

# Oakland Township Fire Department

## 2017 Annual Report



# Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
Mission Statement.....	3
Department History.....	4
Department Structure.....	5-6
Personnel.....	7-8
Call Volume.....	9
Types of Calls.....	10
Other Statistics.....	11
Sheriff's Department.....	12
Mutual Aid.....	13
Stations.....	14
Apparatus.....	15-17
Open House.....	18
Training.....	19-22
Public Education/Community Involvement.....	23
OTFD in Action.....	24-27
Firefighter Recruitment.....	28
Conclusion.....	29

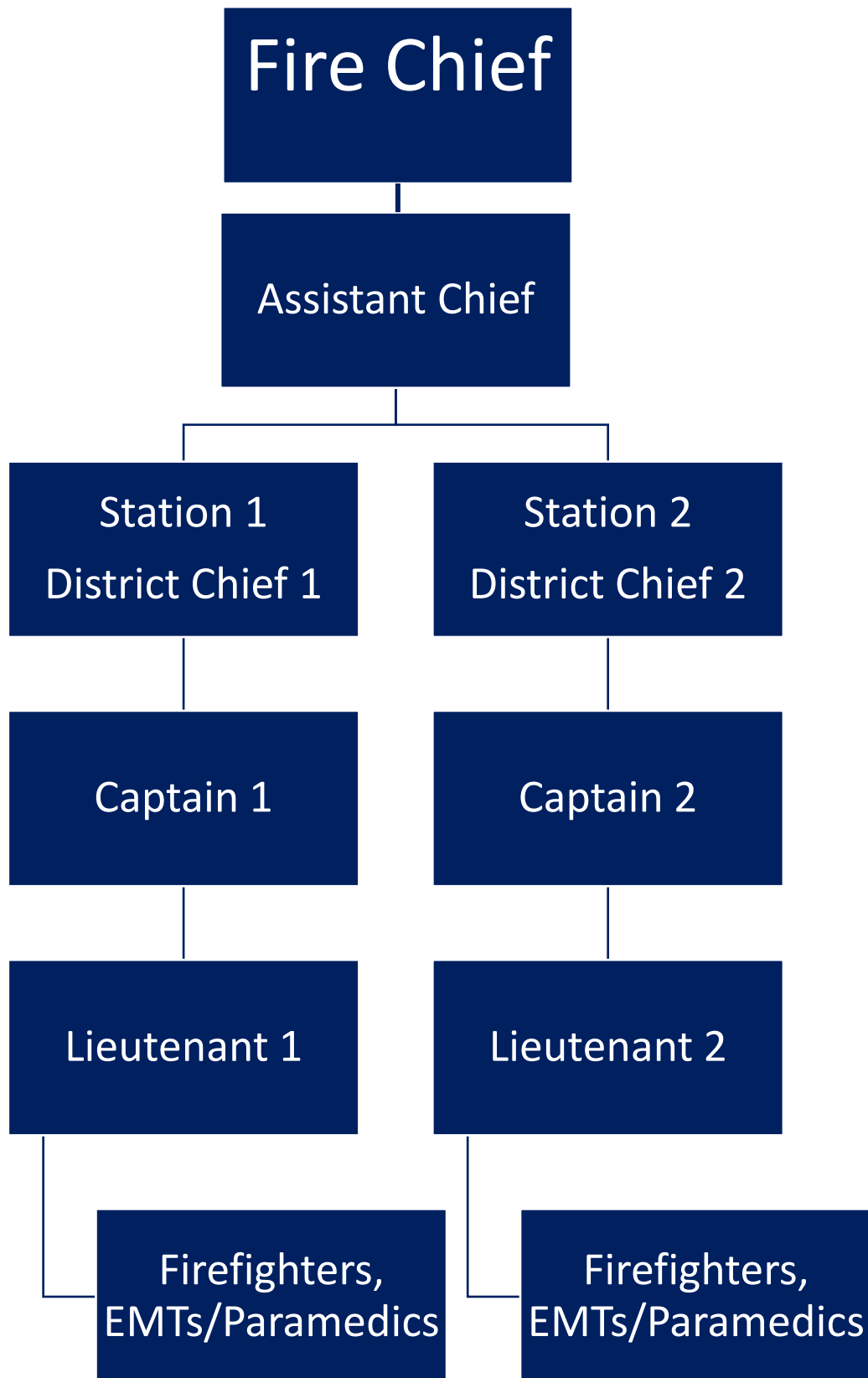
# Mission Statement

“The Mission of the Oakland Township Fire Department is to safely respond to fire and medical emergencies within the community, to help its citizens deal with those emergencies, and, with regard to the safety of its members, do all it can to limit loss of life, property, and the environment.”

# Department History

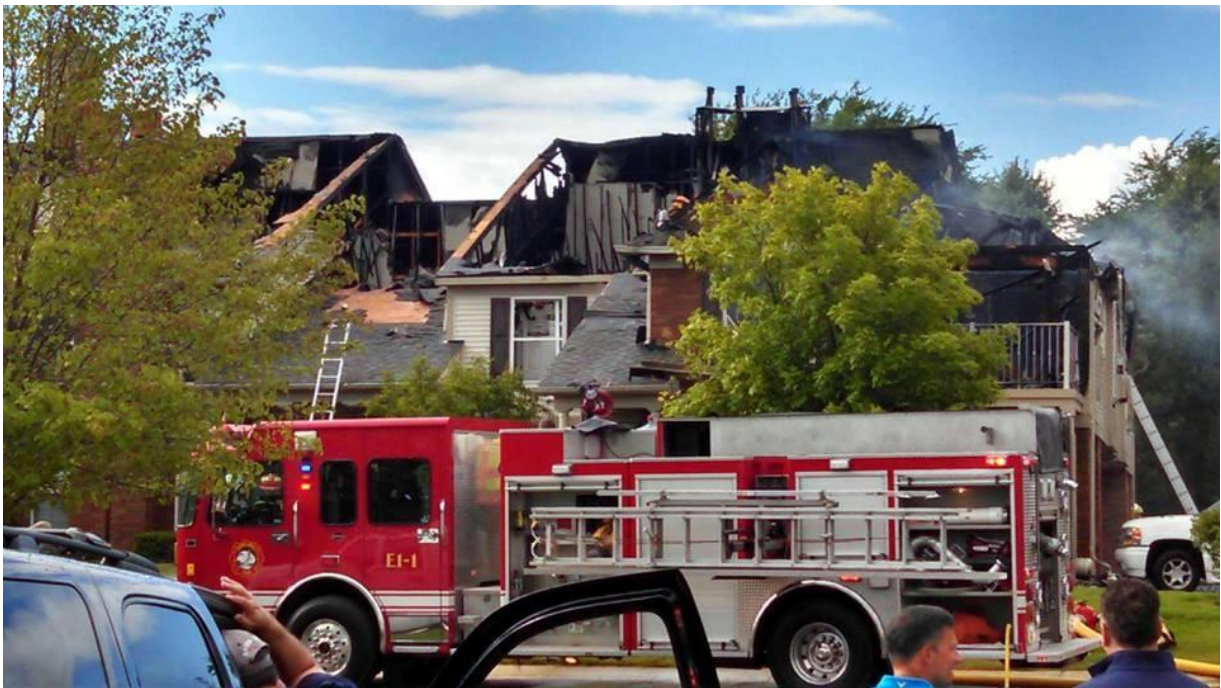
- November 1994: Orion Township officials approach Oakland Township Board of Trustees and state they are no longer interested in providing fire protection for Oakland Township.
- January-July 1995: A proposal is made to the Board of Trustees by Building Department Director Bill Benoit outlining the cost and timeframe to start a new fire department. Bill Benoit is appointed the first Fire Chief of OTFD and construction begins on Station #1.
- December 1995: OTFD responds to its first call.
- December 2000-June 2002: The need for a second fire station is recognized. Land is purchased, plans are drawn, and a second fire station is built at Rochester & Stoney Creek roads.
- September 2002: OTFD applies for and receives a license to start Basic Life Support transports – all Advanced Life Support is still handled by a private EMS agency.
- January 2004: Due to extended response times from private ALS agencies, the Board of Trustees agrees to hire full time Paramedics and upgrade ambulances to Advanced Life Support. These units are manned 24/7 starting in November 2004.
- May 2013: After nearly 18 years of service, Chief Bill Benoit retires and Paul Strelchuk is named new Fire Chief.
- August 2013: Due to increasing call volumes, a 3<sup>rd</sup> ambulance, which is a Basic Life Support unit, is purchased and put in service.

# Department Structure



# Department Structure

The Oakland Township Fire Department is considered a combination department, with 6 full time duty Firefighter/Paramedics that are currently supplemented by 22 paid-on-call (POC) personnel. Each of the 2 stations is manned 24/7 with 1 Firefighter/Paramedic that inspects/maintains equipment and vehicles, and of course, responds to emergencies when needed. When a call comes in, OTFD relies on the POC personnel to respond from home, work, school, or wherever they may be. For a medical emergency, both ambulances respond with 1 Firefighter/Paramedic each, with POCs responding in their personal vehicles to the scene. For fire response, POC personnel must respond to the station to assemble a crew and get fire apparatus.



# Personnel

## Administration:

Paul Strelchuk – Fire Chief, EMT/Firefighter (1995)

Lou Danek – Assistant Chief, MFR/Firefighter (1995)

Chuck Beach – District Chief, EMT/Firefighter (1995)

Jon Diehr – District Chief, Paramedic/Firefighter (1995)

## Line Officers:

Jim Tweedie – Captain, EMT/Firefighter (1995)

Lu Gomez – Captain, EMT/Firefighter (1998)

Derek Young – Lieutenant, Paramedic/Firefighter (2001)

Dave Ludington – Lieutenant, Paramedic/Firefighter (2001)

## Support Staff:

Greg Ball – EMS Coordinator, Paramedic/Firefighter (2003)

Andrew Linn – Training/Prevention Officer,  
Paramedic/Firefighter (2005)

Paul Elder – CPR Instructor

## Duty (Full-Time) Personnel:

Jon Diehr – District Chief, Paramedic/Firefighter (1995)

Derek Young – Lieutenant, Paramedic/Firefighter (2001)

Dave Ludington – Lieutenant, Paramedic/Firefighter (2001)

Holly Prange – Paramedic/Firefighter (2000)

Scott Rosati – Paramedic/Firefighter (2004)

Nick Burgess – Paramedic/Firefighter (2005)

# Personnel

## On-Call Personnel:

Beach, Chuck - District Chief, EMT/Firefighter (1995)

Tweedie, Jim - Captain, EMT/Firefighter (1995)

Diehr, Sue - EMT (1995)

McClelland, Jim – EMT/Firefighter (1995)

Gomez, Luis – Captain. EMT/Firefighter (1998)

Bates, Kevin – EMT/Firefighter (1999)

Patrician, Rob – EMT/Firefighter (2004)

Linn, Andrew – Paramedic/Firefighter (2005)

Elder, Paul – Paramedic/Firefighter (2006)

Verran, Jay – Auxiliary (2006)

Young, Christina – EMT/Firefighter (2009)

Zbytowski, Bob - EMT (2009)

Staley, Keith – EMT/Firefighter (2010)

Linn, Stacy - EMT (2013)

Strelchuk, Lindsay – EMT/Firefighter (2013)

Gmerek, Lon – EMT/Firefighter (2014)

Baulch, Brian – EMT/Firefighter (2015)

Matthews, Margaret – EMT (2016)

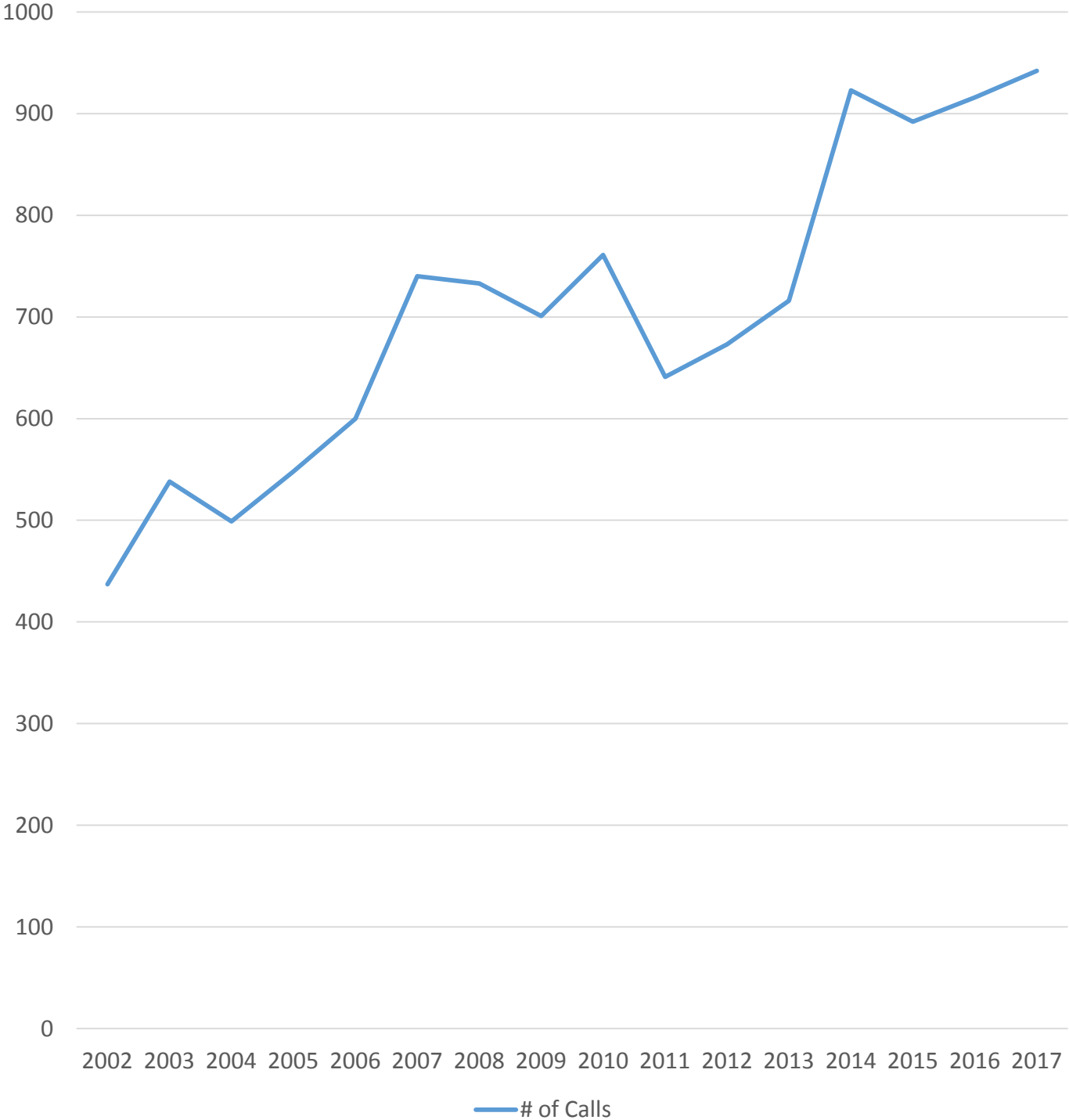
Lang, Matt – EMT/Firefighter (2016)

Ondersma, Kelly – EMT (2016)

Martell, Cody – Probationary/In Training (2017)

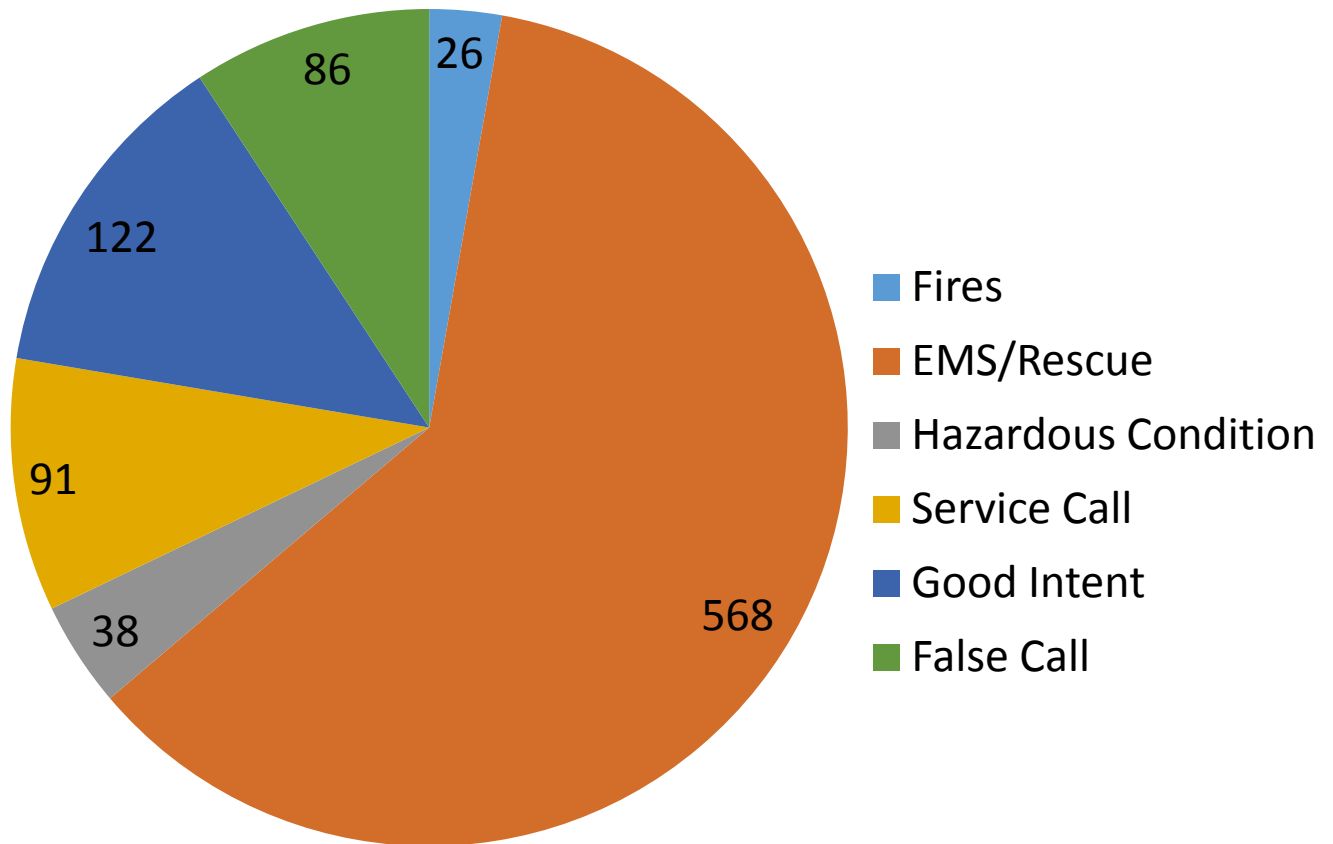
# Call Volume

Yearly Call Volume  
January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002-January 1st, 2018



# Types of Calls

## Types of Calls 1/1/17 - 1/1/18



### Notes:

**Hazardous Conditions:** natural gas leaks, fuel spills, severe weather standby and other similar conditions.

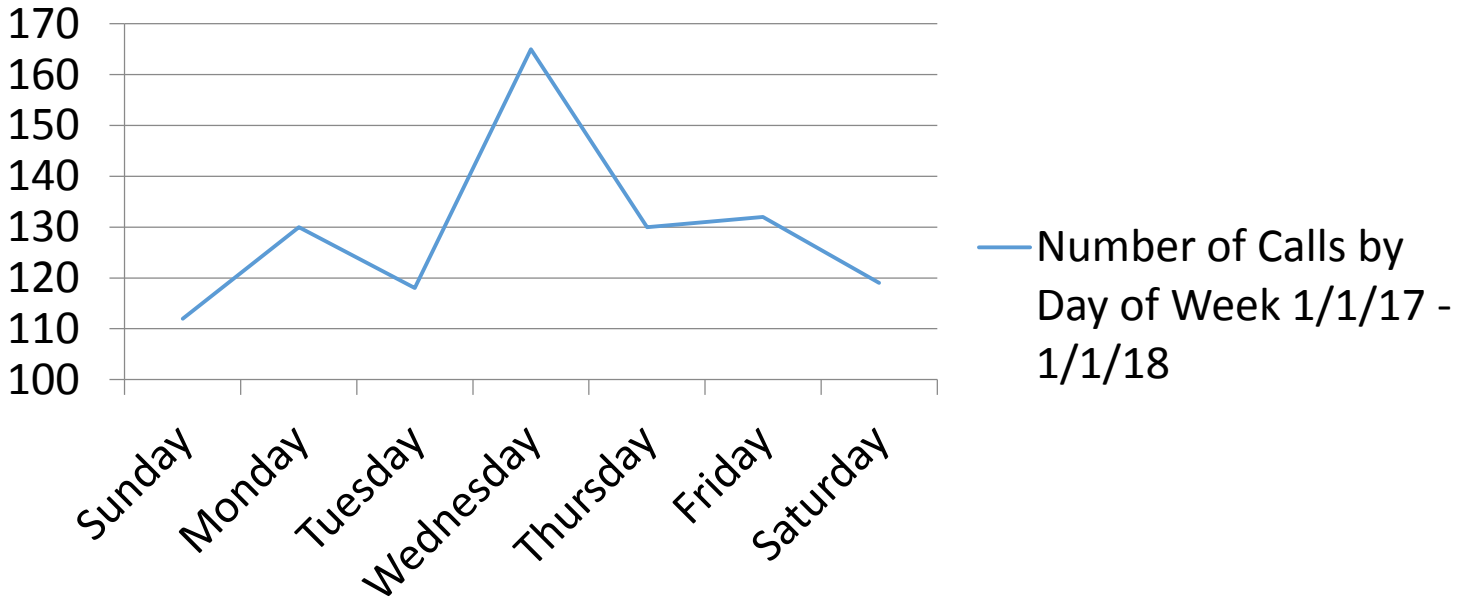
**Service Call:** non-emergency calls such as police assists, carbon monoxide investigations, and burning complaints.

**Good Intent:** non-emergency calls such as lift assists, tree removal and animal rescues.

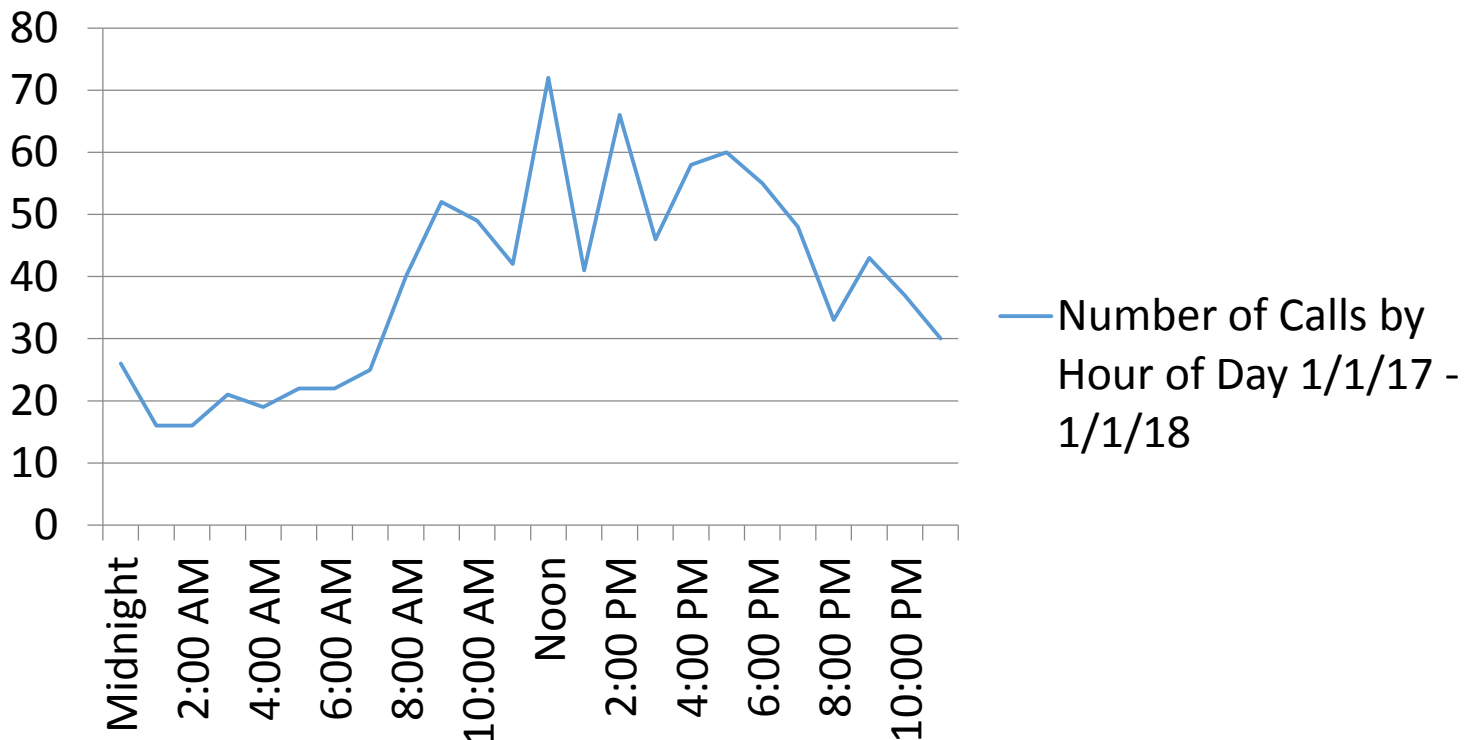
**False Call:** calls that were dispatched and cancelled en route (medical or fire alarms found to be false).

# Other Statistics

## Number of Calls by Day of Week 1/1/17 - 1/1/18



## Number of Calls by Hour of Day 1/1/17 - 1/1/18



# Sheriff's Department

On every call, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office responds along with OTFD to ensure responder safety and assist in any way they can. Often times, OCSO Deputies assist in carrying medical bags, blocking traffic at fire/accident scenes, and overall lending a helping hand to support OTFD. OTFD would like to sincerely thank each and every Deputy from the Oakland Township Substation for being such a good partner in emergency response!



Another special thanks goes out to Byers Wrecker, who assists OTFD on all car accidents, and provides special response for unique vehicle situations such as semi-truck rollovers, large fuel leaks or boats that fall off their trailer (as seen left).

# Mutual Aid



Many times, OTFD relies on neighboring fire departments for mutual aid assistance. Mutual aid is received on nearly every fire, large accidents, or any time OTFD units are tied up on other calls. OTFD also responds to neighboring jurisdictions when they are in need of help as part of MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) which ensures departments have enough resources to deal with more complex incidents. Thank you to all the neighboring departments for your help throughout the year!

## Mutual Aid Statistics 2017

### Mutual Aid Given: 63

Addison Township: 9  
Auburn Hills: 17  
Orion Township: 4  
Rochester City: 4  
Rochester Hills: 27  
Washington Township: 2

### Mutual Aid Received: 18

Addison Township: 12  
Auburn Hills: 1  
Rochester Hills: 5

# Stations



Fire Station #1 was built in 1995 and is located at 4393 Collins Road – near Township Hall and the Sheriff Substation

Fire Station #2 was built in 2002 and is located at 1888 Rochester Road – at the corner of Stoney Creek & Rochester roads



# Apparatus

OTFD has 4 similar 2002 (and one 1997) Marion Body Works fire engines that each carry 1250 gallons of water and are equipped with 2000 gallon per minute pumps. A variety of firefighting equipment is carried on each truck.



Tanker 1 is a 2002 Marion that carries 3000 gallons of water and is a vital truck in areas without hydrants. At a structure fire, tankers are requested from neighboring departments to ensure a steady flow of water to the fire engines.



# Apparatus

Grass 1 is a 2002 GMC firefighting truck used for off road use at grass fires.



Rescue 2 is a 1997 Freightliner that carries a wide variety of rescue equipment including power tools, “Jaws of Life”, medical equipment and a light tower.

Utility 1 is a 2002 GMC equipped with a snow plow/salter to aid in getting to calls in the winter. The truck also is equipped with fuel tanks/pumps to refill fire apparatus on scene.



# Apparatus

Alpha 1 & 2 (2013 & 2014) are similar Advanced Life Support ambulances that carry all the necessary equipment to treat any medical emergency. Alpha 1 & 2 are staffed 24/7 with 1 Paramedic each.



Bravo 1 is a 2014 Basic Life Support Ambulance that also is equipped as a command unit for use at large incidents. This unit has a pole-mounted camera, extra radios and other electronics that aid the incident commander at a scene. Bravo 1 is also the only 4x4 ambulance in the fleet, and can be upgraded to an Advanced Life Support unit in the winter.



# Open House



Every year, on the first Saturday of October from 12pm-4pm, the Oakland Township Fire Department hosts their annual open house. The open house is an opportunity for residents to see the equipment, meet their local firefighters and learn more about OTFD. Activities include “Jaws of Life” demonstrations, kids activities, and a medical helicopter landing. Come out and join us!



# Training

Initial training for Firefighter/EMTs includes nearly 400 hours of class room and clinical time. Members then complete a probationary period that includes in-depth familiarization with vehicles and equipment.

All OTFD members are required to train on a bi-weekly basis on Wednesdays. Training topics include medical continuing education, extrication training, fire engine operation and a driving course affectionately nicknamed “The Rodeo”.



Firefighters practice extrication skills on a donated vehicle (above left and right). A fire engine completes the annual driving “Rodeo” (right)



# Training



In Winter 2017, OTFD Fire/EMS personnel and Oakland County Sheriff's Deputies took part in several joint exercises to train on the "Rescue Task Force" concept for active assailant situations. Force-protected EMS teams going into dangerous situations has shown to greatly improve victim outcome, and Oakland County has taken the lead in preparing for these circumstances. This is the type of concept that unfortunately has become a standard part of many departments regular training.

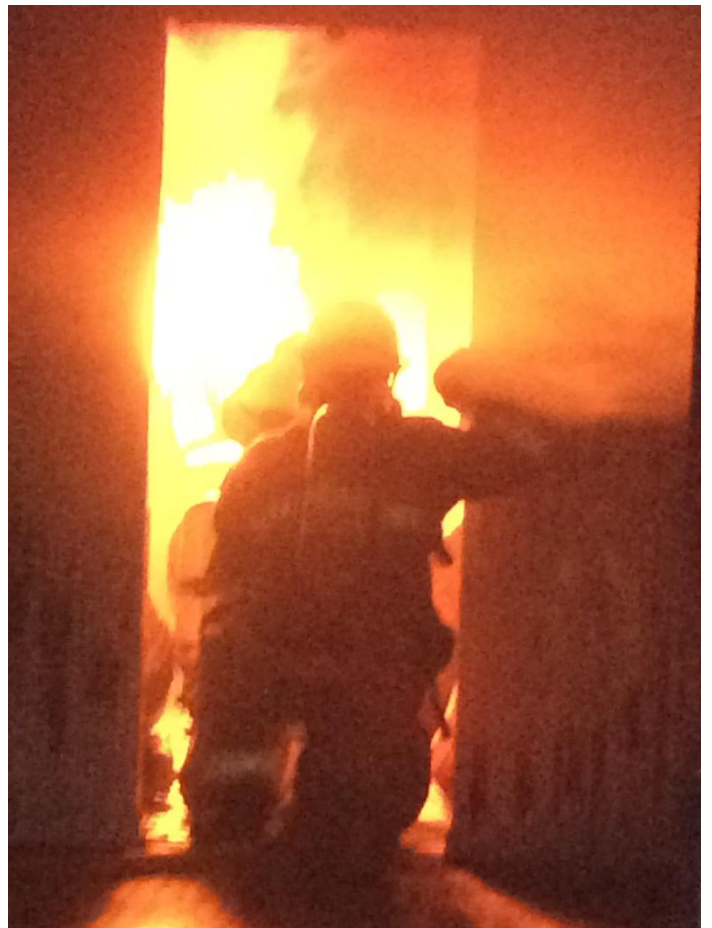
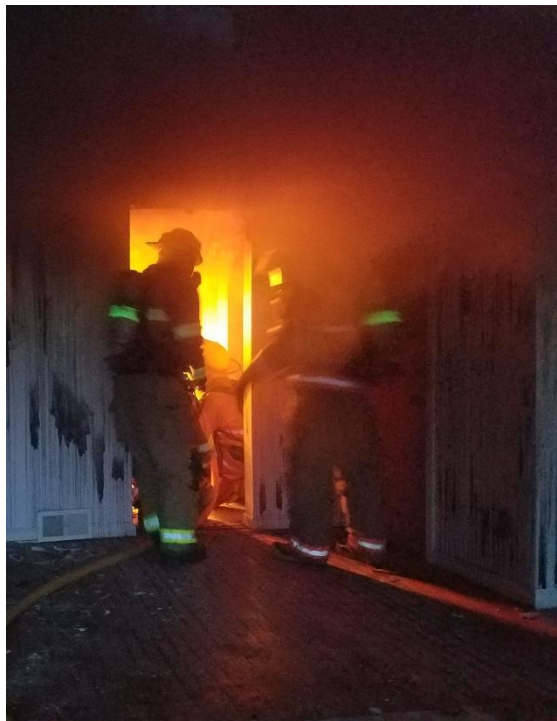
# Training

In Spring 2017, OTFD had the unique opportunity to train on a vacant house that was owned by Michigan DNR and located in Bald Mountain Recreation Area. Several beneficial trainings took place in the house that included firefighter survival, ventilation, and also live fire exercises. It is rare that OTFD has a vacant house to train in, and Michigan DNR's hospitality was greatly appreciated!



# Training

Live fire training is a rare opportunity, and OTFD safely carried out several drills at the Bald Mountain training house over the course of 2 months.



# Public Education/Community Involvement



Every year, OTFD participates in many public education activities at schools, churches, and with other local groups. Public education is an important part of community service, and teaches children and adults about fire safety and how to handle emergencies. OTFD participates in many community events such as parades and apparatus displays. CPR classes are also offered by OTFD, see the township website for details.



# OTFD in Action

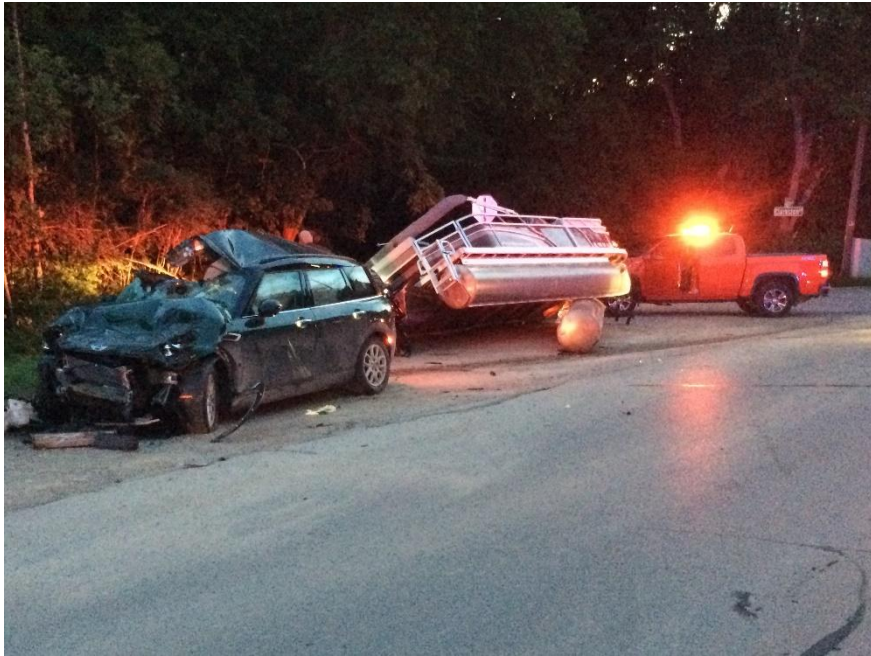


OTFD responds to a variety of emergencies. Whether a medical emergency, fire, car accident, or hazardous materials incident, OTFD has the ability to respond.



Structure fire on Livernois Road (above). OTFD assists in moving water via a “tanker shuttle” in Washington Township (below).

## OTFD in Action



OTFD responds to a variety of car accidents throughout the year. Thankfully, both the occupants these accidents sustained only minor injuries.



## OTFD in Action


The not-so-glamorous side of firefighting – OTFD cleans and repacks over a half-mile of hose after a structure fire. Crews had been working nearly 8 hours on the fire scene and then spent several hours getting trucks back in service for the next call.



# OTFD in Action

In the beginning of 2017, OTFD was awarded the best 2016 “Door to Balloon” time by Crittenton Hospital for a patient suffering a heart attack. “Door to Balloon” time is specific to heart attack victims and starts when a patient arrives at the ER, then ends with the patient arriving at the cardiac catheterization (cath) lab. Pre-hospital treatments that OTFD provided such as EKGs, IVs and medications all contributed to the patient being able to spend less time in the ER and go directly to definitive treatment at the cath lab.

2016 Best EMS “Door to Balloon” time  
12 Minutes  
Oakland Twp. Fire Department



Station One 4393 Collins Road, Rochester, Michigan 48306      Station Two 1866 Rochester Road, Oakland, Michigan 48363

Emergency Physician: David Bauer, M.D.  
Interventional Cardiologist: Zakwan Mahjoub, M.D.  
Assistant Chief: Chuck Beach  
Firefighter/Paramedic: Derek Young  
Firefighter/Paramedic: Andrew Linn

# Firefighter Recruitment

If you are 18 years of age or older, a High School Graduate or hold a GED, have a good driving record and no criminal history, and interested in helping protect our community, we maintain an "open" application process. Qualified persons residing within the Charter Township of Oakland or the border of surrounding cities or townships may apply. **Applications may be obtained, Monday thru Friday from 8AM to 4:30 PM, at Township Hall located at 4393 Collins Rd. Applications filed are reviewed on an "as needed" basis.** Criminal and Driving Record checks on applicants are conducted, followed by background reference checks. Those applicants successfully passing the record screening will be offered an opportunity to participate in a Standardized Physical Agility test, conducted on a scheduled basis, in cooperation with several area Fire Departments.

Upon successful completion of the Standardized Physical Agility test, applicants will be placed on an eligibility list to be given a Conditional Offer of Employment as additional members are needed.

Prior to final hiring, applicants must successfully pass a pre-employment Physical Exam, including Drug Screen, conducted at a medical facility of the Fire Department's choice.

We will provide all equipment and training to become Fire and EMS certified.

# Thank You!

Thank you for taking the time to become more familiar with the Oakland Township Fire Department. OTFD is always encouraging citizens to become more involved with the fire department, and we welcome any questions, comments or concerns you may have. Call the station or stop by with any inquiries and we'd be happy to answer them for you!

