

RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2023



MEMORANDUM

TO: Matt Walsh
Village Administrator

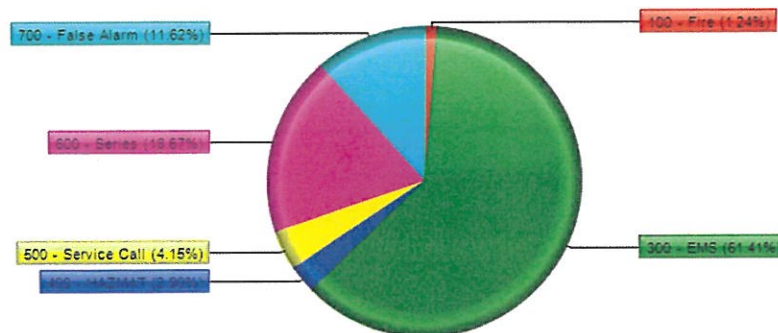
FROM: Thomas Gaertner
Thomas Gaertner
Fire Chief

DATE: October 9, 2023

SUBJECT: Monthly Report – September 2023

The Fire Department responded to 248 calls during the month of September. This is below our average number of calls in comparison to September 2022 where we had 252 calls. Emergency Medical Service calls represent 61.41% of our response activity for the month of September.

Incident Type Group	September 2023
100 - Fire	3
300 - EMS	148
400 - Hazardous Conditions	7
500 - Service Call	10
600 - Good Intent	45
700 - False Alarms	28
800 - Other	7
Monthly Total	248





Custom Sep 1, 2023 - Sep 30, 2023

39%

FIRE
Percentage of Total Incidents

61%

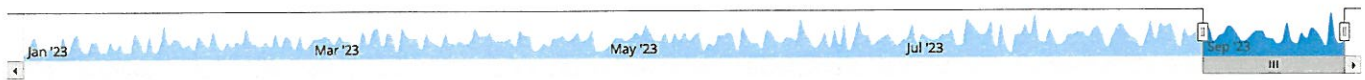
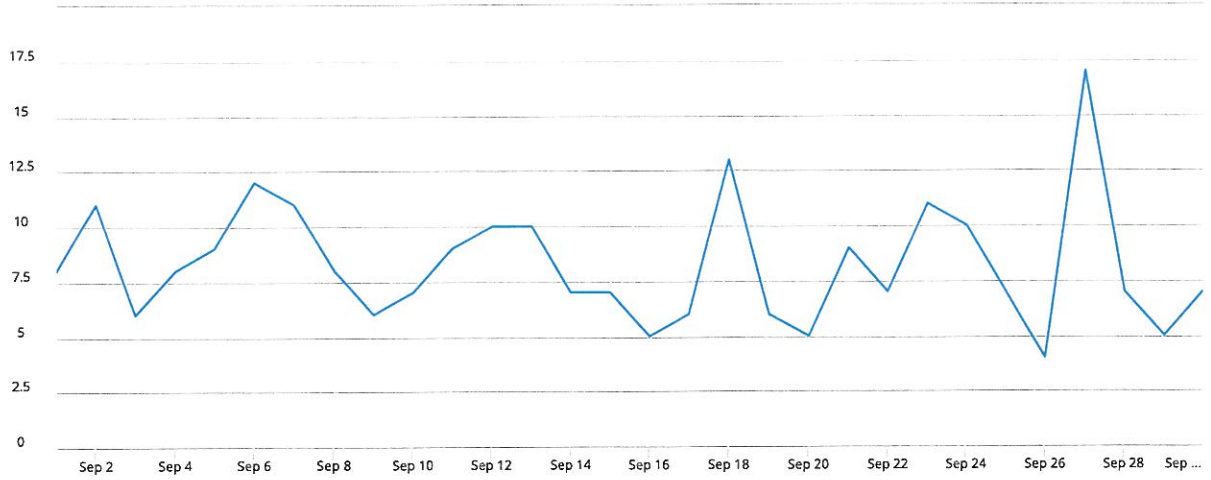
EMS
Percentage of Total Incidents

248

INCIDENTS
In Selected Time Slice

30

DAYS
In Selected Time Slice



Week Ending	9/3/23	9/10/23	9/17/23	9/24/23	10/1/23	10/8/23	10/15/23	10/22/23	10/29/23	11/5/23	11/12/23	11/19/23	11/26/23	Total
RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT	25	61	54	61	47									248
Total	25	61	54	61	47									248



Custom v Jan 1, 2023 - Sep 30, 2023 v

43%

FIRE
Percentage of Total Incidents

57%

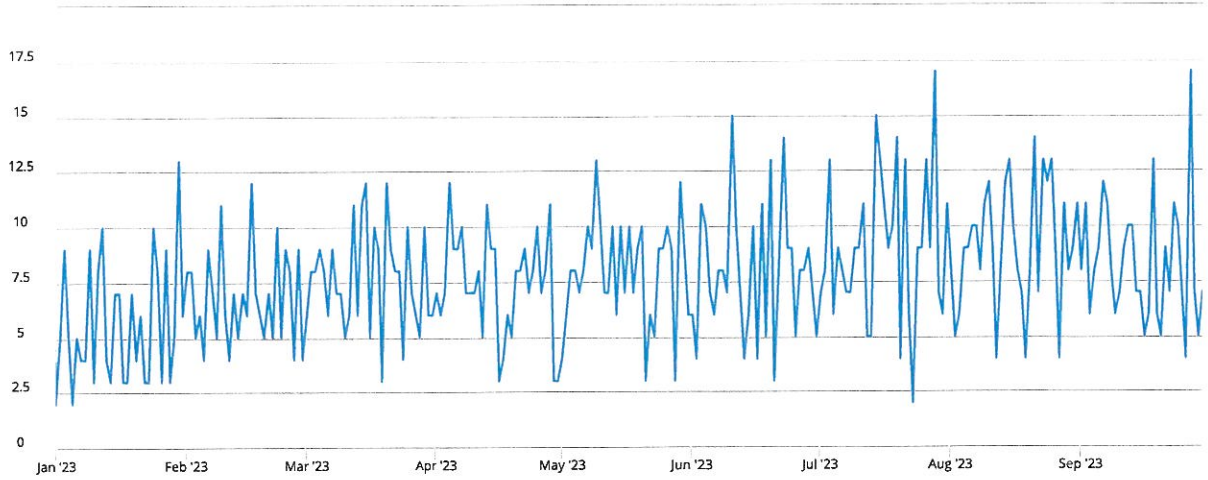
EMS
Percentage of Total Incidents

2,118

INCIDENTS
In Selected Time Slice

273

DAYS
In Selected Time Slice



Counts
 % Rows
 % Columns
 % All

	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	8	8	3	6	3					48
(13) Mobile property (vehicle) fire					2		1							3
(14) Natural vegetation fire					1	10	1							12
(15) Outside rubbish fire					1		1							2
(31) Medical assist							1							1
(32) Emergency medical service (EMS) incident	104	111	144	137	134	127	149	148	151					1,205
(33) Lock-In				1										1
(35) Extrication, rescue				1	2			1	1					5
(38) Rescue or EMS standby						1								1
(41) Combustible/f. spills & leaks	3	5	1	1	5	4	5	4	2					30
(42) Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition	1	1			1		4	2	1					10
(44) Electrical wiring/equipm. problem	2	1	2	1	1	1	4	2	4					18
(45) Biological hazard								1						1
(46) Accident, potential accident							1							1
(51) Person in distress	3	5	4	3	2	7	2	5	2					33

	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
(52) Water problem		2	1				4	1						8
(53) Smoke, odor problem		1				1	3	2						7
(55) Public service assistance	4	9	12	13	17	8	24	11	8					106
(57) Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up							2							2
(61) Dispatched and canceled en route	28	20	34	31	24	36	40	64	35					312
(62) Wrong location, no emergency found	4	5	4	3	16	8	8	5	10					63
(65) Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke		1	1	1			2							5
(71) Malicious, mischievous false alarm				1	1									2
(73) System or detector malfunction	1	2	6	2	2	2	6	3	1					25
(74) Unintentional system/detect... operation (no fire)	19	20	25	20	30	24	21	27	30					216
UNK				1										1
Total	173	189	237	223	247	237	282	282	248					2,118

Fire Chief Gaertner Report

- Attended monthly RFFD Officers meeting.
- Attended the Weekly Village Administrators Staff Meetings.
- Attended the monthly Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (STIC) webinar.
- Attended the Metro Chiefs Fall Symposium in Addison, Illinois.
- Attended the monthly Metro Chiefs Executive Board Meeting.
- Met with Emergency One Fire Apparatus on the New Fire Engine Specifications.
- Attended the Annual West Central Municipal Conference Installation Dinner.
- Attended the WSCDC Operations Committee Meeting.
- Attended three Zoom Meetings with Lexipol on Fire Department Policy Development.
- Attended the Annual LemonAid Fundraiser on September 11th.
- Attended the Loyola EMS Fire Chiefs/Coordinators Zoom Meeting.

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, Deputy Chief Bochenek and I, along with Shift personnel were present for the memorial where we performed a 3-3-5 bell ceremony and recited a poem called “The Watch” honoring all the First Responders lives lost on 9-11. There were approximately 200 children and adults that braved the soggy, rainy weather to commemorate the 22nd annual event.

I was again successful in obtaining a grant from State Farm Insurance for a 2023 Fire Prevention Week kit. This is the second time I was successful in getting this grant. State Farm Insurance, in partnership with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) awards this grant on an annual basis. The kit contains enough safety material for 100 people that we will use at our Open House on Saturday, October 14 from 10am to 2pm.

Saturday, October 14, 2023, is the annual Fire Department - Fire Prevention Week - Open House. Fire Prevention Week will be held October 8 -14, 2023. Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and is the “NFPA’s signature fire prevention awareness event and the oldest continuously running U.S. public health observance campaign, launched in 1922.” The 2023 campaign slogan is “Cooking Safety Starts With YOU”. Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires and deaths. I have attached a 2023 Open House 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!! We will also be doing some demonstrations on the new training prop.

I was able to spend some time wrapping up all my inspections and re-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.

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 take place within the first week of school, did not get back to me until September was well under way. I witnessed six fire drills in September.

As mentioned last month, Food Truck events are becoming more of the norm these days, Dominican had three more events in September where food trucks were the catering focus for food to be served at the events. Now that the 2018 Fire Code has a section dedicated to food trucks, I will be updating my requirements to distribute to all future food truck events.

September also starts our ISEARCH school safety assemblies. We have a new Police Officer, Megan Drake taking over as the new School Resource Officer, replacing Sgt. Ben Ransom. The Safety Assemblies cover several safety points that kids may encounter in their daily lives and some that only happen in a lifetime! We discuss various fire safety topics that range from calling 911, matches and lighters, smoke alarms, to having a Family Meeting Place outside their homes. On the Police side we discuss Finding a gun or a knife, bike safety that includes locking up their bikes. Sometimes we go out to the bike racks to find a bike that was not locked. We always find at least one! We also discuss Bus Safety, Car Safety and Seatbelts, Walking to school Safety and a few others. We try to have a couple of live interactions with the groups so the kids can get up and demonstrate some of the things they have learned. We have conducted six assemblies that totaled 334 students and 29 adults with more to come.

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 2023

#VALUE!	MONTHLY TOTALS		YEAR TO DATE	
	Sep-22	Sep-23	2022	2023
**FPB Inspections	11	10	110	120
**Company Inspections	12	29	124	116
FPB Re-Inspections	1	7	50	67
Company Re-Inspections	4	7	88	56
Special Inquiry/B/L Site Inspections	1	2	14	7
Construction Inspections (Rough/Finals)	3	6	23	44
Inspections with Building Department	1	0	6	1
Inspections with/for State Fire Marshal	0	0	9	4
Permit Inspections (tent, hot work, UST)	1	10	26	30
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	34	71	450	445
School/Business Emergency Plan/Drills	2	7	12	24
Violation Notices Issued	14	27	145	129
Violations Noted	36	45	403	318
Violations Corrected	8	25	199	185
Permits Issued	2	10	26	31
**Complaints Received & Investigated	0	0	3	3
All Meetings/Consultations	5	4	89	52
Training Activities	7	2	34	27
Fire Suppress/Alarm System Test/Final	0	0	1	12
Fire Suppression Hydro's	1	1	3	5
**Plan Reviews and Revisions	24	16	164	107
**Average turn around (Business Days)	7	2.12 Days	5.66	2.64 Days
Public Education Programs	3	10	28	45
Public Education Program Contacts	255	656	989	1264
Misc Fire Prev Activities (See Narrative)	6	8	50	69

** Performance Measures for the Chief
 Fire Marshal Kevin Wiley



River Forest Fire Department
2023 OPEN HOUSE
400 PARK AV.



Engine 213

Ambulance 215

Truck 219

Saturday October 14, 2023
Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Come and Touch-A-Truck

2023 FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE FEATURES

- TOUCH A FIRETRUCK AND AMBULANCE
 - 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
 - RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIP

Individual Shift Reports

Gold Shift Report Lt. Howe

Activities: For the month of September Gold Shift had a total of 78 calls. 30 of the calls were fire related, 46 involved emergency medical services and there were 2 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: On September 11, members of the Gold Shift responded auto-aid to a hazardous materials call at McNeal Hospital in Berwyn to investigate a white powder sent through the mail.

Shift Training: Gold shift had 255 hours of training this month, for an average of 42.5 hours per firefighter. Our monthly fire included water supply, care and maintenance of equipment, hose deployment, SCBA training, and driver operator training, and Loyola mandated continuing education On Pediatric Emergencies. FF Krall completed RICO (Rapid Intervention Company Ops) and Infant Seat Tech continuing education. FF Rouse had additional Engineer/Driver training in preparation for an Engine assignment. On September 11, members of the Gold Shift attended the Lemonade Stand community event.

Inspections: Gold Shift completed 16 in-company inspections.

Gold shift completed all assigned hydrant testing.

FF's Zipperich, Basa, and Rouse instructed AHA CPR classes for members of the West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch telecommunicators, River Forest Public Works, and the River Forest Police Department.

Black Shift Report: Lt. Boyd

Activities: Black Shift had a total of 93 calls. 35 were fire related, 53 were EMS calls, 5 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: None

Shift Training: Black shift conducted 80 hours of fire related training this month and 15 hours of EMS training for a total of 95 hours of training. That is an average of 18 hours per Lieutenant and firefighter/paramedics. Driver training, tools, fire hydrant flow testing, SCBA, extinguishers, public education, pre-planning, officer meeting review, and pumping training were completed this month. Loyola EMS Continuing Education was completed this month as well.

Inspections: 9 in-company inspection were completed.

Red Shift Report: Lt. Smith

Activities: For the month of September, Red Shift had a total of 77 calls. 22 of the calls were fire related. There were 52 EMS calls and 3 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: On September 25th, Red Shift responded for a two-vehicle accident at Park and Division Street. Engine 213 and Truck 219 arrived on scene and began assessing the patients. E213 secured the vehicles, one of which was leaking fluids from the engine compartment. The fluids were mixing with the rain and running into a storm drain. E213 used loose absorbent to create dams in the gutter to prevent engine fluids from continuing to run into the storm drain. Truck 219 used loose absorbent to collect engine fluids on the street. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago was called by E213. The crew reported that engine fluids had entered the waterway. The street was washed down after the vehicle leaking fluids was towed. On September 29th E213 responded to 114 Forest Ave for the electrical issue inside the home. When E213 arrived, they were met by the homeowners of 114 Forest, 118 Forest, 110 Forest and 106 Forest Ave. The homeowners complained of power surges inside their homes. They also reported the odor of burning inside their homes. E213 began investigating each home using a thermal imaging camera. The crew and homeowners began turning off the main breakers to each home's electric panel. COMED was called to the scene. Homeowners from the one hundred block of Keystone began to show up on Forest to complain of power surges inside their homes. Truck 219 responded to the 100 block of Keystone to investigate four homes. T219 also made sure that all main breakers were off. E213 and T219 stayed on scene until COMED arrived to handle the incident.

Shift Training: Red Shift had 167 hours of fire related training this month and 36.5 hours of EMS training for a total of 203.5 hours of training. That is an average of 34 hours per firefighter. Red Shift training for the month included Loyola CE – Pediatrics. Red Shift continues to train the probationary firefighter. Red Shift tested hose on Engine 213. Red Shift tested hydrants in District C. Red Shift spent several shifts on large diameter hose deployment and maneuvering. Lt. Smith attended a forty-eight-hour Command and Control: Incident Operations class at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Lt. Smith attended a 1.5-hour class on Bridging the Generational Gap in the Fire Service. The class was held by the USFA.

Inspections: Completed 0 in-company fire inspections with 0 violations, and 6 re-inspections with 4 corrections.

Department Training Lt. Carter

For September 2023 the department participated in various training activities such as:

- Loyola Continuing Education was Pediatric Emergencies
- Shifts continued their assigned building inspections.
- Hose testing has almost been completed.
- Hydrant testing has almost been completed.
- Lt. Carter attended a Fire Instructor Conference in East Peoria
- Lt. Smith attended a weeklong Command and Control of Incident Operations at the National Fire Academy in Emmittsburg, Maryland
- FF/PM's Zipperich and Rouse taught CPR and Stop the Bleed to some members of the River Forest Police Department
- Division 11 Hazardous Materials, TRT and Fire Investigator drills were canceled for the month of September.
- Several block parties were attended by shift personnel.

EMS/Paramedic Activity FF/PM Fischer

In the month of September, RFFD responded for a total of 142 patients. Of the 142 patients, 116 were treated and transported by Ambulance 215, 3 were invalid assists and 23 patients refused care. These 142 patients had various complaints. Below is how the complaints break down:

No complaint – 0
 Abdominal Pain – 3
 Allergic Reaction – 1
 Altered Mental Status - 0
 Animal Bite -- 0
 Assault – 2
 Breathing Problems – 18
 Burns -- 0
 Psychiatric – 8
 Chest Pain – 9
 Cardiac/Traumatic/Respiratory Arrest – 1
 Choking – 0
 CO Poisoning - 0
 Diabetic – 5
 Electrocution - 0
 Eye Problem -- 0
 Fall – 20
 General aches, pain - 0
 General Injury - 0
 Headache/Concussion – 0
 Hemorrhage/Bleeding – 1
 Medical/Inter-Facility Transfer - 0

Medical Alarm – 0
Opiate Overdose -- 0
Pain (Back) – 0
Pain (General) -- 3
Patient Assist – 3
Poisoning / Drug Ingestion – 1
Pregnancy/Childbirth -- 1
Seizure – 8
Sick Person -- 28
Stroke / CVA – 1
Special Event Stand-by - 0
Traffic Accident – 4
Traumatic Arrest - 0
Traumatic Injury – 6
Unconscious/Unresponsive – 5
Unknown Problems – 6
Weakness - 0

The 116 patients who were transported went to the following hospitals:

Gottlieb – 14
Hines VA – 1
Loyola – 16
MacNeal -2
Community First -- 0
Rush / Oak Park – 83
Resurrection - 0
West Suburban – 0

We had 26 calls to other towns for a mutual aid ambulance and received aid from other towns 13 times.

Vehicle/Station Maintenance FF/PM Zipperich

VEHICLES

200- Nothing Reported

201- Nothing reported

202- Nothing reported

299- Nothing reported

213- OOS. Wiring harness replaced. Front brakes serviced. Tank to pump and cab tilt repaired.

214- At Forest Park and returned

215- Oil change due

218- Nothing reported

219- Wigits added Freon charge to AC, call still out to E1 to advise on system/complete service. Aerial cable track bent. Exhaust rehung. Tank to pump valve may be leaking.

222-Nothing reported

EQUIPMENT

222 Blowhard fan voltage adjusted.

FIRE STATION

Hastings repaired Plymovent. .

CPR TRAINING FOR RFPD AND WEST SUBURBAN CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH CENTER

