




2013 Annual Report

A close-up photograph of an American flag flying from a fire truck. The flag is the central focus, with its stars and stripes clearly visible. The background is a clear blue sky, and parts of the red fire truck are visible on the right side. The entire image is framed by a thin white border.

“It’s nice
to be important,
but it’s more
important
to be nice.”

- Jesse Wallace “J.W.” Culberson
Franklin Fire Chief
1975–1989

Message from the Chief



As I look back at the year behind us, I am proud of the accomplishments of the Franklin Fire Department's men and women. With the support of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and City Administrator Eric Stuckey, we answered 6,315 calls for emergency assistance in 2013—a 7.5 percent increase from the previous year.

On the proactive side, our fire prevention team issued 264 certificates of occupancy, completing more than 900 fire and life safety inspections to make this possible. They also coordinated our department's participation in 372 educational events.

A highlight of the year was the celebration of the arrival of new Ladder 4 in the spring, complete with a wetdown ceremony at Station 4 on June 1.

Looking ahead, we continued plans throughout 2013 for two new fire stations. These include Station 7 in the I-65 Goose Creek area and Station 8 in the Westhaven community. We expect to break ground on Station 8 in the fall of 2014. You'll learn more about the new fire stations, as well as other 2013 accomplishments, on the following pages of this report.

On a personal note, in 2013 I was sworn in as President of the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs, which is one of eight regional divisions of the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

It's been an honor to serve the SEAFCA for several years in a variety of capacities, and provided me with the occasion to visit many other fire departments throughout the Southeast.

In 2013 I travelled to Virginia Beach to address the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association during their annual conference. I also addressed a Virginia Beach Fire Department 2013 firefighter recruit class.

I always return home from these visits grateful for the opportunity I've been given to serve as Fire Chief of the City of Franklin. I understand how fortunate our community is to have the resources and personnel we do, and I don't take this for granted.

I couldn't be more proud.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rocky Garzarek". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rocky Garzarek

Fire Chief

rockyg@franklintn.gov

2013 Quick Facts

INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE (ISO) RATING

- 2/9

CITY INFORMATION

- Land area protected—41.54 square miles
- Resident population protected—66,370 (2013—2014 Special Census)
- Estimated value of property protected—\$10.3 billion (taxable property)
- Firefighters—144
- Administrative personnel—12
- Civilian personnel—3
- Firefighters per shift—48 (minimum staffing is 36 per shift)
- Number of paramedics—39

FIRE OPERATIONS

- Total incident responses—6,315
- Medical and rescue responses—4,320 (68.40%)
- Average response time—4:45 minutes

FIRE PREVENTION

- Number of inspections—903
- Certificates of occupancy issued—264
- Construction plan reviews—779
- Public education events—372

BUDGET

- 2013—2014 fiscal year budget including capital —\$12,732,033

Facilities & Equipment

Stations—6

Engines—4

Ladders—3

Towers—3

Rescue, light—3

Rescue, medium—1

Shift commander SUV—1

Air truck—1

Brush truck—1

Boats—7

Hazmat response vehicle—1

Polaris utility task vehicle—1

Reserve ladder—1

Reserve engine—1

Reserve shift commander SUV—1

Franklin Fire Department's administrative offices are located in City Hall.

Our training center, complete with a five-story burn tower, is located on Century Court.



Command Staff



Rocky Garzarek
Fire Chief



Mike Culberson
Deputy Chief, Operations



Glenn Johnson
Assistant Chief, Training



Andy King
Fire Marshal



Todd Horton
Battalion Chief, A Shift



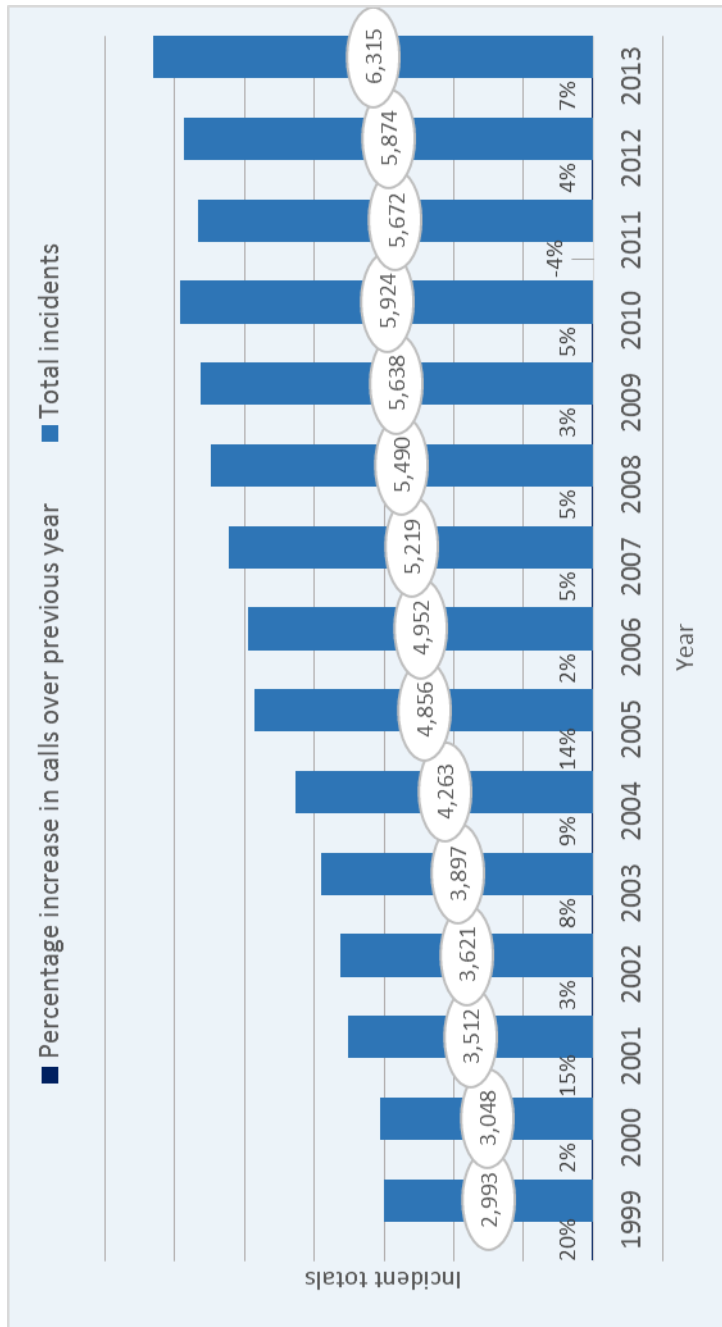
Eddie House
Battalion Chief, B Shift



Greg Baltimore
Battalion Chief, C Shift

Year at a Glance

TOTAL CALLS ANSWERED BY YEAR 1999–2013



7.5%

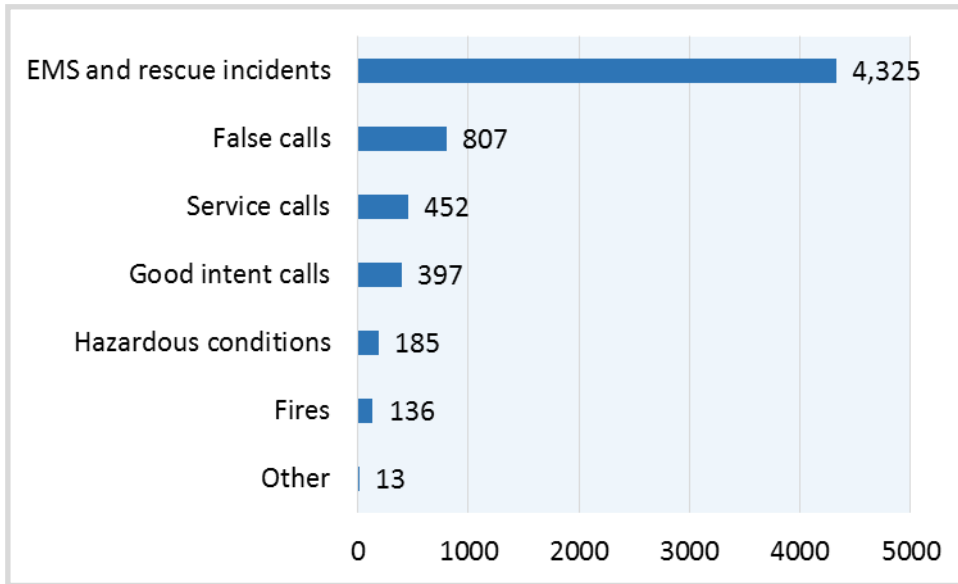
PERCENT INCREASE IN
CALL VOLUME OVER
2012

6.5%

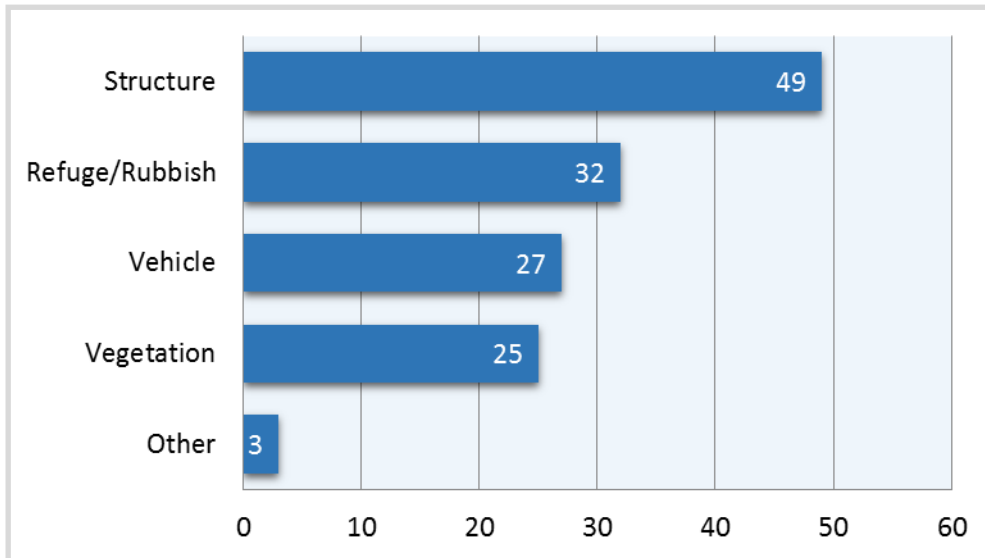
AVERAGE PERCENTAGE
INCREASE IN CALL
VOLUME PER YEAR
OVER THE PAST
15 YEARS

Year at a Glance

RESPONSES BY INCIDENT TYPE IN 2013

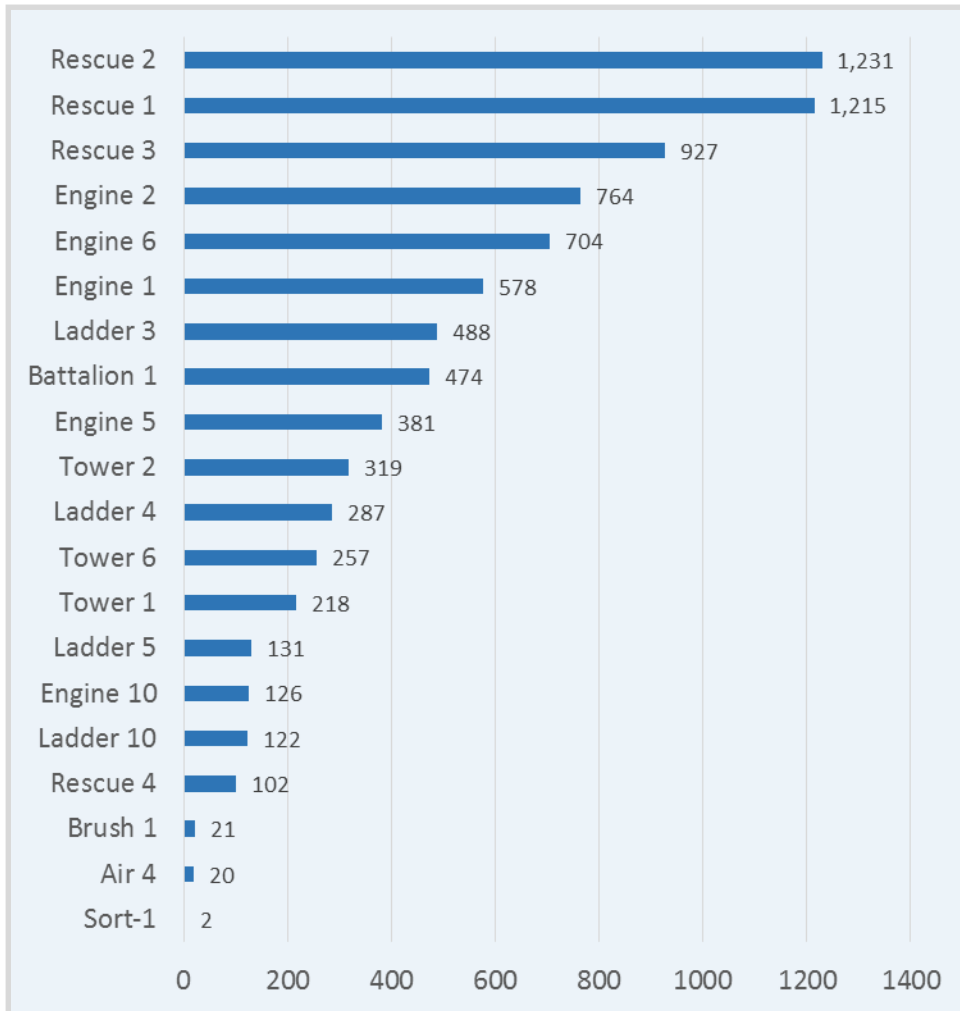


NUMBER OF FIRE INCIDENT RESPONSES BY TYPE IN 2013



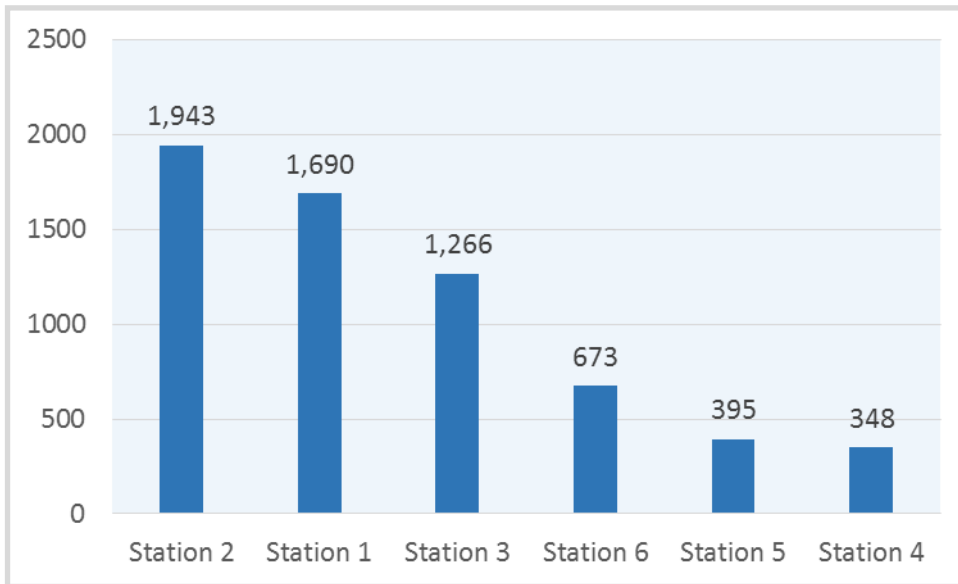
Year at a Glance

RESPONSES BY APPARATUS IN 2013

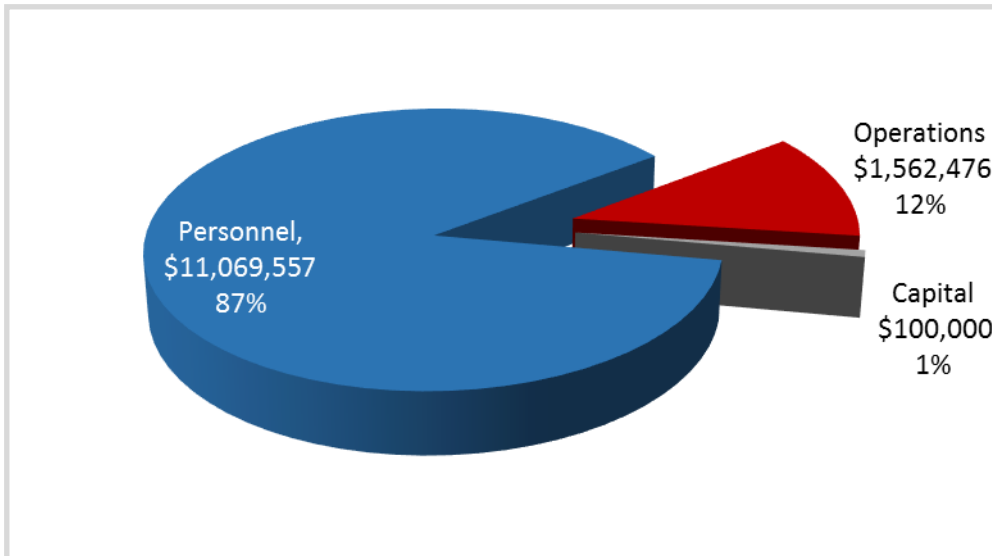


Year at a Glance

NUMBER OF TIMES DISPATCHED BY STATION IN 2013

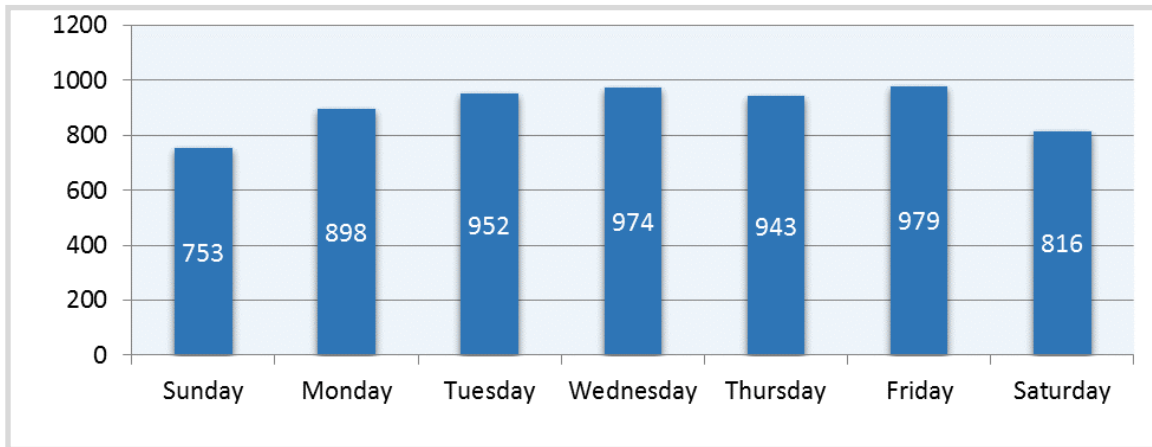


FISCAL YEAR 2013–2014 BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

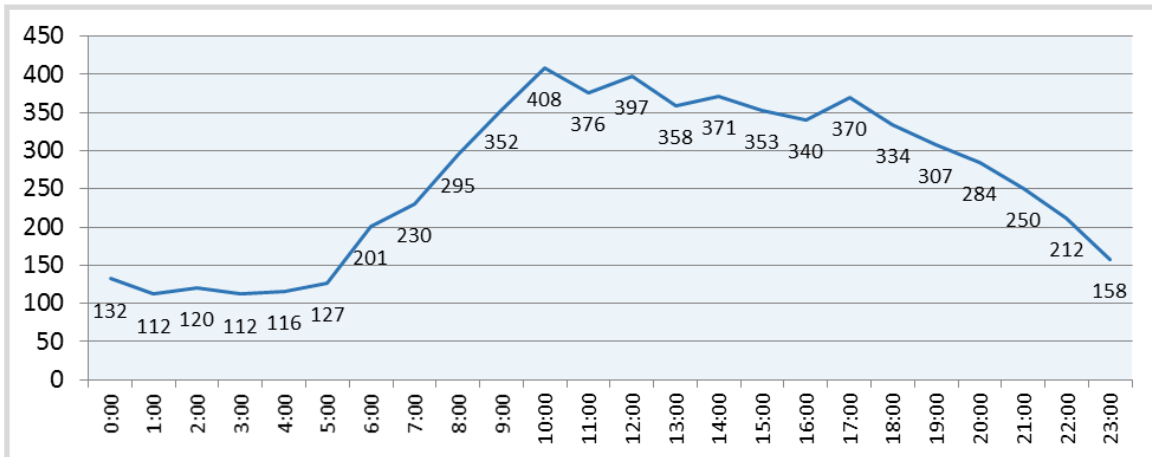


Year at a Glance

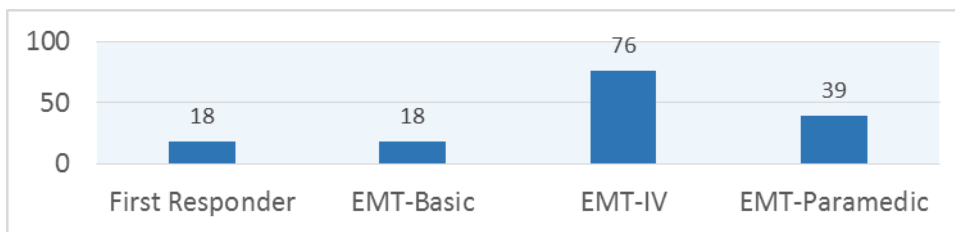
NUMBER OF TIMES DISPATCHED BY DAY OF WEEK IN 2013



RESPONSES BY TIME OF DAY IN 2013



PERSONNEL FIRST RESPONDER/MEDICAL LICENSES IN 2013



Noteworthy Incidents

January 2, 2013 – Fatality crash on I-65 NB at Cool Springs East exit

A single-vehicle rollover crash on I-65 N Exit 68A claimed the life of 34-year old Thompson's Station resident Chad Scism, who died at the scene. The vehicle left the roadway while exiting at the off-ramp from I-65 N to Cool Springs Boulevard east, overturned, and struck a light pole.

January 3, 2013 – Natchez Street house fire

An electrical fire ignited in a kitchen light fixture in this single family home, causing \$5,000 in damage.



*Huffine Manor Circle
townhouse fire,
January 3, 2013*

January 3, 2013 – Huffine Manor Circle townhouse fire

An 11-year old child playing with fire ignited a townhouse blaze that killed two pets and heavily damaged the home, causing \$175,000 in damage.

January 7, 2013 – Motorcyclist fatality crash, South Carothers Parkway

Motorcyclist Kory Dickey, a 25-year old Franklin resident, was traveling south when he lost control of his motorcycle, was thrown into the northbound lane and struck by an approaching motorist. Dickey was air-lifted from the scene to Vanderbilt Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

January 30, 2013 – EF-0 tornado, downtown Franklin, Liberty Pike

There were numerous emergency responses on this date due to what the National Weather Service categorized as an EF-0 tornado. No one was injured but a MTEMC substation was damaged and there were multiple trees and power lines down. Calls for help began around 2:45 a.m. and continued until around 7:30 a.m.

February 6, 2013 – Dunrobin Drive house fire (Pemberton Heights area of McKay's Mill)

Unattended cooking ignited a fire in this single family home, causing \$10,000 in damage. The fire was out when the fire department arrived.

February 18, 2013 – Backyard Burger restaurant fire, Center Point Place

A restaurant fire ignited on the exterior of the building due to carelessly discarded smoking materials. Strong winds during that time frame, gusting from 23 – 43 miles per hour according to the National Weather Service, caused the flames to spread rapidly, resulting in \$450,000 in damage.



Backyard Burger restaurant fire, February 18, 2013

Noteworthy Incidents

March 3, 2013 – Jackson Place condominium fire, North Royal Oaks Boulevard

A resident received minor burn injuries and was transported to the hospital after trying to extinguish a stove fire with a blanket and a fire extinguisher in a Jackson Place condominium. Damage was estimated at \$2,500.

March 5, 2013 – Mutual aid fire at Fairview High School

Franklin Firefighters responded to provide mutual aid at Fairview High School after a fire broke out before school started, resulting in heavy smoke and water damage. The fire was reportedly caused by a Slushee machine inside the ROTC department that overheated and sparked the blaze. The fire sprinkler system activated and helped to control the fire.



Westminster Drive duplex fire, April 2, 2013

April 2, 2013 – Westminster Drive duplex fire

Three people were displaced by a duplex fire that caused \$30,000 in damage. The fire originated in the utility room near and appeared to have been caused by a power cord failure.

April 4, 2013 – Superior Cleaners fire, Hillsboro Road

A concerned citizen called to advise that a fire had occurred the previous day at Superior Cleaners and had gone unreported. Investigators responded and determined an electrical spark in the light ballast ignited built-up lint in the ceiling. The fire caused \$10,000 in damage.

April 10, 2013 – Embassy Suites hotel fire, Crescent Centre Drive

Firefighters quickly extinguished a kitchen grease fire, which caused \$1,000 in damage.

April 24, 2013 – Aggravated arson house fire, Eastover Court (Meadows at Rogershire Subdivision)



Eastover Court aggravated arson house fire, April 24, 2013

Luther Cleveland Still, Jr. was charged with aggravated arson for intentionally setting his home on fire during a domestic dispute. Two children and a 19-year old were in the home at the time of the fire but escaped unharmed. Police arrived before the fire department and found Still barricaded in the home and reportedly armed with a weapon. He was forcibly removed from the home and after his arrest, police learned that Still did not have any weapons. The fire significantly damaged the home, with the loss estimated at \$293,860.

Noteworthy Incidents

May 2, 2013 – SUV injury crash into Drive Now Franklin car dealership, New Highway 96 West



SUV injury crash into car dealership, May 2, 2013

Two employees were injured by an SUV as it crashed into the Drive Now Franklin car dealership. One of the employees, a 71-year old man, was sitting on a bench outside the business when he was struck by the Chevrolet Blazer. The vehicle pushed him through the front window of the building, pinning him under the front axle of the vehicle. He was transported to the hospital in stable condition. A second employee who was sitting at a desk inside was also struck by the vehicle, but not trapped, and suffered minor

injuries. Investigators determined the driver, who was test-driving the vehicle and returning it, pushed the accelerator instead of the brake as he was pulling into a parking space.

May 19, 2013 – Richards Glen Drive house fire (Richards Glen Subdivision)

Smoke alarms alerted a sleeping family just after 2:30 a.m. that their house was on fire. The blaze originated in a second floor storage area above the garage and appeared to have ignited due to an electrical malfunction. The fire caused \$650,000 in damage.



Richards Glen Drive house fire, May 19, 2013

May 21, 2013 – Indian Springs condominium fire, Murfreesboro Road

A worker was soldering pipes in a second floor master bathroom when insulation in the wall ignited. He attempted to extinguish the fire before calling 911. The fire resulted in \$11,000 in damage.

August 26, 2013 – Child burned in treehouse fire, Ash Drive (Hill Estates Subdivision)

A child was burned in a treehouse fire that started when he and another boy were playing with a lighter and charcoal lighter fluid. The fire destroyed the structure, causing \$1,500 in damage.

September 23, 2013 – Shadycrest Lane house fire (Maplewood Subdivision)

An occupant was transported to the hospital for smoke inhalation after a fire broke out on the second floor. Believed to have been caused by carelessly discarded smoking materials, the fire caused \$84,500 in damage.

Noteworthy Incidents

September 25, 2013 – Bell Historic Apartments fire, Liberty Pike

A woman burned her hands while extinguishing a cooking fire in her apartment. The fire caused \$2,000 in damage.

September 29, 2013 – KFC restaurant fire, Murfreesboro Road

This KFC restaurant was open and operating with customers in the dining room and drive-through lane when a fire broke out. Employees discovered the fire in a maintenance closet after they smelled smoke and went to investigate. Investigators determined the fire was caused by combustible materials placed too close to the gas water heater. The fire caused an estimated \$30,000 in damage and the business was closed for nearly three months for repairs.

October 2, 2013 – West Main Street house fire

The single family house fire was caused by a propane gas-fired stockpot being used indoors. It caused \$1,200 in damage.

November 13, 2013 – Williamsburg Place house fire (Monticello Subdivision)

Smoke alarms alerted a man working in his home office that his kitchen was on fire. He extinguished the fire before the fire department arrived. The fire started after he inadvertently left his stove on with a skillet that contained cooking grease. The fire caused \$2,500 in damage.

December 18, 2013 – Industrial Plastics Recycling Plant mutual aid fire, Hickman County

Franklin Firefighters and members of Franklin's IT Department responded to provide mutual aid in Hickman County after a fire broke out at the Industrial Plastics Recycling Plant on Plant Road. Known locally as the former Wrigley Charcoal Plant site, the fire resulted in the evacuation of all residences within a four-mile radius of the facility. Firefighters from Hickman, Maury and other surrounding counties spent several hours providing aid.



*Hickman County Industrial Plastics Recycling Plant
mutual aid fire, December 18, 2013*

Training Highlights

Franklin Fire Department's Training Division trains recruit firefighters from Franklin and other area fire departments, as well as current personnel. In 2013 the following individuals completed our 10-week recruit firefighting training program:

FRANKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Jason E. Bizwell
- Ryan Brinkman
- Joseph D. Burwell
- Kevin M. Hunt
- Quaid B. Ledingham
- Joshua C. Meeks
- Michael R. Radom
- Vincent Vetitoe

CITY OF FRANKLIN BUILDING & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- Rodney L. Prince
(Rodney is the City of Franklin's Fire Plans Examiner and is also a Volunteer Firefighter for the Centerville Volunteer Fire Department.)

DICKSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Gregory L. Mobley
- Ryan L. Roland

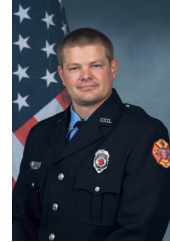
MAURY COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Brian McCandless
- Robert L. Pitts Jr.
- Michael J. Ridings
- Nicholas Riley

MEET FRANKLIN'S NEWEST FIREFIGHTERS



Jason Bizwell
Firefighter



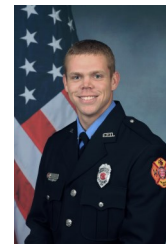
Ryan Brinkman
Firefighter
Paramedic



Joseph Burwell
Firefighter
Paramedic



Kevin Hunt
Firefighter
Paramedic



Quaid Ledingham
Firefighter
Paramedic



Joshua Meeks
Firefighter



Michael Radom
Firefighter
Paramedic



Vincent Vetitoe
Firefighter
Paramedic

Training Highlights

Confined Space Rescue

In the spring, firefighters learned how to safely and proficiently perform confined space rescue operations. The course covered confined space assessment, pre-entry operations, atmospheric testing, personal protective equipment (PPE), lockout/tagout procedures, ventilation, communications, and more.

Hazardous Materials Response

Hazmat IQ – Hosted by the Franklin Fire Department in conjunction with the Williamson County Emergency Management Agency, this class taught responders how to size-up any chemical in 10-seconds, verify the hazards in two minutes, select the proper monitoring devices and personal protective equipment (PPE), and operate safely in the hot zone.

Hazardous Materials Operations – FFD personnel who are certified Tennessee Emergency Management Agency instructors conducted this class for Franklin and surrounding agencies. This 40-hour course covered the basic operating procedures for a first responder, emphasizing a systematic response to hazardous materials incidents.

Hazardous Materials Team Operations – Personnel from the Franklin Fire and Police Department, Williamson County Rescue Squad and Brentwood Fire Department participated in this 80-hour course, which trained personnel to operate as a unit and in an offensive mode when responding to hazardous materials incidents.

Urban Search and Rescue (USAR)

USAR training was conducted at the Franklin Fire Training Center for firefighters, other city employees and multiple jurisdictions with the assistance of Tennessee Task Force 2 USAR and TN Homeland Security District 5.



Certified Rescue Technician – Franklin Firefighter Rob Thomas was selected to represent TN Homeland Security District 5 in an 80-hour USAR Course at “Disaster City.” This mock community created by the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service in College Station, Texas, features full-scale, collapsible structures designed to simulate various levels of disaster and wreckage. Emergency responders from around the world travel to Disaster City for search and rescue training. Rob completed the course in November, becoming a Certified Rescue Technician.

High-rise Firefighting

In December Battalion Chief Todd Horton, Captain Tom Chaffin and Firefighter-Paramedic Richie Schatz attended the High-Rise Operations Conference in Pensacola, FL. As a result of this training the Franklin and Brentwood Fire Departments participated in joint training exercises on high-rise firefighting at the Franklin Park office building the following year.

Administration Highlights

PERSONNEL CHANGES



*Administrative
Services Captain
Tyler Crews*

Assistant Chief Todd Horton left Administration in February to return to the Operations Division as Battalion Chief of A-Shift. He assumed a position formerly held by Battalion Chief Gentry Fox, who retired in December 2012. Chief Horton's former position has not yet been filled.

In October Tyler Crews was promoted to Captain of Administrative Services. He took over the position that had been vacated by Captain Joe Polenzani in 2011 and never been filled. Tyler was formerly a lieutenant at Franklin Fire Station 2.

Secretary Sally Bittner retired in April after being with the Franklin Fire Department for 11 years. Jessica Peach was hired as an Administrative Assistant that same month. Jessica has been employed by the City of Franklin since 2007 and came to us from the Finance Department, where she was formerly responsible for payroll. She has a B.S. in Law, Justice and Society with a concentration in Conflict Management from Lipscomb University. Jessica and her three children live outside of Columbia in Rally Hill



*Administrative
Assistant
Jessica Peach*



The Administration Division is responsible for the acquisition of new apparatus and equipment, including the new Ladder 4, which arrived in 2013. To learn more about the new Ladder 4, please see the next page.

Administration Highlights

FFD CELEBRATED THE ARRIVAL OF NEW LADDER 4 IN 2013

More than 250 people attended a wetdown ceremony at Franklin Fire Station 4 on June 1, to celebrate the arrival of new Ladder 4 and officially place it in service.

During the fire truck dedication, traditionally known as a wetdown, children and adults helped “push” the old ladder truck out of the bay to make room for the new truck.

They transferred water and equipment from the old ladder truck to the new one, then washed and sprayed down the new truck, and “pushed” it back into the bay.

An official 911 tone-out announced the retirement of old Ladder 4 and the placement of new Ladder 4 in the bay and ready for service.



NEW LADDER 4 FEATURES

- 2013 Sutphen SA 75 Quint Aerial ladder
- Built in Amlin, Ohio
- Cost \$745,224
- High-intensity LED emergency and scene lighting
- Increased storage, including inside storage for medical equipment that must be climate-controlled
- Built-in firefighting foam system for fighting most fires
- Carries 500 gallons of water
- Firefighting pump can flow 1,500 gallons of water per minute
- Traditional bell mounted on the front bumper

ABOUT OLD LADDER 4

- New Ladder 4 replaced a 1997 Sutphen SA 75
- The old Ladder 4 became Reserve Ladder 10
- It is the city’s first reserve ladder truck



Administration Highlights

FUTURE FIRE STATION

In 2013 city officials moved forward with plans to build a new fire station in the Westhaven community. The new station will shorten response times to the western areas of Franklin and provide back-up to Station 1 in downtown Franklin.

The Westhaven station will be located at the corner of Whitman Road and Front Street. A groundbreaking ceremony is expected to take place in the fall of 2014.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen approved a prototypical design for the building, which will be utilized for future fire stations.

Known as Station 8, the new station will actually be constructed before Station 7, which is expected to be built in the I-65 Goose Creek exit area following the completion of Station 8.

The estimated cost of the new station is \$3.3 million, which will be paid for by the facilities tax fund. The land was donated by Southern Land.



front street elevation

11-22-2013

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design concepts are the exclusive
property of Renaissance Group Inc.

proposed elevation for
Westhaven Fire Station
Franklin, Tennessee



Fire Prevention Highlights

FIRE SPRINKLER SAVES IN 2013

March 14, 2013 – Alara Cool Springs Apartments, Gillespie Drive

A single fire sprinkler head extinguished a cooking fire, protecting the \$2 million building and its occupants. Damage was estimated at \$5,000.



May 6, 2013 – NHC Place Cool Springs Assisted Living Center, Cool Springs Boulevard

Fire sprinklers extinguished a fire that started in the laundry room of this \$34 million senior living facility, protecting the residents and limiting damage to \$40,000.

PERSONNEL NEWS



*Administrative Assistant
Joanne Finn*

Administrative Assistant Joanne Finn joined the Fire Prevention team in January, quickly becoming an invaluable member. Joanne previously worked for the City of Columbia in the City Recorder's office as a senior accounting clerk. She resides in Spring Hill with her husband.



*Fire Inspector and
U.S. Coast Guard
Reserves Petty
Officer 2nd Class
Jonathan Dye*

On July 1, Franklin Fire Inspector Jonathan Dye began serving a one-year deployment with the U.S. Coast Guard Reserves in Southeast Texas. Jonathan has served our country in this capacity since July 2007. As a Petty Officer 2nd Class, Jonathan and his crew's primary mission is providing port security for the U.S. Army during the loading and offloading operations of high value assets such as vehicles, aircraft and artillery.

Firefighters assisted Fire Inspector Wayne Mobley in Jonathan's absence. Those who volunteered for a three-month temporary assignment were Firefighter Chris McElvain, and Firefighter-Paramedics Ryan Naylor and Josh Sanders.

Additionally, Firefighter-Paramedics Daniel Donegan and Ryan Naylor were instrumental in assisting the Fire Prevention Division from mid-September to mid-November with Fire Prevention Month public education activities.

Fire Prevention Highlights

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS IN 2013

Educational events	Number of events	Number of participants
Apparatus demonstration	55	5,708
Career fair	1	3,000
Child passenger safety seat check	126	149
CPR training	8	111
Extinguisher training	2	65
Family Safety House	23 (days)	1,217
Fire Prevention Week at the Mall	7 (days)	295
Fire/evacuation drill	20	6,290
Health fair	6	530
Open house	2	375
Presentation	3	236
Smoke alarm installation	48	152
Station tour	57	1,016
Youth firesetting intervention	1	3
Other	13	637
TOTAL	372	19,784

SMOKE ALARM INSTALLATIONS IN 2013

152

CHILD CAR SEAT INSTALLATIONS IN 2013

149

NUMBER OF CERTIFIED CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY TECHNICIANS IN 2013

15

FRANKLIN HEAT TV SHOW



FF Jeff Boggs (left) and Eng. Wylie Jones

Our own original TV show, Franklin Heat, debuted in 2013. Airing quarterly on Franklin TV and YouTube, the educational show is hosted by Engineer Wylie Jones and Firefighter Jeff Boggs. Written and produced by Fire and Life Safety Educator Jamie Melton, the 2013

shows had more than 2,000 combined views online.



Milestones

RETIREMENTS

- Engineer Darryl Jones
- Firefighter Skip Kroeger
- Secretary Sally Bittner

PROMOTIONS

- Captain Tyler Crews
- Captain Michael Pardue
- Lieutenant Matt Stout
- Engineer Kyle Bess
- Engineer Wylie Jones
- Engineer Dale Lott
- Engineer Eddie Proctor

RESIGNATIONS

- Engineer Tommy Nelms
- Firefighter—Paramedic Chad Hollingsworth
- Firefighter—Paramedic Tim Primm
- Firefighter Brian Vick



Darryl Jones
Engineer
25 years of service



Skip Kroeger
Firefighter
18 years of service



Sally Bittner
Secretary
11 years of service