



On behalf of all of the employees of the Franklin Fire Department, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that we present the Franklin Fire Department 2005 Annual Report. The accomplishments in this year's report once again are dedicated to all of our nation's 106 firefighters who gave their lives in the line of duty.



Our relationship with this community is built on trust, respect and history. This annual report is yet another example of our dedication and is a direct reflection of our personal involvement, sense of pride and belonging to the City of Franklin. Our committed employees care about the quality of the service that we as an organization provide our community.

A major achievement during the past year happened when we received notice from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) that we reduced our community's fire protection rating from an ISO Class 4 to a Class 3. This was due to a cooperative effort from the fire department, fire prevention division, the training division, the communications center, geographic information system (GIS), and our water distribution companies. This crowning achievement allowed our homeowners and business community to enjoy a savings on their insurance rates of approximately ten percent. These rate changes went into effect on August 1, 2005.

What an awesome responsibility it is to meet the challenges that come with the privilege and honor of being a firefighter in this organization. We truly have the **“desire to serve and the courage to act and the ability to perform.”** We continue to emphasize a proactive instead of a reactive attitude by providing programs that assist the community

to prevent and minimize fire and safety concerns through continued fire prevention efforts and public fire education programs. Furthermore, we are truly committed to be a customer service driven department by the maximum utilization of our personnel and resources. We stand ever vigilant as an organization to provide the essential community and emergency services needed and strive to live up to the highest expectations of our customers.

Fulfilling these responsibilities and the delivery of all of the services we provide to our citizens and visitors would not be possible without the support and cooperative efforts, which exist between the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, City Administrator, other City departments and the community as a whole. We thank you for providing us with the necessary “tools and resources” to fulfill our mission and complete our job. You truly recognize the need to support the Fire Department in our efforts to meet the future challenges of providing a high level of service with limited fiscal resources.

To that end, I am honored to be the Fire Chief of this excellent organization. You can be assured that we will be ever diligent in our quest to provide the most efficient, cost effective, customer friendly service possible! The continued success of our organization lies with our firefighters and each of you! Our Annual Report highlights only some of the activities and achievements of this department, but clearly exemplifies the dedication and professionalism of all our personnel.

In Service,

Rocky Garzarek, Fire Chief

Administration

Todd Horton was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief on January 7 and is responsible for directing the Administration Division. The Deputy Fire Chief supervises the Training and Fire Prevention divisions, as well as the Administrative Services Officer. Additional duties include, but are not limited to:



- Administering the collection and analysis of fire department data
- Overseeing administration of personnel and payroll functions
- Evaluating and administering fire prevention and fire control policies and conducting studies of the efficacy of departmental operations.
- Assisting with preparation and presentation of annual budgetary evaluations and related analysis
- Reviewing departmental purchases and purchasing procedures
- Assisting in control of expenditures
- Researching, evaluating and instituting new laws and governmental mandates affecting the Fire Department
- Specification writing for apparatus procurement

The Administrative Division experienced another taxing year. With continued growth and the challenges facing traditional neighborhood design developments, much effort was directed at ensuring the safety of these neighborhoods now and for years to come. Much work was also completed towards the lowering of our Insurance Services Office rating. We accept the challenge and continue our efforts to maintain and further lower this rate despite the continued expansion of our city limits into the urban growth boundary.

Working closely with Hart Freeland Roberts and developers of Avalon, we were able to complete the design of Fire Station 6. With its Richardsonian Romanesque architectural style, this station will blend well with the proposed Avalon development. The 22,000 sq. ft. facility is approved and is currently awaiting road development in order to begin construction. Bid notices are due to be released in March of 2006 with construction to start soon thereafter. The station will be located at the intersection of Cool Springs Boulevard and Highbury Rise. It will have three apparatus bays and initially house an Engine and a Ladder Truck.



The department participated in the MTAS benchmarking project where we will be compared to 10 other municipalities in the State of Tennessee. The City of Franklin strives to provide the best service possible to its citizens and visitors, and we will use this benchmarking as a means to evaluate ourselves from year to year.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen gave unanimous support through the budget process for us to increase our level of emergency care to basic life support with limited advanced life support. This approval will equip our personnel to administer medical skills at a much higher level of care than previously allowed. This provides patients with an even greater chance of survival coupled with a better quality of life.

Lieutenant José Periut assisted the administrative staff with completion of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. This effort allowed us the opportunity to assess our current operational status and better prepare ourselves for the future.

Operations Division

Three Assistant Chiefs, under the supervision of the Fire Chief, direct the Operations Division. Each works a 24-hour on-duty and 48-hour off-duty shift rotation to cover the three shifts. Also known as, Shift Commanders, each one indirectly supervises a shift of forty-four personnel, housed at five fire stations, through direct supervision of nine Officers. Their primary duties involve scheduling, personnel deployment, time and attendance records and management of incidents to which they respond.

In addition to the shift commanders, each shift is comprised of one Captain and eight Lieutenants that directly supervise the Engineers and Firefighters assigned to their charge. They are primarily responsible for riding assignments and the daily routine consisting of equipment readiness, training, incident response, station maintenance, preplanning, inspection and public education activities.



As the City of Franklin continues to grow, a natural increase in the call volume occurs. The professional men and women of the fire department answered 4,876 calls for assistance, which is an increase of 14%. Coinciding with the national average, our responses to medical related calls totaled 3356, which is approximately 69% of the total calls answered. All of our personnel are required to be certified at the First Responder level or higher. We have embarked upon increasing the level of service we provide to that of Basic Life Support with limited Advanced Life Support capability. We currently have 43 First Responders, 77 Emergency Medical Technicians, and 12 Paramedics. Those employees that are not currently certified are either in school or are awaiting the next available class in order to become certified. Once certified, each employee must continue his/her state required training in order to maintain the certification. Medical calls range from a simple sick call to a cardiac arrest where time is the critical factor.

Our overall response time for incidents inside the city limits is 4 minutes and 19 seconds. Our goal has always been to maintain an average of 4 minutes or less for 90% of all incidents. We once again were able to accomplish this goal at 3 minutes and 43 seconds.

Structure or building fires were on the decrease in 2005. The fire department responded to 43 building fires, 16 less than in 2004. This represents a little less than 1% of the total calls for service. During these fires, we experienced two injuries to fire service personnel and two civilian injuries. We provided mutual aid assistance to surrounding fire departments for structure fires on three occasions. In addition, we provided aid for two hazardous materials calls, one brush fire, and one high angle rescue incident.

Water emergencies during times of flooding, grass and brush fires, smoke and carbon monoxide detector activations, fire alarms, and a variety of other calls make up the remainder of the 2005 call volume. The Department has a mutual aid agreement with other fire departments located in the county. We answered nine calls for assistance and received assistance on five occasions.

Our operations personnel performed 1,000 courtesy inspections and pre-plan visits. In the pre-planning phase, firefighters gather information to aid us in the suppression of fires. We note building construction and features, owner and key holder information, ingress



and egress routes, utility controls, water supply, and a host of other details. Courtesy inspections are also performed focusing on maintenance for exits, fire suppression equipment, and storage of combustible materials. During these inspections, firefighters noted more than 953 conditions that contribute to unsafe situations in the commercial buildings. Although these

inspections do not require mandatory compliance, many business owners chose to keep their buildings safe by staying in compliance with the fire code. At this time, Franklin does not require occupancies to have an annual inspection. All occupancies in the City are required to comply with the Fire Code at all times. We highly recommend that

business owners have an inspection to ensure their business complies with the Fire Code and is safe for everyone who enters therein. The Fire Department does have the authority to conduct an inspection if it is believed that a violation exists and continues to inspect all new buildings and many state licensed facilities, such as day cares and nursing homes.

When suppression personnel are not involved in the aforementioned duties, they remain busy performing many other duties. Personnel maintain the cleanliness of our stations and apparatus in the same way you would your home or office, but it is done on a daily basis. Minor apparatus repairs, some station remodeling, lawn care and equipment maintenance are also performed. Our personnel cook many of their own meals and some take part in physical fitness activities. Throughout this report, you will see many other duties performed by the men and women that serve you daily.



Much work by Administration and Operation staff went into helping prepare the shelter for displaced persons from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.



Training Division



Captain Gary Corbet serves as the departments Training and Safety officer. 2005 marked another busy year for the Training Division. There were twelve new firefighters hired and the Training Division was charged with providing their recruit training. For the six hired in April, a two-week class was provided. The Training Committee felt that more time was needed in the initial phase of firefighter training. With the support of the chief officers, the recruit class was expanded to four weeks. The extra time allowed the trainers to deliver a more complete and comprehensive program. The instruction time was increased from 80 hours to 160 hours. The six firefighters hired in October spent the entire month in training and as such are better prepared for a smooth transition to their shift assignments. F/F Greg Wild was placed on a temporary assignment to the Training Division to serve as lead instructor and help coordinate this class. It is anticipated that this recruit training will expand yet again next time to encompass the 240 hours required by the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA). This will allow us to submit our program for approval by the State of Tennessee Firefighting Commission. This approval will allow us to administer our new firefighters the state certification test for Firefighter I at the conclusion of class.



The division also completed our state mandated 40-hour In-Service classes. The years In-Service consisted of the following subjects:

- Spinal Injuries
- Thermal Imaging
- Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness.
- ICS/NIMS
- CPR & AED's
- Hepatitis C
- Poison Hazards

We conducted several hours of drills designed to help us meet our ISO requirements. We conducted drills in ventilation, residential fire attack, multi company evolutions, and night operations.

Six personnel attended Swift Water Rescue Level I and II. During training, personnel were taught water dynamics, self-rescue, swim techniques, ropes and knots, rescue equipment, rescue board techniques and participated in a hands on practical evolution. This evolution consists of a nighttime drill that begins around 9 p.m. and last until 3 a.m. Participants engage in an enormously different experience when operating in and around swift water during periods of darkness.

In addition to all of the above mentioned training, each of our companies are required to complete two hours of daily training.

Oftentimes, companies participated in “live fire” attack evolutions at the Training Center to accomplish this requirement. We also utilized our tower building for practicing subjects like high-rise, aerial, and rope rescue operations. Overall, the Training Center was in use approximately 200 days for the year.



The department invited certified rope rescue technicians from the Hoover Fire Department in Alabama to conduct a high angle rescue class. Several members of our department participated in a weeklong training exercise to enhance their abilities to safely and effectively mitigate these tedious and

time-consuming events. The Training Division was also active in sending employees to outside schools and classes. The State Fire Academy and the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis were among the venues used.

As a result of the 2001 terrorist attacks upon the United States, the Department of Homeland Security was created. This government agency is charged with the protection of our heartland. Among their efforts is the assurance of well trained and prepared first responder agencies. To that end, federal grant funding was tied to mandatory compliance of certain training initiatives. All responders must complete the National Incident Management System (NIMS) training. This mandate was accomplished for our department in July of 2005. Subsequent training will be conducted for new hires.



The fire department hosted four State Commission certification written tests, two “live burn” evolution tests and a “hands on” practical test. Firefighters took seventy-two certification tests including Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Fire Officer I, Fire Officer II, Apparatus Operator, Safety Officer, Instructor I, Instructor II, and Fire & Life Safety Educator. All training committee members are now certified at Incident Safety Officers. Currently, 124 of the 132 employees are certified by the State of Tennessee at one or more levels.

The following personnel served as Training Committee members for the year: Capt. Gary Corbet, Lt. Glenn Johnson, Lt. Jeff Elliott, Lt. Dave Currie, Lt. Joe Polenzani, Engineer Lloyd Baxter, Firefighter Greg Wild, and Firefighter Dave Metcalf.

Fire Prevention

The Fire Prevention Division has four primary responsibilities: safety education, planning, codes enforcement, and fire investigations. Fire Marshal Andy King heads the division, which frequently interacts with the public to solve problems. A review and inspection of every commercial building plan for code compliance occurs before issuance of a certificate of occupancy. The division also inspects existing buildings for fire code violations and issues various permits.



Fire sprinklers play an important role in any fire prevention program. Ensuring the proper installation and maintenance of sprinklers systems is one of the division's many responsibilities. A highlight of these efforts occurred again this year when sprinklers saved a local manufacturing business. The fire began at Essex Group on Southeast Parkway after chemicals reacted in a plastic mop bucket. The fire activated a single sprinkler -- controlling the fire until the fire department arrived. As a result, of the sprinkler system's effectiveness, the 197 employees of Essex still have their jobs and no one was injured. In contrast, a fire incident at Robeson Sewing in 2004 caused more than \$250,000 in structural damage and closed the business for one week. Under the current code, Robeson exercised their right to rebuild the building without sprinklers.



Fire and life safety education is one of the most rewarding parts of our mission and is the most proactive approach to eliminating hazards. As a department, we are committed to

preventing fires through education. Children are one of the most visible target audiences for safety training. Our goal is to teach life skills such as dialing 911, getting out and staying out, burn prevention, and the importance of having working smoke detectors.



Lieutenant Darin Coyle completed his first full year as the department's public educator. He leads our community relations efforts by incorporating fire and life safety messages into many venues. One tool used to accomplish this is the Family Safety House (FSH). Its arrival marked the beginning of a new era for teaching fire safety to Franklin's youth. Every firefighter participated in Family Safety House training to enhance their ability to present life-saving lessons. By all accounts, the program has been a tremendous success with firefighters leading more than 1000 children through FSH tours.

Lt. Coyle also taught multiple evacuation classes to safety wardens in several multi-story office buildings. After the training, evacuation drills were witnessed and further suggestions offered to improve effectiveness. Additionally, Lt. Coyle participated in several live radio programs to spread fire safety messages throughout the community. This effort has a far-reaching effect including individuals outside of our City limits.



Eight firefighters participated in a week long clown troupe training class. Huff the Fire Clown, from Tulsa, Oklahoma, provided excellent instruction to kick start the program that encompasses public speaking skills, coupled with magic and humor. The troupe quickly put their new skills to use teaching fire safety for large assemblies of children throughout Franklin. They also performed in the Cool Springs Galleria during Fire Prevention Week. The clowns were a big hit during the Christmas parade as many children flocked to them after seeing shows earlier in the year.





Fire Station 4 in Fieldstone Farms hosted a community day and open house in the summer. The community had a very positive response as they met with community leaders and firefighters. On display were the new air/light support vehicle (R4), the Family Safety House, and our all terrain vehicle (ATV). Cool Springs Honda donated the ATV for medical response during community events such as Main Street Festival and the Williamson County Fair.

October is always the busiest month for fire prevention activities. This year firefighters used the Family Safety House to present educational programs at every elementary school in Franklin. The Cool Springs Galleria donated a storefront for Fire Prevention Week (FPW) where hundreds of families met firefighters and received free information about making their homes safer. The FPW theme focused at preventing candle fires, which cause more than 18,000 house fires annually. For the second consecutive year, News Channel 2's Big Joe on the Go kicked off FPW by hosting a live news segment. We demonstrated the benefits of residential fire sprinklers through a live burn in the FSH.



In March, Lieutenant Geoff Woolard began his service to the fire prevention division. He has been a welcomed addition to the department. His primary responsibilities are reviewing building plans and performing new construction inspections. He also contributes in many other countless areas of fire prevention.

Commercial building growth reached near record levels in 2005. Fire prevention is involved in all facets of commercial growth in Franklin. The process begins with reviewing the concept or site plan for fire and life safety issues. After Planning Commission approval, the building and sprinkler plans are reviewed. The last step is a final inspection for each new building or tenant finish project. After the completion of each of these steps, a Certificate of Occupancy is issued in conjunction with the Codes Department.

The fire prevention division is committed to reducing losses due to fire. The task often feels monumental, but the reward is in the satisfaction of knowing that the citizens of Franklin are safer due to our actions. This year, several significant hazards were reduced through code enforcement actions.

- **Manufacturing Facility**

119 violations were found after three separate fire responses to this facility. The facility failed to address many unsafe work procedures. The corporate office, the insurance company, and our office are all working toward solutions as the facility is still in process of making corrections.



- **Health Care Occupancy**

The fire pump that serves an existing multi-story medical facility failed to start upon simulated fire conditions. The problem was repaired within the same day it was discovered.



- **Pumpkin Tent**

A 5,000 SF, 33-foot-tall, air supported pumpkin tent was erected at the Cool Springs Galleria. Prevention personnel spent many hours inspecting the structure before allowing occupancy. The major concern was that the tent could burn and leave a large hole causing a rapid deflation with people inside. It was a new challenge that required creative thinking to find a performance based solution.



- **Educational Building**

The removal of an existing corridor left an entire wing in an existing school with only a single exit and no windows. More than 150 students only had one way out had there been a fire or school terrorism event. The violation was handled immediately and temporary wood stairs were built to serve the required means of egress.





All commercial and multi-family residential properties in Franklin fall under the International Fire Code. As Franklin continues to grow, it places an extreme demand on the department and the prevention division to stay on top of hazards within the city. We are fortunate that much of Cool Springs is still relatively new construction. Over time, many issues will arise with tenant changes, normal wear, and occupant complacency. All building owners are responsible for staying in compliance with the fire code.

Franklin is well known for its proactive planning. In fire prevention, we are fortunate to be involved in the planning process for a safer community. During the planning of developments, it is critical to keep fire and life safety measures in mind to help ensure the safest community possible. Each submission to the Franklin Municipal Planning Commission is reviewed for emergency access, water supply, and fire hydrant layout as they relate to the overall associated risk. Often these recommendations are based upon adopted fire codes, but sometimes they are based upon available resources and our ability to protect the public in the event of an emergency.



The most frequent and highly debated planning topic of 2005 was alley width. Our contention revolves around the fact that alleys are required fire lanes. Therefore, it is imperative that they remain clear at all times so that firefighters have enough space to operate equipment effectively. It is extremely important in neo-traditional developments, considering the high-density housing option it affords. The hazard of multiple wood frame houses spaced less than 8 feet apart require additional protection to prevent a conflagration. The solution has and will continue to be residential fire sprinklers.



A federal grant provided six regional delivery classes to be held across Tennessee to foster the implementation of residential sprinkler ordinances. Franklin hosted the first session of the program. The fire prevention division began on developing a plan to implement a residential fire sprinkler ordinance. Work continues to make this goal a reality. Fire sprinklers are a benefit to the community on many fronts. Primarily, they are the best way to protect one's family from fire. Fire is a horrible tragedy for any family, even when there are no injuries. The costs are high both monetarily and emotionally. When sprinklers are installed, developers benefit through more increased flexibility in design and fewer resources are required for fire protection. The low cost of residential fire sprinklers make it a reasonable requirement for every new homeowner.



In April, Fire Chief Rocky Garzarek sent a letter to Congressman Marsha Blackburn asking for her support of HR 1131 Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act of 2005. As a result, Representative Blackburn not only supported the legislation but she is one of only three Congressional Representatives from Tennessee who have agreed to Co-Sponsor the bill. This bill and the accompanying Senate Bill S.512 are important to Franklin. It allows business owners to retrofit their buildings with fire sprinklers and recoup the entire expense through tax deductions over a five-year period instead of the traditional thirty-nine years. This incentive would make the decision to sprinker our historic district much easier. In November, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen signed a resolution in support of the sprinkler legislation that will be used to encourage other legislators of the worthiness of this incentive.

We were invited by the planning department to attend a Seaside Institute training class for planners and developers. Understanding various constraints allows us to make better decisions that lead to safe and sustainable communities. The same is true for planning



field trips. In October, we participated in a planning trip to Atlanta with other city departments. By observing how other communities collaborate to achieve quality developments, we are better able to provide constructive criticism while not being emotionally attached to a particular development.

Fire investigation is a limited but important function for our division. Determining the cause and origin of fire is the final stage of a fire prevention program. Fire investigations often reveal product malfunctions, code violations, and intentionally set fires. All of this information is analyzed so that we can understand the fire problem. These statistics are combined at the state and national levels for even broader analysis that often results in product recalls and safety alert bulletins, as well as, changes to the building and life safety codes. Careless cooking practices are typically responsible for cooking fires. Nationally, people who leave food unattended accounts for approximately 30% of all cooking related fires. Another cause includes combustibles placed too close to the heat source. On average, we respond to two cooking fires per month.



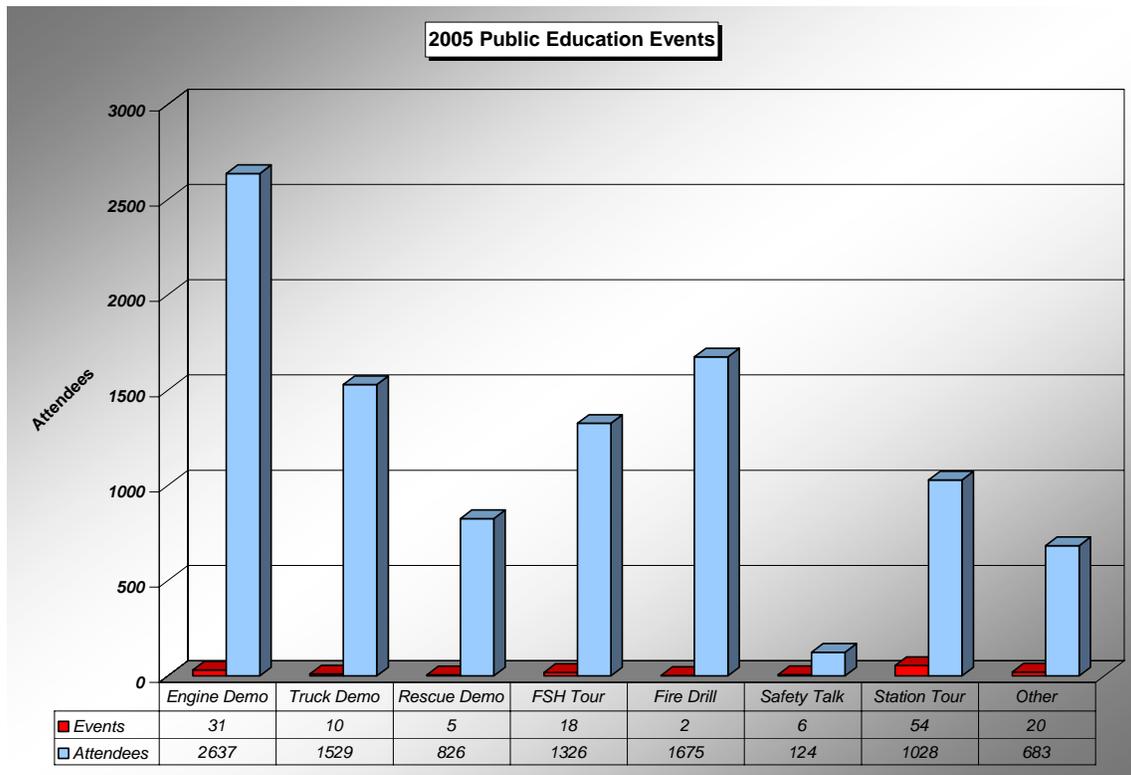
The department added two more certified fire and explosion investigators to the team in 2005 for a total of eight. We are fortunate to have this many investigators as it allows us to investigate every significant fire with on-duty investigators. While blasting accidents continue to plague residents, State law prohibits municipalities from adopting more stringent laws that regulate blasting operations. Fire Prevention staff continue to issue blasting permits in order to monitor the use of explosives and to ensure that explosives are handled safely. In 2005, we answered approximately 25 separate complaints. After investigating, complaints are typically forwarded to the State Fire Marshal's Office for review. When a citizen believes that damage has been caused by blasting, it is generally a civil matter. It only becomes a municipal issue if laws are broken or if the blaster is reckless. Three explosive incidents this year resulted in the issuance of a summons.



Kyra the fire prevention dog is progressing very well with her training. She currently is receiving specialized training on how to “Stop, Drop, and Roll” and feel the door with her paw to see if it is Hot! Our plans are for Kyra to be implemented for the 2006 fall school year.



In December, firefighters installed fifty 10-year lithium smoke detectors to finalize our federal fire prevention grant. The detectors were installed in the Battlefield Mobile Home Park because of the type of housing, the residents’ income level, and the overall risk of having a fire fatality.



Support Services

Captain Al Black heads up our Support Services Division and is supervised by the Deputy Chief. With the assistance of Mr. James Marlin, our Support Services Technician the support division conducts all of the research that goes into the purchasing of new equipment for the department. The division is also responsible for the maintenance, repair and inventory of the five fire stations, fourteen response apparatus, ten staff vehicles and issued equipment and uniforms for one hundred forty employees.



The fire department accepted a bid proposal on a new Sutphen 1500-gallon per minute pumper in August. It has a seating capacity of five, a 750-gallon water tank, a 30-gallon foam tank and a complement of hose and equipment for fire suppression and related events. This apparatus should be delivered in early 2006. It will replace the existing pumper at Station 5, which will be placed in reserve status.

In June, we took delivery of a new Air/Light truck that was placed in service at Station 4. This apparatus responds to all structure fires in the City limits and/or medical related calls in its response area. It carries a two-person crew with room for five, a complement of rescue tools and an air cascade system with twelve spare SCBA bottles. The cascade system is able to refill one hundred SCBA bottles at the emergency scene.



On February 8, we started our Insurance Services Office survey. The ISO field representative inspected our run records for response times, manpower at fires and amount of apparatus responding. They also looked at our training records, maintenance records and water distribution system as well as the cities dispatch procedures. Improvements had been made in the dispatch center with the

addition of two new operator positions. The fire department was able to improve its score with the addition of a new engine in 2004, a new rescue truck in 2005, and six new firefighter positions. The department tested all of the fire hydrants in the city. Although it was an inconvenience, most of our citizens understood that this testing would improve the City's ISO score. After the survey, our department received an outstanding score of 77.72 points which is an Insurance Services Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification of 3/9. This is a continued improvement from the last ISO survey taken in 2001, when the score was 68.72 points making the rating a 4/9.

PPC	Points
1	90.00 or more
2	80.00 to 89.99
3	70.00 to 79.99
4	60.00 to 69.99
5	50.00 to 59.99
6	40.00 to 49.99
7	30.00 to 39.99
8	20.00 to 29.99
9	10.00 to 19.99
10	0.00 to 9.99

This is significant for our community because most insurance companies determine business and homeowners insurance rates according to this rating. A "3" rating applies to all properties within five miles of a fire station and within 1000 feet of a fire hydrant. The "9" applies to all properties not meeting both of these requirements. Less than 4% of communities nationwide received an ISO rating of "3" or better.

During the spring, Fire Department personnel pressure tested over 21,000 feet of fire hose, conducted inspections on all fire hydrants in the city, and applied a new coat of paint to one-third of the hydrants. Due to high fuel cost, the 2005 fall hydrant flow tests were suspended. All ground ladders (864-ft) and aerial apparatus were inspected and tested as required by NFPA 1914 and NFPA 1932. These tests consisted of a visual inspection, non-destructive test and operation/function test. Consolidated Fleet Services certified every aerial apparatus and ground ladder.

In November, we processed 422 applications for the position of firefighter. Of these, 114 were invited to attend the new hire testing scheduled to be conducted on January 7, 2006. The applicants will take a written exam, run a physical agility test and be interviewed by a panel of six fire department members. Once this is completed, they will be ranked on a list that will be good for one year.

Promotions and New Employees

On January 7, Firefighter Lloyd Baxter was promoted to the position of Engineer. We congratulate him for his achievements and wish him a continued prosperous fire service career. Cyndi Wright was selected to fill the Administrative position vacated by 25-year employee Hattie Whitsey. We thank Mrs. Hattie for her service to our department and look forward to working with Mrs. Cyndi.



Fifteen new firefighters were welcomed into our department with an official badge ceremony commemorating their arrival. Two of these employees, Ben Gasser and Darrin Jones, joined our department on January 3. Not long after, in the month of

May, seven additional personnel were added to our ranks. Pictured below from left to right are: Adam Vernon, David Cloud, Shawn Donovan, Fire Chief Garzarek, Jason McCord, Chad Hollingsworth, James White, and Gairy Ferguson.



Later in October, six additional new hires began their career with our department. Picture below from left to right are Mark Hall, Joshua Sanders, Seth Frost, Fire Chief Garzarek, Robert Bryson, Clint Meadors and Todd Wilson.



Citizens Government Academy

The Fire Department participated in the Citizens Government Academy “Class of 2005”. Fire Chief Rocky Garzarek began the session with formal introductions followed by a brief overview of the department.

Next, Interim Deputy Chief Todd Horton showed a short video of actual footage taken from the Rhode Island nightclub fire of 2003 that claimed the lives of 100 persons. A follow-up video showed laboratory test burns of a replica of the nightclub with and without sprinklers. This demonstrated the value of



sprinkler systems in the saving of lives and the preservation of property. In addition, subjects discussed included the Administrative and Operations functions of the department. Topics included: history, organization, budget appropriations, facilities, equipment and incident statistics.

Fire Marshal Andy King spoke to the group about the importance of code enforcement, public education, fire prevention and fire investigation.

Training Officer Gary Corbet briefed the class on In-service training, the TN Commission on Firefighting, the Tennessee State Fire and Codes Academy, as well as, specialized training and new recruit training.

We enjoyed the opportunity to be involved in this program and are grateful for the participation by various members of our community who desire to learn more about their government.

Significant Incidents

The Fire Department responded to 4,876 incidents. Structure fires in the City of Franklin accounted for 43 of this total resulting in estimated property losses in excess of \$800,000 and over \$200,000 in contents loss. In addition, we provided mutual aid for three structure fires outside of our city limits. A brief overview of the most significant fire losses and a cardiac arrest save are outlined below.

On January 16, personnel responded in 4½ minutes to a reported building fire at 1228 Lakeview Drive. H.I.C. Windows and Doors occupied the building that presented arriving units with heavy smoke conditions. Crews forced entry and began a rapid fire attack. The estimated fire loss was \$275,000 while the value was estimated at \$1,400,000. No one was in the building at the time of the fire. Cause of the fire was determined to be electrical in nature.



Ironically, the owners of this establishment had recently abandoned plans to expand their building because it would require the addition of a fire sprinkler system.

Had the fire continued to spread, the picture on the left shows what awaited firefighters.



This example and the one to follow illustrate the dangers that firefighters face each day. Because we cannot conduct residential inspections without a cause, incidents like these are becoming more prominent. Therefore, we continue to emphasize the importance of fire sprinkler systems in all new construction where habitation will occur.

A house fire at 211 Maple Drive left occupants in need of temporary housing. While homeowners remodeled their kitchen, they decided to set up a temporary cooking arrangement in the basement. An LP tank connected to an open burner was left on while a quick drive to the store was made. The open flame ignited nearby combustible material causing an estimated \$95,000 in fire loss to an estimated value of \$185,000 including contents despite a 3½-minute response time by fire suppression crews.



In October, one person was rescued from a house fire at 305 Astor Way in the Rogershire subdivision. The occupant who was asleep at the time failed to hear the activated smoke detectors. He awoke to fire crews forcing the front door, after a 4 minute 10 second response time, and was escorted outside to a safe area. He

was uninjured as a result. The fire, however, cause an estimated \$80,000 in damages to the home with an estimated value of \$450,000. The fire originated on an exterior second floor deck and spread up the side of the house and into the attic. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Emergency assistance was requested at the Publix Grocery Store located at 1400 Liberty Pike for an elderly employee in cardiac arrest. Crews arrived to find that an off-duty paramedic from the local ambulance service, who also works at the store, had begun Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation efforts. Our Automated External Defibrillator (AED) was applied and shocks were administered. After the arrival of the ambulance, critical medications were delivered to assist the life support measures. As of the issuance of this report, the patient is recovering well in a local nursing home where he is receiving assistance in rebuilding his strength. He is expected to return home soon. Each response vehicle is equipped with an AED.

Tactical Medic

For the past few years, Franklin Police SRT has recognized a move across the nation to include medical support as an important part of a functional SWAT team. Not having any police officers with medical training to fill this void, Franklin Police looked to the Franklin Fire Department for help. In March of 2005, Franklin Fire Department answered the call for help by creating the Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) program. With the creation of this program, Franklin Police now have the addition of two Franklin Fire paramedics to handle the medical aspects confronted by a SWAT team.

The mission of the TEMS program is to decrease the time from injury to treatment for critically injured persons, whether it is a suspect, hostage, or team member within hostile and potentially unsafe environments, bringing advanced medical care into areas where traditional civilian medical providers cannot safely go. TEMS secondary missions also include providing the SRT command structure with on-going medical threat analysis of deployment operations and training evolutions, providing SRT team members with preventive medical care and training, and interacting with other local medical providers. These missions increase the effectiveness of the team, improve the posture of involved agencies in liability prone situations, and enhance the team's overall mission of saving lives.

In order to safely function in the hostile environments encountered by the SRT, members of the TEMS program attended the same SWAT school training required for other SRT members. The SWAT school consisted of 5 days of fast-paced training and exercises to ready the team to operate in this function. Members of the TEMS program were held to the same standards as other operators going through the school. Since this initial training, the TEMS members continually train 20 hours per month with the SRT in regular training exercises and have been accepted by the SRT members as part of the team. Being part of the SRT also means that a higher state of physical fitness must be maintained at all times.

Since the start of the program, the Franklin Fire TEMS providers have gone into action each time the SRT has been activated. These activations include missions locally here in Franklin and one that landed the team in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. On September 22, 2005, Franklin SRT was sent to Picayune, MS for two weeks along with other members of a 19-member law enforcement strike team made up of Williamson County law enforcement agencies. While in Picayune, members of the TEMS team



continued to provide preventive care not only for Franklin SRT but also for the whole Williamson Co. Strike Team. Daily missions encountered while in Picayune consisted of continued care for the team, high-risk patrols, and assisting the Red Cross at a relief center to provide medical care to victims of Hurricane

Katrina. Being only a few miles from New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, members of the Strike team were also able to tour the devastation first hand left by the hurricane. This mission was a definite eye-opener for members of the Strike team and will not be forgotten.

With continued support from the Police and Fire Departments, the TEMS program is sure to continue to grow. As the team moves into 2006, an increase in the use of the TEMS program is ahead. Members are looking forward to the additional challenges they will face,



and with dedication and hard work, continue to provide advanced medical care, “anywhere at anytime.”

Honor Guard

“Honoring our Own”

The Franklin Fire Department is pleased to present our Honor Guard. Formed in November of 2004, those pictured and others have worked extremely hard to represent the City and our Department with the utmost professionalism.

The Honor Guard will represent the City of Franklin and the Department at pre-designated ceremonies and functions, on behalf of the Fire Chief, the members of the Department, and the City of Franklin. The main purpose of the Honor Guard is to “Honor our Own,” in the unfortunate event a current member of the Department should die in the line of duty. The Honor Guard will serve as the official representatives, in conjunction with Fire Department Administrative staff, and Family member’s wishes, in ensuring all funeral arrangements are carried out to the fullest extent.

The Honor Guard will be responsible for presenting and representing the “Colors” at all chosen functions and ceremonies deemed necessary and proper for its participation. The Honor Guard will function as an independent unit, and will be responsible for the coordination of any and all events surrounding all functions and ceremonies. The functions and ceremonies the Honor Guard will be involved in are as follows:

- ❖ Funerals
- ❖ Retirement Ceremonies
- ❖ Station Openings
- ❖ Parades
- ❖ Flag Presentations
- ❖ Fire Related Ceremonies



Current members include: Squad Leaders Roddie Petty and Brian Vick, members Shane Clark, Jonathan Dye, Gino Fantoni, Rick Havrilla, Kyle Bess, Jonathan Gill, Sam Anderson, Andrew Ivey, Jeffrey Walker.

Web Site

With much help from the City's Information Technology department, we have created a new website. Although some areas are under construction, the site is functional. The Fire Department has a wealth of information to share with the public and the website is the most effective way to accomplish this. Some uses of the website that are presently or will soon be accessible are:

- Perspective employees will typically research the Department using the web site as their first source of information.
- Future residents will use it to ensure the level and quality of fire protection.
- Insurance companies and home or business owners will use it for the Insurance Classification of our Department.
- Children and parents will use it for fire related education.
- To schedule public education events.
- To peruse the pictures of our stations, equipment and incidents.
- To access our statistics.
- Architects will use it to find adopted Fire Codes.
- Contractors will find a link to order Knox Boxes which allow rapid entry into buildings after hours.
- Citizens will have PDF documents regarding blasting information and how to protect themselves from damages.
- Informational bulletins will be available for business owners to help them stay in compliance with the latest codes.

Entering the following URL will access the web site: <http://www.franklin-gov.com/fire>.

In addition, our fire prevention division has an email address that will allow anyone to directly ascertain information from them. They may be emailed at fireprevention@franklin-gov.com

THE CITY OF FRANKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

"Service by Our Professionals"

PERSONNEL WITH OVER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

John Fitzgerald Bill Witt Mike Culberson

20 TO 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

John Leach John Pratt
George Sanford David Suggs
Robert Fitzgerald Mike Burns
Jerry Earwood Terry Hood
Andrew Fox Anthony Pasley
Mike Jones Eddie House
L.E. McKee

15 TO 19 YEARS OF SERVICE

Jerrold Coats Robert Morrell
Rcky Cotton Darryl Jones
William Fitzgerald Jeffrey Elliott
Steve Gibson Todd Horton
Thomas Mackey Wes Oakley

10 TO 15 YEARS OF SERVICE

Todd Horton Scott Mainord
Wes Oakley Larry Morgan
Greg Baltimore Glenn Johnson
Hunter Kready Daniel Doss
Jose Periot James Jennings
Joe Hill Todd Stapleton

5 TO 9 YEARS OF SERVICE

Chris Brown Darin Coyle Geoffrey Manfre
Sean Smith David Metcalf Thomas Chaffin
William Kroeger Daniel McDow Charlene Forehand
Wayne Moblely Larry Marler Joe Polenzani
Jeffrey Moss Greg Wild Scottie Chambers
Roddie Petty Max Cook David Currie
David Kolak Eddie Lawle Will Farris
Shawn Williams Paul Moore Paul Seltz
Katy Bushre Jeff Standifer Jeff Huddleston
Thomas Tillis William Almon Mitchell Inglis
Kirk McGee Nathan Clark Michael Spencer
RickHavrilla Ben Gasser

LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF SERVICE

Richard Hasley
Jon Krawcyk
David Darnell
Wylie Jones
Billy Lampley
Michael Pardue
David Cline
Rodney Ballington
Gary Corbet
Lloyd Baxter
Michael Bryan
James Marlin
Larry Woody
Thomas Anderson
Allen Fagan
Buford Moss
Chris McClain
Stephen Raymer
Jonathan Jenkins
Andrew Ivey
Gino Fantoni

Michael Daniels
Kyle Bess
Perry Phillips
Sally Bittner
Samuel Anderson
Thomas Nelms
Terry Richardson
Ryan Naylor
Dennis Nealy
Nathan Goodin
Gregory Lestarjette
Anthony Sedlak
Albert Black
Michael Jones
Michael Henderson
Donald Borgeson
James Fox
David Edge
Jonathan Dye
David Wilbur
Jeff Walker

Eddie Proctor
Matthew Stout
Brian Vick
Jeff Boggs
Chad Carson
Tyler Crews
James Demastus
Kyle Garner
Jonathan Gill
Edwin Grambling
Brian Parker
Jeremiah Rogers
Andy King
Shane Clark
Jeremiah Gonser
Benjamin Skipper
Rocky Garzarek
Jonathan Puckett
Dale Lott
Clinton Douglas
Darrin Jones

Achievements

The Franklin Fire Department was honored this year by having one of our firefighter selected as Public Fire Educator of the Year by the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office. Firefighter Jeff Huddleston has been with the department for seven years. He has served on Franklin's Public Education committee that



sets the direction for all community fire prevention related training. His commitment to fire prevention is shown through his involvement in Fire Prevention Week at the Cool Springs Galleria and his involvement in the Camp Phoenix Burn Camp. Jeff serves as the Vice President of the Tennessee firefighters Burn Foundation Inc. where he helps assist burn survivors in their recovery and teaches burn awareness education.



- Never leave cooking food on the stovetop unattended - keep a close eye on food cooking inside the oven.
- Never place or store combustible items on the range or in the oven. Food containers, cutting boards, and plastic cooking utensils all can burn if the stove is left on. Keep curtains, towels, potholders, and other combustible materials away from flames and hot surfaces.
- Wear short, close-fitting or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking. Loose clothing can dangle onto stove burners and catch fire.
- Turn pot handles in to prevent food spills and burns.
- Clean cooking areas frequently. Built-up grease can catch fire.
- Mount an A-B-C dry chemical fire extinguisher at eye level near the exit to your kitchen and away from the stove.
- Keep a container of baking soda handy to extinguish small kitchen fires (never use flour - **flour is flammable!**)
- Do you have a gas stove or other gas appliances? If so, consider installing a carbon monoxide (CO) detector in your home. Carbon Monoxide is colorless and odorless.

Explorer Post 478

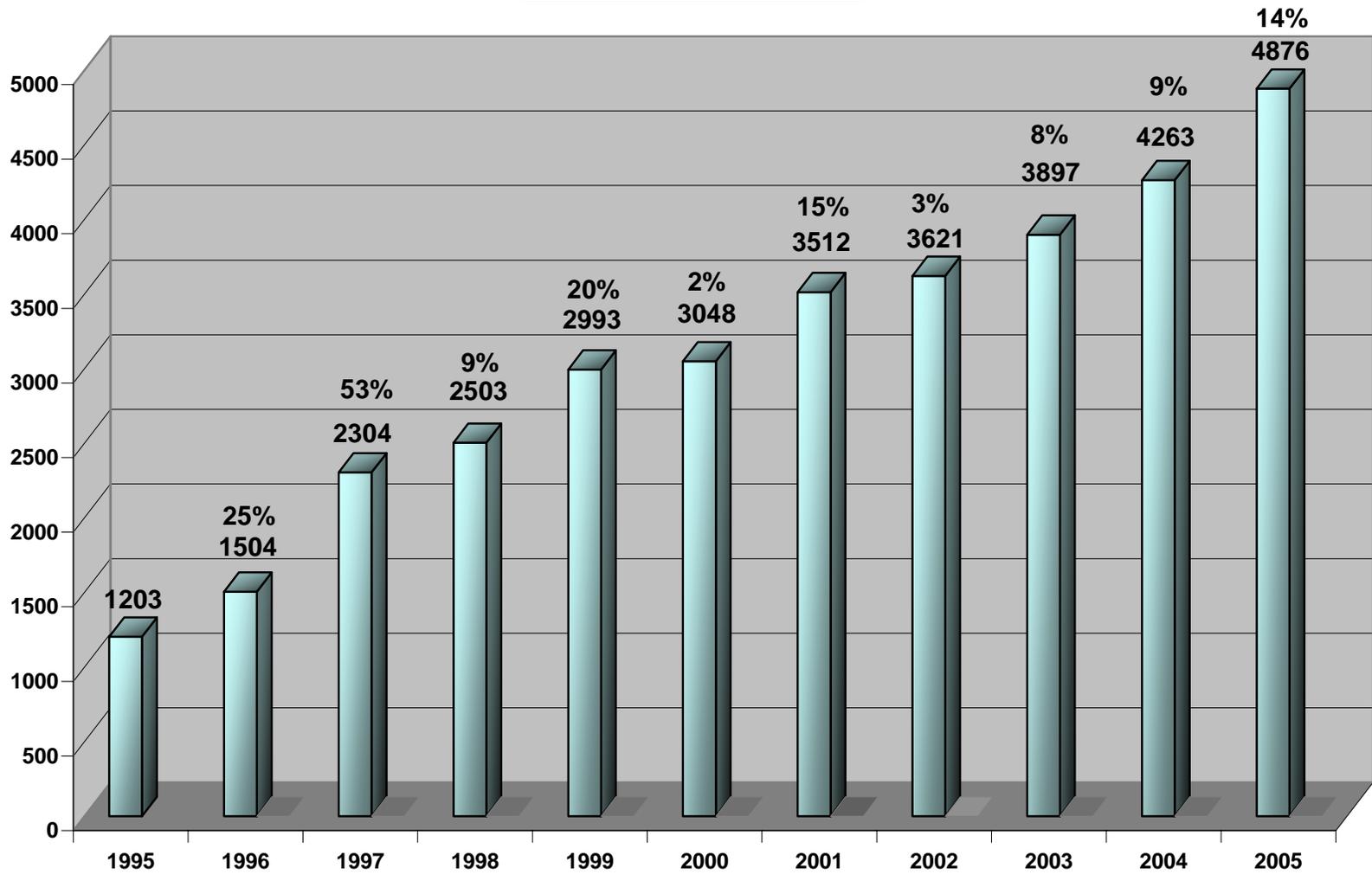
Explorer Post 478 currently has fourteen active members, two female and twelve males. Each member has been issued a full compliment of personal protective equipment and a duty uniform. They participate in fire service training, a ride a long program, and many public education events.

Explorer training is being performed by current on shift instructors or Explorers that have participated in the program at least a year. Each training subject is taught with a classroom or lecture, which is based on the Delmar FFI series or an approved lesson plan. Each lecture includes a written lesson plan, a power point presentation, and a hands on exercise. This year the explorers have trained on SCBAs, hand tools, forcible entry, ventilation, ground ladders, scene safety, vital signs and rehab duties, hazardous materials, fire extinguishers, fire behavior, fire suppression, fire streams and nozzles, hose loads, fire protection systems, and building construction. This year the post was able to take advantage of the fire department training grounds and experience live fire training.

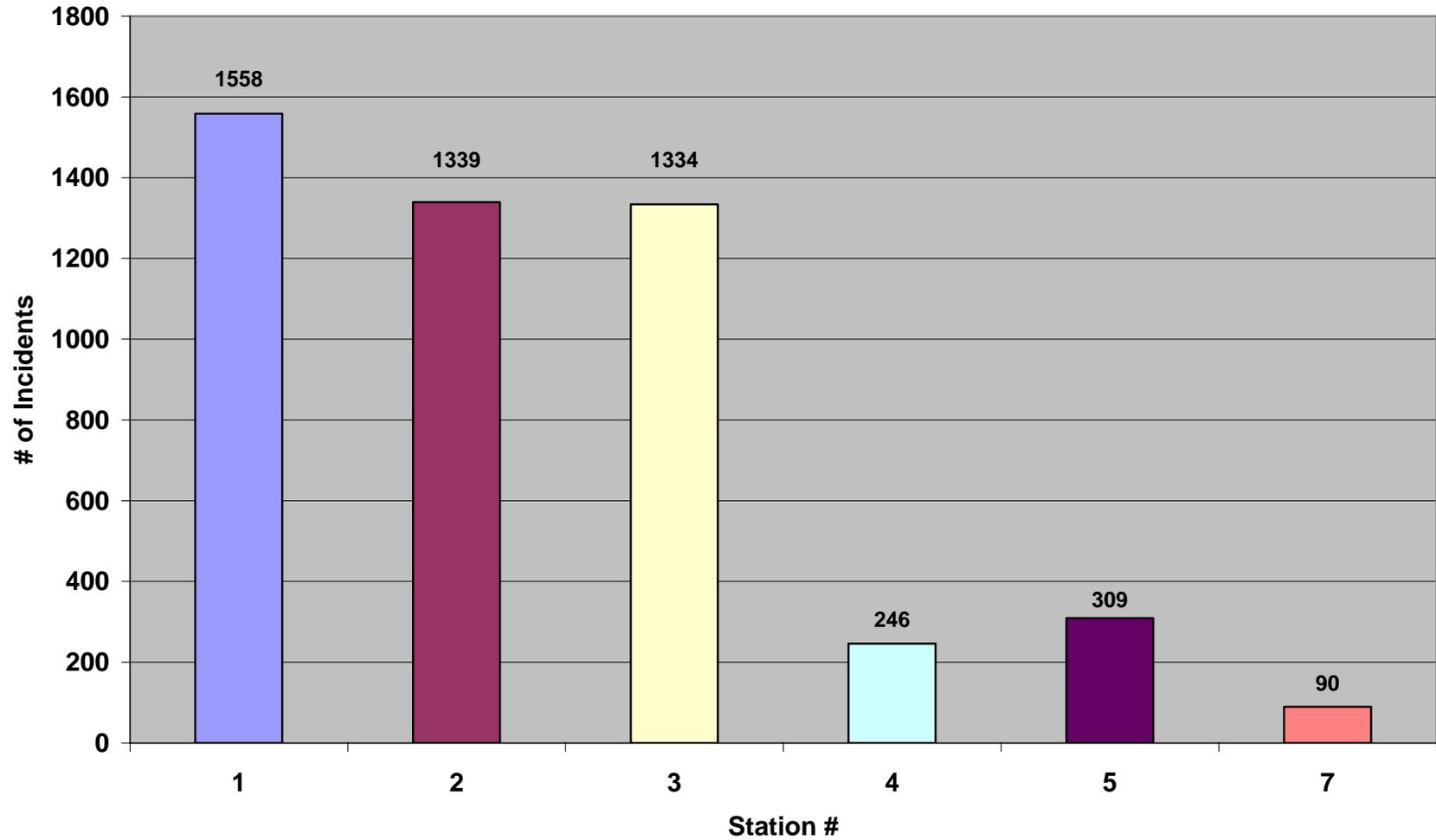
The ride along program has been a success and supported by shift personnel and the city. Each explorer must successfully complete a skills check off in order to participate in the ride a long program. The explorers have responded to a number of fire scenes and assisted with SCBA bottle change, moving and loading hose lines, firefighter accountability, and rehabilitation.

The explorers are an enthusiastic group contributing to their community, gaining a sense of accomplishment, and training in a field they may one day choose as a career. We look forward to the upcoming year to increase our membership and our responsibilities with in the post and the department.

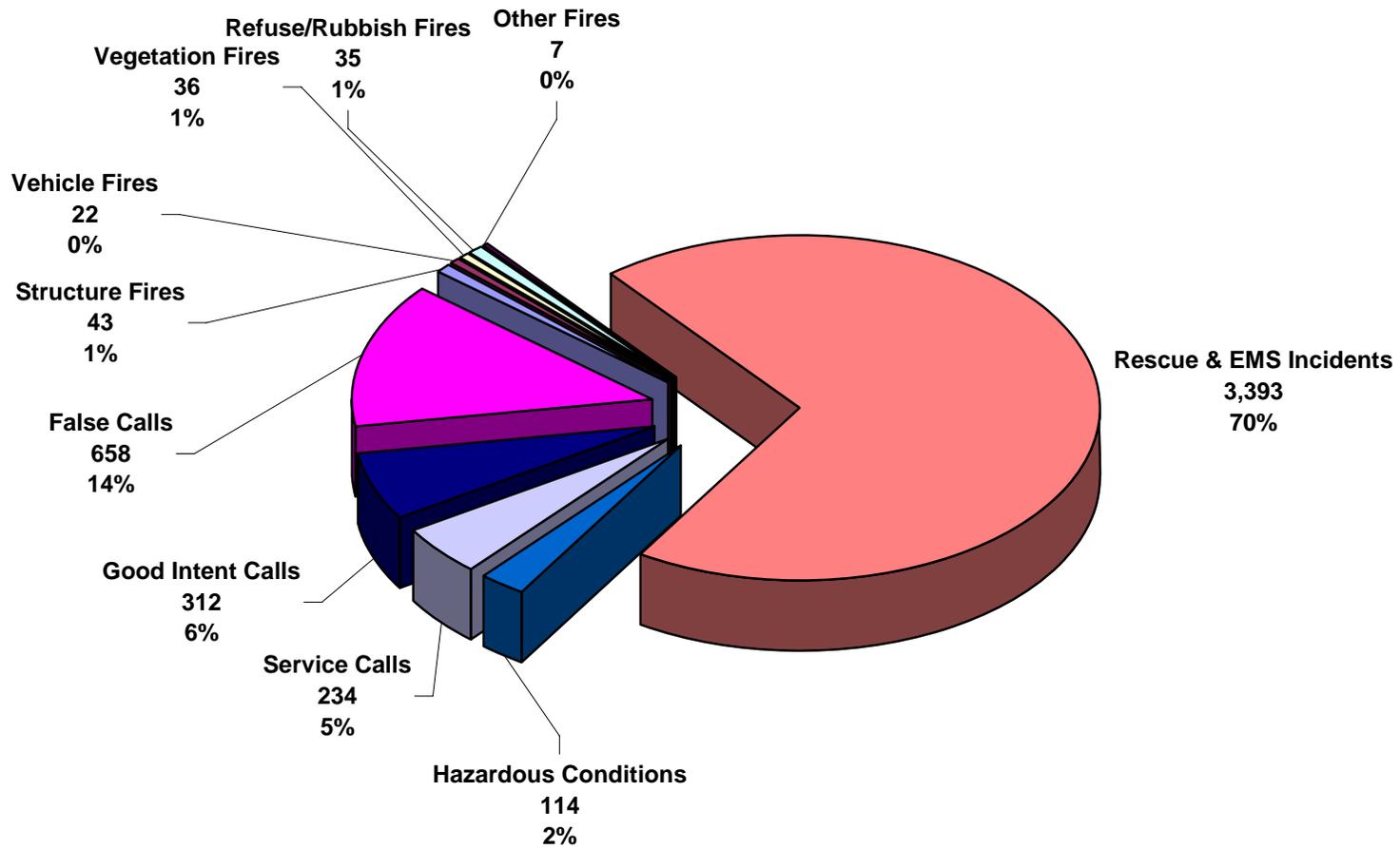
**Total Incidents 1995 - 2005
With Percentage Increase**



2005 Incidents by Station



2005 Category of Incidents

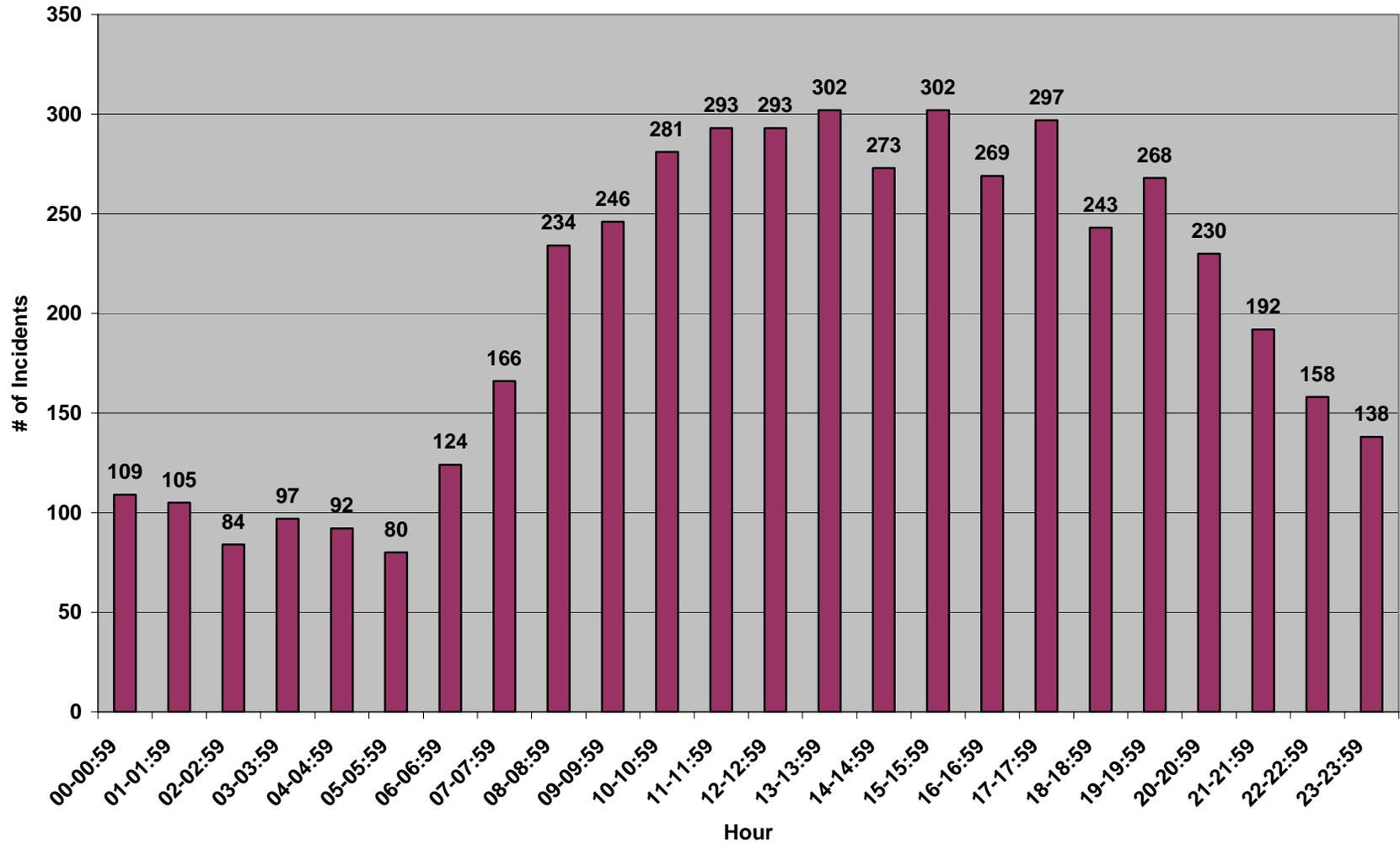


2005 Structure Fire Losses

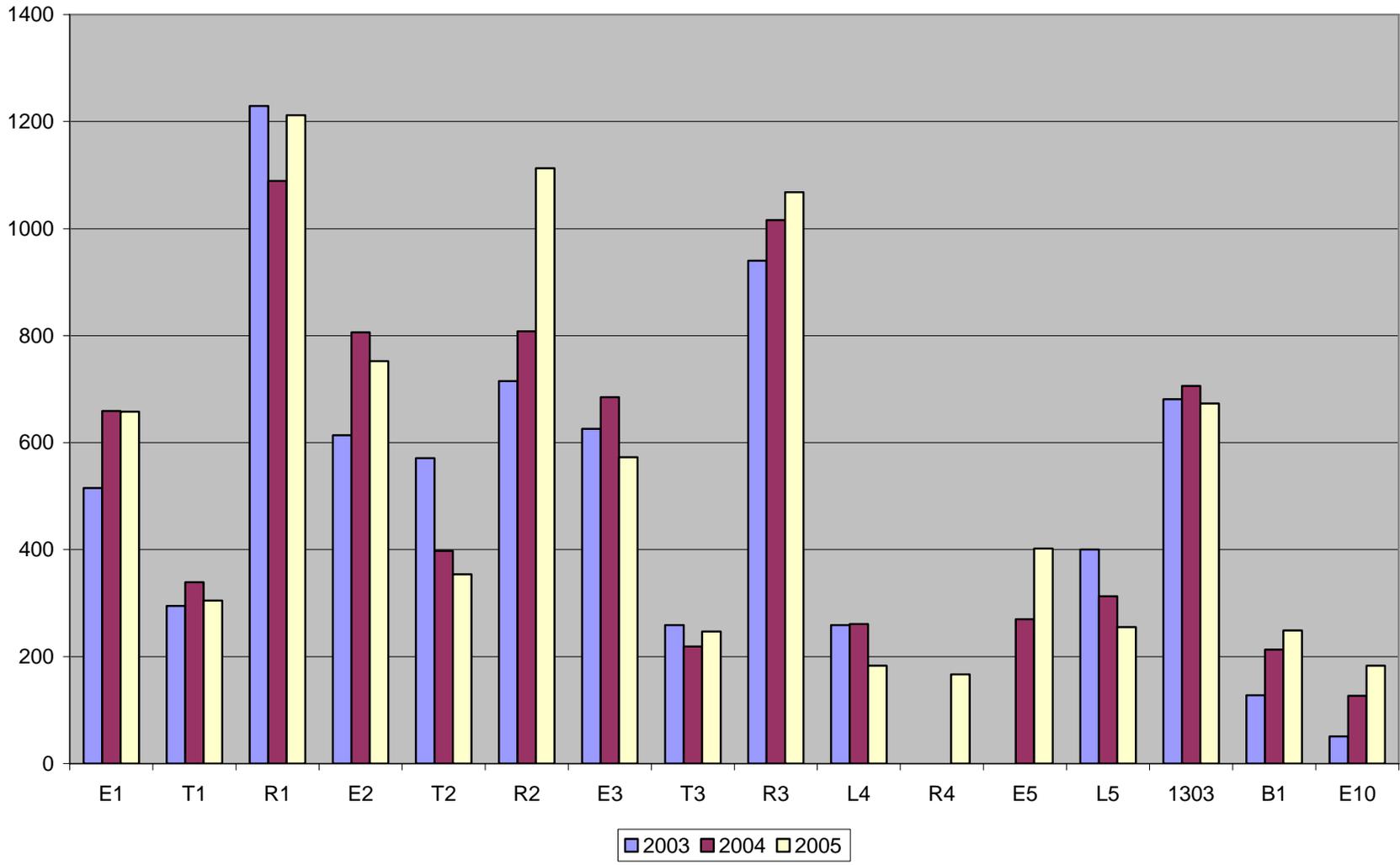


■ Post-Incident Losses ■ Pre-Incident Values

2005 Incident Totals by Hour of Day



2003 - 2005 Unit Response Comparison



2005 Training Hours by Category

