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Franklin Fire Department Annual Report



A review of our statistics and major accomplishments

2007

IN MEMORIAM
Franklin Fire
Chief Jesse
Wallace "J.W."
Culberson
1929 - 2007

Station 6 is now open!



MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF

It's been my privilege to serve as your Fire Chief since 2004. During this time, I have witnessed the bravery and dedication of the men and women in the Franklin Fire Department who provide fire, rescue, hazardous material, disaster and emergency medical services to our citizens, 24 hours a day.

As our community continues to grow, the Franklin Fire Department has experienced an increased demand for service each year, and 2007 was no different. Last year we responded to 5,219 calls for service – our busiest year yet, with an increase of five percent in call volume over 2006.

2007 proved to be significant in several other areas, as well:

- We built one new fire station, which was placed in service February 2008, with plans underway for two more. We presently operate out of six stations throughout the city.
- Trained 24 new firefighter recruits at our fire academy – the most we've ever trained in a one-year period - in preparation for opening our sixth station.
- Upgraded our medical response to Advanced Life Support service (which went into effect January 2008). This means there is now a paramedic on all of our rescue units and one engine, as well as a cardiac monitor and life-saving medications.
- Upgraded our fleet with the addition of new fire apparatus. A new ladder truck was added to Fire Station 3, and Tower 6, a 2007 Sutphen 100' aerial tower truck replaced a 1994 model tower truck.
- Added three new thermal imaging cameras. These sophisticated devices can help firefighters find victims in smoke-filled rooms, pinpoint the sources of fires, and detect structural dangers before they cause injury and death. There is now a thermal imaging camera on every response apparatus.
- Improved firefighter training with the addition of a gasoline tanker live fire training prop and other live fire props.

In 2007 the department also focused on meeting Department of Homeland Security requirements, with officers completing National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) training. NIMS helps responders from different jurisdictions and disciplines work together better to respond to natural disasters and emergencies, including acts of terrorism.

More of our achievements from the past year are highlighted in this report. We hope you agree that they demonstrate our commitment to providing the highest level of service possible to our residents and guests.

Sincerely,



Rocky Garzarek



Franklin Fire Chief
Rocky Garzarek

ANNUAL REPORT 2007



QUICK FACTS

City Information

- Land area – 41.28 square miles
- Resident population (2006 Special Census) – 49,412
- Estimated value of property in Franklin - \$7 billion
- Firefighters – 144
- Administrative personnel – 10
- Civilian personnel - 3
- Firefighters per shift - 48
- Firefighters per 1000 population per shift – 1

Fire Operations

- Total incident responses – 5,219
- Medical and rescue responses – 3548 (68 percent)
- Average response time – 4:15

Fire Prevention

- Public education and community relations events participated in – 196 (more than 3 per week)
- 1st grade students instructed on fire and life safety – 550
- Construction plan reviews – 900+
- New construction inspections – 700+

Budget

- 2007-2008 fiscal year budget (personnel, operations and capital) - \$12,684,807

Equipment and Facilities

- Stations – 5
- Training center – 1
- Administrative office center in City Hall - 1
- Engines - 4
- Ladders - 6
- Rescue, light - 2
- Rescue, medium - 1
- Rescue, air - 1
- Brush truck - 1
- Boat – 2
- Hazmat response vehicle - 1
- Reserve engine – 1
- Reserve rescue - 1
- Staff vehicles - 12



PROMOTIONS AND RETIREMENTS



Advancing to the rank of Deputy Chief

- Mike Culberson

Advancing to the rank of Assistant Chief

- Greg Baltimore

Advancing to the rank of Captain

- Scott Mainord
- Ben Marler
- Greg Wild

Advancing to the rank of Lieutenant

- Bill Almon
- Charlene Forehand
- Jonathan Jenkins
- Jeff Moss
- Michael Pardue
- Roddie Petty



Advancing to the rank of Engineer

- Jonathan Dye
- Allen Fagan
- Nathan Goodin
- Rick Havrilla
- John Krawcyk
- Greg Lestarjette
- Tommy Nelms
- Anthony Sedlak
- Larry Woody



2007 Retirements

- Lt. Jerry Earwood
- Eng. Robert Fitzgerald
- Eng. John Leach
- Lt. L.E. McKee



AWARDS



Engineer of the Year
Shawn Williams

Firefighter of the Year
Tyler Crews

Rookie of the Year
Keith McVoy

Community Service Award
Doug Bowman

Support Employee of the Year
James Marlin

Phoenix Award, May 21 (Station 1, C Shift)

For successfully resuscitating a seven year old girl who nearly drowned.

Capt. Joe Polenzani, Lt. Jerrol Coats, Paramedic Jeff Essig, Engineer Kirk McGee, Firefighters Jeremy Channell and Brian Daugherty; Franklin PD: Sgt. Gary Haufmann, Officers Amy Butler, Robert Gibson and Tommy Heathcock; Williamson Medical Center EMS: Paramedics Sean Bardo, James Bourland, Michael Fletcher and Josh Ress.

Phoenix Award, Dec. 3 (Station 3, A Shift)

For successfully reviving an 82-year old heart attack victim.

Capt. David Currie, Paramedic Jonathan Puckett, Firefighters Kyle Garner, Landon McKee and Tommy Nelms.

Unit Citation for Valorous Conduct, July 27 (Station 3, A Shift)

For successfully extricating a severely entrapped auto accident victim on I-65, in eight minutes, under adverse conditions.

Asst. Chief Gentry Fox, Captains Chris Brown and David Currie, Engineers Richard Hasley and Bob Morrell, Paramedics Jonathan Puckett and David Wilber, Firefighters Doug Bowman and Tommy Nelms.



ADMINISTRATION DIVISION SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fire Station 6—Continued construction and completion (Opened February 7, 2008)



Construction of Fire Station 6 continued throughout 2007 and opened February 7, 2008. This three-bay, 11,175 square foot station is located at 1061 Cool Springs Blvd. in Avalon and serves the area east of I-65 and north of Murfreesboro Rd. It houses six to eight firefighters per shift, Engine 6 and Tower 6. In addition, it includes office space for two fire inspectors and the medical officer.

Station 6 was designed by Hart-Freeland-Roberts of Brentwood and Tri-Star Construction of Murfreesboro was the general contractor. This \$2.5 million dollar capital project was funded by the Facilities Tax. The 1.8 acre site for the station was donated by the developers of Avalon.

City growth through annexation and continued development east of I-65 prompted the addition of this fire station. A 2005 Insurance Services Office evaluation of our department also echoed the need for a new station.

More About the Insurance Services Office

In 2005, FFD received an overall fire safety rating of Class 3/9 from the Insurance Services Office (ISO). This was an improvement from our previous Class 4/9. Throughout the United States, less than 4% of communities rated by ISO have achieved a Class 3 or better rating.

Insurance companies use a community's ISO rating to establish appropriate fire insurance premiums for residential and commercial properties. Class 1 indicates excellent fire protection; Class 10 indicates that the community does not meet minimum recognition criteria.

The factors ISO uses to determine a community's classification are: fire alarm and communication systems (10%); equipment, staffing, training, and geographic distribution of fire stations (50%); and an evaluation of the water supply system (40%).



**Assistant Chief
Todd Horton**

Administration Responsibilities:

- Leadership
- Long range planning
- Statistical analysis
- Budget development
- Financial management
- Personnel management
- Payroll records management
- Capital project management
- Facility and equipment maintenance and repair, including fleet
- Resource allocation
- Inter-departmental coordination
- Emergency communications liaison
- Information technology coordination
- General customer service



ADMINISTRATION DIVISION SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



First Citizens' Fire Academy a Success!

Captain Ben Marler instructed Franklin Fire Department's first annual Citizens' Fire Academy, an eight-week course that took place in April and May. The course was designed to provide residents with a better understanding of their Fire Department. It began with a history of the fire service and ended with a night of "fighting fire" in the City's Training Center Burn Tower. Participants also had the opportunity to ride along with the Fire Department and take part in hands-on vehicle extrication and search and rescue training exercises.

New Apparatus

A new ladder truck was added to Fire Station 3 and a 2007 Sutphen 100' aerial tower truck replaced a 1994 model tower truck.



New apparatus: Ladder 3



New apparatus: Tower 6

Other 2007 Administration Highlights:

- Complete Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus replacement
- Three new thermal imaging cameras placed in service
- Station 3 total HVAC replacement
- Added live fire gasoline tanker prop to training facility

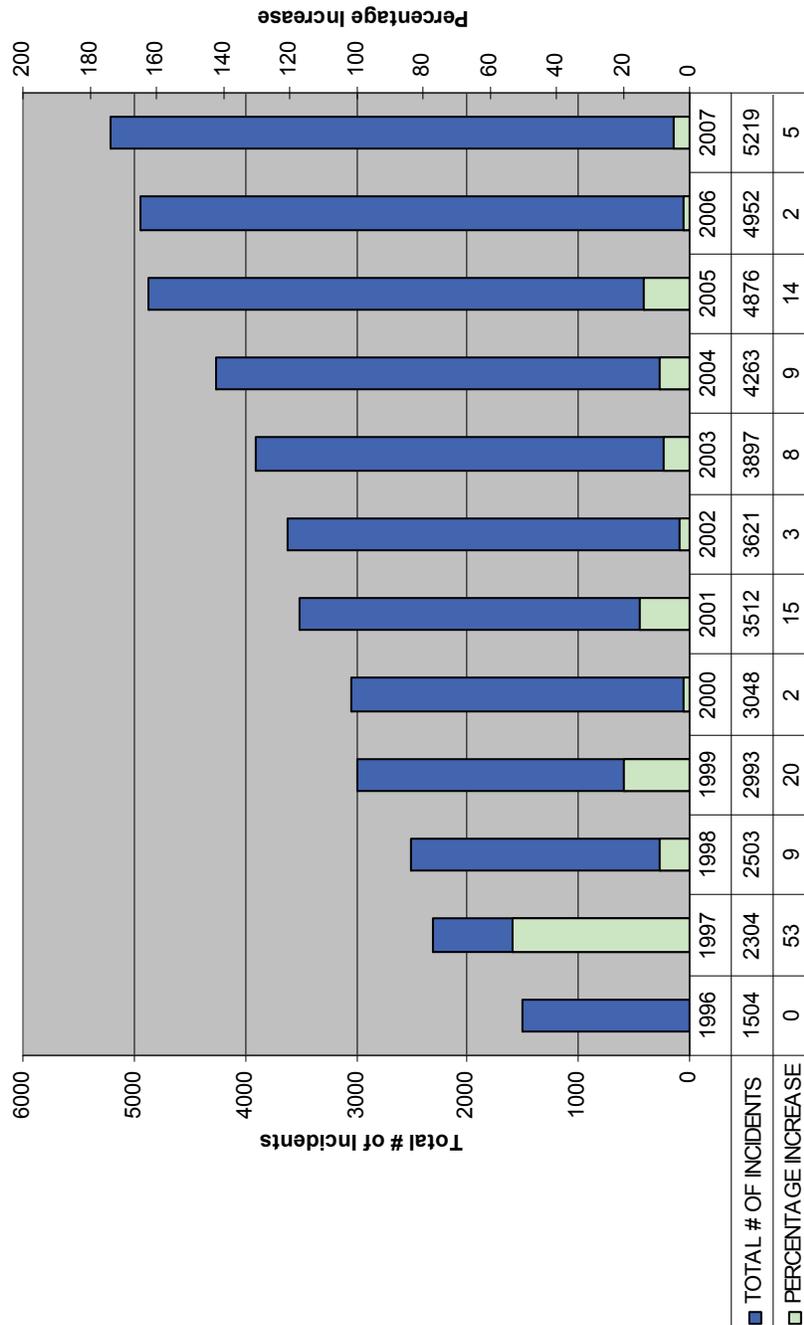


OPERATIONS DIVISION SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Increased call volume and improved average response time

In 2007, the men and women of the department answered 5,219 calls for assistance—a five percent increase in call volume over 2006. Additionally, we lowered our average response time from 4:17 to 4:15 minutes, which is significant, because in a fire or medical emergency, every second counts.

Summary of Total Incidents by Year
1996 - 2007



Deputy Chief
Mike Culberson

Operations Responsibilities:

- Fire suppression
- Emergency medical services
- Training
- Vehicle extrication
- Hazardous materials
- Technical rescue
- Swift water rescue
- Confined space rescue
- High angle rescue
- Pre-incident planning/fire safety courtesy inspections
- Public education activities



SUMMARY OF TOTAL INCIDENTS PER STATION 2003—2007

	Station 1	Station 2	Station 3	Station 4	Station 5	Station 7*	Total
2007	1,570	1,465	1,435	288	347	114	5,219
2006	1,445	1,570	1,289	242	309	97	4,952
2005	1,557	1,341	1,331	248	306	92	4,875
2004	1,537	1,149	1,137	169	271	n/a	4,263
2003	1,393	1,059	1,033	180	229	n/a	3,894
Totals	7,502	6,584	6,225	1,127	1,462	303	23,203

* Station 7—Proposed future station in the Goose Creek area. This area is presently covered by Stations 2 and 5.

Since 1996, the Franklin Fire Department's total number of calls per year has more than tripled—increasing 347% in just 12 years.
1996—1504 calls for service
2007—5219 calls for service



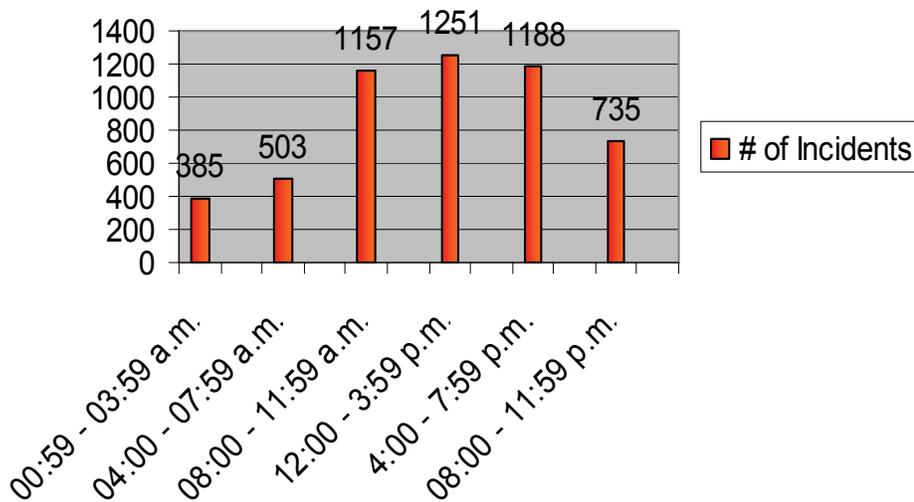
OPERATIONS DIVISION

Our goal continues to be to maintain an average response time of four minutes or less for 90% of all incidents. We accomplished this in 2007 with an average response time of 3:57 minutes for 90% of all incidents. Our average response time for all calls in 2007 was 4:15 minutes.

Year	Avg. Response Time – All Calls	Avg. Response Time – 90% of All Calls
2007	4:15	3:57
2006	4:17	3:46
2005	4:07	3:46

Shift	Total # of Incidents 2007	Total # of Incidents 2006
A Shift	1721	1677
B Shift	1768	1616
C Shift	1730	1659
Grand Total	5219	4952

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS
BY HOUR OF DAY



Day of Week	Total # of Incidents 2007	Total # of Incidents 2006
Monday	757	688
Tuesday	760	728
Wednesday	757	758
Thursday	736	725
Friday	904	756
Saturday	692	692
Sunday	613	605
Total	5219	4952



**A Shift Assistant Chief
Gentry Fox**



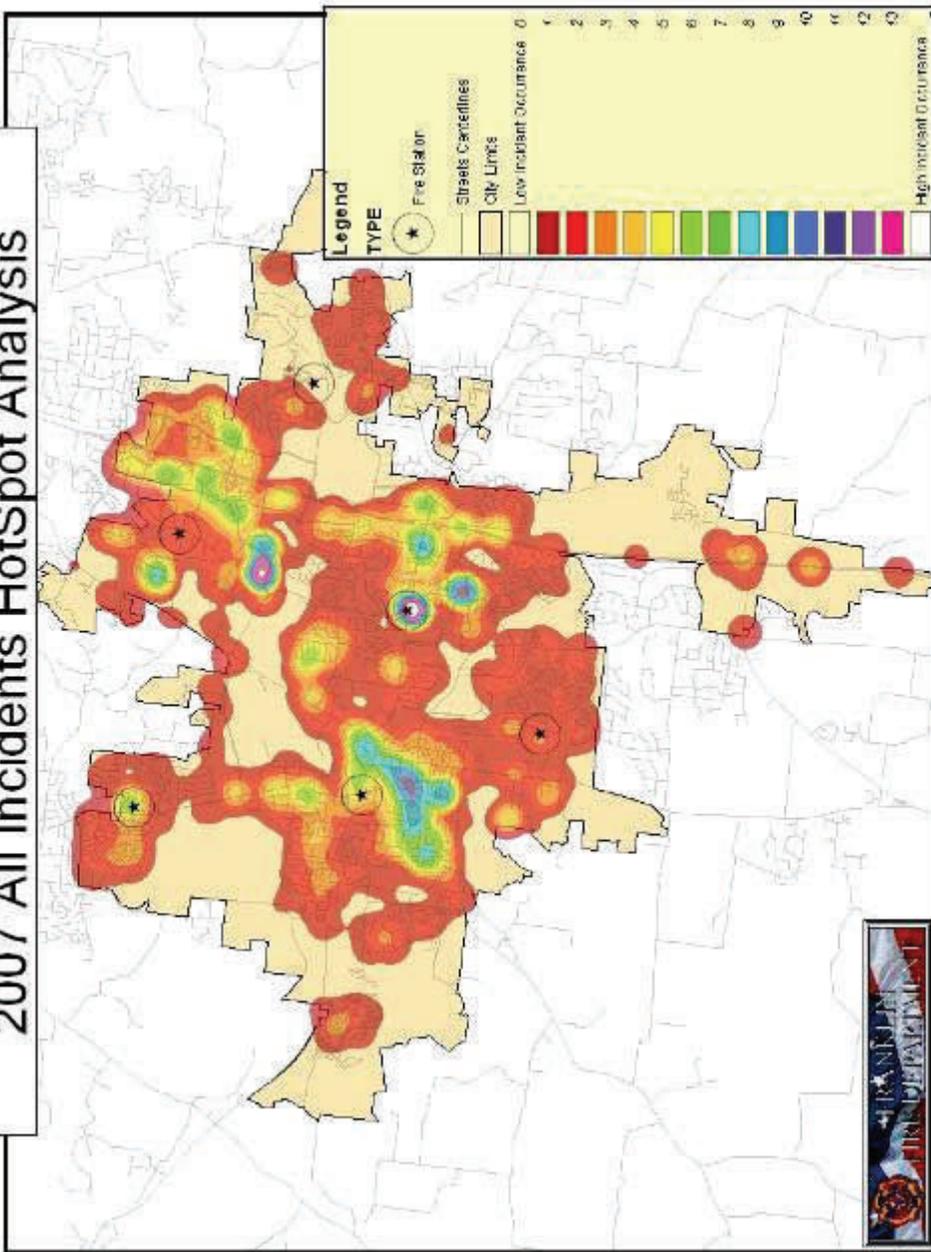
**B Shift Assistant Chief
Eddie House**



**C Shift Assistant Chief
Greg Baltimore**



2007 All Incidents HotSpot Analysis



MAP INTERPRETATION

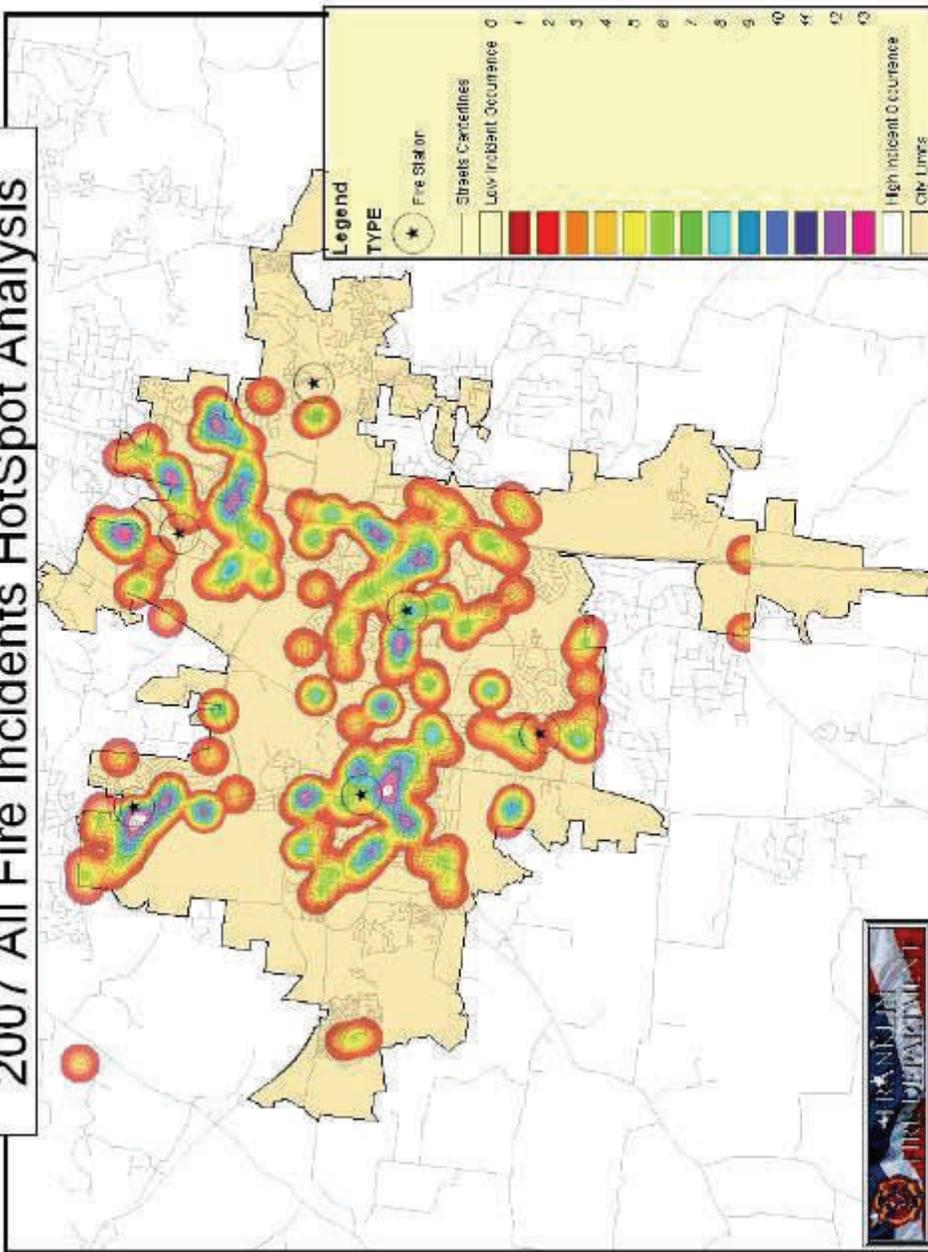
This map depicts concentrations of all FFD calls for help (fire, rescue and medical). It also illustrates our fire station locations with respect to these areas.



Pictures: Franklin Firefighters on the scene of a serious auto accident on I-65.



2007 All Fire Incidents HotSpot Analysis



MAP INTERPRETATION

This map depicts concentrations of fire-related calls throughout the City of Franklin (it excludes medical and rescue-related calls). Fire station locations are noted on this map as well.



Pictures: Franklin Firefighters put out a deck fire at The Landings apartment complex. The fire was caused by a carelessly-discarded cigarette.



OPERATIONS DIVISION NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

March 7, 2007 – Glastonbury Dr.

A Fieldstone Farms home was significantly damaged by a fire that was started by an improperly discarded cigarette. The homeowner had smoked a cigarette in the home's attached garage before going to bed around 11:30 p.m. Even though the smoke alarm had been removed in the garage, where the fire originated, inter-connected smoke alarms throughout the rest of the home sounded and the family was able to safely evacuate. Firefighters arrived to find heavy smoke coming from all sides of the garage roofline. Property and content damages were estimated at \$70,000.

April 17, 2007 – Julia Ct. and West End Cir.

April 17 was unusual because two house fires in different parts of the city occurred in less than two hours of each other.

At 5:17 p.m., a fire was reported on Julia Ct. in the Maplewood subdivision. Crews arrived to find heavy smoke coming from the garage, where the fire started due to improperly discarded smoking materials.

At 7:09 p.m., a fire was reported on West End Cir. Upon arrival, firefighters encountered heavy smoke and low visibility inside the residence. The fire started in an upstairs bedroom when the resident knocked over a burning candle and ignited the blaze.

June 13, 2007 – Gloucester St.

An electrical fire in a Yorktown subdivision home caused more than \$70,000 in damage.



Glass Ln.

October 13, 2007 –

Glass Ln.

This renter-occupied triplex experienced a fire that was started by an unattended burning candle that was placed near combustible materials. It caused an estimated \$195,000 in damage.



Glastonbury Dr.



Julia Ct.



West End Cir.



Gloucester St.



FLAMES CAUSE FIRES

Candle Fire Life-Saving Tips from the U.S. Fire Administration



- Never leave a lit candle unattended.
- Put out candles after use.
- Keep candles out of reach of children and pets. Children are one of the highest risk groups for death in residential fires.
- Keep lit candles away from bedding, curtains, papers and anything else that can ignite easily.
- Ensure candles are in sturdy metal, glass, or ceramic holders and put where they cannot be tipped over.
- Most candle fires occur in bedrooms. Keep your home, especially the bedrooms, fire-safe.

Careless Smoking Life-Saving Tips from the U.S. Fire Administration



- Never smoke in bed. Replace mattresses made prior to the 2007 Federal Mattress Flammability Standard.
- Don't put ashtrays on the arms of sofas or chairs.
- Use deep ashtrays and soak ashes in water before disposal.
- Don't leave cigarettes, cigars or pipes

unattended. Put out all smoking materials before you walk away.

- If you begin to feel drowsy while watching television or reading, extinguish your cigarette or cigar.
- Close a matchbook before striking and hold it away from your body.
- Set your cigarette lighter on "low" flame.
- If smokers have visited, be sure to check the floor and around chair cushions for ashes that may have been dropped accidentally.

FIRE FACTS

- More than 4,000 Americans die each year in fires and approximately 20,000 are injured.
- Eighty-two percent of all fire deaths occur in the home.
- Careless smoking is the second leading cause of fire deaths.
- The bedroom is the most common room in the house where candle fires start.
- Candle fires and careless-smoking fires are particularly preventable.
- Having a working smoke alarm reduces your chance of dying in a fire by nearly half.
- Following simple fire safety tips can increase your survival rate dramatically.



OPERATIONS DIVISION NOTEWORTHY MUTUAL AID INCIDENT



Franklin Fire Department Fights County “Dinosaur House” Fire

On the morning of July 6, Franklin Fire Department was dispatched to a house fire at what was once known as the “green dinosaur house,” because for several years it had a large green dinosaur in the front yard.

Located at the intersection of Franklin Rd. and Mallory Station Rd., the house at 451 Franklin Rd. is the first property outside of Franklin city limits on Franklin Rd., and falls within the Williamson County Rescue Squad’s jurisdiction.

Heavy smoke was visible from as far away as The Factory. Franklin Fire Department was the first-arriving department on the scene. They established a water supply across Franklin Rd. and began inside fire attack. Officers with the Franklin Police Department assisted and temporarily diverted traffic around the scene.

The fire penetrated into the attic and caused extensive damage to that area as well as to the living areas below. The scene was placed under control at 09:46 and “loss stopped” was declared at 10:19. The home had recently been sold and the new owner was not occupying the residence at the time of the fire.

The scene was turned over to Williamson County Rescue Squad for the investigation to determine cause and origin of the fire.

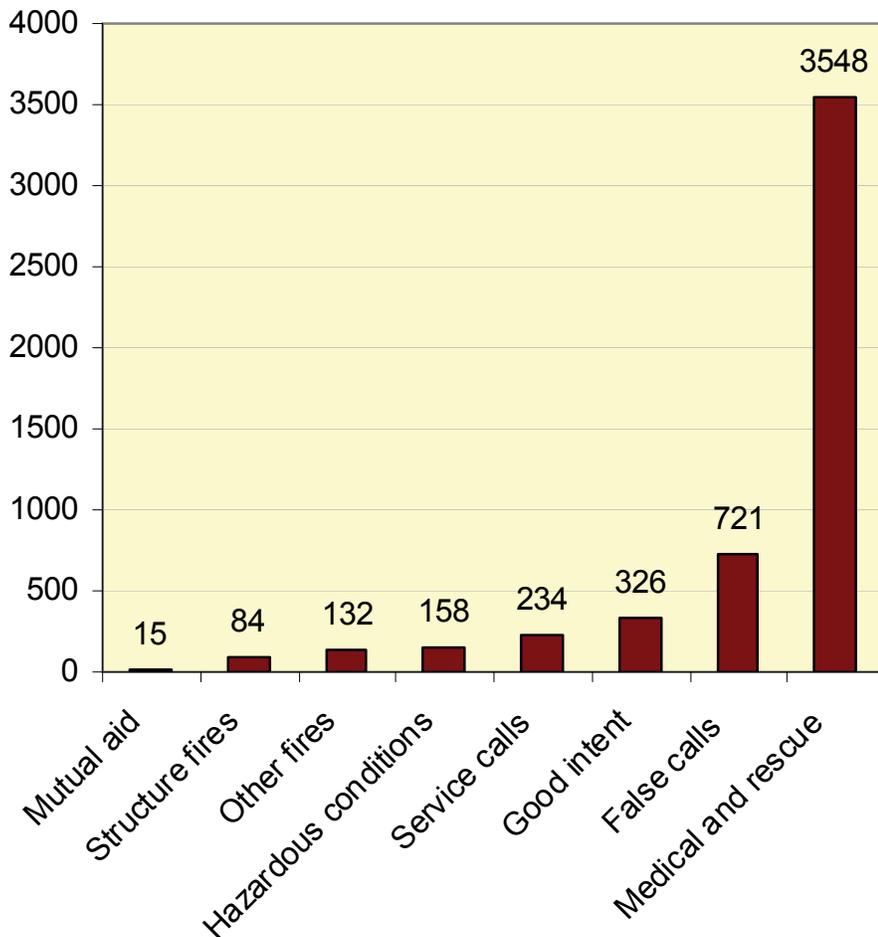


EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

In 2007, the Franklin Fire Department responded to 3,548 medical calls—approximately 68 percent of the total calls answered. This coincides with the national average and a trend toward fire department responses becoming increasingly medical in nature.

Additionally in 2007, 104 personnel were trained in Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), a 16-hour medical course dealing with advanced medical skills and intense anatomical studies, and eight personnel were trained as PHTLS instructors.

2007
Category of Incidents



Medical Officer
David Cline

EMS Responsibilities and Programs:

- Advanced life support and basic life support services
- Bicycle medics for special events and assignments
- Tactical EMS to assist police SWAT team

Personnel certification breakdown:

- 12 Paramedics
- 63 Emergency Medical Technicians with IV certification
- 36 Emergency Medical Technicians
- 33 First Responders



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

Four Major Fire Sprinkler “Saves”: Fire sprinklers protected lives and properties in four incidents in 2007:

Aveda Salon, June 26

A nail technician spilled acetone-based nail polish remover onto a nearby burning candle and ignited a fire that was extinguished by a single sprinkler head. Building and contents value: \$1.6 million; Estimated fire damage: \$7,500.

Wyndchase Apartments, July 24

Fire from an apparent lightning strike to a 20-unit apartment building was cooled by water discharged from the fire sprinkler system, and aided the Franklin Fire Department in putting out the fire. Building and contents value: \$1.8 million; Estimated fire damage: \$30,000.

Fibertek, August 23

Seven sprinkler heads extinguished a fire that started in a machinery area soiled with oil and grease. Building and contents value: \$2.2 million; Estimated fire damage: \$25,000.

The Manor at Steeplechase, November 27

Most of the 128 residents were asleep at this independent living community when a cigarette left on an upholstered chair started a small fire around 1 a.m. A smoke detector woke the room’s occupant and alerted management. The manager helped the occupant evacuate and tried to control the fire by moving the chair to the balcony. When he opened the sliding door, outside air caused the chair to burst into flames. A single automatic fire sprinkler head activated and prevented fire from spreading inside the building. However, fire continued to spread across the building’s exterior. The manager was able to safely evacuate and sustained only a minor injury. The Franklin Fire Department contained the fire to the outside balcony. Building and contents value: \$12 million; Estimated fire damage: \$20,000.



Exterior fire damage at The Manor at Steeplechase.



**Fire Marshal
Andy King**

Fire Prevention Responsibilities:

- Inspection services
- Plan review
- Issuance of permits
- Fire code enforcement
- Fire cause investigations
- Public fire and life safety education
- Juvenile fire setting intervention
- Public information services
- Community relations events
- Fire hydrant management



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Family Safety House Helps Teach Franklin First Graders Fire Survival Skills

Franklin Fire Department's Family Safety House mobile exhibit visited all seven of Franklin's public and private schools during Fire Prevention Month (October) to teach children fire survival skills in a non-frightening way. More than 550 first grade students participated.

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, an average of 3,650 children under the age of 14 are injured or killed in residential fires each year.

Since 2005, this 39-foot mobile classroom has been toured by more than 6,000 children and adults to learn household and kitchen fire safety, the importance of smoke alarms, how to call for help, how to treat burns, and how to escape a burning building.



The Family Safety House simulates the types of dangers you may encounter in a home fire:

- Smoke alarms sound.
- The house fills with non-toxic smoke to teach children to crawl low to safety.
- A heated door helps children choose the right exit.
- A fixed escape ladder allows children to practice making an emergency exit out of the window into the arms of a waiting firefighter.

The theme of the 2007 Fire Prevention Week campaign was "Practice your escape plan."



MYTH:

Water damage from a fire sprinkler system will be more extensive than fire damage.

FACT:

Water damage from a sprinkler system will be much less severe than the damage caused by water from fire-fighting hose lines, or smoke and fire damage if the fire goes unabated. Quick response sprinklers release eight to 24 gallons of water per minute, compared to 50 to 125 gallons per minute released by a fire hose.



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Firefighters and volunteers on a smoke alarm installation day.

Smoke alarm installation campaign a success!

In November and December, Franklin firefighters went house to house, inspecting and testing smoke alarms for residents in the Hill Estates subdivision, and installing new ones if needed.

They visited more than 150 homes and installed 98 smoke alarms with a long life, lithium battery that will last up to 10 years.

The battery is difficult to disable, to prevent people from disconnecting the alarms. Most smoke alarms fail because of dead or missing batteries. Nuisance alarms are the leading cause of disabled alarms.

Over 80 households now have at least one smoke alarm on every level of their home. Bilingual volunteers assisted the firefighters with translating for the neighborhood's Latino families.

Staff news

Assistant Fire Marshal Geoff Woolard and Fire Inspector Wayne Mobley attended resident courses at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland in 2007. In March, Lt. Woolard completed Evaluating Performance-Based Design. In October and November, Mobley completed Fire Protection Structures and Systems Design. Additionally, Fire Prevention staff completed NFPA 101 Life Safety Code training, which took place at the Nashville Fire Department Training Center in April.

Jamie Mooney joined the department in December as the Fire Prevention's new Fire and Life Safety Educator.



Franklin Firefighter Cory Swenson installs a smoke alarm for a Franklin resident.

**Smoke alarms
reduce your
risk of
dying in a
home fire by
nearly half!**



TRAINING DIVISION



Largest number of new firefighter recruits trained

In 2007 the Training Division trained 24 new firefighter recruits—the most new firefighter recruits the department has ever trained in a one year period.

The recruits were divided into two groups, with the first beginning in the summer and the second beginning in the fall.

Each group successfully completed eight weeks (240 hours) of intensive firefighting and rescue skills training. Their curriculum was based on requirements outlined in the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Standard for Firefighter Professional Qualifications.

Recruits are now eligible to apply for both the practical and written tests for Firefighter I state certification.



**Training Captain
Jeff Elliott**



**Training Captain
Glenn Johnson**

Training Division Responsibilities:

- New recruit training
- In-service training for firefighters
- Federal and state certifications and compliance
- Multi-company drills
- New equipment training



TRAINING DIVISION SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Multi-company Drills: Training day and night

Throughout 2007, the Training Division organized eight multi-company drills consisting of both day and nighttime scenarios. The drills utilized new training props and created new obstacles and scenarios that had not previously been faced before in training situations, including:

- Highway tanker fires
- Office fires in multi-story complexes
- Propane tank fires
- Car fires
- Dumpster fires

In addition to providing excellent training, the drills gave the department credit with the Insurance Services Office (ISO) toward our fire protection rating. The department completed all of the exercises required to maximize points available in the ISO rating scale in 2007.

In-service Training

Firefighters complete a minimum 40 hours of in-service training annually, including classroom and hands-on-training, covering topics approved by Tennessee's firefighting commission. In 2007, firefighters attended classes on the following subjects:

- Highway tanker emergencies
- Rapid intervention teams
- Proper medical assessment and documentation
- Parking garage fires
- Propane emergencies
- Fire alarm responses
- Anatomy of medical calls
- CPR
- Vanessa K. Free emergency vehicle operation safety training



IN MEMORIAM



Jesse Wallace "J.W." Culberson

1929—2007

Retired Fire Chief of the
City of Franklin Fire Department
27 years of service

