

# Wauwatosa Fire Department Annual Report 2020



*Proudly Serving  
Since 1898*





## Letter from the Chief



2020...I could probably end this letter right there and people would understand what we faced. Between COVID-19, social justice/civil unrest, and a highly contested election it was, what I hope, one of the most challenging times of my career. There is an old proverb stating "Necessity is the mother of invention" and it certainly proved to be true for the fire service. Every day a new issue arose, and our team figured out a way to overcome it.

During this pandemic our shared service partnerships have once again proven invaluable. Six units (3 paramedic units & 3 SUVs) were put in service and dedicated to the pandemic response. These units were staffed with personnel from every department in Milwaukee County. We turned our Station 52 into a dedicated COVID station to help isolate potential infections. This resulted in our Engine 52 being housed in a Milwaukee Fire Station along with one of their engines (see the cover photo). The initial thoughts were that will never work but, in the end, these crews bonded and performed flawlessly.

I could go on and on about the amazing thing our firefighters and staff do on a daily basis. Hopefully this report gives you a brief snapshot of the diverse levels of service we provide. We hope that 2021 is a better year and we can all get back to "normal" or whatever that means.

Jim Case  
Fire Chief





# 2020 Significant Events

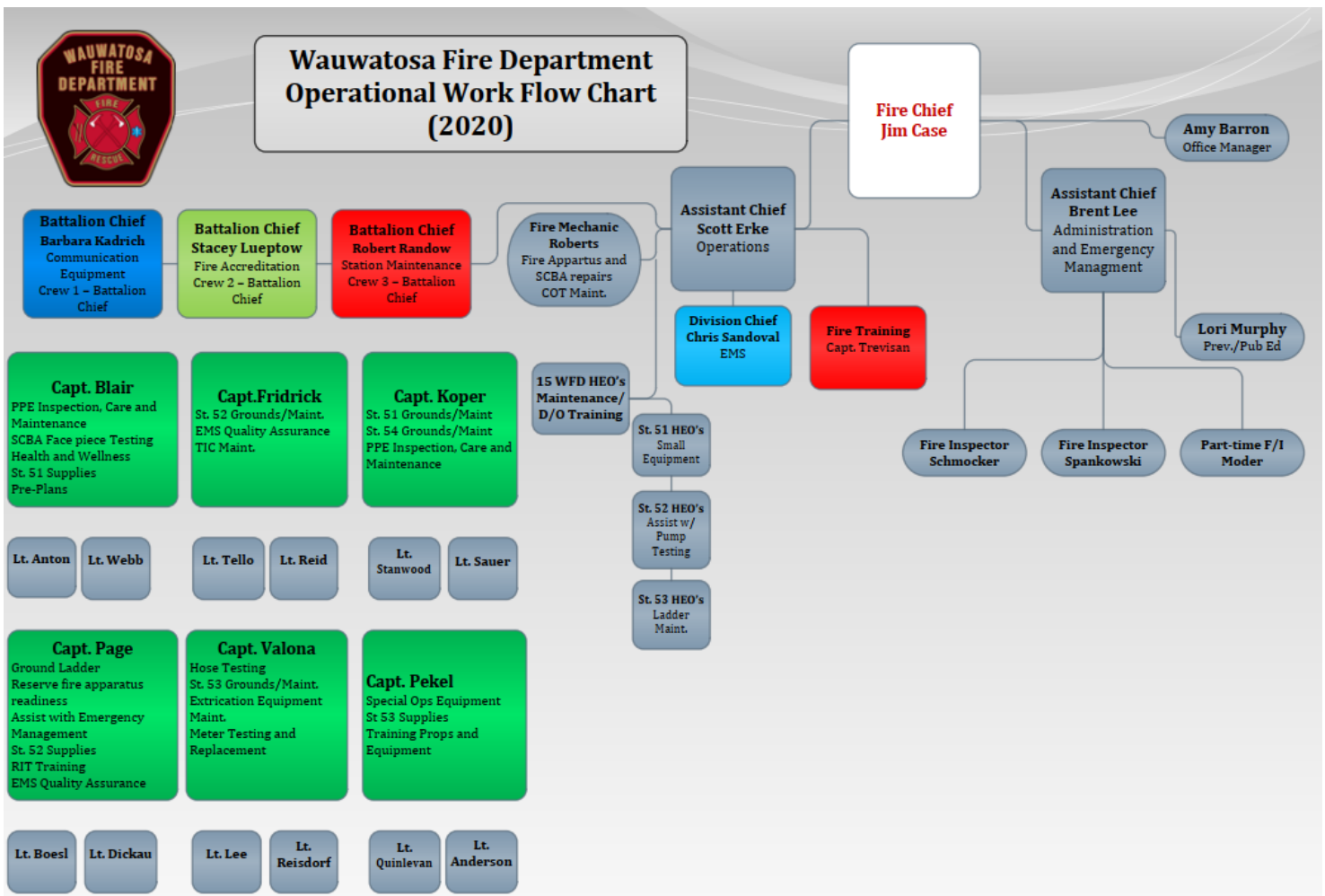
- Celebrated our 122nd year of service
- Maintained service delivery during one of the largest pandemics in history
- Reorganized EMS delivery by placing paramedics and equipment on all apparatus
- Hired 11 new firefighters including 5 from our intern program
- Implemented a collaborative program with the Wauwatosa Health Department to research lift assist only calls
- Supported local and regional law enforcement with our Tactical EMS program
- Managed two large-scale activations of the city Emergency Operations Center
- Fire Chief Case elected to the Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association Board
- Aggressively sourced personal protective equipment to enhance safety of our team and customers
- Assisted city staff during the presidential election process including personnel and logistical support
- Reduced one Firefighter position due to budgetary constraints





# 2020 Staffing

| Fire                           |               |                     |               |                |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Position Description           | 2019 FTE      | 2019 Base Positions | 2020 FTE      | 2019-20 Change |
| Administrative Support Special | 1.00          | 1                   | 1.00          | -              |
| Assistant Chief                | 2.00          | 2                   | 2.00          | -              |
| Battalion Chief                | 2.00          | 2                   | 1.00          | (1.00)         |
| Code Specialist                | 2.57          | 2                   | 2.57          | -              |
| Deputy Chief                   | 3.00          | 3                   | 3.00          | -              |
| Fire Captain                   | 6.00          | 6                   | 7.00          | 1.00           |
| Fire Chief                     | 1.00          | 1                   | 1.00          | -              |
| Fire Lieutenant                | 12.00         | 12                  | 12.00         | -              |
| Fire Mechanic                  | 1.00          | 1                   | 1.00          | -              |
| Firefighter                    | 57.00         | 57                  | 56.00         | (1.00)         |
| Motor Pump Operator            | 15.00         | 15                  | 15.00         | -              |
| Office Assistant               | 1.00          | 1                   | 1.00          | -              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>103.57</b> | <b>103.00</b>       | <b>102.57</b> | <b>(1.00)</b>  |







# 2020 Adopted Budget

## Fire Department Dept #221

### Expenditures

| 2016<br>Actual    | 2017<br>Actual    | 2018<br>Actual    | 2019<br>Adopted<br>Budget | 2019<br>Estimated | Acct #    | Name                      | 2020<br>Budget    | % of<br>Total |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 8,634,097         | 8,801,740         | 8,943,449         | 9,057,548                 | 9,057,548         | 5100      | Wages                     | 9,192,628         | 63.5%         |
| 3,837,834         | 3,877,749         | 3,912,482         | 3,981,451                 | 3,981,451         | 5195      | Fringe Benefits           | 4,231,376         | 29.2%         |
| 268,711           | 298,524           | 360,490           | 336,690                   | 336,690           | 5500-5520 | Internal Charges          | 376,226           | 2.6%          |
| 598,631           | 566,510           | 669,795           | 683,330                   | 718,182           | 5200-5900 | Operating Expenditures    | 683,023           | 4.7%          |
| -                 | -                 | 18,753            | 1                         | 1                 | 5950-5970 | Capital Outlay            | -                 | 0.0%          |
| -                 | -                 | 66                | -                         | -                 | 5980-010  | Remodel Station Restrooms | -                 | 0.0%          |
| 3,929             | 13,116            | 515               | -                         | -                 | 5980-015  | Expend from Donations     | -                 | 0.0%          |
| 8,865             | 5,014             | 18,984            | -                         | -                 | 5980-050  | EMT Grant                 | -                 | 0.0%          |
| 1,300             | -                 | -                 | -                         | -                 | 5980-120  | DOT Mitigation Grant      | -                 | 0.0%          |
| -                 | -                 | 76,248            | 20,000                    | 20,000            | 5980-900  | One-Time Levy Reduction S | -                 | 0.0%          |
| <b>13,353,367</b> | <b>13,562,653</b> | <b>14,000,782</b> | <b>14,079,020</b>         | <b>14,113,872</b> |           | <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>14,483,253</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

\*Note - Most annual increases are based on personnel costs related to represented employee contracts. We have faced levy reduction targets every year for the last 10 years.

### Revenues

| 2016<br>Actual    | 2017<br>Actual    | 2018<br>Actual    | 2019<br>Adopted<br>Budget | 2019<br>Estimated | Acct #       | Name                        | 2020<br>Budget    | % of<br>Total |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 33,000            | 33,000            | 33,000            | 33,000                    | 33,000            | 101-4200     | Hotel/Motel Room Tax        | 33,000            | 0.2%          |
| 191,321           | 207,548           | 215,407           | 200,000                   | 233,232           | 221-4200     | Fire Insurance Tax          | 210,000           | 1.4%          |
| -                 | -                 | 110,919           | -                         | 1,344             | 231-4210-221 | Fed Assistance to FF        | -                 | 0.0%          |
| 8,673             | -                 | -                 | -                         | -                 | 241-4410     | DOT Mitigation - Fire       | -                 | 0.0%          |
| 8,955             | 5,014             | 18,984            | 10,000                    | 10,000            | 241-4435     | EMT Grant                   | 10,000            | 0.1%          |
| 40,243            | 35,474            | 24,057            | 35,000                    | 35,000            | 321-4400     | Fire Alarm System           | 30,000            | 0.2%          |
| -                 | 110               | 695               | 350                       | 350               | 321-4420     | Fireworks                   | 350               | 0.0%          |
| 124,524           | 128,639           | 131,322           | 125,000                   | 130,000           | 321-4430     | Fire Inspection Fees        | 130,000           | 0.9%          |
| 3,095             | 9,168             | 3,624             | -                         | 1,993             | 521-4165     | Medical Support-Milw SWAT   | -                 | 0.0%          |
| 27,437            | 17,455            | 14,428            | 20,000                    | 20,000            | 521-4200     | Fire Department Fees        | 16,500            | 0.1%          |
| 578               | -                 | -                 | -                         | -                 | 521-4220     | Fire Inspection-Undergrd TK | -                 | 0.0%          |
| 1,489,397         | 1,433,113         | 1,546,431         | 1,700,000                 | 1,480,000         | 521-4300-100 | Ambulance Fees              | 1,480,000         | 10.2%         |
| 60,544            | 80,892            | 116,807           | 97,850                    | 97,850            | 721-4200     | County - Paramedics         | 97,850            | 0.7%          |
| 1,327,754         | 1,362,785         | 1,392,137         | 1,392,143                 | 1,433,180         | 721-4220     | County-Fire Protection SVC  | 1,463,843         | 10.1%         |
| 15,000            | 30,850            | 31,514            | 32,304                    | 32,304            | 821-4121     | Cell Tower Revenue          | 33,274            | 0.2%          |
| 15,305            | 560               | 1,235             | 500                       | 2,110             | 841-4140     | Contributions-Fire Dept.    | -                 | 0.0%          |
| 2,002,703         | 1,831,314         | 2,101,799         | 2,195,091                 | 2,648,632         |              | Unallocated Revenues        | 2,361,169         | 16.3%         |
| 8,004,838         | 8,386,731         | 8,258,423         | 8,237,782                 | 7,954,877         |              | Tax Levy                    | 8,617,267         | 59.5%         |
| <b>13,353,367</b> | <b>13,562,653</b> | <b>14,000,782</b> | <b>14,079,020</b>         | <b>14,113,872</b> |              | <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>14,483,253</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |



# Administrative Staff



Amy Barron  
Office Manager



Lori Murphy  
Fire Education  
Coordinator

The administrative staff is responsible for managing and assisting with customer service, scheduling, budgeting, recruitment, and overall coordination. We often say that Amy and Lori are the glue that holds our department together.







# Operations Division



The operations division is managed by Assistant Chief Scott Erke and is focused on the emergency response aspects of our department. This includes Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services, and Fleet Services.

Scott Erke

Assistant Chief of Operations



Division Chief  
Chris Sandoval  
EMS



Battalion Chief  
Barb Kadrach  
Crew 1



Captain  
Kurt Trevisan  
Fire Training



Battalion Chief  
Stacey Lueptow  
Crew 2



Joe Roberts  
Fleet Maintenance



Battalion Chief  
Bob Randow  
Crew 3



# 2020 Call Statistics



146

## Fire Calls

(Building fires, car fires, trash fires)



766

## Hazardous Condition Calls

(Gas leaks, wires down, carbon monoxide, all other calls)



308

## Motor Vehicle Crashes

7498

## Total Calls



1857

## Service Calls

(Lift assists, mutual aid, home lock outs)



572

## Fire Alarms



3849

## Medical Calls

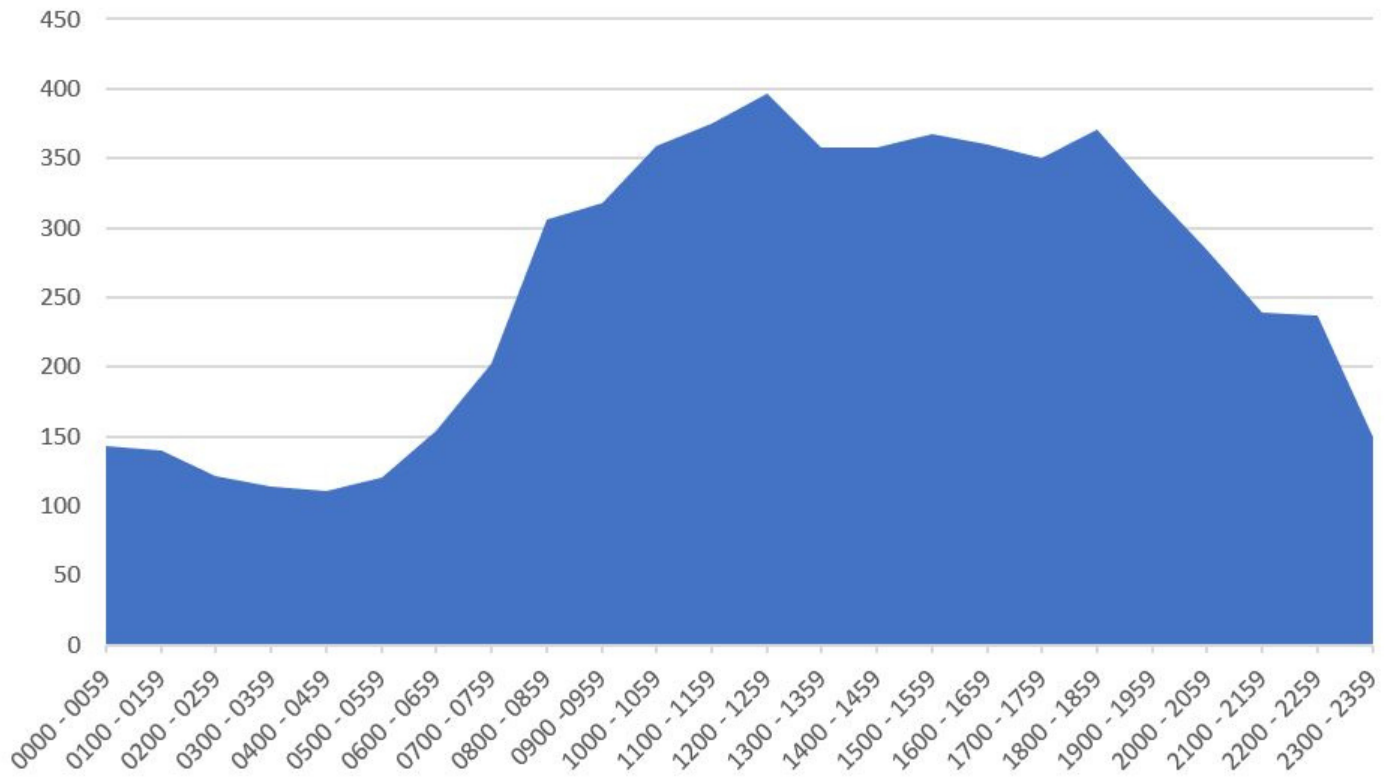
(All basic and advanced life support responses)



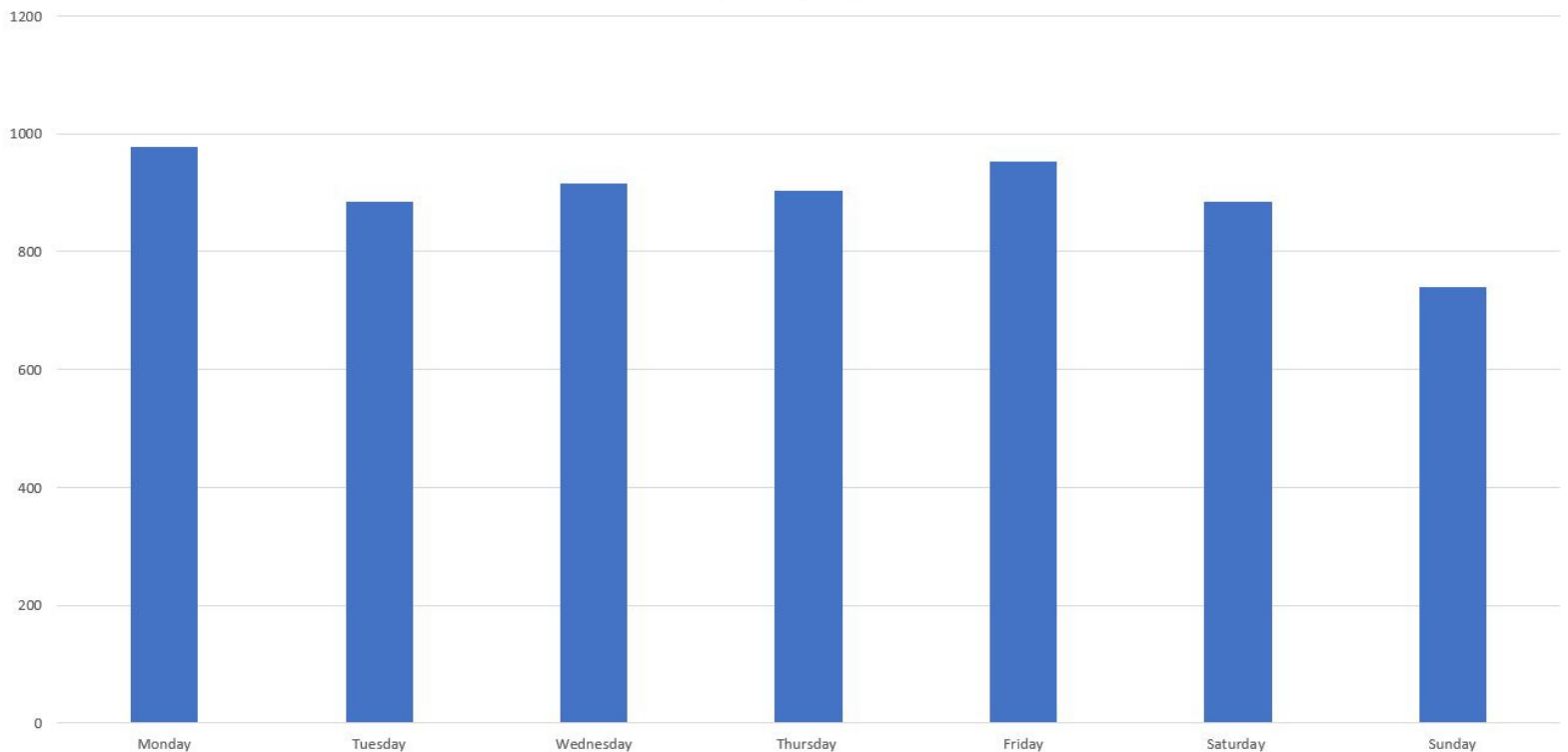


# 2020 Call Statistics

2020 responses by time of day



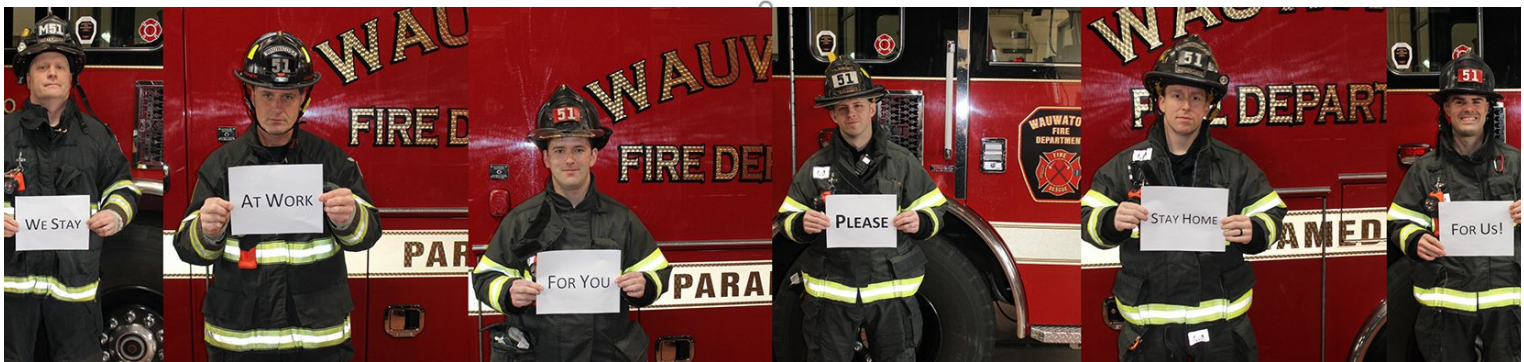
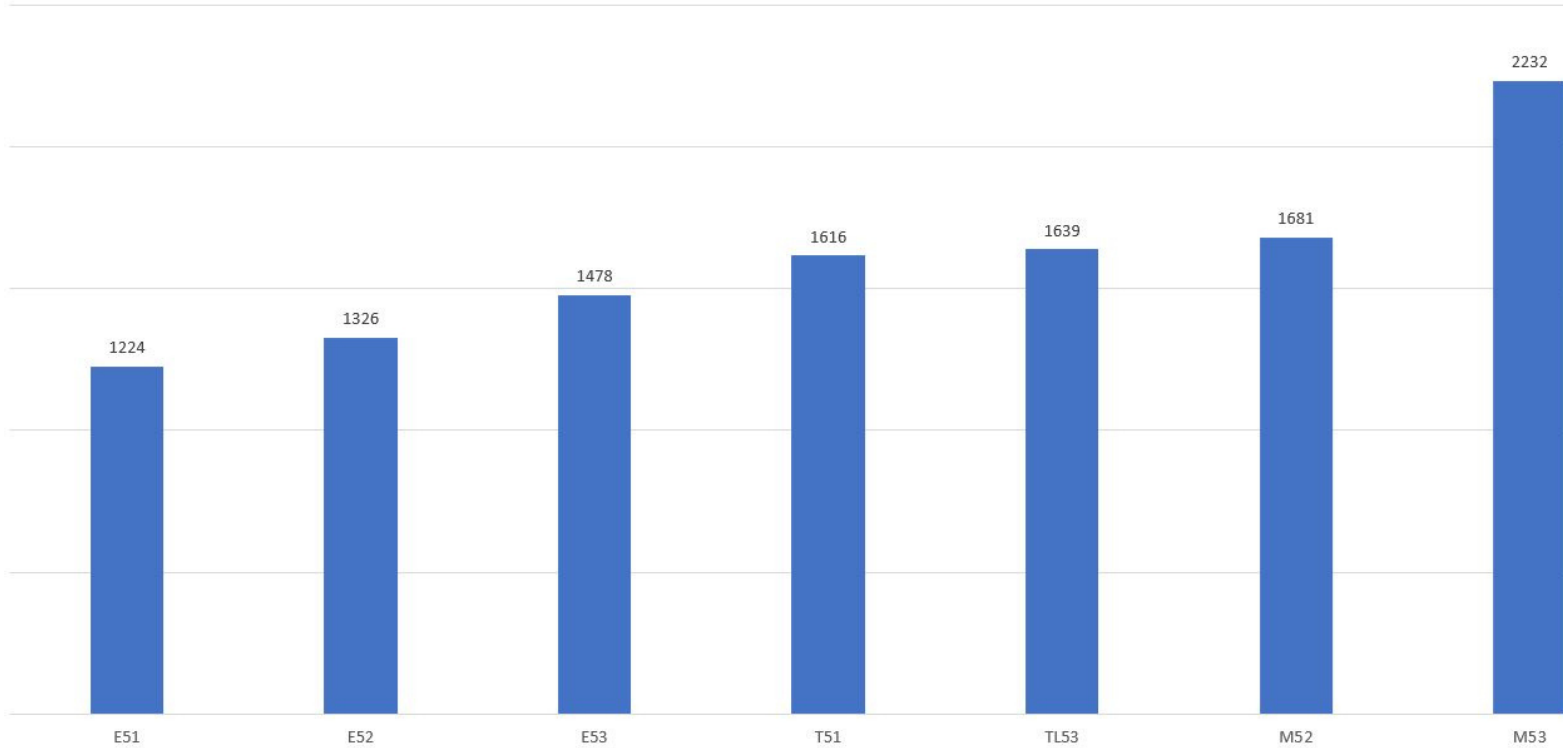
2020 Responses by Day of Week





# 2020 Call Statistics

2020 Responses by Unit





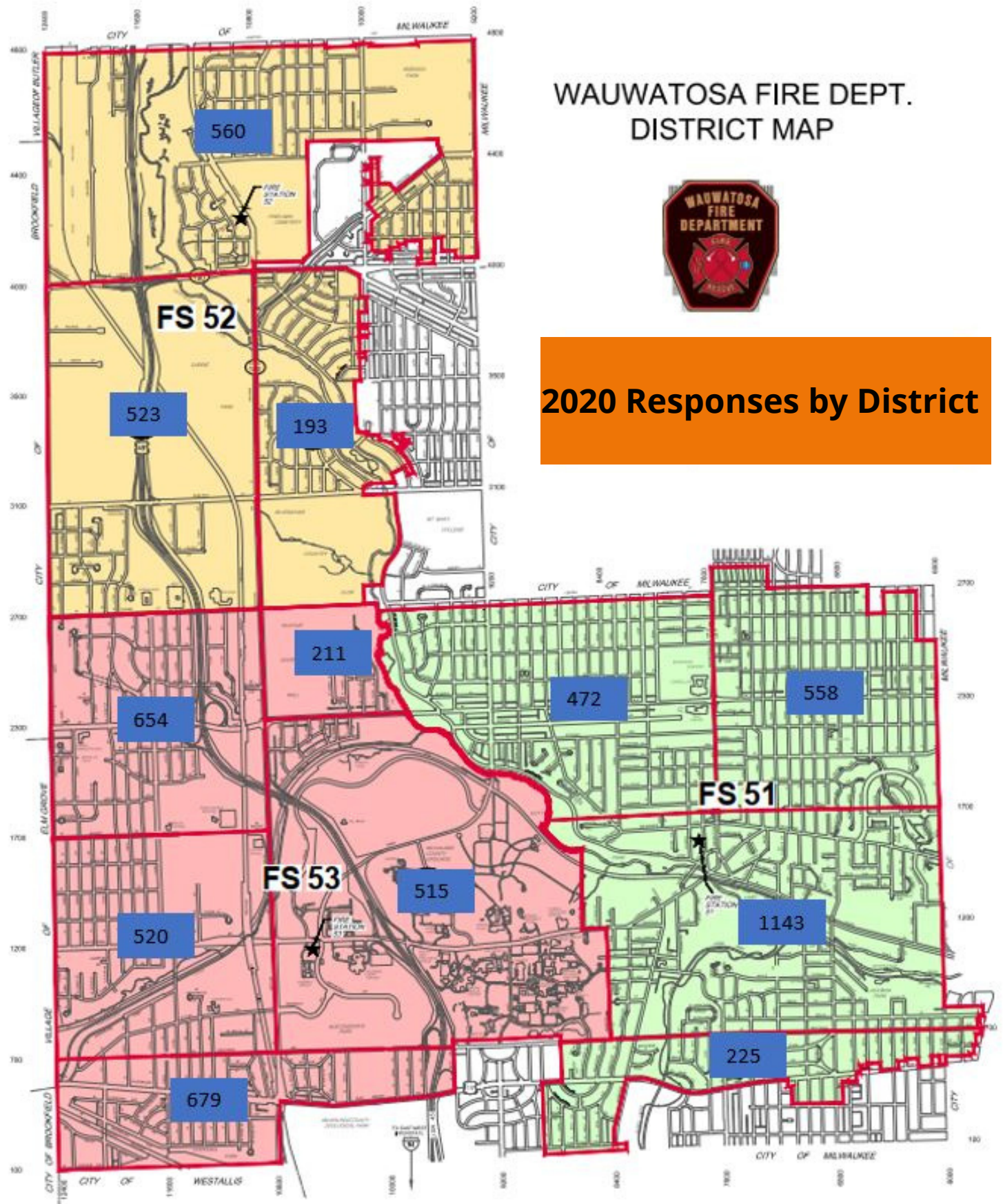


# 2020 Call Statistics

## WAUWATOSA FIRE DEPT. DISTRICT MAP



## 2020 Responses by District







# Bureau of Community Risk Reduction



The CRR division is managed by Assistant Chief Brent Lee and is focused on fire prevention, education, inspection, and community relations.

Brent Lee  
Assistant Chief of Administration



Fire Inspector  
Dan Schmocker



Fire Inspector  
Doug Spankowski



Fire Inspector  
Tom Moder



Community Risk Reduction Task Force  
of Milwaukee County Fire Departments







# 2020 Community Risk Reduction

\*Note - Due to COVID, we were forced to cancel most training, education, and public relation events

## 2020 By The Numbers

11 free smoke detectors installed

3220 fire inspections Performed

33 car seats installed

2483 citizens enrolled in PulsePoint







# 2020 Personnel Actions

## PROMOTIONS

Lieutenant Ryan Becker

Lieutenant Brian Wojciechowski

HEO Ryan Karas

## RETIREMENTS

Lieutenant Gary Webb

HEO Jim George

Firefighter Mike Liebherr

Firefighter Chris Schultz

## NEW HIRES

Firefighter Shea Abernathy

Firefighter Jacob Erke

Firefighter Bradley Hafemann

Firefighter Ashley Hoffmann

Firefighter/Paramedic Nathan Jost

Firefighter Nakoa Moonblood

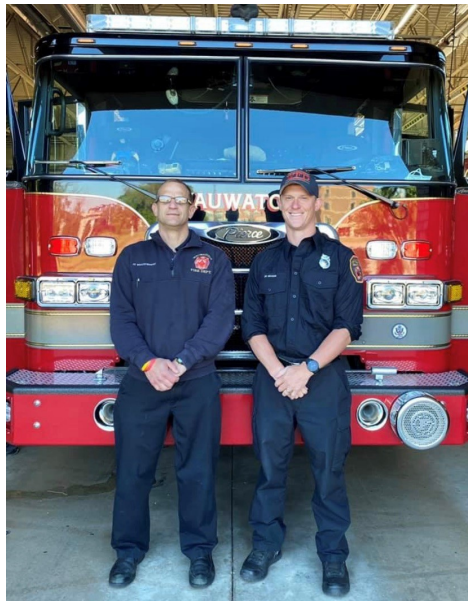
Firefighter Nash Niesen

Firefighter Nicholas Paoli

Firefighter Alex Randow

Firefighter Alex Smith

Firefighter Benjamin Tejada







# WFD In Action



Scott Carnahan



© Peter Zuzga





## Mission Statement

The Wauwatosa Fire Department is dedicated to providing the highest quality customer service. We will protect lives and property through fire protection, emergency medical services, rescue, education, and disaster management. We will treat our customers with compassion and respect and we will strive for excellence in everything we do.

## Vision Statement

The Wauwatosa Fire Department is an all hazards public safety organization that exists to keep the community of Wauwatosa safe. We will maintain a high level of preparedness through intense training, strong leadership, and proven strategies applied by high quality personnel. We value a philosophy of lifelong learning and we will embrace best practices.

## Core Values

Integrity Respect Honor Courage Commitment