The City of
Reading
Fire Department

2013 Annual Operations Report

Prepared by Paul M. Gallo
Assistant Fire Chief
The following document is an account of the emergency response and accomplish-
ments of the Reading Fire Department and its members. Our department takes pride in
providing the highest level of service to the City of Reading and the Village of Arlington
Heights. I would like to acknowledge and thank every member for the services they
provide our citizens, businesses and community. They respond, and carry out their du-
ties with great compassion and professionalism. I would like to thank Assistant Chief Paul Gallo, for his
efforts in assembling the data and providing the format this report.

I would like to thank Mayor Bemmes, his Administration, Reading City Council and the Village of Arlington
Heights for their continued support and commitment. This ongoing support has helped our department
improve the services we provide our citizen and business customers. Lastly, I would like to thank Chief
Kevin Kaiser for his 36 years of tireless and selfless service to the City of Reading and the Valley communi-
ty. His leadership, guidance and commitment throughout his tenure as Fire Chief have made Reading one
of the finest fire departments in the region.

Sincerely,

Todd A. Owens
Fire Chief
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Vision

To reduce death, injury, and property loss from fire and to reduce morbidity and mortality from sudden illness or injury.

Mission

The mission of the Reading Fire Department is to protect life, property, and the environment.

We will accomplish this with professional, knowledgeable, and dedicated personnel, using the allocated resources efficiently.

We pledge to deliver the highest quality of emergency medical services, fire suppression, public education, and fire prevention to meet the needs of our community.

Values

Honor

Pride

Teamwork
# Reading Fire Department

## Budget Comparables - Annual Expenses 2007-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCOUNT</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
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<td>FF Salaries (FT)</td>
<td>$1,095,066.72</td>
<td>$1,170,256.50</td>
<td>$1,197,573.78</td>
<td>$1,163,722.34</td>
<td>$1,154,674.45</td>
<td>$1,162,538.33</td>
<td>$1,203,003.07</td>
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<td>Sick and Vacation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FIRE SALARIES (FT)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,095,066.72</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,170,256.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,197,573.78</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,163,722.34</strong></td>
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<td>Medical</td>
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<td>Other Supplies</td>
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<td>$3,467.78</td>
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<td>Diesel Fuel</td>
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<td>POC (FIRE) OPERATIONS</td>
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<td>$539.22</td>
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<td>$2,506.94</td>
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<td>$539.22</td>
<td>$455.86</td>
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<td>$28,504.71</td>
<td>$33,579.88</td>
<td>$36,524.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

****EMS SALARIES COMBINED INTO 103 (PT/POC SALARIES)****

TOTAL FIRE (100) | $1,665,085.58 | $1,808,846.89 | $1,841,569.30 | $1,748,403.18 | $1,808,888.37 | $1,789,808.51 | $1,976,081.74 |
TOTAL POC (103)   | $135,016.42  | $291,266.77  | $335,790.24  | $346,426.40  | $287,688.05  | $290,282.42  | $256,382.95  |
TOTAL EMS (105)   | $70,519.01   | $37,975.07  | $34,728.08  | $28,504.71  | $33,579.88  | $36,524.48  | $45,728.53  |
TOTAL FD BUDGET   | $1,870,621.01 | $2,138,088.73 | $2,212,057.62 | $2,123,034.29 | $2,129,356.30 | $2,107,615.41 | $2,278,193.22 |

1. Does not include expenses that were not requisitioned and carried over into the next year (ie utilities/fuel)
2. Pension payment from 2012 carried over into 2013.
3. 2013, all EMS expenses were transferred into 242 (Fire/EMS Improvements), operations
Call volume decreased 6.2% from 2012.

The average number of calls per day in 2013 was 5.3. The busiest day in 2013 was 16 incidents which occurred on December 4th.

Photo courtesy of Dwayne Slavey
In 2013, the largest number of incidents occurred in the EMS category (68%) followed by mutual-auto aid (15%) and service calls (5%).

Fire incidents accounted for 1.9% of total incidents. This is up from 1.5% in 2012.
Incident Response Zone

NORTH of RR Tracks
Fire: 4.2%
EMS: 10.4%

EAST of RR Tracks
Fire: 20.8%
EMS: 42.5%

WEST of RR Tracks
Fire: 18.4%
EMS: 35.6%

Arlington Heights
Fire: 3.2%
EMS: 8.9%

Out of Town
Fire: 53.2%
EMS: 2.2%
1. 69% of the aid given is coded “dispatched and cancelled enroute.” This means a unit is dispatched, but is cancelled prior to arrival.

2. Reading received aid on 84% of the fire recalls that occur in the city.

1. Reading receives mutual aid for EMS 45 times more than it gives EMS aid.

2. S84 (back-up squad) was able to make 82% of its’ responses in 2013. This was up from 81% in 2012.
Fires and Fire Losses by Major Property Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Use</th>
<th># of Fires</th>
<th>2012 Estimated $ Loss</th>
<th>% of $ Loss</th>
<th># of Fires</th>
<th>2013 Estimated $ Loss</th>
<th>% of $ Loss</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential (single/multi, mobile, apartment)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>84,900</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>198,700</td>
<td>79.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Residential (school, church, business, restaurant, storage)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>436,420</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>44,400</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicles (auto, truck, bus, construction)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11,250</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7,200</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside (brush, grass, rubbish, outside fires with value)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>532,570</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>532,570</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Large Loss Fires

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<tr>
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<th>Dollar Loss</th>
<th>Shift</th>
<th>Alarms</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>628 Harmes Ave.</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58 Gahl Terrace</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108 East Voorhees Ave.</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
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</table>

Garage fire on Harmes Ave.
Structure Fires
Area of Origin and Cause of Ignition

The highest percent of structure fires originated in functional areas (43%) followed by transportation areas (30%) and other areas (26%).

For structure fires originating in functional areas, 17% were in a cooking area, followed by 13% in a bedroom area, and 9% in a bathroom.

Unintentional fires was the greatest cause of ignition for structure fires at 37.5%.
2013 Provider Impression

- Other: 22
- No Cause for Concern: 49
- DOA: 16
- Cardiac Arrest: 12
- Injuries: 320
- Musculoskeletal: 112
- Metabolic: 37
- Emotional/Mental: 170
- Abdominal: 95
- OB/Gyn: 10
- Neuro: 118
- Cardiac: 132
- Respiratory: 132
- Allergic Reaction: 17
- General Illness: 294

Transport Destinations

- No Transport
- Other
- Good Sam
- UC
- Christ
- Children
- Bethesda North
- Jewish

City of Reading Fire Department – 2013 Annual Operations Report
In 2013, the highest number of fire incidents occurred in July and November.

In 2013, the highest number of EMS incidents occurred in January (9.5%) followed by May (9.3%) and March (8.9%).
**Response Times**

![Total Response Times Graph](image)

The Reading Fire Department Response Standards specify the minimum criteria needed to effectively and efficiently deliver fire suppression and emergency medical services. The Response Standard is six (6) minutes to all emergency alarms within the response area. 83% of the EMS responses, down 4% from 2012, were made within 6 minutes. 73% of the fire responses, the same as 2012, were made within 6 minutes.

**Overlapping Incidents**

![Overlapping Incidents Chart](image)

Overlapping incidents are when multiple incidents are occurring at the same time. This happened 16% of the time during 2013, the same as 2012.
Training by Method of Instruction

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Training by Method of Instruction</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>In-service Unit One</td>
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<td>In-service Unit Two</td>
<td>23%</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-service Unit Three</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Career</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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Total Training Hours

- Career: 1894 hours
- Paid On Call: 669 hours
- Part-Time: 256 hours
- EMS: 496 hours

City of Reading Fire Department – 2013 Annual Operations Report
2013 Accomplishments

- Received a $193,691 grant from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to replace all of the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).
- Received a $2,500 grant from the Ohio Department of Public Safety (EMS) for EMS supplies and equipment.
- Continued painting of hydrants with the assistance of the public works department.
- Painting of the Hilltop Station and Valley Station; Replaced flooring in both alarm rooms.
- Assisted City with setting up an on-line auction website for retired city equipment.
- An emergency 911 call box mounted on the front of the Hilltop Firehouse; all calls go directly to the Hamilton County Communications Center.
- Hotsticks purchased with donated funds from the Eagles’ Auxiliary.
- Participated in the Hamilton County Mass Casualty Incident.
- Two tabletop exercises with the Reading Community Schools.
- Purchased 10 sets of new structural firefighting personal protective clothing.
- Ordered new ambulance from Braun—expected delivery in the first quarter of 2014.
- Replaced staff vehicle with a Chevrolet Tahoe.
- Received six (6) SKED extrication devices and twelve (12) Level A hazardous material training entry suits from Homeland Security funds.
- Upgraded the breathing air compressor to accommodate the SCBA’s.
- Community Activities
  - Assisted with Reading Clean-Up Day
  - Ahrens Fox in the Show N Tell Car Show
  - Participated in Safety Day in Arlington Heights
  - Participated in the Feed the Children Program

2013 Awards/Honors

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<tr>
<th>Fire Chief Kevin Kaiser</th>
<th>FF/P Todd Burwinkel</th>
<th>FF/E David Davis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Officer of the Year</td>
<td>Career Firefighter of the Year</td>
<td>Part-Time/Paid On-Call Firefighter of the Year</td>
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Members of Unit Two (T. Grau, E. Fischesser, R. Androne and B. Thompson) were recognized with the HE-RO AWARD, presented by the Cincinnati Shriners on March 6, 2013. They were recognized as a team, along with Lockland and Woodlawn crews, from a fire in Lockland that occurred in October, 2012.

Paid-on-call member Brian Vaughn received the Daniel L. Storer, M.D. Academic Achievement Award from the University of Cincinnati Paramedic program.
The City of Reading assisted with the funeral of Lt. James Michael Hill (January 1, 1961- November 5, 2013), Reading resident and member of the Sycamore Township Fire Department. Mike, a 28 year fire service veteran, started his fire service career as a paid-on-call member of the Reading Fire Department (1985). He also worked with the Deer Park/Silverton Joint Fire District from 1994-2013. Mike had been a life-long resident of the City of Reading. Lieutenant James Michael Hill was honored with a firefighter’s funeral on November 11, 2013 and laid to rest at the Reading Cemetery.

Firefighter’s Prayer
When I am called to duty, God, whenever flames may rage, give me strength to save some life, whatever be its age. Help me embrace a little child before it is too late, or save an older person from the horror of that fate. Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout, and quickly and efficiently to put the fire out. I want to fill my calling, and to give the best in me, to guard my every neighbor and protect his property.
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Kevin D. Kaiser, Fire Chief
Todd A. Owens, Assistant Fire Chief

CAREER STAFF

SHIFT 1
Lt. Paul M. Gallo
FF/P Terry Widmann
FF/P Dan Kunkel
FF/P Paul Naehring

SHIFT 2
Lt. Thomas J. Grau
FF/P Eric Fischesser
FF/P Mike Hardewig
FF/P Tyler Strole

SHIFT 3
Lt. Ryan Androne
FF/P Todd Burwinkel
FF/P Kit Kretschmar
FF/P Ed Von Lehmden

PART-TIME STAFF

FF/P Andy Dishon
FF/P Chris Hautman
FF/P Zach Booth
FF/P Bruce Thompson

PAID ON-CALL STAFF

FF/EMT Patrick Benson
FF/E Andy Burton
FF/P Nathan Daley
FF/E David Davis
FF/E Tom Flynn
FF/EMT Ryan Grau
FF/E Mike Herbert
FF/P Sean Mesley
FF/E Christina Mitchell
EMT Natalia Patrick
FF/P Ron Sauder
FF/E Rob Singer
FF/E Brian Vaughn
EMT Joaquin Wells-Doerr
FF/E Russ Wernke

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Fire Chief Kevin Kaiser announced his retirement effective February 14, 2014. Paid On-Call member Jerry Kirby retired after 33 years of service. Part-Time member Andy Ahlert and Chris Anderson resigned in 2013 to accept full-time positions with other departments. Zach Booth and Andy Dishon were hired as new part-time personnel. Paid On-Call members resigning: Phil Connell and Dean Ramsey