

# **AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**2018 ANNUAL REPORT**



**GREGORY J. ZILKA – SAFETY DIRECTOR**

**JEREMY BETSA – INTERIM FIRE CHIEF**





# AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT



CHIEF JEREMY BETSA

## 2018 Annual Report

Mayor Zilka and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Avon Lake Fire Department it is my pleasure to submit the 2018 annual report.

Contained within, you will have a summary and review from the Fire Prevention Bureau, Operations Division and each of the 3 Platoons. The information will provide an insight to our response statistics, training, inspections and other accomplishments that occurred throughout 2018. A brief overview of additional responsibilities from our dedicated members are also included.

2018 was a year that a great deal of change occurred with our membership. In July 2018 the staffing of the Fire Department was increased by two additional members. This increase in staffing could not have occurred without the support of the Mayor and Council. Four members were also hired to replace those who separated from service in 2018. In the beginning of the year we were also able to fill a vacancy that was open in Fire Prevention with a part-time fire inspector. With the additional support from the Mayor and Council we began a yearlong trial in September to determine how we can better impact our service while adding an additional member for manning purposes during the hours of 7am to 9pm. The intent of this trial is to be a cost neutral way to provide additional services to our community members. In the early phases of this trial it appears to be successful and I look forward to the end results of this while we continue to enhance our response capabilities.

In addition, several promotions occurred throughout 2018. I was promoted to Interim Fire Chief in October while Chief Huerner completed his service with the city through early 2019. Steve Peter was promoted to Assistant Chief. Eric Wagner was promoted into the Captain rank in September. Chris McKay, Jerry Kimmell and Brian Gilles we all promoted into the Lieutenant rank. With the officer promotions it has allowed the department to redistribute responsibilities to those new officers to enhance the service we can provide.

As every year, the public demands and expects the highest quality professionalism and customer service. The Fire Department constantly reevaluates our operations to determine the most appropriate changes to make to enhance our service. In the middle of 2018 we began using a program called Active 911. This program allows all members while on duty to receive notification of a call with regards to address and type of emergency sent directly to their cell phones. This program also provides a map and GPS to the incident to further enhance the reaction for our personnel to respond to an incident. Overall, we see our members able to receive a call and be in the vehicle responding in less than 90 seconds. This 90 second time frame is the national standard used for comparison and our members continue to better themselves in that aspect to ensure the highest possible care is received in the most efficient manner possible.

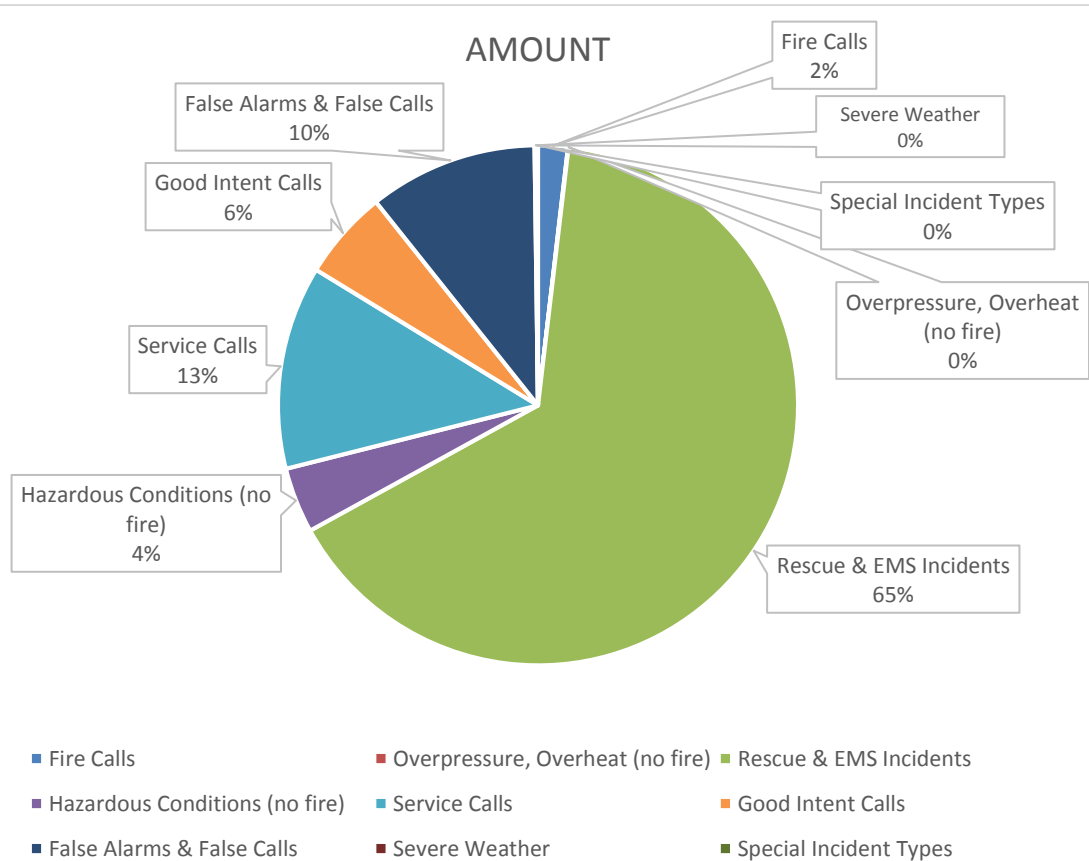
December 2018 brought about a new ordinance that prohibits vehicles from parking on the roadway, on the hydrant side of the street. The passage of this ordinance was truly a collaborative effort between the Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works, Mayor and City Council. The Fire Department was sensitive to this topic with concerns related to being prohibited from reaching a member of our community in their time of greatest

need. With the equipment that we must carry to accomplish our mission the vehicles we drive continue to increase in size. Allowing vehicles to remain on one side of the roadway ensures the Fire Department always has a clear, unobstructed path of travel.

The Fire Department continues with many programs that we truly believe have an impact on the safety of our residents. These programs include the residential lock box program, smoke detector and detector battery replacement, file of life and reflective address signs. These programs are either provided at no cost or at cost, as is the case with the lock box program and address signs, to enhance the safety of those in Avon Lake as well as ensure help can arrive quickly to those in need. The Fire Department now has three certified child car seat technicians, one of whom was added this year. This program ensures that car seats are installed and used appropriately. A total of 74 car seat installations and inspections were completed in 2018, a 57% increase from 2017.

The total amount of responses for 2018 was yet another record breaking year for the Fire Department. A 7% increase in run volume with a total of 2,821 calls for service. The following is a breakdown of responses for the year 2018.

TYPE	AMOUNT
Fire Calls	52
Overpressure, Overheat (no fire)	1
Rescue & EMS Incidents	1837
Hazardous Conditions (no fire)	115
Service Calls	357
Good Intent Calls	157
False Alarms & False Calls	296
Severe Weather	4
Special Incident Types	2



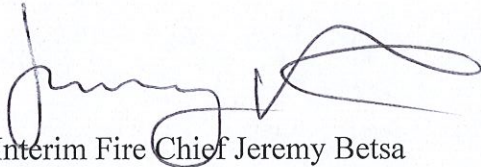


We continue to see about 70% of our runs related to emergency medical services. These types of calls are related to transporting the sick and injured to the hospital or providing a simple lift assist to those residents in need. Thirty percent of our run volume is related to fire or some hazardous conditions where our members used their technical expertise to mitigate the hazards presented. This 70/30 split tends to be a national average and is expected to continue trending that way. Within these numbers, we also provided mutual aid to surrounding departments 135 times in 2018. We requested mutual aid from those same departments 59 times during the same time frame. Mutual aid continues to be a beneficial service that we provide and receive making Avon Lake better equipped to handle incidents where multiple crews are needed in a short amount of time.

The members of our department continue to take pride and ownership in their positions and will continue to provide the community with exemplary service at the highest level of quality now and into the future. We look forward to 2019 as a year to unleash the potential of our members and strive for excellence in everything we do. The Avon Lake Fire Department will work hard, train hard and continue to learn every day in an effort to make your fire department exceptional. We appreciate the hard work and dedication from the Mayor, Council, businesses and all community members as without these desirable relationships the fire department would not be able to succeed.

It is my honor to lead this fire department into the next year with the hopes of exceeding all expectations. Please continue to explore the 2018 Avon Lake Fire Department annual report and continue to learn more about the distinguished men and women that make our department what it is today.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Betsa', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Interim Fire Chief Jeremy Betsa



# 2018 STAFFING

CHIEF CHRISTOPHER HUERNER

## OPERATIONS – EDUCATION

Assistant Chief John Rogers

### PLATOON #1

Capt. J. Berry

Lt. C. McKay

#### FF/Medics

J. Scott

G. Madej

A. Egut

C. Eichenlaub

N. Gamellia

E. Zmija

N. Kus

### PLATOON #2

Capt. S. Marti

Lt. B. Gilles

#### FF/MEDICS

F. Ogle

J. Nakel

F. Mercer

C. Khoma

B. Wood

M. Comley

M. Sroka

### PLATOON #3

Capt. E. Wagner

Lt. J. Kimmell

#### FF/MEDICS

M. Rowe

R. Frygier

M. Walters

M. Pertz

K. Urig

J. Harder

E. Yonkof

## CODE ENFORCEMENT – PUBLIC EDUCATION

\*Assistant Chief J. Moore - J. Betsa - Steve Peter

Inspector N. Cicone

Inspector T. Strawn

## SECRETARY – RECORDS


K. Gomez

\* J. Moore retired in March and replaced by J. Betsa

\* J. Betsa became acting chief in October and replaced by S. Peter



## 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	-----	2017 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 \*\*\*



# **CODE ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC EDUCATION**



**ASSISTANT CHIEF STEVE PETER**

**INSPECTOR NICK CICONE**

**INSPECTOR TAMMY STRAWN**



# AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## CODE ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC EDUCATION BUREAU

The *mission* of the 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.

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In 2018 we were able to bring the bureau back up to previous staffing levels when newly promoted Assistant Chief Jeremy Betsa replaced retired Assistant Chief J. Moore and then in March Inspector Tammy Strawn filled the part time position previously held by Inspector Sue Newcomb who retired after over 20 years in the bureau. In October J. Betsa was made Acting Chief to work with Chief Huerner so as to make for a smooth transition when Chief Huerner retires. Newly promoted to Assistant Chief S. Peter replaced J. Betsa as head of code enforcement and public education at that time.

2018 was the 25<sup>th</sup> year that we have held a fire safety poster contest for all second and fourth grade students as part of our fall school fire safety programs. Awards were presented by Mayor Zilka and Superintendent Scott to six winners from each school at the awards ceremony held at the fire department and attended by the student's families.

The Bureau plays a large part in planning and coordinating the annual Big Trucks event held in September since 2003. The bureau contacts exhibitors several times during the planning phase of the event beginning in May of each year and develops plans for the exhibitors set up locations and action plan for the event.

The Residential Lock box program has been very well received over the years and we have installed to date 375 of these units. We also periodically contact each location where a box has been installed to make certain the resident of record is still there and also that the key is still correct. We also periodically perform a maintenance check on each box.

### **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.



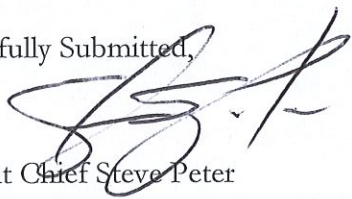
- \*Issue permits for the installation of fire detection, alarm and suppression systems and other situations as listed in the Ohio Fire Code.
- \*Be present at the acceptance testing of new fire detection, alarm and suppression systems as well as the annual and semi-annual tests of these systems.
- \*Develop and schedule the annual Fall Fire Safety Programs for K thru 4<sup>th</sup> 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

## 2018 STATISTICS

Inspections - Re-Inspections - Special Inspections – System Tests:	1136
Residential Lock Box Installs:	37
Knox and Lock Box Maintenance:	21
Plan Reviews:	32
Adults instructed in fire and life safety and fire extinguisher use	228
Youths given fire safety instruction	1360*

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Assistant Chief Steve Peter



# TRAINING AND OPERATIONS



**ASSISTANT CHIEF JOHN ROGERS**



# AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## TRAINING & OPERATIONS

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### TRAINING 2018

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 2018.

▪ Firefighting	1188
▪ Emergency Medical	869
▪ Hazardous Materials	184
▪ Rescue	410
▪ Miscellaneous	256
<b>Total Training Man-Hours</b>	<b>2907</b>

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

## **PLATOON OPERATIONS 2018**

Our overall run volume increased by 7% from 2017 to 2018. Rescue & EMS continue to represent the bulk of our service demand (65%).

In 2018 we transported EMS patients 1633 times to area medical facilities. Most patients went to Avon Richard E. Jacobs Emergency Department (68%). St. John Medical Center received 24% of our patients. The remaining 8% were transported to UH Avon, Mercy Regional Medical Center, Fairview Hospital, UH Elyria, and Cleveland Metro Hospital. Transport destination is mostly determined by patient preference.

80% of our EMS patients were 51 years or older. Therefore, as indicated in the 2017 Annual Report we anticipate our EMS run volume to continue climbing as assisted living and custodial care facility capacities in our community increase.

We responded to 4 water rescues in 2018. One of the rescues involved a drowning victim that was resuscitated by our Paramedics.

False Alarm & Good Intent calls represented 16% of our run volume. And, fires in general continue to remain at 2% of our run volume.

Respectfully submitted,



John Rogers, Assistant Chief



# PLATOON #1



**CAPTAIN JIM BERRY**

**LIEUTENANT CHRIS MCKAY**

**JON SCOTT**

**NICK GAmELLIA**

**GARY MADEJ**

**ERIC ZMIJA**

**AARON EGUT**

**NICK KUS**

**COLE EICHENLAUB**



# AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## PLATOON 1

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### Annual Report 2018

This report represents the significant shift activity of this platoon for the year 2018. Included is the response analysis summary, the training, and specific details involving routine and non-routine projects.

#### Emergency Response Summary

In 2018 the department had a record year of responses to the following emergency and non-emergency calls. The department responded to a total of 2821 calls which was an increase of 185 over 2017.

■ Fire/Explosion/Electrical	17
■ EMS/Rescue Calls	592
■ Hazardous Conditions/ CO/Gas Leaks	36
■ Good Intent Calls	56
■ Service Calls	139
■ False Alarms	89
■ Severe Weather/Natural Disaster	2
<b>Total Emergency Calls</b>	<b>931</b>

Platoon 1 responded to several house fires in the city as well as providing mutual aid to our neighboring communities. We were able to avoid major losses locally thanks to residents' timely notification and our ability to respond quickly. I am very proud of our paramedics' skill, professionalism and compassion on the almost 600 emergency medical/rescue calls we responded too. We are very appreciative to the public for the many thank you notes and calls that we receive.

#### Hydrant Work

During the 2018 calendar year, Firefighter Aaron Egut organized all hydrant maintenance with the Regional Water Department. Platoon 1 assisted the other platoons in flushing over 1600 hydrants to check for proper operation and an extra effort was made to complete this task by September.

#### Building and Grounds Maintenance

General routine building and ground maintenance performed by the platoon 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 2018 the platoon worked with the entire department to promote fire safety and educate



- 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

### Training

Throughout the year 2018 platoon personnel 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 1 completed are the following;

- The platoon had extrication training on our new battery operated tools and hands on extrication training with donated cars.
- Familiarization of local business with walk-thru and pre-plans.
- Continuing medical education and symposiums provided by WeShare
- Several members attended classes for operations and leadership
- Department/shift drills over numerous subjects such as standard operating procedures, rescue training, vehicle training and department operations.
- Platoon 1 members were actively involved with the departments dive team, Lorain County Hazmat Team, and giving many public CPR classes.

### Special Assignment

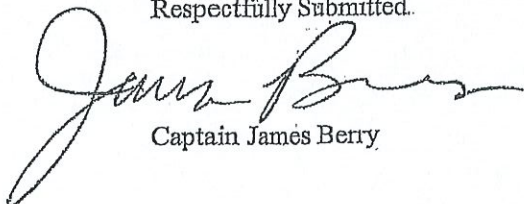
Firefighter Gamellia was successful in his efforts to have the department meet the standards to become a State of Ohio accredited training site for emergency medical service continuing education. This accreditation will raise our level of training which in turn improves our service to the community.

### Collateral assignments

Captain Berry is in charge of firefighting operations and equipment, making certain that all personnel have the proper firefighting protective clothing (turn out gear) and also the tools and equipment needed to perform firefighting/rescue duties.

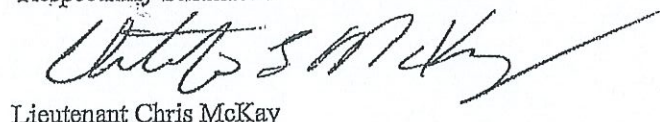
Lieutenant McKay continues to oversee the building maintenance and repair. Scheduling the preventive maintenance with the City Public Works department and several outside contractors. Lt. McKay is currently working on preparing our building for the future improvements and remodeling to fit our current needs. A major accomplishment with the help of Chief Betsa was getting a government grant for an extractor, to wash all turnout gear to help prevent the spread of cancer and maintain the proper maintenance of all personal protective equipment. We also received a grant to cover some of the cost of 3 high efficiency furnaces replace the existing heating units in the fire department.

Respectfully Submitted.



Captain James Berry

Respectfully Submitted



Lieutenant Chris McKay



# PLATOON #2



**CAPTAIN STEVE MARTI**

**LIEUTENANT BRIAN GILLES**

**FRANK OGLE**

**BRIAN WOOD**

**JOHN NAKEL**

**MIKE COMLEY**

**FOREST MERCER**

**MARCIN SROKA**

**CLAY KHOMA**



# AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## PLATOON 2

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### Annual Report 2018

This report represents the significant shift activity of Platoon 2 for the year 2018. Included is the response analysis summary, the training, and specific details involving routine and non-routine projects.

#### Emergency Response Summary

In 2018 we experienced a record year of responses to emergency and non-emergency calls. The department responded to a total of over 2800 calls with Platoon 2 responding to the highest number.

■ Fire/Explosion/Electrical	14
■ EMS/Rescue Calls	628
■ Hazardous Conditions/ CO/Gas Leaks	37
■ Good Intent Calls	61
■ Service Calls	113
■ False Alarms	92
<b>Total Emergency Calls</b>	<b>945</b>

Platoon 2 responded to several house fires in the city and to neighboring communities per our mutual aid agreements. We were able to avoid major losses locally thanks to quick notification by residents and our ability to respond in a timely manner. Our department has excellent paramedics and I am proud of the professionalism and performance this platoons personnel have exhibited on the over 600 emergency medical/rescue calls we responded to. We are very grateful for the numerous thank you notes and calls from residents who were pleased with our service.

#### Major Incidents

Platoon 2 responded to a reported water rescue at Miller Rd. Park in September due to a vehicle submerged in the water after the driver drove in the lake at the boat launch. The car was completely submerged but the driver was able to free herself. The driver became confused and was not familiar with the area causing her to drive off the boat launch. Thankfully the driver was not injured and we transported her to the hospital for evaluation. One of our divers entered the water to search the submerged vehicle for other victims with the result being that no other victims were found. The vehicle was removed from the water by a local towing company.

Weather can create emergencies in a moment. Platoon 2 was alerted by county dispatch (911) of a fire alarm activation at 500 Community Dr. which is one of the Sprenger nursing buildings. The alarm system was activated due to a lightning strike to the building causing an alarm malfunction. While on scene another call was received for a second lightning strike, this time to a private residence on Spinnaker Drive. Lightning had struck the ground by the house and sent a surge into the house destroying the electrical wiring and cable service and also damaging concrete on the driveway and sidewalks. A third alarm was received for a gas leak at a residence which was responded to by a mutual aid company. Investigation determined that lightning struck the home causing the gas leak. A fourth alarm was received for a medical emergency

which was handled by our Medic 10. All of this occurring in a ten minute time period. The lightning storm had approximately ten confirmed strikes in Avon Lake and surrounding communities.

The community of Avon Lake is a designated Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. The trees create beautiful scenic neighborhoods that enjoy the nature that live in them. The trees can also be dangerous in a moment when storms blow in. Platoon 2 responded to several calls for trees down, the worst of these being in the Belmar neighborhood where a tree fell into a house. The home received major damage but fortunately no residents were harmed.

### **Lieutenant and Captain Promotions**

A promotional test was given and several of our platoon members were promoted. In September, Lieutenant Wagner was promoted to Captain and Firefighter Gilles was promoted to Lieutenant. Captain Wagner moved to another platoon and was replaced by Lieutenant Gilles.

### **New Firefighters**

This summer we had 2 new firefighters added to the platoon. Firefighter Comley in July and Firefighter Sroka in September. This addition brought our platoon to 9 men on shift. Senior platoon personnel took on mentorship/leadership roles to help the new hires get up to speed.

### **Hydrant Work**

During the 2018 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 August.

### **Building and Grounds Maintenance**

General routine building and ground maintenance performed by the platoon 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 2018 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

Lt. Gilles is a certified car seat installer. 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 correctly. Usually, the department secretary schedules the appointments for the installs, but there have been times that Lt. Gilles has been flexible by allowing people who could not make their appointment to come later in the day/evening when they could make it.



## Training

Throughout the year 2018 Platoon 2 had 262 hours of training on shift. Our members acquired over 1000 hours of continuing education which included classroom instruction, computer generated training, and hands on evolutions. Some of the training sessions that the platoon completed are listed below.

- Firefighter Wood attended the FDIC in Indianapolis.
- The Platoon had Extrication training with our new battery operated tools and hands on extrication training using donated cars.
- Familiarization of local business with walk-thru and pre-plans.
- WeShare continuing medical education and symposiums
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support renewal
- Captain Wagner and firefighter Mercer had numerous Tech rescue training sessions with the LCTRT, such as trench rescue, auto/machinery extrication, structural collapse, wide area search training and monthly refresher training for various technical disciplines.
- Several members attended classes for Operations and Leadership
- Firefighters Wood and Mercer had several training sessions with the county dive team
- New firefighter job professional requirements (JPR) training with new hires Sroka and Comley
- Department/shift drills over numerous subjects such as SOG's, rescue training, vehicle training and overall fire department operations.

## Collateral assignments

### Fleet Maintenance and Repair

Firefighter Frank Ogle is our primary person 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

Captain 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. Captain Wagner has also been assigned coordinator for wide area search and rescues.

### Rescue

Captain Wagner is responsible for Rescue Operations and Equipment. The water rescue and dive equipment are serviced and maintained by Platoon 2 and several outside companies. 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. Firefighter Khoma also assists with supplies and inventory.

Throughout the year the Avon Lake Fire Department has been host to several organizations involving medical related functions. The platoon 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

### Department Wall Map

Captain Wagner turned over updating the watch office map showing street and hydrant locations to Firefighter Wood making him responsible keep the map current.

### Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team

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. The department also dealt with the loss of a member and there were several other stressful calls that CISD was called for

### SCBA Maintenance

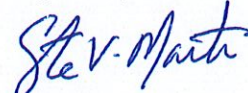
Firefighter Mercer is in charge of maintaining the departments SCBA equipment and breathing cylinders. He either repairs them himself or sends them out to certified vendors.

### Special Projects

Captain Wagner was an integral part of the selection of new battery powered extrication equipment that was purchased. He and Assistant Chief Peter reconfigured Heavy Rescue 7 with the new mounts and brackets needed for the new equipment which took several weeks to complete.

Firefighter Mercer converted the decontamination room into an SCBA storage/repair room with assistance from Platoon 2 personnel.

Respectfully Submitted,



Captain Steve Marti



Lieutenant Brian Gilles



# PLATOON #3



**CAPTAIN ERIC WAGNER**

**LIEUTENANT JERRY KIMMELL**

**MIKE ROWE**

**KYLE URIG**

**RICH FRYGIER**

**JOE HARDER**

**MARK WALTERS**

**ERIC YONKOF**

**MIKE PERTZ**



# AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## PLATOON 3

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Captain Eric Wagner

Lieutenant Jerry Kimmell

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### Annual Report 2018

Please accept the following as the Annual Report for Platoon 3. The report outlines significant shift activities for the year 2018, 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 941 emergency calls during the year 2018.

▪ Fire/Explosion	022
▪ EMS Calls/Rescue	613
▪ Hazardous Condition	044
▪ Service	107
▪ Good Intent	040
▪ False Calls	115
▪ Total Emergency Calls	941

#### Routine Platoon Personnel Activities

##### **Collateral Assignments**

In 2018 platoon officers Wagner and Kimmell 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 all platoon personnel in the following areas:

Captain Wagner as rescue operations officer is responsible for all rescue operations and equipment including special teams and personnel within the department.

Lieutenant Kimmell is the apparatus officer and responsible for all apparatus within the department.

##### **Child Car Seat Installation**

Firefighters Frygier and Harder are certified to install child safety seats in automobiles. This popular program is not only an excellent public relations tool, but provides an invaluable service to our residents.



### **Hydrant Work**

Throughout 2018 platoon personnel worked with the rest of the department in flushing approximately 1600 fire hydrants checking for proper valve operation and adequate water supply.

### **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 this platoon performed in the year 2018.

- 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

### **Non Routine Platoon Personnel 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. Lieutenant McKay and Firefighter Walters are both certified Hazardous Materials Technicians. The Team meets for two hours monthly to conduct organizational meetings and training drills.

#### **Lorain County Technical Rescue Response Team**

Firefighter Urig and Captain Wagner along with Firefighter Mercer from platoon 2 represent Avon Lake Fire Department as members of the Lorain County Technical Response Team. They train with the team on a monthly basis for incidents in Lorain County involving confined space, trench collapse, structural collapse, rope rescue and wide area search for missing persons.

#### **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 in 5 SWAT responses in 2018.

#### **Public Safety Rescue Diving**

Firefighters Kyle Urig and Mike Pertz continue to train as members of the Avon Lake Fire Department Dive Team.

### **Promotion**

Lieutenant Betsa was promoted to Assistant Chief in early 2018 and replaced Assistant Chief Jeff Moore in the Fire Prevention Bureau after his retirement.

Firefighter Kimmell was promoted to Lieutenant and Lieutenant Wagner was promoted to Captain in September.

### **New Recruits**

Two new members were added to the platoon in 2018, Firefighter Harder and Firefighter Yonkof, both of whom have extensive experience at other departments and are highly motivated.

### **Education and Training**

#### **State Fire School**

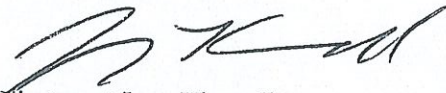
Firefighters Urig and Gamellia attended a 4-day course called Street Smart Engine and Truck Company Operations at the state fire school in Bowling Green. The hands on class covered skills such as advancing hose lines, forcible entry, and search and rescue.

Captain Wagner completed the Fire Instructor course at the state fire school in Bowling Green.

Respectfully Submitted,



Captain Eric Wagner



Lieutenant Jerry Kimmell