

# Sandy City Fire Department



**2015-2016 Annual Report**

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Sandy City  
10000 S. Centennial  
Sandy, UT 84070

Dear Mayor and Council:

It is my pleasure to present the Sandy City Fire Department's 2015-2016 Annual Report. As always, we are dedicated to providing our community high quality emergency services, as well as educational opportunities relative to life safety and fire prevention. The department strives to meet the needs of our community through the committed efforts of its 69 combat firefighters and 9 administrative staff personnel. These dedicated individuals provide fire suppression, emergency medical care, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, as well as fire prevention and life safety education.

This past year, along with continuing to provide the services our community has come to expect, we have placed a greater emphasis on strengthening our wildland firefighting capabilities. We recognize the city's abundant wildland urban interface areas and know that there is potential for serious loss of property, and even life, in these areas. As a result, we have purchased more equipment, identified specific threats, and have trained our crews in wildland firefighting tactics over the past year. We have also reached out to neighboring departments to pre-plan and coordinate resources in the event of a large-scale fire. We are looking forward to improving and growing our wildland program even more in the coming year.

We have also continued to build our relationship with other Metro departments, Salt Lake City Fire Department, and the Unified Fire Authority. These partnerships allow us to provide services more efficiently and cost effectively to the residents of our community. One of the greatest benefits to our department over the last year has come from sending our newly hired firefighters through the Salt Lake City Fire Recruit Academy. Our new firefighters spend 3-4 months receiving excellent training and come back to the city ready and well-prepared to provide the kind of service we expect.

While the contents of the Annual Report tend to focus on the Fire Department's statistical data and projects/programs, it is the citizens we serve, and those who serve them, that are at the heart of our mission. We continue to build on our prior achievements and strive to maintain the highest standards of public service and integrity.

The exceptional men and women of the Sandy City Fire Department are proud to serve the city. Sandy is an outstanding community to live in, work in, and visit because of our dedicated personnel, reliable citizen support, and visionary elected officials. Please accept my genuine thanks and appreciation for your continued investment in the future of our community and department.

Respectfully,

*Bruce G. Cline*

Bruce G. Cline  
Fire Chief

# THREE FOLD MISSION OF THE SANDY CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The logo of the Sandy City Fire Department is a shield-shaped emblem. At the top, the word "SANDY" is written in large, bold, red letters with a yellow outline. Below this, the word "FIRE" is written in white letters on a red background. The shield is divided into four quadrants by a Maltese cross. The left quadrant contains the word "RESCUE" and the right quadrant contains "MEDICAL". The bottom of the shield features a fire hydrant and the year "1908".

**FIRST:**

To prevent emergencies through public education and positive code enforcement.

**SECOND:**

To mitigate emergencies and disasters through proper planning and preparedness.

**THIRD:**

To respond promptly and efficiently to all emergencies involving fire, medical or environmental concerns

# THE SANDY CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT VALUES

## **TRUST**

We build trust through honesty, fairness, pride and accountability of all employees; we value loyal supportive and amiable personnel.

## **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

We encourage the challenge of new technology and change; we encourage resourceful, self-motivation.

## **EXCELLENCE**

We are committed to personal and professional development and encourage continuous training and education.

## **TEAMWORK**

We encourage teamwork, while maintaining individual identities; none of us is effective alone.

## **POSITIVE ATTITUDES**

We encourage a positive attitude toward the community, the city, and this department, which develops pride in our department and in the quality of our work. Our conduct, both on and off duty, is a reflection of our professional commitment.

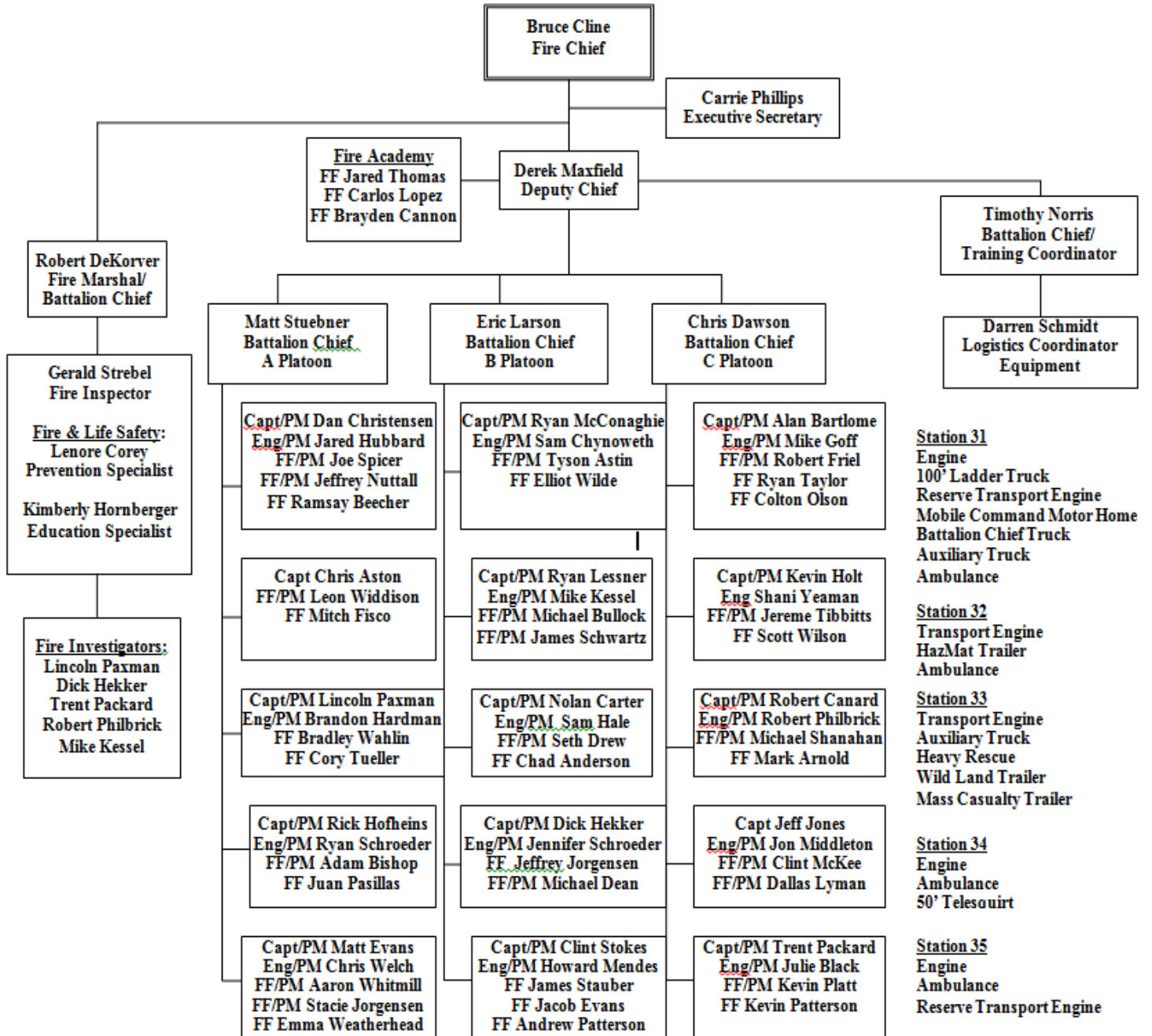
## **EMPLOYEES**

We support open communications, involvement and participation of all employees. We are committed to policies that encourage the mental and physical health of our employees. We value a safe working environment. We value good pay and benefits.

## **HUMOR**

We encourage and enjoy good, appropriate humor. We support each other and encourage participation for the growth of all members.

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





## 2015-2016 Highlights

- During this fiscal year the fire department hired five new firefighters and sent them through Salt Lake City Fire's Recruit Academy. This is an intensive 4-month training academy where the recruits are taught the fundamentals of firefighting, pumping, emergency driving, dealing with hazardous materials, etc. There is also a physical component and the recruits are required to exercise every day. This has been a great step forward in helping our department have well-trained, competent firefighters on their first day on duty. It has also strengthened the department's relationship with Salt Lake City Fire Department.

- The fire department ordered two new ambulances and took delivery of the first one in February 2016 with the second one expected to arrive in May or June of the same year. These ambulances are different than previous ambulances purchased as they are both four-door versions. This addition allows for extra room in the cab for family members of patients, paramedic students, etc., and has not been done anywhere else in the Salt Lake Valley. Both are equipped with the Stryker lifting system to hopefully prevent back injuries while moving patients in and out of the ambulance.



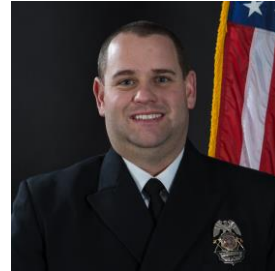
- Tower 31 was sent back to the Pierce Manufacturing Plant in Wisconsin for a complete refurbish in November and is expected to return in June or July of 2016. Almost everything except the engine and transmission (which can be done locally) will have been replaced or repaired, including new paint, striping, and LED lighting.
- In an effort to improve our capabilities with regard to the Wildland Urban Interface areas, the fire department purchased wildland firefighting packs for each apparatus, as well as hose packs and appliances. This will help the fire department meet state standards with regard to wildland firefighting. Firefighters received training on the new progressive hose lays and re-certified their red cards.
- As part of our effort to help our firefighters remain healthy, a contract was entered into with IHC WorkMed to provide annual physical examinations for all firefighters. The physicals follow the NFPA requirements for firefighter physicals and includes an EKG, spirometry testing, a chest x-ray, hearing tests, and blood work. Firefighters have a higher than normal incidence of certain cancers and heart disease and we are happy to be taking a proactive step to ensuring the long-term health of our employees.

# 2015-2016 PERSONNEL CHANGES

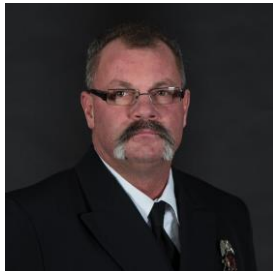
## Retirements/Resignations



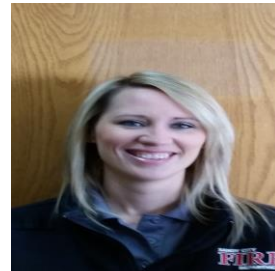
Mark Thaxton



Brandon Widdison



Shannon Miller



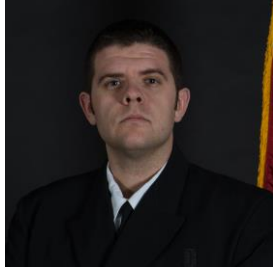
Stephanie Nelson



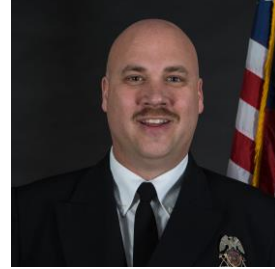
Justin Stone



## Promotions/New Assignments



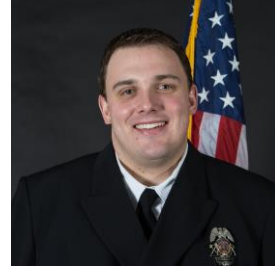
James Schwartz  
Paramedic



Gerald Strebel  
Fire Inspector

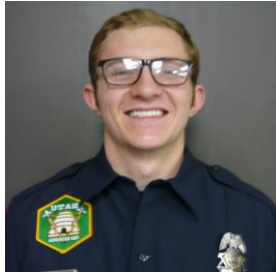


Darren Schmidt  
Logistics Coordinator

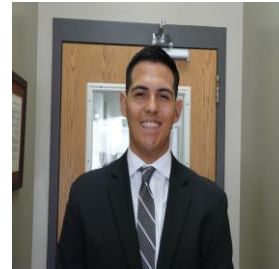


Mike Bullock  
Engineer/Paramedic

## New Hires



Mitch Fisco



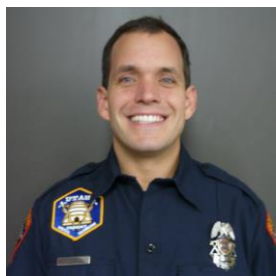
Carlos Lopez



Braydon Cannon



Jared Thomas

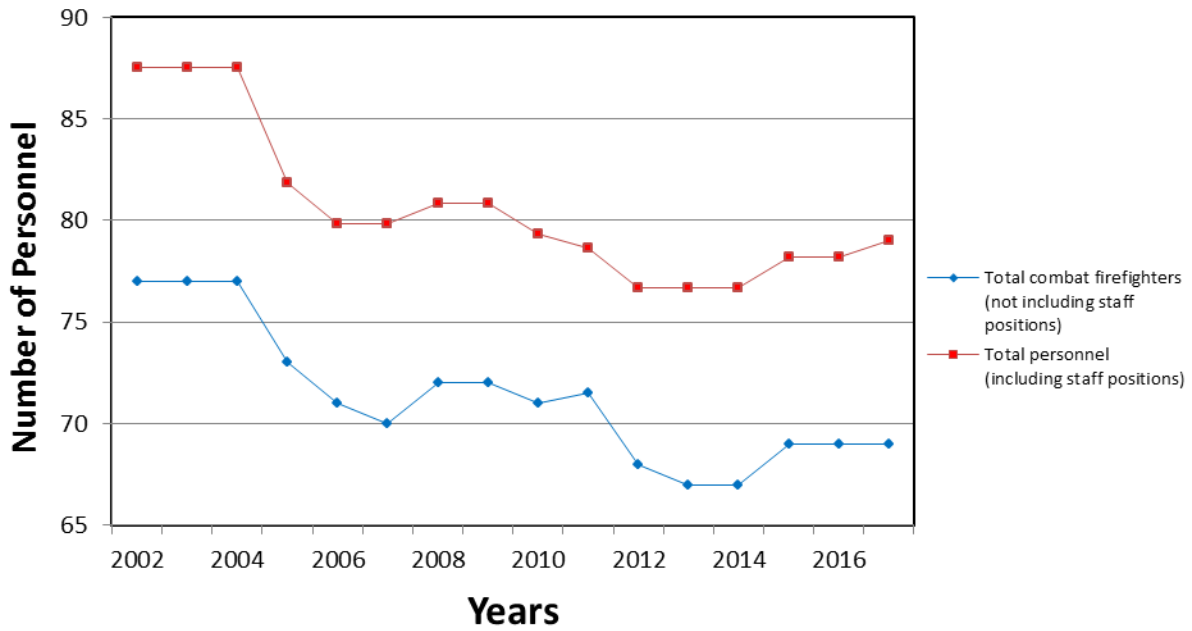


Ramsay Beecher

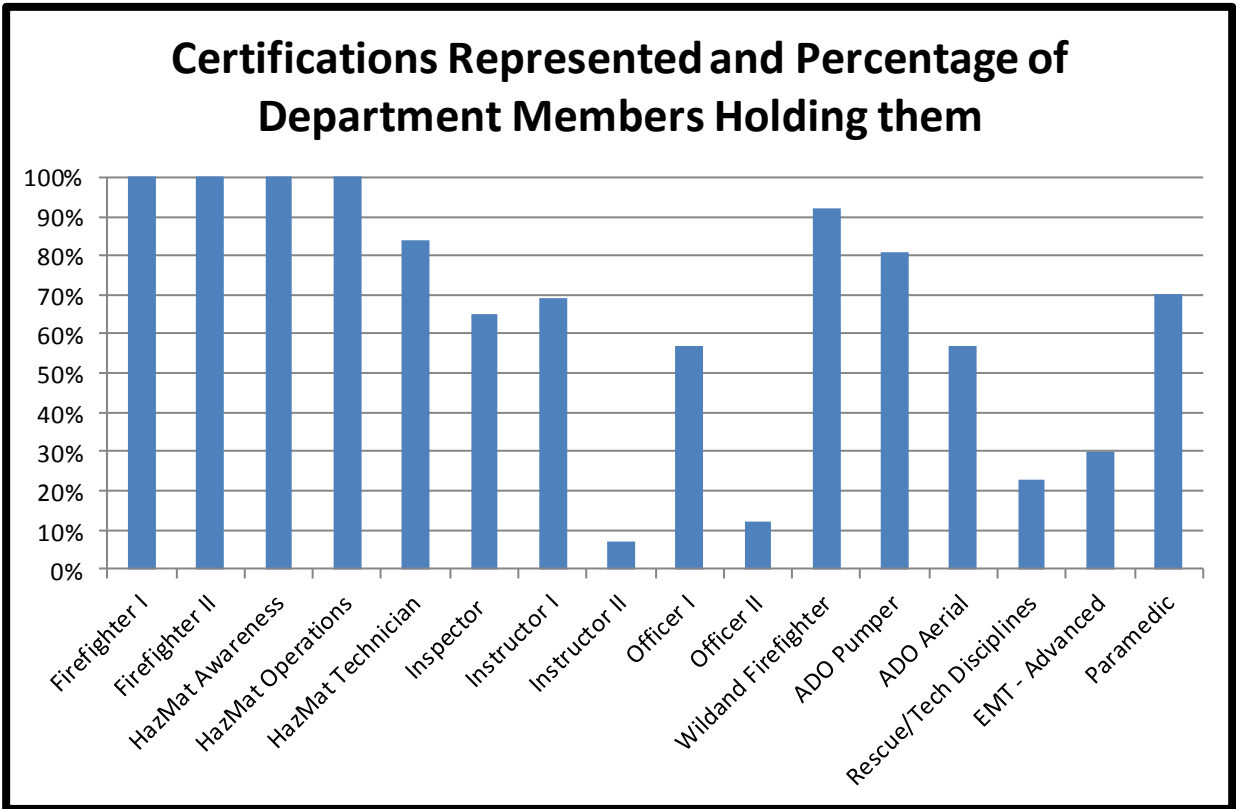


Kimberly Hornberger

## Fire Personnel



	Combat FFs	Staff Personnel	Total
2002	77	10.51	87.51
2003	77	10.51	87.51
2004	77	10.51	87.51
2005	73	8.84	81.84
2006	71	8.84	79.84
2007	70	9.84	79.84
2008	72	8.84	80.84
2009	72	8.84	80.84
2010	71	8.32	79.32
2011	71.5	7.14	78.64
2012	68	8.66	76.66
2013	67	9.66	76.66
2014	67	9.66	76.66
2015	69	9.17	78.17
2016	69	9.17	78.17
2017	69	10	79





Badge Pinning Ceremony for Ramsay Beecher, Mitch Fisco, and Kimberly Hornberger



Recruit Academy Graduation in Salt Lake City

# FIRE STATIONS AND APPARATUS

## Station #31 Administrative Headquarters



9010 South 150 East (Constructed: 1985)

### Apparatus:

T-31	#0027	Tower	1999	Pierce
ME-31	#0015	Medic Engine	2013	Pierce
AMB-31	#0036	Ambulance	2012	International
BC-31	#0020	BC Unit	2013	Chevrolet
AUX-31	#0031	Grass truck/Plow	2001	Ford 4x4
RES-31	#0024	Reserve Engine	2003	Salisbury
Mobile	#0039	Mobile Command	1995	Fleetwood

**Updates/Repairs:** New workout equipment. Tower 31 back at the factory to be refurbished.

**Needs:** Conference room remodel/update, new flooring on combat side, mattresses and recliners.



## Station #32



**9475 South 2000 East (Originally constructed: 1985 Re-built: 2007)**

### Apparatus:

ME-32	#0019	Medic Engine	2003	Salisbury
HZMT-32	#0023	HazMat	2003	Freightliner
HZMT	#0007	HazMat Trailer	2002	Modec
RES. AMB-33	#0002	Res. Ambulance	2009	Ford F-450

**Updates/Repairs:** None

**Needs:** New mattresses

## Station #33



**11270 South 2015 East (Constructed: 1978)**

### Apparatus:

ME-33	#0037	Medic Engine	2006	Pierce
AUX-31	#0025	Grass truck/Plow	1997	Ford 4x4
HR-33	#0026	Heavy Rescue	1997	Freightliner
MC-33	#0006	Mass Casualty Tr.	1995	Wells Cargo
Wildland	#0009	Wildland Trailer	1977	Wells Cargo
Gator	#0012	Trail Gator	2005	John Deere

**Updates/Repairs:** None

**Needs:** New front doors, new mattresses.

## Station #34



**10765 South 700 East (Constructed: 1993)**

### Apparatus:

ME-34	#0038	Medic Engine	2010	Pierce
AMB-34	#0035	Ambulance	2012	International
L-34	#0016	75' Telesquirt	1993	Pierce

**Updates/Repairs:** New mattresses purchased for all dorm rooms. Bathroom and shower repaired.

**Needs:** New flooring, recliners.

## Station #35



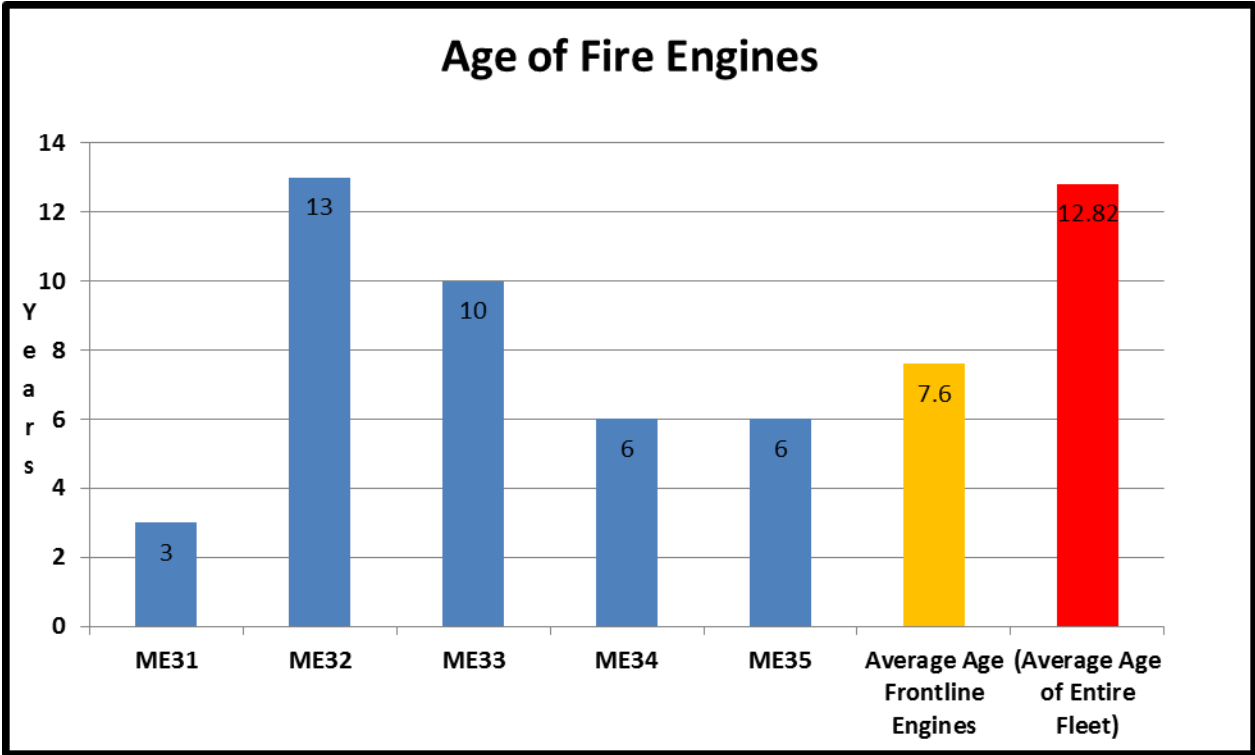
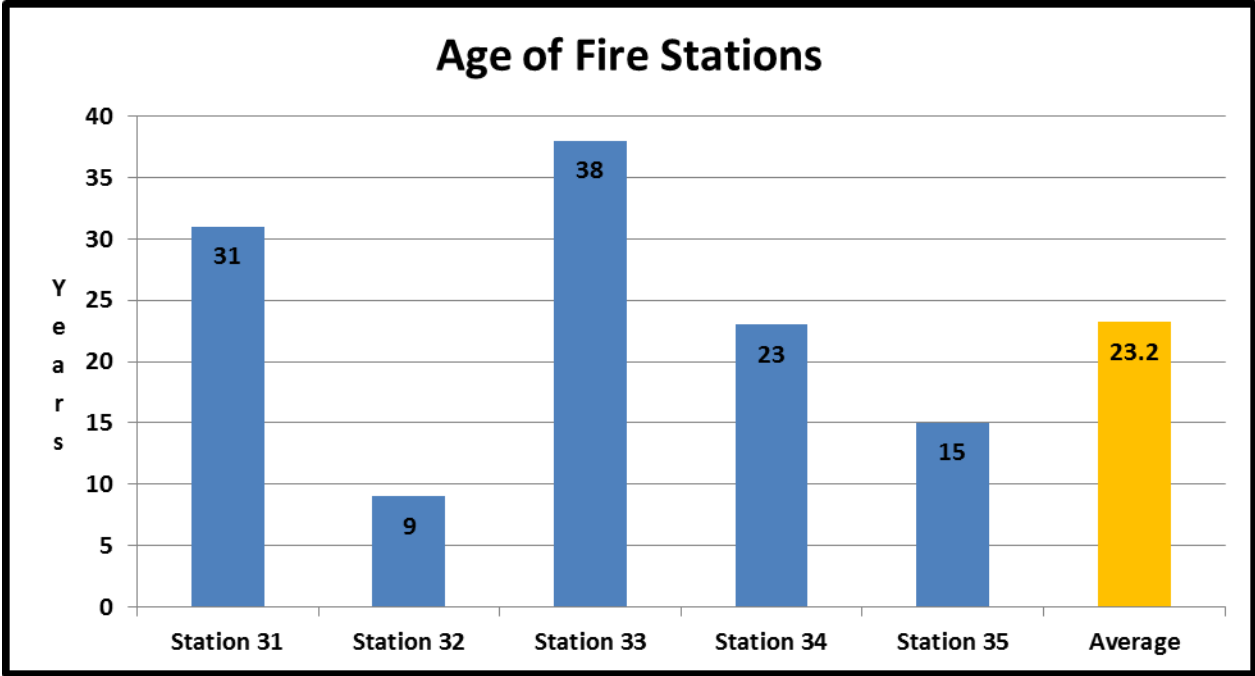
**8186 South 1300 East  
(801)568-2935  
Constructed: 2001**

### **Apparatus:**

ME-35	#0040	Medic Engine	2010	Pierce
AMB-35	#0022	Ambulance	2016	Ford F-450
RES-35	#0029	Reserve Engine	1993	E-One

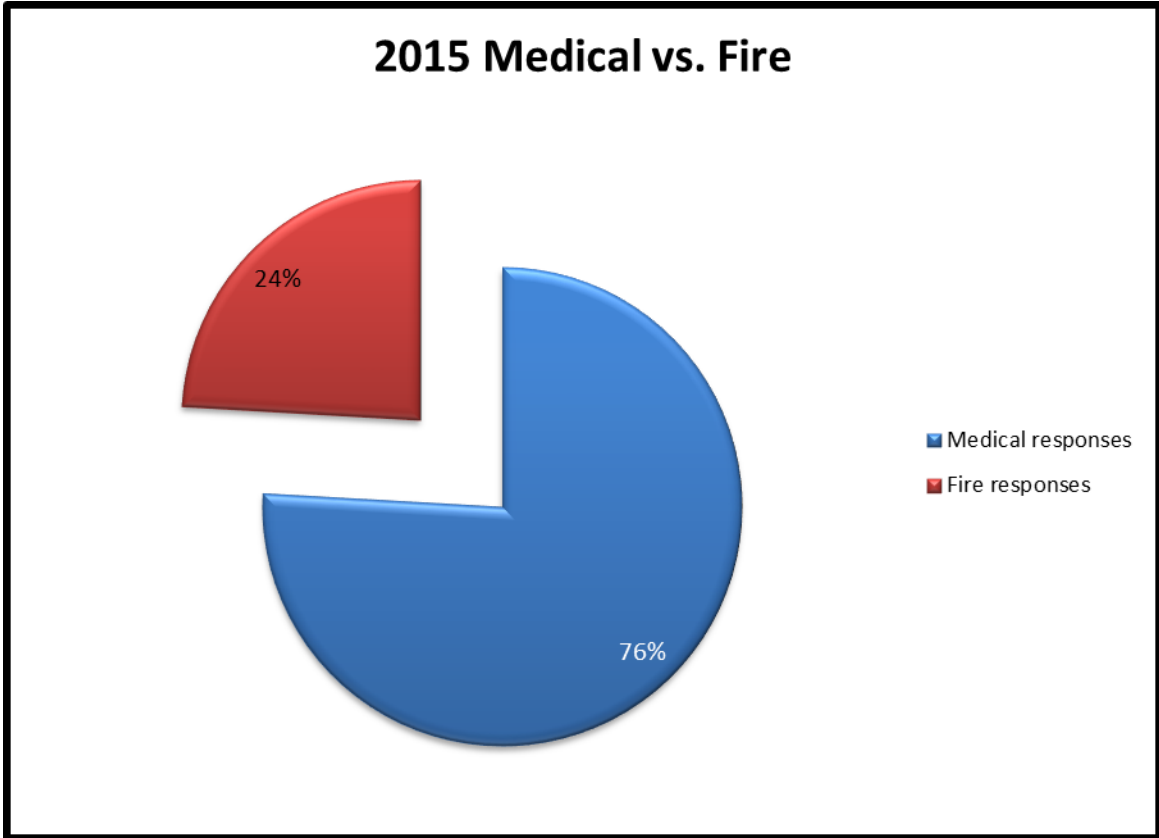
**Updates/Repairs:** New four-door ambulance placed in service

### **Needs:**





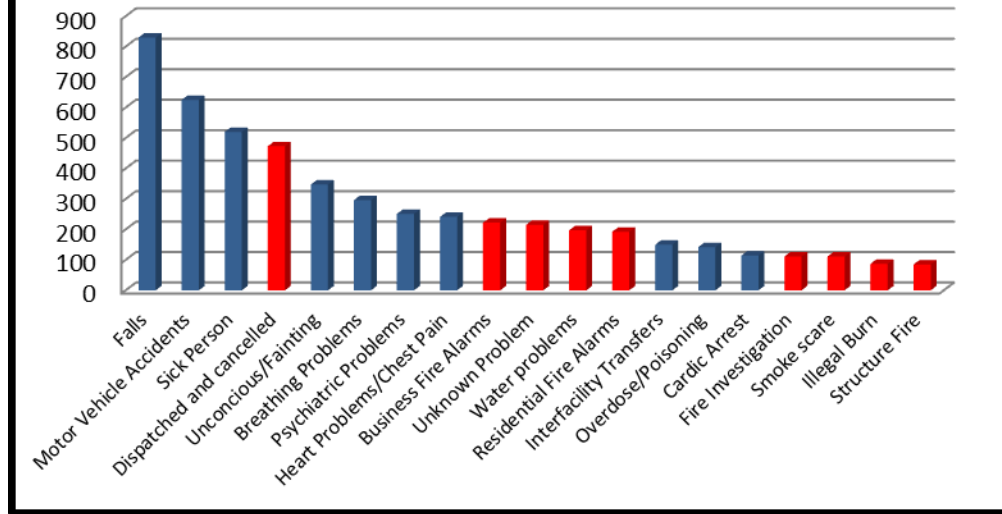
# FIRE & EMS RUN REPORT



Medical responses	5280
Fire responses	1676
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6956</b>

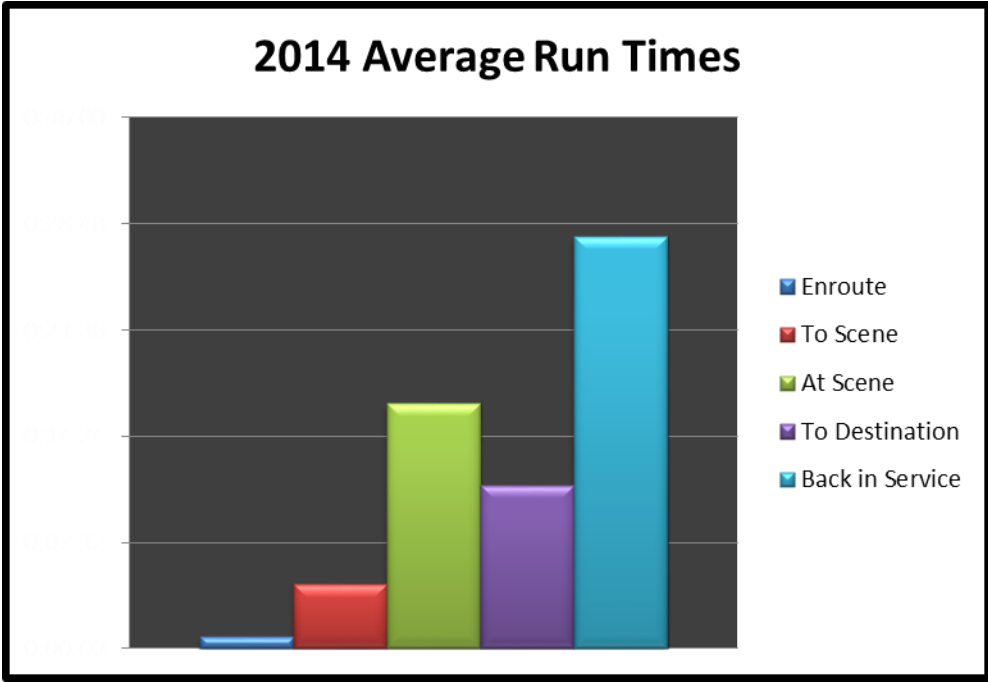


## Top Medical and Fire Calls 2015



### Top EMS/Fire Calls 2015

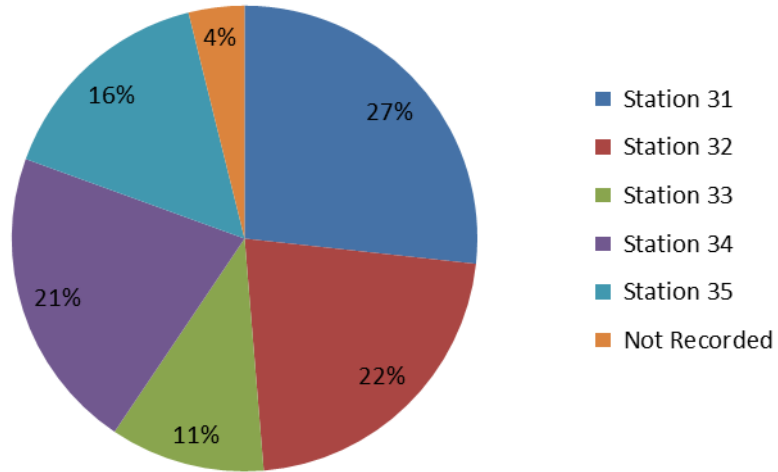
Falls	830
Motor Vehicle Accidents	625
Sick Person	520
Dispatched and cancelled	473
Unconscious/Fainting	347
Breathing Problems	296
Psychiatric Problems	251
Heart Problems/Chest pain	241
Business Fire Alarms	222
Unknown Problem	215
Water problems	197
Residential Fire Alarms	192
Interfacility Transfers	150
Overdose/Poisoning	142
Cardic Arrest	114
Fire Investigation	111
Smoke scare	111
Illegal Burn	87
Structure Fire	85
Smoke in Area	69
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	30



**Average Run Times**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
Enroute	0:00:53	0:00:50
To Scene	0:04:35	0:04:23
At Scene	0:17:26	0:16:37
To Destination	0:12:08	0:11:05
Back in Service	0:30:32	0:27:54
<b>Total</b>	<b>1:05:34</b>	<b>1:00:49</b>

## 2015 Fire Calls by Station



Month	Station 31	Station 32	Station 33	Station 34	Station 35	Not Recorded	Total Calls/Month
January	45	30	12	25	28	4	144
February	23	18	9	21	18	1	90
March	40	29	14	28	18	3	132
April	32	31	10	25	27	8	133
May	42	23	18	33	19	6	141
June	50	43	22	31	27	7	180
July	31	42	27	41	22	7	170
August	40	38	13	19	17	6	133
September	29	27	16	28	15	9	124
October	35	31	12	46	28	4	156
November	32	27	11	31	22	5	128
December	49	29	16	26	20	5	145
<b>Total</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>1676</b>



Engineer Hubbard rescuing a cat from a tree



House fire in Station 32's district



# DIVISION REPORTS

## A Platoon Report

Currently A-Shift consists of 22 team members who are all dedicated to providing great service to the citizens of Sandy. In the fire department our greatest asset is our people and A platoon is no exception. It is a pleasure to serve and work with such a great group of men and women.



Over the last year, one of my focuses as a Battalion Chief has been on developing the leadership abilities of our captains and engineers. I've done this through group trainings, as well as some individual one on one coaching with the leaders of our shift. There is still work to be done, but I have seen a lot of growth and development in our captains and look forward to continuing this effort.

We've also worked at improving our abilities with regard to fighting wildland fires. We recognize that Sandy City has the potential to have a very significant and costly wildland-urban interface fire in the Dimple Dell Recreation area, as well as along the east benches. We have made it a priority to identify specific threats, preplan access routes and tactics, and improve our capabilities as firefighters with regard to these specific threats. I feel we have made great strides in this area and will continue to do so in the future.

Overall, it has been a great year for A Platoon and I'm excited to face the challenges of another new year.

*Matt Stuebner*

Matt Stuebner  
Battalion Chief - A Platoon



"A" platoon crew at Station 35

## B Platoon Report

B Platoon consists of twenty-one highly motivated and enthusiastic Firefighters. I became their Battalion Chief in December of 2014, and have been continuously impressed with their expertise, technical skills and desire to provide outstanding service to the citizens they are sworn to serve. I don't believe the average citizen is aware of the broad scope of practice their Fire Department provides them. Fighting structure fires is just one component of our duties and responsibilities. Other duties include: Emergency Medical Response and ambulance transportation, technical rescue including high and low angle rescue, which we perform commonly in our canyon bench areas; confined space rescue; vehicle extrication; hazardous material response and mitigation; wildland fire suppression; tactical paramedics integrated with the Sandy Police SWAT team; and a variety of other emergencies that our citizens rely on to assist them in their time of need. To excel in this endeavor takes a great commitment in time spent training to prepare for these emergencies. When not training for or responding to emergencies, we spend a great deal of time making the community a safer place by teaching fire safety, and conducting business inspections together with our fire prevention bureau. Our employees take great pride in the work they do and I am proud to be a member of this great department



*Eric Larson*

Eric Larson  
Battalion Chief – B Platoon

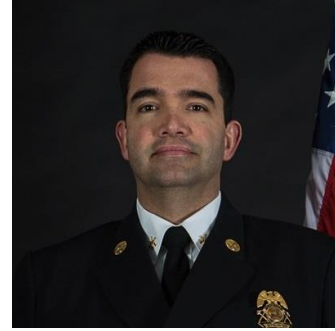


Members of "B" platoon from Station 34 share a laugh with an Atria resident at the Annual Wii Bowling Tournament



## C Platoon Report

I recently completed my seventh year overseeing C Platoon for the fire department. I consider myself very fortunate to have been able to work with the professional men and women that work for Sandy City who provide such valuable services to our community. Our focus on C Platoon continues to be on professional development of our personnel and finding ways to continue to improve our service to our citizens by offering the very best customer service, coupled with high technical capabilities when responding to calls for service for EMS, fire suppression, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, environmental hazards, and the emerging threat of terrorism. We are truly no longer a fire department, but we are instead a full service emergency services department.



While the fire service is steeped in tradition, our industry continues to change at a rapid pace. There are many more hazards facing our firefighters each year and technology continues to change to address these concerns. Technology now plays a significant role in the way we do our day-to-day business, from electronic reporting, to constantly changing medical, fire, hazmat, and rescue equipment. We are working to stay in pace with these changes in order to provide the safest working environment for our employees, while providing the best service to our customers. This will continue to be a challenge, especially since these changes will continue to require increased funding just to maintain status quo. We remain committed to finding the best way to provide essential services to our community while also maintaining the health and safety of our employees.

### *Chris Dawson*

Chris Dawson  
Battalion Chief – C Platoon



The "C" Platoon crew at Station 33 with a treat and cards from citizens on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

## Fire Marshal Report

In 2015, the Fire Prevention Division continued to play an integral part in the three fold mission of the Sandy City Fire Department. It is this division that often gets the first look at buildings, their safety systems as well as making sure that the buildings continue to maintain their systems and exits through annual and spot inspections. We are also responsible for plan reviews, investigations, public education, disaster preparedness, and code enforcement.



The Fire Prevention Division has seen an increase in all aspects of our division, from plan reviews, new business licenses to a review of shows at the South Towne Expo Center. Along with this increase we are also seeing a lot of new construction designs that are challenging the division in making sure that the projects meet International Fire Code and the National Fire Protection standards. This increase has resulted in over 1,200 hours of overtime, comp time and call backs being used by the division to try and keep up with the construction projects, new business license inspections, and other fire code enforcement issues that are currently happening.

As mentioned before, the Fire Prevention Division is responsible for commercial business inspections. With the assistance of the on duty combat crews we now inspect 2,805 commercial businesses in the city compared to the 2,677 businesses of 2014.

The division is also responsible for the investigation of all structure fires, suspicious fires and fires resulting in injury and/or death. In 2015, the five member Fire Investigation team conducted a total of 8 cause and origin fire investigations that were larger than a shift Captain is trained for. This compares to 5 that were conducted in 2014. We had zero fires that were deemed to be maliciously or deliberately set and we had zero fires that resulted in a death or injury. Property damage for all fire incidents including buildings, vehicles and grass fires in 2015, resulted in an estimated \$2,425,070, which is up from the \$2,414, 130 dollars in fire loss in 2014. This number includes fires that were also fought within our contracted county islands. Our largest property loss came towards the end of 2015 when Johanna's Kitchen exploded in the middle of the night from an internal gas leak.

As we move into 2016, the Fire Prevention Division will continue to move forward with the new lock box ordinance, and to look for additional ways to fulfill the first step of the Sandy City Fire Department mission statement, "To prevent emergencies through public education and positive code enforcement." This will assist us in providing a safer community for the citizens as well as our firefighters as they go about their daily activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Fire Marshal and your continued support.

Respectfully,

*Robert K. DeKorver*

Robert K. DeKorver Jr.  
Fire Marshal

## Fire & Life Safety Division Report

In 2015, the Fire & Life Safety Division had great success in our programs. We were able to accomplish this by having face to face contact with over 8,500 citizens, which doesn't include the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities or the annual Safe Kids Expo which both have thousands in attendance.



Starting in August we were able to provide 25 Preschool Programs, 14 Kindergarten Programs, ten 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Programs, four 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Programs, four 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Programs, and two 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Programs, with approximately 3,200 students in attendance. These programs are designed to help the students understand the importance that fire plays in our lives, why we should plan and practice fire drills at home, what 9-1-1 is for and other lifesaving topics.

Two classes we teach year round are the CERT and FA/CPR/AED classes. We continually have full classes and pride ourselves on having one of the best programs in the State. In 2015 we taught 3 CERT classes with 64 students in attendance and held 45 CPR classes with 469 students. We also trained 150 Sandy Employees in CPR/AED.

We attended several health/safety fairs and community events throughout the year which totaled 12 with over 1300 people in attendance. We are always asked back to events yearly and enjoy teaching and interacting with the community.

The Fire & Life Safety Division also provided 11 fire extinguisher trainings for local businesses and trained over 300 of their employees. We, along with the Fire Marshal's Office, started having fire safety and evacuation training and drills with these same businesses. We met with administrators, managers and supervisors for training and then held drills with their respective offices. We had great success and were able to build better relationships with the local businesses.

This year marked the 1<sup>st</sup> annual JR FF Academy, which was a huge success and will be a program we continue on with year to year.

Looking into 2016, we are excited to continue our success in educating the public and plan to continue to develop and refine Fire & Life Safety programs.

Thank you

*Lenore Corey*

Lenore Corey  
Fire & Life Safety Specialist



## Training Division Report

Once again 2015 has been a tremendous success for the Sandy City Fire Department training division. We continue to excel in providing Sandy City Fire Department with some of the most effective, cost efficient and valued training that any department can provide. Some of the successful training events/programs for 2015 include:



### Fire-related Training:

Quarterly Company Officer Training Development

Completed probationary training for 3 new hire employees

Annual Wildland Firefighter Refresher Training

Coordinated the Salt Lake Valley Fire Symposium with over 600 first responder contacts over a 3 day period

20,903 recorded training hours in the areas of prevention, mitigation and response.

Completed in-service training for new SCBAs

### Medical-related Training:

American Heart Re-certification Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)

### Employee Development Training:

Annual IDC training Sandy City Parks Department

Annual IDC training Sandy City Police Department

Annual Emergency Vehicle Operation Refresher

Emergency vehicle driver simulator with course completion of first responder employees.

Installation and implementation of new records management software.

The 2015-2016 fiscal year has been a great success for the training division. We look forward to providing applicable, interesting training classes and programs for our firefighters in the coming year!

Sincerely,

*Tim Norris*

Timothy K. Norris  
Battalion Chief, Training Officer

## Future Outlook

The Sandy City Fire Department has been proactive in its efforts to provide great fire protection and emergency medical services to the community of Sandy. Our department has good equipment, training and above all, excellent people. We are poised for a great future and will continue to do all we can to exceed the expectations of the citizens we serve. That being said, there are a few items that we will need to address in the next few years to be able to maintain the great services we provide:

- As demonstrated in Page 11, our staffing levels over the last 14 years have decreased by almost 11 full-time equivalents (FTEs). In the last two years we've been able to add a couple of new positions, but we are still well below where we were in 2002. During that same time period our annual call volume has increased by over 1,200 calls per year, the number of required hydrant inspections have doubled (ISO requires that they all be checked twice per year now instead of once), and our required business inspections have increased as well. We've been able to manage up to this point, but it is becoming ever harder to "do more with less." Add to that the current (and anticipated) development near City Hall over the next 5-10 years and we are going to need to increase our staffing significantly or at the very least, get back up to where we were.
- The first graph on Page 18 shows the age of each of our fire stations. The average age is 23.2 years old, with two of the stations being over 30 years old. While they are still in pretty good shape and have been well-maintained (and in some cases remodeled), it won't be too long before they need to be updated or re-built. Station 31 has had some roof leaks and despite numerous repairs, continues to leak during rain storms. There has also been some talk of adding a sixth fire station in the downtown Sandy area as development continues. At this point, we are unsure if that is what should happen or if Station 31 should be demolished and re-built to house two Engine companies. Further research is needed, but either way, our stations are going to need work in the coming years.
- The second graph shows the age of our front-line engines (in blue) with the average age being 7.6 years old. Historically, front-line engines have had a service life of around 10 years before being replaced or moved to reserve status. With this in mind, a few years ago the city established a fleet management fund for the department which would theoretically allow for the purchase of a new engine every two years or so. That way the entire front-line fleet would rotate every 10 years. However, due to the economic conditions of the last few years and the needed repairs on Tower 31, this has not been able to happen and we now have two front-line engines over the 10 year-old benchmark and two more that aren't very far behind.



