Fully Involved

Annual Report-2019



Table of Contents

Fire Chiefs Report	Page 4
Training Report	Pages 5-11
Fire Response	Pages 12-14
Fire Inspectors Report	Pages 15-16
EMS Response	Pages 18-19
Total Activity Data	Page 20
Fleet Information	Pages 21-22
Public Relations	Pages 23-25
Health and Safety	Page 26
Staffing	Page 28





From the Desk of Chief Savage

It is with great honor that I submit to you the South Area Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) District's 2019 Annual Report.

2019 was the 6th year of operation for SAFER and although the challenges never cease, our team has never wavered to make sure we uphold our Mission, Vision and Core Values.

SAFER has continued to do what we do best: to deliver the highest quality of emergency services – Fire, EMS and Special Rescue. Our unique staffing models, level of service and training make us a highly skilled, yet fiscally responsible, service.

We remain unwavering in training. Making sure all firefighters have the skills and experience to complete any task on the fireground is paramount to making sure everyone remains safe. Firefighter safety is our number 1 priority at SAFER. Our most important goal is making sure the firefighters that respond to emergencies return safely to the firehouse.

We remain devoted to the health and well-being of our responders, both physically and mentally. The growing increase in PTSD in the fire service has been an issue nationwide. SAFER strives to make sure we do everything we can to meet this issue head on.

SAFER is a leader in the fire service. I am truly blessed as Fire Chief to have so many talented and dedicated members. I am surrounded by people every day that want to make a difference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew J Savage

Matthew J Savage, Fire Chief
South Area Fire and Emergency Response

Training Report

In the following pages you will find a breakdown of the training that was conducted by South Area Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) District employees over the last 12 months. The training committee continues to work diligently to identify the District's needs and offer a comprehensive training program that encompasses the expectation of the public we serve and meets that training requirements as set forth by the State of Wisconsin. We continue to evaluate the training program on a yearly basis and make changes as need.

Training continues to be held on a daily basis as we changed from weekly drills to daily trainings in 2017. In 2019 we moved away from rotating weeks of training (i.e. week 1 EMS, week 2 fire, week 3 rescue, week 1 EMS, etc.) to rotating months of training (i.e. January EMS, February Fire, March EMS, etc.) in an effort to provide training to employees starting with basic concepts and moving to advanced concepts in the same subject matter as we move through the month. The initial year of this concept saw positive reviews from staff and we look forward to continuing this through 2020.

To make sure new employees are ready to work shift, they go through a 6-week training academy prior to being scheduled for shift work. In 2018 we implemented a probationary task book to continue the training for new employees through their first year and track their process through timely evaluations. The task book is utilized by probationary staff to practice operating our equipment before being tested and checked off by their assigned officer(s) to show that they fully understand how to operate each apparatus. The task book continues to be updated. For the 2020 Academy we will be updating the Rib Mountain map testing and incorporating SOG exams to coincide with their evaluations.

In 2018 Wisconsin SPS law changed stating that individuals who drive and operate our apparatus must have taken entry level training from the technical college system and that in-house training was only going to be allowed if the program is approved by the local technical college. Due to this, there was a push to get our people trained. As of January 2020, I am pleased to report that we have 36/50 employees or 72% of staff that meets this training with another 6+ individuals scheduled to take the training in 2020

Also, in 2019, command staff completed and implemented Blue Card command training. This training comprised of 75 hours of training for each individual, 24 hours of which was in class training put on by Blue Card staff. After the training was concluded, we wrote an SOG to match this command style and started to implement the training to all SAFER staff. Today we have changed our command practices to allow for more efficient and effective communications while keeping everyone on the fireground safer.

The training board continues to assure that every member is attending minimal hours of training, track that training, and give recommendations to the Chief and Deputy Chief when

minimum standards are not being met. We continue to provide you with semi-annual reports to help assure all staff are ready to meet the everyday challenges this job poses.

The remainder of this document is the breakdown of the topics and hours of training that was conducted throughout the year. I am pleased to say that in 2019, we completed a combined total of 3885.6+ hours of training. Of that, 1093.3+ was EMS training, 2503.2+ was Fire/Rescue training, and 289.1+ was leadership and other training topics. As you go through this report, please feel free to contact me with any questions that may arise.

Thank you,

Eric A. Lang

Eric A. Lang

Battalion Chief

EMS Training

Topic	Discipline	Hours
ACLS – EP	EMS	82
Airway & RSI		28
Aging & Disability Resource Center		1.5
AHA Instructor Renewal		12
ALS Pharmacology		21
And the Beat goes on – Cardiology		1.3
Ask the Docs – Paramedic Seminar (POCUS)		1.5
Basic Airway Management		6
CPR/CCR		15
BLS Immobilization skills		8
BLS Probationary Task Book skills		4.5
Cardiac Arrest		124.3
Cardiac Arrest Academy		8
Cardiac Care/Cardiology		9.5
Cardiac Pharmacology		3.5
Case Studies (Trauma)		44
Case Studies (Cardiac)		42
Certified Ambulance Documentation		8
CEVO		29
Child Restraint System Orientation		5.5
CPR Certification Refresher		28
Crashing Asthma – WEMSA		1.5
Current Concepts in Prehospital Care		3
New Devices in EMS – Paramedic Seminar (POCUS)		4
New Devices in EMS – Lucas Training		27
EMS Recerts/Review		10
EMS Safety		21.5
Ventilators		54
Zoll Defibrillator		8
Post Resuscitation Care		1.5
Epinephrine in and out of hospital Cardiac Arrest (POCUS)		1
EZ IO Training		9
Fire Academy (Fall) – EMS Training		45
CHF – Heart Failure		1
High Stress & Low frequency simulation		4
I41 Multi Vehicle Crash Review – Case Study		1
k9 First Aid		2
Left Ventricular Assist Devices (LVAD)		2.2

Helicopter Landing Zone training	24
Medical Examiner Presentation	20
NRP certification	8
nutrition in Trauma Patients	1
PALS Refresher	103
PALS Instructor	27
Paramedic Orientation – Phase 1	12
Pediatric Airway	9
Pediatric Nightmares	4
Pediatric Trauma	10
OB	8.5
Quality Improvement	1.5
Seizure Management	2.7
Stroke Management	3
Calm after the storm – cardiac arrest	3
Traumatic Cardiac injury	4
Trauma Services Webinar	1
Trauma Patient Assessments	22.5
Medical Patient Assessments	5
Overdose	16
BLS Pharmacology	5.5
Splinting & spinal Immobilization	5.5
Pediatric Pharmacology	7
Pediatric Patient Assessment	8.5
Case Studies (Pediatric)	10.8
Pediatric Cardiac Arrest	8
Behavioral and psychological emergencies	8.5
Endocrine Emergencies	7
Rescue Task Force/Tactical EMS	14
Traumatic Airway Management	32.5
Chest Tube Training	5
IV Pumps	5.5
Blood Products	2
Venous Access	2.5
Allergic Reactions	1
Heat Emergencies	1
Pain Management	1.5
Wilderness Medicine	4

Fire Training

Fire/Rescue

Topic	Discipline	Hours
Academy Vehicle Checks	Fire	12
Acquired Structure Fire Training		381
Aerial Operations		56.2
All Hazard Incident Mgmt.		28
Engine Operations		78
Avoiding Back Injuries		0.4
Ben Franklin: Lessons for 21st century - Webinar		2
Blue Card Command - Classroom Certification		216
Blue Card Command - Online Certification		50
Blue Card Incident Command - Staff Education		106
Certified Fire Inspector		60
Certified Fire Investigator Classes (Online)		20
Pipeline Safety Exercise		4
Company Fire Inspections		94
D/O Pumper Certification		198
Driver Training/EVOC		57
Entry Level D/O Pumper		60
Vehicle Extrication		118.5
F0455 - Strategy & Tactics for initial CO		13
FDIC lectures		4.4
Firefighter 1 skills practice		4
Fire Academy (excluding CEVO) - Fall		85.5
Fire Investigation		6
Fire Prevention Presentations		26
Forcible Entry		9
IS00230 - Fundamentals of emergency mgmt.		6
Hazardous Materials Technician Certification		50
Fire Hydrant Operations		9.5
IAAI Arson Investigator Spring Seminar		20
Ice Rescue Technician Certification		16
ICS 300		96
ICS 400		32
Inspector Inservice		2
Mayday/RIT Operations		24.5
MCI event practical		64
MCI event tabletop		10.5

Water Supply	4
Search & Rescue	33
PTSD from Afghanistan to 911 - webinar	1.5
Fire Ground Safety	10
SCBA training	8.7
SLICERS Fire Attack	8
Tender Operations	15.5
Water Rescue Operations	38.5
Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)	1
Firefighter CPR	7.5
HazMat Operations	22.5
Wildland Firefighter Operations	21
Wildland apparatus operations	24
Search & Rescue	4
Hose Testing	103.5
Ropes & Knots & Anchor Systems	36
Pt packaging	4
Low Angle & High Angle Rescue	61.5
Confined Space Operations	12.5
Ground Ladders	13.5
6-Wheeler Operations	1.5
Ice Rescue Operations	43
Chimney Fire Operations	7
PPE - Donning & Doffing/Bunker Drills	2

Leadership/Safety Training

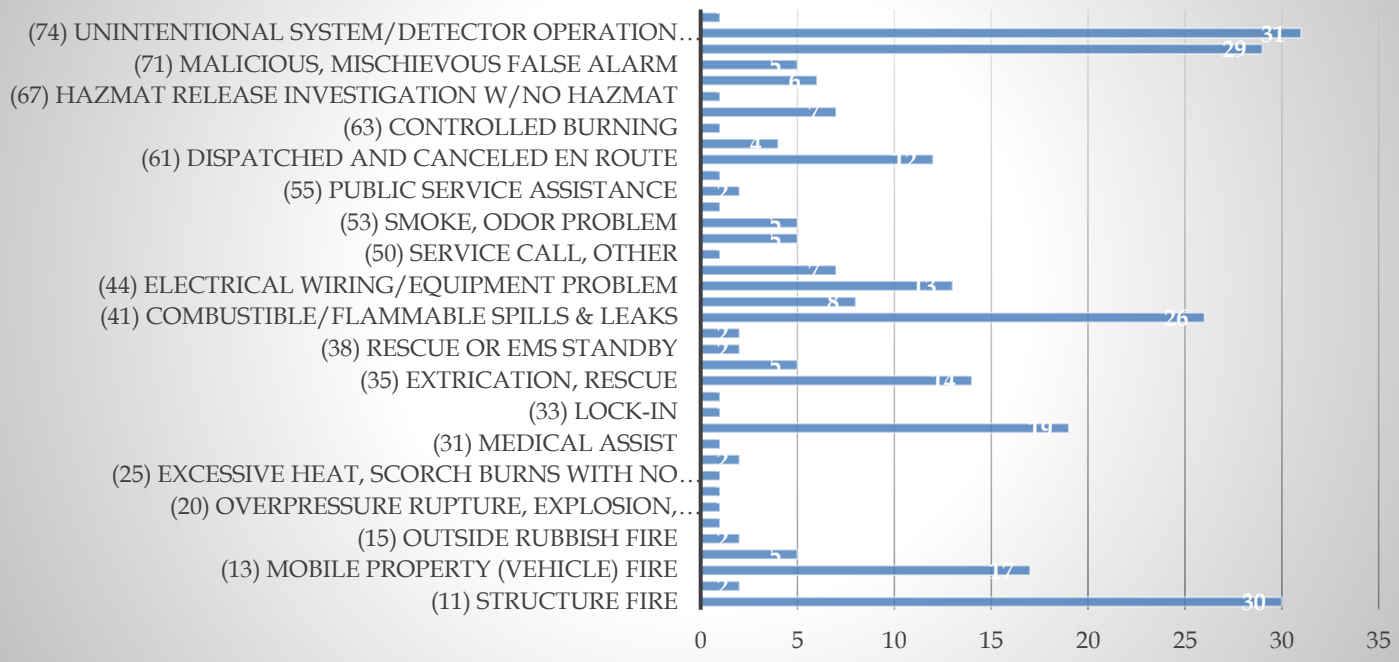
Topic	Discipline	Hours
5-alarm Leadership	Other	8
Billing and Beyond		4
Blood Borne Pathogens		31
HIPPA		31
Sexual Harassment		31
Back Safety		31
Anti-Kickback		6.4
Coaching for Success		1.5
Drafting and Implementing Effective SOG's		17
ESO Inspection Module		5
FMLA & Noncompete		3
Good is not good enough - leadership web		3.6
How to make Data work for you		4
If you can't' measure it you can't improve it		1.5
Leadership Bootcamp		3.5
Mental Health First Aid		16
SOG Review		21
Handbook Review		1.5
The art of Constructive feedback		1.3
Attack on the Pentagon - webinar		1.5
PTSD Workshop		60
We found the data		4.5
Inner Leadership Potential		1.8

Fire Response

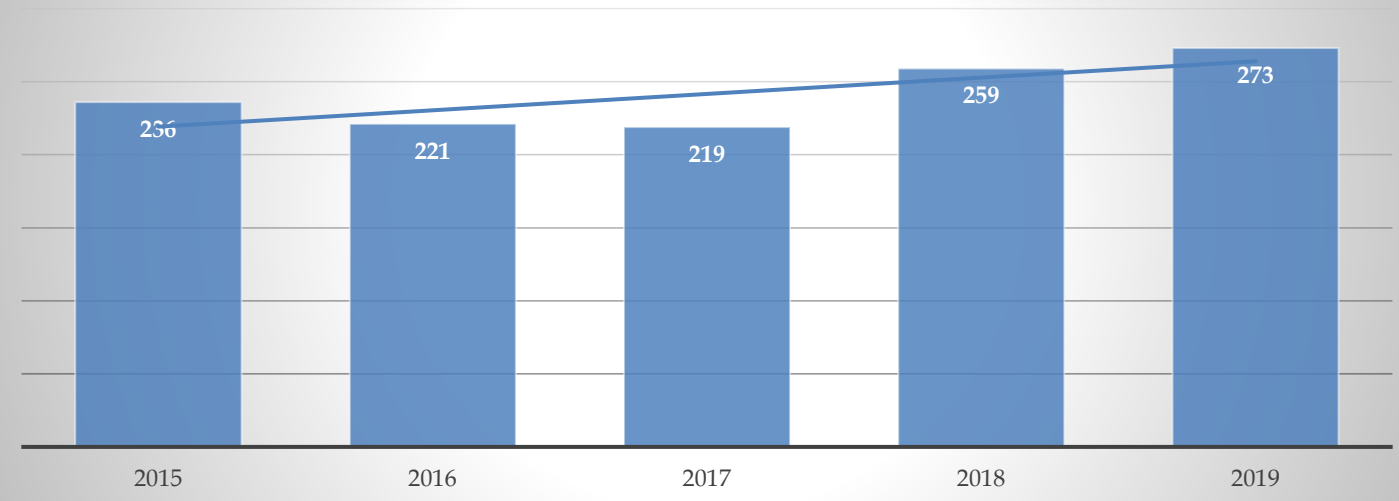
(11) Structure Fire	30
(12) Fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure	2
(13) Mobile property (vehicle) fire	17
(14) Natural vegetation fire	5
(15) Outside rubbish fire	2
(16) Special outside fire	1
(20) Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat, other	1
(22) Overpressure rupture from air or gas (no fire)	1
(25) Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	1
(30) Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS), other	2
(31) Medical assist	1
(32) Emergency medical service (EMS) incident	19
(33) Lock-In	1
(34) Search for lost person	1
(35) Extrication, rescue	14
(36) Water or ice-related rescue	5
(38) Rescue or EMS standby	2
(40) Flammable gas or liquid condition, other	2
(41) Combustible/flammable spills & leaks	26
(42) Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition	8
(44) Electrical wiring/equipment problem	13
(46) Accident, potential accident	7
(50) Service call, other	1
(52) Water problem	5
(53) Smoke, odor problem	5
(54) Animal problem or rescue	1
(55) Public service assistance	2
(56) Unauthorized burning	1
(61) Dispatched and canceled en route	12
(62) Wrong location, no emergency found	4
(63) Controlled burning	1
(65) Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke	7
(67) HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	1
(70) False alarm and false call, other	6

(71) Malicious, mischievous false alarm	5
(73) System or detector malfunction	29
(74) Unintentional system/detector operation (no fire)	31
(8) Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1

Fire Response by Type



Call Volume



Significant Fires

March 11th-Commercial Structure (Village of Weston) fire contained to storage area approximately $100,000 in damage.

August 14th Apartment Complex (Village of Weston) fire contained to single apartment and attic space approximately $100,000 in damage

August 27th Barn Fire (Town of Marathon) structure was a complete loss

September 23rd Apartment Complex (Village of Weston) fire was contained to the apartment of origin, approximately $10,000 in damage

November 26th Commercial Structure (Town of Marathon) fire contained to area of origin, approximately $100,000 in damage



Fire Inspections Report

For 2019 we had to do an additional inspection for each business in the district with some exceptions. Fire inspections and fire code enforcement in all new and existing buildings were performed with the exception of 1 & 2 family dwellings with the help of a second inspector Sara Mattke. Sara did most of the re-inspections for the district for occupancies that had violations found. Sara also handled all the inspections for the area schools and worked with them to reduce the number of violations they had each time. Sara began to roll out the program she developed and presented to the teachers, administration and janitorial staffs. It worked well as the number of violations found dropped and the teachers were able to see what we are looking at from an inspector perspective. Sara shared her program with other inspectors in the area and across the state with great results. At this year's Fire inspectors conference Sara was asked to present her program at the conference next year. Due to staff cuts Sara will be doing this again next year but trying to accomplish this while on shift in-between calls and station duties. Re-inspections will now be handled by shift crews on a daily basis. We continued doing daily inspections with the software available from the State of Wisconsin and our mobile equipment. We attempted to switch our software to the same company as the EMS report writing software but the fire codes we use were not available as promised and we will continued with Imagetrend until all the software is available.

Inspections

In 2019 we did a total of 1,429 annual fire inspections in the district. There were 557 locations with 969 inspections and 338 re-inspections done in the Village of Weston. There were 227 locations with 468 inspections and 193 re-inspections in Rib Mountain. There were 29 locations with 57 inspections and 21 re-inspections in the Town of Stettin . There were 11 locations with 21 inspections and 4 re-inspections in the Town of Marathon and 0 in the Town of Weston.

New Business

Once again 2019 was a busy year for new business and/or change of occupancy's which requires an inspection before they open or reopen for business. There were 35 of these inspections done for businesses in Weston and 18 in Rib Mountain.

New Senior living in Weston

Second phase of Birchwood Highlands is up and will be ready for occupancy in early 2020 for a total of 70 new apartments. The addition to Tender Reflections doubled the size of their building to 80 beds and is still not occupied.

Training

This year we continued with two weeks of company inspections where we went out to some of the larger industrial facilities and did inspections with the duty crews. This will further familiarize crews with some of the facilities in our district and what they might encounter there on a call.

Once again, Sara and I attended the 2019 Wisconsin State Fire Inspectors Convention in Wisconsin Dells. It featured presentations by inspectors from all over the country and many

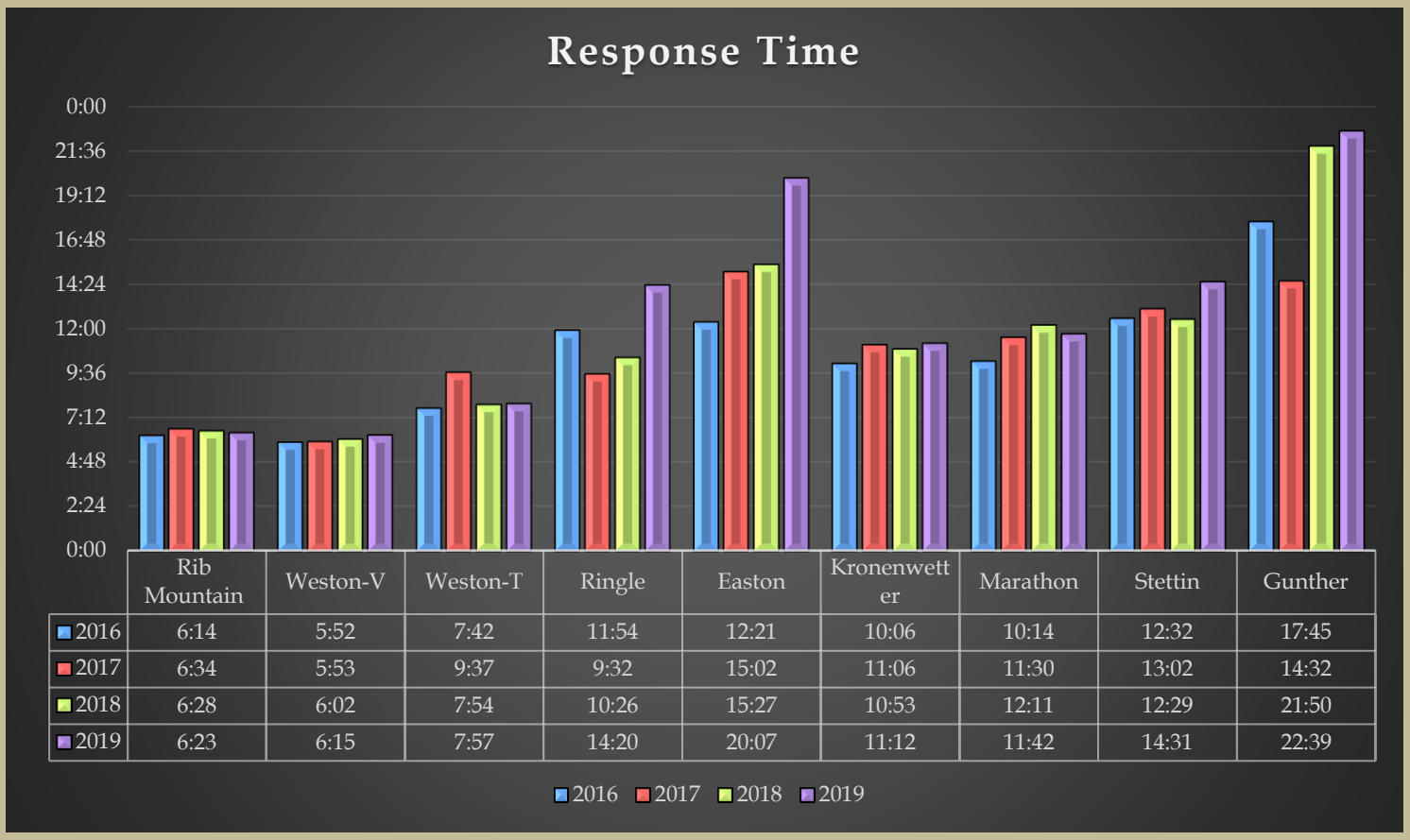
vendors who answered questions on codes and other inspection related services available to inspectors in Wisconsin. It was very informative and a great way to talk with other inspectors from the state to share ideas and to see how other inspectors handle everyday inspection related topics. We have also become more involved in the Area 3 Fire Prevention Group; we meet quarterly for inspector training topics and networking. In 2019 we hosted a meeting in Rib Mountain on hood systems for restaurants and attended one at Liberty Mutual's Fire Lab, and others in Rudolph, and Grand Rapids. The 2% dues were once again awarded to the Town and Village. The Town of Rib Mountain received $32,652.46 and the Village of Weston received $49,530.46 for a total of $82,182.92

Martin Christiansen

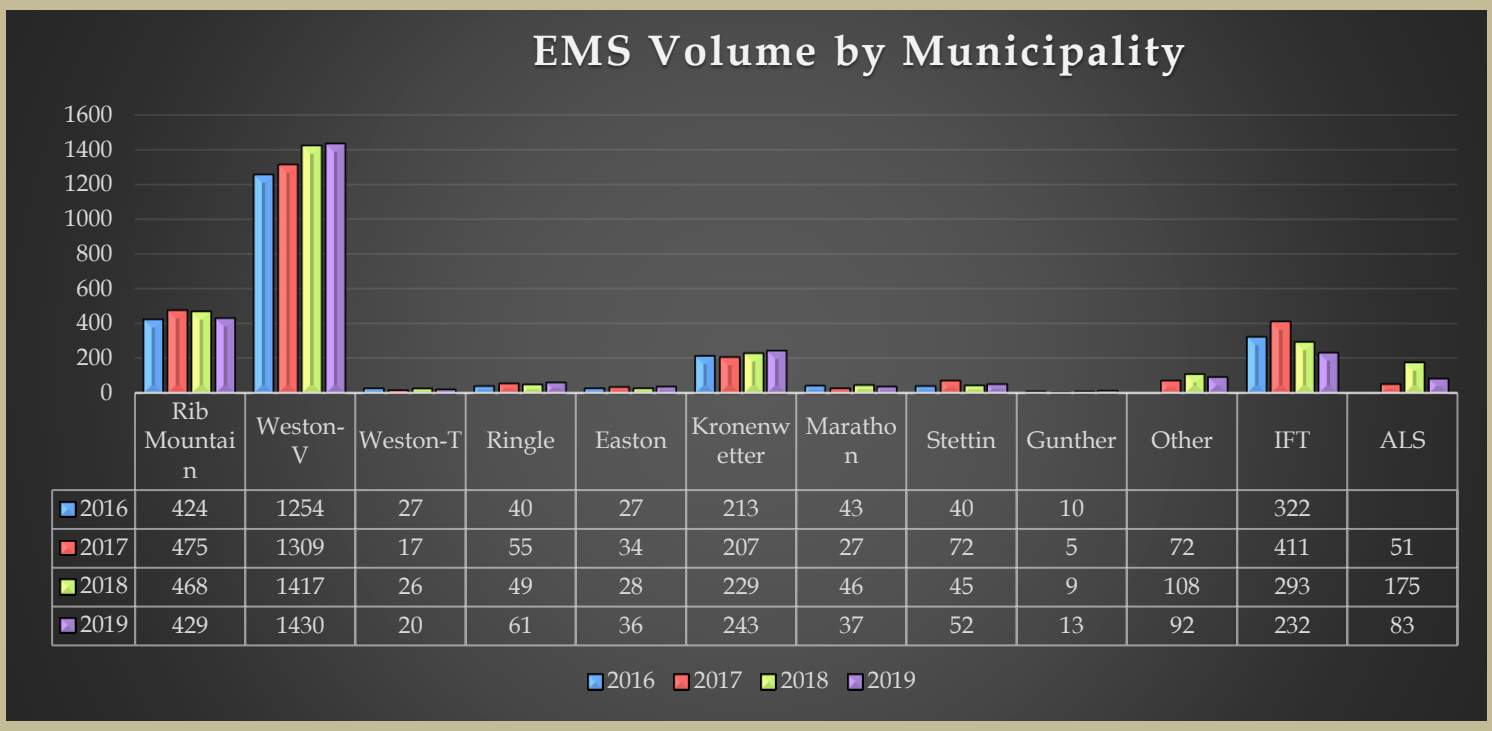



6211
MSA

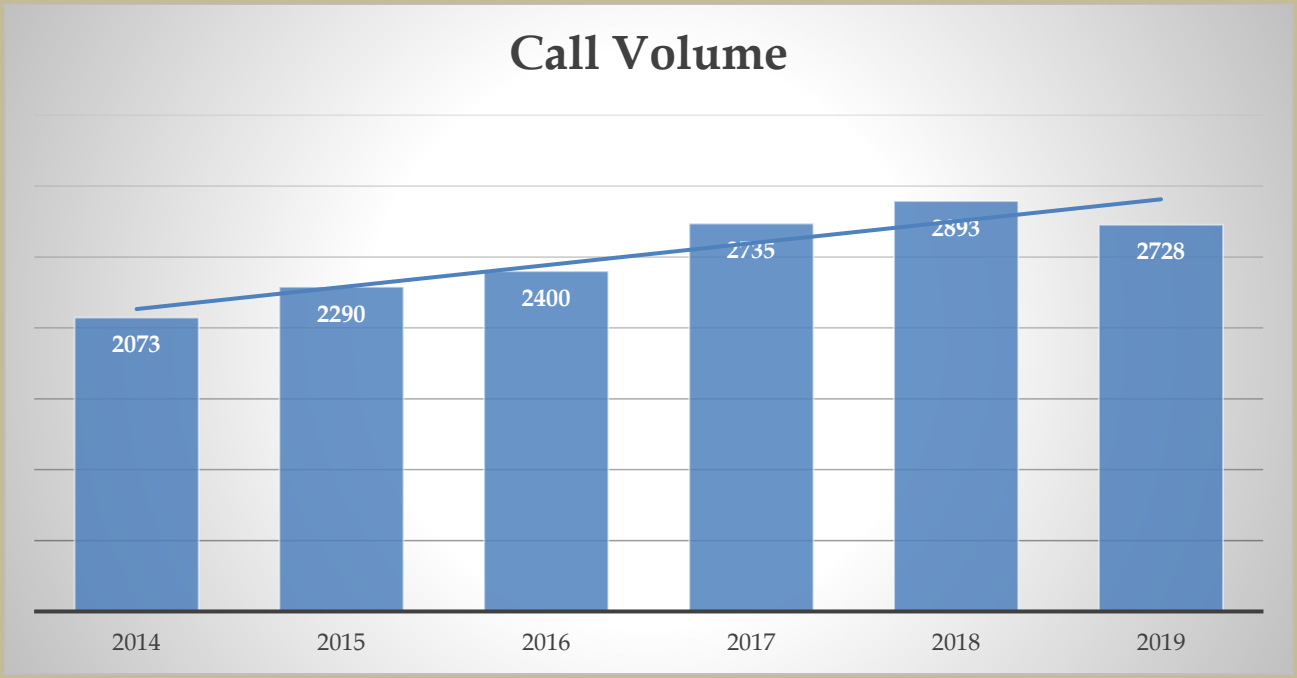
EMS Response



	Rib Mountain	Weston-V	Weston-T	Ringle	Easton	Kronenwetter	Marathon	Stettin	Gunther
2016	6:14	5:52	7:42	11:54	12:21	10:06	10:14	12:32	17:45
2017	6:34	5:53	9:37	9:32	15:02	11:06	11:30	13:02	14:32
2018	6:28	6:02	7:54	10:26	15:27	10:53	12:11	12:29	21:50
2019	6:23	6:15	7:57	14:20	20:07	11:12	11:42	14:31	22:39

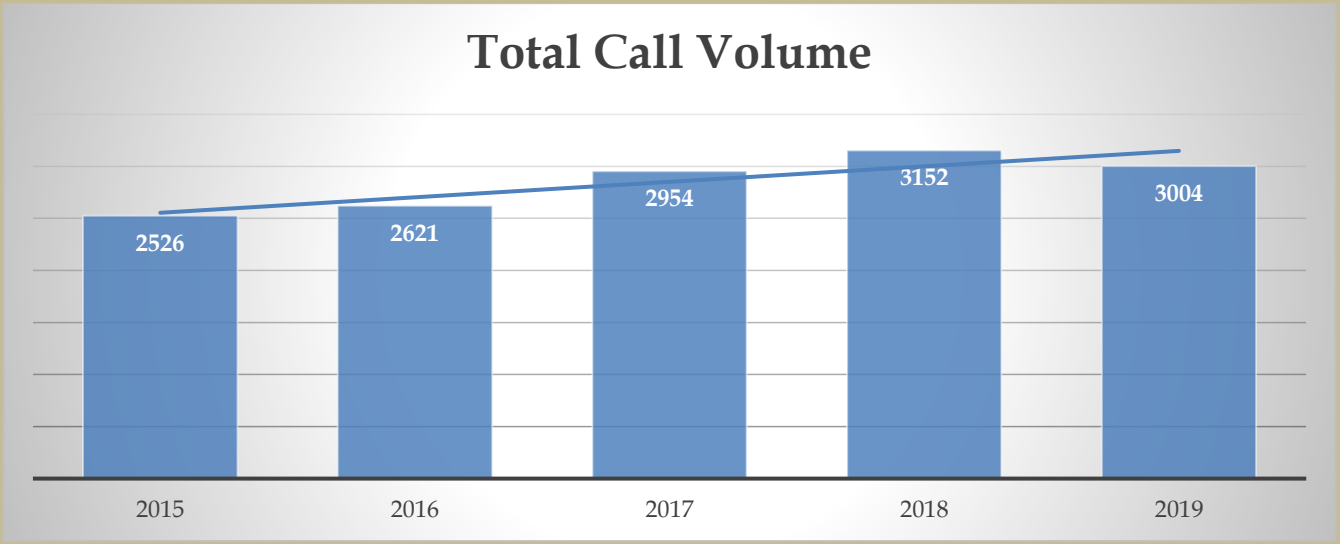


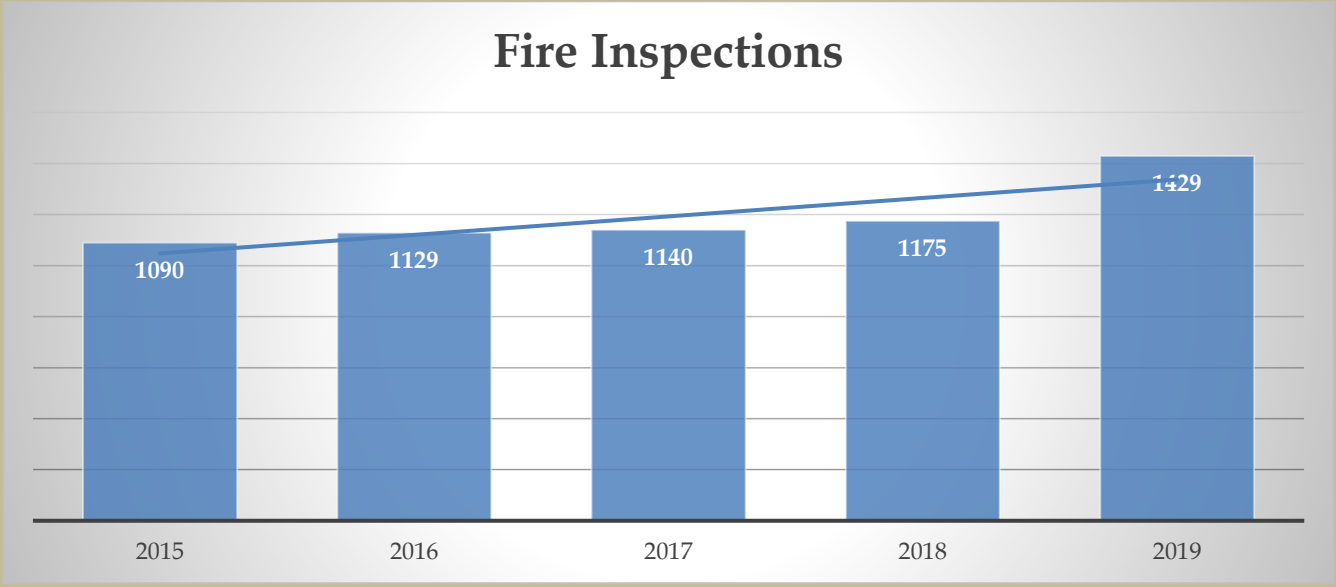
	Rib Mountain	Weston-V	Weston-T	Ringle	Easton	Kronenwetter	Marathon	Stettin	Gunther	Other	IFT	ALS
2016	424	1254	27	40	27	213	43	40	10		322	
2017	475	1309	17	55	34	207	27	72	5	72	411	51
2018	468	1417	26	49	28	229	46	45	9	108	293	175
2019	429	1430	20	61	36	243	37	52	13	92	232	83

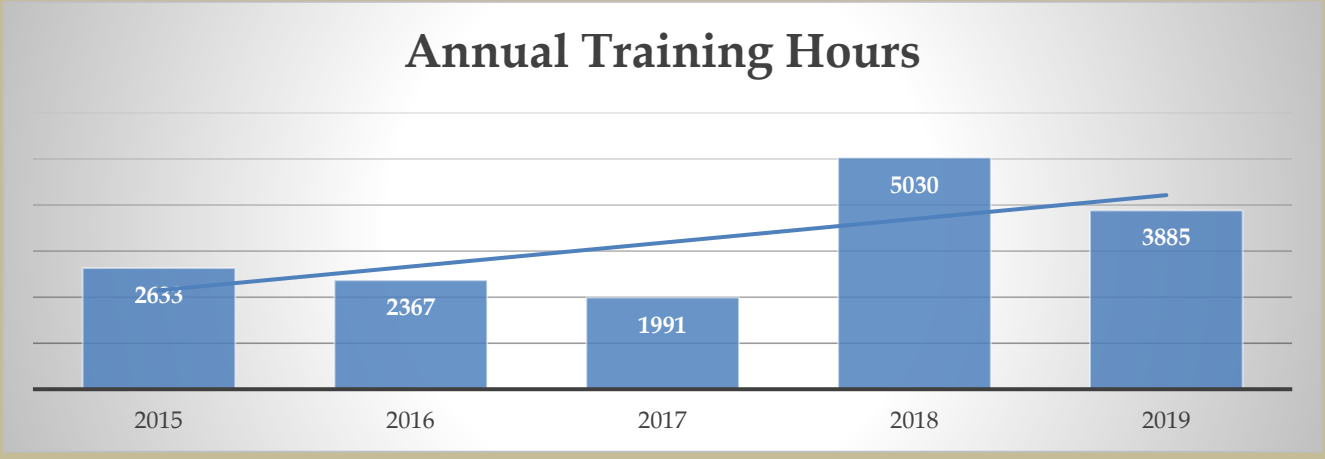

Call Volume
2073
2290
2400
2735
2893
2728
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019



Total Activity Data







Fleet Information

Station 1

Engine 11-1996 Pierce

Truck 11-1999 Pierce

Rescue 11-2000 Pierce

Rescue 12-2010 Marion

Tender 11-2006 Pierce

Med 11-2019 Braun

Med 12-2010 MedTec

Brush 11-2010 Dodge

Car 11-2013 Explorer

Boat 11-2005 Zodiac

Deputy Chief-2016 Canyon

Chief-2017 Expedition

UTV-2001 Polaris

Station 2

Engine 21-2002 LaFrance

Ladder 21-2010 Pierce

Rescue 21-2016 Custom Fire

Tender 21-1998 Freightliner

Med 21-2015 PL Custom

Med 22-2011 Lifeline

Med 23-2016 Braun

Brush 21-1984 Chevrolet

Boat 21-Zodiac

Car 21-2016 Ford Explorer

Car 22-2016 Ford F-150

UTV-1996 Polaris

Average age of fire apparatus (Engines, Tenders, Rescues, Ladders): 15 years

Oldest fire apparatus: 23 years

Average age of ambulances: 5 years

Oldest ambulance 10 years

Average age of support vehicles (Cars, Brush Trucks): 8.8 years

Oldest support vehicle: 36 years



Public Relations

January
Boy Scouts – Station Tour
8 children

February
Night to Shine – Ambulance Standby
200 attendees/ 300 volunteers

Polar Plunge – Ambulance Standby
450 citizens

March
Run to Remember – Ambulance Standby
200 runners/community

April
Cub Scouts-Station Tour
10 children

YMCA Healthy Kids Day – Ambulance & Fire Apparatus
200+ children

May
Color Run- Ambulance standby
Public Event

EMPD Bike Rodeo-Station Tours
Public Event

June
Run for their Lives – Ambulance Standby
500 participants

Forest Goetsch Run – Truck standby
500 participants

Kindercare – Ambulance Tour
14 children

July
Blood Drive
Public Event

August
YMCA Kids Day – Fire Prevention
100 students

Triathlon – standby
1000 participants

National Night Out
Public Event

Kinder Care-Station Tour
45 children

Cops on The Roof
Public Event

Teds Trek- EMS Standby

September
Run for the Fallen – Fire standby
450 participants

SAFER Station 1 Open House
1200+ citizens

Battle of the Badges
8 teams

October
Kids Night – Texas Roadhouse
Open to the public

Be Amazing Fall Fest
Public Event

Fire Prevention Week/Month
Coverage area schools

Everest Metro Halloween Bash
900 children

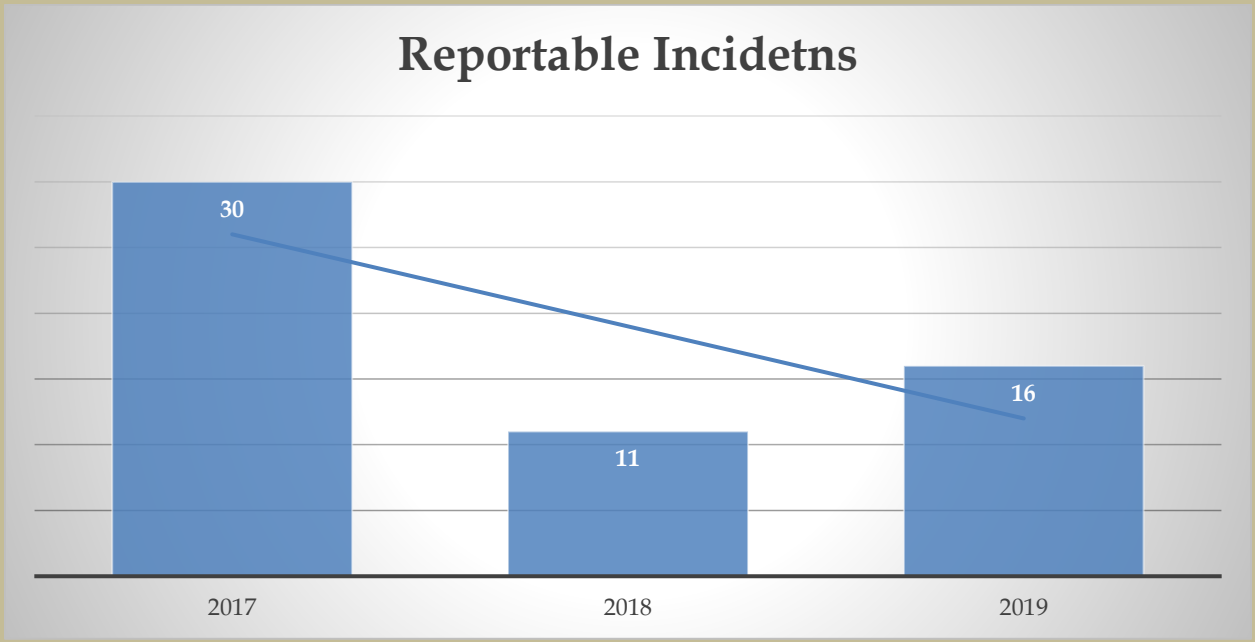
Trunk or Treat
1000 children

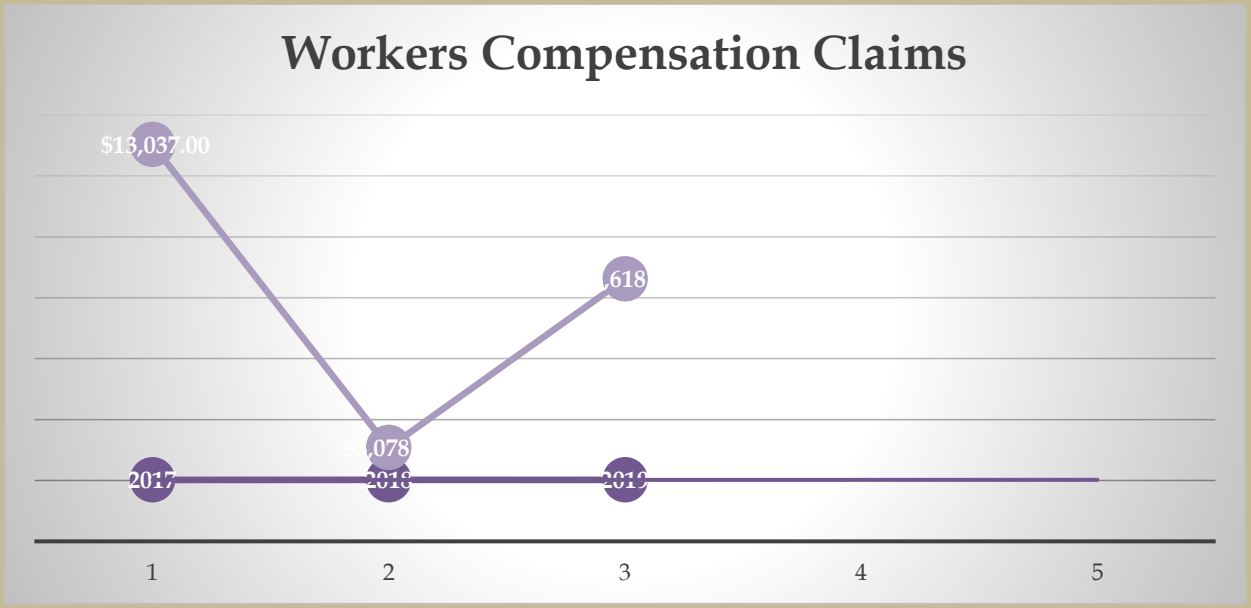
November
Girl Scouts – Station Tour

December
Shop with a Cop - Walmart
100 children



Employee Health and Safety

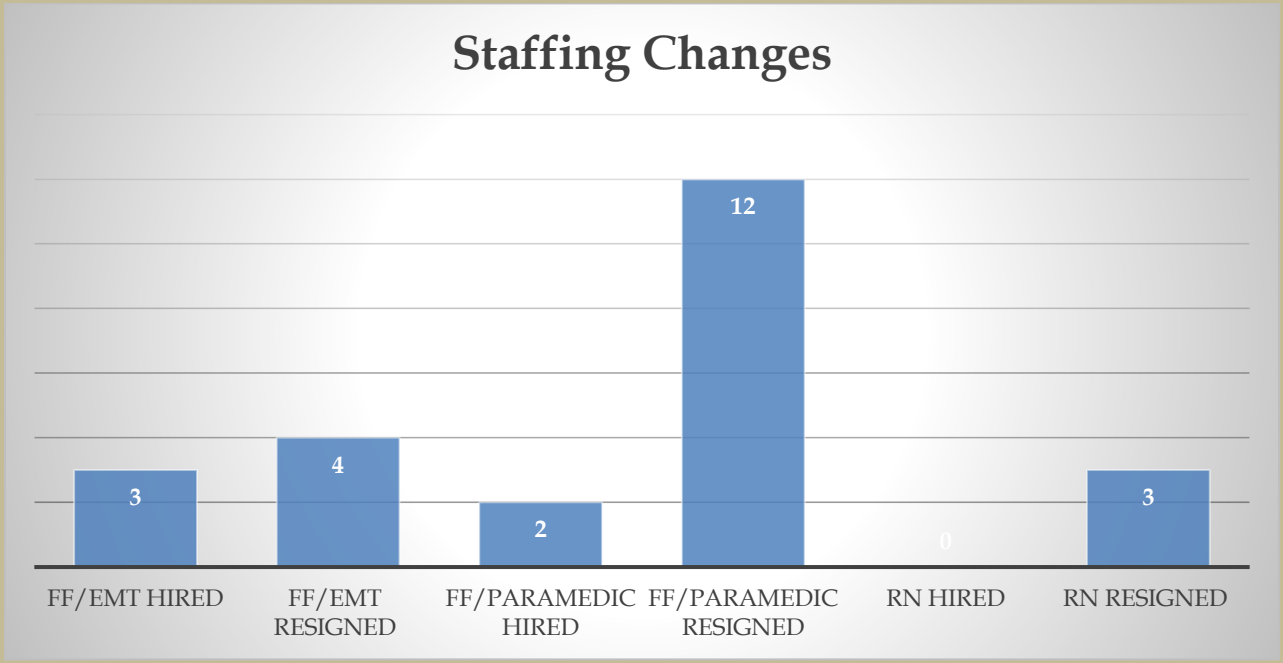






Staffing

Staffing is a hot topic for fire departments both volunteer and career across our country and we are not immune to that problem. Our department lost 19 employees last year and unfortunately, we were only able to hire 5 back resulting in a net loss of 14 employees. The most difficult hurdle we continue to face is losing highly trained part time firefighter/paramedics to full time jobs around the area.



Summary

The fire district has reached 6 full years of service to our communities. The district has grown significantly in call volume since our inception in 2014. Our emergency call volume has increased by nearly twenty percent, our fire inspections have increased by nearly thirty percent and our training hours have increased by almost forty percent. We removed one ambulance from our fleet in 2019 taking us from six to five ambulances. Recruitment and retention continue to be our biggest challenge. We lost significantly more employees than we were able to hire last year. We also continue to lose employees to full time departments each year. This comes as an expense to the district. Each employee takes approximately 100 hours of training time before they are ready to fill spots in our schedule. We lost 19 employees last year, that is 1900 hours of training time that unfortunately walked out the door and used that knowledge in another community.

Our internal performance is something we continue to closely monitor, each and every one of our EMS calls is reviewed by our quality assurance team, and we monitor response times on a monthly basis. We continue to be one of only two services in the State of Wisconsin that report to the CARES data base for cardiac arrest survival. Our CAAS ambulance accreditation is also due in 2020, again one of only two accredited services in the State of Wisconsin.

Respectfully Submitted

Joshua J Finke

Joshua J. Finke

Deputy Chief

Thank You

After many years of dedicated service to Central Wisconsin Dr Michael Curtis retired in 2019. Dr Curtis was a medical director for SAFER as well as many other services in Central Wisconsin. He provided countless hours of training to EMS providers as well as assisted with teaching multiple critical care paramedic courses. Dr Curtis was awarded the Medical Director of the year award by the Wisconsin EMS Association and their annual conference this past January. We would like to thank Dr Curtis for his years of service to not only SAFER but the entire EMS community.

