

### FY 2017 FY 2018 FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



## FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

On behalf of the men and women of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department (FCFRD), we are proud to present the Fiscal Year 2017 and 2018 Annual Report. We are committed to providing all hazards emergency response and community risk reduction to over 1.1 million residents and visitors. As you read through the report, we hope you will learn more about how FCFRD can be a resource to help all members of our community. You will note that the volume and complexity of the emergency calls continue to increase. The mental and physical training required to ensure operational readiness in the form of rapid response, compassionate care, and professional service to the community is foremost on the department's list of priorities.



As Fairfax County continues to evolve and transform over time, your Fire and Rescue Department has undergone changes as well. There is an ongoing effort to improve both the effectiveness and efficiency of our services through innovation and ongoing analysis of both our output and outcomes in all aspects of department operations. Our shared value is that the mission of service to the community always comes first and our employees are our most important resource. Subsequently, our recruitment and retention programs focus on hiring those candidates who possess the attributes and qualities promulgated in our department's mission statement and core values and who are the most qualified candidates who reflect our diverse community.

In 2014, the Fire and Rescue Department achieved Insurance Services Office (ISO) Class 1 status for fire suppression capability. This is the highest rating available for a community. On August 10, 2018, the FCFRD became an accredited department through the Center for Public Safety Excellence. This was a major professional milestone for a combination career and volunteer metropolitan Fire and Rescue Department and Fairfax County. These accomplishments would not be possible without the foresight and dedication of the Fairfax County and department leaders who preceded us, and the current support we receive from our community, Board of Supervisors, and County Executive.

Respectfully,

Acting Fire Chief John J. Caussin Jr.



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### VISION

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department is dedicated to being the best community-focused fire and rescue department ensuring a safe and secure environment for all.

### MISSION

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department provides the highest quality services to protect the lives, property, and environment of our community.

### VALUES

To build and maintain public trust, we hold ourselves accountable to these core values:

#### Integrity

We commit to honest, trustworthy, and ethical behavior.

#### **Professional Excellence**

We support continuous training, mentoring, and professional development to ensure the best possible service for our community.

#### Health, Safety, and Wellness

We commit to providing the best health, safety, and wellness programs for our members' well-being and operational readiness.

#### **Diversity**

We are dedicated to embracing and reflecting diversity throughout our department and community.

#### **Teamwork and Shared Leadership**

Teamwork and shared leadership are integral to our department; we will seek out and engage our workforce.

#### **Community Engagement**

We commit to fulfilling our responsibility and to deepening our involvement in the community we serve.





## **DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW**



# **DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW**

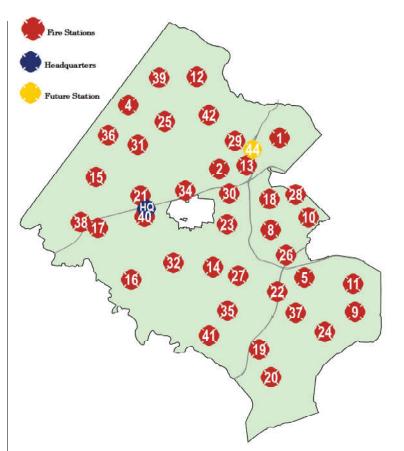
The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department is a combination career and volunteer all-hazards department providing a full complement of emergency medical services, fire suppression, technical rescue, swift water rescue, hazardous materials response, arson investigation, and fire and life safety education. Comprised of more than 1,400 uniformed men and women, 355 operational volunteers, and more than 175 full-time civilians, FCFRD is the largest fire department in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The department operates from 38 fire and rescue stations strategically positioned to meet the emergency service needs of the residents, businesses, and visitors in Fairfax County.

FCFRD works collaboratively with other county agencies and the following employee and volunteer groups:

- Fairfax County Professional Firefighters and Paramedics (Local 2068)
- Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Officers
  Association
- Progressive Firefighters of Fairfax County, Inc.
- Fairfax County Female Firefighters Association
- Fairfax County Asian Firefighters Association
- Fairfax County Hispanic Firefighters Association
- Fairfax County Fire and Rescue LGBTQ Employee Resource Group
- Fairfax County Employee Advisory Council
- Fairfax County Volunteer Fire Commission
- Fairfax County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association

In August 2018, the FCFRD became an accredited Agency with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). The department also holds a Class 1 rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO).





### Fairfax County

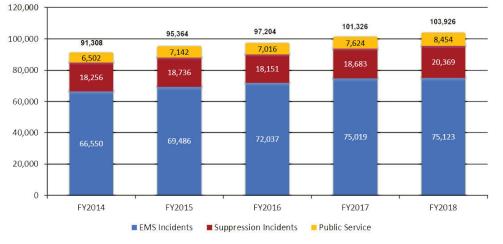
- 1,142,900 POPULATION
- 4,800 miles ROADS
- 395 sq. miles LAND AREA
- 260,368 ACRES
- 415,700 HOUSING UNITS
- 405,800 HOUSEHOLDS
- **38** FIRE STATIONS

## FCFRD VITAL STATISTICS



In FY2018 County units responded to 103,946 incidents in Fairfax County and surrounding jurisdictions resulting in 229,768 unit responses.

#### Total Incidents by Fiscal Year



Total number of incidents increased by 2.6% from FY2017 to FY2018.

#### PROPERTY SAVED IN DOLLARS

FY2017: 3.1 BILLION FY2018: 3.9 BILLION

#### PROPERTY LOSS IN DOLLARS FY2017: 19.9 MILLION

FY2018: 27.2 MILLION



percentage property value saved during large structure fires

#### FIRE FATALITIES FY2017

- 1 INCENDIARY
- 0 SUICIDE
- 2 ACCIDENTAL
- 3 TOTAL

#### FIRE FATALITIES FY2018

- 0 INCENDIARY
- 0 SUICIDE
- 6 ACCIDENTAL
- 6 TOTAL

#### RESOURCES

**38** Advanced Life Support (ALS) Engines

> 42 Medic Units

**2** HazMat Units

#### 14

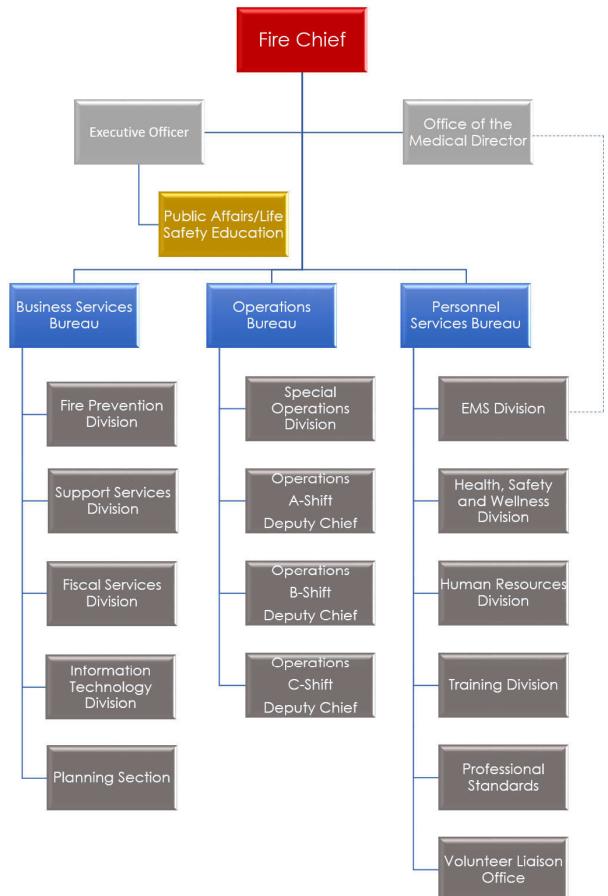
#### Trucks

- 3 Aerial Ladders
- 7 Tower Ladders
- 4 Tiller Trucks

**6** Tankers

**8** Rescue Units

### **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**





## **OPERATIONS BUREAU**





## **OPERATIONS BUREAU**

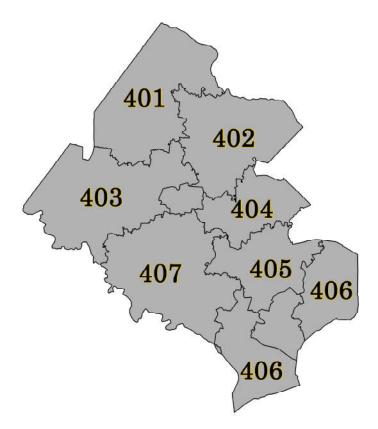
The Operations Bureau is comprised of the Field Operations Division and Special Operations Division. The goal of the Operations Bureau is to save lives and protect property by providing emergency and non-emergency response to residents and visitors of Fairfax County.

#### FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION

Field Operations is prepared to respond to all types of medical emergencies, fires, natural or manmade disasters, and hazardous conditions. Highly trained personnel respond 24/7 to any incident throughout Fairfax County, and the Towns of Herndon, Vienna, and Clifton with appropriate equipment to save lives, minimize damage, and protect property. Fairfax County units routinely assist surrounding jurisdictions with emergency response in accordance with automatic mutual aid agreements.

The county is divided geographically into seven battalions, each managed by a battalion management team led by a Battalion Chief and EMS Captain. Firefighter/EMTs and Firefighter/Paramedics work in tandem to provide all-hazards incident response to ensure the highest level of service possible for the public.

### BATTALIONS



### **SPECIAL OPERATIONS**

The Special Operations Division consists of the Hazardous Materials Response Team, Technical Rescue Operations Team, Emergency Preparedness, National Capital Region Incident Management Team, Marine Operations Program, and the Urban Search and Rescue Team - Virginia Task Force 1.

#### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TEAM (HMRT)

HMRT personnel respond to flammable liquid spills, significant natural gas leaks, and fixed facilities spills; intentional hazardous materials releases of chemicals, fuels, biological agents, radiological materials, explosives, or hazardous waste related to environmental crime and terrorism. The team is specially trained and equipped to detect and identify unknown chemicals, and control or contain the release of hazardous materials. The team provides environmental protection and decontamination of persons or properties, and performs foam operations for tank farm, pipeline, and highway incidents. Hazardous Materials Response resources are assigned to Fire and Rescue Stations 1, 11, 19, 26, and 40.

• FY2018: 566 incidents

#### TECHNICAL RESCUE OPERATIONS TEAM (TROT)

TROT personnel respond to complex and challenging rescue incidents including: high-angle incidents occurring on cliffs or high-rise buildings, confined space incidents occurring in tunnels, tanks or sewers, building collapses, trench events related to excavations or construction mishaps, and industrial or transportation accidents, and swift water incidents within Great Falls Park or other areas that may become flooded. Technical Rescue resources are assigned to Fire Stations 14, 18, 21 and 39.

• FY2018: 93 rescues



#### NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM (NCR-IMT)

NCR-IMT is a cadre of incident management professionals. The team is a ready response unit available to any Washington Council of Governments (COG) partnering jurisdiction to support management of long-term or large scale emergency incidents. The NCR-IMT is grant funded and staffed by personnel from several COG jurisdictions and managed by the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department.

#### MARINE OPERATIONS

Marine Operations personnel respond to all types of water-related emergencies on the Pohick Bay and Potomac River including drowning incidents, watercraft accidents, and fires. During summer weekends and holidays, marine operations personnel maintain a safety patrol on the same waterways. The fireboat is moored at Pohick Bay Regional Park and is staffed by personnel from Fire Station 20 when needed.

• FY2018: 43 water-related incidents

#### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Emergency Preparedness activities are coordinated through collaboration with local, state, and federal partners. The emergency preparedness function serves as the primary department liaison to the Office of Emergency Management in support of the emergency operations plan. Emergency preparedness personnel assist field operations with preparation of Incident Action Plans, maintenance of department operating plans, and management of the department operations center.



### URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE

The Urban Search and Rescue team, known as Virginia Task Force 1 (VA-TF1), was established in 1986 as a domestic and international disaster response resource, sponsored by the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. VA-TF1, one of only two teams in the United States contracted with the federal government to respond to international disasters, is federally funded through arrangements with the Department of Homeland Security and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The VA-TF1 roster consists of approximately 200 specially trained firefighter and civilian personnel including command and general staff, structural engineers, heavy rigging specialists, physicians, paramedics, collapse rescue technicians, logisticians, hazardous materials specialist, communications specialists, canine specialists, technical search specialists, and information specialists, with expertise in the search and rescue of victims from collapsed structures following a natural or man-made catastrophic event.

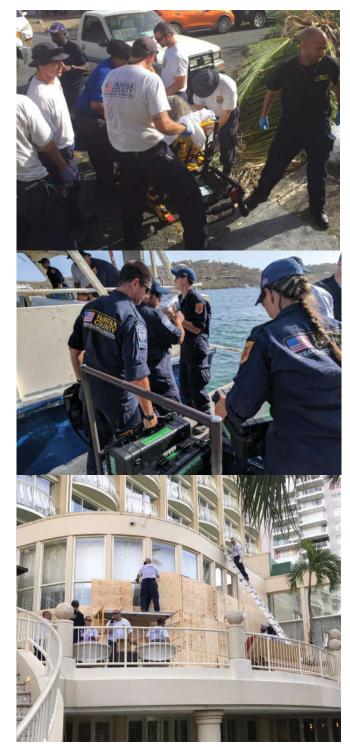
VA-TF1 can fully prepare for national or worldwide deployment within six hours and is deployable 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for up to 14 days. Upon activation, VA-TF1 will deploy in differing resource configurations as determined by the type of disaster. Deployment requires carrying approximately 65,000 pounds of equipment, tools, and supplies enabling VA-TF1 to be self-sufficient for 72 hours on domestic missions and 14 days for international response. The team, recognized worldwide as a leader in the Urban Search and Rescue field, trains and evaluates other international teams.

#### Number of Personnel

Training Hours

FY2017: 190 FY2018: 180

FY2017: 5,627 FY2018: 5,849



#### FY2017 - FY2018 TEAM DEPLOYMENTS



October 2016 Hurricane Matthew, Florida Hurricane Harvey, Texas

August 2017



September 2017 Hurricane Irma, Florida/ Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands



September 2017 Hurricane Maria, Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands

## **BATTALION 401**

Battalion 401 is an urban/rural zone of approximately 64.32 square miles that serves a population of 171,586. There are hydrant and non-hydrant areas. The battalion borders Loudoun County and Washington Dulles International Airport. Battalion 401 includes the following response challenges:

- CIA and homeland security facilities
- Metro Silver Line
- WO&D trail which is utilized by bicyclists and pedestrians
- Numerous lakes and ponds with threat for water/ice rescues
- Rural homes exceeding 8,000 square feet
- Potomac River

#### **RESPONSE UNITS AND STAFFING**

Minimum Staff of 52

6 Engines

6 Medics

2 Trucks

1 Rescue Squad

2 Tankers

2 Brush Trucks

2 Swift Water Boats





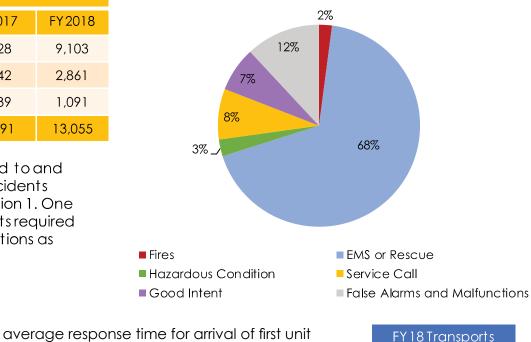


# **BATTALION 401 STATISTICS**

Dispatched Incidents		
	FY 2017	FY 2018
EMS	8,828	9,103
Fire	2,642	2,861
Public Service	1,039	1,091
Total	12,491	13,055

County units responded to and mitigated 99% of all incidents occurring within Battalion 1. One percent of the incidents required units from other jurisdictions as primary.

#### FY2018 INCIDENT TYPE DETERMINED ON SCENE



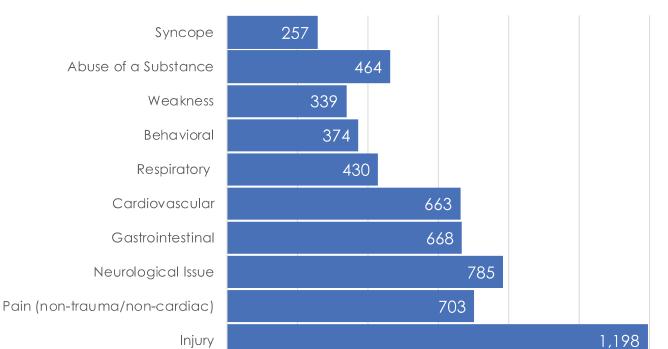
—---∦⊢ **4.85min** 

5.83min

on EMS incident

average response time for arrival of first engine on fire incident

i i i o i i di isporto	
6,847	
FY 17 Transports	
6,712	



#### Top 10 Reasons for EMS Transport

# **BATTALION 402**

Battalion 402 is primarily urban with a small rural area in Fire Station 42's response area. It is approximately 55.07 square miles of hydrant and nonhydrant areas, and serves a population of 173,061. The battalion borders Arlington County and Fairfax City.

Battalion 402 includes the following response challenges:

- Metro-orange line and silver line with aerial sections of track
- CIA headquarters
- Police stations and National Counterterrorism Center
- Hospitals, to include area trauma level 1 center, and many urgent care centers
- WO&D trail which is utilized heavily by bicyclists and pedestrians
- Churches, one has about 8,000 people attending services throughout the weekend and provides overnight care for children with special needs
- Potomac River

#### RESPONSE UNITS AND STAFFING

Minimum staff of 58

6 Engines

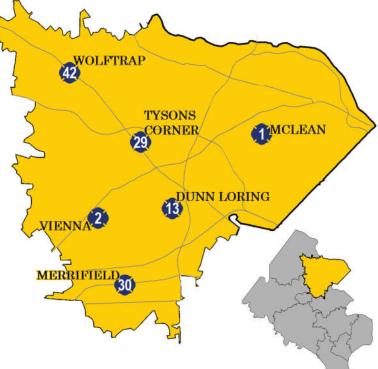
6 Medics

3 Trucks

1 Rescue Squad

1 Tanker

1 Brush Truck





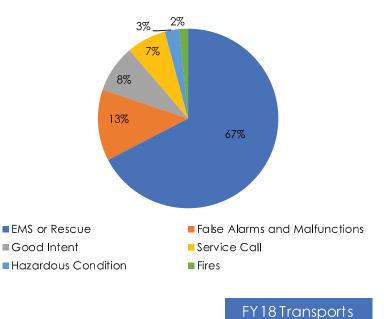


# **BATTALION 402 STATISTICS**

Dispatched Incidents		
	FY2017	FY2018
EMS	12,372	12,377
Fire	3,761	4,050
Public Service	1,471	1,766
Total	17,604	18,193

County units responded to and mitigated 96% of all incidents occurring within Battalion 2. Four percent of the incidents required units from other jurisdictions as primary.

#### FY2018 INCIDENT TYPE DETERMINED ON SCENE

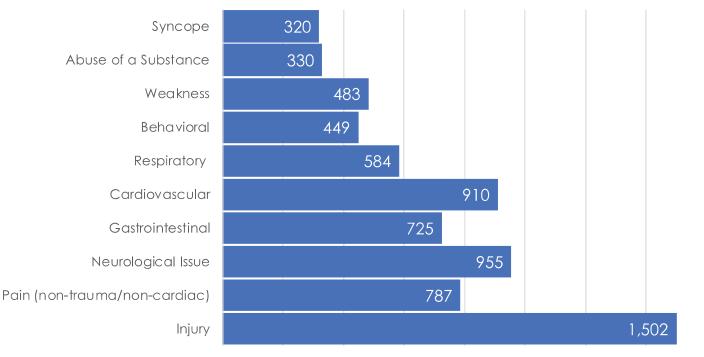


5.18min average response time for arrival of first unit on EMS incident

average response time for arrival of first 5.83min engine on fire incident

### 8,299

FY17 Transports 8,481



#### Top 10 Reasons for EMS Transport

## **BATTALION 403**

Battalion 403 is an urban/rural zone of approximately 72.19 square miles that serves a population of 196,316. It has hydrant and non-hydrant areas, and borders Prince William County, Fairfax City, and Washington Dulles International Airport.

Battalion 403 includes the following response challenges:

- National Reconnaissance Office
- Many police and U.S. Marshal training facilities
- Detox center
- Hospital and urgent care centers
- Public Safety Communications
  Center
- Government Center Complex

#### **RESPONSE UNITS AND STAFFING**

Minimum Staff of 58

6 Engines

6 Medics

2 Trucks

1 Rescue Squad

1 Brush Truck

1 Swift Water Boat

1 HazMat Unit and Support Unit





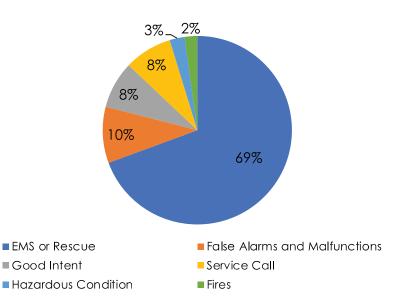


# **BATTALION 403 STATISTICS**

Dispatched Incidents		
	FY2017	FY2018
EMS	10,777	11,010
Fire	2,651	3,113
Public Service	1,179	1,404
Total	14,607	15,527

County units responded to and mitigated 98% of all incidents occurring within Battalion 3. Two percent of the incidents required units from other jurisdictions as primary.

#### FY2018 INCIDENT TYPE DETERMINED ON SCENE

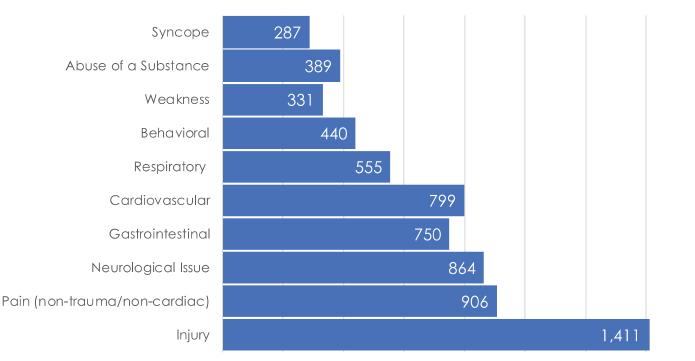


\_\_\_√ 5.13min

average response time for arrival of first unit on EMS incident

**6.13min** average response time for arrival of first engine on fire incident

FY18Transports
7,985
FY17Transports
7,767



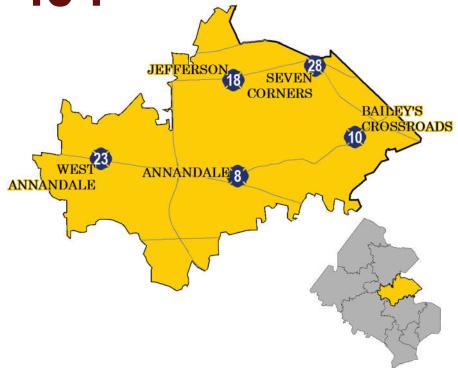
#### Top 10 Reasons for EMS Transport

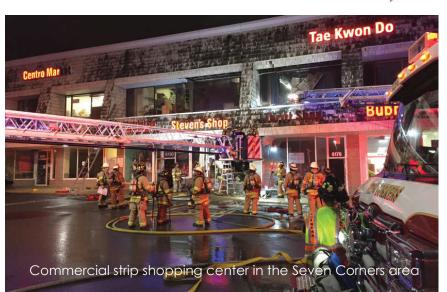
## **BATTALION 404**

Battalion 404 is an urban zone of approximately 30.34 square miles that serves a population of 150,399. The battalion is an all hydrant area that borders Arlington County, Fairfax City, and Alexandria City.

Battalion 404 includes the following response challenges:

- Psychiatric hospital and many urgent care centers
- Assisted living facilities and nursing homes
- A 620 million-gallon lake and dam
- Secured government facilities
- Community college







#### **RESPONSE UNITS AND STAFFING**

Minimum staff of 48

5 Engines

7 Medics

2 Trucks

1 Rescue Squad

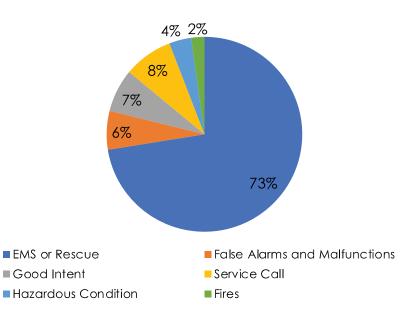
1 Boat

# **BATTALION 404 STATISTICS**

Dispatched Incidents		
	FY2017	FY2018
EMS	10,744	10,403
Fire	2,237	2,407
Public Service	1,078	1,246
Total	14,059	14,056

County units responded to and mitigated 98% of all incidents occurring within Battalion 4. Two percent of the incidents required units from other jurisdictions as primary.

#### FY2018 INCIDENT TYPE DETERMINED ON SCENE



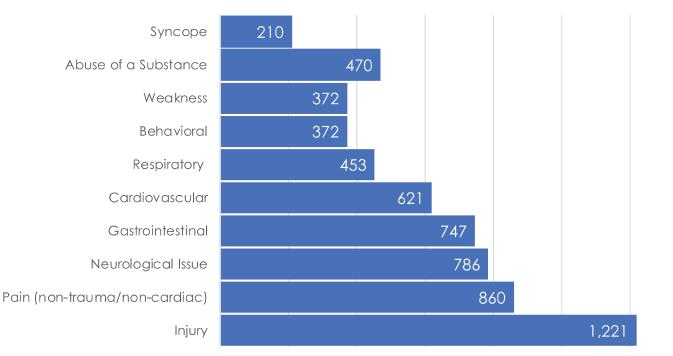
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**4.58min** average response time for arrival of first unit on EMS incident

**5.63min** average response time for arrival of first engine on fire incident

FY 18 Transports
7,381
FY17Transports

7,673



#### Top 10 Reasons for EMS Transport

# **BATTALION 405**

Battalion 405 is an urban zone of approximately 34.02 square miles that serves a population of 140,229. The battalion is an all hydrant area that borders Alexandria City and U.S. Army Base Fort Belvoir.

Battalion 405 includes the following response challenges:

- VRE commuter rail station and Metro station
- Kinder Morgan Newington Tank farm (1,348,000 Barrel Capacity)
- Springfield interchange "Mixing Bowl"
- HealthPlex and many urgent care centers
- Army National Guard facility
- GSA Warehouse largest
  warehouse in the country
- Nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Washington Gas underground storage vault
- Lake Accotink threat for drownings and ice rescues

#### **RESPONSE UNITS AND STAFFING**

Minimum staff of 44

5 Engines

5 Medics

2 Trucks

1 Rescue Squad

2 Foam Units

1 Brush Truck





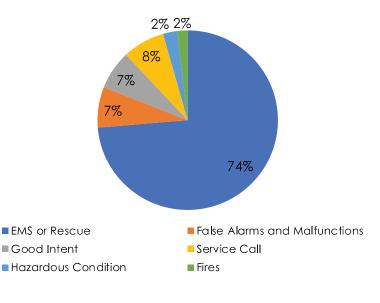


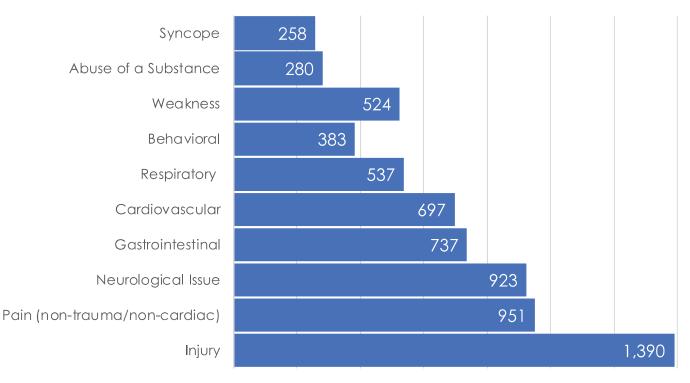
# **BATTALION 405 STATISTICS**

Dispatched Incidents		
	FY2017	FY 2018
EMS	10,276	10,353
Fire	2,184	2,263
Public Service	939	1,066
Total	13,399	13,682

County units responded to and mitigated 99% of all incidents occurring within Battalion 5. One percent of the incidents required units from other jurisdictions as primary.

#### FY2018 INCIDENT TYPE DETERMINED ON SCENE





#### Top 10 Reasons for EMS Transport

## **BATTALION 406**

Battalion 406 is an urban/rural zone of approximately 58.9 square miles that serves a population of 147,697. There are hydrant and non-hydrant areas. The battalion borders Alexandria City, U.S. Army Base Fort Belvoir, and Prince George's County.

Battalion 406 includes the following response challenges:

- Potomac river, poses a risk of drowning and watercraft emergencies
- Hospital and many urgent care centers
- Rehabilitation centers, nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- Metro stations
- CSX train rail and Amtrak train station
- US Army Base Fort Belvoir
- Regional and state parks
- Mount Vernon Estates and Woodlawn Plantation
- 20,000 gallon water storage tank

#### **RESPONSE UNITS AND STAFFING**

Minimum staff is 53

5 Engines

7 Medics

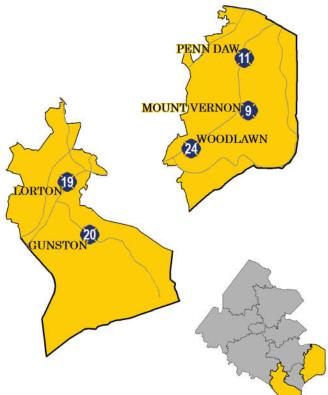
2 Trucks

2 Rescue Squads

1 Tanker

3 Brush Trucks

1 Marine boat





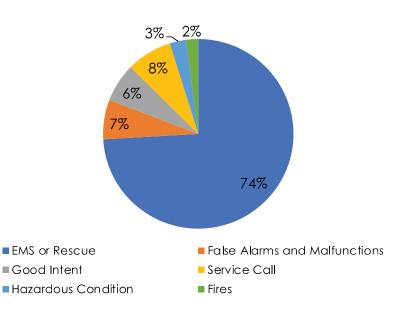


# **BATTALION 406 STATISTICS**

Dispatched Incidents		
	FY2017	FY2018
EMS	11,848	11,833
Fire	2,382	2,464
Public Service	1,135	1,217
Total	15,365	15,514

County units responded to and mitigated 99% of all incidents occurring within Battalion 6. Less than one percent of the incidents required units from other jurisdictions as primary.

#### FY2018 INCIDENT TYPE DETERMINED ON SCENE

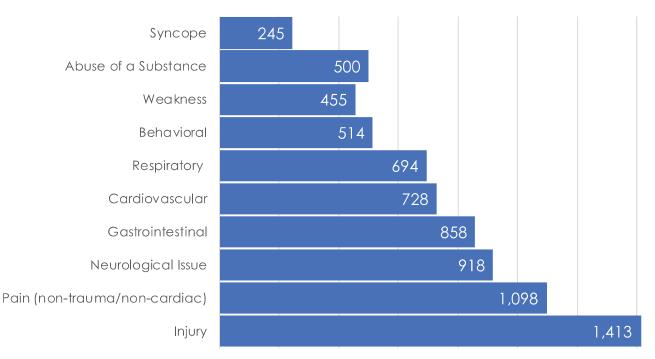




5.8min

average response time for arrival of first engine on fire incident

FY 18 Transports
8,904
FY17Transports
8,971



#### **Top 10 Reasons for EMS Transport**

# **BATTALION 407**

Battalion 407 is an urban/rural zone of approximately 67.73 square miles that serves a population of 116,493. The battalion includes hydrant and non-hydrant areas and borders Prince William County and Fairfax City.

Battalion 407 includes the following response challenges:

- VRE train station and CSX heavy rail
- Nursing homes, assisted living and rehabilitation center
- Many regional parks
- Railway tracks Amtrak, VRE, and freight
- Medical clinics
- Dams, lakes and ponds
- Occoquan reservoir
- Large single family homes (12,000 sq ft) with rural water supply

#### **RESPONSE UNITS AND STAFFING**

Minimum staff is 43

5 Engines

5 Medics

1 Truck

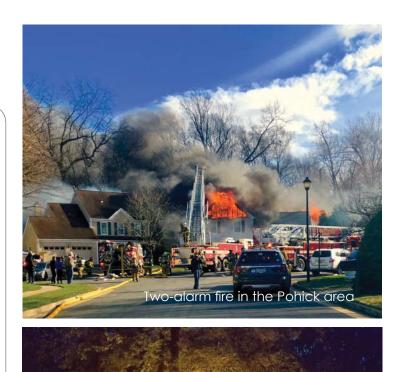
1 Rescue Squad

2 Tankers

3 Brush Trucks

2 Swift Water Boats





Natural gas line burning following lightning strike in the Fairfax Station area

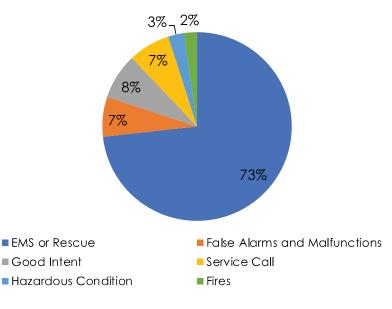
# **BATTALION 407 STATISTICS**

<b>Dispatched Incidents</b>						
	FY2017	FY2018				
EMS	5,810	5,750				
Fire	1,283	1,433				
Public Service	593	563				
Total	7,686	7,746				

County units responded to and mitigated 91% of all incidents occurring within Battalion 7. Nine percent of the incidents required units from other jurisdictions as primary.

Injury

#### FY2018 INCIDENT TYPE DETERMINED ON SCENE

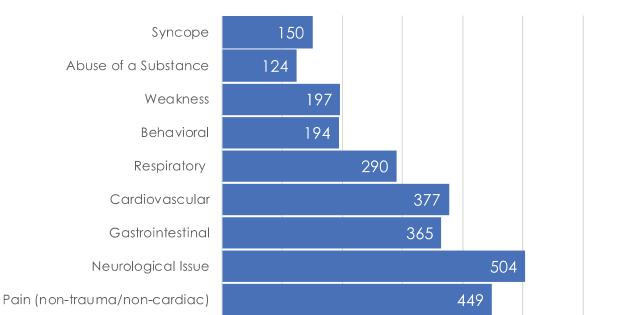


—-√- 5.5min

average response time for arrival of first unit on EMS incident

**6.72min** average response time for arrival of first engine on fire incident

FY 18 Transports				
3,964				
FY17 Transports				
4,022				



#### Top 10 Reasons for EMS Transport

690



### **VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENTS**

Twelve non-profit volunteer fire and rescue departments work in partnership with Fairfax County to provide fire stations, equipment, apparatus, and volunteer support. The 12 volunteer departments include the following: Annandale, Bailey's Crossroads, Burke, Centreville, Dunn Loring, Fair Oaks, Franconia, Great Falls, Greater Springfield, Lorton, McLean, and Vienna.

Volunteers are active operationally with over 355 volunteer personnel available to provide supplemental staffing to the Fire and Rescue Department's career personnel. Volunteers place units in service during county-wide emergencies, large-scale incidents, and a variety of community events adding to the capacity of the FCFRD to provide allhazards services to the residents of Fairfax County. An additional 250 volunteers serve in administrative roles and participate in fundraising, operation of canteen services during major incidents, and serve as department chaplains. Representing the 12 volunteer fire and rescue departments is the Volunteer Fire Commission, a seven-member body appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Eight fire stations in Fairfax County assessed at a value of \$26 million are owned and

maintained by the Volunteer Departments. In addition, volunteers own 87 emergency response and support vehicles with a total replacement value of \$30 million.

#### FY2018 Volunteer Hours

- 74,400 Operational Hours
- 44,800 Training Hours
- 86,600 Administrative Hours

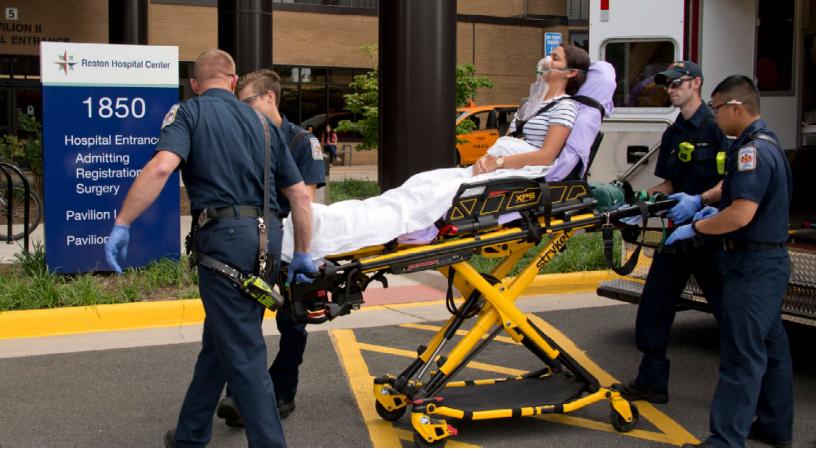
#### FY2018 Volunteer Accomplishments

- Placed units in service on 1,877 occasions and provided supplemental staffing on county units 2,153 times
- Provided units for community events
- Placed back-fill units in service on May 2, 2018, for the multiple three alarm fires
- Implemented Operational Academy Rotations (OARS)
- Supported the Fairfax County High School Firefighter Program incident simulations
- Helped with planning and staffing the iWomen's Conference hosted by Fairfax County
- Provided support for the Girl's Fire and Rescue Academy
- Worked with the Community Emergency Response program



### **PERSONNEL SERVICES BUREAU**





### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Since the inception of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) has been and continues to be an integral component of service delivery. Ongoing regulatory and legislative mandates as well as medication shortages force FCFRD to adapt and evolve as we seek to provide high quality patient care.

#### FY2017-FY2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### **OPERATIONAL MEDICAL DIRECTOR (OMD)**

- Associate Medical Director approved for ten additional compensated hours weekly, moving the FCFRD towards two full-time physicians in the Office of the Medical Director
- Direct messaging to providers via Fire.OMD
- Implemented an online process for provision of patient outcomes on all significant incidents and by provider request
- Multidisciplinary collaboration on the care of unique patient populations, e.g., opiate

abuse, hospice, and large vessel occlusion strokes

 Conducts weekly clinical review during OMD/Provider Morning Rounds

#### **GRANTS AWARDED**

- Rescue Squad Assistance Fund
- Virginia Office of EMS
- Transurban Group
- Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

#### **QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

- Established a donated data services partnership with Booz Allen Hamilton
- Monthly reporting of advanced airway performance metrics, initiation of cardiac arrest performance reports, and system-wide reporting of life years added
- Met with 500 ALS providers over 43 sessions to discuss performance improvement, EMS initiatives, and provider concerns

#### COLLABORATION

- County of Fairfax Diversion First
- County of Fairfax Opioid Task Force
- Office of Public Private Partnerships and American Heart Association collaboration for community cardiopulmonary resuscitation awareness
- Initiated super system utilizers work group with Community Services Board, Adult Protective Services, and County Attorney
- Collaboration with volunteer leadership to refine dispatch algorithm for EMS responses to "medical local" reducing call processing times and as a risk reduction strategy
- Engagement with regional health system partners for controlled substance kit allocation and distribution

#### LOGISTICS

- Deployed StatPacks® EMS bags based on provider input for design and layout
- Implementing system-wide biometric medication safes (MedixSafe)
- Developed the FACT\*R field blood program

#### TRAINING

- Redesigned ALS internship and implemented Field Training Evaluation Program<sup>™</sup> model for preceptors
- Sustained in-house Virginia Commonwealth University Paramedic Program.
- Expanded EMS simulation capabilities and implemented immersive technology
- Pioneered first responder Mental Health First Aid curriculum; 800 personnel trained to date

#### LIFE-YEARS ADDED

There are many ways in which the men and women of the FCFRD make a difference in the lives

of the residents of Fairfax County. Some are simple and some are profound. Perhaps none are bigger than the years added when their emergency medical care leads to someone who had no heartbeat, or was not breathing, walking out of the hospital.

To try and uniquely capture lives being saved, the EMS Division for the department created the Life-Years Added counter. Here is how it works:

Life-Years Added = Average life expectancy for a man (78) or woman (82) in the United States this year

#### -minus-

Patient's age at time of discharge from the hospital alive and neurologically intact after suffering an out-of-hospital cardiac or respiratory arrest.

For example, a 50 year-old female who is resuscitated from cardiac arrest adds 32 (82-50) years to her life. For patients whose age already exceeds average life expectancy, one year is added to the counter.

At this point in time, 1724 total Life-Years have been added to the lives of Fairfax County residents. While certainly not an academically sound measure, the leadership of the EMS Division identified this simple common sense approach as a way to highlight the overall impact of saving a life.



### HUMAN RESOURCES/RECRUITMENT

The Human Resources Division (HR) provides programs that attract, develop, retain, and engage a skilled and diverse workforce.

#### RECRUITMENT

The Recruitment Section manages the application process for prospective firefighter/ EMTs and paramedics by soliciting and reviewing upwards of 3,500 applications per year. This is accomplished through extensive outreach programs and participation in job fairs throughout the Washington Metropolitan area and other locations across the country. These efforts are essential in attracting a diverse workforce, representative of the residents in Fairfax County. Once selected, a candidate goes through a comprehensive seven-step process including submission of the online application, a personal background review, candidate physical abilities testing, written testing, polygraph, medical exam, and psychological tests.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

The Human Resources Section is responsible for payroll, benefits, transfers, and promotions, processing medical leave requests, workforce planning initiatives, position classifications,

job descriptions, and background investigations. The Payroll Office provides guidance on payroll policy as well as health and insurance benefits.

#### **EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS**

The Employment and Employee Relations Section is responsible for management of all departmental hiring processes, employee evaluations, awards and recognition, discipline management, grievances, and Civil Service Commission hearings. The section ensures the department's hiring processes are in compliance with departmental, county, state, and federal hiring policies and practices.

#### **PROMOTIONAL EXAMINATIONS COORDINATOR**

The Promotional Examinations Coordinator, in collaboration with the Fairfax County Department of Human Resources and subject matter experts from field operations and other fire departments, develops and administers promotional testing. This involves administration of five to seven written, practical, and assessment examinations per year for uniform ranks from technician through battalion chief. Promotional exams measure critical competencies required to perform at each rank. Promotions are made using eligibility lists which remain active for two years.

Firefighter Recruitment Statistics	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	5 Yr. Avg.
Number of Applications	2,827	3,839	3,945	5,544	3,840	3,999
Number of Recruits Hired	75	93	88	80	37	75
Number of Recruit Schools	2	2	2	2	1	2
Number of Local and National Recruiting Events Participated In	31	29	20	24	23	25



### TRAINING

The Training Division trains career and volunteer firefighters and emergency medical technicians (EMTs). Emergency Medical Services (EMS) training offices are located at the Fire and Rescue Academy but are managed within the EMS division. The Fire and Rescue Department maintains delegated training authority through the Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) for certification and re-certification of fire suppression training.

#### **BASIC TRAINING**

The Basic Training Branch is responsible for training staff entering the fire service which includes career and volunteer recruit schools, the high school firefighter program, and Explorer Post 1949. Recruit schools consists of 26 weeks of classroom studies, fire & EMS practical evolutions, and physical fitness training. Over the last three and a half years, 211 recruits have graduated from the Fire and Rescue Academy. Operational Volunteers undergo 600 hours of training over a six-month period, receiving certification for Firefighter I and Il and EMT-Basic. This allows them to fully participate in the department's provision of emergency services.

The High School Firefighter program is a partnership between the Fairfax County Public Schools and the FCFRD, with classes conducted at the Fire and Rescue Training Academy. At the completion of the 384-hour course, the students receive certification for Virginia Firefighter I and II, HazMat Awareness and Operations, First Aid and CPR.

The primary mission of the Explorer Post 1949 is to deliver an awareness-based program, allowing young men and women the opportunity to learn about a career in the fire and rescue service. Exploring is the workbased program of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) for young men and women ages 14 through 20.

#### FIELD TRAINING

The Field Training Branch is responsible for continuing education and advanced skills training for operational fire suppression personnel, driver training, and officer development.

Officer Development Training provides programs designed to ensure that the department prepares its existing and future officers to lead through a comprehensive, cohesive, and systematic approach to training and education.

		2017	FY2018	
	Number	Attendees	Number	Attendees
BASIC TRAINING				
Recruit Schools	2	89	2	65
High School Firefighter Program	1	13	1	13
Explorer Post	1	16	1	18
FIELD TRAINING				
Field Operations Classes	18	2,102	14	1,339
Officer Development Leadership Classes	Not Tracked	Not Tracked	21	2,901



### **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OFFICE**

The Professional Standards Office exists to maintain the integrity and professionalism expected by the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. All employees are subject to the departmental rules and regulations and to Fairfax County's Rules and Code of Ethics. This office will respond to any credible information concerning misconduct by department employees, and is charged with investigating any serious allegations of misconduct involving an employee.

### **VOLUNTEER LIAISON'S OFFICE**

The Volunteer Liaison's office coordinates all activities of the twelve volunteer departments to ensure they are fully integrated into and support the mission of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. The office also manages the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.



## HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELLNESS

The Health, Safety, and Wellness Division provides comprehensive safety programs and occupational health, fitness, and wellness services to FCFRD career and volunteer personnel.

### PUBLIC SAFETY OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CENTER (PSOHC)

The Public Safety Occupational Health Center (PSOHC) provides medical examinations to all Fairfax County public safety agencies and applicants to maintain a safe and healthy workplace and ensure all personnel are medically fit for duty. The PSOHC provides medical services to Fairfax City Fire Department, Town of Herndon Police, and Town of Vienna Police.

#### FY2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- 8,627 Total Clinical Encounters
- 2,606 Immunizations
- 334 Return to Work Exams

#### SAFETY PROGRAM

The Safety Program follows the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1521 Standard for Fire Department Safety Officers. Safety officers are assigned to 24-hour shifts ensuring Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Virginia Occupational Safety and Health (VOSH) compliance on structural fire suppression, emergency medical, hazardous materials, and technical rescue responses. Safety Officers train employees on safety and health related information, maintain compliance with the Department of Finance's Risk Management Program, develop accident prevention programs, and provide instruction in safe work practices. Safety Officers perform investigations and identify corrective actions to include providing reports for claims involving personal injury, toxic exposures, vehicle accidents, and loss or damage to countyowned vehicles, equipment, and property.

#### FY2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- 1,424 Employee exposures investigated
- 441 Injuries investigated
- 2,914 Emergency responses
- 47 Facility inspections
- 349 PPE inspections
- 8 Event investigations with report out
- 6 Environmental testing of facilities

#### WELL-FIT CENTER

The Well-fit center provides resources and expertise to firefighters to achieve and maintain peak physical fitness and nutritional levels, facilitate recovery from a work-related injury or illness, and minimize risk of on-the-job injuries. Peer Fitness Trainers conduct training sessions for incumbent and candidate firefighter/EMTs and assist in administering the annual physical performance assessment (WPE) and candidate physical abilities test (CPAT).

#### FY2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- 1,329 members took the WPE
- Assessed 120 field personnel with the Functional Movement Screen
- Put 240 field personnel through a Tactical Performance Circuit
- Averaged 17 people each morning for morning workout
- Ran the 2nd Annual Workout of Darkness
- Hosted the 1st Annual Murph Challenge

#### **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM**

The Behavioral Health Program is tasked with meeting the psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs of the FCFRD employees and family members. The Behavioral Health Coordinator (BHC) manages the Crisis Intervention Peer Team, Chaplain Program, Fire and Rescue Support Team (FiRST), Drug and Alcohol Peer support team, and Disciplinary Diversion Program. The BHC supports the Casualty Assistance Plan and delivers behavioral health and wellness educational materials to employees. The program works with the Employee Assistance Program to assist FCFRD employees cope with mental and physical stresses of work and personal issues.

#### FY2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- Began K-9 Therapy Program with Wally and Belle
- Hosted Saving Our Own Summit (first regional behavior health summit for first responders)
- 19 Presentations on Behavioral Health Issues
- 6 Trainings for regional Peer Programs
- 1,029 hours of Pastoral Care by Chaplains
- 16 CRT/FiRST interventions
- 155 Station Visits
- 211 Clients





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### **BUSINESS SERVICES BUREAU**





### PLANNING

The Planning Section is responsible for strategic planning, fire and emergency services legislation, accreditation, and agency assessments, as well as strategic communications. The Planning Section also supervises the department's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) which includes planning, designing, and constructing new facilities and renovating existing facilities to meet the needs of the Fire and Rescue Department.

### **NEW HERNDON FIRE AND RESCUE STATION 4**

Construction of the new Herndon fire station was completed and became operational in March 2017. The new 22,319 square foot station is a two-story station with 3 back-in apparatus bays to accommodate Engine 404, Medic 404, and an additional unit in the future. The new station achieved the United States Green Building Council's Gold Level Certification.

### **JEFFERSON FIRE AND RESCUE STATION 18**

In January 2018, personnel from the Jefferson fire station moved to a temporary station on South Street. The original Jefferson fire station, built in 1953, was demolished and a larger two-story fire station with five apparatus bays will be constructed at the existing site. The projected occupancy date is fall of 2019.

### FY2017 - FY2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Fire and Rescue Department, in partnership with the Center for Public Safety Excellence, conducted community meetings and produced a five year community-focused strategic plan
- 36 emergency vehicle pre-emption systems (EVP) were installed on traffic signals in Fairfax County to improve response times and safety at major intersections

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS IN PROCESS**

- Lorton Volunteer Fire and Rescue Station construction of a two-story, four apparatus bay fire station to replace the Volunteer station built in 1961. Occupancy planned for fall of 2020
- Reston Fire and Rescue Station design of a two-story fire station with capacity to add additional resources to meet future demand for emergency services. Occupancy planned for spring of 2021

- Woodlawn Fire and Rescue Station design of a two-story replacement fire station next to the existing station built in 1970. Occupancy planned for end of 2021
- Edsall Road Fire and Rescue Station design of a renovation/expansion of the existing fire station which was partially demolished by a fire in the rescue apparatus bay. Occupancy planned for spring of 2021
- Merrifield Fire and Rescue Station design of a renovation/expansion of the existing fire station
- Penn Daw Fire and Rescue Station search for an alternate site to construct a larger replacement fire station which will be co-located with another county agency
- Scotts Run Fire and Rescue Station design of a new fire station in the East Tysons area which was negotiated as a development proffer. Occupancy planned for December of 2020
- Replacements or expansions of five additional fire and rescue stations were approved for the 2018 Public Safety Bond



<complex-block>





### **FIRE PREVENTION**

The Fire Prevention Division promotes safety from fire and other hazards by enforcing the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC), the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC), and portions of the Criminal Code of Virginia.

Fire Prevention Services Section consists of four branches tasked with responsibilities which include conducting site inspections, issuing permits, witnessing tests of fire protection and suppression systems, conducting plans review, collecting fees, and maintaining records.

#### **ENGINEERING AND PLANS REVIEW**

The Engineering and Plans Review Branch reviews fire alarm, building, sprinkler, tank, range hood, site and other plans for conformance to the Virginia USBC, the SFPC, and the Fairfax County Fire Prevention Code. Plans Review provides code interpretation for the building industry and general public on plans for new construction, renovations, or modifications of sites, buildings, building tenants, and fire protection systems.

### FIRE INSPECTIONS

The Fire Inspections Branch inspects buildings, institutions, and occupancies to ensure compliance with the Virginia SFPC, Fairfax County Fire Prevention Code, and the Virginia Petroleum Storage Tank regulations in order to maintain a safe environment for occupants. Inspections personnel also inspect home day care centers for fire safety for the Office for Children, all-night graduation parties, and fire lanes.

### FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS TESTING

The Fire Protection Systems Testing Branch enforces the state building code, and state and county fire prevention codes through acceptance testing and re-testing. Inspectors witness code-mandated acceptance tests and annual re-tests of all fire protection systems (i.e. sprinklers, fire alarms, smoke detectors) in buildings under construction or renovation.

#### **REVENUE AND RECORDS**

The Revenue and Records Branch is responsible for the collection of fees for services outlined in Chapter 61 and Chapter 62 of the Code of the County of Fairfax. Staff process all Fire Prevention Code permits and all Freedom of Information Act requests pertaining to fire protection systems, fire prevention code permits, building fire inspections, tanks, and hazardous materials. The customer service counter receives over 8,000 visitors every year.



#### FIRE ALARM AND SPRINKLER SYSTEM TRAINING (FASST) LAB

Most commercial and multifamily residences in Fairfax County include sophisticated fire alarm and sprinkler systems. These systems have proven to be reliable in the early detection and extinguishment of fire which protect thousands of residents and billions of dollars of property.

The FASST Lab provides opportunities to train fire service personnel, property management/maintenance personnel, and industry professionals in a realistic environment. The training lab has the capability to simulate the inspection, operation, and testing of the following:

- Many different fire detection devices/systems
- Multiple fire alarm and reporting systems of varying technologies/complexities
- Different types/brands of sprinkler and standpipe systems

	FY2017		FY2018	
	Total	Revenue	Total	Revenue
Plans Reviewed	11,136	\$1,645,747	11,431	\$1,934,584
Acceptance Testing Inspections	6,349	\$1,152,168	7,844	\$2,022,926
Re-Testing Inspections	2,596	\$892,483	2,445	\$883,969
Fire Prevention Inspections	19,981	\$2,114,431	16,659	\$2,066,714





## FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Fire and Hazardous Materials Investigative Services (FHMIS) is responsible for enforcing the Statewide Fire Prevention Code and specific portions of the Criminal Code of Virginia. FHMIS has the statutory mandate to investigate every fire and explosion that occurs within the jurisdictional boundaries of Fairfax County. All post-blast explosive investigations are handled by FHMIS personnel.

FHMIS also investigates any environmental crimes involving illegal dumping, or accidental discharge of hazardous materials to protect the public health, safety, and environment. FHMIS tracks and inspects locations where hazardous materials are used, stored, or transported within Fairfax County. Hazardous material releases are investigated to ensure appropriate actions are taken to clean up or remediate the hazard.

FHMIS enforces the explosives and blasting portions of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code and the Fairfax County Code. This is accomplished by the inspection of facilities, blasting sites, and the inspection of commercial trucks.

FHMIS has a staff of 17 law enforcement certified personnel providing around the clock coverage for the county and is responsible for operating the mobile FHMIS lab vehicle.

Undetermined 8% Natural 2% Accidental 73%

Accidental = Natural = Undetermined = Incendiary

	FY2017	FY2018
Fires Investigated	306	264
Environmental Incidents	95	156
Blasting Inspections	15	11
Vehicle Inspections Related to Explosives	70	50

INCENDIARY CASES FY2017: 69 FY2018: 47 **CLOSURE RATE** 35% 41%

### FY 2018 Fire Causes

# **SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Support Services Division is responsible for providing communication, purchasing, logistical, and apparatus support in order to ensure efficient daily operations.

### **COMMUNICATIONS SECTION**

The Communications Section provides oversight of all radios and communication equipment as well as tactical on-scene communications support to the Operations Bureau. The section provides coordination with other local governments, county agencies, and hospitals to ensure reliable radio communication. It operates the National Capital Region Radio Cache and Virginia Communications Strategic Cache Team, providing program oversight, maintenance, and deployment of over 1,000 radios and equipment for large-scale events.

### **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SECTION**

The Resource Management Section provides support through the purchase of uniforms, personal protective equipment (PPE), fire station supplies, and facility maintenance. The section ensures each firefighter/EMT is issued appropriate breathing apparatus, PPE, and it is maintained in accordance with standards set by OSHA. The section also provides purchasing and contract management for the acquisition of goods and services. The section works closely with the Department of Purchasing and Supply Management to develop Requests for Proposals for specialized equipment, as well as coordinates the receipt and payment for supplies and equipment.

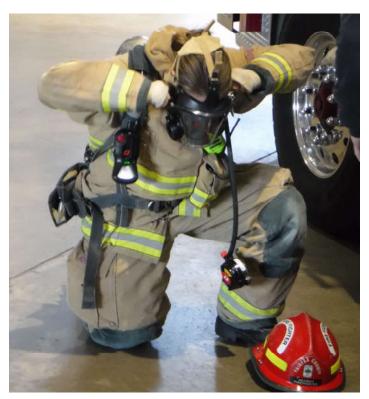
### **APPARATUS SECTION**

The Apparatus Section is responsible for apparatus research, acquisition, repair, maintenance and overall administrative oversight of the agency's 500 vehicles, and coordinates repairs for the 12 volunteer fire companies. The department operates two maintenance and repair facilities where routine and emergency repairs are performed. The section works closely with the Department of Vehicle Services to ensure the department has properly operating vehicles to deliver emergency services.

### SCBA PROJECT

In FY2017 and FY2018, the department undertook an \$8.5M project to replace all elements of the department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) due to changes in standards. SCBA is the respiratory protection that provides clean breathing air to firefighters when working in building fires and hazardous atmospheres. The project involved individual fit-testing of masks and regulators for 1,500 personnel; delivery and acceptance of over 850 SCBA and 2,000 SCBA cylinders; and modifying 700 SCBA brackets on over 200 vehicles. Training for all end-users and all certified repair technicians was conducted. In addition, a plan was developed for the next SCBA replacement in 5-10 years.

The department-wide SCBA replacement in the field was successfully executed in less than two weeks without any disruption to providing emergency services.





## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The Information Technology (IT) Division provides technical oversight to the department through its Data and Analytics, Infrastructure, and Web Development sections.

Staff utilize the Fairfax County's enterprise help desk ticketing application to track service calls and close an average of 3,443 tickets annually over the past five years.

### DATA AND ANALYTICS SECTION

The Data and Analytics Section strives to support and improve data quality, analysis, and analytical problem solving to support data driven decision making. The section, consisting of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Database Administration, and Data Analysis teams, is focused on building out new data analytics program. Once fully implemented, all levels of the department will have access to interactive analytic tools and data relevant to their area of responsibility which can be obtained on an ad hoc or regularly scheduled basis. Recent accomplishments include:

- Reassigned existing agency positions to the IT Division to form the Data and Analytics Section
- Foundation configured for an online portal that provides enhanced GIS solutions

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE SECTION**

The Infrastructure Section is responsible for supporting 26 servers, 840+ workstations, 2,100+ user accounts, 200+ peripheral devices such as printers, scanners, and projectors, as well as 425 smartphones and cell phones. Recent accomplishments include:

- Migrated from Zoll FireRMS to ImageTrend Elite National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS)
- Moved computer equipment for 239 personnel to new PSHQ
- Migrated Outlook public folders to shared mailboxes

### WEB DEVELOPMENT SECTION

The Web Development Section is responsible for management of the department's public website and intranet, firenet. Currently there are over 100 applications on firenet which will increase as Microsoft Access databases are migrated to the site as part of the new data analytics program. Recent accomplishments include:

- Redesigned the public site in accordance to new framework standards set by the county Department of Information and Technology
- Redesigned firenet site scheduled to go live by end of 2018
- Continual migration of Microsoft Access databases to web applications



### **FISCAL SERVICES**

The Fiscal Services Division provides financial oversight to the department through budget management, governance of accounting processes, grants coordination, and administration of the EMS Transport Billing Program. Fiscal Services' goal is to ensure the availability of appropriate financial resources so that department personnel can provide the highest quality public safety services to the community.

In FY2017 and FY2018, Fiscal Services managed an Adopted General Fund budget of \$175,923,464 and \$181,022,578 respectively. Salaries and overtime represent approximately 84% of the budget. The remaining 16% is for operating expenses including equipment, supplies, training, and contract services.

The department also manages funding to replace emergency response apparatus, developer cash proffers, monetary donations to support fire department needs, and federal, state, local, and private foundation grants. Fiscal staff work closely with all bureaus to identify and compete for grants to support programs such as life safety education, firefighter training, safe staffing, and response capability. From FY2017 through FY2018, Fiscal Services developed applications resulting in grant awards worth more than \$10M. Annually, the Fire and Rescue Department generates \$27-

16.4% \$29,687,702 \$151,334,875 83.6%

28M in revenue through Fire Prevention activities and EMS Transport Billing. The EMS Transport Billing contract earns over \$20M per year, primarily through billing insurance companies. FY2017 was a record year for the program, bringing in \$21.2M net revenue. In FY2018, the program reached another milestone, earning \$200M in net collections since program inception. The program's net collection rate is in the 72% range, whereas the industry standard is under 61%. Fiscal Services prides itself on excellent program management with the goal of maximizing revenue to contribute towards offsetting taxpayer burden.

### FY2018 FRD Expenditures



# **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**





### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION**

The Public Affairs and Life Safety Education Office provides situational and department information and safety education to citizens of Fairfax County.

### **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Public Affairs operates on the understanding that social and traditional media are important and valuable resources for keeping the Fairfax County community informed of serious incidents, safety issues, and department events.

The office maintains the department's social media platforms, including developing content regarding serious incidents, safety messages, and media created with the intent of allowing the public to get to know its fire department better. Additionally, the public information officers (PIOs) respond to incident scenes and coordinate media coverage. PIOs answer media inquiries, propose segment ideas, and arrange media coverage.

Public Affairs creates and maintains the department's publications, including quarterly issues of the department's newsletter, annual report, and safety flyers. The office also coordinates department events such as the annual Coats for Kids and Holiday Toy Drives, back to school activities, facility dedications, and community events.

LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION					
	FY2017	FY2018			
Preschool Children	23,745	10,572			
School-Aged Children	9,028	17,644			
Older Adults 50+	19,837	7,506			
Juvenile Firesetters	48	n/a			

\*The Life Safety Education section was short-staffed for FY2018 resulting in a shift in outreach numbers.

### LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

Life Safety Education strives to ensure the safety of the communities it serves through educational programs and community outreach. With a focus on the at-risk population, life safety educators go out into the community daily to assist in making a safer and healthier community. Programs offered through Life Safety Education include, Every Step of the Way, Juvenile Firesetters, Project Safe, parent and caregiver education classes, and safety for teens presentations. Additionally, the older adult population is taught about fire and life safety topics pertinent to their stage in life, including injury from falls. The office also runs the department's File of Life<sup>™</sup> and Yellow Dot programs which allow residents to prominently display medical information to emergency personnel.



Followers: 39,623 Tweets: 2,743 Impressions: 15,677,627 Total Engagement: 303,437



Followers: 32,006 Likes: 31,637 Impressions: 17,365,885



Followers: 1,923 Posts: 785 Likes: 31,637 Total Engagement: 56,443



# **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department is dedicated to keeping its residents and visitors safe. Through educational programs and community outreach, firefighters, and civilian personnel strive to increase awareness, making for a safer community. FCFRD also hosts events throughout the year designed to assist and inspire residents in Fairfax County.

### COATS FOR KIDS

Each October, the Fire and Rescue Department, Firefighters Coats for Kids, and Operation Warm come together to hand out over 1,600 new coats to children throughout Fairfax County. Children arrive on buses and are greeted by fire, police, or sheriff employees and volunteers. Each child is partnered with a public safety representative who helps the child find a new coat that fits perfectly. After choosing a coat, each child picks out a book to take home. As the children make their way back to their bus, they get a chance to meet with some adorable visitors from Caring Angels Therapy Dogs.

### HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE AND TOYS FOR TOTS

In December, Fire Station 11, Penn Daw, hosts Fire and Rescue Department personnel, public safety partners, and volunteers for the annual Toy Drive. Several thousand toys, including new bikes, are distributed to children from Fairfax County. The children visit with Santa and his elves along with 15 therapy dogs from Caring Angel Therapy Dogs. Additionally, fire stations throughout the county collect toys for the Marine's Toys for Tots program. Drop off boxes are placed in each station so citizens can donate toys throughout December.

### COMMUNITY AND CIVIC GROUPS

Firefighters and life safety educators travel throughout Fairfax County giving presentations to community and civic groups about a variety of fire safety topics, including home escape planning, proper smoke alarm placement, and fall and injury prevention.

### SAFETY IN OUR COMMUNITY

Safety In Our Community (SIOC) is a community-based program. Firefighters go door-to-door within the communities they serve to check homes for working smoke alarms, provide home inspections, and important seasonal fire and life safety information to residents. A door hanger with safety and contact information is left behind when residents are not home.

### WELLNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Wellness In Our Community (WIOC) is designed to "prevent the 911 call." The community-based program emphasizes lifesaving subjects, such as carbon monoxide poisoning, File of Life<sup>™</sup>, and community CPR. WIOC complements and expands the SIOC program.

### **EVERY STEP OF THE WAY**

Every Step of the Way is fire and life safety program targeting the most vulnerable demographics: children and older adults. The program focuses on teacher/parent training and fire safety puppet shows in public schools, private schools, and day care centers. Older adults learn about fire and





life safety topics pertinent to their stage in life, including injury from falls. Additionally, the File of Life<sup>™</sup> program allows residents to prominently display medical information to emergency personnel.

### JUVENILE FIRESETTERS PROGRAM

The Juvenile Firesetters Program is an educational intervention program targeting juvenile firesetters. The program is administered by a nationally certified educator. Participants are referred to the program by court officials, school counselors, law enforcement, fire investigators, or mental health practitioners.

### **PROJECT SAFE**

In the 2016 - 2017 school year, the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department brought back an important educational program for third grade students in Fairfax County Public Schools. Project S.A.F.E. (Student Awareness of Fire Education) is designed to teach students important fire safety skills and to understand what to do in the event of a fire or other emergency. Firefighters have been hard at work traveling to a variety of schools teaching life safety skills.

### **CITIZENS FIRE AND RESCUE ACADEMY**

A Citizens Fire and Rescue Academy was offered each year in the Fall of 2017 and 2018 to Fairfax County residents 18 and older who wished to participate in an interesting, funfilled, eight-week program that showed what firefighters and paramedics do every day.

Each session covered different aspects of the organization, providing an in-depth overview of the department and its uniformed and civilian workforce. Program topics included: fire suppression, emergency medical services, training, recruitment, and special operations.



### **COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM**

The Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program prepares citizens to help their communities during major emergencies. The program educates citizens in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. The CERT team has 1,233 active members.

CERT members participated in operational activities, community outreach events, and supply victims/actors for the following training exercises:

- Fire and Rescue Department Emergency Medical Training classes
- Urban Search and Rescue drills
- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority exercises
- Metropolitan Washington
  Airport Authority drills

### FY2018 Highlights

- 220 Newly Trained CERTS
- 11 CERT Basic Training Courses
- 73 Continuing Education Classes



### GIRLS FIRE AND RESCUE ACADEMY

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department held the first and second annual Girls Fire and Rescue Academy summer camp in July 2017 and 2018. The Academy hosted rising female freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.

Academy participants took part in a five day program full of fun-filled experiences, physical training, classes, and Fire/EMS simulations. They also had an opportunity to visit a Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Station to experience the everyday life of a Firefighter/EMT. Campers interacted, asked questions, and ate dinner with the on-duty crew.















a publication of Fairfax County, Virginia

This document is available in an alternate format upon request. Please direct your request to Public Affairs and Life Safety Education at 703-246-3801, TTY 711.