



Montrose Fire Protection District

2017 Annual Report

The mission of the Montrose Fire Protection District is to help improve the quality of life for our citizens by providing prompt, safe, and efficient response to emergencies with highly trained professional firefighters and emergency medical providers.

Fire Chief's Message



It is my pleasure to submit to the Board of Directors the Montrose Fire Protection District's Annual Report and to provide this general information on the District's financial, incident response, and other operational activities to the citizens we serve.

Call volumes continued to rise for the District with a 5% (193 incidents) increase in 2017. The District continued its Wildfire Cooperation program, providing a Type VI Engine and crew to five different wildfires nationwide. In addition to the valuable training and experience these incidents provide to District staff, it is also a means for generating additional revenues. Approximately \$190,000 was earned in 2017 to help counter the losses in assessed valuations seen in recent years.

Moving into 2018 and beyond, the District faces significant challenges in staffing and capital equipment replacement due to the growing demand on services. While the District continues to be committed to ensuring our community's Fire and Emergency Medical Services needs are met as efficiently as possible, the Gallagher Amendment's impact on future property tax revenue will severely limit the District's ability to fund these needs.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the District, please feel free to contact us by email at info@montrosefire.org, or by phone at (970) 249-9181. We are also active on social media, so give **MontroseFire District** a "Like" on Facebook, or follow **@MontroseFPD** on the Twitter for information on incidents, fire safety and injury prevention tips, and other District information.

Respectfully,



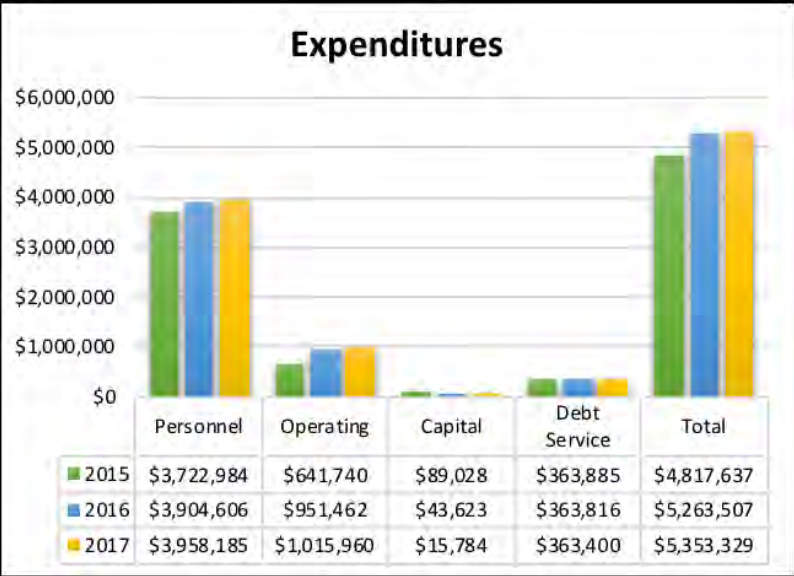
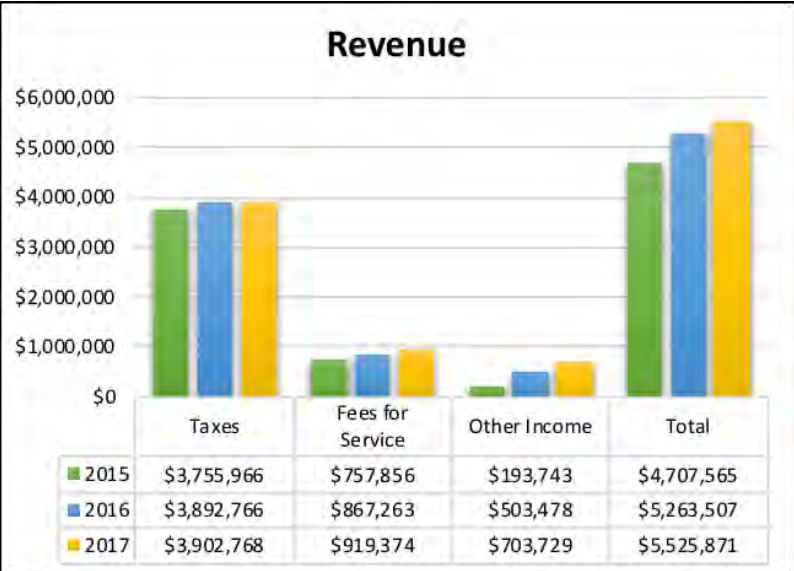
Tad J. Rowan, Fire Chief

Financial Summary

The District is governed by a 5-member Board of Directors elected by residents of the District. They are responsible for annual approval of a proposed budget and to provide oversight and direction for District services and policy. Current District Board members are:

- Peter Cassidy Jr.
- Cody Russell
- Casey Wareham
- Lilia Falk
- Brandon Frey

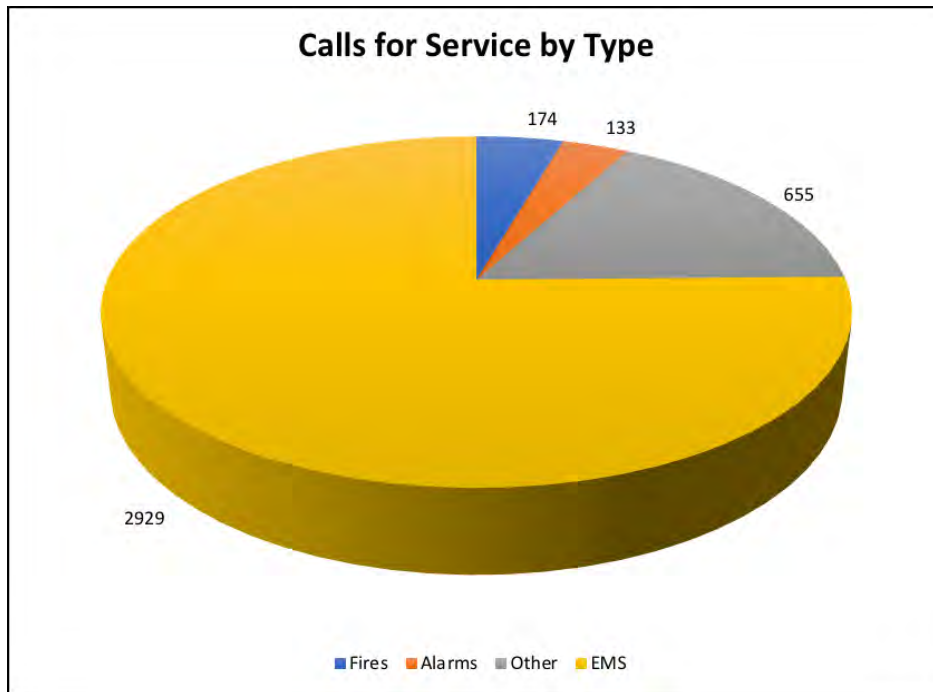
In 2017, revenue from the assessed valuation of properties decreased by approximately \$85,185 due to a sunset provision requiring a portion of annual revenue to be reduced. Income from *Fees for Service* was slightly more than in previous years due to an applied rate increase and an increase in EMS calls. Revenue sources and amounts for 2017 and the previous two years are shown in the chart to the right. *Tax* revenue comes from an 8.813 mil levy assessed to property and specific ownership taxes, *Fees for Service* are primarily EMS reimbursements and permit fees, and *Other Income* represents revenue from grants, federal fire cooperation, donations, interest earned, transfer from reserves, or other sources of income.



2017 Expenditures represent four basic categories of spending: Personnel, Operating, Capital, and Debt Service. Capital expenditures for 2017 were for the replacement of eight sets of structural protective gear (\$15,784). Revenues exceeded expenditures by approximately \$105,000 leaving an ending reserve balance of \$2,375,000.

Incident Summary

In 2017 the Montrose Fire Protection District responded to 3,891 requests for service, a 5% increase in call volume from 2016. Calls for service are separated into four general categories. These four categories are further divided into specific types of calls, which can be seen on the “Incident Response Summary” included in this report.



Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls are by far the majority of our requests for service. These service types range from medical issues such as seizures and chest pain to trauma issues like falls and automobile crashes. The “Summary of All Patient Problems” data provides the detailed numbers of each specific patient

problem treated. In 2017, the number of EMS responses increased by 166 when compared to 2016.

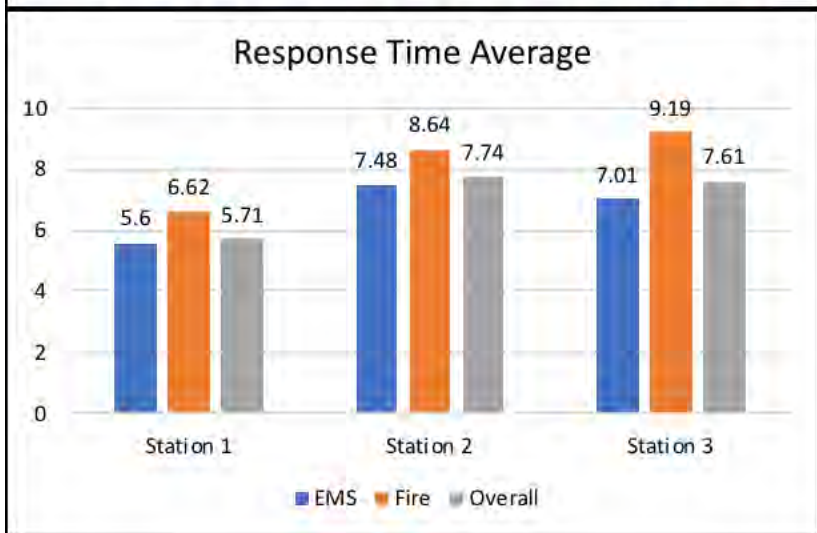
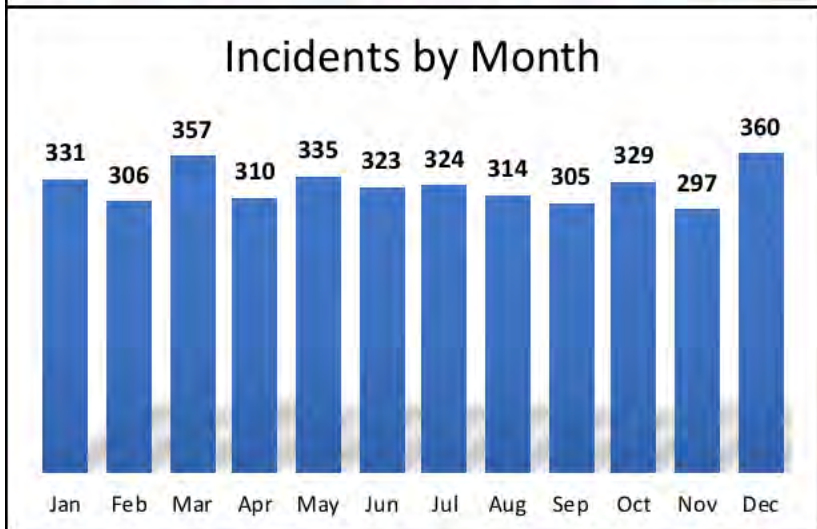
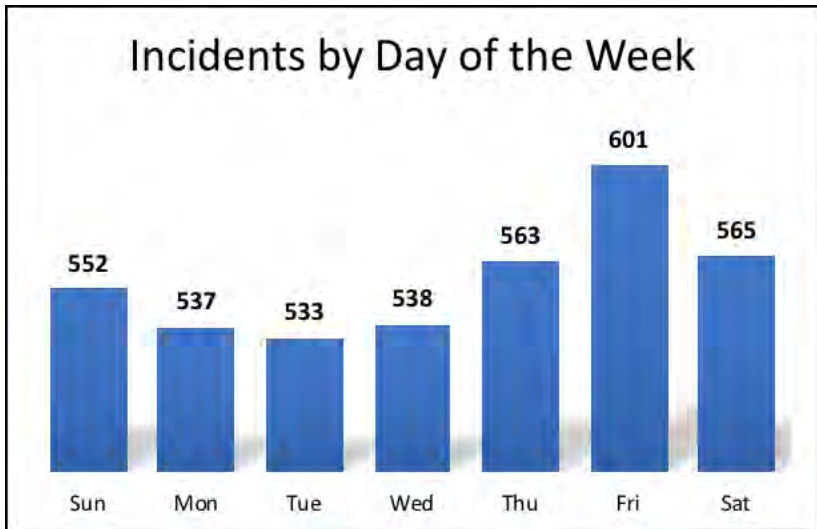
Fire Suppression calls are those calls where the MFPD responded to and extinguished a fire. These fires range from structure fires to grass fires, the specifics of which can be seen on the “Incident Response Summary”. In 2017, we responded to 30 less fire incidents than in 2016. There were four civilian injuries due to fire or exposure, however, no civilian fatalities occurred. There were two firefighters injured at scenes, in these cases the injuries were minor. The potential dollar loss to fire in the District was approximately \$3,300,400. The actual dollar loss was an estimated \$652,150, of which \$550,950 was structural property and \$101,200 was contents damaged or destroyed within a structure.

Alarms are responses to automatic fire alarms, sprinkler systems, or other false calls where no fire or hazardous condition was present. The MFPD responded to 28 more false alarms than in 2016.

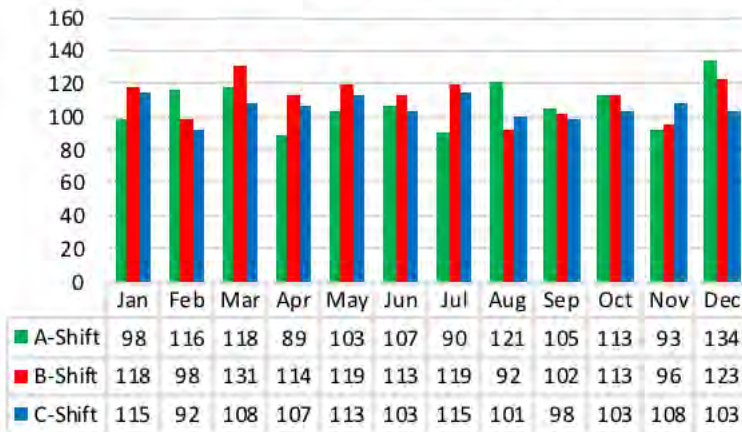
Other Hazardous Conditions are those calls that do not fit into the above categories. They include carbon monoxide checks, hazardous materials, good intent calls, and a variety of other call types as specified on the “Incident Response Summary”. The MFPD responded to 29 more of these calls in 2017.

These incidents represent an average of 10.7 calls per day. Fridays were the busiest day for incident responses, December was the District's busiest month, and more requests for service originated between 14:00 hrs and 15:00 hrs than any other time period.

The MFPD responds to incidents from three stations. Station locations were determined to provide the best reasonable response time to the most people based on historical call data. The "Response Time Average" chart shows time from receipt of the call until the first District resource arrived for each station's primary response area.

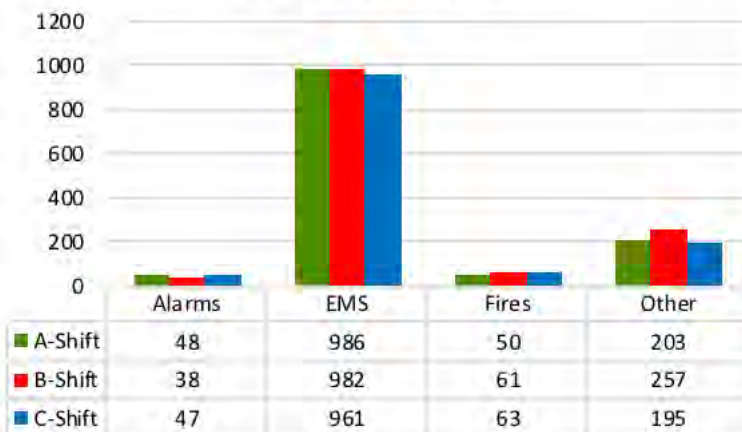


Incidents by Shift by Month



Stations are staffed by three separate platoons, or shifts, that work 48-hour rotations. B-Shift was the busiest shift overall, responding to 1,338 total incidents. They were followed by A-Shift and then C-Shift, with 1,287 and 1,266 incidents respectively. B-Shift had the busiest set of the year, running 39 calls on their May 17-18 tour of duty.

Call Types by Shift



Specific incident types and apparatus responses by station comprise the next few pages. Note that the “Response Summary by Station” numbers are higher than the number of annual incidents. This is due to incidents where multiple apparatus or crews respond to one incident (i.e., structure fires, automobile accidents, cardiac arrests).

Incident Response Summary for Montrose Fire Department

For period 01/01/2017 Through 12/31/2017

Type of Incident	Current Year			Previous Year		
	In Jurisdiction	Outside	Totals	In Jurisdiction	Outside	Totals
Fires						
Fire, not otherwise classified	13	0	13	11	0	11
Structure fire involving an enclosed building	21	0	21	25	0	25
Structure fire not involving an enclosed building	1	0	1	2	0	2
Cooking fire, confined to container	8	0	8	11	0	11
Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	2	0	2	6	0	6
Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	0	0	0	1	0	1
Trash or rubbish fire, contained	25	0	25	26	0	26
Fire in motor home, camper, recreational vehicle	3	0	3	1	0	1
Fire in portable building, fixed location	1	0	1	0	0	0
Passenger vehicle fire	9	0	9	16	0	16
Road freight or transport vehicle fire	1	0	1	3	0	3
Camper or recreational vehicle (RV) fire	0	0	0	1	0	1
Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1	0	1	3	0	3
Forest fire	0	0	0	3	0	3
Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	41	0	41	55	0	55
Grass fire	16	0	16	11	0	11
Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	30	0	30	22	0	22
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	0	0	0	1	0	1
Outside storage fire	2	0	2	0	0	0
Outside equipment fire	0	0	0	2	0	2
Cultivated vegetation, crop fire, other	0	0	0	4	0	4
	174	0	174	204	0	204
EMS						
Emergency medical incident	2,684	0	2,684	2,490	0	2,490
Vehicle accident with injuries	77	0	77	65	0	65
Motor vehicle vs. pedestrian or bicycle accident	1	0	1	2	0	2
Search for Person(s)	0	0	0	1	0	1
Extrication of victim(s)	1	0	1	2	0	2
Swift water rescue	0	0	0	1	0	1
Rescue or EMS standby	13	0	13	7	0	7
Citizen Assist	153	0	153	195	0	195
	2,929	0	2,929	2,763	0	2,763
Alarms						
False call (other than a fire alarm)	36	0	36	40	0	40
Fire alarm, malicious activation, no fire	12	0	12	5	0	5
Bomb scare - no bomb	2	0	2	0	0	0
Fire alarm system malfunction, no fire	45	0	45	28	0	28

* denotes that the incident occurred within the selected jurisdiction, but no units from that jurisdiction responded

Incident Response Summary for Montrose Fire Department

For period 01/01/2017 Through 12/31/2017

Type of Incident	Current Year			Previous Year		
	In Jurisdiction	Outside	Totals	In Jurisdiction	Outside	Totals
Alarms						
Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1	0	1	1	0	1
Fire alarm sounded due to dust, lack of maintenance, or simi	35	0	35	31	0	31
Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional	2	0	2	0	0	0
	133	0	133	105	0	105
Other						
Overpressure rupture, explosion, or overheat	1	0	1	0	0	0
Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	1	0	1	8	0	8
Hazardous condition, other	0	0	0	1	0	1
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	4	0	4	4	0	4
Natural gas or LPG leak	22	0	22	14	0	14
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	2	0	2	0	0	0
Chemical hazard (no spill or leak)	0	0	0	1	0	1
Chemical spill or leak	1	0	1	4	0	4
Carbon monoxide incident	24	0	24	24	0	24
Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	21	0	21	7	0	7
Power line down	9	0	9	6	0	6
Building or structure weakened or collapsed	1	0	1	2	0	2
Aircraft standby	2	0	2	0	0	0
Vehicle accident, non-injury	102	0	102	94	0	94
Service Call, other	3	0	3	3	0	3
Person in distress, other	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ring or jewelry removal	1	0	1	0	0	0
Water evacuation or shut-off	1	0	1	1	0	1
Smoke or odor removal	1	0	1	0	0	0
Animal rescue	0	0	0	2	0	2
Assist police or other governmental agency	32	2	34	23	0	23
Public service	24	0	24	41	0	41
SWAT activation (assist law enforcement)	5	0	5	2	0	2
Unauthorized burning	9	0	9	8	0	8
Cover assignment, standby, moveup	2	0	2	6	0	6
Good intent call, other	20	0	20	23	0	23
Dispatched & cancelled enroute	136	0	136	122	1	123
Authorized controlled burning	28	0	28	28	0	28
Smoke or odor investigation, no fire	81	0	81	82	0	82
Fire alarm sounded due to cooking or burnt food	18	0	18	17	0	17
Medical alarm activation, no medical problem	97	0	97	97	0	97
Lightning strike (no fire)	2	0	2	1	0	1
Special type of incident, other	1	0	1	0	0	0

* denotes that the incident occurred within the selected jurisdiction, but no units from that jurisdiction responded

Incident Response Summary for Montrose Fire Department

For period 01/01/2017 Through 12/31/2017

Type of Incident	Current Year			Previous Year		
	In Jurisdiction	Outside	Totals	In Jurisdiction	Outside	Totals
Other						
Citizen complaint	2	0	2	3	0	3
	653	2	655	625	1	626
Grand Totals	3,889	2	3,891	3,697	1	3,698

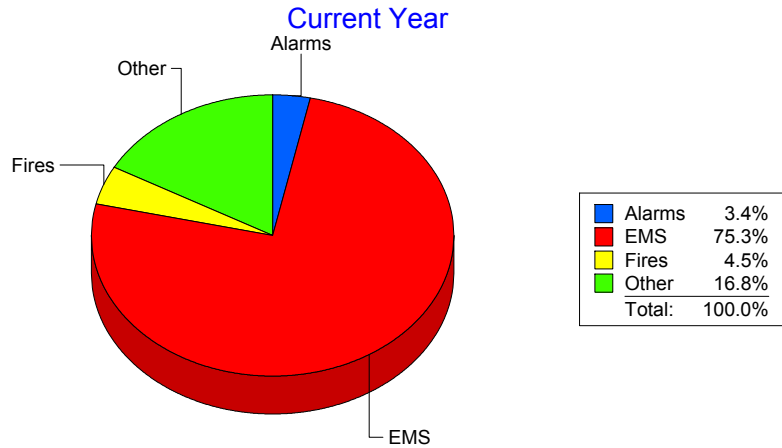
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Incident Response Summary for Montrose Fire Department

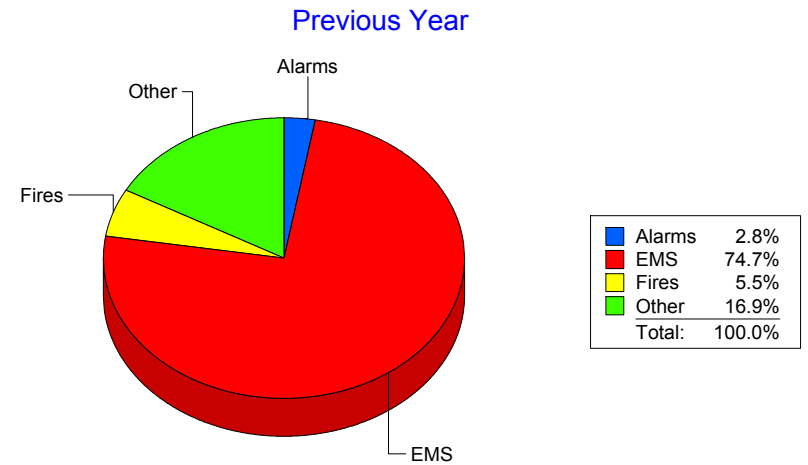
For period 01/01/2017 Through 12/31/2017

Type of Incident	Current Year			Previous Year		
	In Jurisdiction	Outside	Totals	In Jurisdiction	Outside	Totals

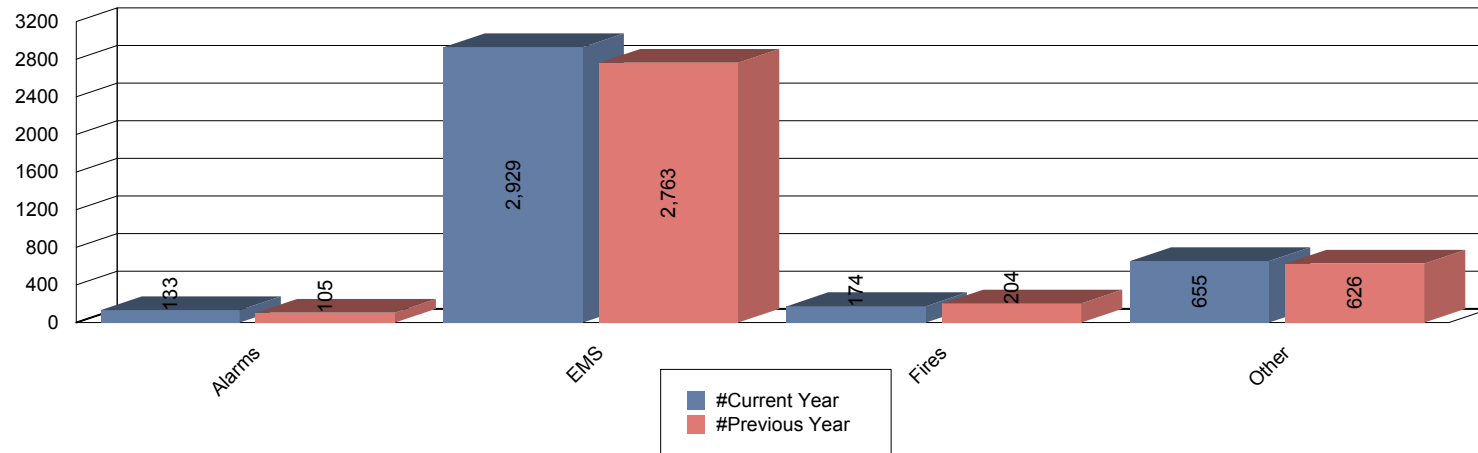
Total Incidents by Category



Total Incidents by Category

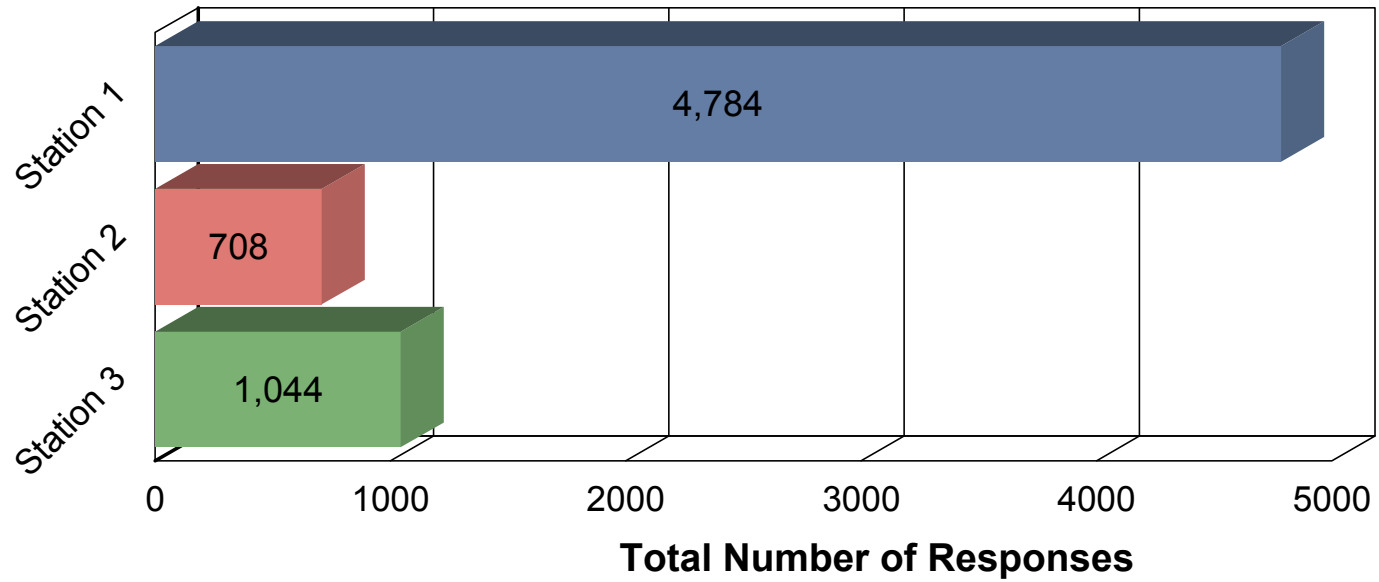


Two Year Comparison



* denotes that the incident occurred within the selected jurisdiction, but no units from that jurisdiction responded

Response Summary by Station



Summary of Primary Patient Problems

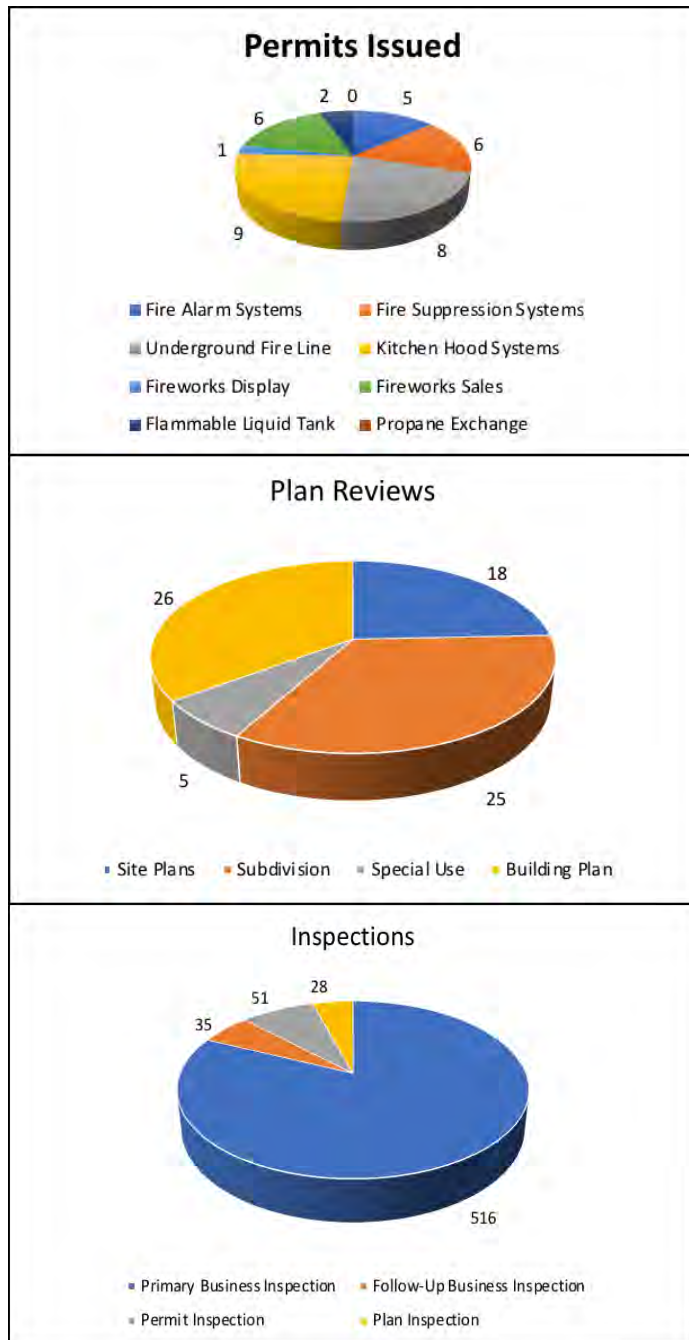
For period 01/01/2017 Through 12/31/2017

Patient Problem	Count
Montrose Fire Department	
Other	280
Abrasions / Lacerations / Amputations	225
No problem / no injury	210
Difficulty Breathing	193
General weakness	185
ETOH or drug overdose / poisoning	178
Abdominal pain	152
Behavioral problem	136
Chest pain	131
Syncope / dizziness	127
Unconsciousness or altered LOC - unknown etiology	127
Seizures	121
Neck or back pain	116
Diabetic problem	69
Fracture	66
Dislocation	49
Dead	49
Cerebral vascular accident or TIA	47
Head injury	46
Nausea	45
Head pain (or headache)	35
Infection	29
Multiple trauma	29
Diarrhea	28
Strain or sprain	27
Dehydration	27
Cardiac arrest	18
Allergic reaction	18
Epistaxis	18
Cardiac dysrhythmia	14
Vomiting	13
Choking or airway obstruction	12
Burns	10
Gastrointestinal bleed	7
Bite or sting	6
Hyperventilation	5
Dyspnea	5
Hypothermia	3
Vaginal bleeding	3
Hyperthermia	2
Ingestion	2
Eye injury	1
Respiratory arrest	1
Shock	1

Prevention Summary



The District is committed to the belief that the most efficient way to keep our community safe from fire, injury, and illness is through prevention. This is accomplished through building inspections, plan reviews, fire code enforcement, and public education. Fire Prevention Specialist Mark Bray coordinates and oversees the prevention activities for the District.



As new construction has slowed within the District, permits and plan reviews have decreased when compared to years past, however, a slight increase in permits issued and plan reviews was seen in 2017.

Fire Inspectors conduct physical inspections of new commercial construction and for compliancy of permits issued. On-duty firefighters conduct annual fire safety inspections of commercial occupancies within the District. These inspections are intended to find general Fire Code violations and to allow firefighters to familiarize themselves with the building layout and construction in the event of a fire. As issues are identified, the property owner is made aware and requested to remedy the problem. A follow-up inspection is then conducted to check compliancy.

While public education programs, fire prevention, and community relations activities take place throughout the year, the primary emphasis for fire prevention education occurs during Fire Prevention Week in October of each year. Firefighters use puppets and equipment tours to teach the importance of family escape plans, accessing the 911 system, and other health and safety messages. Other public education activities include:

- Station Tours
- Puppet Programs
- Juvenile Fire Setter Program
- Fire Extinguisher Classes
- Elementary School Programs
- General Adult Fire Education
- Infant and Child Car Seat Inspections
- Community Events (Home & Garden Shows, Public Fireworks Display, Drive-Thru Flu Clinic, Career Days, etc.)



Through these programs, approximately 546 adults and 988 children were reached in 2017.



The District is also responsible for the determination of the cause and origin of all fires. This is performed by staff trained in fire investigation or, if needed, with consultation by investigation experts such as the Colorado Bureau of Investigations or other private, professional investigation firms. In 2017, the District conducted 22 formal investigations. Fires determined to be incendiary or suspicious are referred to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction.

Training Summary

Battalion Chief Jon Cryer is the District Training Officer and is responsible for planning, coordinating, and tracking all the various training that occurs throughout the year. Training occurs daily, with various on-duty drills and subjects. In addition to the on-duty training, other classes are conducted to provide continuing education for the maintenance of required fire and emergency medical certifications.

Training highlights for 2017 include:

- Advanced Cardiac Life Support – conducted in February for the District’s paramedics and EMT-Intermediates. This two-year certification is a requirement for all advanced life support providers.
- Advanced Medical Life Support – conducted in February for the District’s paramedics and EMT-Intermediates. This is required every two years for all advanced life support providers.
- Officer Training – the District’s chiefs and company officers were trained and refreshed on officer responsibilities, communications, and reporting.
- Annual Wildfire Refresher Class (RT-130) – conducted in March for all District staff. This class reviewed wildland fire behavior, suppression tactics, and the practical use of fire shelters. All personnel were required to complete the Arduous Pack Test as well.
- Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS) – conducted in April and November for all District ALS staff. This is required every two years.
- Swift Water Rescue Refresher – conducted at the water park. District Swift Water Rescue Technicians were recertified, and other staff were provided awareness training.
- Firefighter Survival – all firefighters completed an SCBA Firefighter Survival course designed to challenge everyone and push their individual limits.
- Live Burn Training – conducted multiple times throughout the year.
- Operator Courses – conducted for multiple disciplines in 2017:
 - ATV/GPS Operator
 - Driver/Pump Operator
 - Aerial Operator



Additionally, District staff completed 3,500 man-hours of training in the following topics:

- Ventilation
- High Rise Fires
- Master Streams
- Communications

- Responsibilities of the Investigator
- Responsibilities of the Firefighter
- Specialized Fire Training
- FF Safety and Health
- Fire Ground Accountability
- Ropes and Knots
- Fire Ground Search and Rescue
- Rescue and Extrication
- Inspection Practices
- Firefighter Survival
- Leadership
- Pump Operations
- Aerial Operations
- Defensive Driving
- Annual Wildfire Refresher
- Scene Size-up and Safety
- Ice Rescue
- Swift Water
- Hazmat Operations
- Detection and Monitoring
- Rope High-angle/Low-angle
- ATV Training/Refresher
- FI-210 Fire Investigations
- S-290 Intermediate Wildfire Behavior
- SWAT Training
- Self Defense Training
- Emergency Management
- Harassment Policy
- EMS/Fire Legal
- Airway/Breathing/Cardiology
- Medical/Behavioral Emergencies
- Trauma
- Difficult Airway
- Medication Doses and Routes
- Cold Weather Emergencies
- IV Therapy
- Pediatric Education for Prehospital Providers
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- Advanced Medical Life Support
- Advanced Trauma
- Medical Documentation
- EMS Protocols
- Transcutaneous Pacing
- Active Shooter
- Overdose
- Mass Casualty Response
- Cyber Security



Maintenance Summary

The District operates and maintains 3 fire stations, a training/live-burn building, 18 vehicles and numerous pieces of support equipment. Battalion Chief Craig Willsie supervises and coordinates the District maintenance program with a goal to maintain a superior state of readiness while being as cost-effective as possible. That challenge is met by purchasing quality equipment and apparatus and maintaining that equipment to a high standard. Equipment and apparatus are subject to daily, weekly, and annual inspections as required. Every effort is made to comply with applicable guidelines established by the National Fire Protection Association and Occupational Safety and Health Association.



In an effort to keep costs as low as possible, the District performs the majority of maintenance and repair to facilities, equipment, and apparatus using District staff. When projects are beyond the scope and experience of in-house staff, local professional mechanics or contractors are used.

Staff Awards and Recognitions

Firefighter of the Quarter

The Firefighter of the Quarter Award is given to an employee who has been nominated by his or her peers for actions beyond their normal scope of duties. Recipients in 2017 were:

- 1st Quarter – Captain Cory Carwin.
- 3rd Quarter – Volunteer FF James Evans.
- 4th Quarter – FF/Paramedic Heidi Distel.



Years of Service Recognitions

- FF/EMT-I Marc Carlton, FF/Paramedic Heidi Distel, FF/Paramedic Tony Jakino, and FF/EMT Shane Polley were recognized for 5 years of service to the District.
- Captain Cory Carwin, Captain Bill Martindale, FF/EMT Jerry Skees, Lieutenant Karl Stegmann, FF/EMT-I Mike Tindall, and Reserve FF Steve Underwood were recognized for 10 years of service to the District.
- Captain Brent Culver and Captain Nate McCullough were recognized for 15 years of service to the District.
- FF/Paramedic Melanie Caton (pictured) was recognized for 20 years of service to the District.

Employee of the Year

The Fire Chief awards an Employee of the Year award to person(s) who perform exemplary or go beyond the call of duty.

- FF/Paramedic Jessie Galvan (pictured right) was awarded Employee of the Year for his quality performance, dedication, and attitude.

