

CITY OF DANBURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
19 NEW STREET
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

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FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of 21 March through 21 April and details activities of the Department.

Please join with the department in Congratulating Asst. Chief Robert Keenan. He has been selected as the Fire Fighter of the Year for the Danbury Rotary Club. With his more than 38 years of service Bob has proven himself as an honorable and dedicated fire officer.

The HAZMAT response below illustrates the potential calls and demands placed on the fire service. The fire service is a changing and dynamic environment. Training, equipment and leadership of the service must constantly adapt to the changing response model. As the incident describes, Danbury firefighters are well aware that they are far more than simply "Firefighters".

As part of the department effort to reduce incidents and learn from accidents, the officer corps of the department has attended an accident investigation program presented by CIRMA. This program will form the basis to establish a cohesive and thorough investigation process here at the department. The "accidents" included in this process will be near misses, vehicle accidents and personal injury situations.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Pre-incident inspections and tours included: Oil Mill Rd, Boehringer-Ingelheim's BRC building, Danbury Hospital CO-Gen Plant, Dick's Sporting Goods, Danbury Airport Buildings, new construction at the Mall for the Cheesecake Factory and Brio Restaurants.

15 four year olds attended a tour of the fire headquarters facility on New Street.

E23 participated in the annual Danbury Hospital Kids Safety Fair.

Lt. Handau and FF's Cabral and Stabile read to the very young ESL students at their school. This was in support of Dr. Seuss' birthday and the schools reading program.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES OF NOTE

On 11 April the department dispatched crews to investigate an incident at the intersection of South St. and High /St. Extension. A possible hazmat spill was reported. E21 assumed South St. command, secured the scene and metered to establish zones while requesting a full hazmat response. On arrival, C30 was briefed and assumed command. Other city departments eventually responding comprised the Health Dept., DEP and fire police as well as EMD Paul Estefan. E22 and Truck responded initially and HM-1 was delivered by E26.

Following consultation with two DEP reps, Joe Mead of the Health Dept. and HM Coordinator Rodriguez, dilution was elected as the solution, as very little product remained in the container. FF HM Technician Mourges donned level B PPE to dump the remainder of what was found to be 34.1% Hydrochloric acid. Apparently, the one gallon plastic container had fallen from the tailgate of a worker's truck. E22 stretched a hand line and applied a copious amount of water to the product on the road, rinsed the container in the process and then gross de-conned FF Mourges. The container was bagged and removed from the scene by Joe Mead. During these operations, SCBA was worn by the hose crew as well as by FF Mourges. No injuries were reported.

On 30 March, the department received a request for mutual aid to a working fire in Bethel. This call was for assistance with a heavily involved structure fire at 225 Greenwood Avenue. C30, E21 and TRK 1 responded. The members of the Bethel Fire Department were very thankful for our assistance.

On 31 March, D Group responded to a structure fire in the roof and second floor of the Hologic Company at Apple Ridge Rd. This fire was started as a result of hot work being done earlier on the roof. Crews were able to stop the fire quickly preventing very serious damage to the structure. A commercial roofing assembly is very different from residential roofing and requires special tactics to properly attack and extinguish the blaze. The crews were very efficient and the occupants of the facility were able to reoccupy the structure.

On 1 April units responded to a structure fire in a three car garage with attached storage building at 65 Balmforth Avenue. The crew was able to remove and save three cars from the structure with minimal damage. After a tough workout the fire was successfully brought to bay. The fire was difficult to access and the owner was very appreciative of their efforts.

Command and Staff Activities

- Volunteer Council Mtg.
- Firefighter Hall of Fame induction dinner
- Prayer breakfast
- Danbury Association Retired Firefighters
- Quarterly Staff Mtg.
- Mayors leadership
- Contract Negotiations
- Adopt a School Mtg.
- Stony Hill Fire Dept Annual Dinner
- Monthly Staff Mtg.

Donations

The Fire Department has received 3 Automatic External Defibrillators from the Danbury Hospital Development Fund. These will be placed with the Community Risk Reduction Fire Marshals in their vehicles. They will be available in the many venues these personnel attend.

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal - James Johnson

Community Risk Reduction efforts during this month included six inspections for reported unsafe occupancies (basement/attic). All six situations have been resolved. Fire Marshals investigated 2 serious fires where there were no injuries reported. This month's Fire Prevention consisted of several delivered programs. We also did programs for Danbury Hospital Kids Day, Ecuadorian Civic Center and attended the Lions Club luncheon for the Poster Contest.

Members of the Community Risk Reduction team attended continuing education classes to maintain required certifications. FM Johnson and DFM Osborne attended the Ct. Fire Marshal's Association Conference which consisted of classes on Fatal Fire Investigation, Residential Fire Sprinklers and the new Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Coalition at the State level. Planning meetings for Danbury Hospital Tower, Union Savings Bank and Pitney Bowes projects were also attended.

Emergency Medical/ Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez

This month the majority of our EMT certified members were required to recertify and to test for the state. The class grade average was 86%. This certification is required for all new members of the department hired after 1986. Training this month on "EMS Wednesday" has focused has been "Allergic reactions and Anaphylaxis." This is especially important as it is the time of the year when the insects, wasps and bees that are so frequently the cause of these reactions become active.

Communications/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Communications Supervisor Pat Sniffin has been assigned the liaison to the committee concerned with the new dispatch center. He has been attending various meetings and committee assignments in this purview. Additionally, the department has been reviewing for possible acquisition new software for Computer Aided Dispatch, tracking and monitoring of inspection and prevention activities as well as other aspects of the department operations.

Training - Mark Omasta

Volunteer Division

1st Quarter training was completed March 30. One hundred (100) Volunteer members participated in the classes on Bio-Hazards and Propane Emergencies.

The Fire Fighter I/ Hazardous Materials Operational-WMD class will complete course work on May 1, followed by a week of review for the State of CT practical skills exam on May 7. Written Test is scheduled for May 26.

Career Division

Airport Training

All crews stationed at Eng 26 continued training on the Airport with familiarization with the layout and Communications with Air Traffic Control. E26 crew and ARFF FFs familiarized themselves with a Cirrus aircraft and its parachute system at Curtis Air at Danbury with T.O. Omasta as part of the required ARFF hands-on training.

Fire School

The facility's entrance was enhanced with a 4x8 sign identifying the property as the Danbury Fire School. New steel shutters were fabricated for the second floor windows and are scheduled to be installed the week of April 25.

This past month the school was utilized by the Firefighter 1 class, Botsford VFD, Stony Hill VFD, Brookfield VFD, Bethel VFD and Danbury Volunteers Squad,7,Engs 8,10, House Bill # 5489 to designate the Danbury school has been approved by the Public Safety Committee and will move the House Floor for a vote.

Light Duty: Personnel assigned to the training Division while on light duty updated information on 1,835 city hydrants. This should help the Water and Fire departments communicate hydrant issues more effectively.

Accident Investigation Class: All company Officers attended classes presented by CIRMA (CT Interlocal Risk Management Agency) covering Accident Investigation and Prevention.

Danbury Hospital Co-Generation Power Plant: All crews toured the new natural gas fired Turbine power generator facility. The Turbine went into service in March; crews

are getting familiar with the facility and discussing any potential problems we might encounter at the plant.

Electrical Safety: Personnel from the Safety and Health division of CL&P are presenting a refresher class on safely dealing with Electrical Emergencies for all crews. These classes will run from April through the end of May.

New Recruit: Recruit fire fighter Tim O'Hanlon is progressing well at the CT Fire Academy as the Platoon leader of Recruit class #47. Graduation is scheduled for May 19.

Critiques: Post Incident reviews on April 7 for fires on Apple Ridge Rd and Balmforth Ave

NVCC: The college class, "Sprinklers and Fixed Extinguishing Systems" will end with the Final exam on May 11.

Meetings/ events for the T.O.:

- Staff meeting at City Hall on March 25
- CME at Danbury Hospital on March 22
- Eng 9 Annual Dinner on April 2
- Citizen's Squad 6 Annual dinner on April 5
- Ct Fire Academy On March 15 for a Seminar on "Hydrogen Cyanide"
- Pancake Breakfast for the Miry Brook Canteen on April 16
- Leadership Danbury Seminar at Danbury Hospital ,March 31
- Staff meeting with "A" group on April 21
- Mentoring a student for an hour per week at Rogers Park Middle School

Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

The O2 sensor in E-24's meter was replaced. The meter damaged and sent for factory service has been returned and placed in service. The former E-25 has been serviced and some major repairs were performed. This unit will be re-lettered as "R-1" as soon as possible. The Annual Fit Testing of the Career Department is complete. Fit testing for the Volunteer contingent has begun. The spill box for our gasoline tank was damaged this winter most likely by a plow. Purchasing is working with vendors to effectuate the repairs.

Other repairs completed:

- Replace defective scene light on E-25.
- Replace ignition switch and key in Gator.
- Rebuild power steering gear in R-1.
- Rebuild oil cooler assembly in R-1.
- Replace battery and on-board charger in 06FX1.
- Replace three rear tires and one front on Truck-1.

Department Statistical Reports

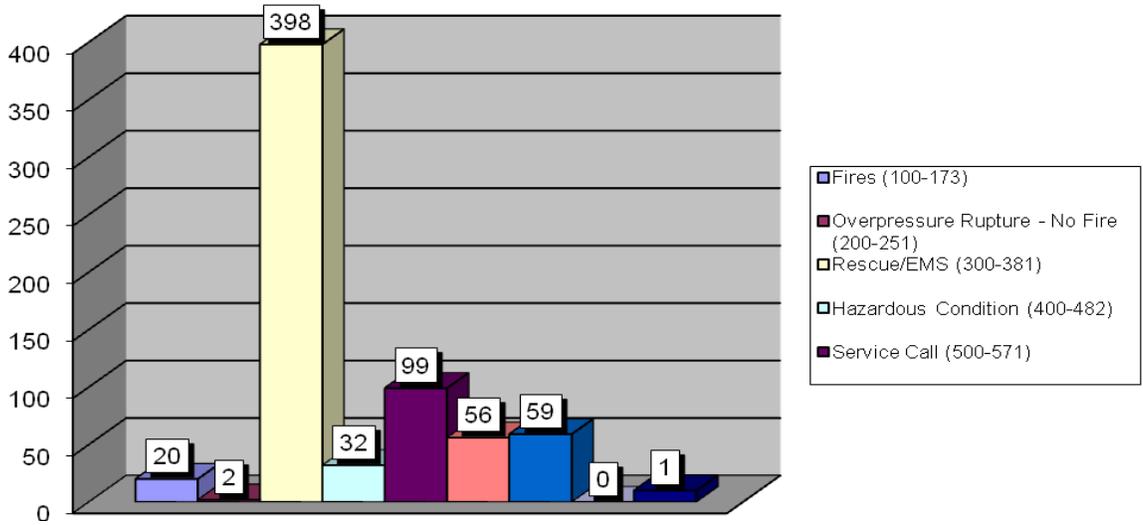
Abatements/Reports (hrs): 72	Place of Assembly: 28
Issued in Fire Zones: 3	Educational: 3
Fire Investigations: 20	Business: 19
Fatal Fires: 0	Storage: 5
Liquor Inspections: 11	Health Care: 1
Blasting Permits: 2	Industrial: 2
Complaints 18**	Mercantile: 15
Plan Review (hrs) 68.5	Residential Board & Care: 1
Fire Prevention Prgs. 18	Hotel (units): 350
Orders of Abatement: 0	Apartments: 115
** Resolved or in the process of being resolved.	Rooming Houses: 0
Some complaints were thru and with the UNIT.	Day Care: 5
	Misc. Inspections 29
	Special Structures: 0
	Office Duty (hrs): 161
	Burn Permits 2
	Meetings (hrs) 60

Monthly Breakdown NFIRS Ver 5.0 Coding	
Fires (100-173)	20
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire (200-251)	2
Rescue/EMS (300-381)	398
Hazardous Condition (400-482)	32
Service Call (500-571)	99
Good Intent Calls (600-671)	56
False Alarm/False Calls (700-746)	59
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster (800-815)	0
Special Incident Type (900-911)	0
No Report/Incomplete	10
Total Fire Responses	676
E911 Statistics	
Total 911 Calls	2631
Abandoned 911 Calls	302
Cellular 911 Calls	1354
911 Hang Up Calls	939
Admin Calls Received	721
Police Calls via 911	295
Fire Calls via 911 (CAD 28)	209
EMS Calls via 911 (CAD 29)	312
Daily Average	101.19
Dispatch Incident Statistics	
Total Fire Responses	676
Total EMS Responses	764
Unknown Transport Status	24
ALS Patient (CAD 60)	357
BLS Patient (CAD 61)	255
No Patient (CAD 62)	128
EMS Mutual Aide Requests (CAD 80)	6
EMS Calls Passed to Backup (CAD 81)	22

**** NOTE ****

Multiple 911 Calls received for Fire And EMS
Incidents are attached to Fire Incident Reports

Fire Response Breakdown March 21 to April 20, 2011



911 Center Activity March 21 to April 20, 2011

