

# **RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT**



## **MONTHLY REPORT**

**JUNE 2022**



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian Murphy  
Village Administrator

FROM: Thomas Gaertner  
Thomas Gaertner  
Fire Chief

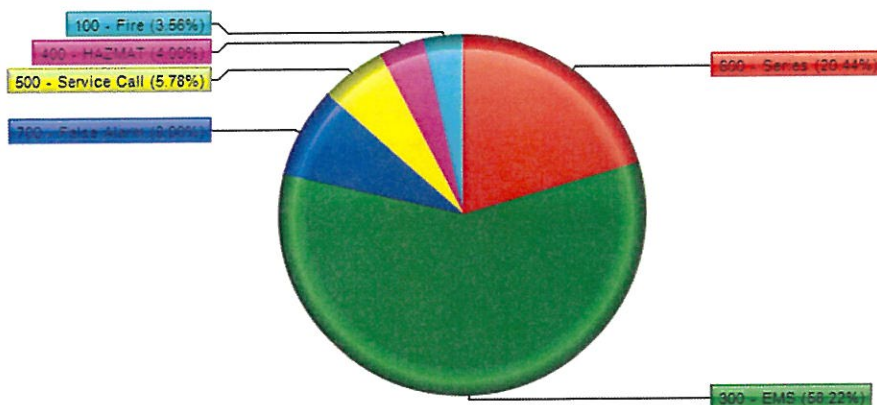
DATE: July 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Monthly Report – June 2022

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The Fire Department responded to 225 calls during the month of June. This is above our average number of calls in comparison to June 2021 where we had 179 calls. We experienced 8 fire related calls for the month. Emergency Medical Service calls represented 58.22% of our response activity for the month of June.

Incident Type Group	June 2022
100 - Fire	8
300 - EMS	131
400 - Hazardous Conditions	9
500 - Service Call	13
600 - Good Intent	46
700 - False Alarms	18
<b>Monthly Total</b>	<b>225</b>



### **Incidents of Interest**

The department participated in the Pride Flag Raising Event here at the village hall as well as the Juneteenth Flag Raising at the River Forest Library and Juneteenth Parade.

The remodeling of the firehouse kitchen is complete. It looks amazing and was completed with funds from the Foreign Fire Tax.

Department members continue to work with vendors to finalize specifications for a new ambulance.

### **Chief Gaertner Report**

- Attended monthly RFFD Officers meeting
- Attended the Pride Flag Raising at the Village Hall
- Attended the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Home Day in Alsip
- Attended the Juneteenth Flag Raising Ceremony at the River Forest Library
- Attended the Monthly Metro Chiefs Executive Board Meeting
- Attended the Juneteenth Parade/Celebration
- Attended the C4 MOU Signing at Triton College
- Attended a Community Risk Reduction Seminar

### **Fire Prevention Fire Marshal Wiley**

Welcome to June 2022 and the realization that 2022 is now half over!! Time sure is moving fast!

With the end of the school year comes requests for last minute tours and public education programs at a number of locations. The fire department had a visit from 64 Kindergartners from Lincoln School who spend time on a tour of the fire station. The tour highlighted all the rooms of the fire station as well as some of the equipment firefighters work with. The fire department also visited the preschoolers at the West Suburban Temple Har Zion where we discussed firefighter familiarity and showed the kids the fire trucks. (See pictures).

I spent three days in separate classes discussing Community Risk Reduction (CRR) where we reviewed the incident numbers for River Forest for the last 5 years. I may not be an expert at an Excel Pivot Table but I now have a better understanding of what it takes to dive into the numbers and ways of reducing the risk in our community.

Time was spent with Chief Gaertner discussing and updating the Village of River Forest's Emergency Operations Plan.

Matt Walsh and I visited each of the businesses on the 7600 block of Lake St. to discuss the construction project at 7605 Lake St. We introduced them to a section on the Village Website where they can get weekly updates into the construction progress at the site.

I performed 10 Target Hazard Inspections and the shifts performed six Company Inspections. That may not seem like a lot of inspections but as I have discussed in past reports, the Shift Commanders often do more than the average inspections in the cooler months thus allowing for more outdoor training and activities during the warmer summer months. Overall, we are ahead of the inspection totals for the first six months of 2021 by more than 100 inspections.

I spent a number of hours assisting with the Outdoor Weather Sirens and witnessing that they were indeed working on several occasions.

I am continuing to whittle down my review times for all my plan reviews. On average, I am down to 4.5 days for the month of June and 6.5 days for the year. These numbers are within the established performance measures but I will strive to get them down even further.

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 and writing my monthly report, among others. These activities may not be difficult in nature but do take up time that I like to account for.





RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT  
 FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU  
 MONTHLY REPORT  
 June 2022

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES	MONTHLY TOTALS		YEAR TO DATE	
	Jun-21	Jun-22	2021	2022
**FPB Inspections	9	10	35	81
**Company Inspections	18	6	86	90
FPB Re-Inspections	0	3	2	47
Company Re-Inspections	9	12	39	70
Special Inquiry - B/L Site Inspections	0	1	4	9
Construction Inspections (Rough/Finals)	2	5	36	15
Inspections with Building Department	0	2	7	5
Inspections <b>with/for</b> State Fire Marshal	0	4	4	9
Permit Inspections (tent, hot work, UST)	1	3	11	8
<b>TOTAL INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>334</b>
School/Business Emergency Plans/Drills	0	1	7	3
Violation Notices Issued	10	12	62	111
Violations Noted	37	25	137	218
Violations Corrected	10	23	73	168
Permits Issued	1	3	3	8
**Complaints Received & Investigated	0	1	0	3
Meetings/Consultations	12	6	38	65
Training Activities	1	4	29	18
Fire Suppression/Alarm System Tests/Finals	0	1	1	1
Fire Suppression Hydro's	0	0	3	1
**Plan Reviews and Revisions	28	18	17	72
**Average turn around ( <b>Business Days</b> )	4.71 days	4.5 days	2.64 days	6.5 days
Public Education Programs	6	5	7	14
Public Education Program Contacts	45	118	847	538
Misc Fire Prev Activities (See Narrative)	7	8	35	34

\*\* Performance Measures for the Chief  
 Kevin Wiley Fire Marshal

**Training Lt. Carter**

This month the department participated in various training activities such as:

- No Loyola Continuing Education for June
- Shifts continued their assigned building inspections
- Shifts have started hydrant flowing and testing now that water tower is back in service
- Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board brought a Fire Sprinkler Valve training trailer for a demonstration on how fire sprinklers and their various valves works. All 3 shifts attended as well as Forest Park FD
- FF/PM Zipperich taught a CPR refresher class for River Forest Park District
- Lt. E. Howe and FF/PM Zipperich attended a Division 11 TRT drill at Cicero water tower. Subject was ropes, knots and rappelling
- FF/PM's Bencik and Viera attended a Division 11 Haz Mat drill in North Riverside. Subject was suspicious package, monitoring, Level A suit donning and doffing, HazMat ID
- FF/PM A. Howe attended and passed Vehicle and Machinery Operations in Romeoville. He is now eligible to be certified as an Advanced Technician Firefighter
- FF/PM Doran attended a Certified Technician course conducted by National Child Passenger Safety Board in Batavia
- FF/PM A. Howe attended an Advanced Cardiac Life Support refresher course
- FF/PM Rouse attended the Fire Apparatus Engineer course
- FF/PM McKenna went to Chicago Fire Academy to take the Advanced Technician Firefighter exam

## **Individual Shift Reports**

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

**Activities:** For the month of June, Gold Shift had a total of 80 calls. 26 of the calls were fire related, 51 involved emergency medical services and there were 3 service calls

**Incidents/Events of Note:** On June 18<sup>th</sup> Ambulance 215 responded to 608 N. Humphry in Oak Park for a fall. On arrival it was found that patient had fallen from the roof. Ambulance 215 crew transported patient in critical condition to Loyola Medical center. Later that evening crews from Ambulance 215 and Engine 213 responded for a fall at 715 Monroe in River Forest. Pt was found unresponsive. Crews of Ambulance 215 and Engine 213 initiated Advanced Life Support care including CPR and transported patient to Loyola Medical Center.

**Training:** Gold shift had 90 hours of fire related training this month, 40 hours of EMS training and 4 hours Hazmat for an average of 22.3 hours per firefighter. Our monthly fire training included Emergency Vehicle Driver Safety, traffic safety and road operations. WE also participated in the June safety stand down training on situational awareness and responding to violent situations.

- FF. Rouse completed Fire Apparatus Engineer Certification
- FF Zipperich conducted one CPR class

**Inspections:** Gold shift completed 2 company fire inspections in May.

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

**Activities:** Black Shift had a total of 76 calls. 33 were fire related, 42 were EMS calls, 1 service call(s).

**Incidents/Events of Note:** Hose testing and Hydrant flushing has begun. Shift hosted Boy and Girl Scout Troops for pub ed.

**Shift Training:** Black shift had 132.5 hours of fire related training this month and 0 hours of EMS training for a total of 132.5 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 26.45 hours per Lieutenant and Firefighter/Paramedics. Shift conducted Loyola EMS Continuing Education, public education/ station tours, inspections, hydrant flushing, hose testing, and EMS Report writing training.

**Inspections:** Inspections and multiple re-inspections were completed. 36 Hydrants were tested/flushed this month. 11 lengths of 3" were tested.

**Red Shift Report: Lt. Smith**

**Activities:** For the month of June, Red Shift had a total of 78 calls. 29 of the calls were fire related. There were 43 EMS calls and 6 service calls.

**Incidents/Events of Note:** On June 14<sup>th</sup> a resident from 411 Park Ave reported a smell of natural gas inside the basement. Red Shift investigated and found high levels of natural gas inside the basement. There were notable levels of natural gas inside the first and third floor units as well. Firefighters ventilated by opening doors and windows. The crew also ventilated the structure using a battery powered PPV fan. NICOR arrived and found two gas leaks inside the basement. There was a third leak on the third floor behind the stove. NICOR shut off the gas meter until the leaks could be repaired.

On June 15<sup>th</sup> Ambulance 215 responded to the structure fire at 842 Mapleton, Oak Park. The ambulance was medical control at the scene.

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, Red Shift responded to the garbage can fire in Priory Park. When Engine 213 arrived the trash can and park bench were on fire. Engine 213 extinguished the fire before two trees ignited.

**Shift Training:** Red Shift conducted 174.75 hours of fire related training this month and 9 hours of EMS training for a total of 183.75 hours of training. That is an average of 30.63 hours per firefighter. Red Shift attended a Pediatric Poison class where we went over different scenarios and poisons. The treatment for each scenario was discussed in detail. Red Shift attended a three- hour OSHA Electrical Safety class. The Shift continued with the vehicle check rides. Red Shift participated in the Safety Stand Down Week who's subject was Situational Awareness. Red Shift participated in a sprinkler class with Forest Park firefighters. The class used a sprinkler training trailer to demonstrate the many devices in a sprinkler system.

- FF Doran attended a 30-hour Child Car Safety Seat Installation class.
- FF Howe completed a 40-hour Vehicle and Machinery Operations class.
- FF Howe attended a 4-hour Advanced Cardiac Life Support Class.
- FF Viera participated in the Division 11 Hazmat drill.
- FF Viera completed a 1-hour NICOR Natural Gas Safety course online.
- Lt. Smith accrued 10.5 hours at a virtual Hazmat Conference.
- Lt. Smith participated in a Zoom class hosted by the Illinois Department of Human Rights. The 2-hour class was on communicating as a manager.
- Lt. Smith attended a 1-hour class on purchasing SCBAs using grant money.

**Inspections:** 10 Inspections with 13 violations, and 5 Re-inspections with 2 corrections



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

No Report due to issues with the new Zoll EMS Charts software. Loyola EMS is looking into the system wide issue with reporting.

**Vehicle/Equipment/ Station Maintenance FF Zipperich**

**VEHICLES**

200- Account confirmed with Jiffy Lube for passenger vehicle oil changes. Tire patched at Cassidy. Windshield wipers ordered and replaced

201- Nothing reported

202- Nothing reported

213- Intermittent check engine light/ code appears to be related to DEF fluid concentration per Interstate

214- Nothing reported

215- Nothing reported

218- Brake service/ inspection needed

219- Plymovent exhaust needs to be adjusted for length. PTO leak, level ok. Tire replaced. No information on generator order status from Interstate. PMs and other items listed expected to be addressed when generator replacement scheduled. (July 1- Engine cool hose repaired. Jockey pump serviced/ may have air leak in system)

222- Nothing reported

**EQUIPMENT**

LDH hose delivered

Oxygen delivered

Medical backpack delivered for 215

Genesis crash kit delivered

Consider ordering DEF from PW vendor (see E213)

**FIRE STATION**

Kitchen remodel complete, punch list items outstanding

Roof HVAC unit reset

Firehouse alarm system serviced

DEAR RF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR  
KIND AND PROFESSIONAL HELP WHEN  
I CALLED FOR A LIFT ASSIST FOR  
MY HUSBAND ON TWO OCCASSIONS  
JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 310 LATHROP. DON  
PASSED AWAY THAT EVENING.  
I AM SO GRATEFUL FOR YOUR  
HELP AND THAT OF THE HOSPICE  
NURSES ON THAT VERY CHAOTIC  
DAY. YOU WERE GOD'S HANDS  
HELPING OUR FAMILY AS HE CALLED  
DOWN HOME. THANK YOU -

With sincere gratitude  
and warmest thanks.

MARILYN HEMKURSER

## Thomas Gaertner

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**From:** Kevin Wiley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2022 12:50 PM  
**To:** Michael Smith; Adam Seablom; Jonathan Rouse; Lucas Finfrock  
**Cc:** Thomas Gaertner  
**Subject:** FW: Wonderful visit  
**Attachments:** IMG\_8799.jpg; IMG\_8798.jpg; IMG\_8800.jpg; IMG\_8801.jpg; IMG\_8802.jpg

Hey Guys,  
Thought you would like to see this email.

Thanks again,

Kevin

Kevin Wiley  
Fire Marshal  
Village of River Forest  
Fire Department  
Fire Prevention Bureau  
400 Park Av.  
River Forest, IL 60305  
Office: 708-714-3562  
Cell: 630-270-6988  
[kwiley@vrf.us](mailto:kwiley@vrf.us)  
[rffdpredvention@vrf.us](mailto:rffdpredvention@vrf.us)  
[www.vrf.us](http://www.vrf.us)



**From:** Cguralnick <cguralnick@wsthz.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2022 12:39 PM  
**To:** Kevin Wiley <kwiley@vrf.us>  
**Subject:** Wonderful visit

Hi Kevin,  
The kids had a wonderful time and your team made a fantastic presentation for the little ones.  
Have a lovely day,  
Claudine  
Interim director  
Har Zion Preschool