

Oakland Township Fire Department

2019 Annual Report



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Mission Statement

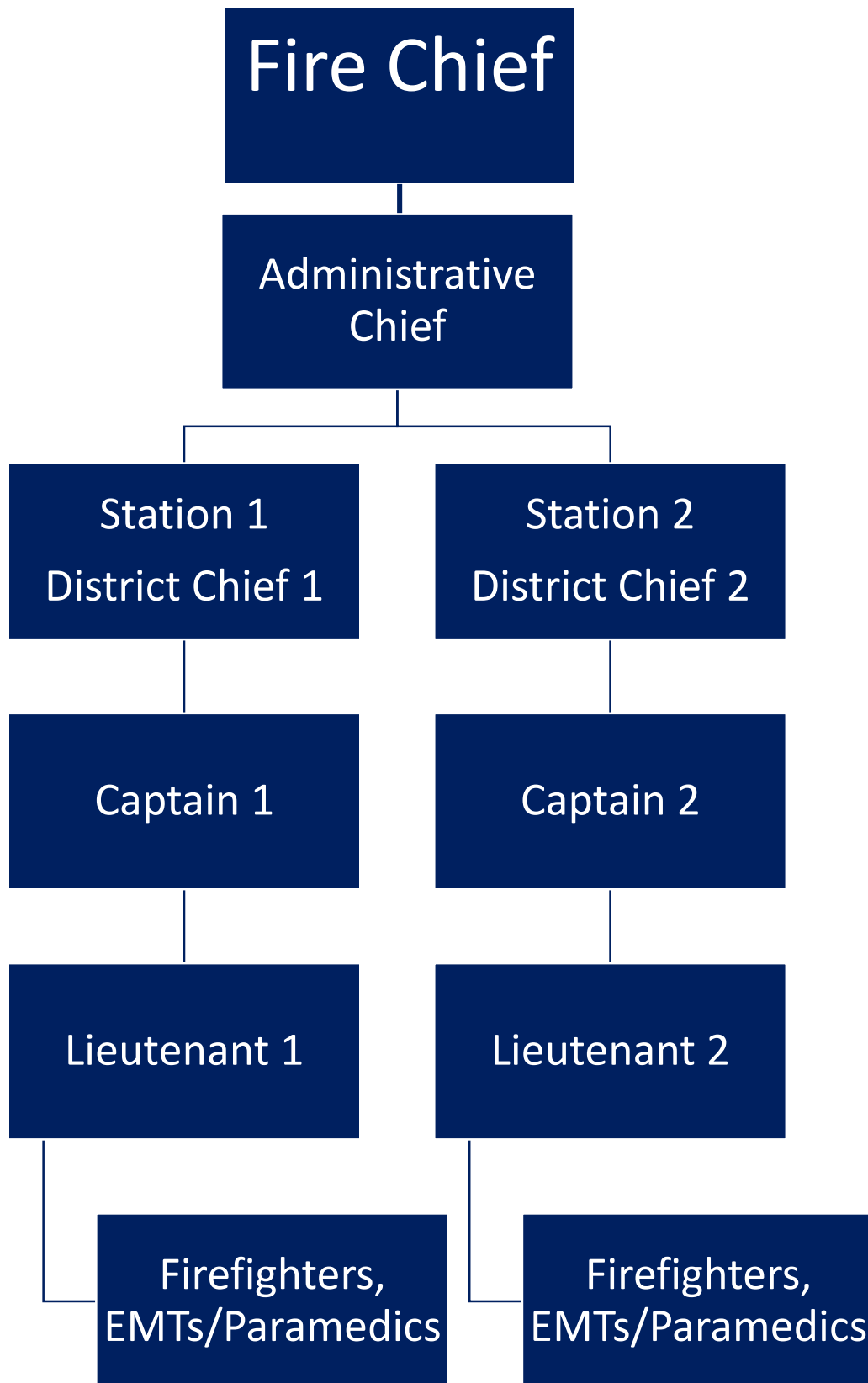
“The Mission of the Oakland Township Fire Department is to safely respond to fire and medical emergencies within the community, to help its citizens deal with those emergencies, and, with regard to the safety of its members, do all it can to limit loss of life, property, and the environment.”

Department Structure

The Oakland Township Fire Department is considered a combination department, with 6 full time duty Firefighter/Paramedics that are currently supplemented by paid-on-call (POC) and part-time (PT) personnel. Each of the 2 stations is manned 24/7 with 1 Firefighter/Paramedic and typically 1 POC or PT personnel that inspects/maintains equipment and vehicles, and of course, responds to emergencies when needed. OTFD still relies heavily on POC personnel to respond from home, work, school, or wherever they may be to help mitigate calls. POC personnel are on the decline not only in Oakland Township, but around the country – which has put a strain on the department at times due to lack of manpower. OTFD continues to address manpower issues and provide the best service to our residents.



Department Structure



Department Operations

- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are a bulk of the calls for service for OTFD – Making up over half the calls for service.
- OTFD is an Advanced Life Support (ALS) agency that is licensed to perform skills such as intravenous access, medication administration, endotracheal intubation and ECG interpretation.
- EMS operations are overseen by the Oakland County Medical Control Authority who creates and implements protocols that OTFD must follow. These protocols include procedures for treatments, transportation guidelines, and response time standards.
- All OTFD personnel hold an EMT-Basic or EMT-Paramedic license through the State of Michigan and a number of continuing education courses occur throughout the year in-house.
- While EMS is important, OTFD responds to common emergencies such as fires, downed power lines, gas leaks, etc.
 - Some uncommon problems OTFD has responded to include: animal rescues (yes, cats in trees!), starting generators for those on home medical devices, shutting off water in an elderly person's house who encountered a plumbing issue. OTFD truly responds to just about *anything* our residents may need.

Personnel

Administration:

Paul Strelchuk – Fire Chief, EMT/Firefighter (1995)
Lou Danek – Administrative Chief, EMT/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)
Andrew Linn– Lieutenant, Paramedic/Firefighter (2005)

Support Staff:

Greg Ball – EMS Coordinator, Paramedic/Firefighter (2003)
Andrew Linn – Training/Prevention Officer (2005)
Stacy Linn– CPR Instructor (2013)

Duty (Full-Time) Personnel:

Jon Diehr – District Chief, Paramedic/Firefighter (1995)
Derek Young – Lieutenant, Paramedic/Firefighter (2001)
Dave Ludington –Paramedic/Firefighter (2001)
Holly Prange – Paramedic/Firefighter (2000)
Scott Rosati – Paramedic/Firefighter (2004)
Andrew Linn – Lieutenant, 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)

Verran, Jay – Auxiliary /Support (2006)

Young, Christina – Paramedic/Firefighter (2009)

Zbytowski, Bob - EMT (2009)

Staley, Keith – EMT/Firefighter (2010)

Linn, Stacy - EMT (2013)

Strelchuk, Lindsay – EMT/Firefighter (2013)

Baulch, Brian – EMT/Firefighter (2015)

Lang, Matt – EMT/Firefighter (2016)

Ondersma, Kelly – EMT (2016)

Martell, Cody – Firefighter/EMT (2017)

Iafrate, Mike – Firefighter/EMT (2018)

Sells, Mark – Probationary/In Training (2018)

Hinman, Blake – Probationary/In Training (2019)

Tidey, Rachel - Probationary/In Training (2019)

Leinweber, Kelly - Probationary/In Training (2019)

Johnston, Travis - Probationary/In Training (2019)

Part-Time Personnel:

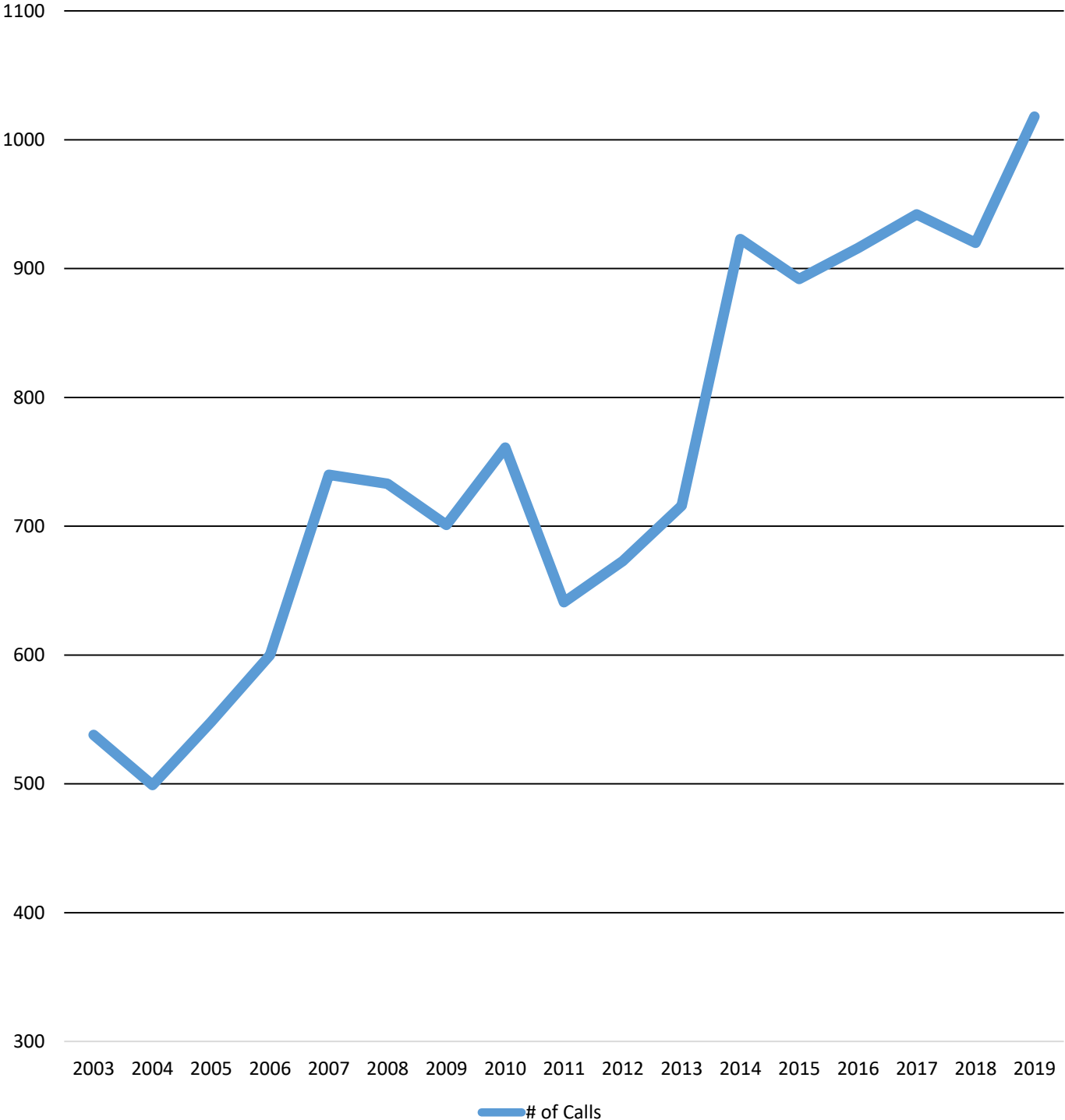
Schwalbe, Eric - Firefighter/EMT (2018)

Wyatt, Randy - Firefighter/EMT (2018)

Hazelton, Joshua – Firefighter/Paramedic (2019)

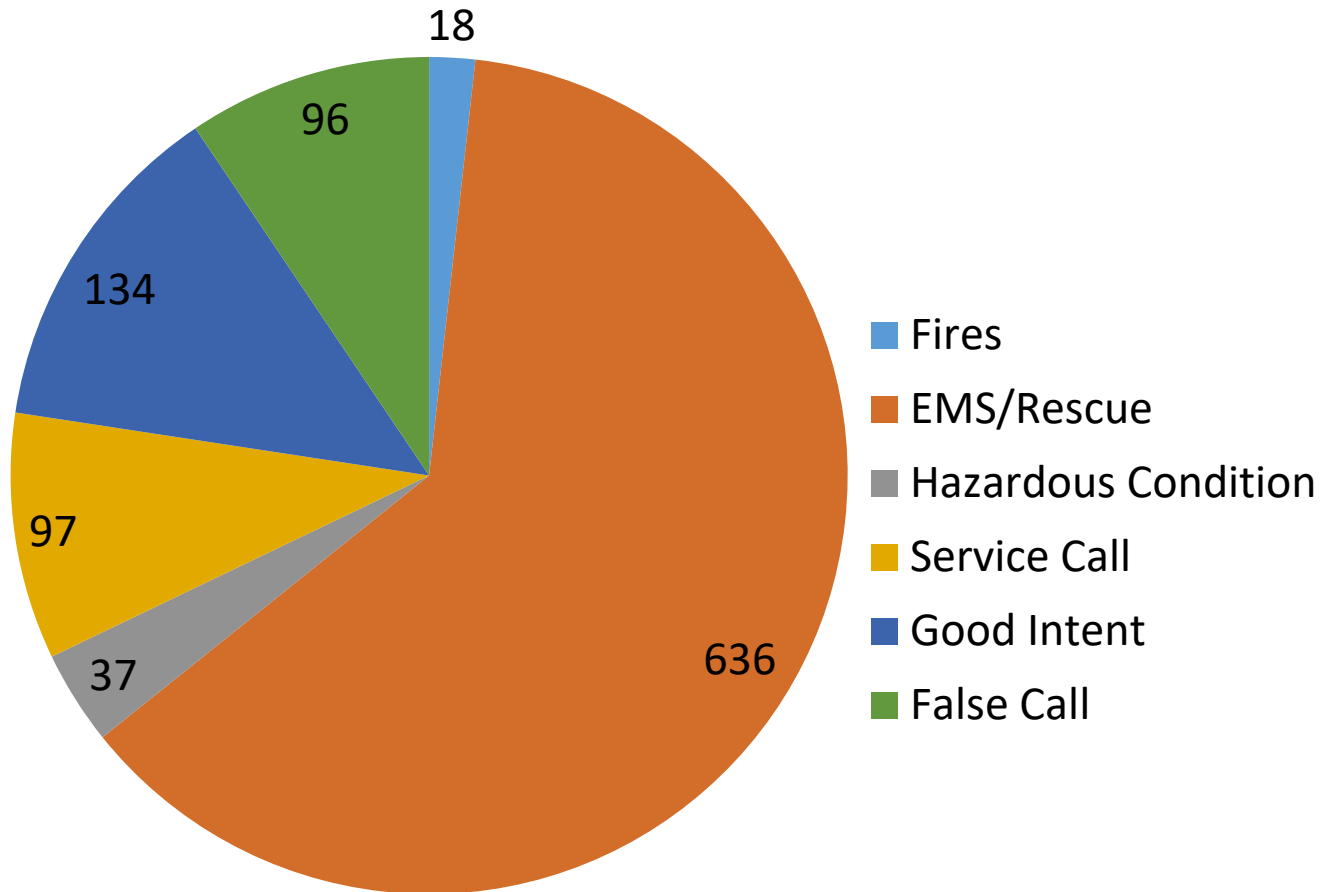
Call Volume

Yearly Call Volume January 1st, 2003-January 1st, 2020



Types of Calls

Types of Calls 1/1/19- 1/1/20



Notes:

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

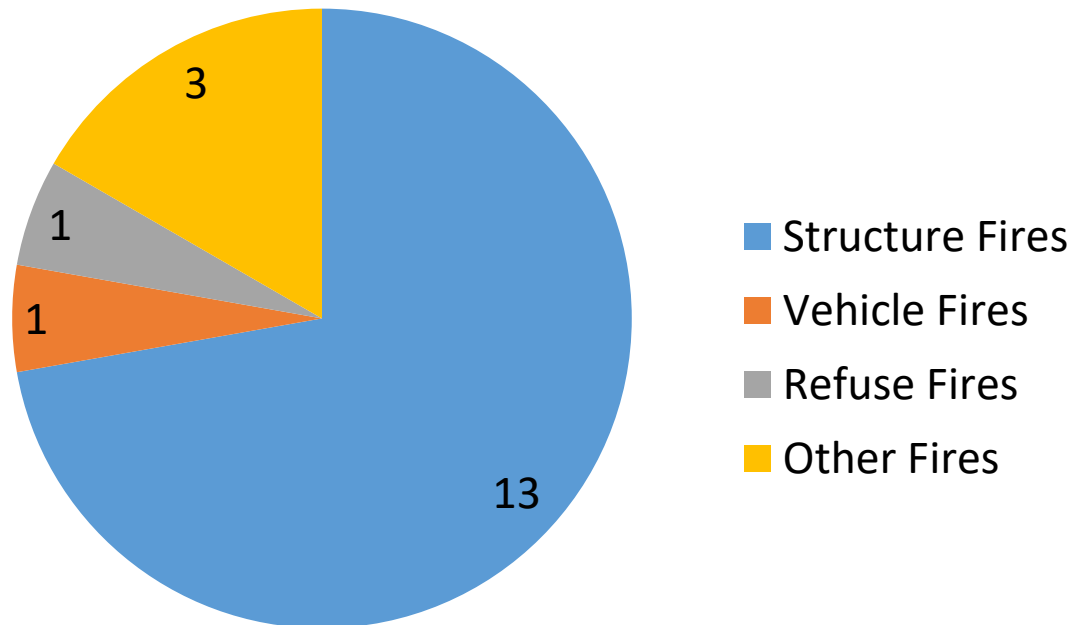
Service Call: non-emergency calls such as police assists, carbon monoxide investigations, and burning complaints.

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

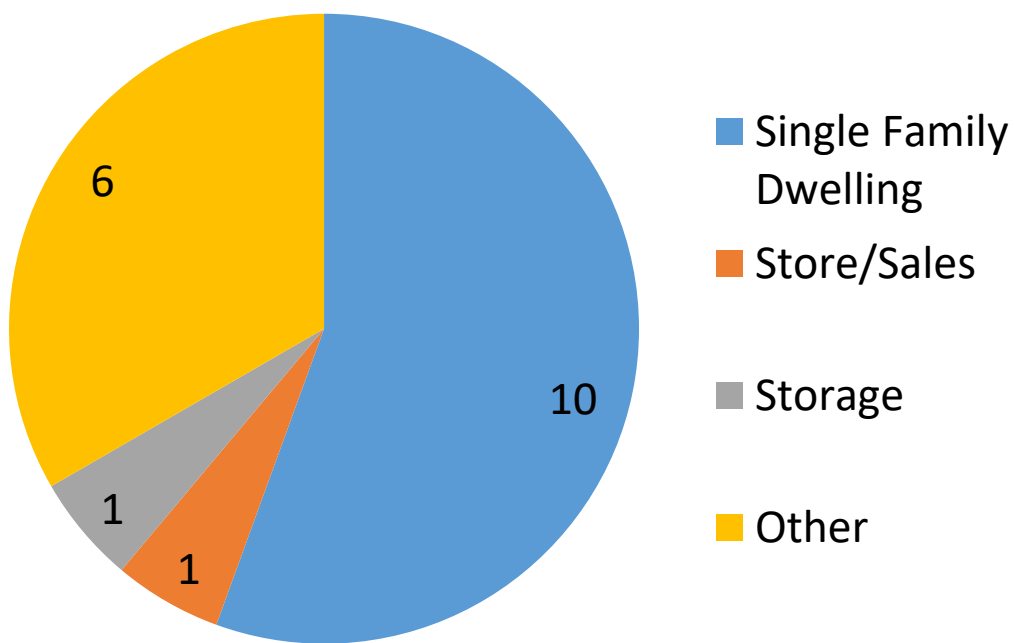
False Call: calls that were dispatched and cancelled en route (medical or fire alarms found to be false).

Types of Calls - Fires

Types of Fires 1/1/19-1/1/20

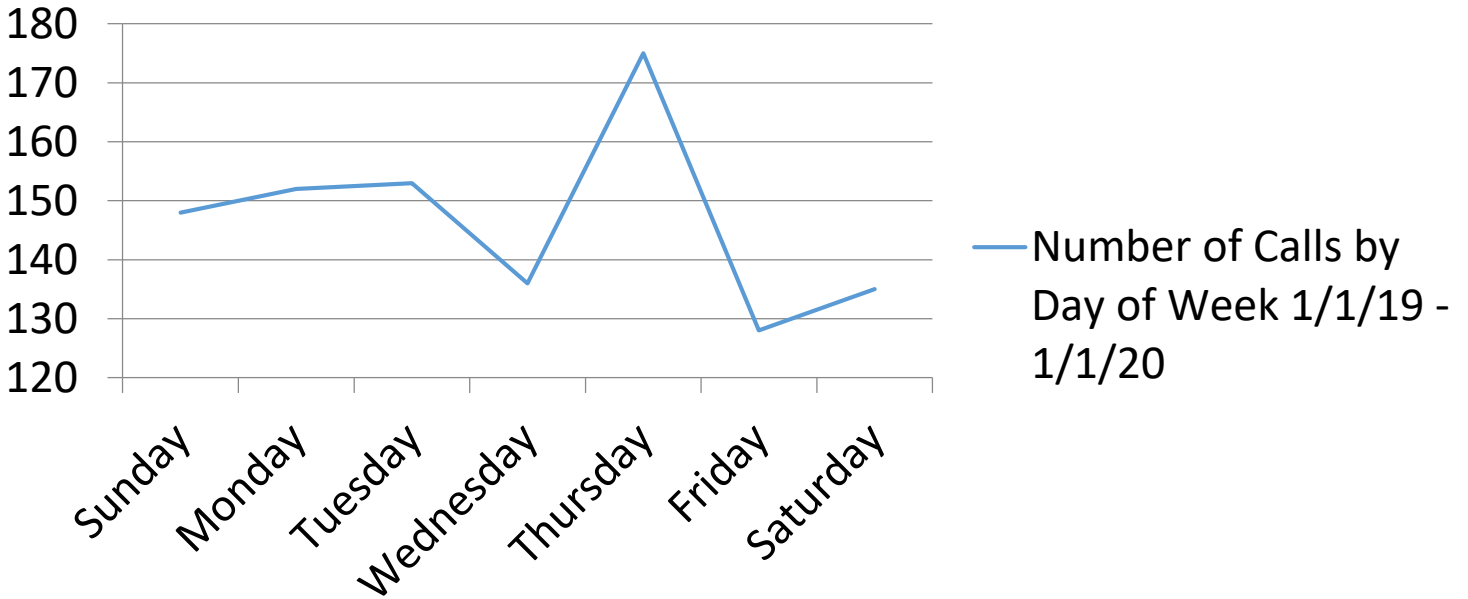


Where Fire Occur 1/1/19- 1/1/20

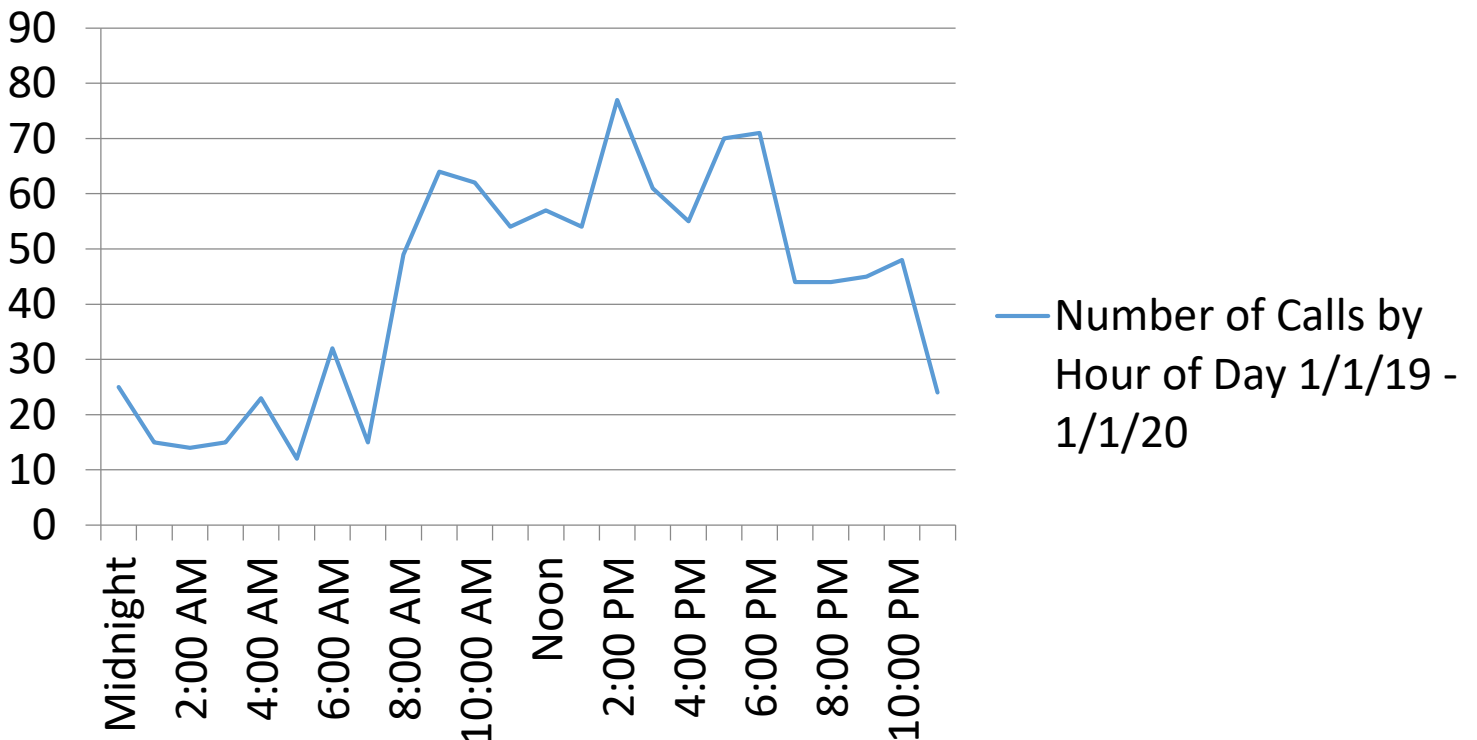


Other Statistics

Number of Calls by Day of Week 1/1/19 - 1/1/20



Number of Calls by Hour of Day 1/1/19 - 1/1/20



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, or large fuel leaks.

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 2019

Mutual Aid Given: 108

Mutual Aid Received: 39



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.

OTFD has 2 2018 GMC utility trucks that are used for towing trailers, moving equipment, plowing snow (around the station and on the way to calls), as well as refueling trucks on the scene via fuel cells in the bed of the truck.



Apparatus

Alpha 1 & 2 (2018 & 2014) are Advanced Life Support ambulances that carry all the necessary equipment to treat any medical emergency. Alpha 1 was delivered at the end of 2018, and is seen below before any decals/markings were applied



Bravo 1 (right) is a 2013 Basic Life Support Ambulance that also is equipped with Advanced Life Support supplies in the event it is needed.



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”.



Crews practice ice rescue techniques (left) and open water rescue techniques (below)



Training



A great deal of time and effort goes into training on water supply operations. 50% of Oakland Township does not have hydrants, which means if a fire occurs in an area without hydrants, water must be shuttled in. OTFD utilizes water tankers to shuttle water to large yellow dump tanks (seen left) so that an engine can draft the water and extinguish the fire. Mutual aid is vital to water shuttle operations, and it is not unusual to have 6+ tankers on a fire in order to keep a steady flow of water.



Training



Crews practice extrication skills on a vehicle donated by Byers Wrecker Service (above/below left). As a challenge, crews had to utilize OTFD's new battery operated Jaws of Life to lift eggs off of poles, without cracking them (below)... Needless to say, some cleanup was required!



Training

In 2019, OTFD got a chance to participate in live fire exercises at Rochester City Fire Department's training site. This allowed crews to perform scenarios from start to finish, and provided much-needed realism during training. Thanks to R.F.D. for the opportunity to train at your facility!



Public Education/Community Involvement



Public education is an important part of OTFD and our community. This includes visiting schools, churches, and other civic organizations. CPR classes are 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.

Crews responded to a major gas main break on Adams Road (above left)



Crews responded to a hazardous materials incident at a local public pool when several pool chemicals were mistakenly mixed (below left)

OTFD in Action



OTFD assists with the Rochester Christmas Parade by providing an ATV and personnel.

A dumpster fire was extinguished just in time – an attached garage was only feet away!



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!

