

# WILMETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



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# CHIEF'S MESSAGE

I am pleased and honored to present to you the 2008 Wilmette Fire Department Annual Report. As you review this report you will find that 2008 was another challenging year for the Wilmette Fire Department. In addition to responding to emergencies, training, and providing fire prevention and education activities there were some significant events that occurred in 2008.

Emergency calls continue to reach all time highs. In recent years we have seen nearly double the number of emergency responses that we had 20 years ago, this trend continues to grow nationally. The organization prides itself on continuing to provide the high level of service with the same staffing level that we had thirty years ago. Our core mission continues to be to provide the highest level of service possible.

The economic downturn has presented unique challenges for all governmental agencies. The Wilmette Fire Department has historically practiced fiscal responsibility, but has embraced this challenge and has found new ways to reduce costs with little impact to the service level of the community. In addition to cost reduction, the department has been actively working on cost recovery practices as well. We will continue to investigate efficiencies and cost reduction methods into 2009.

For the second consecutive year, the Fire Department was challenged by nature with flood conditions on September 13. The Fire Department responded to a large volume of emergencies within a 5 hour span. The Fire Departments training combined with the experience of previous storms provided for an effective response to this natural disaster.

The Fire Department continues to use the accreditation process as a model and is constantly benchmarking itself against its goals and other agencies.

The Fire Department has enjoyed a full year of membership in the Regional Emergency Dispatch Center (RED). RED is an intergovernmental agency that provides fire and emergency medical dispatching to thirteen member communities. Membership has proved to be very efficient and valuable to the community as was proven on September 13, 2007 when RED dispatched 500 calls due to flood conditions within multiple communities. The Fire Department will be receiving mobile data computers for our fire and EMS vehicles along with updated radio equipment from a grant that RED Center received.

The Village was able to sign into agreement a successor contract with the Firefighter Union in 2008 with all negotiations being handled between the Union Board and the Fire Department's administrative staff.

From the Wilmette Fire Department, we want to thank everyone who helped to make 2008 a safe and successful year.

Sincerely,



James W. Dominik  
Fire Chief, Village of Wilmette

# WILMETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORY

- 1893 The Wilmette Fire Department was formed when the first water supply system was installed. Fire Station One was located downtown and used the church bell to alert the volunteers. Fire Station Two was located one mile west.
- 1899 A larger, more centrally located station was built at Central and Park Avenue, where the Post office now stands.
- 1905 A horse drawn cart was purchased which carried a 45- gallon tank, a 25 foot extension ladder, and a 10 foot roof ladder. Walter Zibble was hired as the first full time employee of the department; he tended to the department's two horses, Charlie and Snake.
- 1916 Station One relocated to 831 Green Bay Road. The Department purchased its first motorized fire engine.
- 1918 The Weber and Allen garage (Imperial Motors site) burned to the ground, to date one of Wilmette's costliest fires.
- 1920 Palm Sunday tornado ravages Wilmette.
- 1921 Walter Zibble became the first full-time Fire Chief until his retirement in 1946. The department purchases its first ladder truck.
- 1936 A local mortician donates an ambulance to the fire department. The police took over transporting patients to the hospital from 1943-1956.
- 1956 Two new station wagons were purchased and the fire department resumed ambulance service.
- 1958 The last volunteer firefighter retires marking the end of volunteer firefighters in Wilmette. A second fire station was added.
- 1966 An extra alarm fire broke out in the Encyclopedia Britannica building at 1150 Wilmette Avenue.
- 1974 The first paramedics were trained and certified.
- 1975 Wilmette Fire Department is staffed with 44 full-time sworn members
- 1978 A fireworks explosion at 1221 Cleveland kills one civilian and injures several firefighters.
- 1991 An extra alarm fire gutted the Melange Restaurant in the Plaza Del Lago shopping center.
- 1994 A three alarm fire broke out on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the 1420 High-rise Apartments resulting in one fatality.
- 2005 A fire destroys the Terrace Restaurant at the Park District Golf Course.
- 2007 Wilmette is awarded a \$750,000 grant from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the purchase of a new Tower Ladder. Wilmette Fire Department increased staffing to 45 full time sworn members. A devastating storm swept through town on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. The fire department responded to over 360 emergency calls in a 24 hour period.
- 2008 On September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> fire crews responded to over 60 calls for service as a result of flooding due to heavy rainfall.

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE)** – is a nonprofit corporation that promotes continuous quality improvement by providing training and career resource information to the fire and emergency service agencies and personnel that serve communities throughout the United States.

In addition, CPSE serves as the governing body for the essential entity organizations that offer accreditation, education, and certification services to first responder and fire service industry professionals and agencies. CPSE's dedicated board members individually contribute a wealth of experience and fresh ideas to the progression of the industry.

**Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)** - The mission of the Illinois Department of Public Health is to promote the health of the people of Illinois through the prevention and control of disease and injury.

**Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA)** - An intergovernmental agency comprised of municipalities, fire protection districts, and other organizations located in the Chicago metropolitan area that have combined energies and resources to create a regional, state-of-the-art public safety training facility. NIPSTA is located in Glenview, Illinois, The mission of NIPSTA is to develop and provide high quality, cost-efficient educational programs that address the training requirements of fire, police, EMS, public works, hazardous material, and disaster response personnel.

**National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)** – NFPA is a nonprofit organization whose goal is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. NFPA serves as the world's leading advocate of fire prevention and is an authoritative source on public safety.

**Occupational Safety Health Administration (OSHA)** – OSHA'S mission is to prevent work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths by issuing and enforcing rules (called standards) for workplace safety and health.

**Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG)** – THE Assistance to Firefighters grant (AFG) provides financial assistance directly to fire departments and non-affiliated EMS organizations to enhance their abilities with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. The primary goal is to help fire departments meet their firefighting and emergency response needs.

**Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)** – In 1970, the MABAS system was established to provide a swift, standardized and effective method of mutual aid assistance for extra alarm fires and mass casualty incidents. The MABAS system is divided into 20 Divisions throughout the State of Illinois comprised of over 300 agencies.

# MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Wilmette Fire Department is to provide a selfless organization of people who hold devotion to duty above personal risk, who count sincerity of service above personal comfort and convenience, and who strive unceasingly to find better ways of protecting the lives, homes and property of their fellow citizens.

## OUR VALUES

**Honesty** ...in both our leadership and our employees, leading to the highest level of trustworthiness.

**Integrity** ...in our dealings with each other and those we serve, always adhering to a sound code of moral and ethical conduct.

**Teamwork** ...as we believe that availing ourselves of each person's talent enhances the services we deliver and that cooperation improves our relationships.

**Commitment to Excellence** ...demonstrating itself through consistent professionalism, pride, and a positive attitude.

**Knowledge** ...as it forms the foundation for effective decisions, actions, and increased safety.

**Respect** ...for each person as an individual, an attitude that recognizes the worth of others and exhibits compassion for those in need.

## OUR VISION

The Members of the Wilmette Fire Department...

- strive to be role models in the community and leaders in our profession.
- will be accountable to those we serve, each other and any fire service organizations we interact with.
- are committed to providing the best public service through innovative training, education and equipment.
- will take the fire department into the future through productive teamwork, open and honest communications and participative decision-making throughout the organization.
- are committed to our values, mission, and dedicated to our fire service profession.

Our organization is driven to provide a cost effective and efficient fire department while honoring our values, accomplishing our mission and achieving our goals.

# 2008 PERSONNEL

## FIRE CHIEF

James W. Dominik

## DEPUTY CHIEF

Michael A. McGreal Jr.

## ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF

Richard W. Ciccione

## DUTY CHIEF

Jeffrey S. Gorr

Charles Orth

Thomas C. Robertson

## LIEUTENANT

Paul E. Bergquist  
Anthony D. Bucci

Mark A. Cacchione  
Raymond Ridolfi

John R. Storm  
Al V. Vilches

## FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Arthur A. Amidei  
Kenneth J. Barton  
Jennifer L. Bazan  
James R. Bentz  
John A. Blomquist  
Robert B. Boczek  
Robert C. Brill  
Lance W. Burns  
Timothy S. Clemens  
Blake E. Eastman  
Chris J. Eder  
Scott W. Ewen

Joseph N. Falkovitz  
David P. Grajewski  
Michael S. Halterman  
Patrick T. Harrington  
Robert C. Hughes  
Michael J. Isaacson  
James R. Johnson  
Louis J. Klausning  
Timothy M. Ludford  
Frank J. Mager  
Ryan R. Menzies

Michael M. Minogue  
John J. Okonek  
Jason Perkiser  
Ryan Petty  
John S. Ramaker  
Ryan D. Schmidt  
Thomas E. Simon  
Jason B. Wilk  
James C. Winter  
Gary A. Wokurka  
Benjamin M. Wozney

## SECRETARY

Diane K. Anderson

## MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

Joe Bass

# PERSONNEL CHANGES

## YEARS OF SERVICE

### 20 Years



Deputy Chief Michael McGreal



FF / PM Timothy Clemens

### 25 Years



FF / PM Chris Eder



Lieutenant Raymond Ridolfi

### New Employee



Diane Anderson-Secretary

# STRATEGIC PLAN

The Wilmette Fire Department's strategic plan was recently updated after an in-depth Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis of the organization and its activities. Throughout this analysis the organization stays focused on its mission, vision and values statements. These statements provide the core values of the organization and act as a guide to evaluate our organization. The current strategic plan is a management plan for the organization to help address the needs identified during the SWOT analysis. This document serves as a planning tool to direct the current and future activities of the Fire Department in an effort to provide the best possible service to the community for the next five years.

The Strategic plan is currently comprised of nine sections. These nine sections highlight the following:

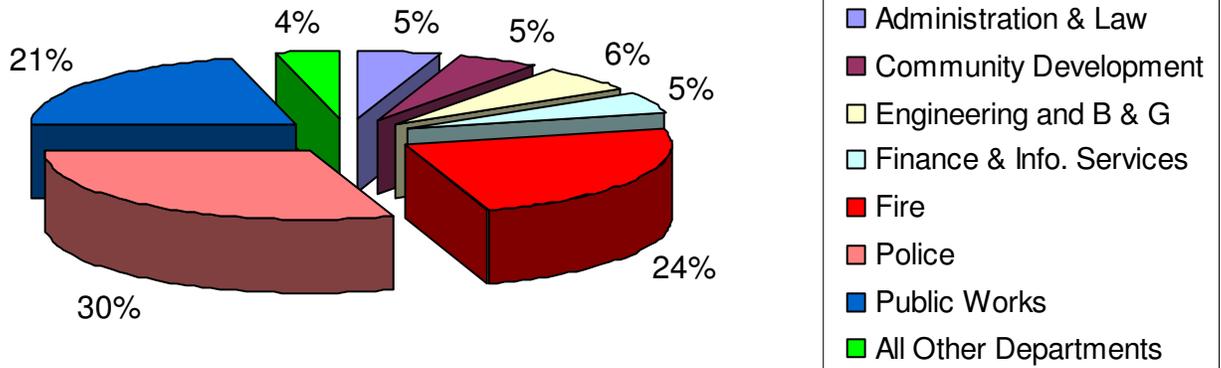
- **Training:** Proper training of personnel is necessary to provide the highest quality service.
- **Personnel:** Provides the people needed to meet the organizational objectives.
- **Capital Improvements:** Items necessary for long term needs.
- **Equipment and Vehicles:** The resources needed to deliver the services to the community.
- **Computer Equipment:** Information necessary to manage and evaluate the organization and its service delivery.
- **Diversity:** The organization feels that a diversified workforce is beneficial to the community.
- **Response Time Analysis:** Essential to effectively deliver Fire and EMS services to the community.
- **Risk Analysis:** Evaluation of the hazards to the community for pre-emergency planning.
- **Codes and Ordinances:** Legal guidance to minimize risk of life and property loss.

A copy of the Wilmette Fire Department Strategic Plan is available on the Village's web site.

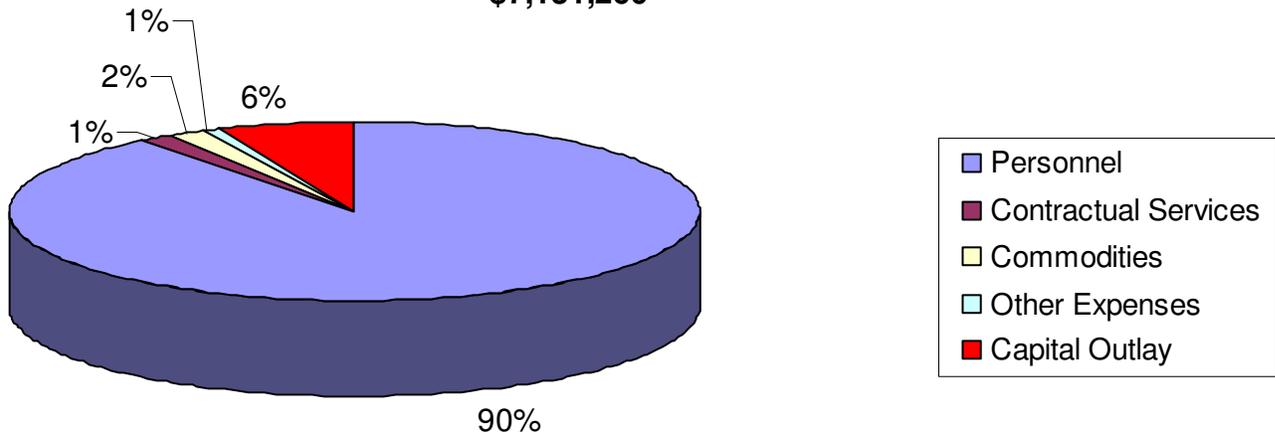
Please note that this plan is a dynamic document that serves as a guide, which can and should change as the community, department and environment change. What does not change is our core mission, which is protecting lives and property of the community we serve.

# ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

## Village of Wilmette 2008 Budget \$67,767,391



## 2008 Fire Department Budget \$7,131,260



### 2008 WILMETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Personnel	\$6,385,930
Contractual Services	\$106,320
Commodities	\$120,060
Other Expenses	\$57,950
Capital Outlay	\$461,000

# FIRE STATIONS AND APPARATUS



## **STATION 26**

### **Fire Department Headquarters**

1304 Lake Avenue  
Wilmette, Illinois 60091

847-251-1101 (phone)  
847-853-7704 (fax)  
Emergency 911

Engine 26	FD-206	1989 E-One 1500 GPM Pumper
Ambulance 26	FD-212	2006 Ford 450 Ambulance
Truck 26	FD-204	1985 E-One 1250 GPM Aerial Ladder
Battalion 26	FD-213	2006 Ford E250 Command Van
Squad 26	FD-201	1999 Navistar Heavy Rescue Squad
Boat 26	FD-214	2000 Avon Inflatable Boat
Utility 26	FD-207	2000 Ford F250 Utility Vehicle
Chief Vehicle	FD-208	2002 Ford Crown Victoria
Deputy Chief Vehicle	FD-210	2001 Ford Explorer
Fire Prevention Van	FD-203	1997 Ford E150 Van



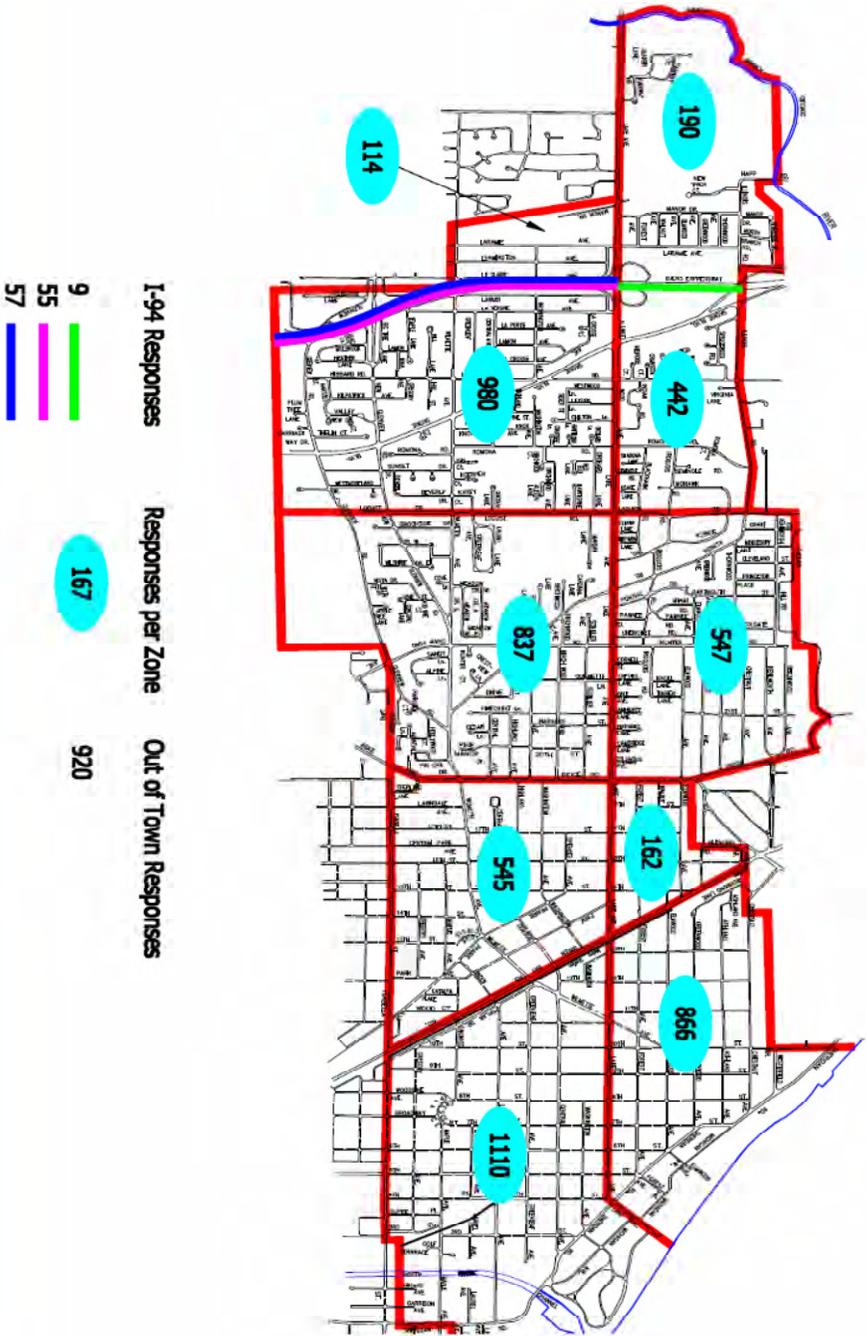
## **STATION 27**

747 Illinois Road  
Wilmette, IL 60091

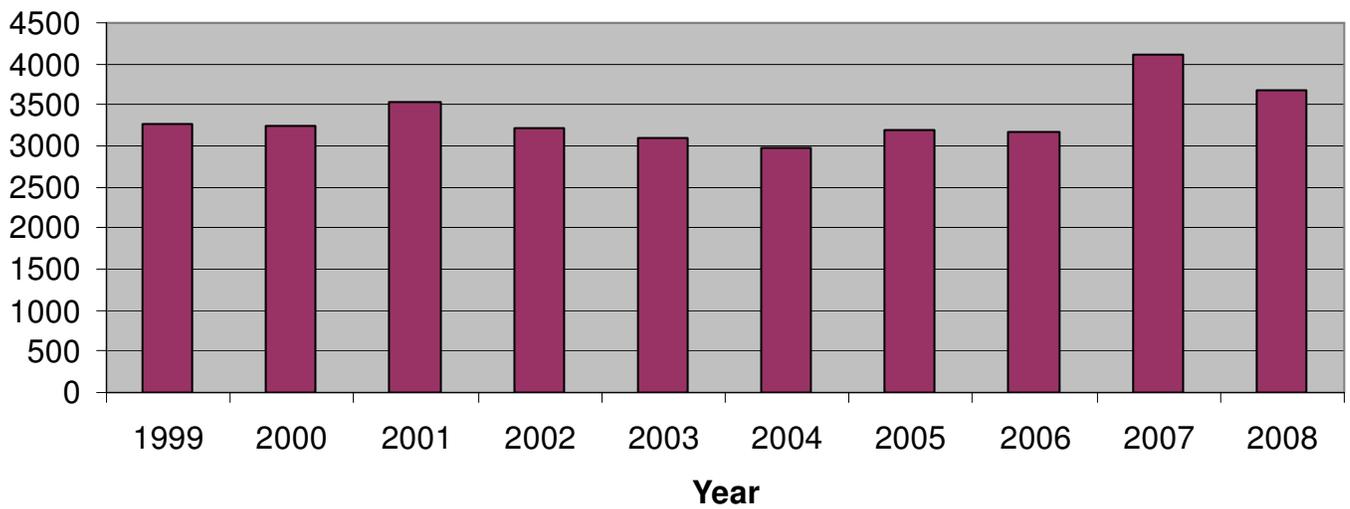
847-853-7659 (phone)  
847-853-7707 (fax)  
Emergency 911

Engine 27	FD-205	1996 E-One 1250 GPM Pumper
Ambulance 27	FD-211	2001 Ford 350SD Ambulance
Engine 26R	FD-202	1989 E-One 1500 GPM Pumper
Ambulance 26R	FD-209	2000 Ford 350SD Ambulance
Fire Safety House	FD-215	2003 Scotty Fire Safety House

# Wilmette Fire Department 2008 Emergency Responses

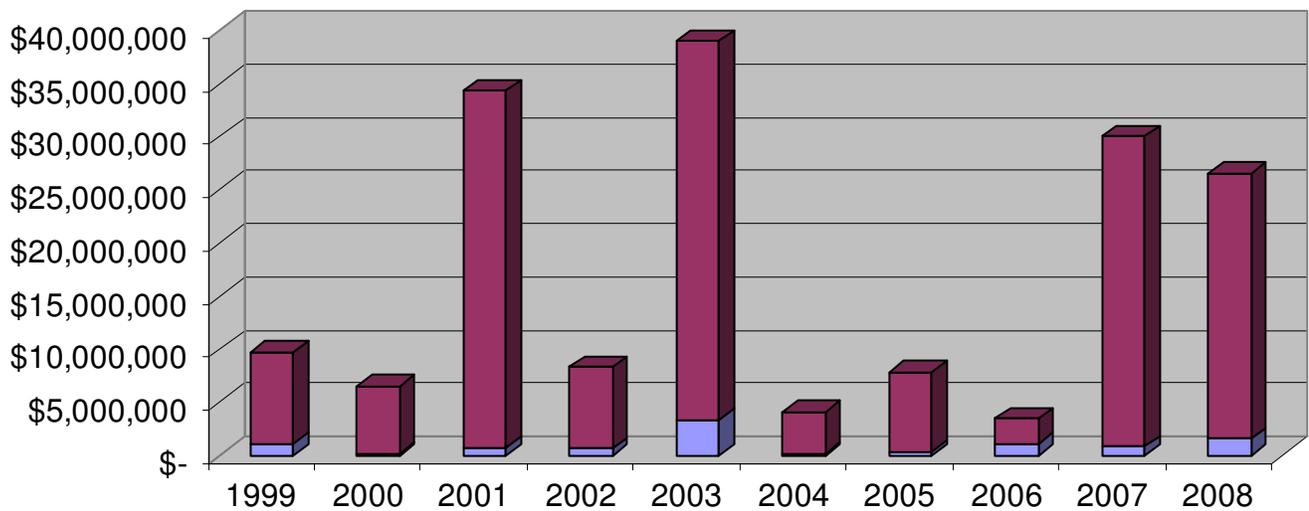
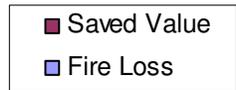


### 10 Year Incident Response Comparison

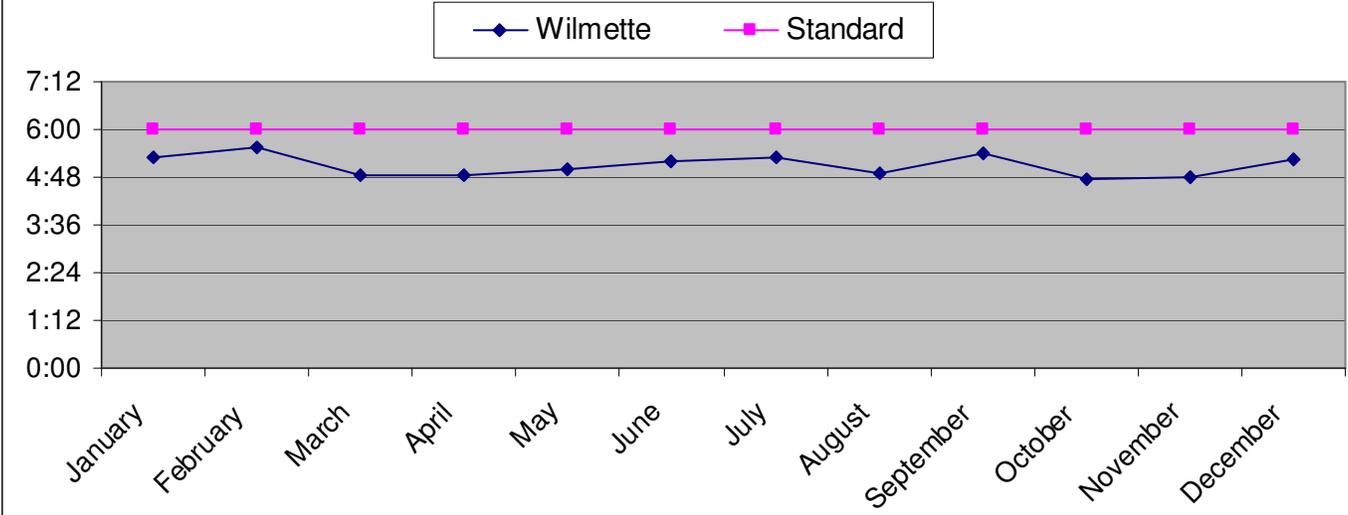


### 10 Year Fire Loss / Save Comparison

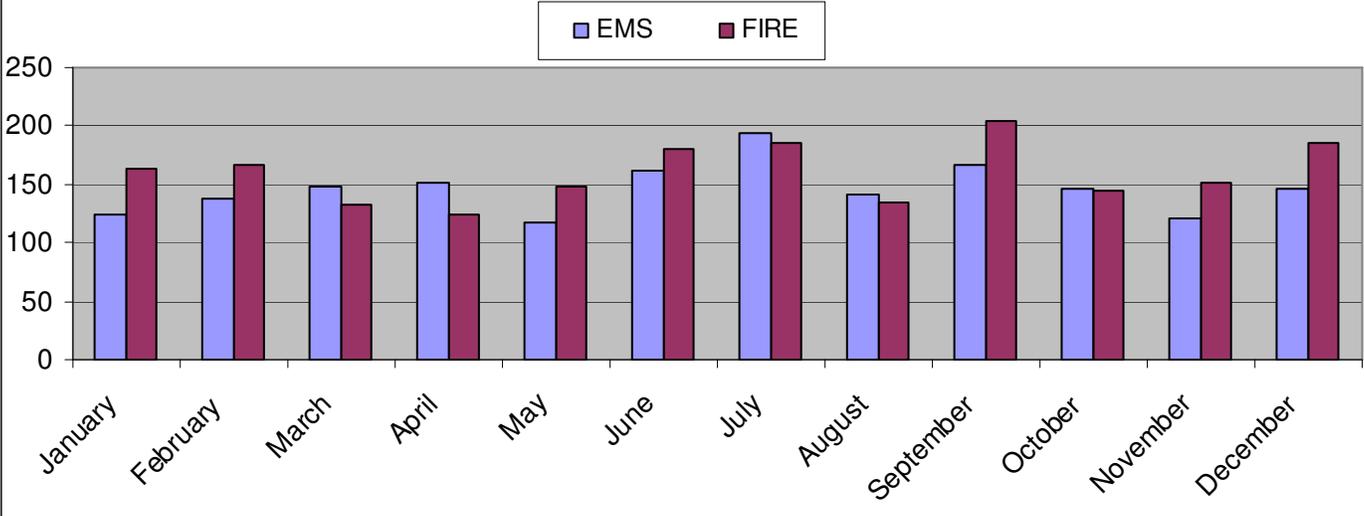
\$159,729,759 in property value saved over 10 years



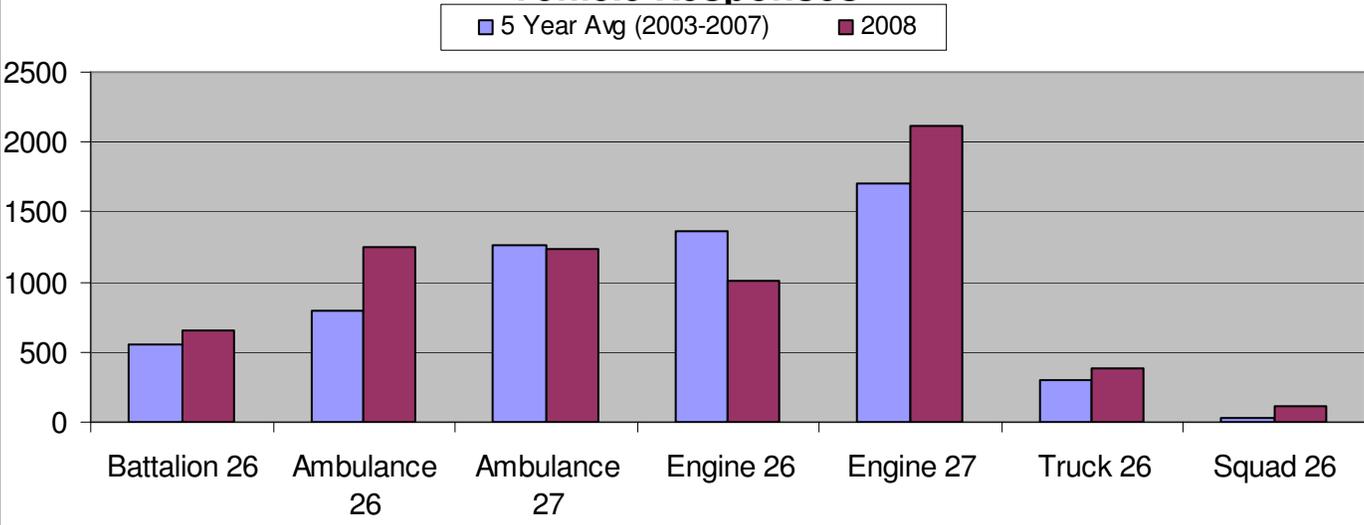
### 2008 Average Response Times



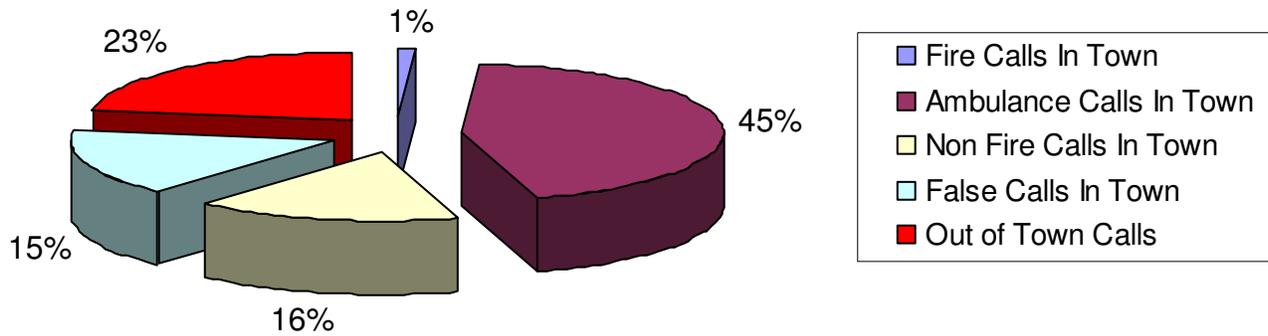
### 2008 Call Totals



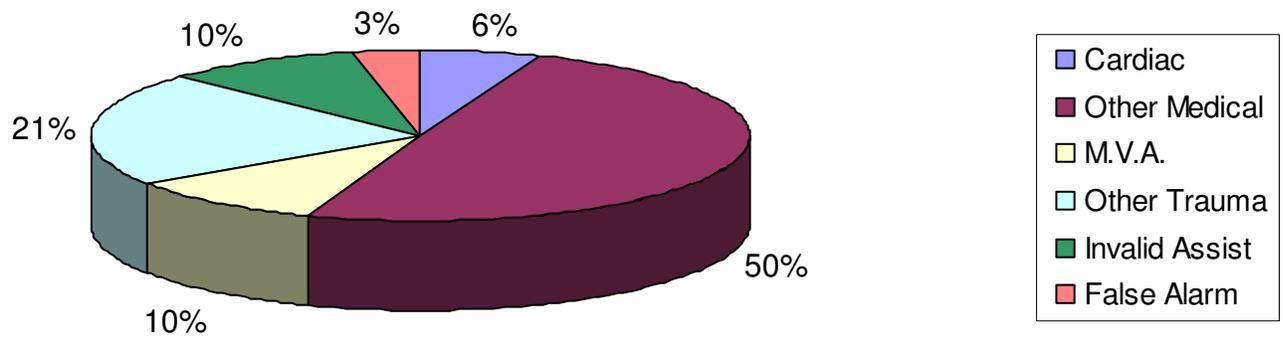
### Vehicle Responses



**Total Incident Calls**  
3679 Calls



**Nature of Ambulance Calls Total**  
1756 Ambulance Calls  
1224 Transports





# ACCREDITATION

The Wilmette fire Department achieved Accreditation in 2001 through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) and received a favorable recommendation in 2006. The department is required to undergo a re-accreditation site assessment every five years. The overriding principle involved when establishing an accreditation program is that of validating performance. With the development of an international fire service accreditation process, a method has been created that focuses on the evaluation of the activities and services an entity provides to protect life and property. For each topic or subject area in the self-assessment process, a description of what the department is doing to address various issues is required. The Department is required to analyze the effectiveness and efficiency of the activity as it currently exists and then plan for the future. The self-assessment process focuses on collecting and organizing the necessary references and exhibits to complement and demonstrate the services listed within the accreditation model.

The primary goal for 2008 was to work towards completing Strategic and Specific Recommendations outlined by the on-site peer assessment team during the 2006 re-accreditation site visit. Several of these goals are milestone events in the Wilmette Fire Department, these goals are listed below.

## 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Maintained National Accreditation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE).
- Prepared and submitted the Annual Compliance Report as required by the CPSE within the specified time requirements.
- Applied for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to purchase self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).
- Initiated the bid process for the purchase of a new ambulance.
- Signed into agreement a successor Collective Bargaining Agreement with the firefighters union. The contract was settled through a Labor/Management Committee comprised of the Fire Chief, Deputy Chief and Union Stewards.
- Evaluated and studied the feasibility of increasing shift personnel and restructuring the Command Staff.
- A draft of the Physical Fitness Program was distributed to the Union Stewards for comment.
- Evaluated and studied the feasibility of increasing Fire Prevention staff.
- Developed a Monthly Report for the Village Board.
- Developed and implemented a Community Emergency Response Training Program (CERT).
- Began tracking and documenting Response Times with the original Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP).
- Continue National Incident Management System (NIMS) training for all personnel.
- Added timed evolutions to the annual training competencies.
- Re-submitted the 15 year replacement program for the department's emergency vehicles in the Capital Improvement Plan.

# APPARATUS VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Maintain the most reliable Fire and EMS Apparatus and Equipment possible for the Village of Wilmette through the replacement, preventive maintenance, and repairing of all of the Fire Department Apparatus and Support Equipment.

## 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Scheduled and performed needed repairs to all fire department apparatus. Applied any upgrades and changes to vehicles and support equipment in accordance with National Fire Association (NFPA) standards. Practiced preventative maintenance on all apparatus. Processed documentation and recording of the apparatus maintenance records.
- Chairperson for the Emergency Vehicle Technician Certification Committee Fire Pump and Accessories Examination.
- Maintained the EVT Master Level III in both the Fire and EMS tracks.
- Committee member for OSFM Fire Service Vehicle Operator Certification.
- Replaced 1995 Ford Type I Ambulance.
- Ordered replacement Ford E-250 for Command Van.
- Attended the Emergency Vehicle Technician and Illinois Fire Apparatus Mechanics seminars.
- Attended EVTCC Validation Conference in Jacksonville, Florida.
- Placed in service a replacement ambulance.
- Developed specifications and assigned a bid contract to E-One of Ocala, Florida to build A 95" Midmount Aerial Platform.



## DIVE RESCUE

The goal of the Dive Team is to provide trained certified divers for the hazards within Wilmette's borders and to the Mutual aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division III Underwater Rescue and Recovery team.

### 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed all mandatory training requirements of the MABAS Division III Underwater Rescue and Recovery Team. Three team members completed the Public Safety Diver Certification.
- Hosted an annual MABAS Division III training dive at the lakefront.
- Completed annual department classroom ice rescue training.
- All active members completed their required training, which included ice dives, night dives, swift water and a dive hosted by the Wilmette Fire Department.
- Added Firefighters Jennifer Bazan and Ryan Menzies to the team.
- Assisted the Wilmette Water Plant with annual maintenance projects at the intakes.

### Dive Team Members

Dive Master, Deputy Chief Michael McGreal

Assistant Dive Master Ben Wozney, Firefighter/Paramedic

Scott Ewen, Firefighter/Paramedic (over 20 years)

Art Amidei, Firefighter/Paramedic (over 20 years)

John Okonek, Firefighter/Paramedic

Joe Falkovitz, Firefighter/Paramedic

John Ramaker, Firefighter/Paramedic

Jason Wilk, Firefighter/Paramedic

Rob Hughes, Firefighter/Paramedic

Jennifer Bazan/ Firefighter/Paramedic

Ryan Menzies/Firefighter/Paramedic

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This program provides for regular training of department personnel in aspects of hazardous materials response and control and includes testing and maintenance of equipment.

### 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Air monitoring equipment was maintained with no significant down time of equipment.
- Attended required training with MABAS Division III Hazardous Materials Team.
- Six new CO detectors and four new 4-gas meters went into service replacing the old obsolete meters.
- In May Haz-Mat Team Validation training classes were held in preparation for the State Validation Exercise in Champaign, Illinois. Lt. Bergquist went down state with the Team Members as part of the three day Validation process.
- On June 30<sup>th</sup> Haz-Mat 3 and Team members were requested by Glenview F.D. for an incident on I-294 involving a chemical spill from a truck. Team members responded to the same area for another accident in October.

### Hazardous Materials Team Members

Lieutenant Ray Ridolfi, Team leader

Duty Chief Charles Orth

Firefighter/Paramedic James Winter

Lieutenant Paul Bergquist

Firefighter/Paramedic John Blomquist

# TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM (TRT)

The Fire Department is being called on to provide rescue services in many different specialties. The Technical Rescue Specialist is trained and equipped to mitigate emergencies involving above ground, below ground, confined space and structural collapse incidents.

The program is designed to provide trained and properly equipped Rescue Specialists in the event of an emergency. The members are part of the MABAS Division III Technical Rescue Team, this is a special response team, which when called will bring up to 90 trained and equipped Technical Rescue Specialists to any given location. The TRT member is also responsible for continued education in the form of monthly drills and outside classes. It is their responsibility to share this knowledge with other members of the department.

## 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Attended and participated in required drills and annual skills review.
- Shared any knowledge or technical expertise with department members.
- Members attended and facilitated required monthly drills.
- Lieutenant Bucci attended a Structural Operations class at NIPSTA.
- FF/PM Rob Brill attended a Trench Technician class at the Illinois Fire Service Institute in Champaign, Illinois.

Technical Rescue Team Members:

Lieutenant Anthony Bucci, Team Leader  
Scott Ewen, Firefighter/Paramedic  
John Storm, Lieutenant/Paramedic  
Tom Simon, Firefighter/Paramedic  
Ben Wozney, Firefighter/Paramedic  
Rob Brill, Firefighter/Paramedic





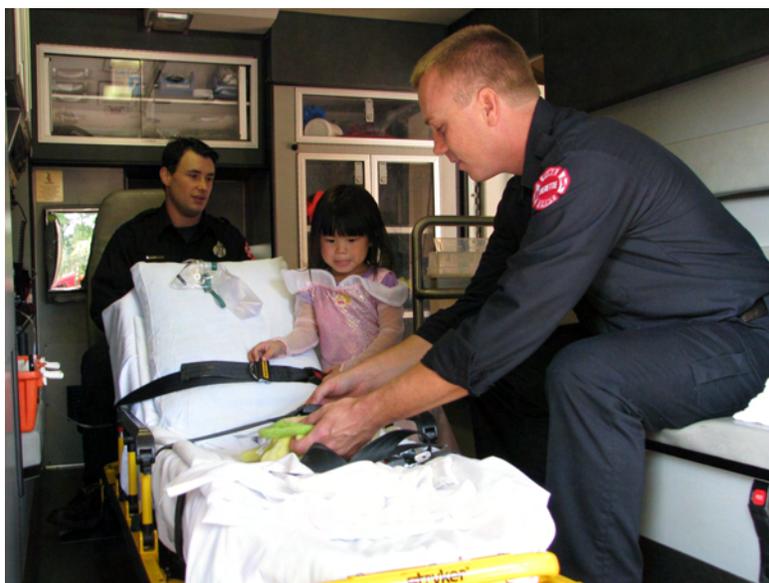
# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

The program is designed to provide trained and properly equipped paramedics in the event of a medical emergency.

The goal of the EMS Program is to increase the level of Advanced Life Support Emergency medical care to the Village of Wilmette, in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the St. Francis Hospital EMS System. The Illinois Department of Public Health mandates that each paramedic complete 30 hours of continuing education each year. The St. Francis EMS system has set up an in house training program with an instructor from St. Francis hospital for 28 of the required hours. The remaining 2 hours of training are completed from a variety of subjects including Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), and trauma classes.

## 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The required paramedic clinical requirements for 2008 were met.
- All inventory logs and narcotic logs for ambulances and Med. engines were completed.
- Continuing education classes included: infectious disease, needle less sticks, respiratory review, lung sounds, street drugs, gangs, legal refusals, meth labs, weapons of mass destruction, pain study, pediatric skills, trauma review, seizures, drug dose review, child abuse, ambulance safety, 12 lead EKG review, CPAP, CVA, conscious sedation, cardiac review, SOP review, SOP exam, intoxicated patients, PPE.
- Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) classes were completed by all personnel.
- All CPR instructors were re-certified and trained in the new American Heart Association guidelines
- All members completed annual CPR recertification training.
- All members completed recertification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support.
- FF. Ken Barton attended Paramedic school at St. Francis Hospital. Ken received a Silver stethoscope Award for being ranked second in his class.
- EZ-IO Continuing Education training was completed and the EZ-IO units were placed on the 3 engines and 3 ambulances. The EZ-IO allows medics to give intravenous fluid in bone marrow.



# FIRE INVESTIGATION

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Fire Investigation Program is to provide an adequate, effective and efficient program directed toward identification of the causes and origins of fire and explosions, and to continue to train a sufficient number of employees to serve the needs of the Wilmette community effectively.

## 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The fire investigation team investigated the cause and origin of 10 structure fires.
- The investigation team assisted Winnetka, Kenilworth, Northfield and Glencoe in their fire investigation efforts.
- The team members participated in the Fire Investigator's Strike Force. Each member attended monthly meetings and training classes.
- The team attended several eight hour seminars on fire investigation techniques.
- The Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division 3 Fire Investigation Task Force was created.
- Lieutenant Mark Cacchione and FF/PM John Ramaker completed fire investigation training and were added to the team.

## Fire Investigation Team Members:

James W. Dominik, Fire Chief  
Charles Orth, Duty Chief  
Robert Boczek, Firefighter/Paramedic  
Lou Klausung, Firefighter/Paramedic  
John Ramaker, Firefighter/Paramedic

Jeff Gorr, Duty Chief  
Mark Cacchione, Lieutenant/Paramedic  
Timothy Clemens, Firefighter/Paramedic  
James Bentz, Firefighter/Paramedic



# FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The Fire Prevention Bureau manages five important functions which include: fire inspections, fire investigations, public and private education, legislation, and data collection and analysis. The Bureau is overseen by Assistant to the Chief Rick Ciccione and supported by all shift personnel.

## OBJECTIVE:

The main objective of the Fire Prevention Bureau is to promote fire prevention and awareness through a proactive approach to fire and life-safety.

## SPECIFIC DUTIES:

Issue permits for fire protection systems.

Provide public education and fire safety awareness programs.

Investigate fires for cause and origin.

Enforce fire, building, and life-safety codes and ordinances.

Conduct fire and life-safety inspections.

Review plans for fire protection systems and life safety systems.

Witness the testing of fire protection and life safety equipment.

Maintain public relations while responding to citizens' inquiries and fire-safety related concerns

Evaluate and update codes to stay current with village needs.

## NEW CONSTRUCTION AND SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW:

Fire protection system plans, including fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems, and hood and duct suppression systems, are reviewed for compliance in relation to adopted codes and regulations.

## SCHOOL EVACUATION DRILLS:

Fire drills are conducted in all public, private, and parochial schools: By working with each school the department has helped improve the safety and welfare for administrators, teachers and students.

The department measures the performance of these drills in order to gauge their effectiveness.



## PUBLIC EDUCATION:

The most effective method of fire prevention is public education. Through the department's public education program in-service fire companies visit private and public schools, where firefighters promote fire safety to approximately 2,700 children. The department's Fire Safety House, a mobile classroom regularly visits parks and events in our community, further promoting fire safety. The department also provides public education for other groups and organizations, including the senior community in Wilmette.

# HYDRANTS / WATER SUPPLY

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The program guarantees that all the fire hydrants are located, inspected for damage or defects, and are accessible. This past year department shift personnel tested all hydrants and entered the test results into our database. All hydrants are flowed and records are kept on static and residual water flow on an annual basis. By comparing these numbers from year to year water system problems have been found and corrected. All data is collected and water flow numbers are submitted to the Water Department and the Public Works Department. All defects or mechanical problems found are documented and given to the Water/Sewer Department for repairs. The data collected is also used in preplan development and for fire water-flow calculations. Target areas for water distribution improvements have also been developed through the information gathered from the hydrant program. The inter-agency cooperation in developing long range goals for the water distribution system has also been a result of data collection and analysis of the entire water system.

## 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- On duty fire crews inspected, flowed and tested all the fire hydrants in the Village. All data was recorded and entered into a database.
- The Public Works Department continues to repair all defects and damaged hydrants on a timely basis.
- Fire personnel are working with Public Works and Engineering to improve our mapping of hydrant locations.
- Fire hydrants were added and existing hydrants were relocated along Sheridan Road to upgrade available water for firefighting.



# TRAINING

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the training program is to provide quality realistic training for the members of the Fire Department that meets both the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association and the State Fire Marshal's Office while filling the needs of the community. Each year the Department annually assesses the duties that are performed in the community, the needs of fire personnel and provides training that meets those requirements.

## 2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Personnel participated in a joint training initiatives providing comprehensive training for all area fire departments.
- Personnel trained at various buildings scheduled for demolition.
- Personnel participated in area wide live fire training at NIPSTA, Highland Park, and Winnetka that involved departments that we are in auto aid agreements of MABAS Division III.
- Personnel attended NIPSTA for Driver/Operator, Supervisory, and other fire training.
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training was held for all personnel.
- Members participated in policy review training.
- Department members completed 23,406.50 hours of training for 2008 including EMS continuing education.
- The Fire Department received a check for \$5,787.08 for training reimbursement from the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM). This check is payment for claims submitted for 2008 training. The OSFM training included the following certifications; Fire Officer I, II, III, Vehicle & Machinery Operations, Fire Investigator, Hazardous Materials Technician and Technical Rescue Awareness. The training bureau continues to develop members to the certification level above their current position to anticipate promotional opportunities. We also maintain the following special teams; Dive, Technical Rescue, Hazardous Materials, and Fire Investigation.
- The Duty Chiefs also must coordinate the following activities into their daily training day: Company preplan inspections, hydrant testing, hose testing, driver / operator, FF III program, paramedic continuing education, and department program management. We also conduct a number of public education activities by attending block parties, hosting birthday parties, and station tours.







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