

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



GREG J. ZILKA – SAFETY DIRECTOR

CHRIS HUERNER – FIRE CHIEF



AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF CHRIS HUERNER



2017 Annual Report

Mayor Zilka and Members of Council,

I am pleased to present the 2017 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 information regarding emergency response statistics, training activities and accomplishments and responsibilities throughout 2017. 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 paramedic levy renewed this year for another three years. This levy is crucial to the departments operations and provides funds that make up a large portion of our total budget. Emergency Medical Services make up a large portion of our run volume, training and daily activities. The additional firefighter/paramedics provided by this levy also helps provide enough personnel for fires and other emergencies and its failure would significantly affect the department's abilities to provide emergency services to the community. The Avon Lake Fire Department remains humbled by the overwhelming support by the community in passing this levy.

The department received new hydraulic rescue tools in 2017. The department formed a committee to research this purchase in order to get the right equipment at the best price. The committee put in many hours researching various manufacturers, tool capabilities and pricing. Live demos were set up to try the various tools before compiling bid specifications. The bid for this equipment was awarded to Finely Fire Equipment for Hurst brand rescue tools. The overall project cost was \$44,645, which was significantly less than the budgeted \$83,000 for this project. The result is a set of stronger and lighter rescue tools that enhance capabilities for the department.

The department also purchased a new Ford Explorer as a first responder vehicle to replace the aging 2002 Ford Expedition used for this purpose. This rescue vehicle is used when there is no ambulance or adequate staffing available and allows one person to respond and begin lifesaving treatment while awaiting mutual aid from another department.

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 47 car seat installations in 2017. These programs along with prevention education help keep our community safe and help control the number of emergencies.

There were several changes to personnel in the year 2017. A new administrative assistant and a new firefighter/paramedic joined the department due to retirements this year. A civil service entrance test was administered to establish a list for replacing the firefighter paramedic. The department also worked with the Civil Service Commission to give promotional exams for assistant chief and lieutenant in order to prepare for the upcoming retirement of the fire prevention assistant chief in 2018.

A presentation on department staffing was prepared and presented to Safety Committee and again for council members and the public. This presentation showed the dire need for increased staffing in the department. Council took action to approve the addition of two firefighter/paramedics in 2018. These additional personnel will positively affect operations for the department as it sees increases in run volume each year.

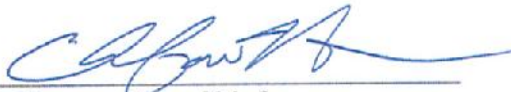
The call volume for 2017 increased from the previous year and set a new high for run volume in the department. The following table is a breakdown of the department's responses.

TYPE	Amount
Fire Calls	66
Overpressure, Overheat(no fire)	1
Rescue & EMS incident	1728
Hazardous Condition (no fire)	97
Service Call	363
Good Intent Call	137
False Alarm & False Call	239
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	5
Special Incident Type	0
TOTAL CALLS	2636
Mutual Aid Given	56
Mutual Aid Received	73

The total calls of 2636 is the highest call volume in a single year in the history of the department. The department saw a slight decrease in false alarms but made up for it in emergencies for every other category. Fires have fluctuated over the last ten years between 35 in 2013 and 66 for 2017. Rescue & EMS and service calls have steadily increased over the last ten years to the highest numbers on record for 2017.

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 2018 and the Fire Department would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the administration and the community for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "CH Huerner", written over a horizontal line.

Chris Huerner, Fire Chief

2017 STAFFING

CHIEF CHRISTOPHER HUERNER

OPERATIONS – EDUCATION

ASSISTANT CHIEF J. Rogers

PLATOON #1

Capt. G. Eisenhardt

Lt. S. Peter

FF/Medics

J. Scott

G. Madej

A. Egut

C. McKay

F. Mercer

C. Eichenlaub

N. Gamellia

PLATOON #2

Capt. J. Berry

Capt. S. Marti

FF/MEDICS

F. Ogle

J. Nakel

E. Wagner

B. Gilles

C. Khoma

B. Wood

PLATOON #3

Capt. J. Reitz

Lt. J. Betsa

FF/MEDICS

J. Kimmell

M. Rowe

R. Frygier

M. Walters

M. Pertz

K. Urig

CODE ENFORCEMENT – PUBLIC EDUCATION

ASSISTANT CHIEF J. Moore

INSPECTOR N. Cicone

SECRETARY – RECORDS

K. Gomez

Retired in 2017

FF/Medic D. Szymanowski (May)

Secretary S. Bliss (May)

Inspector S. Newcomb (June)

VEHICLES

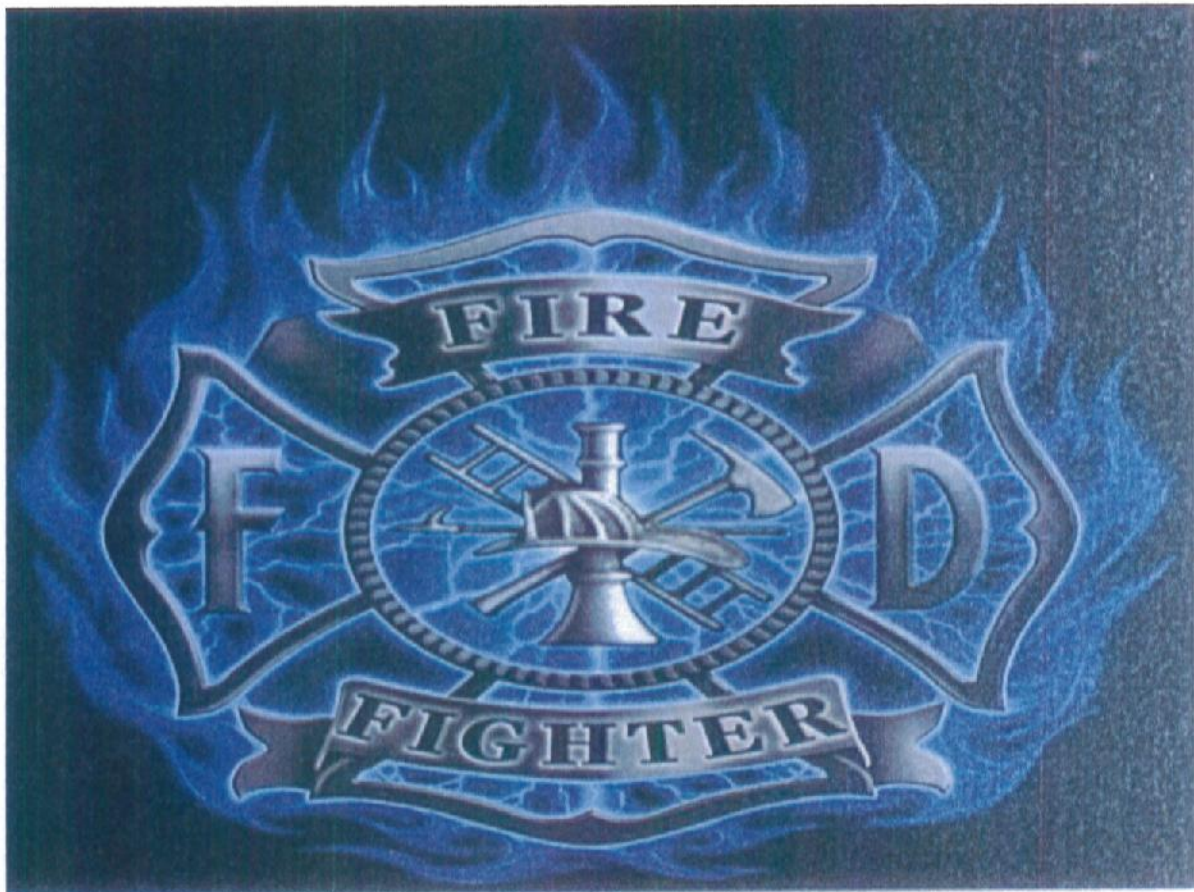
CAR #1	-----	2016 FORD EXPLORER*
CAR #2	-----	2014 FORD ESCAPE**
CAR #3	-----	2012 FORD EXPEDITION***
ENGINE #4	-----	1996 PIERCE
ENGINE #5	-----	2010 PIERCE
RESCUE #6	-----	2003 FORD EXPEDITION
RESCUE #7	-----	2002 PIERCE
MEDIC #8	-----	2006 INTERNATIONAL
MEDIC #9	-----	2008 INTERNATIONAL
MEDIC #10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

Chief *

Code Enforcement **

Command ***

TRAINING AND OPERATIONS



ASSISTANT CHIEF JOHN ROGERS

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING & OPERATIONS

TRAINING 2017

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 2017.

▪ Firefighting	662
▪ Emergency Medical	1226
▪ Hazardous Materials	17
▪ Rescue	307
▪ Miscellaneous	343
Total Training Man-Hours	2555

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

PLATOON OPERATIONS 2017

Our overall run volume increased by 9% from 2016 to 2017. Rescue & EMS continue to represent the bulk of our service demand (66%).

In 2017 we transported EMS patients 1519 times to area medical facilities. Transport destinations changed significantly compared to the previous year. In 2017 most patients went to Avon Richard E. Jacobs Emergency Department (64%), which was an increase from 2016 when 41% of our transported patients went there. The opposite was true for St. John Medical Center where we transported 47% of our patients in 2016 compared to 29% in 2017. This was likely due to the addition of a full service hospital to the existing "stand alone" emergency department at the Avon Richard E. Jacobs facility.


79% of our EMS patients were 51 years or older. It was the same in 2016. Therefore, as indicated in the 2016 Annual Report we anticipate our EMS run volume to continue climbing as assisted living and custodial care facility capacities in our community increase.

Our "Lift Assist" service demand also increased 23% from 2016 to 2017. A Lift Assist is performed when a person is unable to independently get up from the floor after falling or slipping out of a chair or bed. In 2017 we provided 307 Lift Assists.

Fires in general continue to remain at 2% of our run volume. In 2017 there were 9 fires at manufacturing properties. This was a significant increase from 2016 when there was only 1 fire at a manufacturing property.

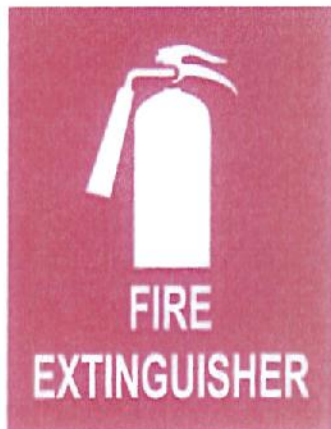
In 2017 we responded to 57 hazardous materials incidents. Most of those incidents (37) involved natural gas or propane leaks. There were 2 significant hazardous materials spills from industrial facilities that involved the uncontrolled release of thousands of gallons of liquids.

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.

2017 saw the bureau below normal staffing levels from June on due to Inspector Newcomb retiring and Assistant Chief Moore off and on lite duty due to a health issue.

BUREAU STAFF DUTIES

*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.

*Code research

*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, fire extinguisher use, 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.

*Being 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 and participate in Safety Town.

*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.

- *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.
- *Plan and coordinate the annual Big Trucks event.
- *Participate in the Lorain County Emergency Planning Committee and the Emergency Operations Center.
- *Develop and update the city Disaster Plan.
- *Other tasks and assignments as dictated by the Fire Chief
- *Continuing Education

2017 STATISTICS

Inspections and Re-Inspections	300+
Special Inspections	056
Residential Lock Box Installs	026
Fire Detection, Alarm and Extinguishing System Tests	150+
Plan Reviews	053
Adults instructed in fire safety, fire extinguisher use and severe weather	380+
Children given fire safety instruction including safety town*	800+

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Assistant Chief Jeff Moore



Inspector Nick Cicone

PLATOON #1



Captain Glen Eisenhardt

Lieutenant Steve Peter

FF/MEDIC Jon Scott

FF/MEDIC Gary Madej

FF/MEDIC Aaron Egut

FF/MEDIC Chris Mckay

FF/MEDIC Forest Mercer

FF/MEDIC Cole Eichenlaub

FF/MEDIC Nick Gamellia

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 1

Captain Glen Eisenhardt

Lieutenant Steve Peter

Annual Report 2017

Please accept the following as the Annual Report for Platoon 1. The report outlines significant shift activities for the year 2017, 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 871 emergency calls during the year 2017.

▪ Fire/Explosion	026
▪ EMS Calls/Rescue	590
▪ Hazardous Condition	028
▪ Service	109
▪ Good Intent	038
▪ False Calls	080
▪ Total Emergency Calls	871

Continuing education and training

Departmental/Shift drills

In order to maintain the highest level of emergency response capability, platoon 1 participated in various 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.

Blue Card

Firefighter Aaron Egut 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 2017 WeShare conducted monthly 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.

BGSU - Street Smart Engine Smarts

Firefighter Cole Eichenlaub attended the Bowling Green State University Fire academy to study fire engine operation in May 2017. This is an intense hands on class where students rotate through multiple realistic stations to gain experience, confidence and skills to safely and effectively operate in any assignment on the fire ground.

Additional Classes and Training

Platoon 1 members have gone out and have taken many additional classes to improve their knowledge. Some examples are: Fire Officer I&II, Company officer 10 Commandments, Normalization of Deviance, Fire Investigation Origin and Cause, Decision making for initial company officers, Advance trench rescue techniques, Top 20 tactical considerations, Building/Construction, Progressive Fire Attack, Ladder Company Operations.

Dive Rescue

Firefighters Forest Mercer, and Cole Eichenlaub completed the training program in May 2017 to become Certified SCUBA divers. Both personnel will be continuing their training into 2018 to become fully certified Public Safety Rescue Divers. 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

Lieutenant Peter 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 Nick Gamelia transferred to platoon #1 during the 2017 calendar year and completed all assigned objectives and is demonstrating excellence in the performance of his duties.

Routine shift member activities

Collateral Assignments

In 2017 Captains 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 2017 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 2017.

- 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 continues to be 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. Mercer has also taken a week long trench rescue class to gain advance techniques in dealing with trench collapses.

Lorain County Hazardous Material Team

Firefighter Chris McKay has continued to be a valued member to the Lorain County Hazardous Material Team. This team is made up of many members that span from most of the local departments located in Lorain County. The Lorain County Haz Mat team conducts monthly meetings and drills to gain more knowledge and stay proficient in dealing with possible hazardous material incidents. In the event of a release anywhere in the area, these individuals would come together to help stabilize and resolve the incident.

CPR Instructor

Firefighter Chris McKay is a certified CPR instructor and has conducted many classes for many of the other city departments. McKay also conducts many of these classes for the residents and their groups once requested to do so.

Standard Operating Guidelines

Captain Eisenhardt assisted the administrative staff with identifying and updating several emergency response and firefighter safety standard operating guidelines. Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) are the guidelines used to direct the department's actions to/for a specific incident or activity. Evaluating and updating standard operating guidelines is an ongoing process that is required to keep department members functioning safely and effectively during emergency service delivery.

Mobile Radio Communication System

The Avon lake fire department utilizes radios to communicate emergency and non-emergency messages. These radios are a critical component to the safe and effective operation of the department. The department has experienced issues with reliable communications. While the City has and continues to invest into the infrastructure to improve our communications, the department still experienced issues. In 2017 Captain Eisenhardt worked with manufacturers to trouble shoot these issues. Improper installations, wrong/faulty equipment and mismatched frequencies were issues that were identified. B & C communications was hired to repair and reinstall the updated equipment. Chief Huerner and Captain Eisenhardt worked with the Federal Communications Commission to obtain a new radio frequency that will allow our current radio equipment to function as designed. The completion of this project should be in the first quarter of 2018. This project will not solve all of the departments' communications issues as future radio infrastructure projects will be forthcoming due to federal regulations and regional requirements.

SCBA Repair/Testing

Firefighter Mercer and Captain Eisenhardt have their certifications that allow them to repair portions of the department's 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. These test are conducted annually to provide safe working environment for all personnel.

Fire Gear Storage project

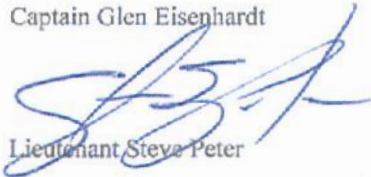
Proper storage of the department member's personal fire protective turnout gear is important to the proper functioning and life expectancy of this vital equipment. Commercially made storage units are available but comes with an extensive capital outlay. The department was able to obtain proper storage units thanks to the unbelievable talents of the City of Avon Lake Service Department. Captain Eisenhardt discussed the department requirements with the service department members and then over the course of a couple months the service members fabricated a custom system that fits the needs of the department. This intra city assistance saved tax payers tens of thousands of dollars.

Battery Powered Extrication tools

Lieutenant Peter along with Firefighter Eric Wagner took on the project of replacing the ALFD extrication tools with state of the art battery powered extrication tools. It was determined that our aging extrication tools and the auto industries advances in metals and designs had hampered our abilities to effectively and efficiently rescue people during auto accident entrapments. Peter and Wagner attended FDIC conference in Indianapolis to gain better insight on newest tools and their advancements. Vendors on separate occasions brought their tools to our department where they were used by our own firefighters on wrecked automobiles. By getting hands on use of the tools and performance specifications, we feel we made the correct choice that will serve us well for many years to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

Captain Glen Eisenhardt

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SP', is written over the name 'Lieutenant Steve Peter'.

Lieutenant Steve Peter

PLATOON #2



Captain Jim Berry

Captain Steve Marti

FF/MEDIC Frank Ogle

FF/MEDIC John Nakel

FF/MEDIC Brian Gilles

FF/MEDIC Eric Wagner

FF/MEDIC Clayton Khoma

FF/MEDIC Brian Wood

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 2

Annual Report 2017

This report represents the significant shift activity of Platoon 2 for the year 2017. Included is the response analysis summary, the training, and specific details involving routine and non-routine projects.

Emergency Response Summary

In 2017 Platoon 2 responded to record year of responses to the following emergency and non-emergency calls. The department responded to over 2600 calls and our platoon once again had the most of any platoon.

▪ Fire/Explosion/Electrical	19
▪ EMS/Rescue Calls	575
▪ Hazardous Conditions/ CO/Gas Leaks	42
▪ Good Intent Calls	48
▪ Service Calls	143
▪ False Alarms	72

Total Emergency Calls 899

Platoon 2 responded to several house fires inside the city and as mutual aid to our neighboring communities. We were able to avoid major losses locally thanks to residents calling and our timely response. Our department has excellent paramedics and Platoon 2 is proud of our abilities and performance on the almost 600 emergency medical/rescue calls we responded too. We also had numerous thank you notes/calls from residents who were pleased with our service.

Hydrant Work

During the 2017 calendar year, Platoon 2 assisted the other platoons in flushing over 1600 hydrants to check for proper operation. The Platoon made an extra effort to get our hydrants done by September.

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, poster awards, employee appreciation and other special events.

Public Relations

Throughout the year 2017 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
- Car Seat installations

Firefighter Gilles became certified in car seat installation and it should be pointed out that he has been willing to help residents and non-residents get their car seats installed or check the seats to make sure they are installed. Usually, the department secretary schedules the appointments for the installs, but there have been times that FF Gilles has been flexible by allowing people who could not make their appointment to come later in the day when they could make it.

Training

Throughout the year 2017 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:

- Firefighter Wood attended the Ohio Fire Academy for Fire Attack
- Firefighter Khoma and Wood attended BGSU's Fire Academy for Street smart Engine and Ladder company operations.
- The Platoon had Extrication training from vendors showing us their battery operated tools and Hands on Extrication training with donated cars.
- Familiarization of local business with walk-thru and pre-plans.
- WeShare Continuing Medical Education and Symposiums
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support renewal
- Lt. Wagner had numerous Tech rescue training with the LCTRT, such as Trench Rescue 1 & 2, wide area search training and monthly refresher training for various technical disciplines.
- Several members attended classes for Operations and Leadership
- Firefighter Wood became open water Diver certified
- Firefighter Gilles became certified for Car seat installation.
- Department/shift drills over numerous subjects such as SOG's, Rescue training, Vehicle training and Operations.

Lieutenant Promotional test

A promotional test was given in the fall of 2017 and several of our platoon firefighters were a part of the process. They all were observed studying diligently for the exam. We were pleased that they all passed the test with high marks and Firefighter Wagner was promoted to Lieutenant this January.

Collateral assignments

Fleet Maintenance and repair

Firefighter Frank Ogle is the primary member responsible for the troubleshooting and rapid repair of vehicles that need attention at inopportune times. Firefighter Ogle then ensures that the right service contractors are notified for repairs that are beyond the basics. This year Firefighter Khoma has also been helping Firefighter Ogle in learning some of the basic maintenance after having attended a basic maintenance class from Excellence for Medic 10. Maintenance procedures are scheduled based on usage and budgetary concerns by Platoon 2 and Chief Huerner.

Lorain County Technical Rescue Team

Lieutenant Wagner is a member of the LCTRT. He attends 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. He was involved in several Tech team recalls this year. He has also been assigned Coordinator for wide area search and rescues.

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 and several Doctors' from WeShare.

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

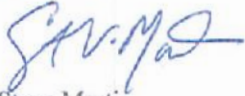
Lt. Wagner continues to update the watch office wall map showing street and hydrant locations and will continue to keep the map current.

Lieutenant Wagner was an integral part of the selection of new battery powered extrication equipment that was purchased. He and Lt. Peter created the specs for the bids and reviewed the different manufacturer's equipment. After several hands on demos, they determined that the Hurst tools were our best choice.

Firefighter Nakel continues to be on the Critical Stress Incident Debriefing team for the area police and fire departments. He attends meetings and annual training to help him be ready to assist with CSID. This is a valuable service because there are many calls that we respond to that are more stressful than the normal emergency. Even though we are good at our jobs and deliver quality service, some things are beyond our control and it helps to have CSID for those days.

Respectfully Submitted,

Captain James Berry

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Marti", written over the printed name of Captain Steve Marti.

Captain Steve Marti

PLATOON #3



Captain John Reitz

Lieutenant Jeremy Betsa

FF/MEDIC Jerry Kimmell

FF/MEDIC Richard Frygier

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 2017

Please accept the following as the Annual Report for Platoon 3. The report outlines significant shift activities for the year 2017, 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 879 emergency calls during the year 2017.

▪ Fire/Explosion	021
▪ EMS Calls/Rescue	573
▪ Hazardous Condition	030
▪ Service	112
▪ Good Intent	053
▪ False Calls	088
▪ Severe Weather/Natural Disaster	002
▪ Special Incident	000
▪ Total Emergency Calls	879

Continuing education and training

Departmental/Shift drills

In order to maintain the highest level of emergency response capability, platoon 3 participated in (22) Fire/Rescue practical training drills and administrative updates. 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 WeShare courses listed below, and consisted of an additional 72.5 hours of training for each on duty platoon member

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 2017, WeShare conducted (14) 2 hour courses for members of the department to educate paramedics in current topics of pre-hospital medicine and supplement the minimum State of Ohio continuing education requirements for EMS providers.

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. Although the majority of this training was conducted in 2016, Firefighter Pertz completed his final open water training in 2017.

Routine shift member activities

Collateral Assignments

In 2017, shift officers Reitz and Betsa were tasked with specific areas of responsibility for the proper day to day functioning of the 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 2017, 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 on a regular basis. Below are listed some of the specific activities platoon 3 performed in the year 2017.

- 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
- Smoke detector and battery installations

Power Loader Cots

In the beginning of 2017 the department was approved to purchase 2 additional power cots with power load systems. Lieutenant Betsa provided the data to the city in order to receive approval of this purchase in addition to coordinating and organizing the purchase and delivery of the systems. In June 2017 the power cots and power load systems were installed in the additional EMS units to have those units match the front line EMS unit.

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 2017. 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 2017.

EMS equipment ordering system

Lieutenant Betsa created a basic system for all platoon members to notify when supplies were running low. This system eliminated much of the problems associated with running low on necessary EMS supplies and equipment that had occurred in the past.

Promotion

Lieutenant Betsa placed number one on the Assistant Chief promotional exam and will be promoted to the position in early 2018. Lieutenant Betsa worked with the Fire Prevention Bureau when time allowed in order to prepare for this promotion in an attempt to make this transition possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Captain John Reitz

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Betsa", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Lieutenant Jeremy Betsa