



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Wichita Falls Fire Rescue

1005 Bluff Street

Wichita Falls, Texas 76301

Tel: (940) 761-7901



Information contained in this annual report reflects performance during calendar year 2019, with the exception of any discussion regarding the department's financials. Financials are reported based upon the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019.

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ABOUT WICHITA FALLS FIRE RESCUE

Our Vision

We are leaders in providing public safety and emergency services to the citizens and visitors of Wichita Falls, and to be considered the premier emergency response organization in north Texas.

Our Mission

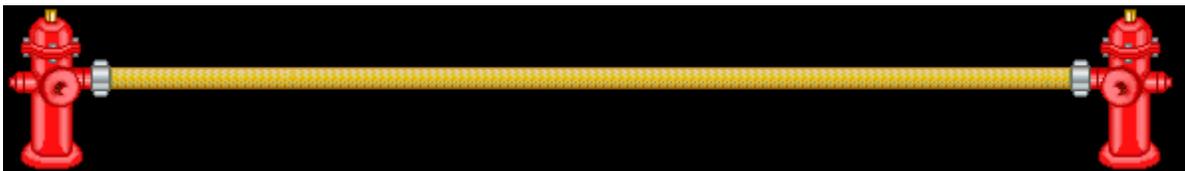
To preserve life and property, promote public safety and foster community partnerships through innovative, effective and responsible all-hazards incident response.

Operating Values

The organization is grounded in its core operating values of **Service**, **Professionalism**, **Integrity**, **Respect**, **Innovation** and **Trust**.

Foundational Tenets

We believe in and unconditionally support the age-old fire service tenets of **Brotherhood**, **Courage**, **Duty** and **Unity**.





MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

Ken Prillaman was appointed Fire Chief on July 15, 2019 after serving ten years as Chief of Department outside of Minneapolis, Minnesota.



Greetings,

Thank you for your interest in our 2019 Annual Report. I am thrilled to bring you the highlights of 2019 and to provide you some insight into your fire department and our operations.

Although I have been with the organization for a relatively short period of time, I am already impressed with the professionalism, competency and heart of the men and women who protect our city.

Like many fire service organizations, we have challenges that face us and opportunities to embrace. I look forward to the effort needed to position the Wichita Falls Fire Department among the best in its class and to deliver the services to our community it needs and to do so in a manner in which you can be proud.

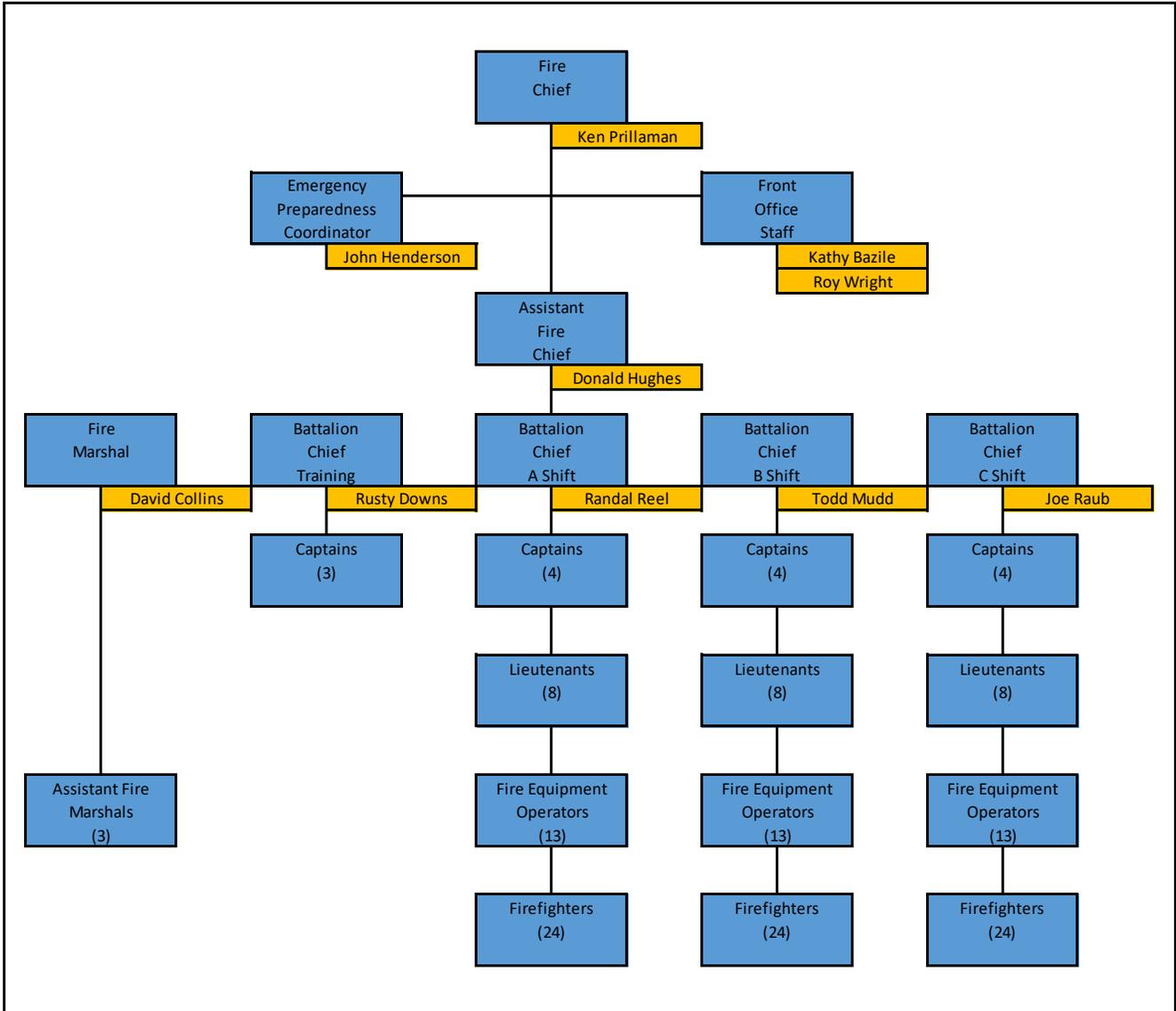
I speak for the whole organization when I say "thank you" for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Kenneth T. Prillaman



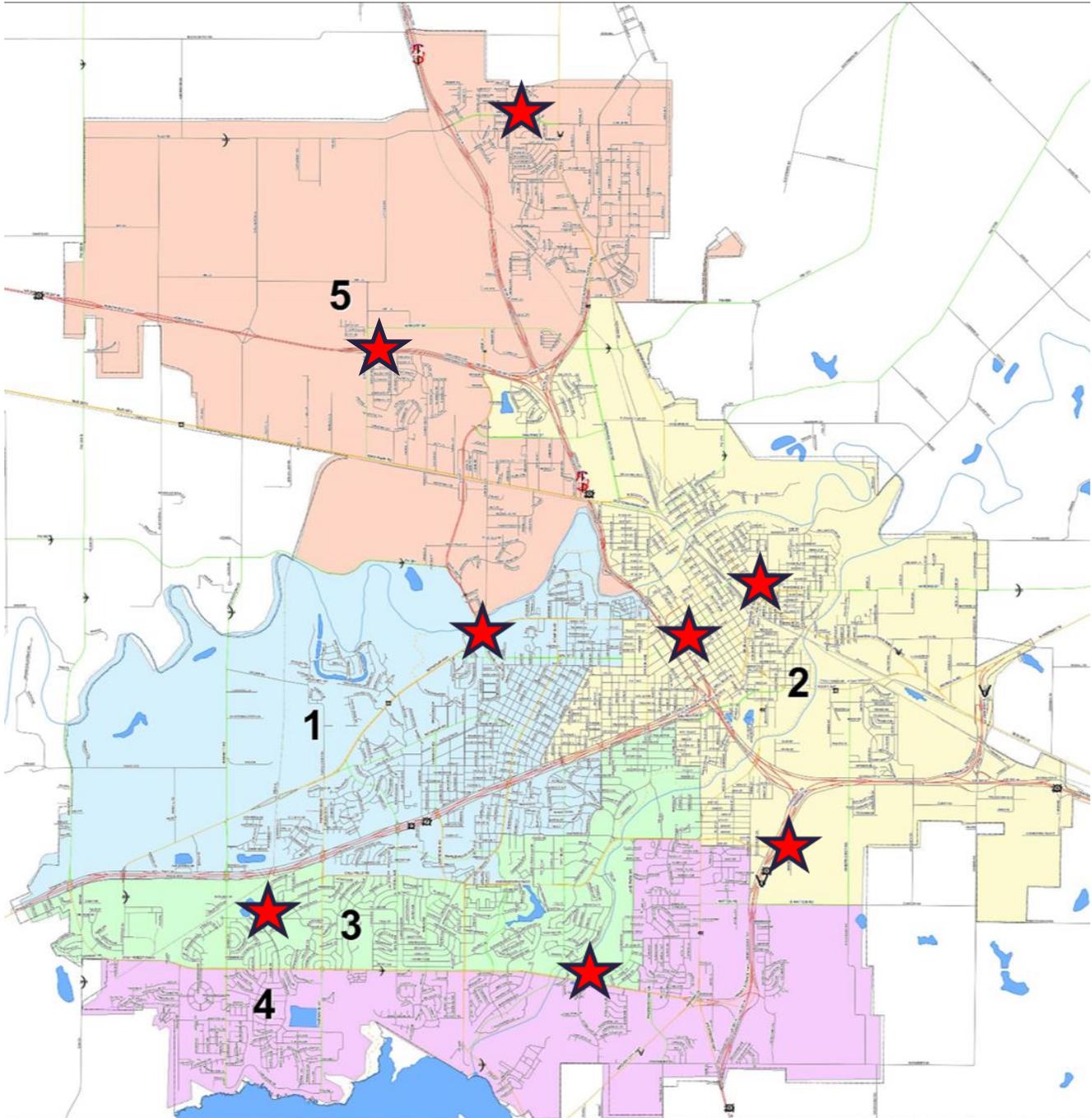
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



FIRE STATIONS MAP

Fire Stations

The city is protected by eight (8) strategically located fire stations.





FIRE STATION INFORMATION

Fire Station Information

STATION 1

Built: 1965

1005 Bluff Street, 76301

Council District: 2

Resources: Fire Administration Headquarters,
Battalion Chief, Engine, Ladder Truck, Brush Truck, Boat 1



STATION 2

Built: 1969

425 Bonner Street, 76301

Council District: 2

Resources: Engine, Squad, Boat 2



STATION 3

Built: 2000

3800 Brewster Street, 76302

Council District: 2

Resources: Engine, Brush Truck



STATION 4

Built: 1983

5512 Castle Road, 76306

Council District: 5

Resources: Engine, Brush Truck



STATION 5

Built: 2000
506 Beverly Drive, 76309
Council District: 1
Resources: Engine, Rescue, Squad, Brush Truck

**STATION 6**

Built: 1980
4912 Johnson Road, 76310
Council District: 3
Resources: Engine, Brush Truck

**STATION 7**

Built: 2000
2800 City View Drive, 76305
Council District: 5
Resources: Engine, Brush Truck

**STATION 8**

Built: 2008
2000 Southwest Parkway, 76308
Council District: 3
Resources: Engine, Ladder Truck, Brush Truck, Boat 8

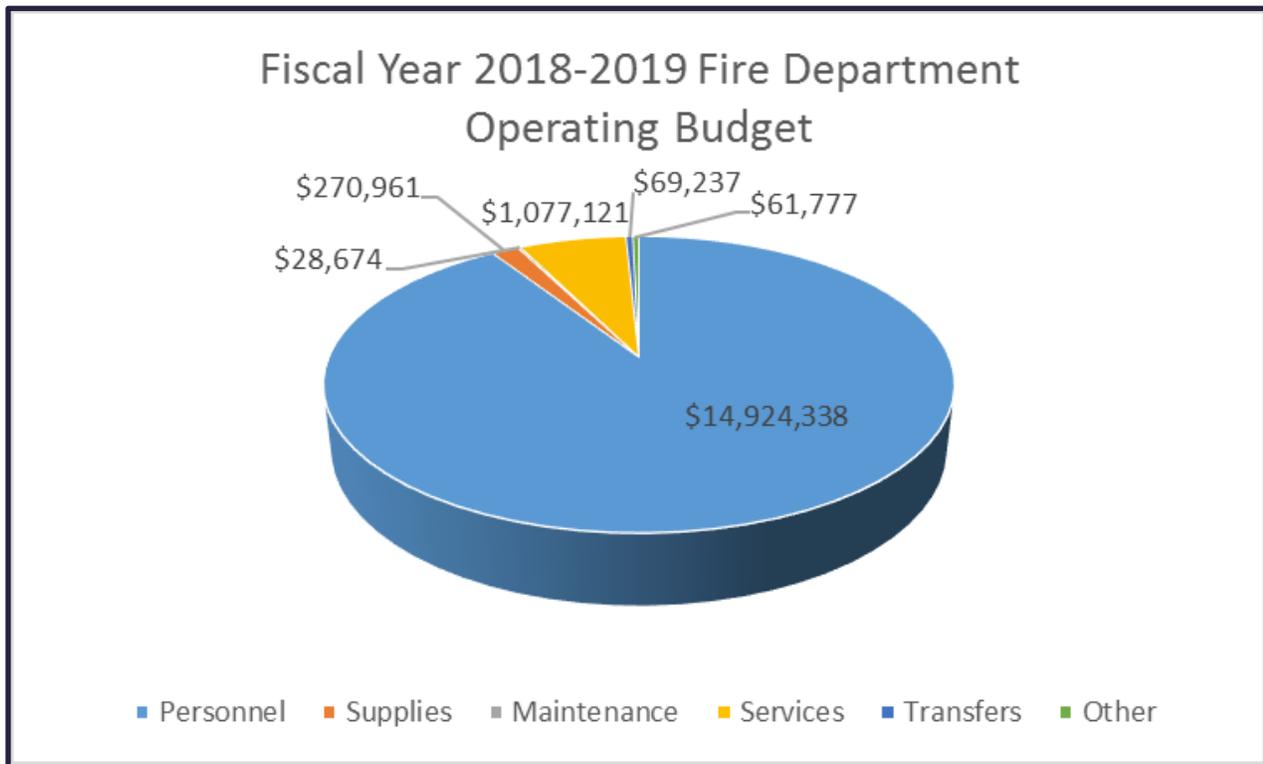




FINANCIALS

General Operating Budget

The fiscal year 2018-2019 General Fund Operating budget totaled \$16,379,308 broken down as follows:



Personnel Expenses

Personnel expenses for the fiscal year are by far the largest expense category (91.1%) and includes wages, benefits, tax liability, certification, assignment and longevity pay.

Services

Services include utilities (\$114,000), central garage (\$904,621) and other professional services (\$57,500).

Transfers

Transfers are exclusively a portion of the fire department operating budget that is allocated to Emergency Management. His allocation makes up the difference between grant income and operating expenses in the Emergency Management Division.

Supplies

After accounting for Personnel Expenses, Services and Transfers the fire department had a total supply budget of \$270,961. The supply budget covers all disposable supplies (medical gloves, station cleaning, expired medicines as examples), all equipment replacement (hose, nozzles, axes, chain saws, pike poles as examples), firefighter gear and station uniforms along with firefighting foam and other specialized equipment and supplies.

Fire Administration staff works tirelessly to maintain the department while keeping expenses at or under budget.



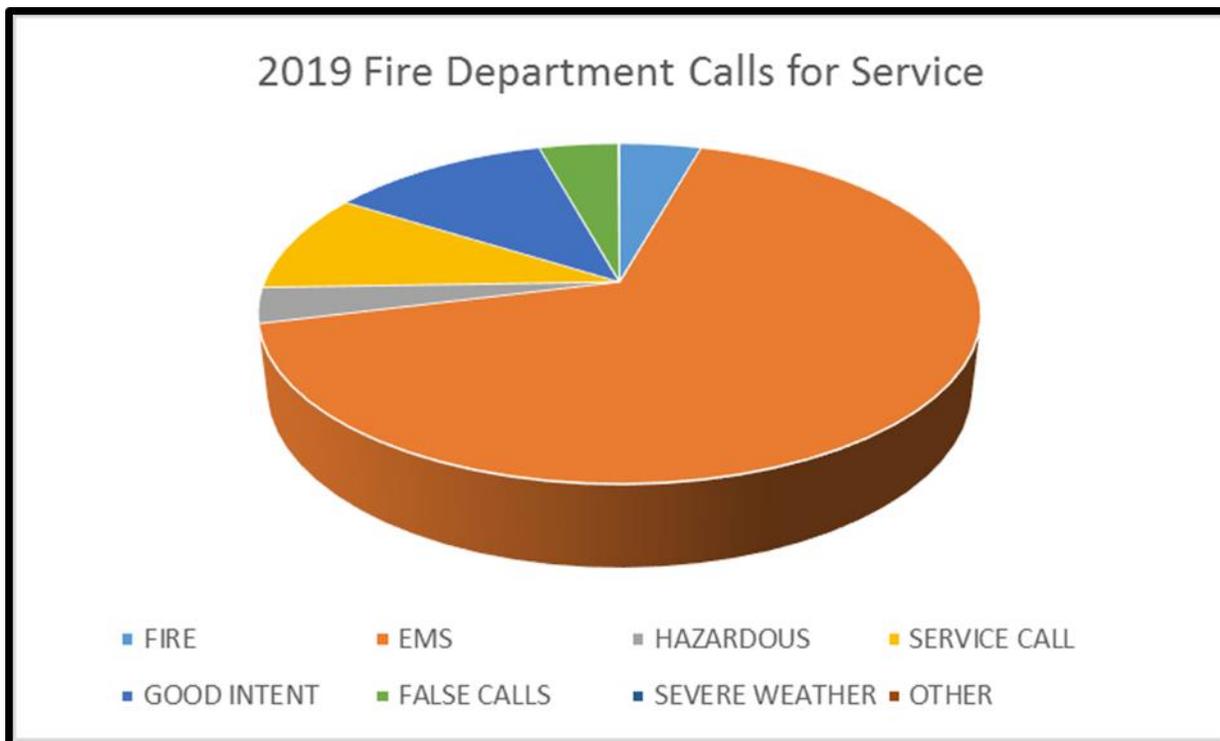
OPERATIONS

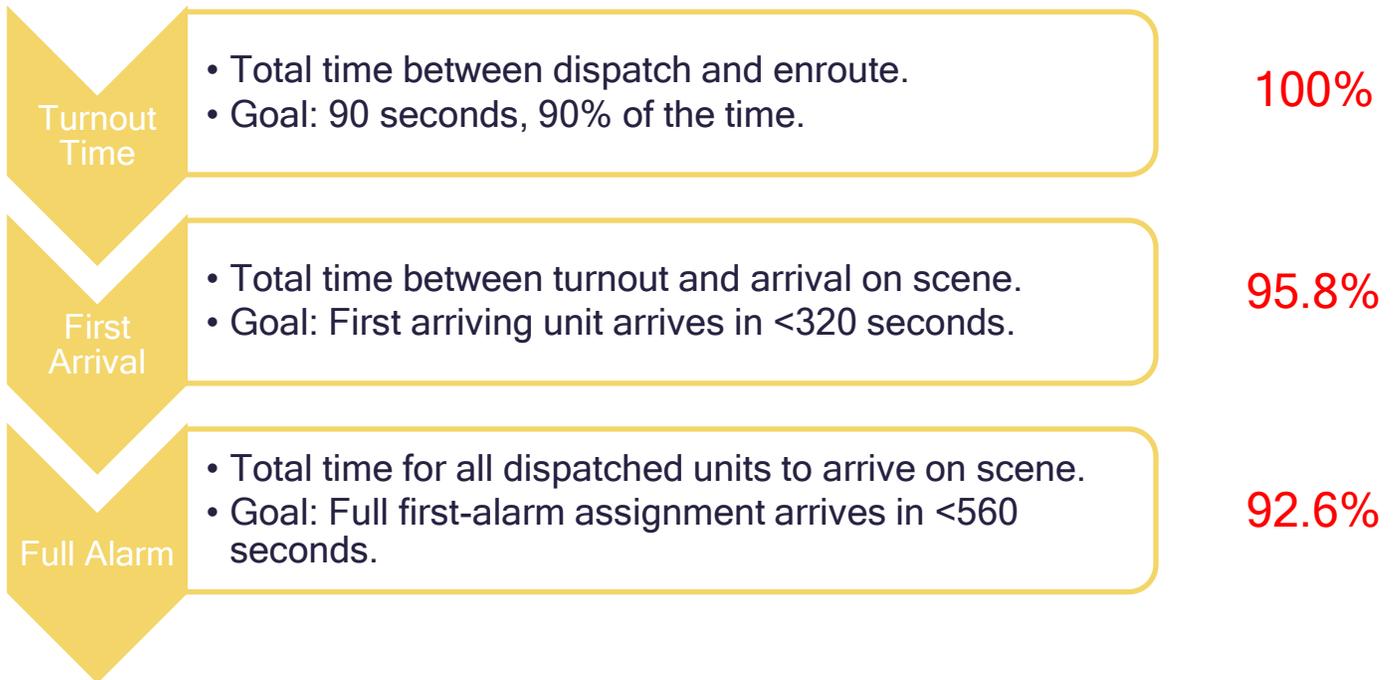
Staffing

The fire department is staffed by one-hundred-fifty-nine (159) sworn personnel and two civilians. We operate on a three-platoon system with each platoon working twenty-four hours, followed by forty-eight hours off duty. The minimum daily staffing is 41 sworn personnel which includes the Battalion Chief, his aide, a Safety Officer and an Assistant Fire Marshal.

Emergency Response

In 2019 the organization responded to a total of **12,296** calls for service across all call types as outlined below.





2019 Key Accomplishments:

- Maintain minimum staffing levels and station readiness.
- Achieved national standards for response as outlined above.
- Kept property loss from fire to \$1,764,424 city-wide.
- Acquired and put in service new boats for water rescue events.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Staffing

The Special Operations Division operates within the day-to-day Operations Division and is staffed by professionally trained and certified firefighters and officers. Disciplines maintained within the Special Operations Division include Water Rescue, High Angle Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Trench Rescue, Collapse Rescue and Hazardous Material Response. Additionally, the organization operates a Wildland Task Force, providing equipment and personnel throughout the country for wildfire response and mitigation.



Emergency Response

In 2019 the organization responded to a total of **307** Special Operations calls for service.

Hazardous Material Team

A specialized team of Technicians responded to **167** call for service.

Wildland Strike Team (TIFMAS)

Our Wildland Strike Team continues to serve Wichita Falls through mitigation and response within the city and is available for deployment throughout the United States as one of the most-capable teams of its type.

“Disasters are unpredictable and generally unforgiving. No community is immune from them”





2019 Key Accomplishments:

- Wildfire Strike Team deployment to the Coppers Break fire.
- Trained 300 firefighters from 75 agencies through the Red River Fire Academy
- Assisted Windthorst with fuel tanker fire.
- Sent two firefighters to Pueblo, Colorado for train-derailment/hazard mitigation training.

TRAINING DIVISION

Staffing

The Training Division is led by Battalion Chief Rusty Downs. Assisting him are three full-time Captains who share responsibilities for the departments training activity, including but not limited to, new recruits, driver and officer qualifications, certifications and continuing education.

25,971 TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAINING HOURS

5,200 TOTAL NUMBER OF EMS/RESCUE TRAINING HOURS

2,910 TOTAL NUMBER OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TRAINING HOURS

516 TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICER DEVELOPMENT HOURS





2019 Key Accomplishments:

- Redesigned and reinstated in-house fire academy.
- Completed the 67th Fire Academy on time, under budget and with a 100% graduation rate.
- Began to prepare the organization for our 2020 ISO evaluation.
- Maintained medical certification requirements for all EMT, EMT-Advanced and EMT-Paramedics.



FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION

Staffing

The Fire Marshal Division is led by Battalion Chief David Collins. Assisting him are three full-time Assistant Fire Marshals who share responsibilities for the departments activities, including but not limited to, code enforcement, public education, fire investigation and plan reviews.

Code Enforcement

The Fire Marshal Division is responsible for all fire code enforcement activity in the community. This is both an educational and an enforcement effort that insures that our businesses remain safe for their employees and customers. Supplemented by the efforts of our firefighters and officers, the Fire Marshal division conducts more than 3,000 inspections annually.

Plans Review

All new commercial construction, commercial remodeling and the updated of sprinkler systems and alarm systems require the Fire Marshal Division to review the proposed blueprints and render an approval to move forward.

Public Education

The bulk of our public education efforts is directed toward our elementary age children. Working in conjunction with the Sheppard Air Force Base fire department, we conducted more than six-dozen programs in twenty elementary schools reaching nearly 11,000 students from kindergarten through the fifth grade.

Fire Investigation

A fire investigation is conducted to determine the cause and origin of a fire. Investigations are conducted to determine if a crime (arson) has been committed and if so, gather the evidence necessary to pursue prosecution and to determine specific trends in the community that can be addressed through education or other mitigation efforts.

25,200

**TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENTS
RECEIVED FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION**

100%

**PERCENTAGE OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WHO
RECEIVED AGE-APPROPRIATE FIRE SAFETY
EDUCATION**

95

TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

296

**TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTINUING
EDUCATION HOURS FOR FIRE
INVESTIGATORS**



2019 Key Accomplishments:

- Investigated all working structure fires for origin and cause.
- Graduated most recent staff addition from the law enforcement academy.
- Supported the city's economic development and redevelopment efforts.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Staffing

The Emergency Management Division is led by Emergency Management Coordinator John Henderson. A part-time Emergency Management Assistant shares in some of the departments assigned duties, including but not limited to, disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts. The division coordinates with area and regional emergency managers.

All-Hazard Incident Management Team

The Wichita Falls fire department serves as the AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction) over the Wichita Falls Area All Hazard Incident Management Team. The team is a TDEM Type-3 incident management team with more than three dozen members from surrounding organizations. The team is available to deploy to disasters in the community and state-wide through a mutual-aid agreement.





November 2019 Texas Refinery Explosion

2019 Key Accomplishments:

- Successfully planned and executed Hotter' n Hell 100 Incident Action Plan.
- 2019 recipient of a NORTEX grant in the amount of \$50,000 to be used for training emergency responders in National Incident Management System course work.
- Updated and submitted the city's Risk Mitigation Plan.
- All-hazards deployments to various disasters across the state.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Association Activity

The Wichita Falls Professional Firefighters Association continues to be very active in serving the community outside of their professional responsibilities as firefighters and officers. Every year the association leads the effort around four specific community engagement activities; Fill the Boot, Pink T-shirt Campaign, Operation Santa Claus and Guns & Hoses.

- **Fill the Boot** - an annual fundraising effort, usually conducted in April, raises money and awareness for Muscular Dystrophy. The national fire service has enjoyed a thirty-plus year history with MDA. Locally, more than 600 off-duty hours are devoted to the campaign. Over the past the years the Wichita Falls Professional Firefighters have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars with more than \$50,000 in this fiscal year alone.
- **Pink T-shirt Campaign** - Every October, in recognition of Cancer Awareness month, the association sells pink t-shirts to the public with proceeds divided between the Susan B Komen organization and local cancer support organizations. Annual shirt sales average \$7,300.
- **Operation Santa Claus** - perhaps the largest undertaking of the association all year long, Operation Santa Claus raises money and donated toys to help make certain that children in Wichita Falls are provided gifts for Christmas. Through a partnership with the Salvation Army, hundreds of families in Wichita Falls are served each year.
- **Guns & Hoses** - Started in 2015 this annual bar-b-que contest, hosted by the Wichita Falls Firefighters Association and the Wichita Falls Police Officers Association raises money for local charities. Competition teams come from throughout the United States to compete is this annual favorite!

Fire Department Honor Guard

The fire service is steeped in tradition and our Honor Guard is charged with the responsibility to honor those traditions and serve both our internal members and the public. Honor Guard duties include, but is not limited to, presenting the colors at public events, standing vigil at firefighter funerals and serving the organization for graduations, promotions and other ceremonial events.



Thank You
From the
Members and Staff
of the
Wichita Falls Fire Department

