

# **RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT**



## **MONTHLY REPORT**

**APRIL 2023**



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Matt Walsh  
Interim Village Administrator

FROM: Thomas Gaertner  
Thomas Gaertner  
Fire Chief

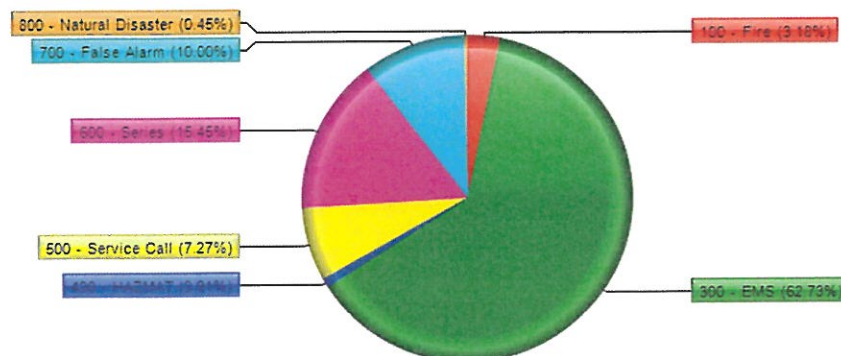
DATE: May 3, 2023

SUBJECT: Monthly Report – April 2023

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The Fire Department responded to 223 calls during the month of April. This is above our average number of calls in comparison to April 2022 where we had 214 calls. Emergency Medical Service calls represent 62.73% of our response activity for the month of April.

Incident Type Group	April 2023
100 - Fire	7
300 - EMS	138
400 - Hazardous Conditions	2
500 - Service Call	16
600 - Good Intent	34
700 - False Alarms	22
800 - Natural Disasters	1
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>223</b>





Custom ▾ Jan 1, 2023 - Apr 30, 2023 ▾

40%

**FIRE**  
Percentage of Total Incidents

60%

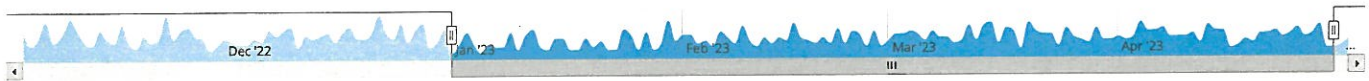
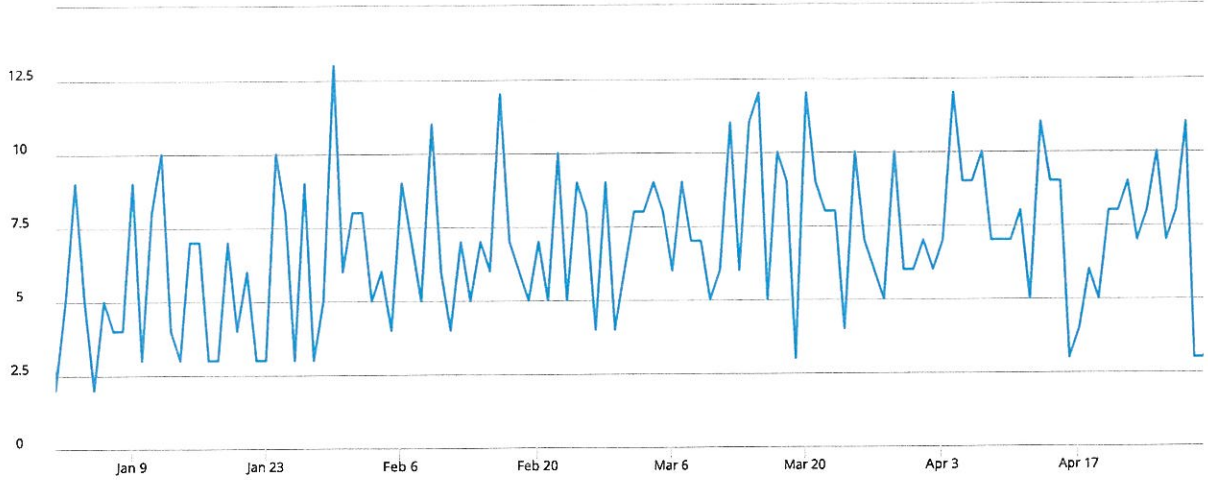
**EMS**  
Percentage of Total Incidents

822

**INCIDENTS**  
In Selected Time Slice

120

**DAYS**  
In Selected Time Slice



	Jan '23	Feb '23	Mar '23	Apr '23	May '23	Jun '23	Jul '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Total
RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT	173	189	237	223										822
Total	173	189	237	223										822





Custom ▾ Jan 1, 2023 - Apr 30, 2023 ▾

40%

**FIRE**  
Percentage of Total Incidents

60%

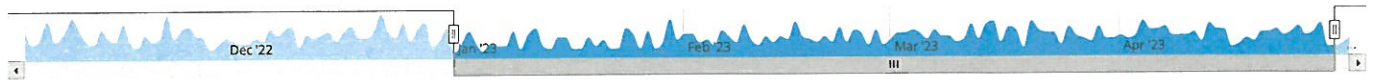
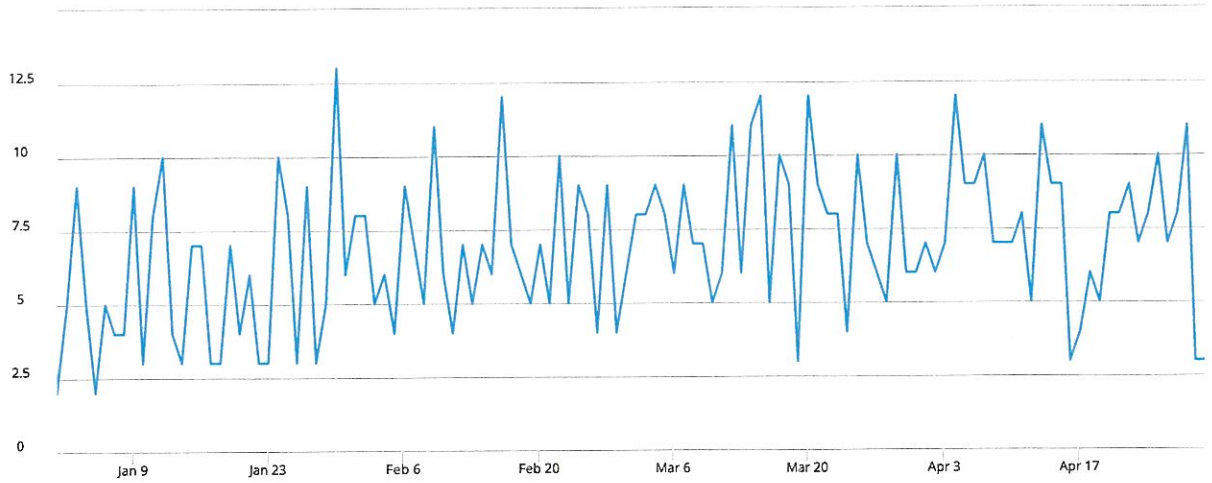
**EMS**  
Percentage of Total Incidents

822

**INCIDENTS**  
In Selected Time Slice

120

**DAYS**  
In Selected Time Slice



	Jan '23	Feb '23	Mar '23	Apr '23	May '23	Jun '23	Jul '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Total
(11) Structure Fire	4	6	3	7										20
(32) Emergency medical service (EMS) incident	104	111	144	137										496
(33) Lock-In				1										1
(35) Extrication, rescue				1										1
(41) Combustible/f.. spills & leaks	3	5	1	1										10
(42) Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition	1	1												2
(44) Electrical wiring/equipm. problem	2	1	2	1										6
(51) Person in distress	3	5	4	3										15
(52) Water problem		2	1											3
(53) Smoke, odor problem		1												1
(55) Public service assistance	4	9	12	13										38
(61) Dispatched and canceled en route	28	20	34	31										113
(62) Wrong location, no emergency found	4	5	4	3										16
(65) Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke		1	1	1										3
(71) Malicious, mischievous false alarm				1										1

	Jan '23	Feb '23	Mar '23	Apr '23	May '23	Jun '23	Jul '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Total
(73) System or detector malfunction	1	2	6	2										11
(74) Unintentional system/detect... operation (no fire)	19	20	25	20										84
UNK				1										1
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>223</b>										<b>822</b>

## **Fire Chief Gaertner Report**

- Attended monthly RFFD Officers meeting.
- Attended the Weekly Village Administrators Staff Meetings.
- Attended the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association Administrative Professionals Luncheon.
- Attended Lieutenant's promotional interview and new firefighter interview.
- Completed the IRMA Emergency Vehicle Drivers 2 Hour Safety Course.
- Attended the monthly Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (STIC) webinar.
- Attended the monthly MABAS Division 11 Fire Chiefs Meeting in North Riverside.
- Attended the monthly Metro Chiefs Executive Board Meeting.
- Attended a meeting on new Image Trend EMS Software through Loyola EMS.
- Attended the IRMA Fire Chiefs Steering Committee meeting.
- Attended the RFFD Foreign Fire Tax Meeting.
- Sat on the RFPD Commander position interview panel.
- Hosted a two-day Active Shooter Incident Management Class with RFFD, RFPD and Administrative Staff of School District 90.
- Attended the Annual Concordia University Family Night.
- Attended one day of the Fire Department Instructor Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

## **FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

### **Fire Marshal Kevin Wiley**

It's hard to believe that 2023 is a quarter of the way over already!

Tele-communicator's Week was April 9 - April 15, 2023. The telecommunicator's at the West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center (WSCDC) do an awesome job in keeping the fire departments in the Division informed and ultimately safer. They are the first link in the communication chain from the public that culminates with the Fire and Police Departments answering the public's call for service. We owe them a debt of gratitude. For the week, the Fire Department provided a few t-shirts, sweatshirts, and some glassware as gifts.

On April 14, 2023, the Fire Department supplied one lucky family with a Fire Truck Ride to School. This event was the winning prize from an auction at Lincoln Elementary School. It's quite exciting to know that the fire truck ride to school has been the highest auction prize for all the years that we have been participating in the auction. The Esposito family ultimately outbid all other bidders for not only this bid, but also the Police Car Ride to School. (See the enclosed photos)

I set up and performed all inspections on the District 90 schools and the Administration building as well as a couple of private schools. The results need to be uploaded to the Office of the State Fire Marshal's portal which ultimately gets back to the District 90 Superintendent. I usually do these inspections in April so I can give the building engineers time to get things taken care of

before the summer break. Unfortunately, a couple of the building engineers are retiring at the end of this school year so we will need to spend some time with the new engineers when they come on board.

Chief Gaertner set up a two-day training class on Active Shooters with a second component of Reunification of students if an incident ever happened in a school. The two-day training took place at the River Forest Community Center. Hats off to the Community Center staff for providing a nice facility for the class. 40 people from the River Forest Fire and Police Departments, Oak Park Fire Department, Forest Park Fire Department and Maywood Fire Department as well as the Superintendent and Staff from District 90 took part in the training. Multiple table-top exercises were played out in somewhat real-time scenarios in various locations in the mythical town that the instructors from the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) set us up with. We provided lunch and snacks for the two-day training to keep everyone concentrating on the task at hand. Everyone who attended the class said the classes were very beneficial and we all hope that we never had to use the training.

The last item in my monthly report is a summary of activities that do not fit in any other category such as, hydrant flows for sprinkler companies, servicing a Knox Box, public education flyers, and picking up and/or dropping off vehicles for service among others. These activities may not be difficult but do take up time that I like to account for.





RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT  
 FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU  
 MONTHLY REPORT  
 April 2023

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES	MONTHLY TOTALS		YTD-YEAR TO DATE	
	Apr-22	Apr-23	2022	2023
**FPB Inspections	7	13	57	64
**Company Inspections	8	10	71	70
FPB Re-Inspections	37	9	43	23
Company Re-Inspections	10	0	57	23
Special Inquiry - B/L Site Inspections	2	1	7	1
Construction Inspections (Rough/Finals)	4	5	8	13
Inspections with Building Department	0	0	2	0
Inspections with/for State Fire Marshal	4	4	5	4
Permit Inspections (tent, hot work, UST)	1	0	3	0
<b>TOTAL INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>198</b>
School/Business Emergency Plans/Drills	0	1	0	3
Violation Notices Issued	11	7	84	70
Violations Noted	19	25	147	192
Violations Corrected	87	18	137	72
Permits Issued	1	0	3	0
**Complaints Received & Investigated	1	0	1	0
Meetings/Consultations	12	4	48	24
Training Activities	0	1	13	16
Fire Suppression/Alarm System Tests/Finals	0	3	0	8
Fire Suppression Hydro's	1	0	1	3
**Plan Reviews and Revisions	13	4	37	17
**Average turn around (Business Days)	3.69 days	1.75 days	6.64 days	3.2 days
Public Education Programs	3	1	5	11
Public Education Program Contacts	268	6	286	148
Misc Fire Prev Activities (See Narrative)	6	9	20	30

\*\* Performance Measures for the Chief

Kevin Wiley Fire Marshal



## **Individual Shift Reports**

### **Gold Shift Report Lt. Howe**

**Activities:** For the month of April, Gold Shift responded to a total of 71 calls. 23 of the calls were fire related, 42 involved emergency medical services and there were 6 service calls.

**Incidents/Events of Note:** On April 18, Engine 213 responded to 42 Forest for a stove fire. Engine 213 crew quickly extinguished the fire and vented smoke from home. The stove was disconnected from gas and electric supply due to hazardous conditions.

**Training:** Gold shift conducted 243 hours of training this month, for an average of 40.5 hours per firefighter.

**Inspections:** 0 In-Company fire inspections were completed in April.

### **Black Shift Report: Lt. Bochenek**

**Activities:** Black Shift had a total of 68 calls. 20 were fire related, 47 were EMS calls, 1 service call.

**Incidents/Events of Note:** Black shift responded to Forest Park for a structure fire. Engine 213 crew assisted in advancing the attack line and then used PPV to ventilate the structure.

**Shift Training:** Black shift conducted 151.75 hours of fire related training this month and 48.5 hours of EMS training for a total of 200.25 hours of training. Some of the fire training can be considered cross training between fire and EMS, but for categorization purposes it was placed under fire training. That is an average of 33.375 hours per Lieutenant and firefighter/paramedics.

**Inspections:** 5 In-company inspections were completed this month.

**Red Shift Report: Lt. Smith**

**Activities:** For the month of April Red Shift had a total of 84 calls. 26 of the calls were fire related, 48 involved emergency medical services and there were 10 service calls.

**Incidents/Events of Note:** None Reported

**Shift Training:** Red shift had 142 hours of training this month, for an average of 23.75 hours per firefighter. Our monthly fire training included chest trauma care, care and maintenance of equipment, fire suppression, engine operations, ladder care and maintenance, and Loyola EMS Continuing Education.

**Inspections:** 0 In-company fire inspections were conducted in April.

**Training Lt. Carter**

For April 2023 the department participated in various training activities such

- Loyola CE was held on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The subject was Cardiac Arrest.
- Shifts continued their assigned building inspections.
- Lt. Carter attended a Battery Electric Vehicle First Responder Training presented by GM at the MABAS Readiness Center in Wheeling.
- Lt's Bochenek and Carter attended a 4-hour OSFM sponsored Public School Inspector class in Burbank on April 7.
- Lt. Boyd has started Company Fire Officer.
- Lt. Boyd attended Incident Safety Officer at North Palos FPD April 17-21.
- Lt. Smith attended Incident Safety Officer at Romeoville Fire Academy April 17-21.
- FF/PM's Basa, Buchholz and Rouse attended American Heart Association CPR Instructor class on April 17.
- FF/PM Fischer attended an IRMA sponsored EMS Safety class in Westmont.
- Chief Gaertner, Lt's Bochenek, Boyd, Carter, E. Howe, Smith, and FM Wiley attended a two-day Active Shooter class taught by IFSI at the RFCC April 25-26.
- FF/PM Krall attended a Special Needs Child Passenger Safety Training class April 26-27.
- Division 11 TRT drill was held in Cicero on April 27 & 28. Subject was deployment and the 12-man tent was put together. Attended by Lt. Howe and FF/PM Zipperich.
- Division 11 Haz Mat drill was held in North Riverside on April 27 & 28. The subject was monitoring and spill mitigation. Attended by FF/PM's Zipperich and McKenna.

**EMS/Paramedic Activity FF/PM Fischer**

During the month of April, RFFD responded to a total of 127 patients. Of the 127 patients, 103 were treated and transported by Ambulance 215, 3 were invalid assists and 21 patients refused care. These 127 patients had various complaints. Below are how the complaints break down:

- No complaint – 0
- Abdominal Pain – 1
- Allergic Reaction – 1
- Animal Bite -- 0
- Assault – 4
- Breathing Problems – 11
- Burns -- 0
- Psychiatric – 7
- Chest Pain – 6
- Cardiac/Traumatic/Respiratory Arrest – 0
- Choking -- 0
- Diabetic – 1
- Eye Problem -- 0
- Fall - 21
- Headache/Concussion – 1
- Hemorrhage/Bleeding -- 2
- Medical Alarm – 0
- Opiate Overdose -- 4
- Pain (Back) – 0
- Pain (General) -- 1
- Patient Assist – 0
- Poisoning / Drug Ingestion – 4
- Seizure – 3
- Sick Person -- 31
- Stroke / CVA – 0
- Traffic Accident -- 3
- Traumatic Injury – 4
- Unconscious/Unresponsive – 7
- Unknown Problems -- 6

The 103 patients who were transported went to the following hospitals:

- Gottlieb – 20
- Hines VA – 0
- Loyola – 11
- MacNeal - 0
- Community First -- 0
- Rush / Oak Park – 68
- Resurrection - 0
- West Suburban – 4

We had 20 calls to other towns for a mutual aid ambulance and received aid from other towns 12 times.

**Vehicle/Station Maintenance    FF/PM Zipperich**

**VEHICLES**

- 200- Nothing Reported - New Durango being fitted with radios & Emergency Lights
- 201- Nothing reported
- 202- Radiator repair@ Pete's
- 213- Dominator bar wiring repaired/ AC and oil change service needed/ Tank to pump open and check engine light code for ERG valve issue/ SRS fault indicated
- 214- Nothing reported
- 215- Front driver side tire valve cap replaced
- 218- Nothing Reported
- 219- Air tanks rusted, Interstate ordered tanks and will call when delivered to schedule service. The plan is to temp repair tanks, and drive to shop.
- 222- Nothing reported

**EQUIPMENT**

- 213 12" saw- spark plug replaced.
- 9V and D batteries ordered.
- Airpack #2 to Air One
- All rolling door tracks lubricated.
- Basement sump pump returned (Kennedy)
- Sensit and 5 gas calibrated.

**FIRE STATION**

- State Chemical truck wash ordered.
- Shoreline and pigtail plug (F) in Bay #1 replaced.
- Extension cord plug repaired.



## FIRE TRUCK RIDE TO LINCOLN SCHOOL











**FIRE DEPARTMENT-POLICE DEPARTMENT-**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT 90 ACTIVE SHOOTER**  
**TRAINING**











**LETTERS OF APPRECIATION**



But anyone can see  
that what you do  
makes a wonderful difference.

## THANK YOU

To the Paramedics and all  
others who sped to get my  
husband to Loyola Trauma  
Center on April 3rd.  
You are indeed life  
savers.

Bill is on the mend, but  
with still a ways to go;

We are so grateful  
to you for your  
kind, professional  
help. Fran &  
Bill Carroll

The Carrolls  
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