

Aberdeen Fire Department Year End Report



Captain Mike Kolodzie leading Engine 7205 to safety on January 5, 2015 following a multi-agency rescue of the occupant from a home on 6th Avenue that was destroyed by a landslide.



2015



CITY OF ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Tom Hubbard, Fire Chief Rich Malizia, Assistant Chief

March 23, 2016

Mayor Larson and members of the Aberdeen City Council,

I respectfully submit the Aberdeen Fire Department's annual report for 2015. This report provides an overview of department operations and delivery of service.

The City of Aberdeen provides fire protection within the city boundaries servicing 16,780 residents over 10.5 square miles. In addition, we provide fire and EMS services to the City of Aberdeen and Fire Districts 10 and 15, Cosmopolis, Bigelow Drive, and Stafford Creek Corrections. Fire and EMS are provided from two fire stations staffed 24/7.

In 2015 the Aberdeen Fire Department responded to a total of 5243 calls for service. Structure fire losses for the year totaled \$351,552 vs. \$1,740,026 in property saved. There were four (4) fire incidents during the year that required an escalated first alarm, two (2) fire incidents that required a second alarm, and one (1) third alarm activation for the flooding event on January 5, 2015. Total call volume for fire and EMS are shown below.

511 Fire Service Responses (9.75% of total calls)

4732 Emergency Medical Responses (90.25% of total calls)

The department's average response time from dispatch to arrival on scene for fire suppression incidents within the city limits was 5 minutes 48 seconds. This includes an average two minutes of "turnout time" or the time it takes from initial dispatch to the first unit responding. This falls within the National Fire Protection Agency's goal for a fire department to arrive within six minutes to an incident 90% of the time.

In line with the national fire service trend, the majority of the department's call volume was for emergency medical calls. A detailed analysis of our medical responses is included later in this report; however, we are pleased to report that in 2015 the department had 95 documented medical saves. These are patients who most likely would not have survived prior to arriving at Grays Harbor Community Hospital without medical intervention by our staff. EMS response times averaged

5 minutes 45 seconds within the city from time of dispatch to arrival on scene.

We are pleased to report that we continued our grade school fire and injury prevention education programs. Our public education team was also active throughout the year addressing various civic, educational, and industrial groups with the goal of improving worksite and personal safety. A report from the Public Education Team is included in this report.

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 support they have given the department. Together we have made important contributions towards providing for the safety and welfare of our citizens.

Respectfully,

Tom Hubbard, EFO
Fire Chief
City of Aberdeen

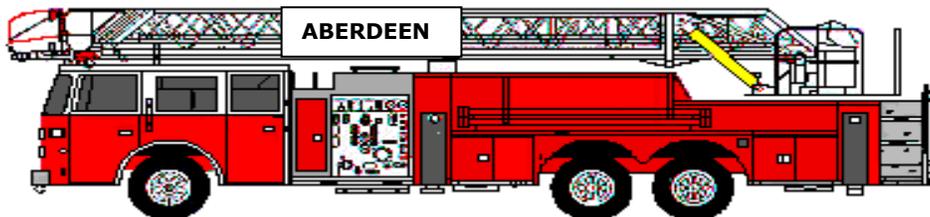


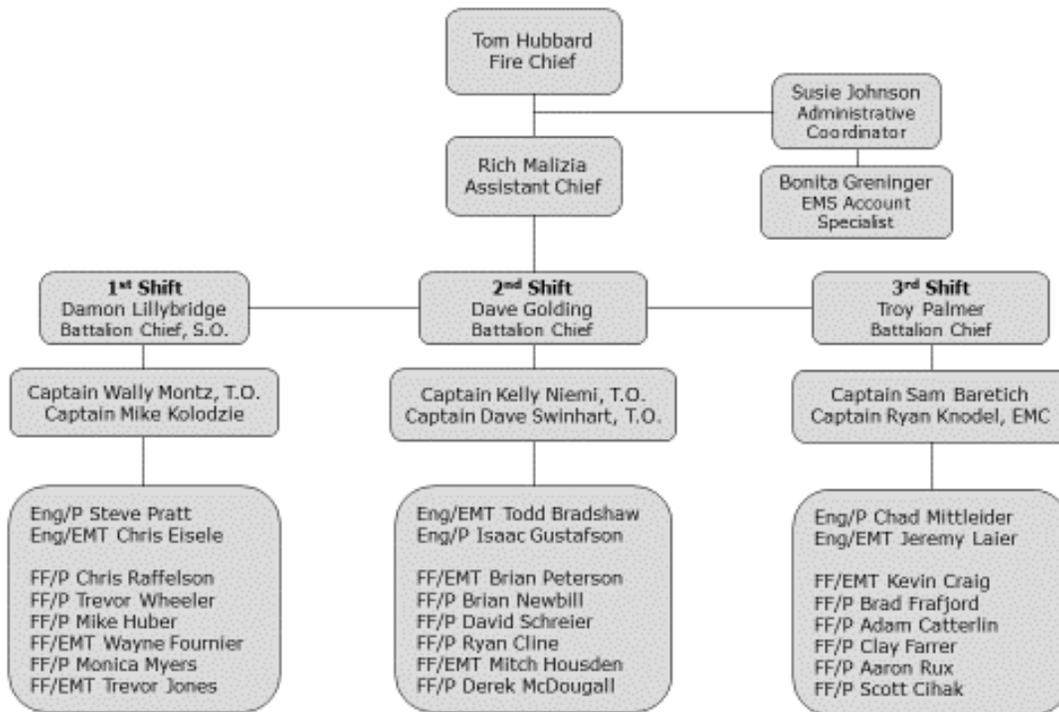
TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Organizational Chart	5
Mission Statement	6
2015 Fire Incident Response Data	7
Emergency Medical Services	9
Fire Investigation/Code Enforcement	16
Training	17
Safety/Health	20
Public Education	22
Apparatus	23

Cover Photo taken by Fire Chief Tom Hubbard – January 5, 2015

ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

* Effective 3/2/16



EMC - Emergency Medical Coordinator
 T.O. - Department Training Officer
 S.O. - Department Safety Officer

New Employees hired in 2015

FF/Paramedic Derek McDougall
 FF/EMT Trevor Jones

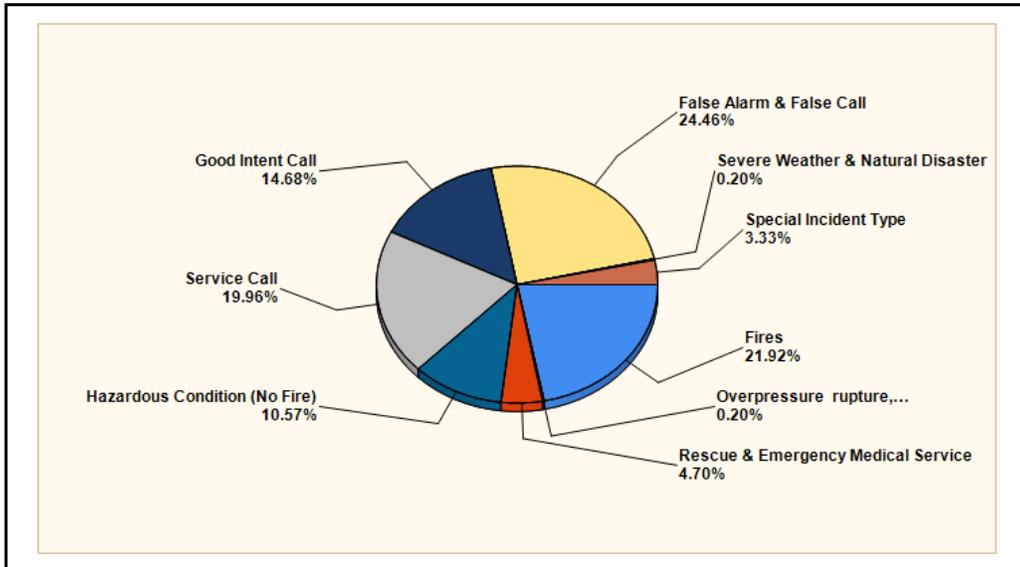


ABERDEEN FIRE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

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.

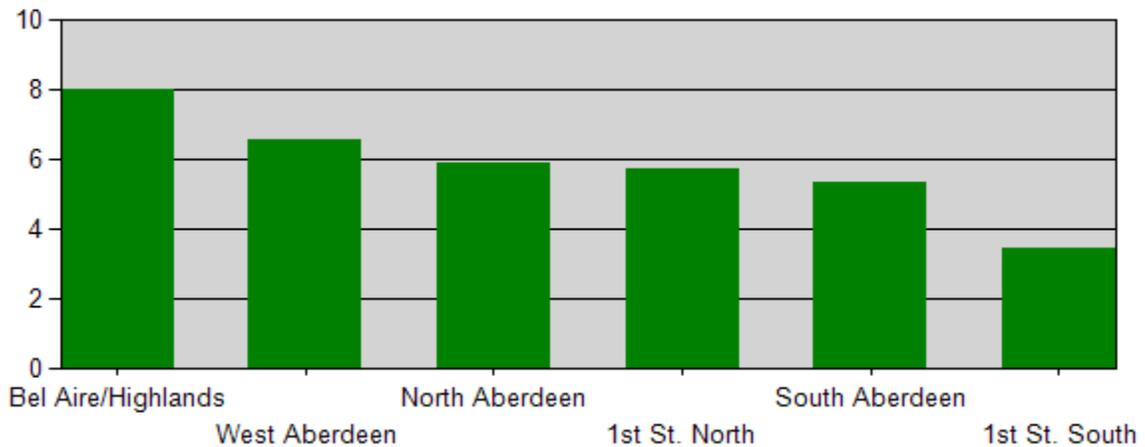
2015 FIRE INCIDENT RESPONSE DATA

Fire Service – Breakdown by Major Incident Types

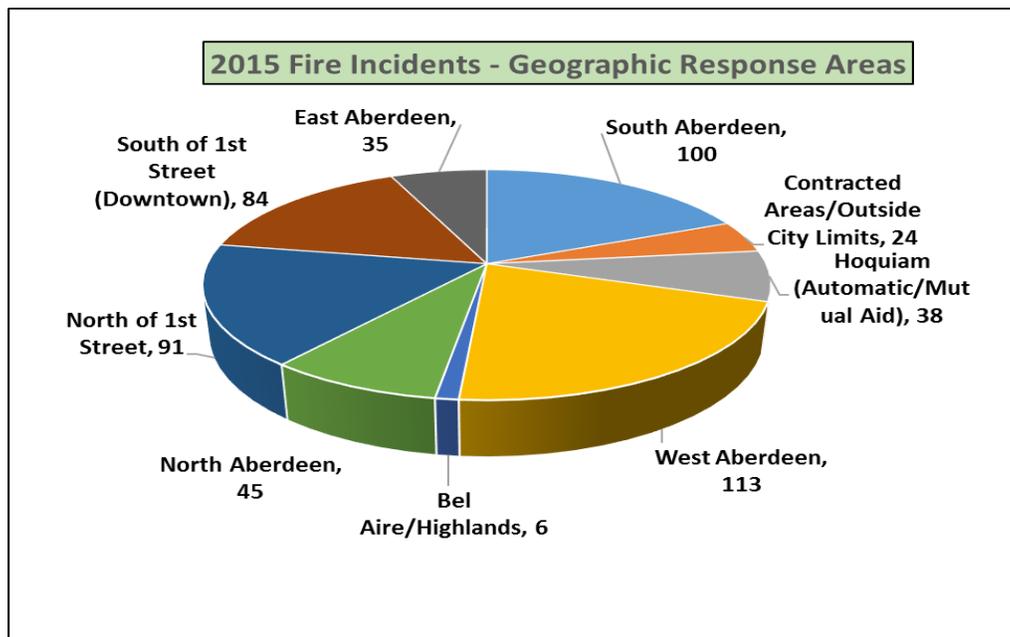


MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	112	21.92%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	1	0.20%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	24	4.70%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	54	10.57%
Service Call	102	19.96%
Good Intent Call	75	14.68%
False Alarm & False Call	125	24.46%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1	0.20%
Special Incident Type	17	3.33%
TOTAL	511	100.00%

Average Response Times (Minutes) to Fire Suppression Incidents by Zone



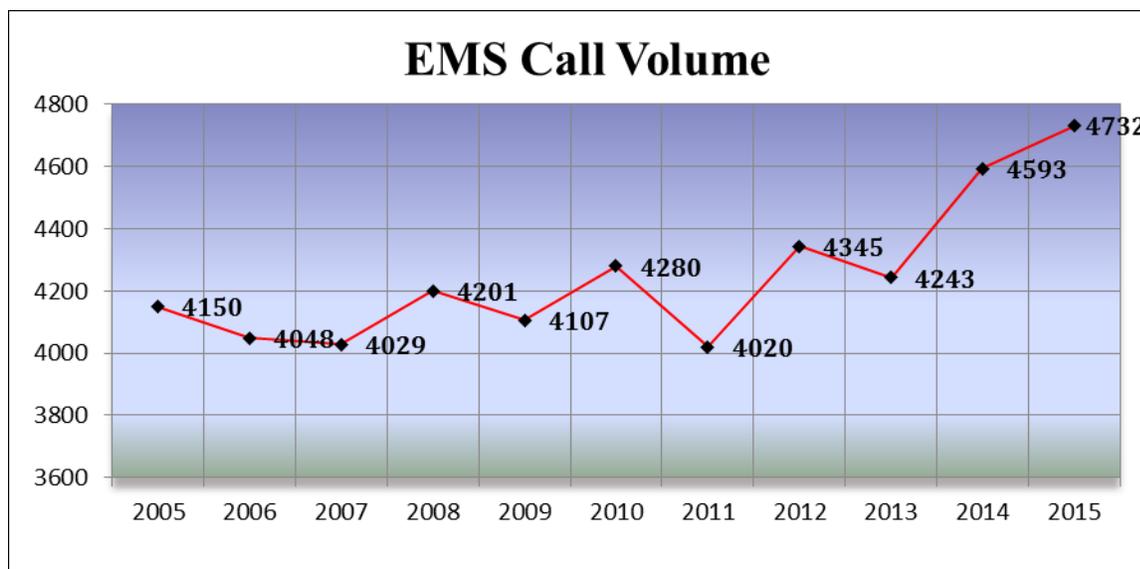
Fire Service Calls by Geographic Response Area



Breakdown of Fire Service Responses	2015	2014
Building Fires	14	25
Structure fires, Escalated 1 st Alarm	4	
Structure fires, 2nd Alarm	2	10
3rd Alarm Incidents	1	0
Cooking Fire - Contained to Stove Top	9	10
Vehicle Fire	14	4
Chimney Fire	6	8
Hazardous Material Incidents	32	19
Natural Vegetation Fires	21	18
Trash Fire/Dumpster Fire	29	33
Rescue (Motor Vehicle Accidents/Elevators)	24	19
Bridge Openings (Wishkah, Heron or Chehalis)	307	206
Fire Mutual Aid Given	3	4
Fire Mutual Aid Received	4	2
Automatic Fire Response to HFD Given	35	28
Automatic Fire Response from HFD Received	47	27
Total EMS Call Volume	4732	4593
Total FIRE Call Volume	511	435
Civilian Fire Related Fatalities	0	2
Civilian Fire Related Injuries	5	2
Firefighter Injuries during fire ground operations	2	1

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Aberdeen Fire Department is responsible for providing emergency medical care to the citizens of the City of Aberdeen. We also provide emergency medical transport for the areas of Cosmopolis, Fire District 10 and Fire District 15. The graph below illustrates the Aberdeen Fire Department's emergency medical call volume over the past ten years.

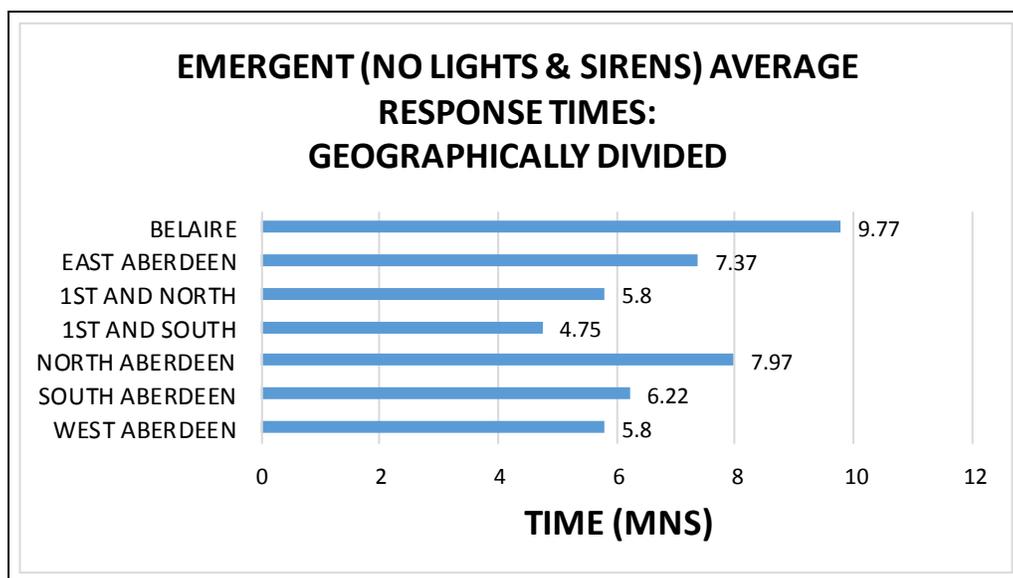
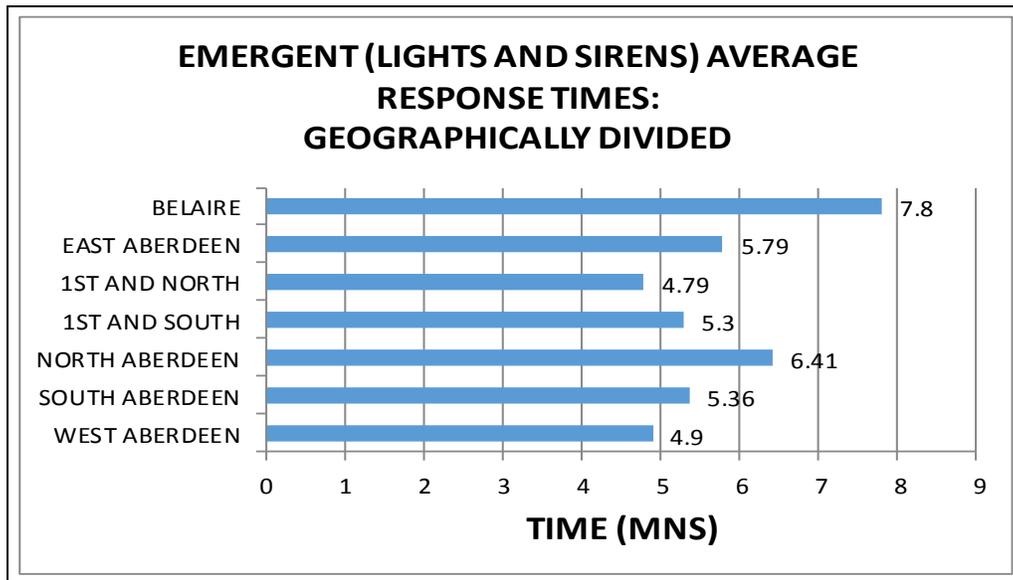


For the 10 years represented in this graph we had a 14% increase in call volume over that time period. For 2015 alone, we saw our call volume increase by 139 calls which is a 3.03% rise from the year before.

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

Medical responses are grouped into five categories: Emergent (lights and siren response), Emergent (no lights and sirens), Local transfers, Long Distance transfers, and Non-emergent responses. These response categories are based on their dispatch urgency and destination. The first category is emergent (lights and siren response), which totaled 2347 and accounted for 49% of our total EMS call volume. Emergent (no lights and sirens) accounted for 1,803 calls which was 38% of our total call volume. Emergent responses are calls that are dispatched through the Grays Harbor E911 center to our department. After receiving the call we use the information provided by dispatch to decide on how we respond to the call. Our average response time from time of dispatch to arrival on scene within the city limits of Aberdeen was just above 5 minutes. The national standard as defined by the NFPA for medical responses is: Basic Life Support (BLS) crew on scene within 4 minutes or an Advanced Life Support (ALS) crew on

scene within 8 minutes. The NFPA standard provides us with a 60 second window to respond that is not calculated into the total response, making the actual response times 5 minutes for BLS and 9 minutes for ALS. Our average response time of slightly more than 5 minutes falls well within the NFPA national standard which is impressive with the number medical responses we respond to each year.

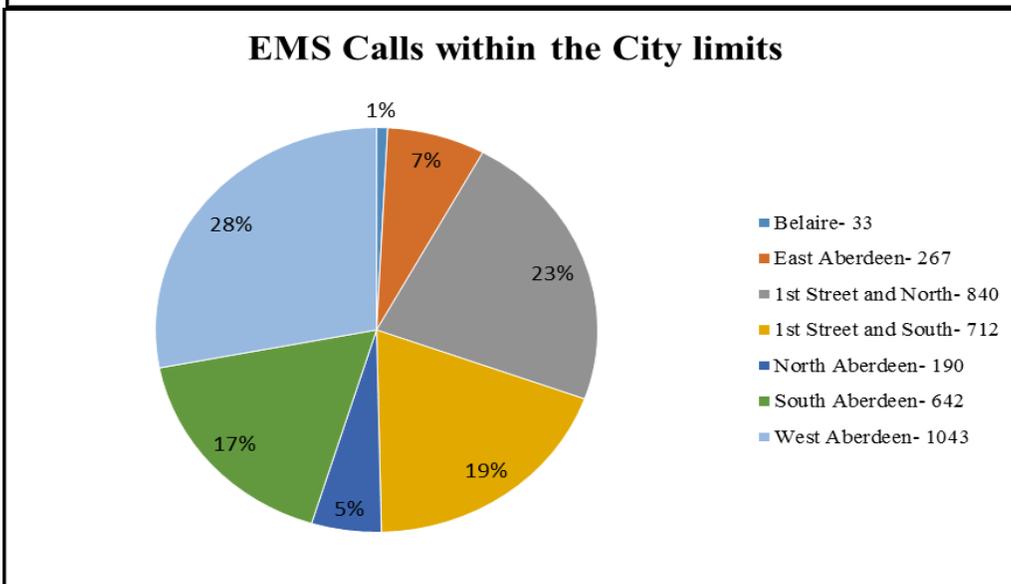
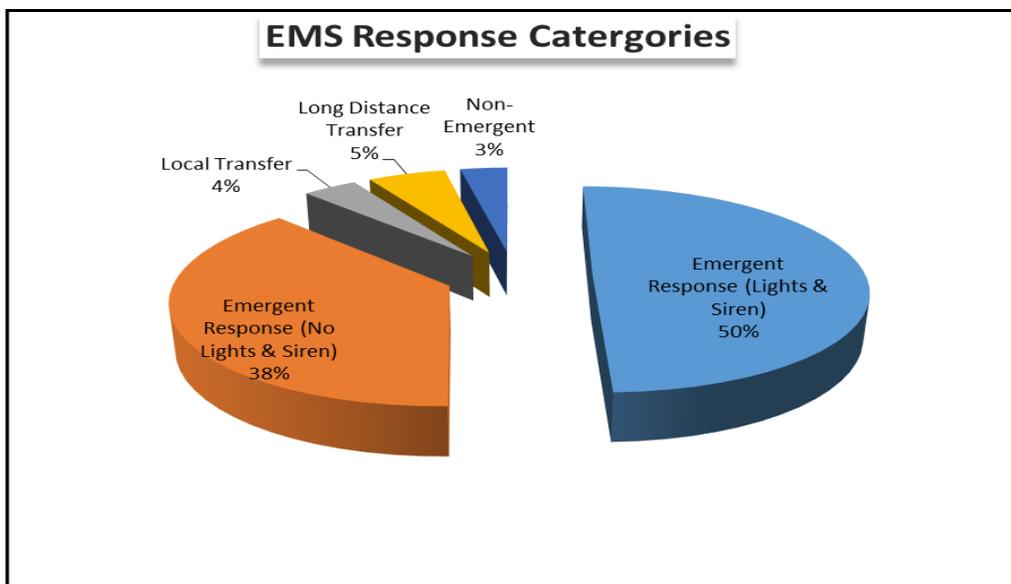


The second category is local transfers, which totaled 177 and accounted for 4% of our total EMS call volume. Local transfers consist of transporting patients between Grays Harbor Community Hospital and skilled nursing

facilities, home residences, and diagnostic testing facilities within the city limits of Aberdeen.

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 we did 253 of them for 5% of the total call volume.

The fourth category is non-emergent, which we did 153 for 3% of the total. Non-emergent responses 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.

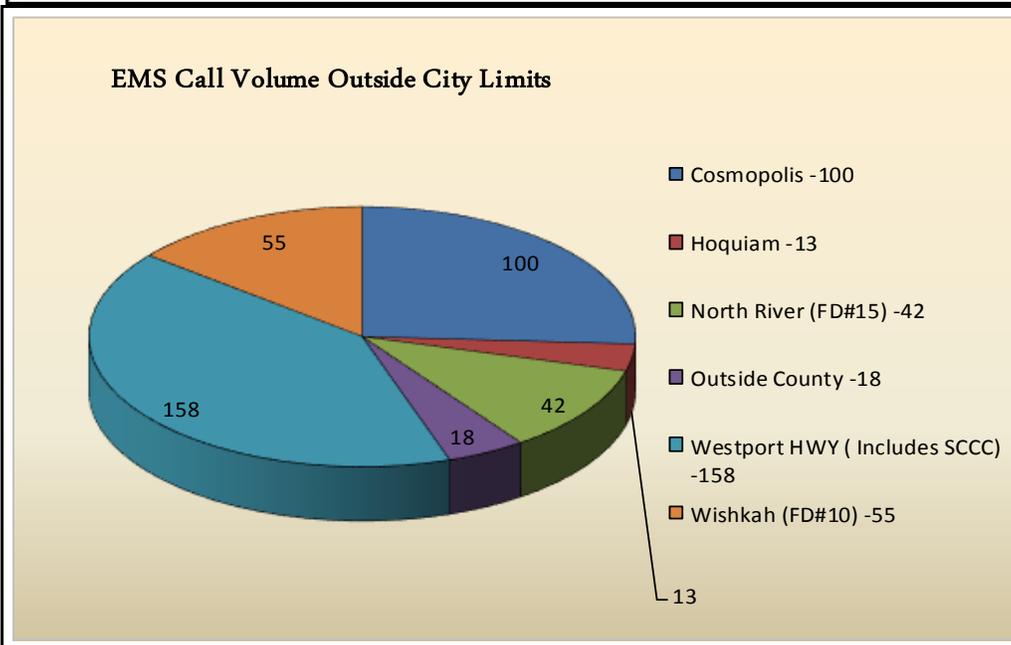
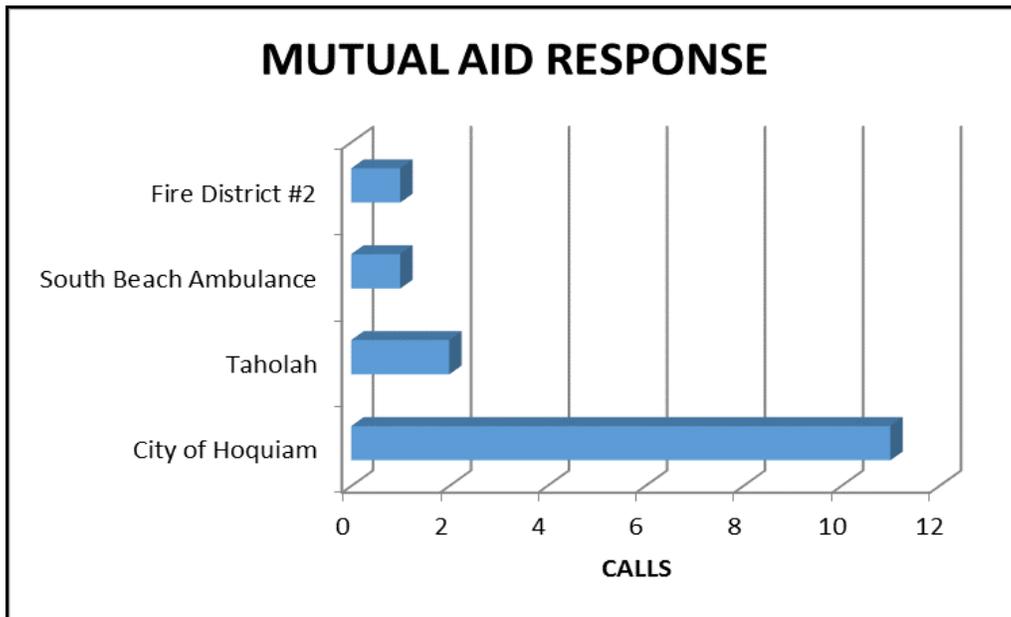


Included in our emergent responses statistics is our mutual aid responses. The follow agencies responded within our response area last year to assist us:

The City of Hoquiam: 13 times
 Fire District #2: 1 time

We also responded mutual aid to the following agencies to assist them:

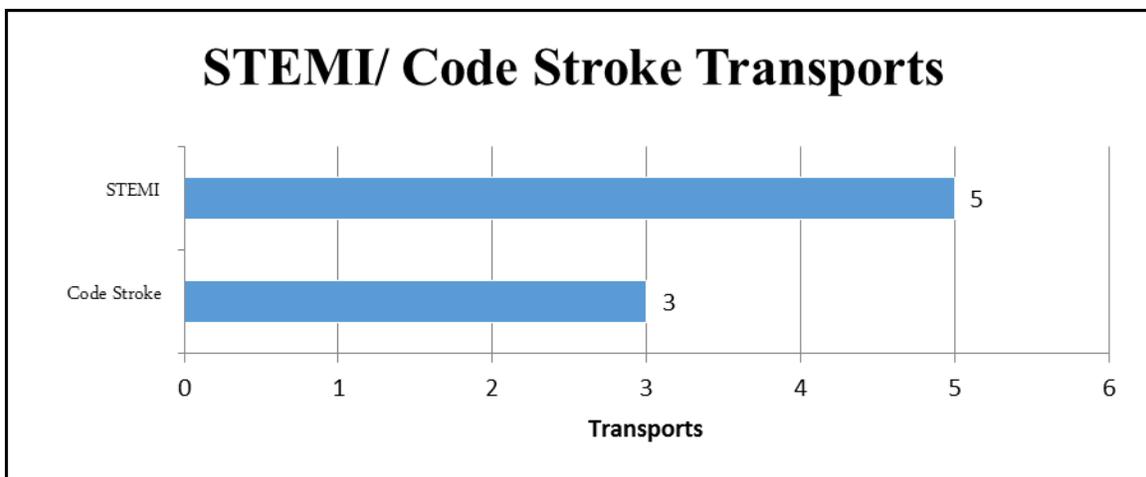
The City of Hoquiam: 11 times
 Taholah: 2 times
 South Beach Ambulance: 1 time
 Fire District #2: 1 time



This is a representation of our EMS call volume outside the City of Aberdeen, it is important to note the number of these responses because they take our on-duty staff out of service for an extended amount of time.

STEMI/STROKE TRANSPORTS:

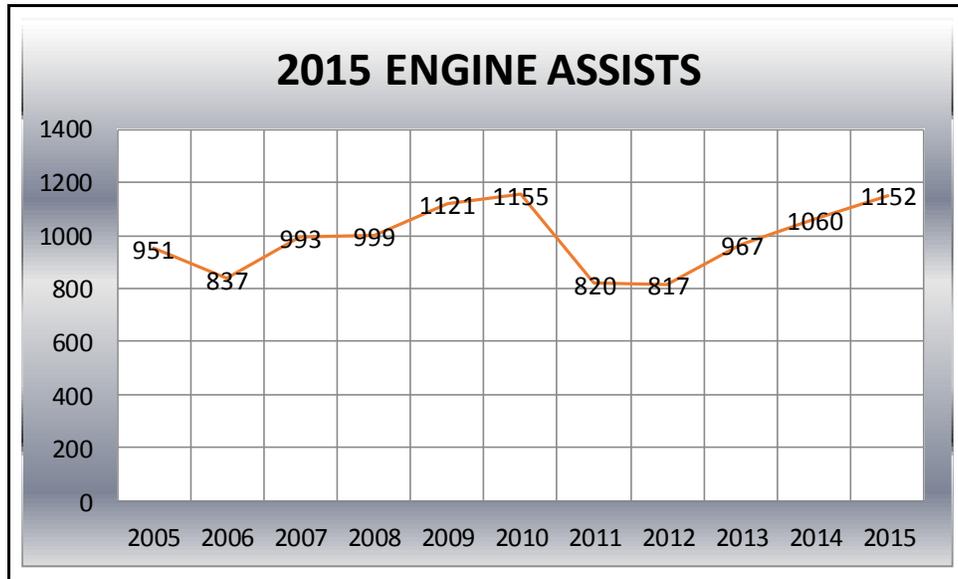
The STEMI/Code Stroke system the State of Washington implemented a couple years ago is a system we use to rapidly transport patients to an out of town hospital who are having either a heart attack or a stroke and are in need of medical treatment that is not available at our local hospital. We use on-duty staff to do these transports and back-fill their positions with off-duty personnel. This system provides these patients with the immediate advanced medical care they need which greatly improves their chance of survival.



STEMI/Code Stroke transports totaled 8 emergent transports last year for approximately 48 man hours.

RESPONSE STATISTICS:

One of our data collection points is Engine/BC Assists of which we did 1,152. An Engine/BC assist occurs when a fire apparatus or a Battalion Chief responds with the headquarters or South Side ambulance on medical calls. The EMS calls that the fire apparatus and Battalion Chief respond to can range from cardiac arrests, respiratory problems, strokes, motor vehicle accidents or severe trauma calls. It is important to note that while the fire apparatus and Battalion Chief are engaged on the medical call they are out of service for a fire response until they have 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; the tradeoff being our ability to manage a fire incident is at times significantly impacted.

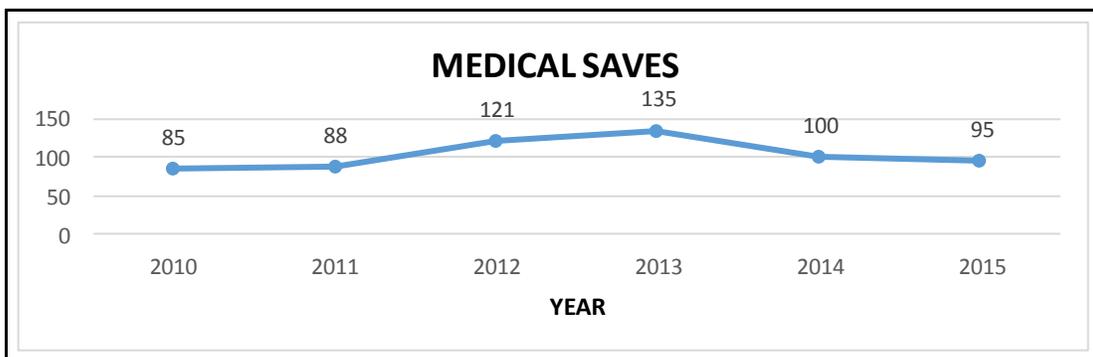


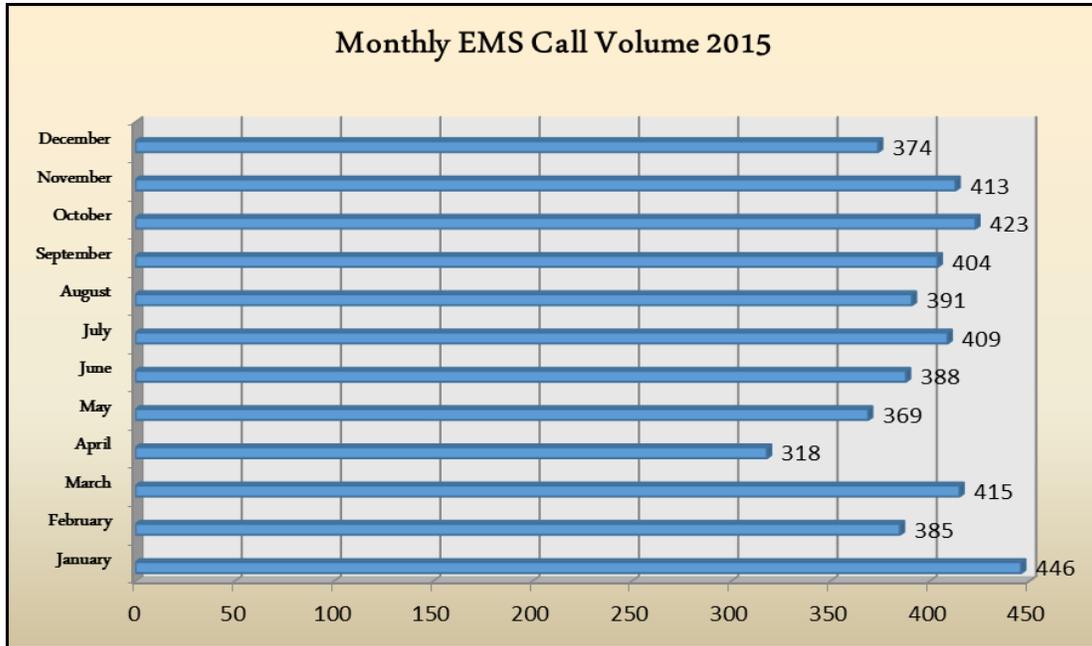
GRANTS:

Each year the Grays Harbor EMS Council awards grants through their EMS Transit grant program, which is funded through GH Transit. Last year we were awarded \$2,687 to purchase three portable refrigerators to store medications in our ambulances. With the rising cost of medications, these refrigerators will enable us to keep some medications longer which will save us money over the course of the year. Also, last year we received \$1,335 from the Washington State Pre-Hospital Trauma Participation Grant which is designed to help offset the high cost of providing trauma care.

MEDICAL SAVES:

During the past year the Aberdeen Fire Department documented 95 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.





We at the Aberdeen Fire Department will continue to provide our citizens/customers with the highest quality emergency medical care available while conveying our core values of professionalism and compassion. We will also strive to provide the highest level of care while being good stewards of the tax dollars which we receive.

Ryan Knodel
Emergency Medical Coordinator

2015 FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Fire Loss

Assistant Chief Rich Malizia

2015 was a year with \$351,552 in fire losses. This represents a decrease when compared to \$678,330 in 2014. The value of property saved in these events represents \$1,740,026. This fire loss represents 54 fires with significant damage to Residential / Commercial property, Motor Vehicles, Recreation Vehicles, Dumpsters or uncontrolled outdoor burning.

All fires in our community are investigated by the fire department. Many causes of fires are determined by a simple interview or an obvious situation caused the fire. Last year 64 incidents required more than a simple investigation of the fire. Formal investigations are implemented when the cause or origin is not readily apparent. Often the Aberdeen Police Detectives are called to assist with a formal investigation.

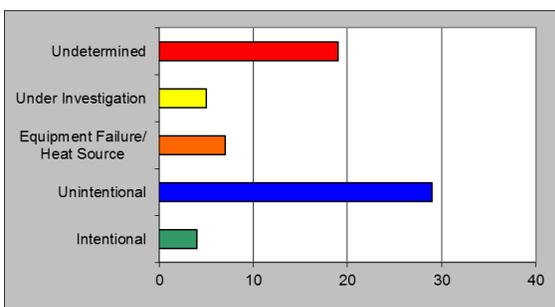
Fire Prevention

Commercial business inspections are done throughout the community in compliance with the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau and requirements of the International Fire Code. Each shift at the Fire Department is assigned approximately 50 to 60 business inspections to complete during the year. Approximately 165 inspections were completed in 2015 including the annual inspections of the Aberdeen School District buildings.

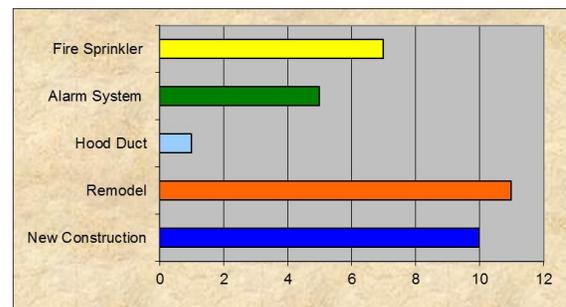
Plan Review

The Fire Marshal works with the Planning and Building Departments of the City of Aberdeen. Plan Review comments on new developments and submitted building permits. Requirements for compliance with the International Fire Code are identified in the process. Plan review is followed with final inspections, which is done during and near completion of a project. The final inspections confirm that public safety components are installed and working as the plans intended.

Fire Investigation



Plan Review



2015 TRAINING REPORT

MANDATED TRAINING

The Aberdeen Fire Department's training program has been designed with the requirements as set forth by the State of Washington WAC's, Washington State Insurance Rating Board and Washington State Department of Health in mind. Attempting to meet the requirement set forth by these entities translates into a busy year in relationship to training.

WASHINGTON STATE WAC 305-296 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

The State of Washington requires that firefighters receive training in a wide range of topics. These topics include, but are not limited to:

- Ongoing Development,
- Quarterly Safety Training,
- Quarterly Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Training,
- Hazardous Materials Operations and Decontamination,
- Fire Apparatus/Driver Training,
- Live Fire Evolutions,
- Technical Rescue, and
- Overhaul Operations

WASHINGTON STATE INSURANCE RATING BOARD TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the Washington State WAC mandated training, firefighters are also required to perform training to satisfy the requirements to maintain the Department's insurance rating. Areas of training required include:

- Firefighter Training,
- Driver Training,
- Officer Training,
- Recruit Training,
- Multi-Company Drills,
- Night Drills,
- Drill Ground Use,
- Automatic Aid Training (HFD), and
- Hazardous Material Training.

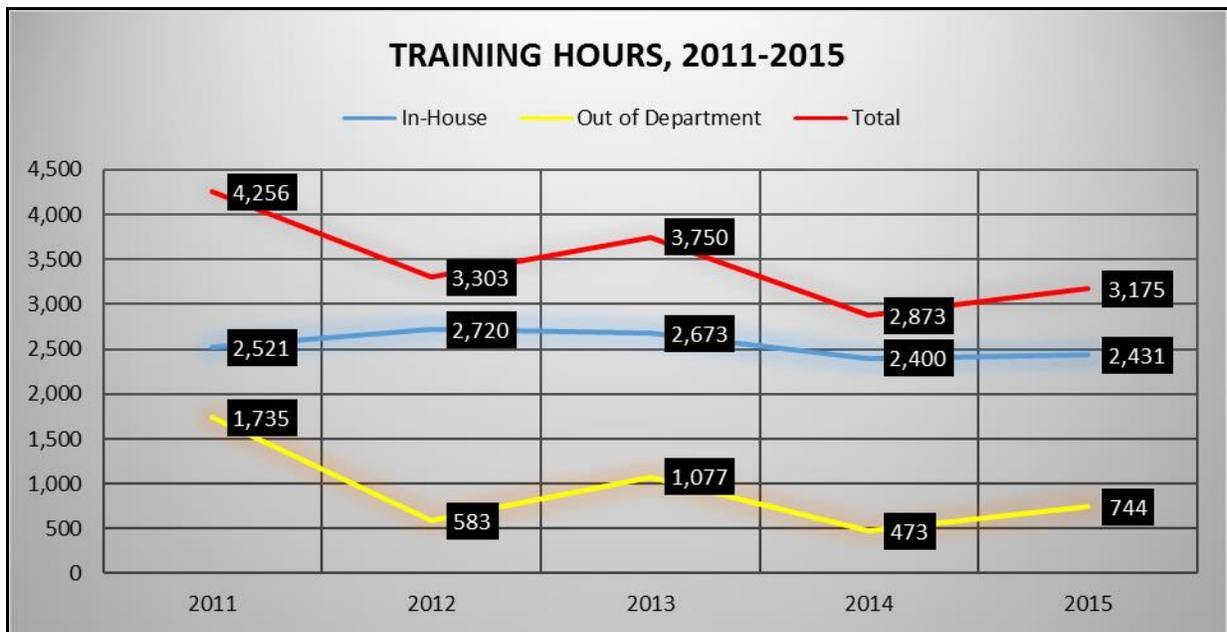
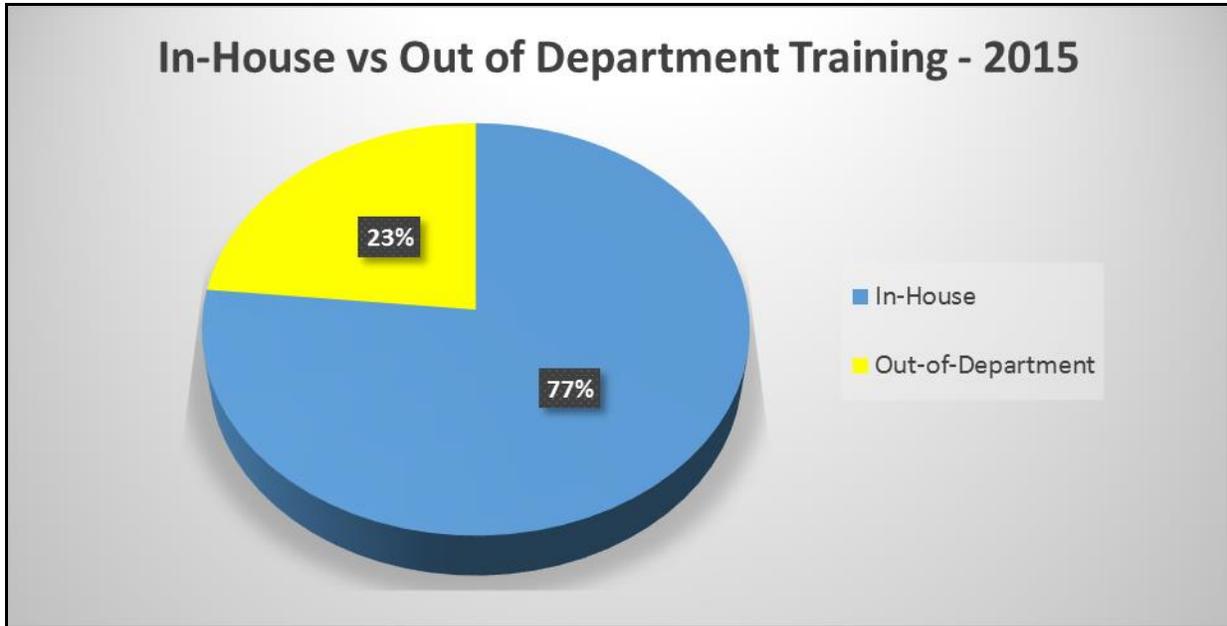
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- Basic Life Support Ongoing Emergency Medical Training,
- Advanced Life Support Ongoing Emergency Medical Training,
- CPR, and
- Other Grays Harbor Medical Program Director Mandated Training.

TRAINING SUMMARY

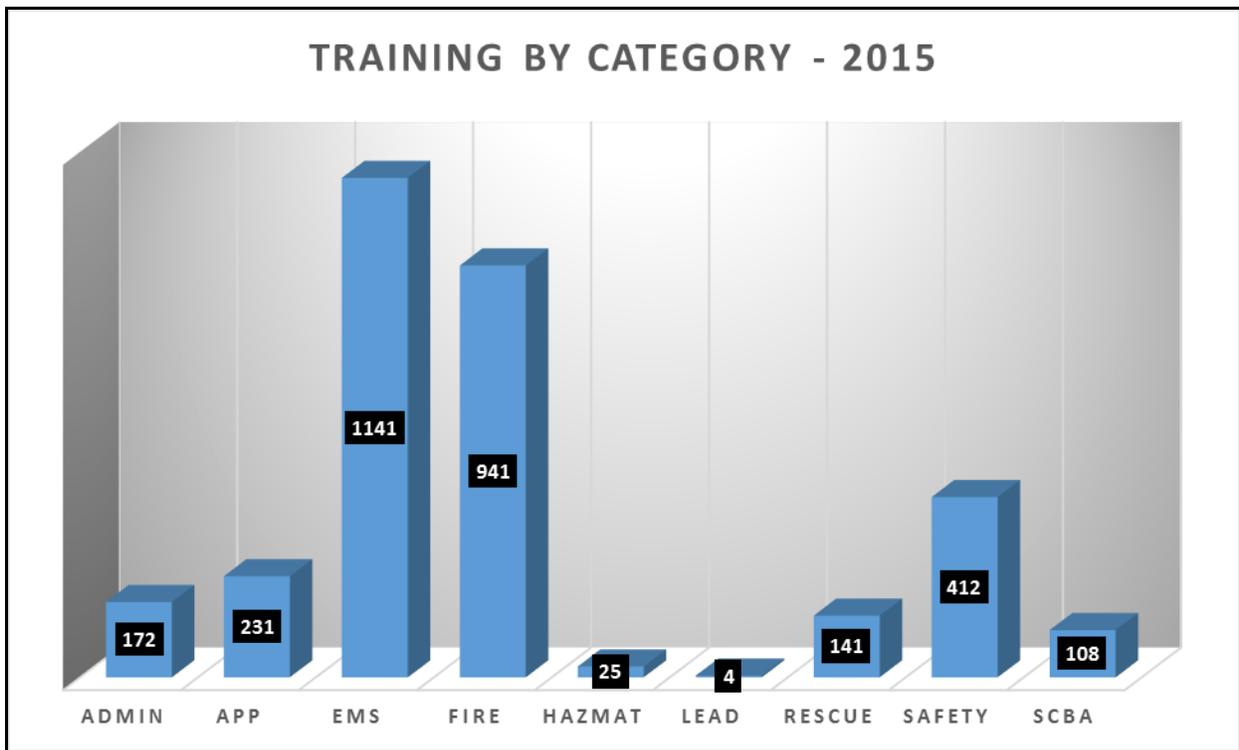
The monthly in-house training program is designed by the Department's training team in an effort to meet these various mandates. The training is administered by the Department's Fire Captains. These Captains are responsible in ensuring the delivery of all training to the members under their supervision. In 2015, members

of the Aberdeen Fire Department performed a total of **3,175** hours of training. This represents a 10% increase from 2014. **744** hours were done outside of the department while the remaining **2,431** hours were done in-house. These training hours were achieved while balancing other duties as well as an ever increasing demand for the services provided by the Department.



The training conducted by the firefighters of the Aberdeen Fire Department represents an average of 1,058 hours among each of the Department's three shifts, or 96 hours per firefighter for 2015. This training is grouped into the following categories with their corresponding hours for record keeping purposes:

1. Administrative – **172 Hours** – This is training that deals with departmental organization, policies and executive management.
2. Apparatus – **231 Hours** – Training that covers operating the various aspects of the department’s firefighting vehicles.
3. EMS – **1,141 Hours** – Any training that covers items related to Emergency Medical Services.
4. Fire – **941 Hours** – Classes that cover the various aspects of firefighting.
5. Haz-Mat – **25 Hours** – Training that covers the firefighter’s role in responding to incidents that involve Hazardous Materials.
6. Leadership – **4 Hours** – Any training that deals with the development of the leadership skills of the members of our department.
7. Rescue – **141 Hours** – Topics that cover the training in dealing with rescue situations, such as auto extrication.
8. Safety – **412 Hours** – General safety related training.
9. SCBA – **108 Hours** – This includes any training that has to deal with a firefighter’s Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.



Aberdeen Fire Department Training
 Battalion Chief Dave Golding
 Captain Wallace Montz
 Captain Kelly Niemi
 Captain Dave Swinhart

Aberdeen Fire Department Safety & Health Program Year End Report 2015

The Aberdeen Fire Department Safety Committee uses continuous improvement processes to work towards eliminating the number and severity of injuries and illnesses to fire personnel during routine operations, training and emergency response. The Safety Committee utilizes safety and situational awareness, training, standard operating procedures, and implementing procedures and lessons learned through accident investigation.

Members of the Safety Committee include Battalion Chief Damon Lillybridge (Department Health and Safety Officer), Driver/Engineer Jeremy Laier, Captain Mike Kolodzie and Assistant Fire Chief Rich Malizia.

In 2015, the Department's Safety Officer processed **14** injury reports involving department personnel. Both the injuries and exposures resulted in **34.5 shifts** of missed work. Examples of injuries include back sprain/strain from lifting and moving patients, ankle injuries during fire overhaul, knee injuries during fire scene operations, and blood borne exposures on EMS scenes.

Firefighters respond to incidents in all types of environmental conditions at any time of the day or night. Personal protective clothing and continuous training minimizes the risks of a firefighter being injured on the job; however, firefighting and EMS duties are often high hazard tasks with the potential for injury or exposure.

Once again, 2015 was very busy, and through all of this I would like to take this opportunity to commend all personnel for their efforts and participation in helping to maintain an effective and progressive safety 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.

Overview of Safety Program involvement for 2015 includes:

- Continued review, update, and modification of the department's existing safety forms
- Continued NIOSH case study reviews
- Annual Hearing Tests for all personnel
- Installation of security cameras around both the Headquarters and Administration buildings.

- June 2015 Safety Stand Down focusing on “Health & Survival”
 - Incident Response
 - Risk Management
 - PPE
 - Strategic & Tactical Considerations
- Continued efforts to review and update department operations to comply with newly implemented L&I 305 Standards
- Implementation and management of the department’s Hazard Communication Program.
- Personal flotation devices provided for individuals operating near water as required by L&I Standards.

Future goals for the Safety and Health Program for 2016 will include:

- *Continued Safety Training.*
- *Implementing a maintenance program for department fitness equipment.*
- *Building repair and modification to promote healthy work environment to include:*
 - Door access to Administration building.
 - Modification to the hose tower to address safety concerns
 - Replacement of outdoor lighting at both stations with LED lamps.

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 an individual level and a department as a whole. The Aberdeen Fire Department takes safety and health very serious. 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

2015 PUBLIC EDUCATION

In 2015 the City of Aberdeen Fire Department Public Education Division continued to provide fire and injury prevention programs for our residents and those who attend both public and private schools in Aberdeen. The education of the citizens of Aberdeen about potential fire and life safety hazards and how to take action to avoid such hazards is extremely important. Our education efforts are intended to target all ages from early childhood to adults.

During National Fire Prevention Week, firefighters visit all of the grade schools in Aberdeen. While at the schools children from kindergarten through third grade are taught about fire safety, home escape plans, smoke detectors, disaster awareness, injury prevention, just to name a few. This year the Public Education team was able to promote fire and life safety to approximately 1,000 grade schools students in Aberdeen.

As always we were able to provide the following public education services as part of our daily operations:

- Fire Extinguisher Classes
- Pre-School visits
- Smoke Detector Installations
- Bicycle Helmet Fitting
- Aberdeen School District Career Days
- Station Tours
- Blood Pressure checks
- Safety Fairs
- Public Presentations

We look forward to the coming year and the opportunity to once again share our important message of fire safety and injury prevention.

Kelly Niemi, Captain
Public Education

2015 APPARATUS INVENTORY

Station 1 (Headquarters) 700 W. Market Street

UNIT	SHOP #	TYPE
Battalion 7232	162	2013 Dodge 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
Medic Unit	161	2013 Dodge/Braun Medic
Medic Unit	152	2011 Ford/Horton/Braun Medic Unit
Medic Unit	142	2007 Ford/Horton Medic Unit (Reserve)
Medic Unit	144	2004 Ford/Horton Medic Unit
Chief 7251	140	2007 Ford F 150 Staff Vehicle
Chief 7200	93	2002 Ford Excursion Staff Vehicle
Fire Prevention	149	2005 Crown Victoria

Station 2 (South Aberdeen) 700 W. Curtis Street

UNIT	SHOP #	TYPE
Engine 7206	90	2001 Pierce 1500 GPM C.A.F.S. Pumper
Medic Unit	151	2009 Ford/Braun North Star Medic Unit

All fire apparatus meet or exceed NFPA 1901 requirements for equipment, hose loads, and pumping capacity.

All ambulances meet or exceed Washington Department of Health requirements for Advanced Life Support transport ambulances.