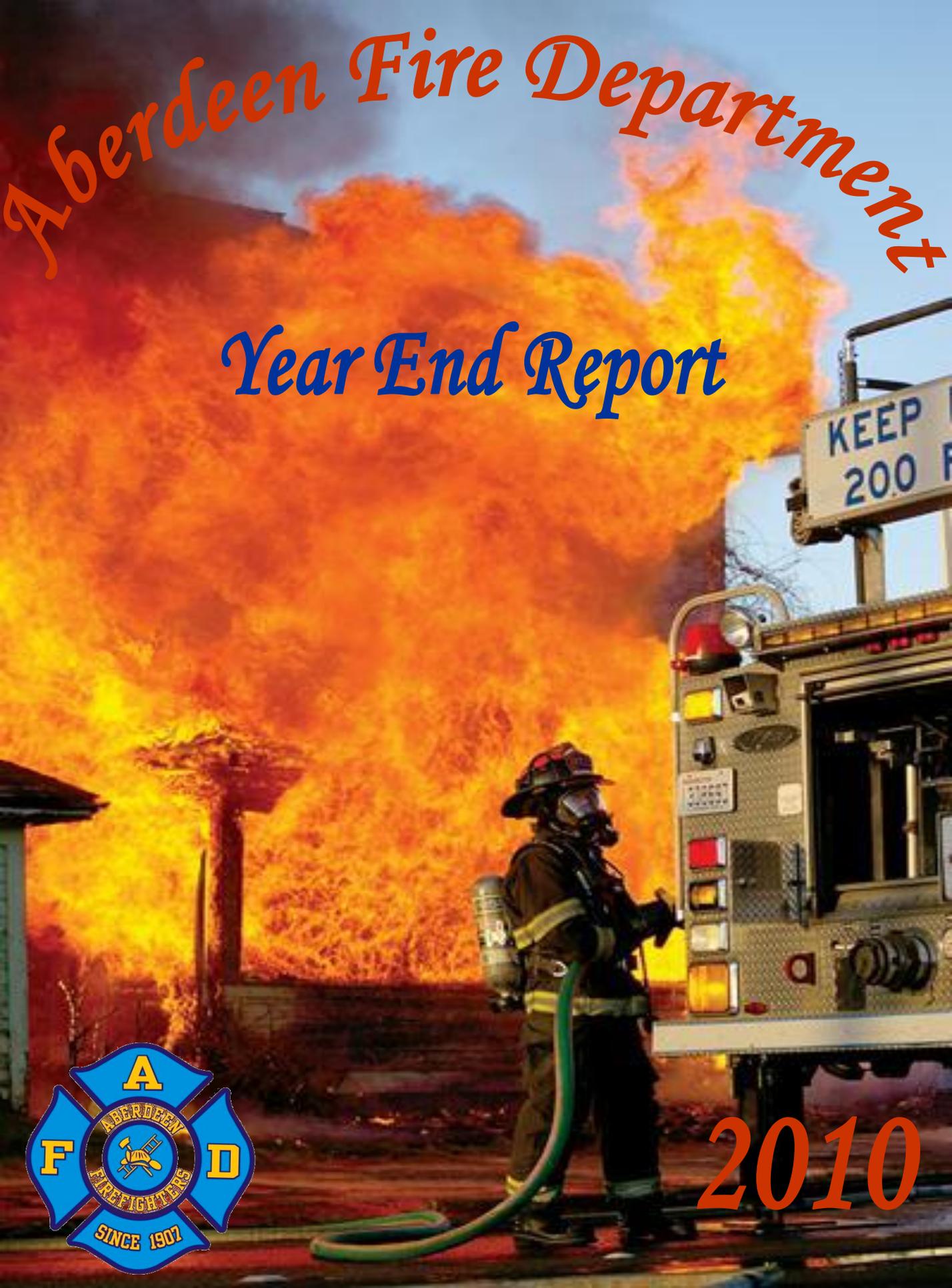


Aberdeen Fire Department

Year End Report



2010



CITY OF ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dave Carlberg, Fire Chief Rich Malizia, Assistant Chief

April 6, 2011
Honorable Bill Simpson, Mayor
City of Aberdeen

Mayor Simpson,

I respectfully submit to you and the City Council, the following annual report that records the activities of the Aberdeen Fire Department for the year 2010.

The City of Aberdeen provides fire protection within the city boundaries servicing 16,500 residents over 10.5 square miles. In addition we provide fire protection to a portion of Fire District 10, Bigelow Drive and Stafford Creek Corrections. The City receives mutual aid from adjacent fire districts as well as the Cities of Cosmopolis and Hoquiam. Services are provided through two fire stations staffed 24/7 at each facility.

Emergency Medical Service areas encompass larger vicinities including Fire District 10 and 15, the City of Cosmopolis, Bigelow Drive and Stafford Creek Corrections. The department provides Advanced Life Support as well as inter-facility specialty care transports.

In 2010 the Aberdeen Fire Department responded to a total of **5,825** calls for service. Based on the 2009 year data a 3% increase in overall activity is noted. Fire losses for the year totaled \$1,362,003. Based on the collection of data, \$1,362,003 of total fire loss represents 52.7% of total property lost versus \$1,222,500 or 47.30% of total property saved. Overall, there were a total of seven incidents throughout the year that required a second alarm or greater escalation in which resources beyond the daily staffing were needed. The Activity levels are broken down as follows:

390 Fire Responses (38 Hazardous Materials)
1,155 Engine Medical Assists
4,280 Total Medical Responses

The departments average response time in 2010 was **5 minutes 32 seconds** to all reported fire incidents. This includes an average two minutes of "turnout time" or the time it takes for the initial dispatch to the first unit responding. This falls within the National Fire Protection Agencies goal for a fire department to arrive within six minutes to an incident 90% of the time.

A most outstanding achievement to again identify is a total of 85 documented medical saves for the year. These are patients who most likely would have died without qualified medical intervention by our firefighter/paramedics. EMS response time was **4 minutes, 50 seconds** within the city.

In a **10 year** period EMS calls have increased by 26% while fire related calls have decreased 19%. The trend is something seen within the industry on a national level.

Early in 2010, it was determined that the ambulance utility rate needed to be adjusted. The FCS group which performed the initial cost of service study in 2005 was again contracted to perform the necessary analysis to set availability and demand costs of the system. Contracted areas outside the city were also included in the study. A new EMS utility rate was established for both city and contracted areas and was approved by the city council prior to the end of 2010.

Many accomplishments by the department have happened throughout 2010. Captain Troy Palmer secured a fire grant to provide for a new and updated generator system at fire department headquarters. BC Damon Lillybridge secured an energy grant to update lighting and heating for both stations that meet new energy standards. Firefighter Brian Newbill headed up a project to build new turnout gear storage racks at headquarters station 1.

In early 2010 an agreement was signed with a company called EF recovery to process claims for hazardous materials spills. With the additional revenue collected it will now allow the department to partially restore its fire and injury prevention education in elementary grades K-3. The department also agreed to a new 3 year contract for fire protection services with the Department of Corrections at Stafford Creek.

This last year the department was one of 12 in the northwest to be invited by Oregon Health Sciences University, to participate in the Promoting Healthy Living: Assessing More Effects (PHLAME) program. The program highlights healthy eating, regular exercise and maintaining a healthy body weight. According to the USFA a total of 85 firefighters died on the job nation wide in 2010. Fire departments are placing more emphasis on wellness since 56.4% of firefighter fatalities in the line of duty are cardiac related.

I would like to thank the various team leaders and staff members who helped compile the material for this annual report. I would also like to thank the City Council and the Public Safety Committee for the immense support they have given the department. We have again made some important accomplishments in the direction of improving Fire, EMS and Life Safety for our citizens.

Respectfully,

Dave Carlberg, Fire Chief
City of Aberdeen

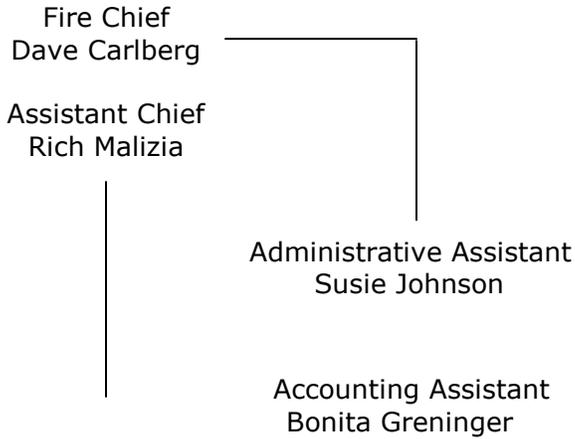
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Cover by FF/P Dave Swinhart – February 18, 2010 – A fully involved vacant house at 300 West Heron in downtown Aberdeen is the backdrop for Captain Troy Palmer standing behind Truck 21. (Cover Photo by Jacob Jones, Copyright, 2011, Daily World, Aberdeen, Washington, reprinted with permission)

ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Administration



Operations

SHIFT1	SHIFT 2	SHIFT3
Battalion Chief Damon Lillybridge***	Battalion Chief Bill Mayne	Battalion Chief/Paramedic Tom Hubbard
Captain/P Wally Montz** Captain Kelly Niemi	Captain Mark Dulin** Captain/P Troy Palmer	Captain JR Streifel Captain/P Dave Golding**
Engineer Brian Swanson Engineer/P Steve Pratt FF Jeremy Laier FF/P Ryan Knodel* FF/P Chris Raffelson FF/P John Huber FF/P Jordan Scott FF Brandon Cline	Engineer/P Todd Bradshaw Engineer Sam Baretich FF/P Dave Swinhart FF Ron Smith FF/P Brian Newbill FF/P Isaac Gustafson FF Kevin Craig FF/P Brad Frafjord	Engineer/P Chad Mittleider Engineer Chris Eisele FF Mike Kolodzie FF/P Brian Peterson FF/P Dave Schreier FF/P Trevor Wheeler FF Wayne Fournier FF/P Mike Hughes

*Emergency Medical Coordinator

**Department Training Officer

***Department Safety Officer

2010 Retirees

None

2010 Resignations

FF/P Bryce Craig

2011 New Hires

Brandon Cline

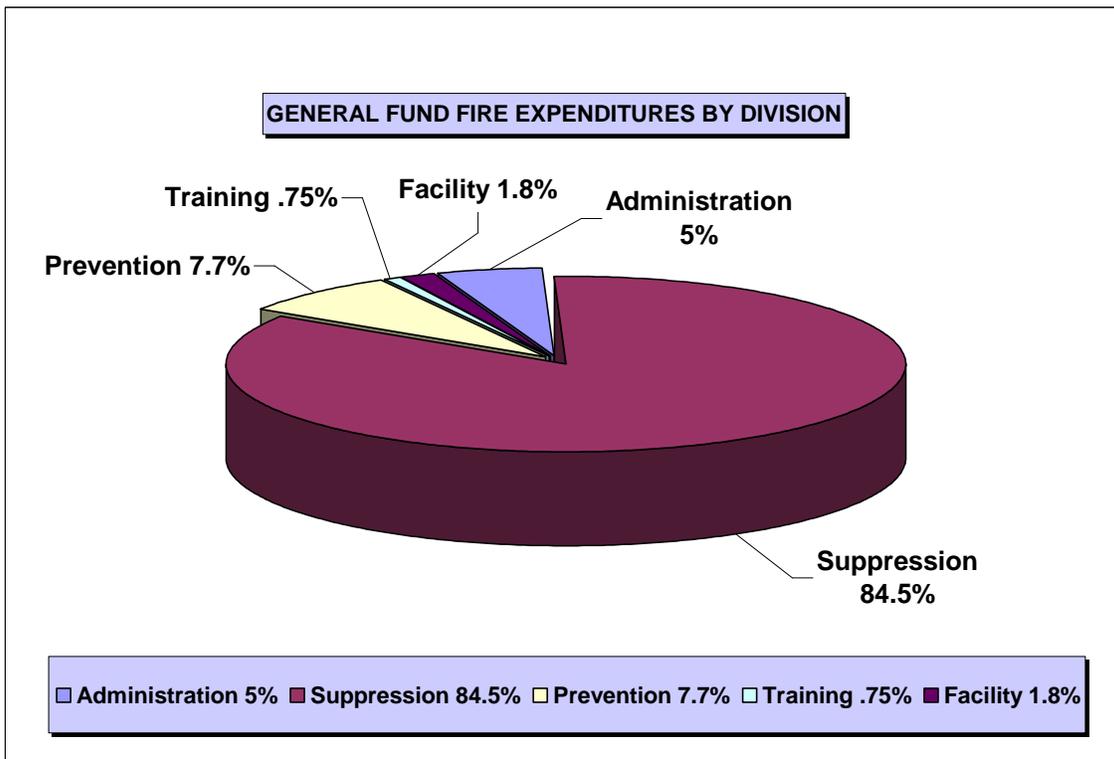
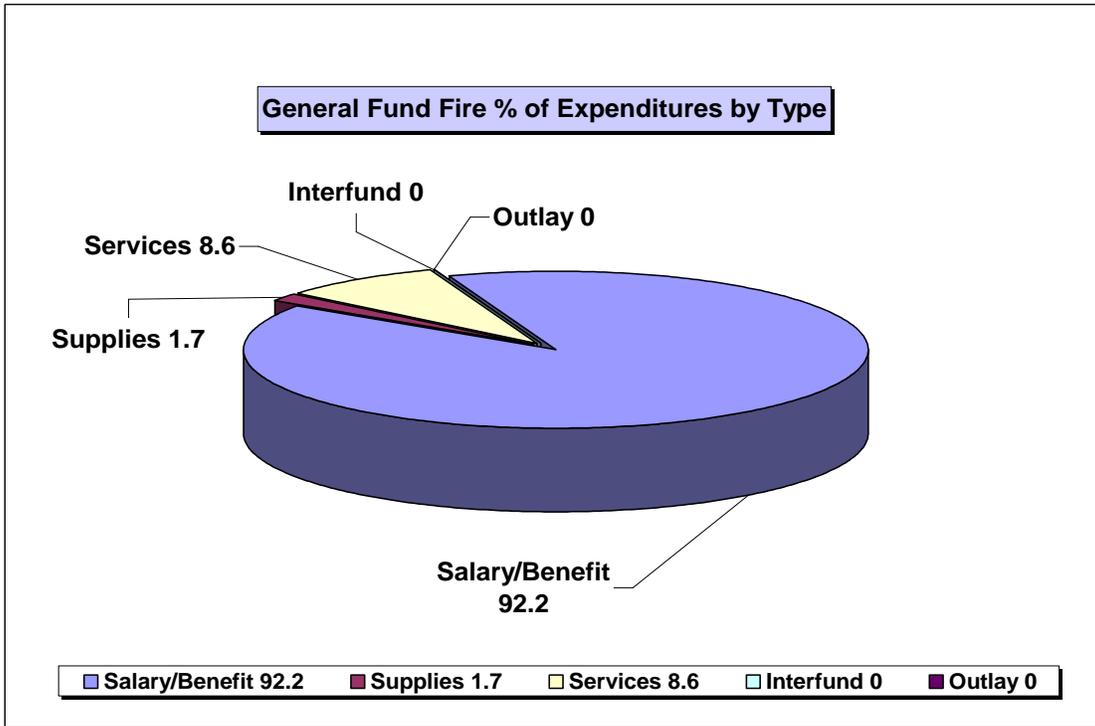


ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

To prevent harm to the public, and to protect property and the environment through fire suppression, fire prevention and emergency medical services 24 hours a day.

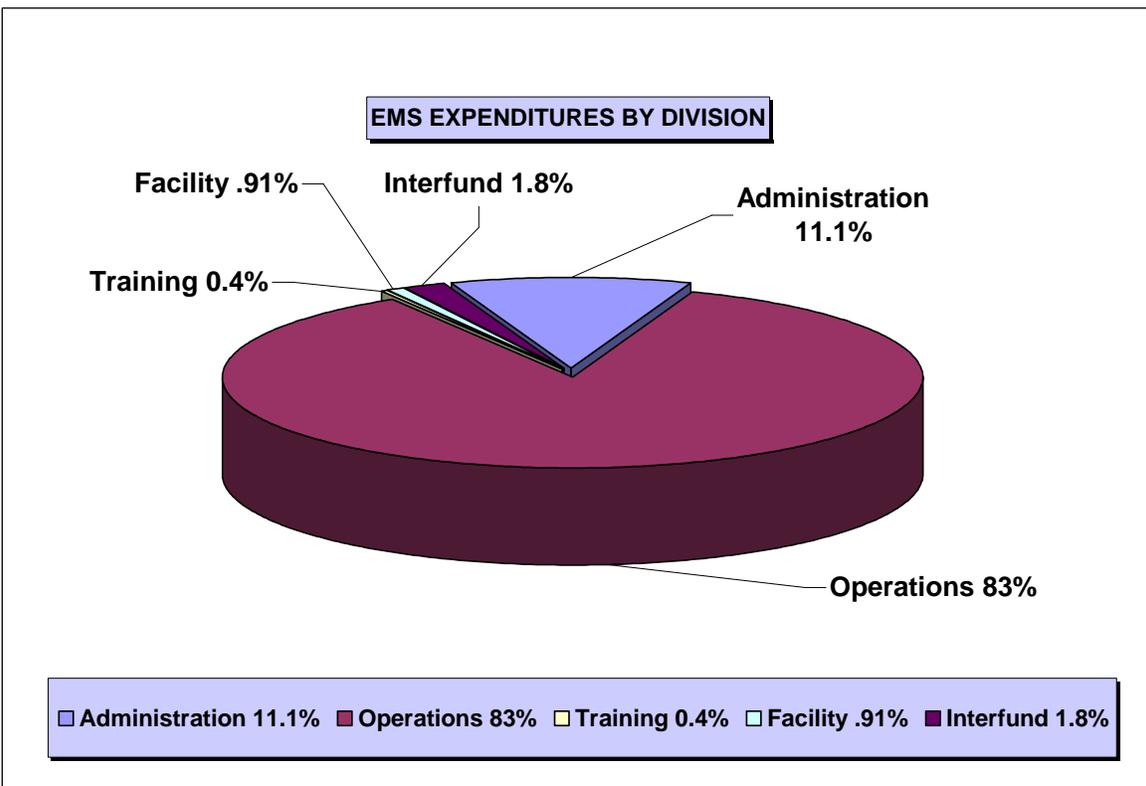
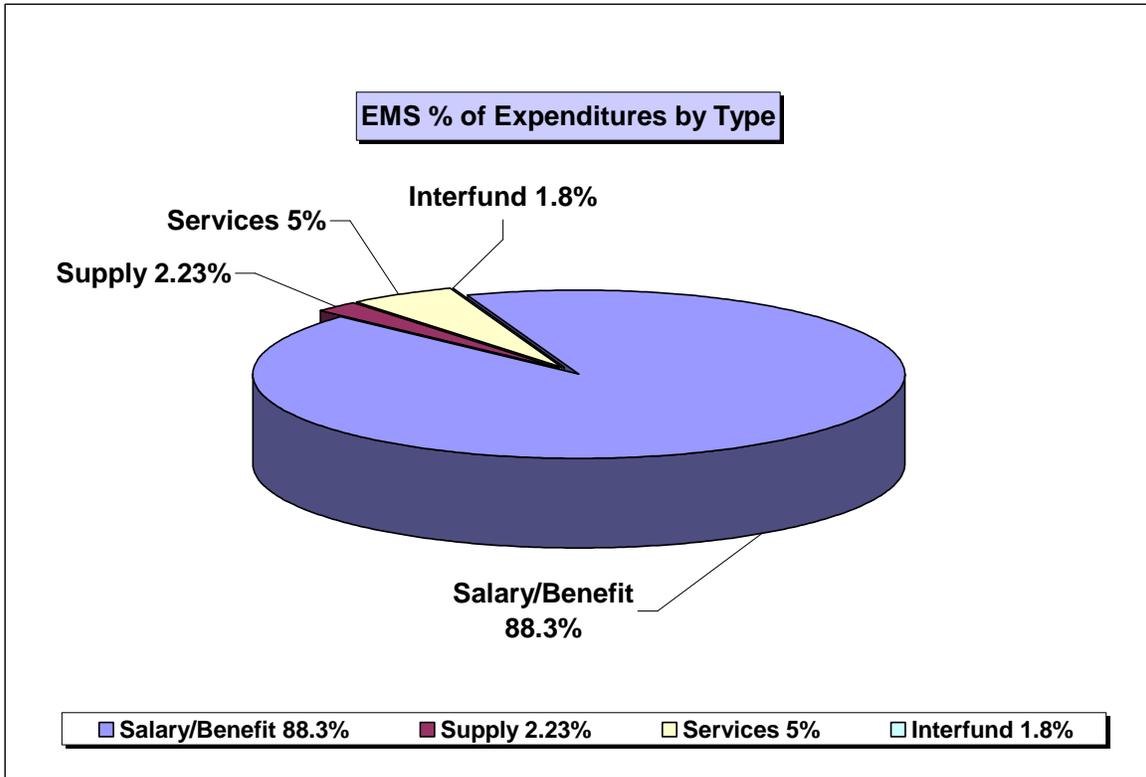
2010 Fire Operating Costs

In 2010, the cost of operating fire protection services totaled \$1,539,759. Salary and Benefit compensation accounts for the largest portion of the budget dollar (92.2%).



2010 EMS Operating Costs

In 2010 the cost of operating emergency medical services totaled \$2,796,950. Salary and Benefit compensation accounts for the largest portion of the budget dollar (88.3%).

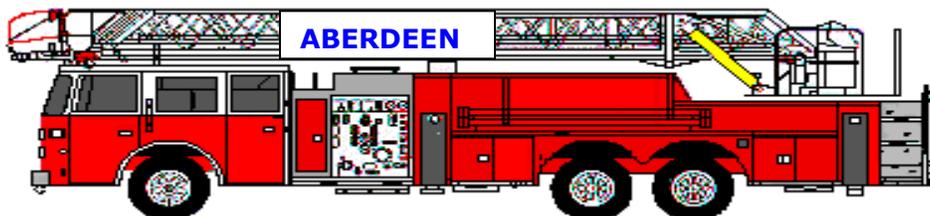


INCIDENT BREAKDOWN FOR 2010

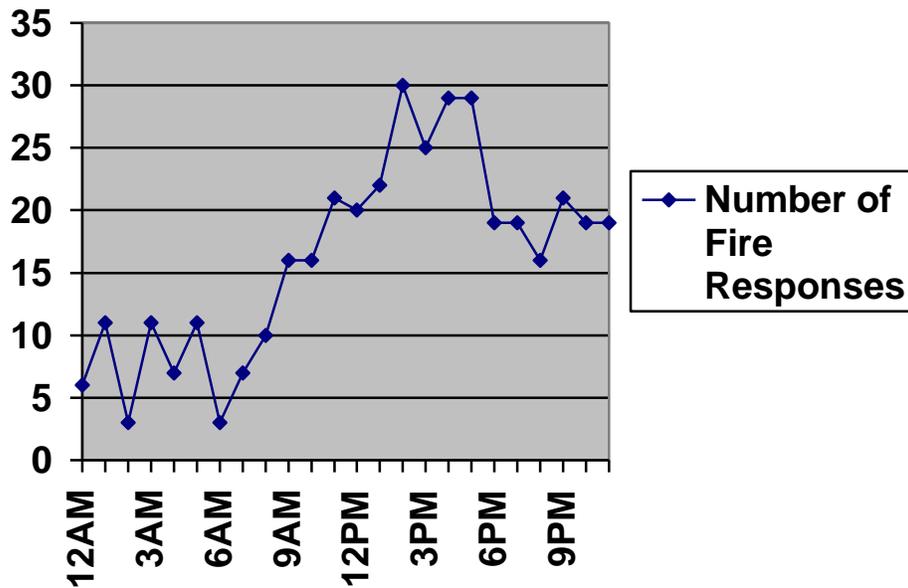
"OPERATIONS"

The fire department operations are handled from the north side headquarters station #1 and one sub station #2 located on the south side of the city. Operations consist of three shifts or platoons, supervised by a battalion chief. Thirty-three uniformed suppression personnel staff operations. All personnel are cross-trained as either emergency medical technicians or paramedics.

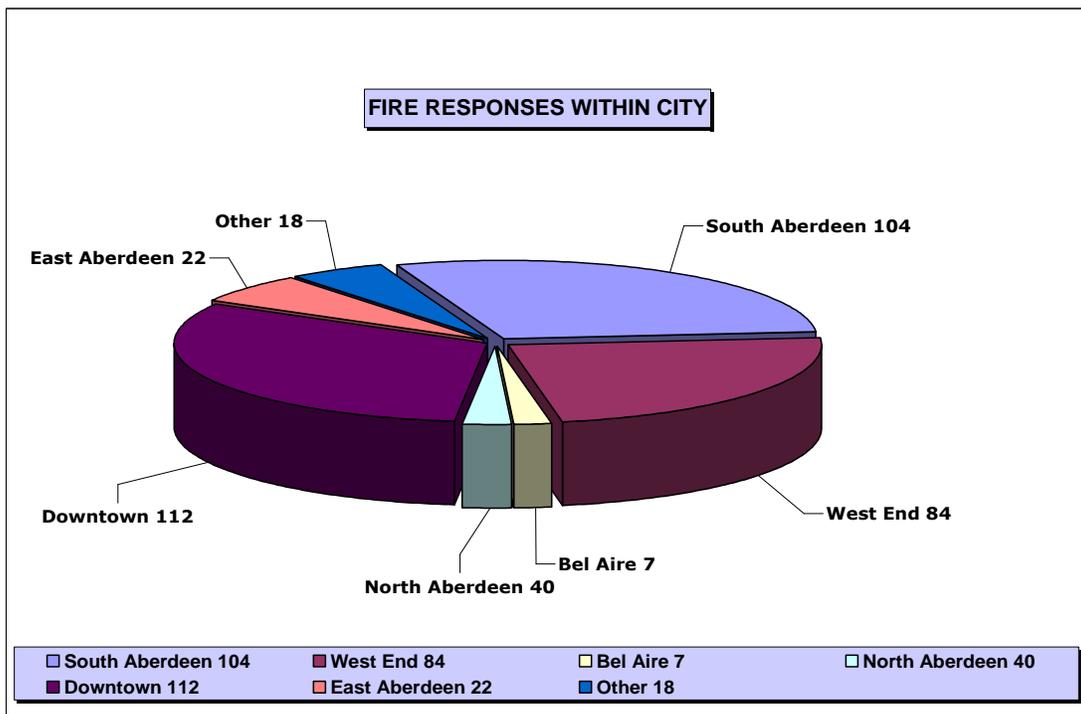
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
• Bridge Openings	272	283
• Building Fires	25	24
• Structure fires, (second alarm or greater)	7	5
• Hazardous Materials	38	30
• Vehicle Fire	23	14
• Wildland Fire	8	19
• Chimney Fire	9	19
• Trash Fire	27	20
• False Alarm	142	159
• Rescue	15	5
• Intentional Caused Fires	7	7
• Undetermined Caused Fires	20	16
• EMS Engine Assists	1,155	1,121
• Total EMS	4,280	4,107
• Total FIRE	390	410
• Total Activity	5,825	5,638
• Fire Related Fatalities	0	0
• Fire Related Injuries	3	3
• Firefighter Injuries	1	1
• TOTAL FIRE LOSS	\$1,362,003	\$3,456,070
• TOTAL PROPERTY SAVED	\$1,222,500	\$11,720,325



2010 Fire Suppression



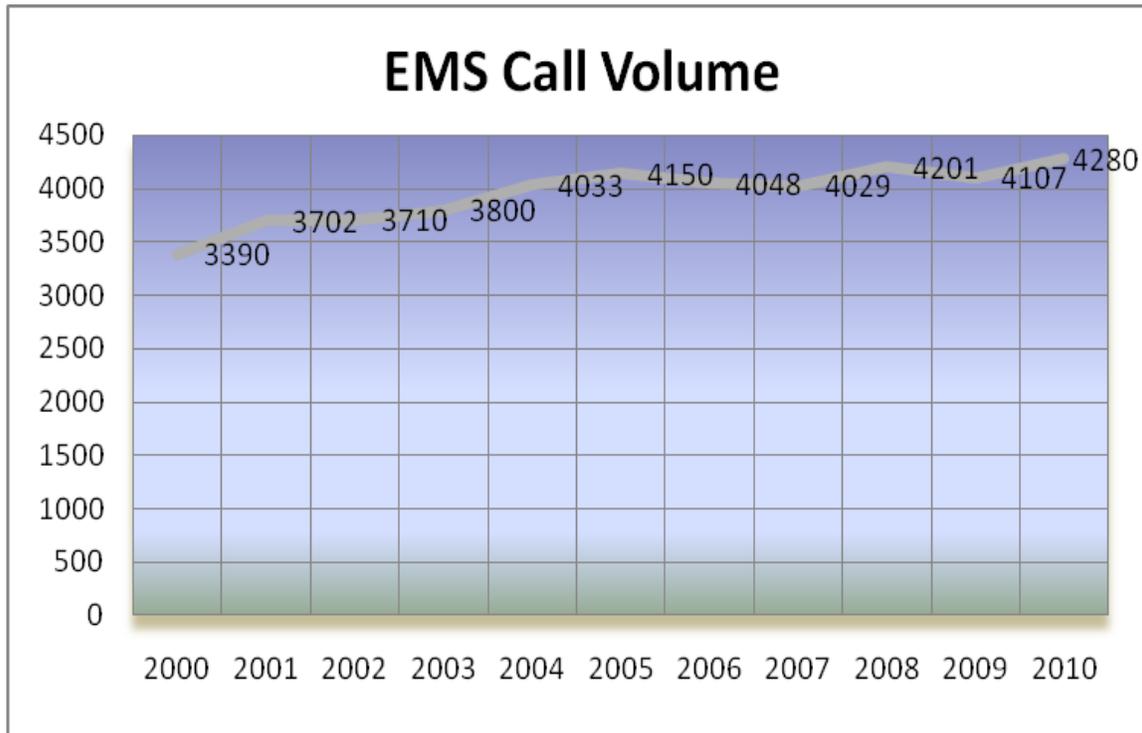
The above chart indicates the number of fire related calls that occur in a 24 hour period (12:00 AM and 11:59 PM). As the chart indicates, fire call numbers are lowest between midnight and 9:00 AM, however during that time can be more serious due to delayed reporting of the alarm. Calls for fire services show the most activity between 10:00 AM and 9:00 PM.



Fire responses can be tracked geographically. This chart shows the City of Aberdeen and the number of fire calls per response zone in which we responded to.

2010 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

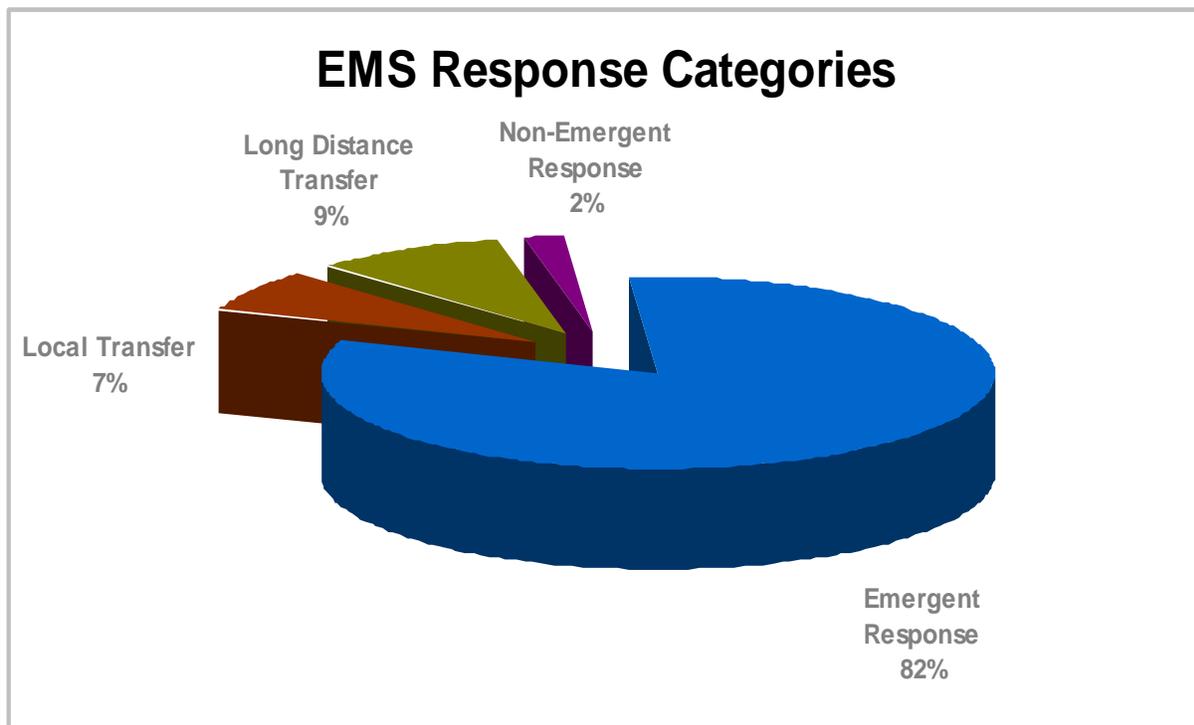
The Aberdeen Fire Department responded to 4280 medical calls during the year 2010, which is a 4.3% increase in medical call volume over the previous year but represents an increase of 26% over the past ten years. The graph below illustrates the Aberdeen Fire Department's emergency medical call volume over the past ten years.



RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

Medical responses are grouped into four categories based on their dispatch urgency and destination. The first category is emergent responses which totaled 3515 and accounted for 82.13% of our total EMS call volume. Emergent responses are calls that are dispatched through the Grays Harbor E911 center to our department. Our average response time from time of dispatch to arrival on scene within the city limits of Aberdeen was 4 minutes and 50 seconds. The second category is local transfers of patients between Grays Harbor Community Hospital and skilled nursing facilities, residences and diagnostic testing facilities within the city limits of Aberdeen. We performed 302 local transfers which accounted for 7.06% of the total call volume. This service is provided by our on-duty crew which staffs the headquarters fire apparatus. It is important to note that while the fire apparatus crew is engaged on local transfers the apparatus they are assigned to is out of service for fire calls. The third category is long distance or out of town transfers from Grays Harbor Community Hospital to hospitals in Olympia, Tacoma and Seattle. Off duty personnel are utilized to accomplish these transfers and the Aberdeen Fire Department did 360 of them for 8.41% of the total call volume. This figure translates into approximately 3600 man-hours above their regularly scheduled shift work. The fourth category is non-emergent or public assists of which we did 102 for 2.38% of the total. Public assists consist of welfare checks,

lift assists, falls without injuries or general assistance to our customers who did not require an emergent response from an ambulance. The EMS response categories are shown below.



It should be noted that the Aberdeen Fire Department provided mutual aid emergency medical response to the City of Hoquiam 17 times and for South Beach Ambulance 3 times during the past year. The Hoquiam Fire Department provided mutual aid to the City of Aberdeen 12 times over the past year.

RESPONSE STATISTICS:

The Aberdeen Fire Department collects data annually to assist us in maintaining an efficient operation that is responsive to the needs of our customers. One of our data collection points is Engine Assists of which we did 1,155. An engine assist occurs when a fire apparatus responds with the headquarters or South Side Station #2 ambulance on medical calls. The EMS calls that the fire apparatus respond on require additional man-power to meet the needs of the patient. These calls range from cardiac arrests, respiratory problems and strokes to motor vehicle accidents with injuries and severe trauma calls. It is important to note that while the fire apparatus is engaged on the medical call it is out of service for fire response until it has cleared from the previous call. This cross-staffing of personnel is what allows the Aberdeen Fire Department to manage such a high call volume with minimum staffing but the trade off is that our ability to manage a fire incident is at times throughout the day significantly impacted.

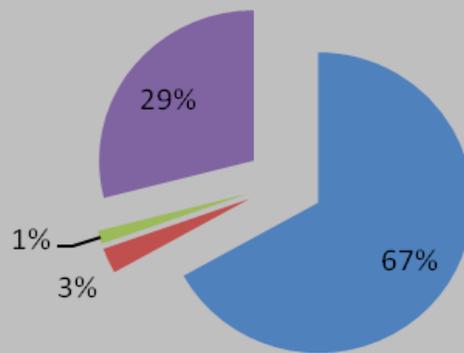
The following graphs depict engine assists, level of medical care provided and our EMS responses both inside and outside the city limits.

2010 ENGINE ASSISTS

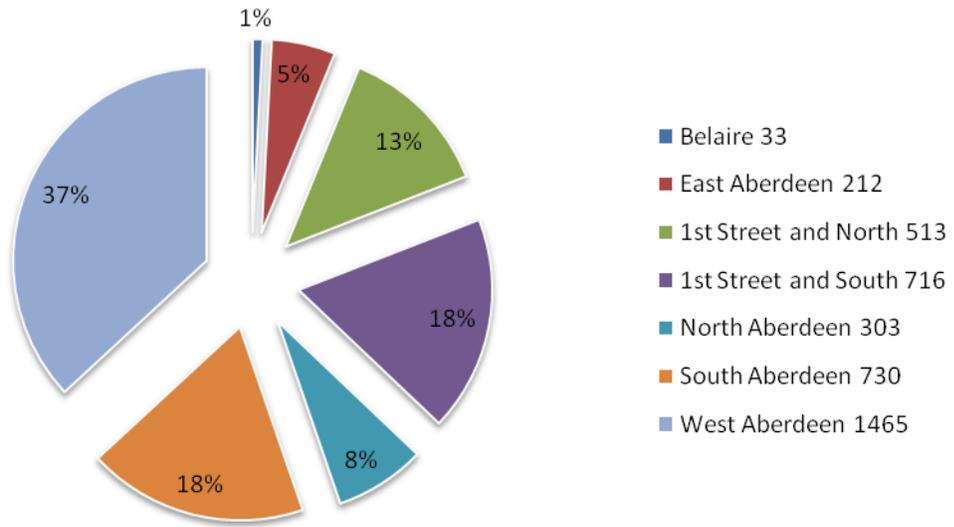


EMS LEVEL OF CARE

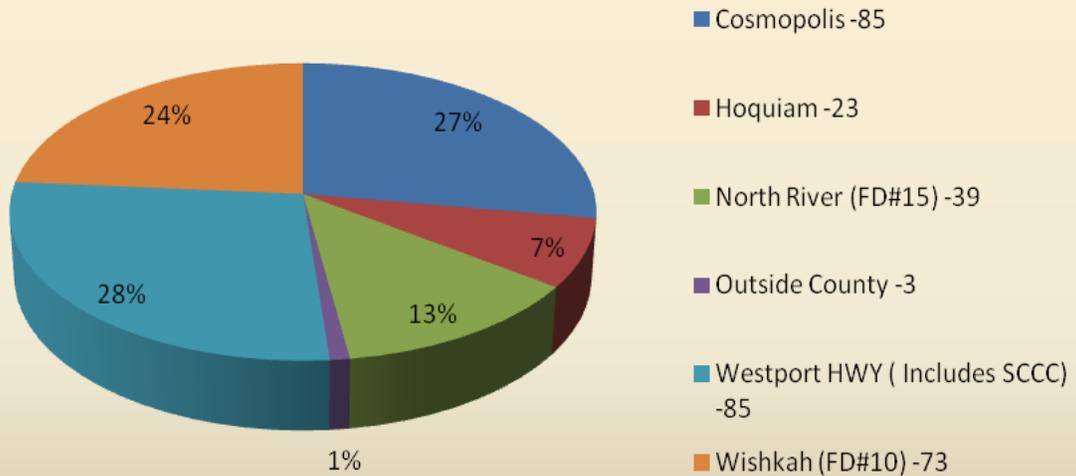
■ ALS 1899 ■ ALS II 77 ■ SCT 40 ■ BLS 823



EMS CALLS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS



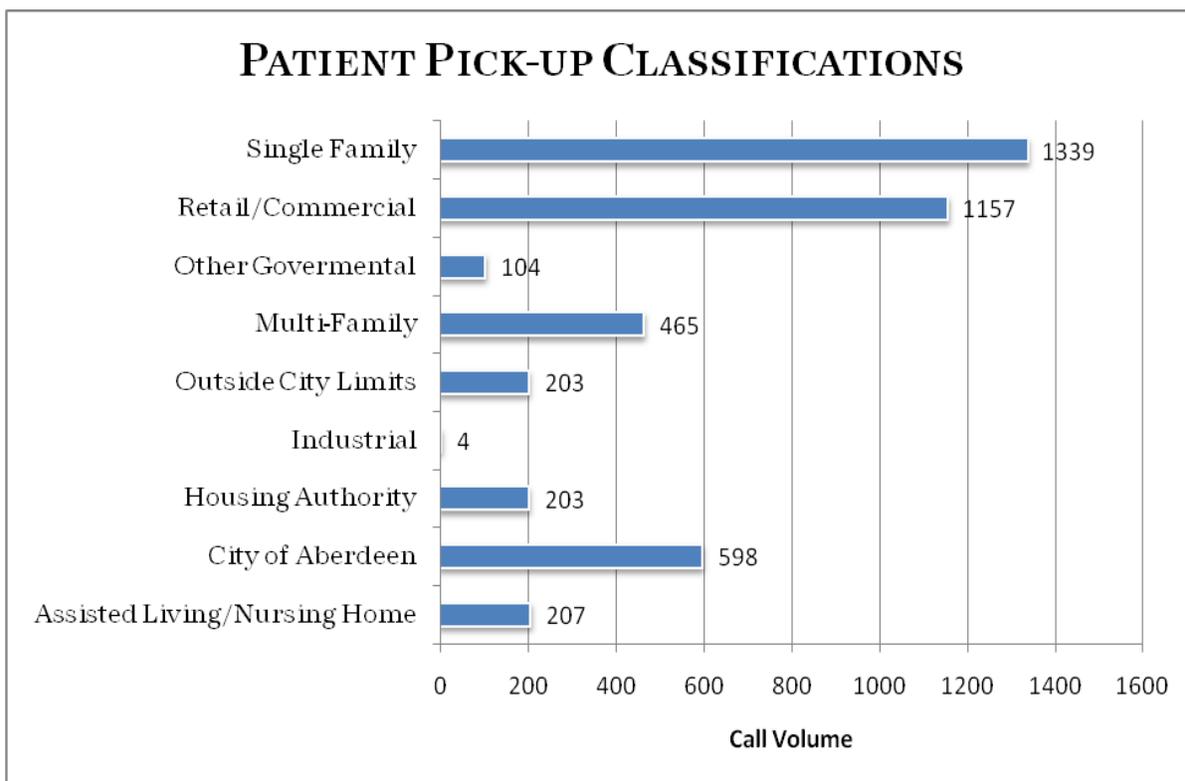
EMS CALL VOLUME OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS



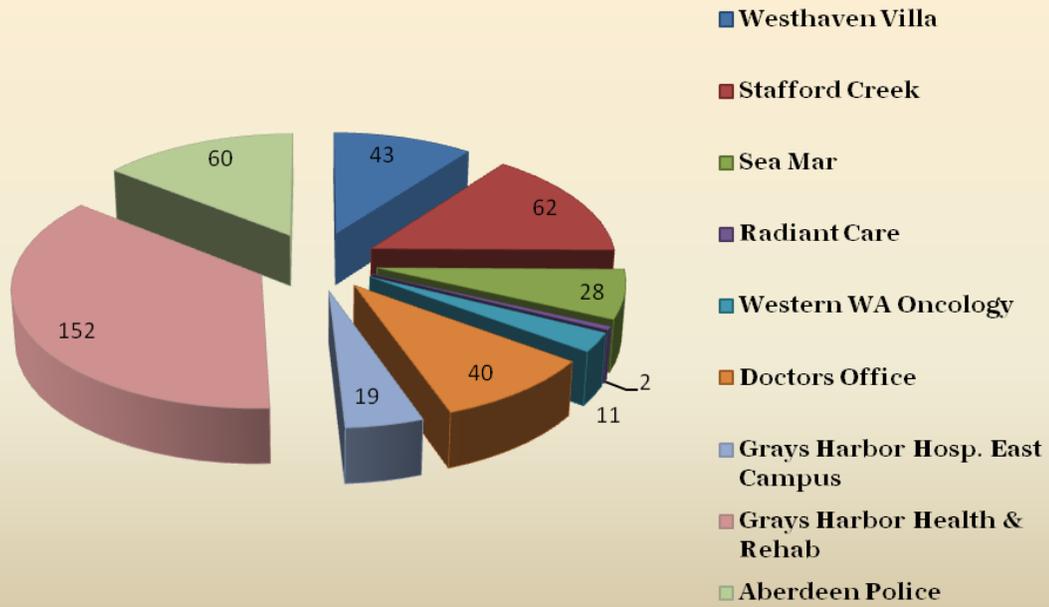
GRANTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS:

During the past year the Aberdeen Fire Department received \$2186.00 dollars from the Washington State Pre-Hospital Trauma Participation Grant which is designed to help offset the high cost of providing trauma care. Also, we were awarded a grant through the EMS transit grant program for the amount of \$3997.00 which allowed us to purchase another ParaPac Ventilator that we now keep on our South Side ambulance. This new piece of equipment frees up one of our personnel on calls of a serious nature in which we have to help the patient breathe. The Grays Harbor Emergency Medical Services Council is instrumental in managing the money allocated by Grays Harbor Transit specifically for basic and advanced life support training that our personnel are mandated to receive by Washington State. Without these funds our ability to fulfill the training requirements would be severely impacted due to the present economic climate.

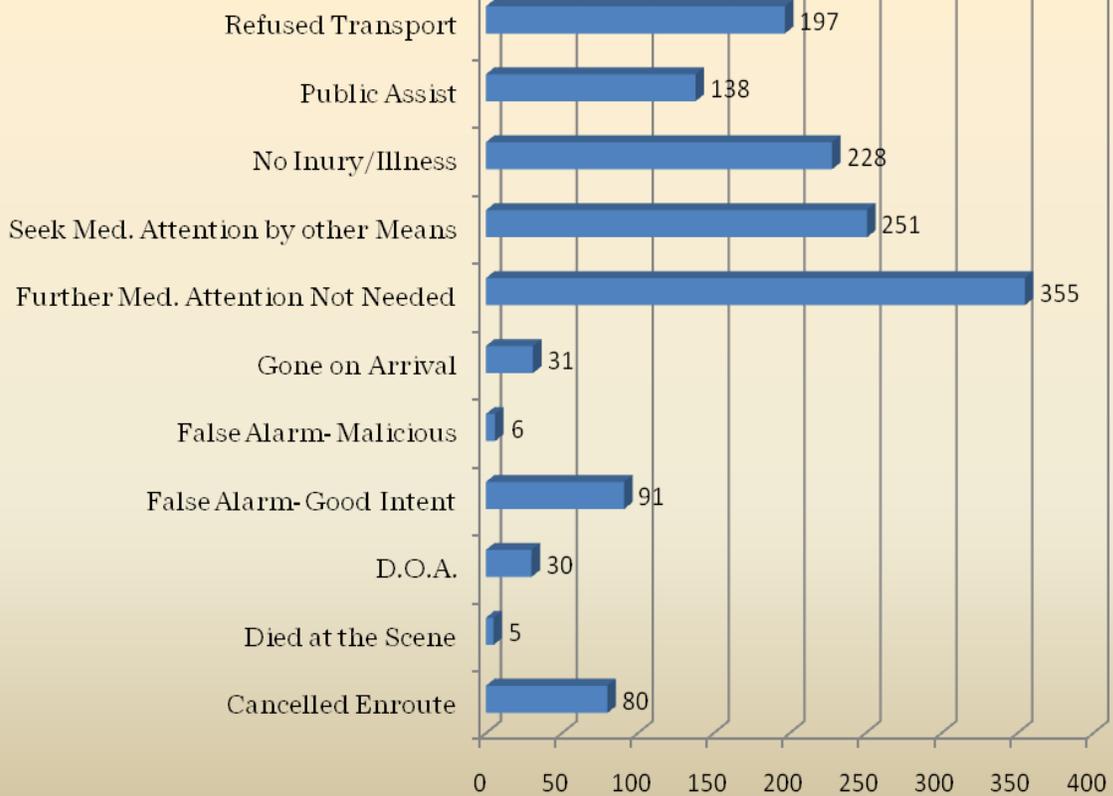
SUPPLEMENTAL GRAPHS:



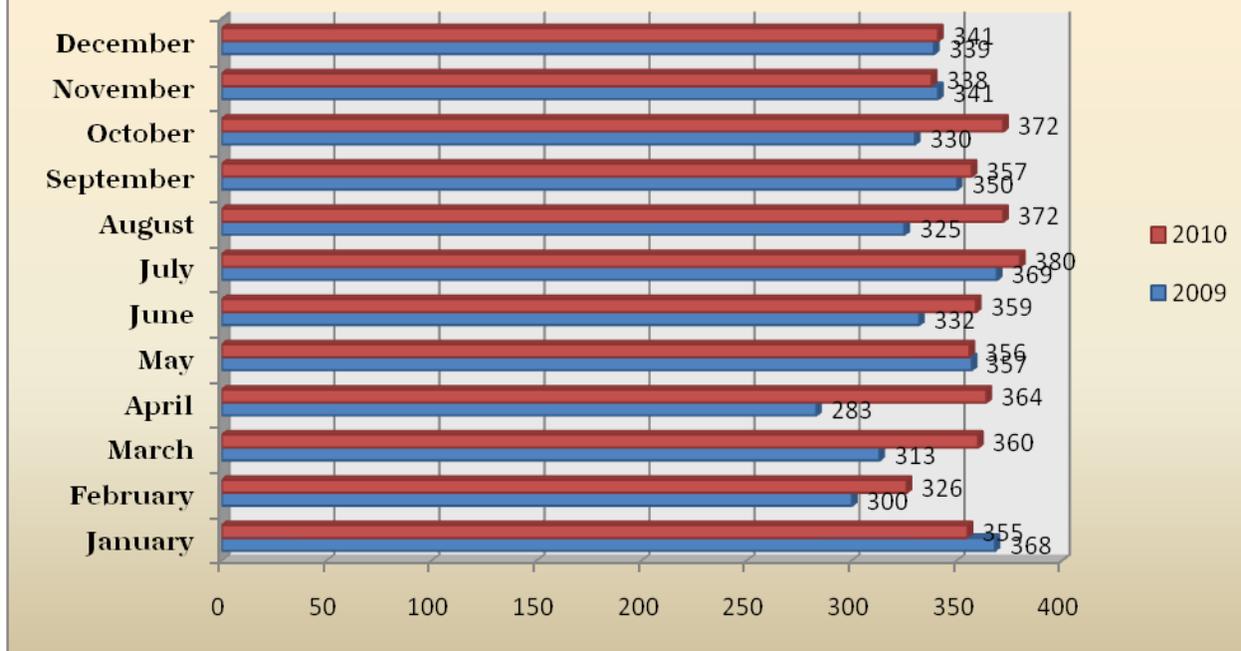
INSTITUTIONAL IMPACT ON EMS CALL VOLUME



NO TRANSPORT REASONS



MONTHLY EMS CALL VOLUME 2009 VS 2010



MEDICAL SAVES:

During the past year the Aberdeen Fire Department documented 85 medical saves. We qualify a patient as a medical save if the patient arrives alive at Grays Harbor Community Hospital and the patient's condition most likely would have resulted in their death in the field had our crews not intervened.

OUTLOOK FOR 2011:

The Aberdeen Fire Department will continue to provide the highest quality emergency medical care to our patients with the core values of professionalism and compassion guiding our actions. We will also strive to provide the highest level of care while being good stewards of the tax dollars which we receive. Being that this was my first year in the role of Emergency Medical Coordinator, you can imagine the learning curve was a steep one. With assistance from BC Hubbard, I was able to feel somewhat comfortable with the position and its responsibilities. This coming year, we have some exciting things that will be happening. We will be placing a new (re-chassis) ambulance in service which will be completed by Braun NW and we recently found out that we were awarded funding through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant to purchase (2) state of the art Monitor/Defibrillators which will replace our oldest units. I would like to thank Battalion Chief Tom Hubbard for the years of service he gave to the department as Emergency Medical Coordinator, he did an outstanding job and he left some big shoes to fill, but with his help I think we as a department can keep moving forward to provide the highest level of EMS care available.

Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Knodel

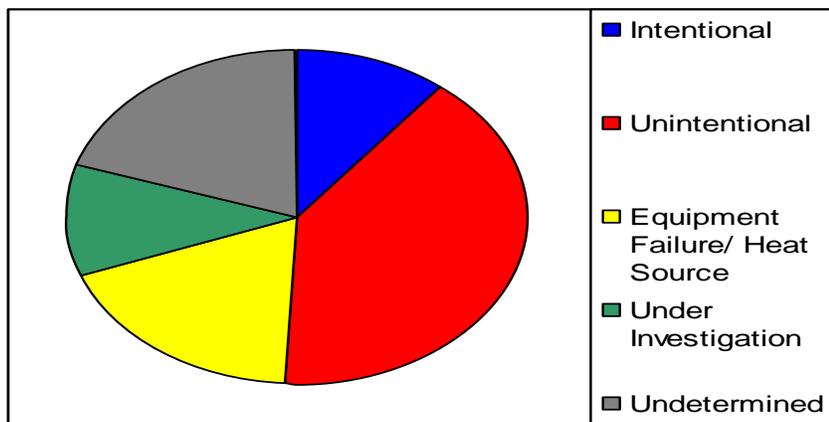
2010 FIRE INVESTIGATION/CODE ENFORCEMENT

2010 was a year with \$1,357,503 in fire losses. This is a decrease when compared to a \$3,456,070 fire loss in 2009. The difference in the amount is directly related to the Moore's Interiors fire of October 2009. The loss of any large commercial building and contents will have a dramatic impact to the recorded fire loss amounts. Overall involved property equaled \$2,584,503. The value of property saved in these events represents \$1,222,500.

This fire loss represents 119 fires with sustained damage to a Residence, Motor Vehicle, Recreational Vehicle, Dumpster or Outdoor burning. During any fire, the investigation starts immediately upon arrival at the scene. The officer in charge begins the investigation process by gathering information from witnesses, occupants or neighbors. He will examine the fire scene, make a determination of origin and cause or call for the assistance of the Assistant Chief of our Investigation Team if needed. A more complicated fire scene often requires an Investigation Team to determine origin and cause. If the cause is determined to be arson the Aberdeen Police Department will conduct a criminal investigation of the fire scene in conjunction with our investigators.

The first arriving firefighters also make observations such as fire location, smoke and flame color, heat intensity, and ease or difficulty of extinguishment.

All fires in our community are investigated and many of these are a simple interview or an obvious answer to the cause. Last year 119 fires required a formal origin and cause investigation after extinguishment by our personnel. These investigations are implemented when the cause or origin is not readily apparent. A summary of the investigation results are represented in the following graph.



Causes of Ignition

As you can see a large majority of fires are unintentional or accidental. Several fires remain under investigation while collected evidence is analyzed or investigations continue with the Aberdeen Police Department. This can take time to complete or in several cases the classification does not change.

Unfortunately not all fires can be investigated. Safety of our personnel is always assessed at every incident during and after a fire. A good example is when the

structure has so much damage the second story floor and roof structural members are burned or missing after the fire is extinguished, or building stability is compromised by the intense heat of a fire. When walls or floors are compromised we often utilize the Building Department inspectors to help examine the structure and assess the building for potential collapse issues and the safety aspect for our firefighters. In some incidents we find it is unsafe to enter the building for any further investigations due to the amount of damage.

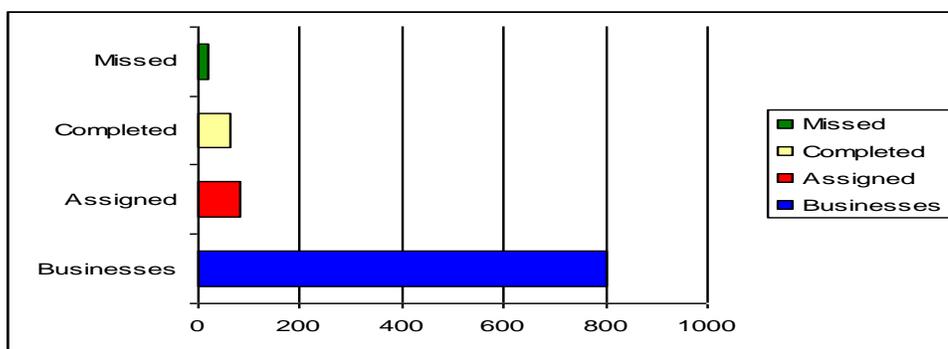
In these instances an investigation may be accomplished from the outside of the structure or equipment may need to be brought in to the scene and a systematic approach of dismantling the hazard prior to the investigation may occur.

Business inspections are done throughout the community in compliance with the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau and the International Fire Code requirements. The fire prevention office schedules the business inspections for the City and they are performed throughout the year by our on duty firefighters. Business inspections by our fire department accomplish several things. It is a component of the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau requirements for the area insurance rating. The inspections educate the firefighters on building construction, emergency access routes and special hazards related to a particular business or building; we call this "Pre-fire Planning." Firefighters will also advise the business managers of fire hazards that are found during the visit and give advice on how to correct the situation to maintain Fire Code compliance.

There are roughly 800 businesses listed in our files for the city. With the fire department running a total of **5,825** calls, trying to fit the business inspections into the daily schedule of the on duty staff has been a difficult task. In an attempt to restart our inspection program in 2009, we set a new goal to accomplish 100 inspections. Eighty-three inspections were assigned to the three shifts last year and sixty-three of these inspections were completed.

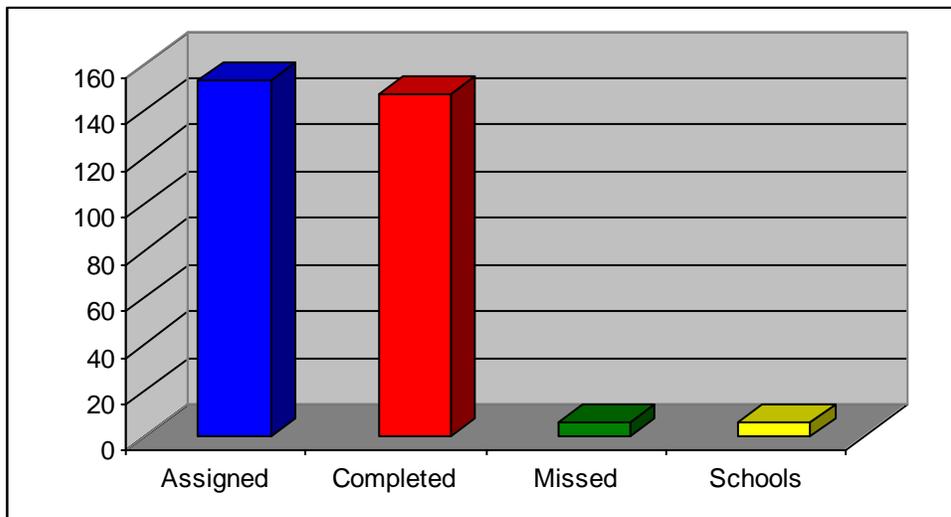
In 2010 a different approach was taken with the inspection program. A list of approximately 50 businesses was given to each shift to complete during the year. I am happy to report that this system worked very well. All inspections were completed last year and during the year most of the Aberdeen School District Buildings were added to the lists and completed. We have increased the inspections to roughly 150 this year.

The following graph shows the fraction of inspections that were assigned and completed in 2009.



Business Inspections

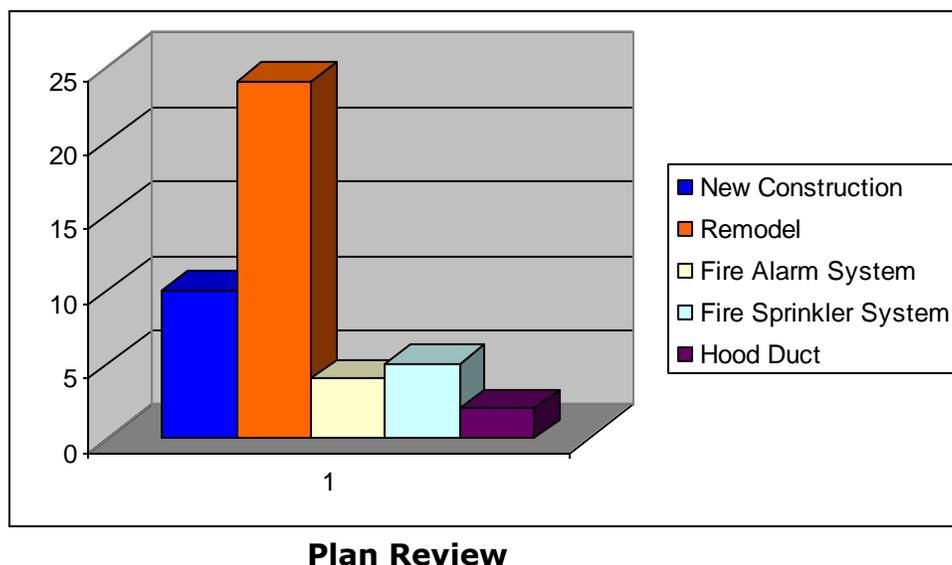
In comparison the graph below shows **2010** inspection program.



Not included in this chart are individual request for inspections by business owners that are not scheduled. Several of these are for state licensing requirements and insurance needs. This years new schedule of inspections obviously was a good change and shows in the completed number of inspections for the year.

This office is also involved with the Planning and Building Departments of the City of Aberdeen. We offer comments on new developments, requirements for Fire Department access to the area and hydrant placement. Building plans are routed to us for review of fire code compliance, fire sprinkler systems and fire alarm systems. This is done with the architect's drawings for fire code compliance, sprinkler and alarm component placement.

Most plan reviews fit into one of the five topics listed in the chart below. The graph shows the different types of plan reviews for 2010:



Plan review is followed with on scene site verification. This is done during and near completion of the project. The inspections are a confirmation that components are in place, working and installed as the plans intended. This is done with one or several visits to a job site depending on the components of the building plans and the time table for the completed project.

A Certificate of Occupancy may be issued after the permit process is completed and the permits are signed meeting the compliance of the International Fire Code, NFPA and other building code requirements.

Assistant Chief
Rich Malizia

2010 TRAINING REPORT

For the year 2010, the Aberdeen Fire Department training program continued to promote and maintain cognitive and manipulative learning at a quality and standard necessary to enhance the knowledge and skills that Fire and EMS personnel rely upon for incident mitigation, safety, and community service. I would like to take this opportunity to commend all personnel for their efforts and participation in helping to maintain an effective and progressive training program. It goes without saying that training and safety are considered two of the most important aspects of our profession. It takes the cooperation and participation of all individuals involved to make the goals and objectives, established through training and safety, relevant to our Department needs, as well as the needs of our community.

To address Training at the Aberdeen Fire Department, the Training Division has assigned the different components of the overall program to be managed by individuals to provide for a complete and comprehensive program. The goal is to optimize performance through effective organization and management without overwhelming a single individual and perhaps causing elements of the program to lapse. The following is a breakdown of the different components of the overall Training Program and those individuals assigned to manage each of the elements:

- Captain Montz
 - In-House Training

- Captain Golding
 - Record Keeping
 - Probationary Firefighter program
 - Employee Evaluations
 - Promotional Exams

- Captain Dulin
 - Out of Department Continuing Education
 - Officer Development

The premise and implementation of the Aberdeen Fire Department Training program is based upon training and safety guidelines, standards, and mandates at both State and Federal levels. The goal is to provide a program that meets training requirements but remains compatible with the Department's daily operations.

Although the basic principles of the Fire and EMS service remain the same, the work environment is constantly changing. The profession requires constant re-evaluation of processes and techniques to provide for maximum safety as well as risk reduction without compromising the ability to respond to the needs of our community. This is achieved through training. The objective of a training program is to enhance both the cognitive and manipulative skills of an individual on any given subject through the process of instruction, activity, and evaluation. As in the past, much of the training for 2010 was conducted within the confines of the firehouse.

The following are reports submitted by each of the Training Division Managers:

In-House Training Delivery Captain Montz

The position of Delivery within the Training Division is to ensure that the necessary in-house training is coordinated and scheduled throughout the calendar year. It involves providing education, lesson plans for individual shift instructors, drill, training equipment, and the necessary documentation. The scheduled training reflects the ongoing, annual training requirements for Firefighter, EMT, and Paramedic as outlined by the State of Washington WAC 305, OSHA/WISHA requirements, and the Washington Department of Health.

In addition to the required training we strive to provide training that keeps us sharp, and current with firefighting/EMS trends. This includes education that is specific to our coverage area, such as training provided to us by the Bonneville Power Administration, and Cascade Natural Gas. A very beneficial training exercise that we undertook in 2010 was "May Day" training. In the fire service "May Day" communicates to fire ground personnel that a team or an individual is in distress. The focus of the training was how to properly communicate a "May Day" and what steps one should take to get out of distress and to safety. We utilized the burn trailer for this training exercise. We built props in the trailer to represent obstacles that one might encounter in a building fire. What we discovered is that one can never train enough on the skills that provide for our personal safety! It was very successful.

Some of the training that we were successful in completing in 2010 was:

- Hazardous Materials Awareness.
- RIT Awareness
- Confined Space Awareness
- Natural Gas Safety Awareness (Provided by Cascade Natural Gas)
- Occupational Safety
- "May Day"
- High Tension Power Line Safety Awareness (Provided by Bonneville Power Administration)
- American Heart Association CPR
- BLS OTEP
- ALS OTEP

Training for 2011 looks to be as busy as 2010. Not only do we need to provide the required training, but it needs to be meaningful and relevant, and that will peak our interest. A recent opportunity presented to us by Premier Realty is the use of several condemned houses for training purposes. These houses will allow us to conduct a whole host of training exercises to sharpen our skills. The plan is to include the Hoquiam Fire Department in this training on a more regular basis which will be mutually beneficial to the firefighting operations of both departments.

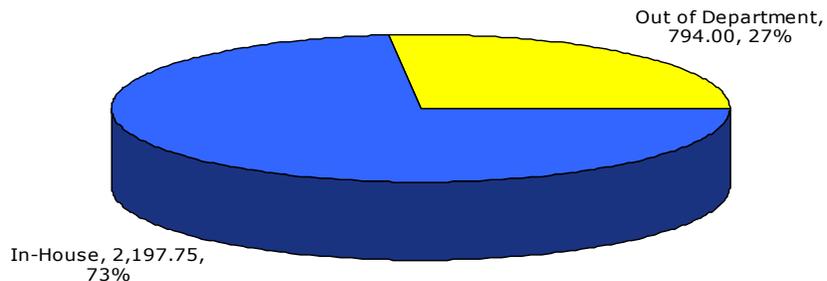
Record Keeping & Probationary Firefighter Program Captain Golding

Monthly Training

It was another busy year for the training division of the Aberdeen Fire Department as we attempted to keep up on mandated training set forth by the State of Washington as well as gaining valuable training in the latest fire and emergency medical service practices.

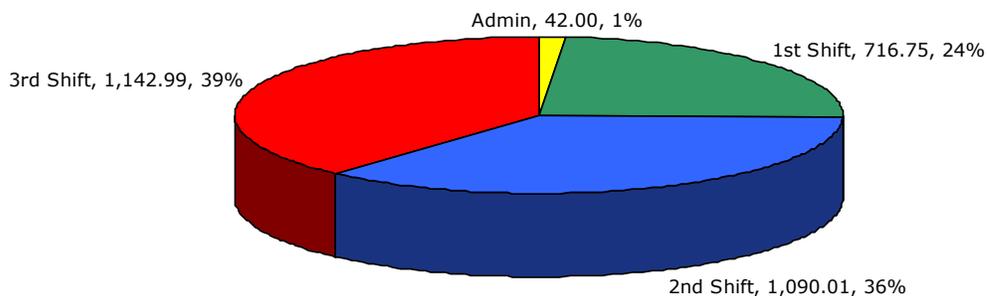
In 2010, members of the Aberdeen Fire Department performed a total of **2,991.75** hours of training. This represents a 5% increase over the total number of hours in 2009. Of this number, **794.00** hours were done outside of the department while the remaining **2,197.75** hours were done in-house. All of this was done while keeping up with the Fire Department's ever increasing demands for service.

In-House vs. Out of Department Training - 2010



The 2,991.75 hours of training performed in 2010 are broken down among the department's administration and three shifts as follows:

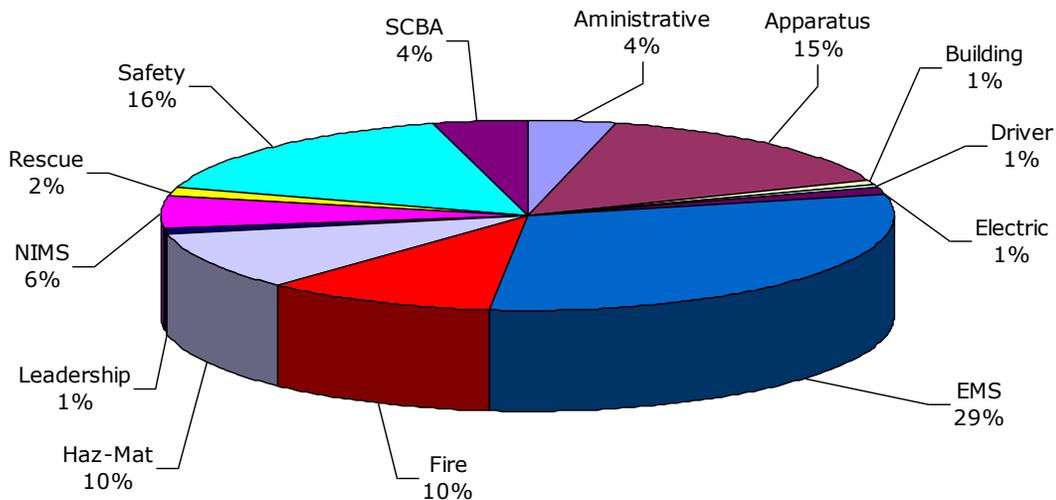
Training By Shift - 2010



In 2010, the training performed covered a wide range of topics. The training is grouped into the following categories with their corresponding hours:

1. Administrative – **124.50 Hours** – Training that deals with departmental organization, policies and executive management.
2. Apparatus – **478.50 Hours** – Training that covers the operation of the various aspects of the department’s firefighting vehicles.
3. Building – **23.50 Hours** – This training covers the area of building construction and the effects on firefighting efforts.
4. Driver – **17.50 Hours** – Training, both in a classroom setting and out in the field, that entails the actual driving of department apparatus.
5. Electric – **30.25 Hours** – This type of training covers general electrical safety as it pertains to the firefighter.
6. EMS – **960.25 Hours** – Any training that covers items related to Emergency Medical Services.
7. Fire – **331.50 Hours** – Classes that cover the various aspects of firefighting.
8. Haz-Mat – **315.50 Hours** – Training that covers the firefighter’s role in responding to incidents that involve Hazardous Materials.
9. Leadership – **24.00 Hours** – Any training that deals with the development of the leadership skills of the members of our department.
10. NIMS – **175.50 Hours** – Mandated training in the area of the National Incident Management System.
11. Rescue – **49.75 Hours** – Topics that cover the training in handling rescue situations, such as auto extrication.
12. Safety – **511.00 Hours** – General safety related training.
13. SCBA – **128.25 Hours** – This includes any training that deals with a firefighter’s Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.

Training by Category - 2010



Probationary Firefighters

During 2010 we had several firefighters complete their initial probationary period. This process entailed these individuals obtaining a great deal of information that

they must process in order to operate in an effective and safe manner as part of the firefighting team. Each probationary firefighter is given a handbook containing several training items that they must complete within their first year. As well as these training requirements, they are also evaluated by their officers on their performance. These evaluations are done on a monthly basis and take into account several aspects of their performance, such as:

1. Attitudes
2. Relations with others
3. Attendance
4. Appearance
5. Job Learning/Skills Improvement
6. Quality of Work

Also as a part of the above items, probationary firefighters are evaluated on their performance on monthly testing. Each month probationary firefighters are tested on a predetermined list of topics to include items such as:

- Policies and Procedures
- Maps
- Apparatus Inventory

All of this translates into a very busy year for the probationary firefighters and their officers.

Entry Level Testing

In November of 2010 the Department conducted an entry level test to establish an eligibility list for the position of Firefighter. During this process we evaluated 12 candidates that were ranked based on their performance within the testing process. We feel that this process has yielded the Department a list of strong candidates to fill future positions in the rank of firefighter as needed.

In 2011 the department will be conducting an entry level test for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic for the purpose of establishing an eligibility list for future vacancies in the firefighter/paramedic ranks. This test is planned for June, 2011. The Department is also exploring the option of performing a lateral entry firefighter/paramedic exam concurrently with the entry level test. A lateral test allows for the department to interview candidates who have experience as a firefighter/paramedic with another department without having to run them through the entire entry level process.

Promotional Testing

In June the Department held a promotional examination for the position of Fire Driver/Engineer. This exam was performed to create an eligibility list for the rank as well as to establish a list for individuals to work out of class within the rank as needed.

The Engineer's Exam consisted of a written test, practical evolutions on each of the Department's four fire apparatus, as well as a physical agility exam. Eleven individuals participated in this testing process.

In 2011 we will be conducting promotional exams for the position of Battalion Chief in May and for the position of Fire Captain in the Fall.

Out of Department Continuing Education & Officer Development Captain Dulin

The Training council has sent Aberdeen Fire Department personnel to 62 "Out of Department Training Events". These classes ranged from 4 hours to 48 hours, or a full week. Some of the classes were mandatory to ensure that our personnel remained certified in their field; others were to educate our personnel as instructors to train our department in current standards, while still others were to obtain new information on changes that are being made in the fire service. Some of the courses were as follows:

- NIMS 400 (Unified Command)
- NIMS 300 (Intermediate Command)
- Xtreme Industrial Fire & Hazard Training
- Washington State IFSAC Certified Haz-Mat
- Incident Safety Officer
- Fire Codes update
- Nozzle Forward
- Fire Training Academy Instructor 1
- Captains College
- Critical Care Transport
- Medical Legal Workshop
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- Pediatric Advanced Care
- Advanced Fire Investigation

The importance of these classes for our safety, the fulfillment of our legal obligations and the progression of our department can not be under estimated. Our personnel understand this, and attended the majority of all of these classes on their own time. As Professionals we thank you for the opportunity to serve you with the confidence that we are outfitted with the most recent knowledge and skills that are available.

"Train as you fight, Fight as you're trained".

Damon Lillybridge, Battalion Chief/Training Coordinator

2010 SAFETY & HEALTH PROGRAM REPORT

During the year 2010 the department continued to promote and enforce safe workplace standards. Goals and ideas were established and safety concerns were met and dealt with in a productive manner. City budget constraints continue to influence all city departments and the fire department safety program is no exception. However, we attempt to focus our efforts on those items that keep the program functional while minimizing any monetary commitment. It doesn't mean that future goals aren't still put on the table, however, some of the more costly goals are deferred and hopefully can be implemented as time and finances allow. In any case, we continue to move forward with ideas, and prioritize our efforts to those objectives that provide for a safe and effective working environment at minimal cost.

Sometimes we are fortunate enough to receive grants for some of our more costly items. In 2010 this came true with a \$35,000 grant to replace all interior and exterior lighting at both stations. The lighting throughout both stations has been an issue for many years. Many fixtures did not operate resulting in employees working under poor lighting conditions. In some cases, the lamps would occasionally fall from the fixture onto the concrete floor. Although we were aware of potential safety concerns with the lighting situation, replacing the lighting was just too cost prohibitive. The grant we received was part of a City wide grant through the Department of Commerce with emphasis on energy conservation. The cost of upgrading the lighting at both stations should pay for itself within seven years through reductions in energy received from the PUD.

Another interesting project that took place in 2010 was the department's participation in a program focusing on health, fitness and nutrition. The PHLAME Program (Promoting Healthy Lifestyles: Assessing More Effects) was administered by Oregon Health & Science University. The Aberdeen Fire Department was one of several departments selected to participate over a three month period. Each shift completed their 12 weekly one-hour sessions while on duty. One team member led the sessions using scripted lesson plans, and team members participated in activities concerning nutrition, exercise, energy balance and other topics that the team selected. All received a Fire Fighter Health & Fitness Guide designed specifically for fire fighters. Our department's ongoing positive peer pressure is what helps promote and maintain team members' healthy eating and regular exercise.

The four primary health goals for the PHLAME Program are:

- Increase physical activity to at least 30 minutes each day.
- Reduce saturated and trans-fat intake.
- Increase servings of fruits and vegetables to at least five per day.
- Improve energy balance and normalize body weight.

Other Safety Program accomplishments for 2010 include:

- Compliant Wheel Chocks installed on engine 7204.
- Traffic Safety Vests on all apparatus.
- Handicap parking at Headquarters station.
- Annual Hearing Tests for all personnel.
- June 2010 Safety Stand Down focusing on Health & Fitness.

Future goals for the Safety and Health Program for 2011 will include:

- * Compliance with new L&I 305 Standards that may be implemented in 2011.
- * Continued Safety Training.
- * Retrofit upgrades for CAF systems on engines 7205 & 7204.
- * Building repair and modification to promote healthy work environment to include:
 - HEPA filters for air handling system
 - Replace rear apron concrete at HQ station

In conclusion, the goal of the Aberdeen Fire Department Safety Program is to provide a safe and healthy workplace environment by meeting, and in many cases exceeding, the recognized standards set forth by various government and private organizations to include OSHA, Labor & Industries, and the National Fire Protection Agency. To accomplish this goal, the Aberdeen Fire Department recognizes the need to utilize and apply risk analysis to day-to-day activities and emergency incident operations. Training also plays a vital role in an individual's ability to understand and perform his/her duties with safety as a priority. Effective management and consistency contribute to the continued development of individual safety awareness.

The success of a Safety and Health Program can be measured through the attitudes and actions portrayed at both individual and department levels. The Aberdeen Fire Department takes safety and health seriously. We are committed to providing all individuals the mental and physical tools necessary to safely and effectively perform their duties and still walk away after each shift to enjoy the benefits of a normal and healthy quality of life.

Damon Lillybridge, Battalion Chief
Safety Officer

2010 WATER SUPPLY REPORT

Water Supply deals with identifying the need and purchasing of new equipment, reviewing new ideas or concepts, and dealing with requests from the Chief or other officers. The requests are usually related to improving our ability to extinguish fire more efficiently. With past support from the Chief of the department, we have been able to budget for the future, spending money now, to keep costs down later. The water supply team consists of Battalion Chief Bill Mayne, Captain JR Streifel, Engineer Chris Eisele, and Engineer Chad Mittleider.

Water Supply's efforts for the past year have covered the following areas:

- The purchase of eight lengths of 2½" hose. Our 2½" inventory is mostly 25 years or older. When rated by the ISO we receive deficiency points for aged hose. As a result we are making an effort to replace our 2½" as the budget allows. This purchase was deferred from the 2009 budget year.
- Water Supply replaced our Class A and Class B foam currently used with foam that works for both Class A and B fires. It is advertised as less corrosive, which should improve issues related to maintenance problems we are having. In addition, the product has an environmental stamp of approval from the European Union. Using foam rated for both classes provides us with greater flexibility and more foam in total when dealing with an emergent incident requiring foam. The foam also will be used at a lower concentration rate, for Class A, allowing us to get more coverage for the same amount of concentrate.
- Nozzle and fitting maintenance was maintained in 2010.

Future plans of Water Supply include:

- Additional purchase of hose to maintain a modern inventory.
- Continued maintenance to keep up with the usage of our equipment.
- We are considering the purchase of a portable pump. There are occasions when we need to remove or pump water and a fire apparatus is not viable for the situation. A portable pump would provide some versatility in these circumstances.

The Water Supply Team's mission is to see to it that our fire suppression is done in a fast, efficient, and safe manner. We will do this with the acquisition of modern equipment and improve our operations by reviewing our standard operating procedures and guidelines.

Battalion Chief Bill Mayne

2010 SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS TEAM REPORT

The primary function of the SCBA Team is to ensure that inspections and maintenance are performed. There are several standards and regulations which outline how and when these procedures will be done. ANSI (American National Standards Institute) Z88.5, OSHA 1910.143, NFPA (National Fire Protection Association), and Labor & Industry's Firefighter Safety Standards set the minimum standards that must be met.

Each year fit testing of the facemask is done to ensure that our personnel have adequate respiratory protection from hostile atmosphere. The test challenges the masks face seal as the wearer performs a series of movements. This portion of testing has been challenging, as it has in the past. The challenge has come due to the necessity to borrow a fit tester from Hoquiam Fire Department. I am optimistic a future purchase agreement between the Sewer Department and the Fire Department could be reached to rectify the situation.

The SCBA units are bench tested per manufacturers schedule. This test ensures the unit is operating within the limits set by the standards mentioned above. A bench test was performed on all SCBA units in the fall of 2010 by SeaWestern.

The air cylinders for the SCBA require hydrostatic testing every five years. Hydrostatic testing checks for hidden flaws and damage caused by normal use and aging. The cylinders were progressively sent to the SeaWestern facility for this testing, which should ensure another five years of use from our current SCBA cylinders.

In the past year, we have had a significant increase in the number of repairs that have been required to maintain our SCBA program. The continued increase in this area should be expected as our current SCBA's get older and experience more wear and tear from daily use.

In 2005 the Aberdeen Fire Department received a grant for \$220,100. This grant enabled the department to purchase 30 new SCBA, a new air filling compressor, and a class II filling station.

This year we replaced one of our RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) bags. RIT bags are an essential tool that provides a spare SCBA cylinder, mask and Quick-Fill adapter to help assist firefighters that are trapped, low on air, or experience an SCBA malfunction. The new RIT bag is designed to be used in zero visibility environments with easy to access regulator, pre-connected mask and tools that may be required to facilitate a successful rescue of firefighters. I hope to be able to replace one more RIT bag in 2011 which will allow for one RIT bag on each of our responding fire apparatus.

Currently we are at five years service with our SCBA's. The typical length of service for SCBA's is approximately 15 years. In the future we hope to pursue grants in replacement and upgrading of our SCBA's as the advancement of technology in this field is ever-changing.

SCBA Team Leader, FF Dave Swinhart

2010 APPARATUS INVENTORY

Station 1 (Headquarters) 700 W. Market Street

UNIT	SHOP #	TYPE
(Battalion 7232)	93	2002 Ford Excursion 4X4 Command Unit
(Truck 7221)	91	2001 Pierce 105'HD Aerial-1500 GPM
(Engine 7205)	89	1994 Pierce 50'Telesquirt W/-1500 GPM
(Engine 7204)	87	1994 Pierce 1500 GPM Pumper
(Utility 7261)	85*	1998 Ford/Horton Medic/Utility Unit (2005 Cargo Mate – Decon. /MCI Trailer)
(Medic 7243)	150	2001 Ford/Horton Medic Unit
(Medic 7241)	151	2009 Ford/Braun Northstar Medic Unit
(Medic 7244)	141	2004 Ford/Horton Medic Unit
(Chief 7251)	140	2007 Ford F 150 Staff Vehicle
(Chief 7200)	149	2005 Crown Victoria Staff Vehicle
(Fire Prevention)	510	1998 Chevrolet Astro Van

Station 2 (South Aberdeen) 700 W. Curtis Street

UNIT	SHOP #	TYPE
(Engine 7206)	90	2001 Pierce 1500 GPM C.A.F.S. Pumper
(Medic 7242)	148	2007 Ford/Horton Medic Unit

(All Pierce Fire Apparatus carry 1000' of 4" angus supply line, 1.75" "high combat" and 2.5" attack line w/Task Force Tip Nozzles)

(The inventory of equipment on our medic units is similar in arrangement and location)

*Shop #85 is scheduled for a chassis remount and refurbishment in 2011 at Braun NW in Chehalis.

2010 RADIO TEAM REPORT

I recently assumed the responsibility of the mobile and portable radios for the Aberdeen Fire Department. The following is a list of items purchased and tasks accomplished in 2010:

- Eighteen new batteries were purchased for the HT 1250's .
- Five spare antenna's for the HT 1250's.
- Four headset adaptors for HT 1250.
- HT 1250 bases installed on fire apparatus for engineer with the new headset adaptors.
- New mobile radios installed on 7204 & 7205 for narrow band compliancy.
- All apparatus and ambulances now equipped with HT 1250's with two spares. All HT 1000's are now used as stand alones in the station along with a few old GE's.
- New battery condition program started to ensure all batteries are conditioned quarterly for maximum battery life.
- All radios, portable, mobile, and base stations have been reprogrammed to narrow band. This happened January 11, 2011. The goal was for 2010 and we didn't quite make it, but well ahead of the 2013 deadline.

Goals for 2011 are to secure grant monies to purchase more portable radios or accessories and replace aged equipment. With only two spares of portable HT1250's and with some of our HT1250's ten plus years old we need to start cycling the old ones out as they fail.

Captain JR Streifel
Radio Team

2010 CHAPLAIN REPORT

Thank you for another good year. Speaking as the one who has been in the ministry for some thirty-five years, and as a Christian worker for over fifty years, my involvement as a chaplain of the AFD has been some of the most rewarding years ever.

The opportunity I've been given has provided me the pleasure of new friends of privilege, to assist, and to be part of something far greater than myself. For this I am truly grateful.

It's been said in both literature and poem that fire departments are like family and friend alike. Yet until you've become a part of the brotherhood you have simply no idea of what that means. To me it's simply a very active and compassionate ministry to the community.

Respectfully

Dick Seaman, Chaplain

Chiefs Note:

Thank you Chaplain Seaman for your many years of devoted work in helping others in our community, on behalf of the AFD.