



# **RUSSELLVILLE FIRE/RESCUE**

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2008**

## A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

It is again my pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Russellville Fire Department for the year of 2008. The year was a challenging one for the department in terms of emergency response and fiscal constraints.

Beginning in January, a series of large-scale natural disasters including tornados, high winds, and subsequent power outages caused death and destruction throughout the region. During most of these incidents Russellville firefighters were there to serve the public in time of need.

In between these responses the department experienced a sudden and sharp increase in fuel and vehicle station maintenance costs. In addition, a higher than normal injury and sick leave rate within the ranks greatly impacting our ability to maintain adequate staffing. All of these issues presented our management team with unprecedented challenges in the overall management of the department.

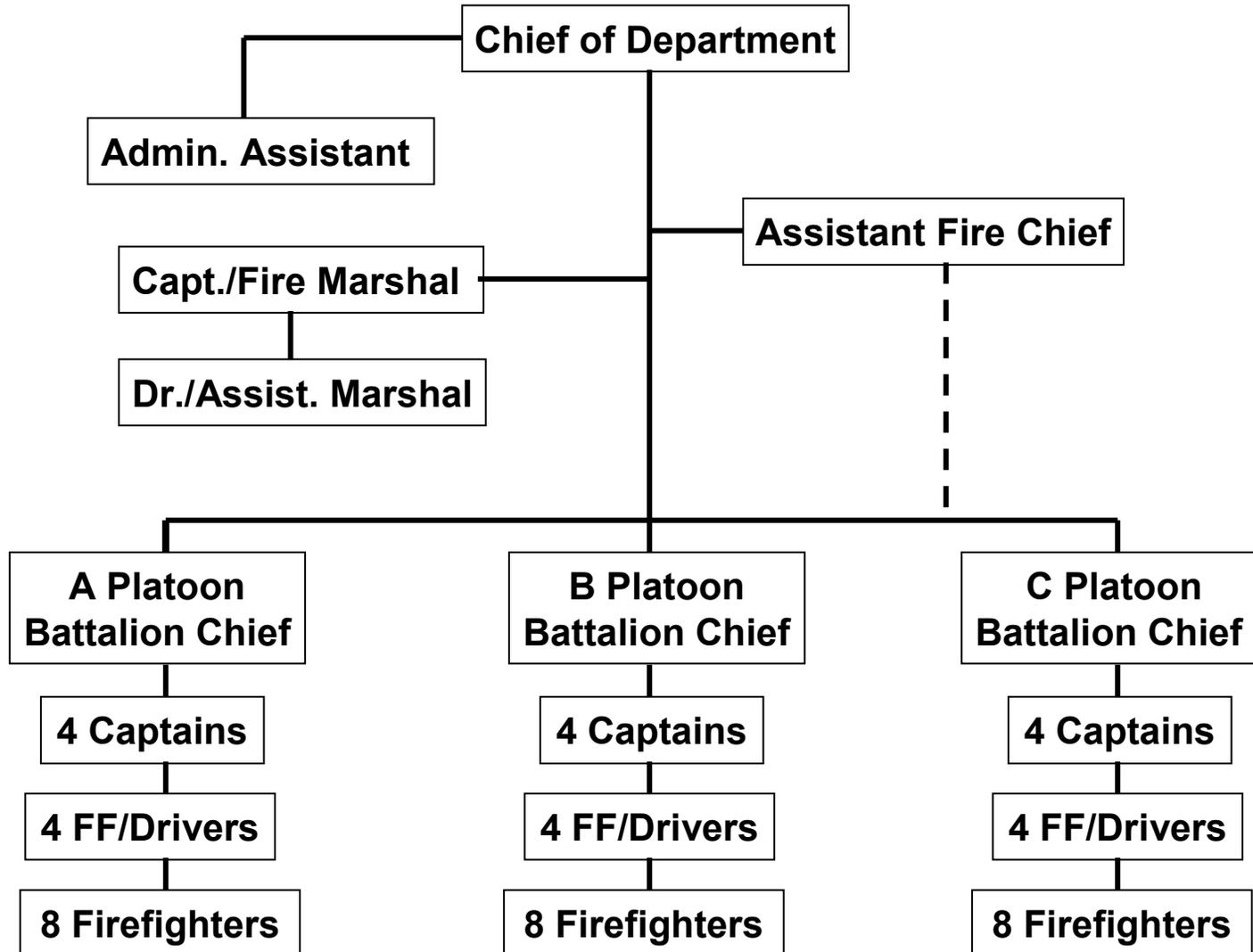
Nevertheless, we were able to cope with these many issues while implementing new and improved services and programs. Early in the year, the Russellville city council approved the purchase of three new pumpers, equipment that is greatly needed due to our aging fleet.. During the third quarter of the year the department enhanced its training program and overall state of readiness through the implementation of the Quarterly Company Drill program. The year also experience a slight increase in emergency responses, a trend that began as far back as the year 2001.

The report provides an overview of these issues and many other forms of statistical information. We appreciate the opportunity to showcase the fine work of our firefighters. We hope that you will find this report to be informative and indicative of the value which we place on the city council and the citizen's support of our department.

***John L. Cochran***  
***Fire Chief***



# ORGANIZATION



## MISSION STATEMENT



***The Russellville Fire Department exists to enhance the quality of life in Russellville by minimizing the devastating effects of fires, medical emergencies, and disasters.***



## 2007 HIGHLIGHTS

- The department responded to calls for assistance during the February Atkins tornado where three people were killed. Personnel provided continued incident management support during the weeks that followed.
- The department responded to other unprecedented large-scale weather related emergencies throughout the region.
- Four vacant firefighter positions were filled during the year.
- Three new fire apparatus were ordered to replace an aging fleet of pumper trucks.
- The Quarterly Company Drill Training Program was initiated to improve training, safety and efficiency during emergency responses.
- Members of the Fire Prevention Bureau completed fire investigation course work at the National Fire Academy.
- An upgrade took place of records management software to interface with the Pope County 911 Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

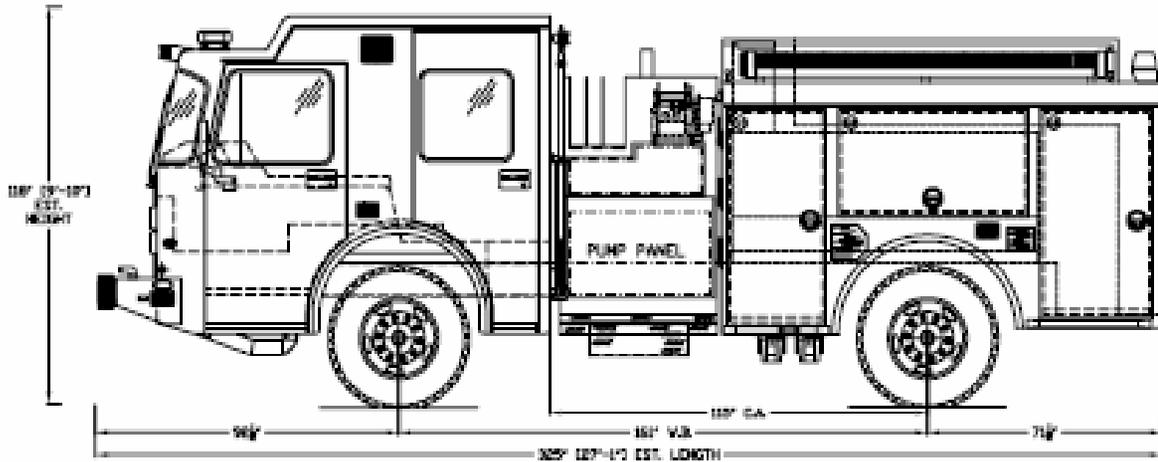


**Quarterly Company Drill Training**



**Public Relations**

# NEW APPARATUS



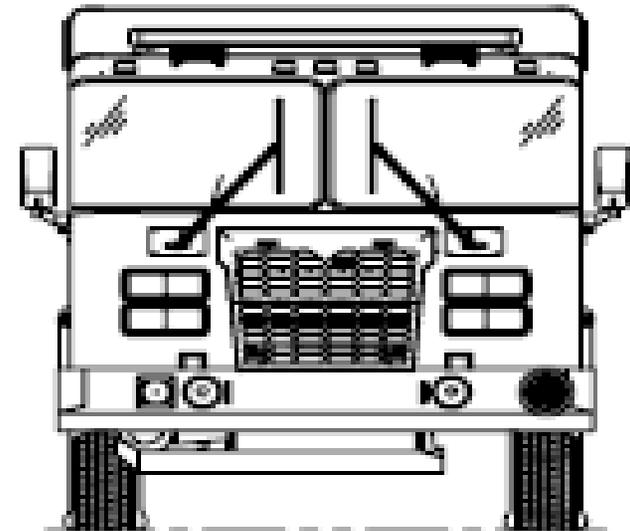
Early in the year the city council accepted bids from Smeal Fire Apparatus Company for the construction of three new pumpers. The pumpers are to replace three aging units that were slated for replacement. The specifications of the pumpers include:

- 1,250 GPM pump
- 500 gallon booster tank
- Designed to perform multi-services including firefighting, emergency medical, and rescue

➤ The delivery date of the apparatus is scheduled to be sometime during the spring of 2009.

➤ Initial assignments will consist of Engine Companies 1, 3, and 4. Current apparatus assigned to these companies will go into reserve status.

➤ Initial financing of the new apparatus was from a matching down payment of \$375K provided by the city's Fire Truck Replacement Fund and the Fire Department Contingency Fund with the remaining balance of approximately \$525K being financed over the next five years.



## SPECIAL EVENTS

The department is dedicated to contributing to the quality of life within the community and reinforcing that commitment through community outreach programs and special events. Fire companies participated in several community events throughout the year to promote fire safety, injury prevention and disaster management:

- Leadership Russellville
- FLW Bass Tournament
- Tri-peaks Challenge
- Valley Fest
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Extravaganza
- B.A.S.S. Bass Tournament
- RHS Homecoming
- ATU Homecoming
- AHA Heartwalk
- Downtown Fallfest
- Fire Station Trick-or-Treat
- Russellville Christmas Parade
- Toys-For-Kids
- Various large-scale sporting events



**2008 Youth Academy**

## CERT TRAINING

Members trained Arkansas Tech University (ATU) students as part of the Pope County CERT program. The CERT program is a network of volunteers that exercise the skills and training they have received to assist the community and emergency response agencies during a major crisis. The CERT team was activated during the 2008 Downtown Fallfest to assist with security and logistics.



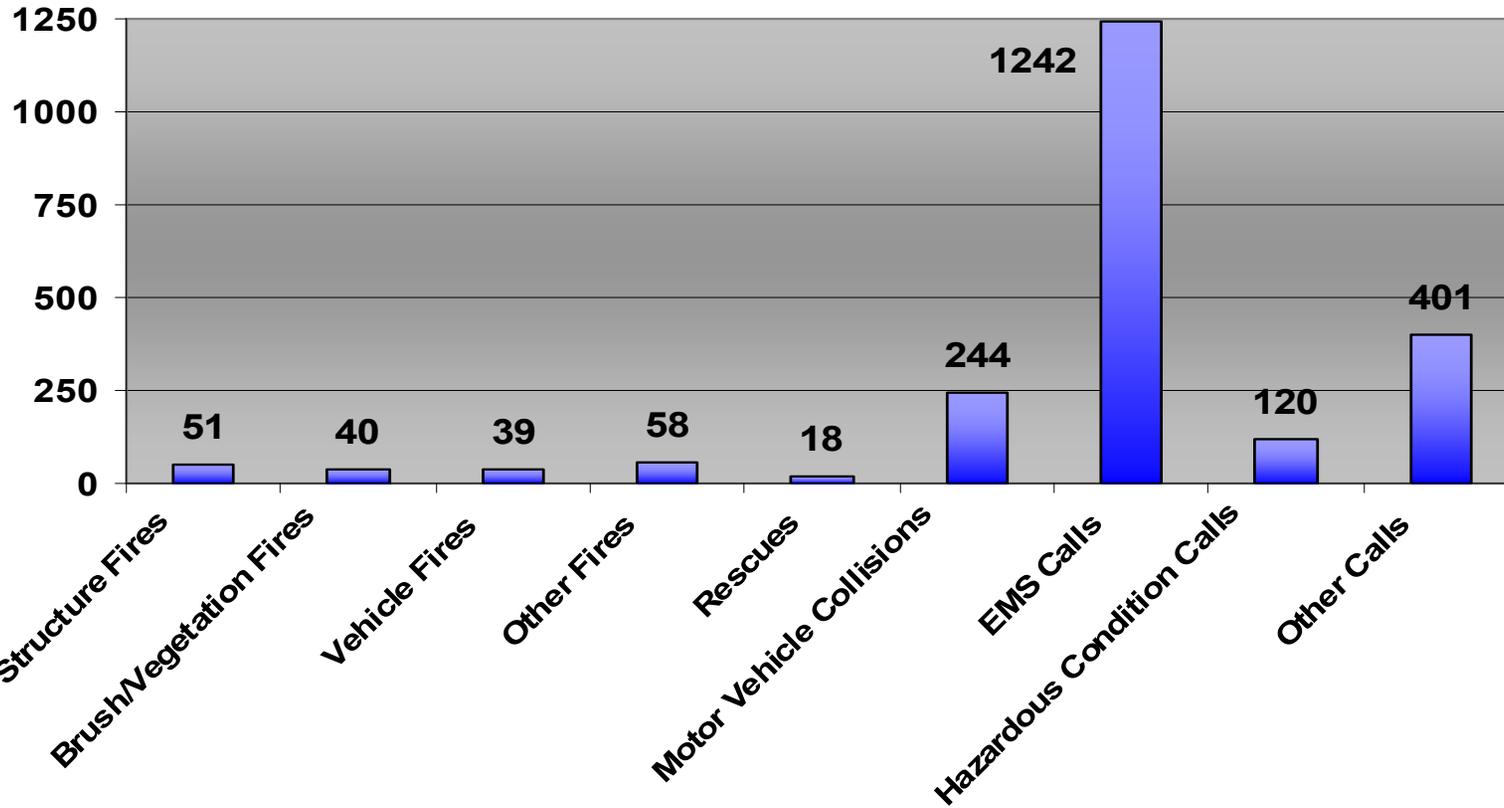
# OPERATIONS

- The department is a full service department priding itself in the management of fire risks within the City of Russellville.
  - The department operates out of four stations and is currently authorized for 56 positions.
  - 55 of those positions are uniformed and 1 is civilian.
  - The positions consist of the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief/Training Officer, 3 Battalion Chiefs (Shift Commanders), Fire Marshal, Assistant Fire Marshal, 12 Captains, 12 Firefighter/Drivers, 24 Firefighters and an Administrative Assistant.
- The department provides emergency response to all fires, life threatening medical emergencies, rescues, and hazardous materials incidents:
  - As part of the department's technical rescue services, firefighters respond to incidents involving high-angle and rope rescue, confined space rescue and swift water rescue.
  - The department is a major component of the Pope County OEM emergency planning and response strategy as well as providing it's services as part of the Arkansas Nuclear One Emergency Response Plan.
  - The department also provides an eight-county regional emergency response to significant hazardous materials and WMD incidents.

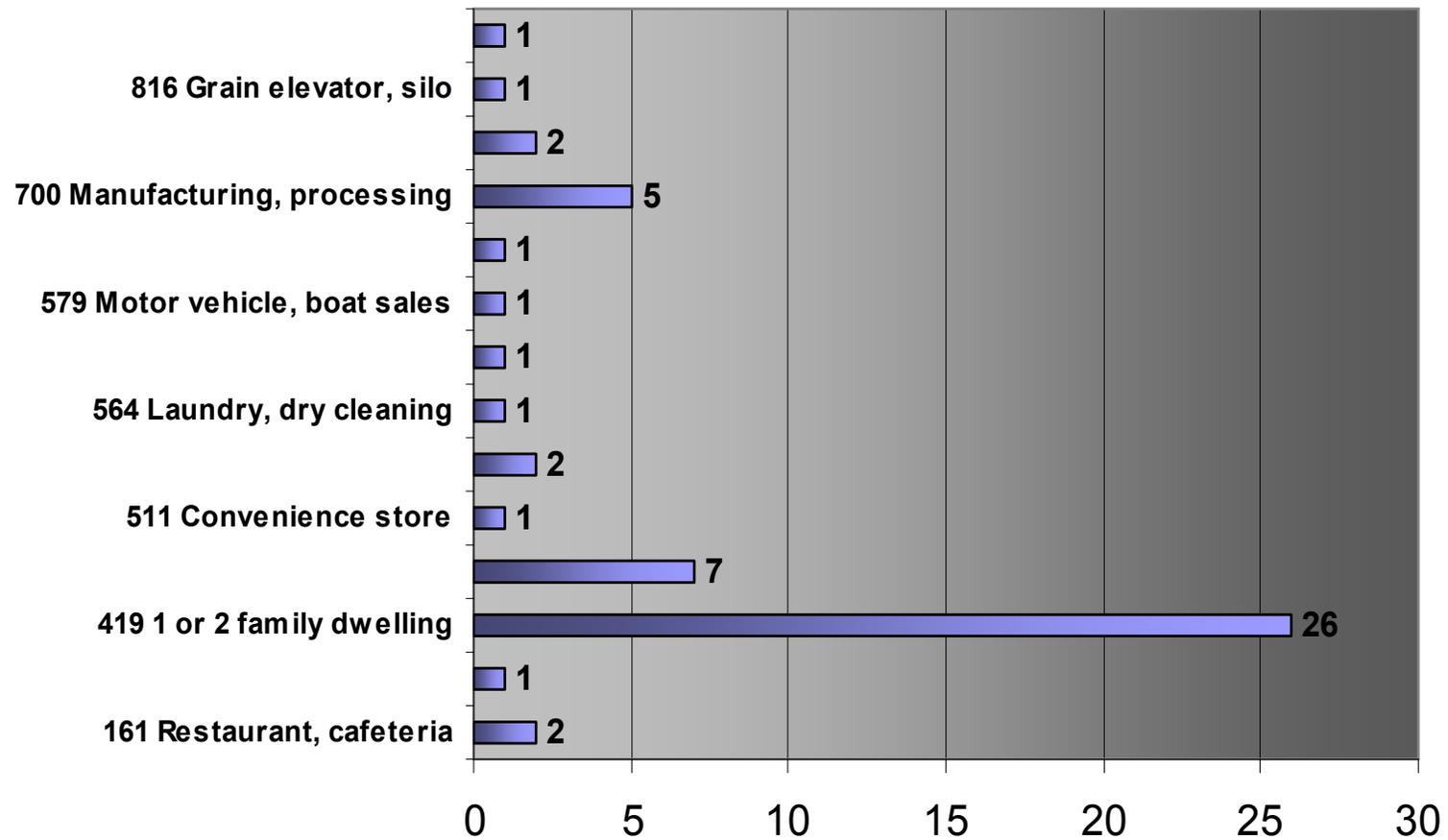


**Residential Structure Fire**

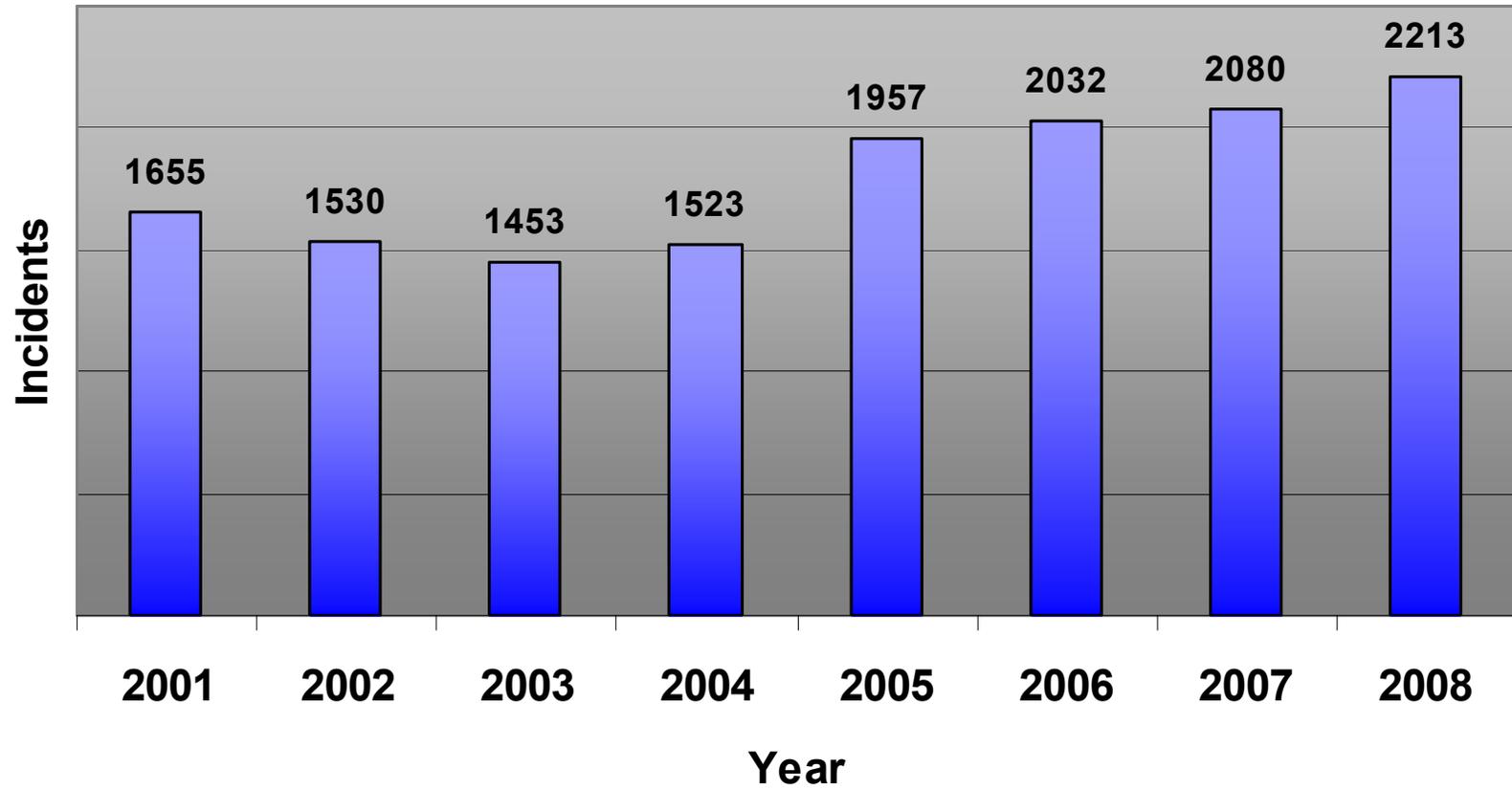
### Calls For Service 2008 - Total 2213



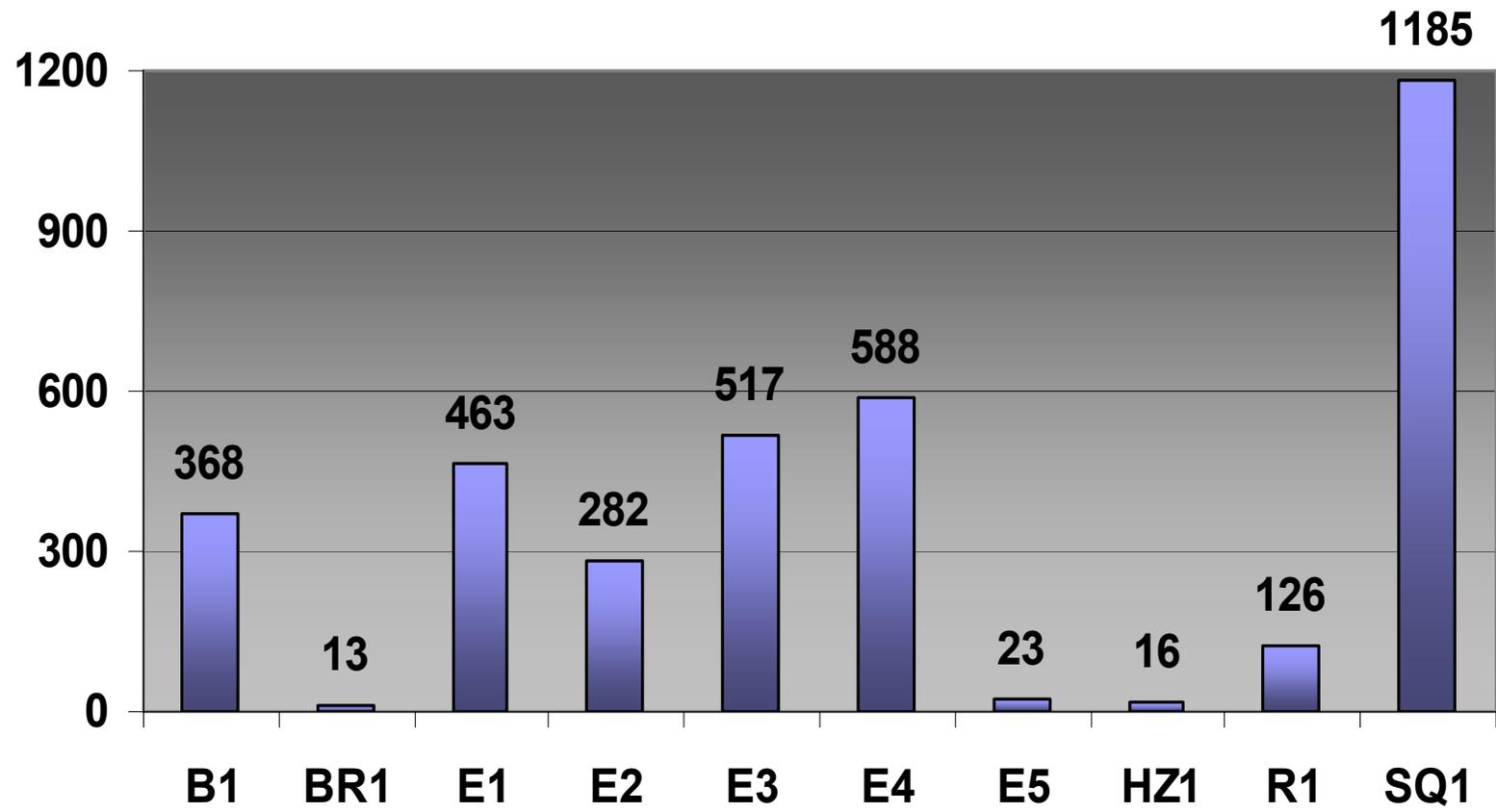
## Fire Incidents by Property Use 2008



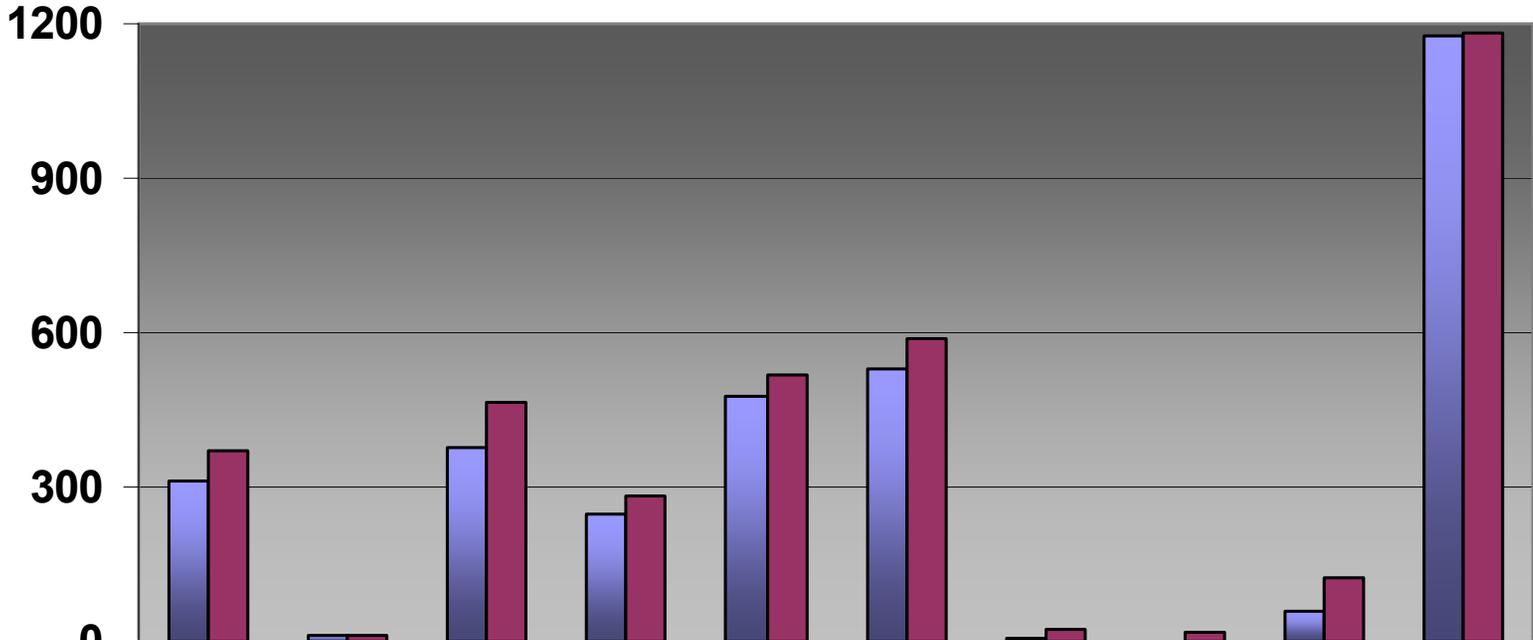
### Annual Incident Comparison



### Responses by Unit 2008

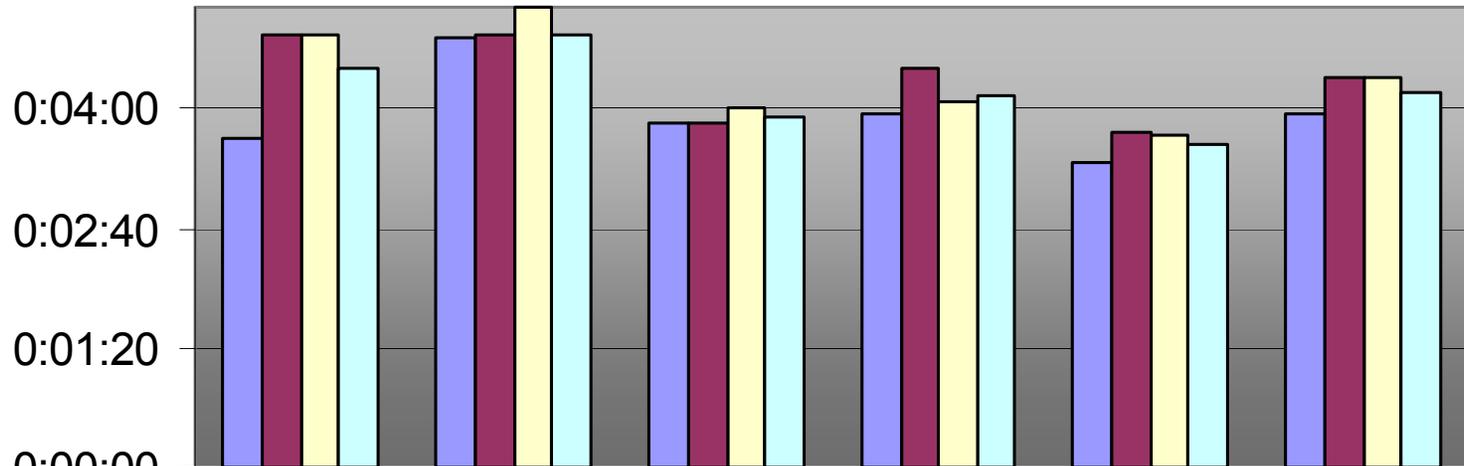


**Responses by Unit 07- 08 Comparison**



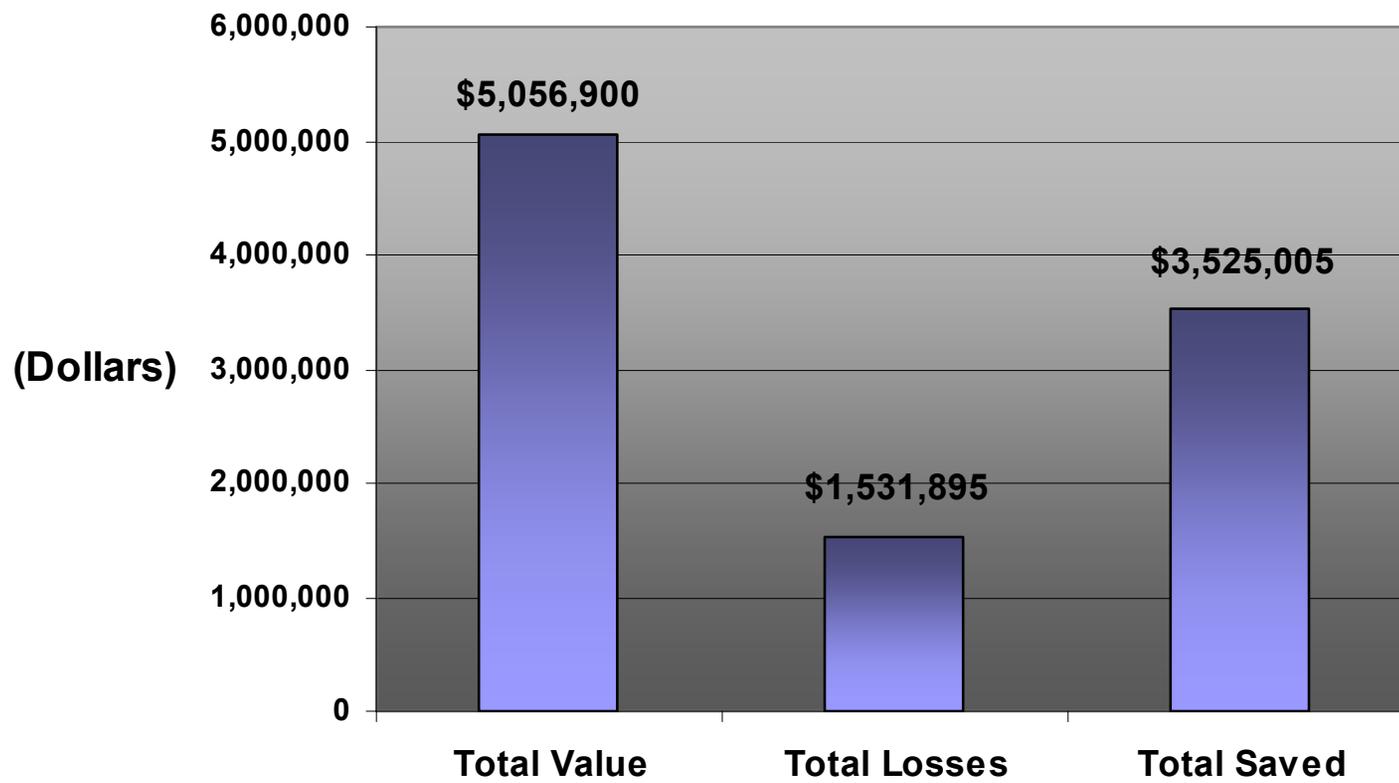
	B1	BR1	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	HZ1	R1	SQ1
2007	312	9	374	245	477	531	7	0	61	1179
2008	368	14	463	282	517	588	23	16	126	1185

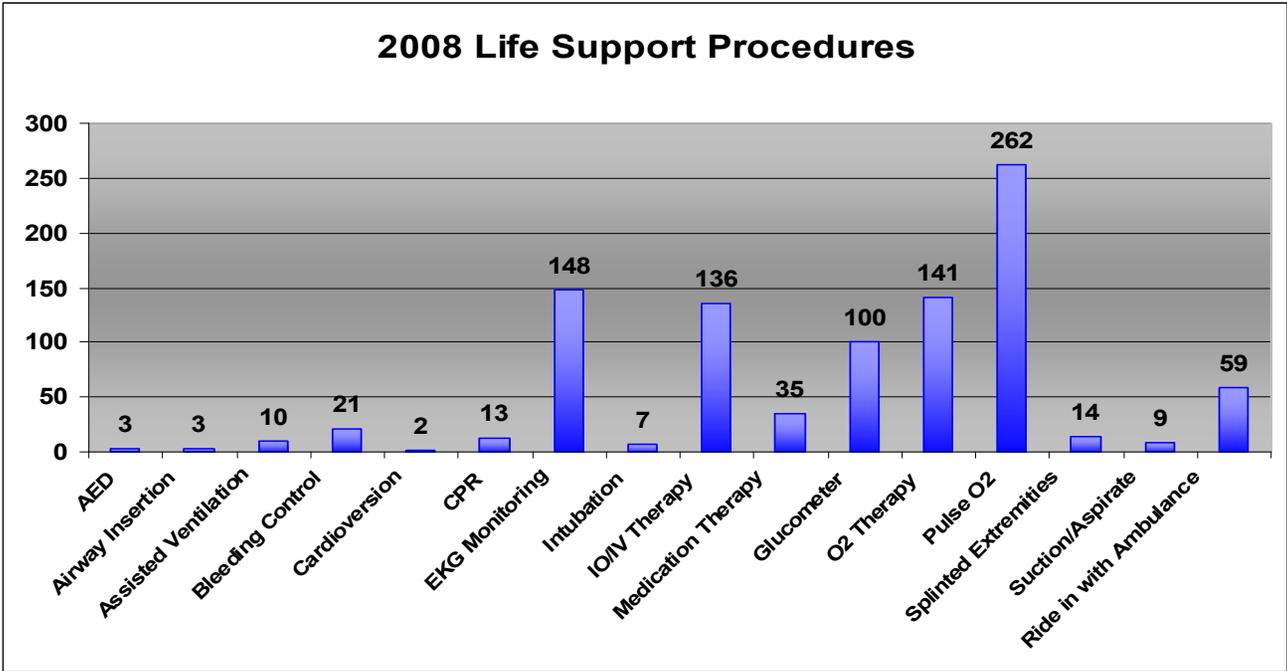
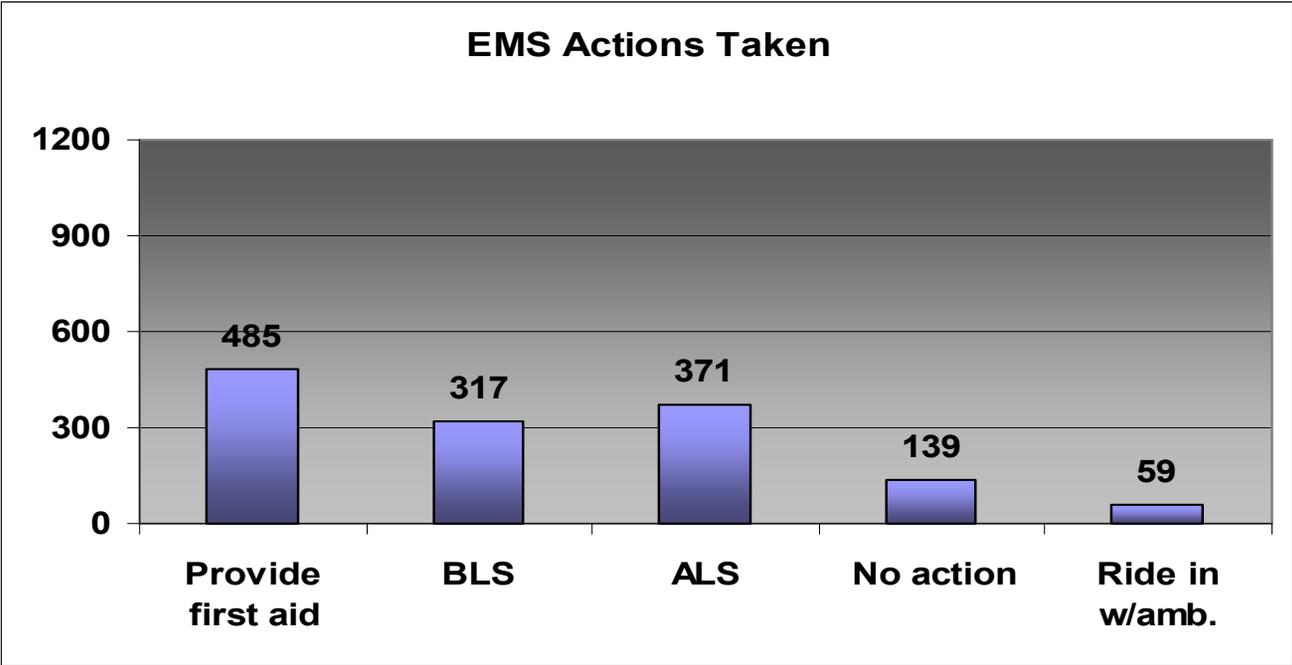
### Avg. Response Time of First Due



	E1	E2	E3	E4	Sq1	Shift Avg.
■ A	0:03:40	0:04:49	0:03:50	0:03:57	0:03:24	0:03:56
■ B	0:04:51	0:04:51	0:03:50	0:04:28	0:03:44	0:04:21
■ C	0:04:50	0:05:09	0:04:02	0:04:06	0:03:43	0:04:22
■ Unit Avg.	0:04:27	0:04:50	0:03:54	0:04:10	0:03:37	0:04:12

## 2008 Property Value Saved & Loss Analysis (Fire Threat Ratio)

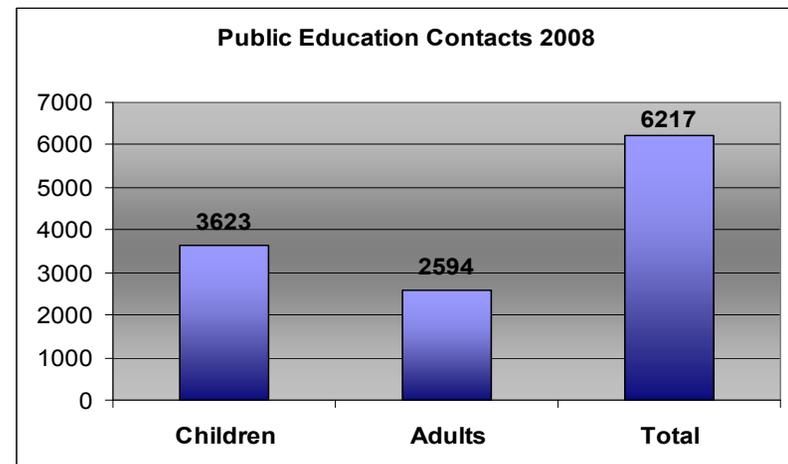




## FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The Office of the Fire Prevention Bureau is primarily responsible for code enforcement and inspections, fire investigations and life safety public education within the city. While active in emergency preparedness and response, the FPB serves a vital role in managing the fire risk through various programs including education, new construction plans review and fire protection systems management. The Office is also responsible for coordinating special events, media relations, providing support during significant emergencies, handling public inquiries and issuing press releases. The FPB is also the liaison to and coordinator of department information systems including data management and website.

Fire Prevention Bureau	2008
Special Events	24
Inspections	181
Building Plan Reviews	62
Fire Investigations	32
FI Closed	29
FI Open	3



# TRAINING PROGRAM

The Training program provides full-service training, from new firefighter orientation to the most advanced Fire and EMS training available to firefighting personnel. The training officer logged more than 13,000 hours of individual and company level training in 2008. Highlights for the year included implementation of the newly created Quarterly Company Drills, Pope County Emergency Response Plan drill, and industrial confined-space and high-angle rope rescue.

