



**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 May 21st, 2015 through June 21st, 2015 and details activities of the Department.

At this time of the year we are seeing more of our citizens outdoors. With this comes the risk of accidents and injuries. These include sports and recreational related injuries. We urge everyone to use precautions such as helmets when bicycling or playing baseball. Another risk as well is potential injuries due to exertion from gardening and landscaping. Remember to pace yourselves when working in the garden as over doing physical activity such as digging and shoveling mulch now can be as dangerous as shoveling snow. This can result in cardiac related injuries.

When using grills and outdoor cookers for the first time this season be sure to check hoses and piping for wear or damage due to storage or mice. Carefully check these devices and repair them as necessary before igniting them. And remember to use any such devices away from structures should there be a failure or gas leak.

When using charcoal and lighter fluid, please follow all manufacturer suggested practices and never add fluid to an already ignited fire. Flash back and subsequent injury can be devastating. Should you have any questions regarding the safe use of these or other devices, please contact the office of the Fire Marshal at 203-796-1541. Enjoy the warming weather and the wonderful New England summertime!

Public Education / Prevention / Public Relations

Crews familiarized with vacant or abandoned buildings in various locations.

HQ crews provided tours to children from Morris Street and Shelter Rock Schools. Apparatus was displayed at the Touch-A-Truck event at Danbury Hospital.

Engine 23 assisted with a fire safety presentation at St. Gregory School. Engine 24 provided a ride to the winner of a "Fire Truck Ride to School" contest. Engine 26 gave a 9-year-old boy and his mother a ride to the Magnet School in the fire truck, as well as showing him the station and engine before the ride. Engine 26 also visited with children at a daycare who saw the crew testing the hydrant in front of their facility.

Suppression / Response Activities of Note

An incident of missing hikers at Tarrywile Park called out C30, TRK1, Special Ops1 with the gator, and E26, and crews were assisted by Prov. Comm. Coordinator Gallagher, who responded to DPD HQ and plotted original coordinates from the cell phone of the two lost girls. Companies covered considerable acreage in the search. The girls were eventually located and taken out at Deal Dr without injuries.

A structure fire at O'Brien's Café and Pub came in as an Automatic Alarm and went to a third alarm. Due to aggressive, coordinated firefighting, it was contained to the area involved on arrival. Heavy smoke and heat damage was evident throughout the building. The adjacent Haddad Apartments were evacuated for a couple hours due to exposure risk. No injuries were reported. All companies were evaluated and rehabbed on scene. FM Russell had the State accelerant-sniffing dog respond. The owner responded, as well as EMS and Eversource. DFD units included E22, SQ1, E23, E24, E25, E26, TRK1, C30, SQ6, TK12 and TK14.

A structure fire at 16 Washington Ave was extinguished with pots of water by the homeowner, who sustained 1st and 2nd degree burns to his face and arms. There was significant damage to the stovetop, range hood and surrounding cabinets as well as smoke damage. DFM Osborne investigated.

A structure fire was started by a basement dehumidifier. On arrival smoke had already banked down on the first floor. The owners and their dog escaped and a cat was rescued by FF McGowan from under a bed and was provided with blowby oxygen by firefighters. DFM Bruce investigated.

A HazMat incident at Boehringer Ingelheim was responded to by Ridgefield and Danbury FDs. A small fire in a waste basket containing residual chemicals had self-extinguished and was removed to a loading dock outside the building by RFD firefighters. The fire was in a negative pressure lab on level 6 in the R&D building. RFD Capt. Lawlor retained command throughout. No injuries reported.

DFD HazMat Technicians were dispatched to Lewis Dr in Ridgefield as a Regional response to assist RFD units on scene. DFD Hazmat Team Leader also responded. Apparently a "handyman" accidentally mixed 2 gallons of pool shock with a gallon of Hydrochloric acid, intending to recharge a residential water conditioning system. The

reaction generated a vapor cloud of Chlorine and resulted in the response of RFD and DFD resources. Luckily, no injuries occurred.

A public assist was performed in Jensen's Trailer Park. Crews assisted in getting a heavy individual back into his home from the hospital by using airbags and cribbing to shore up the front porch. Their actions facilitated the move.

An extrication assignment was needed at 8 S. King St. With moderate damage on both sides of the car and airbag deployment on both sides, spreaders and cutters were used to free the conscious, alert but sluggish driver.

Crews responded to an extrication assignment in the vicinity of 63 Padanaram Rd.



Padanaram Road MVA extrication

Command and Staff Activities

- Chest Pain Accreditation Meeting Danbury Hospital
- Memorial Day parade and festivities
- Fire Chief Presentation to Hayestown Ave School Group
- Job Fair for Veterans at Ethan Allen
- Westerners Breakfast Amber Room
- Fire Department Staff Meeting
- Sports Celebrity Dinner for the Burn Camp
- Bullex Fire Extinguisher training system demo
- CME in Ridgefield
- Flag ceremony for retiring DFM's Marilyn Gillotti and Mark Perry
- Ct Fire Academy June School
- Work with Comm. Coordinator to install new FD communications equipment at the FCI
- Staff meeting with B group
- Attended the CT Burn Camp Fund Raiser dinner at Anthony's

- Weekly Dispatch oversight meetings with IXP and the PD
- Meeting with the Union Principal Officers
- City Council Meeting

Emergency Medical / HazMat – Coordinator Rey Rodriguez

Bi-annual EMS certification audit

The June in-house audit of our EMS First Responders' files ensures that all of our EMS providers' certifications remain current and the proper information is on record and submitted to the State of CT for the City of Danbury EMS Division of Danbury Fire Department Certificate of Operations annual renewal.

EMS Wednesday

The ongoing training program "EMS Wednesday" continues to provide and maintain the Emergency Medical certification training needed by our first responders while they are on duty. All four crews have completed the Summertime emergencies module.

HazMat

The following eight personnel have completed the 472 Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Technician training class: T.O. Rogers, LT Cabral, LT Hanson, FF Erickson, FF Hines, FF Nolet, FF Sedgwick, and FF Zaniwski.

The atmospheric metering and monitoring capability of the Danbury Fire Department which is a crucial component of many emergency response calls has become quite extensive and specialized. The meters are calibrated and maintained by the HAZMAT team members on a daily basis.

Communications/911 – Provisional Communications Supervisor Rich Gallagher

Radio communications

Spruce Mountain

This site had receiver equipment installed and turned up. It is now receiving FD radio transmissions from the south-western side of the city.

FCI

With great cooperation and effort from the Fire Department, FCI telecommunications staff and Frontier Communications, phone lines were extended from the FCI's communications building over to the FD/PPD radio equipment location. Frontier was able to relocate the termination point to this new location. Northeastern is scheduled to install the new equipment with the next 2 weeks and it should be online by mid-July.

Additional receiver sites and transmitter sites are still being researched to extend coverage of the FD radio system.

Dispatch

Ongoing system geo-information improvements continue. These improvements include adding premises to the dispatch mapping system, updating location contact information and adjusting the FD/EMS responses as needed.

See also Department Statistical Reports.

Training – Training Officer Steve Rogers

Volunteer Division

Second Quarter Training has begun for entire volunteer division. Mastering the Fire Ground / implementing comprehensive incident command is the course curriculum.

Career Division

Burn Building

The fire school was utilized often this month by our Firefighter 1 class, on duty career crews, as well as visiting Fire Depts.

Structure fires

O'Brien's structure fire provided an opportunity to use the revamped ICS protocols.

Hydrant Program

Crews are continuing to test approx. 2,200 hydrants located throughout the city.

New Fire School Classroom Project

Construction for the new Fire School classroom shell has been awarded to Hawley Construction.

Fire Officer 3

FO3 course has been completed by Captain Halas and D/C Meehan.

Hazmat Technician Class

Nine members from Danbury Fire have completed Hazmat Operations classes. This course has provided an excellent way to enhance Hazmat response capabilities for the Danbury Fire Department.

ICS Career

Training is ongoing.

Meetings / Events for the T.O.

- Hazmat Technician class
- Met with Volunteer Council at Sq-6 station
- Leadership Danbury meeting at Matrix



Training at the Fire School

Apparatus / Equipment – Superintendent Joe Cavo

The New Truck-1 had a failure of the DEF Doser Nozzle in the emissions system; Atlantic Detroit Diesel replaced it at our location.

Fit testing for the Volunteers is progressing well; to date there are only two companies left to schedule with four companies currently scheduled and six companies whose testing is completed. Per Connecticut Regulations, we needed to have the vapor recovery system for our gasoline dispensing unit de-commissioned. That work was completed this month and after our new monies get deposited in July, a vacuum leak test will need to be performed per State regulations to complete the de-commissioning. The A/C compressors in E-24 and E-25 both failed this month. We have tracked down a vendor and have ordered two new units which will be installed upon arrival.

Other repairs completed:

- Serviced 06F5, replaced driving light assembly
- Replaced power solenoid in 01CT
- Re-worked and installed an accessories solenoid in 13FE
- Serviced E-26 oil and filters, replaced steering shaft
- Re-worked grab handle in new Trk-1
- Repaired Officer's door and replaced mirror assembly E-26
- Serviced 06F2
- Repaired diesel dispensing system at Headquarters
- Repaired compartment lighting in Squad-1
- Serviced E-21, brake inspection, replaced batteries
- Service old Trk-1

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Jim Russell Staff

Jonathan DeJoseph has completed the State's Fire Marshal Certification Class in Rocky Hill. He will now begin his duties as a Deputy Fire Marshal.

Jordan Leach has returned to work. Marilyn Gillotti and Mark Perry have recently retired. They will be missed. We hope to fill our two remaining positions in late August, or early September.

Jim Russell, John Osborne, and Gary Bruce have completed an 8 hour course to become an Open Burning Official by DEEP (the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection).

Inspections

Our monthly numbers are down due to the fact that we are down four positions – two have retired, one has been out, and the other has been attending certification school. This month we inspected 38 apartments. We also did 7 misc. inspections, 2 liquor inspections, 6 places of assembly, 7 businesses, 3 day care, and 3 educational occupancies. There were 3 health care inspections, 6 mercantile inspections. We will increase our numbers as our staff rebuilds to full strength.

Plan Reviews

Our team continues to spend time doing plan reviews. This month we spent 26 hours reviewing plans for Kennedy Flats, several store fit outs in the Danbury Fair Mall, including the Sears Store, "T" Mobile, and Anthropologie. Renovations at Immaculate High School and the Edge Fitness Club (the old Expect Discount Store) are underway.

Fire Investigations

This month we had 19 fire investigations. There were 5 building fires, 3 vehicle fires, and 4 rubbish/dumpster fires. There were 11 other types of fires as well: brush, mulch, vegetation, and a chimney fire.

Three Family and Above Fire Inspections

We had sent out letters to all residents that streets begin with "C" and "D." We have received some return calls, and completed some inspections on these streets. We continue to try and inspect as many three families and above as possible.

Public Presentations

Gary Bruce gave a fire safety talk to the residents at 17 Cleveland Street on 6-10-15. Gary also spent time at the Westerners Baseball game sharing fire prevention ideas with spectators. Jim Russell, John Osborne, Jordan Leach, Gary Bruce and Jonathan DeJoseph gave Fire Extinguisher training to approx. 170 people at the Mitchell Fuel Company.

School Inspections

We have started to do school inspections beginning with Danbury High School, Rogers Park Middle School, and Broadview Middle School. All other Public Schools and Private Schools will follow.



Wishing a happy & healthy retirement to Deputy Fire Marshals Gillotti & Perry

Department Statistical Reports

Community Risk Reduction

Monthly inspections	165
Abatements issued	2
Violations issued	2
Complaints	2
Fire Investigations	19
Fire Safety Programs	7

Public Safety Answering Point

Total 911 calls	3222
Abandoned 911 calls	362
Cellular 911 calls	2342
Admin calls received	1755