



FRANKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

2009 Annual Report



Photo: New Engine 1, a 2009 Sutphen pumper, was officially placed in service on July 25, 2009.

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MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF

Effective July 1, 2009, our fire protection rating with the Insurance Services Office (ISO) improved to a Class 2 from a Class 3, which will potentially benefit businesses and homeowners with reduced insurance premiums.



Franklin Fire Chief
Rocky Garzarek
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In 2009 the Franklin Fire Department had several key achievements. Here are just a few:

- Effective July 1, 2009, our fire protection rating with the Insurance Services Office (ISO) improved to a Class 2 from a Class 3, which will potentially benefit businesses and homeowners with reduced insurance premiums. Of the more than 47,600 departments that the ISO rates nationwide, only 538 departments (less than 1.13 percent) have achieved this status.
- Also on July 1, an automatic aid agreement with the City of Brentwood went into effect. Now both Brentwood and Franklin units respond to structure fires in the automatic aid coverage area, which includes southern Brentwood and northern Franklin, in order to decrease response time in both communities. As a result, both departments were presented with an award for outstanding achievement in the area of public safety by the Greater Nashville Regional Council in September.
- In September, Station 5 began providing Advanced Life Support medical care, bringing the number of fire stations that provide ALS service to five out of six stations.

You can learn more about these accomplishments and many others on the pages that follow.

On another note, the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC) went into effect with a monumental change – calling for fire sprinklers in the new construction of one and two family homes. While Franklin has not yet adopted this requirement, it reflects our focus and the focus of the fire service to move from a more reactive strategy to a more proactive one.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), home fire sprinklers save lives, reduce property loss, and can even help cut homeowners' insurance premiums. Not only do home fire sprinklers dramatically reduce the risk of home fire deaths, they also decrease fire damage by as much as two-thirds when compared to homes without sprinklers. Until recently, building codes only required sprinklers in most public buildings, but the 2009 IRC now requires fire sprinklers where fires are occurring most - in our homes.

I have protected my family with home fire sprinklers. If you are building or renovating a home, I encourage you to consider doing the same. To learn more please give me a call, send me an email, or visit our website at www.franklintn.gov/fire.

Finally, sadly in October, one of our firefighters, paramedic David Cline, lost his life during a tragic vehicle accident while he was off-duty working at his second job with a private ambulance service. David left behind a wife and five children, his fire department family, and many other loved ones and friends. He was a vital part of our team and is greatly missed.

Sincerely,

Rocky Garzarek, Fire Chief

An ISO Class 2 Department

2009 QUICK FACTS



City Information

- Land area protected—41.51 square miles
- Resident population protected—56,000 (2008 Special Census)
- Estimated value of property protected—\$7.9 billion (taxable property)
- Firefighters—144
- Administrative personnel—12
- Civilian personnel—3
- Firefighters per shift—48

Fire Operations

- Total incident responses – 5,638
- Medical and rescue responses – 3,816 (68%)
- Average response time – 4:33

Fire Prevention

- Public education and community relations events participated in – 280
- 1st grade students instructed on fire and life safety – 938
- Construction plan reviews – 568
- New construction inspections—793
- Existing building fire code inspections – 204
- Youth firesetting intervention – 2 referrals

Budget

- 2008-2009 fiscal year budget (personnel, operations and capital) – \$12,188,511

Equipment and Facilities

- Stations – 6
- Training center – 1
- Administrative office suite in City Hall – 1
- Engines – 4
- Ladders – 3
- Towers – 3
- Rescue, light – 2
- Rescue, medium – 1
- Rescue, air – 1
- Brush truck – 1
- Boats – 2
- Hazmat response vehicle – 1
- Reserve engine – 1
- Reserve rescue – 1
- Staff vehicles – 12

In 2009, the men and women of the Franklin Fire Department answered 5,638 calls for assistance—a three percent increase in call volume over 2008.





MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

Mission

The Franklin Fire Department dedicates our efforts to provide for the safety and welfare of the public and the preservation of life, health, property, and the environment utilizing prompt service, continual training, and teamwork.

Vision

Serve the community by maintaining a highly trained professional fire department with a commitment to excellence.

Values

Being members of a dedicated team of professionals, it is our responsibility to treat everyone with dignity and respect while providing the best service possible. Lives are more valuable than property. We value the faith and trust of the community and continually work to deserve that trust through our attitude, conduct, and accomplishments. We use technology to enhance our efficiency and effectiveness in the services we provide to our customers. We value the diversity of the people in our department and our community. We promote teamwork through a positive environment.

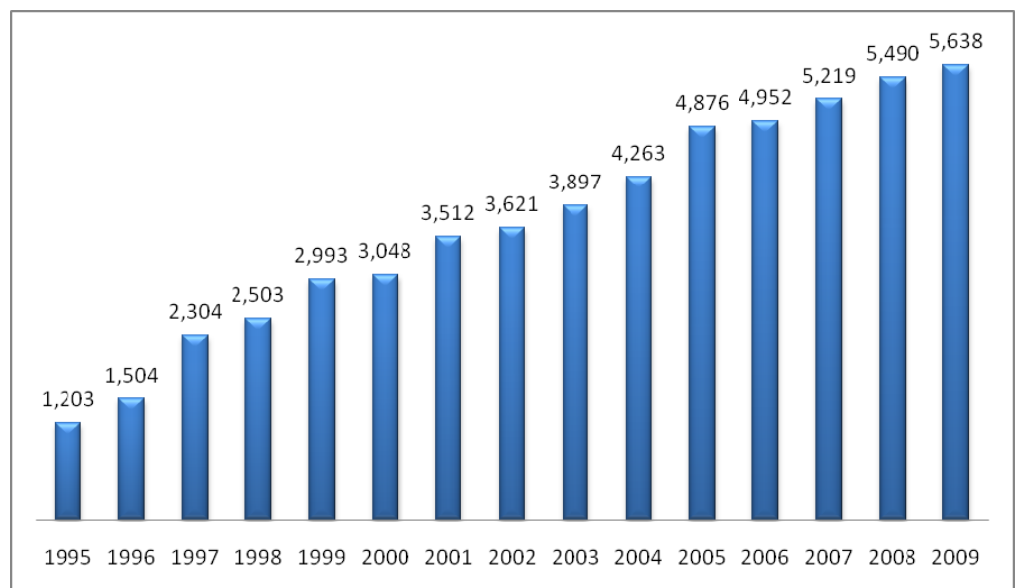


The Franklin Fire Department was established in 1820 as a volunteer department. Today we are an all-career department with 144 firefighters.

Pictured above: Franklin Volunteer Fire Department on July 4, 1910.

Photo courtesy of Bob Canaday.

1995-2009 Summary of all incidents



OPERATIONS DIVISION



Deputy Chief of Operations
 Mike Culberson
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Battalion Chief, A Shift
 Gentry Fox
 gentryf@franklintn.gov

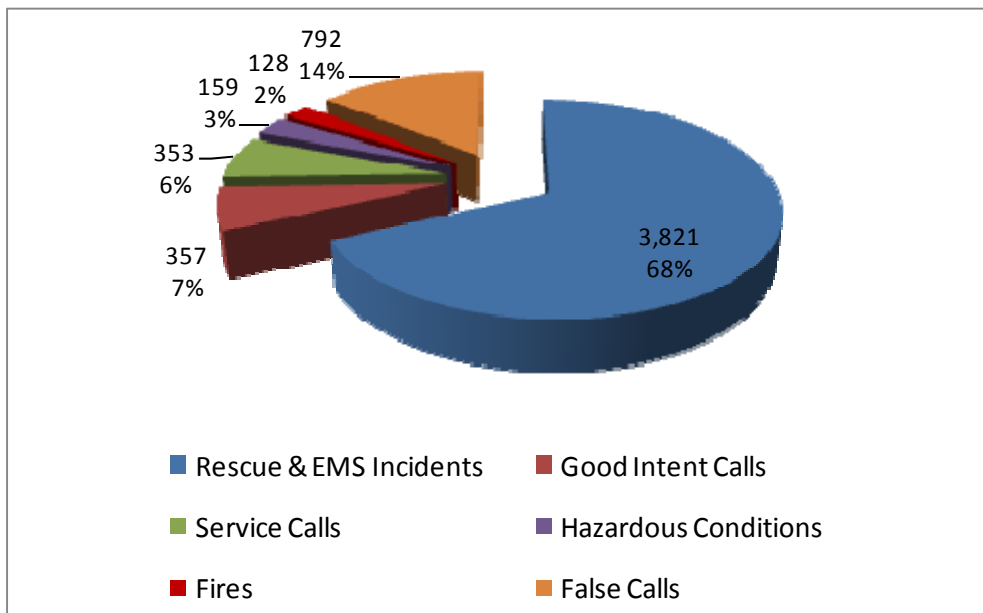


Battalion Chief, B Shift
 Eddie House
 eddieh@franklintn.gov



Battalion Chief, C Shift
 Greg Baltimore
 gregb@franklintn.gov

2009 Incident summary by category



Operations Responsibilities

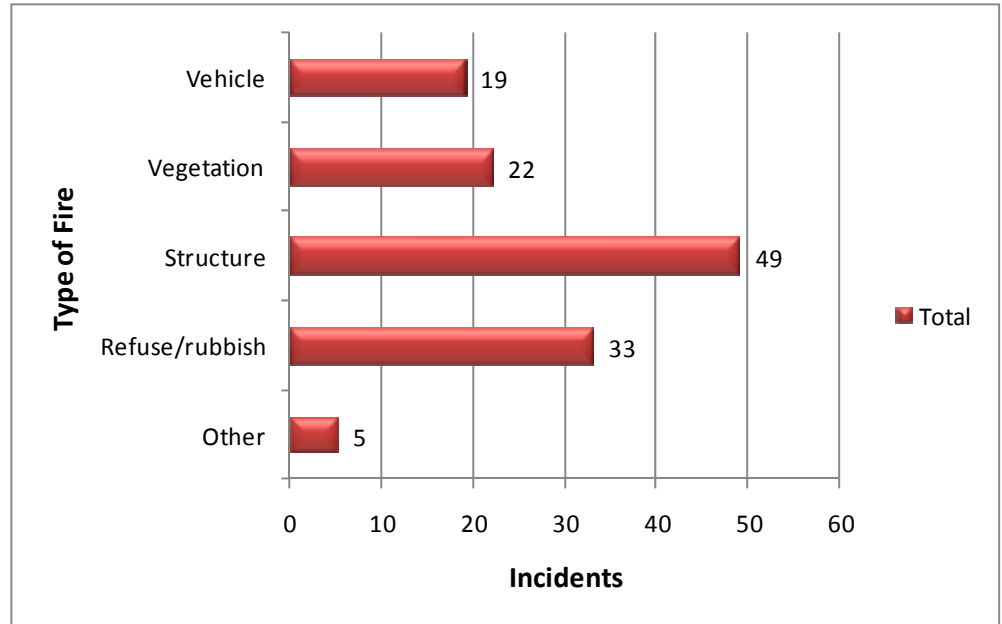
- Fire suppression
- Emergency medical services
- Hazardous materials response and mitigation
- Technical rescue operations
- Pre-incident planning
- Participation in community events to provide residents with fire and life safety information
- Training



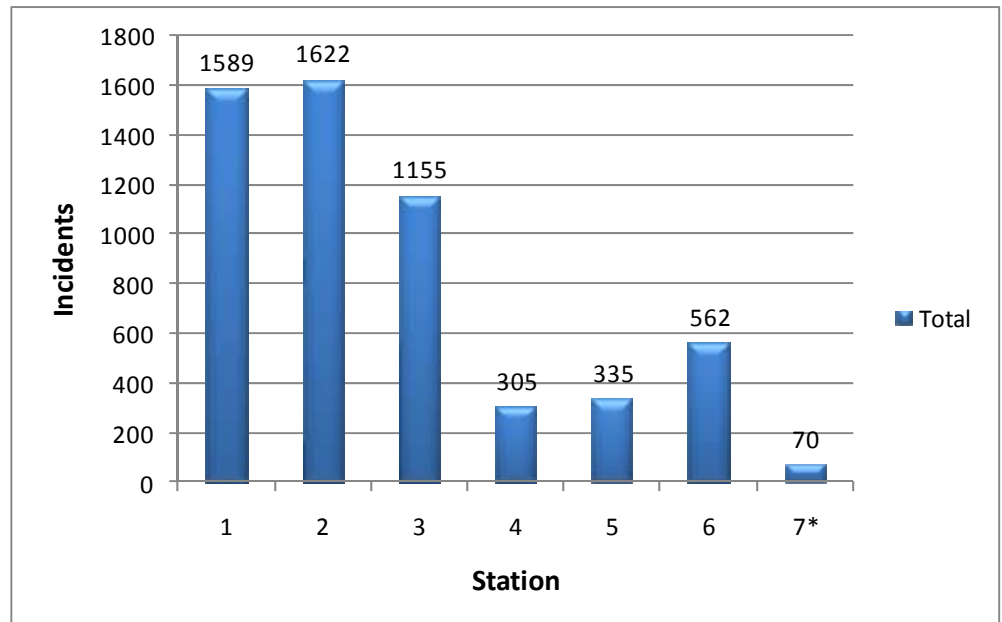
OPERATIONS DIVISION

In 2009 our average response time for 90 percent of all incidents was 4:04 minutes. Our average response time for all calls was 4:33 minutes.

2009 Summary of fire incidents by type



2009 Summary of incidents by station

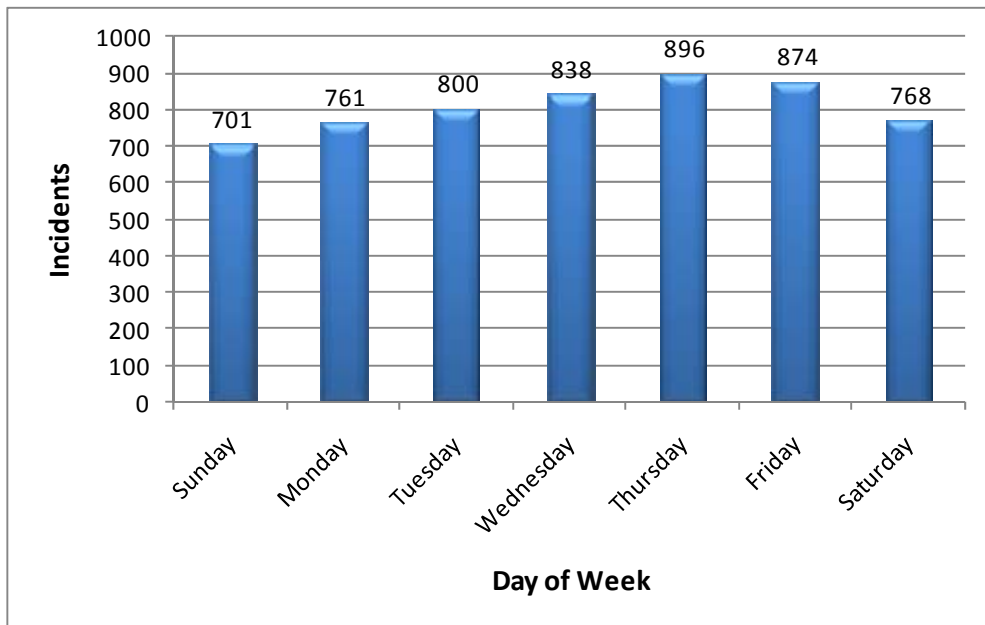


*Station 7 is a proposed future station in the Goose Creek area, presently covered by Stations 2 and 5.

OPERATIONS DIVISION



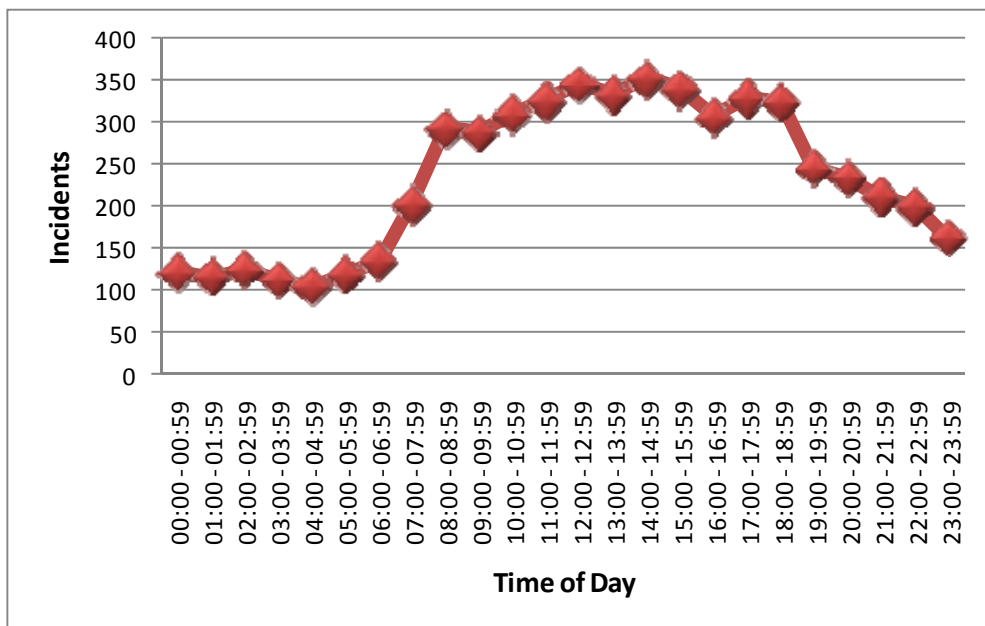
2009 Summary of incidents by day of week



68%

*of the department's
calls in 2009 were
medical in nature*

2009 Summary of incidents by time of day





NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

Second annual toy and clothes drive a success!

Thanks to the generous contributions of the community, Franklin Firefighters were able to present coats, clothes, shoes, and toys to more than 300 children during their 2nd Annual Toy and Clothes Drive to benefit Williamson County children in need. The gifts were distributed during two Christmas parties on December 18, 2009, complete with Santa Claus, the Titans Cheerleaders and T-Rac.

January 13, 2009 – House fire, Knob Ct.

A teen boy playing with antiperspirant spray and a lighter in his bedroom set his family's home on fire. Damage was estimated at \$15,000.

January 15, 2009 – Mall fire, CoolSprings Galleria Mall

A suspicious fire damaged the service corridor behind the Oasis Food Court. The blaze, which evacuated a portion of the mall, was contained by automatic fire sprinklers and extinguished by firefighters. Damage was estimated at \$10,000.

February 12, 2009 – House fire, Church St.

Fire that started in the kitchen of a downtown Franklin rental house quickly destroyed the home, displacing a family of four. The house was a total loss, estimated at \$75,000.

March 18, 2009—Fire station fire, Franklin Fire Station 5, Noah Dr.

A small fire broke out at Franklin Fire Station 5, when the motor in a restroom ventilation fan overheated. Firefighters were at the station, when they smelled smoke just before 5 p.m. Upon investigation they discovered the fire, which was burning above the ceiling in the restroom located just off the apparatus bay. The fire was placed under control in less than 15 minutes. No one was injured and no apparatus or equipment was damaged. The damage was contained to the area above the fan, the restroom was still usable and the station remained in service. Damage was estimated at \$3,000.

April 2, 2009 – Nursing home fire, NHC Healthcare, Fairground St.

Lightning struck the NHC Healthcare nursing home on Fairground St. around 3:30 p.m. and caught the roof, ductwork and attic on fire, in the area above a mechanical room. Attic fire sprinklers controlled the fire, and firefighters were able to put the flames completely out in about 20 minutes. Residents had to be relocated to safer wings of the building while firefighters extinguished the fire. No one was injured and the facility remained open. Damage was estimated at \$25,000.

April 12, 2009 – Retail store ceiling collapse, TJ Maxx, Cool Springs Blvd.



TJ Maxx ceiling partial ceiling collapse.

A section of the ceiling inside T.J. Maxx retail store collapsed the morning of Easter Sunday around 10:50 a.m. The building was unoccupied and scheduled to be closed for the holiday. No one was injured. The collapse, caused a fire sprinkler pipe to rupture which triggered a fire alarm response by Franklin Firefighters. They discovered the collapse, stopped the flow of water, and helped to salvage inventory. Brookside Properties and T.J. Maxx Management responded to the scene to coordinate the cleanup efforts. Damage was estimated at \$50,000.



NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

April 21, 2009 – House fire, West Main St.

A passerby alerted a Franklin couple that their house was on fire and they credited him with saving their lives. Mike “Goose” Davis was driving past the home of Luis and Rosario Garcia around 12:25 p.m. and noticed a fire in the carport area. He immediately stopped to notify the Garcias who were unaware of the fire. The couple escaped unharmed, although strong winds caused the flames to rapidly spread and their home was destroyed. Franklin Firefighters arrived to find heavy fire engulfing the residence. Damage was estimated at \$150,000.



West Main St. house fire.

May 11, 2009 – Apartment fire, Alara Farms Apartments, Gillespie Dr.



Alara Farms apartment fire.

A family of five escaped but their three pets had to be rescued from a fire in their third-story apartment just before 3:30 a.m. The other residents in the 24-unit apartment building also evacuated safely. One person was transported to Williamson Medical Center for evaluation and was released. Damage was estimated at \$75,000.

December 12, 2009 – House fire, Walnut Dr.

Franklin Firefighters encountered flashover in a fire that destroyed a Hill Estates home just before midnight. Investigators determined the fire was caused by combustibles placed too close to a wall heater. Six people escaped unharmed. Damage was estimated at \$80,000.

Noteworthy mutual aid incidents

February 19, 2009—Williamson County house fire, Ridgetop Ct.

Units from the Franklin Fire Department responded to a house fire in Williamson County to provide mutual aid to the Williamson County Rescue Squad. The house was located on Ridgetop Ct. in Cross Creek subdivision - the first subdivision outside of Franklin’s city limits off of Murfreesboro Rd.

November 26, 2009—City of Brentwood house fire, Brushboro Dr.

Thanksgiving for a Brentwood family turned tragic when the outside grill they used to cook a turkey caught fire and quickly spread to their deck and home. Franklin Firefighters responded to provide mutual aid to the Brentwood Fire Department. No one was injured; however the fire caused an estimated \$539,600 in damages.



Brushboro Dr. mutual aid house fire in Brentwood.

Franklin Firefighters were the #1 department in Middle Tennessee for the 2009 “Fill the boot” campaign, which benefitted the Muscular Dystrophy Association!

Department	Amount
Franklin	\$ 8,386.00
Brentwood	\$ 6,187.00
Clarksville	\$ 6,062.00
Hendersonville	\$ 4,314.00
Nashville	\$ 3,923.00
Dickson	\$ 2,200.00
Columbia	\$ 1,500.00
Fosterville	\$ 1,252.00



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

EMS Responsibilities

- *Advanced life support and basic life support medical services*
- *Bicycle medics for special events and assignments*
- *Tactical EMS to assist police SWAT team*



EMS Officer
Sarah Glenn
(615) 550-6760
sarah.glenn@franklintn.gov

New Medical Officer joined the department

Sarah Glenn was named Medical Officer of the Franklin Fire Department, effective March 13, 2009. Glenn joined the department after serving as Director of Emergency Medical Services Education at Columbia State Community College.

She is responsible for the oversight and promotion of high quality patient care. In 2009, 68 percent of the department's calls were medical in nature.

Glenn, a paramedic and certified instructor, began awarding state-approved continuing education unit (CEU) credits for classes taught at the department, providing personnel with the ability to earn the CEU credits necessary for licensure renewal in-house.

Additionally, she coordinates training and First Responder compliance with Williamson Medical Center EMS.

Advanced Life Support Services expanded

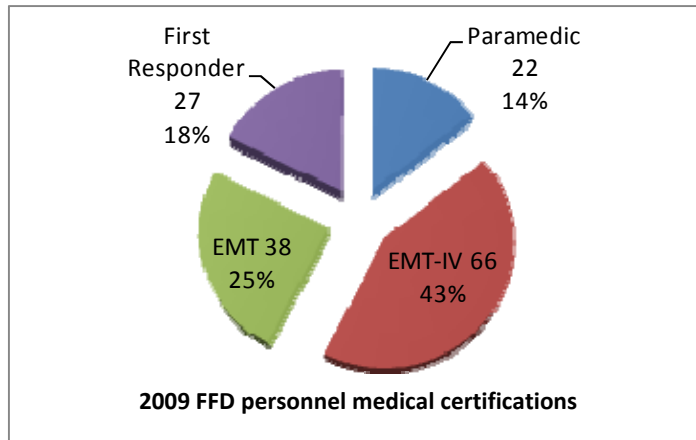
In 2009, five of Franklin's six fire stations provided Advanced Life Support Services (ALS). This was an improvement over 2008, when just four stations provided ALS Service. Station 5 was added as an ALS station on September 7, 2009.

ALS service means that paramedic crews respond to medical calls. Paramedics can interpret cardiac rhythms and do invasive procedures during medical calls that emergency medical technicians (EMTs provide Basic Life Support or BLS Service) aren't licensed or qualified to do. They can also administer life-saving medications and perform advanced airway procedures.



Firefighter-Paramedic Brian Brandon.

Five Franklin Firefighters became licensed paramedics



After more than one year and 1,000 hours of class and clinical time, Shawn Donovan, Seth Frost, Andy Hackford, Brandy Mangels, and Josh Sanders became licensed paramedics with the Tennessee Department of Health and credentialed by Williamson Medical Center EMS.

That brought the total

number of licensed paramedics for the department to 22 in 2009.



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Nineteen Franklin Firefighters improved medical certifications

Two of our personnel completed a 15-week program to obtain their National Registry certification and EMT-IV Tennessee state license, an improvement from their previous certification of First Responder.

Additionally, 17 personnel completed an EMT-IV upgrade course, which allowed them to upgrade their medical license from EMT-Basic to EMT-IV. The course involved approximately 40 hours of classroom time, clinical rotations, and a testing process with the State of Tennessee.

Station 5 recognized for CPR save in St. Thomas Hospital video

On February 5, 2009, St. Thomas Hospital media staff visited Franklin Fire Station 5 to film a video featuring the firefighters who successfully revived a woman who had suffered a heart attack. The incident occurred on September 26, 2008 and Lt. Charlene Forehand and her crew, including Engineer Mike Morgan and Firefighter Keith McVoy, responded from Station 5, and Paramedic Joe Posey and Firefighter Tyler Crews responded from Station 2.

The video, which was about CPR and the chain of survival, was shown at the St. Thomas Chest Pain Network Symposium. It continues to be used for training purposes, and can also be viewed on our website at www.franklintn.gov/fire.



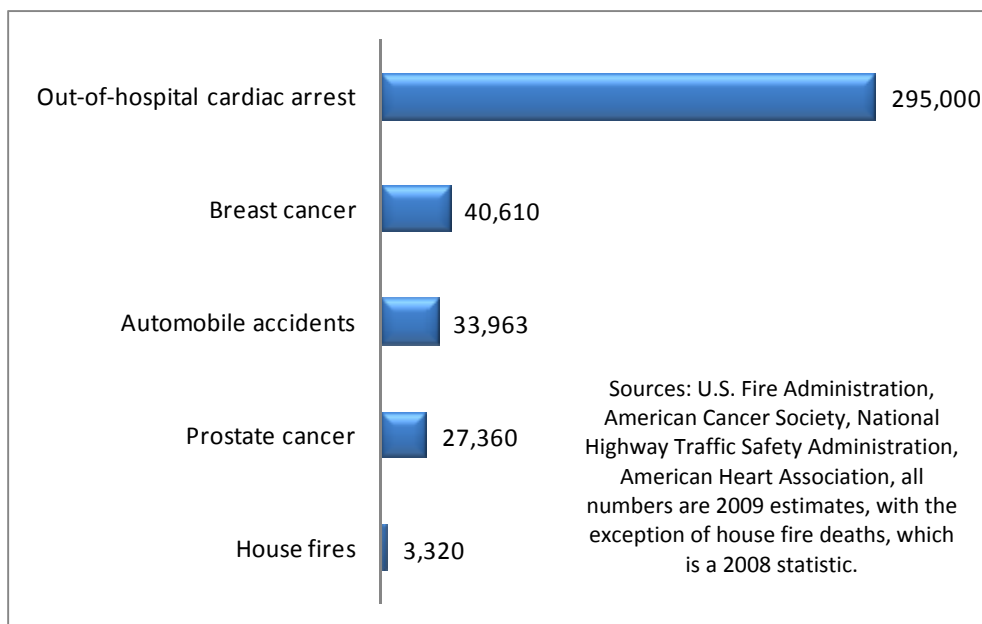
Engineer Mike Morgan being interviewed and filmed by the St. Thomas Hospital media staff.



Chain of survival:

- Early access
- Early CPR
- Early defibrillation
- Early advanced care

Common causes of death in the United States





TRAINING DIVISION

Training Responsibilities

- *New recruit training*
- *In-service training*
- *Federal and state certifications and compliance*
- *Multi-company drills*
- *New equipment training*



Training Captain
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Training Captain
Glenn Johnson
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glennj@franklintn.gov

Franklin Fire Department hosted regional firefighter testing

On February 27, 2009, the Franklin Fire Department supported the region by hosting Firefighter I and II Live Fire Practical Testing for the Tennessee Commission on Firefighting. Firefighters from across Middle Tennessee underwent testing at the department's Training Center and ten Franklin Firefighters served as evaluators.

Rope rescue technician instructor certification

Training Captains Jeff Elliott and Glenn Johnson completed a train-the-trainer rope rescue technician instructor course in July. Additionally, Captain Joe Polenzani and Firefighters Tyler Crews, Jonathan Gill, Jonathan Puckett, and Matt Stout attended a one-week Rope Rescue Operations class at the Tennessee Fire and Codes Academy (TFACA) in October.



Rope rescue training at TFACA.

Confined space training

Elliott and Johnson also spent four days with Chattanooga's Urban Search and Rescue team in August, learning how to manage confined space rescue incidents. Later that month, along with Lt. Michael Pardue, they passed their knowledge on to Franklin Firefighters, during confined space rescue training at the Westhaven pump station.

Franklin Fire Department Training Program Recognized



Confined space training at the Westhaven pump station.

The Franklin Fire Department was recognized in July by TFACA with a Gold Award for training hours Franklin Firefighters completed during fiscal year 2008-2009 at the academy. Franklin Firefighters logged a total of 2,675 student hours, an average of 18 hours each. Some of the courses were taught on site at Franklin's Training Center and attended by firefighters from across the state.

TRAINING DIVISION

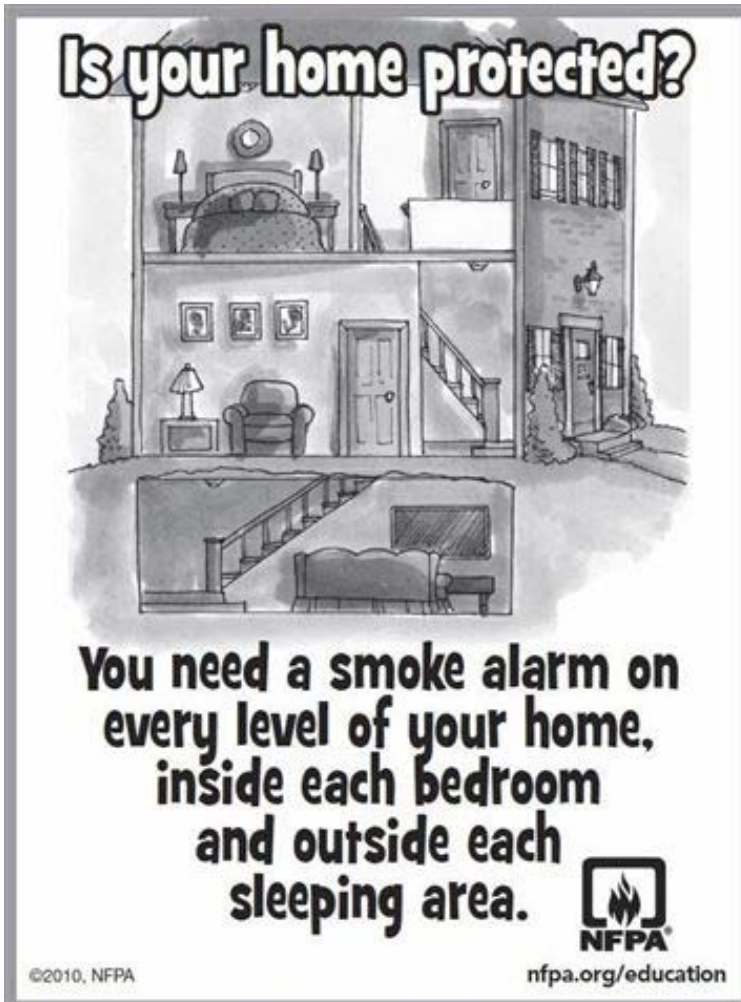


Civil treatment training

Captain Jeff Elliott was selected to be part of a team that conducted Civil Treatment training for all City of Franklin employees (more than 650 people) along with representatives from the HR and Police Departments. To prepare, Captain Elliott attended a three-day training program in Atlanta during March. Civil Treatment emphasizes the importance of creating a positive, professional work environment based on mutual respect and the dignity of all employees. Managers throughout the City completed an 8-hour training session in May. The remainder of City employees attended half-day sessions in September and October.

Franklin Fire personnel provided free training to other City of Franklin departments in 2009:

- Firefighter Ben Gasser taught Hazmat classes for the Vanderbilt Police Department.
- Captain Jeff Elliott taught thermal imaging for the Goodlettsville Fire Department.
- EMS Officer Sarah Glenn taught CPR to City of Franklin Parks and Water Management Department employees.
- Captain Jeff Elliott and Captain Glenn Johnson taught fire extinguisher training to City of Franklin Streets and Solid Waste Department employees.



Firefighter I and II Live Fire Practical Testing for the Tennessee Commission on Firefighting took place on February 27, 2009, at the Franklin Fire Training Center.



ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Administration Responsibilities

- Leadership
- Long range planning
- Statistical analysis
- Financial management
- Capital project management
- Facility and equipment management
- Payroll
- Resource allocation
- Inter-departmental coordination
- Emergency communications liaison
- Information technology coordination
- Customer service



Assistant Chief of Administration
Todd Horton
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City of Franklin improved fire protection rating to ISO Class 2

In 2009 Franklin improved its fire protection rating with the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to a Class 2 from a Class 3, placing it into the top 1.13 percent of communities across the country according to ISO representative Richard Vance. Of the 47,648 communities that ISO rates nationwide, Vance said only 538 have achieved a Class 2 fire protection status. Only four others in Tennessee share this rating - Chattanooga, Cookeville, Memphis, and Murfreesboro. According to Vance, there are 57 Class 1 communities nationwide, and none in Tennessee. Franklin's new classification was effective July 1, 2009.

The new fire protection rating could lower insurance rates for homeowners and businesses in the City of Franklin. Insurance companies use a community's ISO Public Protection Classification (PPC) to establish appropriate fire insurance premiums for residential and commercial properties. PPC grades incorporate nationally recognized standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association and the American Water Works Association.

To improve our rating, we added a new fire station (Station 6, which was placed in service on February 4, 2008), new fire apparatus, and additional personnel in the Northeast quadrant of the City. We also improved emergency communications with a comprehensive 800 MHz radio system. The city also increased its water storage and distribution system by working closely with all four water utility districts that serve the City of Franklin. Water supply comprises 40 percent of the grade.

Brentwood and Franklin Fire Departments announced partnership

The Brentwood and Franklin Fire Departments entered into an automatic aid agreement to improve the safety of residents in both cities.

Effective July 1, 2009, both Brentwood and Franklin units respond to structure fires in the automatic aid coverage area which includes southern Brentwood and northern Franklin.



Brentwood and Franklin have traditionally provided mutual aid to each other upon request, but only after units have arrived on scene and determined that additional resources were needed. Under the new agreement, units are dispatched simultaneously, and both departments are able to communicate with each other using linked radio systems.

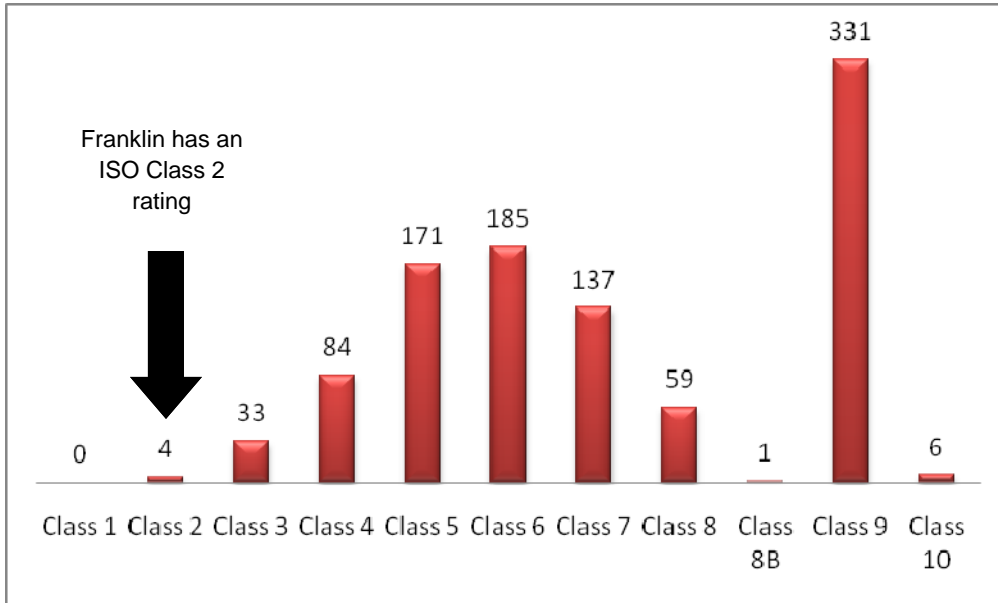


Franklin Fire Department's Deputy Chief Mike Culberson (left) with Brentwood's Fire Chief Kenny Lane (middle) and Brentwood's Assistant Fire Chief Brian Goss at the GNRC awards presentation.

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

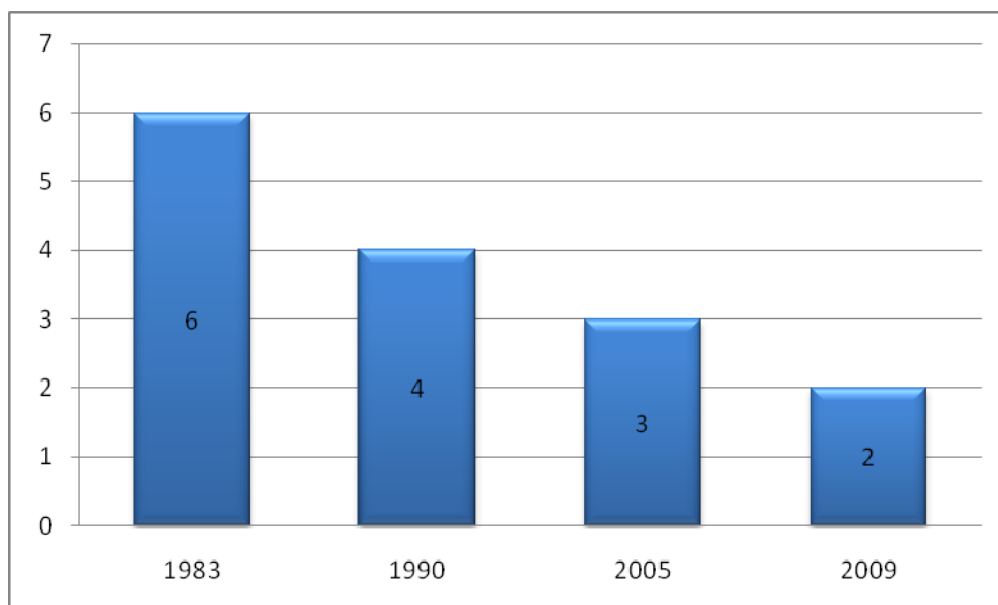


Tennessee communities with ISO ratings



- There are 1,011 ISO-rated Tennessee communities.
- Class 1 represents exemplary public protection; Class 10 indicates that the area’s fire suppression program does not meet ISO’s minimum criteria.
- There are four Class 2 departments in Tennessee, including Franklin, and no Class 1 departments.

City of Franklin ISO Classification History



Excellence in Public Safety Award

On September 29, 2009, the Franklin and Brentwood Fire Departments were presented with the “Excellence in Public Safety Award,” by the Greater Nashville Regional Council (GNRC).

We were recognized for outstanding achievement in the area of public safety, along with Brentwood, for our “Automatic Aid Agreement.”

Under the agreement, which went into effect July 1, 2009, both Brentwood and Franklin units respond to structure fires in the automatic aid coverage area.



ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

New Engine 1

- *2009 Sutphen pumper*
- *Built in Amlin, Ohio*
- *Cost \$392,997*
- *Features improved scene lighting, increased storage, including climate-controlled storage for medications, and a built-in firefighting foam system for vehicle and flammable liquid fires*
- *Carries 750 gallons of water (50 percent more than predecessor).*
- *Firefighting pump can flow 2,000 gallons of water per minute (GPM), an improvement over the predecessor's 1,500 GPM pump.*

Franklin Fire Department welcomed new Engine 1 with help of community



New Engine 1 features a traditional bell mounted on the front bumper.

More than 250 people attended a wetdown ceremony at Franklin Fire Station 1 on July 25, 2009, to celebrate the arrival of new fire Engine 1 and officially place it in service.

During the official engine dedication, traditionally known as a wetdown, children and adults helped “push” the old engine out of the bay to make room for the new engine. They transferred water from the old engine to the new, then washed and sprayed down the new engine, and “pushed” it back into the bay.

An official 911 tone-out announced the retirement of old Engine 1 and the placement of new Engine 1 in the bay and ready for service.

New Engine 1 replaced a 1999 Sutphen pumper. The old Engine 1 became Reserve Engine 10. Old Reserve Engine 10, a 1987 Mack with Franklin’s last open-air cab, was reassigned to the Franklin Fire Training Center for use in driver training and pump operations for live fire training.



L to R: Fire Chief Rocky Garzarek, City Administrator Eric Stuckey, and Mayor John Schroer wet down new Engine 1.



Children help wash new Engine 1 during the wetdown ceremony.



Old Reserve Engine 10 was reassigned to the Training Center for training operations.



Old Engine 1 became Reserve Engine 10

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION



Third Annual Citizens' Fire Academy ended in flames

Ten Franklin residents, including Alderman Michael Skinner and City Administrator Eric Stuckey, experienced firefighting firsthand during the Franklin Fire Department's third annual Citizens' Fire Academy, April 2—May 21, 2009.

During the program, participants rode along on fire calls, learned how to operate hose lines and other fire equipment, performed vehicle extrication, search and rescue, and rode in a platform at the top of a 100' aerial ladder.



Live firefighting was the course finale where participants used all of the knowledge and skills they learned to extinguish fires and get everyone out of the building safely.

Franklin Fire stations are now linked by video

Training is easier and less costly now for the Franklin Fire Department, thanks to a new videoconferencing system that was implemented in November 2009. The system links all six fire stations, the Training Center, and City Hall in order to provide required training for personnel without the time and expense of travelling to the Training Center.

Firefighters are required to have 280 hours of combined fire and EMS training annually, which averages out to more than two hours per shift.

Also, apparatus travelling across town to the Training Center generated a significant expenditure of time and money on travel for training. Fire engines and ladders average about six miles per gallon. Now, when the training does not include a hands-on activity, the videoconferencing system is utilized.

"It allows firefighters to stay in their districts and lessen response times; it saves money by eliminating fuel costs associated with travel and saves time by reducing the number of times a class has to be taught," said Assistant Chief Todd Horton. Previously a class had to be taught four times per shift. With videoconferencing, each class will only have to be taught twice per shift.

Fire Chief Garzarek joined the Board of Directors of the International Association of Fire Chiefs Southeastern Division

Franklin Fire Chief Rocky Garzarek was sworn in as the Tennessee State Director of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Southeastern Division Board of Directors on June 20, 2009 during the division's annual conference.

The IAFC, established in 1873, represents the leadership of over 1.2 million firefighters and emergency responders in the U.S. and Canada.



Chief Rocky Garzarek and wife Gina.

Video conferencing

- *Implemented fully in November 2009*
- *Limits the number of times a class must be taught*
- *Allows apparatus and personnel to remain available in their response districts.*
- *Eliminates an average of 700 miles driven per class.*
- *Saves an average of 116 gallons of fuel per class.*



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

Fire Prevention Responsibilities

- *Inspection services*
- *Plan review*
- *Issuance of permits*
- *Fire code enforcement*
- *Fire cause investigations*
- *Public fire and life safety education*
- *Youth firesetting intervention*
- *Public information services*
- *Community relations events*
- *Fire hydrant management*



Fire Marshal
Andy King
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Fire sprinkler “saves”

In 2009, automatic fire sprinklers protected lives and property in three significant Franklin incidents that could have potentially been devastating:

January 15, 2009 – Mall fire, CoolSprings Galleria Mall

A blaze that occurred at the mall during evening business hours was contained by a single automatic fire sprinkler and extinguished by firefighters. No one was injured, and although the food court area was closed briefly, the remainder of the mall stores remained open.

Damage was limited to just \$10,000. The

CoolSprings Galleria Mall is the City’s largest sales tax revenue generator.



CoolSprings Galleria Mall fire.

April 2, 2009 – Nursing home fire, NHC Healthcare, Fairground St.

Fire sprinklers averted tragedy at a nursing home fire in April. Attic fire sprinklers controlled a fire that ignited after lightning struck the NHC Healthcare nursing home. Firefighters were able to put the flames completely out in about 20 minutes. None of the 80 residents had to evacuate, which was critical due to the inclement weather although some residents were relocated to safer wings of the building while firefighters extinguished the fire. No one was injured and the facility remained open. Damage was limited to just \$25,000.

May 11, 2009 – Apartment fire, Alara Farms Apartments, Gillespie Dr.



Alara Farms Apartments fire.

Fire sprinklers helped control a fire that started around 3:30 a.m. on the balcony of a 24-unit apartment building, and helped prevent it from spreading. All occupants of the three-story structure evacuated safely.

In Franklin, sprinklers are presently required in commercial structures that are 5,000 square feet or greater. But because most fires occur in the home, and most fire fatalities occur in the home, the Franklin Fire Department is committed to doing all we can to encourage the use of home fire sprinklers. Not only do fire sprinklers protect occupants, they also protect the firefighters.

The goal of sprinklers is not to suppress fire, but to control it and give a family valuable time to escape. A common misconception about sprinklers is that when one activates they all activate. This is simply not true. Sprinklers are activated by heat, not by smoke alarms. In most cases fire is controlled by a single fire sprinkler head, which prevents it from spreading to other areas of the home.



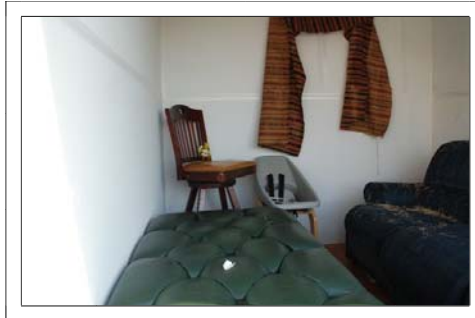
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

The overall fire picture (2008), according to the U.S. Fire Administration:

- There were 3,320 civilians that lost their lives as the result of fire.
- There were 16,705 civilian injuries that occurred as the result of fire.
- There were 118 firefighters killed while on duty.
- Fire killed more Americans than all natural disasters combined.
- 84 percent of all civilian fire deaths occurred in residences.
- There were an estimated 1.5 million fires in 2008.
- Direct property loss due to fires was estimated at \$15.5 billion. This figure includes the 2008 California Wildfires with an estimated loss of \$1.4 billion.
- An estimated 32,500 intentionally set structure fires resulted in 315 civilian deaths. Intentionally set structure fires resulted in an estimated \$866 million in property damage.

Fire sprinkler live burn demonstration

On April 8, 2009, the Franklin Fire Department conducted a live burn demonstration involving two rooms, one equipped with fire sprinklers and one without, at the Embassy Suites. The demonstration, which was part of a Fire Team USA conference for fire service personnel taking place in Franklin, provided a graphic display of how quickly home fire sprinklers work to subdue heat, flames and smoke. It was free and open to the public. To view a video of the demonstration, please visit our website at www.franklintn.gov/fire.



Photos (clockwise from top left): 1) The rooms involved in the burn demonstration were furnished identically, except that one was equipped with fire sprinklers, and the other was not.. 2) Fire in the room that was not equipped with fire sprinklers. 3) The room that was equipped with fire sprinklers, shown after the fire. 4) The room that was not equipped with fire sprinklers, shown after the fire.

2009 Public education events

- Station tours—74
- Apparatus demonstrations—56
- Other public education events—41
- Fire drills—26
- Family Safety House (days scheduled) - 23
- Parades—17
- Fire extinguisher training classes—7



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION



Fox 17 featured daily fire safety segments with the Franklin Fire Department on their morning and evening news programs October 5-9, 2009 during National Fire Prevention Week. The segments included Fire Marshal Andy King, Capt. Glenn Johnson, Capt. Clay Mackey and his crew, Lt. Mike Jones and his crew, Firefighter Andrew Ivey and Fire and Life Safety Educator Jamie Mooney.

Smoke alarm "save"



Basement where a fire started in the home at 213 Ash Dr.

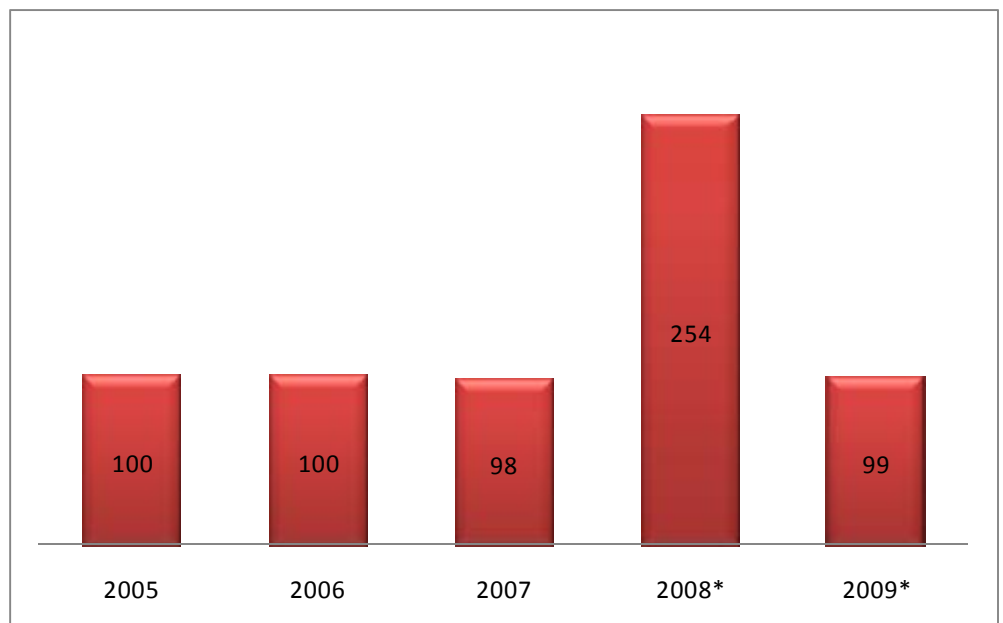
On January 24, 2009, a smoke alarm installed by Franklin Firefighters the previous year helped alert the Johnson family that their Hill Estates home was on fire. The fire started in the wood furnace in the basement of the home at 213 Ash Dr. around 5:30 p.m. No one was in the basement when the fire started. Four of the family members safely evacuated the home, while one family member tried to fight the fire with fire extinguishers until the fire department arrived. No one was injured.

This is the second known success for the Franklin Fire Department's free smoke alarm installation program, in which firefighters go door to door testing smoke alarms in homes that have them and installing them where needed. The first known success occurred in May 2008 at another home in Hill Estates. A resident left hot cooking oil on the stove and stepped outside. Smoke alarms installed by the FFD just five months earlier alerted the resident to a grease fire. Fortunately he managed to turn the heat off and call 911. The fire was out when the fire department arrived.

Smoke alarm installations

Firefighters from Station 1 installed 68 smoke alarms and 12 carbon monoxide alarms in 51 homes in the Rolling Meadows Subdivision, on five different days, from April 18-May 16, 2009. Additionally, they installed other alarms on a case-by-case basis. Since 2005, the department has installed more than 650 alarms for Franklin residents.

Franklin Fire Department alarm installation program



*In 2008 and 2009, the numbers included both smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION



The Great Debate

Nearly 100 fire officials from across the state gathered in Franklin on January 12, 2009 to discuss a variety of community fire protection issues, including smoke alarms and residential fire sprinklers. The event, which was called, "The Great Debate," featured Chief Rocky Garzarek and Fire Marshal Andy King. It was jointly sponsored by Fire Team USA and the Tenn. Fire Inspectors' Association. It took place at the Embassy Suites in Cool Springs.



Chief Rocky Garzarek, right, at The Great Debate.

Franklin Fire Department helped residents install DTV converter boxes



Franklin TV Cable Television Coordinator Ray Foglia installs a DTV converter box for a Franklin resident.

The Franklin Fire Department helped residents prepare for the nationwide digital television transition on June 12, 2009, by partnering with Franklin TV Cable Television Coordinator Ray Foglia to offer free, in-home technical assistance to those having trouble installing their converter boxes.

The department was one of several fire departments across the country participating in this International Association of Fire Chiefs partnership program with the FCC.

Foglia installed the DTV converter boxes, while a fire department representative installed smoke and/or carbon monoxide alarms.

Franklin Fire Department presented children's fire education DVD series to Williamson County Public Library

The Franklin Fire Department presented the Williamson County Public Library Children's Department with the Rainbow Valley Fire Department DVD fire education series on July 31, 2009. The animated DVDs help equip kids with the "know-how" to properly respond in a fire emergency. The DVDs were placed into circulation and available to check out in August. They feature the voice talents of Tim Conway and B.J. Thomas, and combine 3-D animation with live action video and songs.





FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

Fire Prevention Month 2009 was a success!

Seven local retailers participated in first "Smoke Alarm Discount Day"

To encourage residents to "get alarmed," seven Franklin retailers discounted smoke alarms by 20 percent on the 1st Annual "Smoke Alarm Discount Day." The event was organized by the Franklin Fire Department and took place on Saturday, October 10. Participating stores included Harpeth True Value, Home Depot, Kmart, Lowes, Target Parkway Commons and Target Cool Springs, and Wal Mart. One retailer reported that their smoke alarm sales more than tripled on that day.

Two Domino's Pizza locations delivered flyers to promote the event during Fire Prevention Week. The flyers also included smoke alarm tips.

Franklin third grade student won state fire prevention poster contest winner

Franklin Elementary third grade student Melanie Plunkett was the winner for her grade level in the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's 2009 fire prevention poster contest.

Plunkett won the Franklin Fire Department fire prevention poster contest in October and advanced to the state competition in November. The state winners were announced in December. Plunkett was the only state contest winner from Franklin.

More than 100 students in grades K-5 entered the Franklin competition. A grand prize of a ride on a fire engine was awarded to 1st place students from each winning grade level.

The theme of the contest, in honor of Fire Prevention Week, was, "Stay fire smart! Don't get burned!"

Fire Prevention Fair at the CoolSprings Galleria Mall a hit

For the second consecutive year, the Franklin Fire Department teamed up with the Brentwood Fire Department at Franklin's CoolSprings Galleria Mall to provide fire and life safety information to the community throughout Fire Prevention Week, October 4-10, 2009.



3rd grade state poster contest winner Melanie Plunkett with Tennessee State Fire Prevention Education Officer Jeff Huddleston



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION



Family Safety House

The Franklin Fire Department's Family Safety House, a 39-foot mobile classroom, visited 11 local schools from October through November, to help teach more than 900 primarily 1st grade students fire and burn prevention and fire survival skills. Since 2005, more than 8,000 children and adults have toured the Family Safety House to learn household and kitchen fire safety, the importance of smoke alarms, how to call for help, how to treat burns, and how to escape a burning building.

Staff news

Tennessee Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association honored Fire Marshal Andy King



Franklin Fire Marshal Andy King (left) with Wayne Waggoner, Executive Director of the Tennessee Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association.

Fire Marshal Andy King was presented with the Fred Davis Award at the May 2009 meeting of the Tennessee Fire Sprinkler Contractors Association (TFSCA). The Fred Davis Award is presented to the Jurisdiction, fire or building code official that is proactive with fire sprinkler protection in their community. The TFSCA June newsletter article said Andy, "...has worked hard in promoting fire sprinklers in Franklin, sits on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Fire Safety Inspectors Association, and has been very active in building relationships between fire service organizations and the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office."

Assistant Fire Marshal Geoff Woolard was accepted into international fire engineering institution

In February 2009, Franklin Fire Department Assistant Fire Marshal Geoff Woolard was accepted into membership of the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE). IFE is an international fire engineering organization committed to improving fire safety engineering and fire prevention practices worldwide.

There are 11,000 worldwide IFE members, with 286 being from the U.S. Woolard is only the fifth person in the State of Tennessee to become a member. By meeting academic, professional and fire service qualifications, he was accepted into the IFE at the second highest level of proficiency, out of six possible levels.



Firefighter Seth Frost helps a child escape from "smoke" in the Family Safety House.



Lt. Geoff Woolard

A woman arrived home to the sound of smoke alarms sounding and smoke coming from her Fairground Street home on August 19, 2009. She called 911 and told Franklin Communications Officer Karen Helton that she wanted to go inside to gather her belongings. Helton convinced her to remain outside until help arrived. Helton's professionalism and reassurance helped prevent the woman and firefighters from potentially being injured in the fire. The Franklin Fire Department honored Helton with a Certificate of Excellence for her professionalism in handling the call.



IN MEMORIAM

David E. Cline

March 30, 1973

— to —

October 22, 2009



Franklin Firefighter-Paramedic David Cline.



An ISO Class 2 Department

IN MEMORIAM



Family, friends, firefighters, and emergency services personnel from across Middle Tennessee paid their respects at the funeral service for David Cline held at the Portland First Baptist Church, and at the gravesite at Old Brush Cemetery on October 26, 2009.



