



*2004 Annual Report*





Dear Citizens of Franklin:

Franklin Fire Department members continue to provide outstanding services to the citizens and visitors in our community. The challenge of providing fire protection, hazardous materials response and emergency medical response has been met. With the help and support of the entire community, we have a highly efficient response and control system for emergencies that occur. Priorities like good building codes, interest by citizens in community safety, fire safety prevention education for our children, and the dedication of the employees of the Franklin Fire Department that deliver emergency services go hand and hand for making Franklin an outstanding place to live.



I would like to thank the Mayor, the Aldermen, the Public Safety Committee, and the City Administrator for your cooperation and support of the Franklin Fire Department.

Speaking for all of the members of the Franklin Fire Department, we pledge to continue to provide the highest quality service possible when people in our community need help.

Sincerely,

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Rocky Garzarek  
Fire Chief  
Franklin Fire Department

## *Administration*

The position of Deputy Fire Chief directs the Administration Division. In April, Fire Chief Don Claiborne retired after 25 years of service. Following his retirement, City Administrator Jay Johnson temporarily appointed Deputy Chief Jamie Geer to the position of Interim Fire Chief. During his role of Interim Fire Chief he appointed Assistant Chief Todd Horton and Assistant Chief John Fitzgerald to each serve a three-month interim position of Deputy Chief.

In August, Jamie Geer announced his resignation to accept a position of Fire Chief with the Clearwater Fire Department. Horton and Fitzgerald were then named as Interim Co-Fire Chiefs until the appointment of Rocky Garzarek in September at which time Horton became Interim Deputy Chief. The promotional process for the Deputy Chief position began in December and will be completed in 2005.

The Deputy Fire Chief supervises the Training and Fire Prevention divisions, as well as the Administrative Services Officer. Additional duties include, but are not limited to:

- Administering collection and analysis of fire department data.
- Overseeing administration of personnel and payroll functions.
- Evaluating and administering fire prevention and fire control policies and conducting studies of the efficacy of departmental operations.
- Assisting with preparation and presentation of annual budgetary evaluations and related analysis.
- Reviewing departmental purchases and purchasing procedures.
- Assisting in control of expenditures.
- Researching, evaluating and instituting new laws and governmental mandates affecting the Fire Department.

Due to the many administrative changes this year, much effort was devoted to keeping the department operating. Interim staff worked diligently to bring themselves up to date on the many projects that were underway. For example, Fire Station 2 was in the process of being completely renovated and involved a considerable amount of time. Specifications for a replacement fire pumper, replacement and new staff vehicle and the addition of an Air/light vehicle were developed and bid. Hiring additional staff to fill the aforementioned vacancies was accomplished.

Many hours were also devoted to extensive review of the fire department audit conducted by the Management Advisory Group, Inc. Staff compiled data for presentation to the Public Safety Committee to correct findings that were inaccurate or were additions to the department between the audit review and receiving of the report. We also prepared some alternative proposals to those found in the report. Work continues daily to evaluate our existing services and to prepare for future needs.

# *Operations Division*

## *Organization*

Three Assistant Fire Chiefs, under the supervision of the Fire Chief, direct the Operations Division. Each works a 24-hour on duty and 48-hour off duty shift rotation to cover the three shifts. Also known as Shift Commanders, each one indirectly supervises a shift of 41 personnel, housed at five fire stations, through direct supervision of nine Officers. Their primary duties involve scheduling, personnel deployment, time and attendance records and management of incidents to which they respond.

In addition to the shift commanders, each shift is comprised of one Captain and eight Lieutenants that directly supervise the Engineers and firefighters assigned to their charge. They are primarily responsible for riding assignments and the daily routine consisting of equipment readiness, training, incident response, station maintenance, preplanning, inspecting and public education activities.

## *Response*

Historically the Franklin Fire Department has shown an increase in the number of responses that are answered from one year to the next and 2004 was no exception. The professional men and women of the fire department answered a total of 4,245 calls for assistance.

As in the past and true to form, the majority of the responses were medical in nature. The 2,833 medical responses compromise 67% of the total calls answered. Nationally this is the trend for those agencies that provide this type of service. All of our personnel are required to be certified at the First Responder level or higher. We currently have 44 First Responders, 70 Emergency Medical Technicians, and 10 Paramedics. Those employees that are not currently certified are either in school or are awaiting the next available class in order to become certified. Once certified, each level must continue their state required training in order to maintain the certification. Medical calls range from a simple sick call to a cardiac arrest where time is the critical factor. We have recorded several “saves” as a result of this service.



Structure or building fires were on the decrease in 2004. The fire department responded to 42 building fires, 17 less than in 2003. This represents 1% of the total calls. The unusual aspect is that several of these fires were in commercial businesses that resulted in large loss fires. Robeson Sewing Machine Co., Bestway Furniture Rental, and the Always in Bloom flower shop, were three of the largest fires that occurred in 2004. Several residential and apartment fires occurred in 2004, with one resulting in a fatality.

Along with the increase in our population, there has been an increase in the number of responses to personal injury accidents. In 2004, we responded to 435 Motor Vehicle Accidents. Most of our personnel are trained in vehicular extrication and provide aid to

the three “Rescue Companies” that are dedicated to answering these calls. The remaining apparatus provides any additional support that might be needed.

Water emergencies during times of flooding, grass and brush fires, smoke and carbon monoxide detector activations and a variety of other calls make up the remainder of the 2004 call volume. The Department has a mutual aid agreement with other fire departments located in the county. We answered 22 calls for assistance and received assistance on 4 occasions. Through a State of Tennessee mutual aid agreement, Franklin, responded to the City of Dickson when several of their downtown buildings on Main Street burned in December. Due to the adequate number of staffing and apparatus, at no time were the citizens of Franklin without fire protection or emergency services.

### *Pre-planning and Courtesy Inspections*

Our operations personnel performed 970 courtesy inspections and pre-plan visits. In the pre-planning phase, firefighters gather information to aid us in the suppression of fires. We note building construction and features, owner and key holder information, ingress and egress routes, utility controls, water supply, and a host of other details. Courtesy inspections are also performed. During these inspections firefighters noted more than



5,100 conditions that contribute to unsafe situations in the commercial buildings. Although these inspections do not require mandatory compliance, many business owners chose to keep their buildings safe by staying in compliance with the fire code. At this time, Franklin does not require occupancies to have an annual inspection. All occupancies in the City are required to comply with the Fire Code at all times. We highly recommend that business owners have an inspection to

ensure their business complies with the Fire Code and is safe for everyone who enters therein. The Fire Department does have the authority to conduct an inspection if it is believed that a violation exists and continues to inspect all new buildings and many state licensed facilities, such as day cares and nursing homes.

### *Other Duties*

When suppression personnel are not involved in the aforementioned duties they remain busy performing many other duties. Personnel maintain the cleanliness of our stations and apparatus in the same way you would your home or office, but it’s done on a daily basis. Minor apparatus repairs, some station remodeling, lawn care and equipment maintenance are also performed. Our personnel cook a lot of their own meals and some take part in physical fitness activities. Throughout this report you will see many other duties performed by the men and women that serve you daily.





## *Training Division*

**Captain Gary Corbet** heads up our training Division and is supervised by the Deputy Chief. 2004 was a monumental year for the Training Division of the Franklin Fire Department. This year saw the opening of our new training facility on Century Court. The addition of a 4-story burn tower, and a 2½ story annex burn building were a major step forward for our department. Along with the emergency vehicle driving pad, and the modern classroom, our training program is now housed all in one location. Since the dedication of the Training Center in June 2004, it was utilized over 100 days. Firefighters now train and practice their skills in



realistic “live fire” settings which were never available in the past. Companies were drilled in fire attack, ladders, high-rise operations, search & rescue, hose handling, and ventilation. In addition to these general subjects, classes were held in such specialized fields as: high angle rescue, rapid intervention team operations, tower ladder operations, and sprinklers and standpipes.



We also completed our State-mandated 40-hour In-Service training. The topics for this year’s In-Service were: CPR & AED updates and recertification, swift water operations, elevator emergencies, vehicle extrication, hazardous materials, and pro-active RIT operations.

During 2004 we sponsored four written test dates for the Tennessee Commission on Firefighting. Our firefighters took 68 certification tests. Of the City’s 132 total firefighters, the State Commission currently certifies 120 to at least one level.

In addition, FFD was able to continue its recent program of sending selected members to specialized schools away from the City. During 2004 FFD members attended the following outside schools:

- *12 attended the Fire Dept. Instructors Conference in Indianapolis*
- *4 attended the FDIC East Conference in Atlantic City*
- *6 attended the TARS Swift Water Operations class in Cleveland, TN*
- *6 attended the Fire Officer series at the TN Fire & Codes Academy*
- *7 attended the Pump Operations course at the TN Fire & Codes Academy*
- *4 attended the Aerial Operations class at the TN Fire & Codes Academy*
- *2 attended the Smoke Divers I SCBA confidence class at the TFACA*
- *5 attended the Smoke Divers II RIT Ops class at the TFACA*
- *3 newly promoted Lieutenants attended the Company Officer Development class*

We have accomplished all of this with the help and support of City administration staff and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. The following members served on the Training Committee this year: Capt. Gary Corbet, Lt. Glenn Johnson, Lt. Jeff Elliott, Lt. David Currie, Lt. Joe Polenzani, F/F David Metcalf, F/F Rip Baxter, & F/F Greg Wild.

## *Fire Prevention*

*Captain Andy King* supervises the fire prevention division, which saw many changes in 2004. In February 2004, Fire Marshal Bob Trotter announced he was leaving after serving the City for 14 years. Andy King, a Brentwood Fire Lieutenant, was selected as Fire Marshal in June. In late September, Darin Coyle, a firefighter from within the ranks, was promoted to serve as the public education Lieutenant. This was a new position allocated this fiscal year by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. In October, Asst. Fire Marshal Jason Jones resigned to accept a position with Clearwater Fire and Rescue in Florida. Lt. Jose Peruit filled in through the end of 2004 as Asst. Fire Marshal.



In addition to all of the personnel changes, it was a great year for fire prevention in Franklin. The workload was continually heavy with the intense commercial growth and renovations that occurred throughout the City. The Fire Prevention Division performs some key tasks that affect construction projects. We review all building and sprinkler plans for code deficiencies. Upon completion of all commercial projects, we also perform a final inspection for fire and life safety issues. We have also worked to build a positive relationship with the Codes Administration Department. We both compliment each other and are working hard to improve communications so that inspections are not redundant and that violations are not overlooked. When both departments work well together, it further improves the relationship with contractors who must comply with the code.

### *Planning*

Planning is another key area where fire prevention makes a difference in the quality of developments coming to Franklin. Since June, the fire department has been represented at every Franklin Municipal Planning Commission meeting and has commented on every plan submitted. This is a very important part of the development process because it insures that developers understand our requirements prior to committing to a project. It is also the only involvement that the fire department has in residential construction. The Traditional Neighborhood Design that is becoming more and more prevalent can be a significant hazard if we do not comment on these developments at the design phase. Primarily we are looking at fire apparatus access, alley width, adequate water supply for fire protection, street naming, fire hydrant placement, and the type of construction that will limit fire spread between houses.

One of the greatest accomplishments we achieved this year was convincing the developer of the Brownstones at 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Church Street that a fire sprinkler system would be an asset to the project. Fire sprinklers were needed for several reasons including overall density and the proximity of other historical properties in the downtown fire district.

## *Fire Investigations*

Fire Investigation is the most reactive element of a fire prevention program but is important for us to track the fire problem in Franklin. The data that is entered on each fire report allows us to report on emerging trends on the local, state and national level. For instance, if a consumer product malfunctions, the model and serial numbers are collected and reported through the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The United States Fire Administration looks for trends on the national level to help get dangerous products recalled or develop public education materials. We use this same data on the local level to see where we need to place emphasis on our public education efforts. Franklin is fortunate to have five certified fire and explosion investigators to determine the origin and cause of all fires in our jurisdiction. Traditionally, the cause of a cooking fire is relatively easy to determine, however it is still important to ensure that the property owner did not intentionally start the fire. Anytime there is evidence of a fire being suspicious, it is our duty to investigate the fire as a criminal act. We have several resources to prosecute these fires including the Franklin Police Department, the Bomb and Arson section of the State Fire Marshal's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

## *Public Education*

In September 2004 we welcomed Assistant Fire Marshal Lt. Darin Coyle to the Fire Prevention Division as the department's first Public Education officer.

The Fire Department received a grant for a Fire Safety House, which included a Sprinkler Room. The Fire Safety House is expected to arrive in early March and will be used to educate children as well as adults in fire prevention. The Sprinkler Room will give us the ability to show the public the effectiveness of residential fire sprinklers. The Fire Safety House will have the ability to reach children at a young age and is a good tool in providing citizens with the knowledge that they need in a fire emergency.



The Public Education Division also held a Fire Prevention Poster Contest, which allowed children to draw posters that reflected a safety message. The purpose of this contest was to get children to think about what they have learned and put it down on paper. Several schools participated and we received hundreds of posters. Mayor Tom Miller and Fire Chief Rocky Garzarek were the judges. The winners of the poster campaign will have their posters displayed in the Fire Safety House for one year. Prizes were awarded to the



three finalists and certificates were given to all participants. There will be a ceremony held for the three Grand Prize Winners and they will also be given a ride home on an engine company.



October is an especially important month to the fire service. Fire Prevention Week has long been recognized as a time to guard against the peril of fire and this year was no exception. Fortunately, with all the activities scheduled, Fire Prevention week often turns into Fire Prevention month.

Firefighters staffed our Fire Safety Booth in the Center Court of Cool Springs Mall for an entire week in October. Firefighters distributed fire prevention material, helmets, and stickers, and performed demonstrations of our aerial apparatus and thermal imaging camera. Children could also crawl through a smoke booth to simulate a smoke filled home. The week was capped off with a performance by the department's clown troupe that provided an entertaining and educational skit. The department also assisted the Brentwood Fire Department, who brought their Fire Safety House to several schools in Franklin. Brentwood has been generous to bring their trailer for many years to help educate children in fire safety behaviors. We are anxiously awaiting the delivery of our fire safety house next spring so that we can teach even more children of all different age groups throughout the year. Assistant Fire Marshal Darin Coyle also conducted several fire drills for local businesses. Major drills were conducted at the Cool Springs Galleria, Corporate Center Office Buildings, and Primus.



## *Support Services*

**Captain Al Black** heads up our Support Services Division and is supervised by the Deputy Chief. The support service division conducts all of the research that goes into the purchasing of new equipment for the department. The division is also responsible for the maintenance, repair and inventory of the five fire stations, 14 response apparatus, 10 staff vehicles and employee issued equipment and uniforms.



The fire department added a new Suphen 1500-gallon per minute pumper to its fleet in February of 2004. It



has a seating capacity of five, a 750-gallon water tank, a 30-gallon foam tank and a complement of hose and equipment for fire suppression and related events. With this additional piece of equipment, we were able to move the existing pumper to Fire Station Five. This pumper is housed at the newly renovated Fire Station Two.

Station Two had an open house in October 2004. The public was invited to come and see the new facility and meet the firefighters that protect their community. Hotdogs and sodas were served while the Fire Department clown troop entertained the children. Thermal Imaging Camera demonstrations, a children's smoke room, firehouse bean bag toss and informative discussions between visitors and staff were all a part of the festivities. All had a great time.



Station Two also provided the ability to consolidate the departments operating supplies and uniforms into one central location. This has greatly enhanced our capabilities of inventory control and remarkably improved the issuing and distribution processes.

During the spring of 2004 Fire Department personnel pressure tested over 21,000 feet of fire hose, conducted inspections on all fire hydrants in the city, and applied a new coat of paint to one-third of the hydrants. The painting of the hydrants is an ongoing process that will continue in the spring of 2005.

All ground ladders (864 ft) and aerial apparatus were inspected and tested as required by NFPA 1914 and NFPA 1932. These tests consisted of a visual inspection, non-destructive

test and operation/function test. Every aerial apparatus and ground ladder passed and was certified by Consolidated Fleet Services.

In September, we processed 382 applications for the position of firefighter. Of these, 114 were invited to attend the new hire testing. Seventy-six applicants passed the written and the physical ability tests and were interviewed for consideration of future employment. The top two from this list are due to enter the department on January 3, 2005.

November was the beginning of hydrant flow testing. This was the first time in five years that the department was permitted to conduct such testing due to drought conditions. Insurance Services Office requires flow testing of hydrants at least twice a year. Each hydrant must be opened and a static and residual pressure reading taken. In a period of six weeks, the department tested 2,006 hydrants. The flow tests are an important part of our yearly requirements. They let the department know if the water system will be able to handle the demands placed on it during a fire. The test also identifies if any valves have been shut off and not reopened, which hydrants need to be repaired or replaced, and it flushes the sediment from the mains.

This year the public was notified of the testing by notices on their water bills, signs placed at the entrance to the subdivisions, and use of the community notification system in our communications center. Even with these systems in place, we still experienced a large number of calls from citizens due to murky water. Only eight of the calls were actual complaints due to ruined laundry. After explaining the reason for the testing, most complainants were satisfied and pleased we were conducting the test. The department is continually working on new and improved ways to notify the public of upcoming flow test dates.



Four bids were awarded in 2004. Specifications were researched and written for gear lockers for Station Two, a Thermal Imaging Camera (bringing our total to nine), an additional and replacement staff vehicle, and 19 Automated External Defibrillators (AED).



By purchasing the AEDs, we have taken a big step in providing emergency service to the citizens, visitors and employees of Franklin. With the purchase of 19 units, we were able to supply an AED to all of the outlying departments of the city. The units will be placed into service in early 2005 with training on how to operate the device offered to all employees who will use them.



## *Citizens Government Academy*

The Fire Department participated in the Citizens Government Academy "Class of 2004". Fire Chief Rocky Garzarek began the session with formal introductions followed by a brief overview of the department. Three presentations were made.

Interim Deputy Chief Todd Horton discussed the Administrative and Operations functions of the department. Topics included: history, organization, budget appropriations, facilities, equipment and incident statistics.

Fire Marshal Andy King spoke to the group about the importance of code enforcement, public education, fire prevention and fire investigation.

Training Officer Gary Corbet briefed the class on In-service training, the TN Commission on Firefighting, the Tennessee State Fire and Codes Academy, as well as, specialized training and new recruit training.

We enjoyed the opportunity to be involved in this program and are grateful for the participation by various members of our community who desire to learn more about their government.



## *Significant Incidents*

The Fire Department responded to a total of 4,245 incidents. Structure fires in the City of Franklin accounted for 50 of this total resulting in estimated property losses in excess of \$1,350,000 and over \$750,000 in contents loss. In addition, we provided mutual aid for six structure fires outside of our city limits. Six fire suppression personnel encountered injuries while one civilian sustained injury. More disheartening was the loss of life to one of our residents as the result of a fire.

A brief overview of the six most significant fire losses, a fire suppressed by an automatic fire sprinkler system and an unfortunate drowning incident is as follows.

On May 29, 2004 at 10:53 pm crews responded to an apartment fire at 1435 Columbia Avenue at the Bramblewood Apartment Complex. While there was only an estimated \$45,000 loss to property and contents, the fire claimed the life of one of Franklin's residents and three firefighters received minor injuries. Fire suppression personnel removed a 66-year-old male who was immediately transferred to Williamson County Emergency Medical personnel who in turn attempted life saving measures while transporting the patient. The resident later succumbed to his injuries. The fire has been ruled as undetermined.



An 18-year-old resident received minor burns to his foot as he was awakened by a house fire located at 142 Allenhurst Circle in the Ashton Park gated community. A candle that was inadvertently left burning in the resident's bedroom sparked the fire that was reported at 9:05 am on July 18. The resulting structural damage is estimated at \$111,000 while contents loss was estimated at \$15,000.

On October 1, 2004 at 10:34 pm an estimated \$400,000 dollars in structural damage and \$250,000 dollars in contents damage was the result of a fire at Bestway Rentals located at 1008 Columbia Avenue in the Franklin Plaza Shopping Center. Employees at the adjoining La Superior restaurant and grocery became aware of the fire and called 911. Fire was visible through the roof as the first units arrived on the scene. A rear portion of the store accounted for the approximated 10% of installed sprinklers. The cause is undetermined.





The largest property loss fire occurred at Robeson Sewing Machine, located at 1126 Harpeth Industrial Court, sustaining an estimated \$250,000 dollar structural loss and a \$500,000 dollar contents loss. The fire occurred on June 15, 2004 at 12:11 pm. Upon discovering the fire, an employee of the premises attempted to extinguish it, however, on site combustible material resulted in a rapid fire growth forcing him to retreat. The cause was determined to be a malfunctioning light ballast that was fastened directly to a combustible framework.



An arson fire completely destroyed a 10,000 sq. ft. townhome valued at \$200,000. The townhome located at 107 Ormsby Place was under construction. Fire Suppression personnel arrived at 1:15 am on the morning of August 27<sup>th</sup> to find a fully involved structure fire. Moments after their arrival, the entire building collapsed.



An afternoon fire located at 595 Hillsboro Road in the Independence Square shopping center left the owners of Always in Bloom with their second substantial fire loss. Reported at approximately 2:00 pm on November 15<sup>th</sup>, the fire gained significant headway prior to the arrival of fire suppression personnel due to an abundance of combustible floral material. One firefighter suffered injuries to his ankle while performing roof operations. Fire suppression personnel were able to stop the fire from spreading to an adjoining Dry Cleaners, however there was some smoke damage reported. Building loss was \$350,000 and contents loss had an estimated value of \$900,000.



Night shift staff at the Southern Care assisted living facility, located at 4277 South Carothers Road, smelled something burning at approximately 3:00 am on December 27<sup>th</sup>. They entered the laundry room, opened a dryer and discovered smoldering clothes. They removed some of the clothing to the adjoining floor and left the room. The alarm system sounded from the smoke that subsequently alerted fire suppression personnel. Arrival of firefighting forces



found that a single sprinkler head had activated above the fire and provided extinguishment thereof. Crews opened a window and used fans to remove some smoke while others used equipment to remove water discharged from the sprinkler. While the value of the structure and contents was estimated at \$1,400,000 the activation of a single fire sprinkler allowed for a loss of only \$6,000. No injuries were reported and no loss of business was encountered. These figures do not take into account the potential for this



fire to claim the lives of many of its occupants, greater damage to the structure and contents, loss of revenue, potential for lawsuits and many other factors had a fire sprinkler system not been installed and maintained. The picture to the left shows that very little smoke exited the room of origin that is seen through the open door. It is a great accomplishment to have all of the building's life safety systems working together. Franklin is fortunate to have adopted a progressive fire sprinkler ordinance several years ago and we continue to reap the benefits. This fire is in sharp contrast to similar fires in occupancies that serve as homes for the elderly without fire sprinklers, otherwise this fire could have been deadly.

One significant non-fire incident occurred on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Firefighters from fire station five responded to a drowning in the Heath Place at Carnton subdivision. Personnel arrived to find bystanders administering cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to a 3-month-old infant that had been removed from a swimming pool. Firefighters continued to administer life saving measures on the scene until the arrival of EMS personnel. Firefighters traveled with the ambulance to the hospital giving support as required. Unfortunately the attempts to save the child were unsuccessful. Incidents that involve the loss of life impact us all daily. Incidents involving children are especially disturbing and can cause tremendous emotion distress upon responders. Crews are offered critical stress debriefing to aid them in dealing with these types of situations.

## *We Remember*



On Saturday September 11, 2004 members of B Shift, Station #1 and Station #4 were asked to attend a memorial service honoring the members of the military who have been killed in the line of duty in the fight on terrorism since September 11, 2001. Members were asked to display a large U. S. Flag between the extended ladders on Tower One and Ladder Four. Members in attendance were Lt. Terry Hood, Lt. Scott Mainord, Eng. Steve Gibson, Eng. Roddie Petty, Eng. Paul Seltz, F/F Kyle Bess, F/F James Fox, F/F James Dematus, F/F Will Farris and F/F Ben Skipper.

In May 2004, two of our members were called up to serve as Military Fire Fighters in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Eng. Roddie Petty and F/F Sam Anderson were deployed to Balad AB, Iraq for 90 Days. They are members of the Tennessee Air National Guard, 118<sup>th</sup> Air Wing, 118<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Squadron.

Upon their return, the department was presented with a plaque that included a flag that was flown in the Department's honor while they were serving in Iraq. We proudly display this work in our Administrative Office.

We are also proud to have these two and other military personnel who serve not only our department but also our Country with the utmost in professionalism. We are thankful that they have returned to us safely.





## *Honor Guard*

“Honoring our Own”

The Franklin Fire Department is pleased to present our Honor Guard. Formed in November of 2004, those pictured and others have worked extremely hard to represent the City and our Department with the utmost professionalism.

The Honor Guard will represent the City of Franklin and the Department at pre-designated ceremonies and functions, on behalf of the Fire Chief, the members of the Department, and the City of Franklin. The main purpose of the Honor Guard is to “Honor our Own,” in the unfortunate event a current member of the Department should die in the line of duty. The Honor Guard will serve as the official representatives, in conjunction with Fire Department Administrative staff, and Family member’s wishes, in ensuring all funeral arrangements are carried out to the fullest extent.

The Honor Guard will be responsible for presenting and representing the “Colors” at all chosen functions and ceremonies deemed necessary and proper for its participation. The Honor Guard will function as an independent unit, and will be responsible for the coordination of any and all events surrounding all functions and ceremonies. The functions and ceremonies the Honor Guard will be involved in are as follows:

- ❖ Funerals
- ❖ Retirement Ceremonies
- ❖ Station Openings
- ❖ Parades
- ❖ Flag Presentations
- ❖ Fire Related Ceremonies

Current members include: Squad Leaders Roddie Petty and Brian Vick, members Shane Clark, Jonathan Dye, Gino Fantoni, Rick Havrilla, Kyle Bess, Jonathan Gill, Sam Anderson, Andrew Ivey, Jeffrey Walker.



Pictured Above from Left: FF Jonathan Dye, FF Brian Vick, FF Jeff Walker, FF Sam Anderson, FF Andrew Ivey, FF Shane Clark.



Pictured to Left: Honor Guard members make their 1<sup>st</sup> public appearance marching in the Christmas Parade.

## *Web Site*

With much help from the City's Information Technology department, we have created a new website. Although some areas are under construction, the site is functional. The Fire Department has a wealth of information to share with the public and the website is the most effective way to accomplish this. Some uses of the website that are presently or will soon be accessible are:

- Perspective employees will typically research the Department using the web site as their first source of information.
- Future residents will use it to ensure the level and quality of fire protection.
- Insurance companies and home or business owners will use it for the Insurance Classification of our Department.
- Children and parents will use it for fire related education.
- To schedule public education events.
- To peruse the pictures of our stations, equipment and incidents.
- To access our statistics.
- Architects will use it to find adopted Fire Codes.
- Contractors will find a link to order Knox Boxes that allow rapid entry into buildings after hours.
- Citizens will have PDF documents regarding blasting information and how to protect themselves from damages.
- Informational bulletins will be available for business owners to help them stay in compliance with the latest codes.

Entering the following URL will access the web site: <http://www.franklin-gov.com/fire>.

In addition, our fire prevention division has recently added a new email address that will allow anyone to directly ascertain information from them. They may be emailed at [fireprevention@franklin-gov.com](mailto:fireprevention@franklin-gov.com)



## *Significant Departures*

**Robert Trotter** joined our department as a firefighter on September 18, 1989. In October of 1991, Mr. Trotter received a promotion to Fire Marshal holding the rank of Captain. Mr. Trotter was responsible for many of the diverse changes that the City of Franklin experienced during his tenure. His involvement in all areas of the department made him a valuable asset to our community and to us. Mr. Trotter decided to leave our department on February 27, 2004, having served the City for 14 years, to begin employment as the Southwest Regional Manager for the National Fire Sprinkler Association. In this new position, Trotter continues to support the fire service through education and promotion of fire sprinklers.



Below is a letter from Mr. Trotter with a few of the accomplishments during his tenure here.

Listed below are some of the many accomplishment of the Fire Prevention Division under my tenure as Fire Marshal. Let me preface this document by saying that I will not claim credit as being the sole purpose of these achievements nor do I claim that I personally did each of these things. In most cases, many other persons contributed or caused these accomplishments to occur. For example: I created draft legislation to require fire sprinklers in buildings 5,000 sq. ft. and greater. This ordinance which remains today would not have been possible without the commitment of the fire chief and the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. These accomplishments would not have been possible and due credit is hereby recognized to the men and women of department, the past three Assistant Fire Marshals Katy Otterson, Mark Sells, and Jason Jones, former Deputy Chief Gentry Fox and Jamie Geer, and past Fire Chiefs Sam Liggett and Don Claiborne for their commitment to the Fire Prevention Division.

1. Approximately 20 subsections were added to the City of Franklin Municipal Code for the Health, Safety and Welfare of the citizens of Franklin.
2. Adoption of the following codes and standards: NFPA 101 *Life Safety Code* 2000 Edition, NFPA 241, *Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration and Demolition Operations* 2000 Edition, International Fire Code 2003 Edition, and reference to the latest edition of the NFPA standards.
3. Adopted a comprehensive automatic fire sprinkler ordinance.
4. Creation of the Fire Code Board of Appeals and first hearing.
5. Thorough review of construction plans and documents and inspection of new construction for fire and life safety code provisions.
6. Implemented the rapid entry key box program and the locking FDC cap program.
7. Expanded the fire investigation section with certified fire investigators.
8. Introduced the use of puppet shows, clown troop, and *Patches and Pumper* to educate the public on fire and injury prevention.
9. Brought national recognition to the department for serving on several committees.
10. Authored and testified on numerous proposals to the technical codes and standards with successful adoption of many that exists in the model codes and standards today.
11. Wrote the narrative for the FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant recently received for the fire safety house.

I am honored to have been appointed the first Fire Marshal in the history of the Franklin Fire Department and proud of the many accomplishments that benefit the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Franklin and for the safety of our firefighters.

## *Significant Departures (cont.)*

*Don Claiborne* joined our department as a volunteer firefighter on August 15, 1974 and was hired full time on September 8, 1980. He progressed through the ranks until 07/03/1995 when he was promoted to the highest position attainable in the department, Fire Chief. During his 8+ years as Chief, Mr. Claiborne saw the department through a myriad of change. Listed below is only a small portion of what was accomplished during his tenure as Fire Chief..



- FFD became an all career department on June 30, 1996.
- Added two additional rescue companies and a rescue boat.
- Added - Assistant Fire Marshal, General Services Technician, Public Education Officer, and a part time Administrative Assistant positions.
- Added Sparky to the Fire Education / Public Safety Division.
- Established minimum daily and apparatus staffing requirements.
- Provided a portable radio for each Officer.
- Designed, built, equipped, staffed, and opened three new fire stations.
- Designed and rebuilt fire station 2.
- Designed, built, and opened a fire training facility.
- Added two new Haz-Mat units - Trailer and Truck.
- Promoted and implemented Assessment Center testing for promotions.
- Promoted and implemented consistent New Hire Testing procedures.
- Provided fire sprinklers for all fire stations.
- Promoted and achieved passage of a fire sprinkler ordinance.
- Promoted and achieved passage of a Downtown Fire District.
- Promoted and achieved passage of a Hazardous Materials Truck Route.
- Promoted and implemented MTD's in fire apparatus.
- Promoted and implemented Thermal Imaging Cameras for each station.
- Obtained AED's for each apparatus.
- Placed an Aerial apparatus at each fire station. (Added Two Ladder trucks and one Aerial Platform)
- Achieved compliance of numerous NFPA requirements. (Uniforms, SCBA, Personal Protective Gear, Physicals, Gear washer.)
- FFD Explorers and the specialized rescue teams and equipment.

## *Significant Additions*

**Rocky Garzarek** joined our department on September 20<sup>th</sup>. From an initial applicant pool of 44 candidates, Garzarek was chosen, by City Administrator Jay Johnson and approved by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, to serve as, what we believe to be, the City's 7<sup>th</sup> Fire Chief since its inception in 1820. Chief Garzarek brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our department and we appreciate all those who helped to make him a reality for us. Some of his credentials are provided below.



### **EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT:**

- B.A. Athens State University- Public Administration
- A.A. Jefferson State Community College- Fire Science
- University of Alabama, Birmingham- Paramedic
- Fire Chief, City of Franklin, Tennessee- September 2004 to Present
- Fire Chief, City of Round Rock, Texas- June 2004 to September 2004
- Deputy Fire Chief, City of Round Rock, Texas-September 2001 to June 2004
- Director of Training and Safety, City of Hoover, Alabama- 1976 to September 2001

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

- Franklin Noon Rotary
- Tennessee Municipal League
- Williamson County Fire Chiefs
- Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association
- International Association of Fire Chiefs
- Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs

### **PERSONAL:**

- Marital status: Married, my wife and I have two sons
- General interests: Leisure, sports, travel

### **DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The Fire Chief is responsible for policy and general direction of the Fire Department; provides administrative support for senior fire management staff, and actively participates as a member of the City management team. The Chief represents the City regarding fire and life safety issues on a regional and statewide basis. Additionally, the Chief's office provides financial oversight, advanced planning, intra agency coordination, and deals with issues of Community concern.

## *Significant Additions (cont.)*

**Andy King** is our Fire Marshal and has been a member of the fire service for 15 years. After holding the positions of Firefighter, Engineer, Lieutenant, and Acting Fire Marshal with the Brentwood Fire Department, he recently transferred to the Franklin Fire Department. He heads the fire prevention division, consisting of three personnel who serve more than 50,000 customers in the areas of public education, planning, code enforcement, and fire investigation.

He was raised in Franklin and is married to Kristin King, a police sergeant with the City of Brentwood. Some of his credentials are provided below.

### **Education:**

**Tennessee State University      2000**  
**Master of Public Administration**

**Oklahoma State University      1994**  
**Bachelor of Science in Fire Protection and Safety Engineering Technology**

**Battle Ground Academy          1990**

### **Certifications:**

- **Standard Fire Safety Plans Examiner #5177654-FS** – International Code Council
- **Fire Inspector #220** – Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office
- **Chief Fire Prevention Code Analyst** - Southern Building Code Congress International
- **Fire Inspector I & II** - Southern Building Code Congress International
- **Fire Safety Plans Examiner** - Southern Building Code Congress International
- **Building Inspector** (expired) – Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office
- **Fire Officer I & II** - Tennessee Commission on Firefighting
- **Fire Department Safety Officer** - Tennessee Commission on Firefighting
- **Fire Service Instructor I** - Tennessee Commission on Firefighting
- **Fire Apparatus Operator** - Tennessee Commission on Firefighting
- **Firefighter I & II** - Tennessee Commission on Firefighting
- **Emergency Medical Technician IV** - Tennessee Department of EMS
- **Hazardous Materials Technician** - Tennessee Emergency Management Agency
- **Vehicle Extrication Technician**- Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads

### **Internships:**

**Research Technician** - September 1993 to December 1994

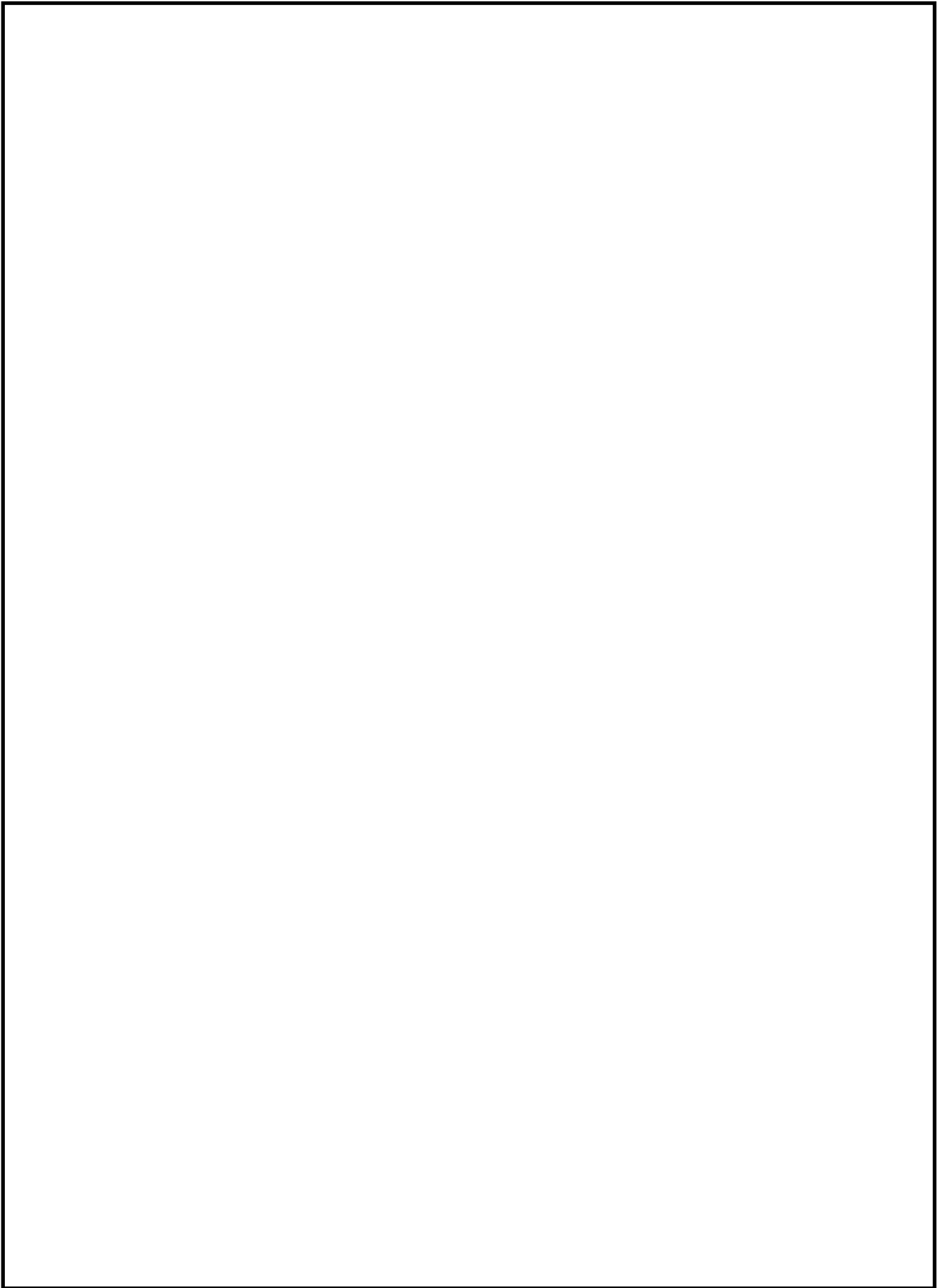
***International Fire Service Training Association / Fire Protection Publications,***

- Duties included: Researching and updating materials for firefighter training manuals, and attending conferences representing IFSTA/FPP.

**Fire Protection Engineering Intern** - May 1994 to August 1994

- Duties included: Conducting the annual evaluation of the firewater system for a DOE Superfund site. Testing and specifying fire protection equipment for the site. Reviewing plans and corresponding with facility owners to solve problems.

*Insert the Years of Service Document Here*





## *Promotions*

Eleven promotions were earned this year that we would like to acknowledge. We wish each one a successful and prosperous career.

April 5<sup>th</sup>

Richard Hasley – Engineer

Michael Pardue – Engineer

Paul Seltz – Engineer

April 12<sup>th</sup>

Rodney Ballington – Engineer

Kirk McGee – Engineer

Jeff Moss – Engineer

July 12<sup>th</sup>

Bill Lampley - Engineer

April 5<sup>th</sup>

Thomas Chaffin

David Currie

David Kolak

Sept 27<sup>th</sup>

Darin Coyle – Lieutenant, Public Education

## *Explorer Post 478*

Explorer Post 478 currently has 11 active members, one female and ten males. Each member has been issued a full compliment of personal protective equipment and a duty uniform. They participate in training, a “ride along” program, and many public education events.

Explorer training is being performed by on-shift instructors and/or explorers that have participated in the program for at least one year. Each training subject taught is based on the Delmar Firefighter 1 series or an approved lesson plan. Each lecture includes a written lesson plan, a power point presentation, and hands on exercise. This year the explorers have trained on SCBAs, hand tools, forcible entry, ventilation, ground ladders, scene safety, vital signs, rehab duties, hazardous materials, fire extinguishers, fire behavior, fire suppression, fire streams and nozzles, hose loads, fire protection systems, and building construction. This year the Post was also able to take advantage of special training opportunities afforded to the fire department, such as Rapid Intervention at West Haven and SCBA / search techniques at Georgia boot. The Post also participated in the Middle TN Fire Explorer Weekend in April at the Tennessee State Fire and Codes Academy. During this time the explorers stay at the Academy and attend classes taught by Academy instructors. The Academy also hosted a vehicle extrication and vehicle fire demonstration.

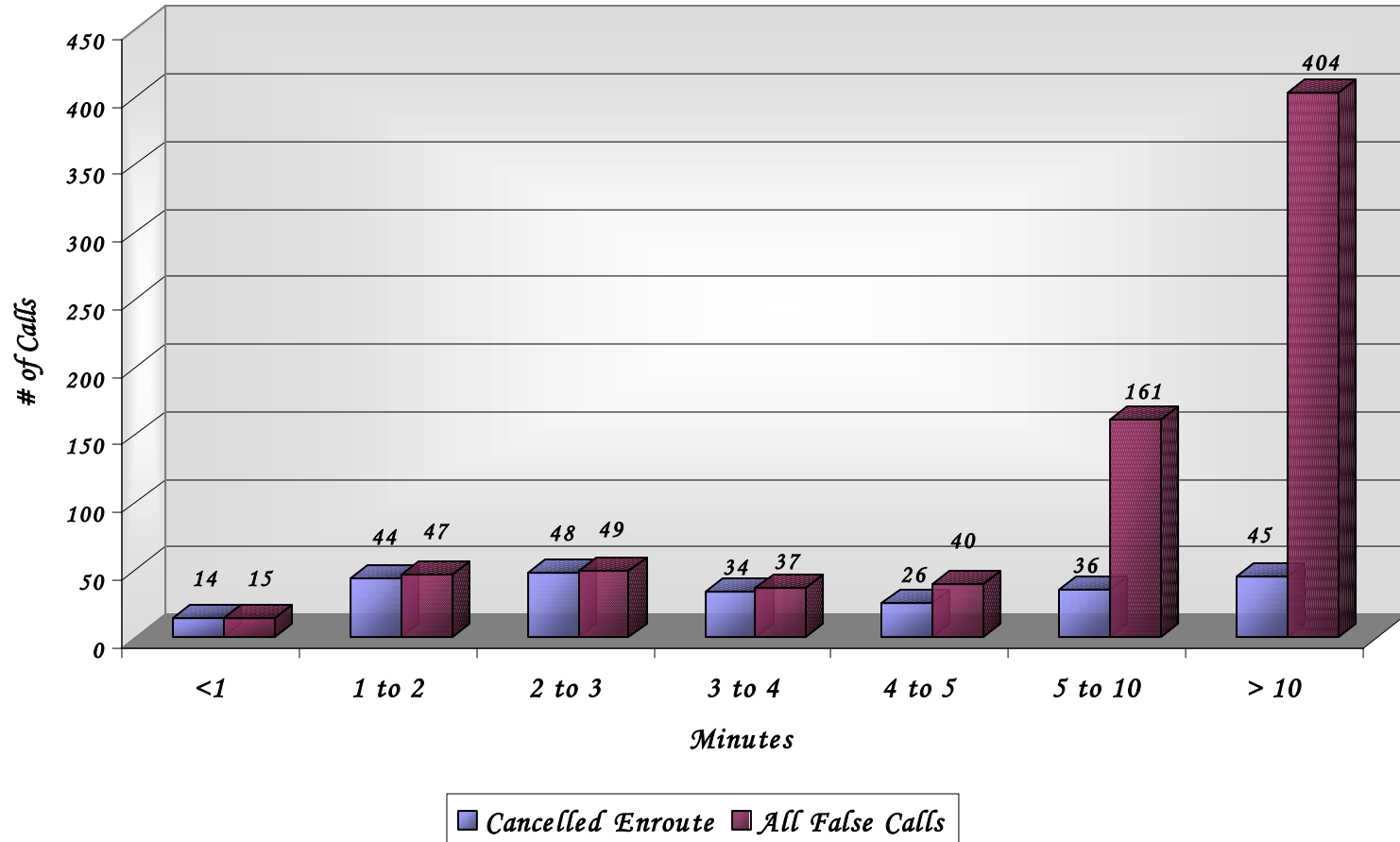
The “ride along” program has been a success and has been supported by on shift personnel and by the City. During a “ride along” Explorer’s function as members of the engine company, responding, training, completing station duties, and assisting with public education events. Each Explorer has to successfully complete a skills check off in order to participate in the “ride along” program. The Explorers have responded to a number of fire scenes and assisted with SCBA bottle change, moving and loading hose lines, firefighter accountability and rehabilitation.



The Explorers are an enthusiastic group making a contribution to their community, gaining a sense of accomplishment, and training in a field they may choose as a career. We look forward to next year to increase our membership and our responsibilities within the post and the department.

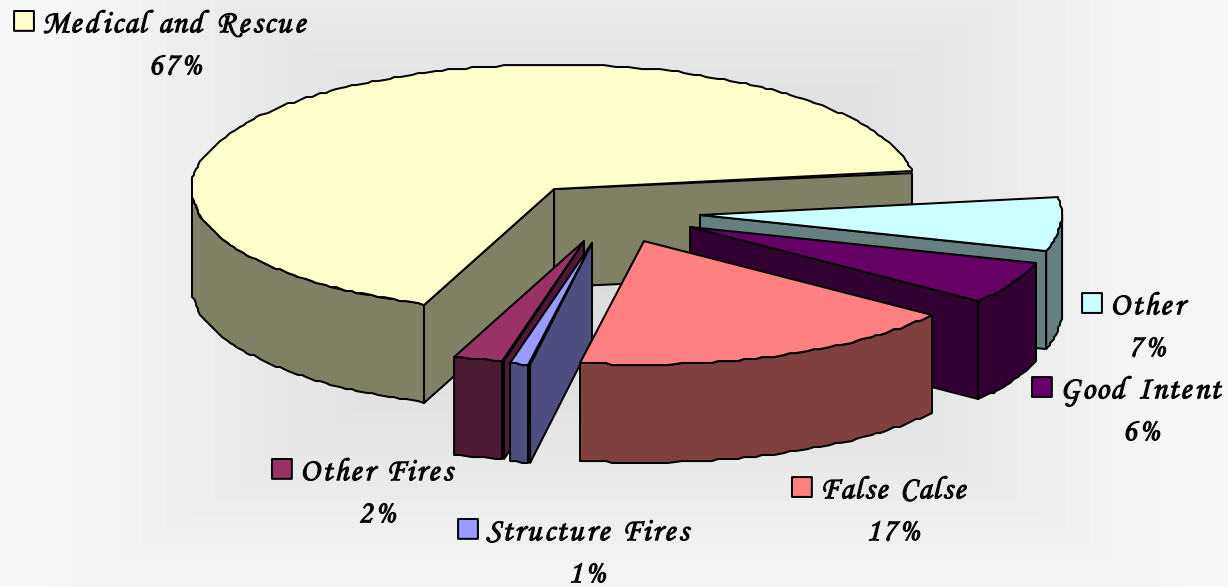
Pictured above: Top row left to right – Chris Simmons, Michael Mount, Brad Hopkins, Jose Peruit, Kate Denoto. Front row left to right – Nathan Suggs, Jared Coats, Mike Culberson, Ashely Ferrel.

*Comparison of Cancelled Calls and All False Calls (Including Cancelled Calls)*



*We experienced 753 false calls in 2004. This graph depicts that 166 out of 188 false calls occupy less than 5 minutes of department resources. The calls recorded in blue are cancelled by the communications center prior to the arrival of fire department units. On the other hand, 565 of the false calls involved more than 5 minutes of department resources to investigate and determine as such.*

### Category of Incidents



*Medical and Rescue – Illness, injury, car accident, entrapment, etc.*

*Structure Fires – Fires involving a structure of any type.*

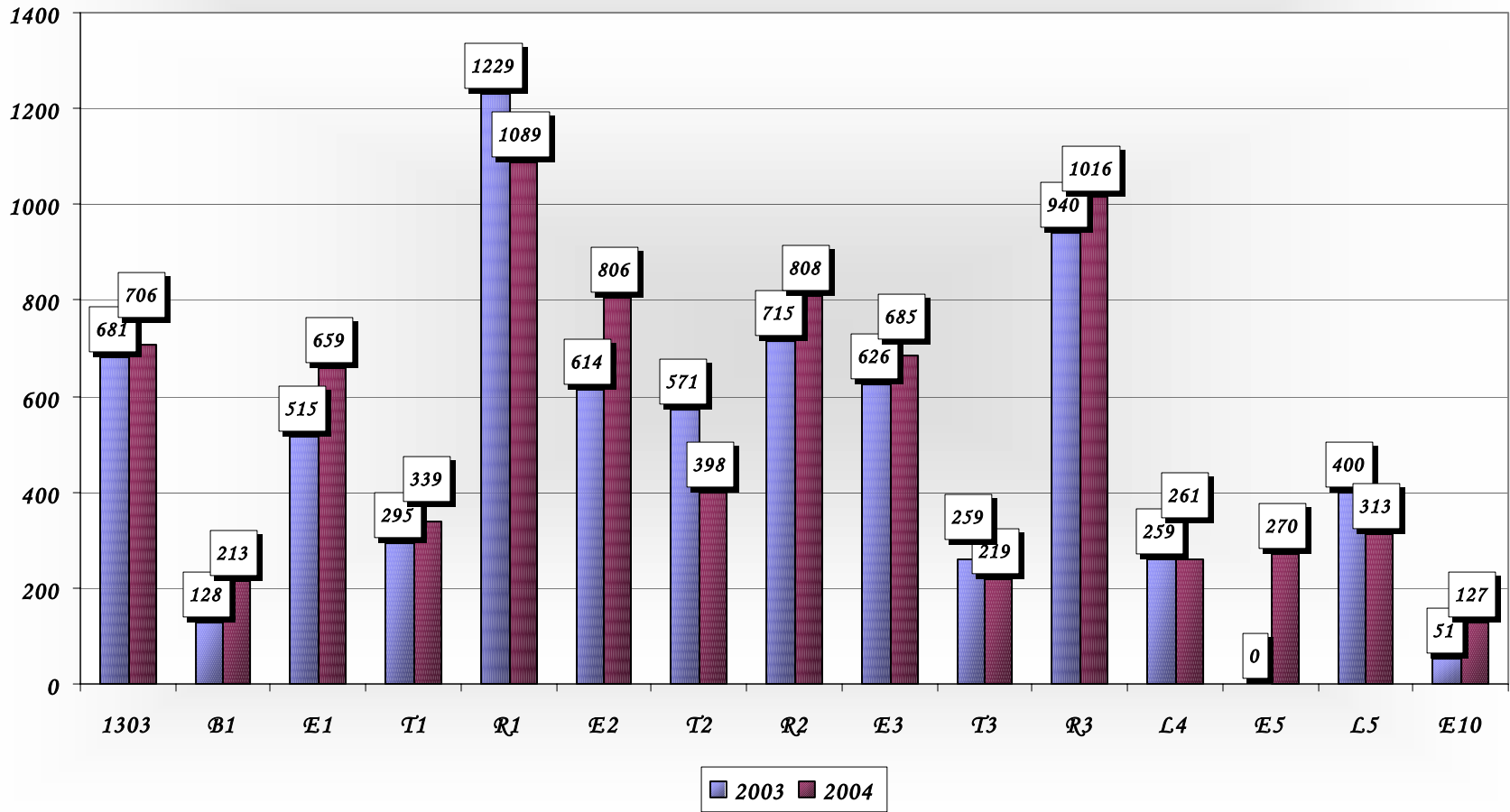
*Other Fires – Vehicle, trash, grass and other fires not involving a structure.*

*False Calls – Calls that were determined to be false and did not demand our response.*

*Good Intent – Gas Leaks, electrical shorts, smoke removal, assist citizens, calls with good intentions, etc.*

*Other – A variety of other situations.*

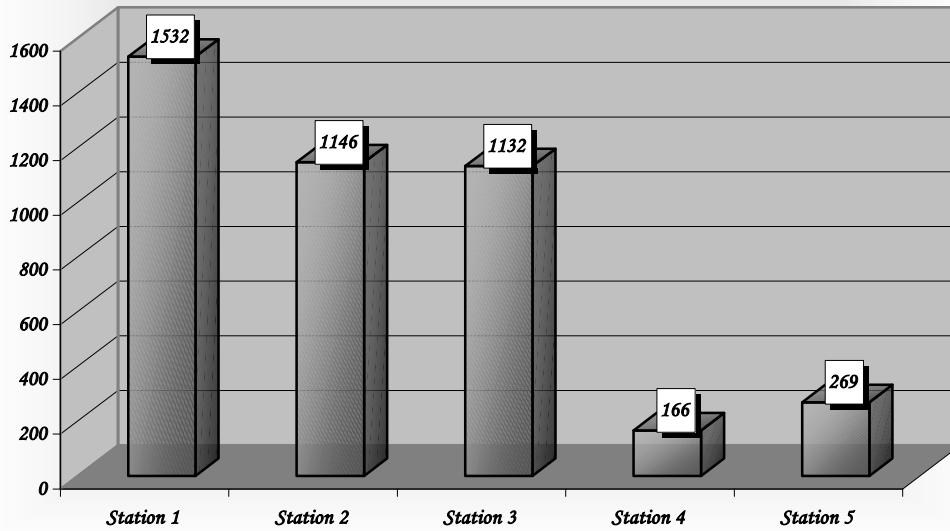
## Unit Response Comparison 2003-2004



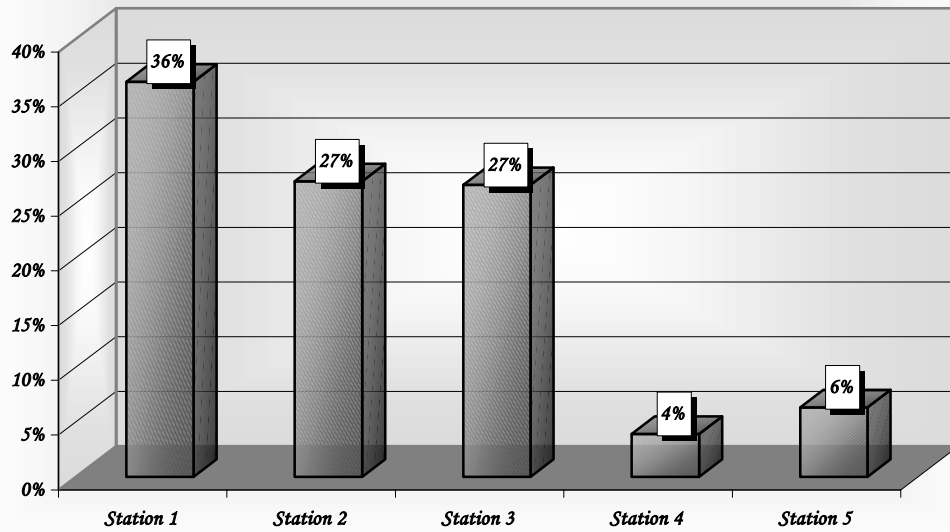




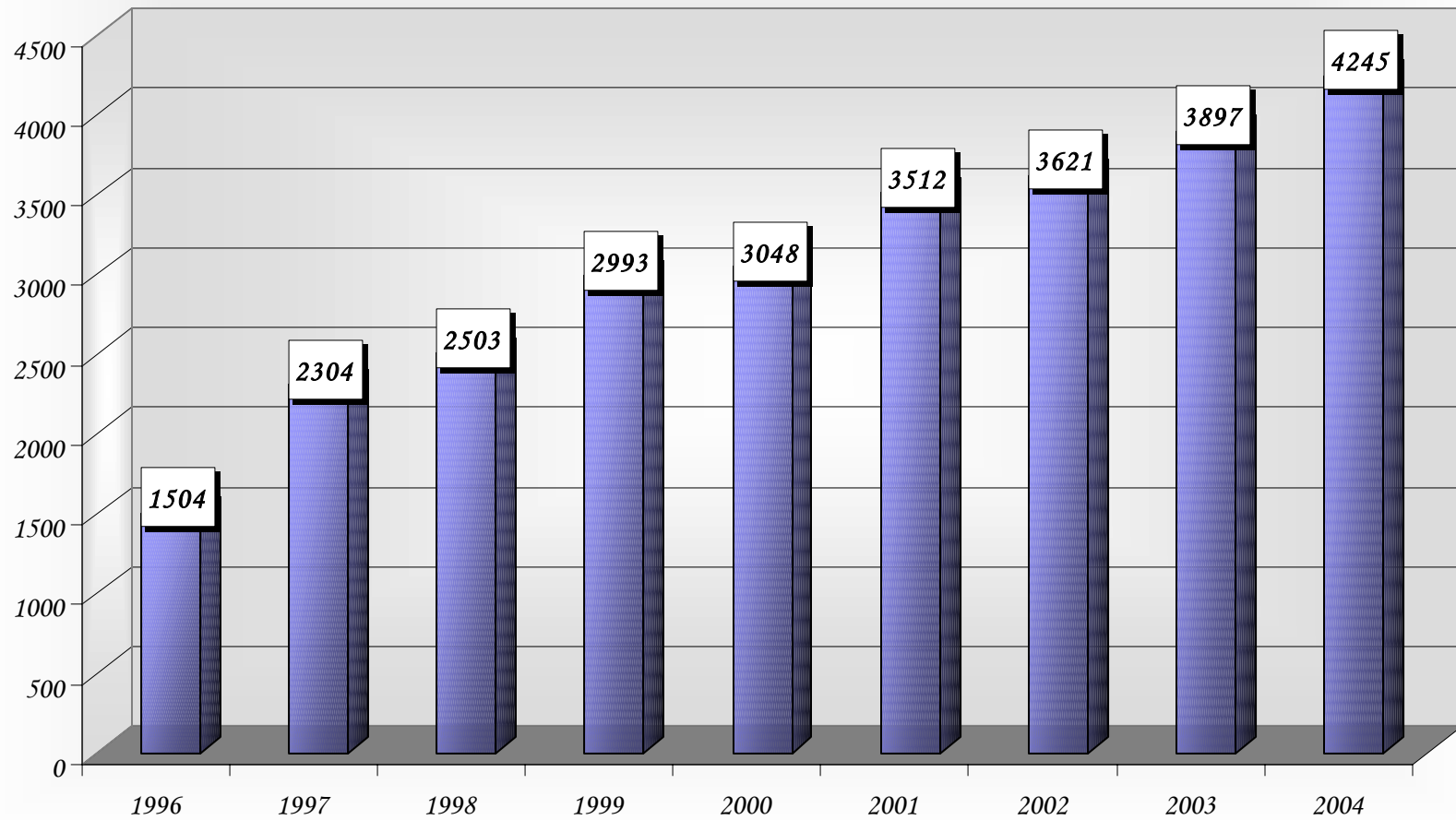
**2004 Responses by Station**



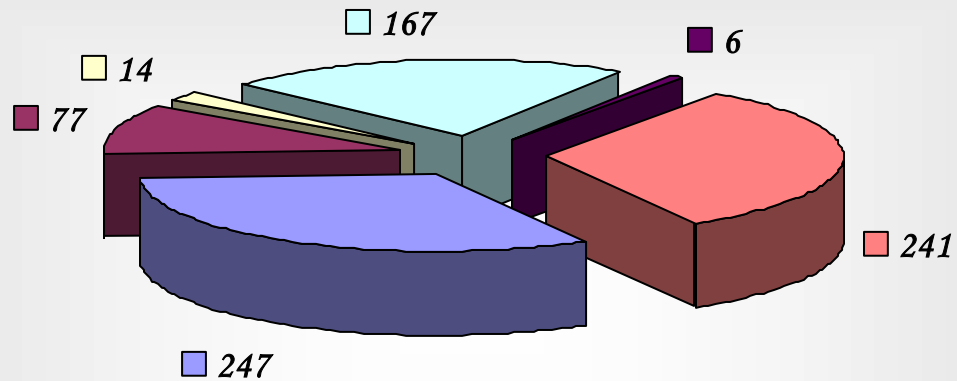
**2004 Responses by Station**



*Total Responses 1996 - 2004*

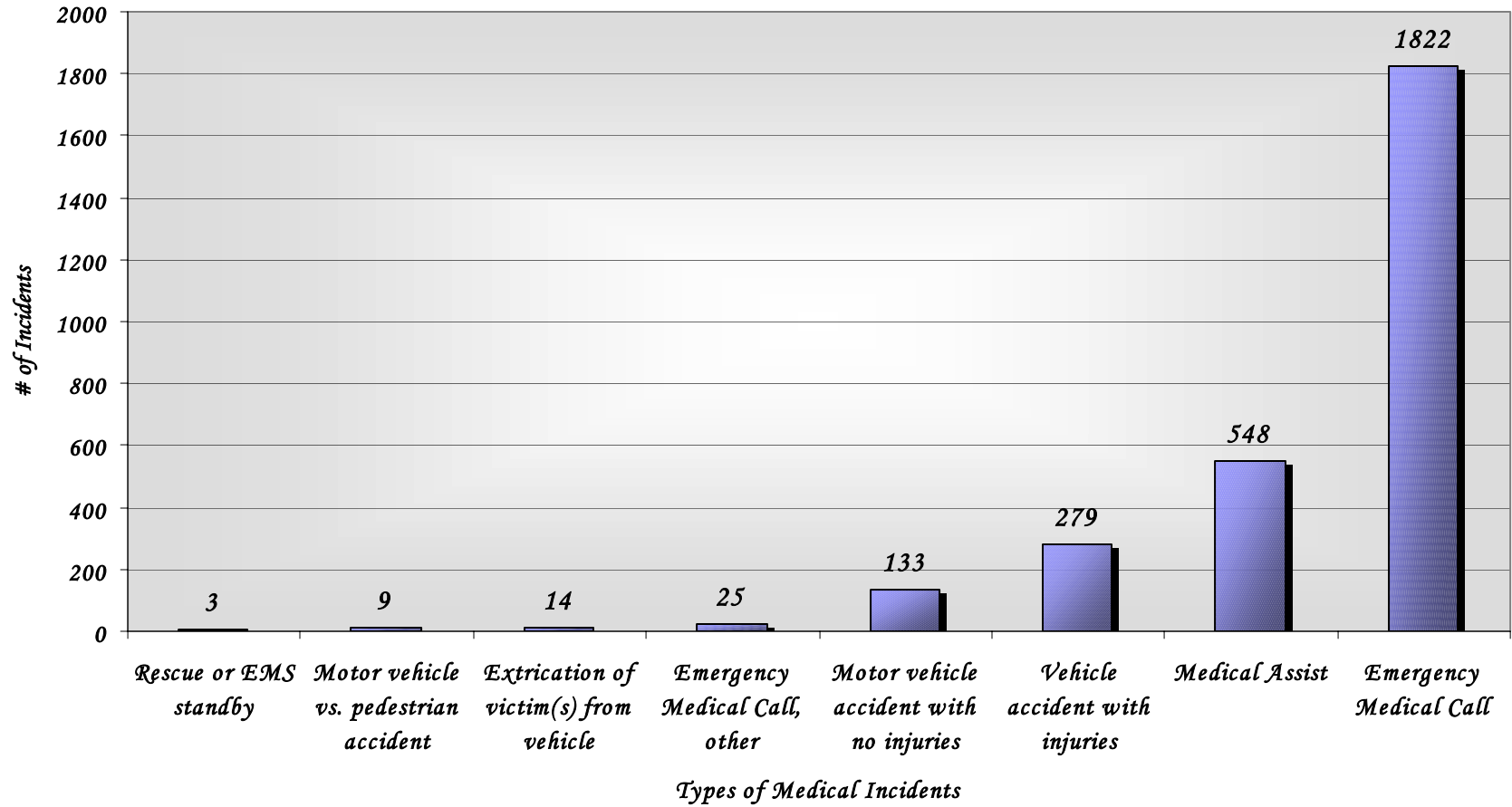


## 2004 Breakdown of False Calls



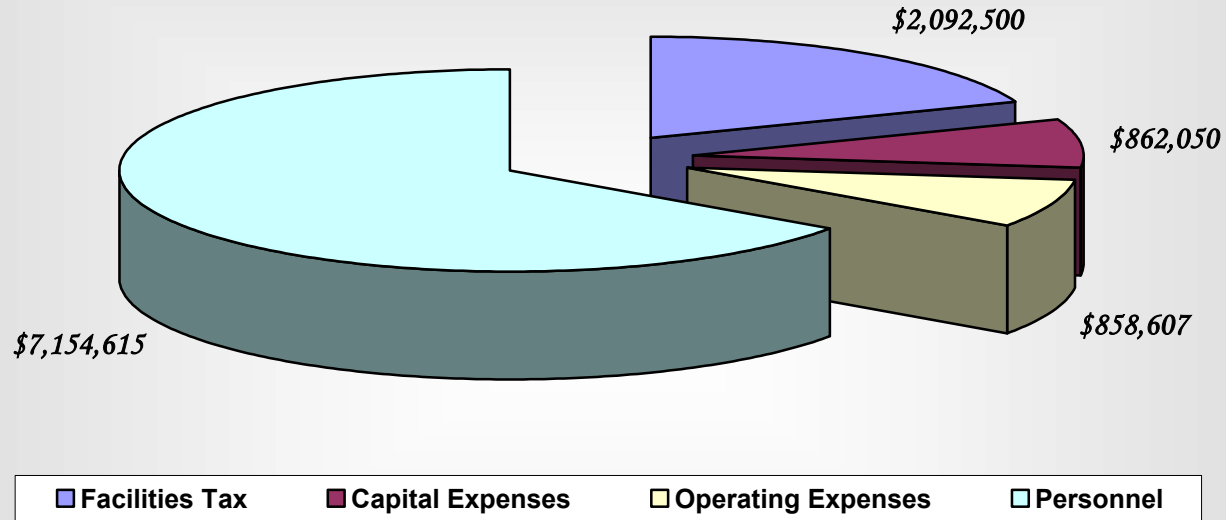
- *Dispatched & canceled en route*
- *False alarm or false call, other*
- *Malicious false call*
- *Alarm System or component malfunction*
- *Carbon Monoxide detector activation due to malfunction*
- *Unintentional transmission of alarm*

### *Breakdown of Medical Related Incidents*





*Fiscal Year Budget 04'-05'*



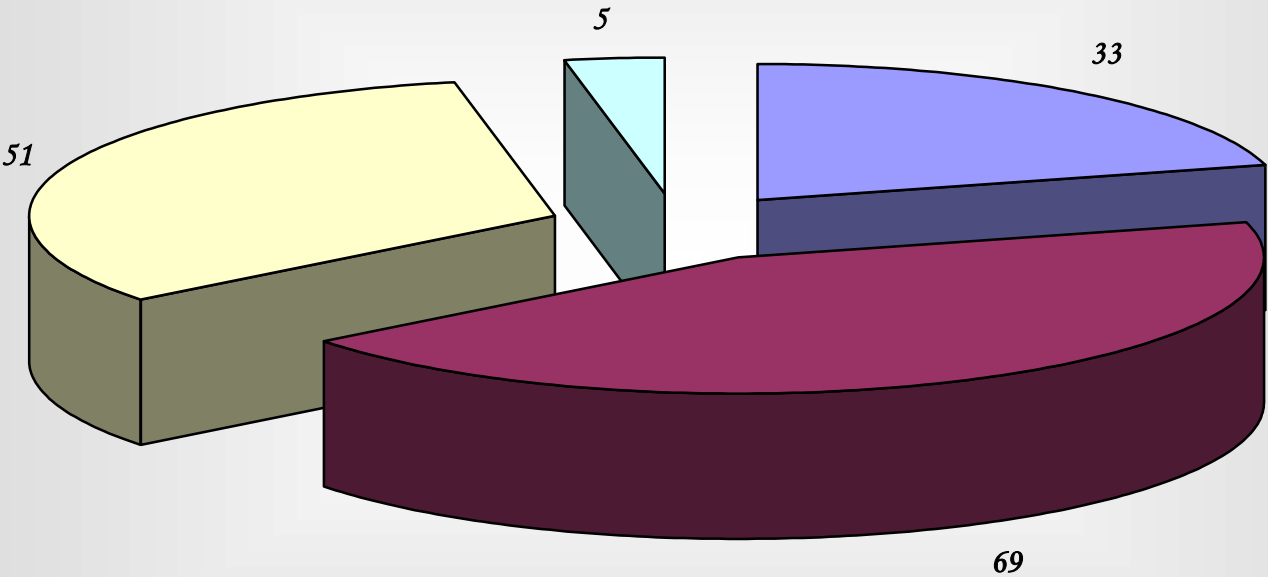
*Personnel Cost includes salaries, benefits and overtime cost, etc.*

*Capital Expenses includes station design, building improvements, equipment, computer hardware and replacement apparatus, etc..*

*Operating Expenses includes all expenditures required for us to operate. Examples include but are not limited to: Training and travel, public education, utilities, testing and physicals, building, grounds and equipment repair and maintenance, office supplies, uniforms, firefighting gear, fuel and insurance cost.*

*Facilities Tax included the construction of Fire Station 6 and a ladder truck for Station 6*

*Public Education Events*



■ Birthday Parties ■ Engine and Truck Company Demonstrations ■ Station Tours ■ Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations