



City of Akron  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**2018**

---

**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**







## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement	Fire Prevention Bureau
4	30 - 31
Senior Management	Code Enforcement Section
5	34
Message from the Chief	Akron Fire Department Honor Guard
6	35
Organization of the Akron Fire Department	Fire Investigation Unit
8	36 - 39
2017 Deputy & District Chiefs	Incendiary Fires Per Census Tract
10	40
2017 Retirees & Resignations	Bureau of Fire Training
11	41
Safety Officer	Accounting and Services Bureau
12	42
NFPA Injury	Safety Communications
13	43 - 46
Operations Subdivision	Monthly Alarm Data
14	47
Battalion Districts	Special Operations
15	48
Fire Statistics	Hazardous Material (HazMat) Team and
16	Water Rescue Team
Alarm Responses by the Akron Fire	49
Department Per Census Tract	Technical Rescue Operations Team
17	50
Building Fires	Personnel
18	51
Fire Losses at \$50,000 and Over	Fire Investigation and Maintenance Bureau
19	52 - 53
Loss Classification of Building Fires	Fire Stations & Equipment
20	54 - 55
Summary of Activities and Fire Statistics	Hydrant Maintenance Section
21	56
Alarms Where No Fire Was Involved	In Recognition
22	58 - 59
Administrative Special Services Subdivision	In Memoriam
23 - 24	60
EMS Bureau	Firefighter's Prayer
25 - 27	61
Medical Runs by the Emergency Medical Service (EMS)	Historical Stop
Per Census Tract	62
28	
Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS)	
29	

# AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT



*The Akron Fire Department exists to protect the lives, property, and environment within our community by minimizing the impact of fire, medical emergencies, and hazardous conditions. We will accomplish this mission by providing:*

- Fire suppression forces capable of mitigating all fire events*
- An Emergency Medical System designed to provide excellent prehospital care*
- Enforcement of fire codes, investigation of fire cause, and public education*
- Special operation teams trained for hazardous material response, technical rescues, water emergencies, and tactical EMS*

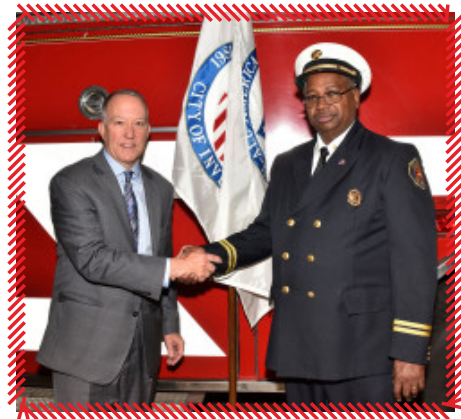
*Our members are committed to the following values:*

- For our citizens - We will provide the highest quality of service possible and treat all with compassion, respect, and dignity*
- For our profession - We will maintain the highest level of readiness through training, education, fitness, safety awareness, and responsible utilization of resources*
- For our organization - We will foster a culture of enthusiasm, diversity, mutual respect, and teamwork*

*Our Motto  
"Dedicated to Service"*



Daniel Horrigan  
Mayor



Clarence Tucker  
Fire Chief



## MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

*As Chief of the Akron Fire Department and on behalf of the men and women of the Akron Fire Department, I am pleased to present the 2018 annual report to Mayor Dan Horrigan and his cabinet, members of Akron City Council, and the citizens of Akron.*

*This year our division has successfully delivered the high-quality emergency services that our citizens deserve and expect. In 2018, the citizens of Akron approved Issue 4 which provides additional revenue for Akron Fire, Akron Police, and the improvement of roads. Our immediate needs include the replacement of two stations on the verge of collapse, life-saving fire gear for our line personnel, and the replacement of old fire trucks that are unreliable and unsafe. I want to personally thank all of our citizens who support Issue 4. We are constantly striving to improve our level of service to this community while seeking to operate in a fiscally responsible manner and Issue 4 provides the means to supply the men and women of the Akron Fire Department with the critical tools and equipment needed to respond safely.*

*In 2018, we were able to fill many of the vacancies in our supervisory ranks and we were able to graduate new firefighters dedicated to serving our citizens. We also procured new fire trucks and ambulances.*

*On behalf of the men and women of the Akron Fire Department, I would like to offer our sincere appreciation to Mayor Horrigan, Deputy Mayor Brown, the mayor's cabinet, Akron City Council, and the citizens of Akron for their assistance and support.*

*Sincerely,*

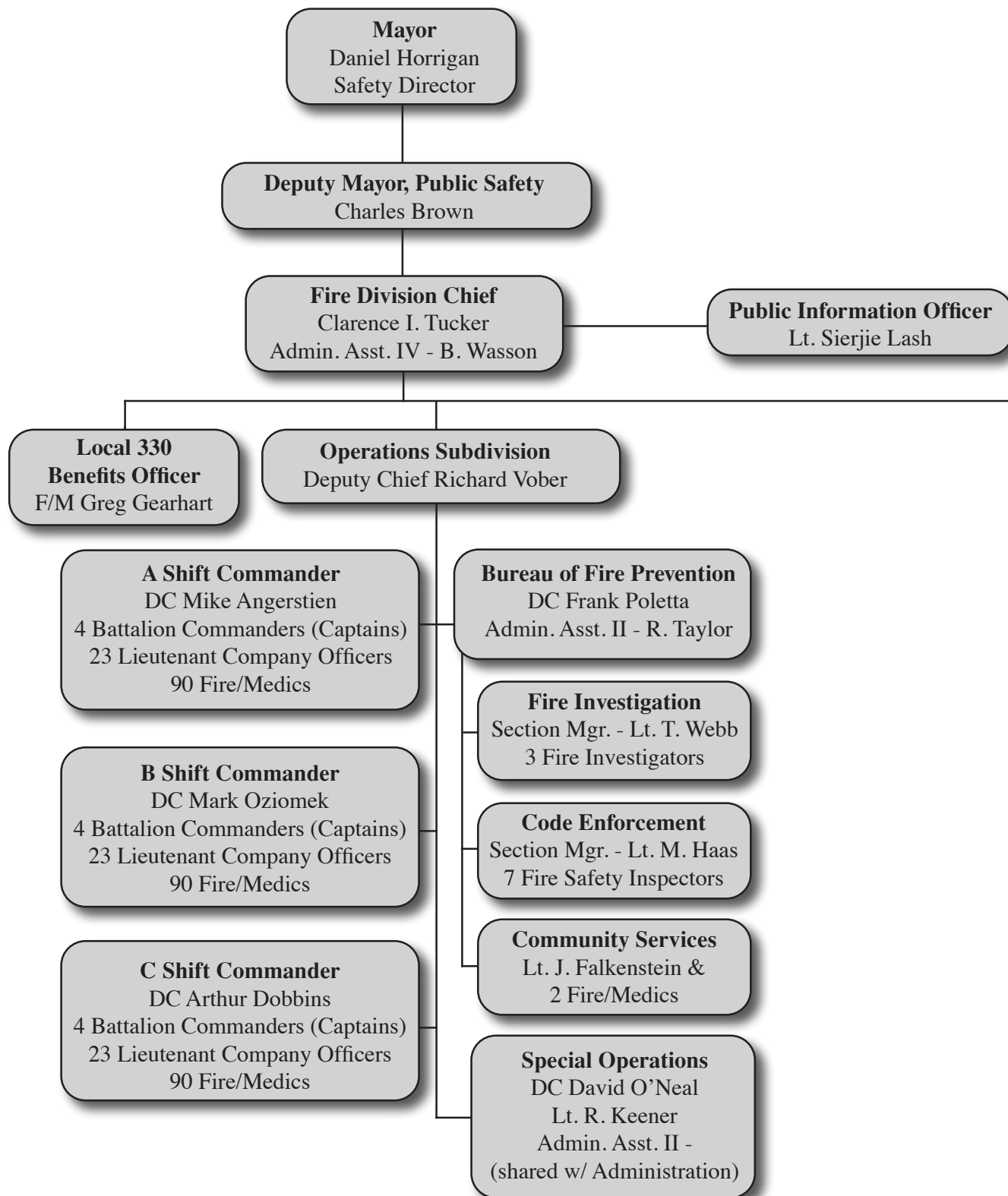
Clarence I. Tucker  
Fire Chief  
Akron Fire Department

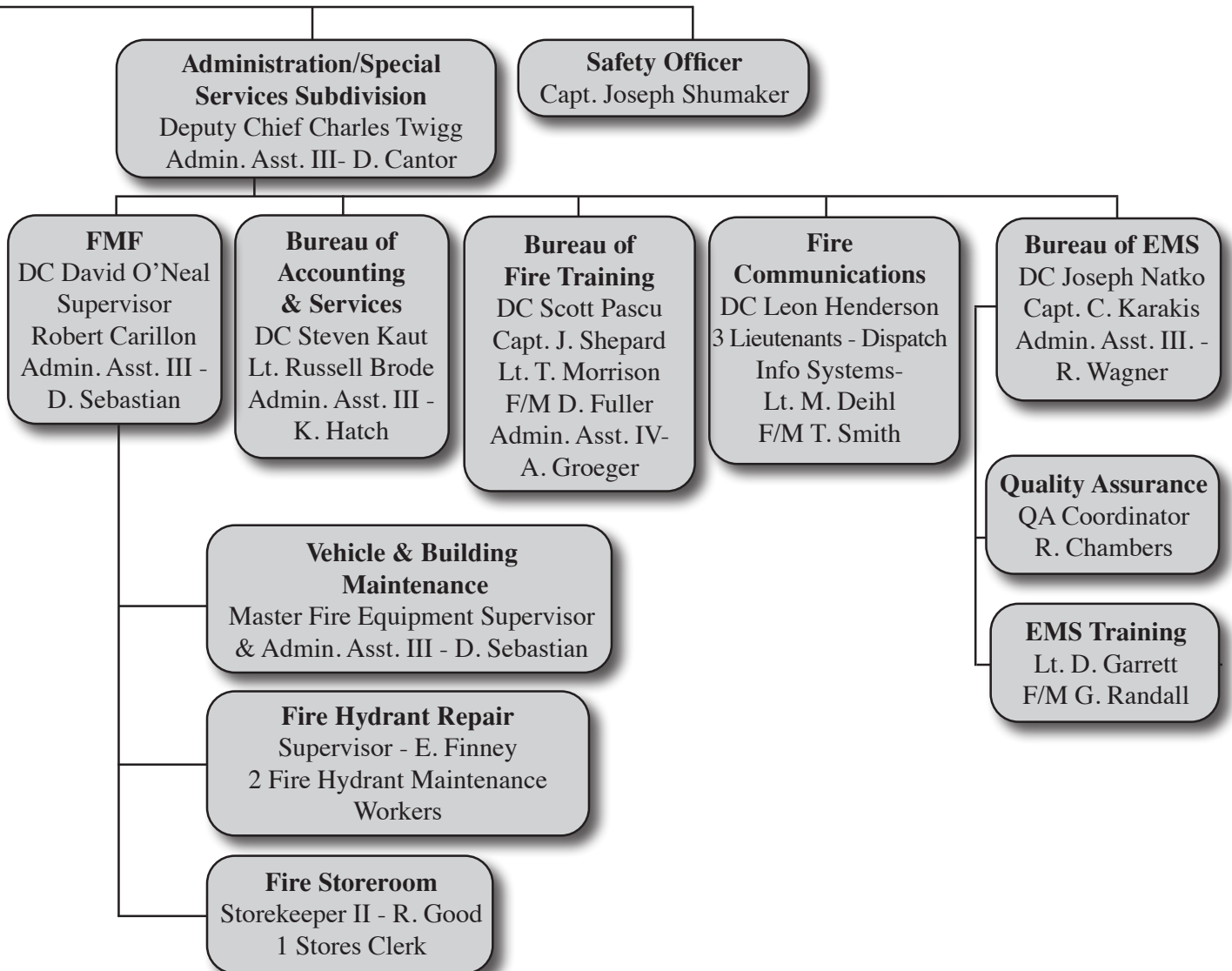




**AKRON**

# SAFETY DEPARTMENT/DIVISION OF FIRE ORGANIZATION CHART







# 2018

## DEPUTY AND DISTRICT CHIEFS



**Charles Twigg**  
Deputy Chief



**Richard Vober**  
Deputy Chief



**Michael Angerstein**  
District Chief



**Arthur Dobbins**  
District Chief



**Floyd Easley**  
District Chief



**Leon Henderson**  
District Chief



**Steven Kaut**  
District Chief



**Joseph Natko**  
District Chief



**Dave O'Neal**  
District Chief



**Scott Pascu**  
District Chief



**Mark Oziomek**  
District Chief



**Frank Poletta**  
District Chief



# 2018

## RETIREES



**William Wilkinson**  
Lieutenant  
1/6/2018



**Alfred Strong**  
Firefighter  
1/27/2018



**William Lower**  
Lieutenant  
3/9/2018



**William Johnston**  
Lieutenant  
3/15/2018



**Freddie Simmons**  
Lieutenant  
3/23/2018



**Michael Scott**  
District Chief  
4/21/2018



**Dave Hull**  
District Chief  
4/30/2018



**John Hart**  
Lieutenant  
5/25/2018



**Anthony Lalli Jr.**  
Firefighter  
5/31/2018



**Deann Eller**  
Firefighter  
6/22/2018



**Richard Vegh**  
Lieutenant  
7/25/2018



**Brian Maxwell**  
Firefighter  
12/7/2018

# SAFETY OFFICER



**Joseph Shumaker**  
Captain

The purpose of the Akron Fire Department's **Safety Officer** is to provide for the health and safety of all uniformed personnel by delivering the highest level of safety-based service and reducing exposure to contaminants inherent with the job. The role of the Safety Officer is fulfilled by Captain Joseph Shumaker, I am proud to share the following report for 2018:

The Akron Fire Department continues to look at the national trends for injuries and exposures as well as looking at compliance with the regulations set by the State and Federal government.

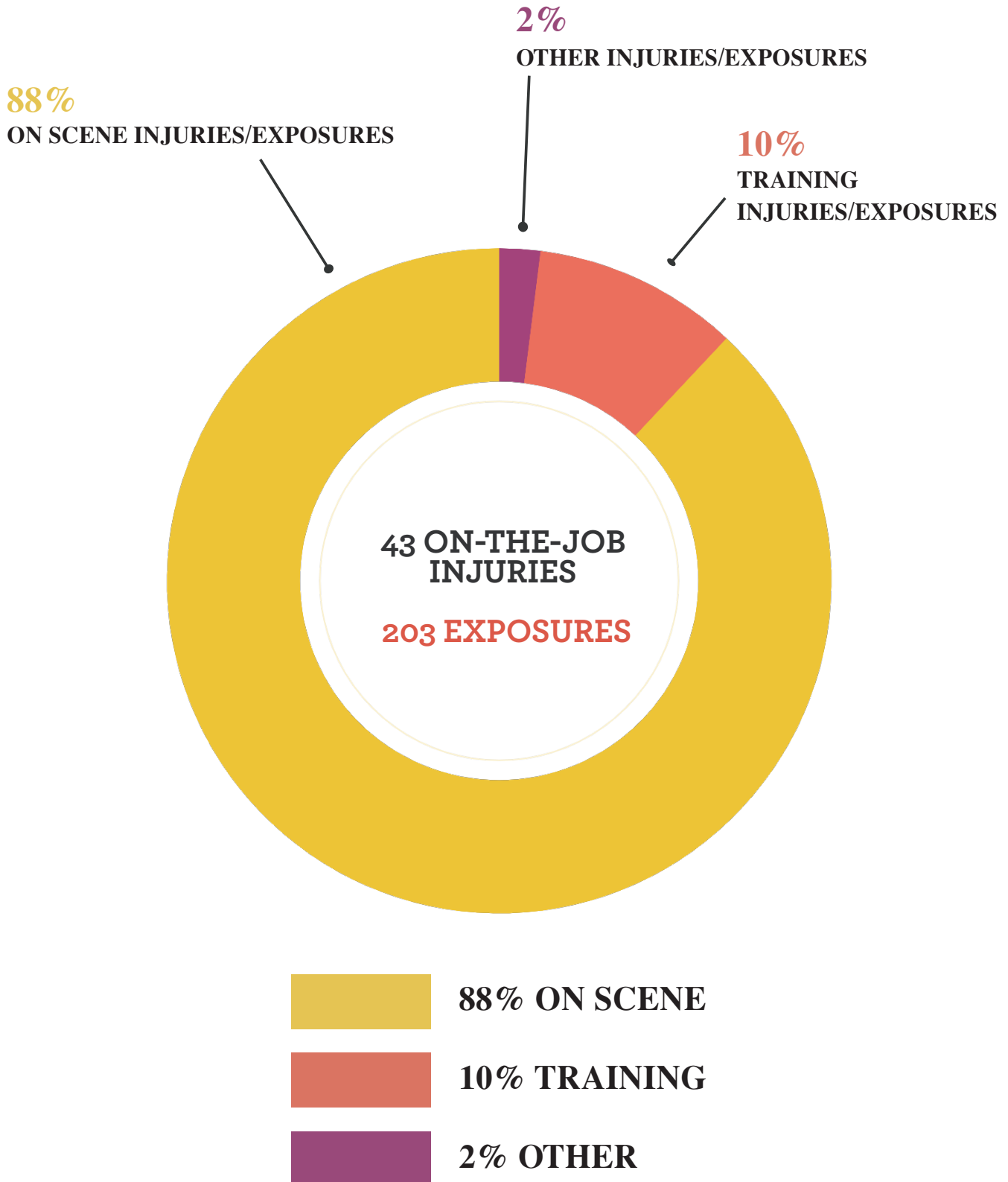
I am pleased to report that the department had no significant injuries or fatalities this year, and most of the on-duty injuries did not require any loss of time. The goal of the Safety Bureau is to reduce the number and severity of on-the-job injuries. The bureau also intends to improve the overall health and wellness of all members.

The year 2018 resulted in a total of 43 on-the-job injuries and 203 exposures. The documented exposures continue to increase as compared to the previous years. The overwhelming majority of the injuries and exposures occurred while on the scene of a fire or EMS emergency.

Numerous projects were completed this year with many of the different bureaus working together as a team. The list would include new front-line fire gear for many of the firemen and firewomen of this department. All members had the opportunity to receive flu vaccinations in the fall. All personnel received a physical activity prescreening by a department certified fitness coordinator which identified vital signs, body composition, and individual risk factors. The Safety Bureau administered the annual fitness testing on the drill field at the training academy.

# 2018

## WHERE INJURIES/EXPOSURES OCCURRED



# OPERATIONS SUBDIVISION



**Richard Vober**  
Deputy Chief

The **Operations Subdivision** is comprised of shift operations, Fire Prevention, and Special Operations. These sections include the majority of the personnel in the Fire Division. Shift Operations are broken down into the individual firefighting and EMS companies which perform the day-to-day public safety activities of the Akron Fire Department.

The members that comprise Operations are divided into three shifts (the A, B, and C shifts), which work a 24-hour on/48-hour off shift. A District Chief fulfills the role of Shift Commander and supervises each shift. The Shift Commanders handle the daily staffing issues and the scheduling of training and other activities for their shift. They also act as the liaison between the shift and Fire Administration.

The City of Akron is geographically divided into three sections, known as **Battalions**. Each Battalion has several stations within its boundaries. Thirteen fire stations are situated in the City of Akron. Each fire station is comprised of a med unit and fire engine. There are four ladder companies in the City and they are geographically placed to provide the best response. Each shift has three Battalion Commanders (Battalions 2, 4, and 9) that are responsible for command and control of most emergency incidents in the City. The Battalion Commanders supervise the individual companies and their respective Battalions.

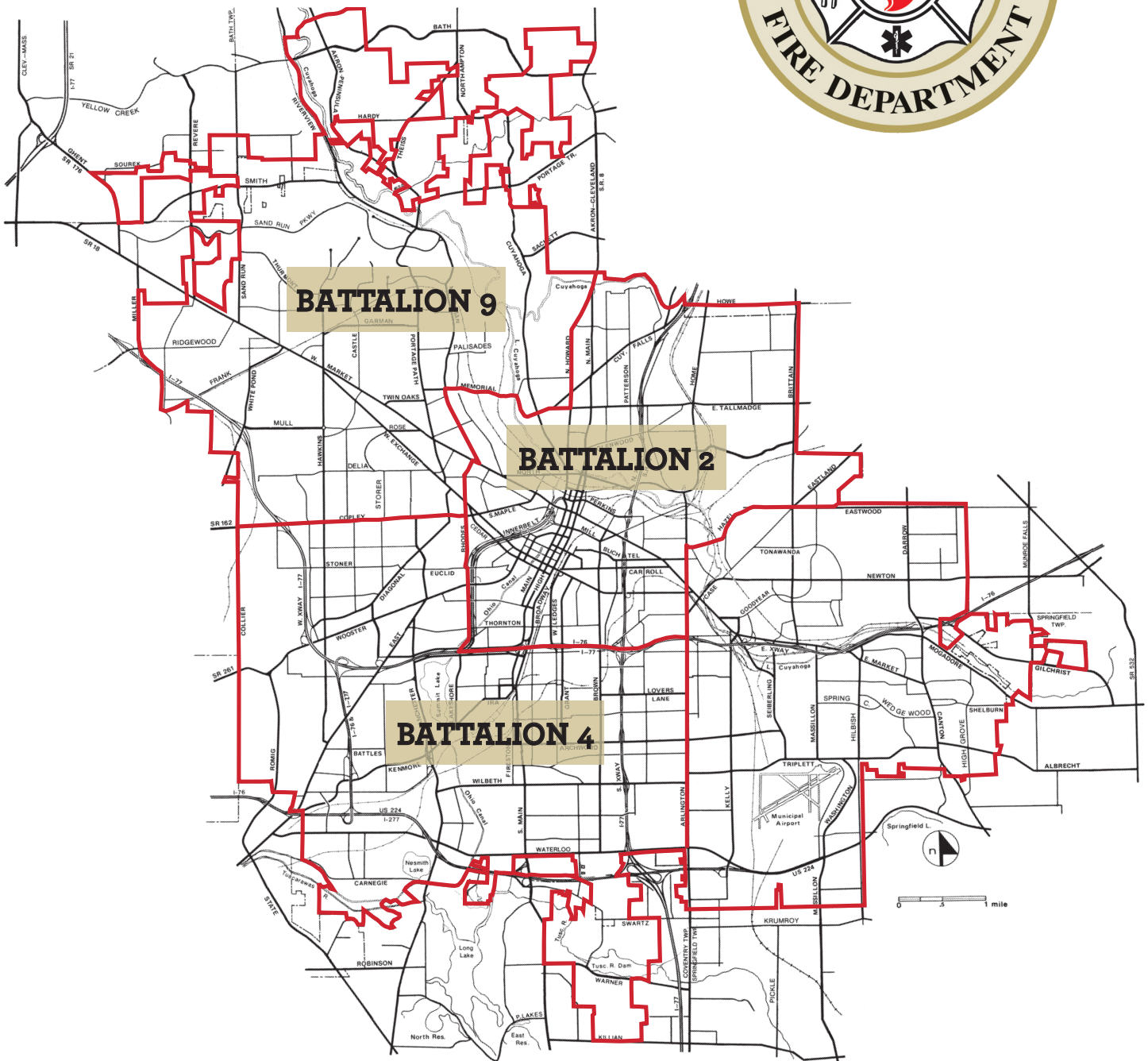
Each individual fire company is made up of a **Company Officer** (usually a Lieutenant) who supervises two to three Firefighter/Medics. The Company Officer is responsible for the supervision and safety of the company members assigned to them at all times. The Company Officer is responsible for all reports and communications relating to the operations of their company.

The **Fire Prevention Bureau** is comprised of **Inspection, Community Services, and the Fire Investigations Unit**. Inspection is responsible for all the building inspections in the City of Akron, the special construction testing, plans review, and fireworks inspection and oversight. The Community Services section is responsible for school outreach, smoke alarm installation, and community education. The Fire Investigations Unit is responsible for cause and determination as well as investigations.

The **Special Operations Bureau** is responsible for the **Special Operations Response Teams (SORT)**. These teams include the **Water Team**, which is comprised of the **Dive and Swiftwater Teams; HazMat; and Technical Rescue Operations Team (TROT)**.



# BATTALION DISTRICTS



# FIRE STATISTICS

## TOTAL FIRE ALARM RESPONSES - 23,581

ENGINES	
Engine 2	1,224
Engine 3	1,016
Engine 4	1,288
Engine 5	415
Engine 6	1,226
Engine 7	2,030
Engine 8	1,644
Engine 9	2,006
Engine 10	907
Engine 11	176
Engine 12	770
Engine 13	1,252
Engine 14	640
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,594</b>

LADDERS	
Ladder 4	1,044
Ladder 7	625
Ladder 8	807
Ladder 9	1,038
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,514</b>

BATTALIONS	
Battalion 2	1,622
Battalion 4	1,749
Battalion 9	1,335
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,706</b>

HAZMAT, RESCUE	
HazMat 4	35
Rescue 4	138
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>

OTHER FIRE UNITS	
<b>Total</b>	<b>594</b>

GRAND TOTALS	
Total Engine	14,594
Total Ladder	3,514
Total Battalion	4,706
Total Rescue	173
Other Fire Units	594
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,581</b>

ALARM TIMES	
A.M.	3,332
P.M.	5,806
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,138</b>

ALARM CAUSES	
Fire	758
False	651
Accidental	561
Other Emergencies	4,245
Miscellaneous	2,923
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,138</b>

ALARM- TYPES OF FIRES	
Buildings	268
Motor Vehicle	129
Grass/Rubbish	132
Miscellaneous	953
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,482</b>

OCCUPANCY OF BUILDING FIRES	
Public Assemblies	3
Educational	8
Institutional	0
Residential	4,997
Store & Office	544
Basic Industries	0
Manufacturing	60
Storage	16
Special	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,612</b>

CASUALTIES TO CITIZENS	
Injuries	21
Fatalities	9

CASUALTIES TO FIREFIGHTERS	
Injuries	9
Fatalities	0

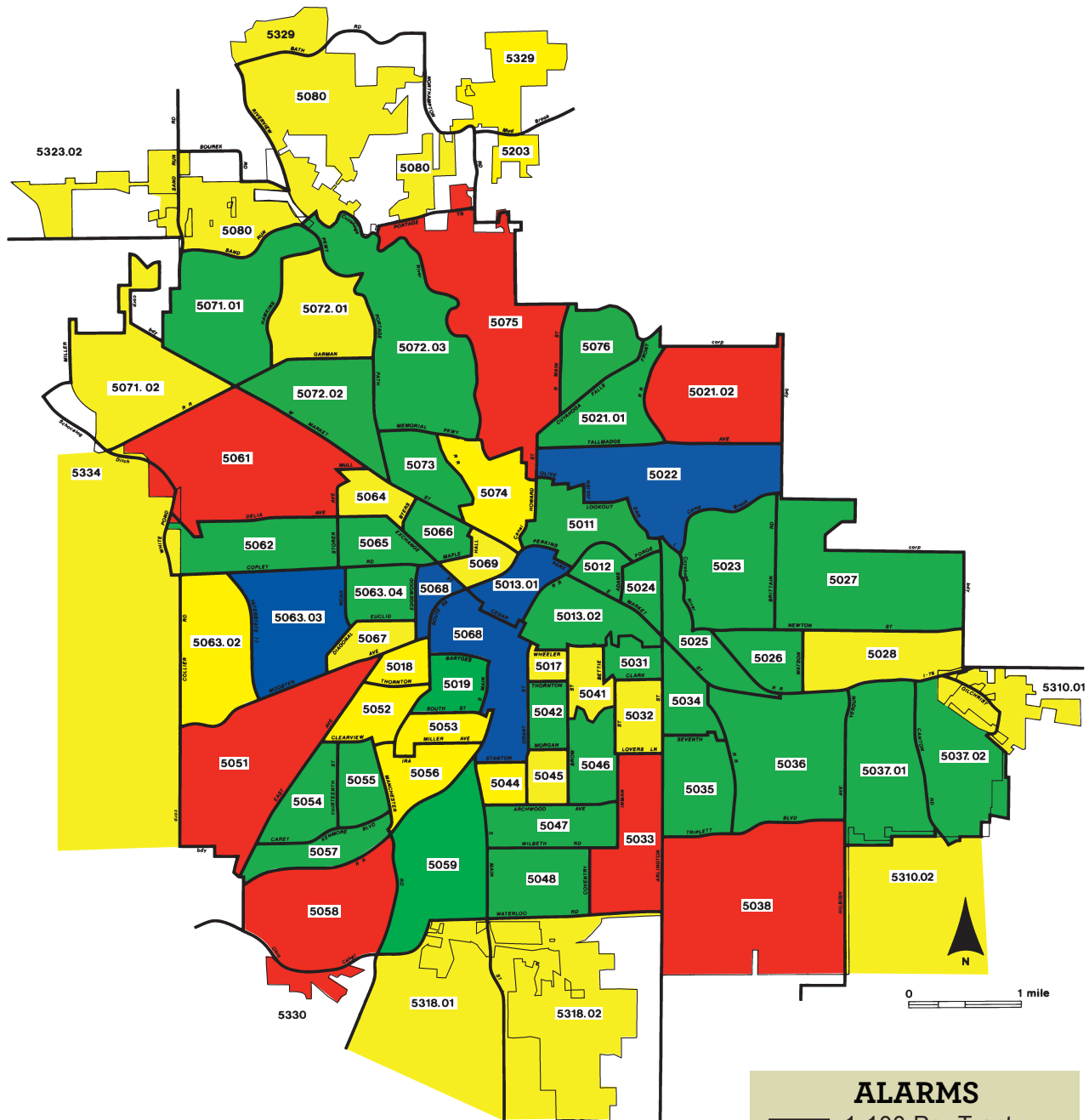
IN SERVICE	
Engine Companies	13
Ladder Companies	4
Medics & Medic Combos	13
Personnel	381
Alarm Boxes	8

# ALARM RESPONSES

BY AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT  
PER CENSUS TRACT



**TOTAL ALARMS - 9,128**



## ALARMS

Yellow	1-100 Per Tract 18% of Total Alarms
Green	101-200 Per Tract 50% of Total Alarms
Red	201-300 Per Tract 18% of Total Alarms
Blue	301+ Per Tract 14% of Total Alarms

# BUILDING FIRES



	Basic Industry	Educational	Institutional	Manufacturing	Public Assembly	Residential	Special	Storage	Store & Office	Total
Appliances- Air Conditioning, Tools, Refrigerator					2	37		1		40
Careless Smoking						25	14	2	1	42
Children Playing		1				3	1			5
Cooking fire, Confined to Container					3	119	2		1	125
Electrical Distribution- Wiring, Light Ballast					1	11	14			26
Exposures					1	28	10	5	1	45
Heating- Furnace, Chimney, Water Heater						19	1			20
Incendiary Fire		1	1	1		41	48	2	1	95
Open Flames		1				53	35	1		90
Other: Fireworks, Explosives, Friction, Hot Material							3		1	4
Unknown	1	2	2	2	6	158	246	25	5	447
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>939</b>



# FIRE LOSSES AT \$50,000 & OVER

DATE	TIME	ADDRESS	PROPERTY USE	PROPERTY DOLLAR LOSS	CONTENTS DOLLAR LOSS	TOTAL LOSS
<b>1/6/18</b>	0:59	355 Morgan Ave.	Warehouse	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<b>4/14/18</b>	19:23	600 Crouse St.	1 or 2 Family Dwelling	\$40,000.00	\$12,000.00	<b>\$52,000.00</b>
<b>4/15/18</b>	2:26	338 N. Arlington St. Suite 3	Multifamily Dwelling	\$80,000.00	\$30,000.00	<b>\$110,000.00</b>
<b>4/18/18</b>	23:26	354 E. Market St.	Adult Education Center, College Classroom	\$1,975,000.00	\$25,000.00	<b>\$2,000,000.00</b>
<b>4/22/18</b>	0:28	55 Twin Oaks Rd.	Parking Garage, General Vehicle	\$40,000.00	\$200,000.00	<b>\$240,000.00</b>
<b>5/5/18</b>	2:54	235 Madison Ave.	Multifamily Dwelling	\$50,000.00	\$5,000.00	<b>\$55,000.00</b>
<b>5/5/18</b>	21:26	1870 Marks Ave.	1 or 2 Family Dwelling	\$80,000.00	\$5,000.00	<b>\$85,000.00</b>
<b>6/9/18</b>	8:33	1907 E. Market St.	Railroad Yard	\$50,000.00	\$150,000.00	<b>\$200,000.00</b>
<b>7/15/18</b>	0:22	104 W. Crosier St.	1 or 2 Family Dwelling	\$50,000.00	\$25,000.00	<b>\$75,000.00</b>
<b>7/18/18</b>	12:54	240 W. Emerling Ave.	Manufacturing, Processing	\$5,000,000.00	\$15,000,000.00	<b>\$20,000,000.00</b>
<b>8/7/18</b>	22:26	1070 E. Tallmadge Ave.	Bowling Establishment	\$150,000.00	\$25,000.00	<b>\$175,000.00</b>
<b>8/17/18</b>	4:40	1241 Brownstone Ave. Suite 311	Multifamily Dwelling	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<b>10/17/18</b>	9:24	82 Oakdale Ave.	Multifamily Dwelling	\$35,000.00	\$20,000.00	<b>\$55,000.00</b>
<b>11/12/18</b>	3:40	1305 Florida Ave.	Parking Garage, (Detached Residential Garage)	\$55,000.00	\$15,000.00	<b>\$70,000.00</b>
<b>11/16/18</b>	2:47	SR 8 N./E. Exchange St.	Highway or Divided Highway	\$55,000.00	\$0.00	<b>\$55,000.00</b>

# LOSS CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDING FIRES

	NUMBER OF FIRES	PERCENTAGE OF FIRES	ESTIMATED LOSS	PERCENTAGE OF LOSS
<b>Under 5k</b>	8,634	96.20%	\$234,320	0.04%
<b>5k – 9,999</b>	8	0.09%	\$148,826	0.02%
<b>10k – 19,999</b>	35	0.39%	\$520,930	0.09%
<b>20k – 29,999</b>	31	0.35%	\$759,775	0.13%
<b>30k – 39,999</b>	26	0.29%	\$901,250	0.15%
<b>40k – 49,999</b>	24	0.27%	\$1,080,350	0.18%
<b>50k+</b>	217	2.42%	\$593,469,968	99.39%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,975</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$597,115,419</b>	<b>100%</b>



# SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY TYPE	2018	2017	UP	DOWN
<b>TOTAL RESPONSES</b>	<b>23,581</b>	<b>21,867</b>	<b>1,714</b>	
<b>TOTAL ALARMS</b>	<b>11,623</b>	<b>13,035</b>		<b>1,412</b>
<b>ACCIDENTAL ALARMS</b>	486	463	23	
<b>BUILDING FIRES</b>	258	226	32	
<b>EMERGENCY ALARMS</b>	3,424	5,126		1,702
<b>FALSE ALARMS</b>	78	125		47
<b>GRASS/RUBBISH</b>	78	125		47
<b>MISC. FIRE</b>	52	77		25
<b>MISC. CALLS (NO FIRE INVOLVED)</b>	7,088	6,716	372	
<b>VEHICLE FIRES</b>	159	177		18
<b>FIRE LOSS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,724,020</b>	<b>\$6,100,219</b>	<b>\$20,623,801</b>	
<b>PER CAPITA</b>	<b>\$134</b>	<b>\$31</b>		
<b>POPULATION OF AKRON (2010 CENSUS)</b>	<b>199,000</b>	<b>199,000</b>		

## BUILDING TYPE FIRE STATISTICS

BUILDING	VALUATION	LOSS
<b>BASIC INDUSTRY</b>	\$1,500,000	\$2,000
<b>EDUCATIONAL</b>	\$7,000,000	\$1,985,000
<b>INSTITUTIONAL</b>	\$13,700,000	\$1,001
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	\$233,500,000	\$5,005,500
<b>PUBLIC ASSEMBLY</b>	\$5,664,670	\$191,250
<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>	\$177,116,360	\$2,168,653
<b>SPECIAL</b>	\$22,714,348	\$924,686
<b>STORAGE</b>	\$23,871,020	\$268,150
<b>STORE &amp; OFFICE</b>	\$115,804,021	\$100,651

## VEHICLE TYPE FIRE STATISTICS

VEHICLE TYPE	VALUATION	LOSS
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	\$714,550	\$282,676
<b>MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	\$1,133,951	\$691,201

# ALARMS WHERE NO FIRE WAS INVOLVED

<b>Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)</b>	1
Overpressure rupture from steam (no ensuing fire)	0
Overpressure rupture from air or gas (no ensuing fire)	11
Explosion (no fire)	7
Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	0
<b>Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident</b>	
Medical Assist	10
Lock-in	21
Search for lost person	3
Extrication, rescue	106
Water and ice-related rescue	2
Electrical rescue	0
<b>Hazardous Condition (No Fire)</b>	
Combustible/flammable spills and leaks	181
Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition	75
Radioactive condition	0
Electrical wiring/equipment problem	650
Biological hazard	4
Accident, potential accident	13
Explosive, bomb removal	2
Attempted burning, illegal action	1
Hazardous condition (no fire), other	0
<b>Service Call</b>	
Person in distress	58
Water problem	93
Smoke, odor problem	212
Animal problem or rescue	120
Public service assistance	425
Unauthorized burning	509
Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up	0
Service call, other	8
<b>Good Intent Call</b>	
Dispatched and cancelled en route	632
Wrong location, no emergency found	214
Controlled burning	32
Vicinity alarm	0
Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke	359
EMS call where party has been transported	0
HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat found	121
Good intent call, other	7
<b>False Alarm and False Call</b>	
Malicious, mischievous false alarm	121
Bomb scare (no bomb)	11
System or detector malfunction	519
Unintentional system or detector operation (no fire)	106
False alarm and false call, other	35
<b>Severe Weather and Natural Disaster</b>	
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	342
<b>Special Incident Type</b>	
Citizen Complaint	2
Special type of incident, other	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,013</b>



# ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIAL SERVICES SUBDIVISION



Through the diligent efforts of the many employees that comprise the **Administrative/Special Services Subdivision**, I am pleased to report that in 2018, we continued to fulfill our mission of providing the resources, training, and support necessary for the smooth operation of the Division of Fire. I also wish to thank all of the employees of the subdivision for their individual and collective contributions in support of the ongoing mission to protect the lives and property of the citizens and visitors here in the City of Akron.

The **Administration/Special Services Subdivision** is comprised of the Accounting and Services Bureau, the Administrative and Clerical Staff, the Communications Bureau, the Emergency Medical Services Bureau, the Fire Training Bureau, and the Fire Maintenance Facility.

The **Administrative and Clerical Staff** provide the essential services necessary to allow our division to operate continuously and smoothly. Purchasing, payroll, incident record management, personnel records, public reception/inquiries, and injury/exposure tracking are just some of the many duties carried out by the administrative and clerical staff. This bureau is managed by District Chief Steve Kaut, (330) 375-2411.

The **Accounting and Services Bureau** is responsible for many “behind-the-scenes” activities necessary for the continued operation of the division. These include the preparation and oversight of the annual budgets utilized by the Akron Fire Department; the administration of all departmental human resource functions; the application and implementation of all grants; and the oversight of the Administrative and Clerical Staff.

The **Communications Bureau** provides the important task of providing fire and EMS supervision at the City’s Safety Communications Division (9-1-1 center). This is accomplished with Fire Lieutenants stationed at the dispatch center on 24-hour shifts. They also work closely with the Akron Communications Division to ensure all means of communication used by our division remain functional and reliable. They also provide oversight to the Fire employees assigned to the Safety Forces Information Technology Section, which is a joint operation between police and fire providing support for various Information Technology systems such as our computer-aided dispatching system, SafetyNet network, and records management systems. This bureau is managed by District Chief Leon Henderson, (330) 375-2341.

# ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIAL SERVICES SUBDIVISION

The **Fire Prevention Bureau** (co-managed by the Special Services Subdivision) provides critical safety support services daily. The Code Enforcement Section provides plans review and fire inspections which help to reduce fire loss and ensure the safety of both the citizens and the firefighters. Our code enforcement inspections are conducted by certified inspectors assigned to both the section itself and also assigned to firefighting companies. The Public Education Section provides important life safety education to a wide cross-section of the community including schools, businesses, senior residences, government agencies, and other entities as required. The Fire Investigation Section provides cause and origin determinations for all fire incidents, along with internal and new-hire background investigations as required. All personnel assigned to the Fire Investigations Section are not only experienced firefighters but also hold Ohio Peace Officer commissions and are Akron Police Department reserve officers.



**Charles Twigg**  
Deputy Chief

The **Emergency Medical Services Bureau** is the most visible component of the Akron Fire Department. The largest percentage of all calls to the Fire Department today are EMS calls. The Akron Fire Department initiated a municipal emergency medical system in 1978 with just 3 ambulances and a handful of paramedics. We now serve the community with 13 ambulances and over 170 paramedics. The goal of our EMS system is to continue the tradition of competent, compassionate, and timely service to those individuals who live in, work in, and visit the City of Akron. This bureau is managed by District Chief Joe Natko, (330) 375-2071.

The **Fire Training Bureau** has responsibility for the oversight and coordination of all training conducted by the Department. Instruction begins on a Fire/Medic's first day as a member of the Akron Fire Department and continues until that person retires from the fire service. Fire Training researches, develops, implements, and tests on a wide variety of knowledge and skill-based topics in which expertise is essential in today's fire service. Fire Training also administers the Apprenticeship program that assists in developing recruits into Journeyman Fire/Medics. The goal of all of our training is to further develop our personnel and deliver excellent emergency services in a safe, efficient manner. The Fire Training Bureau offices are located at the Akron Fire Department Training Academy (**The Foundry**), 1309 Emmitt Rd. This bureau is managed by District Chief Scott Pascu, (330) 375-2635.

The **Fire Maintenance Facility** is responsible for the development of specifications used to purchase vehicles, tools, equipment, and supplies; the maintenance of buildings, vehicles, hydrants, and equipment; and the acquisition, storage, and distribution of materials and supplies necessary for operations. This dedicated group literally keeps the department rolling. They work diligently to ensure the needs of the firefighting and EMS companies are met continuously.

The **Fire Maintenance Section**, **Hydrant Maintenance Section**, and the **Fire and EMS Storeroom Section** report to Fire Maintenance Supervisor Bob Carillon, (330) 375-2379. This facility is managed by District Chief Dave O'Neal.

# 2018 EMS BUREAU



**Joseph Natko**  
District Chief

The Akron Fire Department's **Emergency Medical Services Bureau** presents the following summary of the 2018 year:

Akron Fire provides Advanced Life Support to the City of Akron with 13 medical units that are available 365 days per year. These units are staffed with a minimum of two paramedics under the supervision of a medical control physician. Akron Fire also supports a Bariatric medical unit, an Alternate Response Vehicle that responds to low acuity calls Monday through Friday as well as a Tactical medical unit. During the 2018 year, Akron Fire responded to 42,491 emergency medical runs, which continue to rise annually.

Akron Fire supported many special events with medical units on standby during the year. The following are a few of those events: The OHSA softball tournament; The Rib, White, and Blue Festival and fireworks display; The Italian Fest; The Soap Box Derby races; The Hardesty Park Expo; The Bridgestone Golf Tournament; and The Akron Marathon races.

A total of 10 fire/medics completed their paramedic training in 2018. Three of these students attended the paramedic training program at Akron General Medical Center while the other seven attended Summa's. We continue to work with all of the area hospitals and agencies to ensure that Akron has one of the best-educated EMS systems in the country.

The **AFD Tactical EMS (TEMS)** program currently consists of 23 tactical paramedics. These paramedics are specially trained to treat wounded officers and civilians in hazardous environments such as drug interdiction, hostage negotiations, and barricaded subjects.

The team supports the **Akron Police Department SWAT** team and the **Summit County Bomb Squad**, responding to 35 incidents in 2018, and participating in all monthly training. The TEMS medic's role is to provide immediate treatment to injured persons during high-risk law enforcement operations, provide the scene commander with a medical threat assessment, and promote the safety and health of law enforcement personnel.

# 2018 EMS BUREAU

In March, AFD partnered with The Cleveland Clinic/Akron General Medical Center to purchase and implement the PulsePoint phone app for the citizens of Akron. App users who have indicated that they are trained in CPR are notified if they are within 400 meters of a Sudden Cardiac Arrest when it occurs in a public area, and have the option to respond. This quick response by educated bystanders allows for a reduced time in providing quick lifesaving CPR, significantly increasing survivability in out-of-hospital cardiac arrests. In support of this new tool, paramedics taught Hands-Only CPR to more than 4,500 citizens, including 700 City of Akron employees.

In April, with the help of a grant from the Northeast Ohio Golf Charities, AFD purchased 59 ballistic vests and helmets and placed them on all medical units. The ballistic vests will be an additional layer of protection for the paramedics who often operate in hostile and potentially unstable environments. The implementation of the vests also allowed AFD to change the way we respond to active shooter/violence incidents. Should one of these events happen to occur, two Paramedics would join two APD officers to form a **Rescue Task Force (RTF)**. These Task Forces will enter a scene that hasn't been rendered completely safe to perform lifesaving interventions in a much timelier manner when critical seconds for patient survival count.

Akron Police joined Akron Fire to extensively train all members of both departments on this new concept, including extensive bleeding control tactics for all APD officers. This training, the largest joint training to date, demonstrates how the safety forces continue to work closely together to achieve the common goal of improving safety in the City of Akron.

In March, AFD was awarded the Safety Intervention grant from the Bureau of Worker's Compensation. This grant allowed us to purchase two Stryker Power Cots and PowerLoad systems to install on the Med Units to facilitate the loading and unloading of patients. This new equipment should significantly reduce the muscle strains and sprains commonly experienced by our Paramedics during this strenuous maneuver.

The **Quality Assurance Program** for Akron Fire-EMS is coordinated by Rita Chambers in conjunction with the AFD Medical Advisor, Dr. Amy Raubenolt. QA is responsible for the ongoing review and evaluation of all aspects of EMS from protocols, testing, education, equipment, documentation, and the wide spectrum of patient care provided by Akron FD paramedics. All AFD paramedics undergo semi-annual protocol testing which includes a written exam and scenario-based skills testing.

In 2018, the **QA Coordinator** began submitting data to the national cardiac arrest registry (**CARES**). Feedback from the hospitals provides the necessary data to determine survivability from cardiac arrest and for AFD to work on improving all aspects of emergency cardiac care. Also, in 2018 AFD EMS was awarded the Mission Lifeline EMS Gold Plus Achievement Award from the American Heart Association.

EMS is a vital component and integral part of the Akron Fire Department and continues to evolve and provide outstanding services to the citizens of Akron. This has been accomplished by dedicated well-trained personnel who are committed to maintaining the highest standard of care that the citizens of Akron have come to expect.

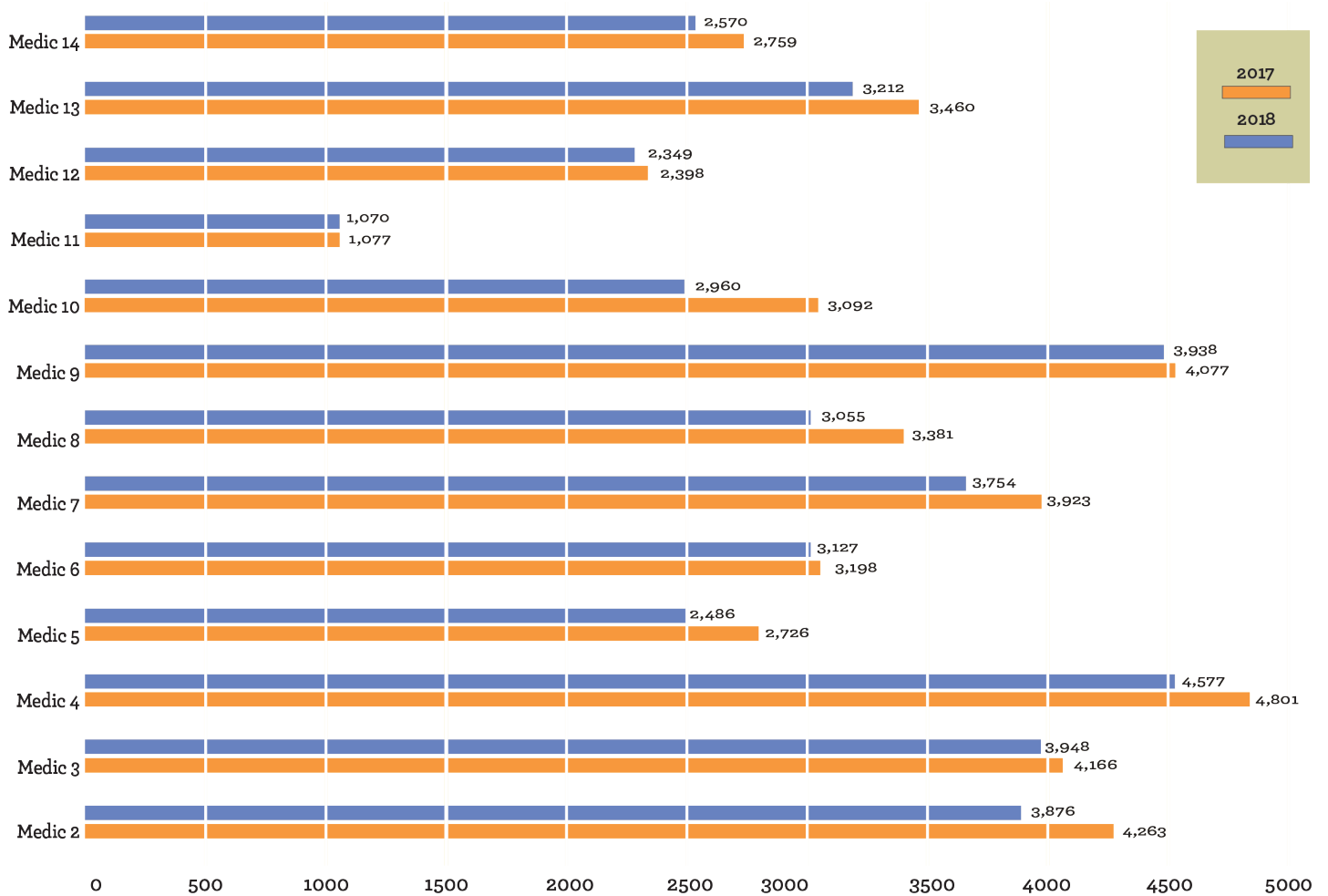
Lastly, the Emergency Medical Services Bureau would like to recognize the following individuals for their tireless support of the EMS Bureau functions: Captain Christopher Karakis, Lieutenant Joseph Shumaker, Lieutenant Dan Garrett, Guy Randall, and Rita Chamber of EMS Training as well as our Medical Director Dr. Amy Raubenolt.



# TOTAL RESPONSES BY MEDICAL UNIT

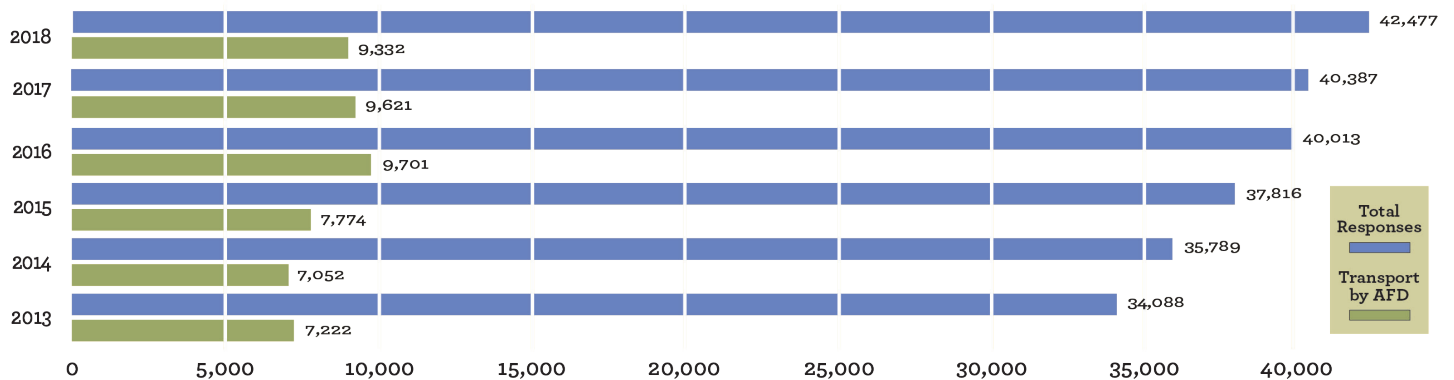
## 26 TEMS

## 1,094 AV1



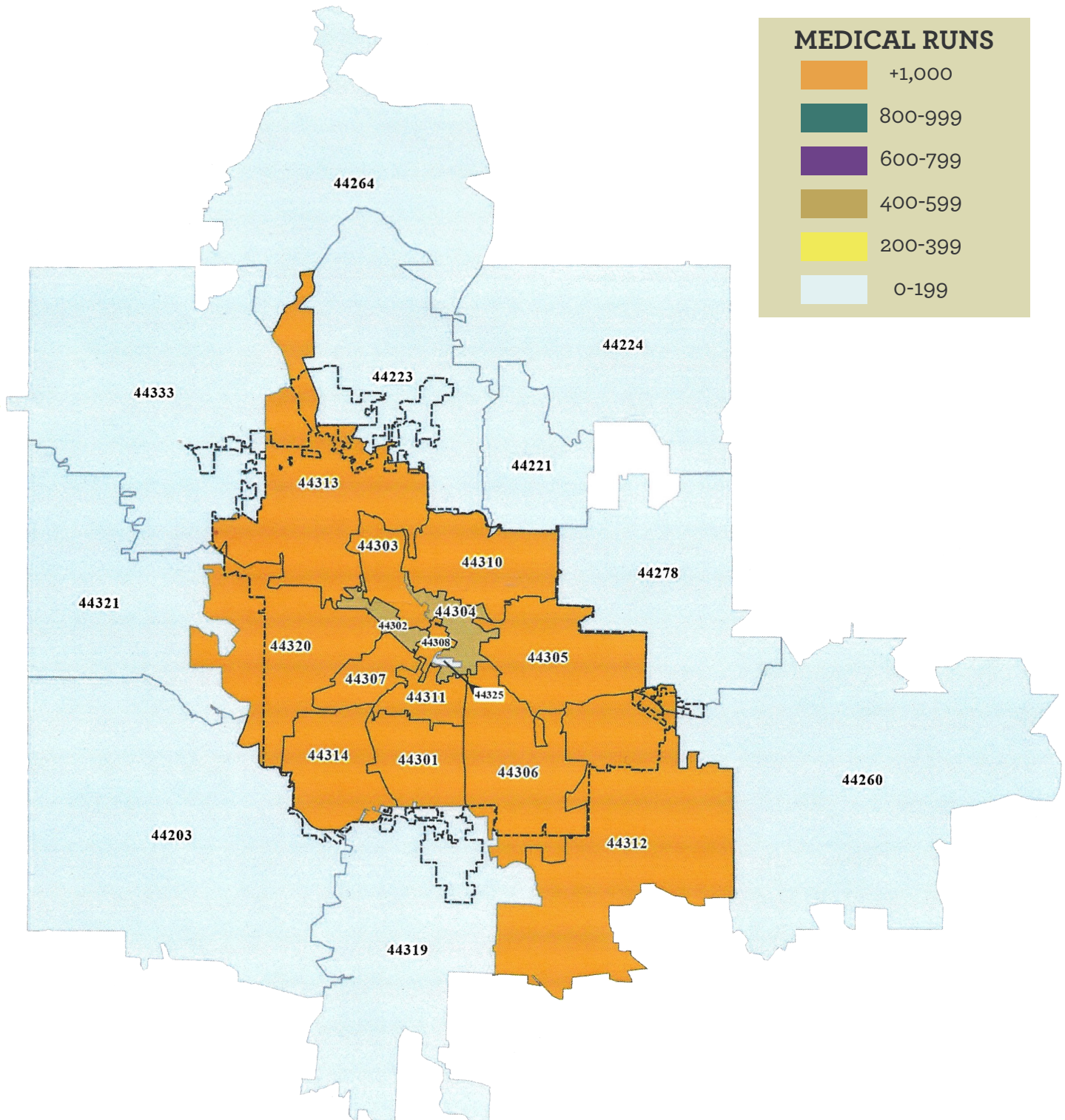
# TOTAL SYSTEM REVIEW

## 2018 Total Responses - 42,477



# MEDICAL RUNS BY THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS) PER ZIP CODE

TOTAL ALARMS - 42,477





# TOTAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (TEMS)

The **Fire Department TEMS** team is comprised of fifteen specially trained and equipped paramedics dedicated to providing emergency medical support for the Akron Police Department SWAT team during tactical missions and training. The team acts as a liaison between the fire police department during tactical operations and provides emergency medical care to sick or injured civilians and police officers in situations where standard medical personnel are not equipped to operate.



City of Akron  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

# FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The office phone number for the **Fire Prevention Bureau** is **(330) 375-2211**. The Fire Prevention Bureau office consists of the following sections; **Code Enforcement**, **Community Services**, and **Fire Investigation**.



**Frank Poletta**  
District Chief

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the **Fire Prevention Bureau** is to safeguard life, property, and public welfare from the hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage handling, or use of substances, materials, or devices and from conditions hazardous to life, property, or public welfare in the use of occupancy of buildings, structures, sheds, tents, lots or premises.

The Akron Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau works hard to keep fires from occurring by providing code enforcement, fire safety community services, and fire investigation. We accomplish this by using education, engineering, and enforcement.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT SECTION

The **Code Enforcement Section** is responsible for enforcing the City of Akron's fire codes, which include fire safety standards from the City of Akron Municipal Code, Title 93, The Ohio Fire Code, Ohio Building Code, and the National Fire Protection Association codes along with a list of other codes and standards. Inspections are counted in all buildings and facilities with both private and public use within the city.

The purpose of the code enforcement section is to provide fire safety inspections within the City of Akron to guard against:

- The hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling, or use of structures, materials, or devices.
- Conditions hazardous to life, property, or public welfare in the occupancy of structures or premises.
- Fire hazards from occupancy or operation in the structure or on the premises.
- Matters related to the construction, extension, repair alteration or removal of fire suppression, or alarm systems.



# FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

## PLANS REVIEW SECTION

The **Plans Review** section reviews construction plans and other related documents of all structures proposed for construction to assure fire safety codes are followed. In 2018, the code enforcement section performed plan reviews on 790 sets of building plans. These plans were reviewed for egress, fire suppression, fire alarm systems, and other safety issues.

In 2018, the Fire Prevention Bureau performed **5,878 inspections**, **2,606 recall inspections** and **cited 17,578 violations**.

In 2018 the Fire Prevention Bureau:

- Issued 60 Tent permits for special events and community groups.
- Inspected 49 food vendors for events held in the City of Akron.
- Performed fire drills on all 51 Akron Public Schools and 33 Private schools.
- Inspected 107 Daycares, Group, and Foster Homes.
- Performed 266 special testing requests.

In 2018, 51 fire companies performed 1,020 primary inspections on small mercantile and business occupancies. This allowed fire prevention inspectors the opportunity to complete inspections of larger, more complex, and more hazardous occupancies.

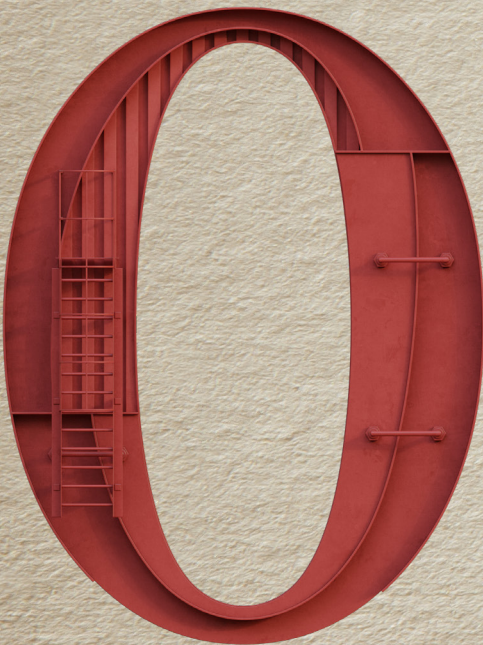
Fire prevention inspectors attended fireworks updates given by the State Fire Marshall's office and monitored all fireworks displays held in the City of Akron in 2018. This is required by the State Fire Marshall.



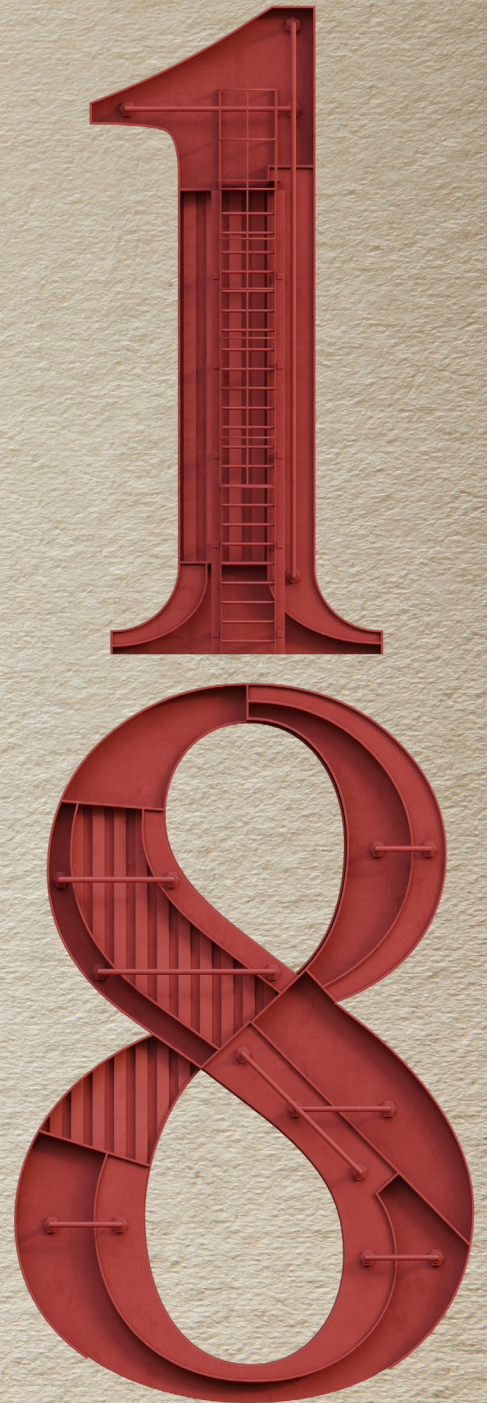


# CONGRATULATIONS

## 2018 GRADUATES







City of Akron  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**



# 2018 FIRE PREVENTION NUMBERS

	INSPECTIONS	RECALLS	VIOLATIONS
<b>Church</b>	84	72	322
<b>Night Club/Bars</b>	46	62	339
<b>Restaurants</b>	171	98	896
<b>Rec Centers</b>	32	30	146
<b>Professional Offices</b>	348	296	756
<b>Medical Offices</b>	55	43	189
<b>Barber/Beauty Shop</b>	117	70	194
<b>Banks</b>	12	3	8
<b>Daycare</b>	22	16	49
<b>School Elementary</b>	26	23	118
<b>School Jr High</b>	17	16	52
<b>School High</b>	23	16	95
<b>Plastic Manufacture</b>	14	11	25
<b>Dry Cleaning</b>	9	9	21
<b>Machine Shop</b>	22	16	51
<b>Print Commercial</b>	14	11	25
<b>Hospitals</b>	21	10	135
<b>Jails</b>	14	13	53
<b>Department Stores</b>	13	12	72
<b>Grocery Store</b>	55	47	125
<b>Furniture Store</b>	14	7	16
<b>Foster Homes</b>	35	16	54
<b>Apartments</b>	74	57	324
<b>Hotel/Motel</b>	7	4	10
<b>Boarding House</b>	18	18	56
<b>Auto Repair</b>	56	42	272
<b>Vacant/Secure</b>	115	24	70
<b>Plans</b>	152		



# AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD

The **Honor Guard's** primary responsibility is to represent the Akron Fire Department at funerals of both active and retired members. This includes offering any assistance needed to the family of the deceased, providing pallbearers, standing Honor Guard watch at the casket, posting colors, and coordinating any logistical plans with the funeral home.

The Honor Guard also participates in various civic functions when requested, such as flag raising ceremonies, Firefighter Memorial service, and community parades. Participation in the Honor Guard is voluntary and we utilize personnel both on-duty, off-duty, and retired.



# FIRE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Akron Fire Department's **Fire Investigations Unit** conducts various investigations throughout the year. The Fire Investigations Unit (FIU) is comprised of a **Section Manager**, **Assistant Section Manager**, and **three investigators** assigned to three shifts. The FIU's primary responsibility is to provide fire officers and commanders with fully analyzed fire determinations. The accuracy of these determinations is dependent on investigators' systematic and scientific approach conducted during the investigation. This provides Fire Administration with a clear understanding of the fire's origin and the cause. This information is one of the most crucial steps in the fire prevention cycle. Understanding how fires start assists the Fire Prevention Bureau to take necessary steps to prevent subsequent fires.

The fire determinations made within the City of Akron fall into one of the following four categories: accidental, natural, undetermined, and incendiary. Fires determined to be intentional, or incendiary are investigated as crimes. The FIU works closely with The Akron Police Department to identify, apprehend, and prosecute the person or parties responsible for the fire. The FIU also initiates internal investigations for the Akron Fire Department's administration at the direction of the Fire Chief. At the request of the FIU, the Akron Police Department may assist with internal investigations as well. Other unit responsibilities include conducting pre-employment background investigations on all future firefighter/paramedic candidates.

In 2018, the Fire Investigations Unit conducted a total of **194 fire investigations: 123 residential structure fires, 15 vacant structures, 17 exposures to other fires, and 7 residential garage fires**. Other fires investigated were 10 commercial structure fires, 40 vehicle fires, 2 school fires, one office fire, one church fire, and four miscellaneous fire incidents. Our fire investigators determined that 68 of the 194 fires investigated were intentional/incendiary in nature. Among the 40 vehicle fires occurring within the Akron City limits, 6 were stolen vehicles. In addition to these investigations, FIU members responded to 131 service calls: 135 Carbon Monoxide detector inspections and readings, and 8 Open Burning complaints. Fire Investigations Unit criminal investigations resulted in 10 arrests and 9 convictions in 2018. The FIU investigated 5 separate fires in 2018 which involved 5 civilian fire fatalities.

With the assistance from Akron Fire Department personnel in the Fire Prevention Bureau, from the three shifts, and when requested, the Akron Police Department and the Fire Investigations Unit conduct comprehensive, pre-employment background investigations prior to Fire Administration's selection of new academy recruits. The background investigation is used by Fire Administration to determine candidate suitability due to the nature of the fire department's responsibilities while serving its citizens. Many current Akron Fire Department personnel worked diligently, recruiting new fire candidates, in conjunction with performing their normal firefighting and medical duties. Fire Administration is eager to provide current fire companies with recruits to maintain safe and adequate staffing levels.

Fire Investigations conducted several internal investigations for Fire Administration. Internal investigations are conducted with the utmost levels of confidentiality and professionalism. These investigations are conducted to maintain the highest levels of integrity within our Fire Department. In addition, several of our Fire Investigators were granted training to stay in compliance with the 16 requisite continuing education topics needed to function as a Fire Investigator. These training requirements are found in NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921, which are standards and guidelines followed by all Fire Investigators, respectively. The FIU continues to function as the regional reporting location for burn injuries. As required by law, information such as suspicious fire/burn injuries are forwarded from area hospitals to our office for future investigative use.



# FIRE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT



**Lt. T. Webb**  
Fire Investigator

## FIRE INVESTIGATORS

**MATT D'AVELLO**

**JARRED ALDEN**

**NATHAN FALCONE**

**BRIAN DUSSEAU**

**ANDY HOCH**

**ROBERT WROBLEWSKI**



# FIRE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

In 2018, the Fire Investigations Unit assisted other local agencies and law enforcement entities as requested throughout the year. We would like to thank the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office, their Forensic Laboratory, Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification, FBI, ATF, and the Akron Police Department for their continued assistance and support throughout 2018. The Fire Investigations Unit is eager to provide professional, timely, and accurate investigations for the Akron Fire Department and the citizens of this community in 2019.

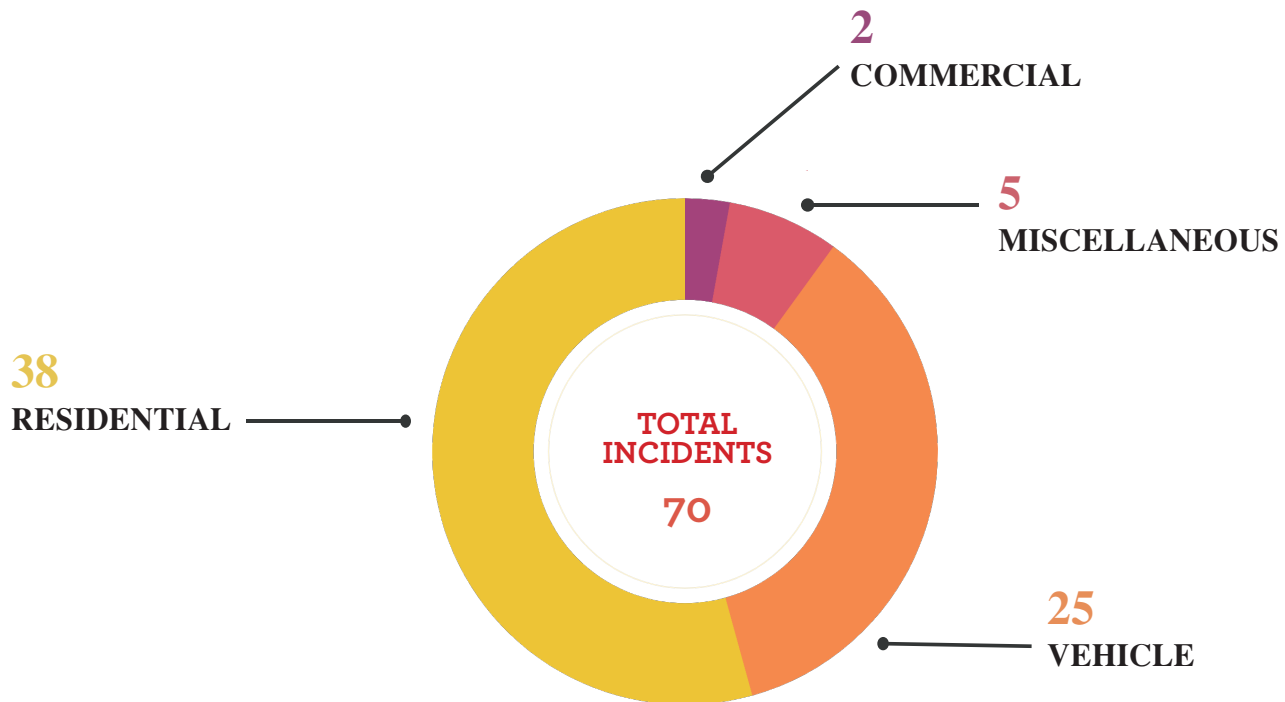
## 2018 Statistics

Fires Investigated	194
Incendiary Fires	68
Fatalities	5
APD Reports Generated	73
1-2 Family Dwellings	108
Multi-Unit Dwellings	15
Vehicle Fires	40
Commercial Fires	10
Garage/Shed Fires	7
Exposures	17
Vacant Structure Fires	15
Office Fires	1
School Fires	2
Church Fires	1
Arrests	10
Convictions	9
Miscellaneous Incidents	4

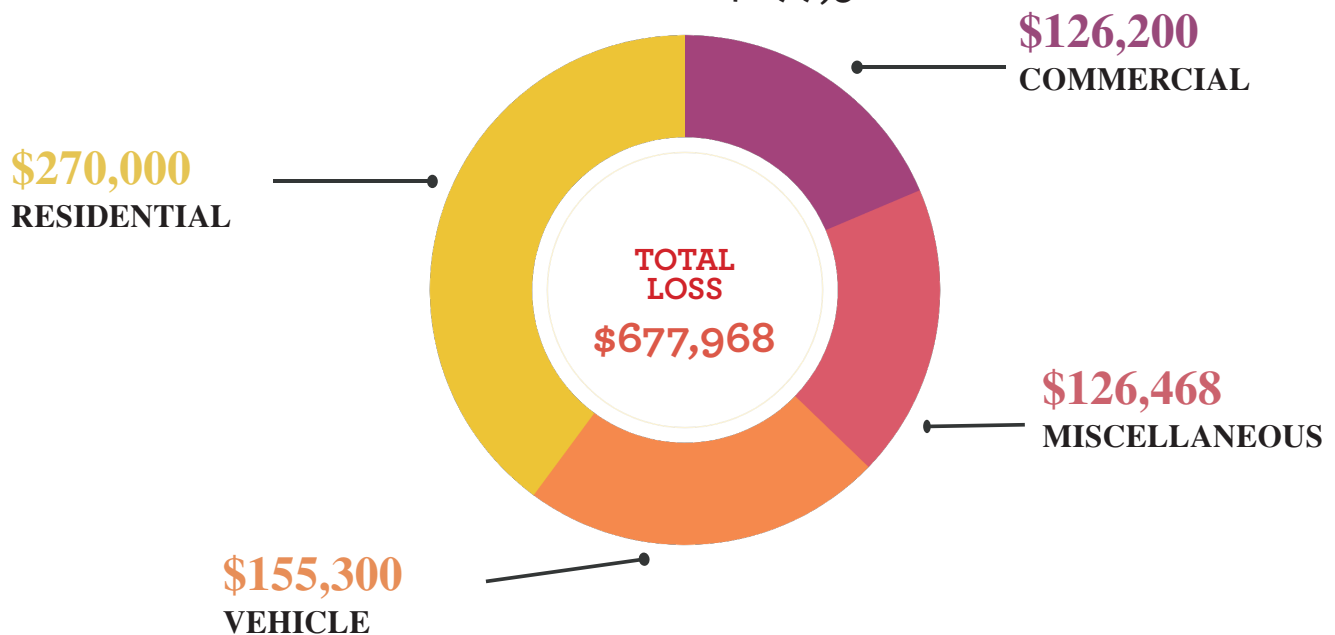


# FIRE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

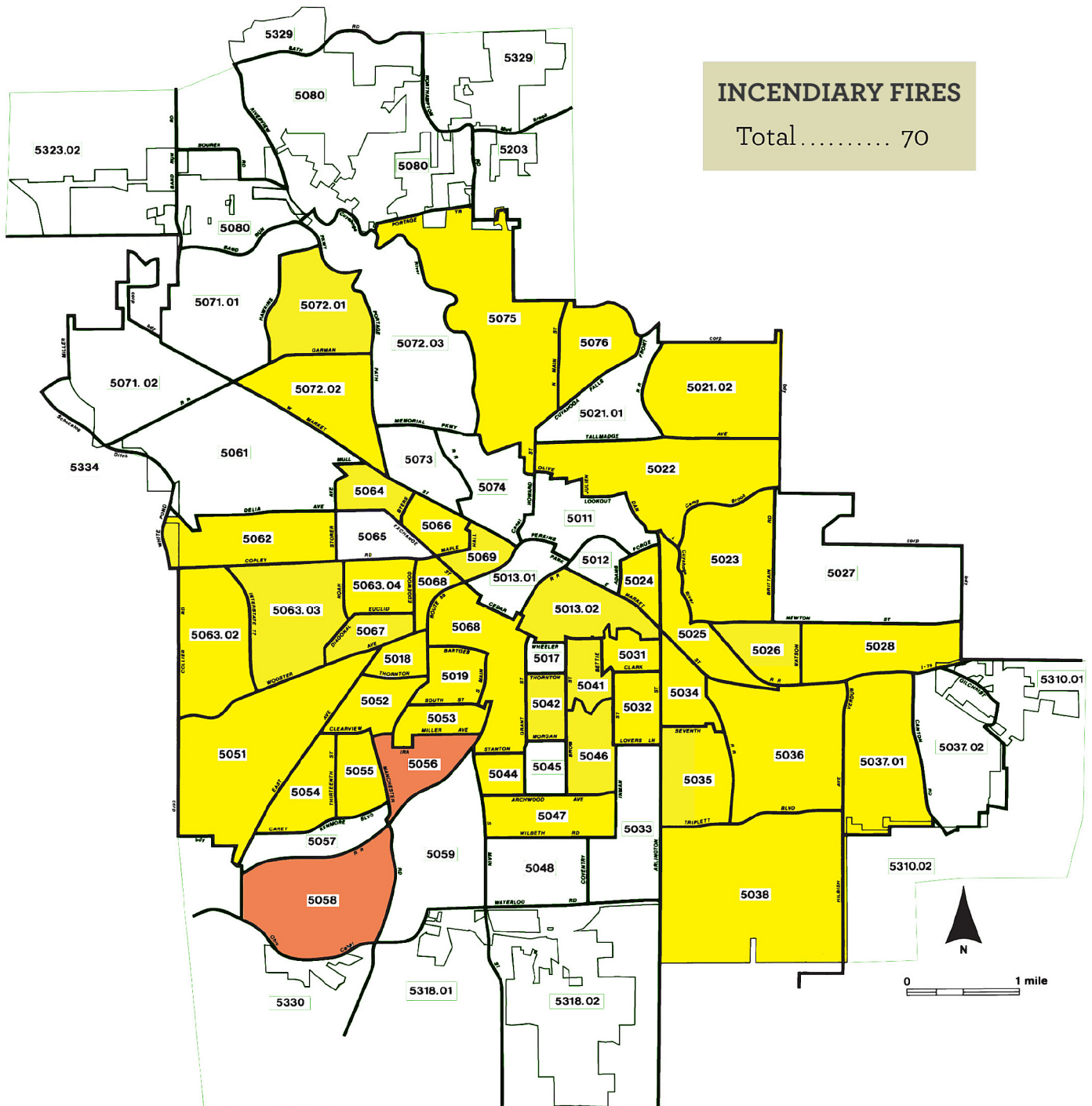
## 2018 INCENDIARY INCIDENTS 70 TOTAL INCIDENTS



## 2018 INCENDIARY DOLLAR LOSS TOTAL LOSS \$677,968



# INCENDIARY FIRES PER CENSUS TRACT



# FIRE TRAINING BUREAU



**Scott Pascu**  
District Chief

The **Akron Fire Department Training Bureau** exists to ensure that our personnel provides the highest level of service to our community. The training staff at the fire academy, also known as ‘**The Foundry**’, consists of a District Chief, one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one firefighter. It is our goal to continually provide updated and relevant educational, professional development, certification compliance, and hands-on experiences to our members.

For everyone who starts their career at the Akron Fire Department, this path is initially forged during the department’s 14-week fire academy. During this training, cadets are introduced to the latest firefighting theories, tactics, and techniques, allowing them to acquire knowledge, experience, and confidence to become productive and safe firefighters. This year 2018 welcomes 18 new cadets to the Akron Fire Department workforce.

For those that graduated the 2018 fire academy class and became sworn members of the Akron Fire Department, professional development immediately began through a 3-year apprenticeship program. This tried-and-true process, of challenging new firefighters through bookwork, testing, and hands-on skills, allows apprentice firefighters the opportunity to further their knowledge and confidence, through on-the-job experiences. There were 50 total apprentice firefighters who spent 24,908 hours on career development training throughout the year.

Department-wide training included:

- High-Rise operations
- RIT Techniques
- Mayday Procedures
- Vehicle & Bus Extrication- In collaboration with Akron Public Schools (who donated 3 school busses), we were able to simulate a School bus crash that requires extrication and triage of multiple victims. This gave our extrication teams rare experiences of cutting and learning the structure of these yellow busses.
- Live Fire Training Evolutions
- National Fire Academy Leadership in Supervision- For the first time ever, AFD hosted an NFA course that brought attendees from 4 states and aspiring leaders all over Ohio. This intensive six-day course was secured by a grant from the USFA.
- Instructor Course
- Inspector Classes
- Complete Series of Fire Officer classes (1-4).

Rounding out this training, the fire academy staff also oversees SCBA mask fit testing, fire engine pump testing, schedules hose testing, and ‘fit for fire’.

Looking to the future, the Akron Fire Department Training Staff sets the goal of providing its members with the latest tactics, techniques, and educational opportunities, so we all stand ready to provide the highest level of service possible to the citizens of the great city!

# ACCOUNTING & SERVICES BUREAU

The **Accounting and Services Bureau**, located within the Fire Division's main administrative offices, provides a broad range of vital services to the Fire Department. While our work is largely behind the scenes, there is not an area of the Department that could function without the efforts of our Bureau. Some of the responsibilities of the Bureau include operational and capital budgeting, purchasing, payroll, human resource functions, personnel leave management, and grant writing.

The primary mission of the Accounting and Services Bureau is to support the efforts of the various components of the Fire Department. Our main goal is to efficiently utilize the generous funding provided to us by our citizens, Akron City Council, and the City Administration.

Our focus is to operate in a fiscally responsible manner, while simultaneously providing high-quality services to every person that lives, works, or visits our city. Obviously, the safety and security of the public and our personnel are always the top priority.

In addition to our primary mission, one of the major responsibilities of the Bureau is to prepare, submit, administer, and oversee the Operating, Capital, and Grant Fund budgets, of the Fire Division. In 2018, the combined budgets totaled approximately 55 million dollars. Over 5 million dollars of this budget was realized through revenue from the passing of Issue 4. This additional funding enabled the fire department to move forward with the construction of 2 new fire stations and provide all firefighters with 2 sets of structural firefighting gear. Over 85% of the Annual Operating Budget was earmarked for salaries and benefits with the remainder being utilized for operating costs such as building maintenance, vehicle maintenance, vehicle replacement, vehicle refurbishment, station supplies, EMS supplies, personal protective equipment, and station utilities.

The Bureau continues to search for alternative funding sources for fire and EMS equipment. In 2018, grants were submitted and subsequently awarded to Akron Fire for nearly \$400,000. These funds were used to purchase items such as power cot loading systems, automated external defibrillators, hazardous materials monitoring equipment, and rescue equipment. This equipment will ultimately provide for increased safety to our members and also the citizens, workers, and visitors to the City of Akron and surrounding communities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the personnel of the Accounting and Services Bureau for their dedication, hard work, and cooperative effort, without which we would not be able to accomplish our vitally important mission. I would like to also thank City Council and the City Administration for their continued support. We will continue to provide the citizens of Akron with outstanding Fire and EMS service. We are all honored to be a part of the City of Akron and the Akron Fire Department.



City of Akron  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**



# SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The bureau is managed by District Chief Leon Henderson (330) 375-2341.



**Leon Henderson**  
District Chief



The **Safety Communications Bureau** provides the important task of providing Fire/EMS supervision at the City's Safety Communications Division (9-1-1 center). This is accomplished with Fire Lieutenants stationed at the dispatch center on 24-hour shifts. Civilian Servision is in charge of training and quality assurance. Safety Communication Technicians (Dispatchers) enter information for incidents and code the call using the CAD (Computer Aided Dispatching).



The **Safety Communication Dispatch Center** is staffed 24/7/365 with dedicated and hard-working employees that are always there to ensure the safety of the citizens of Akron. A Safety Communication Technician is a difficult job, our dispatch center fielded over 519,000 calls in 2018. The Akron Safety Communications Center had a Call-Answer Rate of 90% in 2018. Safety Communications Center hired, trained, and certified 10 new technicians in 2018, increasing our staff is vital to better serve the citizens of Akron. The Safety Communications Center implemented a Quality Assurance Program for our response to EMS calls received by the center. This QA program ensures that our employees are providing quality instructions to people calling the center with an emergency medical situation.

# SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The **Safety Communications Center** implemented a new computerized scheduling software (Aladtec) to assist in the proper staffing and training of our employees. Please thank every one of the Safety Communication Technicians for their dedication and professionalism.

The Safety Communication Bureau is responsible for transmitting the emergency needs of the public to emergency responders via Safety Communication Technician (Fire/EMS/Police Dispatchers). Calls are received from the public via 9-1-1 phone lines, alarm boxes, TDD (Communication for the deaf), referrals from police, walk-ins at fire stations, and other means. Safety Communication Technicians (Dispatchers) enter information for incidents and code the call using the CAD (Computer Aided Dispatching). The equipment with the VESTA software allows us to get ANI (Automatic Number Identification) and ALI (Automatic Location Information) from wired, wireless, and Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phones. RapidSOS is an emergency technology company providing a direct data link from connected devices to 9-1-1. RapidSOS seeks to improve caller data accuracy in the Safety Communications Center (Dispatch Center).

Akron Fire Department Members can be notified of various types of alerts by “Active911” Notification Systems. Active911 is interfaced with our CAD, allowing any firefighter the ability to see all current Fire/EMS calls within the City of Akron on any cellular device (Apple or Android).





# SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Safety Communications Center migrated to a new Statewide Radio Network in 2018, **MARCS** (Multi-Agency Radio Communications System). As a state-of-art, wireless, 100% digital communications platform, this gives agencies heightened safety and effectiveness at the forefront, delivering seamless interoperability, secure, reliable communication, and cutting-edge voice and data capabilities.



**Akron Fire Department Information Technology** members are comprised of Firefighter Tim Smith and Lieutenant Michael Deihl. They work tireless hours managing our Network. This includes Applications, Record Management System, Hardware, Software Application, and JAMF (Mobile Device Management). Akron Fire IT Team is part of the Public Safety Information Technology Team that is comprised of uniform Akron Police Officers, and over the years we have collaborated on various projects. Please thank everyone in Information Technology for their dedication and professionalism.



# ORGANIZATION CHART



## SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

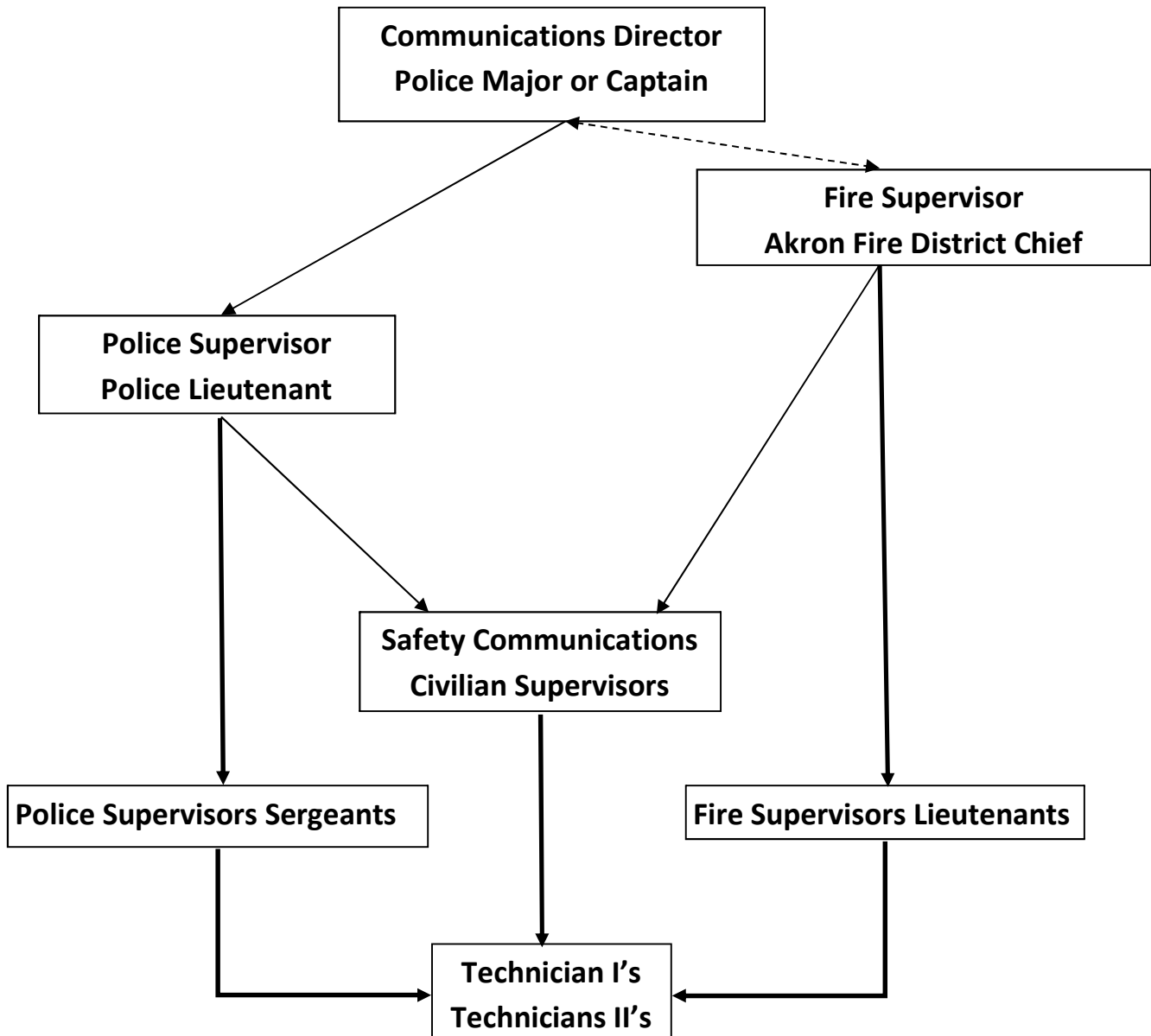
53 University Ave.  
Akron, Ohio 44308



DANIEL HARRIGAN, MAYOR

*Captain Brian Harding, Director of Safety Communications*

### Safety Communications Organization Chart





# MONTHLY ALARM DATA

Month	Buildings	Grass-Rubbish	Motor Vehicles	Misc.	FALSE	Accidental	Emergency First Aid	Misc.	Total Alarms
January	20	3	10	2	3	32	276	552	898
February	17	1	11	1	1	25	204	385	645
March	21	4	10	0	4	32	213	484	768
April	28	17	12	5	17	30	235	664	1,008
May	28	8	17	8	8	53	270	772	1,164
June	13	6	10	7	6	51	271	628	992
July	28	18	18	15	18	59	359	739	1,254
August	19	4	17	6	4	45	329	653	1,077
September	16	6	17	4	6	48	316	595	1,008
October	23	4	11	1	4	49	341	608	1,041
November	27	4	12	2	4	22	303	524	898
December	18	3	14	1	3	40	307	484	870
<b>Total</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>3,424</b>	<b>7,088</b>	<b>11,623</b>



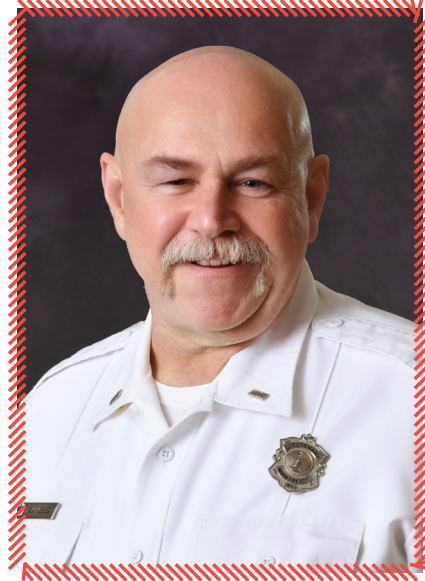
City of Akron  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

# SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

DISTRICT CHIEF DAVID O'NEAL/LT. ROB KEENER



**David O'Neal**  
District Chief



**Rob Keener**  
Lieutenant

The Akron Fire Department (AFD) **Special Operations Division** supervises the Hazardous Materials Team, Technical Rescue Team, Water Rescue Team, and the Decontamination Team. All these specialty units spend countless hours training in order to be prepared for any crisis that might occur. All components of the Special Operations Division are an integral part of a larger **Summit County Special Operations Response Teams (SCSORT)** consisting of members from most of the county's 31 political subdivisions. In addition to providing a large percentage of SORT membership, many of the Summit County vehicles and trailers are housed at various AFD fire stations. Collaboration within the county offers an added level of protection for residents of Akron and Summit County.



# SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

## **Hazardous Material Team: Team Leader- Lt. Rob Keener**

The AFD **Hazardous Material (HazMat) Team** is responsible for inspecting businesses that require the use of hazardous materials as part of their daily operations. In 2018, the AFD HazMat Team inspected 70 sites containing Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS). This is a thorough and precise inspection designed to ensure all operations and storage of products in these EHS facilities are safe. The AFD HazMat Team has developed relationships with companies and business owners which enhances the efficiency of this process.

The AFD **Hazmat Team** conducts monthly training which allows our team members to maintain their membership on the AFD team and SCSORT. During 2018, the Special Operations Division conducted a major drill for all AFD and Summit County team members. This drill was done in cooperation with Cleveland Clinic/Akron General. This scenario-based event involved a mock radiation release at Infocision Stadium, requiring the coordinated efforts of all agencies involved. This was an 8-hour event designed to measure our preparedness for such events and to show possible areas of improvement. This training proved to be a success, validating our team training and commitment to the citizens of Akron and Summit County.

The Special Operations Division also delivered hazardous materials awareness training for the City of Akron Safety Communications Center. A special thanks to Lieutenant Rob Keener, who prepared and delivered the training intended to teach our 9-1-1 operators and dispatchers key information to ascertain and deliver during these types of events. This training is typically done biennial but is delivered more frequently if needed.

## **Water Rescue Team: Team Leader- Captain Scott Duber**

The AFD **Water Rescue Team** worked hard to continue expanding the swift Water portion of the Water Rescue Branch. Significant time was invested in rope training and riverboat operations designed to increase the safety and proficiency of the team. There was also a continued focus on training with other members of the Summit County Water Rescue Team. Our county team continues to be a leader in the State of Ohio, maintaining Type-1 status for a second consecutive year. This was a major accomplishment that positioned AFD/SC as a leader in the State of Ohio with water rescue capabilities.

The training was a major component of the AFD Water Rescue Team, requiring numerous skill tests to ensure safety when operating during an incident. Team members are required to take an annual swim test, conduct monthly dives, and participate in monthly refresher training to maintain skills. The dedication of the AFD Water Rescue Team fully demonstrates a commitment to the safety and protection of Akron's citizens.

The Water Rescue Branch relies heavily on equipment to provide safety for members during training and missions. In 2018, members took part in the AGA dive mask technician training class. When dealing with such delicate equipment, members feel a level of confidence when they can perform maintenance on their own equipment. The AFD Water Rescue Team was also fortunate enough to be able to replace two aging rescue boats in our fleet by purchasing a new Zodiac and Jon boat.





# SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

## Technical Rescue Operations Team: (Team Leader Lt. Mike Alexander)

The AFD **Technical Rescue Operations Team (TROT)** is centered on 6 main disciplines, requiring each team member to maintain training and proficiency. All members specialize in High Angle Rescue, Structural Collapse, Trench Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Tunnel Rescue, and Field Force Extrication. Team members complete monthly training to maintain proficiency in each area. The AFD team members are also members of the Summit County Technical Rescue Operations Team, working on a regular basis with members from other departments to provide for the residents of Akron and Summit County.

The AFD **Tunnel Rescue Team** took part in biennial recertification training in 2018. This is a 5-day course designed to reinforce tunnel safety and operations. This training was followed by 3-days of live tunnel training featuring multiple scenarios. This training took place in a 1,000-foot section of the OCIT Tunnel currently under construction.

The **TROT** also participated in confined space training delivered by the International Association of Firefighters. This 40-hour class featured classroom and live hands-on training. The AFD worked with the area partners to secure training sites that were practical and provided realistic scenario training.

Lastly, the Special Operation Division completed **Incident Action Plans** for all special events held in the City of Akron, including the Rib, White, and Blue Festival, Italian Festival, Concerts, and the Akron Running Series which culminated in the Akron Marathon. These Action Plans are assembled to help personnel have a uniform response in the event of an emergency.





# PERSONNEL

TITLE UNIFORM:	2017	2018
Fire Chief	1	1
Fire Deputy Chief	2	2
Fire District Chief	9	10
Fire Captain	14	16
Fire Lieutenant	76	81
Firefighter	260	243
<b>Total Uniformed Personnel</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>353</b>
<b>SUPPORT:</b>		
Fire Equipment Supervisor	1	1
Fire Equipment Foreman	1	1
Fire Equipment Mechanic	7	8
Fire Hydrant Repair Supervisor	1	1
Fire Hydrant Maintenance Worker	2	2
Secretary IV	1	2
Secretary III	5	4
Secretary II	2	2
Secretary II (Temp)	0	0
Secretary I	0	0
Storekeeper II	1	1
Stores Clerk	1	1
Programmer Analyst I	1	0
Quality Assurance Coordinator	1	1
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Total Division</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>377</b>



PERSONNEL DATA FOR:			
Appointments	17	Separated (Temporary – CEO)	0
Retirements	12	Demotions-Voluntary	0
Resignations	6	Promotions	10
Reinstated	0	Transfers	1
Dismissal	2	Deceased (Active)	0
Lay Offs	0	Deceased (Retired)	7

# FIRE MAINTENANCE BUREAU

Vehicle Repairs Major	8
Vehicle Repairs Minor	4,392
Preventive Maintenance	248
Building Repairs	2,928
SCBA Repairs	
Backpacks	427
Masks	289
Bottles	145
Miscellaneous Service	50

**In 2018 Fire Maintenance placed the following new vehicles into service:**

65818 - 2018 Ford Expedition new Shift Commander - 6/29/18

65218 - 2018 Ford Expedition new B2 - 10/24/18

63117 - 2017 Chevy G4500 new M9 - 2/07/18

67417 - 2017 Chevy G4500 new M14 - 2/07/18

**The following vehicles were reassigned within the Department:**

63909 - Ford E450 – (old M9) became spare med unit

65700 - Ford Expedition reassigned to IT

67802 - Ford Expedition reassigned to Haz Mat

**The following vehicles were retired and turned in for auction:**

63106 - 2006 Ford E450 Med Unit was retired and sent to auction

64509 - 2009 Ford E450 Med Unit was retired and sent to auction

65300 - 1991 Sutphen 75' Ladder was retired and sent to auction

**Hired two new Fire Equipment technicians:**

Adam Heisley 07/09/18

Mikeal Stevens 08/27/18



City of Akron  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

# FIRE MAINTENANCE BUREAU



# FIRE STATIONS & EQUIPMENT

**Station No. 2 – 952 E. Exchange St.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2001 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2011 GMC  
Battalion Vehicle B-2, 2018 Ford Expedition

**Station No. 3 – 59 S. Maple St.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2003 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2011 GMC 4500  
Shift Commander Vehicle, 2010 Ford Expedition  
TEMS Unit – 1998 Ford E-350

**Station No. 4 – 25 E. Thornton St.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2005 Sutphen  
2500 GPM Quint Ladder, 2001 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2011 Chevy 4500  
Heavy Rescue, 1993 Pemfab  
Haz-Mat 3826 County-Owned 2012 Kenworth  
Battalion Vehicle B-4, 2015 Ford Expedition

**Station No. 5 – 2460 E. Market St.**

75' Tower/2000 GPM Pumper, 2017 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2012 Chevy 4500  
Foam Truck, 1996 Pierce

**Station No. 6 – 1685 S. Hawkins Ave.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2011 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2012 Chevy G4500  
Air Source Truck, 1995 Chevrolet Kodiak

**Station No. 7 - 541 E. Tallmadge Ave.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2010 Pierce  
75' Aerial, 1997 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2015 GMC 4500  
Technical Rescue Truck, 1992 Chevy Kodiak  
Technical Rescue Trailer, 2006 United  
Technical Rescue Gator and Trailer,  
2004 John Deer - 2004 Triton Trailer

**Station No. 8 – 1277 E. Archwood Ave.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2009 Pierce  
75' Aerial, 2003 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2016 Chevy G4500  
Haz-Mat Decon 3846, 2011 Kenworth

**Station No. 9 – 98 Dodge Ave.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2008 Pierce  
75' Aerial, 2007 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2017 Chevy G4500  
Battalion Vehicle B-9, 2015 Ford Expedition



# FIRE STATIONS & EQUIPMENT

## Station No. 10 – 2225 4th St. SW

1500 GPM 75', 2014 Pierce Mini Tower  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2016 Chevy G4500  
Dive Truck, 1998 Chevrolet Kodiak  
2016 14' Lund Boat  
2018 14' Zodiac MKZ Boat  
2005 Car Mate Trailer

## Station No. 11 - 1688 Akron Peninsula Rd.

1500 GPM Pumper, 2015 Sutphen Commercial  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2014 Chevy 4500  
Swift Water Rescue Trailer and Equipment  
2006 Ford F550 Swift Water Rescue Tow Vehicle

## Station No. 12 – 1852 W. Market St.

2000 GPM Commercial Pumper, 2017 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2014 GMC G4500

## Station No. 13 – 1544 Brown St.

2000 GPM Pumper, 2007 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2013 GMC G4500

## Station No. 14 – 766 Brittain Rd.

2000 GPM Custom Pumper, 2017 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2017 Chevy G4500





# HYDRANT MAINTENANCE DIVISION

<b>HYDRANTS INSPECTED</b>	<b>874</b>
<b>MAJOR REPAIRS</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>MINOR REPAIRS</b>	<b>108</b>
<b>RAISED TO GRADE</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>TURNUED</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PAINTED</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ALARMS RESPONDED TO</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>WINTERIZED</b>	<b>421</b>
<b>LEAKING HYDRANTS</b>	<b>195</b>
<b>ANTI-TAMPER DEVICES INSTALLED</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>HIT BY VEHICLE AND RESET</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>258</b>
<b>REFERRED TO WATER DEPT. FOR REPLACEMENT</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>HYDRANT FLUSHING PROGRAM BY WATER DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>12,510</b>









# IN RECOGNITION

Glad to include Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew D' Avello in a group of past recipients who continue to proudly serve the Citizens of Akron in a way that distinguishes them as individuals worthy of recognition.

## The Optimist Club of Akron FIRE/MEDIC OF THE YEAR





## *Proclamation*

### *To The People of Akron:*

***Whereas:*** The Optimist Club of Akron is honoring Firefighter/Medic Matthew D’Avello with its Optimist Firefighter/Medic of the Year Award at its Annual Luncheon. Firefighter/ D’Avello is being honored for his dedication to keeping our citizens safe, while continually exhibiting the highest level of professionalism and diligence; and

***Whereas:*** Optimist International is an association of more than 2,900 Optimist Clubs around the world, all dedicated to *Bringing Out the Best in Kids*. Adult volunteers conduct over 65,000 community service projects each year, aimed at providing a helping hand to more than 6 million youth each year and empowering them to reach their highest potential; and

***Whereas:*** Firefighter/Medic D’Avello attended the University of Akron receiving his bachelor’s degree in Business Marketing prior to joining the Akron Fire Department in 1992. In 2006, he was assigned to the Arson Bureau and attended the Akron Police Academy in 2007; and

***Whereas:*** Firefighter/Medic D’Avello has attended extended training in fire investigations, interviews and interrogations, and pre-employment background investigations. He holds a professional membership in IAAI (International Association of Arson Investigators). Firefighter/Medic D’Avello is always very dedicated and thorough when conducting fire investigations, fire candidate background investigations, and internal affairs investigations; and

***Whereas:*** Firefighter/Medic D’Avello has worked in the capacity of Assistant Bureau Manager. His guidance and mentoring have influenced newer investigators in a positive manner. Firefighter/Medic D’Avello is an avid golfer who has been on the championship team for the City of Akron’s Safety Cup teams representing the Akron Fire Department. He is a volleyball coach for his daughter’s AAU team and participates as a ski coach along with other activities with his wife, Jill and children, Madison and Gionni.

***Now, Therefore:*** I, Daniel Horrigan, Mayor of the City of Akron, Ohio, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, November 6, 2018, as:

### **“FIREFIGHTER/MEDIC MATTHEW D’AVELLO DAY”**

in the City of Akron and thank him for his service to our community, and ask all to honor him for his service to our citizens and note that he serves as an example of the very best among our safety forces.

***In Witness Whereof:*** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Akron to be affixed hereto this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.

*Mayor  
City of Akron*

# IN MEMORIAM

To those faithful firemen who have answered their last alarm, but whose loyalty and devotion to duty will ever remain paramount in the annals of the City of Akron and the Fire Department. The following firefighters are members of the Local Chapter 7 Firefighters Hall of Fame.

**RODNEY E. CASH - "ROCKY"**

BORN 10/10/1953  
APPOINTED 12/28/1977  
RETIRED 2/17/2004  
DIED 7/10/2018

**DOY HAMRICK**

BORN 11/11/1942  
APPOINTED 3/25/1968  
RETIRED 5/27/1995  
DIED 9/16/2018

**AL S. McCUTCHEON**

BORN 3/23/1928  
APPOINTED 10/24/1951  
RETIRED 1/1/1981  
DIED 10/16/2018

**WILLIAM HARRISON NEES - "HARRY"**

BORN 7/17/1928  
APPOINTED 11/29/1954  
RETIRED 4/2/1983  
DIED 4/10/2018

**ROBERT L. OLDAKER**

BORN 3/6/1956  
APPOINTED 7/22/1954  
RETIRED 2/1/1986  
DIED 11/7/2018

**RALPH J. SCHUELLER**

BORN 10/17/1927  
APPOINTED 10/24/1951  
RETIRED 6/1/1988  
DIED 8/19/2018

**HENRY J. WILLMER - "HANK"**

BORN 11/3/1933  
APPOINTED 2/28/1957  
RETIRED 3/3/1990  
DIED 9/3/2018



# A FIREFIGHTER'S PRAYER



## ***GIVE ME CONCERN FOR OTHERS***

A willingness to seek out those in need...

## ***GIVE ME COURAGE***

The boldness of spirit to face  
and conquer fear,  
to share and endure the ordeal  
of one who needs me...

## ***GIVE ME STRENGTH***

Strength of heart to bear whatever  
burden might be placed upon me...  
and strength of body to deliver to safety  
all those placed within my care...

## ***GIVE ME WISDOM TO LEAD***

the compassion to comfort, and the love  
to serve unselfishly wherever  
You take me...

***AND PLEASE THROUGH IT ALL, BE AT MY SIDE***



# HISTORICAL STOP



**Akron Fire Station No. 2, photos of firefighters line the wall.**

## THE PROGRAM STARTED IN 2006

Established the **Akron Station No. 2 Fire Museum**, becoming the number one stop on Historic Downtown Akron Passport Program in 2006 Station No. 2 is now an official stop of the City of Akron **History Trails Program** (2007).

Dennis Stoneman's love for the history of the Akron Fire Department has turned into 30 years of collecting, from soot-stained uniforms and a safety net to old hose equipment and ancient metal fire helmets. Framed old newspaper clippings tell stories of past fires, alarms, and emergencies.

Now, District Chief Dennis Stoneman's hobby can be viewed public at:

**1309 Emmit Road  
Akron, Ohio 44306**







**City of Akron**  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**