



*Pride, Honor, Integrity*

# **GOSHEN FIRE DEPARTMENT**

2023 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT



## Table of Contents

Message from the Chief -----	2
Mission Statement/Firefighter Oath -----	3
Organization Chart -----	4
Overview -----	7
Operations -----	7
Emergency Medical Services -----	15
Training -----	21
Investigations -----	25
Inspections -----	25
Prevention/Education -----	28
Human Resources -----	32
Memoriam -----	44
Budget -----	54
Summary-----	55

## Message from the Chief



It is my pleasure to present our Goshen Fire Department year-end report for 2023. The individual efforts of our staff can never be captured in its entirety; however, this report does provide you an overview for the Goshen Fire Department's activity in 2023.

GFD ended 2023 with 5,110 calls for service. Our transition for fire response for Elkhart Township has gone well. As our need for housing increases and Goshen continues to grow all our divisions; Fire/Rescue, EMS, Inspection & Prevention, Training and Public Education have worked diligently to keep up.

Assistant Chief of Training Steffen Schrock continues to work on "Phase 2" of our training facility. Assistant Chief of EMS Shane McKerchie has developed processes and policies for the EMS Division storing schedule three medications onsite. Our Inspection & Prevention Division, led by Assistant Chief Scott Thomas is working through plan reviews and inspections of various facilities.

Our GFD family endured an emotional and difficult year with three of our members diagnosed with cancer. On May 2, 2023, our beloved friend and Assistant Chief of EMS Bruce Nethercutt lost his battle with cancer. We will always and forever remember the Chief's smile and impact he left on all of us.

Assistant Chief of Admin/Operations, Anthony Powell coordinates the reporting divisions mentioned and credit should go to Chief Powell for his efforts in bringing our operations into focus for your annual review.

In 2024 we will take on new challenges in a professional manner all while providing dedicated care and protection for the citizens we serve.

*Dan Sink*

Chief of the Department



PRIDE, HONOR, INTEGRITY

## Goshen Fire Department Mission Statement

*Our mission is to provide a positive workplace with continual training and adequate equipment so that we may give our customers the very best service possible. The importance of our service; fire suppression, rescue, prevention and investigation, paramedic ambulance service, and public education: compels us to perform our duties in a sincere, skillful, dedicated and professional manner.*

## Goshen Firefighter Oath of Office

*I do solemnly affirm that I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the State of Indiana and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge my duties as firefighter on the Goshen Fire Department according to the law and to the best of my ability, so help me God.*

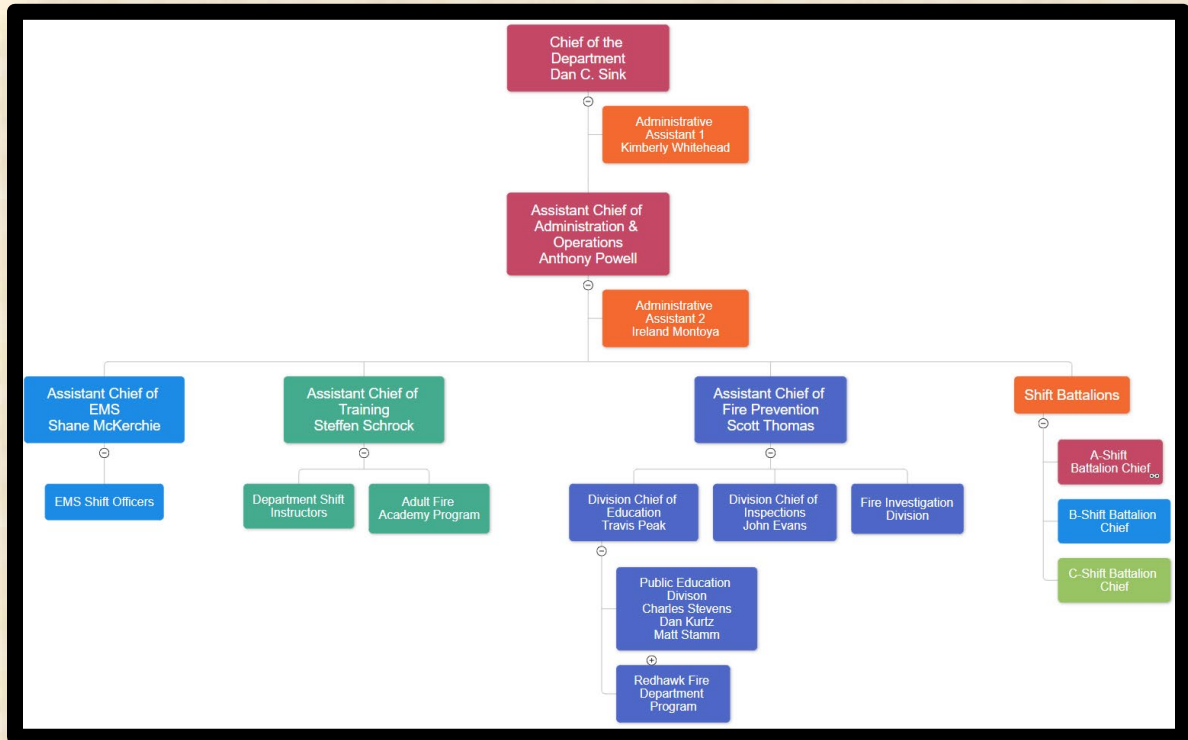


# Goshen Fire Department

## Organization Chart



### Administration



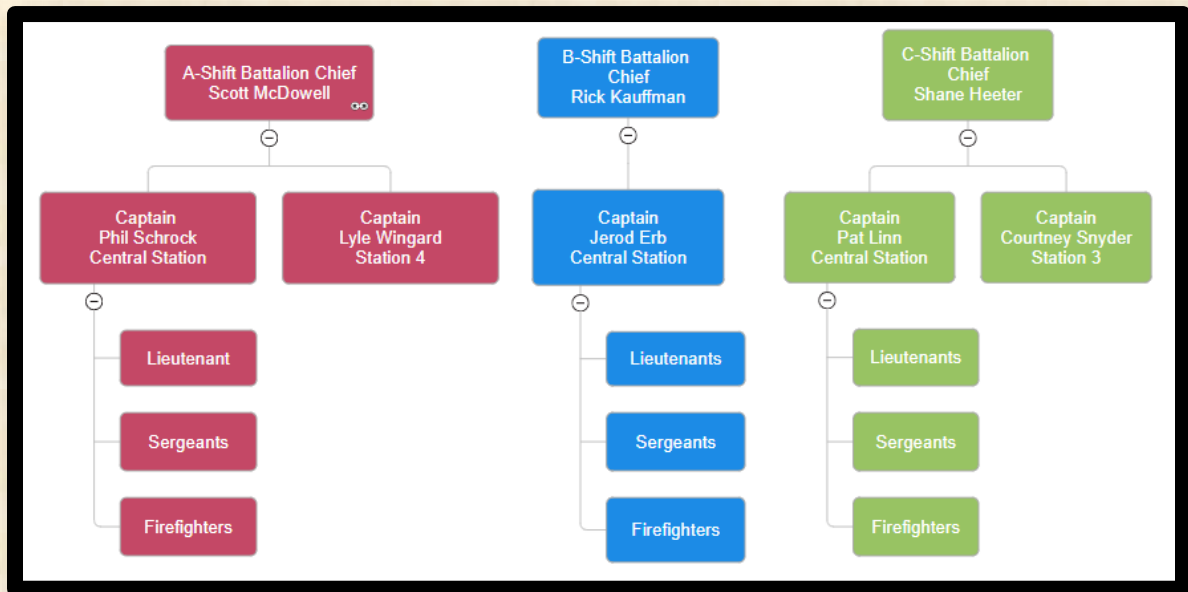
### Administrative Staff

- Dan C. Sink** – Chief of the Department
- Anthony Powell** – Assistant Chief of Administration & Operations
- Shane McKerchie** – Assistant Chief of Emergency Medical Services
- Steffen Schrock** – Assistant Chief of Training
- Scott Thomas** – Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention
- Travis Peak** – Division Chief of Education
- John Evans** – Division Chief of Inspections

### Support Staff

- Kimberly Whitehead** – Administrative Assistant
- Ireland Montoya** – Administrative Assistant
- Doug Gadson** – Buildings and Grounds Maintenance

## Shift Battalions



### A-Shift

**Scott McDowell** – Battalion Chief  
**Phil Schrock** – Captain  
**Lyle Wingard** – Captain / Medic  
**Zac Klopfenstein** – Lieutenant / Medic  
**Andrew Priem** – EMS Lieutenant / Fire Sgt.  
**Jeff Frank** – Sergeant  
**Patrick Martin** – Sergeant  
**Kyle Stamm** – Sergeant / Medic

**Lucas Wickey** – EMS Sergeant / Medic  
**Charles Stevens** – FF / Medic  
**Andrew LoPresti** – FF / Medic  
**Wes White** – FF / Medic  
**Dan Kurtz** – FF / Medic  
**Josh Hite** – FF / Medic  
**Kevin Mann** – FF / Medic  
**Colin Loe** – FF / Medic

### B-Shift

**Rick Kauffman** – Battalion Chief  
**Jerod Erb** – Captain  
**Jeff Wogoman** – Lieutenant  
**Jon Weishaupt** – EMS Lieutenant / Fire Sgt.  
**Cam Bontrager** – Lieutenant / Medic  
**Lucas Mason** – Lieutenant / EMS Sgt.  
**Bryant Lehman** – Sergeant / Medic  
**Jeremy Krezel** – Sergeant / Medic  
**Tim Christner** – Firefighter  
**Brian Brown** – Firefighter

**John Szuba** – FF / Medic  
**Davis Lechlitner** – FF / Medic  
**Matt White** – FF / Medic  
**Megan Berry** – FF / Medic  
**Hannah Estes** – FF / Medic  
**Joey Cestone** – Firefighter  
**Jordan Hunter** – Firefighter  
**Kody Miller** - Firefighter  
**John Bacigal** - Firefighter

## C-Shift

**Shane Heeter** – Battalion Chief  
**Patrick Linn** – Captain  
**Courtney Snyder** – Captain  
**Kit Castetter** – EMS Captain / Fire Lt.  
**Jeremy Johnson** – Lieutenant  
**Garrett Sheline** – Lieutenant / Medic  
**Winston Lechlitner** – Sergeant / EMS Sgt.  
**Matt Whitford** – Sergeant  
**Matt Stamm** – Sergeant

**Jon Yoder** – Firefighter  
**John J. Yoder** – FF / Medic  
**Colton Cox** – FF / Medic  
**Mike Hamby** – FF / Medic  
**Mike Fairfield** – FF / Medic  
**Matt Pilling** – Firefighter  
**Doug Burggraf** – FF / Medic  
**Mike White** – FF / Medic  
**Noah Youngman** – Firefighter



## Overview:

The Goshen Fire Department responded to 5,110 calls for service in 2023, an 7% decrease from 2022. Average response time for the first arriving unit on emergency calls from our dispatch to arrival on scene, was 4 minutes and 47 seconds.

The annual dollar loss from investigated fires was estimated at \$6,269,190 down from \$11,268,630 in 2022. The percent of property value saved in structure fires during 2023 was 88% compared to 72.6% in 2022.

The total dollar amount of property saved in 2023 was \$22,111,118.

## Operations

### ➤ Suppression – *Anthony Powell – Assistant Chief of Admin and Operations*

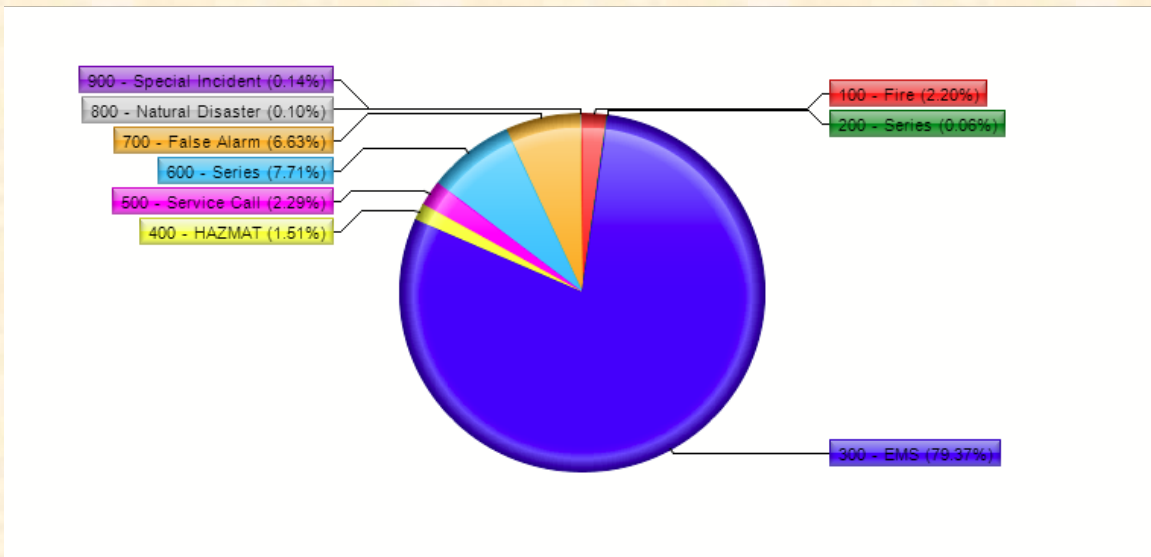
In Table #1, shows the types of calls for service, overtime hours, average response times, estimated fire loss/property value, percent of property saved and average calls per day.

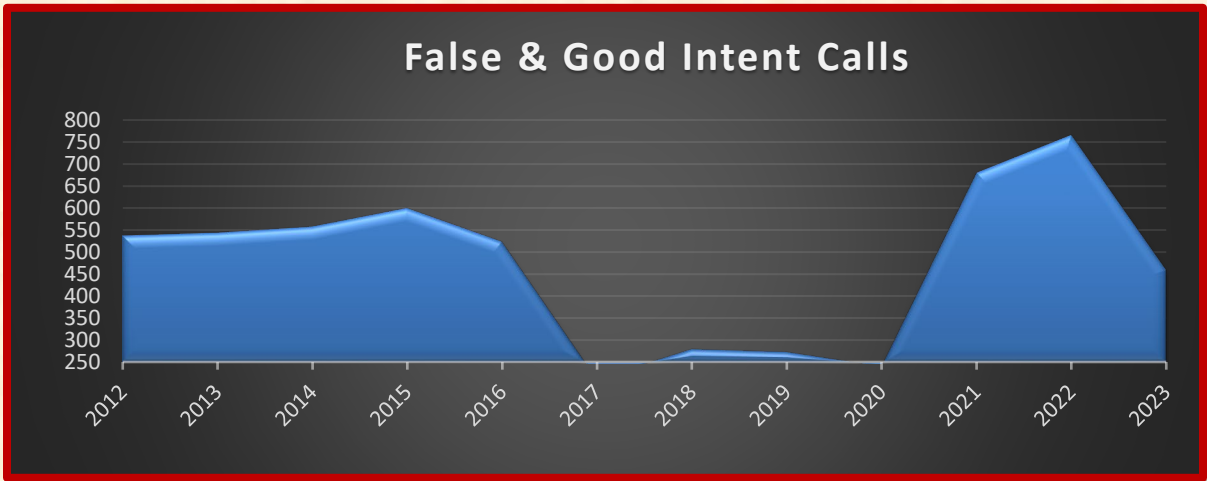
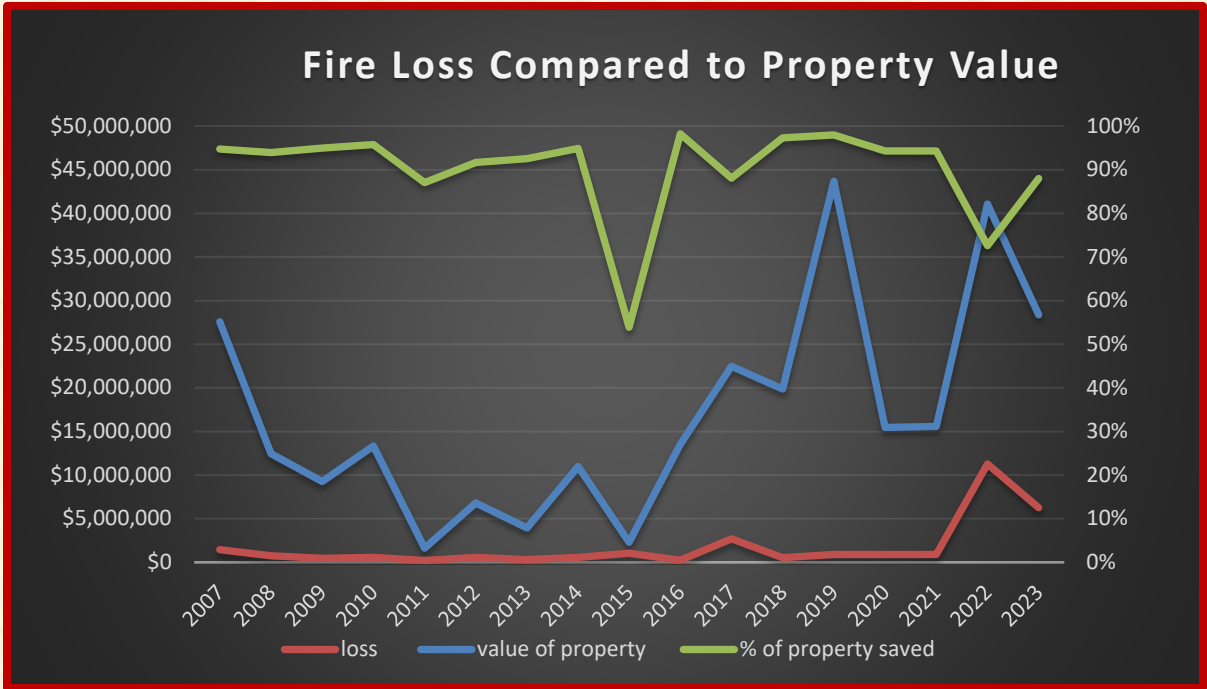
In Table #2, illustrates the type of emergencies that the fire department responded to during 2023. Furthermore, the type of call is indicated by month.

Table #1	2020	2021	2022	2023	Difference from 2022
Estimated Population	34,217	34,508	34,756	34,579	177 less
Total Calls	4527	5101	5491	5111	380 less
EMS Patients	3893	4459	4660	4252	408 less
EMS Assist Calls	2072	2276	2276	2220	56 less
Fire/Hazardous Conditions	76	110	212	211	1 less
Vehicle Fire	17	23	16	17	1 more
False Alarms	241	680	766	459	307 less
Overtime Hours	2974	5377	7067.50	6948.50	119 less
Average Response Time	4:47	5:25	6:04	5:51	0:13 less
Value of Property	\$14,561,835	\$13,847,500	\$41,075,230	\$28,380,308	\$12,694,922
Value of Fire Loss	\$886,265	\$887,300	\$11,268,630	\$6,269,190	\$4,999,440
Percentage of Property Saved	94%	93.6%	72.6%	88%	15.4%
Calls Per Day	12.4	13.9	15	14	1 Less



<b>Table #2</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Motor Vehicle Crash</b>	16	18	18	14	14	17	14	16	15	18	14	13	<b>187</b>
<b>Vehicle Extrication</b>	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
<b>Medical Calls</b>	325	314	363	302	342	327	383	341	345	352	331	333	<b>4058</b>
<b>Fire Alarms</b>	12	5	6	13	12	13	24	13	6	18	14	13	<b>149</b>
<b>Cancelled Enroute Calls</b>	30	22	25	27	30	22	34	25	24	24	19	21	<b>303</b>
<b>Structure Fire</b>	0	1	1	2	0	4	3	0	2	2	1	3	<b>19</b>
<b>Rubbish Fire</b>	3	2	1	3	5	9	7	3	4	2	3	3	<b>45</b>
<b>Vehicle Fire</b>	1	0	2	5	1	0	2	1	1	1	3	0	<b>17</b>
<b>Natural Gas Leak</b>	3	3	2	8	4	3	6	4	2	3	2	3	<b>43</b>
<b>CO Incident</b>	3	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	4	<b>15</b>
<b>Service Calls</b>	9	8	6	10	8	15	9	11	10	5	14	12	<b>117</b>



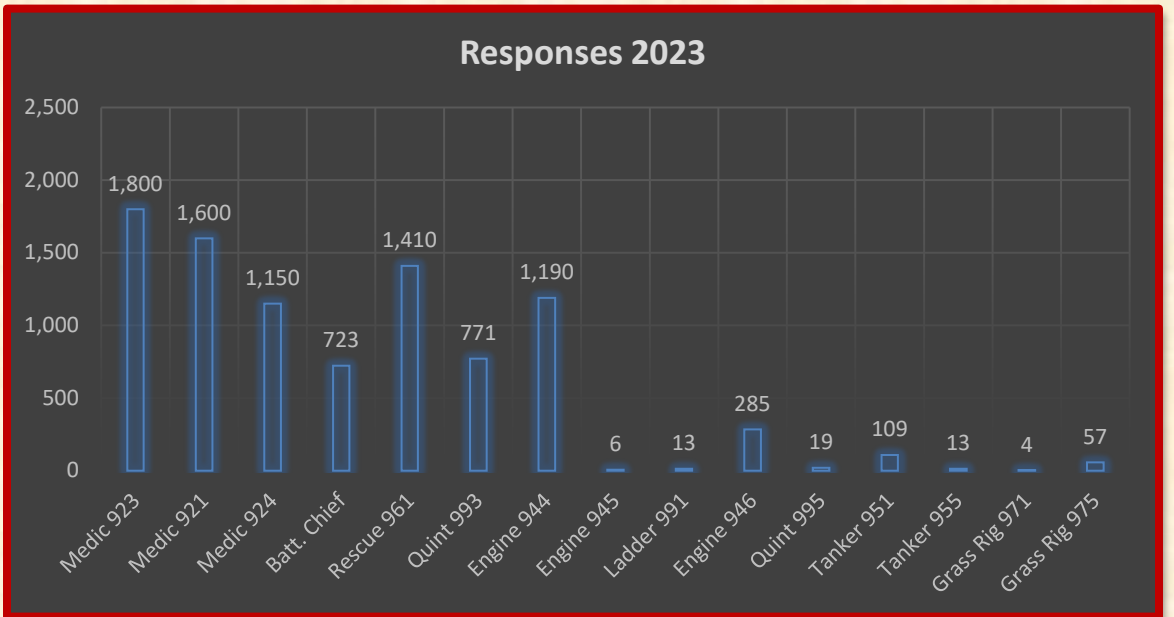
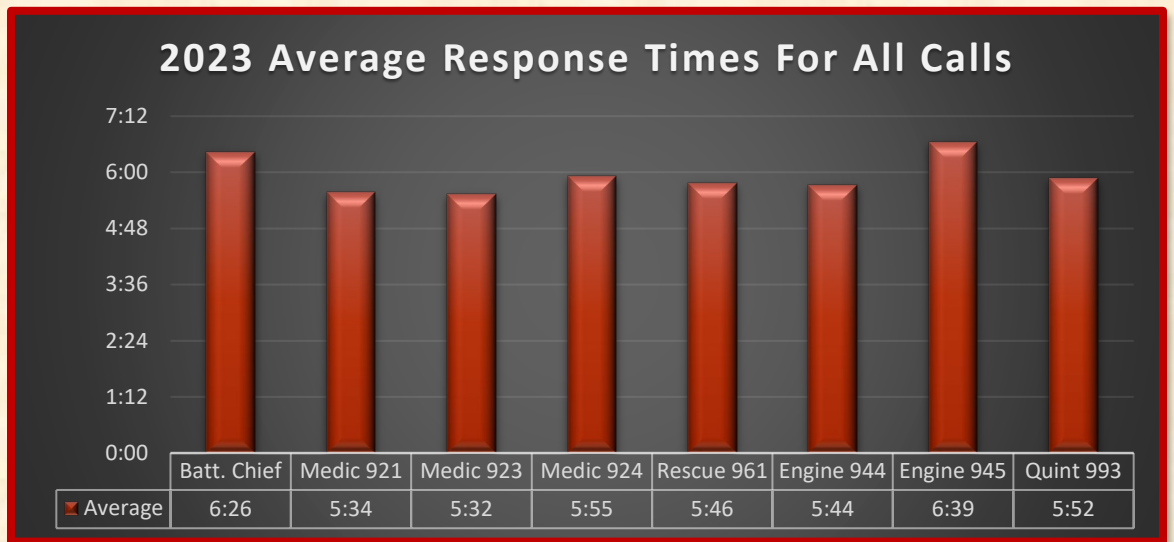
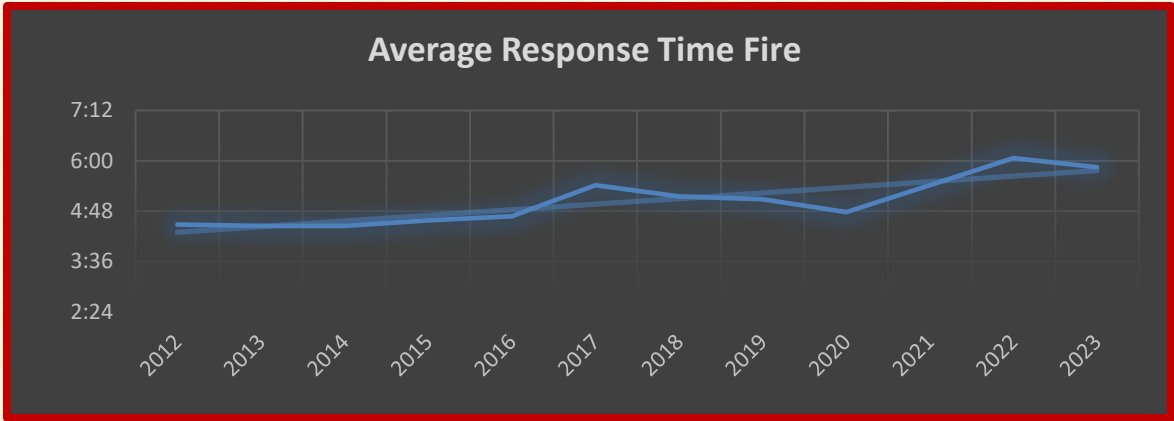


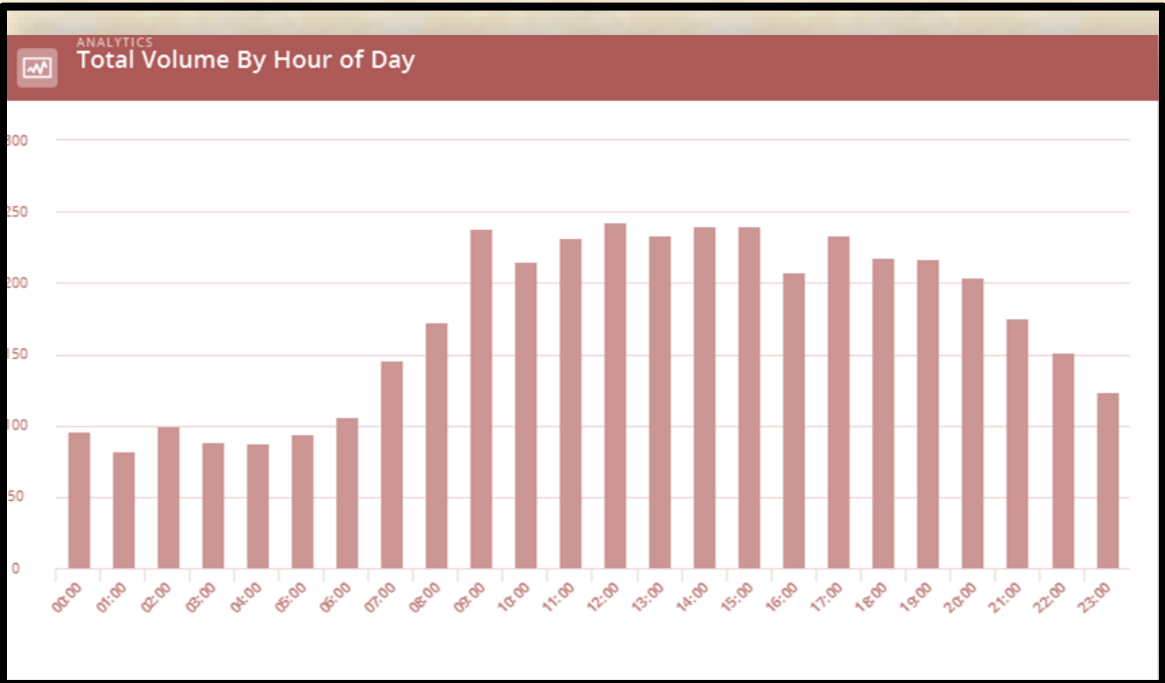
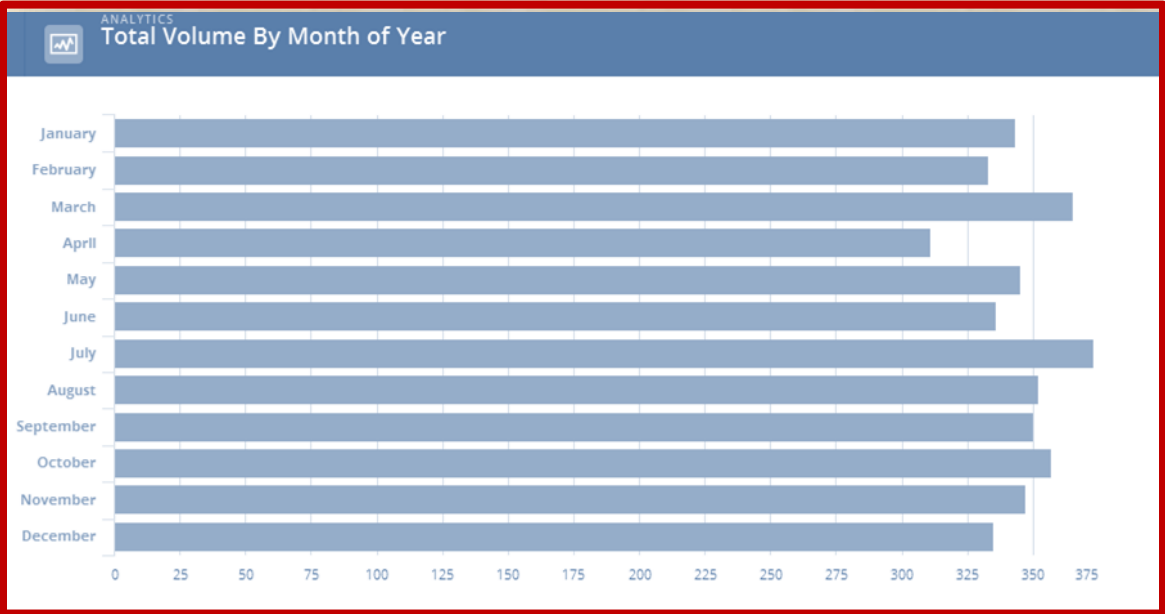


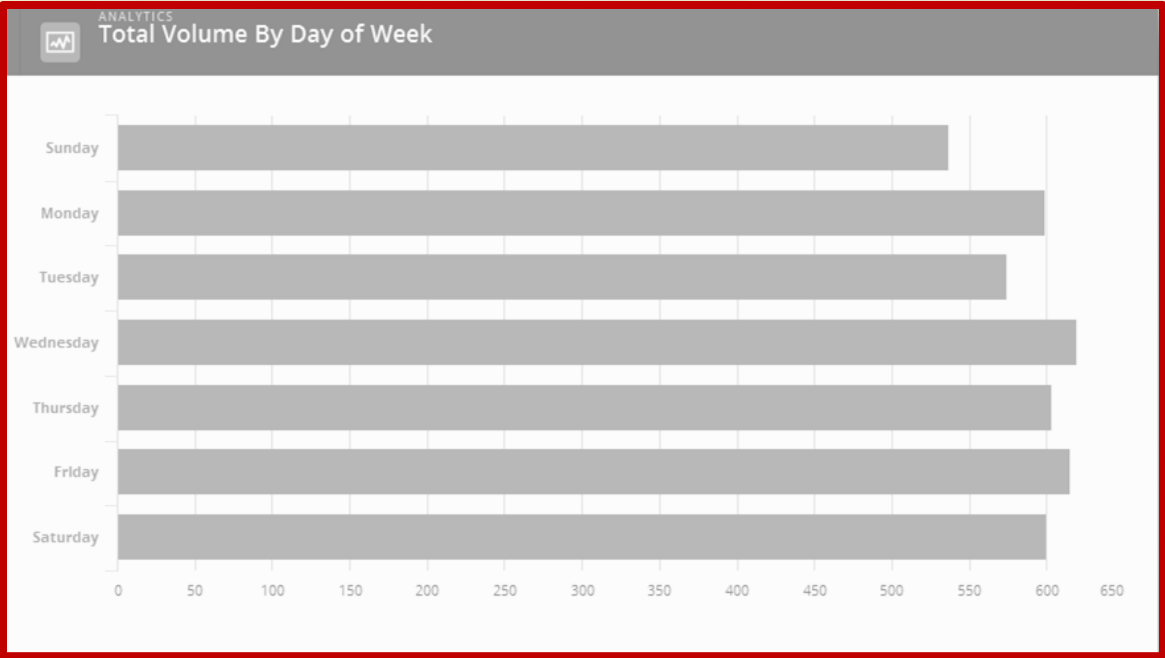
RESPONSE TIME BREAKDOWN FOR 2023	
Average Response Time from Dispatch to Arrival at Scene:	
	13 min 1 sec
Average Response Time from Our Dispatch to Arrival at Scene for EMS Emergent Calls (Primary Units Only)	
Central Station:	5 min 21 sec
Station 3:	5 min 31 sec
Station 4:	5 min 47 sec
Average Response Time from Our Dispatch to Arrival at Scene for FIRE Emergent Calls (Primary Units Only)	
Central Station:	5 min 20 sec
Station 3:	6 min 54 sec
Station 4:	6 min 14 sec
All Unit's Response Times for Every Call	
Average Response Time from Dispatch to Going En-route:	
	2 min 22 sec
First Arriving Unit's Response Time for Every Call	
Average Response Time from Dispatch to Going En-route:	
	1 min 59 sec
First Arriving Unit on Structure Fires	
Average Response Time from Dispatch to Arrival at Scene:	
	9 min 59 sec

Apparatus Average Response Times for EMS Calls (No mutual aid and emergent calls only)		
Apparatus Name	Dispatch Time to En-route	Dispatch Time to Arrival @ Scene
B9	3 min 26 sec	6 min 36 sec
921	2 min 01 sec	5 min 31 sec
923	1 min 58 sec	5 min 24 sec
924	1 min 48 sec	5 min 49 sec
925	2 min 08 sec	5 min 28 sec
961	2 min 18 sec	5 min 35 sec
944	2 min 11 sec	5 min 31 sec
945	3 min 59 sec	6 min 39 sec
993	2 min 02 sec	5 min 40 sec

Apparatus Average Response Times for ALL Calls		
Apparatus Name	Dispatch Time to Enroute	Dispatch Time to Arrival @ Scene
B9	2 min 41 sec	6 min 26 sec
921	2 min 02 sec	5 min 34 sec
923	2 min 04 sec	5 min 32 sec
924	1 min 53 sec	5 min 55 sec
925	2 min 06 sec	5 min 19 sec
961	2 min 16 sec	5 min 46 sec
944	2 min 15 sec	5 min 44 sec
945	3 min 59 sec	6 min 39 sec
993	2 min 5 sec	5 min 52 sec







➤ **Emergency Medical Services** – *Shane McKerchie –Asst. Chief of EMS*

EMS Division Officers:

**Kit Castetter** – Captain  
**Andrew Priem** – Lieutenant  
**Jon Weishaupt** – Lieutenant

**Lucas Mason** – Sergeant  
**Winston Lechlitner** – Sergeant  
**Lucas Wickey** – Sergeant

2023 saw an overall 4% lower number of EMS Patients than in 2022, with a total of 4,147 EMS patient contacts. Yet an overall increase of 2% of our Pt's receiving ALS care showing an increase in the severity of the patients we cared for. We also recorded an increase in patients transported to regional specialty centers for trauma and pediatric need.

This year we accomplished many significant projects within the EMS Division. These projects began under the direction of our former beloved Chief Bruce Nethercutt who tragically succumb to cancer in May of this year. We completed our State Controlled Substance Registry and were granted our own DEA Controlled Substance license. We completed the new 923 Ambulance from MEDEX and look forward to its long service at GFD. We have researched and selected IV medication pumps that will arrive and be implemented early in 2024, as well as adding powered Stair chairs to our front-line ambulances. We are still awaiting delivery of our Philips Tempus Monitors from last year's order.

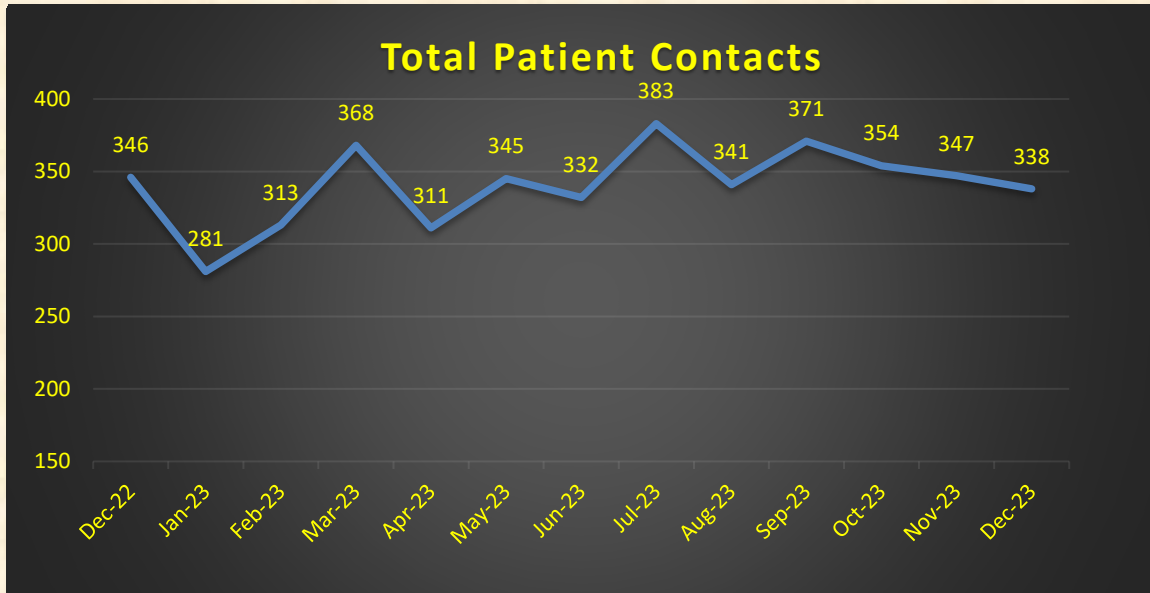
Lt. Weishaupt has taken over all medical supply ordering and management and is working with an inventory management software to increase our controls and purchasing of supplies. Sgt. Mason is working on cataloging and maintain all EMS equipment which is a new area of management for the EMS division. Together they are ensuring our team has the greatest use of our budgeted money and that we are getting the best use of our equipment and supplies.

Sgt's, Mason, Lechlitner and Wickey are working closely with each shift to train and support the frontline medics on all day to day operation. They are reviewing all clinical care and each patient care report with assistance and guidance from Capt. Castetter, Lt. Priem and Lt. Weishaupt as shift EMS supervisors. The team has found new ways to utilize our billing company greatly improving the report writing and billing process. We have also increased our outreach providing training and assistance for other local and mutual aid departments.

We have expanded our funding for EMS education through the budget as well as grant programs to cover classes and conferences our leaders attended this year. Joint fire and EMS training continued through the year with excellent results. The goal of joint training is to increase our problem-solving skills as an entire department. These trainings will continue through 2024 and beyond. Sgt. Lechlitner has taken over maintaining our training supplies and equipment to further aid in the quality of our training program. The focus of EMS training will continue to be on our airway management skills, 12-lead

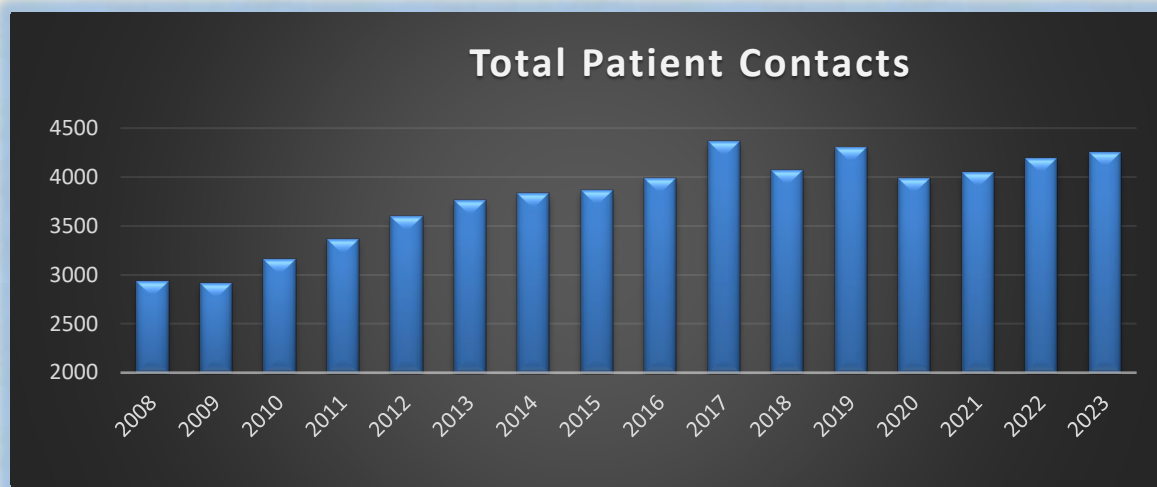


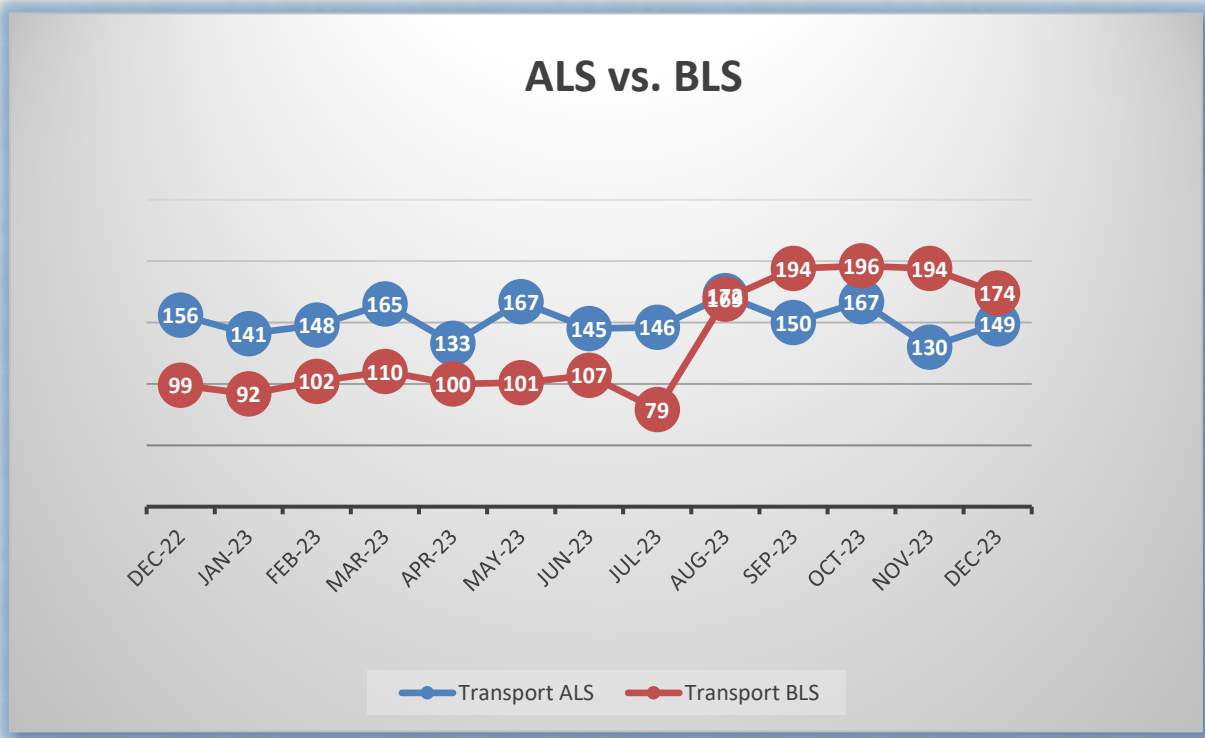
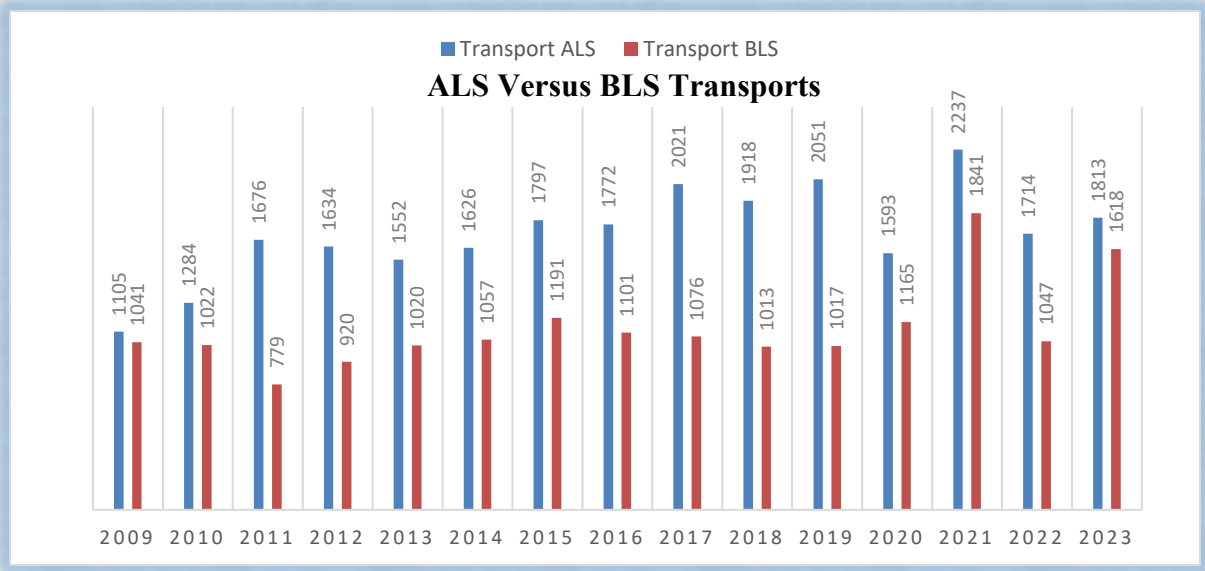
interpretations and a higher focus on Audit and Review with group discussions. Practical training will be headed by Lt. Priem as the training coordinator and Capt. Castetter has assumed oversight of all clinical care.

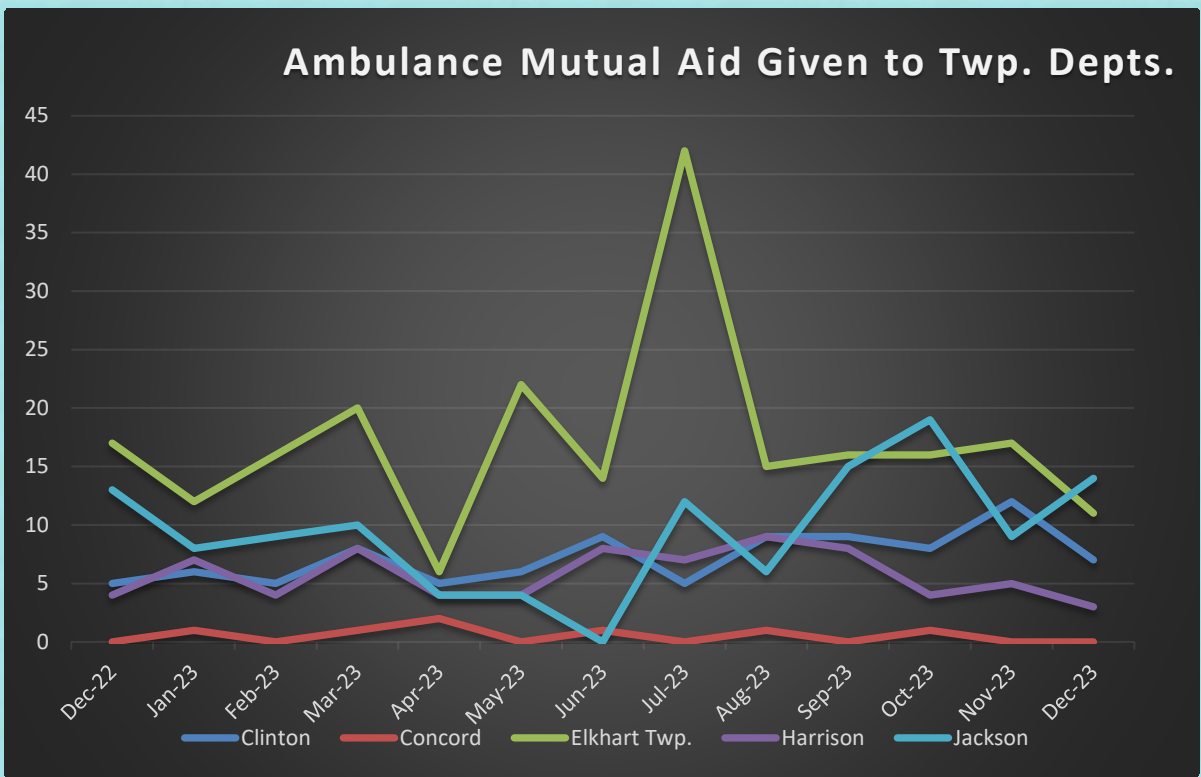
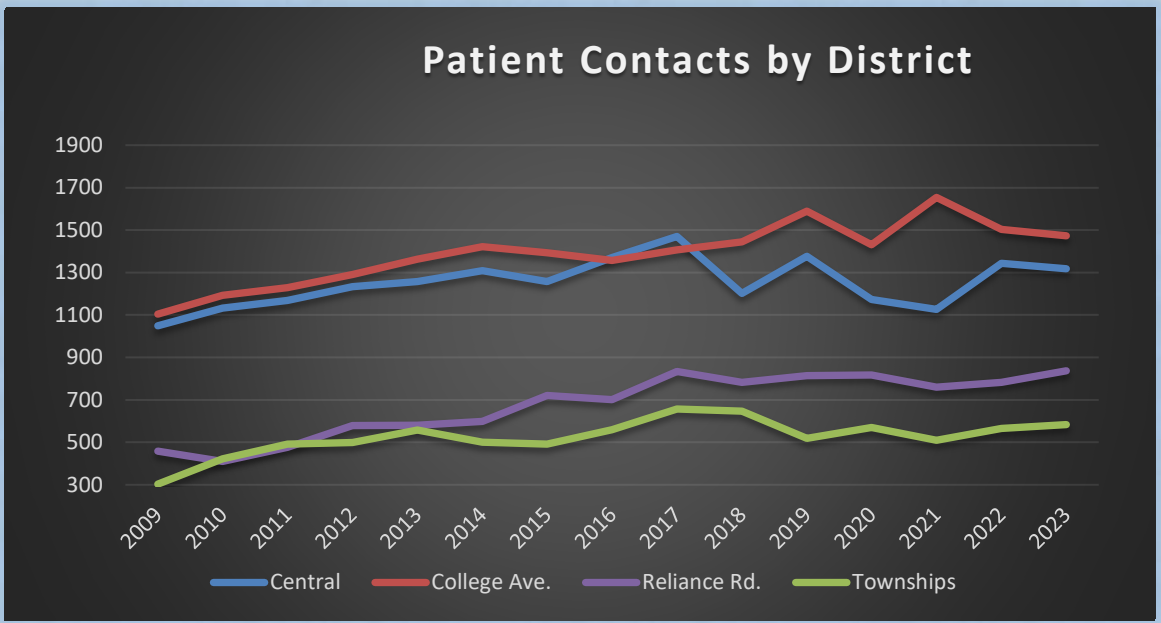


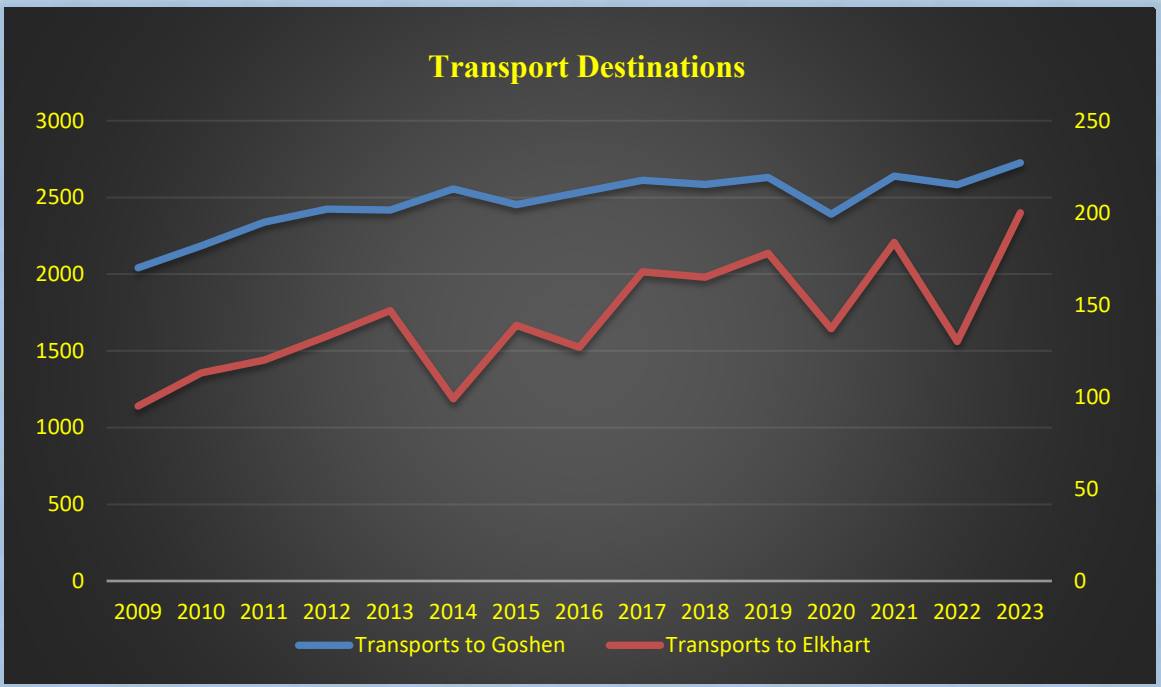
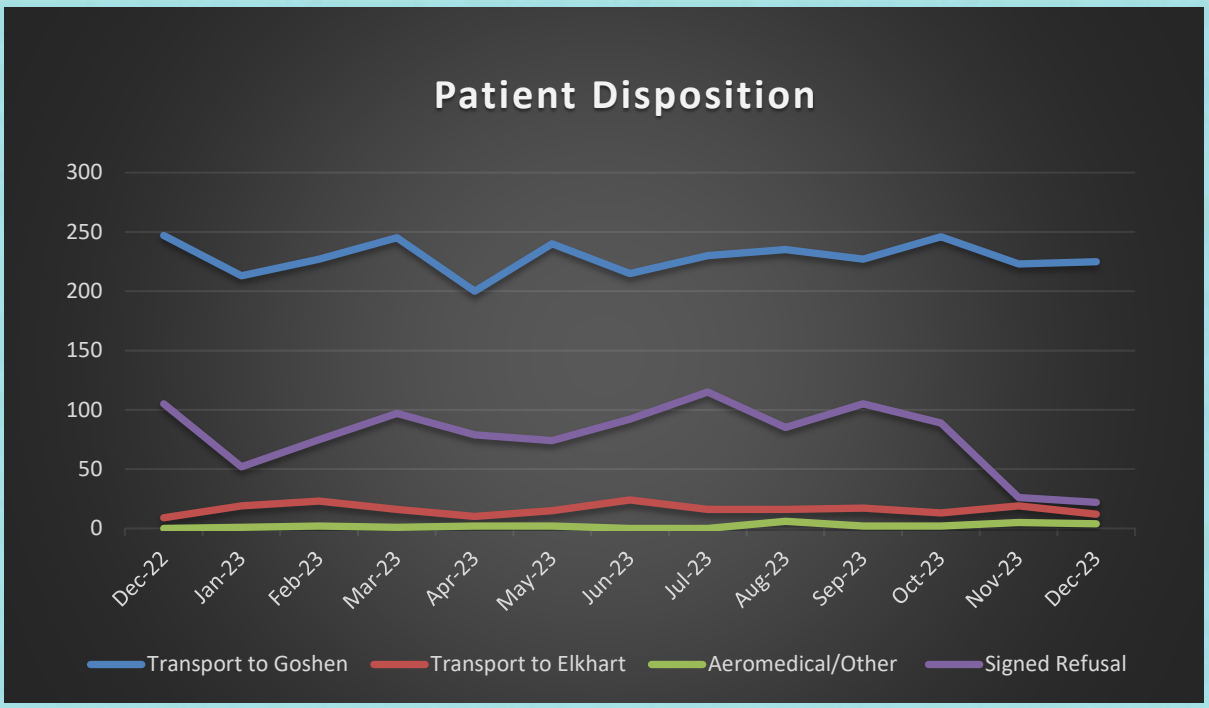
In 2023, the department had 4252 patient contacts, which is a decrease of 408 or 9%. The charts and tables below show total patient contacts, total of advance life support vs. basic life support transports and transport destinations.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Patient Contacts	4056	3856	3970	3893	4049	4660	4252











➤ **Training** – *Steffen Schrock – Assistant Chief of Training*

**Division Instructors** – Captain Jerod Erb, Captain Travis Peak, Lieutenant Lyle Wingard

The mission of the Goshen Fire Department is to provide quality, purpose driven training that promotes firefighter excellence and safety. In order to achieve excellence and promote safety our training objectives are focused on improving the knowledge, skills and abilities of all our members.

2023 was a productive year for the Goshen Fire Department Training Division. All Goshen Firefighters were trained in disciplines that focused on the immediate risks and target hazards of our community. These disciplines include firefighting, EMS, hazardous materials operations, rope rescue, water rescue, confined space rescue, and community risk reduction. Total training man hours for 2023 equaled 15273. A deeper breakdown of the total training hours reveals 4124 hours of EMS training, 10606 hours of firefighting / rescue training and 542 hours of community risk reduction training were completed. On average all personnel received 21 hours of training per month. Overall, the department training hours increased from 2022 by 65%.

A number of goals and objectives were met in 2023. The highlights include the following;

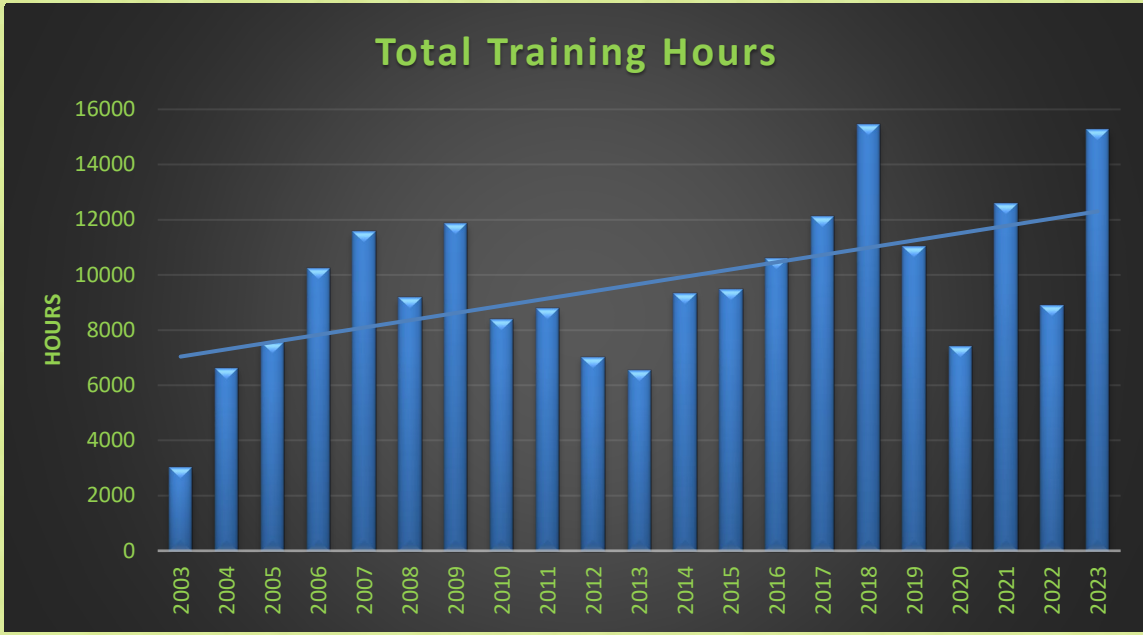
- Implementation of Target Solutions as our new training records management system. Target Solutions has streamlined our documentation process and improves our ability to report to ISO.
- Improvements to the Danny Sink Regional Training Facility include the construction of a SCBA confidence course and implementation of the Phase II construction plan
- As we prepare for the future growth of Goshen we sent personnel to Airport Rescue Firefighting School in Kentucky and Hazardous Materials Technician School in Warsaw. The knowledge obtained at these classes will help build a solid foundation as we begin to improve our ability to respond to aircraft emergencies and mitigate hazmat incidents
- GFD continued improving and refining our ability to respond to emergencies in Elkhart Township. This preparation included work on pump operations and preplanning target hazards.
- We implemented the use of Hazmat IQ to improve our ability of responding to and mitigating a hazardous materials incident.

The Training Division will ride the momentum gained in 2023 to help us achieve the following goals in 2024:

- Continue to improve the Danny Sink Regional Training Facility
- Develop an Officer Academy for new GFD Officers
- Develop operation manuals and training drill task book
- Continue to work on an airport response plan
- Improve our hazardous materials decontamination skills
- Instruct a Vehicle & Machinery Operations and Technicians course
- Increase GFD's participation in MABAS 201
- Continue to prepare for township responses

Everything that we have accomplished and all goals that will be achieved have one common thread. That important thread is the people that work hard to see them through. The Training Division is thankful to have the help of its instructors and all other personnel that have assisted in making GFD better.







Hazmat / Foam Training





Fire Training

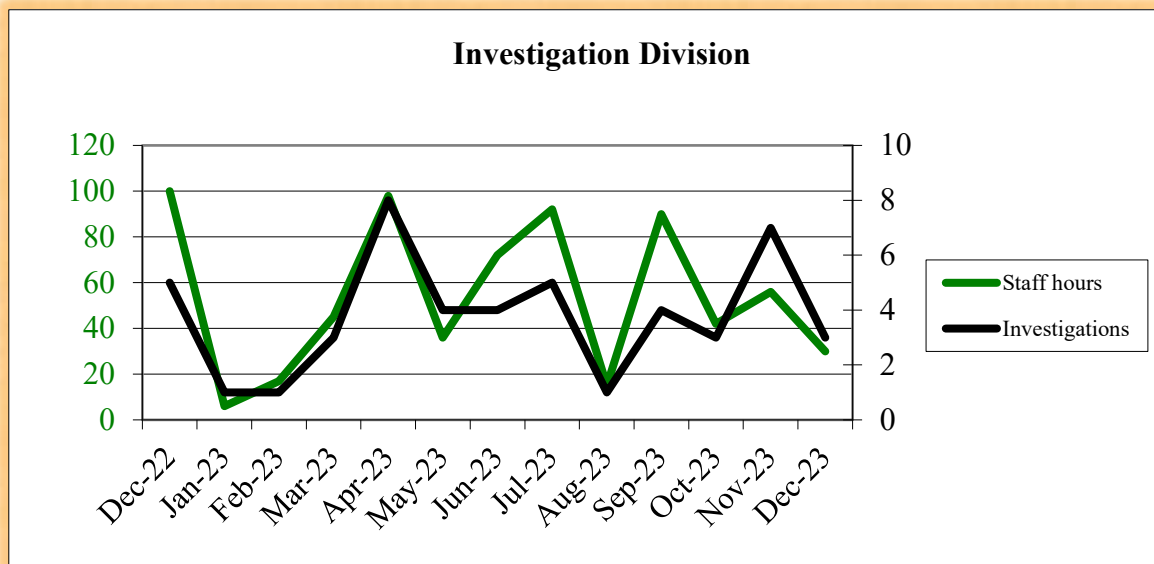


## Fire Prevention Division

### ➤ Fire Investigations – *Scott Thomas – Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention*

**Division Investigators – John Evans – Division Chief**  
**Scott McDowell – Battalion Chief**  
**Bryant Lehman – Sergeant / Paramedic**  
**Matt Stamm – Sergeant**  
**Kyle Stamm – Sergeant / Paramedic**  
**John Szuba – Firefighter / Paramedic**

In 2023, the division investigated 44 fires, a 37% decrease from 2022, and recorded 599 hours for an average of 13.6 hours per investigation.



### ➤ Inspections – *Scott Thomas – Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention*

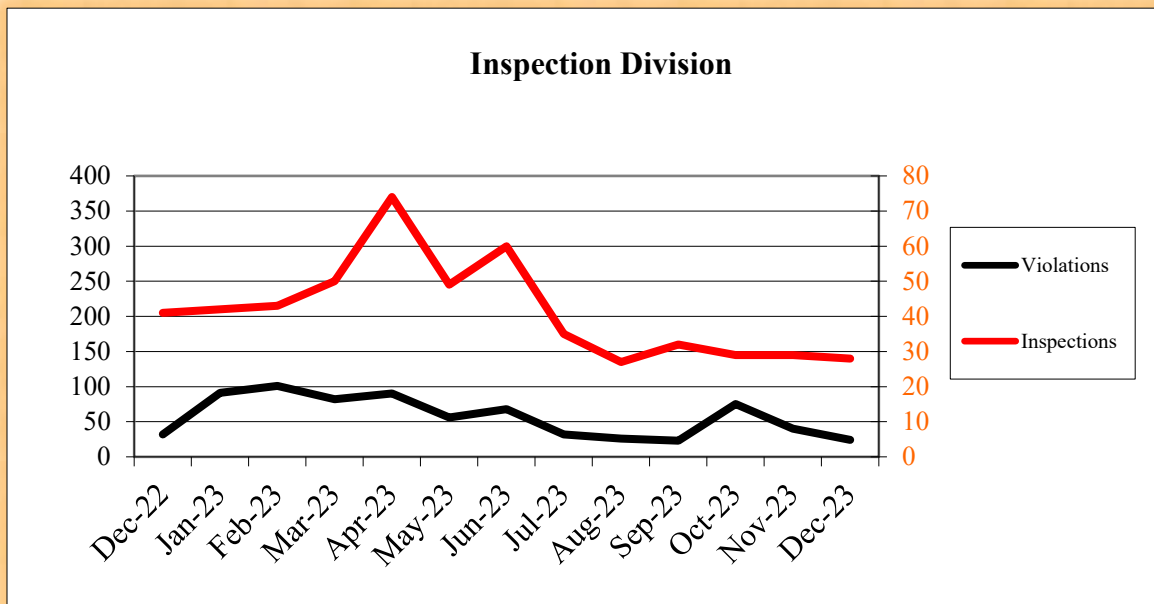
**Division Inspectors – John Evans – Division Chief of Inspections**

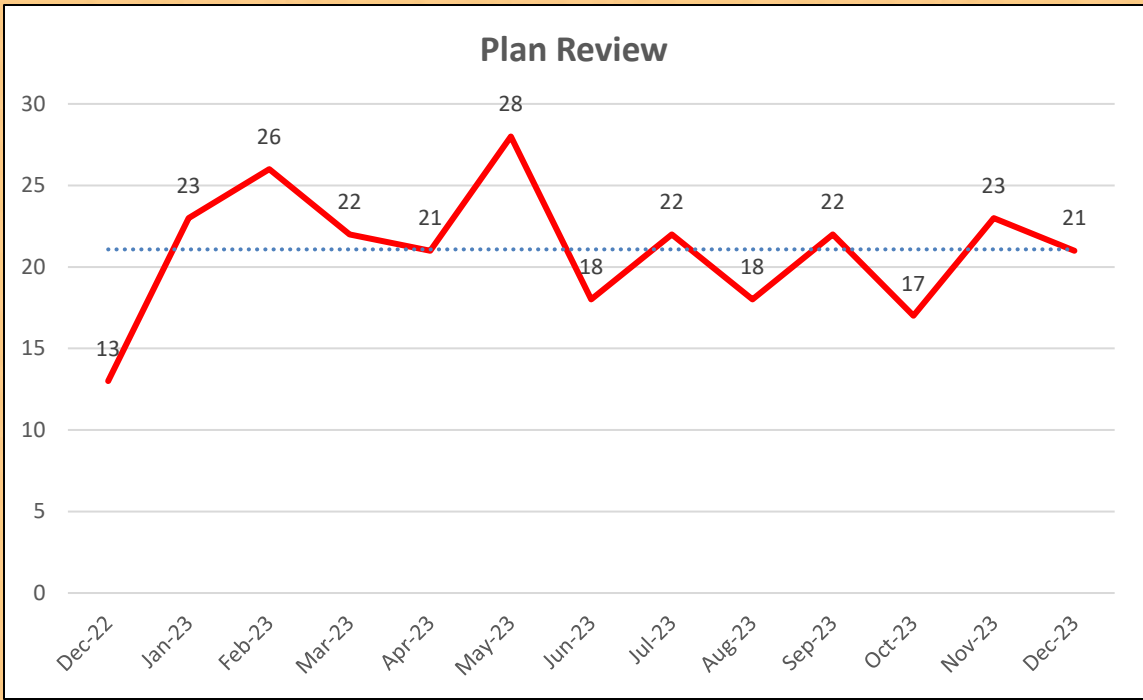
Besides doing regular business fire/safety inspections, the Fire Prevention Bureau has been conducting plan review, inspecting newly built commercial buildings and construction projects, been giving consults, investigating complaints, assisting our Building Department, providing public education, and investigating fires.

Another large part of what we need to do is continuing education and training to keep up and be familiar with different code adoptions, rule changes, various aspects of fire investigations, and evolutions in fire science. We are members of the Fire Inspectors Association of Indiana (FIAI), Indiana Association of Building Officials (IABO), and the International Association of Fire Investigators (IAAI). With these organizations, we now have a network of people across the State that we can always call, if we have questions or concerns about a commercial building project or violations found.

Our goal is to provide more proactive education for businesses and other organizations before it is time for inspections. This will be more of a diplomatic approach, visiting different occupancies to check in, answer questions, and provide education. We will continue to educate the public, and to keep our working relationships going with our business owners. This will help ensure that our city will grow and be a safe place to live.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Inspections</b>	588	942	814	440	356	478	498
<b>Violations</b>	715	487	667	309	725	701	708
<b>Violations per Inspection</b>	1.2	0.5	0.8	0.7	2.0	1.5	1.4
<b>Average Inspections per month</b>	49.0	78.5	67.8	36.7	29.7	39.8	41.5





➤ **Fire Prevention/Education**

*Travis Peak – Division Chief of Education*

*Charles Stevens – Public Education Coordinator*

*Public Education Team Members – EMS Sergeant Lucas Wickey, Sergeant Matt Stamm*

Our goal is to go into the community to teach people about fire safety. Being able to interact with the general public was something that had not been done in almost 2 years. It was great to be able to interact with the Schools and Public again.

We were able to conduct our fire extinguisher trainings in 2023. We are hopeful that we will expand that training in 2024. It is a vital part of how the fire department helps educate residents and employees in the city.

October again brought National Fire Prevention week. Fire Prevention and Goshen Community Schools worked to together to make a plan that would allow interaction and learning for students. Our first-grade presentation was again a puppet show. Students would then have a tour of a fire truck and ambulance. This year every truck had contact with students and every department member on shift did as well. Third grade presentations for home exit drills were also done like years past. In total, we were able to talk to almost 800 Goshen students.

In 2024 we look forward to being able to pick up where we left off in 2023. Increasing community trainings and trying new and different ways to engage with the schools.



**Life Point Church came to visit**



**Trick or Trunk  
Shanklin Park**



**Fire Prevention Month  
1st Grade**



**Grace Church  
Easter Egg Drop**



➤ **Human Resources**

As of December 31, 2023, the department is staffed with 59 sworn personnel, 1 Civilian Fire Chief, 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 Civilian Firefighter.

**Change in Rank**

Promotions of 2023	
<b>Whitford, Matthew</b>	Promoted to <b>Sergeant</b>
<b>Sheline, Garrett</b>	Promoted to <b>Lieutenant</b> on April 2nd
<b>Weishaupt, Jonathan</b>	Promoted to <b>Sergeant</b> on April 2nd
<b>LoPresti, Andrew</b>	Promoted to Private 1st Class on April 12th
<b>Bontrager, Camden</b>	Promoted to <b>Lieutenant</b> on May 22nd
<b>McKerchie, Shane</b>	Promoted to <b>Asst. Chief of EMS</b> on May 22nd
<b>Stamm, Matthew</b>	Promoted to <b>Sergeant</b> on May 22nd
<b>Weishaupt, Jonathan</b>	Promoted to <b>EMS Lieutenant</b> on May 22nd
<b>Wickey, Lucas</b>	Promoted to <b>EMS Sergeant</b> on May 22nd
<b>Stamm, Kyle</b>	Promoted to <b>Sergeant</b> on August 19th
<b>Lehman, Bryant</b>	Promoted to <b>Sergeant</b> on August 20th
<b>Kauffman, John</b>	Promoted to <b>Private 1<sup>st</sup> Class</b> on August 15th
<b>Pilling, Matt</b>	Promoted to <b>Private 1st Class</b> on August 15th



**Matt Whitford**  
**Sergeant**



**Andrew LoPresti**  
**Private 1<sup>st</sup> Class**

**Lucas Wickey**  
EMS Sergeant

**Matt Stamm**  
Sergeant

**Cam Bontrager**  
Lieutenant



**Shane McKerchie**  
Assistant Chief of EMS

**Jon Weishaupt**  
Sergeant  
EMS Lieutenant

**Kyle Stamm**  
Sergeant

**Bryant Lehman**  
Sergeant



**John Kauffman**  
Private 1<sup>st</sup> Class

**Matt Pilling**  
Private 1<sup>st</sup> Class



**Garrett Sheline**  
**Lieutenant**

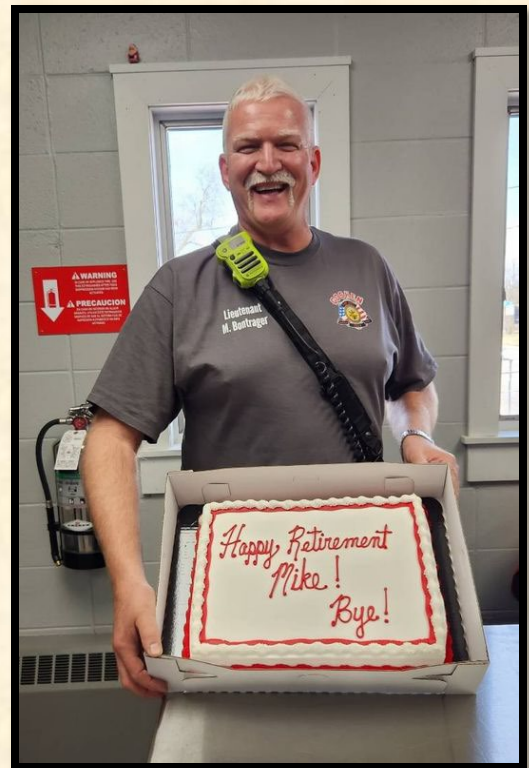
**Jon Weishaupt**  
**Sergeant**

**Retirements / Separations**

<b>Separations and Retirements</b>	
Mravec, Lee - Firefighter	Retirement on January 6th, 2023
Crisp, Erik - Sergeant	Retirement on February 21st, 2023
Bontrager, Michael - Lieutenant	Retirement on April 2nd, 2023
Miller, Jason - Sergeant	Retirement on August 19th, 2023
Masbaum, Michael - Sergeant	Separation on August 20th, 2023



**Jason Miller - Sergeant**



**Mike Bontrager - Lieutenant**



**Lee Mravec**



**Erik Crisp**

## Appointments

New Hires	
Burggraf, Doug	Hired on January 9th
White, Mike	Hired on January 9th
Hunter, Jordan	Hired on January 9th
Mann, Kevin	Hired on March 10th
Hite, Joshua	Hired on March 10th
Youngman, Noah	Hired on September 18th
Miller, Dakota	Hired on September 18th
Bacigal, John	Hired on September 18th
Loe, Colin	Hired on September 18th



**Douglas Burgraff**

**James “Mike” White**

**Jordan Hunter**



**Kevin Mann**

**Joshua Hite**

**Noah Youngman**

**Cody Miller**



**Colin Loe**

**John Bacigal**

Miscellaneous Photo







**Station 3 Crew**  
Enjoying some off-duty time together!



A Look Through the Ages



**The Reenactment**

Lieutenant Zac Klopfenstein and Firefighter / Medic Dan Kurtz assisting their patient, Firefighter Mike Fairfield.



Firefighter James “Mike” White came to us from Concord Fire Department. His old shift sent flowers and a balloon to him at the Station on Valentine’s Day.

# In Memoriam

## Line of Duty Death



**“Take Care of Each Other”**

Assistant Chief of EMS Bruce A. Nethercutt, 53, of Goshen, passed away Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at home after a one-year battle with cancer. He was born Oct. 8, 1969, in Goshen. On Oct. 17, 1998, he married Deborah Potter in Mishawaka.

Bruce graduated from Northridge High School in 1988 and Manchester College in 1993. Bruce was with the Goshen Fire Department for 26 years, serving the last several years as EMS Chief.

Bruce was a devout man who attended River Oaks Community Church and was well-known for his altruistic dedication to the neighborhood. His family, coworkers and the Ivy Tech students he instructed and supervised in their firefighter, paramedic and EMT programs carry on his legacy of service, honesty and kindness.

Bruce was involved with his daughters swimming careers and often volunteered his weekends as a USA Swimming Official.

Assistant Chief of EMS Bruce Nethercutt was diagnosed with cancer that was determined to be job related. Assistant Chief of EMS Nethercutt was given a full Line of Duty Death Funeral ceremony at River Oaks Community Church. Chief Nethercutt's name will be engraved at the Indiana Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Indianapolis this year.

**Chief Nethercutt made a video for all Fire and EMS First Responders that was played at his ceremony. In his message Chief Nethercutt stressed the importance of looking out for one another. His final words were “Take Care of Each other”.**



**“He was a wonderful man, really,” Sink said. “He was the epitome of a leader, very calm, very insightful.”**

**~ Fire Chief Dan Sink**

**Today was a rough day but a necessary day to experience. The healing process can now begin as we have honored our brother Bruce Nethercutt. Hundreds of people attended Bruce's funeral today to pay their respects and honor a great man. While we grieve his passing, we know that he has gone home and will be watching over his family and his firefighters until we all see him again.**

**Death may have taken his body from us but it can never take away the love we feel for him or he felt for us.**

**~ Goshen Professional Firefighters Local 1443**



To hear these words....  
" Well Done my Good and Faithful Servant "  
Well done Bruce. We will see you again.

~ Trevor Kercher, GFD Retired

Please pray for the Goshen Fire family and the Bruce Nethercutt family today as we say goodbye to a friend and hero.

~ Chaplain Jennifer Lanzen



The loss of Bruce Nethercutt is felt by so many! Most of my interactions with Bruce were through the ER (him bringing one of us work but with his gentle smile). On occasion we'd find our schedules matched and could meet up to cycle. Steadfast, calm, intelligent, involved, compassionate, strong, ready laugh- all qualities many of us strive to have just one of, and he exuded all! RIP Bruce, enjoy Heaven- give my Dad a hug!

~ Lavern Moore, GGH RN

**Proverbs 27:17**

**“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”  
I am grateful for your impact on my life.**

**~ Captain Patrick Linn**



**Yesterday afternoon GFD lost one of our best! Asst. Chief Bruce Nethercutt lost his battle with Cancer. How I dislike that word. Bruce CARED-was GENUINE-and WILL BE MISSED GREATLY. RIP my friend. Knowing that you walked into the arms of Jesus and heard “well done!” Is a comfort.**

**~ Kimberly Whitehead, GFD Administrative Assistant**

**Heaven gained a great soul today. I know Bruce Nethercutt is continuing his watch from up above.**

**~ Scott Thomas, Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention**

**Rest in peace Chief. Thank you for all you did for our guys. Bruce Nethercutt**

**~ Stacy Thomas, GFD Spouse**







We ask that our friends and families take a moment to honor Asst. Chief Bruce Nethercutt, who responded to his final call today. Chief Nethercutt lost his battle with occupational cancer. We also ask that you take some time to pray for Chief's family and his brothers and sisters on Goshen Fire.

Chief Nethercutt, RIP and know that your brother and sister firefighters will continue to do your good work.  
~ Axemen MC IN1





**GFD lost another great one today. He was one of my Instructor when I did my Fire I & II. Thanks for everything u taught us and prayers for your family!**

**~ Jason Cook, Firefighter 1 & 2 class of 2019**

**Elkhart County lost a very good man today. I'm sure glad God saw it fitting to cross my life path with this man's. He was one of the good guys. Rest easy in the arms of Jesus Bruce Nethercutt as you await your new body. No more suffering!**

**~ Jake Beer, Firefighter 1 & 2 class of 2019**

**Today my heart is heavy. We, at GFD, lost our beloved EMS Chief. Chief, even though I didn't serve beside you very long, the impact you had on my life will last forever. Thank you so much for taking time in 2019 to help teach our fire fighter 1&2 class. I learned so much from you and you are one of the big reasons why I wear the uniform today. I will miss you forever and do my best every day to honor your legacy. Rest easy Chief we will take it from here.**

**~ Jordan Hunter, Firefighter 1 & 2 class of 2019 / GFD Firefighter 2023 – Present**

**RIP Bruce Nethercutt, you were an astounding instructor and an amazing person. You set the standard of how to be a good person. Rest Easy Sir.**

**~ Riley Neil,**



**Sad to hear of the passing of a good friend Bruce Nethercutt. You taught me so much over the years working together at Jefferson fire/EMS and Goshen E.R. You were a role model to me as well as many others coming up and my career. You will be greatly missed my friend.**

**Rest easy brother.**

**~ Kyle Swartz**

**“A huge loss for our community. He will also be missed around the pool deck”.**

**~ Lisa Ernsberger**

**So, I love talking about flying... maybe a little too much. And I thought that maybe I shouldn't be posting pictures like this in light of Bruce's passing, but this got me thinking. I wouldn't be where I am today without him. His teaching and love of learning inspired me. It fostered in me a passion for learning and for teaching. Its people like him, and others, that deserve so much credit. Thank you Chief, from the bottom of my heart.**

**~ Jeremy Lininger, Former Student / Flight Paramedic**







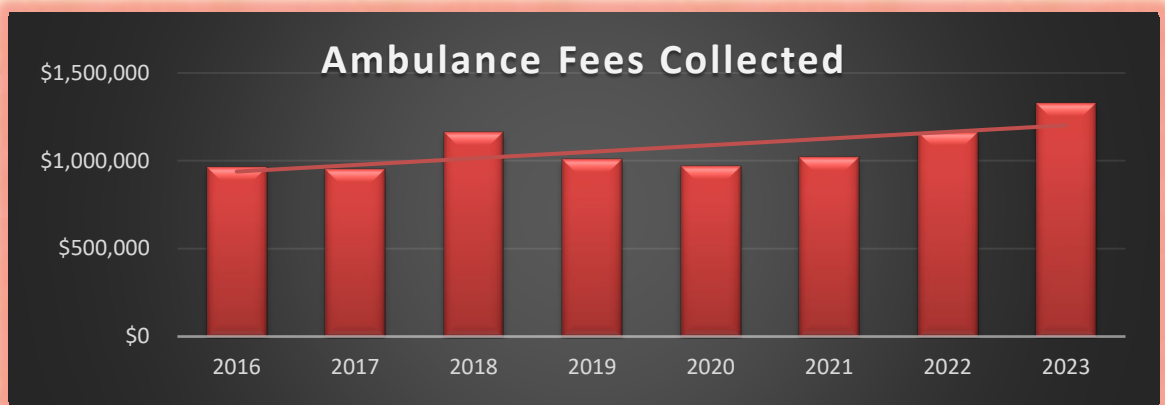
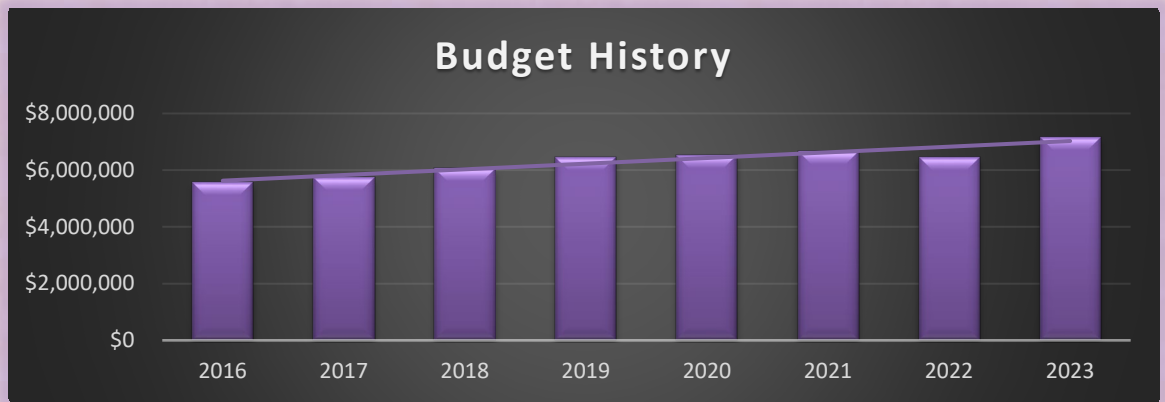
**2Timothy 4:7-8 “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day- “**

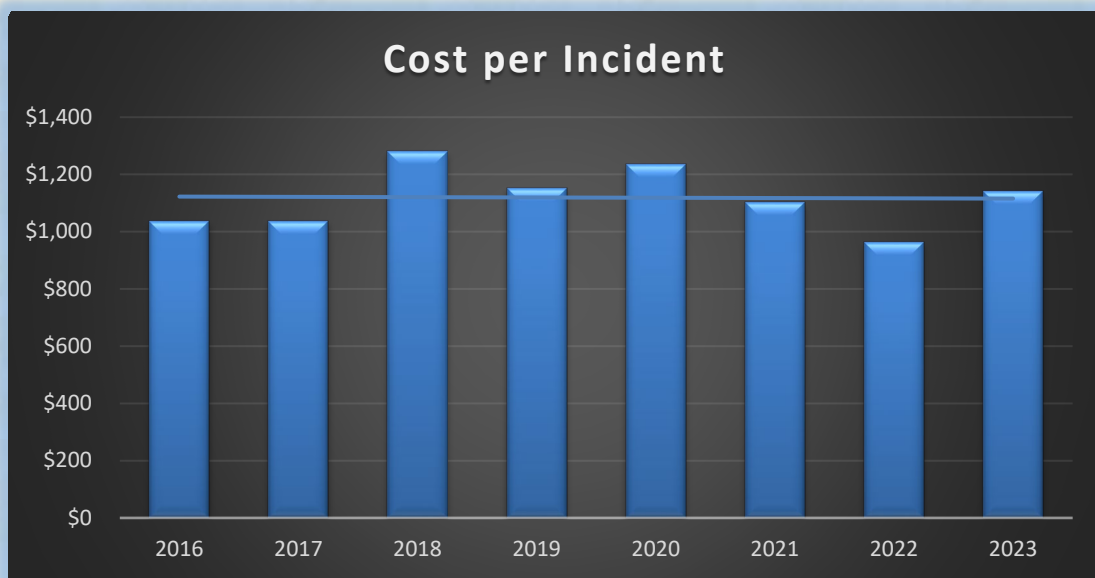
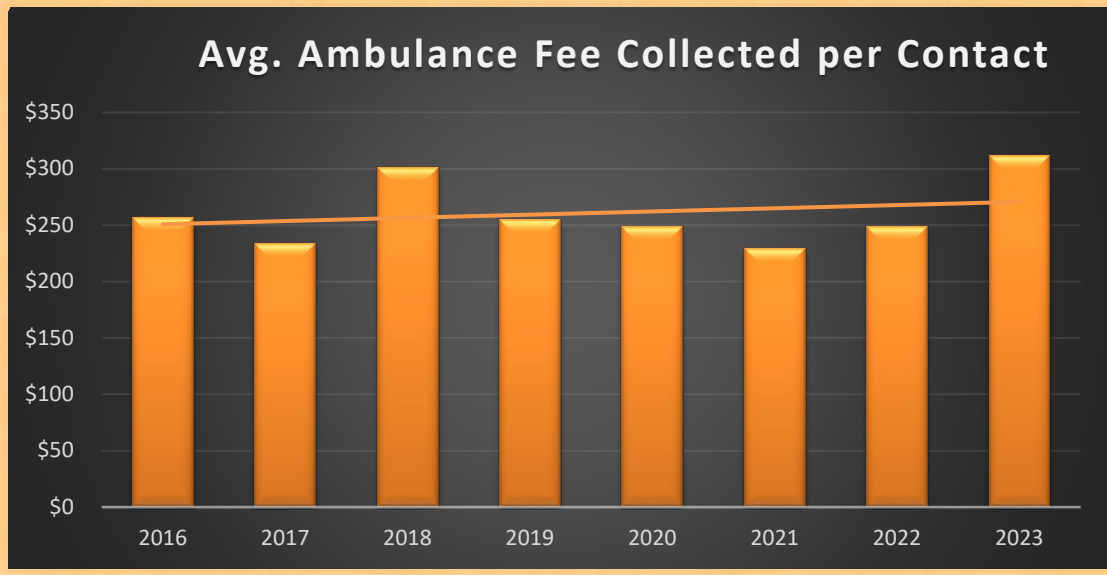
**Bruce, we were devastated yet hopeful last year when we learned of your diagnosis; we believed that surely, we would have a few more years at least. I will likely never understand this side of heaven why God chose to take you home, but I know he makes no mistakes and promises all things for our good. So—I am claiming that promise and believing that your profound impact on others will continue despite losing you. You are my one true love and have been an amazing husband, father and friend. I love you and will see you again ❤️**

**~ Deb Nethercutt**

➤ **Budget**

	2021	2022	2023
<b>Budget</b>	\$6,651,175	\$6,455,593	\$7,169,500
<b>Ambulance Fees Collected</b>	\$1,020,108	\$1,161,065	\$1,328,473
<b>Budget (minus) Ambulance Fees</b>	\$5,631,067	\$5,294,528	\$5,841,027
<b>Avg. Ambulance Fee Collected per Contact</b>	\$229	\$249	\$312
<b>Cost per Incident</b>	\$1,102	\$964	\$1,143





➤ **Summary**

This report conveys the activities of the department for 2023. Additional data may be available upon request.

*Dan Sink*

Chief of the Department