



PEORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



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Message from the Fire Chief...

I am pleased to present the city of Peoria Fire Department's 2021 Annual Report. Last year was challenging for all fire departments across the United States. As the Fire Chief, I am proud of the men and women of the Peoria Fire Department who continue to show a high level of dedication and professionalism during challenging times. The COVID-19 pandemic restricted our department from our normal daily operations and interaction, including some community involvement. Despite this obstacle, the department continued to make positive progress. Successful initiatives and highlights include:

- ◆ Engine 2 returned to service with overtime funds
- ◆ SAFER grant application for federal funds for 11 firefighter positions
- ◆ New construction of Edward B. Gaines, Jr. Fire Station 4
- ◆ 16 new firefighters hired
- ◆ Securing an Assistance to Firefighters Grant to train 9 firefighters to the paramedic level.

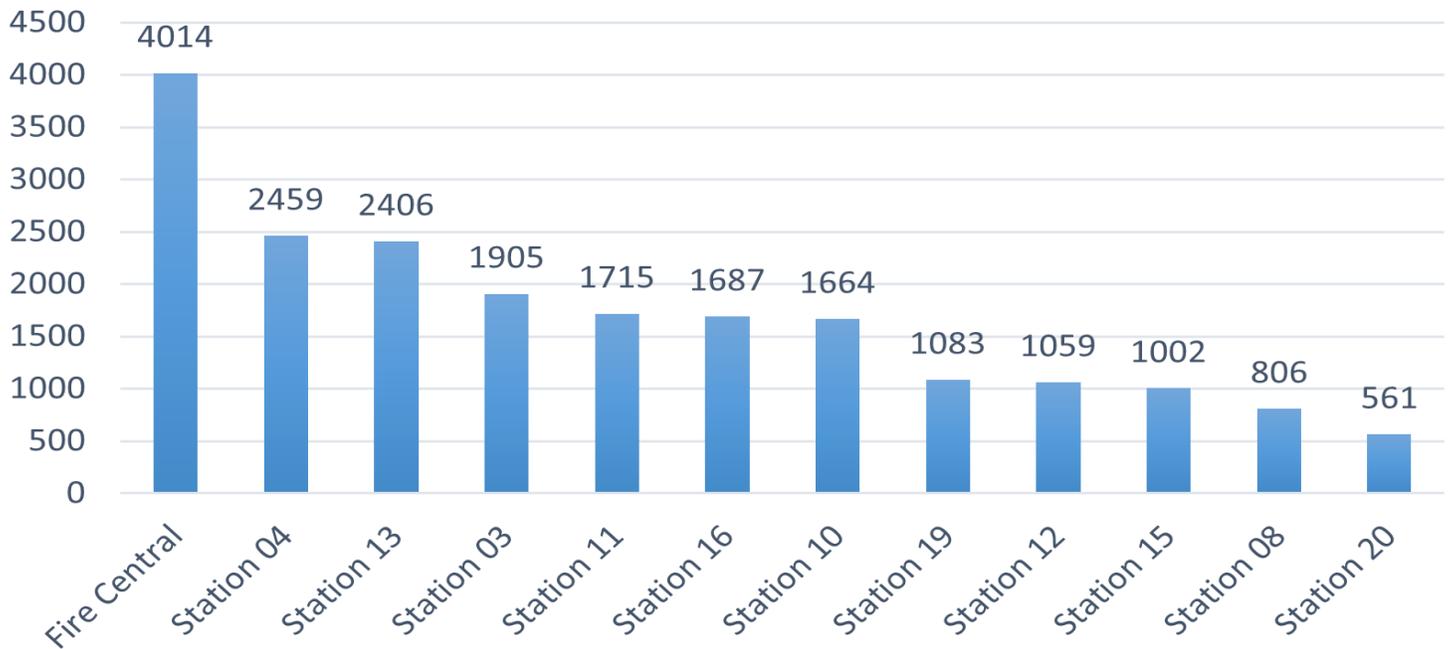
As we look to 2022, the Peoria Fire Department will continue to provide excellent professional fire related services including advanced life support with our daily staffing of paramedics on 10 apparatus, fire suppression, water rescue, hazardous materials response, and technical rescue. Our Prevention Division provides professional services related to fire code enforcement, arson fire investigation and hazardous materials inspections. Additionally, our Division of Fire Prevention will continue to make contributions to our community by providing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to those homes that qualify and provide fire safety education to not only Peoria Public Schools, but to community members throughout the city of Peoria. Our Fire Training Academy is expanding by continuing to provide our fire department and its firefighters, as well as surrounding communities, state of the art fire education and training. The City of Peoria Fire Department will embrace change and enhance our capabilities to serve our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Sollberger, Fire Chief



Incident Breakdown by Station in 2021



Operations

The Peoria Fire Department is made up of 172 professional men and women who perform a wide range of duties ranging from fire suppression to advanced life support medical care. The Peoria Fire Department operates out of 12 stations throughout the city of Peoria 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. There are no weekends or holidays for the professional men and women of the Peoria Fire Department. These highly trained men and women work a 24-hour shift every third day of their lives and are dedicated to performing their duties without hesitation.

The complement of apparatus for the department consists of 11 fire engine companies and 4 ladder truck companies and 2 battalion chief vehicles with personnel working over three 24-hour shifts (24 hours on/48 hours off). Each fire engine and ladder truck, besides the battalion chiefs, operate with a minimum of 3 personnel per apparatus at all times: a captain, an engineer/driver, and a firefighter. These men and women perform a variety of tasks each shift including training, station duties and maintenance, and public event participation. The community members of Peoria are always invited to stop and visit any of the 12 stations within the city of Peoria.



Operations out of 12 Fire Stations

Battalion One

Central House

505 NE Monroe Avenue

Station 3

1204 W Armstrong Avenue

Station 4

2711 SW Jefferson Avenue

Station 8

832 W Hurlburt Street

Station 10

3316 N Wisconsin Avenue

Station 12

3006 NE Adams Street

Battalion Three

Station 11

1025 W Florence Avenue

Station 13

2114 W Richwoods Boulevard

Station 15

717 W Detweiller Drive

Station 16

2105 W Northmoor Road

Station 19

5719 Frostwood Parkway

Station 20

2020 W Wilhelm Road



Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

In addition to firefighting responsibilities, the Peoria Fire Department has been responding to medical emergencies for over 50 years. What started out as firefighters only bringing an oxygen bottle and some bandage wrap to a medical emergency has developed into a highly sophisticated, highly skilled staff who are capable of delivering the highest level of care available outside of the hospital. In 2005, the Peoria Fire Department began providing Advanced Life Support (ALS) care utilizing the paramedics who were currently employed with the department. The program has evolved to include 10 fire stations that have ALS capabilities.

Included in this high level of care is an advance cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) system that is being utilized by less than 1% of first responders in the country. With this advanced high level CPR system the Peoria Fire Department has seen a significant increase in what is known as return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC), meaning the patient's heart begins to beat again without further intervention. Out of 179 cardiac arrests in 2021, 61 achieved ROSC, resulting in a 34% success rate compared to the national average of 12%. By utilizing the firefighter/paramedics within the department, the Peoria Fire Department can provide hospital level care in any location, even on the sidewalk, if necessary, in highly critical situations.





Division of Training

The Division of Training is based out of the Vernon "Butch" Gudat Fire Training Academy located on Galena Road. Operated under the guidance of the Division Chief of Training and the Fire Captain serving as the Training Supervisor, the Peoria Fire Department hired a recruit class of 16 individuals who completed 10 weeks of extensive recruit training to serve in the capacity of firefighters for the city of Peoria in 2021. These individuals were exposed to all the rigors of the occupation and successfully performed all the required duties of their position to graduate in September of 2021. The Training Division is also responsible for arranging and coordinating all daily, monthly, and yearly training for all members of the Peoria Fire Department. That continuous training can include practical and academic education within the department and to many participants from outside the department, including other fire departments, military installations, and private sector businesses seeking training.



Fire Investigation

The Peoria Fire Department performs fire investigation on all fires to determine cause and origin of the fire. This is done by a team of professionals who are experts in the scientific method of fire investigation. They not only learn from other professionals in the field but are frequently requested to teach others the science of fire investigation. Due to the experience and expertise of these staff members, 139 fires in 2021 have come to a complete conclusion in cause and origin and several arsonists have been apprehended.



Code Inspection and Enforcement Plan Review

Inspectors are extensively trained and knowledgeable in fire and life safety codes. The staff of four inspectors work toward compliance of all occupancies within Peoria to ensure community members and visitors can safely live in and patronize all locations within the city. The inspectors also utilize a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Certified Plan Reviewer for all new construction and remodel projects. These plans are reviewed for life safety aspects as well as all fire protection systems so that code compliance is achieved.



Hazardous Materials

The Hazardous Material Incident Team is trained to mitigate the most complex situations involving the spill, release, or contamination from hazardous substances. There are over 30 staff members on the Peoria Fire Department who are trained to the Technician level, the highest level of training from the Illinois State Fire Marshall. These individuals are capable of securing and mitigating all instances involving chemicals and substances that are extremely dangerous and pose the greatest risk to the citizens and community and are required by the State Fire Marshall to keep up their training through continuous education training hours.



Underwater Dive and Rescue

The Peoria Fire Department also has an Underwater Dive and Rescue Team. This team consists of over 20 members who are trained in not only dive rescue situations but also ice dive and rescue efforts. The team includes Master Divers and Master Diver Instructors, allowing for much of the training needed to be held in the city of Peoria. This team has been crucial in many of the rescue and recovery efforts that have occurred in the Illinois River which borders our city.



Technical Rescue



The Technical Rescue Team is comprised of individuals who are multi-disciplinary trained in all types of specialized rescues. These disciplines range from high-angle rope rescues, collapse and confined space rescues, and trench rescues. These individuals spend many hours completing the requirements for this team and work to upkeep their skills on a constant basis. They possess a special skill set that allows them to mitigate

unique rescue situations that extend beyond the capabilities of many members of the department.

Community Involvement

The men and women of the Peoria Fire Department are highly involved in community activities and place high importance on engaging with the public outside of emergency response. The department views the community members of the city as the most important aspect of the job they perform every day. For this reason, members of the Peoria Fire Department go to great lengths to be involved in public activities and participate in events when the opportunities arise. The department realizes the importance of having a well-involved active community when it comes to public safety, and stresses the importance of educating our neighbors on various aspects of fire safety. Whether is it participating in Fire Prevention Week presentations



through all the Peoria Public School system, or simply attending a neighborhood association meeting, the Peoria Fire Department believes being involved in the community is essential to its mission.



Apparatus Purchases in 2021

In 2021 the Peoria Fire Department was able to complement their fleet with the purchase of one fire engine and two new battalion chief vehicles as well as two new fire investigator vehicles. Over the last 20 years, the PFD has focused on having an apparatus replacement program to better serve the community members of Peoria. This not only ensures that apparatus is replaced before the end of its usage but prevents the department from having an enormous need for multiple apparatus at the same time.



When Engine 2 was placed out of service in 2021, a new engine was already being put together for the bidding process. Engine 2 was placed back in service by the city council in November of 2021 and coincidentally, the new fire engine received by the department in 2021 arrived at almost the exact same time. After careful consideration it was determined that this fire engine would be placed in service as Engine 2, located at Station 8 on Hurlburt Street.

Due to the age and condition of the previously used battalion chief vehicles, two new Chevy Tahoes were placed in service in 2021. These vehicles are utilized by the Battalion One and Battalion Three Chiefs for response to any and all incidents.



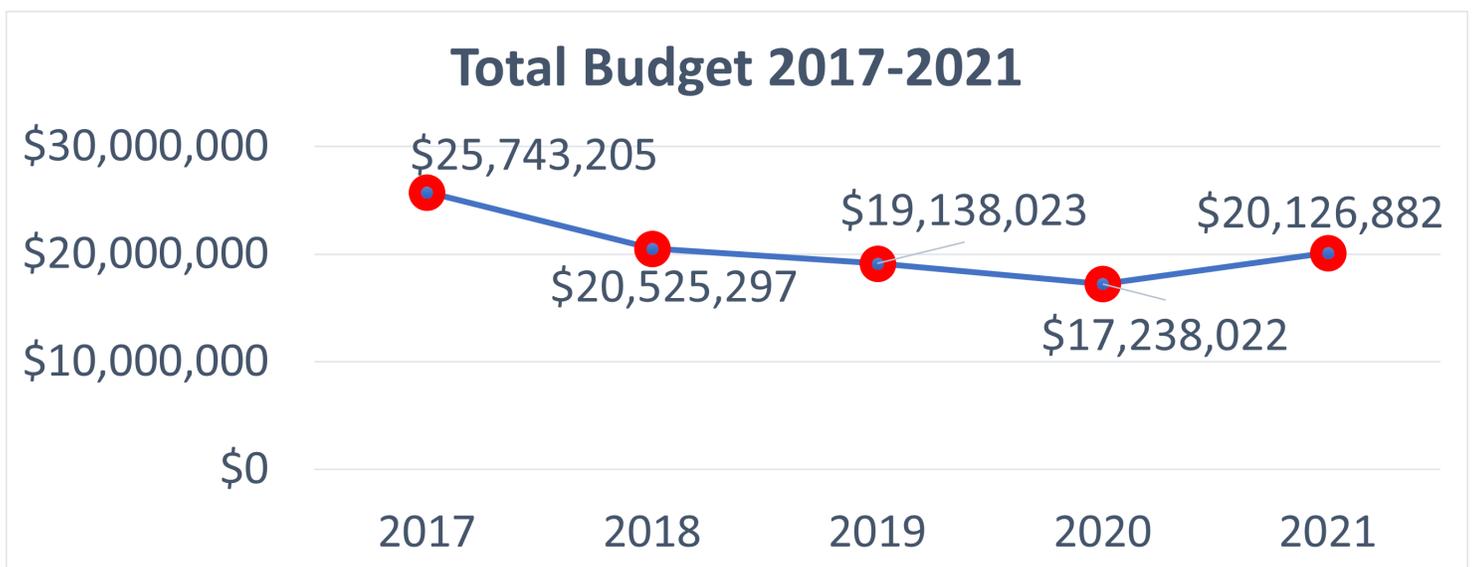
In 2021, the department was able to secure two new Ford F150 trucks to be utilized by our fire investigators.

Statistics and Figures for 2021

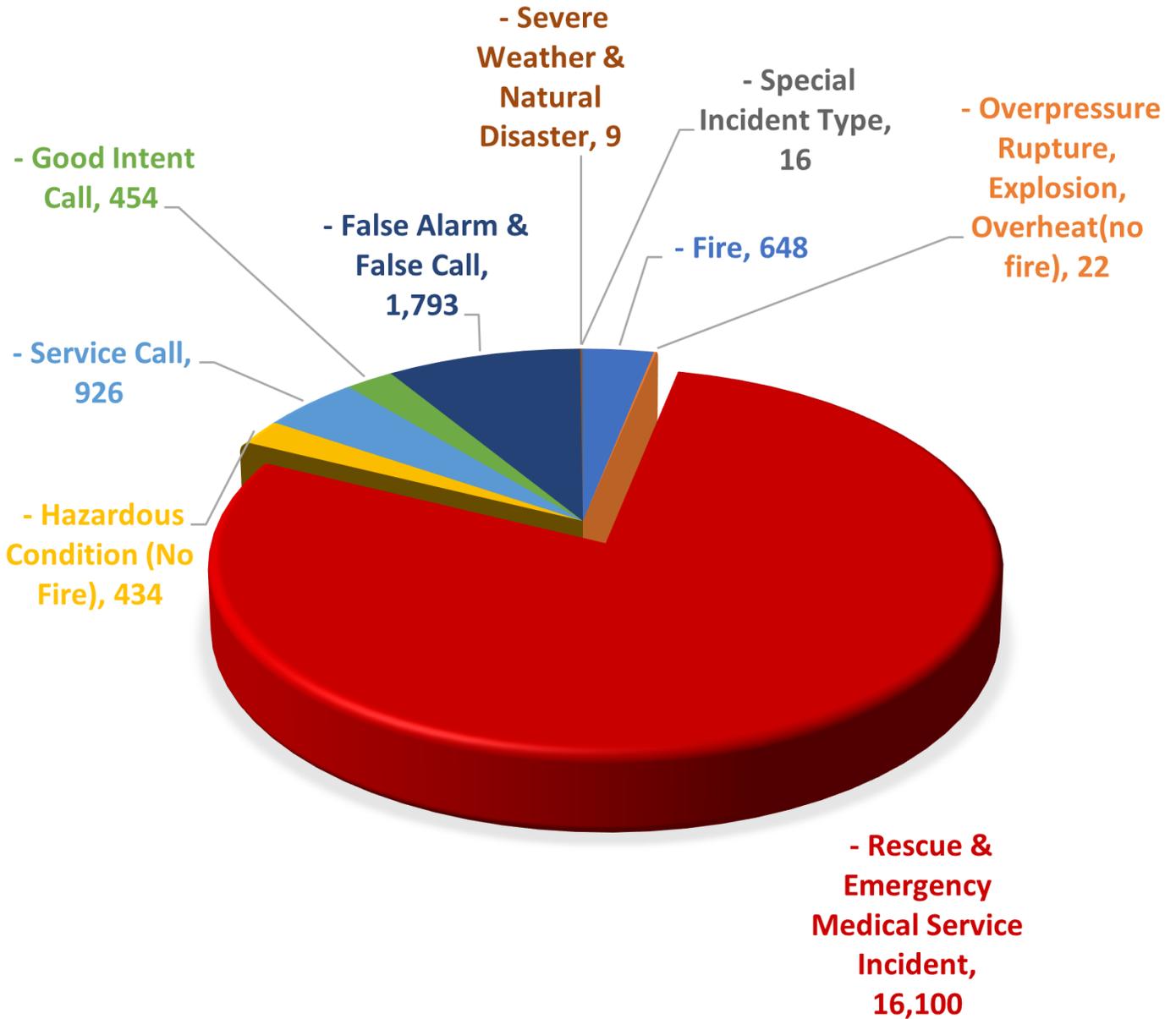
Number of Calls	Average Response Time	Average Turnout Time
20,402	4:39	1:16

Total Response per Apparatus 2019-2021

Apparatus	2019	2020	2021
B-1	1273	1257	1462
B-3	1262	1260	1485
E-1	2368	2575	3451
E-2	2266	2197	275
E-3	2025	2216	2591
E-4	2459	2274	2865
E-10	2024	2176	2177
E-12	1389	1213	1402
E-13	2818	2791	2957
E-15	830	797	1082
E-16	2024	1883	2155
E-19	1300	1184	1297
E-20	787	667	693
T-1	1671	1647	2215
T-3	2081	2060	2364
T-4	1119	1164	1343
T-14	714	608	869



2021 INCIDENT BY TYPE



Peoria Fire Department

505 NE Monroe Street

Peoria, IL 61603

309.494.8700

peoriagov.org/fire-department/