

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2016
ANNUAL REPORT



GREG ZILKA – SAFETY DIRECTOR

CHRISTOPHER HUERNER – FIRE CHIEF



AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF CHRIS HUERNER



2016 Annual Report

Mayor Zilka and Members of Council,

I am pleased to present the 2016 annual report for the Avon Lake Fire Department. This document contains reports from the Fire Prevention Bureau, Operations Chief and each of the three Platoons. These reports provide emergency response statistics, and information related to accomplishments and responsibilities. The Avon Lake Fire Department strives to provide the residents, businesses, and visitors of our community the very best service possible by skilled caring professionals.

The year 2016 brought about a needed mix of training for the Avon lake Fire Department. The department had hired 6 new firefighter/paramedics, or 1/3 of the response force, in the previous year. This large turn over in personnel resulted in an increase in training to get new personnel familiar with equipment and procedures. Each new firefighter spends their first year completing Job Performance Requirements and becoming certified to operate vehicles and equipment. Specialized classes conducted offsite further increased the knowledge of these new individuals.

The department received a new ambulance in 2016. Excellance Inc. built this vital piece of equipment at a cost of \$256,069. A committee was put together to research this purchase and they put in many hours to get the right piece of equipment at the best price. The result is a customized ambulance that best utilizes the equipment and talents of the Avon Lake Fire Department. This well-built vehicle will serve the city for the next 15 - 18 years. Because of its durability, we will be able to consider future refurbishments of this vehicle to prolong its life. We also purchased and instituted a power cot system in the new ambulance. Organizations across the state use these systems, which the Bureau of Workers Compensation supports. These new cots are hydraulic and reduce injuries while providing safer conditions for the firefighters and patients. Finally, we replaced the aging and dilapidated fire chief's vehicle, a 2002 Crown Victoria. A new Ford Explorer replaces the old Chief's vehicle and allows the fire chief to respond and command emergencies.

The Avon Lake Fire department provides many programs aimed to enhance the safety of the citizens. Programs include the File of Life, Lock Box and Smoke Detector programs to name a few. The Department also has two certified child seat technicians. These trained individuals can inspect or assist with proper installation of child car seats. They performed 52 car seat installations for the year 2016. We are proud of this program, which adds another level of safety for the residents.

The department continued to define the position of Fire Marshall by developing the role to utilize the rank and authority of the position for the betterment of the department. The Fire Marshall position heads the Fire Prevention Bureau whose main function is to reduce emergencies and/or lessen the impact of them through prevention and public education. Through these efforts the department provides for the overall safety of the community. The Fire Marshall is also the lead investigator for the department and works closely with fire department personnel, police officers and state investigators in the investigation of fires within Avon Lake. The Fire Marshall coordinates all large events such as the city Fourth of July fireworks and the "Big Trucks" event. The Fire Prevention Bureau conducts plan reviews, occupancy inspections, annual inspections and system testing. The Fire Prevention Bureau, with the assistance from shift personnel, provide public education and school fire safety presentations.

As with the Fire Marshall position, the department continued to develop the roles and responsibilities of the Operation Chief. This new position replaces the previous position of Training Officer. The Operations Chief is not only responsible for monitoring and coordinating training to ensure personnel meet the required certifications, but all other aspects of operations related to emergency response. The Operations chief is the direct supervisor to the shift officers and coordinates all personnel and equipment needed for operations. This position is also the lead on the revising of standard operating guidelines for the department.

The three platoons provide around the clock emergency response to the community. Their dedication and hard work provide professional services directly to the citizens, businesses and visitors of Avon Lake. Besides the emergency responses, the shift personnel perform a variety of other duties such as equipment checks/service/repair, building cleaning and repair, training, public education, hose testing, hydrant flushing, installs for the smoke detector program and much, much more. The administrative staff personnel support these shift personnel who are the core of the department.

The call volume for 2016 remained relatively unchanged from the previous year. Operationally the department experienced 2,413 emergency incident requests in 2016. The following table is a breakdown of the department's responses.

TYPE	Amount
Fire Calls	48
Overpressure, Overheat(no fire)	2
Rescue & EMS incident	1602
Hazardous Condition (no fire)	88
Service Call	296
Good Intent Call	163
False Alarm & False Call	214
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	0
TOTAL CALLS	2413
Mutual Aid Given	79
Mutual Aid Received	67

The total calls for the year were down 1% from the record-breaking numbers the department saw in 2015. Rescue and EMS calls remain the bulk of our responses accounting for 66% of all calls in 2016. Fire Calls include full structure fires along with vehicle fires, garage fires, dumpster fires and field fires to name a few. The department fully expects call volume to continue rising as construction continues within the city, including facilities to house the elderly and ill. The department staffing has increased by a single firefighter since 1997 while seeing an overall increase in calls of 77.2%. The Avon Lake Fire Department will continue to request additional personnel to compensate for this increasing demand for services.

The Avon Lake Fire Department will always strive to provide for the safety of the city and focus its goals on professional emergency services, prevention and efficiency.

We look forward to a safe and productive 2017 and on behalf of the officers and members of the Avon Lake Fire Department I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude for the continued support of the community.

Respectfully submitted,


Chris Huerter, Fire Chief

2016 STAFFING

CHIEF CHRISTOPHER HUERNER

ASST. CHIEF J. ROGERS
OPERATIONS - EDUCATION

PLATOON # 1
CAPT. G. EISENHARDT
LT. S. PETER
FF/MEDIC J. SCOTT
FF/MEDIC G. MADEJ
FF/MEDIC R. FRYGIER
FF/MEDIC A. EGUT
FF/MEDIC F. MERCER
FF/MEDIC B. WOOD
FF/MEDIC C. EICHENLAUB

PLATOON # 2
CAPT. J. BERRY
CAPT. S. MARTI
FF/MEDIC F. OGLE
FF/MEDIC J. KIMMELL
FF/MEDIC E. WAGNER
FF/MEDIC B. GILLES
FF/MEDIC C. McKAY
FF/MEDIC C. KHOMA

PLATOON # 3
CAPT. J. REITZ
LT. J. BETSA
FF/MEDIC D. SZYMANOWSKI
FF/MEDIC J. NAKEL
FF/MEDIC M. ROWE
FF/MEDIC M. WALTERS
FF/MEDIC M. PERTZ
FF/MEDIC K. URIG

CODE ENFORCEMENT and PUBLIC EDUCATION
ASST. CHIEF J. MOORE
INSPECTOR N. Cicone
INSPECTOR S. NEWCOMB

SECRETARY - RECORDS
CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY TECHNICIAN
S. BLISS

FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

ENGINE # 4	-----	1996 PIERCE
ENGINE # 5	-----	2010 PIERCE
LADDER # 11	-----	1996 KME
RESCUE # 7	-----	2002 PIERCE
RESCUE # 6	-----	2003 FORD EXPEDITION
MEDIC # 8	-----	2006 INTERNATIONAL
MEDIC # 9	-----	2008 INTERNATIONAL
MEDIC # 10	-----	2015 FREIGHTLINER
CAR # 1	-----	2016 FORD EXPLORER*
CAR # 2	-----	2014 FORD ESCAPE**
CAR # 3	-----	2012 FORD EXPEDITION***
MAINTENANCE # 12	-----	2015 FORD F-250
MAINTENANCE # 13	-----	2000 CHEVROLET 2500

* Chief
** Code Enforcement
*** Command

TRAINING AND OPERATIONS



ASSISTANT CHIEF JOHN ROGERS

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING & OPERATIONS

TRAINING 2016

Fire department personnel participate in various types of training performed both in-house and outside of the department. Some of these programs are continued specialty studies through area Colleges and Universities, cooperative training exercises with local businesses and hospitals, and participation in Lorain County Emergency Response Teams.

Annual Training Summary

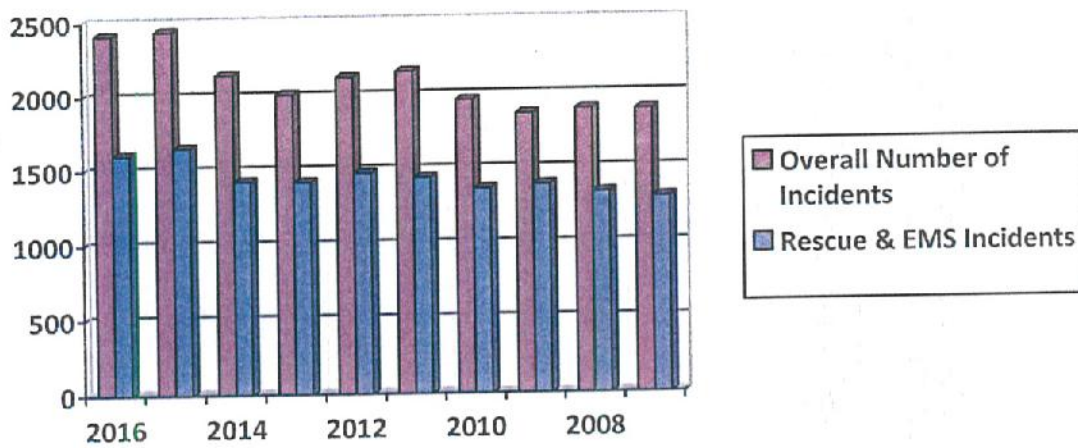
The following is a summary of recorded man-hours committed to training in 2016.

▪ Firefighting	1136
▪ Emergency Medical	768
▪ Hazardous Materials	50
▪ Rescue	513
▪ Miscellaneous	200
Total Training Hours	2667

Each of the three Platoons have included detailed information regarding training in their annual report sections.

PLATOON OPERATIONS 2016

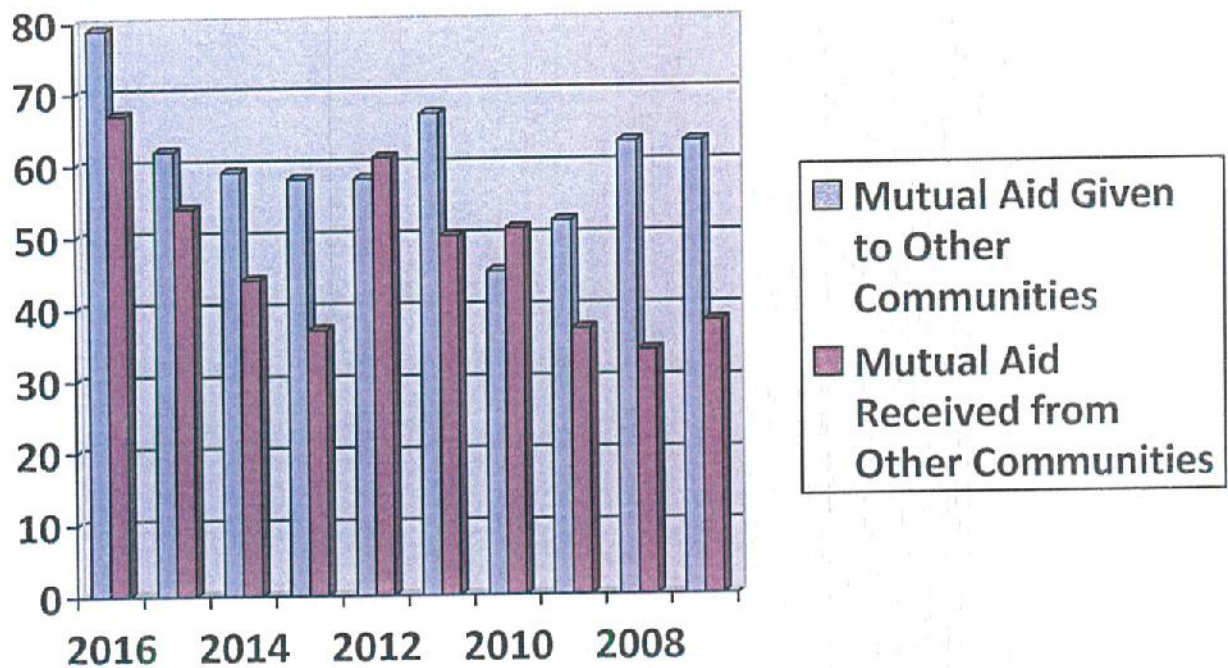
Our overall run volume has been a series of upward trending waves over the past ten years. Fortunately, we caught a break in emergency service demand in 2016 with 1% less call volume than 2015. Rescue & EMS continues to represent the bulk of our service demand (66% in 2016). The below chart shows total run volume and number of Rescue & EMS incidents represented in the yearly run volume for the past 10 years.



In 2016 we transported EMS patients 1424 times to area medical facilities. Most transports were either to St. John Medical Center (47%) or to Avon Richard E. Jacobs Emergency Department (41%). We are seeing significantly faster turn-around times when transporting to the Avon Richard E. Jacobs Emergency Department (39 minutes) as compared to the next closest medical facility, St. John Medical Center (53 minutes). As the Avon Richard E. Jacobs Emergency Department continues to expand their emergency medical care capabilities we hope to transport patients there more often.

63% of the people we transported to medical facilities were 65 years or older. It was the same in 2015. Therefore, we anticipate our EMS run volume to continue climbing as assisted living facility capacities in our community increase.

Mutual Aid responses to and from other communities continue to trend in the direction of us providing more Mutual Aid to other communities than we receive. During the past 10 years, there were only two years when we received more Mutual Aid than we gave, as indicated in the following chart.



We will continue to evaluate our training and emergency response operations with the goal of identifying what is serving the community well and what isn't.

Respectfully submitted,


John Rogers, Assistant Chief

CODE ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC EDUCATION



ASSISTANT CHIEF JEFF MOORE

INSPECTOR NICK CICONE

INSPECTOR SUE NEWCOMB

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CODE ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

The *mission* of the Fire Prevention Bureau is to provide the business community and general public with structures that are as free as possible of fire and life safety hazards and to promote personal safety in regards to fire, hazardous materials and severe weather thru code enforcement and education.

In 2016 Assistant Chief Moore assisted in the design of a new EMS vehicle, planned upgrades to the department's communications equipment, performed in the role of Acting Chief when the Fire Chief was out of town, applied for and received a grant from the State of Ohio for EMS equipment and along with Inspector Cicone is a member of the county Emergency Operations Center which is activated during various types of large scale emergencies. Inspector Cicone is also a member and chairman of the Lorain County Emergency Planning Commission.

In our attempt to achieve the above we:

- *Maintain an inventory of regulated properties defined by the Ohio Basic Building Code as: Assembly, Educational, Business, Factory, High Hazard, Institutional, Mercantile, Residential and Storage occupancies. Detached one, two and three family dwellings are not included.
- *Conduct fire and life safety inspections of regulated properties.
- *Conduct investigations of all known unfriendly fires and hazardous material releases.
- *Complete plan reviews regarding fire and life safety for new and existing construction as well as fire detection, suppression and alarm systems.
- *Educate the general public and business and industry employees regarding fire, severe weather, hazardous materials and life safety.
- *Issue permits for the installation of fire detection, alarm and suppression systems and other situations as listed in the Ohio Fire Code.
- *Are present at the acceptance testing of new fire detection, alarm and suppression systems as well as the annual and semi-annual tests of these systems.
- *Develop and schedule the annual Fall Fire Safety Programs for K thru 4th grade students attending public and private schools in the city. We also present programs to preschool students upon request.
- *Plan and implement the annual Fire Safety Poster Contest and awards presentations for second and fourth grade students.
- *Develop public service announcements regarding fire safety, severe weather and health related issues.
- * Manage the residential address sign and File of Life programs.
- * Are responsible for the installation, maintenance and record keeping of residential lock boxes.
- *Perform regular maintenance of Knox Boxes installed at our request by business and industry

2016 STATISTICS

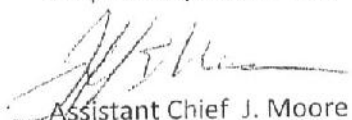
Regular Annual Inspections	217
Re-Inspections	075
New Occupancy Inspections	018
Special Inspections	025
Residential Lock Box Installs	038
Commercial Kitchen Extinguishing System Tests	066
Fire Alarm Tests	043
Fire Pump Tests	002
Sprinkler System Tests	038
Fire Door Tests	002
Special Extinguishing System Tests	013
Fire Drills Held	008
Planning Commission Plan Reviews	036
Construction Plan Reviews	015
Miscellaneous Inspections	017

2016 STATISTICS REGARDING PUBLIC EDUCATION

Adults instructed in fire safety, fire extinguisher use and severe weather	223
Children attending Safety Town fire safety instruction	182
Kindergarten thru 4 th grade students instructed in fire safety	1545*

*This is made possible only due to the invaluable participation of platoon personnel

Respectfully Submitted,



Assistant Chief J. Moore

PLATOON #1



CAPTAIN GLEN EISENHARDT

LIEUTENANT STEVE PETER

FF/MEDIC JON SCOTT

FF/MEDIC GARY MADEJ

FF/MEDIC RICH FRYGIER

FF/MEDIC AARON EGUT

FF/MEDIC FOREST MERCER

FF/MEDIC BRIAN WOOD

FF/MEDIC COLE EICHENLAUB

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 1

Captain Glen Eisenhardt

Lieutenant Steve Peter

Annual Report 2016

Please accept the following as the Annual Report for Platoon 1. The report outlines significant shift activities for the year 2016, including an emergency response analysis, continuing education training summary and specific details involving routine and non-routine projects and activities.

Emergency Response Summary

Platoon 1 responded to 786 emergency calls during the year 2016.

▪ Fire/Explosion	017
▪ EMS Calls/Rescue	524
▪ Hazardous Condition	030
▪ Service	097
▪ Good Intent	045
▪ False Calls	073
▪ Total Emergency Calls	786

Continuing education and training

Departmental/Shift drills

In order to maintain the highest level of emergency response capability, platoon 1 participated in (102) Fire/Rescue and emergency medical courses throughout the year. All members far exceeded the minimum requirements for professional certification required by the State of Ohio. These courses were completed in addition to our normally scheduled individual online training courses, and consisted of an additional 969 cumulative hours of training.

Blue Card

Lieutenant Peter completed the Blue Card Command Certification Program. The program is a state of the art training and certification system that teaches Company and Command Officers how to standardize local incident operations across their organization. The program uses a combination of online and in-class simulation training which results in an Incident Commander solution that finally addresses local Hazard Zone operations. The course consisted of fifty (50) hours of online training materials and three days of practical lab exercises.

WeShare Continuing Medical Education

The Westshore Area Rescue Association serves as the EMS medical Command for the Avon Lake Fire Department. The Organization provides required continuing medical education for Avon lake Paramedics. In 2016 WeShare conducted Ten 2 hour courses for platoon 1 members to educate members in current topics of pre-hospital medicine and supplement the minimum State of Ohio continuing education requirements for EMS providers. Members also renewed their Advanced Cardiac Life Support certifications through the WESHARE organization.

Fire Instructor

Lieutenant Peter became an Ohio Certified Fire Instructor. Lieutenant Peter completed his course work through the Cuyahoga County Community College, which consisted of 70 hours of instruction with requirements for completing 6 classes of student teaching.

BGSU Basic Rope Rescue

Firefighter Eichenlaub and Firefighter Wood attended the Bowling Green State University Fire academy to study basic rope operations in May 2016. This course covered numerous rope systems and techniques used to become proficient in rope rescue. This class gives rescuers the essential rope rescue skills to deal with hazards such as buildings, cliffs, towers, pits, wells, tanks, silos, trees, embankments and bridges. The course includes the fundamentals of rope rescue, using only the most up-to-date equipment and techniques with an emphasis on safety. Classroom topics will include terminology, equipment selection, current standards and essential knots. Rescuers learn personal and team skills through practical application of rope rescue systems, encompassing anchor systems, belay systems, rappelling and ascending, lowering systems, litter packaging and mechanical-advantage raising systems.

Dive Rescue

Firefighters Forest Mercer, Brian Wood and Cole Eichenlaub started the training program to become Certified Rescue Divers. The program covers the fundamentals of public safety dive rescue operations from scene evaluation through incident debriefing. Public safety divers are prepared to respond effectively to a water-incident scene. Topics include: overview of public safety drowning accidents; selecting, training, and equipping dive teams; family media and other agencies relations; search pattern fundamentals; victim retrieval tactics; responding to vehicle accidents; accident scene documentation; and an introduction to specialized equipment. Programs are presented in a classroom, a pool, and at an open-water training site

Fire Department Instructors Conference

Captain Eisenhardt and Firefighter Mercer attended the Annual Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis. The conference features nationally recognized speakers that deliver up to date, cutting edge information to improve all aspects of fire service delivery. In addition to the educational aspects, the conference also hosts the largest trade show for firefighting and EMS equipment in the United States.

Firefighter Recruits

Platoon officers and members are responsible to complete all required job performance training requirements with new recruits to ensure they are capable to perform all of their duties safely and efficiently. Firefighter Wood and Eichenlaub completed all assigned objectives and are demonstrating excellence in the performance of their duties.

Routine shift member activities

Collateral Assignments

In 2016 Captain Eisenhardt and Lieutenant Peter were tasked with specific areas of responsibility for the proper day to day functioning of our department. Daily projects were completed with the help of Platoon 1 members in the following areas

Captain Eisenhardt- Fire Operations and Equipment

Lieutenant Peter – Pre fire plans

Hydrant Work

During 2016 Platoon 1 assisted the other platoons in flushing approximately 1600 fire hydrants to check for proper valve operation and adequate water supply. Once again Firefighter Egut worked with other members of the department to rebuild/repair hydrants when he could to lower cost rather than replace the hydrant. He then worked with the Water Department to get those he could not repair scheduled for replacement

Fire Prevention/Public Education

Department Platoons assist the Fire Prevention and Public Education Divisions of the department on a regular basis. Below are listed some of the specific activities platoon 1 performed in the year 2016.

- Off-site talks and demonstrations
- Fire Prevention month participation at City schools
- Residential smoke detector and battery replacement
- Fire Department tours and safety demonstrations
- On-site Blood pressure tests for residents

Non Routine Shift member activities

Lorain County Technical Rescue Team

Firefighter Forest Mercer is one of the ALFD representatives on the Lorain County Technical Rescue Team. The Lorain County Technical Rescue Team support county departments in the stabilization of any significant technical rescue in Lorain County. The Team meets for eight hours monthly to conduct organizational meetings and training drills.

Certified Car Seat Technician

Firefighter Richard Frygier continued to assist and educate local families with the proper installation of child safety seats. Firefighter Frygier is a national certified Child Passenger Safety (CPS) technician and has met all requirements to maintain his certification.

EMS Vehicle Committee

Captain Eisenhardt is a member of the four-person committee involved in pre-purchase planning for the vehicle from the ground up. This vehicle is essentially a mobile emergency department that utilizes communication network connections to our county dispatch center and seven area hospitals with the ability to send and receive emergency dispatch and real-time medical diagnostic information to and from emergency dispatchers and emergency department physicians.

The Department took delivery in April after the manufacturer, Excellance Ambulance, asked to display the unit at The Fire Department Instructors Conference. The design requirements set forth by the committee were increased safety, improved patient care via design and equipment placement, ease of maintenance, durability and ease of operation.

Excellance Ambulance Company out of Alabama was chosen for this project. Members of the committee made two trips to Alabama to meet with engineers to discuss the build details and inspect the manufactures workmanship and quality.

Mayor Zilka and Council President O'Donnell were able to attend the Fire Department Instructors conference in Indianapolis to see the completed ambulance on display and meet the company representatives.

Emergency Medical Software

Firefighter Mercer is a member of the department's Patient Care Reporting Software committee. The committee is tasked to recommend a software to the administration that will allow for easier, more stable in field report completion.

SCBA Repair/Testing

Firefighter Mercer and Captain Eisenhardt renewed their certifications that allow them to repair portions of the departments self-contained breathing apparatus. Firefighter Mercer is also trained to administer the state required breathing protection fit test. This computer assisted test determines whether each individual has a proper seal on their respirator face piece to ensure no hazardous elements

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'G. Eisenhardt', written in a cursive style.

Captain Glen Eisenhardt

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'S. Peter', written in a cursive style.

Lieutenant Steve Peter

PLATOON #2



©1998 Jeff Bucchino

CAPTAIN JIM BERRY

CAPTAIN STEVE MARTI

FF/MEDIC FRANK OGLE

FF/MEDIC JERRY KIMMELL

FF/MEDIC ERIC WAGNER

FF/MEDIC BRIAN GILLES

FF/MEDIC CHRIS MCKAY

FF/MEDIC CLAYTON KHOMA

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 2

Annual Report 2016

This report represents the significant shift activity of Platoon 2 for the year 2016. Included is the response analysis summary, the training, and specific details involving routine and non-routine projects.

Emergency Response Summary

In 2016 Platoon 2 responded to the following emergency and non-emergency calls.

■ Fire/Explosion/Electrical	14
■ EMS/Rescue Calls	556
■ Hazardous Conditions/ CO/Gas Leaks	31
■ Good Intent Calls	56
■ Service Calls	119
■ False Alarms	62
Total Emergency Calls	838

Hydrant Work

During the 2016 calendar year Platoon 2 assisted the other platoons in flushing over 1600 hydrants to check for proper operation. This was done utilizing the new FireHouse Inspector program on an iPad with GPS and working through the kinks in this new system.

Building and Grounds Maintenance

General routine building and ground maintenance performed by Platoon 2 includes general cleaning, vacuuming, window cleaning, simple maintenance; plowing snow and shoveling walks; replacing light bulbs; emptying drain oil, etc. We also readied the station for Big Trucks and other special events.

Public Relations

Throughout the year 2016 Platoon 2 worked with the entire department to promote fire safety and educate the public for a safer community including;

- Off-site talks and demonstrations
- Fire Prevention month participation at City schools
- Residential smoke detector and battery replacement
- Fire Department tours and safety demonstrations
- On-site Blood pressure tests for residents
- Hosted the Fire Safety Poster contest
- Assisted with Car seat installations

Training

Throughout the year 2016 Platoon 2 members participated in over 1000 hours of continuing education which included classroom instruction, computer generated training, and hands on evolutions. Some of the training that Platoon 2 completed are the following;

- Completion of JPR's and probation for Firefighter Khoma
- Fire Safety Inspector for Firefighter McKay
- Firefighter Khoma attended the Ohio Fire Academy for Pumps and Bldg. construction
- Firefighter Khoma and McKay attended Dive training this year.
- The Platoon attended the Auto show Extrication class
- Familiarization of local business with walk-thru and pre-plans.
- WeShare Continuing Medical Education and Symposiums
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Basic Life Support renewal
- Hands on Extrication Training with donated cars
- Several members attended classes for Operations and Leadership
- Department/shift drills over numerous subjects such as SOG's, Rescue training, Vehicle training and Operations.

Collateral assignments

Fleet Maintenance and repair

Platoon 2 remained very busy with the maintenance and repair of the Avon Lake Fire Department apparatus and vehicles. With the co-operation of the service contractors and fire department personnel the fleet remains in great condition. Firefighter Frank Ogle is the primary member responsible for the troubleshooting and rapid repair of vehicles that need attention at inopportune times. This year Firefighter McKay has also been helping Firefighter Ogle in learning some of the basic maintenance. Firefighter Khoma attended a basic maintenance class from Excellence to assist Firefighter Ogle in minor maintenance issues for the new Medic 10. Maintenance procedures are scheduled based on usage and budgetary concerns by Platoon 2 and Chief Huerner.

Lorain County Technical Rescue Team

Firefighter McKay and Wagner are both members of the team. They conduct monthly training with the team as well as special operations training during the year that include Trench Rescue, Water Rescue, Rope Rescue and Extrication Tactics. They were both involved in several Tech team recalls this year.

Lorain County Hazardous Material Team

Firefighter McKay was also involved with the HazMat team with monthly meetings and training.

Rescue

Captain Berry is responsible for Rescue Operations and Equipment. The water rescue and dive equipment are serviced and maintained by Platoon 2 and several outside services. We continue to work toward the training and certification of new divers to allow for the rapid response of our water rescue services. Our participation in the Lorain County Technical Rescue team continues to expand with the addition of new ALFD members to the team. Their training is extensive and the members bring that knowledge back to all department personnel.

EMS Operations & Equipment

Captain Marti is responsible for EMS Operations and Supplies. Maintenance of equipment consists of keeping up to date on all drugs & licensing requirements. Maintaining and servicing all medical monitoring equipment and telemetry. Ordering of medical supplies and monitoring inventories are also part of our program.

Throughout the year the Avon Lake Fire Department has been host to several organizations involving medical related functions. Platoon 2 assisted with paramedic students' field training through LCCC. The paramedic program, with the strong support of the paramedic levy, continues to enable us to provide a high level of emergency medical care, continuing education and training for certification and recertification in areas such as Basic and Advanced Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support. We continue to maintain in-house instructors of Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support. This would not be possible without the continued support of our administration and our community.

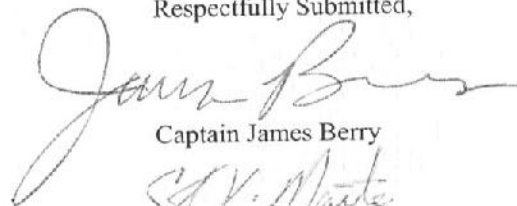
Special Projects

Firefighters Kimmell and McKay worked diligently with other personnel to develop design specifications for the new ambulance and we received the new Medic 10 in April of this year.

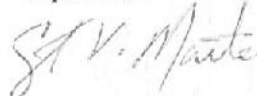
Firefighter Wagner continues to update the watch office wall map showing street and hydrant locations and will continue to keep the map current.

FF Wagner built the Denver drill platform with assistance from other platoon members.

Respectfully Submitted,



Captain James Berry



Captain Steve Marti

PLATOON #3



CAPTAIN JOHN REITZ

LIEUTENANT JEREMY BETSA

FF/MEDIC DANA SZYMANOWSKI

FF/MEDIC JOHN NAKEL

FF/MEDIC MIKE ROWE

FF/MEDIC MARK WALTERS

FF/MEDIC MIKE PERTZ

FF/MEDIC KYLE URIG

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 3

Captain John Reitz

Lieutenant Jeremy Betsa

Annual Report 2016

Please accept the following as the Annual Report for Platoon 3. The report outlines significant shift activities for the year 2016, including an emergency response analysis, continuing education training summary and specific details involving routine and non-routine projects and activities.

Emergency Response Summary

Platoon 3 responded to 789 emergency calls during the year 2016.

▪ Fire/Explosion	019
▪ EMS Calls/Rescue	522
▪ Hazardous Condition	027
▪ Service	080
▪ Good Intent	062
▪ False Calls	079
▪ Severe Weather/Natural Disaster	000
▪ Special Incident	000
▪ Total Emergency Calls	789

Continuing education and training

Departmental/Shift drills

In order to maintain the highest level of emergency response capability, platoon 3 participated in (39) Fire/Rescue practical training drills, and (10) emergency medical courses throughout the year. All members far exceeded the minimum requirements for professional certification required by the State of Ohio. These courses were completed in addition to our normally scheduled individual online training courses, and consisted of an additional 125.5 hours of training for each platoon member.

Blue Card

Firefighters Szymanowski, and Nakel completed the Blue Card Command Certification Program. The program is a state of the art training and certification system that teaches Company and Command Officers how to standardize local incident operations across their organization. The program uses a combination of online and in-class simulation training which results in an Incident Commander solution that finally addresses local Hazard Zone operations. The course consisted of fifty (50) hours of online training materials and three days of practical lab exercises. This Coursework started in 2015 and was completed in January 2016

WeShare Continuing Medical Education

The Westshore Area Rescue Association serves as the EMS medical Command for the Avon Lake Fire Department. The Organization provides required continuing medical education for Avon lake Paramedics. In 2016 WeShare conducted seven (7) 2 hour courses for platoon 3 members to educate members in current topics of pre-hospital medicine and supplement the minimum State of Ohio continuing education requirements for EMS providers.

Advanced Cardiac Life Support

All platoon 3 members satisfactorily completed their ACLS recertification required by the State of Ohio Department of Public Safety in 2016. The certification course consists of an online coursework module and practical scenarios where each paramedic must treat multiple cardiac patients while under the supervision of a physician instructor.

Public Safety Rescue Diving

Firefighters Kyle Urig and Mike Pertz completed their Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI) Open Water Diving Course. The course consisted of approximately 24 hours classroom training and 16 hours of open water diving skills.

Ohio Fire Academy

Firefighters Walters and Urig attended an 8 hour Building Construction for the Fire Service course hosted by Fairview Park Fire Department in Spring 2016. This course covers a variety of both modern and older construction features that firefighters encounter during fire incidents. The course also reviews several hazards encountered by fire service personnel.

Firefighter Pertz attended a pump operations and fundamentals course in 2016. This course, developed by the Ohio Fire Academy, was designed to provide the new pump operator or individual who maintains pumps with an overview of the operation of the pump. This class covers basic pump principles and plumbing, ratings, problem areas and practical operations. This course demonstrates the principles for operation of fire apparatus and pumps.

Captain Reitz and Lieutenant Betsa attended a S.L.I.C.E.R.S. class in the beginning of 2016 hosted by Bay Village Fire Department. This class involves the latest research to improve firefighter safety and how to incorporate that research into actual tactics on the fire ground. These tactics are designed for the Incident Commander and to guide the tactical priorities of a fire scene.

Routine shift member activities

Collateral Assignments

In 2016, shift officers Reitz and Betsa were tasked with specific areas of responsibility for the proper day to day functioning of our department. Daily projects were completed with the help of Platoon 3 members in the following areas:

Captain Reitz – Information and Communication Technology

Lieutenant Betsa – EMS Supplies and Equipment

Hydrant Work

Throughout the year 2016, Platoon 3 assisted the other platoons in flushing approximately 1600 fire hydrants to check for proper valve operation and adequate water supply. In addition, Lt Betsa completed a project that GPS located each of the City's fire hydrants and developed a database to record all hydrant status and maintenance records.

Fire Prevention/Public Education

Department Platoons assist the Fire Prevention and Public Education Divisions of the department on a regular basis. Below are listed some of the specific activities platoon 3 performed in the year 2016.

- Off-site talks and demonstrations
- Fire Prevention month participation at City schools
- Residential smoke detector and battery replacement
- Fire Department tours and safety demonstrations
- On-site Blood pressure tests for residents
- Pre-plan fire safety inspections

New Firefighter Recruits

In 2016, Platoon 3 members continued to work with 2nd year firefighters Pertz and Urig to complete their required job performance evaluations. All performance expectations have been met and both recruit firefighters are performing with excellence.

Non Routine Shift member activities

Lorain County Hazardous Material Team

Firefighter Mark Walters is one of the two ALFD representatives on the Lorain County Hazardous Material Team. The Lorain County Hazardous Material Team is responsible for the stabilization and mitigation of any significant hazardous material spill or release in Lorain County. Firefighters McKay and Walters are both certified Hazardous Materials Technicians. The Team meets for two hours monthly to conduct organizational meetings and training drills.

Critical Incident Response Service Team

Firefighter John Nakel is an active member of the CIRS which provides responders to the Greater Cleveland area. The Critical Incident Response Service program is a multi-component crisis intervention response team that includes Pre-Incident Education, on scene or near scene management, One-on-One intervention, Demobilization, Crisis Management Briefing, Defusing, Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD), Family Support, Community Crisis Response, Pastoral Crisis Intervention and Follow Up. The team meets bi-monthly for training and organizational purposes. Firefighter Nakel was involved with (9) CIRS responses in 2016. Firefighter Nakel responds to critical incidents and assists with counseling on a volunteer level while he is off duty.

Lorain County SWAT

Firefighter Mike Rowe is an active member of the Lorain County Sheriff's Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team. Firefighter Rowe provides emergency medical treatment for law enforcement team members who respond to highly volatile law enforcement activities throughout Lorain County. These situations typically include active shooter situations, barricaded subjects, and high risk arrest warrants. The team conducts monthly training sessions consisting of 8 hours of hands-on tactical evolutions. Firefighter Rowe was involved with (3) SWAT responses in 2016.

EMS PCR Committee

Lieutenant Betsa, along with Firefighters Mercer and Khoma volunteered to be part of a newly formed committee to research and compare various electronic EMS reporting software programs to ensure our department is utilizing tools that allow paramedics to be as prepared, efficient, and as effective as we can be in the field. The committee conducted research for 8 months and made a recommendation to the Chief Officers for consideration.

New EMS response unit

The City of Avon Lake acquired a new EMS response unit in 2016. Lieutenant Betsa was tasked with outfitting the new truck with the most modern and effective supplies and equipment to allow paramedics to be efficient and effective in the field. In addition, Lieutenant Betsa provided a recorded interview/demonstration to introduce the vehicle and its emergency medical response capabilities to our residents through a broadcast on Avon Lake Community Television.

Respectfully Submitted,

Captain John Reitz

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Reitz", with a stylized, cursive script.

Lieutenant Jeremy Betsa

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Betsa", with a stylized, cursive script.