



# CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department  
19 New Street

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September 26, 2006

## **FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT**

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of August 29, 2006 to September 26, 2006 and details some of the activities of the Department.

### **PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION**

- ❑ On the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of the month we took part in the Taste of Danbury. On both days members of the Fire Marshal's Office were present as well as Firefighters. Several civilians took advantage of the opportunity to ask fire safety questions. The children enjoyed being able to sit in the fire engines and interact with the firefighters. It was a learning experience for all those involved.
- ❑ E-22 B Grp. gave a brief demonstration to Councilwoman Basso during her surprise visit to Headquarters.
- ❑ Stood-by at Home Depot and Stew Leonard's and showed the public our truck and equipment. We answered any questions they had about Fire Safety.
- ❑ The Training Office has been working with members of Immanuel Lutheran Church to set up a Fire Education station at their Oktoberfest which will be held on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.

- Pre-incident planning continued on site inspections at: Borders, Best Buy, Loews' Theater, Bardens, Home Depot, St. Joseph School, Ives Manor, Putnam Towers, St. Peter School, Poets Landing-Rose Ln. Condos, Peacock Alley and Magnet School.

## **SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES**

- On Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> we responded to medical facility on Sandpit Hill for a water problem. Upon arrival we found water running from the second floor thru the ceiling into the lower level. We found a pipe running to the water heater in the ceiling had ruptured. We had to shutdown the water to the area. The water seemed to have been running for quite awhile judging from the amount on the floor. The operating rooms had to be closed for the day until the area could be cleaned and the damages repaired.
- On the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup> we responded to a house fire at Cross St. Upon arrival we were told by one of the occupants that the fire was in the basement. Upon entering the basement we found a small fire behind the dryer. The fire was quickly extinguished. There was moderate damage to the home. Once the smoke was eradicated the occupants were allowed to reenter the home.
- On the 17<sup>th</sup> we responded to Woodbury Dr. for a report of a structure fire. Upon arrival we found heavy smoke coming from the back of the house. When we entered the house we found two of the residents fighting the fire with two small powder extinguishers. We put out what fire remained and then we removed the stove from the house. There was smoke damage throughout the house. Most of the fire damage was to the stove.

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/HAZ MAT - Rey Rodriguez**

### **Haz-Mat Drill**

The Hazardous Materials Disaster drill held on Sept 10, 2006 at Western Ct. State University demonstrated the Danbury Fire Departments ability to respond to and take a leadership position

in a multi-agency catastrophic emergency response event that would test the resources of any community.

The drill which involved simultaneous Hazardous materials releases in several municipalities (Danbury , Waterbury, Torrington and New Milford) and drew upon the resources of several emergency response agencies from surrounding communities served to demonstrate the ability of the agencies to work together under the command and control of one Incident Commander utilizing the National Incident Management System.

This drill is the first attempt at a regularly scheduled regional drill designed to test preparedness, interoperability and the sharing of resources that that will serve to enhance our ability to respond to such events.

### **Volunteer Firefighter training**

In order to comply with Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 the Danbury Fire Dept has offered six classes on the National Incident Management System to the Volunteer contingent of our Department. The classes which are four hours long and sponsored by The State Fire academy were taught by EMS/Haz-Mat Coordinator Rodriguez.

### **EMS Wednesday**

The continuous education program EMS Wednesday is designed to meet the EMS recertifications requirements of Fire Department First Responders. These classes held while on duty allow firefighters to stay current with pre-hospital care techniques and to maintain sharp practical skills. The Topic for this months EMS Wednesday is the OSHA mandated Blood borne Pathogens review. Blood borne pathogens include all infectious and communicable diseases which are a great concern to our First Responders, while there are risks inherent to emergency medical services responses these risks can be minimized by the use of methods that will reduce the risk of exposure and contraction of these diseases. The purpose of the training is to educated personnel in the types of communicable /infectious diseases, the modes that they are transmitted methods and practices that will reduce the risk of exposure and the procedures that must be followed should an exposure should occur

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 a victim of a sudden cardiac arrest, this ability coupled with the Danbury Fire Departments community education programs like CPR training and the "File of Life" has increased the patient survival rates in the City of Danbury.

**Communcations/911 - Patrick Sniffin**

Operational Issues

During this period there were no major operational issues.

Firefighter Walter Benz has completed his basic training as a 911 Telecommunicator. Walt was assigned to A Group as a full time dispatcher; his presence is a welcome addition to the division.

Dispatcher Benz along with FF Michael Jewell also completed the state required Emergency Medical Dispatch training.

### **Training - Provisional Training Officer Charly Slagle**

With the retirement of T. O. Jim Thorne this month A/C Charly Slagle has agree to act as the Training Officer until a test can be run for a permanent Training Officer.

Three new recruits graduated from the Fire Academy at Windsor Locks.

Live fire training at the new burn building at the Fire school has begun.

The Volunteer Companies are completing their third quarter training. The topic this quarter is NIMS Training.

### **Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo**

The following is a partial list of some of the highlights and activities of the Apparatus Division for the month of September. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

All of the Departments BioSystem meters have been span gas calibrated. BioSystems engineers have been repairing our meters one at a time using the meter from Truck 2 as the "swing unit" I am happy to report that this update program has been completed. All of the Departments meters are repaired and fully functional.

The department's SCBA'S are for the most part functional. The SCBA equipment that the Fire Chief authorized me to purchase last month has had a purchase order issued and has

been ordered. This SCBA equipment is consistent with our current specifications. We ordered nine new Scott Series 50 air packs along with twelve 30 minute carbon wrapped bottles as well as eleven AV3000 face pieces. We are eagerly awaiting the delivery of this new equipment.

We have experienced several breakdowns involving the engine-cooling fan on Engine 23. After much interaction with engineers from Kysor Cooling, Borg Warner, Detroit Diesel, International/Navistar, and Pierce it was decided that the best course of action was to retrofit this unit with a Horton fan clutch assembly. After a tremendous amount of time and six attempt to properly "write" to this units ECM (Electronic Control Module) representatives from Detroit Diesel along with the help of Pierce engineers as well as computer programmers from Navistar were able to properly "re-write" this engine's ECM. This unit was placed back in service last Tuesday and is operational.

Car 30, the Assistant Chiefs vehicle was returned to Specialty Warning Systems due to a defect in the construction of the "Command Cabinet" Specialty Warning Systems felt that due to the nature of use of this cabinet that it would be better to re-design a new cabinet to withstand the type of service it will see here in the City Of Danbury's Fire Department. A new cabinet was built and installed all under warranty.

This past month we installed two of the new laptops, including new mounts in E-24 and one in Truck 2. We have the remaining four Engines and Truck 1 still to be scheduled for installations. We have been working closely with the Communication Supervisor on this project.

This past month we spent a considerable amount of time repairing staff vehicles. Due to the amount of time spent repairing fire apparatus last month (our priority) staff car repairs were accumulating. Currently all staff car are operational.

E-24 was out of service with problems related to intermittent stalling and not starting. We spent a tremendous amount of time trying to diagnose these problems.

The Apparatus Division spent a considerable amount of time working with Air Cleaning Specialists during the installation of the new Plymovent Exhaust System, which is currently being installed here in Fire Headquarters.

The Apparatus Division also has coordinated the replacement of the unit heaters on the apparatus floor, which was completed yesterday.

We have ordered and received six new ISG batteries and three chargers, they have been assigned and are currently in service.

### **Good of the Organization**

- ❑ Deputy Chief Phil Curran has been named the recipient of the 2006 exchange Club Firefighter of the Year. The Deputy will be honored on October 12<sup>th</sup> at Anthony's Lakeside.
- ❑ On Labor Day the 4<sup>th</sup> of Sept. Olive Garden Restaurant catered a lunch for the on duty crew. This is the second year that they have done this. C Group was the lucky crew this year.
- ❑ On the 15<sup>th</sup> "The Friends of Heroes" served lunch to all the emergency services at Fire Headquarters. This luncheon was begun by Boehringer the year after the attacks of 9/11. The last three years some of their employees have continued the luncheon at their expense and time. The luncheon feeds all Danbury Police, Career & Volunteer Fire, EMS and retired employees of all the departments.
- ❑ On 9/11 over forty members of our Department attended the 9/11 ceremony held at Elmwood Park.
- ❑ On the 14<sup>th</sup> the Staff of the Department attended a luncheon for retired Training Officer Jim Thorne at Chuck's Steakhouse.
- ❑ Chief Siecienski and D/C Curran attended a class given by the new Asst. Personnel Director on "Effective Interviewing of new Employees".
- ❑ D/C met with a representative of the Cairns Helmet Comp. to try and improve their delivery times and some problems we had have with the last two shipments of helmets.

- ❑ On the 21<sup>st</sup> several members of the Department attended the graduation of our three new recruits from the State Fire Academy in Windsor Locks. The three graduates are FF Shay Hanson, FF Nick Cabral, and FF Kyle Houser.
- ❑ On the 21<sup>st</sup> the Chief and the Deputy interviewed a new recruit for the Department. The new recruit is Justin Bierbower. He will start the Fire Academy on October 2<sup>th</sup>.
- ❑ DFD Hockey team participated in the Bridgeport PD Hockey Tournament for Cancer.
- ❑ Lt. Drentwett and his wife Teresa had a baby boy, Nicholas making him their 15<sup>th</sup> child.
- ❑ Disp. Walt Benz has completed all the necessary courses to qualify him to be a 911 Dispatcher. He began his full time duties on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> on A Grp.
- ❑ The Fire Department Honor Guard presented the Colors at the Danbury High School Band Jamboree on the 9<sup>th</sup>.
- ❑ Local 801 held their annual family picnic at the Sokol Club.
- ❑ Lt. Ron Bowers participated in the International union's annual softball tournament which is held in Maryland.
- ❑ Capt. Meehan coordinated an EMT class in Roxbury given by Danbury Hospital.

### **Dates of Importance**

- ❑ Blood Drive at City Hall Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>.
- ❑ Firefighter Memorial Ceremony and Awards Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. The Mass will be at 10:00AM at Fire Hdqts. Awards Ceremony will follow the Mass.
- ❑ Exchange Club Firefighter of the Year Dinner Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> at Anthony's Lake Side. Honoring Deputy Chief Phil Curran.

**INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT**

Fires	13
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	1
Rescue/EMS	253
Hazardous Condition	43
Service Calls	31
Good Intent Calls	43
False Alarm/False Calls	69
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	0
No Report/Incomplete	5

Total Fire Calls..458.....

For the month, the City Ambulance Service responded to 577 Emergency Medical Calls. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Total EMS responses	577
No patient EMS Calls	101
BLS Patient Calls	253
ALS EMS Calls	221
EMS Mutual Aid Requests	2
EMS Calls passed to Back-up	17

The total calls into the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center for the month were 2617 with a daily average of 76.97 calls per day. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Fire Response Calls	458
EMS Response calls.	577
Abandoned Calls	355
911 Hang Ups	618
Admin Calls Received	776
Cellular 911 Calls	870

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 for 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.

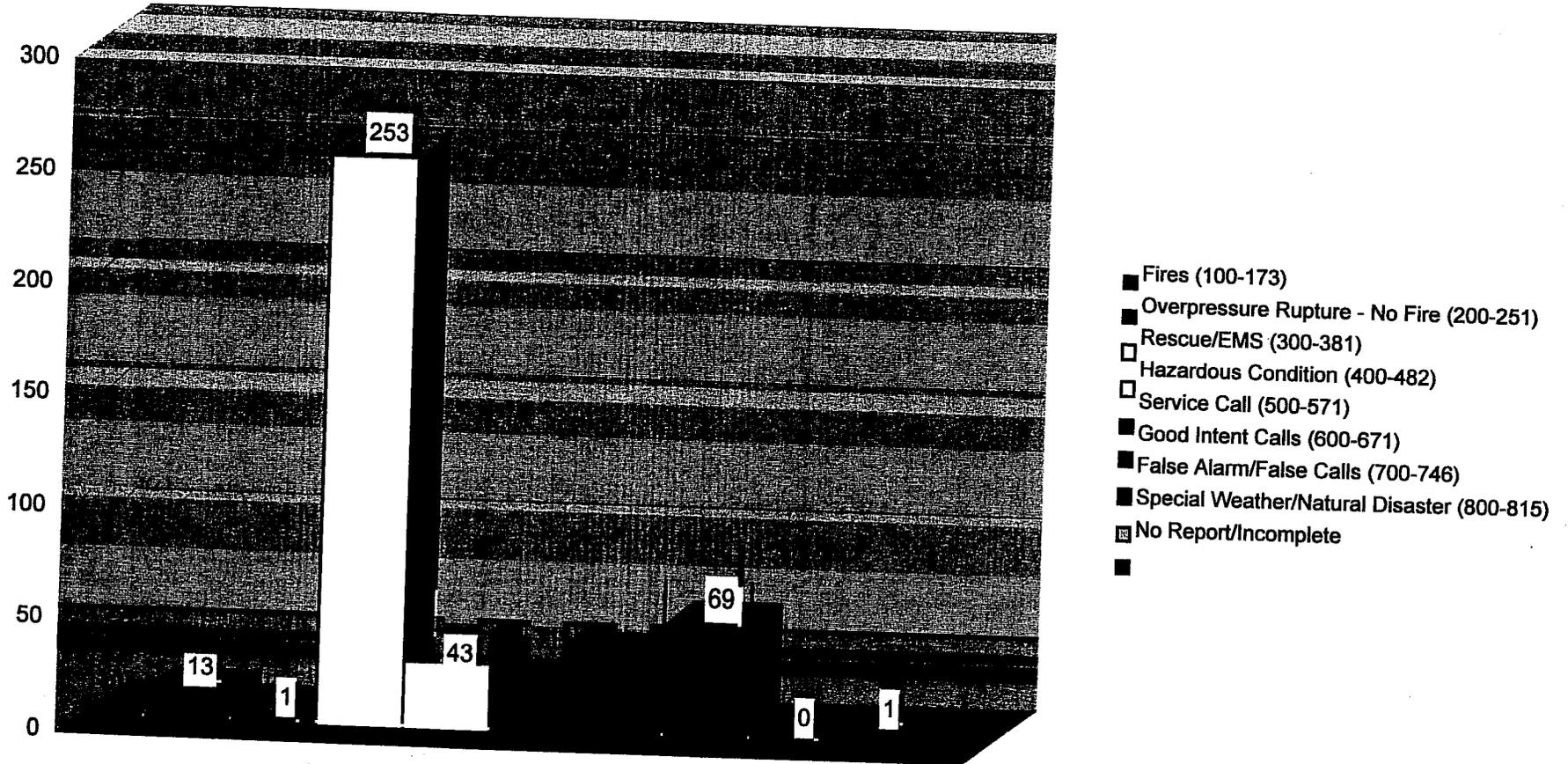
Respectfully submitted,



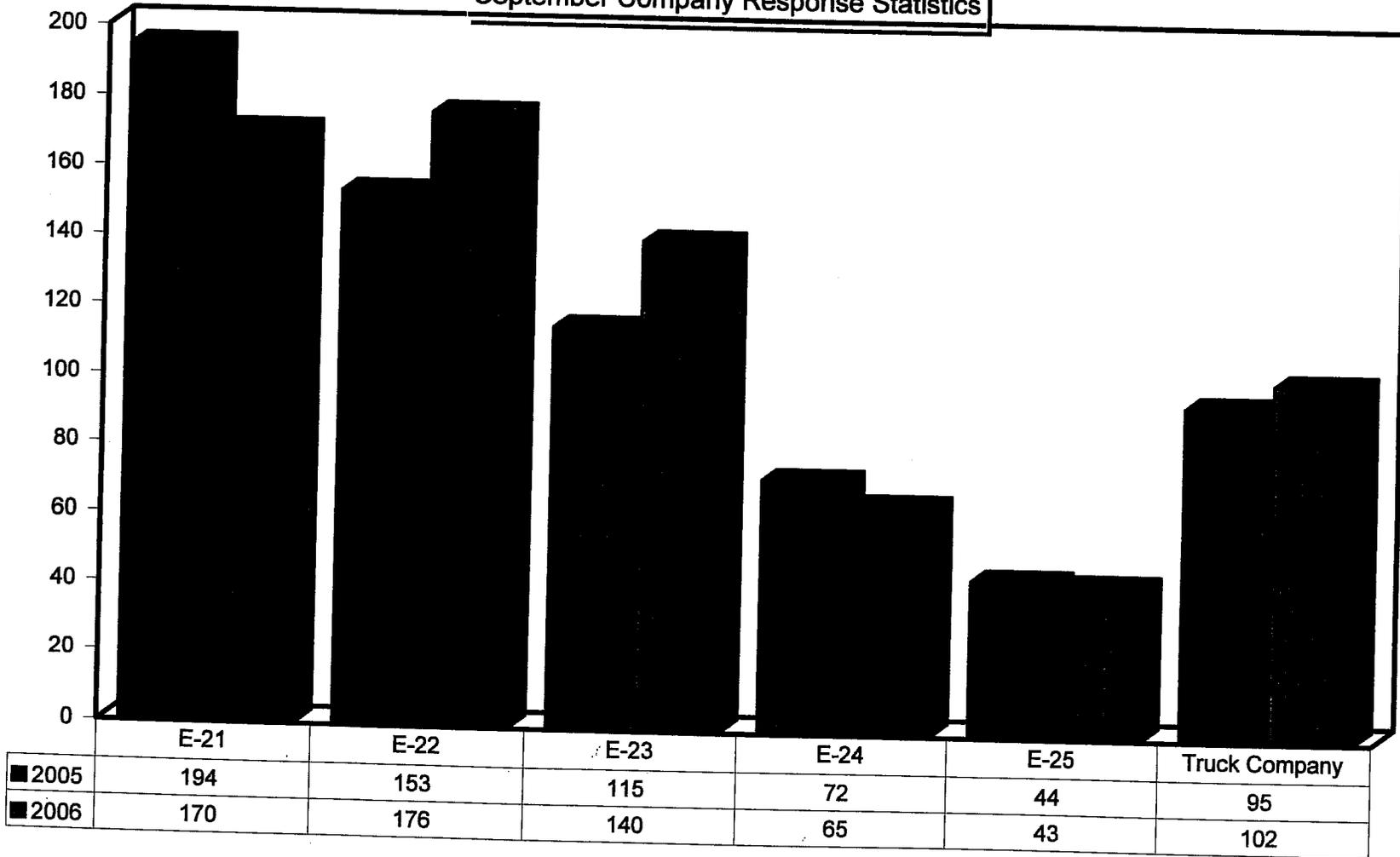
Peter J. Siecienski  
Fire Chief

Fire Chief

## Fire Response Breakdown August 28 to Sep 24 2006

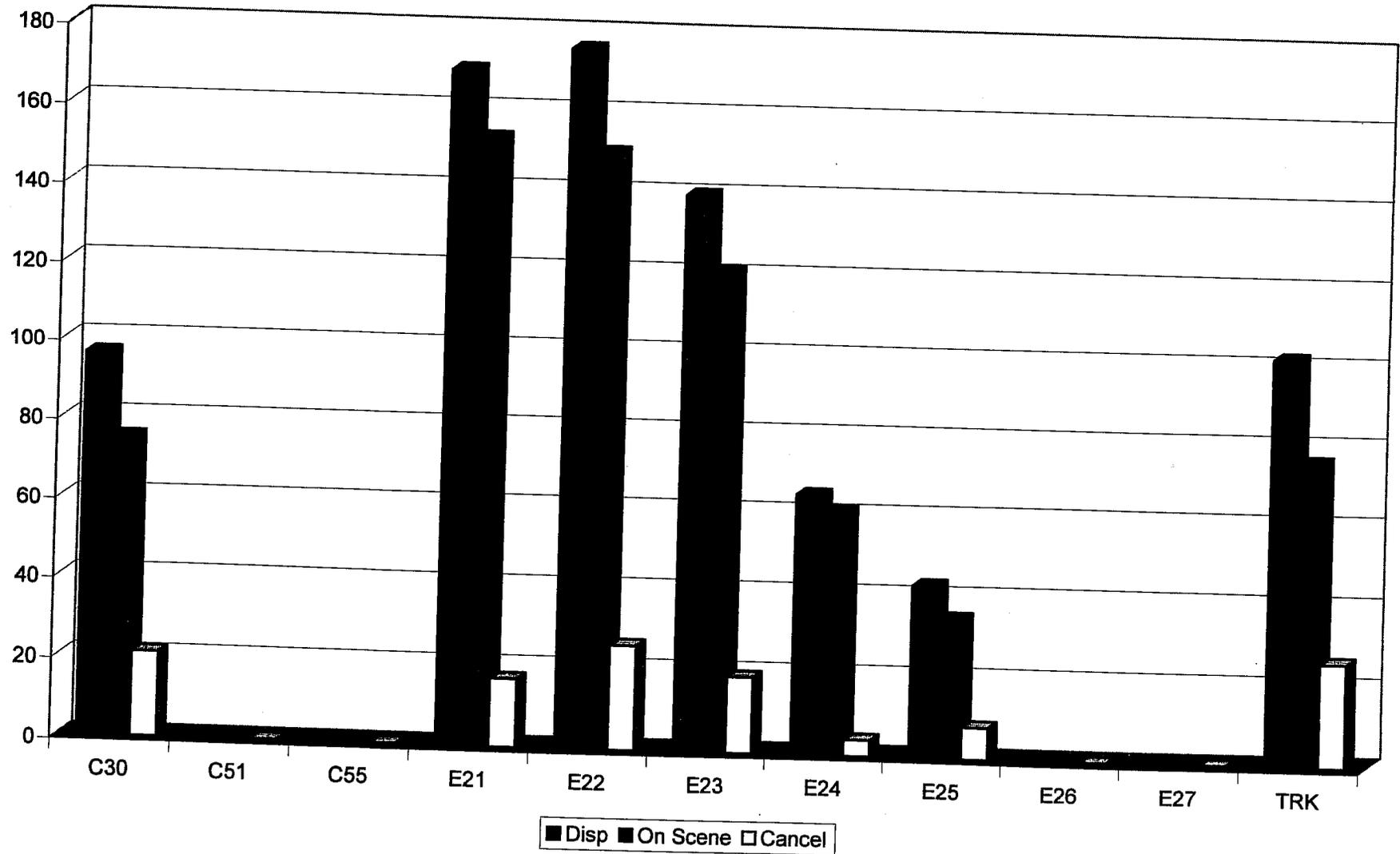


**Danbury Fire Department  
September Company Response Statistics**

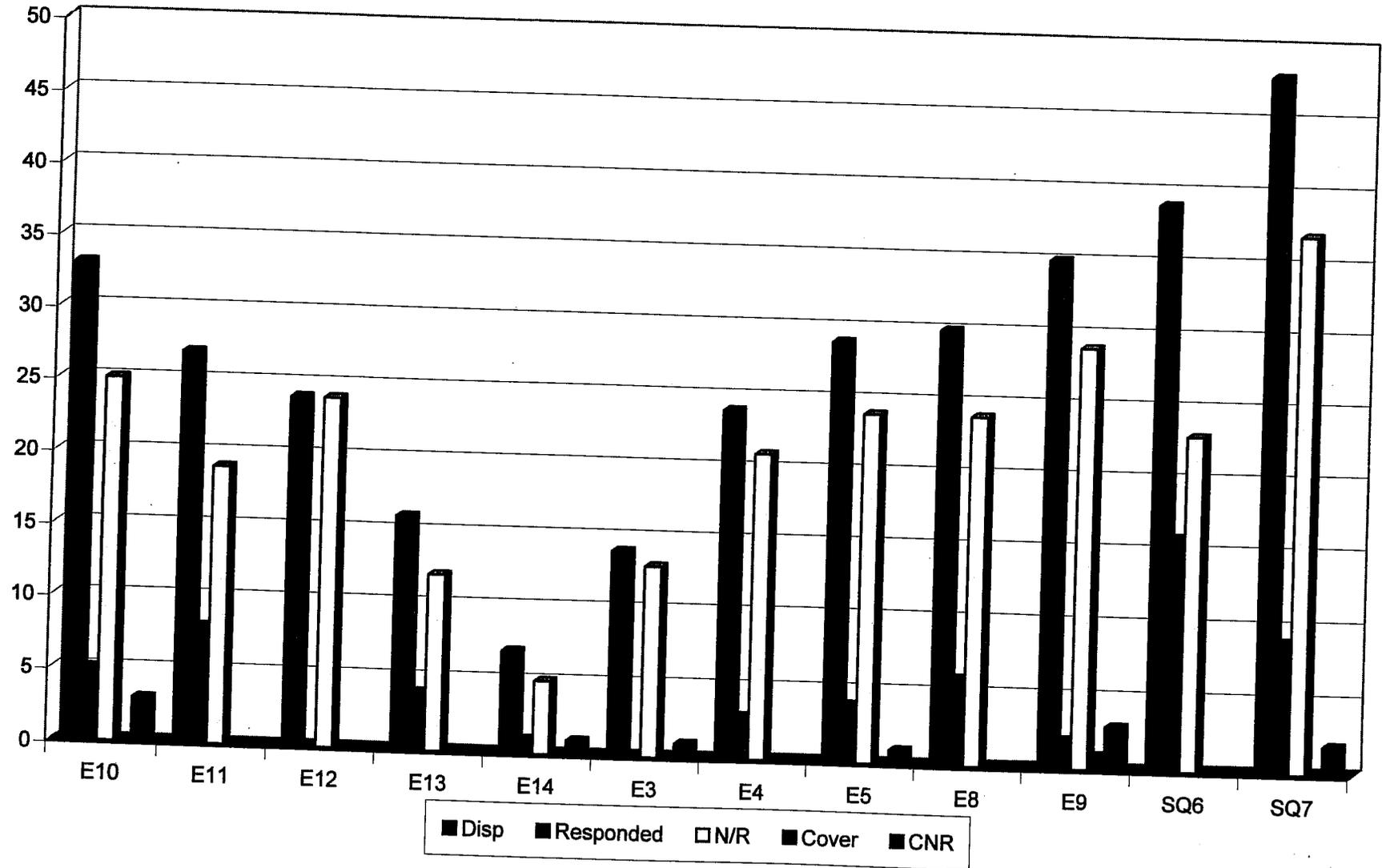


DANBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE RESPONSES						2006		
	September		Response		Statistics			
	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response	No Response	% of Response		
				Total	Total			
E-3	14	0	0	0	14	0%		
E-4	24	0	0	3	21	13%		
E-5	29	0	0	4	25	14%		
S-6	39	0	0	16	23	41%		
S-7	48	0	0	9	39	19%		
E-8	30	0	0	6	24	20%		
E-9	35	1	0	2	32	9%		
E-10	33	0	0	5	28	15%		
E-11	27	0	0	8	19	30%		
E-12	24	0	0	0	24	0%		
E-13	16	0	0	4	12	25%		
E-14	7	0	0	1	6	14%		
Totals	326	1	0	58	267	18%		

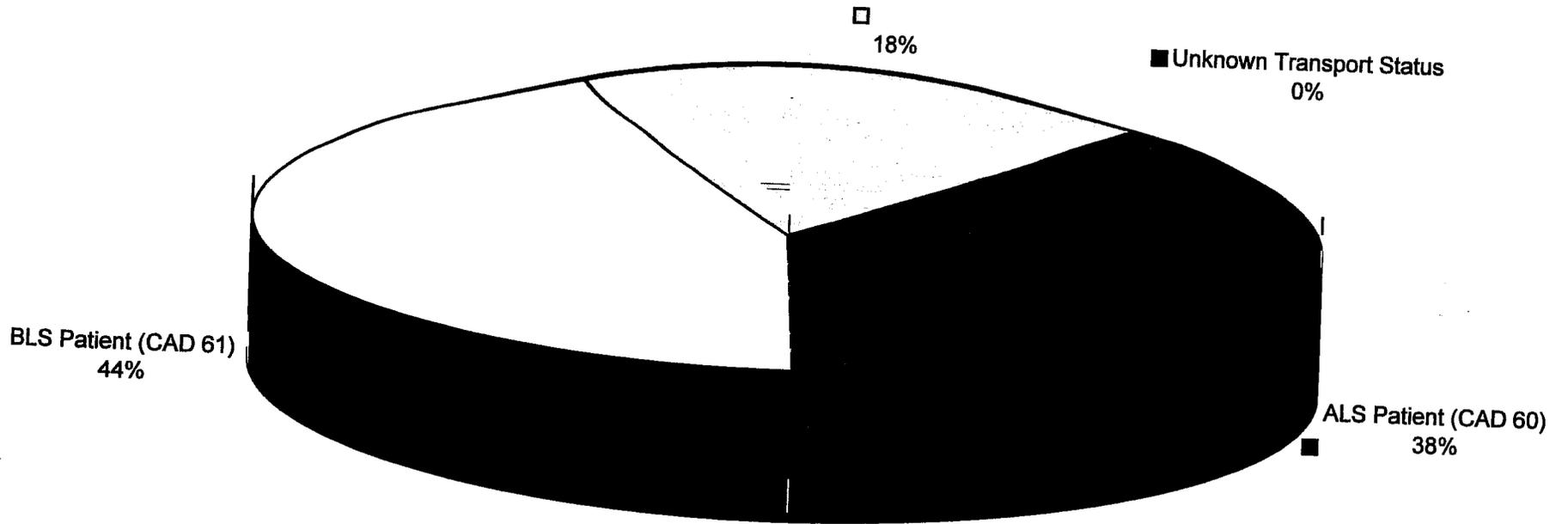
# Career Company Response August 28 to Sep 24 2006



## Volunteer Call Counts August 28 to Sep 24 2006



**EMS Transport Activity  
August 28 to Sep 24 2006**



# 911 Center Activity August 28 to Sep 24 2006

