

**RIVER FOREST
FIRE DEPARTMENT**



**MONTHLY REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2022**



MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian Murphy
Village Administrator

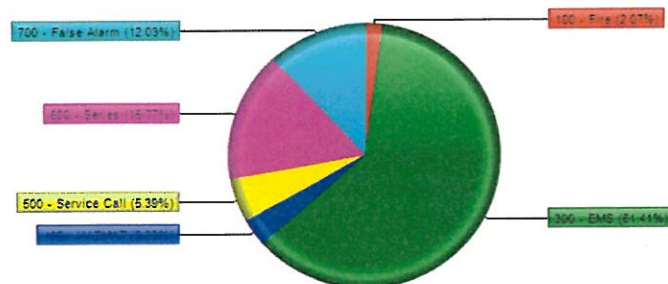
FROM: Thomas Gaertner
Thomas Gaertner
Fire Chief

DATE: October 4, 2022

SUBJECT: Monthly Report – September 2022

The Fire Department responded to 241 calls during the month of September. This is above our average number of calls in comparison to September 2021 where we had 199 calls. Emergency Medical Service calls represented 61.41% of our response activity for the month of September.

Incident Type Group	Sept. 2022
100 - Fire	5
300 - EMS	148
400 - Hazardous Conditions	8
500 - Service Call	13
600 - Good Intent	38
700 - False Alarms	29
Monthly Total	241



Incident of Interest: On Monday, September 26th at 07:55hrs the RFFD responded for the reported vehicle accident on the 800 Block of Bonnie Brae. Once on the scene we observed a two vehicle accident involving one sedan and a shuttle bus from Dominican University. The bus had struck the vehicle at the intersection of Chicago Ave and Bonnie Brae. The bus was sent onto the parkway and front lawns of the 800 block of Bonnie Brae and continued north bound until it came to a stop when it hit a house. Luckily there was only one college student on board the bus who only had some minor cuts from glass. The driver of the bus was injured and transported to the hospital. The driver of the sedan was also transported to a local hospital. Before the bus could be removed from the residence the structure was shored up with heavy timbers and screw jacks, preventing more damage to the home as the vehicle was removed. Fire department were on the scene for over 5 hours.

Chief Gaertner Report

- Attended monthly RFFD Officers meeting
- Attended the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Fall Symposium in Addison, IL
- Attended the Annual Lemon-Aide Fundraising Event on 9-11
- Attended various ESO (Fire Reporting) Training Sessions
- Attended the monthly Metro Chiefs Executive Board Meeting
- Attended the monthly Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (STIC) webinar
- Met with new ambulance vendor to finalize specifications for a new ambulance
- Gathered data and information for upcoming ISO Review

Training Lt. Carter

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

- Shifts continued their assigned building inspections
- Shifts continuing hydrant testing
- Loyola Continuing Education for September was Children with Special Healthcare Needs
- FF/PM Zipperich taught CPR for WSCDC
- FF/PM McKenna attended the 2 80 Hour Hazardous Materials Technician class at Orland Park through IFSI
- Fire Marshal Wiley conducted a Fire Inspection Update class for all 3 shifts
- Division 11 Haz Mat Team drill was held in Berwyn. Subject was Radiation and Weapons of Mass Destruction. Also prepared for October drill at MacNeal Hospital on October 4th
- Division 11 TRT drill held at the old Mohr Ready-Mix plant in Oak Park. Subject was trench and shoring

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Fire Marshal Kevin Wiley

The September Report is the first report after the Autumnal Equinox when we really start to notice the sun setting a little earlier each day, cooler mornings and schools are in full session. It also means that it is Lemonade time!! Chief Gaertner and I were present for the memorial where we performed a bell ceremony and recited a poem honoring all the lives lost. I also attended the 9/11 memorial ceremony on the grounds of Concordia University on the 12th.

I was able to spend some time wrapping up all my inspections of both Dominican and Concordia Universities. Both universities have had some recent personnel changes and scheduling was a bit of a problem for both campuses. Since Fenwick now owns the Priory property, I had to schedule those inspections with a new person as well.

September also finished all the required State Fire Marshal mandated school fire drills. Again, new principals were a bit overwhelmed and despite having a mandate that requires the first fire drill within the first week of school, did not get back to me until September was well under way.

In preparation for our upcoming visit from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) in early October, some research into required documents and required training was undertaken. A few days were used to provide answers to a segment of the documents that deal with Fire Prevention and Community Risk Reduction.

I presented my annual Fire Inspection refresher class to all three shifts. We discussed what impact the 2018 Fire and Building Code changes would mean to the shift personnel and what changes will be made when the 2018 Code goes into effect this January 2023. We also discussed a number of Public Education subjects that shift personnel can use when they give a station tour or go to an event.

I assisted Chief Gaertner with the logistics of a bus accident scene where a bus was involved in an accident and came to a stop when it hit a house. Luckily there was only one college student on board the bus and only had some minor cuts from glass. The driver of the bus was transported to the hospital. Chief Gaertner did not want the tow trucks to pull the bus out before the home was shored, thus preventing more damage to the structure. We were on scene for almost 5 hours.

October 15, 2022 is the annual Fire Department - Fire Prevention Week - Open House. I have attached a flyer outlining some of the events that will take place. Everyone is invited and welcome. Come see what the Fire Department has and Touch-A-Truck!!

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.

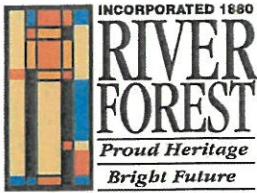


RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT
 FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
 MONTHLY REPORT
September 2022

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES	MONTHLY TOTALS		YEAR TO DATE	
	Sep-21	Sep-22	2021	2022
**FPB Inspections	8	11	76	110
**Company Inspections	4	12	139	124
FPB Re-Inspections	0	1	2	50
Company Re-Inspections	3	4	67	88
Special Inquiry - B/L Site Inspections	0	1	4	14
Construction Inspections (Rough/Finals)	3	3	44	23
Inspections with Building Department	1	1	10	6
Inspections with/for State Fire Marshal	0	0	4	9
Permit Inspections (tent, hot work, UST)	3	1	31	26
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	22	34	377	450
School/Business Emergency Plans/Drills	8	2	21	12
Violation Notices Issued	9	14	129	145
Violations Noted	24	36	316	403
Violations Corrected	5	8	140	199
Permits Issued	0	2	20	26
**Complaints Received & Investigated	1	0	2	3
Meetings/Consultations	7	5	16	89
Training Activities	1	7	37	34
Fire Suppression/Alarm System Tests/Finals	1	0	2	1
Fire Suppression Hydro's	0	1	3	3
**Plan Reviews and Revisions	24	24	124	164
**Average turnaround (Business Days)	5.3 days	7	4.92 days	5.66
Public Education Programs	13	3	30	28
Public Education Program Contacts	1164	255	2076	989
Misc Fire Prev Activities (See Narrative)	5	6	57	50

** Performance Measures for the Chief

Kevin Wiley Fire Marshal



River Forest Fire Department
2022 OPEN HOUSE
400 PARK AV.



Engine 213

Ambulance 215

Truck 219

Saturday October 15, 2022
Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Come and Touch-A-Truck

2022 FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE FEATURES

- TOUCH A FIRETRUCK
- FIRE APPARATUS/STATION TOURS
- RIVER FOREST POLICE DEPARTMENT – REGISTER BIKES/ CHILD ID KITS
- WEST SUBURBAN CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH CENTER (911 PRACTICE PHONE STATION FOR CHILDREN)
- RIVER FOREST PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT “TOUCH A BOBCAT LOADER”
- RIVER FOREST INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS IAFF LOCAL 2391

Individual Shift Reports

Gold Shift Report Lt. Howe

Activities: For the month of September, Gold Shift had a total of 88 calls. 29 of the calls were fire response related, 57 involved emergency medical services and there were 2 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: On September 28, Gold shift responded to a gas leak at 608 Bonnie Brae. Workers installing a fence cut the gas service line to the meter. Crews from engine 213 and Ambulance 215 evacuated adjacent homes and shut down all mechanical equipment and possible ignition sources inside home. NICOR was notified. Engine 213 remained on scene until NICOR arrived and stopped leak. Engine 213 reentered adjacent homes to ventilate residual natural gas until levels were safe for occupancy.

Training: Gold shift had 90 hours of fire related training this month and 40 hours of EMS training for an average of 21.6 hours per firefighter.

- **Fire:** Engine operations, Pump evolutions, Water Supply, Tactics and Strategy, response to incidents involving Electrical vehicles, Diver safety and Building familiarization.
- **EMS:** Loyola mandated continuing education on pediatric special health care needs.
 - FF Zipperich completed 4 CPR classes including WSCD staff.
 - Lt Howe attended Div. 20 TRT drill on structural collapse

Inspections: Gold shift completed 2 company fire inspections in September.

Black Shift Report: Lt. Bochenek

Activities: Black Shift had a total of 71 calls. 24 were fire related, 46 were EMS calls, 1 service call(s).

Incidents/Events of Note: Black shift mitigated and secured the scene that involved a small bus into a home on the 800 block of Bonnie Brae. No injuries noted to the crew, but 2 patients were transported from the scene and 2 were treated and released on the scene.

Shift Training: Black shift participated in Public Education, EMS training, attack line deployments, Fire Apparatus Engineer drills, driver training, hazmat training, Incident Command call review, and officer development. Black shift had 108.5 hours of fire related training this month and 28 hours of EMS training for a total of 136.5 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 22.75 hours per Lieutenant and firefighter/paramedics.

Inspections: 8 initial inspections were completed and 6 re-inspections were also completed.

Red Shift Report: Lt. Smith

Activities: For the month of September, Red Shift had a total of 93 calls. 24 of the calls were fire related. There were 64 EMS calls and 5 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: On September 18th, Red Shift responded to a gasoline spill at 7201 North Ave. The caller reported that gasoline was going into the sewer. Units arrived and learned that a gasoline truck was filling the underground tanks at the Shell gas station, when a hose disconnected and spilled an unknown amount of gasoline into the street. The hose was reconnected before River Forest units arrived on scene. The crew found gasoline in the gutter of Harlem Ave which was running into the sewer on the southwest corner of the intersection. Engine 213 used loose absorbent to make a dam around the sewer, preventing further spillage into the sewer. Command made the decision to contact the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago which was informed of an unknown amount of gasoline entering the water system. They requested that the truck driver call his dispatch and have a clean-up team respond to the scene. An environmental specialist from Metropolitan Water Reclamation also arrived at the scene. RFFD crews removed the contaminated loose absorbent from the street after the gasoline was absorbed and turned it over to the clean-up crew for disposal. The clean-up crew vacuumed the sewer under the supervision of the environmental specialist.

Shift Training: Red Shift had 93.75 hours of fire related training this month and 22.75 hours of EMS training for a total of 116.50 hours of training. That is an average of 19.4 hours per firefighter. Red Shift training for the month included Loyola Continuing Education on Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs. The shift attended a Fire Inspection Update Class with Fire Marshal Wiley. The Shift attended a 9-11 Memorial hosted by Concordia University on September 12th. Red Shift viewed an online class on Modern Fire Dynamics: A review of Firefighter LODD's, Ventilation Flow Paths and Fire Growth. The class was taught by the ATF. The class utilized fire dynamics simulator to understand the modern fire environment. The Shift went to 735 Lathrop, the River Forest Public Library to discuss fire tactics. The Shift went to 1040 Harlem Ave, Temple Har Zion to discuss a plan for a multiple patient incident on the property.

- FF Basa attended a 4-hour Division 11 Hazmat drill in Berwyn.

Inspections: Shift personnel conducted 0 Inspections with 0 violations, and 1 re-inspection with 1 correction.

EMS/Paramedic Activity FF/PM Fischer

In the month of September, RFFD responded with a total of 154 patients. Of the 154 patients, 121 were treated and transported by Ambulance 215, 2 were invalid assists and 31 patients refused care. These 154 patients had various complaints. Below are how the complaints break down:

- No complaint – 2
- Abdominal Pain – 4
- Allergic Reaction – 0
- Animal Bite -- 1
- Assault – 1
- Hemorrhage/Bleeding -- 0
- Breathing Problems – 11
- Burns -- 1
- Psychiatric – 7
- Cardiac -- 5
- Chest Pain – 3
- Cardiac/Traumatic/Respiratory Arrest – 0
- Choking -- 1
- Diabetic – 2
- Fall - 22
- Headache/Concussion – 1
- Medical Alarm -- 0
- Pain (Back) – 1
- Pain (General) -- 0
- Patient Assist –
- Poisoning / Drug Ingestion – 5
- Seizure – 0
- Sick Person -- 40
- Stroke / CVA – 0
- Traffic Accident -- 24
- Traumatic Injury – 3
- Unconscious/Unresponsive – 7
- Unknown Problems -- 17

The 121 patients were transported to the following hospitals:

- Gottlieb – 20
- Hines VA – 0
- Loyola – 10
- MacNeal - 2
- Community First -- 0
- Rush / Oak Park – 82
- Resurrection - 0
- West Suburban – 4

We had 23 calls to other towns for a mutual aid ambulance and received aid from other towns 15 times.

**Bus Accident on the 800
Block of Bonnie Brae
9/26/2022**





