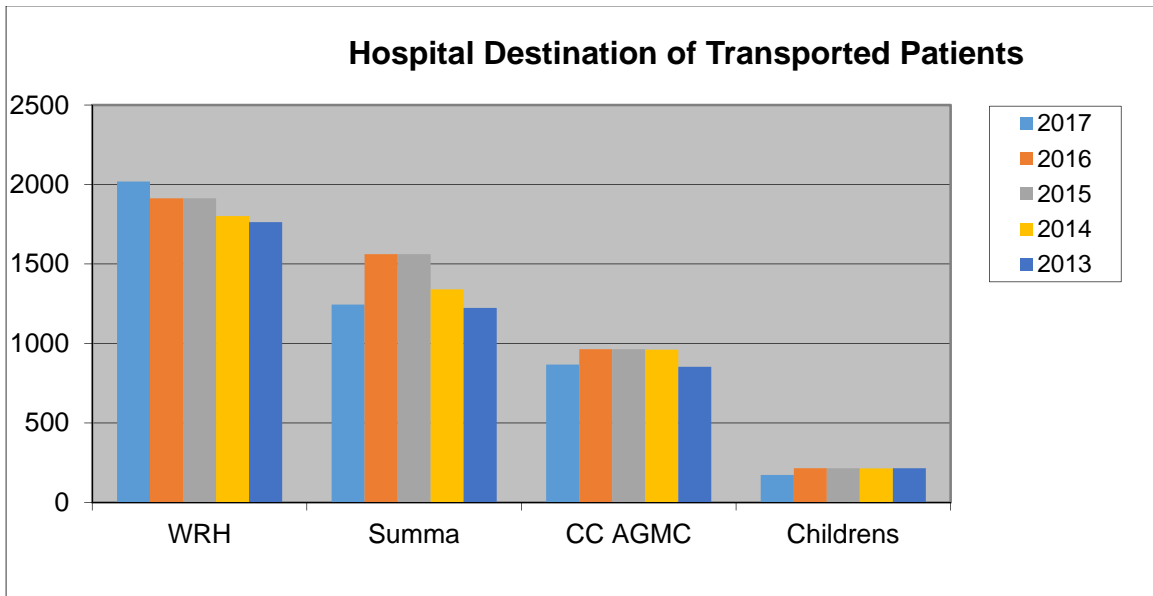
2017 brought the retiring of Fire Fighter Mark Yanko with 31 years of service and Fire Fighter David Reifsnnyder with 34 years of service.

2 fire fighters resigned and 5 new fire fighters were hired.

Emergency Medical Service

One of the major functions of the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department is to provide Emergency Medical Service. In 2017, 7,585 EMS incidents accounted for 88% of the total incidents. The aspects of EMS are multi-faceted; in-the-field triage, the administration of medication and/or medical treatments, and emergency transportation to a local hospital when the symptoms indicate. As a result of EMS incidents, 4,304 patients were transported to various facilities in 2017. More than \$1.4 million of revenue was generated by ambulance billing for the City.

Patients were transported to their hospital of choice as listed below.



	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
WRH	2019	1913	1913	1801	1763
Summa	1245	1562	1562	1340	1224
CC AGMC	867	964	964	961	853
Children's	173	215	215	214	215

A new paramedic ambulance with power cot and hydraulic lift system was placed in service. This newer system of hydraulic lifting systems both on the cot, and as part of the ambulance, have helped in preventing injury from lifting cots, with patients, and heavy medical equipment.



Electronic Charting

ESO software with iPad tablets were used to document pre-hospital medicine and share this important information with the receiving medical facilities. This product further helps with not having to repeatedly enter information relative to an EMS call. Data is wirelessly shared across platforms as needed.



Fire Service

Mutual Aid Calls in 2017

Mutual Aid Received	46
Automatic Aid Received	2
Mutual Aid Given	56
Automatic Aid Given	23
Mutual Aid Requested and Cancelled	9
Automatic Aid Requested and Cancelled	5

Calls by Category in 2017

Fire	136
Overpressure, Rupture, Overheat	24
Emergency Medical Service	6228
Hazardous Condition	182
Service Call	870
Good Intent Call	457
False Alarm	578
Severe Weather	3
Special Incidents	78

8556

Fire Prevention and Education

The Fire Prevention Bureau conducted 300 inspections and followed up on the 1730 inspections conducted by the district fire companies. 200 smoke detectors were installed for citizens in need of such. 50 fires were investigated with citizens assisted with the many difficulties of having a fire in your home.

Fire Prevention Week talks are given to each of our elementary schools in the Fall and preschools in the Spring. Kindergartners and First Graders are shown the fire engine and are told about preventing fires and about the importance of having smoke detectors installed in their home.

Community Events

The Fire Department with tremendous support from private and other City departments conducted the Safety Town Program for 135 children preparing to enter kindergarten in the fall. With generous donations from Western Reserve Hospital, and Rotary International, all children received a week of programming, a bicycle helmet, a police badge, fire helmet, and one session of swimming lessons. Our Police Department kindly provides officers for the program to both educate the children and ensure their wellbeing. The Natatorium Staff creates a warm, inviting environment to conduct all lessons and our graduation ceremony.

The Fire Prevention Bureau is first at any event conducted on the Front Street Mall, Car Cruising, Friday Night Events, the Irish/Italian/Octoberfest Festivals, school community days, Homecoming, Christmas, and many others to ensure the safety of all present.

Special Operations Teams

Special Operations Calls by Type 2017

Search for person on land	8
Search for person in water	1
Extricate from a vehicle	6
Rescue from stalled elevator	4
Confined Space	1
Rope Rescue	1
Swift Water Rescue	1
Trench	1
Haz-Mat Investigations	53

76

Special Operations teams of Technical Rescue, Water Rescue, and Hazardous Materials responded to 76 calls requiring unique skills and equipment.

Grants

The Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department in 2017 received the Ohio Department of Public Safety EMS grant to help support ongoing medical supply expenses.



Silver Lake

219 Silver Lake Calls in 2017

- 4 Fire/Explosion, Overheat
- 148 EMS
- 10 Good Intent
- 12 False Alarms
- 12 Hazardous Condition
- 33 Miscellaneous Service Calls

Conclusion

The Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department wishes the very best for our fine citizens. We will continue to provide the best possible care no matter the emergency. We resolve to do this within a framework of empathy, compassion, and dedication to the citizens we serve, and one another.

