

27 July 2007

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of 27 June 2007 through 27 July 2007 and details some of the activities of the Department.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Danbury FD Lieutenant Fred Pollard and Firefighter Adam Hughes were traveling through Roxbury when they came across an elderly man on Minor Bridge Road with a flat tire. This area has no cell phone service. These two stopped and spoke with the man who informed them that he didn't have the strength at Ninety Four years old to get his tire changed. Fred and Adam changed his tire and then Lt. Pollard followed the gentleman to Brookfield to make sure he'd be ok.
- The truck company presented a tour of the apparatus to children of the Crows Nest condominiums.
- The Department Union Local 801 has initiated its "Fill the Boot" efforts. This effort has raised some 77,800 \$ over the years for MDA.
- The continuing pre-incident planning of the Department included the following properties: Westcon Science Building, Rivington development, Reserve Project, parking garage on Library Pl., Woodland Hills, Arlington Woods, The Knolls, Riverbank, Crossroads, Still River Glen.
- The Honor Guard presented the Colors at two Westerner baseball games. The first was the Team Russia Game and the second at Fire Fighter Appreciation Day.
- Fire Marshalls Wiedl and Gillotti presented a program to the Sensational Summer School at Mill Ridge Intermediate School. The audience was 49 four and five year old children.
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SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES OF NOTE

- An MVA (Motor vehicle accident) involving a van with seven unrestrained occupants occurred on Route 84 in morning rush hour traffic. This accident initially overwhelmed our responding resources. Two engine companies, the truck company, Incident command an ER Doctor and four ambulances eventually were working the scene. The doctor stopped to assist when he came upon the scene. The fourth ambulance was provided by Ridgefield Fire Department. Many injuries were treated and all occupants were successfully transported to the Danbury Hospital Emergency Department. (ED)
- An MVA on Route 84 near exit 7 resulted in the entrapment of one victim. The male victim was between the front and rear seats of the van. The unusual extrication had to be performed by cutting the side out of the van to free the victim. He was successfully extricated from the vehicle and transported to the ED. The response comprised the Truck, E-23, E-24, the medic, BSI Ambulance and Incident Command.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/HAZ MAT - Rey Rodriguez LEPC

LEPC Chairperson Liz Benjamin, Chief Geoffrey Herald and EMS Supervisor Rey Rodriguez met to review the updated LEPC plan for the City of Danbury. An updated list of equipment and training

has been generated to reflect the increase in equipment and capability as more regional resources arrive.

Region Five Haz-Mat Team

The Danbury Fire Department in its role as one of the three Region Five Haz-Mat team Battalions have taken delivery of a Ferrara Hazardous Response Vehicle and equipment that will serve to enhance our capability to handle Hazardous Material incidents in the City of Danbury and as part of the State of Ct. mandated regional response capability for Northwest Ct.

Lt Tom Corbett and members of A group have spearheaded the job of setting up the Prime Mover and the new Regional Haz-Mat Response vehicle in anticipation of their roles as local and regional Hazardous Materials Response Vehicles

HVCEO

Paul Estefan and Rey Rodriguez attended the HVCEO Health Directors meeting to discuss regionalization and the deployment of regional assets that are stationed in Danbury such as the Regional Haz-Mat Team, the Foam trailer and both Mass Casualty Trailers- the one dedicated to Danbury and the forthcoming State Of CT. Regional Mass Casualty trailer

Communications/911 - Patrick Sniffin

- On July 1st, EMS extended the hours that A2 is being manned. This unit is now in service until 3:00 AM each day. The goal of this additional staffing is to further reduce reliance on out of town services and thus the response time for calls received on the overnight shifts. To date A1 and A2 have handled 83 of 92 calls for service received during the hours of midnight and 7:00 am. Of those 83 calls 17 were handled by A2. A net gain of 20% more calls covered by city EMS crews.
- Dispatcher Dave Bonner has announced that he will be retiring after 28 years of service in the Danbury Fire Department. Dave's most recent assignment as a 911 Dispatcher was met with the same tenacity that he fought fires with. A self professed 'computer illiterate', Dave adapted well to the challenges of computers, radios and the mundane to madness environment that is a 911 Center. Dave's last shift will be August 5th. Thanks for a job well done and Congratulations!

Office of the Fire Marshall - Barry Rickert

I hereby submit my report as Fire Marshal of the City of Danbury Fire Department for the report period covering JUNE 19, 2007 to and including JULY 21, 2007.

Abatements/Reports (hrs.):	57	<u>INSPECTIONS:</u>	
Tickets Issues in Fire Zones:	10	Place of Assembly:	43
Fire Investigation:	9	Educational:	25
Fatal Fires:	0	Businesses:	14
Liquor Inspections:	15	Storage:	0
Blasting Permits:	4	Health Care:	4
Complaints:	16*	Industrial:	2
Plan Review (hrs.):	115	Mercantile:	33
Fire Prevention Programs:	14		

Orders of Abatement:	2	Residential Board & Care:	2
		Hotels (units):	233
* Resolved or in process of being resolved.		Apartments:	795
		Day Care:	1
		Misc. Inspection:	70
		Special Structure &	
		High Rise Bldg.:	2
		Office Duty (hrs.):	130

TRAINING

All members of the Fire Prevention Bureau continue to update their training thereby providing a superior service to our community. This training is provided thru many sources including the State Fire Marshal's Office.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

MILL RIDGE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL – SUMMER CAMP

Deputy Marshal Gillotti
 Deputy Marshal Wiedl
 “Sparky” the Fire Dog

30 MAIN ST. – OFFICE SUITE – FIRE SAFETY

Deputy Marshal Johnson
 Deputy Marshal Weber

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

The office has received numerous complaints regarding illegal occupancies. The city Fire Marshal is cooperating with the States Attorney's Office to address these issues. All Public and Private Schools are being inspected over the summer months to ensure Fire Code compliance. We had numerous Carnival and Fire works events in the City. All were inspected for Fire Code compliance.

Training - Mark Omasta

We completed Second quarter training for the Volunteer Division. The Hands On drills were conducted on five different dates at the Fire School. 98 Volunteer FF's attended this required 3 hour training. Currently, there are 106 Vol. Firefighters qualified to respond to emergencies including Support, Exterior and Interior Classifications.

Six volunteers from various city companies recently passed the State FF1 Written Certification exam. The FF1 class requires a significant commitment of time and dedication.

To date we have 1,942 training hours recorded for the Volunteer division through the Training Office for 2007. (this includes the FF1 class)

Eight recruits recently hired for the career Department are attending the current CT Fire Academy class which started on June 26 and runs until September 7, 2007. These Firefighters will help staff the new Westside Station with a projected September Opening.

Tours of Fuel Cell Energy on Great Pasture Road continue for all crews.
 Tours of the Tilcon plant on Plumtrees Rd. start this week.

The Hydrant testing program continues through the summer. Problem hydrants are identified by the Fire Dept. and then reported to the water department who schedule them for repair. This continues to be a successful program.

Individual Engine and Truck Companies including two Volunteer Companies utilized the Danbury Training facility for various training evolutions including vehicle extrication drills, ladder, hose work, vehicle fire suppression drills, and live burn training on a donated Trailer home and Camper. We took delivery of another Trailer home for future burn training in July. We have a projected completion date of mid August for Sewer and water hookup to the classroom.

We were fortunate to acquire a Single family home scheduled for demolition for Training purposes. All crews participated in the training consisting of search and rescue techniques, Ladder raises and roof ventilation evolutions. We will continue to train at this site through the middle of August.

Two individuals took the State Certification exam for Incident Safety Officer.

The Training division continues to work with Naugatuck Valley Community College with the intentions of offering a Fire Tech college level class here in Danbury in the Fall.

Chief Herald and Training Officer Mark Omasta met with the Volunteer leadership to discuss various training and other issues.

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 July. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

All of the Departments BioSystem meters have been span gas calibrated. This past month we purchased a new unit that will streamline our monthly calibration of these meters as well as keep documentation on the monthly testing. This unit uses a tenth of the span gas compared to our previous method of calibrating. This will result in significant savings over the long term which will offset the cost of equipment. All of the department's meters are fully functional.

The department's SCBA'S are for the most part functional. We still have two or three units a week that are removed from service due to mechanical issues. Generally they are repaired and returned to service.

We are continuing our Fit Testing program for the 07-08 year. This program is vital for the health and safety of our Firefighters, and is an O.S.H.A. requirement. This is a very time consuming process. It was our intention to have the entire Career Department completed by July 1, 2007, but due to equipment failures as well as vacation schedules we were not able to keep to that timeline. As soon as we complete the Career Department we will then schedule the Volunteer Division for testing.

The 2007 Pierce Dash Engine that will be the new E-26 is currently at Firematic. It is having the radios, laptops; hand lights and other related equipment installed so that this unit can be placed in service.

Once again this past month we spent a considerable amount of time servicing staff vehicles, some repairs were due to breakdowns and some were scheduled maintenance. Currently all of our staff vehicles are functional.

This past month we repaired the air conditioning units in both E-22 and E-23. While servicing E-24, it was discovered that this unit had a broken leaf spring and after the service was complete we sent this unit to Danbury Auto Spring for repair.

We replaced the batteries in E-21 as well as the front tires. This unit had broken leafs in the right front spring pack and we sent this unit to Danbury Auto Spring for repair.

We received the trailer for the John Deere Gator. We replaced the ball hitch with a pintle style hitch. We acquired tie downs and wheel chocks for this unit and have placed it in service. This trailer was purchased through the DHS (Department of Homeland Security) grant.

The Airport Crash Rescue Unit had lost electrical power to the pump and related equipment. Upon inspection we found a set of heavy gauge wires loose and arcing. We repaired these connections and are currently servicing this unit while it is here at Headquarters.

Good of the Organization

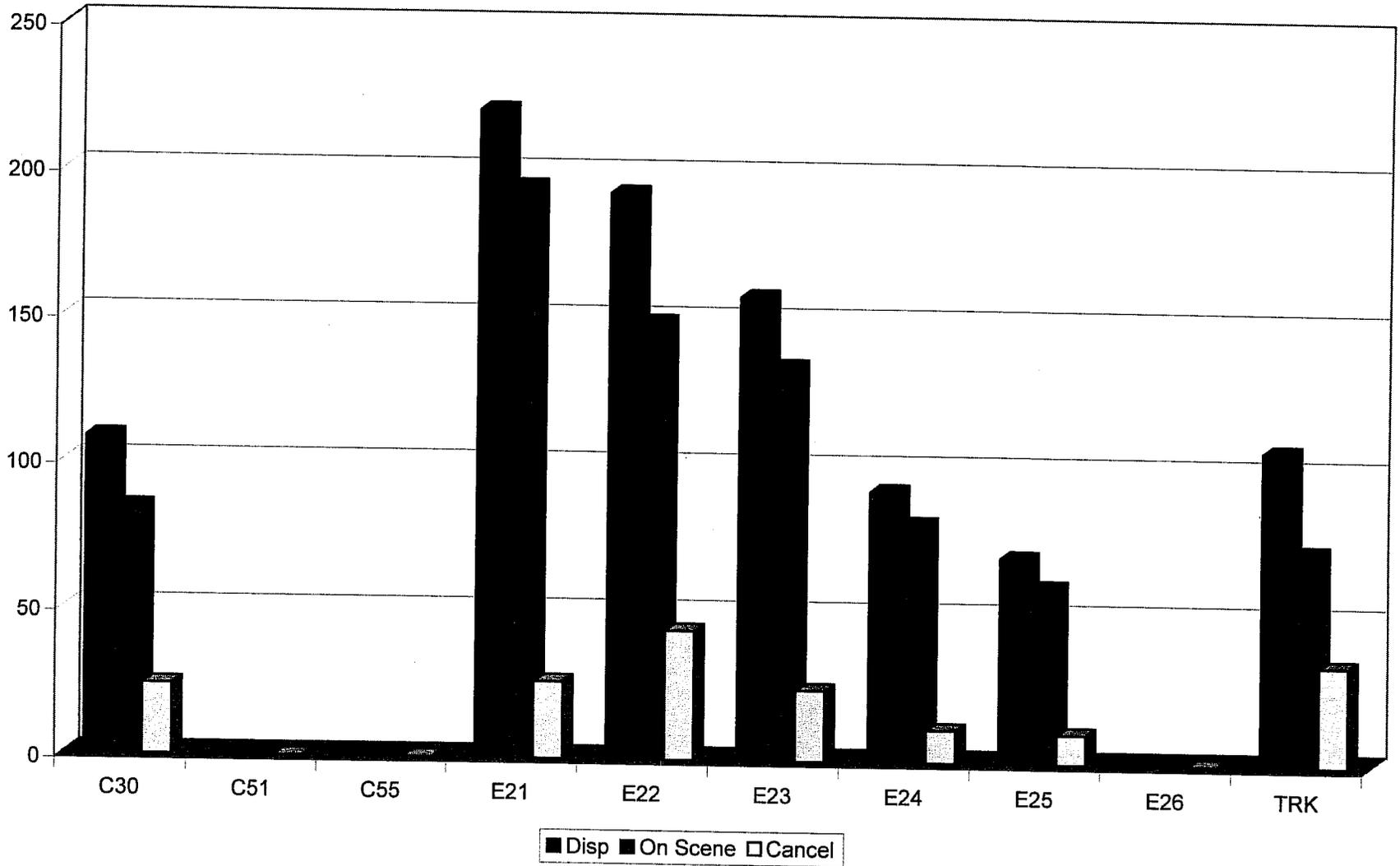
- Eight new recruits are attending the State of Connecticut Fire Academy in Windsor Locks. The recruits are expected to graduate 7 September.**
- Members of the Department continue to work on the site of the memorial stone at Engine 23. to honor our Fallen Brothers, Melody and Halas.**

Dates of Importance

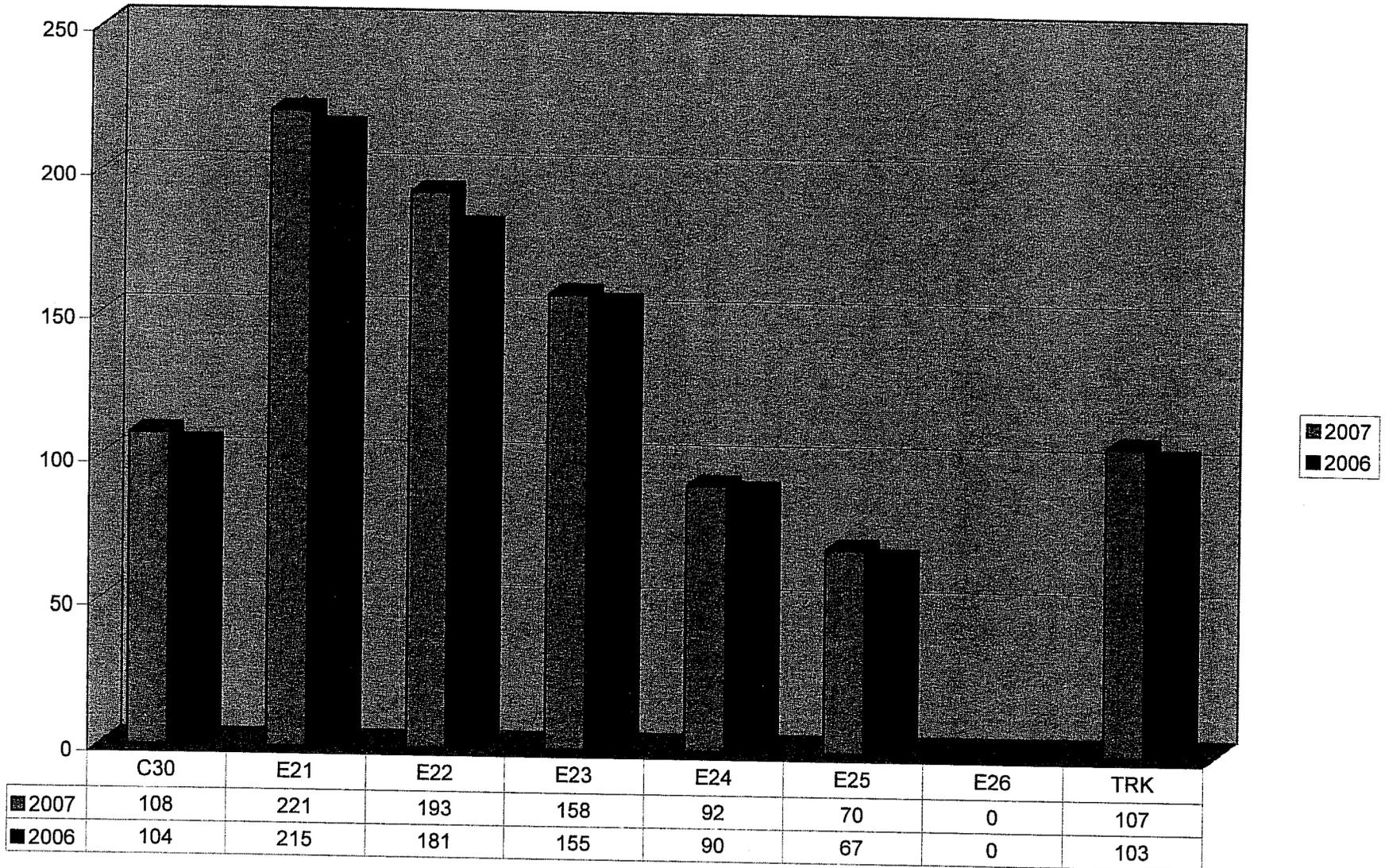
- 8 August National Night Out Against Crime**
- 16 August Local Heroes Day, City Center Green**

**Fire Chief
Geoffrey Herald**

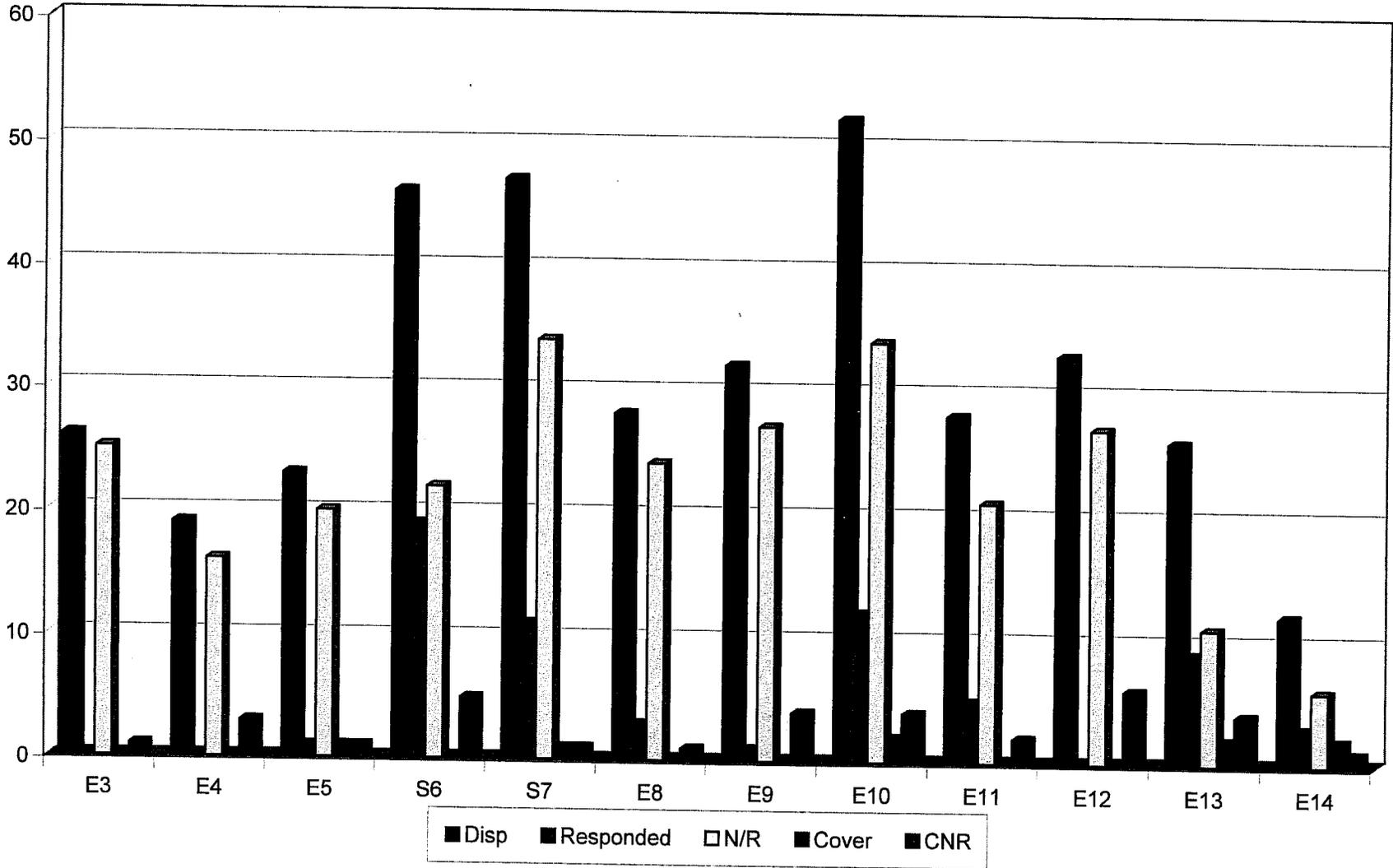
**Career Company Response
June 25 to July 25, 2007**



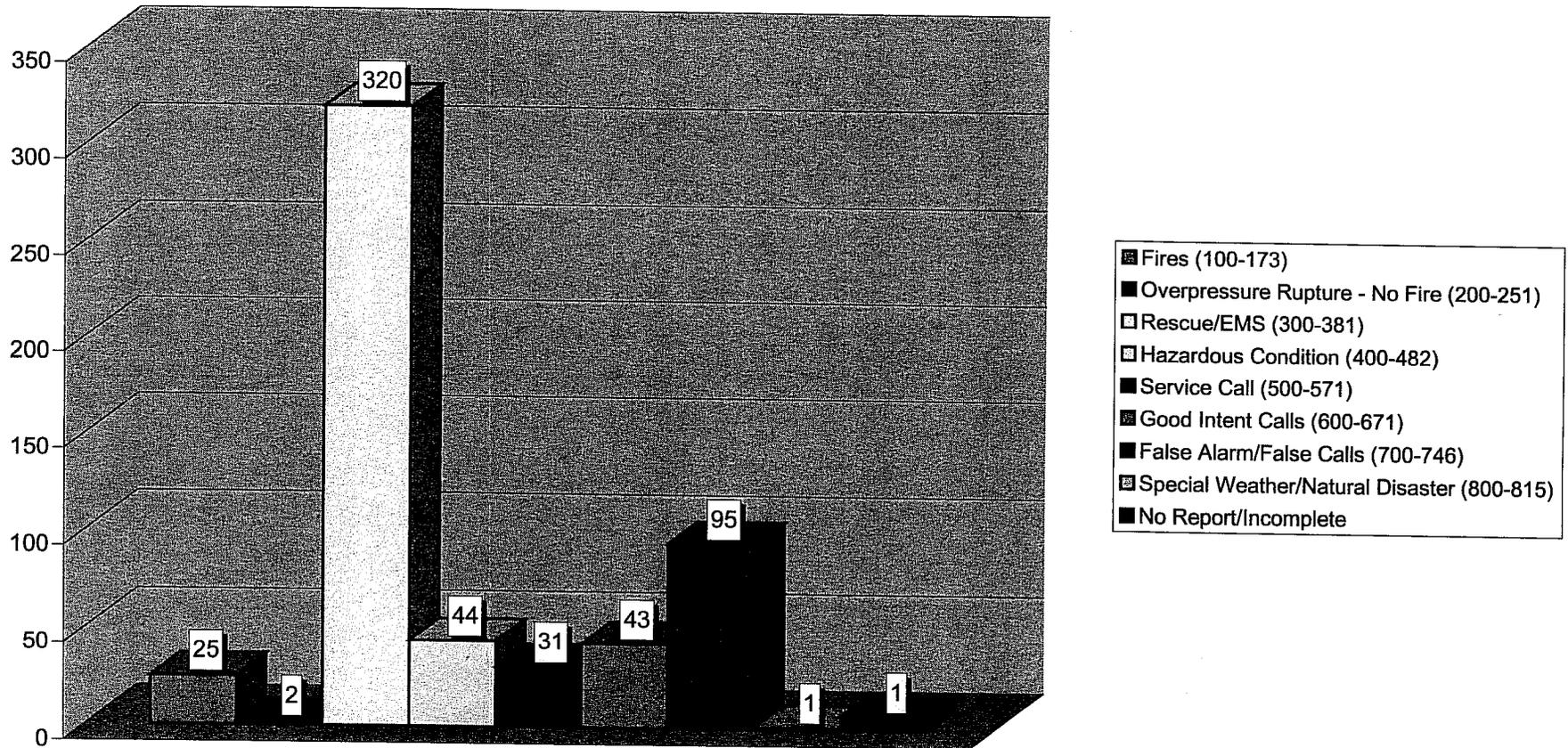
Career Response Comparison for July



Volunteer Call Counts June 25 to July 25, 2007

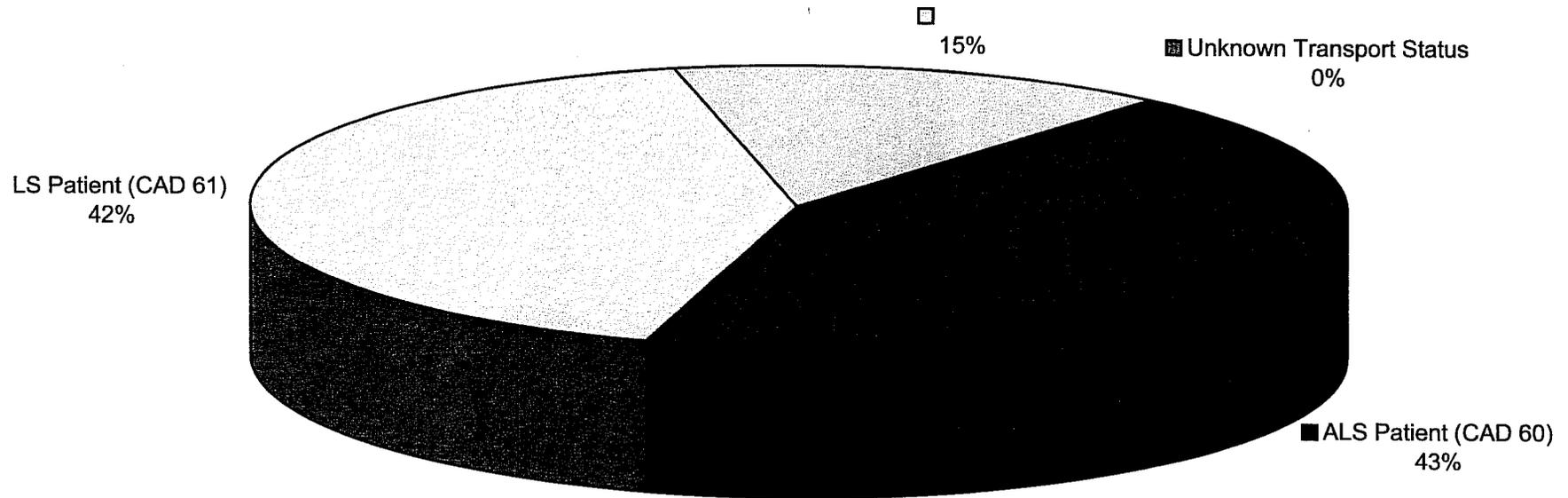


Fire Response Breakdown June 25 to July 25, 2007

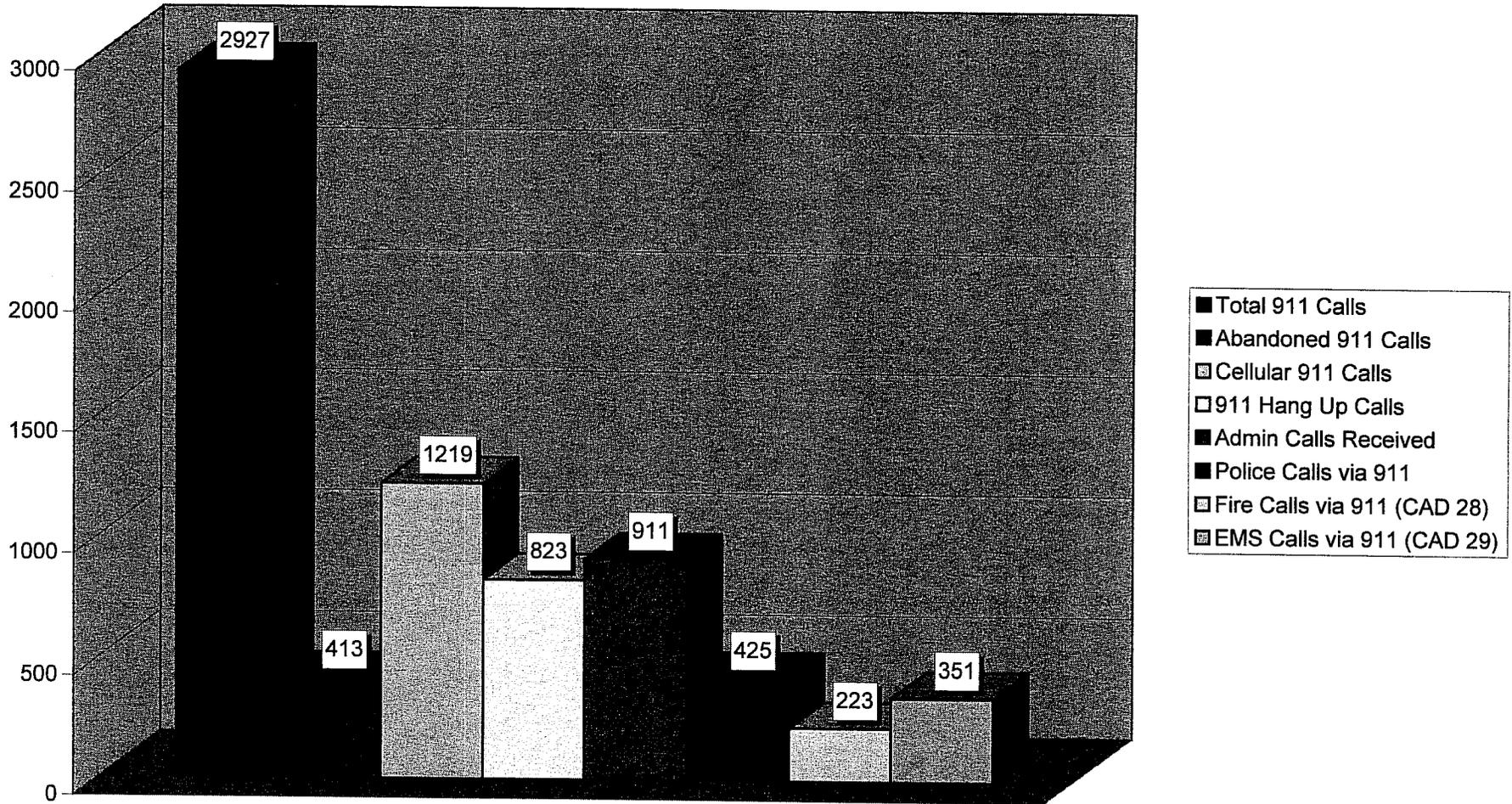


*Volunteer Reports from the Nor'Easter are still being compiled and entered.

EMS Transport Activity June 25 to July 25, 2007



911 Center Activity June 25 to July 25, 2007



DANBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT

JUNE RESPONSE STATISTICS

	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response Total	No Response Total	% of Response
E-3	26	0	1	0	25	4%
E-4	19	0	3	0	16	16%
E-5	23	1	1	1	20	13%
S-6	46	0	5	19	22	52%
S-7	47	1	1	11	34	28%
E-8	28	0	1	3	24	14%
E-9	32	0	4	1	27	16%
E-10	52	2	4	12	34	35%
E-11	28	0	2	5	21	25%
E-12	33	0	6	0	27	18%
E-13	26	2	4	9	11	58%
E-14	12	2	1	3	6	50%
Totals	372	8	33	64	267	28%