

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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Mission Statement

Protecting lives and property by providing a superior level of service through prevention and emergency response to the public.

Vision Statement

We will be recognized as leaders in our profession by setting the standards of excellence while providing World Class Public Safety Services through integrity, innovation and professionalism.

Slogan

“PRIDE THROUGH PERFORMANCE”

Values

As members of the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District we take pride in our commitment to professional service by maintaining our skills, knowledge and abilities. All members of the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District are committed to conducting ourselves in an ethical manner, conforming to a moral standard of right versus wrong by treating each other and the citizens we serve humanely, professionally and honestly. We ascribe to the following Values.

Accountability and Fiscal Responsibility – Members of the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District are accountable to each other and the community we serve. We accept responsibility for our decisions and actions. Accountability applies not only to the professional manner in which the District meets its primary goals but also to the efficiency, effectiveness and fiscal responsibility which guides all of our actions.

Integrity and Trust – Members of the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District are honest and fair in our dealings with our citizens and each other. We are honorable to our profession, and we inspire each other to maintain trustworthiness, openness and sincerity.

Honor and Respect – We are “fire department” family. We are committed and accountable to each other because our lives depend on it. We value the role each member plays in our organization. We respect those that came before us, and will strive to make the organization better for those who follow. We will place a special and high regard on the premise of treating others as we would like to be treated.

Teamwork and Discipline – We seek out and value the input and opinions of our members at all levels of the organization. Teamwork is the building block that drives the Fire District’s labor/management process. We work as a team to cooperate locally, regionally and nationally to improve service to our citizens and maintain a safe and effective work environment. We value a professional attitude with high moral work ethic that can enhance our team.

Service Excellence and Competency – We do all we can to ensure the best possible service to our internal and external customers/communities through smart, well trained, humble, dedicated, competent, hard-working, safe members. We are active participants in the communities where we live and work.

Innovation and Flexibility – We recognize the value of change in responding to and meeting the ever-evolving needs of our customers and members. We are committed to seeking out effective methods and progressive thinking toward change. We recognize the value of ongoing education and training. We adapt to the ever-changing needs of our community, the organization, and the environment.

Professionalism and Dedication – Providing service with a high standard of ethics, behavior and competence.

Compassion – Providing service with empathy and sympathy for the suffering of others.

Readiness and Motivated – We value preparedness, training and education, safety and wellness, dedication and an understanding that lives are more valuable than property.

Family – We will support coworkers, their families and our community.

SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT

Administrative Division

OVERVIEW

The Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District was formed June 1, 1990 with the merger of the Oneco-Tallevast Fire Control District and the Samoset Fire Control District. The combination department provides fire protection to a population of approximately 55,000 permanent residents and grows to 60,000 with winter residents in a 34 square mile area. Geographically, the District includes the areas south of the City of Bradenton, east of First Street, west of the Braden River and north of University Parkway, the Sarasota County line. Major transportation routes within and adjacent to the District include U.S. 41, U.S. 301, State Road 70, University Pkwy and I-75.

In addition, the District is served by two railroad lines, Seminole Gulf Railroad and Seaboard Coast Line. The southwestern portion of the District borders on the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport. The Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District protects the largest industrial area in Manatee County. The total value, as of 2017, of commercial and residential properties protected is \$4,524,397,433.

The Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District operates five (5) fire stations that are staffed 24 hours a day, a training facility, and an administrative office that also houses our Fire Prevention Division. The District employs 86 full time employees and 3 volunteer Firefighter/EMT's.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Administration | 2451 Trailmate Drive |
| • Station 1 | 6100 15 th Street East |
| • Station 2 | 1911 30 th Avenue East |
| • Station 3 | 7611 Prospect Road |
| • Station 4 | 5228 45 th Street East |
| • Station 5 | 7301 Honore Avenue |
| • Training Facility | 7611 Prospect Road |
| • Building Maintenance Facility | 1911 30 th Avenue East |

In addition, we have an extensive mutual and automatic aid response system with all neighboring fire departments and agencies, including all Manatee County Fire Districts, Manatee County EMS, City of Bradenton Fire Department, and Sarasota County Fire Department.

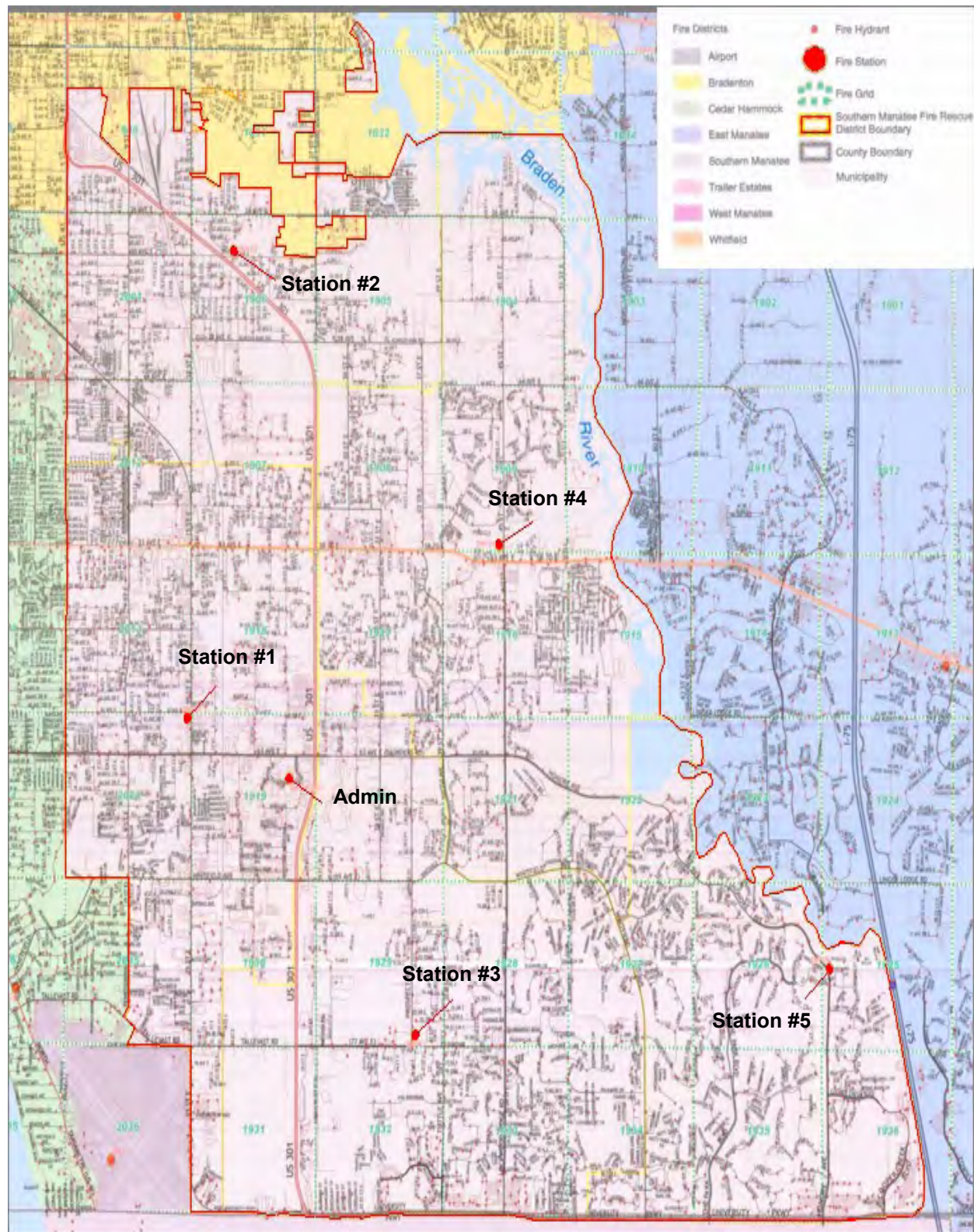
Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District holds a Class **3** rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO). The lower the rating the greater the possibility that property owners could see a reduction in their insurance premiums.

Daily activities include interaction with the following agencies:

- Manatee County Department of Public Safety
- Manatee County Sheriff's Office
- Manatee County Government
- Manatee County Building/Planning Department
- School Board of Manatee County
- Florida State Highway Patrol
- Manatee and Sarasota Emergency Management



Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue Administrative Complex



Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District

FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Charles Durant

Daniel Center

Melanie Marken

James Cena

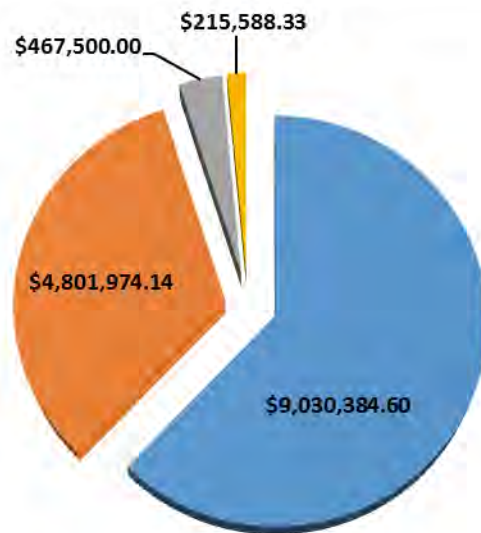
Anthony Evans

The Administration Division is directed by a Board of Fire Commissioners who are elected by the District's community. The Administration Division consists of the Fire Chief, Deputy Chief of Administration/Finance, Deputy Chief of Operations, Executive Management Assistant and Accountant. The operations include overseeing various administrative support services:

- Daily business operations
- Management of personnel policy and procedure
- Develop and maintaining the District's financial operating plan
- Building and ground maintenance
- Purchase and distribution of supplies
- Maintenance and repair of equipment

The District has been ever changing with the rapid growth of Southwest Florida. The District is committed to provide the best fire-rescue protection available and to raise the awareness of fire prevention education within our community. We have established a process of positive interaction of all employees, working together to meet the needs and objectives of the District.

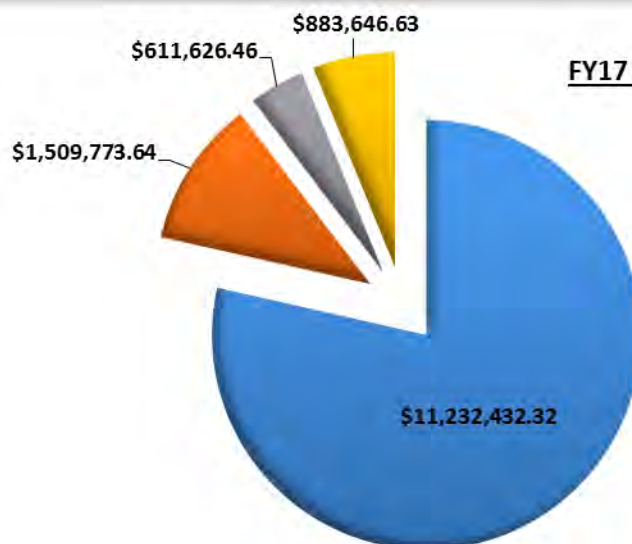
FY17 Budget Analysis



FY17 Adopted Revenue

- Non-ad valorem Assessments
- Ad Valorem Taxes
- Impact Fees
- Misc. Income

Total - \$14,515,447.07



FY17 Adopted Expenditure

- Personnel
- Non-Personnel
- Capital
- Debt

Total - \$14,318,479.05

Accomplishments Achieved in 2017

- As of August 16, 2016, all personnel assigned to Operations were now EMT certified, we now have 100% compliance that all of our Firefighters are either crossed trained as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or Paramedic. In December 2017 the District began the process to send Firefighter/EMT's to Paramedic school. 1st class will start in February 2018.
- In 2017 the District took delivery of a new 107' Ascendant Ladder Truck which will replace our 2004 60' Sky Boom. This new Ladder Truck will run out of Station 3 and will become Ladder 339. We also took delivery of a Battalion Chief (Command) vehicle.
- In 2017 obtained Physio-control Life Pak 12's from Sarasota County Surplus at no cost to the District. These defibrillators will be used by our Paramedic's on our ALS Engines. These devices provide defibrillation, cardioversion, 3 and 12 Lead EKG's, external pacemaker and monitors SA02.
- On April 12, 2017, the District through the work and input of all employees updated their five (5) year strategic plan. The Strategic Plan is updated on an annual basis.
- Through a committee, the District has been updating, revising, deleting or creating new SOP's, Rules and Regulations, Position Descriptions and Directives. Our Committee is now in the maintenance mode and will keep these documents updated on an annual basis.
- The District worked with Manatee County EMS personnel in the development of new combined BLS/ALS Treatment protocols. These are to be implemented March 2018. Under these new protocols Doctor Nonell has approved new treatment procedures allowing EMT's to administer CPAP for CHF/COPD and to provide nebulizer treatments to COPD patients. SMFR actually developed the CPAP protocol that is being implemented county-wide.
- Since December 2105 the District has submitted and has been awarded seven (7) grants for the donation of the EVZIO Naloxone (Narcan) Auto-Injectors, 2 grants in 2017. We received over 900 doses and these were distributed to all of the Fire Districts in Manatee County.
- In 2017 the District did multiple interviews with the Bradenton Herald that appeared in the paper and on their website over the Heroin problem here in Manatee County.
- The District is now using Krono's-Telestaff software 100% for scheduling of time off and for computing payroll. This is a fully automated paper-less system. With the implementation of this system it will increase efficiency, reduce errors and save the District money.
- On October 7th, 2017, to kick off to the annual Fire Prevention Week, the District held an Open House at Fire Station #3. We had over 300 citizens participate in various Fire, EMS, and Haz-mat demonstrations as well as Fire Prevention classes. Once again this Open House was a huge success! Our next one will be September 29, 2018.
- Since its creation, the District has received four (5) Safety Grants through Preferred Training Incentive Program for Safety (TIPS) grant program. So far the TIPS has funded our Driving Simulator, Binder Lifts, Nomex Hoods and other safety related equipment.

- The District became a member of the Public Surplus Agency and has received used but in some cases new equipment, office supplies, furniture, and computers from Sarasota County Government. As one example, we received over 15 laptop computers that were actually only a few years old and Chief Bounds took these and loaded the operating software and put these in the Stations so they could have multiple computers to do their Target Solutions EMS training, Telestaff, or anything else. These computers have been deployed and are working great in all of our Stations.
- On Sunday, October 8, 2017 the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District competed in the 18th Annual Morton's Firehouse Chili Cook-off and once again won the "People's Choice" Award and "1st Place Award". Firefighter/EMT Chuck Moonen famous "Haz-mat Chili" recipe once again was a BIG hit at Morton's Market Firehouse Chili Cook-off not only with the judges but also with thousands of citizens that attended this 4 hour event.
- SMFR deployed an Engine three (3) times during 2017 for wild fires and for Hurricane Irma in Collier, Lee and Sarasota County.
- On December 16, 2017 the District held their 2nd Annual Awards Banquet which was held at the Administration Building and the food was provided by Sonny's BBQ. For winning 1st place at this year's Chili Cook-off one of the prizes was a gift certificate from Sonny's BBQ for food up to 200 people.
- On May 18, 2017 at 1159 hours, SMFR responded to a structure fire at 1200 block of 44th Avenue East, next to Callaghan Tire. Fire started in the building next to Callaghan Tire. This fire had a lot of fuel and wind that spread rapidly into a large 5 alarm fire.
- In 2017 the District now has three employees that completed their training to obtain their pilot license for the operation of our Drone, so far two of them are licensed by the FAA for Drone operations. Our Drone program has been featured a few times during this year by Channel 40 (ABC Suncoast News) and Bay-news 9.
- During March 2017 the District was evaluated by the Insurance Office Services (ISO) and recently received our score back. Prior to this review the District was a low 3 and today we are a high 3, just missed a 2 by 1.5 points.
- In 2017 due to some retirements and some organizational changes the District promoted 2 Captains and 2 Lieutenants. One Captain was for Training due to retirement and the other Captain was for Hazardous Materials.
- On May 18, 2017, our Commissioners approved our Business Plan to implement ALS Non-Transport Engines. It will take us 3 to 3.5 years before we will officially begin providing Paramedic ALS Non-Transport Engines. We have started collecting equipment, policy development and sending personnel to Paramedic School.
- In 2017 the District made numerous enhancements to their website for the purposes of making it easy for a citizen to find and obtain documents and to add requirements of a new Florida Statute
- On July 28th, 2017, we were notified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security – Fire Act SAFER grant that were awarded the funding to hire nine (9) Firefighter/EMT's. This is a three (3) year grant that funds 75% of salary & benefit for the first two years and 35% on the 3rd year. The purpose of this grant to hire personnel to allow our Haz-mat Technicians to staff Haz-mat apparatus 24/7 and utilizing these new grant positions to backfill the seats where our Haz-mat Technicians were located. The benefits of this grant are numerous.
- November, 2017 Captain Boski planned and executed a multi-agency, multi-regional drill. "Operation In-shore Slam" a large scale terrorist event.



HR Accomplishments for 2017

- By working with our health Insurance company, Cigna, we were able to procure \$10,000 towards the development of a wellness program. The Training Division did an outstanding job in delivering multiple programs through-out 2017 with the use of these funds. Some of the programs were:
 1. SMFR's first "Couch to 5k walk/run" in which over 120 persons participated.
 2. A Physician/Nutritionist who came to station 1 to show how to prepare and cook healthy meals at the fire station.
 3. Masterful Marketing created a nutrition plan for every employee based on blood work obtained during Life Scan physicals.
- We continued the development of the payroll conversion program which will cut processing time by approximately two-thirds. We are currently in the beta-testing stage with a potential for full integration by May of 2018.
- Wrapping up year three (3) of our auditor contract with Stroemer & Stroemer. We will be following a statutory guideline and releasing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for auditing services for the years 2018-2020. The Audit Committee will begin reviewing proposals and announce their selection sometime in June of 2018.
- We began incorporating more redundancies into our processes by cross-training other administrative personnel to reduce the dependency on one person to complete specific required job functions. Having multiple people trained in various processes ensures the timely and proper completion of projects.
- We have expanded the "cost centers" within Great Plains. This allows us to track spending to a greater degree which in turn produces more accurate budget forecasting. The ability to identify specific areas of spending are crucial to producing a budget that does not rely on "smoothing" in order to balance.
- Reviewed and scanned Workers Compensation records to identify specific areas where improvements can be made. Worked with training to develop programs to help reduce our liability in this area and identify areas where safeguards can be put into place to diminish future occurrences.

- Eliminated paper time sheets in an effort to maximize usage of the Telestaff program. This will allow personnel to directly schedule their time-off or Battalion Chiefs to enter shift employee sick days or time-off that is less than the required 72 hours prior to the shift date.

Level Up Your Skills

**The most damaging
phrase in the
language is, "It's
always been done
that way."**

Admiral Grace Hopper

Customer Satisfaction Survey Program

The Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District is committed to providing high quality and efficient services to our community. One tool that we employ to ensure that we are fulfilling our mission is through our Customer Satisfaction Survey Program. We mail a survey to randomly selected customers who have been served by our personnel. We compile the results and use the data to monitor the quality of our service and its impact. This data can be used to make changes in our service delivery if necessary.

We implemented our Customer Satisfaction Survey Program in December 2012. From this date to December 31, 2017 we mailed out 791 surveys and had 750 surveys returned, which represents a return rate of 94%. The rating is on a scale of 1 (Poor) to 5 (Outstanding). The survey looks at the following categories:

- Was the call handled in a prompt, courteous and competent manner
- Response time to the emergency was prompt
- Firefighters actions reduced property damage or resolved situation
- Firefighters acted in a concerned, caring and professional manner
- Firefighters provided customer service beyond my expectations
- The assistance provided to me was
- Rate the overall experience with the services provided by FD

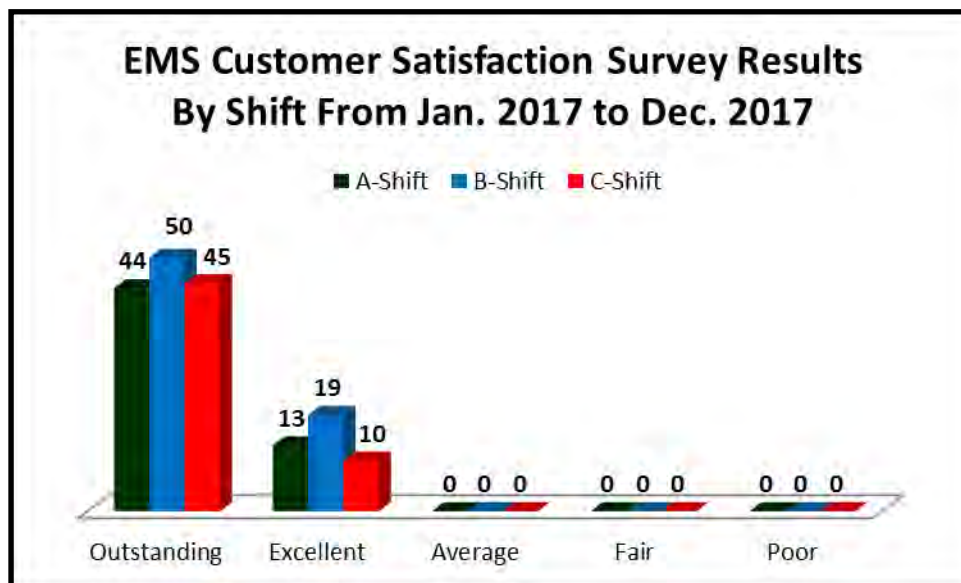
The graph are the results of all three shifts for EMS Related Calls:



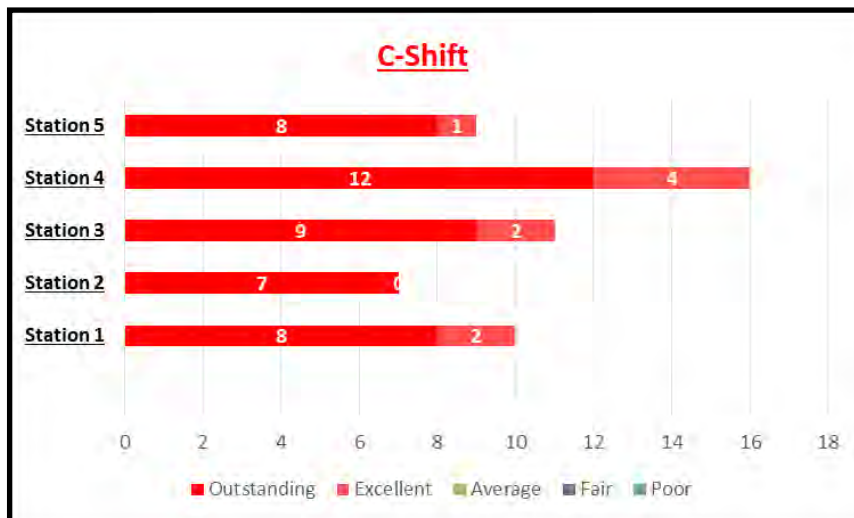
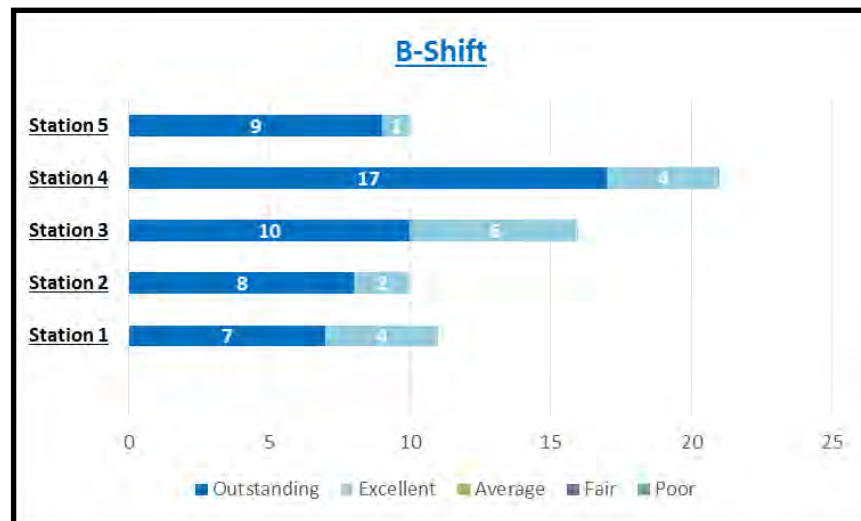
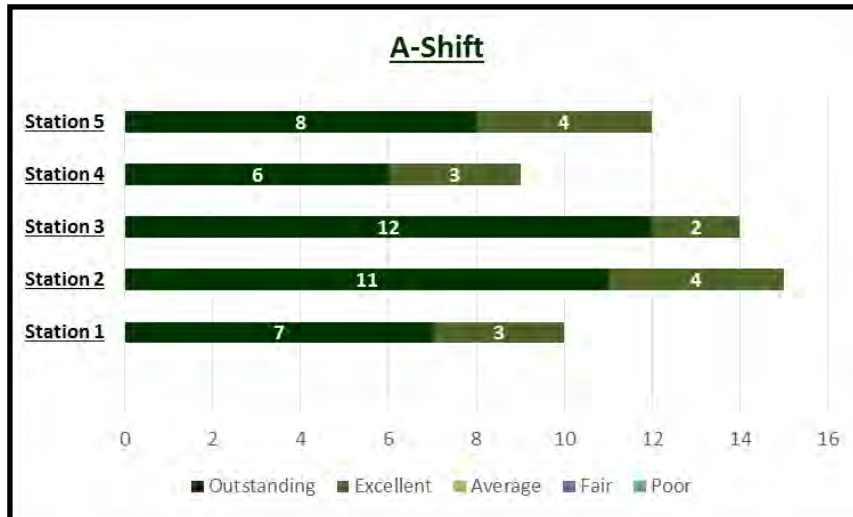
The graph below are the results of all three shifts for Structure Fire Calls:



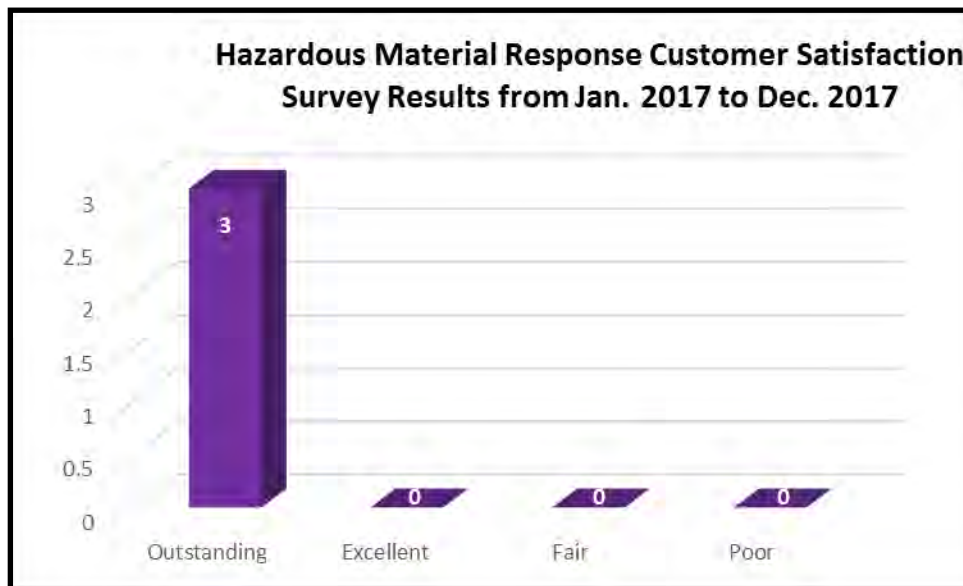
The graph below are the results broken down by our three (3) shifts:



The graphs below are by each shift and station and the results are combined EMS and Fire Customer Satisfaction survey results for 2017:



Below is the customer satisfaction survey results for Hazardous Materials Response:



Listed below are some of the written feedback provided by our customers for 2017.

01/01/2017 - *"We have had to call 911 a few times over the years for an ambulance for my mother. Each time we have your fireman and EMS have been outstanding in calming her and taking good care of her. Her family thanks you and we will be forever grateful to all of you!"*

01/02/2017 - *"Keep up the good work – great people – love them!!"*

01/18/2017 - *"I am so impressed with how good they were, efficient, kind and caring, not only of me but my cat. They inspected my smoke alarms and replaced one. Thank you so very much."*

01/19/2017 - *"Thank you for all you do".*

01/20/2017 - *"Thank you to the Firefighter-Paramedic's. My husband is alive today because of your quick and caring actions"*

01/20/2017 - *"Firefighters went "above and beyond"! I am "very" grateful for the service they provided"*

01/25/2017 - *"The firefighters were very friendly and caring. I appreciate that, I was so scared. Thank you!"*

01/28/2017 - *"Excellent service"*

01/28/2017 - *"The response was outstanding!"*

02/02/2017 - *"Everyone was just great!"*

02/03/2017 - *"This was the first time household required the use of EMS/Fire Services. Each member was courteous and professional. Thank you"*

02/12/2017 - *"Your Team was angels in disguise and I thank you all very much"*

02/17/2017 - *"We thought everything was excellent"*

02/19/2017 - *"Thank you for your beautiful service"*

02/24/2017 - *"They did a wonderful job, I am so grateful to have them so close to the park"*

02/25/2017 - *"Thank you for all you did for my husband's emergency"*

03/08/2017 – *"The service provided was wonderful and appreciated"*
03/20/2017 – *"Very professional, thank you"*
03/25/2017 – *"Family noted everybody wiped their feet (boots) before entering home, thanks. Thank you so much for your excellent services"*
03/29/2018 – *"Fast response and great service"*
04/01/2017 – *"Response was professional, quick and very concerned, no suggestions"*
04/16/2017 – *"Consideration for myself was outstanding, outstanding service"*
04/18/2017 – *"Very satisfied with the care"*
04/27/2017 – *"All responders to my husband's medical emergency were exceptional, thank you"*
04/28/2017 – *"Friendly, courteous and concerned"*
04/29/2017 – *"Thank you for doing a great job, we are very grateful"*
05/07/2017 – *"Thank you for responding so quickly"*
05/08/2017 – *"Your assistance was amazing, everybody did so great that was amazing Team work, you guys really inspired me to into the fire department and medical field, Thank you!, I am 13 years old"*
05/11/2017 – *"Your staff arrived promptly, were efficient, competent and compassionate, who could ask for more, very professional"*
05/12/2017 – *"The firefighters got here quick"*
05/13/2017 – *"Appreciate your service, thank you"*
05/14/2017 – *"Your crew are wonderful and I thank them so such much"*
05/16/2017 – *"I am thankful for the firefighters saving my life"*
05/17/2017 – *"I can't imagine your service being any better, thank you"*
05/17/2017 – *"I want to thank the Team very much, it was an excellent service and held my family with the medical crisis a lot"*
05/19/2017 – *"Outstanding services, very professional and caring, thank you so much"*
05/20/2017 – *"Your service was excellent, we could not ask for any more improvements, thank you"*
05/20/2017 – *"Thank you for the kindness and service"*
05/20/2017 – *"The Fire Department men were knowledgeable and caring, I'm very proud to have received the good caring service I received"*
05/23/2017 – *"Thank you for your service"*
05/25/2017 – *"Thank you for your kindness"*
05/30/2017 – *"Your service was very outstanding and courteous, on behalf of my wife, I thank you"*
06/01/2017 – *"Your department is outstanding"*
06/02/2017 – *"Thank you"*
06/03/2017 – *"Service was awesome"*
06/04/2017 – *"You can't improve the Great crew who came to my rescue"*
06/05/2017 – *"Excellent service"*
06/10/2017 – *"Thank you"*
06/16/2017 – *"I would just commend you on your quick response and handling of the situation"*

06/19/2017 – *"You are doing an outstanding job, thank you"*

07/02/2017 – *"Thank you very much for your prompt attention and help"*

07/03/2017 – *"Received prompt and concerned treatment from the firefighters, thanks to all"*

07/06/2017 – *"Your officers were extremely helpful in their assistance, thank you all for the wonderful service to our community"*

07/07/2017 – *"Exceptional response and care, thank you"*

07/12/2017 – *"I was very pleased with their services"*

07/15/2017 – *"Responders were outstanding and I could not ask for any higher level of excellence, thank you"*

07/24/2017 – *"Thank you for your special efforts"*

07/28/2017 – *"Thanks for your service"*

08/04/2017 – *"You were great"*

08/22/2017 – *"Thank you for your service"*

08/24/2017 – *"I want to thank you all Fireman helping me in my emergency"*

08/26/2017 – *"The service was excellent, all people were helpful and courteous"*

08/28/2017 – *"You guys do an awesome job"*

08/14/2017 – *"These guys were simply "amazing" there is a man walking around today because of your fine team"*

08/27/2017 – *"All help was excellent and people were well trained"*

09/02/2017 – *"Everyone was professional, good group of guys"*

09/02/2017 – *"Very professional, helpful, could not ask for more"*

09/03/2017 – *"I can't really think of anything, the response was fast and the people were very friendly and professional, thank you"*

09/03/2017 – *"Your Fire Rescue is outstanding!! They were helpful and very courteous and I very much the way they helped my father, Love y-all – Be Safe"*

09/13/2017 – *"Thank you all for being so nice"*

09/14/2017 – *"Very good service provided me with a flash light and informed me about mold and other damage, Fire Chief was very nice a man I'll never be"*

09/16/2017 – *"They were a blessing and a godsend to myself and many others. Without them I would likely have died, thank you all"*

09/21/2017 – *"Many thanks"*

09/22/2017 – *"Excellent, Love them"*

09/30/2017 – *"It was excellent"*

10/14/2017 – *"Thank you all"*

10/16/2017 – *"It was perfect"*

10/16/2017 – *"I don't know how anyone could perform better than the crew who responded to my emergency, thank you!"*

10/21/2017 – *"Excellent and Professional"*

11/01/2017 – *"Great job – Thanks"*

11/27/2017 – *"Outstanding job done on my wife"*

11/27/2017 – *"They were wonderful – thank you"*

11/30/2017 – *"Thanks to promptness I am writing this, thank you"*

12/04/2017 – *"Excellent as always"*

12/14/2017 – *"They were very professional, many thanks"*

12/29/2017 – *"Everyone was great"*

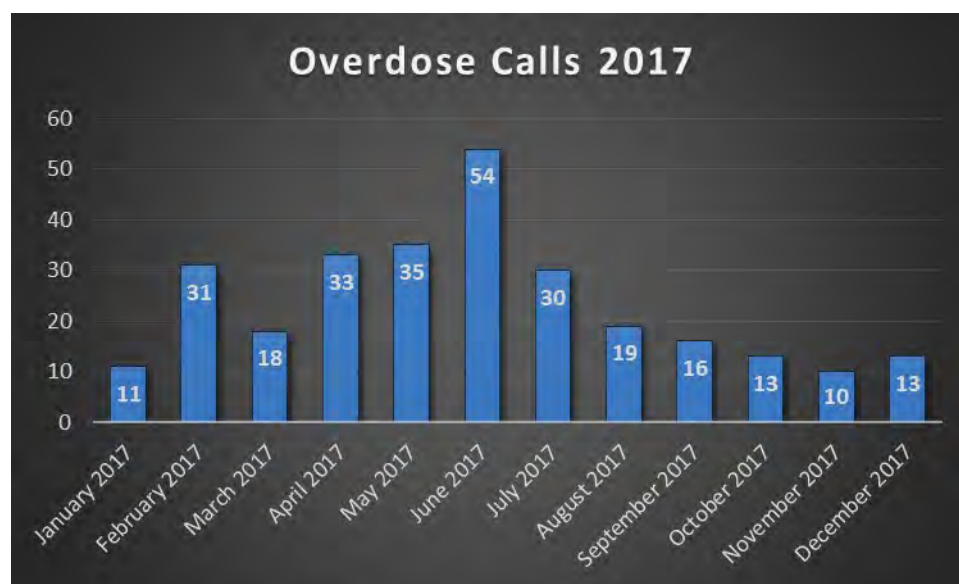
Emergency Medical Services

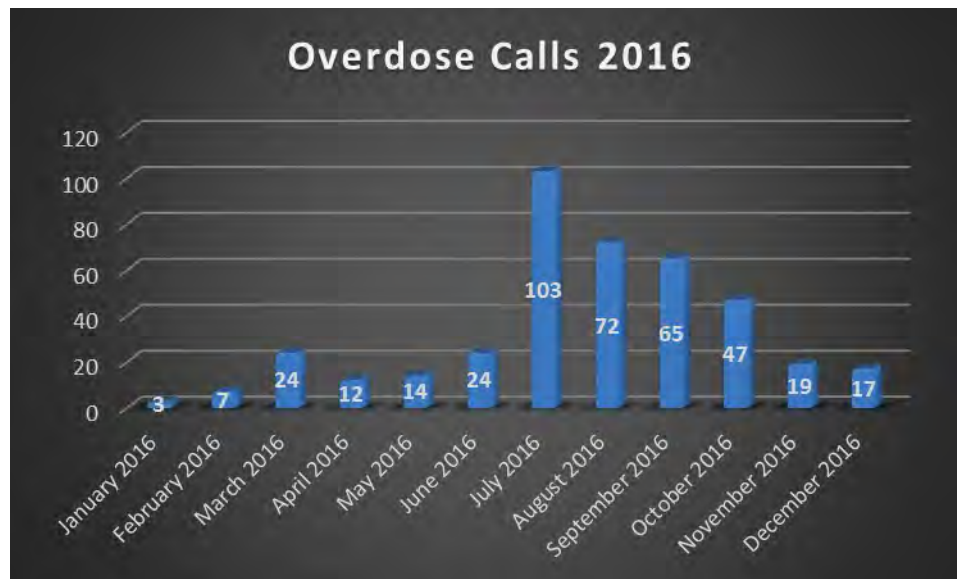
The Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District responded to 4,176 medical responses during 2017, which represents 68% of our total responses. Since Emergency Medical Services represents the majority of our responses and since Southern Manatee Fire Rescue is on scene first 51% of the time before Manatee County Emergency Medical Services, the District partnered with MCEMS and the Manatee County Medical Director, Dr. Nonell, and implemented a set Basic Life Support (BLS) Medical Treatment Protocols. We have two Fire Stations, Station 4 and 5, both are on scene first 75% with at least an average of 2.5 minutes providing EMS care before the arrival of MCEMS.

In 2017 the District began working with Manatee County Government to allow Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District obtain their ALS Non-Transport License and begin operating ALS Non-Transport Engines at these two Fire Stations. The District is currently sending personnel to Paramedic school and will begin operating ALS Engines within the next year and half after obtaining their license from the State of Florida.

From January 2017 through December 2017 the information provided below is a breakdown of the incident types as well as the appropriate protocol that our personnel utilized prior to the arrival of Manatee County Emergency Medical Services.

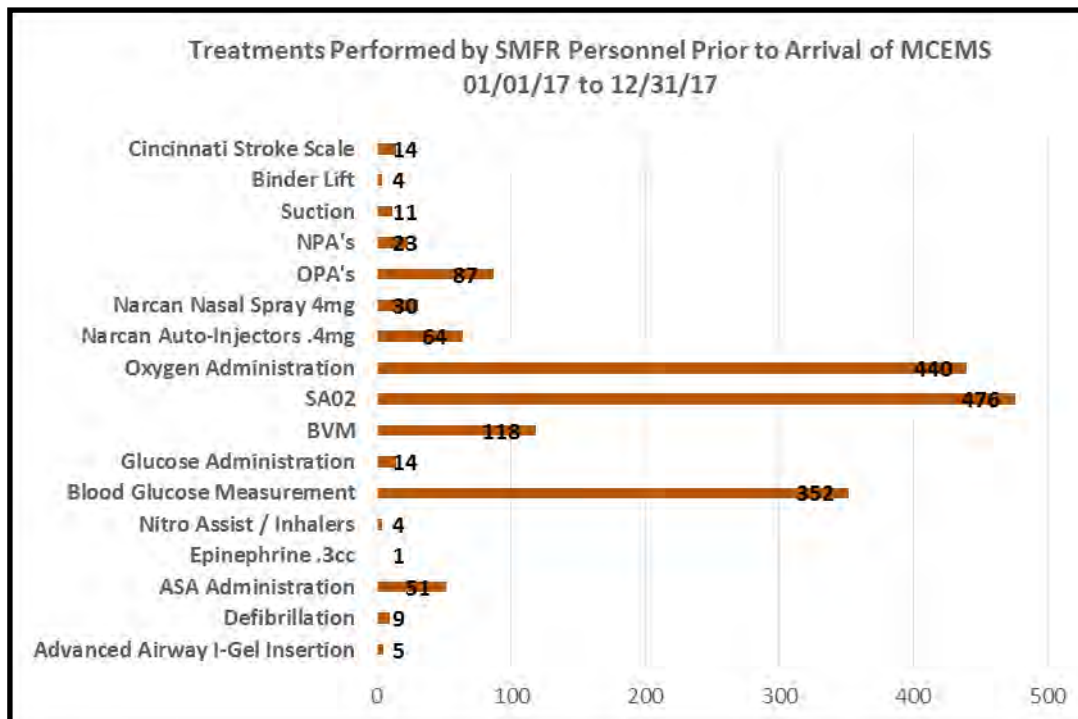
In 2017 our responses (285) to overdoses decreased compared to 2016 (407) with the majority of these cases involving overdoses on Heroin and Heroin laced with another powerful opioid such as Fentanyl or Carfentanil.



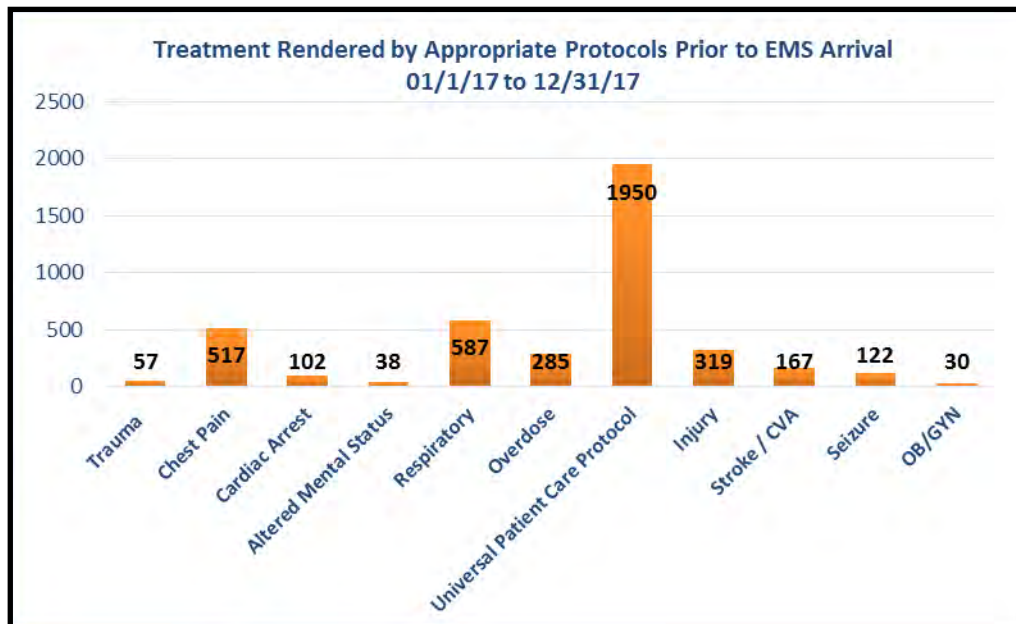


In 2017 we did submit grants twice to Kaleo Pharmaceuticals for their Narcan Auto-Injectors and did receive these grants for a total of 350 doses. This Narcan was distributed among all of the Fire Districts with the bulk of it going to Southern Manatee Fire Rescue and Cedar Hammock Fire District due to the high call volume of overdoses that our Districts respond on.

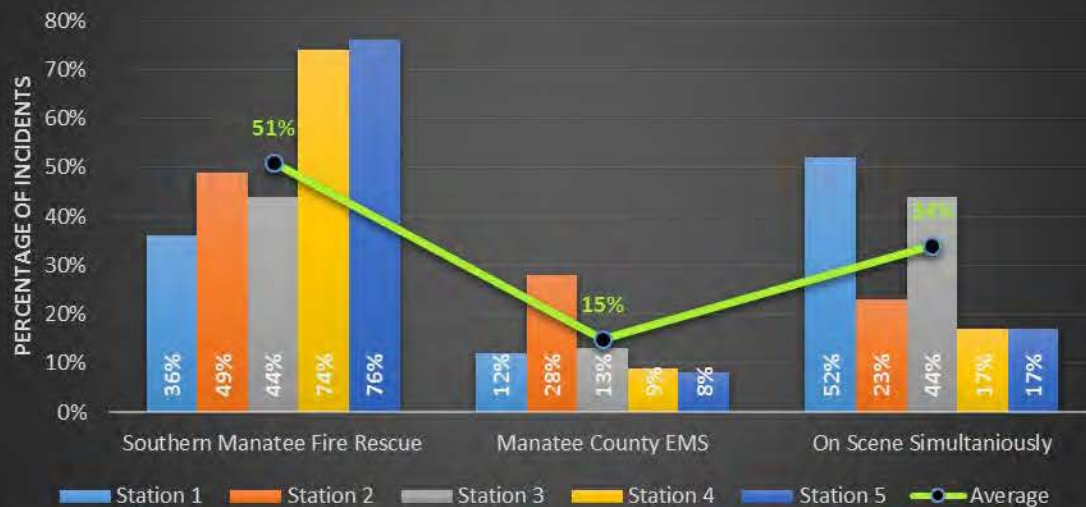
The graph below are the results over the use of EMS medical equipment, medications, and procedures during the time period of January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 for all three shifts:



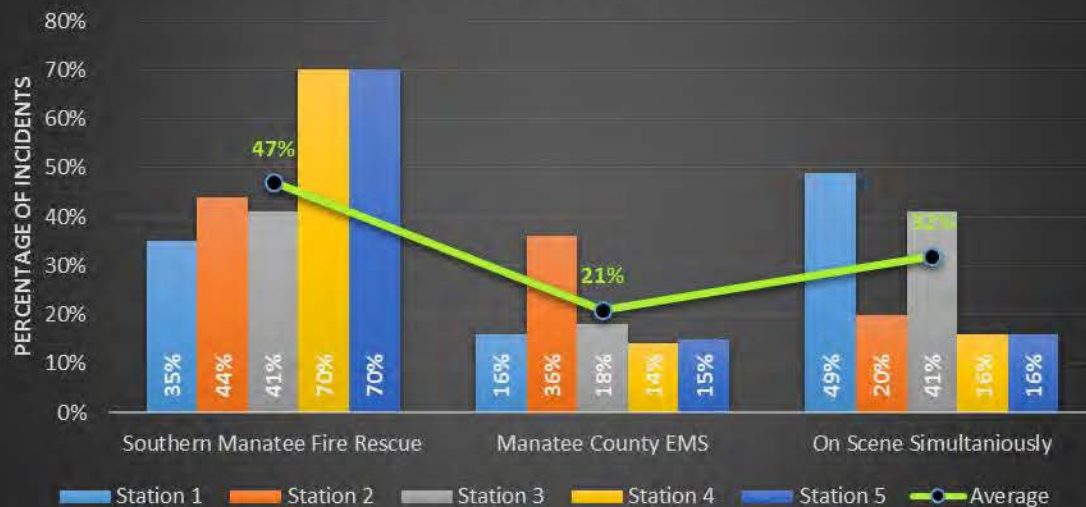
The graph below identifies the treatment protocols that were used during January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017:



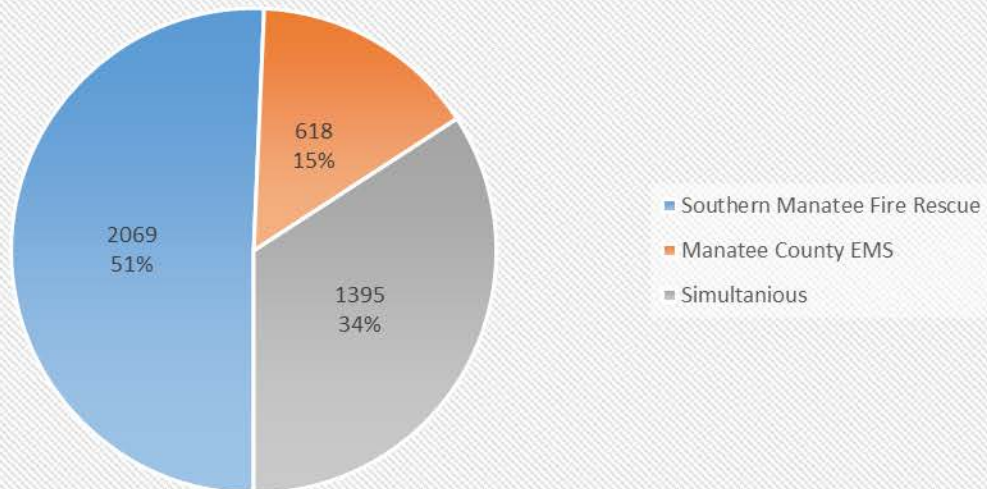
First on Scene of Rescue/EMS Calls By Station



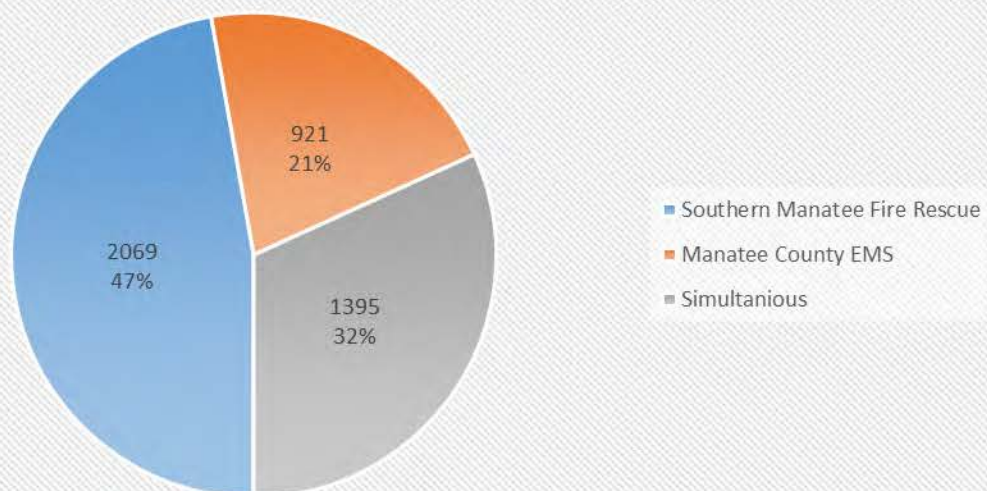
First on Scene of Rescue/EMS & Cancelled EnRoute - By Station



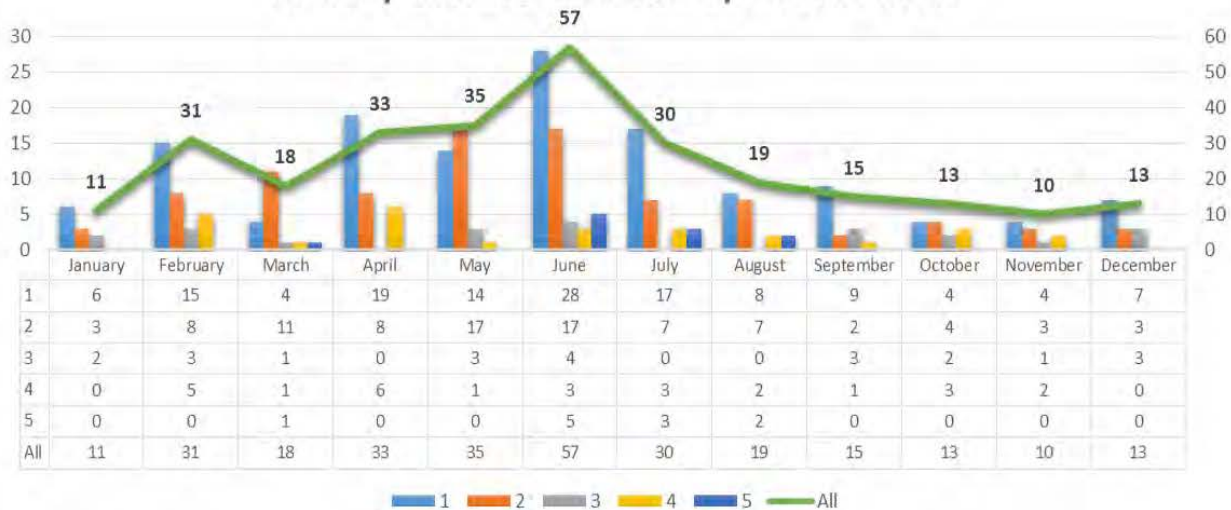
First on Scene of Rescue/EMS Calls
District Average



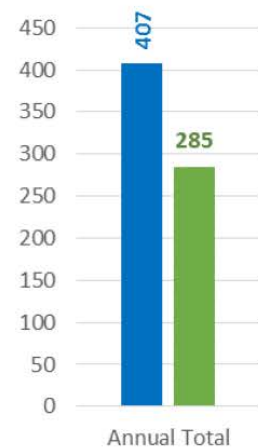
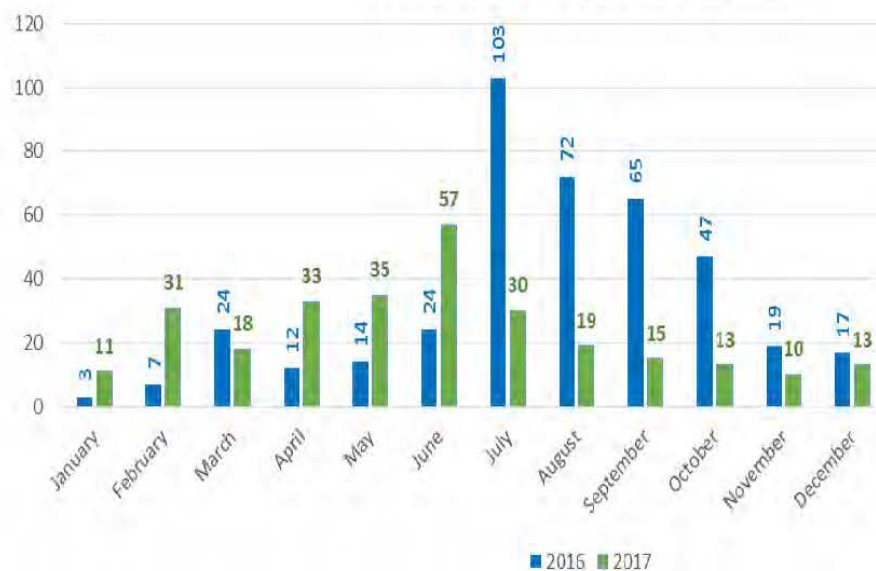
First on Scene of Rescue/EMS & Cancelled EnRoute
Calls - District Average

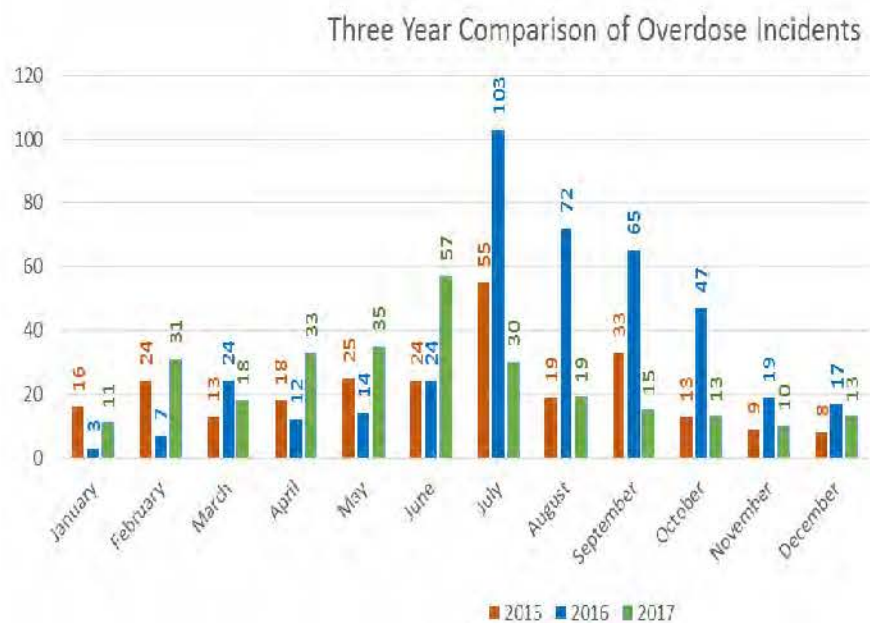
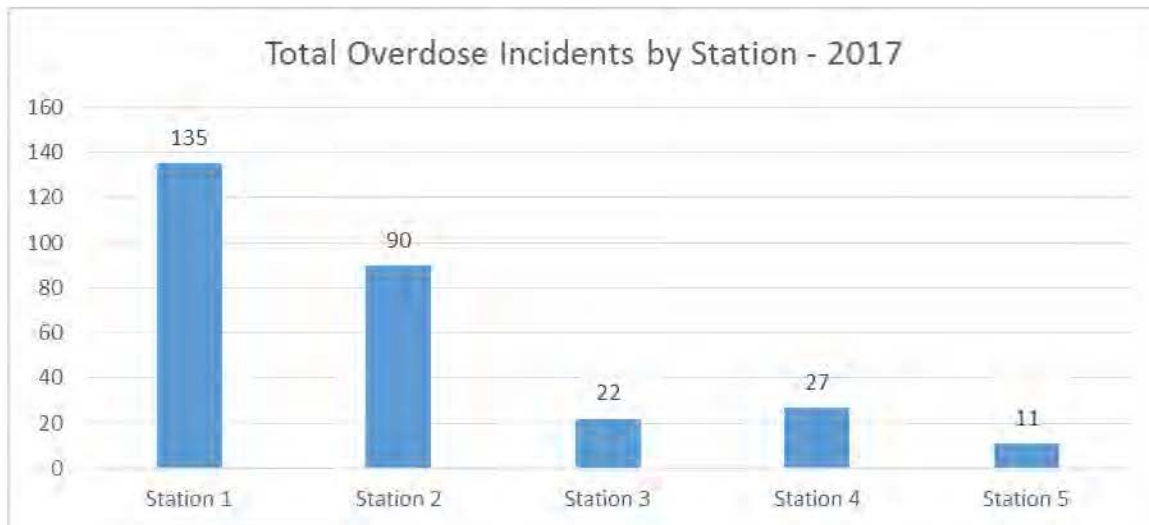


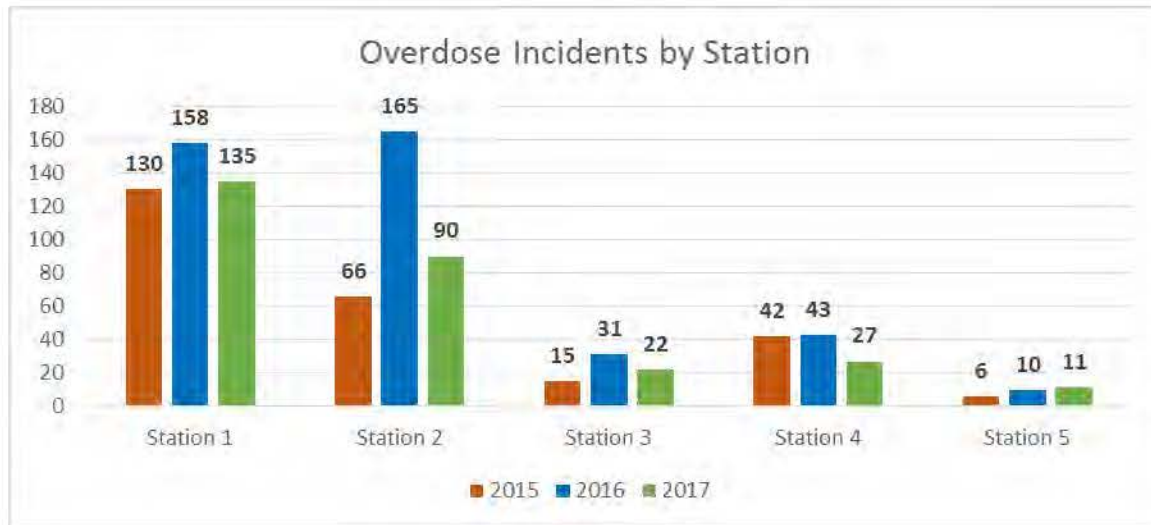
Monthly Overdose Incidents by Station - 2017



2016 vs. 2017 Overdose Incidents







Cardiac Arrest Statistics

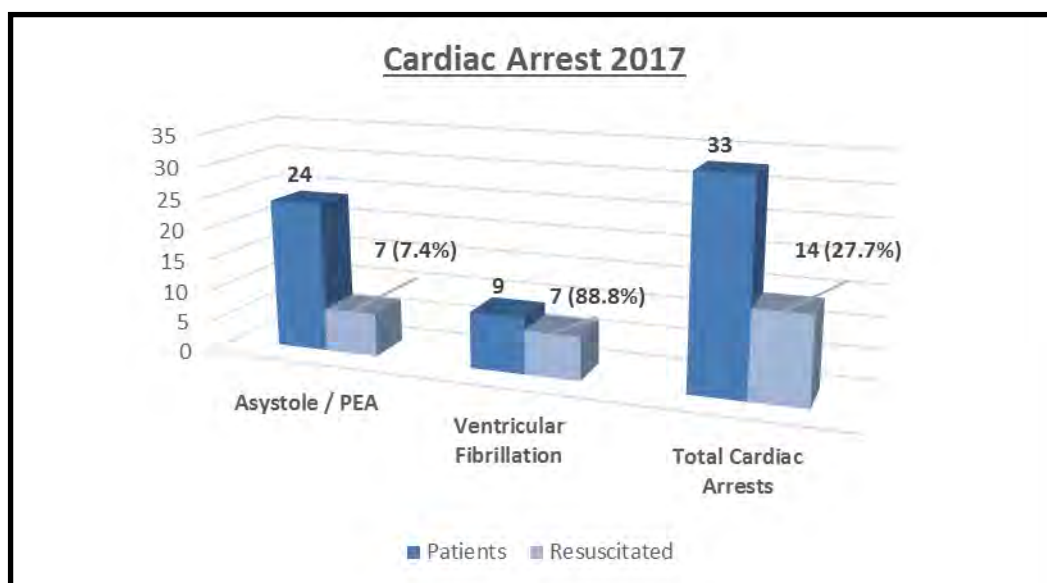
Annually, 326,200 people experience out-of-hospital cardiac arrests in the United States. Of those treated by emergency medical services, 10.6 percent survive. Of the 19,300 bystander-witnessed ventricular fibrillation cardiac arrests, 31.4 percent survive.

Out-of-hospital cardiac arrest patients in ventricular fibrillation has a greater chance of survival if the event is witnessed by the public with immediate calling of 9-1-1, starting BLS-CPR, and rapid deployment of an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED), rapid response of both Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support.

It is statistically proven that for every minute that goes by that a heart in ventricular fibrillation the chances of converting to sinus rhythm with pulses decreases by 10 percent and in 10 minutes, the chances of resuscitation drops to 0%. That is why it is imperative to immediately call 9-1-1, start CPR, deploy an AED and ensure a rapid response of Fire and EMS.

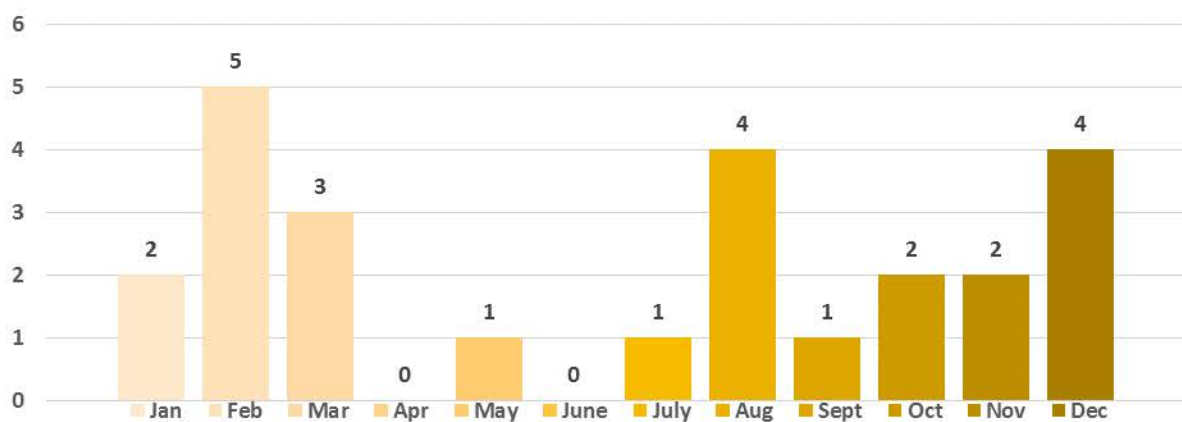
From January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017, the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue responded to 33 cardiac arrest events. Out of 33 cardiac arrest events, the District along with Manatee County EMS resuscitated 14 (42%), meaning restored pulses. Listed below is a breakdown of the type of events:

- Ventricular Fibrillation – 9
- Asystole / PEA (Pulseless Electrical Activity) – 24

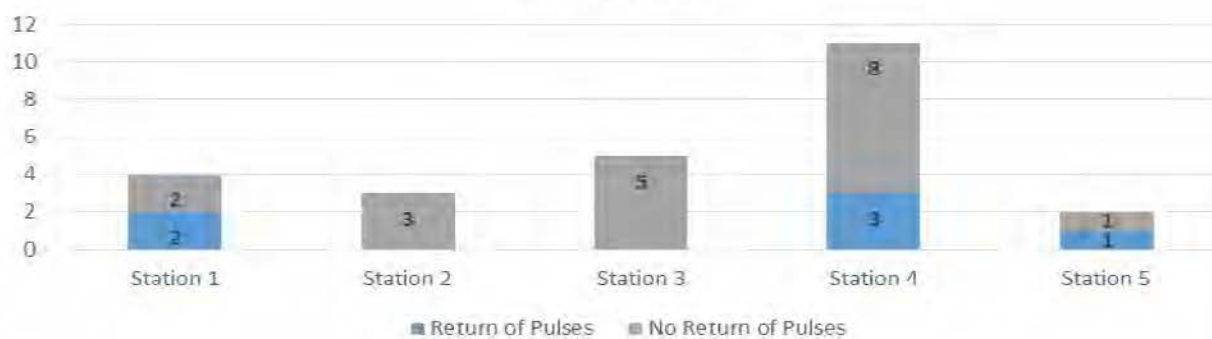




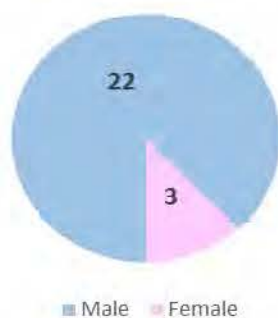
AED Use by Month



Use by Station



Patient Gender



Patient Age



Operations Division

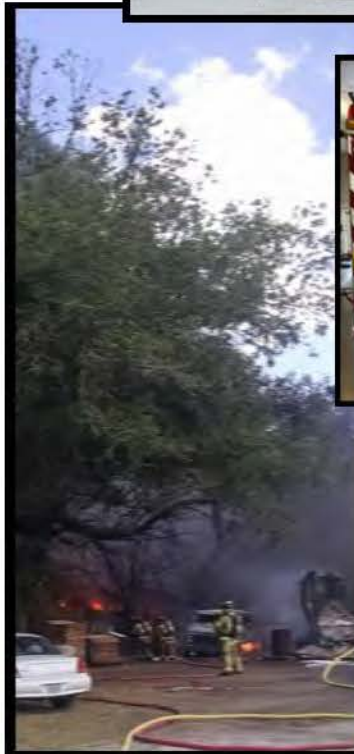
Southern Manatee Fire Rescue is an ISO Class 3.0 fire department and is committed to providing our community with prompt, effective and fiscally responsible service by efficiently utilizing available resources from both within the department and from outside agencies. Southern Manatee Fire Rescue also actively seeks and has obtained grant funding for equipment, supplies and training to aide in our endeavor.

Southern Manatee's Operation Division's foremost responsibility is responding to and mitigating emergency calls by providing essential services in the areas of emergency medical services, fire suppression and hazardous materials response.

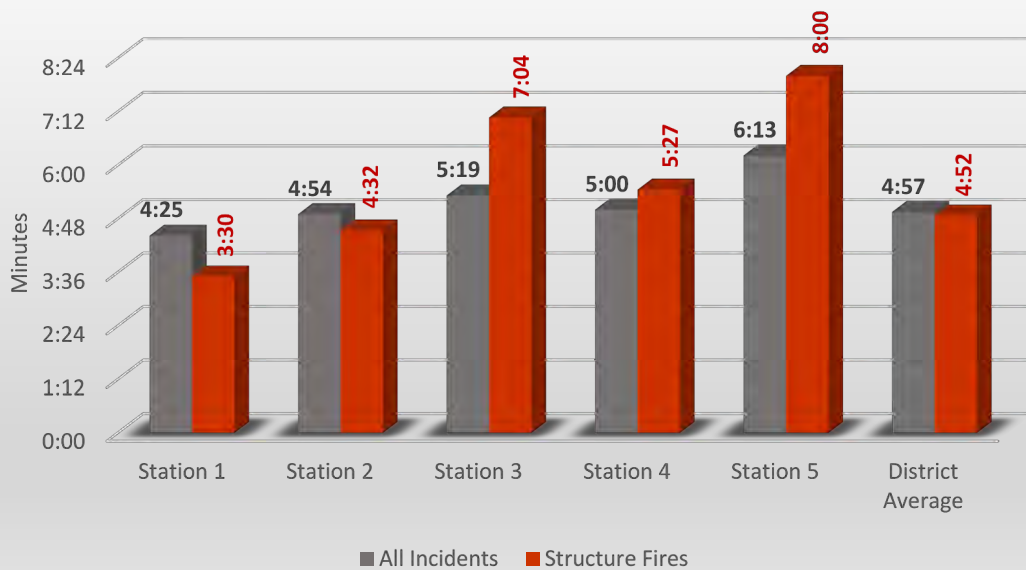
The Operations Division is led by the Deputy Chief of Operations and three Battalion. The Division is comprised of the 3 Battalion Chiefs, 18 Lieutenants and 51 firefighters. The Operations Division is divided into three shifts A-B-C, each comprising of 24 personnel who work a 24/48-hour schedule. Our personnel work out of 5 fire stations housing a total of 72 full time employees, and are supported by a Training Captain, a Hazardous Materials Team Training Captain and a Facilities Maintenance person. The Operations Division staffs five fire engine pumpers, one aerial ladder and a Hazardous Materials response truck. This year SMFR responded to over 6100 emergencies with an average response time being just under 5 minutes. In 2017 Southern Manatee Fire Rescue experienced a 4.4% district wide call volume increase compared to 2016.

Each year we strive to improve the level of service we provide to the community. It has been determined that patient survival is directly related to the amount of time it takes to receive treatment, therefore we work extremely hard to ensure rapid responses and we continuously train to keep up with modern technology regarding basic and advanced life support. The majority of the time fire crews are the first emergency responders to arrive at the scene of a dispatched medical emergency, thus allowing the fire crews primary treatment for patients. By expanding our capabilities and placing medications and other equipment on the fire engines medical treatment can be started sooner rather than having to wait for the ambulance to arrive.

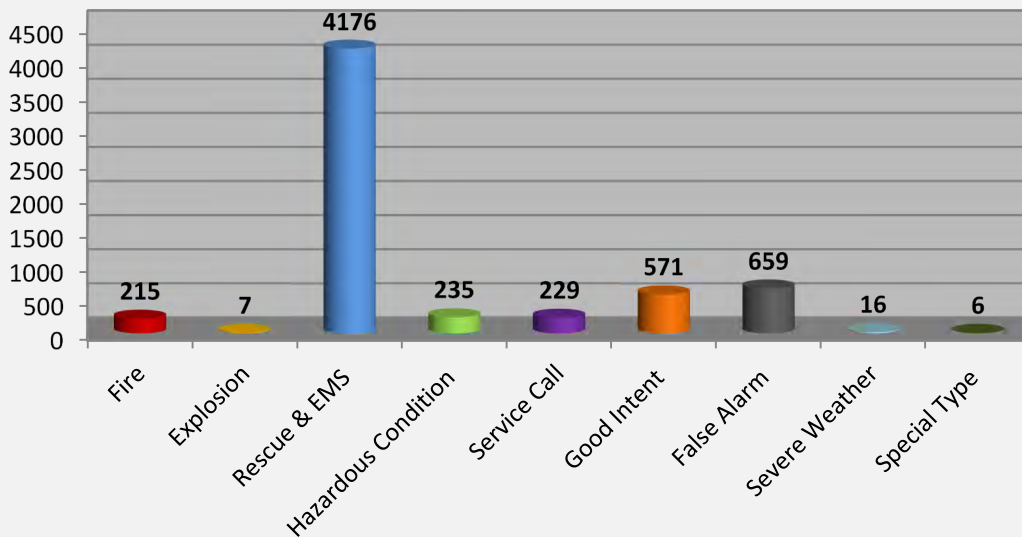
Southern Manatee also enhances its service to the public through a series of agreements which allow our organization to cooperate with local and state agencies to provide and receive additional crews and resources during disasters and in times of need. Southern Manatee cooperates with our neighboring fire departments and have agreements in place which provide for "Move-Ups" from nearby fire departments to help cover the district during times of exceptionally high call volume so you as a resident are never left unprotected. We are honored to be your fire department.



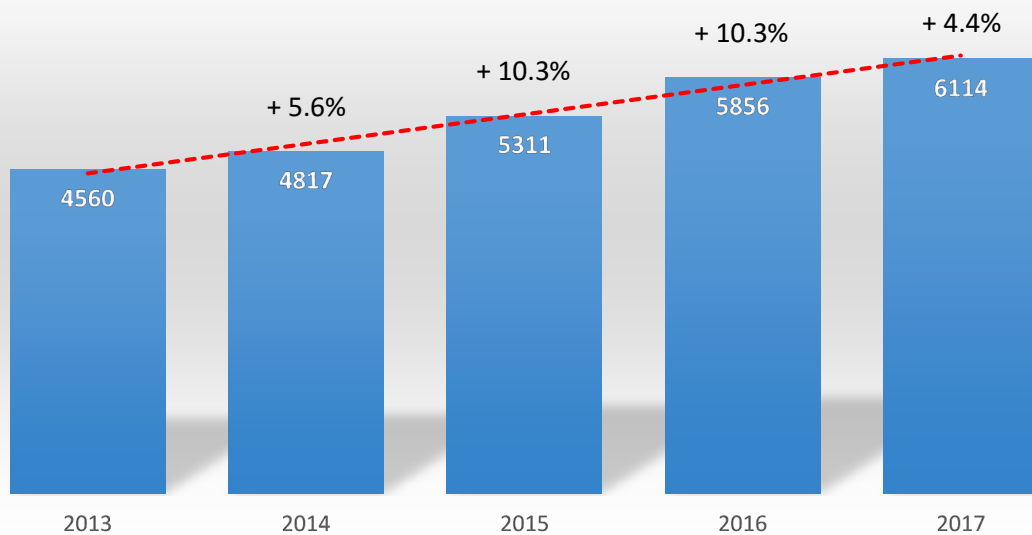
2017 Response Times - Station Averages



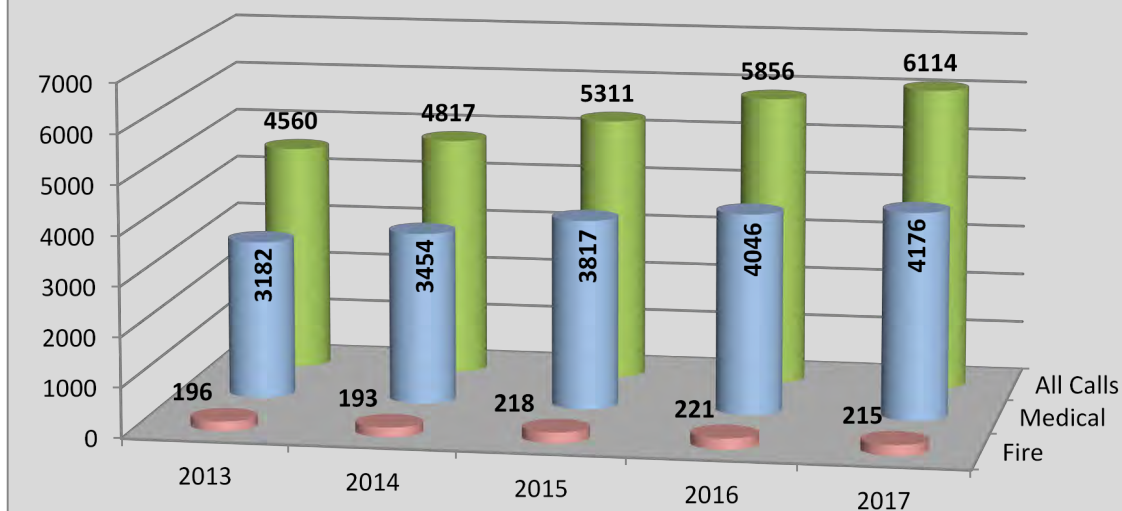
2017 Calls By Type

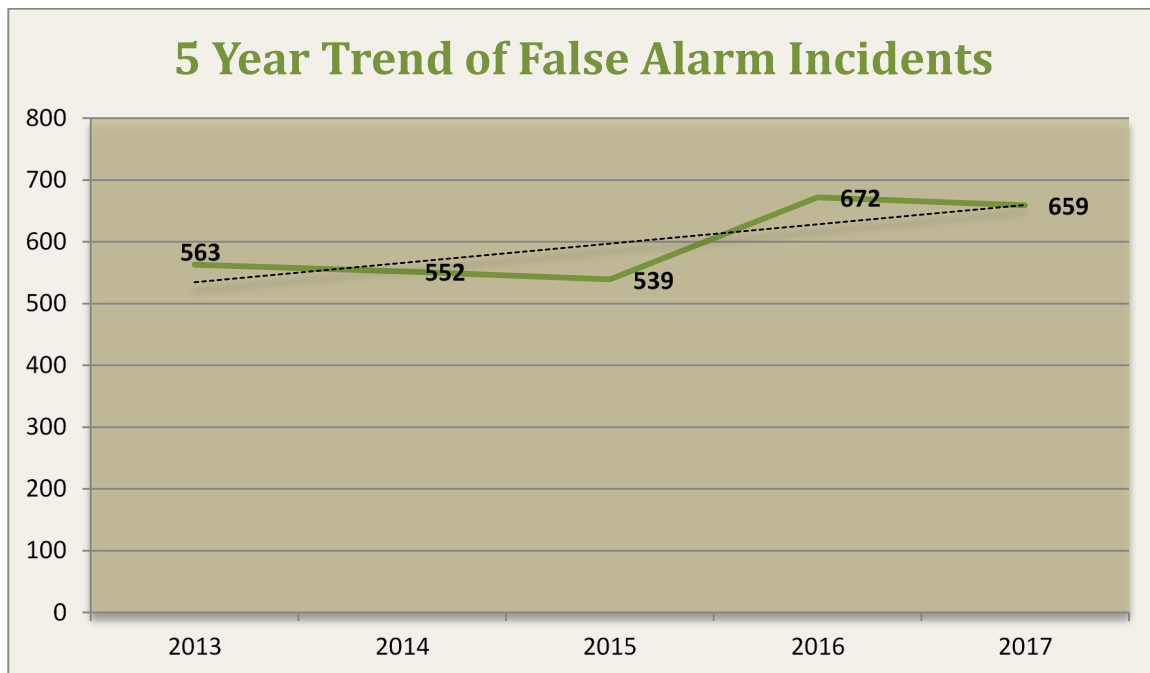
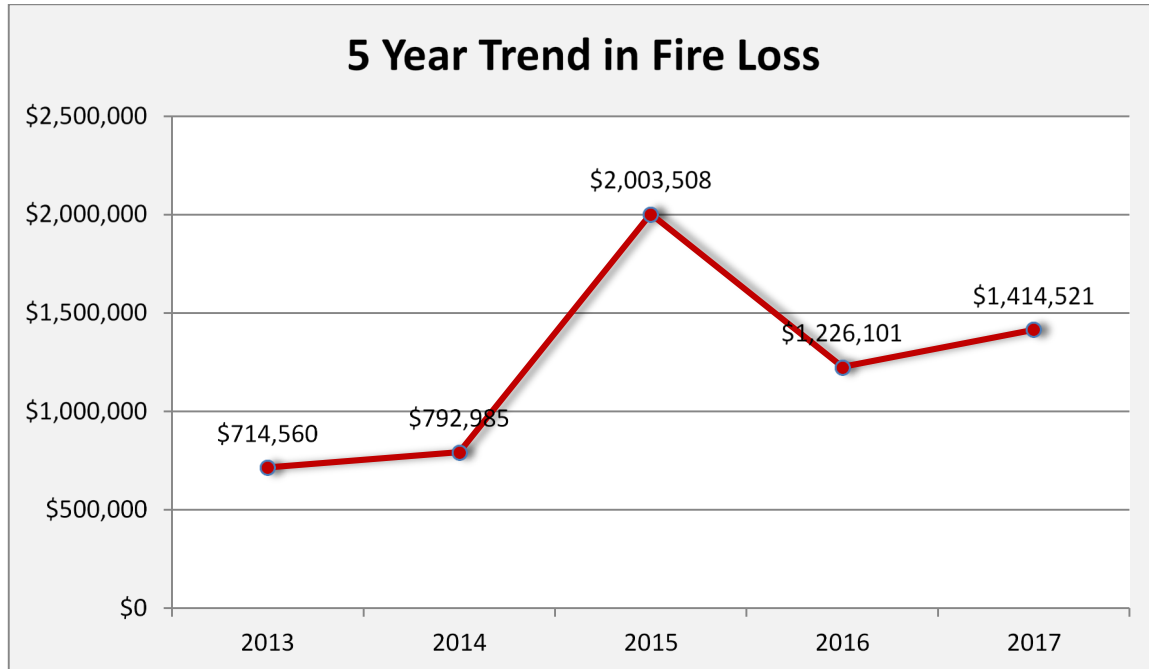


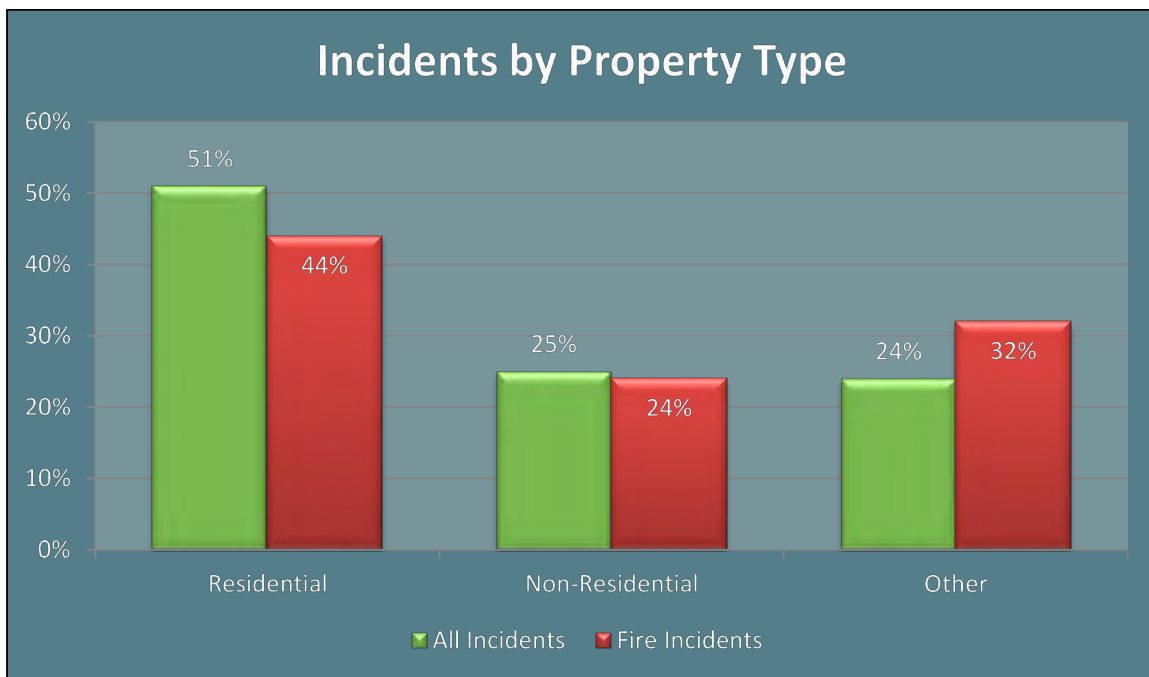
5 Year Call Load and Trend

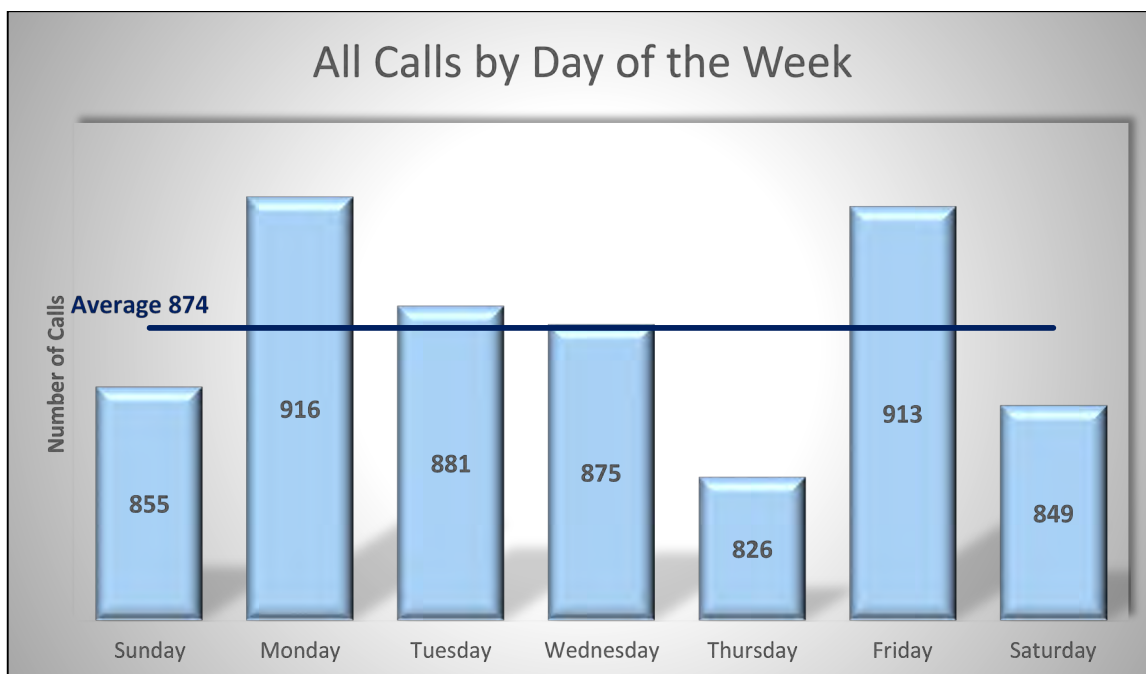
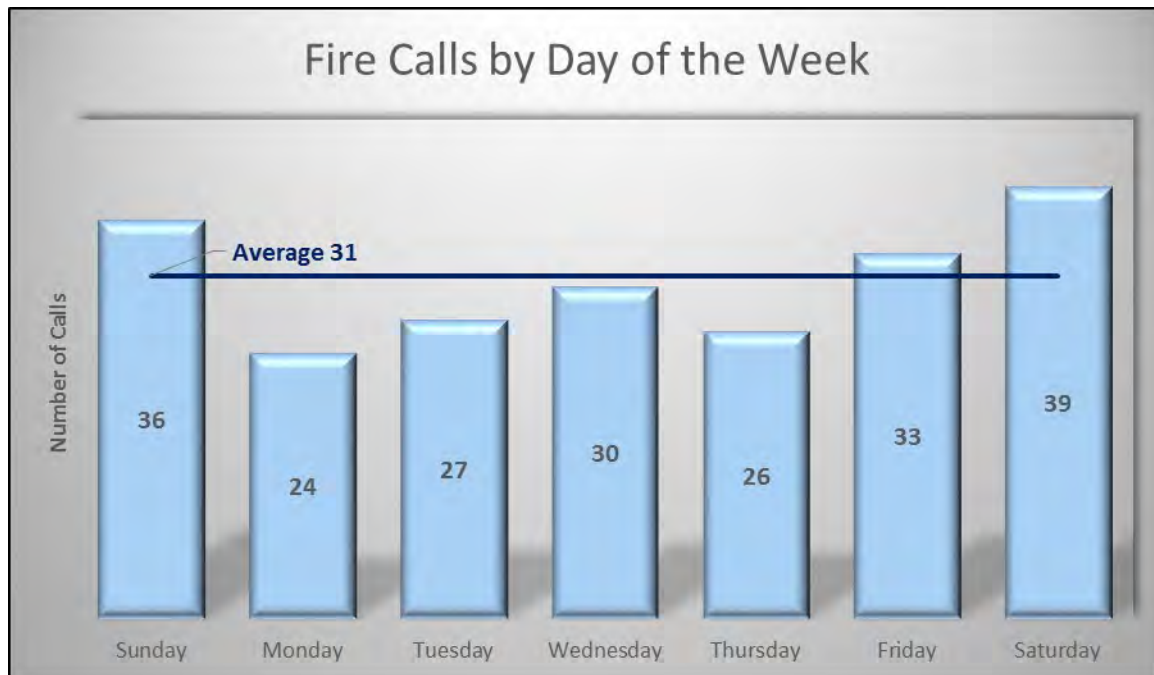


5 Year Trend of Calls by Type

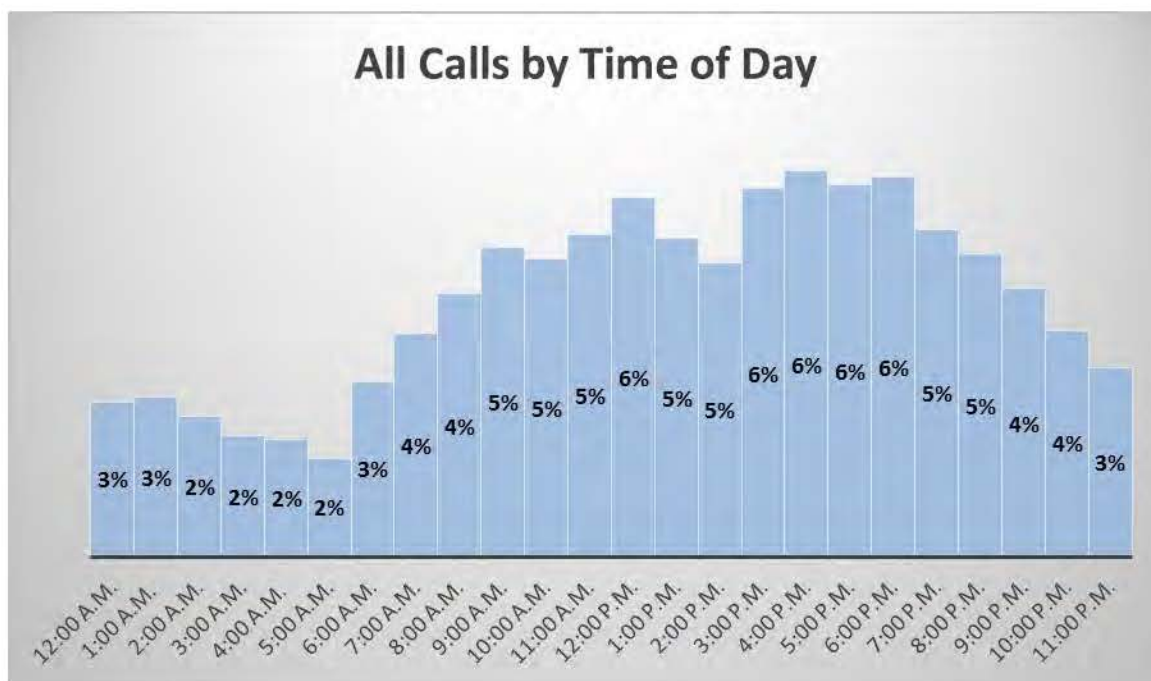




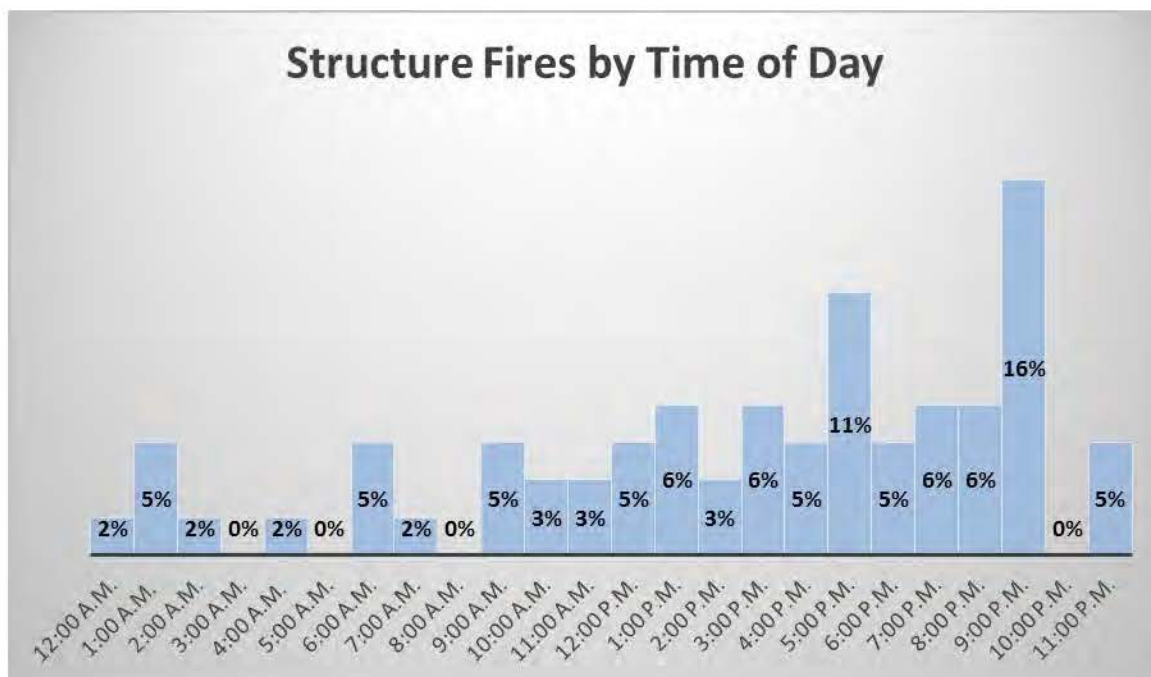


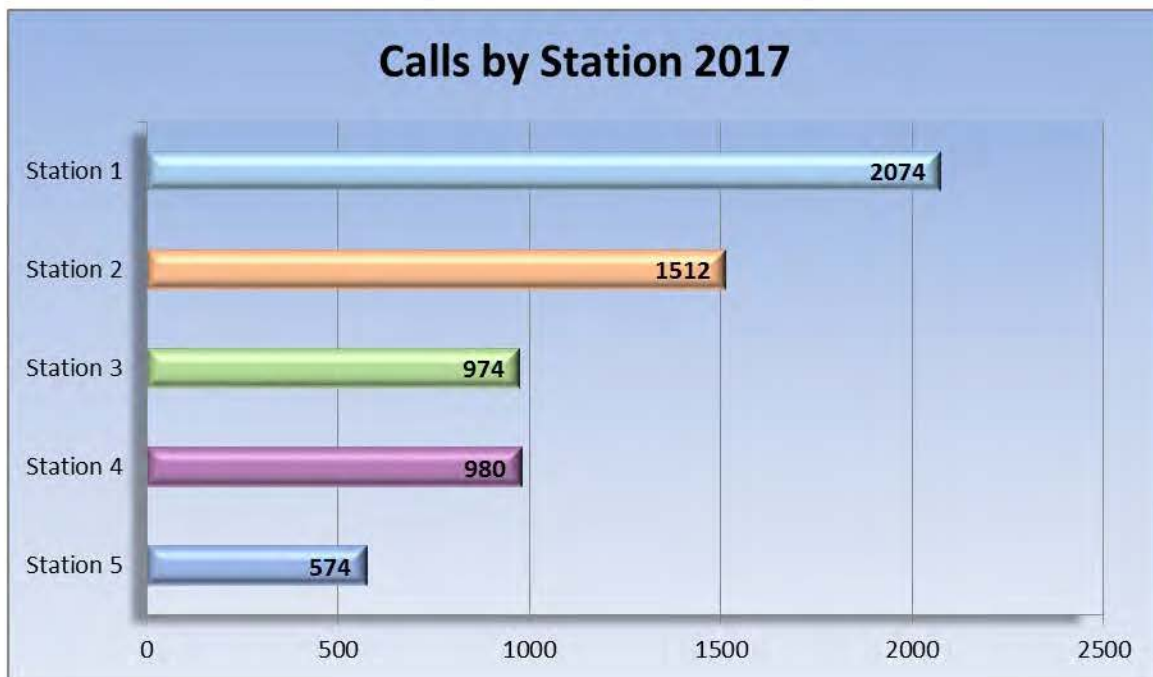


All Calls by Time of Day



Structure Fires by Time of Day





Mutual Aid by Agency and Type, Summary

Bradenton Fire Department

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1 - Mutual aid received | 2 |
| 2 - Automatic aid received | 4 |
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 2 |
| 4 - Automatic aid give | 1 |

Cedar Hammock Fire Rescue

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| 1 - Mutual aid received | 4 |
| 2 - Automatic aid received | 32 |
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 12 |
| 4 - Automatic aid give | 25 |

Duette Fire Department

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 1 |
|----------------------|---|

East Manatee Fire Rescue

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| 1 - Mutual aid received | 1 |
| 2 - Automatic aid received | 3 |
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 5 |
| 4 - Automatic aid give | 13 |

Florid State Fire Marshal

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 - Mutual aid received | 2 |
|-------------------------|---|

Manatee County Strike Team / Task Force

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 2 |
|----------------------|---|

Naples

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 1 |
|----------------------|---|

North River Fire District

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| 1 - Mutual aid received | 1 |
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 10 |

Parrish Fire Department

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 - Mutual aid received | 1 |
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 3 |

Sarasota County Fire Department

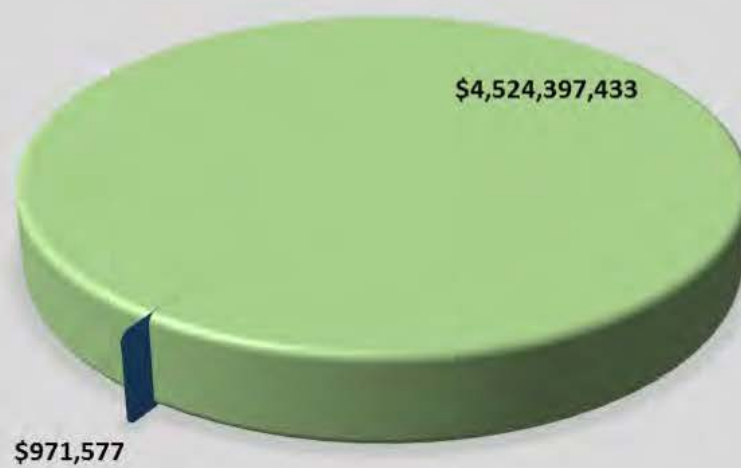
| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 - Mutual aid received | 3 |
|-------------------------|---|

Sarasota International Airport Fire Department

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1 - Mutual aid received | 5 |
| 2 - Automatic aid received | 1 |
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 1 |

West Manatee Fire Rescue

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 3 - Mutual aid given | 1 |
|----------------------|---|

PROPERTY PROTECTED vs. PROPERTY LOSS

■ Property Value ■ Loss

2017 Response Data by Box Number

(Emergency Response Only)

| Box Number | Number of Calls (All) | Response Time (All calls) | Number of Calls (Structure Fires) | Response Time (Structure Fires) |
|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 0936 | 130 | 5:01 | 4 | 8:10 |
| 1029 | 1 | 6:00 | 0 | n/a |
| 1031 | 68 | 4:28 | 0 | n/a |
| 1032 | 41 | 5:46 | 1 | 6:00 |
| 1033 | 10 | 6:24 | 0 | n/a |
| 1034 | 0 | n/a | 0 | n/a |
| 1903 | 6 | 4:36 | 0 | n/a |
| 1904 | 40 | 5:37 | 0 | n/a |
| 1905 | 67 | 4:55 | 1 | 6:00 |
| 1906 | 210 | 3:58 | 1 | 4:42 |
| 1907 | 201 | 5:15 | 0 | n/a |
| 1908 | 131 | 5:14 | 1 | 4:47 |
| 1909 | 110 | 4:13 | 2 | 4:34 |
| 1910 | 9 | 4:57 | 0 | n/a |
| 1915 | 67 | 5:21 | 0 | n/a |
| 1916 | 228 | 4:36 | 2 | 8:22 |
| 1917 | 189 | 5:28 | 1 | 7:27 |
| 1918 | 205 | 4:28 | 2 | 3:31 |
| 1919 | 176 | 4:06 | 0 | n/a |
| 1920 | 62 | 5:04 | 0 | n/a |
| 1921 | 64 | 5:26 | 0 | n/a |
| 1922 | 62 | 6:16 | 0 | n/a |
| 1923 | 4 | 5:48 | 0 | n/a |
| 1925 | 25 | 4:06 | 0 | n/a |
| 1926 | 72 | 5:48 | 0 | n/a |
| 1927 | 102 | 6:33 | 0 | n/a |
| 1928 | 133 | 5:12 | 1 | 5:47 |
| 1929 | 55 | 3:58 | 0 | n/a |
| 1930 | 74 | 5:16 | 0 | n/a |
| 1931 | 77 | 4:56 | 1 | 8:00 |
| 1932 | 153 | 5:16 | 0 | n/a |
| 1933 | 277 | 5:22 | 3 | 5:34 |
| 1934 | 120 | 7:03 | 1 | 8:00 |
| 1935 | 64 | 6:59 | 0 | n/a |
| 1936 | 126 | 5:50 | 1 | 8:00 |
| 2001 | 466 | 4:44 | 12 | 4:01 |
| 2012 | 465 | 5:30 | 2 | 5:34 |
| 2013 | 537 | 4:02 | 5 | 2:56 |
| 2024 | 265 | 3:54 | 1 | 2:18 |
| 2025 | 88 | 4:51 | 4 | 4:38 |
| 2036 | 2 | 5:30 | 0 | n/a |

SMFR Special Ops- Hazardous Materials Response Team



Team History:

Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District (SMFR), is a BLS Fire Rescue agency that has a population of 55,000 permanent residents and grows to 60,000 in winter months. From 2013 to 2017 our department had increased call volume of 26% with expected five-year increase of 35% to 2022. Prior to 2014, a hazmat response to our county was almost non-existent. Manatee County contains many industrial sites with toxic and dangerous chemicals that would affect a large population upon release or accident. In 2014 we took over service as the sole provider of hazmat response for Manatee County due to growing population and growing infrastructure. Large amounts of critical infrastructure is protected by a special operations hazmat team from SMFR. Our county hosts the Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport with four major airline carriers and 1 light airport. We also contain a major deep-water seaport, governmental complexes, and home to several large corporate businesses. Manatee County also contains 1 state college, 1 technical college, 7 high schools, 10 junior high schools, and 35 elementary schools. There is 1 electrical producing plant and 3 water treatment facilities. Our community health care is comprised of 2 trauma centers, 1 burn center, 1 Level II Neonatal Center and 4 hospitals. Our transportation infrastructure contains a major interstate for 16 miles, several road systems that include the southern section of the Sunshine Skyway Bridge. There is over 150 miles of inter-coastal and coastal waterways on the southern edge of Tampa Bay. In addition, there are several miles of railroad that are served by 2 rail companies. In 2017, we observed a 23% increase in hazmat response. Our team grew from a handful of personnel to 31 trained Florida hazmat technicians. Our area continues to grow and expand with several projects that include residential communities and large businesses moving into our county. In 2017, our county grew with 16.81% increase in population, the 6th largest growing county in Florida.



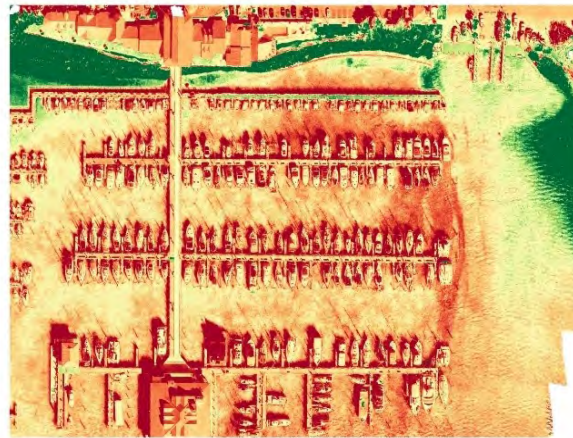
SMFR Hazmat Technicians participating in Operation Inshore Slam in November 2018 simulating a large-scale terrorist event.



SMFR Special Operations conducting hazmat operations on March 22nd against a large acid spill in a business.

Hazardous materials, when properly used, stored, contained, and shipped, are generally safe to work with and an important part of our society. However, accidents involving these materials cannot be eliminated completely. Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District is committed to protecting its employees and the community from adverse effects caused by spills and releases of hazardous materials. Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District also recognizes the need for prevention of emergencies through proper storage, care, and use of chemicals and active employee safety programs.

Southern Manatee Special Operations has responded to 103 incidents both in district and to our regional public safety partners in 2017. These incidents ranged from a wide range of hazardous materials responses that included natural gas leaks, suspected biological agent release, unexploded military ordinance and UAS/ Drone assistance missions from requesting agencies. Since assuming management of the team, our team has been de-



UAS/ Drone operations on Dec. 15th. SMFR was able to track a diesel spill from a marine vessel working with the US Coast

played 318 times in the last five years to assist or manage local hazardous materials emergencies. During the last three years of our program, SMFR Special Operations has been dispatched to 56 incidents as a request for mutual aid to assist agencies outside of SMFR jurisdiction. Last year, we responded to 23 incidents as requests from 7 different agencies. Overall, this represents a 50%

increase in service to our regional partners during this span that included federal, state, and local agencies. As an established branch of operations, our response team is working as one body and have developed future direction, guiding our department following our mission statement of providing a hazardous materials response to the citizens of our District and citizens of Manatee County by protecting life safety, property, environment, and critical infrastructure. Our mission is to meet the needs of a growing community and provide new approaches to hazardous materials education, hazmat response, hazmat code regulations and advance medical care services related to toxicology to the citizens of our district. To this end, the Special Operations Team personnel, equipment, and training are available resources that must ensure the highest level of response and safety.

FY 2017 SAFER Grant:

On July 28, 2017, the Department of Homeland Security awarded the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant. The awarding of this grant placed nine (9) new FTE's (Firefighter/EMT/Paramedic's – entry level) and place on our first-out fire apparatus. This will allow the District to staff our Hazardous Materials Response vehicle with our current Haz-mat Technicians. With the SAFER grant, the District will gain another apparatus to respond to incidents (Fire and EMS) increasing fire fighter safety. The addition of the 9 FF's will increase the effectiveness of the first alarm assignments and other events occurring in our district, out of the district and within our region. By increasing the amount of personnel on scene this allows crews to safely enter structures and perform lifesaving operations and reduce property damage.



Training:

At the core of the team are the 31 hazmat team members that are trained as Hazardous Materials Technicians and Specialists. In 2017, operational personnel within the department conducted over 3,981 hours of hazmat training. This works out to an average of 53.79 hours of annual training for all members of the department. In addition, each hazmat technician on the team continues to meet the State Emergency Response guidelines for continued 12 areas of recertification. This training was required training on existing policies for response and new equipment placed into service. Some of the training and improvements that were conducted in 2017 included:



SMFR Lt. Kailher working on a training prop at 2017 Florida Hazmat Symposium

- **Jan. 2017**

- ◊ Nine department personnel participated in a three-day Florida Hazmat Symposium in Daytona Beach, Florida area. BC Gould was asked to present a program on compressed natural gas vehicles and well attended.

- **Feb. 2017**

- ◊ This month focused on pumps and transfer equipment used in hazmat incidents. In addition, all hazmat technicians completed a national refresher course AWR-140 Response to Radiological Emergencies hosted by the Center of Radiological/ Nuclear Training for FEMA.

- **March 2017**

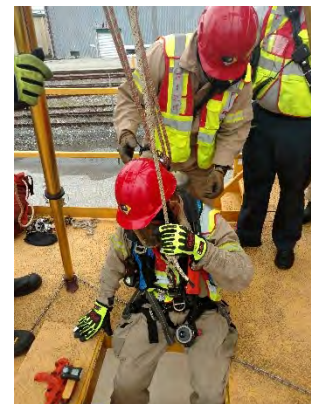
- ◊ A review of basic meters and air monitoring was completed for initial response. In addition, this division supported the 2017 Manatee County Annual Hurricane Exercise participating in designing exercise injects and serving as an evaluator.
- ◊ Participated in SRQ Padre drill establishing a Hazmat Decon Branch for patient care.

- **April 2017**

- ◊ The main course of instruction was with response to large acid and base incidents both in transportation and industry.
- ◊ Finally, preparation started to redesign advanced directives and policies guiding SMFR Special Operations response. This is an on-going process into 2018.

- **May 2017**

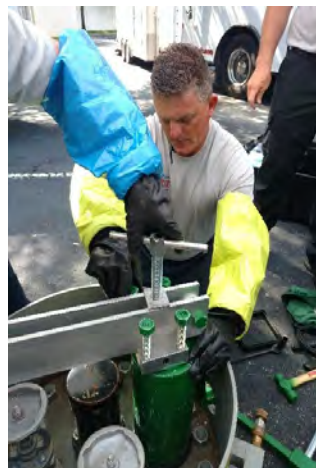
- ◊ A guest speaker with LEPC support was brought into to give instruction on gasoline transport container. This was a regional class that was well attended.
- ◊ Briefings were held with local news agencies on UAS/ Drone operations usage in public safety and aired on local television.
- ◊ SMFR Hazmat provided guidance to Halliburton Industries-Boots & Coots oil well firefighting company for future UAS/ Drone operations in firefighting.
- ◊ We also submitted our first project to the Community Health Alliance to fund radiation equipment that was declined but continued to look for grant funding options.



SMFR Firefighter's prepare to enter a confined space training at Tropicana in June 2017

- **June 2017**

- ◊ This month focused on a basic review of confined space emergencies with a training area provided by Tropicana Industries.
- ◊ In May 2017, two large Sulfur fires happened at the Port of Manatee that SMFR Hazmat responded to. This division gave several briefings on this incident to the LEPC members, county commissioners, and local fire chief's and administrators.
- ◊ This month we also assisted the Cedar Hammock Fire District in continued hazmat training for their firefighters in support of county hazmat education to our fire districts.



FF Eldridge working with a Chlorine railcar sealing kit, July 2017

- **July 2017**

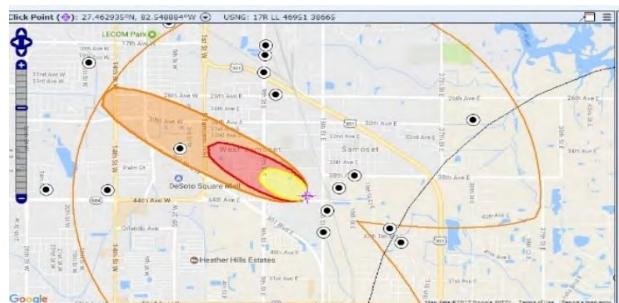
- ◊ Another regional LEPC class was hosted at SMFR dealing with Chlorine Emergencies during transportation. We had 34 students from outside our department from 4 Florida counties attend.
- ◊ We also continued to partner with MTC Fire Science providing equipment support for the 24-hour hazmat operations class that is provided for all academy requirements.
- ◊ Our department also participated in the State Emergency Response Commission meeting, continuing our voices in hazmat training topics around the state.

- **August 2017**

- ◊ This month was focused on annual recertification for all operational firefighters in the department. This is part of the 8 hours of continual training required for ISO certification.
- ◊ A draft of the departments Emergency Response Plan was created and will be placed into our continuing assessment process for the team.

- **September 2017**

- ◊ This month, SMFR Special Operations, focused back to on-scene assessments and the first 15 minutes of a hazmat callout with formation of an Incident Action Plan (IAP) and Site Safety Plan (SSP) using the NIOSH book along with the Hazmat IQ system.
- ◊ A grant project was submitted to the Regional Medical Health Care Coalition for ALS medical equipment for \$10,875. We are placing this proposal on the improvement of community medical service and the risks to our community from prompt medical attention. We should hear the results of this by February 2018.
- ◊ In September, a 3-year Hazmat Operational report was completed for Chief Gorski. This report discusses our operational responses along with cost recovery and manpower that responded to some notable incidents.
- ◊ Requests were made to TECO for location maps of natural gas lines in Manatee County to be distributed to local fire districts to aid in response to the incidents. This is an ongoing project into February 2018.
- ◊ A training calendar was constructed and sent out to personnel regarding national level hazmat training classes that are held at minimal costs. These are federal programs that firefighters can attend for hazmat training.



Plume modeling conducted for Emergency Management for the Callaghan Tire Fire, May 2017.

- **October 2017**

- ◇ The month of October, SMFR Special Operations focused on emergency response to propane leaks. This year we received a new piece of equipment called the "Orange Dragon". This is supplement to our gas program that allows for our crews to burn off damaged propane in larger capacity than or previous equipment "Red Dragon".
- ◇ On Oct. 2nd BC Gould and Capt. Boski assisted the Local Emergency Planning Council with a hazmat team assessment of the 48th Civil Support Team in Clearwater, Florida. This is the Florida National Guard Regiment tasked to respond and support large scale terrorism events in the state.
- ◇ From Oct. 10-12, Capt. Boski assisted the North River Fire District in teaching 18 hours program on hazmat response. All of their operations personnel participated in the 3-hour long class on initial response to incidents.
- ◇ On Oct. 13th, at the request of Florida Hospital in Hardee County, Capt. Boski conducted a class to their internal hospital team on emergency hazmat decontamination at their hospital.



SMFR Hazmat with BC Gould examining LPG tank construction in October 2017.

- **November 2017**

- ◇ SMFR completed Operation Inshore Slam on Nov. 1st. Over 250 participants and 20 agencies took part in this full-scale exercise at Lecom Park in Bradenton. Many lessons for response will be gained out of this multi-discipline exercise.
- ◇ SMFR hosted a LEPC regional class (paid by Department of Transportation funding) that centered around injecting water into a transport cylinder and floating propane on top of water.
- ◇ SMFR was asked by TECO gas to review their confined space operations and equipment. We consulted with them on our equipment and policies.
- ◇ Work began on drafting a cost recovery directive for future invoicing. Expected completion is in 2nd quarter of 2018.
- ◇ On Nov. 14th, ABC 7 (local TV news) interviewed our personnel on our UAS/Drone program for a news story. Footage was used from actual calls as well as FF Gattis explaining the success of our program.
- ◇ On Nov. 29th, we participated with Tropicana Industries with a small hazmat drill exercise.



Lt. Tumolo training on valve adjustment on a LPG tank, Nov. 2017

- **December 2017**

- ◊ Finalized notes on the Tropicana AAR and working with their management on issues such as continued training and receiving copies of their emergency response plan.
- ◊ Conducted final hospital training for Florida Hospital in Wauchula. This was a 2nd part class to assist coalition partners in mass decon and hazmat response at their facility for required disaster training. A total of 25 students were given training.
- ◊ Work was started on the 2017 Assistance to Firefighting Grant that will be submitted in Jan. 2018 to explore grant funding of the new Hazmat Engine that will replace our 24-year Hazmat Squad 328.



Lt. D'Agostino and Lt. Daughtrey work with Sarasota County FD Special Operations and the 48th CST during Operation Inshore Slam, Nov.

Equipment and Resources:

- Level A training suits purchased for all team members, these are special designed suits from Kappler to simulate real world equipment but are cost effective from using real suits to train.
- On Nov. 28th, we received a minor donation of equipment from the Palmetto Canning company. This composed of about \$5,000 in hazmat equipment they received and donated to our department. All this equipment will be used to enhance our training.
- A new flame ionization detector, TVA-1000 will placed in service Dec. 2017. This will allow hazmat crews to test atmospheres of volatile organic compounds at incidents.
- In Nov. 2017, SMFR received a LPG/ Propane Injection kit. This specialized equipment was purchased with Manatee County Public Safety Hazmat funding in 2017 and we are the 4th fire department in the entire United States to respond to these types of incidents.



LPG/ Propane injection system for large transport delivery. Currently in service on HZ-328

In cooperation with SMFR Fire Prevention Bureau

In 2017, the special operations continued to work closely with the Fire Prevention Bureau. Some of the highlights of special projects are listed below:

- In the 1st quarter of 2017, worked closely with FPB to begin entering Sara Tier II information into Wildfire program for future reference on inspections.
- In March 2017, submitted the first Hazmat Information Bulletin to the FPB to include in a newsletter sent out to local businesses.
- In May 2017, this division assisted in a SMFR Fire Prevention inspection at 6441 19th St E. American Refrigerants. They will be moving to another address within the district and expanding business. We worked closely with management of that company which led to them to filing for Tier II compliance with the EPA.
- On August 26th, Capt. Bloski provided guidance to the ETCO company in our district on a safe release of their Carbon Dioxide tank that was scheduled for routine maintenance.

- Participated with SMFR FPB in an inspection of Alfa Laval at 2359 Trailmate Drive. Capt. Blosski consulted the business on the proper location and marking of hazardous materials at the request of their insurance company.

Hazmat Incidents:

Below are some notable responses out of the 103 SMFR Hazmat responses in 2017:

- During 2017, SMFR responded to over 23 Natural Gas leaks in the district. In addition, the district responded to #424 Carbon Monoxide Incident 13 times. This data is represented in the 2018 table at the end of this report.
- Jan. 13, 2017- 2411 Tallavast Road- E-331 responded to an explosion at the Manatee County Bus Depot as a result of an employee spraying a flammable liquid on a hot surface during bus cleanup duties.
- Feb 13, 2017- 2411 Tallavast Road- SMFR responded to a full structure fire response to a suspected gas leak at the facility. Further investigation found that it was a hydrogen sulfide leak from plumbing inside the business.
- Feb. 15, 2017- 4520 66th Street West-SMFR Hazmat responded mutual aid to Cedar Hammock Fire Department on a reported chemical smell investigation at the Manatee County Utilities building
- Feb.16, 2017-3211 49th ST W.-SMFR was requested mutual aid by CHFR to scan a suspicious letter that contained white powder at the postal sorting facility. The letter contained beach sand.
- March 22, 2017- 2451 Trailmate Drive- SMFR was requested by Manatee County Sheriff's Dept. to scan a package for hazardous materials.
- March 22, 2017- 2420 Trailmate Drive- SMFR Hazmat Team went into operations for a Sulfuric Acid spill inside a building. A full hazmat response was used to mitigate the emergency.
- April 3, 2017-3500 Tamimi Trail, Palmetto, - SMFR was requested mutual aid by North River Fire District to assist with a pesticide truck that was involved in an accident. We assisted in package assessment of tanks in the back of the box truck.
- April 17, 2017- 1705 Piney Point Road, Palmetto-SMFR Hazmat Team responded to the first of two fires containing Sulfur burning at this facility. The fire was started due to dry conditions and required a full team response due to nature and size of fire.
- April 23, 2017- 2508 30 Ave Dr E. -SMFR responded to a suspected fuel spill behind the residence. We worked closely with Manatee Environmental Division to address the home owner's concerns.
- April 26, 2017-2040 Piney Point Rd.-SMFR Hazmat Team responded to the second fire within a month at this facility due to dry conditions. On this occurrence, 5 workers were exposed and transported to local hospitals. SMFR worked closely with NRRFD to assemble a brush truck task force to put the fire out.
- May 7, 2017- Tuttle Ave & Lakeridge Falls- SMFR was requested UAS search and rescue by the MSO to assist with a car that entered a waterway.



Two-ton cylinders of flammable refrigerant stored at a local SMFR



Hazmat operations at Callaghan Tire Fire, April 18, 2017

- May 9, 2017- 831 North Shore, Anna Maria, Florida-Assist West Manatee Fire Rescue with a military signal flare that washed ashore. SMFR worked closely with the Department of Defense to safely remove the flare.
- May 18, 2017- 1401 44 Ave E. -Structure fire at Callaghan Tires environmental control measures
- May 25, 2017- 7900 Bayshore Rd, Palmetto, Florida- Hazmat consult to North River Fire Department
- May 27, 2017- 600 US 301 Blvd. -Consult and assist to MSO on drug lab interdiction chemicals
- June 1- SMFR assisted North River Fire District at 500 Mariana Drive in Palmetto, FL in off-loading fuel that was mistakenly placed in a fishing rod holder. Our crews assisted with offloading 5 gallons of gasoline. Cost recovery was completed and collected for this incident.
- June 13- SMFR provided telephone consultation to North River Fire District on a vehicle accident at 1005 Riverside Drive for a state golf cart that was spraying round-up herbicide and crashed.
- June 26-SMFR provided telephone guidance to Parrish Fire Department on a 15-gallon motor oil spill that was found in a roadway. Follow up action included coordination with the Manatee County landfill to accept the waste created by fire department cleanup.
- July 14, 2017, SMFR responded non-emergency to the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport at the request of SRQ Fire Department to investigate a fuel issue. SMFR responded and tested fuel in a container and reported the results to SRQ fire administration.
- Aug. 8, 2017-5431 18th St. E-Oil Spill investigation that was investigated after reporting from Manatee County Solid Waste, home owner stated oil spill visible in water behind her house.
- Aug. 9, 2017-Brandly Road & S.R. 39-Mutual aid was requested from the Duette Fire Dept. for a Semi-Overturn with diesel and oil spilled. Cost Recovery issued.
- Aug. 16, 2017-1720 Bayshore Road, Palmetto, FL. -Mutual Aid was requested by MSO for UAS operations requested for SWAT operations. Cost recovery submitted to the state Attorney's office.
- Aug. 21, 2017-1115 Manatee Ave W.-Assistance requested for UAS operations for monitoring a demonstration in downtown Bradenton.
- Aug. 28, 2017-2100 47th Terrace E-Beall's Distribution Center- +2000 Gallon Diesel spill from a day tank spilled over into the parking lot area. No action needed by SMFR, presumptive testing conducted off site with report filed to FDEP.
- Sept. 4, 2017-1117 Longfellow Way-SMFR Station 1 crews responded to a chemical odor in a residence. A full investigation was conducted finding the smell possibly due to animal urine inside the residence that was being remodeled.
- Sept. 7, 2017-2451 Trailmate Dr.-SMFR Special Operations program was requested by Manatee County EM to use the drone for pre-Hurricane Irma survey photos of 8 locations within Manatee County. A post assessment was made on Sept. 11th.
- Sept. 7, 2017-2525 University Pkwy. -SMFR and Hazcom 2 responded to a vehicle that had been filled with diesel fuel. Two bystanders dumped the fuel into the parking lot that went subsurface, SMFR crews performed a lite cleanup and referred the matter to FDEP agency.



SMFR working with US Air Force personnel removing a military flare.



FF Eldridge and Lt. Naples assisting with a boat fuel transfer in North River.

- Sept. 20, 2017-3415 162 Ave. E, Parrish-Mutual Aid given by SMFR Hazmat Team that was requested to assist MSO SWAT with aerial surveillance via UAS on a barricaded subject in house. Cost Recovery Issued to Sate Attorney's office
- Oct. 16, 2017-4156 Mackay Falls Terr.- Chemical smell investigation, found golf cart venting hydrogen sulfide from batteries by E-331 crews
- Oct. 21, 2017 -I-75, MM 224, Ellenton, - Mutual Aid Hazmat response to North River Fire District for 30-gallon gasoline spill from a vehicle fire on top of the J.D. Young Bridge.
- Oct. 31, 2017-11023 8th Ave E.-Mutual aid hazmat response to East Manatee Fire District on a 5-month old chemical spill in private residence. Nov. 15, 2017-5602 Jim Davis Lane, Parrish-Disposal of 2000mg of Fentanyl by request of the homeowner.
- Nov. 29, 2017-7327 Manatee St.-Mutual aid request from the CHFR to assist MSO EOD with a WWII Japanese grenade found in a private residence.
- Nov. 29, 2017-12270 SR 675, Parrish-Mutual Aid to Parrish Fire Dept. on a lawn fertilizer truck vehicle fire.
- Dec. 8, 2017-600 Us 301 Blvd- Assistance to MSO for a suspected biological agent brought in by a citizen to MSO headquarters.
- Dec. 8, 2017- 1001 River Side Drive, Palmetto- Assistance to NRFD on a 300-gallon diesel leak into the Manatee River from a yacht. SMFR assisted the US Coast Guard in tracking the extent of the fuel spill with our UAS.



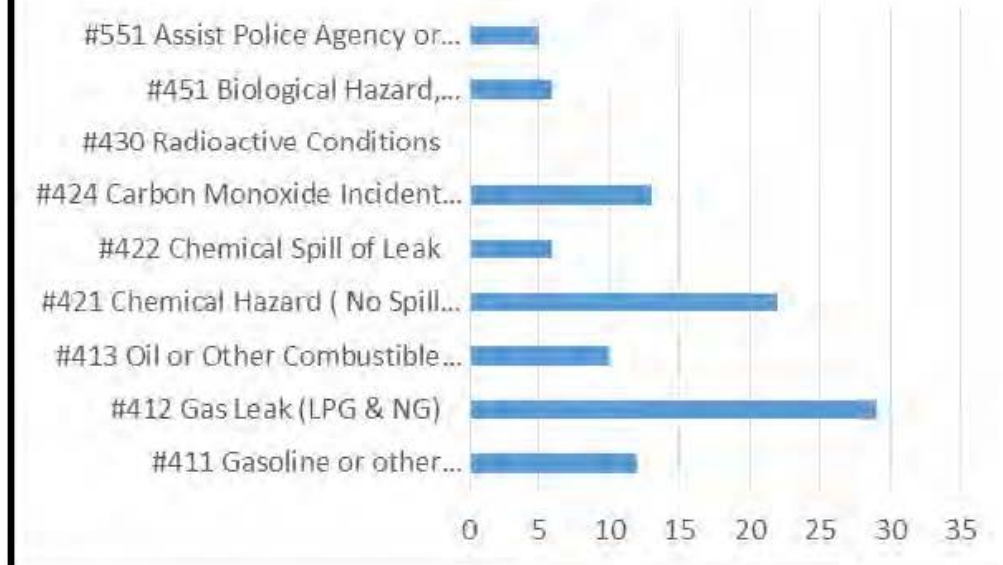
Picture from UAS operation assisting MSO SWAT during standoff with suspect.



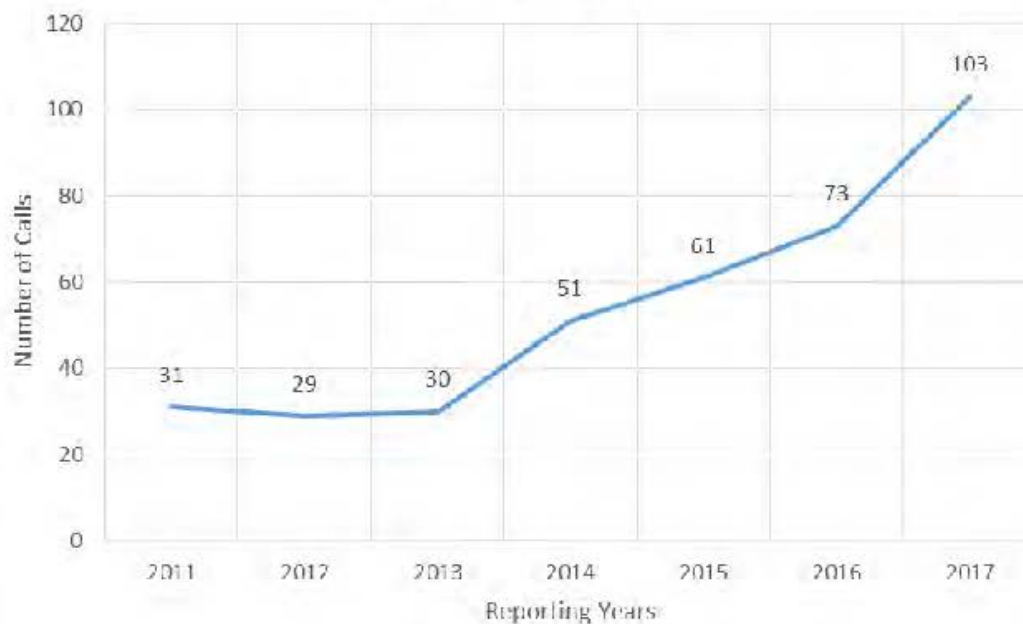
Assistance to MSO EOD team with a WWII era hand grenade found in a private residence.



2017 SMFR Hazmat Response

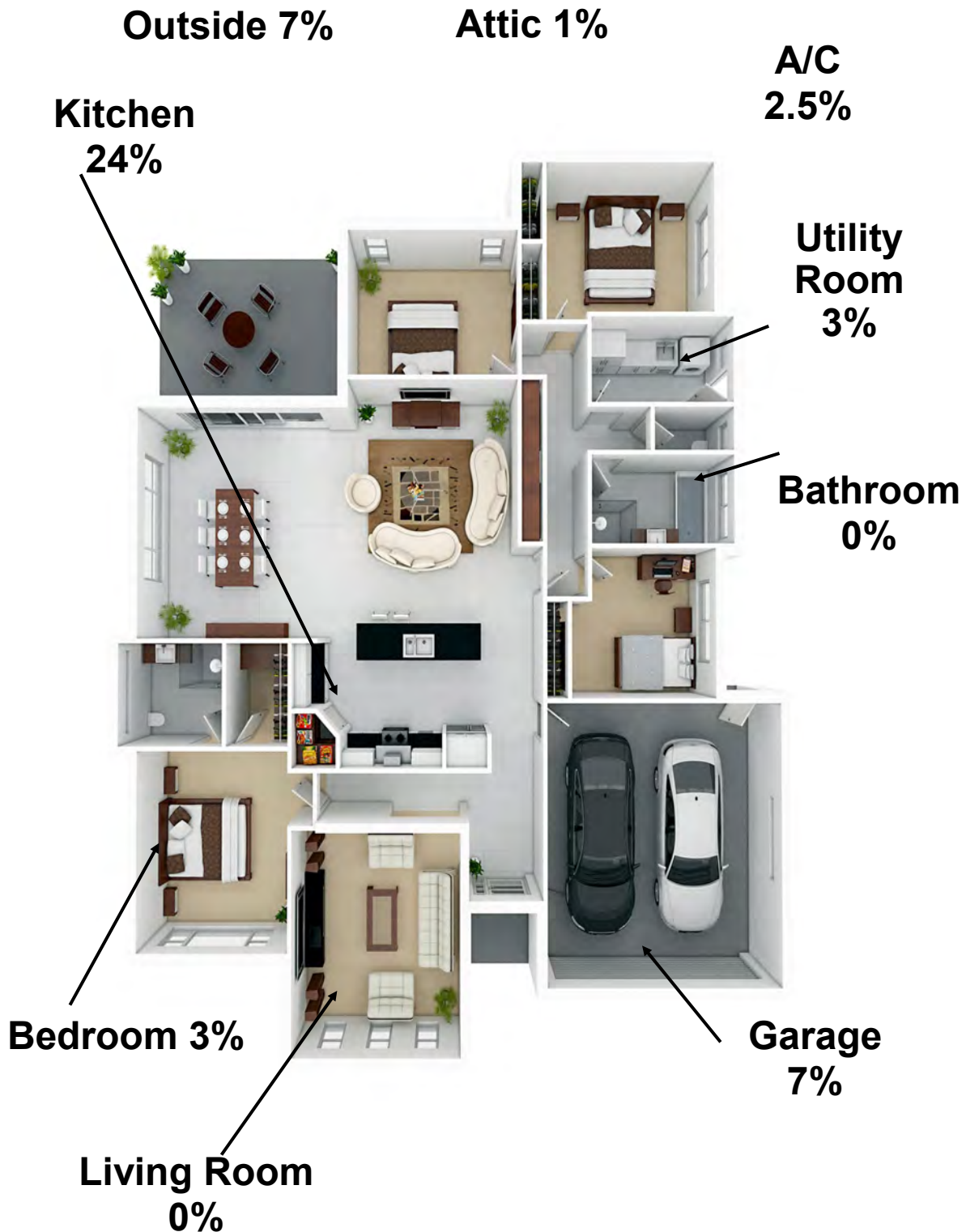


SMFR Hazmat Calls



Fire Prevention Division

Area of origin and fire cause percentages
for residential structures in Southern Manatee Fire
Rescue District for 2017



Fire Prevention

Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District has a very active Fire Prevention Division responsible for the regulatory, code enforcement, and public education segment of the fire service. The Inspectors duties include a broad spectrum of responsibilities and are not limited to: Annual Fire Safety Inspections, Fire Investigations, Public Education, Youth Fire Setters Program, Smoke Alarm Program, Plans Review (Site, Construction and Systems), Construction Site Visits, as well as other enforcement issues.

The Fire Prevention Division is responsible for plans review. This includes but is not limited to site, construction and system drawings. The district had experienced another good year of growth with new construction. A good portion of this growth is with single family residential subdivisions. During the past year, 71 site plans, 350 construction plans and 157 system plans were reviewed by Fire Prevention. This means the division must keep up with current codes and standards to make the structure safe for those who enter.

The Fire Prevention Division is responsible for Public Education. Meeting the public and educating them on fire safety is one of the most important services we offer. From fire extinguisher training to fire drills, talking about smoke alarms or installing them and teaching children how to get out of a burning building. These are some of the services we offer at Southern Manatee Fire Rescue.

In an effort to increase our Public Protection Classification Rating with ISO (Insurance Services Office) the Fire Prevention Division has incorporated new programs to improve our service and keep up with growth demand. One new program is the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue Newsletter. The newsletter reaches out to residents in mobile home parks, apartment complexes, residential subdivisions and condos. The newsletter discusses important subjects that range from prevention of cooking fires to fires in a fire place. Other topics include weather emergencies and what precautions to take, and how fireworks should be left to the professional and that sky lanterns are illegal. We give our citizens safety tips on how to make their home safe from emergencies. The newsletter reaches over 19,000 residents each time it is sent out.

When specific incidents occur within the District a Safety Message is generated to cover the causes and/or the necessary steps to prevent the same incident from happening again.

As part of our superior level of service to the community, the Prevention Division is working to improve our ISO rating. The rating directly reflects insurance rates for both residential and commercial properties. For our commercial buildings we have a sketch of each of the structures in our district. These sketches are then computer generated and placed in the ISO folder as well as being carried on each first out fire apparatus. The project is ongoing with new structures being added to the district each year.

On October 7, 2017, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue hosted an Open House at our Station 3. Over 300 residents enjoyed demonstrations on the Haz Mat Dragon, our new Drone and vehicle extrication. Plans for next year's Open House are in the works and we are making it bigger and better!



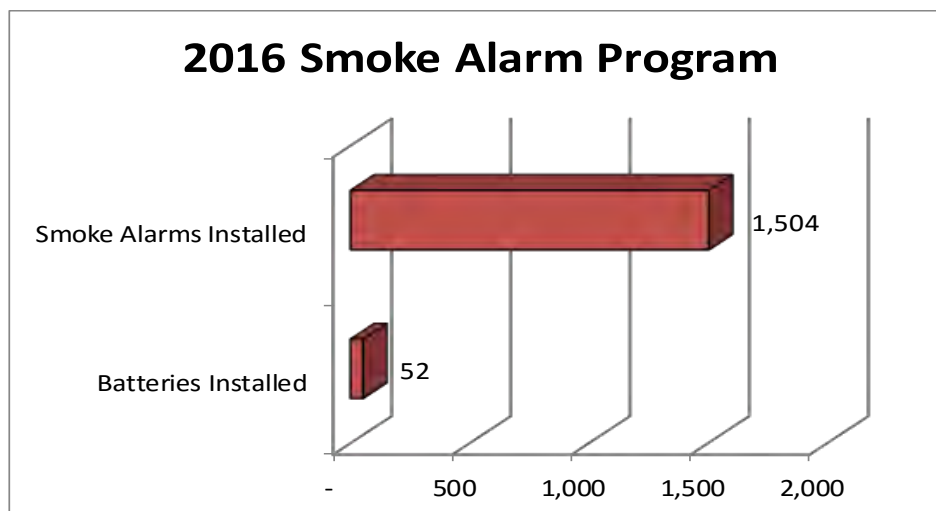
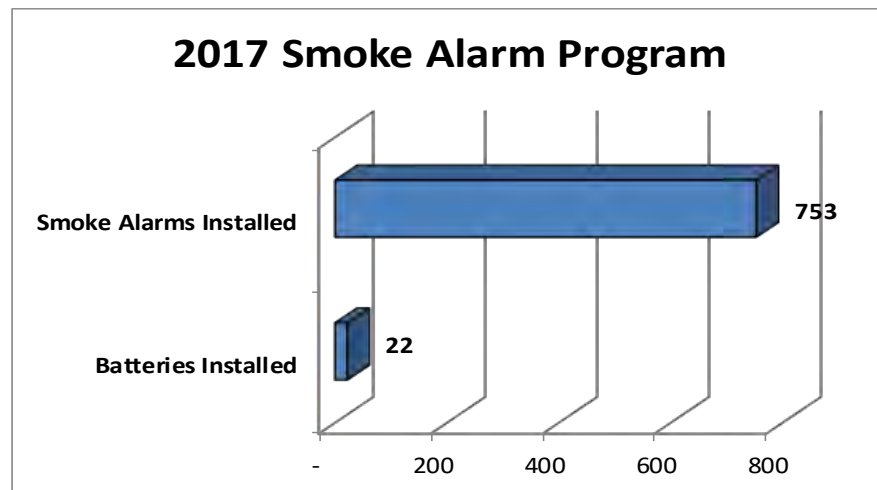
The Fire Prevention Division has been using a paperless inspection program over the past three years. The program allows the Inspector to use a tablet or computer and the internet to complete the annual inspection of a business. The electronic files are updated immediately into a data base that can be accessed easily by anyone in the fire department. A copy of the inspection form is emailed to the business. If a re-inspection necessary, the date automatically comes up on the computer. The program also allows for the collection of information as it pertains to individual property. The program is very cost effective and has helped the department go "green".

Smoke Alarm Installations

Throughout the years, Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue has been very proactive with our Smoke Alarm Program. Most of the alarms installed have been from the generosity of grants from other organizations. Once again this year, we were able to participate in the Focus on Fire Prevention Grant, which has over the years awarded Southern Manatee Fire Rescue over 4,607 smoke alarms. These alarms were installed for free in many of our resident's homes that could not install or could not afford this life saving device!

As in the past, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue follows National Trends with kitchen fires / unattended cooking being the leading cause of residential fires. Our alarms have saved countless lives and property as a result of this early warning device.

With the efforts of our Fire Prevention Division and Firefighters, over seven hundred alarms were installed this year. Working smoke alarms assist in keeping our community safe from fires in their home!



Risk Analysis 2017 (Through December 2017)

Overview:

The Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District is an independent special district with taxing authority and the responsibility to "Protect lives, property and the environment by providing prompt, skillful and cost effective fire safety education, fire protection and life saving services to the citizens of our community." The District provides fire protection for mobile home parks, condominiums, single family dwellings, various types of businesses, shopping centers, malls, storage facilities and a heavy industrial section.

Review 2013 - 2017 fire reports

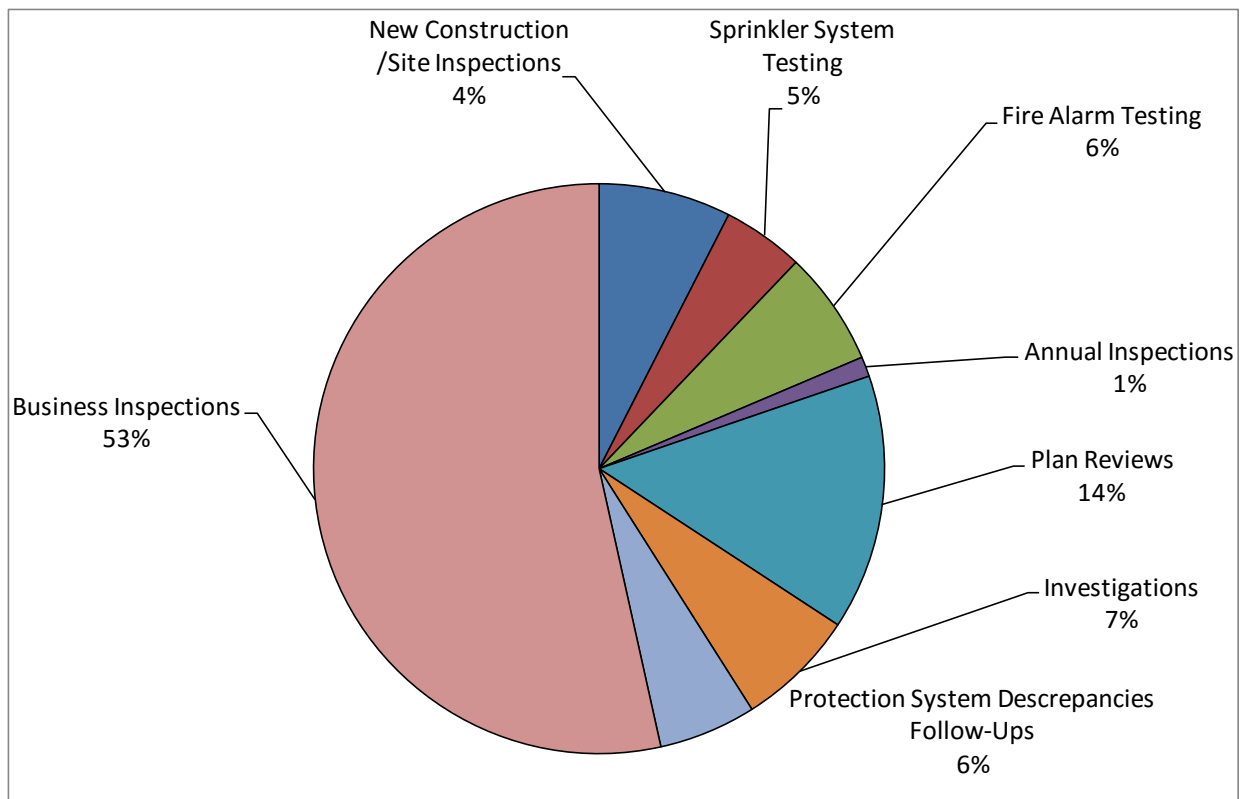
| Reported Structure Fires - Residential | | | |
|---|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Year | # 1&2 Dwelling | # Mobile Home Fires | Age of Citizen 50 yr + |
| 2013 | 24 | 4 | 4 |
| 2014 | 34 | 2 | 1 |
| 2015 | 43 | 4 | 4 |
| 2016 | 40 | 1 | 1 |
| 2017 | 23 | 4 | Unknown |

| Smoke Alarms | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|
| Year | Notified Occupant | Failed to Notify | Unknown |
| 2013 | 4 | 7 | 13 |
| 2014 | 11 | 18 | 7 |
| 2015 | 8 | 15 | 9 |
| 2016 | 6 | 7 | 17 |
| 2017 | 4 | 1 | 2 |

Fatal Fires: In 2017 Southern Manatee Fire Rescue experienced One fire fatality.

| Injuries | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Year | Number of Injuries | Alarms Present | # of Alarms not working |
| 2013 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2014 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2015 | 2 | 1 | Unknown |
| 2016 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 2017 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

2017 Fire Prevention Additional Responsibilities



FPB Business Inspections:

Initial
Vacant/ No Access
Reinspection
Completed

New Construction/ Site Inspections:

Courtesy Inspection
Fire Walls/Tenant Sep. /Penetration
C.O. Finals
Hood (Mechanical) Light Test, General
Suppression System Final

FPB Sprinkler System Testing:

Visual/Pipe Check
Hydro/ Pressure Test
System Flush
Final Acceptance

FPB Fire Alarm Testing:

Final/ Acceptance
Follow-ups

FPB Annual Inspections:

Sprinkler System
Fire Alarm System
FPB Plan Reviews:
Site Plans Reviews

Construction Plans Reviews

System Plans Review

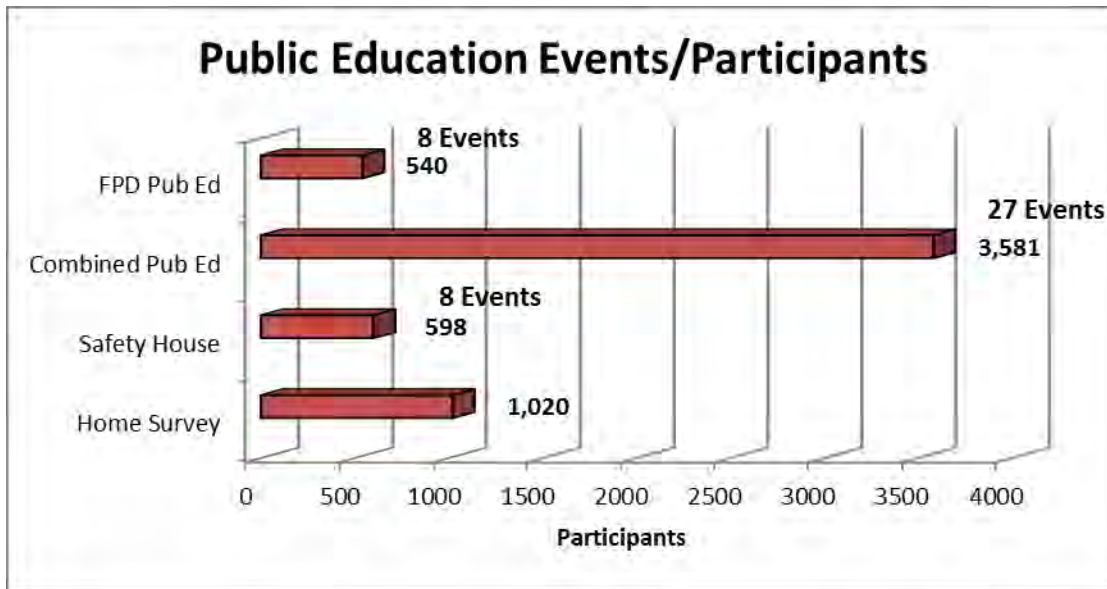
FPB Investigations:

Fire
Complaints
Code Research

FPB Protection System Discrepancies Follow-Ups

Fire Alarm Systems
Sprinkler Systems

* See separate charts for Public Education Programs, Safety House Events,
Smoke Alarm Installations and Youth Fire Setters Information



Home Safety Survey 2017

Each year the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades classes are asked to take home a Safety Survey. The survey asks the parent and child to “Hunt for Home Hazards”. A list is provided for the student and parent to follow and allows them to correct any safety issues they find. After the survey is turned into the school, Fire Prevention collects the survey’s and provides the student with a gift for completing the task. In 2017, over 1,000 surveys were returned and each student received a metal water bottle with the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue logo on it. This is a wonderful teaching tool that allows the student and parents to learn safe practices at home and how to safely correct these hazards.

Youth Fire-Setters Program

ANNUAL REPORT

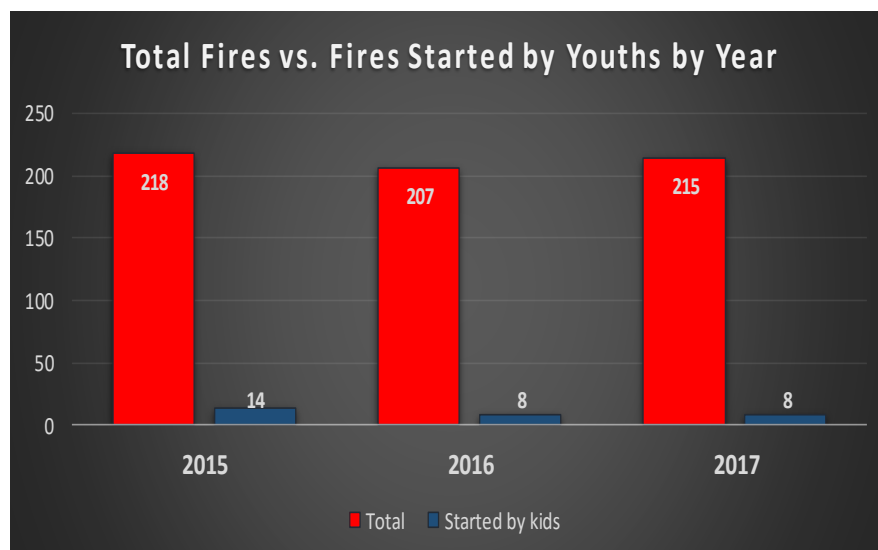
YOUTH FIRESETTER PREVENTION & INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The Manatee County Youth Fire-Setter program is an educational intervention program presented by the local fire departments of Manatee County. It was designed for children and their families that were involved with fire or show an interest in fire-setting. The program is strictly an educational program for first time setters and is not meant to replace professional counseling.

This program was started in the early 1990's and has been ever changing and improving the delivery of the program with assistance from other local agencies. The other agencies include but are not limited to: Manatee County Sheriff's Office (MSO), Manatee County Juvenile Justice, Florida State Fire Marshal's Office and Corner Stone (Manatee Behavioral Health).

The mission of the program is Prevention and Intervention to reduce death, injury and property loss caused by Juvenile Fire Setting. The program has many facets which include identification, evaluation, intake, interview, referral and education.

During the calendar year of 2017, the program had a total of eight (8) referrals. All completed the required 90 minute intervention class. The parents of those students will receive follow-up letters or phone calls throughout the course of the next year. This procedure helps to reinforce safe behavior for juveniles and their families. It also helps us to know the effectiveness of the program by reducing involvement in fire-setting.



Training

2017 Training Data

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Total in-house training hours: | 24,985.75 | Increase 10% |
| Per Person yearly Average: | 321.34 | Increase 1% |
| Per Person monthly Average: | 26.78 | Increase 6 % |
| In-house Classes: | 16 | Increase 1.6% |
| Rider Certs: | 29 | Increase 2.6% |
| Driver Certs: | 14 | Increase 3% |
| Outside Classes Completed: | 137 | Increase 6% |
| Target Classes Completed: | 3552 | Increase 7% |
| Promotions: | 13 | Increase 3.25% |
| State Certifications: | 27 | Increase 1.5% |
| Daily Training Subjects: | 65 | Increase 5% |

In 2017, Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue (SMFR) personnel conducted training on a daily basis, and logged almost 25,000 hours. Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue has 3 Field Training Officers (FTO's), 1 for each shift and a Fire / EMS Training Captain, as well as a Hazmat Training Captain. The FTO's conduct hands-on-trainings with their respective crews, and the Training Captain's over-see department wide training and compliance of State, Federal and Insurance Services Office requirements.

This year we continued to complete classes with our on-line training platform; Target Solutions. I estimate a savings to the district of about \$15,000.00 to \$18,000.00 in renewal of certifications cost. This program allows our personnel to take classes online and not in the classroom to renew various certificates. The money saved is used to further educate our personnel in various topics related to Fire Rescue.

This was also the first full year that two training captains were full time in the training division. We were able to expand our training to more practical "hands-on" applications and techniques. We concentrated a lot of efforts this year on going back to the "Bread & Butter" operations within our district. Focused was placed on Fire Ground Operations, as well as Rescuing Our Own.

This year we completed several In-House classes that are beneficial learning to our personnel. Some of the most notable classes are; Autism Awareness, Solar Panel Fires, New Aerial Truck In-Service, Health Screens by Masterful Marketing, Chiropractor In-Service, Juvenile Sex Trade & Abuse by Saleh Freedom, Dermatology Awareness, Flammable Liquid Tanker In-Service. All of these classes were held in the admin building. Outside agencies from Manatee County & Sarasota counties also attended most all these classes.

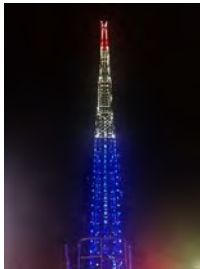
Another focus of this year was in wellness and fitness. In addition to the members of the training division we also have three very active Group Fitness Coordinators. This year we split our monthly group fitness trainings and brought in several outside speakers to enhance both health as well as safety. We also this year completed our first annual 5K run or walk. Over 100 personnel from the district with families participated in the three day event. This was all made possible by the Cigna wellness funds given to us.

This year the Training Division also started teaching CPR & First Aid to our business partners in the district. We charge a small fee to cover the cost of the certification cards and book. We only complete these classes in our district, if someone calls from outside our district we put them in touch with that local F.D.

Finally a big part of this year's training plan was to get our mutual aid resources involved. Manatee County EMS firefighter/paramedics were always invited to any of our fire related training. We have also partnered up with the 911 dispatch center to have all their new hire dispatchers ride along with our apparatus for 12 hour shifts.



Vehicle Maintenance 2017



Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District's fleet consists of 7 fire engine pumpers, 1 aerial ladder truck and 12 staff vehicles of various types. Apparatus/staff vehicles are purchased and replaced in accordance with the apparatus replacement program. We recently added a 107' aerial ladder that responds out of Station 3. In addition, we placed Hazmat 1 into service at Station 1. It will then move to Station 2 for FY 18. One of the aerial Quint-pumpers was sold and the other was taken out of service to be sold to the general public in FY18. A Chevrolet Suburban replaced the current B/C vehicle and the old one was designated as a spare. The Ford F150s were purchased for all inspectors and training captains. The Chevrolet Envoys were put up for sale and sold. All of the fire apparatus and staff vehicles are maintained by the

district using outside agencies to perform all preventive maintenance and repair work. All work is performed within the Fire District at various locations. The repair and preventive maintenance for fire apparatus is performed at Ten-8 Fire Equipment which employs certified Emergency Vehicle Technician as required by National Fire Protection Association and Callaghan Tires of Bradenton, while the staff vehicles are serviced and repaired at Neumann's Auto Repair both locations offer full technical mechanical services.

Vehicle repairs are conducted by scheduled appointment on an as needed basis or repairs are handled during the preventive maintenance services. The frequency of preventive



maintenance services varies from fire apparatus to staff vehicles. The apparatus go through a preventive maintenance service

every 150-200 hours of operating time, while staff vehicles go through their services every 3000 miles. We inspire to maintain all vehicles at a superior level in order for the District to provide emergency services without interruptions.



Fire apparatus require special preventive maintenance for specific areas of the apparatus, which is not the case for staff vehicles. Some of these special maintenance areas include annual pump testing, annual pump service and the annual aerial testing. These specifics are performed once a year and are scheduled by our service provider. The main types of apparatus preventive maintenance include level 1 and level 2.

Level 1 Preventive Maintenance:

Full vehicle inspection, Oil change, Filter replacement, Fluid checks, Tire gauging, Pump packing, Safety inspection

Level 2 Preventive Maintenance:

Full vehicle inspection, Oil change, Filter replacement, Fluid checks, Tire gauging, Pump packing, Safety inspection, Air filter, Transmission service, Brake inspection, Chassis lube, Cooling system, Ac system, Fuel system, These maintenance services are performed at every other interval and are scheduled in by our own personnel whom manage the vehicle apparatus maintenance program in house at Southern Manatee.



| Equipment/Vehicle Type | Year Purchased | Purchased Cost | Vehicle # | 2017 Maint. Cost |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| 2017 Pierce Pumper | 2017 | \$454,577.00 | E-17 | \$1,391.50 |
| Hazmat Truck | 1994 | Donated | E-16 | \$507.25 |
| 2015 Pierce Pumper | 2015 | \$483,894.00 | E-15 | \$11,250.54 |
| 2015 Pierce Pumper | 2015 | \$483,894.00 | E-14 | \$9,067.38 |
| Pierce Engine | 2010 | \$397,105.00 | E-13 | \$13,383.18 |
| Pierce Engine | 2010 | \$397,105.00 | E-12 | \$14,736.58 |
| Pierce Engine | 2004 | \$351,151.00 | E-11 | \$18,037.31 |
| Pierce Aerial | 2004 | \$491,710.00 | E-8 | \$2,446.31 |
| Pierce Engine | 2004 | \$354,571.00 | E-10 | \$6,280.77 |
| Pierce Aerial | 2004 | \$479,017.00 | E-9 | \$28,477.64 |
| Sierra (maintenance truck) | 2007 | \$17,012.00 | T-2 | \$940.53 |
| Sierra (safety tow truck) | 2003 | \$9,050.52 | T-3 | \$360.00 |
| Yukon (Available) | 2004 | \$42,293.70 | C-3 | \$2,363.07 |
| Yukon (Fire Marshal) | 2004 | \$38,389.02 | C-2 | \$2,638.32 |
| Yukon (Ops. Chief) | 2004 | \$39,009.08 | C-4 | \$129.36 |
| Yukon (Training) | 2007 | \$41,290.51 | C-14 | \$948.48 |
| Envoy (Inspector) | 2004 | \$30,865.00 | C-10 | \$42.00 |
| Envoy (Inspector) | 2004 | \$24,832.00 | C-12 | \$114.00 |
| Yukon (B/C Reserve) | 2004 | \$43,884.00 | C-11 | \$1,070.19 |
| Yukon (Battalion) | 2008 | \$49,416.41 | C-15 | \$2,739.12 |
| Yukon (Fire Chief) | 2007 | \$41,290.51 | C-13 | \$1,857.81 |
| Ford F150 | 2016 | \$22,341.00 | C-16 | \$86.94 |
| Ford F150 | 2016 | \$22,341.00 | C-17 | \$57.00 |
| Ford F150 | 2016 | \$22,341.00 | C-18 | \$54.62 |
| Ford F150 | 2016 | \$22,341.00 | C-19 | \$42.11 |
| Ford F150 | 2017 | \$24,709.00 | C-20 | \$2,721.00 |
| Ford F150 | 2017 | \$58,800.00 | C-21 | \$0.00 |
| | | \$4,418,520.75 | | \$121,743.01 |



Volunteers

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 85% of fire departments in the United States are Volunteer or have a Volunteer element. Southern Manatee Fire Rescue is a combination department with the majority of personnel being full-time. Most of the full-time firefighters at Southern Manatee Fire Rescue began their careers as Volunteers. There were three active Volunteers in 2017 that supplemented our staffing and assisted with various activities with a combined total of 804 hours; equivalent to almost 34 twenty-four hour shifts. 290 hours of that were training related.

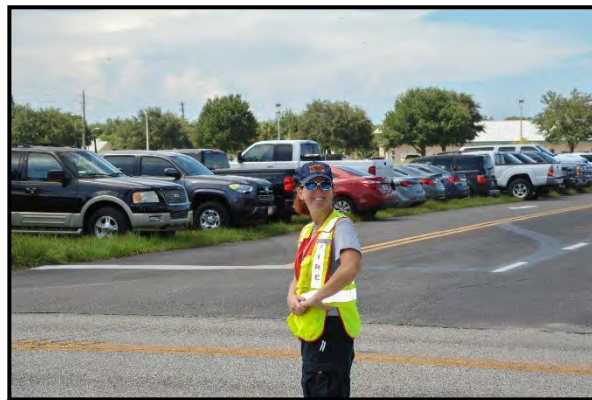


Volunteers are an integral part of the engine company and assist on all emergency scenes

These individuals dedicate many hours of their time to our community.

The requirements to become a Volunteer firefighter include Firefighter II (600 hours), Emergency Medical Technician (400 hours), National CPAT and FireTEAM certifications, and valid drivers license and criminal background check. Southern Manatee Fire Rescue is certified through the National Testing Network (NTN). The NTN sets both physical and cognitive standards for State certified firefighters who are seeking employment with a fire department.

The Southern Manatee Volunteer Firefighter's Association is a non-profit organization made up of both career and Volunteer personnel. They host the annual fund-raising golf tournament and also rely on donations from the community. Proceeds help support training, the purchase of firefighting and exercise equipment, and community assistance.



Firefighter Kenniff assisted at the annual Open House in October

Union Local 2546



In 2017, Southern Manatee hit the ground running with conducting promotional assessments for Lieutenants and Captains. The promotional assessments are considered “competitive testing” which requires Union involvement to ensure a fair and equitable process for all Bargaining Unit members. Bargaining Unit members include the ranks of Firefighters, Inspectors, Lieutenants, Captains and Battalion Chiefs. For all the candidates involved in the promotional assessments, January was both an exciting and stressful month. January’s promotional assessments had a new means of capturing accurate footage of each candidate’s performance by way of video recording. The Union’s involvement consists of having a representative witness each segment of the assessment to ensure that each candidate experiences the exact testing environment, questions and opportunities as all other candidates. In effort to capture greater accuracy of each candidate’s performance, video recording was implemented. This addition proved most valuable when scoring each candidate, removing the burden placed on the assessors of trying to recall each candidates’ performance in detail, in turn allowing the promotional assessment to be more fair and equitable. When all the points were tallied, Firefighters Brian Hodges and Ed Tumolo were promoted to Lieutenant, and Lieutenants Bobby Thayer and Mike Bloski were promoted to Captain.



February proved to be another productive and exciting month. Captain Mark Crawford who enjoyed a 26 year career with Southern Manatee announced his retirement. Captain Crawford was in charge of overseeing/ implementing all required training for operational/ suppression personnel. Captain Bobby Thayer assumed the responsibilities of training with Mark Crawford’s retirement. Captain Mike Bloski was assigned the Haz-Mat Training Coordinator for Southern Manatee’s Hazardous Materials Team. This position was newly created to provide quality control, training and direction to our Hazardous Materials Team. In effort to

obtain the original goal of staffing a Hazardous Materials Response Unit 24/7, Southern Manatee applied for a SAFER Grant. SAFER stands for Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response. The District requested the grant to be used for hiring (9) Firefighters. If awarded this grant, the District would be able to staff the Hazardous Materials Response Unit 24/7 and also provide assistance with the implementation of paramedic/ALS (Advanced Life Support) Program. The SAFER Grant is a program that was significantly influenced by the IAFF in effort to provide greater safety to Firefighters with increased staffing. In order for the staffing to take place, the SAFER Grant provides financial assistance to the awarded agency for the first (3) years. The first (2) years of the grant covers 75% of employment expenses with the last year providing 35%. Merv Kennell, president of Local 2546, crafted a letter in support of our SAFER Grant request which proved to be most valuable. The District posted an opening for hiring (2) new Firefighter positions through the National Testing Network (NTN). Once the hiring process reaches the oral interview segment, the Union is provided the opportunity to assist with selecting the top applicants for the Fire Chief’s approval.

In March, District employees and Bargaining Unit members teamed up to collect money for MDA. Since 2016, Local 2546 has hit the streets in effort to raise money in hopes of finding a cure for Muscular Dystrophy. Collectively, Local 2546 collected \$104,000 this year which was #1 for off-duty Firefighters collecting. Since 1954, the IAFF (International



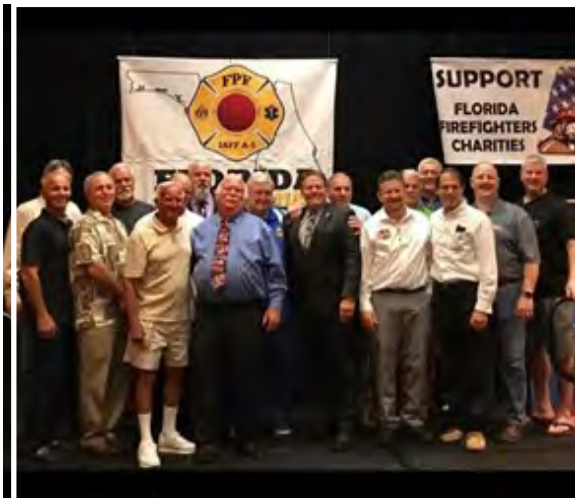
Association of Firefighters) has partnered with MDA in effort to find a cure for Muscular Dystrophy. Firefighters are the #1 financial contributor to fund MDA's research. In 2016/17, the FDA approved (3) new drugs to provide significant treatment to combat several forms of Muscular Dystrophy. As you can see our efforts are making a difference and until there is a cure, we will continue do our part by conducting Boot Drives.

In June, the annual FPF (Florida Professional Firefighters) Convention was held in Sarasota at the Hyatt Regency Hotel from June 5-9. The convention provides educational training for Union members, yearly projections, addressing political concerns and cultivating camaraderie/brotherhood. This was the 73rd FPF Convention and it was a HUGE success!! The success of the convention would not have been possible if it weren't the commitment and dedication of the Convention Committee. Lt. Ryan Kaliher was the committee member for our department and was instrumental with the overall success. I was told by numerous committee members of how tirelessly he worked prior to and during the convention to ensure its success. I appreciate your efforts brother! In addition, Mark Bauer and Clifford Smith were the two new Firefighters selected from the February hiring process. As expected, they were excited to start their new careers and become part of the SMFR family.

In August, Southern Manatee was awarded the SAFER Grant which provided a historical and exciting moment for our department. The hiring of (10) total Firefighters at one time (9 via SAFER & 1 budgeted), staffing a Hazardous Material Response Unit 24/7 and implementing the beginning stages of the paramedic/ALS Program. The ALS Program would provide advance life support services to our citizens by staffing several engines with paramedics. We would not transport patients to the hospital, but provide advance life support in a timely manner.

In October, the hiring process for the (10) new Firefighters was initiated. Over 180 applicants responded to the advertised positions. This tremendous response is indicative of the positive reputation Southern Manatee has achieved. In addition, a Battalion Chief's assessment was conducted to replace the vacancy created by B/C Blanco being promoted to Operations Chief. Again, the Union was involved with this competitive testing process and utilized the video recording for accuracy. After all points were tallied, Lt. Adam Perry was promoted to the rank of Battalion Chief. With his promotion, a Lieutenant promotion was needed. In accordance to our CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement), a list was created from January's Lieutenant's assessment of the remaining candidates. The order of the list is in accordance from the highest to the lowest point total. Firefighter Dustin Daughtrey had the highest point total and was promoted to Lieutenant.

As the year came to a close, Southern Manatee had the opportunity to host a special dinner for a unique guest for a most worthy cause. On December 7th, State of Florida's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Jimmy Patronis shared dinner with the on-duty crew at Station 1. B-shift shared some of the award winning chili prepared by Firefighter Chuck Moonen. Firefighter Moonen's chili won 1st place at this year's Sarasota County's Chili Cook-off for the second year in a row. At this dinner, CFO Patronis expressed his desire to support a Cancer Presumptive Bill for Florida's Firefighters. Several of the B-shift personnel present are cancer survivors and a couple are still battling this horrendous disease. CFO Patronis was deeply touched by each of their stories and assured them he would fight hard to get the Bill passed. What a tremendous opportunity for our department and personnel to have one-on-one exposure CFO Patronis. The opportunity would not have been possible without President Merv Kennell's influence and Chief Gorski's approval.



In summary, 2017 proved to be not only exciting, productive and memorable, it was historical! The SAFER Grant provided us an unprecedented hiring of (9) new personnel, 24/7 Haz-Mat Response Unit and implementation of the paramedic/ALS Program. In addition, we are truly blessed with all of the hard working, dedicated and committed employees at the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue that allow us to be the BEST fire department we can be!!

Employee Recognition Program

Southern Manatee Fire Rescue recognizes the value of the services and sacrifices made to protect the lives and property of Manatee County citizens by its Firefighters and members of the public. The dedication of these individuals is recognized at the Commission meetings. In addition to the "Years of Service" awards, other categories include the Phoenix award for those who assisted with a cardiac arrest with the patient regaining a pulse, Military awards for those who have served, and the "End of the Year" awards. Here are the recipients from 2017:

Officer of the Year:
Firefighter of the Year:
Rookie of the Year:
Staff Employee of the Year:

Captain Robert Thayer
 Firefighter Rich Gatanis
 Firefighter Cliff Smith
 Inspector Larry Betts



Chief Gorski and Captain Thayer



Chief Gorski and Firefighter Cliff Smith



Chief Gorski and Inspector Larry Betts



Firefighter Gatanis and Chief Gorski

Years of Service #

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Melvin Bonds | 25 |
| Adam Chevalier | 25 |
| Wayne Lambert | 20 |
| Mike Boski | 20 |
| Seth Burnett | 15 |
| Kiel Duquette | 15 |
| Chad D'agostino | 15 |
| Jarek DeHart | 15 |
| Stu Ramer | 15 |
| Larry Betts | 15 |
| Mike Questionati | 15 |
| Brian Hodges | 10 |
| Pete Saxman | 10 |

Phoenix Award

| |
|--------------|
| Sean Connor |
| Brian Godden |
| Sean Lucas |
| Jarek DeHart |
| Tony Lear |
| Sam Collins |
| Duane Ely |
| Chris Snider |
| Brent Ranney |
| Tony Hauck |
| Randy Smith |

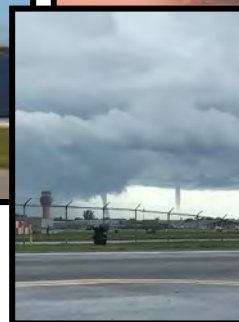
Military Award

Mark Bauer (Coast Guard)
Cliff Smith (Army)



Congratulations to our recently promoted officers!

Rick BlancoDeputy Chief of Operations
Adam Perry.....Battalion Chief
Robert ThayerTraining Captain
Mike BoskiHaz Mat Captain







INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Payroll Conversion Program – This program has been in the developmental process for over two (2) years. We are now in the final developmental phase with “beta” testing. We expect to go “beta-live” by March 2018 and full release by July 2018. We are also cross training an additional person to process payroll, giving us a triple-redundancy. This “redundancy” will ensure payroll is processed on time in the event of absences or emergencies.
- Budgeting - We have expanded the “cost centers” within Great Plains, our accounting software. Further expansion of “cost centers” allows us to track spending dollars to a greater degree of accuracy, which in turn produces more accurate budget forecasting.
- Scanning Program – We have completed phase four (4) of five (5), which was the conversion of the Fire Prevention Bureau’s (FPB) business records. With the digitizing of previous business records and the current electronic format of inspections we were able to eliminate approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of FPB’s paper records. Electronic records can be accessed within seconds by a simple Boolean search. The records are stored on three different cloud based servers in different states, nearly eliminating the possibility of records loss. New records can be added to the existing files on an “as needed” basis by department personnel.
- Web cams were installed at each station. We contracted with “Go To Meeting”. This web application facilitates online meetings, desktop sharing and video conferencing that allows personnel to meet with other user via the internet in real time. We are hoping to eliminate some of the logistical issues and time it takes to bring units to the administrative building when a video conference would suffice. Some of the possibilities would be:
 1. Operational meetings held by the D/C to all personnel, Shift meetings held by the B/C to their shift, Training Captain to FTOs, and many others.
 2. Vacation picks
 3. Some trainings, such as protocol updates, in-house classes, policy updates, etc.
- Installed exterior web cams at stations 1, 2 and 4. These cameras are accessed via our server or cell phone. The video footage from these cameras have been requested several times by Manatee Sheriff’s Office for various reasons and have provided clear video footage that was essential to their investigation(s). We also used this footage to confirm that missing items from an employee’s vehicle were not stolen at the station.

- Installed five (5) new work-stations in the District. This was year four (4) of five (5) for the replacement program. The down-time for computers due to hardware failure has reduced to virtually nothing. Fiscal 2018 will complete the cycle and the original units replaced in 2012 that are in good working order will be placed into “reserve” status, ensuring that in the event of a failure a back-up is available for immediate replacement as a simple “plug and play”.
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- We upgraded our VPN Firewall routers at all locations. A Virtual Private Network (VPN) creates a secure tunnel that extends from within your servers across the Web. This enables 24/7 secure access to central network resources from anywhere. Much like a firewall protects data on the office computers, VPNs are designed to protect it online. Data is encrypted as it travels through the VPN tunnel, ensuring secure access over public connections and safeguarding the data from unauthorized hacker sniffing.
- Obtained additional laptops from Sarasota surplus at zero costs to the District. The use of laptops have been expanded and are available upon request to any member of the department for classes they are attending or projects they are part of.



This annual report is a courtesy of the Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District. We strive daily to provide the best fire-rescue protection and fire safety education to the citizens of our Community. If you have any questions or comments about this report or would like any information about the programs discussed, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Southern Manatee Fire and Rescue District (941) 751-7675