
The 2012 Annual Report

of the City of Columbus – Fire Department

City of Columbus





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This Annual Report is prepared for the citizens of the City of Columbus and the following 2012 public officials:

Columbus Mayor:
The Honorable Kristen Brown

Columbus City Council:
Dascal Bunch
Ryan Brand
Frank Jerome
Frank Miller
Tim Shuffett
Aaron Hankins
Jim Lienhoop

Board of Public Works and Safety:
Kristen Brown
Susan Fye
Jayne Farber

Executive Summary

Mission

We will provide an appropriate, safe, and professional response to fire, medical, and environmental emergencies. We are dedicated to minimizing the loss of life and property through suppression, rescue, education, code enforcement, investigation and other innovative programs.

Value Statements

The Columbus Fire Department values a creative and proactive environment.

The Columbus Fire Department is professional in all of its actions.

- Appearance
- Respectful attitude
- Caring and compassion for people
- Training, preparedness, and readiness
- High quality service

The Columbus Fire Department recognizes that every employee is a valued member of the Columbus Fire Department Family.

- Team oriented
- Input is valued
- Compassion toward one-another
- Respect for one-another
- Communicate openly at all levels
- Feel secure

The Columbus Fire Department shall strive to promote health, safety, and welfare, at all times, in all actions through:

- Critical Incident Stress Debriefing
- Employee Assistance Program
- NFPA & OSHA Standards
- Personal Fitness
- Attention to professional needs

The Columbus Fire Department is goal oriented, and will utilize strategic planning to achieve its objectives.

- Medium range
- Long range
- Comprehensive budgeting

The Columbus Fire Department is sensitive and responsive to neighborhood needs and priorities.

The Columbus Fire Department is an integral part of the neighborhood.

Administration



The Columbus Fire Department Administrative Office is located in the headquarter station at 1101 Jackson Street. The Columbus Fire Department is comprised of six fire stations strategically located in the City of Columbus to offer the best response time to all areas as possible. These facilities are manned 24 hours a day, rotating over three shifts. There are currently 92 uniformed firefighters and three civilian employees in the Department.

The administrative staff located at headquarters includes:

- Fire Chief Dave Allmon
- Deputy Chief of Operations Doug Harrison
- Deputy Chief of EMS Mike Kutsko
- Fire Inspector Tom Rebber
- Fire Inspector Keith Owen
- Public Information Officer Matt Noblitt
- Administrative Assistant Julie Dayton
- Administrative Assistant Mary Hollinger (retired 12/2012)

Our Maintenance Facility is located at 2770 Verhulst Drive. There you will find Master Mechanic Mark Williams taking care of all equipment repairs and routine maintenance on all vehicles of the Columbus Fire Department.

Our Training Officer, Russell Hardin conducts his classes and department training at the training facility located at 2670 Verhulst. In addition to hands-on-training, he also schedules FETN training for all stations and maintains all training records for all employees.



Total Funds

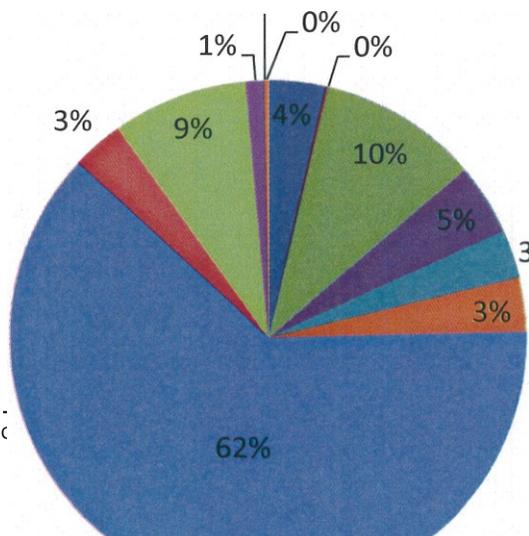
Fire and Emergency Responses for 2012

Fire Alarms (100s)	145
Overpressure rupture, overhear, No Fire (200s)	7
Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident (300s)	401
Hazardous Materials (400s)	182
Service Calls (500s)	121
Good Intent Calls (600s less 661 & 611)	136
EMS Assists (661)	2,502
Disregards/Cancelled Enroute (611)	133
False Alarm & False Call (700s)	340
Chargable Runs (700s less 735)	45
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster (800s)	0
Special Incident Type (900s)	11
TOTAL	4,023

Building, Contents, and Vehicle Dollar Loss

Building Loss	508,500.00
Contents Loss	235,200.00
Vehicle Loss	47,600.00
TOTAL	791,300.00

Columbus Fire Department Run Breakdown - 2012



- Fire Alarms (100s)
- Overpressure rupture, overhear, no Fire (200s)
- Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident (300s)
- Hazardous Materials (400s)
- Service Calls (500s)
- Good Intent Calls (600s, less 661 & 611)
- EMS Assists (661)

- Disregards/Cancelled En-route (611)
- False Alarm and False Call (700s)
- Chargeable Runs (700s less 735)
- Severe Weather & Natural Disaster (800s)
- Special Incident Type (900s)

2012 Accomplishments

Operations

Battalion Chief Dan Cleland served as Fire Chief for the Columbus Fire Department the first five months of this year, a role that he is proud of and will always hold in the highest regard.

The following is a summary of activities CFD has been involved in under the direction of Mayor Brown and many dedicated administrators, training officers, company level officers and outside agency personnel.

- Rapid assessment of ice rescue equipment and training needs and establishment of response protocols with multi agencies
- Assisted the Henryville, IN community by sending a contingent of CFD firefighters to man apparatus to respond in their area
- Assessed some infrastructure needs and set initial priorities to the roof replacement at Stations 1 and 5 and began bidding process with contractors. Replaced the boiler unit at station 1 (21years old). Went to 86% efficient from 68%
- Co-ordinated meetings and assisted Deputy Chief Mike Kutsko under the direction of Mayor Brown, in seeking new ALS paramedic level ambulance provider for the City of Columbus
- Began process of opening application and testing procedures and dates for potential new candidates for 2012-2013
- Made agreements to new improved components of our annual fire department physical with Public Safety Medical out of Indianapolis
- Had lots of participation in 2 separate officer development and strategy and tactics classes for current officers and acting officers
- CFD participated in 2 full scale exercises at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center by sending firefighters and apparatus. "C shift's" was large scale tornado aftermath where crews stayed on

the grounds for 3 days and nights through drill completion. Firefighters were involved in search, rescue, suppression and command positions

- Provided supervision during all inspects of day-to-day operations for 24 hour periods on C-shift
 - Water/Ice rescue equipment purchased and placed on CFD equipment
 - Water/Ice rescue training completed (Department wide)
 - Implemented “tot finder” reflective sticker system
 - Hearing impaired smoke detector system implemented
 - First round of Technical Rescue Awareness started with several department members passing the course
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- First round of rope rescue technician class completed with several department members passing the course
 - Fire Ops 101 – July
 - Fire Officer Strategy & Tactics class with several department members passing the course
 - Workplace harassment training (Conducted by Lorraine Smith of the Human Rights Department)
 - District 8 disaster drill at Muscatatuck
 - Implemented more through physical program with a goal of even more thorough version in 2013
 - Certified several Instructor I level personnel
 - Completed another successful Cheer Fund season
 - Civilian Academy – October
 - Radiation training with State Fire Marshall's office

Public Information

During 2012, the Public Information Department coordinated and took part in the following:

- The P.I.O. was called in off duty for fires 9 times in 2012
- On three different occasions the P.I.O. was put into action as a firefighter on tail board due to shortage of manpower
- Assisted at the Joint Information Center in Indianapolis after the devastating events in Henryville
- Went to Muscatatuck Urban Training Center on two separate Indiana Department of Homeland Security disaster drills

- In our continuing effort to extend the fire safety message to the community the Fire Safety Trailer went to places such as Columbus Christian Church, Carver Toyota, St. Peters School, Fodrea Elementary School, Cummins Daycare, The Reformed Presbyterian Church, and Harrison Township Fire Department
 - Tilly was as popular as ever giving rides at Moose Park Car Show, The MS Walk, national Night Out, Trunk or Treat, July 4th Parade, Kids Day at the 4-H Fair, Bar Cons Credit Union, Reformed Presbyterian Church, Family Fest, The Mayors Ride, Drive-in movie, Toyota Safety Days, Bartholomew County Safe Kids Bike Rodeo, Fairlawn Preschool, and the Festival of Lights Parade
 - Attended Fire Alarm Monitoring and sprinkler system seminars as well as the Indianapolis Fire Investigators Conference
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- Represented C.F.D. in meetings pertaining to emergency weather sirens, at monthly S.R.C. meetings, as an interviewer of Fodrea/Lincoln Schools Biztown project, Career Days at Northside Middle School and East High School, Operation Safe Prom, and as a founding member of Bartholomew County Safe Kids and their projects
 - Participated in the Police and fire Youth Academy, and The Public Safety Academy as well as continued to assist the Maintenance garage in any way possible
 - Began making ID badges for C.F.D. retirees
 - Trained in Ice Water Rescue, over 60 hours of Certified Fire Investigator continuing education and completed prerequisites for The National Fire Academy Sprinkler Class
 - Reviewed 250 variances and rezoning requests

Training

Early in 2012 we began Ice Rescue training with the help of our brothers from Ohio. We continued with the technical rescue awareness course and now have 66 firefighters certified to the NFPA 1670 Technical Rescue Awareness Level. We will continue with this training until we certify all CFD firefighters. Other Technical Rescue training some CFD members received was Rope Rescue Technician and Confine Space Train the Trainer Course. An NFPA Fire Instructor 1 Course conducted with assistance through the

District 8 Training council. 10 CFD firefighters were certified to the NFPA 1041 Instructor 1 level. Again this year a group of Airport Rescue Firefighters from station 2 traveled to Grissom Air force Base Fire Department to participate in annual live burn training in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration Part 139 Recurrent training.

In recent years the training division has had and continues to have a cooperative relationship with the Continuing Education Director at Columbus Regional Hospital. This has resulted in a collaboration of conducting Emergency Medical Service continuing education for the Paramedic level certified CFD and CRH personnel. CFD also conducted an in house Basic Emergency Medical Service Refresher course department wide.

This year we had 7 CFD personnel attended, completed and became certified in Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics hosted by other nearby fire departments. 4 CFD firefighters attended and successfully completed a Train the Trainer course on Electrical Vehicle Response.

The Columbus Police /Fire Juvenile Academy were held this summer. This has always proven to be a well-attended and successful week of educational and fun activities for Columbus youth. A unique opportunity to experience both law enforcement and fire service activities. The training division was also instrumental with assisting in the Fire Operations 101 Course Hosted by the Columbus Career

Firefighters Union as well as participating in the Police /Fire Adult Academy . Another major success this year was the week long Company Officer Development Institute Course presented by Dr. Richard Gasaway and assisted by Patrick Harper. Dr. Gasaway, a retired Fire Chief is nationally well known for fire ground management and extensive study in Situational Awareness.

Several CFD firefighters participated in 2 regional disaster drills at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center. Through the cooperation of the Columbus City Human Resource department and Lorraine Smith a Work Place Harassment Training program was conducted for CFD personnel.

Columbus Fire Training Division is occasionally asked by other Bartholomew County Fire Departments to assist with training of their firefighters. It will always be the practice of the CFD Training Division to assist in any way it can. CFD training division assisted Clay township with company training and German township and District 8 Training council with a FF 1/2 course. CFD is also very grateful for the assistance it has received Scott Chasteen Fire Chief at Greensburg Fire Department in completing some of the training that was conducted over the year.

Fire Prevention Bureau

The 2012 fire prevention, inspection, and investigation divisions' accomplishments and duties included:

- Participated in the first ever adult fire/police academy. Conducted fire extinguisher training with hands on use of an extinguisher on an actual fire. Conducted a classroom training session on the use of portable fire extinguishers. Participated in an extensive conversation on fire safety and life safety
- Trained 662 other adults and kids on the use of portable fire extinguishers. These people worked in businesses in the city and schools in the city and some throughout the surrounding counties.
- Presented fire safety/ life safety meetings with 330 people. Some were businesses; some were assisted living, etc

- Helped train and educate approximately 30 kids in the juvenile police/fire academy
- Conducted a juvenile fire setter course with 12 kids in three different meetings. These were kids whose parents or school principals had recommended that they attend this course
- Handed out numerous amounts of literature and education information about fire/life safety to businesses conducting their own safety meetings or people that came into the office
- Conducted numerous critiques of evacuation plans and actual fire alarms for businesses and assisted living centers
- Helped on a few occasions with Tilly and the fire safety trailer
- Assisted citizens with countless phone questions on fire/life safety. Such as smoke detectors, portable heaters, fire places and outside fire pits and home evacuations
- Conducted only 8 fire investigations throughout the year
- Still involved in an arson case, hoping we can get a conviction

- Conducted daily inspections of existing businesses throughout the city for fire code compliance and life safety issues
- Conducted courtesy/ pre-inspections/ and final inspections on new buildings and re-model work on existing buildings. Spent a lot of time on the renovation of Columbus East and North projects, ensuring life safety during construction and conducting inspections for code compliance
- Had numerous meetings with architects, project managers, etc., for code and life safety issues
- Went to four training seminars on code compliance such as sprinkler systems, alarm systems and suppression systems. Did online training as well on similar topics
- Assisted Homeland Inspection Division with inspections leading up to the Super Bowl last February
- Continued firefighting and EMT training throughout various times of the year
- Successfully completed training in HAZ MAT, fire investigation and fire ground tactics

Mechanical

The Mechanical Division in 2012 accomplished the following:

- Installed new cascade system at station #2
 - Performed annual pump test on all fire apparatus
 - Performed annual ground ladder testing
 - Performed aerial ladder testing
 - Performed 5-year aerial performance test on all aerial ladders
 - All SCBA air bottles hydro-tested (NOTE: These SCBA air bottles are on their last hydro test and will need replaced within 5 years.)
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- Performed inspection and service on all Hurst equipment and Power units
 - Replaced all graphics on Fire Safety Trailer
 - Scheduled appointments to look at new fire apparatus and new SCBAs
 - Performed numerous repairs to Fire apparatus and Columbus Police Department vehicles

A.R.F.F.

The Columbus Fire Department A.R.F.F. Division 2012 accomplishments included:

- All Sergeants at Station # 2 have assumed responsibility of their perspective shifts for maintaining and documenting ARFF records as required by the FAA
 - External Audit as per FAA requirement with Kevin Elmore at Fire Station. Kevin's role is to pre-inspect our record keeping prior to the FAA's formal inspection
 - Taxiway Delta has been repaved at the present time
 - Kelly street repaved
 - A-14 Foam passed refractory Meter test to FAA specifications
 - A- 14 purple K was inspected and tested by Koorsen and passed FAA specifications
 - Firefighters at Station # 2 have been sent for live burn and are working towards becoming current in order to be assigned to A-14. Only assigned and current firefighters can be assigned to A-14 as per FAA
 - Deb Bartow from the FAA recommended strongly that a driving course be provided to all regular personnel at fire station # 2
 - Mr. Payne has spoken with the administration in reference to our mutual aid agreements
 - Reaction and response drills have been conducted monthly with great success
 - Klaxon Bell mounted at fire station # 2
 - The third party Audit conducted by Kevin Elmore of the Indianapolis Airport Fire Department as per FAA requirements for past violations
 - Reviewed advisory circular updates
 - Recorded and documented area movement training in a separate category
 - Conduct HRET training on Monday inspection. Documented and recorded training
 - Implemented radio test with Tower on airport frequency
 - Documented and recorded type and amount of Purple-K and Military spec. foam on hand
 - A-14 generator and extrication equipment have been serviced by Five Alarm
 - A-99 has been serviced at the Garage and the Tank Water emptied and refilled
-
- Hope Fire and Safety has serviced all extinguishers on all ARFF apparatus
 - Pre-planned Cummins new airplane
 - Mike Pope has completed wiring for new cascade system at fire station #2
 - New printer, copier and fax purchased by Chief Harrison along with the ink and paper
 - Old training records stored for future reference
 - New recruitment binders implemented for 2013-2015

- Simplification of record keeping for the FAA audit
- Scheduled next external audit with Kevin Elmore for 2/15/13
- Foam testing passed annual testing
- Purple-K passed bi-annual testing
- Mobile radio installed in A-99 and three new walkie talkies purchased
- Attended a meeting at City Hall in reference to new Tower being built at the Airport

2013 Goals

Operations

From an Operations standpoint the following goals have been set for 2013:

- Pursue officer development at all levels: Fire fighters will trust and follow strong, capable leaders
 - Seek out improved communications, ie. Radios, IT, laptops, Ipads, etc. These are tools that can improve our capabilities and enhance our safety and ability to pre-plan facilities
 - Take measures to improve staffing levels
 - Replace/hire fire fighters lost through attrition
 - Increase minimum manpower to four personnel per engine/station
 - Budget better for rank pay and implement incentive pay raises for all tech certifications
 - Clarify comp time computing rates (what qualifies for straight time versus time and one half per FLSA)
 - Try to come closer to adhering to established standards like NFPA 1710. This all has a direct impact on firefighter safety which, in turn, translates into the safety of the public we serve
 - Move medic class education to the forefront to help us obtain much needed staffing levels for ALS providership
-
- Enhance our relationship with Columbus Municipal Airport and consider all ARFF support we can offer our businesses and recreational flying community

- Offer a broad spectrum of training opportunities and consider the possibility of a regional training facility that could lead to a revenue generating operation
- Continue to be involved in all aspects of daily operations
- Explore Firehouse software training/record keeping/reporting capabilities
- Install updated wall maps of all still areas in each station
- Laminate still area maps for all equipment
- Update Street Directory guides for all equipment
- Purchase a tablet computer for Battalion One
- Develop an Officer's Manual for Station #1 (for shift consistency)
- Work on overtime roster simplification (reshuffle by station, use texting software)
- Implement/refine Comp Time/EP Time reporting system
- Evaluate/upgrade station exterior speaker systems
- Evaluate/upgrade helmet accountability system
- Cross train with other agencies
- Implement Technical Rescue (Rope system)
- Increase general computer knowledge
- Have the administration take an operations class
- Develop action plans for the Haz Mat team
- Develop actions for the Water Rescue team

Public Information

The 2013 Goals of the Public Information Department includes:

- Continue to get Columbus Fire Department out to the public
- Find new Idea's for Fire Prevention Projects
- Receive training for Arson Investigation at the National Fire Academy
- Obtain training on computer software such as Windows, Excel, Power Point and photography
- Find means, be it grants or other avenues, to get funds for children's fire safety projects.

In order to better serve the Department in the future, a budget for fire prevention and education needs to be addressed. This would significantly reduce the strain of obtaining much needed materials with which to work. The lessons we present to the children would be much more effective if we just had the monies available for better visual aids. Our contact with the public, and their children, at functions such as church functions, and community events would be better served.

Training

2013 looks to be a promising year for the CFD training Division. The CFD training division has had a significant increase in its training budget.

Training goals include completion of the Technical Rescue Awareness certification for the entire department. Completion of National Incident Management Systems courses 100, 200, 300, 400, 700 and 800. Conduct department wide Electrical Vehicle Response training, Technical Rescue operations and Technician Level training in various technical disciplines.

Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics, Firefighter Rescue and Survival. Pumping Apparatus Driver/Operator. Add to the training tower a stand pipe and sprinkler system. Passenger vehicle fire training prop, improvement of SCBA confidence course. Vehicle extrication training area, Hazardous Materials training props.

A major goal for several years is the construction of a Public Safety Training Building. This building would consist of a large class room that can be divided to small units, apparatus parking inside, Male/Female restroom locker room and shower facility. Office space for Fire and Police education division, storage and small kitchen facility. Additional storage space that could be used by the Cheer Fund program.

In closing it will be another busy year for CFD training division, but our success depends on the communication, coordination and cooperation of all involved. We are stronger as a team than we are as individuals.

Fire Prevention Bureau

For 2013 the Fire Prevention Bureau has set forth the following goals:

- Increase knowledge and proficiency in arson investigation and inspections through education
- Continue and or exceed the efforts of public education to the citizens of our city
- Search for new ideas in fire prevention to educate our citizens
- Utilizing new technology to enhance efficiency in my department
- Receive training on the new technology along with computer software
- Try to inspect more existing buildings with the help of the PIO
- Work to establish a City Ordinance to enforce the International Fire Code
- Work to establish a City Ordinance for Knox Boxes for businesses
- Continue fire extinguisher training for city businesses
- Purchase a trailer to permanently mount fire simulator for fire extinguisher training

Mechanical

For 2013 the Fire Prevention Bureau has set forth the following goals:

- Replace some of the fire apparatus
- Obtain some lifting equipment and safety stands for fire apparatus
- Attend some schooling/training, when possible, on fire apparatus
- Get the shop organized
- Replace some of the administration vehicles
- Like to see and get more PR for fire safety trailer and Tilly
- Would like to find a close location to store snow plows
- Would like to get new coloring books for fire safety trailer
- Would like to separate the Columbus Fire Department Garage from the Columbus Police Department Garage

A.R.F.F.

The future looks bright for the Columbus Municipal Airport and the City of Columbus Fire Department. We always strive to deliver the best possible service to the community and the residents that we have sworn to serve and protect. The ARFF's 2013 goals include the following:

- Make every effort to be actively involved with the Columbus Municipal Airport and ARFF
- Continue building upon our relationships with Airport employees, pilots, maintenance, grounds, administration, military, corporate, guests and visitors who frequent our Community
- Revisit Airport Director Payne's suggestion for acquiring a liaison with ARFF
- Consider some type of position to oversee the ARFF Division and work directly with the FAA
- Maintain continuity at Fire Station #2 where ARFF is housed and specialized
- Improve our education and training evolutions for ARFF
- Revisit having mobile simulators come to our training grounds for live burns for recertification
- Look into ways of responding A-99 with direct route to Airport property by adding access road
- Gain support for a majority to grow the ARFF division for the future
- Station #2 should be receiving NOTAMS
- Continue talks regarding our mutual aid agreements with Mr. Payne and administration
- Consider purchasing a new refractory meter for Station #2 to test foam on A-14

