



CITY OF DANBURY

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Fire Department
19 New Street

(203)796-1550
Fax (203) 796-1533

December 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 November 28, 2006 to December 26, 2006 and details some of the activities of the Department.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION

- The Fire Marshals along with engine companies gave a fire extinguisher class to all City Hall employees.
- Went to Kinder-Care with DFM Jim Johnson and showed the children E-25.
- Gave a Fire Prevention talk to the Maimonides Academy and the Best Friends Pre-School.
- With the on coming of snow we have begun putting our hydrant markers out on key hydrants throughout the City.
- We gave a tour to the Stadley Rough Tiger Scouts.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

- On the 4th we responded to the Sports Authority for an automatic alarm. Upon arrival we found heavy smoke in the building with the worst area to the rear of the store. The sprinkler system was activated but the smoke was so heavy we had a tough time finding the fire with zero visibility. We opened the roof and ventilated. Once we ventilated we found the fire in the receiving area located in the piles of new stock on the floor. The main fire was put out in

minutes but the damage had been done already. The heavy smoke to the entire store caused damage to most of the merchandise. The cause of the fire was found to be a short in a wire by a ceiling heater on the loading platform. At this date the store is still not open for business.

- Also on the 4th we responded to WCSU Pinney Hall for an automatic alarm. While enroute we were informed by dispatch that it was a grease fire and a sprinkler head had been activated on the third floor. Upon our arrival the fire was out. We shut down the sprinkler and overhauled the fire.

- On the 9th we responded to 125 East Liberty for an automatic alarm. Upon arrival we found smoke showing in a part of the building occupied by a laundry cleaning service. We gained entry and found a dryer contents on fire. We removed the burning material and took them outside the building where we extinguished them.

- On the 11th C Grp. Responded to the airport for a report of an aircraft in distress. The single engine aircraft had lost its nose front wheel on a previous landing by a student pilot. All our responding units staged at the airport as the pilot made an attempt to land the plane. The plane landed from the south on runway 35. The pilot landed safely while damaging the prop. The pilot was uninjured.

- On the 14th B Grp. Responded to Electro Energy Corp. at 30 Shelter Rock Lane for a possible structure fire. Upon arrival units found a Toyota Prius Hybrid car smoking in a garage. The "garage" was actually a laboratory for the research and development of high tech hybrid cars. There are at least three firms in Danbury who do research and development on battery cell technology. The car that was on fire was a Toyota Prius with an experimental 220 volt rechargeable battery system. The battery pack had some kind of malfunction and the batteries began "melting down" one by one. When burning these batteries produce toxic gases. They are also water reactive, producing hydrogen gas when water is applied. The ideal method of controlling these is disconnecting the power source.

- The afternoon of the 14th B Grp. Responded to the Sports Authority for an industrial accident. Crews were working on cleaning the building after the fire which occurred a week

before. Upon arrival the fire units found a worker operating a high lift bucket apparatus pinned to an " I " beam. The victim was conscious and alert but suffering from multiple crushing trauma. The fire units were successful in bringing the victim down with the use of two other lifts. Once on the ground Danbury EMS techs went to work providing advanced life support to the ER.

- Pre- incident planning continued on site inspections at: WCSU Science Bldg, Crown Point Condos, Lake Place Condos, Lake Waubeeka Area, new sub-division off Clapboard Ridge near Golden Heights, 31 West St., Bishop Curtis Home, Nutmeg Square Mall, 408 Main St., East Ridge Condo's, 19 Main St., and Kindercare.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES/HAZ MAT - Rey 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 the month November has been CPR for the professional rescuer.

Each year sudden cardiac arrest strikes about 220,000 Americans. CPR and early defibrillation are the most critical factors in determining patient survival. Studies indicate that survival rates from sudden cardiac arrest can exceed 70 percent if CPR and defibrillation is administered within the few minutes.

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 Saturday" has increased the patient survival rates of sudden cardiac arrest in the City of Danbury.

Community Education

The Danbury Fire Departments "Heart safe community" initiative which placed Public Access Automatic External Defibrillators in the school system is in its second year with CPR training being provided by EMS Coordinator Rodriguez for teachers and the School nurses. These CPR classes were held at Danbury Fire Headquarters November 27th & 30th and December 5th and 7th.

Communications/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Communications Division

Activity Report -November 27, 2006 to December 21, 2006

Training

During the week of December 11, 2006, the 40 hour Basic Telecommunicator class was held at Fire Headquarters. 18 members of the Danbury Fire Department were trained by the Communications Coordinator in procedures and methods used in serving as a 911 Telecommunicator.

These Firefighters will also have to undergo advanced Emergency Medical dispatch training at a later date.

With the addition of these newly trained dispatchers the department will now have 52 members of the department that hold Emergency Telecommunicator certification. This is a tremendous statement about the versatility of the department and of the support shown by all.

Equipment

The new radio installed in the new Engine 22 had a defect that rendered it inoperable. This radio was replaced on December 20th and this unit is now fully in service.

Year End Summary

Overall the Communications Division of the department had a very successful year. Many high profile events and few lower priority events that have been reported, show how valuable a 911 Dispatcher can be in the protection of lives and property.

We look forward to the challenges that the New Year will bring and remain proud of what was accomplished this year.

Shortly after the New Year holiday, this office will report the final 911 and Incident statistics for 2006.

Training - A/C Charly Slagle

Fourth quarter training is complete. 91 Volunteer fire fighters have been through live burn training at our Fire School. 58 of those are qualified as interior fire fighters.

Training continues in the career division.

New recruit Fire Fighter Justin Bierbower graduated from the Conn. Fire Academy, Monday the 18th. He was assigned to C group.

Ridgefield Fire Dept. Chief Burford, DFM TJ Wiedl and I continue to work with Boehringer Ingelheim setting up their Incipient Fire Brigade. We have spoke to two of the four training classes. The other two will be in January. We feel this is a good step forward for both Fire Departments and Boehringer.

On Dec 4th D group and I tested the North American Rescue Systems Personal Escape System. It is a system to use when you have to go out a window as the last resort. It has 40 feet of rope, a descender, a hook and a harness. The reviews for the system were good.

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 December.

All of the Departments BioSystem meters have been span gas calibrated. All of the Departments 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.

The two 2006 Ford Expeditions from the Department of Homeland Defense have gone to Economy Signs of Danbury to be lettered, they are now finished and are currently in service.

This past month we spent a considerable amount of time repairing staff vehicles. Currently all staff car are operational.

The new E-22 has arrived from Pierce. Radios and some other assorted equipment have been purchased and have been installed by Firematic, our Pierce dealer. This new Engine is a very welcome addition to our fleet; it was placed in service last week. This new addition will allow us to retire two older very tired units.

This past week we sent two I.S.G. Thermal Imaging cameras out for repairs. We have received the estimates and a P.O. number has been issued. We expect to have these units back next week.

Truck 1 has had the warranty work done to the air conditioner. This unit is now fully operational.

We have changed quite a few tires on Fire Apparatus this month. Some due to wear, and others due to physical damage.

All of the department's 4X4 vehicles have been serviced this month and are fully operational

We did a full service on the previous E-22 including but not limited to engine service, brake service, exhaust service and fuel system repairs. This unit has been placed in service as E-24. We have requested an estimate on changing the lettering on this pump to E-24 and will request a P.O. number as soon as we receive the estimate.

The new radio in E-22 has failed. We have been working with the vendor to obtain a new radio ASAP. They assure us that as soon as they receive the new radio it will be installed.

We installed new cable cords on bay 3 and bay 9. These cords are an integral part of the bay door safety system.

Good of the Organization

- The Training Officer exam was given on November 28th.
- Local # 801 held their annual Christmas party at Fire Headquarters.
- New FF Justin Bierbower graduated from the St. Fire Academy on Dec. 18th. He will begin his firefighting career on Dec. 27th when he reports to C Grp. Several members from the Department were on hand for the graduation. FF Bierbower was sworn in on the 21st at City Hall.
- Local #801 presented a check for \$2500.00 to the Firefighters of Ct. Burn camp. The proceeds came from the Annual Golf Tournament.
- On the 14th the entire Staff of the Department had a meeting and discussed how we would carry on the work of the department until a new Chief comes on board. Everyone was up for the task at hand.
- Several members of the Department attended the City employees Christmas party on the 13th. A great time was had by all.
- Once again Hdqts units will deliver Santa Claus to the children at Dorothy Day. This year Mrs. Claus went along for the ride with Santa.
- FF Jim Beers will begin as the Provisional Asst. Mechanic on Jan. 2, 2007. He fills the position vacated by Joe Cavo when he was made App. Super.

Dates of Importance

- Jan. 15th - Martin Luther King Day.
- Jan. 27th - Mayor's Ball.

INCIDENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Fires	19
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire	5
Rescue/EMS	235
Hazardous Condition	25
Service Calls	22
Good Intent Calls	45
False Alarm/False Calls	76
Special Weather/Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	1
No Report/Incomplete	6

Total Fire Calls...434.....

For the month, the City Ambulance Service responded to 693 Emergency Medical Calls. The call volume is broken down as follows:

Total EMS responses	531
No patient EMS Calls	95
BLS Patient Calls	212
ALS EMS Calls	222
EMS Mutual Aid Requests	4
EMS Calls passed to Back-up	25

The total calls into the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center for the month were 2223 with a daily average of 92.62 calls per day. The call volume is broken down as follows:

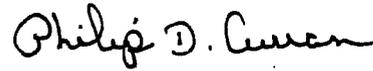
Fire Response Calls	434
EMS Response calls.	531
Abandoned Calls	357
911 Hang Ups	556
Admin Calls Received	756
Cellular 911 Calls	752

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.

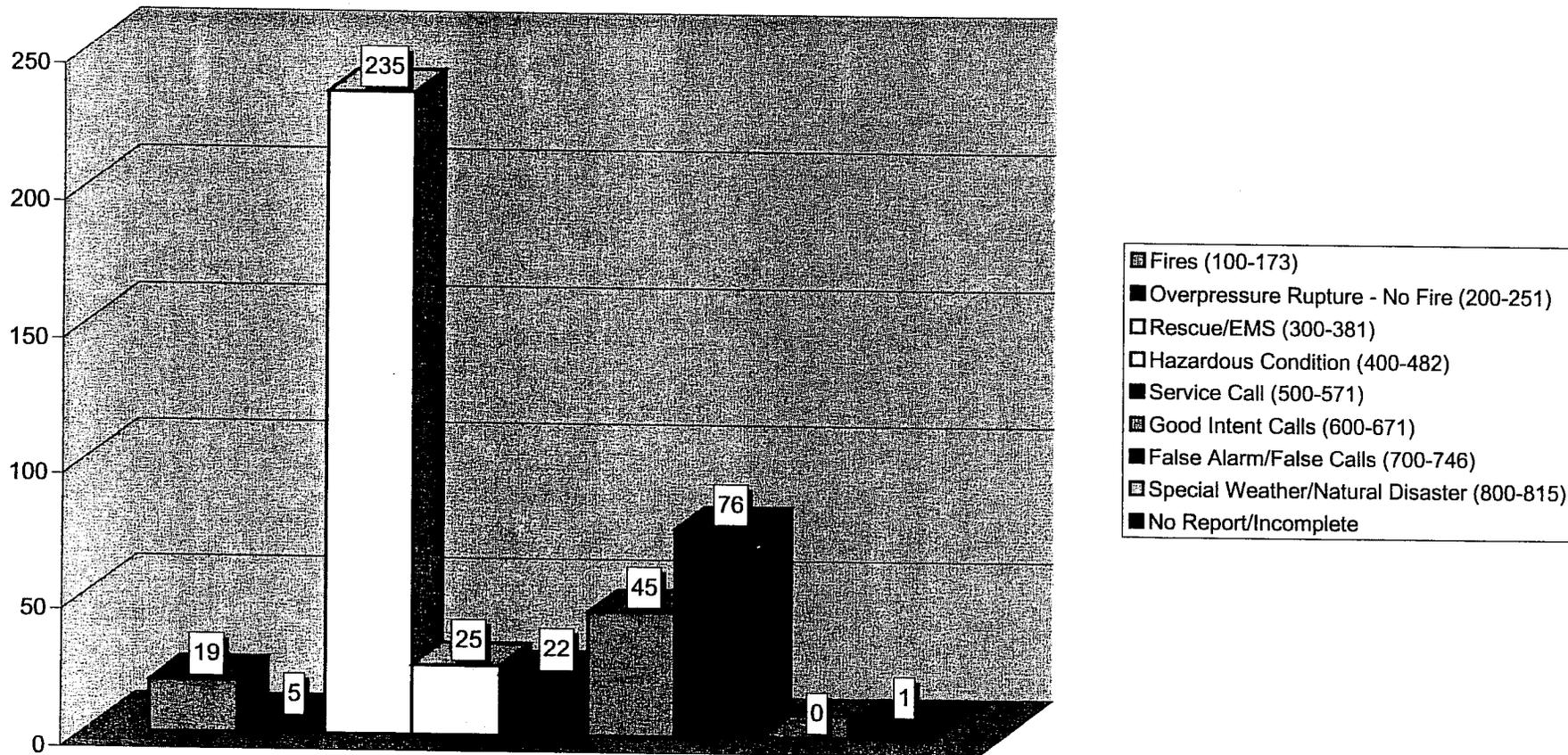
If additional information or clarification is needed, please contact me directly.

Respectfully submitted,

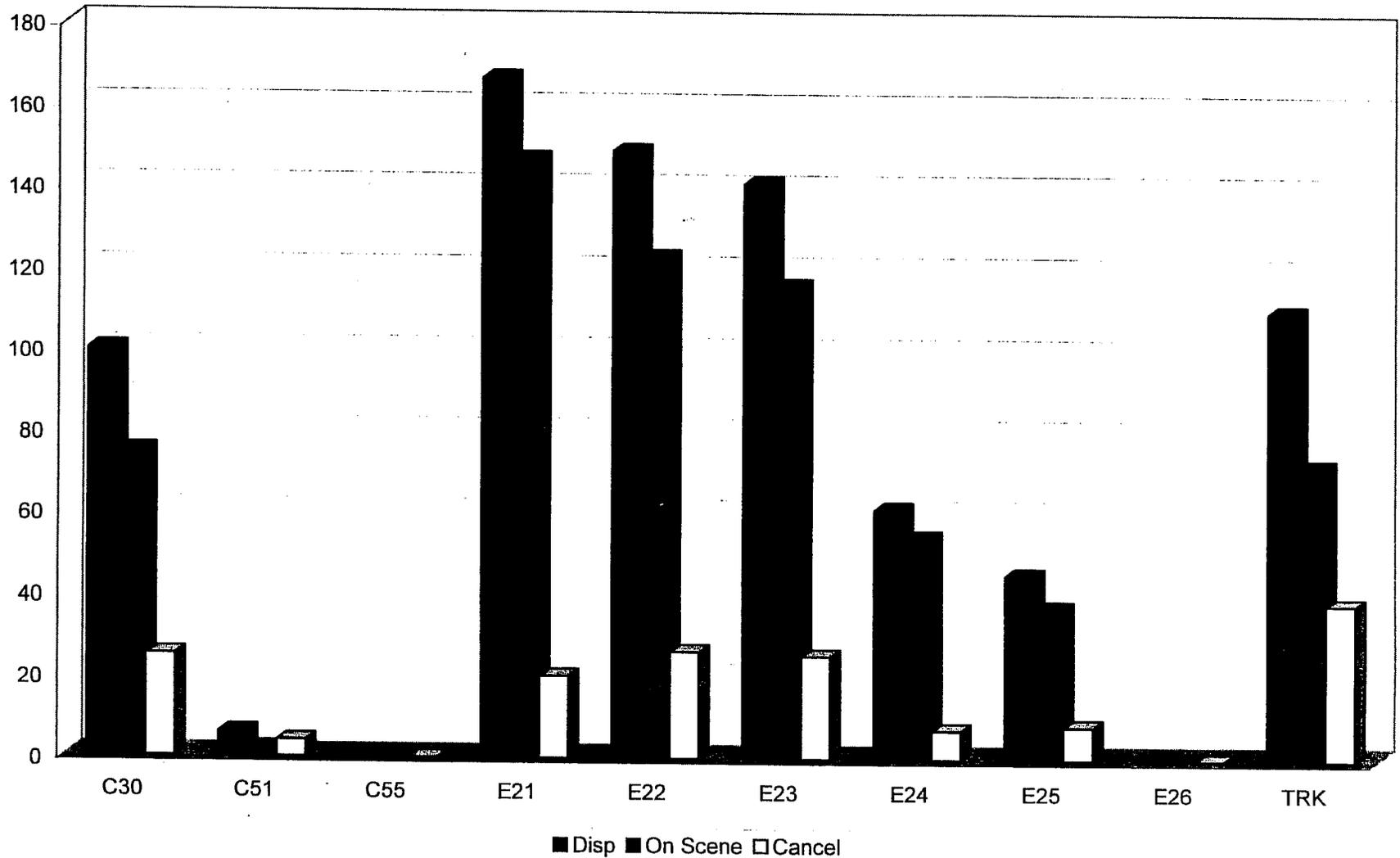


Philip D. Curran
Acting Fire Chief

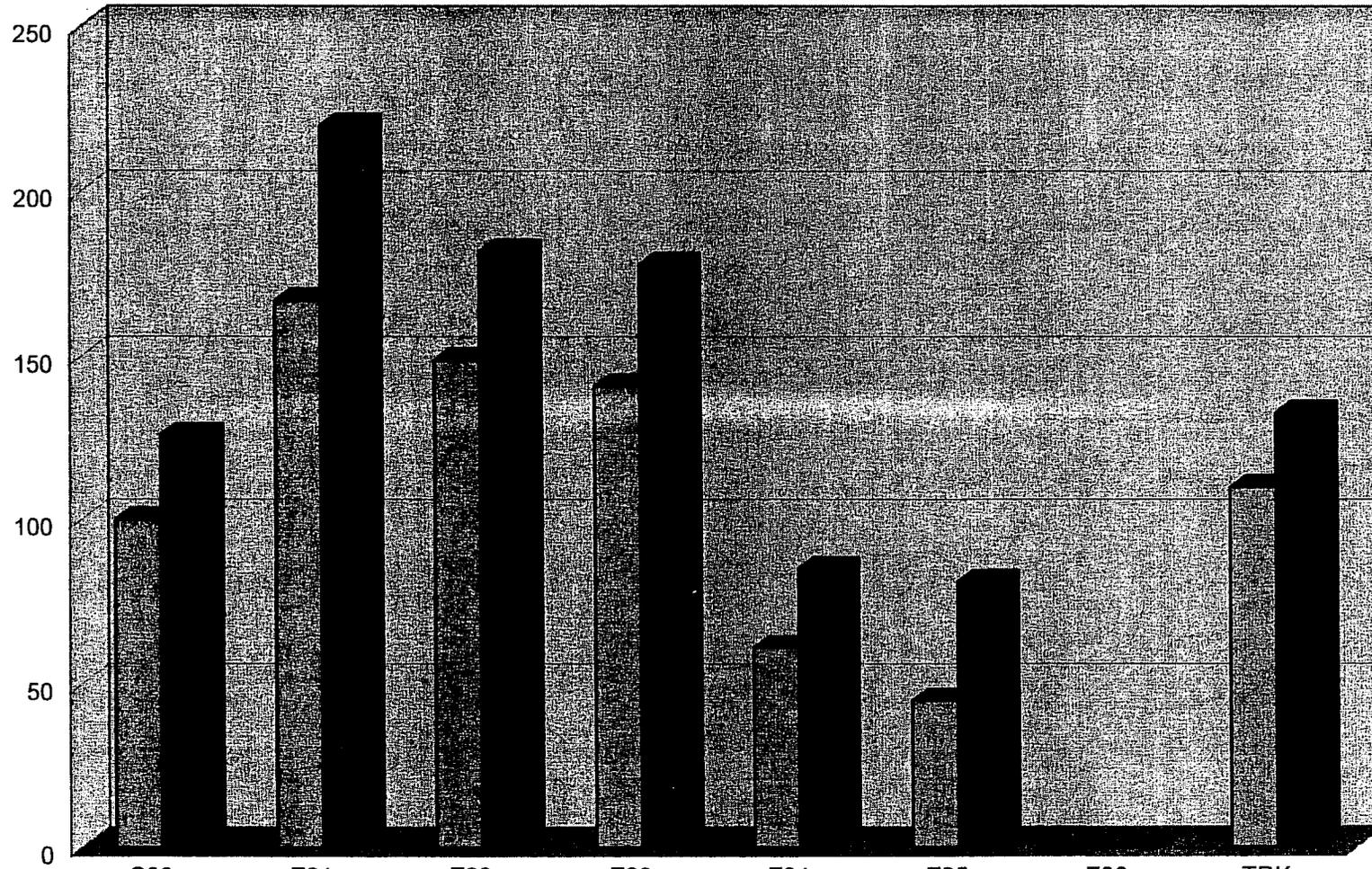
Fire Response Breakdown November 27 to December 21, 2006



Career Company Response November 27 to December 21, 2006



Career Response Comparison for November



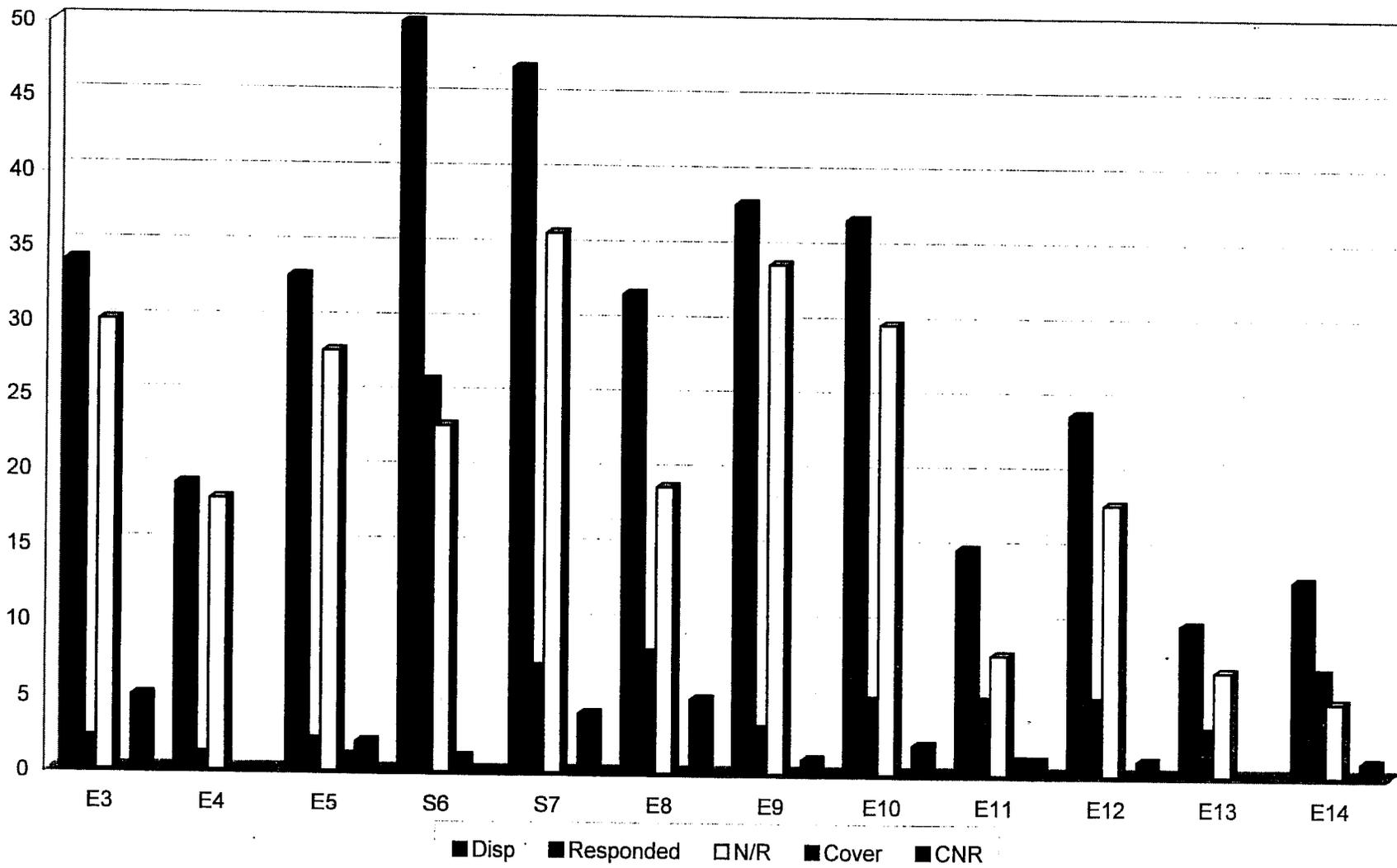
2006
 2005

	C30	E21	E22	E23	E24	E25	E26	TRK
2006	100	167	149	141	61	45	0	110
2005	126	220	182	178	85	81	0	133

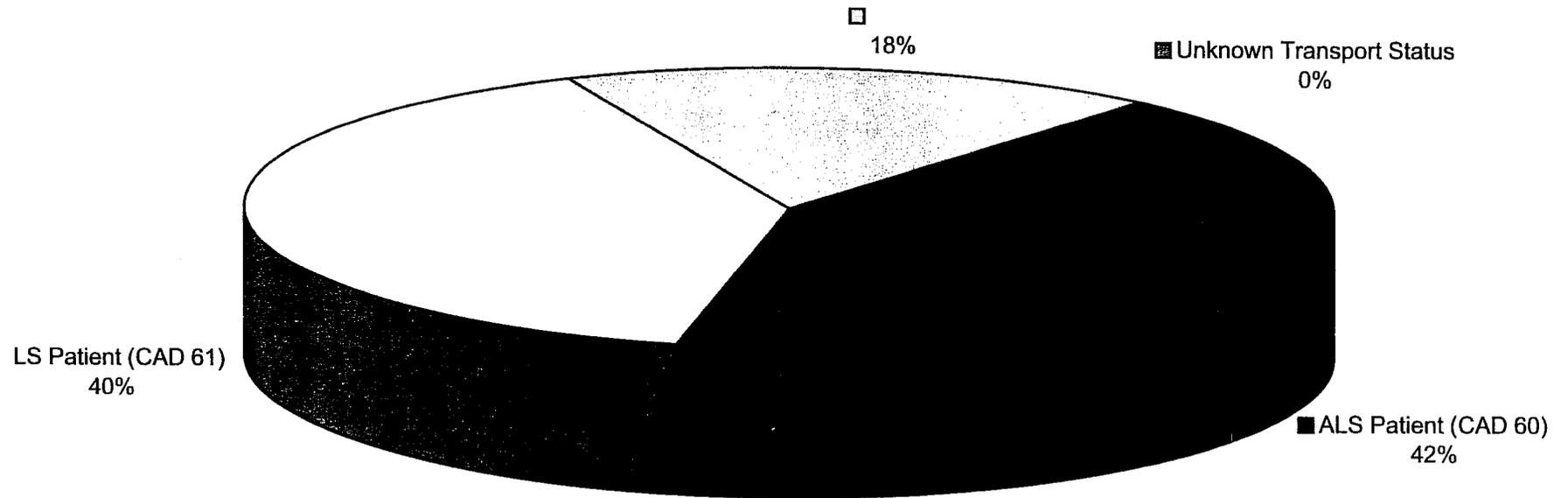
DANBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT
December Response Statistics

	Calls	Cover	Canceled	Response Total	No Response Total	% of Response
E-3	34	0	5	2	30	21%
E-4	19	0	0	1	18	5%
E-5	33	1	2	2	28	15%
S-6	50	1	0	26	23	54%
S-7	47	0	4	7	36	23%
E-8	32	0	5	8	19	41%
E-9	38	0	1	3	34	11%
E-10	37	0	2	5	30	19%
E-11	15	1	1	5	8	47%
E-12	24	0	1	5	18	25%
E-13	10	0	0	3	7	30%
E-14	13	0	1	7	5	62%
Totals	352	3	22	74	256	28%

Volunteer Call Counts November 27 to December 21, 2006



EMS Transport Activity November 27 to December 21, 2006



911 Center Activity November 27 to December 21, 2006

