



MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian Murphy
Village Administrator

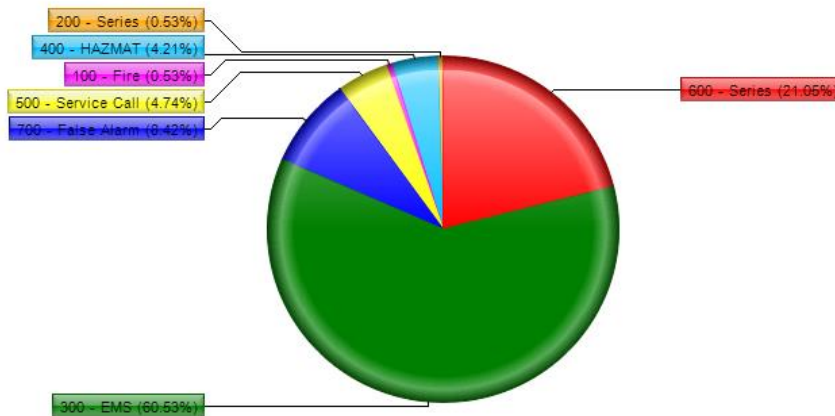
FROM: Thomas Gaertner
Thomas Gaertner
Fire Chief

DATE: April 5, 2022

SUBJECT: Monthly Report – March 2022

The Fire Department responded to 190 calls during the month of March. This is slightly above our average number of calls in comparison to March 2021 where we had 174 calls. We experienced 1 fire related call for the month. Emergency Medical Service calls represented 60.53% of our response activity for the month of March.

Incident Type Group	MAR 2022
100 - Fire	1
300 - EMS	115
400 - Hazardous Conditions	8
500 - Service Call	9
600 - Good Intent	40
700 - False Alarms	16
Monthly Total	190



Incidents of Interest

On March 31st, Red Shift responded to the structure fire at 805 Franklin Ave. Dispatch notified fire units while in route that a person may be trapped inside the home. River Forest Engine 213 and Truck 219 arrived on scene and reported smoke showing. A Box Alarm was requested for manpower. River Forest firefighters used forcible entry tools to gain access into the home. Engine 213 deployed a 1 ¾ inch hose line into the structure. Engine 213 found smoke from the ceiling to the floor causing zero visibility. Engine 213 found and extinguished the fire. Forest Park Engine 401 was given the task of primary search. While searching they located an unconscious female victim in a rear hallway near a bedroom. Engine 401 rescued the adult victim with assistance from River Forest firefighters. The victim was transported to Loyola Hospital and at this time is recovering from her injuries. Oak Park Truck 631 ventilated the roof and Maywood firefighters were RIT. A Fire Investigation Box was dispatched to the scene. River Forest FF Seablom was assigned as the lead investigator. Fire investigators from Berwyn, Oak Park, North Riverside, and Stickney assisted in the investigation.

Chief Gaertner

- Attended monthly RFFD Officers meeting.
- Attended the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association Spring Symposium.
- Met with Chief Puknaitis of the Naperville FD 7 Tom Deegan of Paramedic Billing Service in reference to GEMT Program.
- Attended monthly MABAS Division 11 Fire Chiefs meeting.
- Attended a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the new West Suburban Behavioral Health Unit.
- Attended Zoom meeting for upcoming IRMA RAV.
- Attended Zoom Arbitration hearing for current CBA agreement.
- I was appointed to a Director's position on the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association Executive Board.
- We have begun the process for creating specifications for the new ambulance purchase.
- Met with representatives from Unique Apparel on revamping/streamlining our uniform purchasing process.
- Attended a Zoom planning meeting for a Juneteenth Celebration on June 19, 2022.
- Held meetings with all three shifts for a quarterly department meeting.

Fire Prevention Fire Marshal Wiley

March started off with Daylight Saving where we encourage all residents to change their clocks as well as change/check the batteries in their smoke alarms. With the new Smoke Alarm Act going into effect next January 1, 2023, we will be ramping up our messages in multiple public education formats to get the word out about replacing older alarms with new, sealed battery alarms.

Following the Village Boards directive, I made some contacts and inquired about a smoke alarm-recycling program. Sara Phyfer also assisted me with those contacts. I will be purchasing a couple of very colorful bins in the near future to place in the Village Hall and Fire House to start the program. More details on the program will be forthcoming.

In conjunction with this new program, I will be finalizing the details on a new smoke alarm program with the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance where they supply us with new smoke alarms that we can give away to single-family homes, all free of charge. The Fire Department will put the smoke alarms up and track the progress of the alarms.

Coming off a busy month of February where I inspected all buildings at the Dominican University, in March I performed all first round inspections of Concordia University. Re-inspections of those buildings will be done in April.

For the first time since 2019 the Fire and Life Safety Conference was held LIVE in East Peoria, IL. The conference started with a pre-conference training session featuring tricks, tips and ideas to step up our fire and life safety training classes. The next three days were a combination of breakout sessions on fire and life safety issues and code related issues. The Keynote speaker was Chief Patrick Kenny (retired) who gave a very emotional keynote address on the fact that sometimes, for our own mental health, we need to remove the Superman cape and ask for help. Other sessions included updates from various departments within the Office of the State Fire Marshal to how to prevent thermal runaway in lithium-ion batteries. All in all, an excellent conference. I was able to have over 10 hours of public education training sessions and over six hours of code related sessions.

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.

Miscellaneous activities of note for March:

- Code Review issues
- Put together Quick Drills for the Shifts
- Gathering of material for the Pub Ed events
- Weekly FPB Paperwork to Laserfiche/LAMA
- After conference paperwork

The fire department responded to a structure fire on March 31, 2022 where a resident was injured. Time was used to put together a flyer to distribute to the neighborhood on common fire safety concerns. More on that will be coming in the April report.

Training Lt. Carter

During the month of March, the department participated in various training activities such as:

- Loyola CE began in person training again. Subject was Stroke and Behavioral Emergencies
- Shifts continued their assigned building inspections
- Annual SCBA, Millennium and Avon (PD) mask fit testing was performed on all fire and police personnel
- All shifts drilled at Concordia Gross Hall prior to asbestos abatement. Standpipe Operations, Forcible Entry, Ladder Raises and Rescue were drilled on
- Division 11 Haz Mat drill was held on March 15th and 17th in River Forest. Subject was Hydrogen Sulfide and preparation for next month's drill at Kopper's Chemicals in Stickney
- Division 11 TRT drill was held on March 24th and 25th in Cicero. Subject was ropes, knots, ascending and descending. Also new harnesses were donned and doffed
- Division 11 Investigator drill was held on March 30th in Oak Park. Subject was depositions and CV review.

Outside of Department Training

Course	Name	Date	Hrs.
Haz Mat Div drill	Boyd, Bencik, Bochenek, Carter, Fischer,	3/15	3.5
	E. Howe, Viera, Zipperich	3/17	3.5
TRT Div Drill	Basa, Bochenek, Buchholz	3/24	4
	E. Howe, Krall Boyd, Carter, Zipperich	3/25	4
Investigator Div. Drill	Carter	3/30	2
<u>ITTF/OSFM</u>	None		

Individual Shift Reports

Gold Shift Report Lt. Howe

Activities: For the month of March, Gold Shift had a total of 63 calls. 21 of the calls were fire related, 39 involved emergency medical services and there were 4 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: On March 2nd members of Gold shift responded with Truck 219 to Forest Park for a multi-family building fire. Truck 219 crew assisted residents of the building to safety and then assisted Forest Park Fire Department in extinguishing fire.

Training: Gold shift had 90 hours of fire related training this month, 40 hours of EMS training, 8 hours of Rescue Training, and 6 hours Hazmat for an average of 24 hours per firefighter. Our monthly fire training included Emergency Vehicle Driver Safety, Truck Company operations, Rope Rescue, Forcible Entry and Loyola mandated continuing education on stroke and behavioral emergencies.

- Lt. Howe and FF Krall participated in the Div. 11 TRT drill in Cicero
- Lt Howe and Firefighter Zipperich attended March Div. 11 Hazmat drill.
- Firefighter/EMS coordinator Luke Finrock attended Loyola EMS computer training on March 29 & 30

Inspections: 7 Company Fire Inspections were completed.

Black Shift Report: Lt. Bochenek

Activities: For the month of March, Black Shift had a total of 64 calls. 26 were fire related, 38 were EMS calls, & 0 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: Black Shift responded for a small electrical fire at the River Forest Animal Hospital on Lake St. Crews arrived quickly and were able to isolate the wiring issue and prevent further damage. Black Shift donated time and assisted Humble Design, a Chicago charitable organization with moving furniture to moving trucks. This furniture will provide families in need with furnishings for the home. This event occurred at Gross Hall at Concordia University

Training: Black shift had a total of 147.5 hours of fire related training this month and 26 hours of EMS training for a total of 223 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 34.7 hours per shift member. Some of the training conducted included LUMC Continuing Education, Fire Inspections, Hearing Conservation, Operating Directives Review, Forcible Entry, and Standpipe Operations.

Inspections: Company Fire Inspections and multiple re-inspections were completed

Red Shift Report: Lt. Smith

Activities: For the month of March, Red Shift had a total of 70 calls. Of those calls, 22 were fire related. There were 42 EMS calls and 6 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: On March 31st, Red Shift responded to the structure fire at 805 Franklin Ave. Dispatch notified fire units while in route that a person may be trapped inside the home. River Forest Engine 213 and Truck 219 arrived on scene and reported smoke showing. A Box Alarm was requested for manpower. River Forest firefighters used forcible entry tools to gain access into the home. Engine 213 deployed a 1 ¾ inch hose line into the structure. Engine 213 found smoke from the ceiling to the floor causing zero visibility. Engine 213 found and extinguished the fire. Forest Park Engine 401 was given the task of primary search. While searching they located an unconscious female victim in a rear hallway near a bedroom. Engine 401 rescued the adult victim with assistance from River Forest firefighters. The victim was transported to Loyola Hospital and at this time is recovering from her injuries. Oak Park Truck 631 ventilated the roof and Maywood firefighters were RIT. A Fire Investigation Box was dispatched to the scene. River Forest FF Seablom was assigned as the lead investigator. Fire investigators from Berwyn, Oak Park, North Riverside, and Stickney assisted in the investigation.

Training: Red Shift had 124.5 hours of fire related training this month and 48 hours of EMS training for a total of 172.5 hours of training. That is an average of 28.75 hours per firefighter.

Red Shift training for the month included Loyola CE – Stroke. We went to Gross Hall at Concordia University to drill on standpipe operations and spent three hours deploying the high-rise pack in the stairwell and hallways. The shift experimented on using three different hose loads on the high-rise pack. Shift personnel attended a one-hour class on IDPH DNR/POLST forms. The class reviewed each section of the form. Shift members also reviewed the SMOs that pertained to this subject. FF Basa attended a four-hour Division 11 TRT Drill in Cicero. FF Viera attended a 3.5-hour Division 11 Hazmat Drill in River Forest.

Inspections: 16 Company Fire Inspections with 31 violations noted, and 6 re-inspections with 6 corrections.

EMS/Paramedic Activity FF/PM Fischer

In the month of March, we had a total of 133 requests for EMS. Of those 133 requests, 123 patients were cared for by RFFD EMS. Of the 123 patients, 45 were ALS, 76 were BLS and 2 were invalid assists. 34 patients refused treatment and transport. We responded mutual aid EMS to 9 calls out of town and received mutual aid EMS 10 times. 87 patients were transported to the following hospitals:

Gottlieb – 7	Rush/Oak Park - 58
Hines VA – 0	Resurrection - 0
Loyola – 19	West Suburban - 3
McNeal – 0	
Community First – 0	

Vehicle/Equipment/ Station Maintenance FF Zipperich

Vehicles:

200- Nothing reported

201- Nothing reported

202- Nothing reported

213- Deck gun installed, ROM switch replaced (Lt side- front cabinet), Driver's side passenger door jamb switch replaced

214- Forest Park reported v-mux screen is blank/ buttons still work. Battery ordered for v-mux. Screen adjusted temporarily. Brakes serviced and power steering repaired. Latch replaced on driver's side rear compartment door

215- wrong camera ordered/ replacement camera ordered, installed and still not working. Vmux needs to be sent out for service (3 weeks estimated). Engine compartment and side drawer batteries replaced

218- Nothing reported

219- Nothing reported

222-Nothing reported

Equipment:

Sawzall blades delivered

EMS gloves and medical supplies delivered

Fire Station:

215 shoreline plug replaced

Bathroom drains

Clothes dryer installed

Cleaning chemicals ordered