

City of South Milwaukee
Fire Department
Annual Report - 2011



10th Anniversary of 9-11

*This annual report is dedicated to all the men and women
who lost their lives September 11, 2001*



city of . . .

South Milwaukee Fire Department

929 Marshall Court, South Milwaukee, WI 53172

Honorable Mayor Thomas Zepecki
Common Council Members
Police and Fire Commissioners
Citizens of South Milwaukee

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the dedicated members of the South Milwaukee Fire Department, it is with great pleasure that I present our 2011 Annual Report.


This report is dedicated to the nearly 3,000 people who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, including the 343 brave members of the Fire Department of New York who raced to the building and died in a valiant attempt to rescue their fellow man. To date, an additional 56 members of the FDNY have died as a result of conditions they were exposed to at Ground Zero.

During 2011, the SMFD saw the retirement of four personnel including Fire Chief Jay Behling in January and Firefighter/Paramedics Dave Kasulke, James Vivian, and Tim Wendt in December. The Fire Chief's position remained open throughout the year as the city researched the option of sharing services with the neighboring cities of Cudahy and St. Francis. In the absence of the Fire Chief, the three Fire Captains assumed the responsibilities of that office. The research into sharing services continues as of the writing of this letter.

Call volume for the year remained consistent with no appreciable change. One notable incident is highlighted on Page 18 involving the "Great Blizzard of 2011" that occurred on February 2nd. SMFD EMS units responded to a report of an unresponsive person in the snow and encountered an adult male in the presence of his Labrador Retriever, Buddy, who is credited with saving his owner's life by endlessly barking to get the attention of neighbors. Although Buddy has since passed due to Lyme's Disease, Buddy's owner, Ted Moss, is doing well and maintains regular visits to the firehouse to say thanks to his rescuers.

The South Milwaukee Fire Department is proud of its reputation of providing a very high level of service as we respond to the needs of the community as an all-hazard, all-risk department. The members of the South Milwaukee Fire Department and I would like to thank Mayor Zepecki, the members of the Common Council and Police and Fire Commission and our citizens for all their hard work and continued support in providing the resources that allow us to maintain this high level of service delivery.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph Knitter
Acting Fire Chief



**3-Family Apartment Fire
901 Monroe
October 08, 2011
South Milwaukee**



Photos courtesy of Erik Brooks (District 4 Alderperson)

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Dedicated to Excellence in Public Service

We Shall Never Forget (9-11 Tribute)

Let the world always remember,
That fateful day in September,
And the ones who answered duty's call,
Should be remembered by us all.

Who left the comfort of their home,
To face perils as yet unknown,
An embodiment of goodness on a day,
When men's hearts had gone astray.

Sons and daughters like me and you,
Who never questioned what they had to do,
Who by example, were a source of hope,
And strength to others who could not cope.

Heroes that would not turn their back,
With determination that would not crack,
Who bound together in their ranks,
And asking not a word of thanks.

Men who bravely gave their lives,
Whose orphaned kids and widowed wives,
Can proudly look back on their dad,
Who gave this country all they had.

Actions taken without regret,
Heroisms we shall never forget,
The ones who paid the ultimate price,
Let's never forget their sacrifice.

And never forget the ones no longer here,
Who fought for the freedoms we all hold dear,
And may their memory never wane,
Lest their sacrifices be in vain.

Alan W. Jankowski.

Mission Statement

THE MISSION OF THE SOUTH MILWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT IS TO PROTECT LIVES AND PROPERTY FROM THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF FIRES, SUDDEN MEDICAL EMERGENCIES AND EXPOSURE TO HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS. THIS COMMITMENT IS ACHIEVED BY DEVELOPING, PROMOTING, AND MAINTAINING EFFECTIVE FIRE SUPPRESSION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THESE QUALITY SERVICES THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO ALL WHO LIVE, WORK, VISIT OR INVEST HERE.

*Serving the Community with
Commitment ♦ Honor ♦ Compassion*

Department Information

The South Milwaukee Fire Department is an all-risk, all-hazard department that provides fire suppression, rescue and emergency medical services to an estimated 21,424 residents who reside within an area of 4.78 sq. miles. In addition, we respond on a mutual aid basis to any community as part of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) and on a reciprocal agreement program known as a “Working Still” to the surrounding communities of Cudahy, Oak Creek and Saint Francis, and the 128th Air Refueling Base at Mitchell International, for all structure fires. In return, these communities respond to our city when requested.

Organized - 1893

City Officials

Elected Officials

Mayor Thomas Zepecki

Craig Maass (4/19/11)

Mike McCarthy (2007 – 4/11)

District 1 Alderperson

Frank Van Dusen

District 1 Alderperson

Ray Navarro

District 2 Alderperson

R. Patrick Stoner

District 2 Alderperson

James Shelenske

City Clerk

Joe Murphy

City Attorney

Lisa Pieper

District 3 Alderperson

Joseph Bukowski

District 3 Alderperson

David Bartoshevich

District 4 Alderperson

Erik Brooks

District 4 Alderperson

Karen Skowronski

City Treasurer

Bill Fenger

Municipal Judge

Police and Fire Commission

Darrell Francis, DDS

Peggy Clark

Donald Schmidt

Patrick Moran

Richard Cole Jr. Appointed as of 3/15/11

Erick Slamka Resigned effective 3/15/11

Department Personnel

Jay Behling
(Retired 1/31)
Fire Chief

Gail Kaebisch
Administrative Secretary

Black Shift

Capt. Knitter
Lt. Lang
FF Kurz
FF/P Olson
FF/P Reid
****FF/P T Wendt (Ret)**
FF/P Wallis
FF Bieganski

Green Shift

Capt. Czajkowski
Lt. McCoy
FF Wainio
FF Ryan Behling
FF/P Bartlein
FF/P Schlax
****FF/P Vivian (Ret)**
FF/P Frost

Red Shift

Capt. Dorangrichia
Lt. Boschke
FF Landgraf
FF Ryan Wendt
****FF/P Kasulke (Ret)**
FF/P Beutin
FF/P Egner
FF/P Mahn

Paid-on-Call Personnel

Alex Andryk
Robert Maciejewski
Luke Schmidt

Ryan Porter
Kyle Quirk

Jeff Jensen
Resigned (02/01/2011)
Chris Roehsler
Resigned (02/01/2011)

****The South Milwaukee Fire Department had 4 Retirements in 2011. We thank the below listed retirees for their 114.3 years of combined service to the citizens of South Milwaukee and wish them well in their retirement.**

Name	Position	Years of service (SMFD Full time)	Years of service (SMFD POC)	Total Years
Behling, Jay	Fire Chief	32.1	2.1	34.2
Kasulke, David	Firefighter/Paramedic	22.7	0.3	23.0
Vivian, James	Firefighter/Paramedic	23.9	N/A	23.9
Wendt, Tim	Firefighter/Paramedic	23.9	9.3	33.2

When fully staffed, the South Milwaukee Fire Department maintains a three-platoon system utilizing three shifts of 8 personnel each on a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week schedule. Off-duty personnel, including paid-on-call firefighters, are also notified by pager when staffing levels at the station fall below a pre-established minimum or when the department responds to a report of an emergency incident that will require additional personnel to mitigate.

Special Assignments

Capt. Joseph Knitter	Radios and Communication Inspections MABAS Liaison Facilities and Grounds <i>* Health & Safety</i> <i>* Reports & Policies</i>
Capt. John Czajkowski	Training Coordination Apparatus Maintenance Personnel Records AFG & Education <i>* Radios & Communication</i> <i>* Facilities and Grounds</i>
Capt. Jim Dorangrichia	Health & Safety Reports & Policies Personnel Protective Equipment Equipment and Testing Certification <i>* Training Coordination</i> <i>* EMS Coordination</i>
Lt. Daniel Lang	Training and Safety / Information Technology
Lt. Glen McCoy	Training and Safety / EMS Coordination
Lt. Craig Boschke	Training and Safety / Public Education
FF/P Kurt Egner	Fire Inspection
FF Ryan Kurz	Fire Inspection
FF/P John Frost	Fire Inspection

**Indicates support role in listed activity*

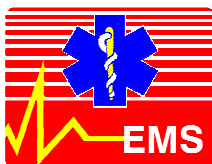
Check out our website at . . .

www.southmilwaukee.org

Emergency Medical Services Report

Fire Department-based Emergency Medical Services (EMS) continues to be a major part of our response profile. The central location of the Fire Station allows for minimal response times of specialized equipment and well-trained personnel. By utilizing a flexible staffing model, the South Milwaukee Fire Department is able to provide emergency care to the Paramedic level on any given call. A Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance is available when Paramedic staffing is unavailable. Citizens in South Milwaukee benefit from a high level of service when requesting Emergency Medical Care.

<p style="text-align: center;">TOTAL RESPONSES <u>2426</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total ALS / BLS Responses</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>* includes 500 ALS out-of-city responses</small></p>	
<u>1354</u> Treated / Transported by BLS / PFR Ambulance	<u>1072</u> Treated / Transported by Med 10 Paramedic Ambulance / M 1600
<u>1377</u> Transports to St. Luke's - South Shore Hospital	<u>195</u> Transports to St. Luke's – Main Campus Hospital
<u>75</u> Transports to St. Francis Hospital	<u>64</u> Transports to Wheaton Franciscan (Franklin)
<u>49</u> Transports to Froedtert Hospital <u>7</u> Transports by Flight For Life	<u>14</u> Transport to Children's <u>148</u> Transports to other Hospitals
<u>34</u> Medical Examiner, Funeral Home	<u>266</u> Transport Refused <u>197</u> Service calls, walk-ins, stand-bys, other
<p style="text-align: center;">General EMS Response Information</p> <p><u>1965 / 80%</u> Responses to Homes / Residences / Multi family</p> <p><u>287 / 12 %</u> Responses to Nursing Homes / Residential Institutions</p> <p><u>* 174 / 8 %</u> Response to Other (Schools, Industry, Street/Hwy, Public, Clinics, etc.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>*Includes service calls and fire related responses</small></p>	



***FIRE BASED EMS
VITAL TO THE COMMUNITY!***

Facility / Apparatus / Equipment Maintenance Report

One of the most frequent compliments paid to members of our Department is the extremely clean and well-kept appearance of both our apparatus and fire station. Visitors are often impressed at the condition of our apparatus and are shocked to learn their vintage and high level of use. Members of our Department take great pride in the care and maintenance of both the apparatus and fire station. We proudly care for the equipment and building that the citizens of South Milwaukee have entrusted us with.

Below is a list of our current apparatus and their relative condition:

ID	Type of Apparatus	Year	Make / Model	Condition
1663	Engine	2003	Pierce Enforcer – 1250 GPM Pump, 750 Gal. Water Tank	Very Good
1665	Engine	2007	Pierce Enforcer – 1250 GPM Pump, 750 Gal. Water Tank	Very Good
1671	Aerial Ladder	1995	Pierce Lance 105' Heavy Duty Ladder – 1500 GPM Pump, 300 Gal. Water Tank	Good
1680	Ambulance	2001	Med-Tech (Ford) Type III	Good
1681	Ambulance	2009	Med-Tech (Ford) Type I	Excellent
Med-10	Ambulance	2003	Med-Tech (International)	Fair
1692	Chief's Car	2009	Ford Escape	Excellent
1693	Gator	2003	6 x 4 Wheel Drive Utility Cart	Very Good
1694	Rescue Raft	2006	14' Mercury Inflatable w/ 25 HP Outboard	Very Good
1695	Rescue Boat	2010	25.6' Steiger Craft Twin 150 HP Suzuki 4 stroke	Excellent
1696	SUV	2007	Ford Expedition	Fair
1697	Pick-up Truck	1995	GMC ¾ Ton Utility Truck	Good
1698	Mini-pumper	2008	Pierce (Ford) – F550 150 GPM Pump, 250 Gal. Water Tank	Excellent
1699	Rescue Trailer	1993	14' Pace American	Good

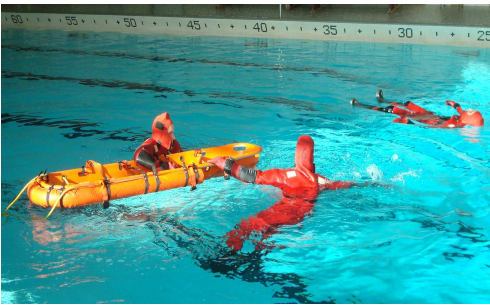
**MOVE OVER FOR
EMERGENCY VEHICLES**



**IT'S THE
LAW!**

Training Report

The Training Bureau is managed by the department Training Officer whose primary responsibility is to organize, develop and schedule training for all department members in compliance with requirements and industry standards. The training goal is to provide all employees with quality training that is specific to their job description and needs, providing them with the knowledge, skills and abilities to fulfill the mission of the department. Funding for training is provided by a budget line item that not only reflects the City's commitment to maintaining well trained employees, but the department's dedication to providing the best trained "customer-service" delivery force available.



Training is provided to all shifts on a Monday through Saturday basis by their respective Captain, Lieutenant or another carefully chosen "expert" in the topic.

Much of the training information is taken from the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) texts or based on NFPA standards and locally or nationally recognized acceptable practices.

Because of the unique cross-staffing situation utilized by the department, members are cross trained in all aspects of every position.

Additional training activities take place at locations remote from the fire station utilizing outside resources. During 2011 the below department-wide training was conducted:

- Confined Space and entrapment rescue training was conducted at Caterpillar.
- A large scale multiple victim / multiple rescue team training exercise was conducted at the MATC fire training facility in Oak Creek. Additional flammable gas (live fire) training was conducted simultaneously at MATC as well.
- Relay pump training with the Cudahy fire department was performed in Cudahy. Relay pumping uses a fire engine at the water supply source to pump water under pressure through one or more hoselines to the next pumper in line. The inline (Relay) pumper boosts the pressure to supply the next pumper, and so on, until water reaches the attack pumper. This technique is used to move water long distances.
- Additional training was conducted at the South Milwaukee Yacht Club and Lake Michigan (boat operations & open water rescue), South Milwaukee Middle School pool (open water rescue) as well as various locations around the city chosen for apparatus operation training throughout the year.

Department-wide drills are incorporated into the training schedule. This training is intended to have the entire department, both career and paid-on-call personnel, train together on common topics.

Training

Confined Space Rescue BI / Caterpillar

File photos



Heavy Entrapment Rescue BI / Caterpillar



South Milwaukee Rescue Boat

File photo



The South Milwaukee Fire Department operates a rescue boat kept ready to deploy with the cooperation of the South Milwaukee Yacht Club, who graciously provides a slip. The boat, which was acquired with money from a Port Security Grant provided by the Urban Area Security Initiative, is for assisting people in emergencies and does not have firefighting capabilities. Basic specifications are listed below:

Steiger Craft Fiberglass Rescue Boat

25' 6" in length
12' 8" in height (on trailer)
¾ Enclosed pilot house
Dive / Recovery door
150 gal fuel tank
Twin 150hp Suzuki outboard motors

Installed Equipment

Lowrance
Chart plotter
GPS/Side Scan / Down Scan Sonar
Garmin 300 VHF / AIS Integrated horn
Forward Looking InfraRed
M-series 625L / low light camera
Radar

Fire Department Values Statement

- 1. Customer Service – We will be responsive to our customers needs, striving to provide high quality services in a respectful and courteous manner.**
- 2. Commitment to Excellence – We continuously strive to improve our services and maintain a strong desire to serve the community with the courage to act.**
- 3. Integrity – Our everyday actions and decisions reflect the highest standards of honesty, integrity and trustworthiness.**
- 4. Responsibility and Accountability – Through innovation, conservation and cooperation, we use our resources to efficiently and effectively enhance our services. We are responsible for our actions and decisions.**
- 5. Teamwork – We achieve common goals and solve problems through interaction with our internal and external customers.**
- 6. Safety – While providing for the safety of our community, we work safely with an emphasis on safe practices, fitness, wellness and survival.**
- 7. Community Diversity – We recognize the value of a diverse community in strengthening our organization and our service to the public.**
- 8. Professional Development – Our personnel support and achieve high quality training and education on a daily basis, increasing efficiency and effectiveness by enhancing our professional potential and nurturing future leaders within the organization.**
- 9. Professionalism – We strive to maintain a high level of professionalism and dedication in our service to the community, city, organization and ourselves through the development and adherence to recognized policies, rules and regulations.**



Public Education Report

The South Milwaukee Fire Department continues to pride itself on an interactive public education program.

Our philosophy is that fire safety starts early on; building strong foundations in education. Each fall, students in the local schools are visited by our firefighters. Elementary students in kindergarten and 1st grade are given fire safety programs during the annual National Fire Prevention Week. When students' reach the 5th grade, they are given a more advanced Fire Safety Program that focuses on preparation for their adolescent years and the importance of home/fire safety. The 5th graders are assigned take home projects, where family involvement is encouraged. The students are also taught general home safety, such as general first aid and burn care, as many of the children are reaching babysitting age.

608

**K-4, K-5 & 1st Grade Students
who took part in fire safety
presentations**

205

**5th Graders who participated in
the 6-week fire safety program**

185

Fire Station Tour Participants

60

**Fire Extinguisher Instruction
Participants**

The Historical Origin of Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871. According to popular legend, the fire broke out after a cow - belonging to Mrs. Catherine O'Leary - kicked over a lamp, setting first the barn, then the whole city on fire. Chances are you've heard some version of this story.

The 'Moo' myth

Like any good story, the 'case of the cow' has some truth to it. The great fire almost certainly started near the barn where Mrs. O'Leary kept her five milking cows. But there is no proof that O'Leary was in the barn when the fire broke out - or that a jumpy cow sparked the blaze. But if a cow wasn't to blame for the huge fire, what was? Over the years, journalists and historians have offered plenty of theories. Some blamed the blaze on neighborhood boys smoking; others believed that a neighbor of the O'Leary's may have started the fire. Speculation by others of a fiery meteorite that may have fallen to earth on October 8, starting several fires that day - in Michigan and Wisconsin, as well as in Chicago.

The biggest blaze that week, Peshtigo Wisconsin

While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire, which also occurred on October 8th, 1871, roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

Historical accounts of the fire say that the blaze began when several railroad workers clearing land for tracks unintentionally started a brush fire. Before long, the fast-moving flames were whipping through the area 'like a tornado,' some survivors said. It was the small town of Peshtigo, Wisconsin that suffered the worst damage. Within an hour, the entire town had been destroyed

Fire Inspection Report

Fire inspection duties are completed by shift members assigned to each of the three shifts and are conducted during the course of their regular duty day. This arrangement often presents a formidable scheduling challenge due to an increased call volume, ever-increasing training requirements and other obligations to our community.

FF/P John Frost, FF/P Kurt Egner and FF Ryan Kurz, who are State of Wisconsin Certified Fire Inspectors, each conduct fire code inspections in accordance with Chapter 27 - *Fire Prevention, Protection, and Control* of the City's Municipal Code and the State of Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapters 61 through 65, as overseen by the Department of Commerce. The Inspection Bureau also works in close cooperation with the City's Building Inspection and Health Departments to mitigate other health and safety code violation matters that impact the quality of life for the residents of and visitors to the City of South Milwaukee. Also, upgrades, repairs and new sprinkler and alarm system installations are reviewed by a private consultant. This consultant often accompanies the Inspectors to the job-site for plan review and testing purposes.

1246

Fire inspections conducted

180

Re-inspections conducted

332

Violations found



Inspection Responsibilities

FF/P Egner

Commercial

Residential attached to Commercial

FF/P Frost

Residential

City-owned properties

County-owned properties

Federally-owned properties

FF Kurz

Industrial

Manufacturing

Churches

Schools

Nursing Homes

Doctor / Dental Offices

• ***Smoke Detectors and Fire Sprinklers Save Lives*** •

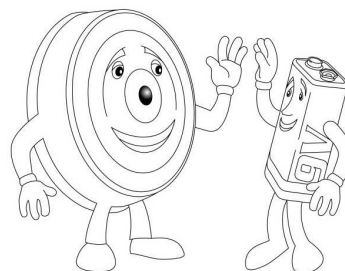
Please see our Web Site for information on the new mandate for Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors.

Response Statistics

	2009	2010	2011
EMS Calls	2558	2464	2426
Basic Life Support Incidents	1126	1029	1054
Advanced Life Support Incidents	650	821	872
ALS (requests) outside of So. Milw.	468	503	500
EMS other / * different for 2011	314	111	*
Fire Incidents	68	82	71
Building Fire	40	32	28
Cooking fire	7	7	7
Rubbish / Trash Fire / Dumpster	11	10	13
Grass / Brush Fire	10	14	13
Other			10
Hazardous Conditions	72	88	81
Vehicle Accident Clean-up	26	20	13
Carbon Monoxide Invest.	11	21	25
Electrical Problem	4	7	17
Chemical Leak / Spill	7	3	7
Natural Gas Leak	16	12	13
Boat / Water Rescue	-	-	6
Service / Good Intent	116	161	145
Smoke or Odor Removal	11	10	6
Unauthorized Burning	30	26	27
Other	75	75	27
False Alarms	68	68	100
System Activation – Malfunction	9	14	19
System Activation – Unintentional	24	26	28
System Activation – Malicious	6	7	5
Systems - Other	29	21	21
Other Incidents	58	122	145
Grand Total	2940	2985	2968

Note: Due to a change in statistic gathering methods, individual categories have been re-identified.

Team Up for Fire Safety!

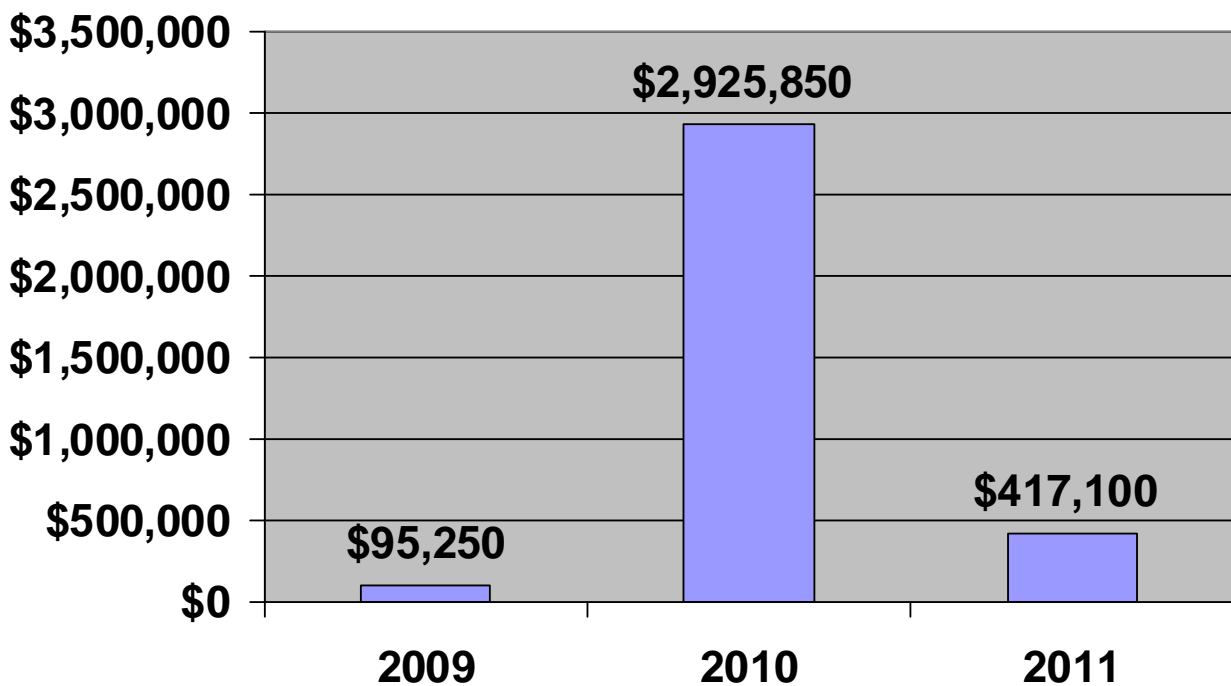


Response Trends

To properly understand the statistics provided on the previous page, one must understand that the categorizing of incident responses is subject to both the efforts of the person writing the report and the methods used to identify the appropriate code assigned to an incident.

Dollar Loss

In addition to the actual number of emergency and non-emergency incidents that our personnel respond to, one of the most sought after statistics is that of the dollar loss to physical property due to damage from fire. In the past, the justification for the existence of a fire department was based on how great this dollar loss was. Now, because of all of the ancillary responsibilities of our personnel, the effectiveness of a department is based on the amount of property that was saved through aggressive fire suppression and prevention efforts. In 2011, the City of South Milwaukee had a moderately busy year. Dollar loss is not as large as in 2010, but still significant at \$417,100.



Fire Photos

Single Family House Fire
1737 Missouri Ave South Milwaukee
May 17, 2011



Tim Stein of Fyrpix www.fyrpix.com



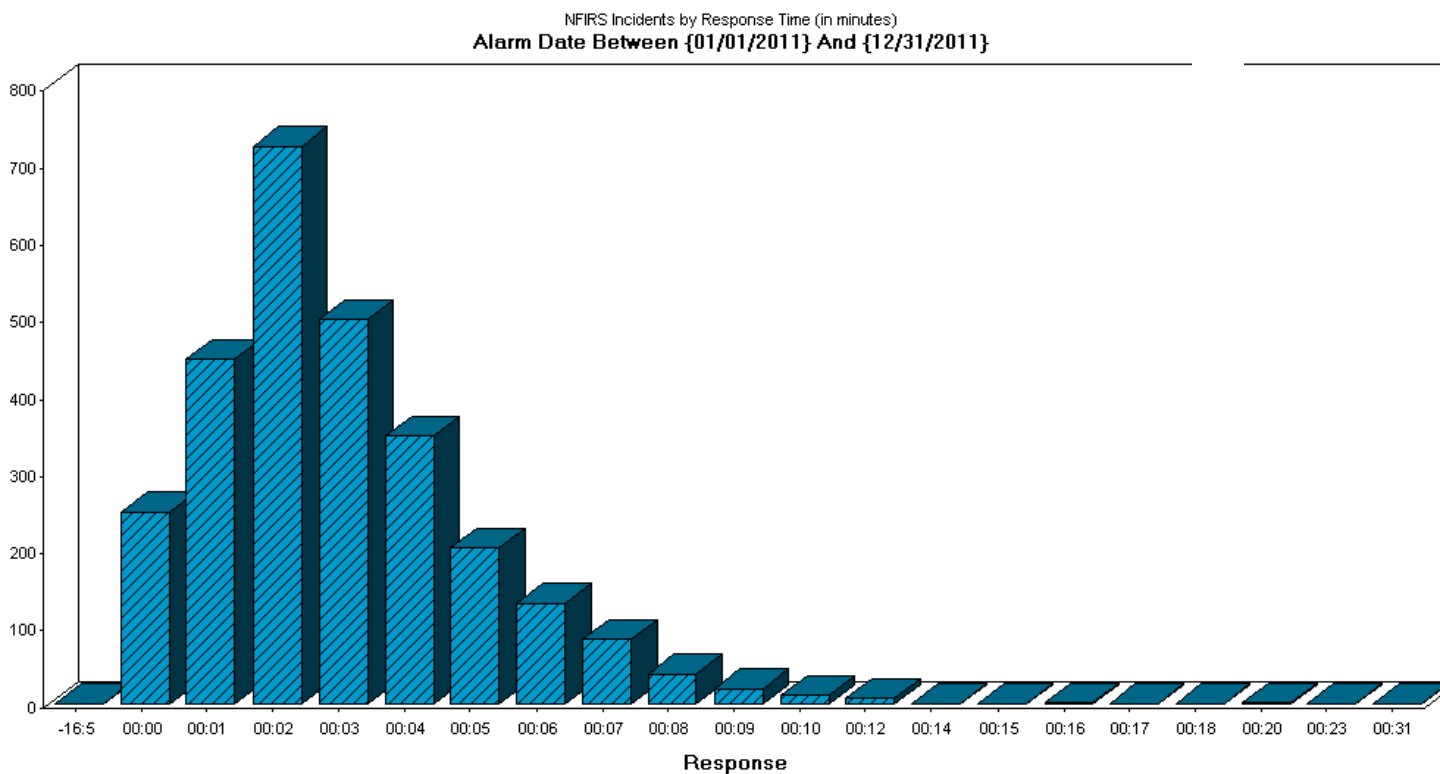
South Milwaukee firefighters conduct overhaul operations at a Mutual Aid single family house fire in the 8600 block of South 35th Street in the City of Franklin.



All photos on this page are courtesy of Tim Stein of Fyrpix www.fyrpix.com

Response Time Analysis

In 2001, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) released a standard for the *Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments* known as NFPA 1710. In this standard, the NFPA established a minimum response time objective of four minutes or less for the arrival of the first arriving engine company at a fire suppression incident or the arrival of an emergency medical unit with first responder or higher level capability at an emergency medical incident 90% of the time. As is shown by the following graph, the South Milwaukee Fire Department is in compliance with this nationally-accepted performance standard. In fact, on-scene arrival times are less than 3 minutes for a majority of our incidents.



*It is important to note that this graph reflects *ALL* responses, both emergency and non-emergency, and provides no means to account for the errant inputting of data or calls delayed because of absolute low priority.



Member Accomplishments

South Milwaukee Firefighters received the 2011 Aurora Hospital Recognition of Outstanding Performance “Great Saves” Award for their rescue of SM resident Ted Moss during the great snowstorm of 2011. Mr. Moss’s Labrador, Buddy, was credited for alerting neighbors by barking. Ted was found frozen and buried in the snow with Buddy who never left his side. Firefighters who rescued him provided advanced emergency care and transported him to Saint Luke’s Hospital where aggressive emergency care continued and Mr. Moss eventually made a full recovery.



Dr. Bill Lieber MD along with South Milwaukee firefighters Tad Beutin, Andy Mahn, Ryan Wendt and Dave Kasulke are standing with Ted Moss and Buddy after being awarded the 2011 “Great Saves” award.



Fire Captain achieves prestigious Executive Fire Officer Certification.



Mayor Tom Zepecki presents
Fire Captain Joseph Knitter with his
Executive Fire Officer Program Certificate

The Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP) is an initiative of the United States Fire Administration/National Fire Academy designed to provide senior officers and others in key leadership roles with an opportunity to enhance their professional development through a unique series of four graduate and upper-division-baccalaureate equivalent courses over a 4-year period with 4 core courses. Each course is 2 weeks in length with an emphasis on leadership development, prevention, and risk-reduction; transforming fire and emergency services organizations to reflect the diversity of America's communities; the value of research and its application to the profession; and the value of lifelong learning.

EFOP participants must complete an Applied Research Project (ARP) that relates to their organization within 6 months after the completion of each of the four courses. A certificate of completion for the entire EFOP is awarded only after the successful completion of the final research project.

FLIGHT FOR LIFE

An injured citizen is loaded into Flight For Life by South Milwaukee Firefighter/Paramedics and Cudahy firefighters

Photo courtesy of Tim Stein of Fyrpix www.fyrpix.com



Congratulations Flight For Life!

Flight For Life Program Wins American Eurocopter's 2011 Vision Zero Aviation Safety Award.

October 18, 2011

ST. LOUIS – American Eurocopter announced that the Flight For Life Transport System of Wisconsin won the 2011 Vision Zero Aviation Safety Award. Flight For Life (FFL) is a well respected CAMTS-accredited flight program that has provided more than 28 years of service with over 30,000 patient transports without an incident



The Firefighters!

911 Tribute

In the battle against the beastly fire...
They stay together, ready to fight!
To help all the victims of every accident,
Committed to rescue, by day and by night.

These are the courageous Firefighters,
In their cities and towns of every land.
They stand together as really true friends,
Routinely they're all working hand in hand.

Everyone of them looks after the other,
Their brotherhood knows no borders...!
They are ready to help in their unselfish way,
Without fear, they follow their orders!

Many of them gave their lives in New York,
On September the eleventh, two thousand and one...!
Firefighters everywhere will remember that day,
And their feelings of loss will never be gone.

**By Hartmut Reinsch ©
(German-Canadian homeland poet)**



National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park

Emmitsburg, Maryland



A grateful Nation honors its fallen fire service heroes at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park located on the campus of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The park is located about 90 minutes from Washington, DC, and Baltimore, Maryland.

At the heart of the park, the National Fallen Firefighters Monument is a striking stone monument encircled by plaques listing the names of all members of the fire service who have died in the line-of-duty since 1981. A brick Walk of Honor® connects the National Monument to the historic Memorial Chapel, which houses the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation's business office and gift shop.



At the far end of the park stands the 9/11 Memorial, To Lift a Nation. In 2011, a brick plaza and walkway were added in front of the sculpture.

The last two pages are dedicated to the memory of all the fallen firefighters who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty