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CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

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January 26, 2005

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of December 27th to January 23rd and details some of the activities of the Department.

Typical New England winter weather set in over the last month challenging our resources. The department went into emergency coverage mode with the recent blizzard. Volunteer personnel were requested to cover stations for overnight hours. Additional personnel were hired to fill in gaps for coverage. Hydrants were shoveled, ambulance crews backed up and citizens assisted. No major fires were reported during this period, however our level of preparedness minimized the major Hospital water leak.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- a. The department continued preplan activities this month. Facilities and areas visited include: Main Street, 100 Mill Plain Road, Danbury Fair mall, Avalon Valley Apartments, Carla Estates and West Street.
- b. The department held station tours with groups from West Terrace and visiting Scout troops.
- c. We conducted in service programs at Super Food mart on two occasions this month much to the delight of both shoppers and children.

- d. Engine companies continued to work with homeowners by assisting with smoke detectors and battery replacements when needed. This program gives our personnel additional contact with the public and to engage them in fire prevention topics.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- a. A major water leak at Danbury Hospital this month implemented the Hospital disaster plan. A two-inch pipe froze and broke releasing thousands to gallons into the hospital. Firefighters and hospital personnel worked feverishly and with create creativity to minimize the damage. The efforts of all involved averted a disaster that may have shut down a major portion of the Hospital.
- b. A major structure fire of Scuppo Road stretched our resources this month. The midday fire fortunately involved an end unit and firefighters were able to limit major damage to the unit involved. While fire did not extend into the adjoining unit, smoke and heat caused some damage to a second unit. Aerial truck operations were critical to the success of this incident as the snow covered roof needed to be vented in multiple places. Two firefighters and two civilians suffered injuries at this incident.
- c. Additional structure fires this month included a chimney fire on Driftway Road, which caused damage to roof trusses. Thermal imaging units assisted firefighters in minimizing damage and locating hidden pockets of concealed fire.
- d. A homeowner on Beach Drive suffered damage to structure and 2nd degree burns after mistakenly using gasoline to attempt to fill a kerosene heater.

Emergency Medical Services/Haz-Mat

EMS Wednesday

The continuous education program EMS Wednesday is designed to meet the EMS recertification requirements of Fire Department First Responders. These classes held while on duty allow firefighters to stay current with prehospital care techniques and to maintain sharp practical skills.

Firefighters while performing their duties in the field are potentially at risk from diseases transmitted either by contact with body fluids, such as blood or airborne particles.

Cross-trained firefighters that provide prehospital care, as first responders are likely to encounter a variety of patients suffering from a wide range of illnesses under many different conditions.

The possibility of contracting an infectious disease is real if the proper precautions are not taken.

For the month of January, EMS Wednesday has focused on a review of the proper precautions to reduce the potential of an occupational exposure to a disease. Included is a review of the departments Infectious control policy and the OSHA standard 1910:1030

The Danbury Fire Department First Responder Program is a key part of the EMS system, cross-trained firefighters that have the knowledge of these lifesaving skills are rapidly deployed to the scene of an emergency medical call, this ability coupled with the Danbury Fire Departments community education programs like "CPR Saturday" has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

Chemistry Class

Hazardous materials are at the heart of our technology-based society. They are used in connection of a host of different production and manufacturing processes. There are new chemicals created everyday and it would be impossible to eliminate hazardous materials from our society without having a profound effect on our standard of living.

Instead to reduce the loss of lives and property and effectively control the emergency related incidents they produce by an accidental or intentional release of hazardous materials a better understanding of chemicals and their properties is needed by First Responder personnel.

As a follow up to the EPA 40 hr Haz- Mat tech course, the Danbury Fire Department in conjunction with the State Fire Academy is hosting the Chemistry for Hazardous materials course. This course which started Jan 5th and will run every weekend until February 12th, with give an in-depth understanding of chemical reactions and toxicity.

The following firefighters have dedicated their personal time to further their knowledge and better serve the City of Danbury.

FF Arteaga

FF Schiller

FF Forbes

FF Kennedy

FF Tomcik

EMS/HazMat Coordinator Rey Rodriguez

COMMUNICATIONS/911

Software Upgrades

During this period a great deal of time was spent preparing for and implementing a major version upgrade to the HTE Public Safety applications. This changeover was accomplished on January 16th. Among the many program fixes were enhancements to dispatch processing, increased fire reporting capabilities and a new link to financial Accounts Receivable software.

The A/R link is critical to managing the Public Safety Alarm ordinance process. Through this link false alarm data is sent to the financial package for false alarm billing.

As alarm registrations are received this information is entered into the system and is immediately available to Fire and Police officers in the vehicles. As of this point over 80 new property records have been entered since the upgrade.

Data Processing staff has been very supportive in this process and helped to keep disruptions to dispatch at a minimum.

Emergency Medical Dispatch

On January 19-21, Dispatcher Crowley and A/Dispatcher Hernly were trained in Emergency Medical Dispatch techniques. By attaining this required certification the Danbury Fire Department now has 32 members certified to perform this lifesaving task.

All dispatchers are becoming more proficient in the art of 'priority' EMS dispatch. The number of lights and siren responses by EMS has been reduced.

There has been a slight increase of responses to surrounding towns by EMS crews, but with the increased awareness and cooperation by dispatchers and EMS crews the impact on city services has been minimal.

TRAINING - Jim Thorne

The Firefighter I class for volunteer firefighters has begun. Fifteen volunteers are attending this year's offering. The course requires a tremendous commitment to complete. We are appreciative of the time and energy these

individuals are sacrificing to improve the volunteer contingent.

The fire school project is moving forward. The contractor has completed the footings and is working on the foundation. Obviously the recent winter weather has slowed operations. The project is scheduled to be completed this spring.

Critiques were held this month on several of our recent fires. The evaluation of strategy, tactics and operations is crucial to improving our performance.

The IRTB (response to terrorist bomb incidents) class is progressing throughout the department this month. Our nationally trained individuals are giving these classes. This will be the only department in the State to be as highly trained to issues that affect our homeland security.

The department is preparing for our annual ice rescue training. A recent display for winter fest was postponed due to blizzard conditions.

Apparatus/Equipment Maintenance

Training has been completed on the new Pierce Aerial platform. The unit has been placed into active service and is responding well to tasks at hand.

The division received the new wheel lifts this month. This equipment enables our mechanics to work safely and more efficiently on major in house repairs.

Additional equipment received this month included an assortment of new fire hose.

Good of the Organization

- a. This month we had the opportunity to promote Lieutenant T.J. Wiedl and Dispatcher Mark Perry to positions within the Fire Marshals office. Both individuals have strong customer service backgrounds; with the completion of their State certification training they will be great assets to the division.
- b. The Deputy Chief conducted an EMS oversight meeting this month. The continued fine-tuning of the recently implemented EMD program was the main topic of discussion.

- c. The Chief attended the quarterly community relations board meeting at the FCI this month. The new warden and staff gave an overview of their vision for the coming year. The board is currently soliciting new members from the community to serve as board members.
- d. Volunteer companies are currently having their annual dinners. These social events include the installation of officers in our volunteer companies and provide an opportunity for the City to express our appreciation for their hours of dedication.

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Fires | 15 |
| Overpressure Rupture - No Fire | 1 |
| Rescue/EMS | 247 |
| Hazardous Condition | 34 |
| Service Calls | 41 |
| Good Intent Calls | 57 |
| False Alarm/False Calls | 55 |
| Special Weather/Natural Disaster | 0 |
| Special Incident Type | 0 |
| No Report/Incomplete | 10 |

Total Fire Calls..460.....

For the month, the City Ambulance Service responded to 621 Emergency Medical Calls. The call volume is broken down as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Total EMS responses | 621 |
| No patient EMS Calls | 283 |
| BLS Patient Calls | 273 |
| ALS EMS Calls | 65 |
| EMS Mutual Aid Requests | 17 |
| EMS Calls passed to Back-up | 26 |

The total calls into the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center for the month were 2643 with a daily average of 97.89 calls per day. The call volume is broken down as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Fire Response Calls | 460 |
| EMS Response calls. | 621 |
| Abandoned Calls | 388 |
| 911 Hang Ups | 444 |
| Admin Calls Received | 636 |
| Cellular 911 Calls | 821 |

Note - Since multiple 9-1-1 calls are received for many responses, call volume is reflected as a total. Multiple calls received are recorded on individual fire reports and not on CAD generated totals.

Attached please find graphic displays and the Fire Response Breakdown, Company Response, Volunteer Company Call and Response Statistics, and EMS Transport Activity Statistics for the reporting period.

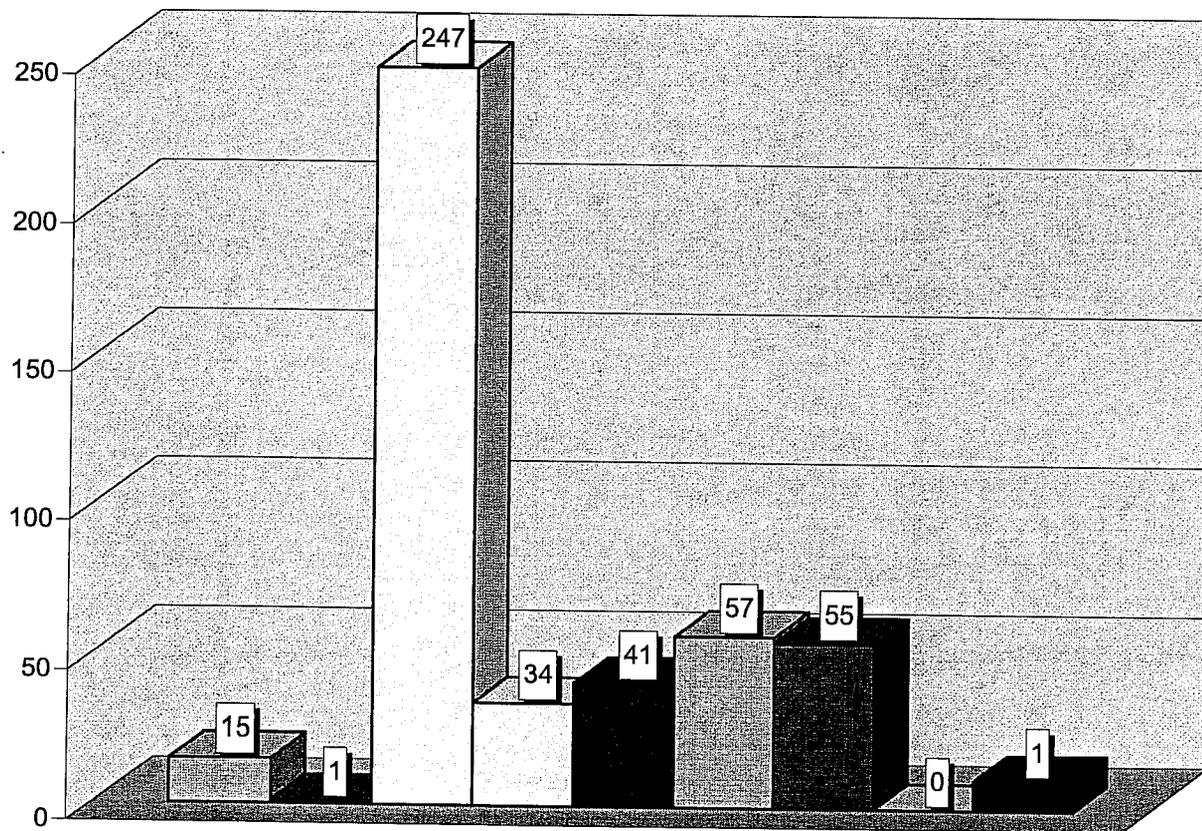
If additional information or clarification is needed, please contact me directly.

Respectfully submitted,



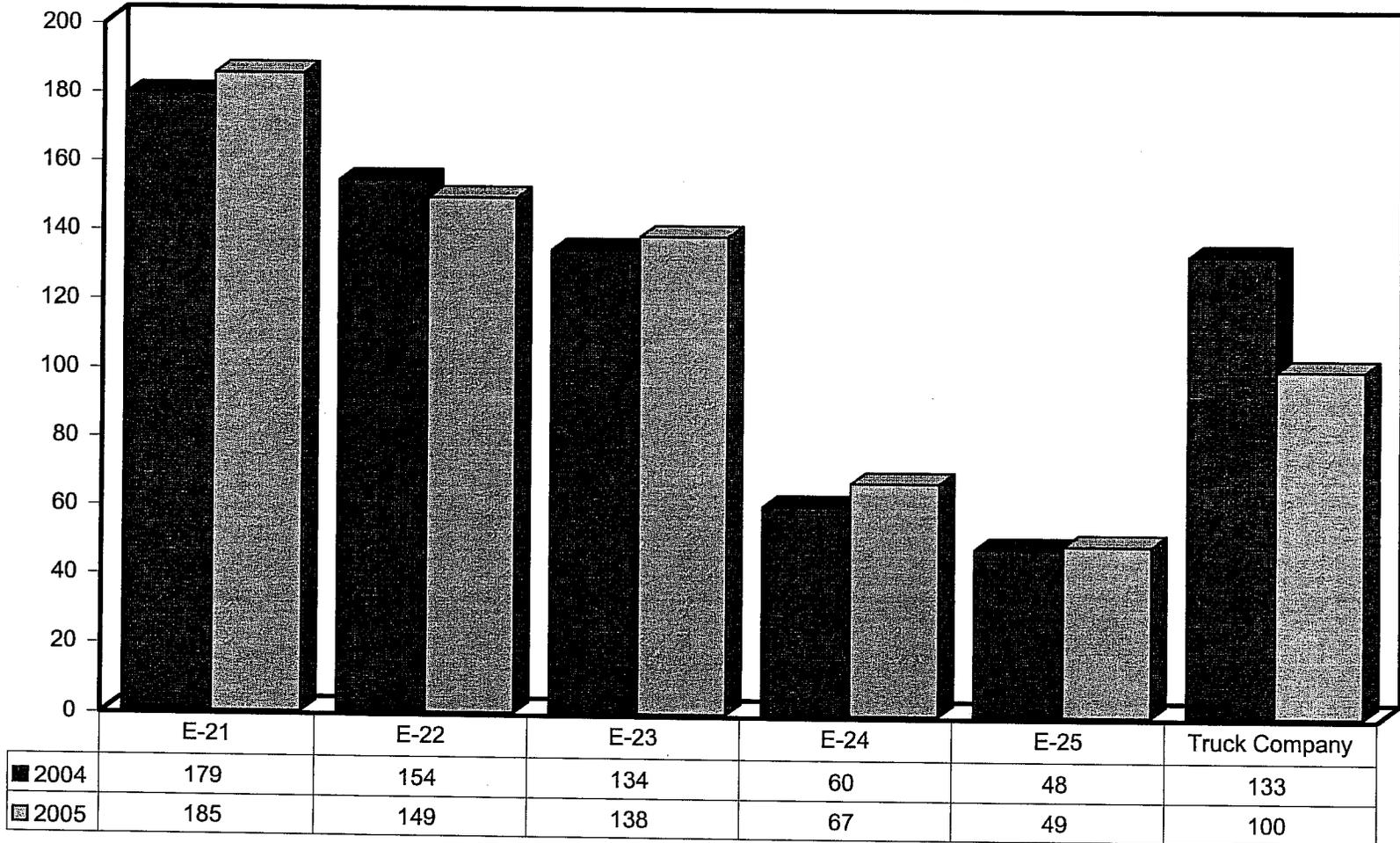
Peter J. Siecienski
Fire Chief

Fire Response Breakdown December 27, 2004 to January 23, 2005



- Fires (100-173)
- Overpressure Rupture - No Fire (200-251)
- Rescue/EMS (300-381)
- Hazardous Condition (400-482)
- Service Call (500-571)
- Good Intent Calls (600-671)
- False Alarm/False Calls (700-746)
- Special Weather/Natural Disaster (800-815)
- No Report/Incomplete

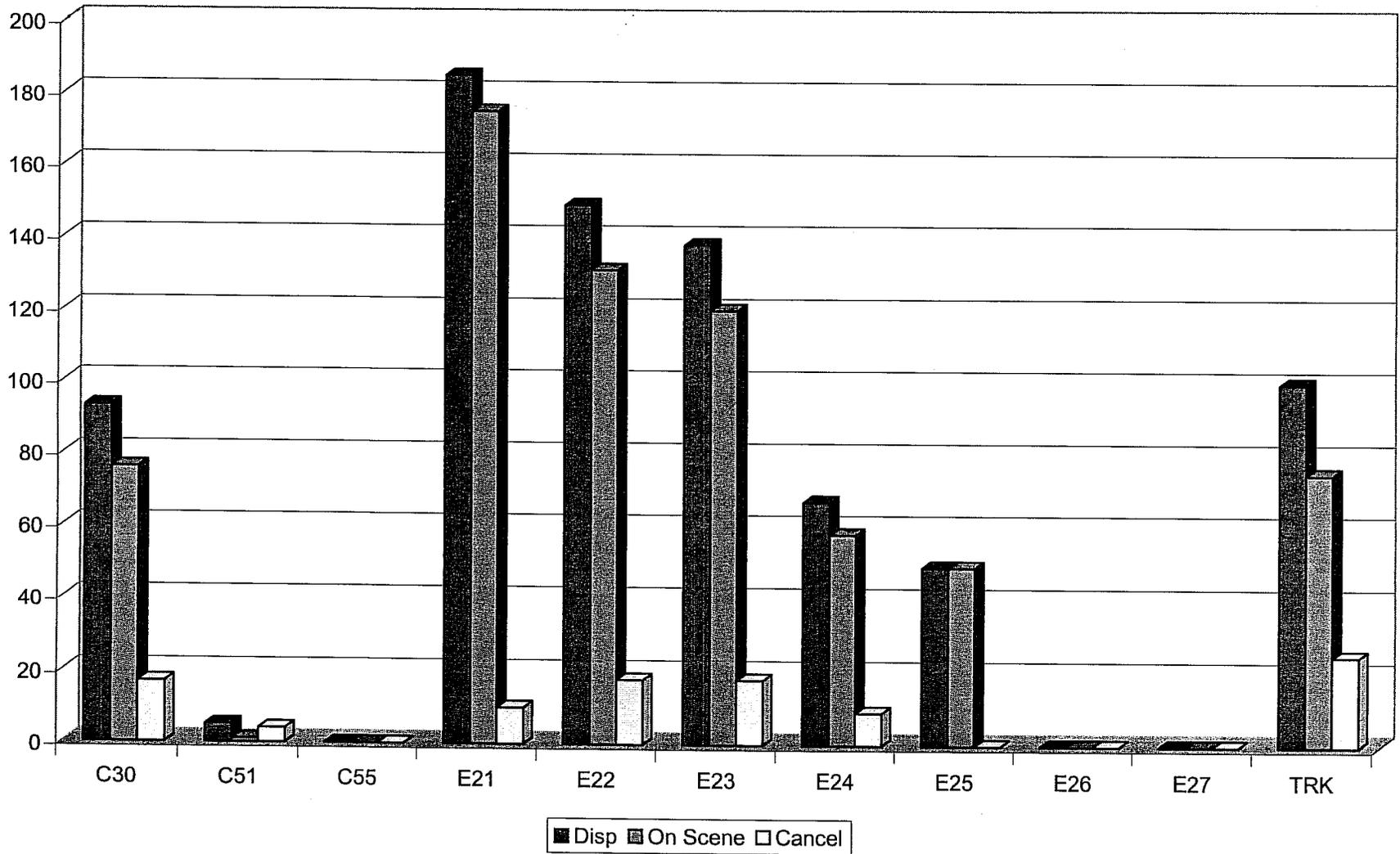
**Danbury Fire Department
January Company Response Statistics**



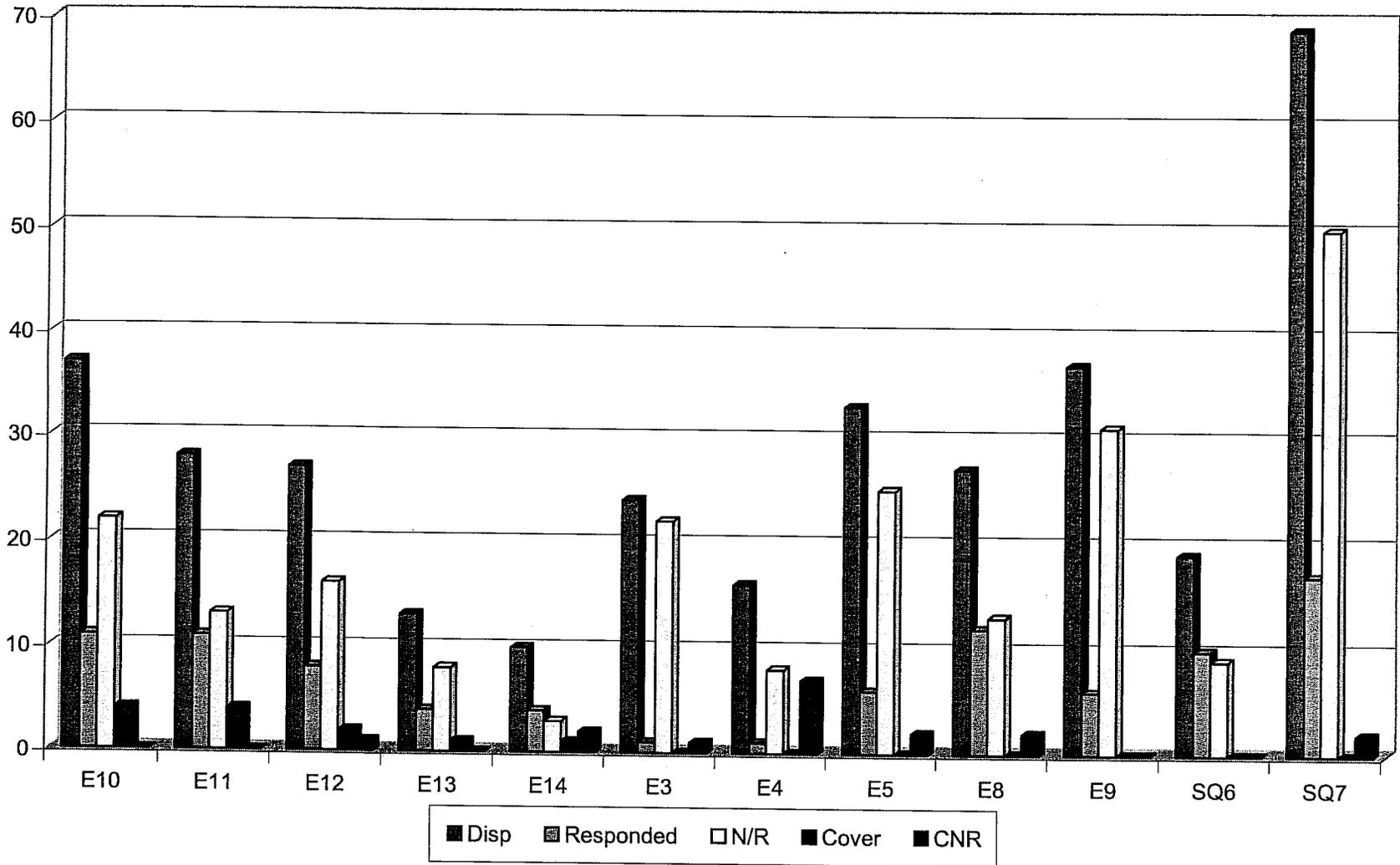
| DANBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE RESPONSES | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| | January Response Statistics | | | | | | | |
| | Calls | Cover | Canceled | Response Total | No Response Total | % of Response | | |
| E-3 | 24 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 22 | 8% | | |
| E-4 | 16 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 50% | | |
| E-5 | 33 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 25 | 24% | | |
| S-6 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 9 | 53% | | |
| S-7 | 69 | 0 | 2 | 17 | 50 | 28% | | |
| E-8 | 27 | 0 | 2 | 12 | 13 | 52% | | |
| E-9 | 37 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 31 | 16% | | |
| E-10 | 37 | 4 | 0 | 11 | 22 | 41% | | |
| E-11 | 28 | 4 | 0 | 11 | 13 | 54% | | |
| E-12 | 27 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 16 | 41% | | |
| E-13 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 8 | 38% | | |
| E-14 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 70% | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Totals | 340 | 12 | 17 | 91 | 220 | 35% | | |

Career Company Response

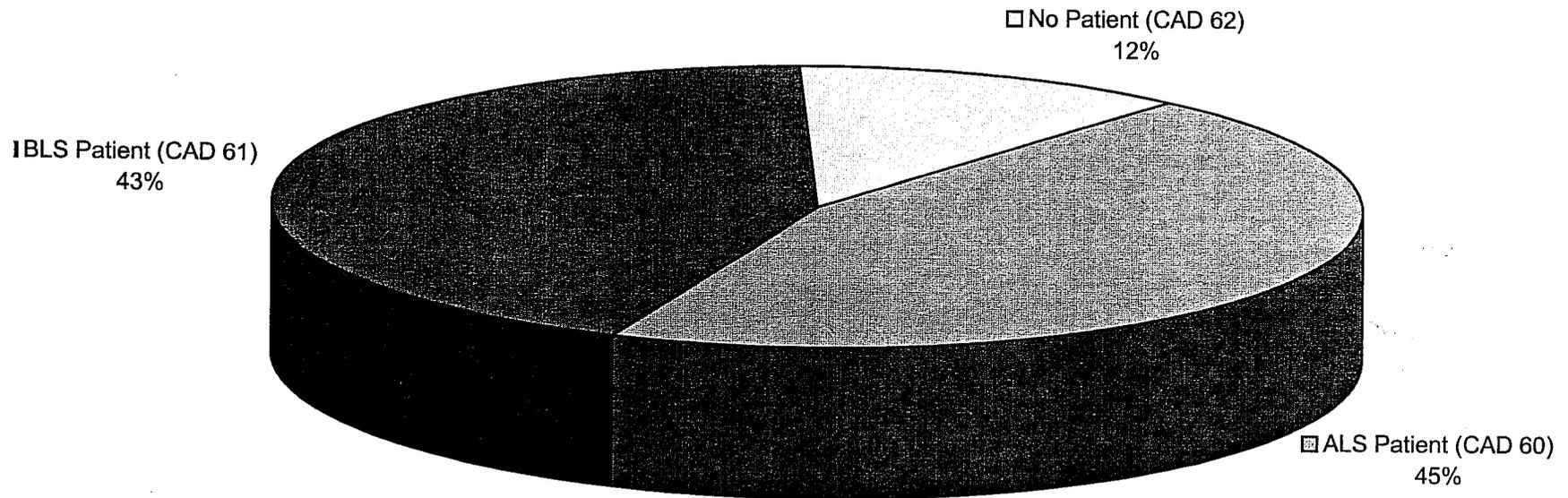
December 27, 2004 to January 23, 2005



Volunteer Call Counts December 27, 2004 to January 23, 2005



EMS Transport Activity
December 27, 2004 to January 23, 2005



911 Center Activity December 27, 2004 to January 23, 2005

