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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

The following document outlines the response and accomplishments of the Reading Fire Department over the past year. As a department, we strive to provide the best possible service to the City of Reading and the Village of Arlington Heights. We work closely with the community, businesses and schools to make Reading and the Valley area a safe, comfortable place to live and work.

I would like to thank every member for their professionalism and dedication to the department. Our members continue to provide services above those typical of other departments, and are held in high regard among their peers. They are devoted and committed to providing the best care and service to our community. I would like to thank Assistant Chief Paul Gallo for compiling the data and providing the formatting for this report.

I wish to thank Mayor Bemmes, his administration, Reading City Council and the Village of Arlington Heights for their continued confidence and support of the department. This support is critical to our continual progression; making the Reading Fire Department one of the finest in the region.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd A. Owens
Fire Chief

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: The honor to serve the community. Earning and maintaining the respect of the community- to be held in high regard; integrity; virtue; completeness; wholeness; honesty and sincerity.

Pride: The satisfaction of being the best we can be; quality work and performance; customer satisfaction.

Teamwork: Working together toward common goals; sharing responsibility; looking out for each other; respect; trust and cooperation. Developing ourselves individually for the benefit of the team.
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
Todd A. Owens, Fire Chief
Paul M. Gallo, Assistant Fire Chief

CAREER STAFF

SHIFT 1
Lt. Eric Fischesser
FF/P Mike Hardewig
FF/P Kit Kretschar
FF/P Tyler Strole

SHIFT 2
Lt. Thomas Grau
FF/P Ed VonLehmden
FF/P Dan Kunkel
FF/P Brian Vaughn

SHIFT 3
Lt. Ryan Androne
FF/P Todd Burwinkel
FF/P Paul Naehring
FF/P Bruce Thompson

PART-TIME STAFF
FF/E Anthony Dryden
FF/E Robert Green
FF/E Christopher Poedtke
FF/E Caleb VonLehmden

FF/P Patrick Benson
FF/E Eric Halpin
FF/P Dan Wattenhofer

FF/E Cory Barney
FF/P Zach Booth
FF/E Hunter Morgan
FF/P Lindsay Potter

FF/E Hunter Morgan
FF/P Lindsay Potter

FF/E Erin Chuck
FF/P Patrick Jennings
FF/P Andy Dishon
FF/E Larry Reynolds

PAID ON-CALL STAFF
FF/E David Davis
FF/E Rob Singer

Providing You Professional Service Since 1967
Customer Testimonials

“I am fortunate to live in a City with great public services, especially life squad and EMT’s.” -Maple Tree Ct. resident

“The firefighters did an incredible job! Todd explained fire safety in a fun and age appropriate manner. We loved hearing the real smoke detector and a fire fighter in all of his gear. We love Sparky the fire dog too! The kids keep asking where Sparky is. Of course they loved the fire engine and getting to sit inside! And the students absolutely loved the stickers and pencils. Overall an amazing job and I wouldn't recommend that you change a thing! Thanks for all you do!” - School teacher

“Chief Todd Owens and the Reading Fire Department was excellent and extremely accommodating as always! We appreciate it very much” - CPR participant

"Our staff loved the in-service and we learned from this presentation. Working in a health care facility, it is great to be reminded what to do in case of a fire.” - MND Health Care employee.
Accomplishments

- Received $3,025 grant from the Ohio Department of Public Safety (EMS) for EMS supplies and equipment.
- Added additional on station staffing.
- Renovated fire department quarters to accommodate additional part-time member.
- FF/P Todd Burwinkel was appointed to the LEPC as the EMS liaison.
- FF/P Ed VonLehmden was awarded the Reading Chamber of Commerce Firefighter of Year.
- Assistant Chief Paul Gallo was appointed as co-chair of Southwest Ohio Protocol Committee.
- Received Sparky costume, bicycle helmets, public education material and residential Knox Boxes from Reading Fire Department Incorporated.
- Received crash kit and step chocks from Eagles Ladies Auxiliary.
- Purchased and placed in-service new EMS reporting tablets.
- Received grant from BWC for the purchase of a Stryker Power Cot.
- Received private donation for the purchase of a FLIR thermal imaging camera.
- Participated in the following Community Activities:
  - Bicycle event in conjunction with Don’s Creamy Whip
  - Arlington Heights Safety Fair
  - Reading Band Boosters Fundraiser — Ride on a fire truck to school
  - Christmas tree lighting
American Heart Association
Mission: Lifeline GOLD EMS
Recognition Award

Reading Fire Department received it’s second the American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline® EMS Gold Award for implementing quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who experience severe heart attacks.

Every year, more than 250,000 people experience an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) the deadliest type of heart attack caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it’s critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible, either by mechanically opening the blocked vessel or by providing clot-busting medication.

Unfortunately, a significant number of STEMI patients don’t receive this prompt reperfusion therapy, which is critical in restoring blood flow. Mission: Lifeline seeks to save lives by closing the gaps that separate these patients from timely access to appropriate treatments. Mission: Lifeline’s EMS recognition program recognizes emergency medical services for their efforts in improving systems of care and improving the quality of life for these patients.

Emergency Medical System providers are vital to the success of Mission: Lifeline. EMS agencies perform 12-lead ECGs which measure the electrical activity of the heart and can help determine if a heart attack has occurred. They also follow protocols derived from American Heart Association/American College of Cardiology guidelines. These correct tools, training, and practices allow EMS providers to rapidly identify suspected heart attack patients, promptly notify the medical center, and trigger an early response from the awaiting hospital personnel.

Agencies that receive the Mission: Lifeline Gold award have demonstrated at least 75 percent compliance for each required achievement measure for two years.

“EMTs and paramedics play a vital part in the system of care for those who have heart attacks,” said James Jollis, M.D., Chair of the Mission: Lifeline Advisory Working Group. “Since they often are the first medical point of contact, they can shave precious minutes of life-saving treatment time by activating the emergency response system that alerts hospitals. We applaud Reading Fire Department for achieving this award that shows it meets evidence-based guidelines in the treatment of people who have severe heart attacks.”

“Reading Fire Department is dedicated to making our service among the best in the country, and the American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline program is helping us accomplish that by implementing processes for improving systems of care with the goal of improving the quality of care for all acute coronary syndrome patients,” said Assistant Chief Paul Gallo “We are pleased to be recognized for our dedication and achievements in emergency medical care for all cardiac patients.”
2017 Expenses

- **Personnel** $2,207,547 (95%)
- **EMS Ops** $34,828 (2%)
- **Fire Ops** $62,463 (3%)
- **Other** $8,376 (0%)

**FD Expenses Trendline**

- 2013: $2,200,000
- 2014: $2,240,000
- 2015: $2,180,000
- 2016: $2,280,000
- 2017: $2,340,000
Incidents by Year

Call volume increased 13.2% from 2016.  **2017 was a record setting year for the number of incidents.**

The average number of calls per day in 2017 was **6.3**. The busiest day in 2017 was 15 incidents which occurred on June 12th.

When 2017 is compared to 2013, total calls have increased 19%. When fire and EMS calls are calculated separately, fire calls decreased 21% and EMS calls increased 29%. The average number of calls for this 5 year period is 2111.
Type of Alarm Summary

Our Fire Department takes great pride in being a progressive Advanced Life Support organization. Our paramedic unit, engine company, and ambulances all have Advanced Life Support capabilities. Our engine crew sometimes provides first response on EMS incidents to ensure rapid response and optimal care to our citizens.

The majority of our call volume is responding to emergency medical incidents. This accounts for 81% of our run volume. Reading Fire Department employs 14 full-time firefighter/paramedics, 18 part-time firefighter/EMTs, and 2 paid-on-call firefighter/EMT’s.

Approximately 81 percent of all calls are medical.
Incident Response Zone

WEST of RR Tracks
Fire: 22.9%
EMS: 35.7%

NORTH of RR Tracks
Fire: 3.7%
EMS: 10.2%

EAST of RR Tracks
Fire: 23.1%
EMS: 42.2%

Arlington Heights
Fire: 4.9%
EMS: 9.3%

Out of Town
Fire: 45.3%
EMS: 2.4%
1. 64% of the aid given is coded “dispatched and cancelled enroute.” This means a unit is dispatched, but is cancelled prior to arrival.

1. Reading receives mutual aid for EMS 31 times more than it gives EMS aid.

2. S283 (back-up squad) was able to make 86% of its responses in 2017. This was up from 72% in 2016.
# Fires and Fire Losses by Major Property Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Use</th>
<th># of Fires</th>
<th>2016 Estimated $ Loss</th>
<th>% of $ Loss</th>
<th>2017 Estimated $ Loss</th>
<th>% of $ Loss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential (single/multi, mobile, apartment)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>82,650</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Residential (school, church, business, restaurant, storage)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6,700</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicles (auto, truck, bus, construction)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7,700</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside (brush, grass, rubbish, outside fires with value)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1,250</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>98,300</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>44,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Fire Loss and Property Saved

- **Total Loss, $44,800**
- **Total Saved, $1,366,150**

## Large Loss Fires

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Dollar Loss</th>
<th>Shift</th>
<th>Alarms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>801 Third St.</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1109 Alwil Dr.</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Galbraith &amp; NB I-75 (Vehicle)</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>515 Station Ave.</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Structure Fires
Area of Origin and Cause of Ignition

Structure fires originated in the following areas: cooking area, bathroom, laundry area and processing/manufacturing area.

Unintentional fires was the greatest cause of ignition for structure fires at 80%.

Summary of Structure Fire Causes

Unintentional Cause undetermined after investigation

Civilian and Firefighter Injuries
### Patient Age Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 9</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 19</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 29</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 39</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 to 49</td>
<td>9.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 59</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 69</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 to 79</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 89</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 to 100</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Transport Destinations

- Jewish: 35%
- Bethesda North: 24%
- UC: 7%
- Other: 4%
- Good Sam: 3%
- Christ: 4%
- Childrens: 3%
- No Transport: 20%
In 2017, the highest number of fire incidents occurred in June.

In 2017, the highest number of EMS incidents occurred in August (9.7%) followed by June (9.3%).
Response Times

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 minutes to all emergency alarms within the response area. 78% of the EMS responses, down 8% from 2016, were made within six minutes. 71% of the fire responses, down 2% from 2016, were made within six minutes.

Overlapping Incidents

Overlapping incidents are when multiple incidents occur at the same time. This happened 18% of the time during 2017, the same as 2016.
Incidents By Day of Week

Sunday: 288
Monday: 341
Tuesday: 360
Wednesday: 353
Thursday: 323
Friday: 314
Saturday: 338

Incidents By Time of Day

Time of Day
EMS Incidents
Fire Incidents
Training

Reading Fire Department is committed to providing the citizens of the City of Reading and the Village of Arlington Heights with a highly trained fire and EMS department. Members are sent for specialized training regularly throughout the region.

On a regular basis, our firefighters train with other valley fire departments to maintain familiarity with each other and increase on-scene performance and safety. In 2017, the department’s personnel logged a total of 3534.5 hours of training, a decrease of 7.5 percent from the previous year.

Firefighters participate in company level and multi-company training evolutions and exercises. This emphasizes teamwork and coordination during emergency incidents requiring multi unit responses.

Numerous personnel attained various certifications from the State of Ohio:

- Fire Service Instructor 1
- Fire Officer II 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 TRAINING SUMMARY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training Sessions Held</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Inspections

- General Inspections: 144
- General Reinspections: 5
- Company Inspections: 75
- Company Reinspections: 291
- Misc Inspections: 154

### Violations Found

- Precautions Against Fire: 25%
- Fire Protection Systems: 32%
- Means of Egress: 20%
- Building Services: 13%
- Other: 8%

### Public Education Contacts

- Safety Talks/School Visits: 106
- CPR Classes: 91
- Station Tours: 1047
NEW HIRES
Cory Barney, Erin Chuck, Anthony Dryden, Patrick Jennings, Hunter Morgan, Mark Pitocco, Christopher Poedtke, Lindsay Potter, Larry Reynolds, Paul Ulrich and Alex Wallace were hired as a part-time members.

OTHER PERSONNEL ACTIONS
Paid On-Call members resigning: Natalia Patrick.

SERVICE AWARDS
Lt. Ryan Androne—10 years
FF/P Tyler Strole—10 years

2017 Awards/Honors

FIRE OFFICER OF THE YEAR
Lieutenant Eric Fischesser

CAREER FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR
Firefighter/Paramedic Kit Kretschmar

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
Lieutenant Tom Grau

PART-TIME/PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR
Firefighter/EMT Caleb VonLehmden