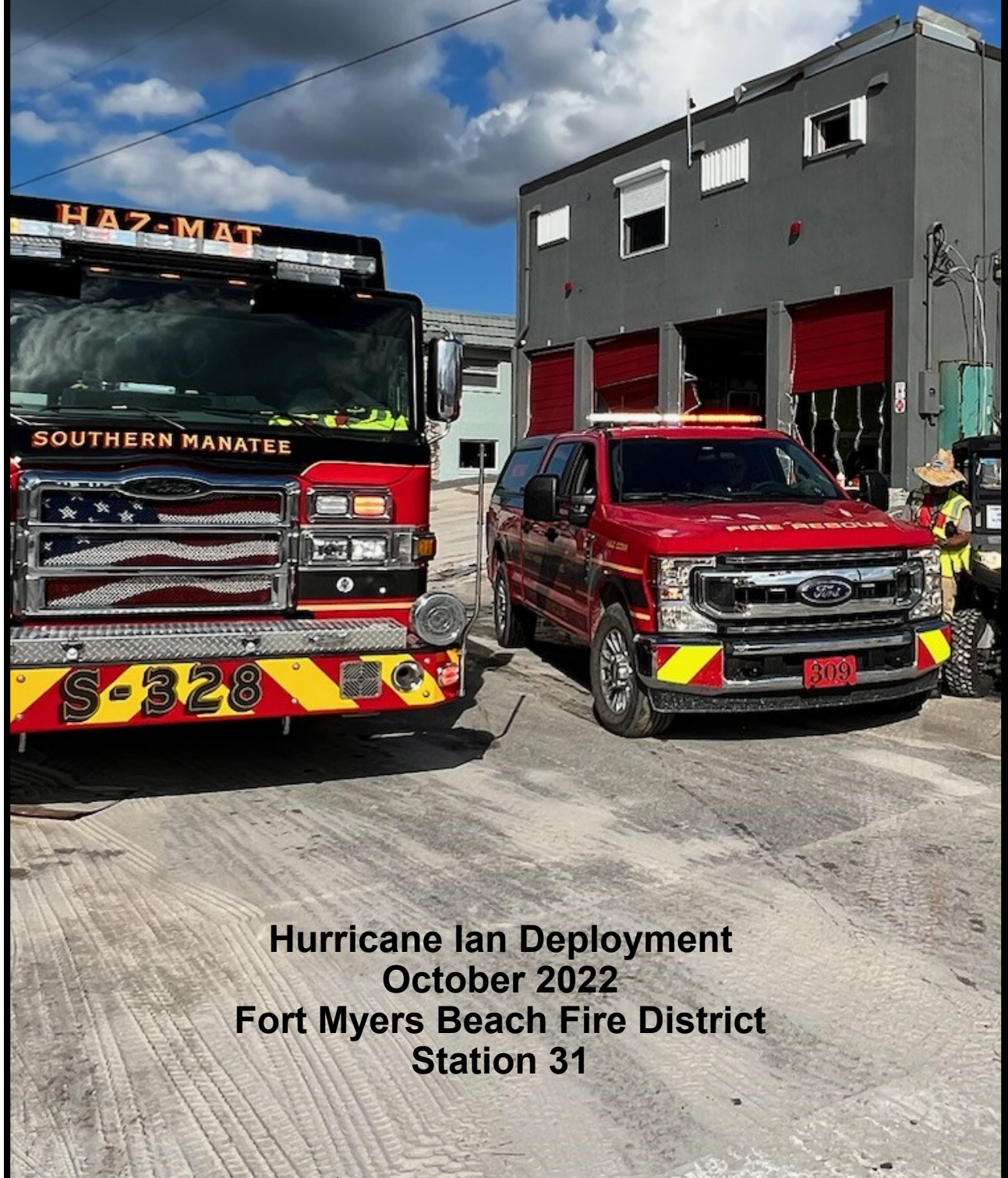




# SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE RESCUE

## Annual Report 2022



**Hurricane Ian Deployment  
October 2022  
Fort Myers Beach Fire District  
Station 31**



# **SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT 2022 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 a “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 60,000 permanent residents and grows to 70,000 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 2022, of commercial and residential properties protected is \$6,562,792,282.

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 82 Firefighter/EMT/Paramedics and 15 staff for a total of 97 full time employees.

- |                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Administration                | 2451 Trailmate Drive              |
| • Station 1                     | 6100 15 <sup>th</sup> Street East |
| • Station 2                     | 1911 30 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East |
| • Station 3                     | 7611 Prospect Road                |
| • Station 4                     | 5228 45 <sup>th</sup> Street East |
| • Station 5                     | 7301 Honore Avenue                |
| • Training Facility             | 7611 Prospect Road                |
| • Building Maintenance Facility | 1911 30 <sup>th</sup> 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, Sarasota County Fire Department and the Sarasota Bradenton International Airport.

Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District holds a Class **3** rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO). We missed a Class 2 by only a few points. We have made changes to our responses which will get us to a Class 2 on our next review. The lower the rating the greater the possibility that property owners could see a reduction in their insurance premiums.

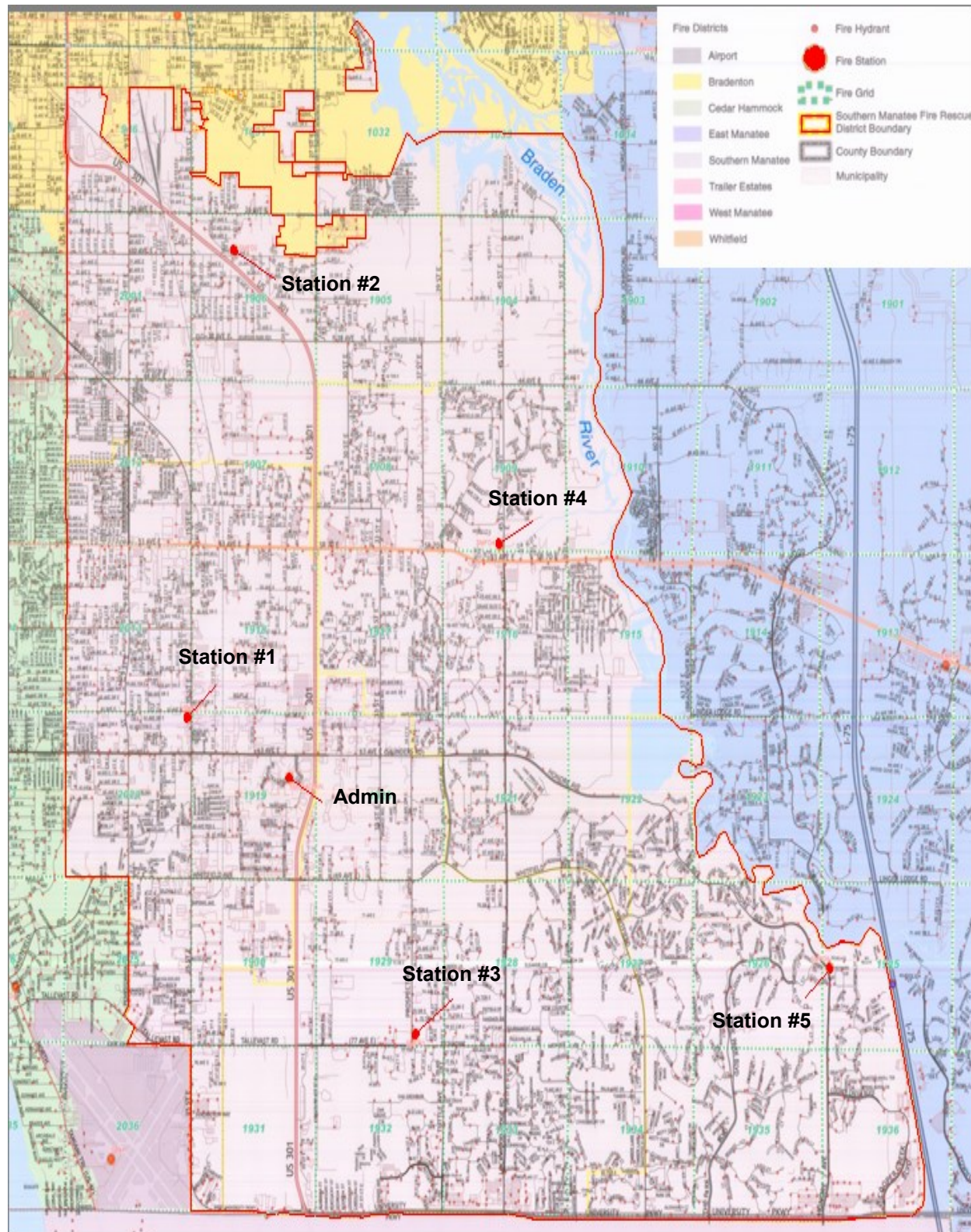
Daily activities include interaction with the following agencies:

- 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
- Other fire districts and departments in Manatee County



Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue Administrative Complex





## Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District

## FIRE COMMISSIONERS

James Grote

Daniel Center

Melanie Marken

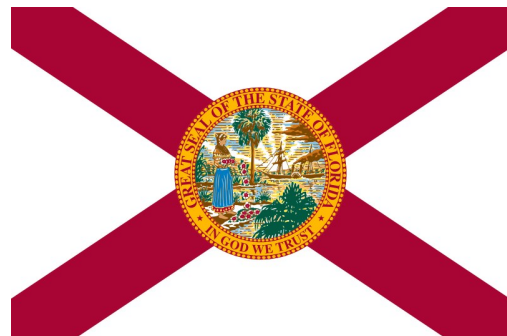
James Cena

Anthony Evans

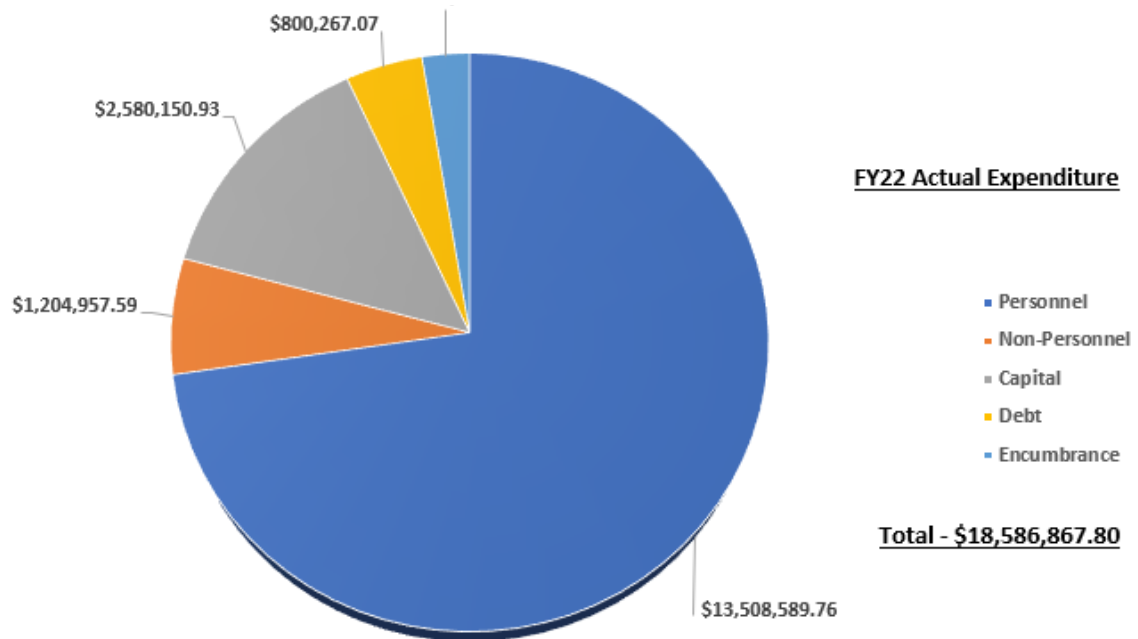
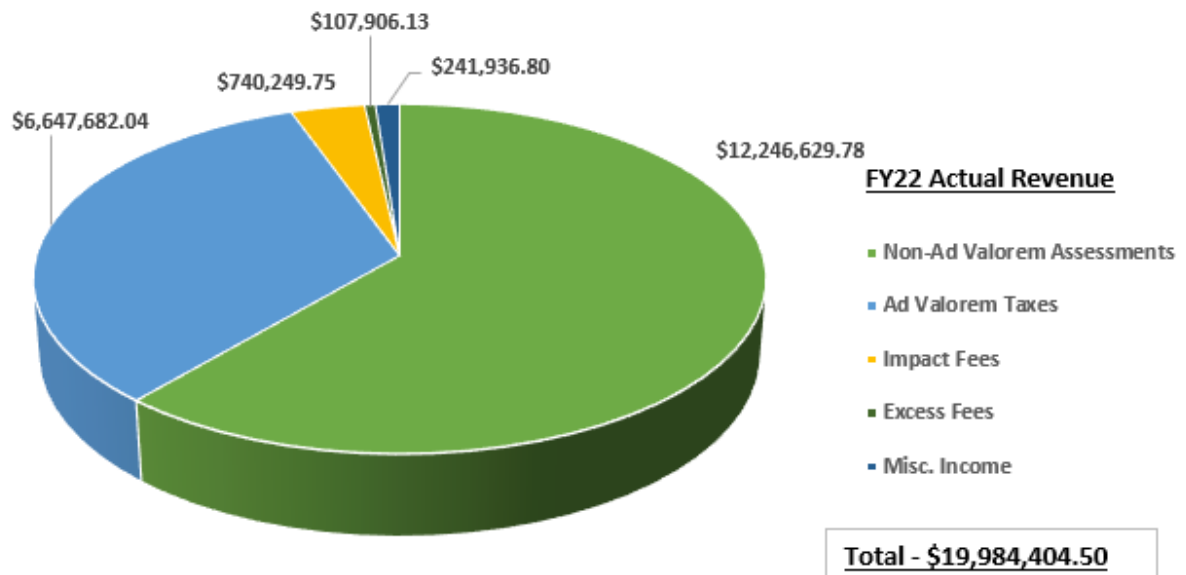
The Administration Division is directed by a Board of Fire Commissioners who are elected by the District's community. The Administration Division consists of the Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, Executive Management Assistant and Financial Specialist. The operations include overseeing various administrative 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.

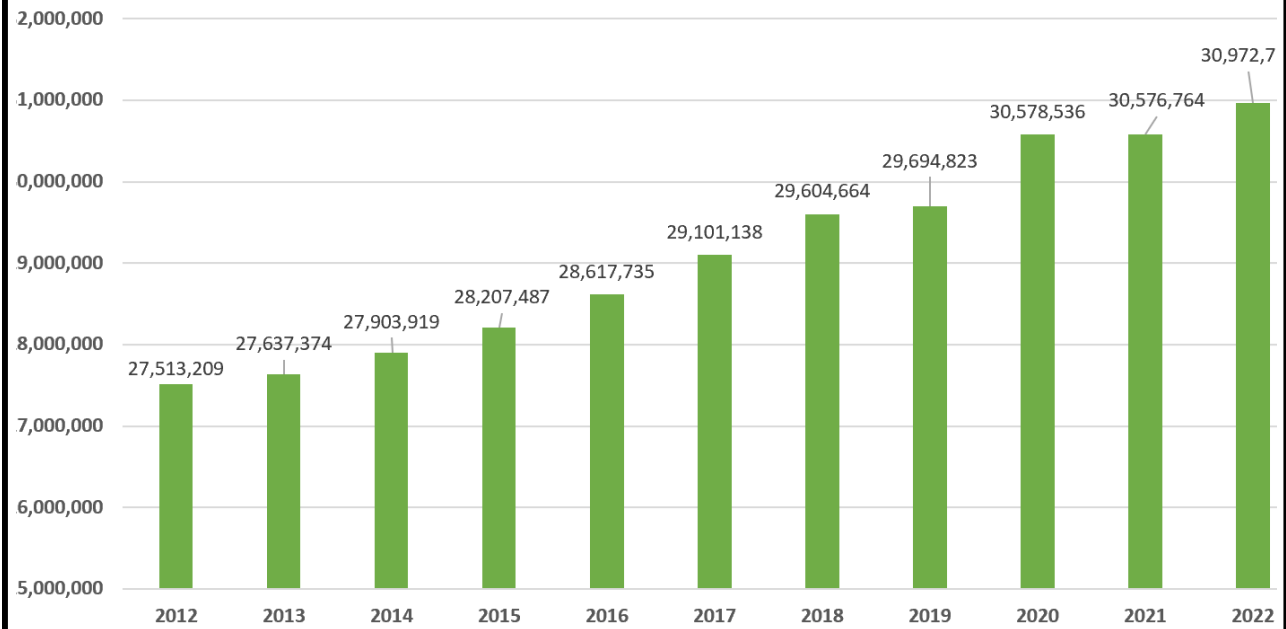


## FY22 Budget Analysis

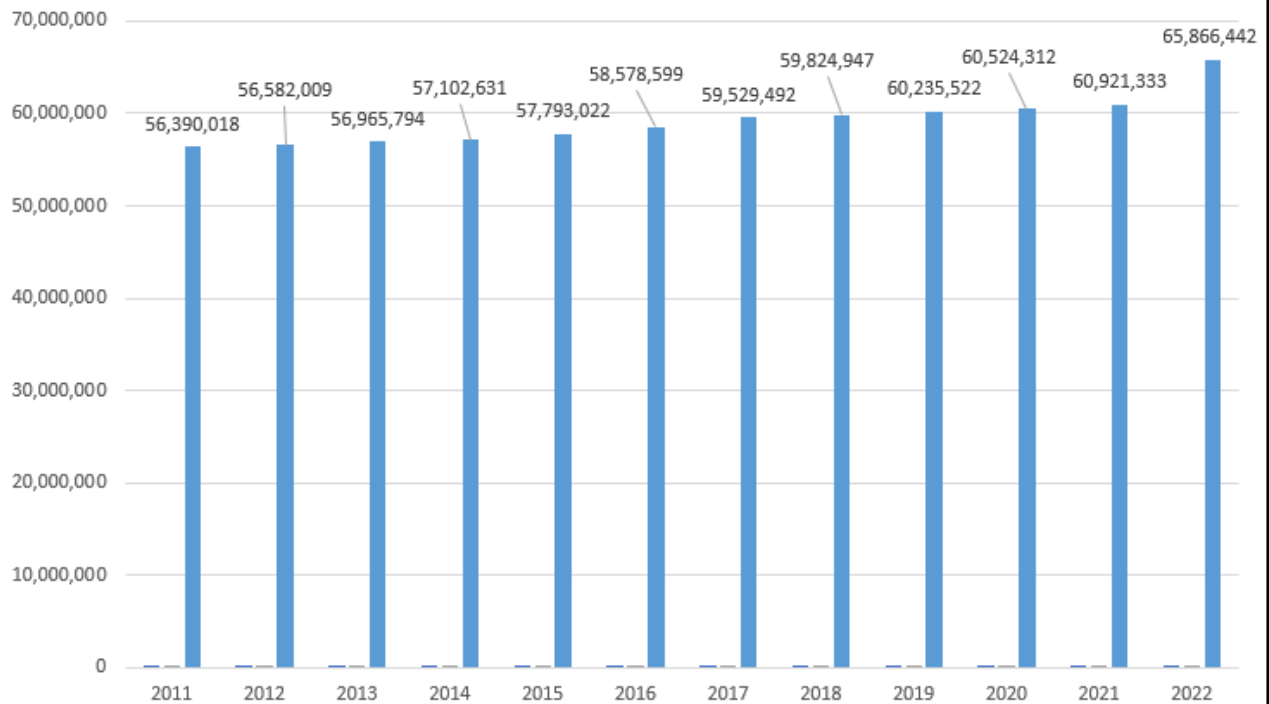




### Commercial SQFT Under Roof



### Residential SQFT Under Roof



## **Accomplishments Achieved in 2022**

The Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District strives to perform at the highest level of service to its citizens. Our members are always ready to take on new challenges. It is through the dedication of each department member and the outstanding support from the community and the Board of Fire Commissioners that allows the District to be successful.

The District continues to use the Strategic Planning Process to guide the organization through economic and political times. Our plan outlines the District's goals and objectives for the present and future and allows us to track their accomplishments while delivering the most cost-effective level of service to the citizens of Southern Manatee.

The following is a list of a few of our accomplishments that were achieved during the past few years:

- February 2018 the District began sending personnel to Paramedic school and for 2022 we currently have 2 Firefighter/EMT's at Suncoast Technical College.
- The District now has 24 State Certified Paramedic's.
- On December 16, 2019, the State of Florida issued ALS License #10019 to operate ALS Non-Transport Engines.
- On January 13, 2020 we began operating Advanced Life Support and placed Engine 351 in service as our first ALS Engine and then on September 14, 2020 Engine 341 became our second ALS Engine. From January 13 to December 31, 2022 all three (3) Engines ran 1,500 Advanced Life Support calls.
- Since the COVID-19 Pandemic impacted normal business processes we had to re-think and come up with new ways to maintain non-stop procedures. Covid cases have declined significantly and we are returning to a sense of normalcy.
- In December 2022, the District took delivery of a new 2022 Impel Class A Pumper, Engine 351. Since 2015 we have replaced our entire fleet of Engines, a new Ladder Truck, Hazmat Rescue, and a second Battalion vehicle.
- In 2016 the District began replacing all our 800 MHz radios that were old and non-P-25 compliant, with new P25 Radios that will be able to work on the new radio system. The Sarasota-Manatee 800 MHz project installed their final towers and radio equipment at the new and existing sites and did go live in both counties during March 2020.
- Since December 2015, the District has submitted and has been awarded fourteen (14) grants for the donation of the Naloxone (Narcan) Narcan Nasal Spray and Narcan Luer-Lock Syringes. To date we have received over 2,000 doses and these were distributed to all the Fire Districts in Manatee County for the treatment

of an overdosed patient on heroin.

- Since its creation, the District has received eleven (11) 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, Search & Rescue Safety Rope Kits, and other safety related equipment such as Secunet III Devices to cover a steering wheel airbag that has not inflated and a Polar Breeze air conditioner for rehab. In 2022 the District was again successful in our grant submission, allowing us to purchase pre-warning lightening strike detectors for each apparatus, all safety officers, and the Battalion Chief.
- The District continuously makes upgrades to our website for the purposes of making it easier for a citizen to find and obtain documents. Any new ADA requirements are immediately made ensuring that our website is complying. In 2020 the District began operating our own Facebook page as another form of communication to the public. The website and Facebook stay continually compliant through the watchful eye of our I.T. Specialist.
- In May of 2021 we ordered a new Impel Class A Pumper, which will become Engine 312. Due to supply chain shortages as well as labor difficulties the build time has increased to 18-20 months as compared to previous build times of 6-8 months. Although our order was placed in May we were allowed to postpone payment until October of 2022 to coincide with the fiscal year 2023.
- In 2022 the district upgraded all of our radios with Motorola products. These radios are the latest technology and are far superior in transmission, reception, and durability. We received and put into service (49) APX 6000 and APX 6000EX portable radios, (10) APX 1500 base radios, and (19) APX 6500 mobile radios. This was a significant investment for the District, but this improvement greatly improved our communications and added enhanced safety for our firefighters.
- In 2019 the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard for self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) changed and required a universal connection for emergency buddy breathing operations so that regardless of which air pack a department had they would be able to make a connection for shared breathing between 2 firefighters during an emergency. Our current air packs were not compatible with neighboring departments who had different brands of SCBAs. We tested several different packs and settled on the Mine Safety Appliance (MSA) G1 SCBA packs which are compatible with all packs regardless of manufacturer. This was a total change out including the cascade system which is used to refill the tanks after use. Additionally, there are many upgraded safety enhancements to these packs which protect our personnel in immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) environments.
- Due to growth, call volume, and enhanced service delivery of a hazardous materials unit station 2 needed to be upgraded. The station was constructed in 2004 and was meant to house up to five (5) firefighters. The addition of a three (3) person hazmat crew along with an engine crew meant six (6) to eight (8) personnel would be assigned there. We began a total remodel of the interior of the station, including approximately 1,200 sq. ft. of new space. The process took over a year and was officially occupied in late 2022. The station can now accommodate six (6) firefighters and two (2) Lieutenants. We also added approximately 700 sq. ft. to the maintenance shop behind the station to facilitate storage of specialty hazardous

# IT'S THE FUTURE



As the new year rolled in, new equipment was purchased to replace the MDT's (Mobile Data Terminals) in our apparatus. The updated hardware was necessary to insure maximum compatibility with Manatee Counties CAD system (Computer Aided Dispatch). We worked side by side with county personal evaluate and test the newest MPS software (Mobile for Public Safety)

In 2022 we expanded our records retention policy to include text messages to and from department issued cell phone. We

partnered with a third party vendor that pulls the information directly from our service provider (Verizon Wireless).

We are now taking advantage of a program sponsored by the DHS (Department of Homeland Security) The (CISA) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency offers a program to all federal, state, local, tribal and territorial governments, as well as public and private sector critical infrastructure organizations free of charge. The cyber hygiene services offered to us helps insure security from web based threats. Vulnerability Scanning evaluates external network presence by executing continuous scans of public, static IPv4s for accessible services and vulnerabilities. This service provides weekly vulnerability reports and ad-hoc alerts.





## **HR Accomplishments for 2022**

Promotions: 6

New Hires: 5 (2 Paramedics, 3 FF/EMT)

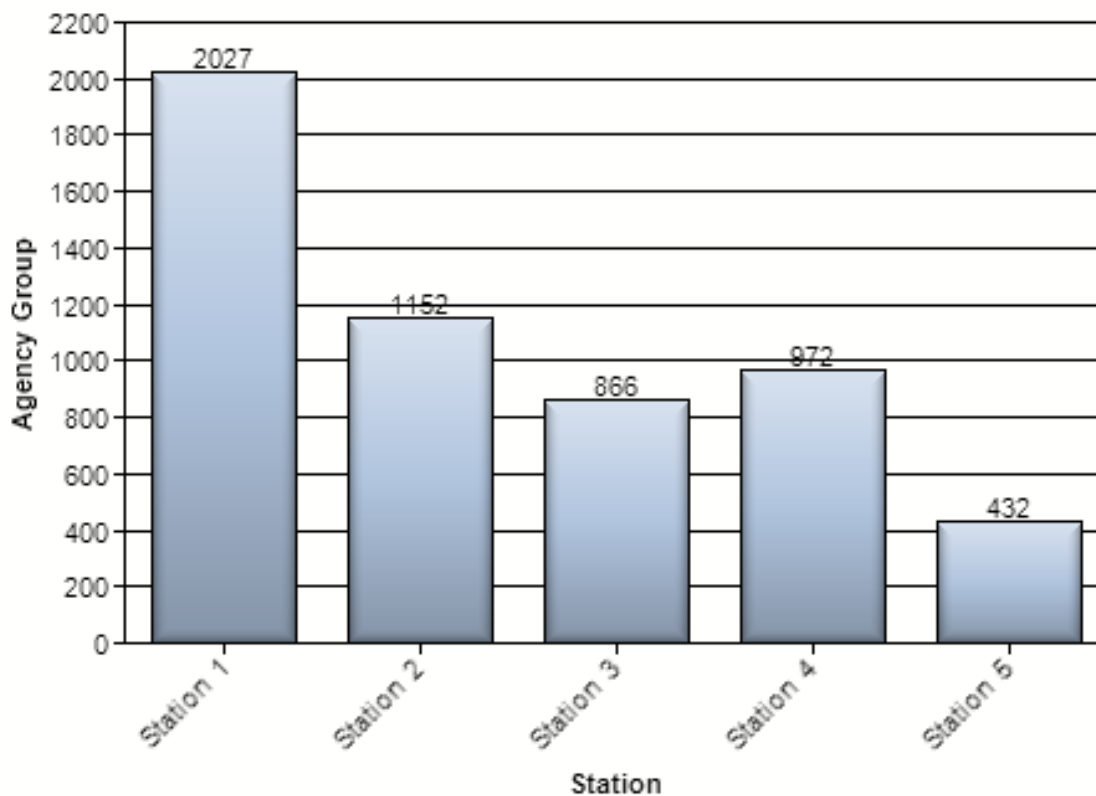
Retirees: 4

- Upon retiring, the executive management assistant trained the financial specialist to be promoted. This promotion left an opening for a financial specialist, which was filled in October 2022. There have been months of training for the newly promoted EMA and financial specialist. This ensures a smooth transition in the newly acquired positions.
- Continuing to build relationships, the administrative staff from SMFR and other fire districts, in Manatee County, have begun meeting quarterly. SMFR hosted the quarterly meeting December 2022. These meetings give us the opportunity to introduce new employees, share ideas regarding ERP systems, records management, human resources, financial processing/management, and more.
- We are entering our final year with our audit firm CS&L. It is the district's desire to remain with this firm. We renewed our engagement with audit firm CS&L that expires 09/30/2025.
- Assisted with healthcare negotiations. Medical premiums increased by 6.9%. Dental premiums increased 10.9%. There was no change to vision premiums. Cigna remains as the district's provider for health, dental, and vision insurance.
- Striving to provide employees with as many financial benefits as possible, the district updated our 457(b) agreement, with the Florida League of Cities, to include Roth 457. The Roth 457 allows employees to make after tax contributions. This is a great option to have for our employees in addition to our pre-tax contribution plans.
- SMFR's goal of limiting paper and paper storage has continued in 2022. Stevens and Stevens have proven to be a great relationship in this area. We have expanded our cloud storage and continue to lessen our dependency with on-site storage of paper documents.
- We continue to enjoy a beneficial relationship with Rescuer Pro (payroll conversion software). We are currently working on upgrading to the newest version to accommodate payroll with the new union contract.
- Effective the beginning of the 2022 fiscal year, the firefighter retirement supplement was increased from \$15 per month to \$30 per month for each year of credited service.



# Emergency Medical Services

The Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District responded to 5422 medical responses during 2022, which represents 65% of our total responses. Below is a breakdown of medical responses by station.



In November of 2021, the District recognized the need to create a position that would oversee the growing EMS Division. With this, the District created the EMS Officer position. In December of 2021, the EMS Officer's vehicle was added as an ALS response vehicle, making it the District's third ALS capable vehicle.

In January of 2022, the District added its fourth ALS vehicle with Engine 312 becoming a state recognized ALS non transport engine.

In 2022 we have had five (5) Paramedics successfully complete our Paramedic In Charge training and successfully complete Medical Director testing to become Credentialed Paramedics. We have also had three (3) personnel complete Paramedic school. The District has 24 State Certified Paramedics as of the end of 2022 with the hopes of adding to this number in 2023.

With the addition of more ALS response capable vehicles, we have greatly increased the amount of medical emergency calls that we have been able to provide ALS services to. These services have made a significant impact on the citizens of the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District. The chart below breaks down the medications that our Paramedics have administered.

Counts

	Jan '22	Feb '22	Mar '22	Apr '22	May '22	Jun '22	Jul '22	Aug '22	Sep '22	Oct '22	Nov '22	Dec '22	Jan '23	Total
Acetaminophen					2		1			1		2		6
Albuterol		2	3	2	4	2	1	1	2	4	1	3		25
Amiodarone				2					1					3
Aspirin		2	7	2	5	5	3	6	5	9	2	8		54
Ativan					1		1		1	2	1			6
Atropine					2									2
Atrovent		2	3	2	4	2	1	1	1	4	1	3		24
Benadryl										1		1		2
Dextrose 10%	3	2	5		1	2	1	1	2	3				20
Dopamine						1	2							3
Epinephrine 1:10	8			3	2	9	11	4	6	5	6	3		57
Famotidine												1		1
Haloperidol										1				1
Ketamine			2	1										3
Lidocaine				2										2
Narcan	2	6	6	4	2	3	3	2	2	1	7	4		42
Nitro Paste		1										1		2
Nitrostat		2	2		2	2		2	1	1		4		16
Oral Glucose	1	2	5	1	2		1		2	3	2			19
Rocuronium				1										1
Sodium Bicarb 8.4%	1			2		1	3	1	2	1	2	1		14
Solu-Medrol		2	1							1				4
Tylenol							1							1
Zofran	1			2	1	1			1			3		9
Total	16	21	34	24	28	28	29	18	26	37	22	34		317



OPERATIONS 2022



## **2022 Annual Report: Operations**

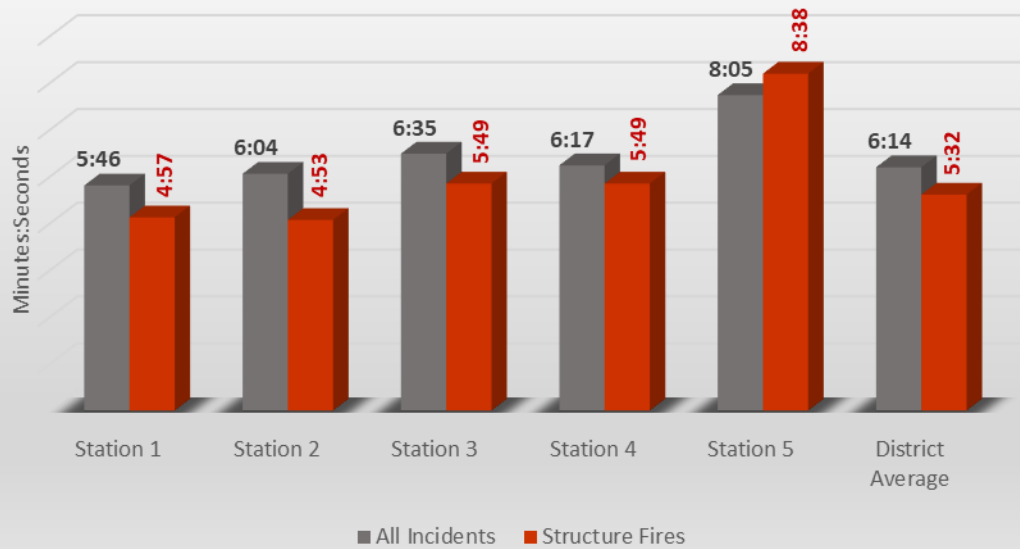
Southern Manatee Fire Rescue is an ISO Class 3 fire department and is committed to providing our community with prompt, effective and fiscally responsible service by efficiently utilizing available resources from both within the department and from outside agencies. Southern Manatee Fire Rescue also 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 emergencies 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 separate Battalions. Each Battalion is comprised of (1) Battalion Chief, (7) Lieutenants and (21) firefighters. The Operation Division's Battalions are divided into three separate shifts A-B-C, each comprising of 28 personnel who work a 24/48-hour shift schedule. Our personnel work out of 5 fire stations housing a total of 84 full time employees, and are supported by a Training Chief, a Hazardous Materials Training Captain, Logistic Officer, EMS Officer and a Facilities Maintenance person. The Operations Division staffs five first out class A fire engine pumpers, a 107' aerial ladder/pumper and a Hazardous Materials response truck. This year SMFR responded to over 8,362 emergencies with an average response time being 6:14 minutes. In 2022 Southern Manatee Fire Rescue experienced an increase of 15.34%, district wide, call volume compared to a 10.23% increase in 2020. The increase in call volume is due to the population growth and expansion of our communities.

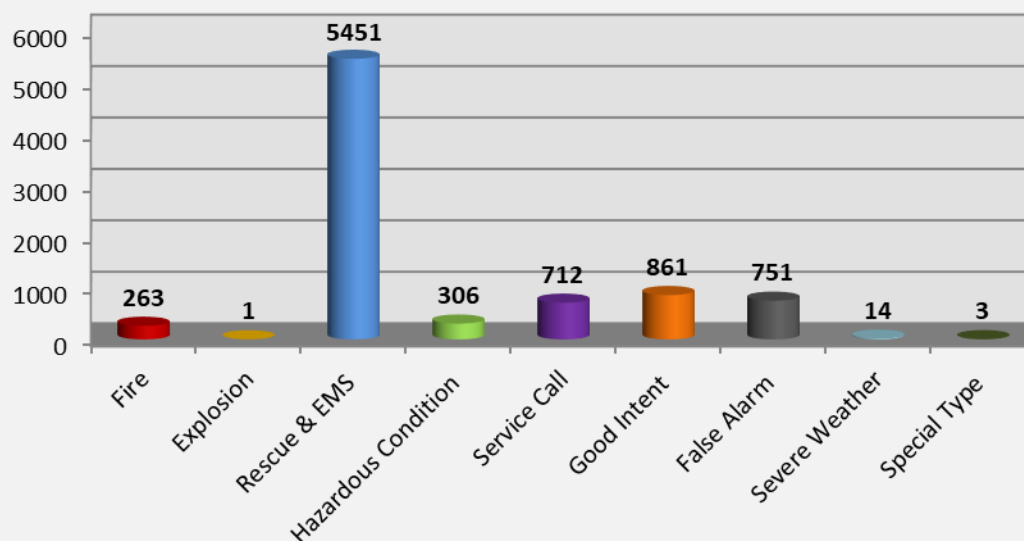
Each year we strive to improve the level of service provided to the community. It has been determined that patient survival is directly related to the amount of time it takes to receive treatment, therefore we work extremely hard to ensure rapid responses and we continuously train to keep up with modern technology regarding basic and advanced life support. Most of the time fire departments are the first emergency responders to arrive at the scene of a dispatched medical emergency, this offers the fire crews primary access to patients for initial treatment. By expanding our capabilities and placing medications and other equipment on the fire engines medical treatment can be started sooner rather thus increasing patient survival rates. With direction and support from our Fire Chief the Operations Division has aligned its focus on establishing an Advance Life Support (ALS) program within the department. The goal to have a fourth ALS fire engine ready for service by March of year 2023 and the new ALS pumper will go to work in zone 1 as engine 312.

Southern Manatee also enhances its service to the public through a series of inter-local 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 "Closes Unit Response" from nearby fire departments to help cover the district with the quickest response possible. We are honored to be your fire department.

### 2022 Response Times - Station Averages

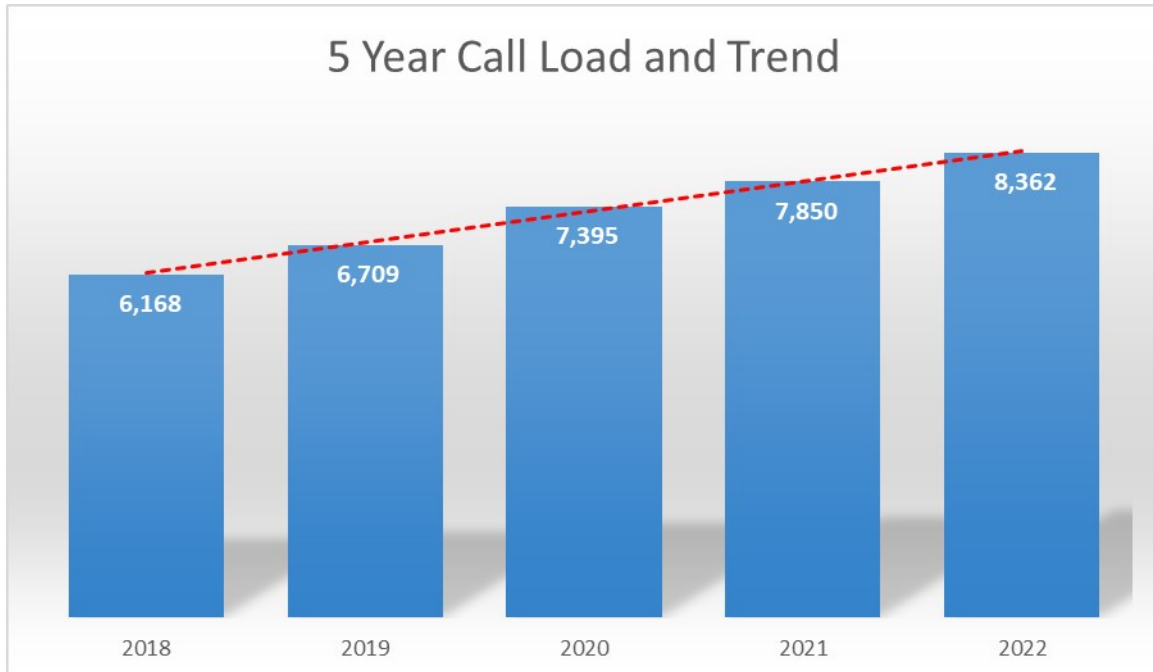


### 2022 Calls By Type

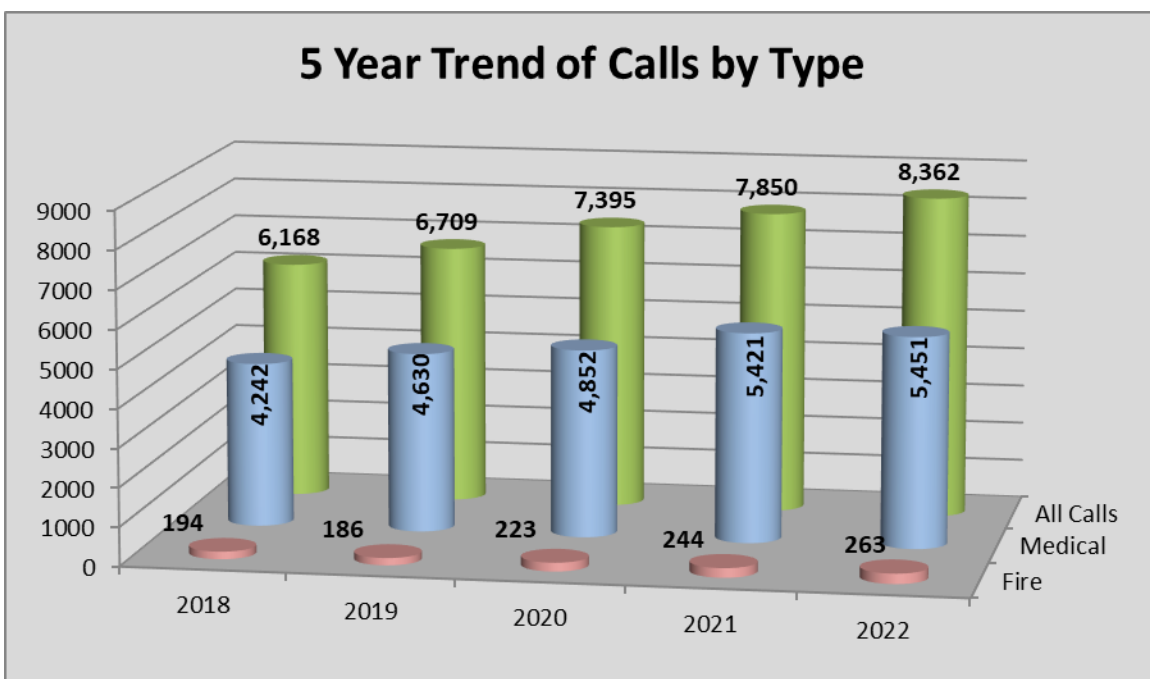




### 5 Year Call Load and Trend

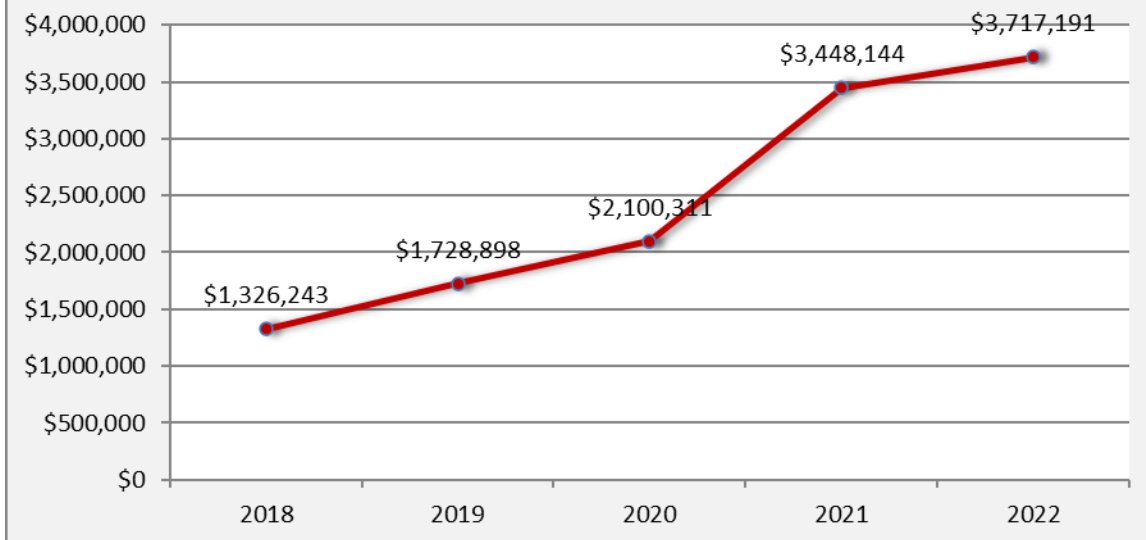


### 5 Year Trend of Calls by Type

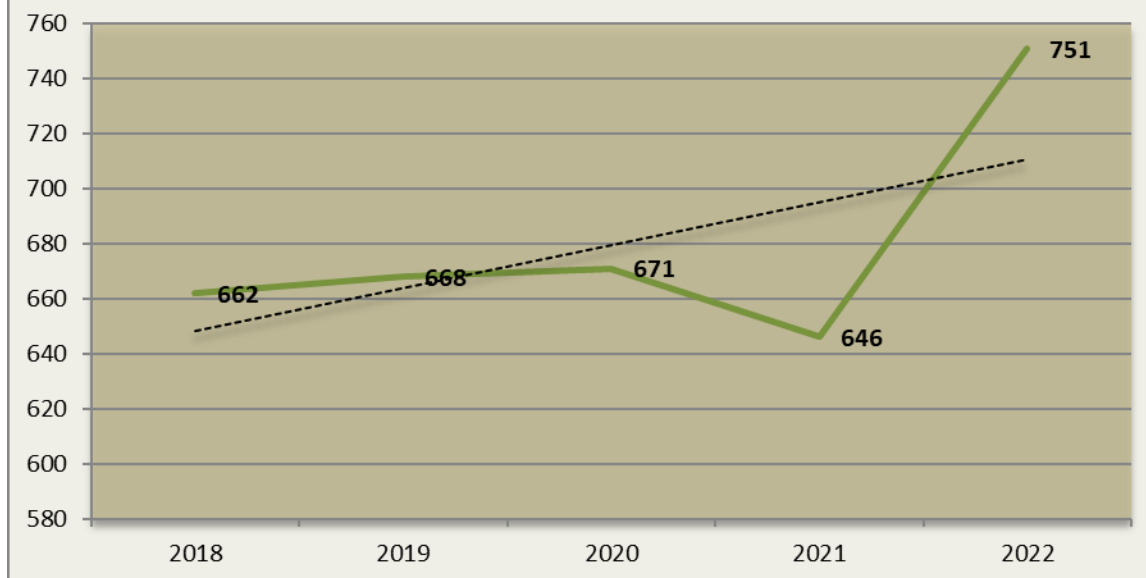


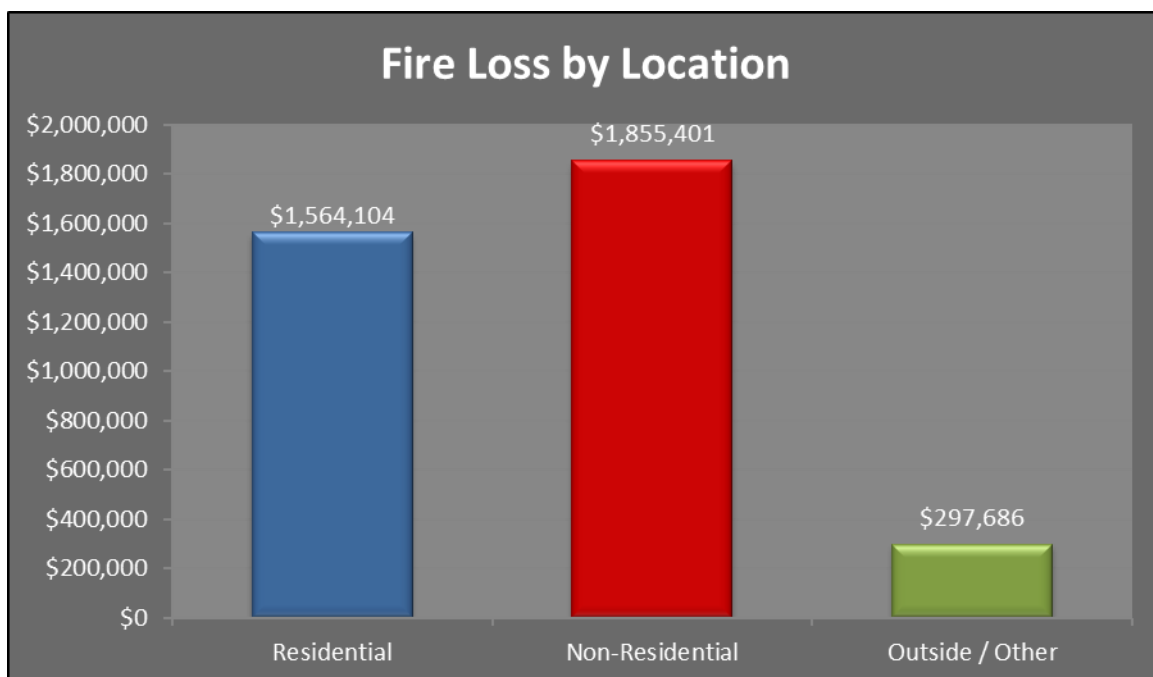
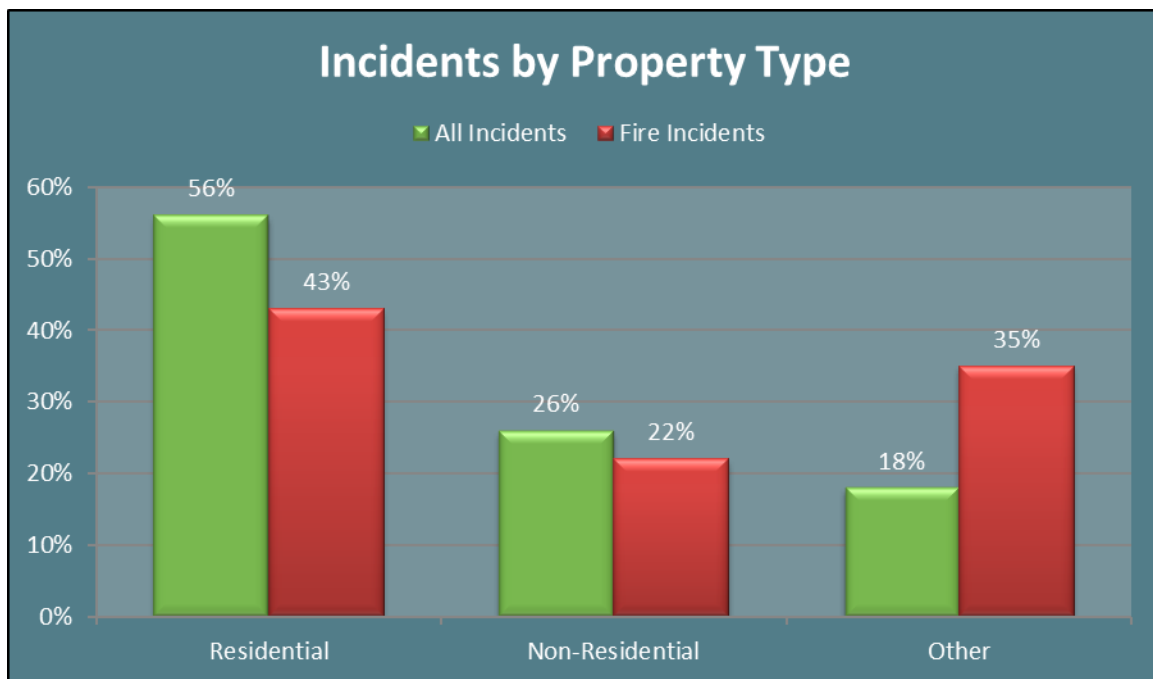
### 5 Year Trend in Fire Loss

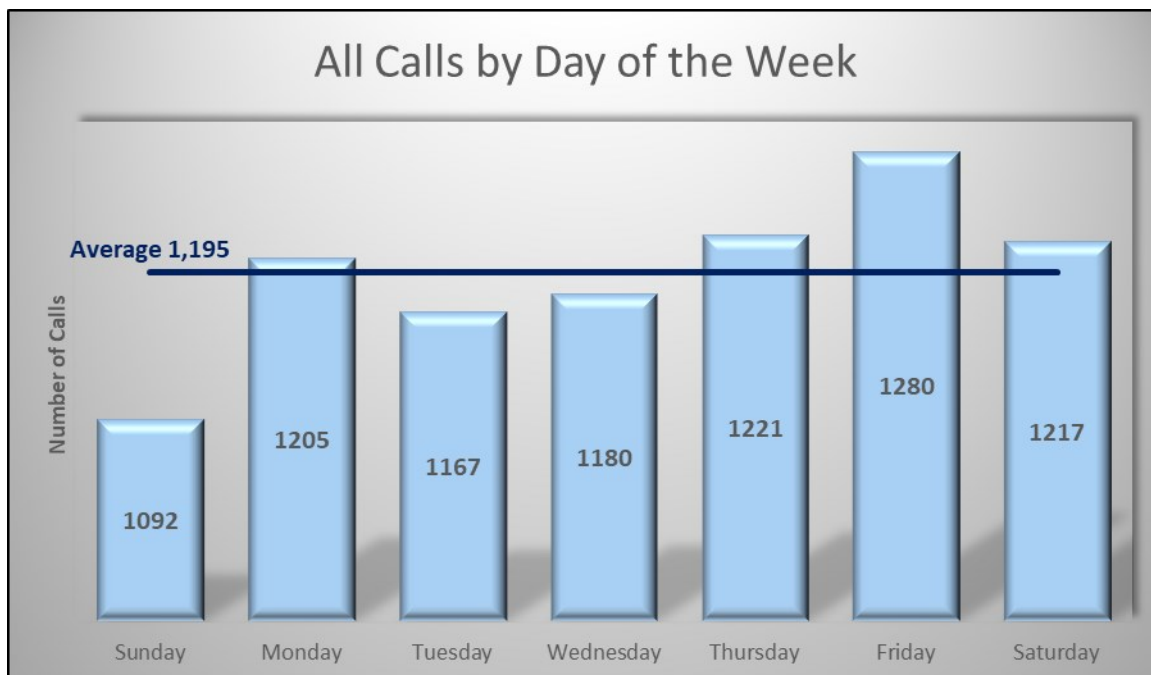
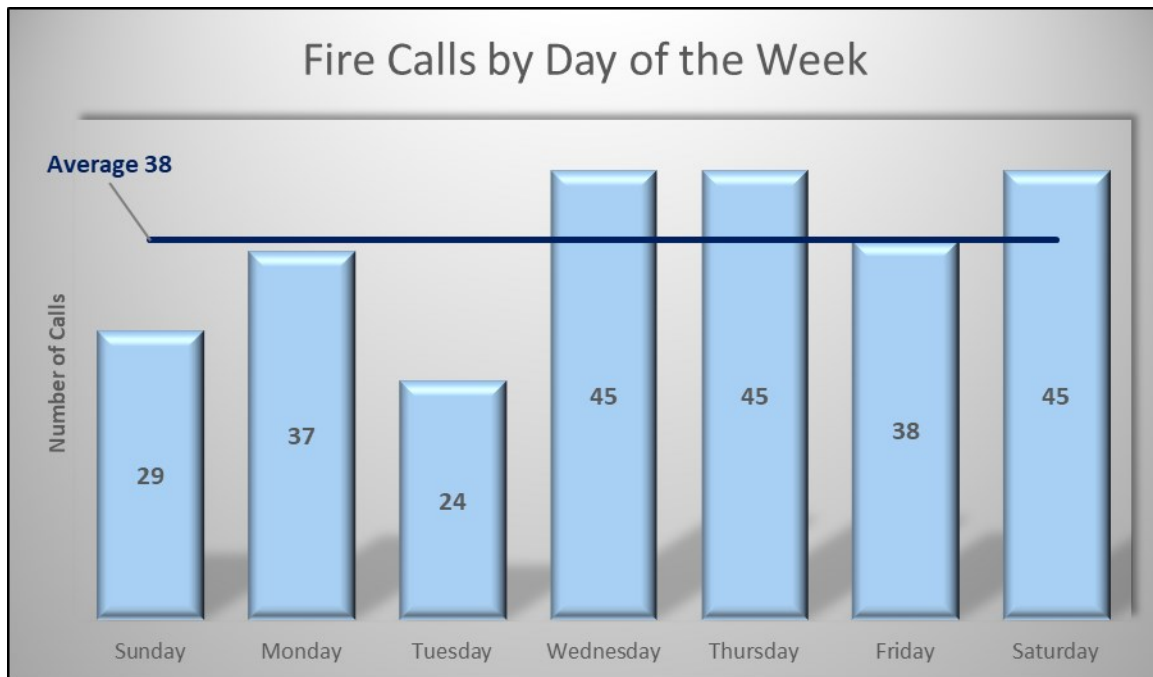
(Property & Content Combined)



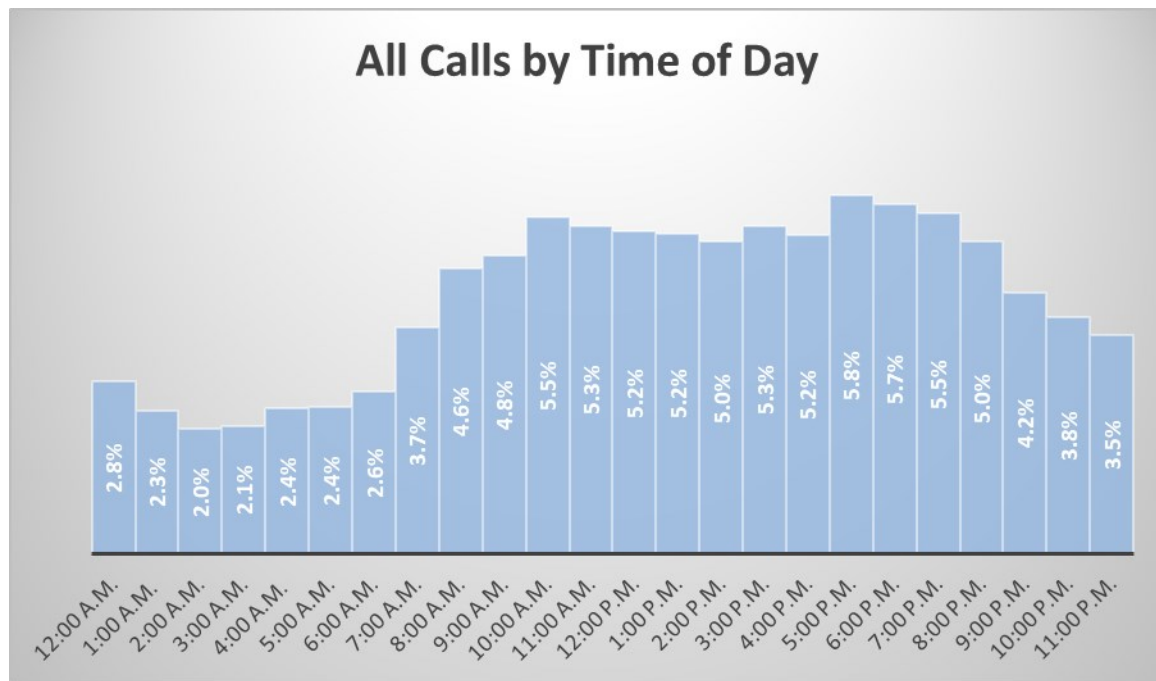
### 5 Year Trend of False Alarm Incidents



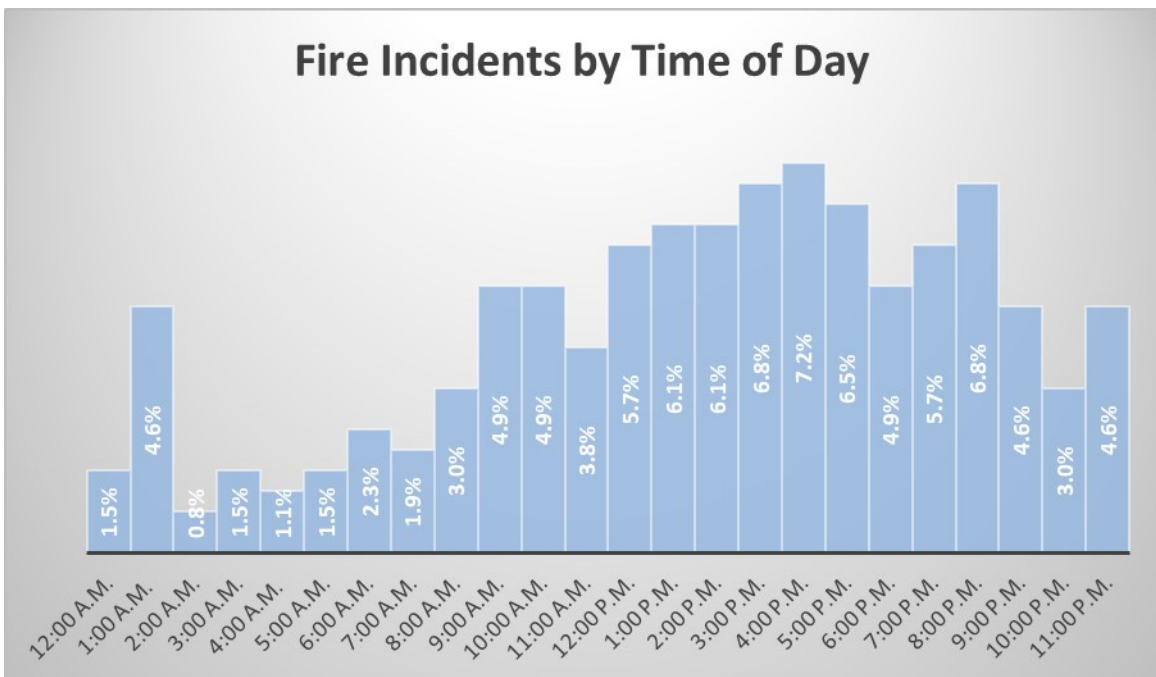




### All Calls by Time of Day

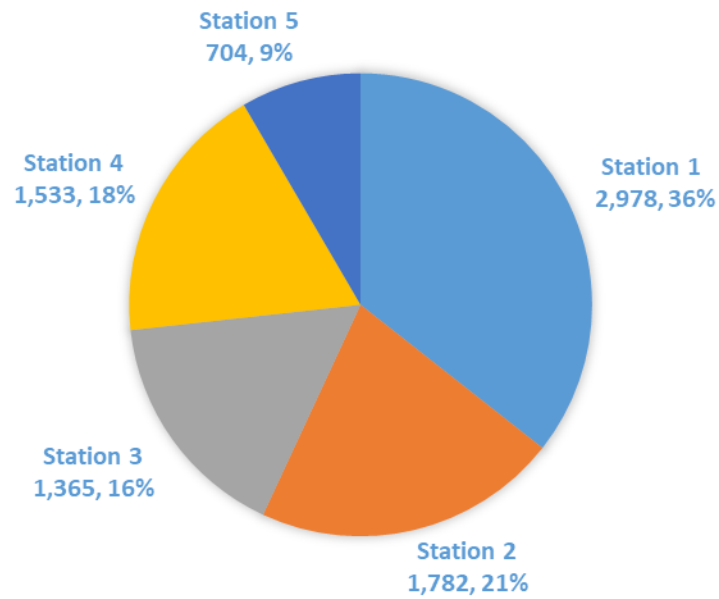


### Fire Incidents by Time of Day

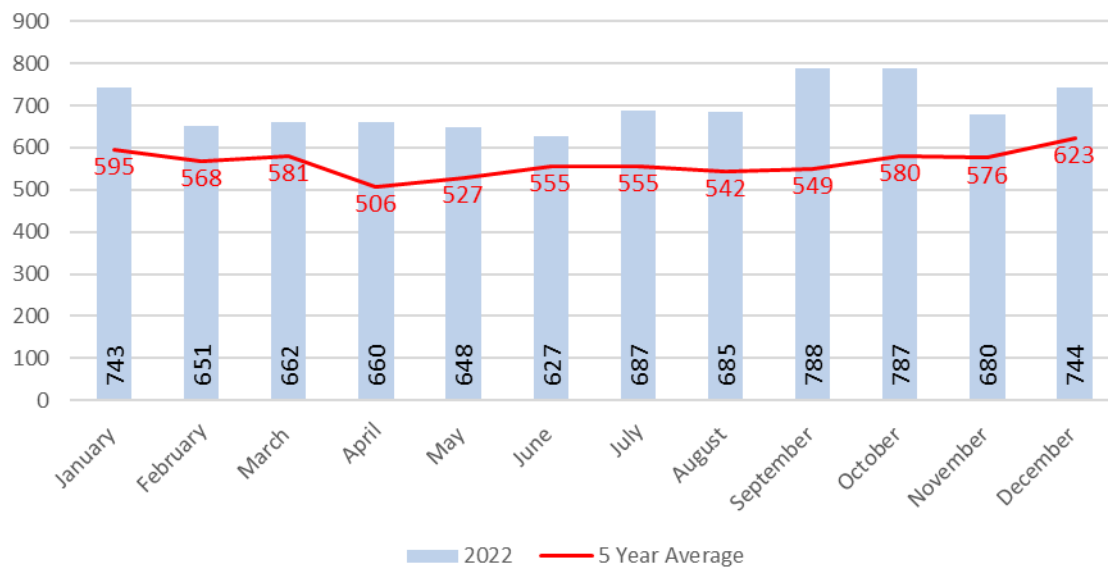




### CALLS BY STATION 2022



### Calls by Month with 5 Year Average Comparison



### Mutual Aid by Agency and Type, Summary

	Mutual Aid Received	Automatic Aid Received	Mutual Aid Given	Automatic Aid Given
<b>Bradenton Fire Department</b>	1	5	15	2
<b>Cedar Hammock Fire Resue</b>	6	23	24	60
<b>Duette Fire Department</b>	0	0	1	0
<b>East Manatee Fire Rescue</b>	12	9	16	44
<b>North River Fire District</b>	9	1	1	0
<b>Parrish Fire Department</b>	0	0	1	0
<b>Sarasoata Airport Fire Department</b>	3	0	0	0
<b>Sarasoata County Fire Department</b>	0	5	2	2
<b>West Manatee Fire Rescue</b>	0	0	2	0
<b>Other</b>	1	0	21	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>108</b>

## 2020 Special Operations Report

The history of hazardous materials response team in Manatee County first formed as group of personnel from collective group of responders from many fire districts. The first public safety team was formed in the early 1990's as a first ever response team to these specialized incidents. In 2014, Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District took up the need to continue a response plan and improve service to our regional partners. Following the four tiers of response planning: response, mitigation, recovery, and planning; our largest focus remains on a highly trained response with trained personnel and equipment to handle any hazmat incident. Since assuming the duties of hazardous materials response, we have seen a 70% increase in service-related calls to local, state, and federal partners. These incidents have been a wide range of incidents from federal law enforcement, suspected biological agents, large releases, chemical spills, and UAS/Drone assistance for search and rescue.



Members of the first established Manatee County Hazardous Materials Incident Team, 1992.

Southern Manatee's hazmat response team is a recognized as state deployable Type II team composed on 31 Florida state certified hazardous materials technicians. Based out of Southern Manatee Station 2 located near 30th Avenue East and US 301 Hwy, the team members are spread across our 3- shifts. Our Station 2, which was re-modeled in 2022 accommodates the staffing for our response with our main hazmat response unit, HZ-328. This 2020 Pierce Heavy Rescue pumper that is staffed by 3 of our 10 technicians on duty daily. This squad unit serves dual capacity as a specialized response unit and an additional response unit within our 34-mile district. This squad responds to all structure fires meeting our staffing for these incidents and any additional calls in district when Engine 321 is assigned to other district emergencies. In 2022, HZ-328 responded to over 110 hazardous materials incidents while additionally responding to 471 in non-hazmat responses. Our call volume increases yearly in support of our partners.



Southern Manatee Hazmat Squad 328

Today, our core values of response remain consistent with our district's mission and direction:

1. Specialized trained personnel to respond to all hazard's emergencies. Responding to several disciplines of hazardous materials events.

2. Equipment packages consisting of mitigation leak equipment, detectors, and UAS/Drone operations following federal and state team typing to carry out our mission.
3. On-going training on hazardous materials and weapons of mass destruction response.



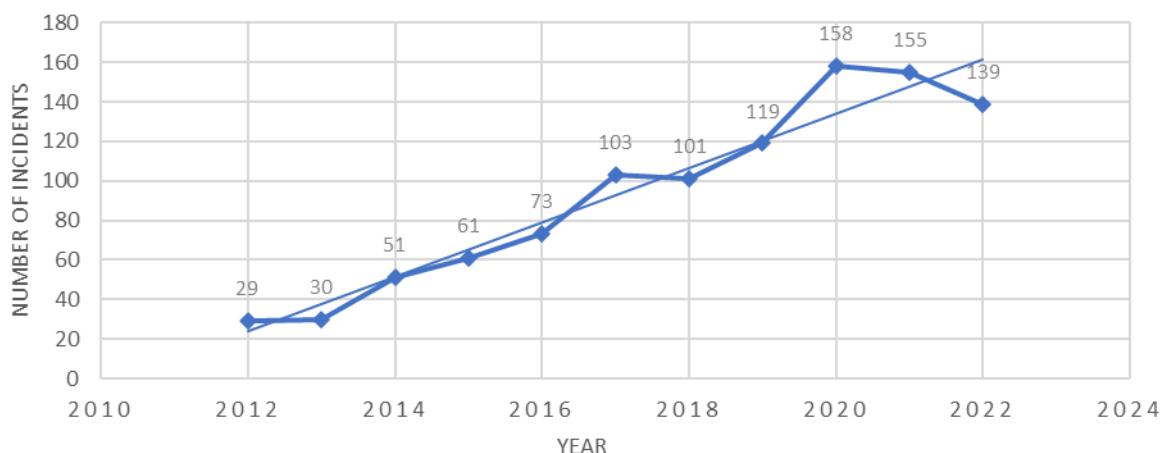
In 2022, the training division of SMFR conducted over 22,425 hours of training within the district; our response team members completed over 2,600 hours of hazmat materials training. The average for each of the 31 team members was 75 hours of additional training above their fire and medical training requirements for the department. This training follows State Emergency Response Plan (SERP) and federal regulations divided in subject areas that deal with a wide range of topics from chemical identification to response of firefighting foam for highly volatile liquids.



FF Asher transfers diesel fuel from a damaged commercial vehicle fuel tank as part of mutual aid to the City of Bradenton Fire Department, September 2022.

As part of the regional response team in the state, in 2022, our district was requested to respond to Hurricane Ian recovery efforts which struck southwest Florida in September. Under the state plan, 7-members from all shifts responded and operated in Fort Myers Beach as the only dedicated hazmat response team. In that deployment, team members assisted the United States Coast Guard, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Lee County Emergency Management, and local fire districts with locating and responding to hazardous materials incidents. Our response team spent 1,512 hours in 24-hour operation mode for 9 days in our operating area. Our team responded to 7 hazardous materials events and identified over 170 and discarded hazardous materials sites for later investigation by federal and state officials. These sites included flammable liquids and abandoned electric vehicles.

### 2012-2021 SMFR HAZMAT RESPONSE







Our mission is to provide emergency response to our community and provide new approaches to education, response, and code enforcement to the citizens of our district. This mission is in cooperation with our Federal, State, and Local agencies.

#### 2022 Notable Responses and Actions:



April 9, 2022- Mutual aid response to North River Fire District for a large outside scrap yard fire. Nine county agencies responded to the 5-acre fire on Harlee Road near the Port of Manatee. SMFR assisted with fire suppression using our foam trailer delivering over 9000 gallons of foam for extinguishment and UAS/Drone monitoring of the scene. SMFR also responded on Dec. 17, 2022 to a similar incident.

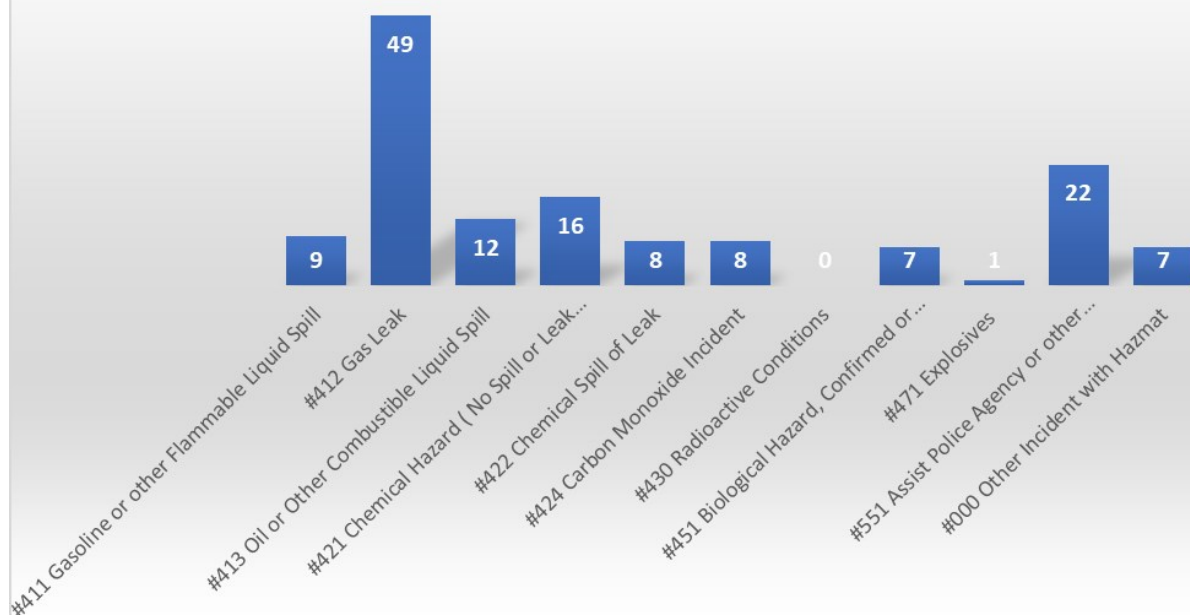
May 5, 2022- In district response to Chris Craft boats on 15th Street for a structure fire from a chemical reaction. Post extinguishment hazmat crews entered the chemical storage area and plugged the leaking chemical tank.



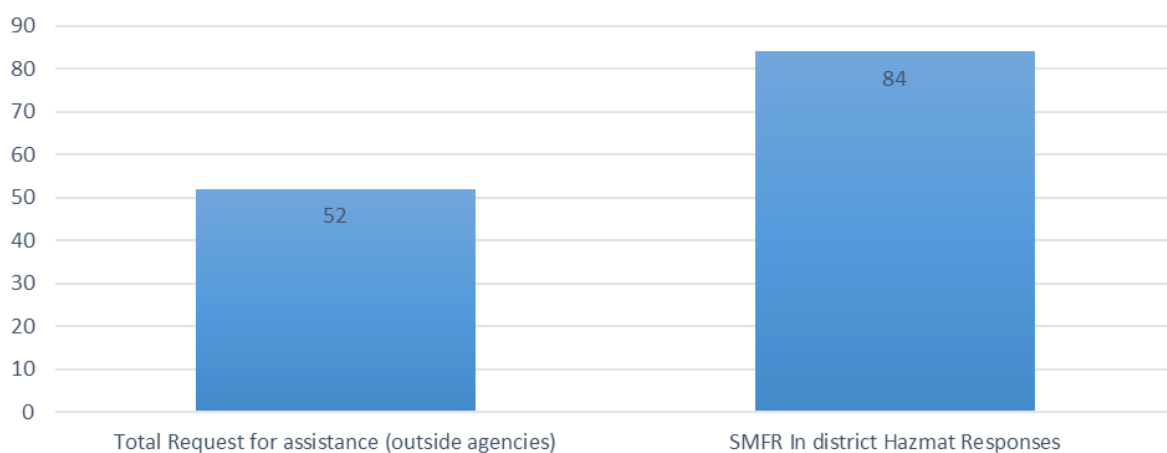
August 5, 2022- In district response to Pierce Manufacturing after a 55-gallon drum underwent a chemical chain reaction and over-pressurized. SMFR crews assisted with monitoring the container and was able to safely remove pressure allowing proper disposal.



### 2022 Hazmat Responses- Incident Type 155 Incidents



### 2022 SMFR Hazmat Responses Mutual Aid Requests Total=136 Incidents





The year 2022 was the start of a new era. With the retirement of the Fire Marshal and the unforeseen retirement of two Fire Inspector/Investigators, we lost over 75 years of combined experience. I embraced this challenge and moved forward. Two new Fire Inspector/Investigators accepted a transfer from shift work with the “go get ‘em” attitude and the will of wanting to learn made this challenge extremely successful. Let the training begin.

The National Fire Prevention Month is traditionally in October. The Fire Prevention Division visits every elementary school and day care within the district and provides a safety message along with handouts. Each school and daycare looked forward to a visit from the fire department. It is a life lesson many children remember all their life.

The Fire Prevention Division is responsible for the regulatory and code enforcement segment of the fire service. This includes but is not limited to annual business inspections, plans review that includes site, construction and suppression system, fire investigations, Youth Fire-setting and Public Education. New National Codes, Florida State Laws and Regulations, Manatee County Codes and our own Local Ordinance change how we do business. Each member assigned to Fire Prevention must keep up with code changes as they occur every year.

The Fire Prevention Division works closely with many agencies and departments within the county. Just in Manatee County, we work with Planning and Development, Permitting, Zoning, Utilities, Traffic, Public Safety and Code Enforcement. We are in



# Fire won't wait. Plan your escape.



[firepreventionweek.org](https://firepreventionweek.org)

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contact with engineers of multiple trades. Architects and civil engineers contact Fire Prevention during the planning stages of a project, reaching out to discuss the design and fire safety features of large and small projects.

COVID still lingers, but most Businesses came back with a vengeance and are thriving. Schools and daycares are full again. Most office staff that was working from home returned to work. Some Businesses learned that working from home saved them money and personnel cost and never returned to the buildings they once occupied. Others took over these buildings and are becoming successful Businesses. The construction projects are five times as much as we have ever seen. We somehow find a way to keep on task with everything. The construction projects are five times as much as we have ever seen. We added 31 new commercial buildings and 230 single family residential homes to our district. Fire Prevention has a great team!

The Fire Prevention Division has always had the motto “Adapt, Improve and Overcome.” And that is what we did and what we are still doing.

# 100 YEARS 1922–2022

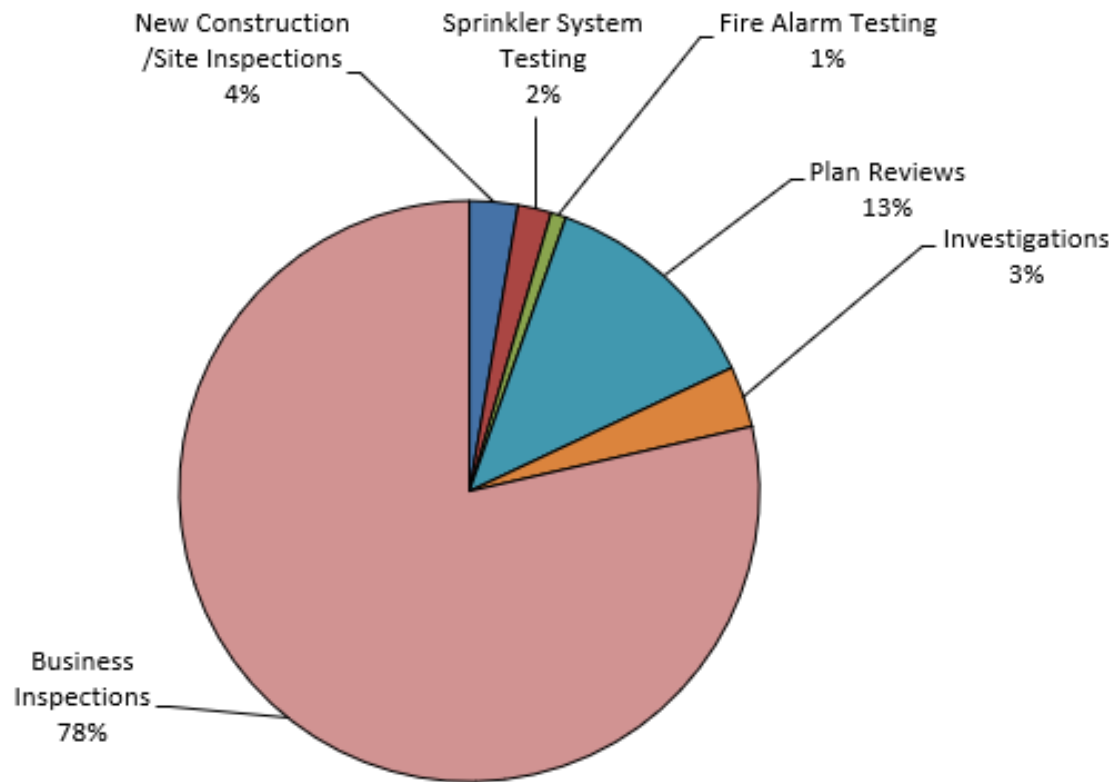


## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™

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## 2022 Fire Prevention Additional Responsibilities



### **Business Inspections: 5744**

Initial  
Vacant/ No Access  
Reinspection  
Completed

### **New Construction/ Site Inspections: 197**

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

### **Sprinkler System Testing: 136**

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

### **Fire Alarm Testing: 62**

Final/ Acceptance

### **Plan Reviews: 921**

Site Plans Reviews  
Construction Plans Reviews  
System Plans Review

### **Investigations: 249**

Fire  
Complaints  
Code Research



## **2022 Training Data**

Total in-house training hours: 24,763.75

Per Person yearly Average: 305.75

Per Person monthly Average: 25.45

In-house Classes: 21

Driver Certs: 45

Outside Classes Completed: 206

Target Classes Completed: 2,916

Promotions: 19

State Certifications: 31

Daily Training Subjects: 45

In 2022, Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue (SMFR) personnel conducted training daily 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 Chief, EMS Training Officer, as well as a Hazmat Training Captain. This year we also added a position of EMS preceptor to train our paramedics to become in charge while on duty and running calls while practicing their skills and patient assessments. The FTO's & Preceptors conduct hands-on-trainings with their respective crews and the Training Division over-see department wide training and compliance of State, Federal and Insurance Services Office requirements. In 2022 we re-invented our wellness program with three (3) Group Fitness Coordinators and after the Covid-19 pandemic we have allotted time every month for group fitness events as well as daily fitness training. In 2020 & 2021, due to COVID-19, we were unable to have these group trainings; however our Shift Fitness Coordinators still kept our crews busy monthly with individualized trainings in the stations.

This year we continued to complete classes with our on-line training platform, Target Solutions. The savings to the district will equate to approximately 17,000.00 this year. That money will be reallocated to sending personnel to specialty classes in various areas of EMS and Fire Ground operations. Classes are added annually to help maintain renewal requirements, and in 2020 classes were added to fire prevention for Inspector renewals, which attach to the state broker for CEU renewal requirements.



This was the fourth full year that three fulltime personnel were assigned to the training division. We wanted to expand our training to more practical applications and techniques, however we maintain Covid-19 precautions and concentrated on single company training evolutions, we concentrated a lot of efforts this year on Fire Ground Operations within our district. We also concentrated on drivers training and day to day operations. All personnel recertified driving both engines and aerials. This area is high priority as our responses are increasing annually.



This year we completed several in-house classes that are beneficial learning to our personnel. We so have been spending time within our department on ALS and the equipment that goes along with this program. We continue to spend time monthly on Drivers Training, Hazardous Materials Response, Fire Ground Activities, and Medical Response



al-

This year the Training Division continued 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 a couple of these classes this year due to Covid-19 in our district; if someone calls from outside our district, we put them in touch with their local F.D. It is estimated we certified over 35 civilians in these vital skills in Peridia Golf & Country Club this year before the shutdown.

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 and we also attended there trainings as well, via a Zoom Meeting platform. 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.



Finally, this year we completed several Medical Director Test-Outs. This is a skills test with the Medical Director; Dr. David Nonell. The paramedic candidate is tested on a protocol evaluation and given both a medical patient and a mass casualty trauma incident. We have had a very good success rate and look forward to putting more personnel thru this testing in the first quarter of 2022.

## Vehicle Maintenance FY2022



Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District's fleet consists of 9 fire engine pumpers, 1 aerial ladder truck, 1 Hazardous Materials response truck and 16 staff vehicles of various types. Apparatus/staff vehicles are purchased and replaced in accordance with the apparatus replacement program. The age of our apparatus fleet ranges from 2010–2023 year models.

Pumper Engine 312 was replaced with a pumper engine that was

specifically designed to meet the needs of Advanced Life Support (ALS). Our staff vehicle fleet consist of 15 types and styles of vehicles including vans, pickups, and SUVs...the age of staff vehicles ranges from 2016-2022 year models. All 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 and Sun State International which employs certified Emergency Vehicle Technicians as required by National Fire Protection Association. Callaghan Tires of Bradenton maintains the apparatus tires, 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 5000 miles. We aspire 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, A/C 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	Vehicle I.D.	2022 Maintenance Cost
Pierce Pumper	2010	E-13	\$ 8,752.22
Pierce Pumper	2010	E-12	\$ 7,870.25
Pierce Pumper	2015	E-14	\$ 45,620.29
Pierce Pumper	2015	E-15	\$ 25,911.60
Pierce Pumper	2016	E-17	\$ 6,515.72
Pierce Pumper	2018	E-19	\$ 17,517.31
Pierce Aerial	2017	E-18	\$ 6,232.55
Pierce Squad	2020	E-20	\$ 8,164.84
Pierce Pumper	2020	E-21	\$ 5,415.25
Hazmat Truck	1994	E-16	\$ 1,204.83
GMC Sierra Utility	2007	T-2	\$ 0.00
GMC Sierra Dually	2003	T-3	\$ 1,155.75
GMC Yukon	2007	C-14	\$ 4,004.95
Ford F150	2016	C-16	\$ 249.33
Ford F150	2016	C-17	\$ 199.90
Ford F150	2016	C-18	\$ 1,533.73
Ford F150	2016	C-19	\$ 940.85
Ford F150	2017	C-20	\$ 627.17
Chevy Suburban	2017	C-21	\$ 961.68
Ford F250	2018	C-22	\$ 948.28
Ford Explorer	2018	C-23	\$ 1,219.53
Ford Explorer	2018	C-24	\$ 1,121.38
Ford Explorer	2018	C-25	\$ 548.59
Ford T-150 Van	2018	C-26	\$ 1,314.63
Ford Explorer	2020	C-27	\$ 322.94
			<b>\$147,545.61</b>





## Car Seat Program

All 50 states and the District of Columbia have child safety seat laws. Child safety seat laws require children to travel in approved child restraints or booster seats and some permit or require older children to use adult safety belts. The age at which belts can be used instead of child safety seats differs among the states. Young children usually are covered by child safety seat laws, while safety belt laws cover older children and adults.



The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports that motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death for children younger than 13. Most crash deaths occur among children traveling as passenger vehicle occupants, and proper restraint use can reduce these fatalities. Restraining children in rear seats instead of front seats reduces fatal injury risk by about three-quarters for children up to age 3.

Southern Manatee Fire Rescue has six certified Car Seat Technicians, and all of their respective certifications have been renewed during the past year. These technicians collectively installed 29 seats in 2022. Each technician is certified voluntarily, are passionate about child safety, and are continuing to educate themselves on knowledge and techniques.

Southern Manatee Fire Rescue wishes to continue our partnership with Safe Kids to promote all aspects of child and adolescent safety. They have assisted us with car seat purchases as well as helping to educate us. This program creates and maintains positive public relations with the public as well as providing a needed service.



## Southern Manatee Union Bargaining Units/Local 2546

Greetings from SMFR DVP and Local 2546. Well, 2021/2022 were tough years but here we are. A lot has happened over the previous 2 years and SMFR has grown through quite a few changes.

I'll start with the retiree's. FF Todd Pierce, FF Tony Lear, Chief Brian Gorski, Larry Betts, and FM Leslie Adent. Congratulations on your retirements and SMFR L-2546 wishes you the best of luck. Some of the above employee's couldn't stay retired and are working for other Fire Departments, while others above are enjoying the fruits of their long careers.



Next are all the promotions that followed some of the retiree's (while some created positions for new hires). Lt. Dan Anderson was promoted to EMS Officer, Lt. Adam Chevalier promoted to Logistics Officer, Training Director Bobby Thayer promoted from Captain to Administrative Batt Chief Meola promoted to Deputy Fire Marshal, Chuck Moonen & Paul Wojcik were promoted to Inspector, FF Sam Collins, FF Steve Hodges, FF Seth Burnett, FF Kiel Duquette, and FF Mike Murphy were all promoted to the rank of Lieutenant; Deputy Chief Robert Bounds was promoted Fire Chief, and Deputy Chief Rick Blanco promoted to Assistant Chief. Congratulations to all, the promotions were well deserved. I do need to thank Chief Bounds, Chief



Blanco, and Chief Thayer, working together with them during all the promotional process' was seamless and cooperative by all parties. We should also mention that in early 2023 Batt Chief Herb Smith and Training Chief Bobby Thayer will be retiring. L-2546 thank you both for your support over the years and good luck with the next chapter of your lives.

With all the above movement happening SMFR had to hire rookie firefighters. We welcome FF Paul Grenier, FF Jay Haft, FF Easton Evans, FF Chris McKinniss, FF Luis Penarenas, FF Justin Woods, FF James Burkett, and FF Wesley Wollenberg. Good luck to all of you and welcome aboard. I can proudly say that all of the rookie firefighters signed up as Union members. SMFR will also be hiring an additional 4 firefighters in April of 2023.

In March we hit the streets for the first time since 2020 to support MDA with the "Fill The Boot" drive. We were only able to cover 1





intersection but managed to collect about \$16,000 just shy of our \$18,000 record (but we did it with 1 intersection and not 2). Chief Bounds deserves another “thank you”, he came out and sweat with us for the boot drive. Also, a “thank you” to the members that supported the drive; FF/PM Savitsky, FF/PM Kenniff, FF/PM Haft, FF/PM McKinniss, FF/PM Velazquez and if I forgot



anyone's name.

SMFR and Local 2546 partnered up to support our annual “Adopt-a-Family” charity. Again, we supported Magic of Mittens (a local charity that also partners with School Board) run by Beth Grogan and Sozo's Ministries (a local charity in Samoset that reaches out to at-risk youth) run by Bishop Freeze. Between both charities we were able to purchase Christmas gifts for almost 50 children.

Local 2546 and SMFR Administration negotiated a new 3-year CBA; which included an additional holiday, an increase in pension benefits, generous salary increases,



and increased pay for Educational Incentives & Specialty pay. I owe a big “Thank You” to the Bargaining Team, the negotiating team for Admin, and the Board of Commissioners. This was the first time both sides came to the table with (their versions) of a complete contract and we were able to go thru each article and negotiate rather quickly. We tentatively agreed on every article in 4 or 5 sessions.



## **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 saving the life of a cardiac arrest victim, Genesis Award for the delivery of a baby in the field, Military Awards for those who served and the "End of the Year" Annual Awards. Below are the recipients for 2022:

**Officer of the Year:**

Lieutenant Derek Foss

**Firefighter of the Year:**

Firefighter/Paramedic Ian Segnari

**Rookie of the Year:**

Firefighter/EMT Wes Wollenberg

**Staff Employee of the Year:**

Training Chief Dan Anderson



*Lt. Derek Foss*



*Training Chief  
Dan Anderson*



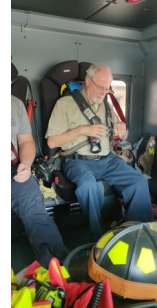
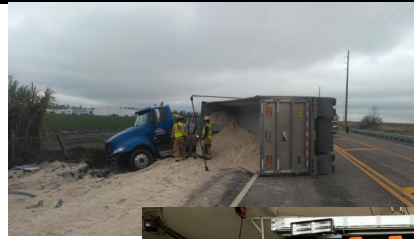
*Firefighter/Paramedic  
Wes Wollenberg*



*Firefighter/Paramedic  
Ian Segnari*

### Service Awards

Melvin M. Bonds	30 Years
Adam T. Chevalier	30 Years
Thomas M. Bloski	25 Years
Wayne R. Lambert	25 Years
Seth T. Burnett	20 Years
Chad E. D'Agostino	20 Years
Jarek A. DeHart	20 Years
Kiel R. Duquette	20 Years
Michael S. Questionati	20 Years
Stuart W. Ramer	20 Years
Brian C. Hodges	15 Years
Peter J. Saxman	15 Years
Mark G Bauer	5 Years
Clifford D. Smith	5 Years
Easton Evans	1 Year



### Recent Retirements

Larry Betts  
Tony Lear



### Life Saving Award

Bill Pratt







### **Phoenix Award**

Chad E. D'Agostino  
Alex Davis  
Paul Grenier  
Christopher McKinniss  
George Naples  
Justin Young



### **Hazmat Award**

Richard Asher  
Christopher Burghdurf  
Brian Caycraft  
Tim Keush  
Bobby Pietsch  
Stuart Ramer  
Brent Ranney  
Eric Sigfrid



### **Star of Gallantry**

Derek Foss





**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**