



Pride, Honor, Integrity

GOSHEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

2022 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT



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Message from the Chief



It is my pleasure to present our Goshen Fire Department year-end report for 2022. 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 2022.

GFD ended 2022 with 5,491 calls for service, another call volume record and I don't believe our calls for service show any sign of slowing. In January 2022 we assumed fire call response for Elkhart Township and the transition has gone well. As our need for housing increases Goshen continues to grow at a steady pace and all of our divisions; Fire/Rescue, EMS, Inspection & Prevention, Training and Public Education have worked diligently to keep up.

Assistant Chief of Training Steffen Schrock worked with Goshen Engineering in developing "Phase 2" of our training facility. Assistant Chief of EMS Bruce Nethercutt is developing processes and policies for efficiencies for the EMS Division and our Inspection & Prevention Division, led by Chief Inspector Scott Thomas is working through plan reviews and inspections of various facilities.

GFD continues to work with our response partners at the local, regional and state level. Assistant Chief of Training Schrock is holding monthly drills at our training facility to help build the skills of our local responders and build the relationships that are so critical in our service. GFD through Chief Schrock partnered with the LEPC, Goshen Police, Goshen Utilities, Goshen Schools, Elkhart County EMA and the Boys and Girls Club for a tabletop Hazmat exercise to test our response capabilities. In 2023, the tabletop exercise experience will then become a functional hands-on exercise with the same entities to test our lessons learned and our policy/strategic changes in our response.

Assistant Chief of Admin/Operations, Anthony Powell coordinates all of the divisions mentioned above and credit for this report should go to Chief Powell for his efforts in bringing this report into focus for your review.

In 2023 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.

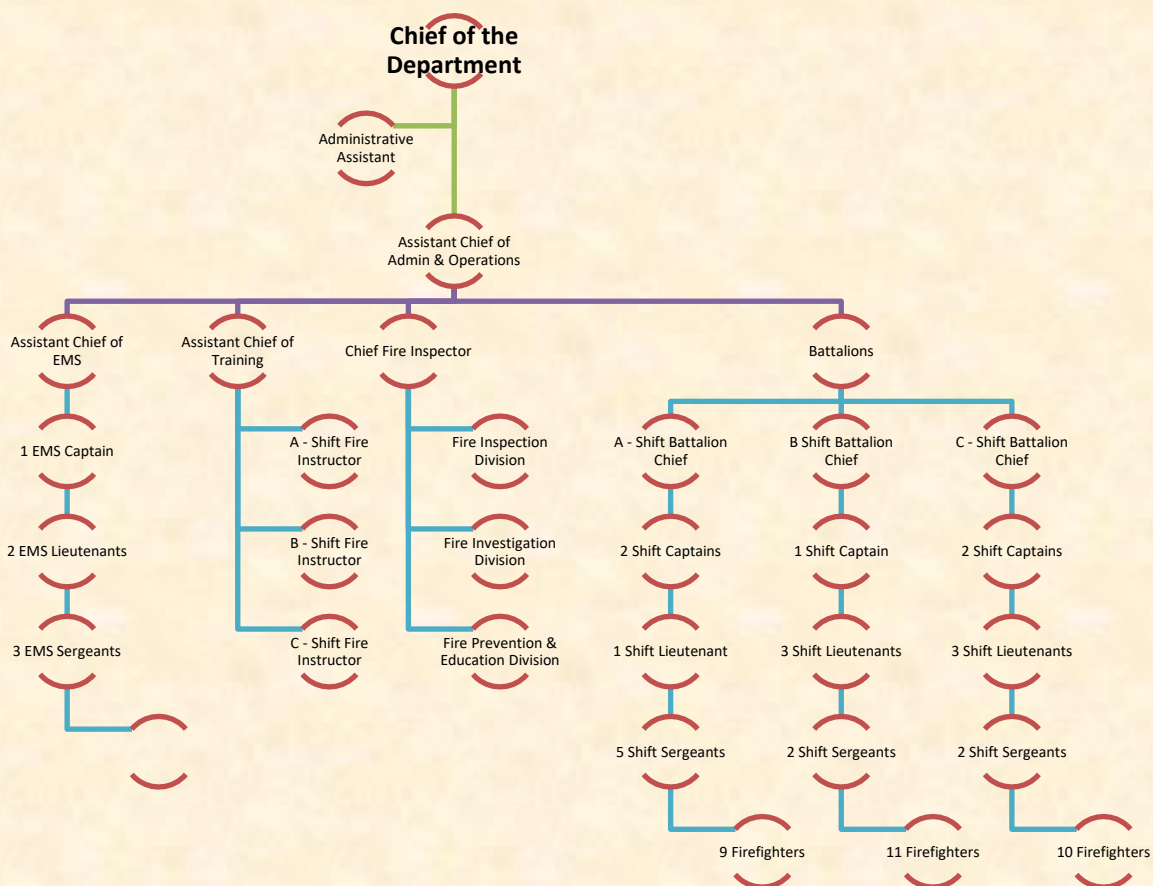
Goshen Firefighter Oath of Office

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





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 \$11,268,630 up from \$887,300 in 2021. The percent of property value saved in structure fires during 2022 was 72.6% compared to 93.6% in 2021.

The total dollar amount of property saved in 2022 was \$41,075,230.



Operations

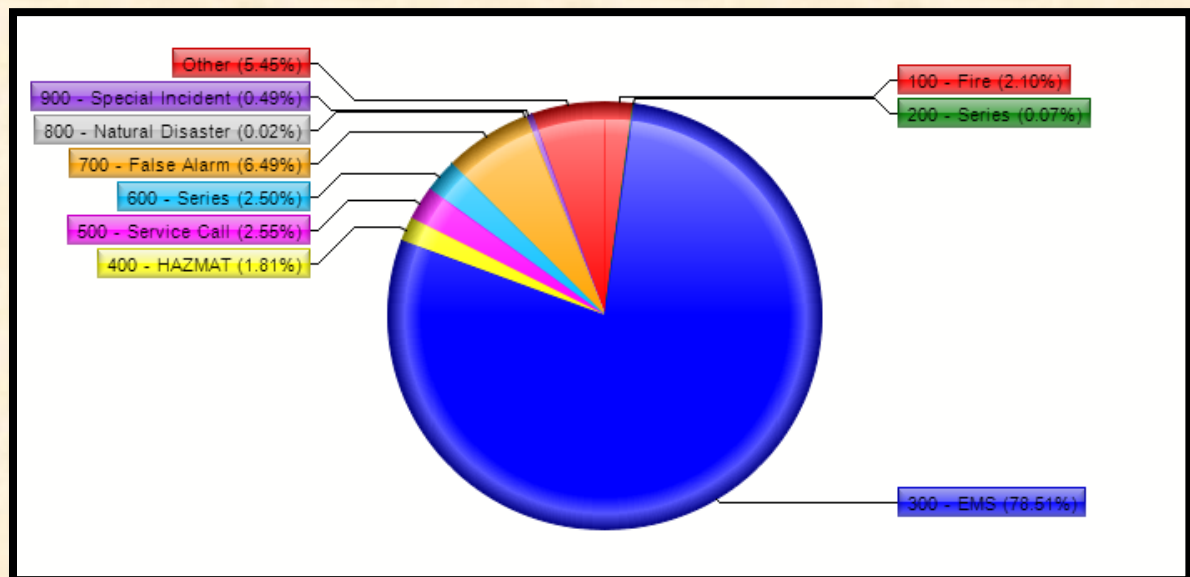
➤ Suppression – Assistant Chief of Admin and Operations Anthony Powell

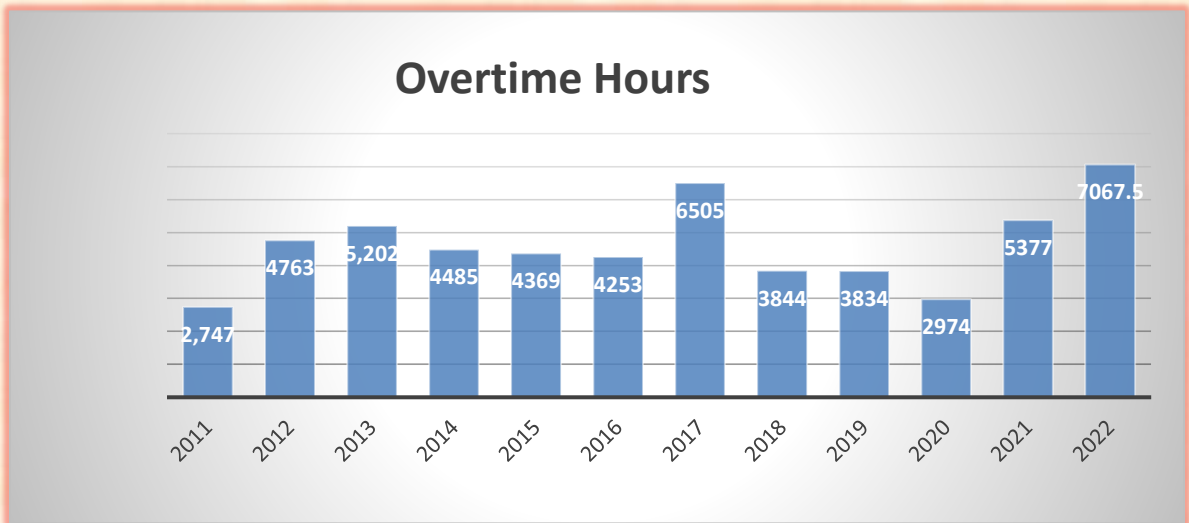
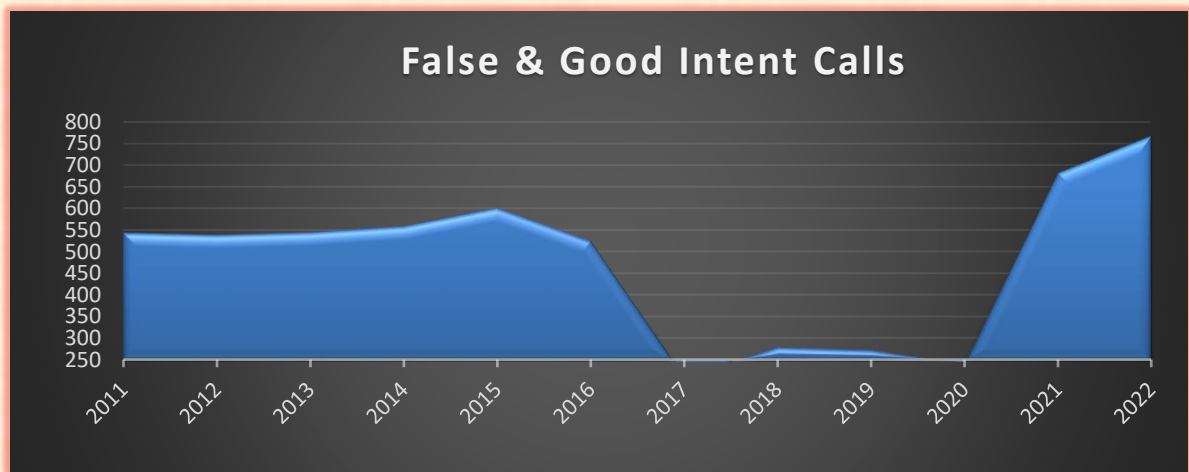
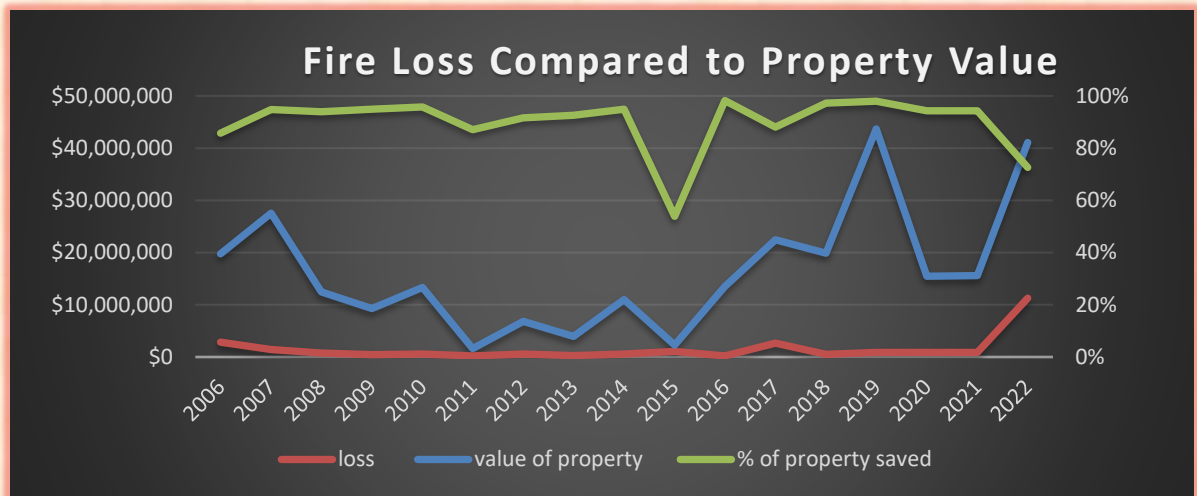
In Table #1, shows the types of calls for service, overtime hours, average response times, estimated fire loss/property value, percent of property saved and average calls per day.

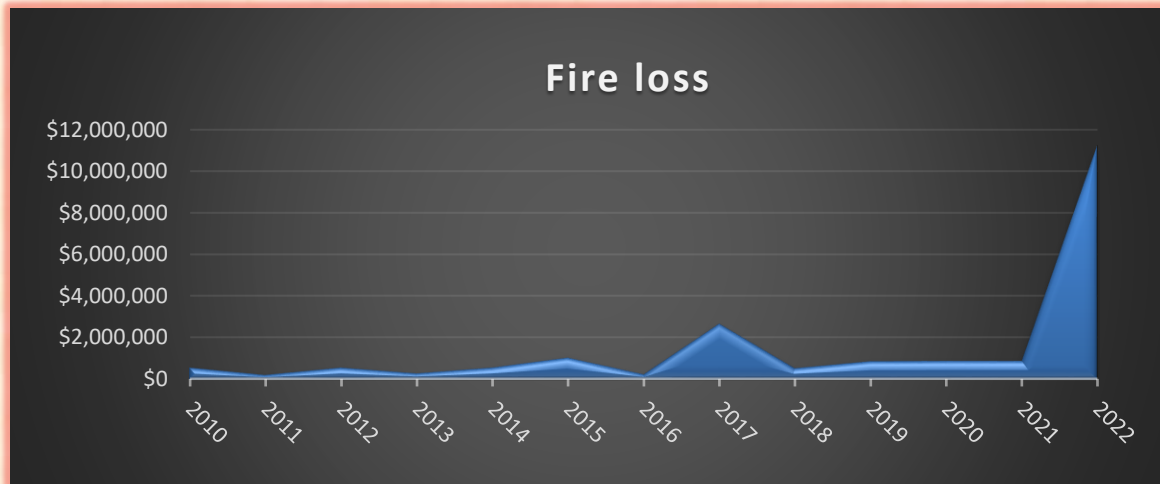
In Table #2, illustrates the type of emergencies that the fire department responded to during 2022. Furthermore, the type of call is indicated by month.

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		
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	6:46	0:42 more
Value of Property	\$14,561,835	\$13,847,500	\$41,075,230	\$28,380,308	\$12,694,922 less
Value of Fire Loss	\$886,265	\$887,300	\$11,268,630	\$6,269,190	\$4,999,440 less
Percentage of Property Saved	94%	93.6%	72.6%		
Calls Per Day	12.4	13.9	15	14	1 Less

Table #2	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Motor Vehicle Crash	10	8	20	21	20	20	31	20	22	28	23	13	236
Vehicle Extrication	2	0	1	2	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	10
Medical Calls	298	262	253	314	281	314	325	357	347	366	332	345	3797
Fire Alarms	14	15	19	24	29	22	24	34	22	32	29	26	290
Cancelled Enroute Calls	13	14	27	25	27	29	38	33	25	35	20	29	313
Structure Fire	2	4	4	4	2	2	1	3	2	0	2	1	27
Rubbish Fire	1	1	8	4	9	2	0	1	5	3	2	6	42
Vehicle Fire	2	1	0	3	3	2	0	4	1	1	2	4	23
Natural Gas Leak	3	3	4	7	3	4	6	6	7	3	6	0	52
CO Incident	3	1	0	3	1	5	0	4	0	1	2	4	24
Service Calls	8	5	14	9	10	13	14	8	14	27	7	6	135



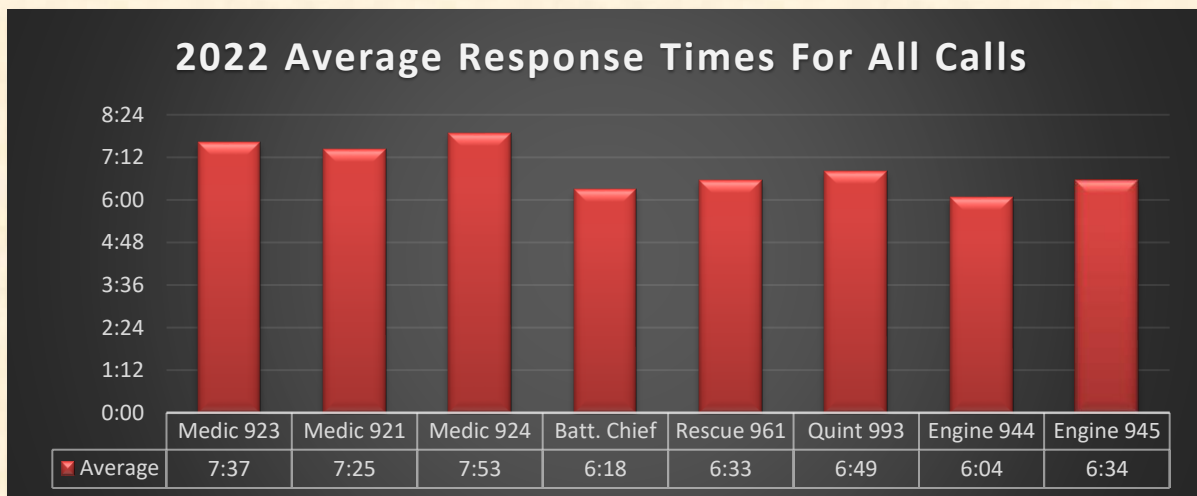




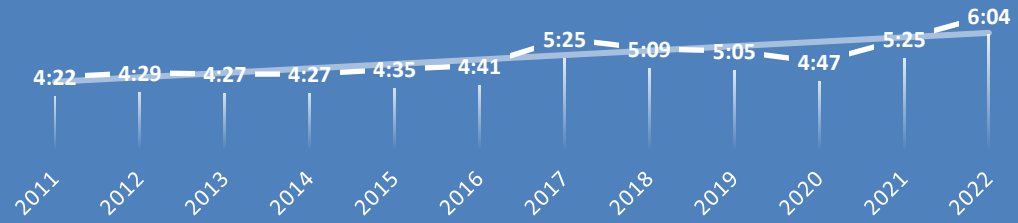
RESPONSE TIME BREAKDOWN FOR 2022	
Mutual Aid Provided to Townships	
Average Response Time from Dispatch to Arrival at Scene:	10 min 40 sec
Average Response Time from Our Dispatch to Arrival at Scene for EMS Emergent Calls (Primary Units Only)	
Central Station:	4 min 59 sec
Station 3:	4 min 53 sec
Station 4:	5 min 35 sec
Average Response Time from Our Dispatch to Arrival at Scene for FIRE Emergent Calls (Primary Units Only)	
Central Station:	5 min 06 sec
Station 3:	7 min 01 sec
Station 4:	5 min 16 sec
All Unit's Response Times for Every Call	
Average Response Time from Dispatch to Going En-route:	3 min 03 sec
First Arriving Unit's Response Time for Every Call	
Average Response Time from Dispatch to Going En-route:	1 min 43 sec
First Arriving Unit on Structure Fires	
Average Response Time from Dispatch to Arrival at Scene:	6 min 14 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	1 min 54 sec	4 min 47 sec
921	2 min 07 sec	5 min 41 sec
923	2 min 01 sec	5 min 30 sec
924	2 min 06 sec	6 min 17 sec
925	2 min 05 sec	5 min 50 sec
961	2 min 16 sec	5 min 37 sec
944	2 min 13 sec	5 min 44 sec
945	1 min 02 sec	3 min 01 sec
993	2 min 15 sec	5 min 48 sec

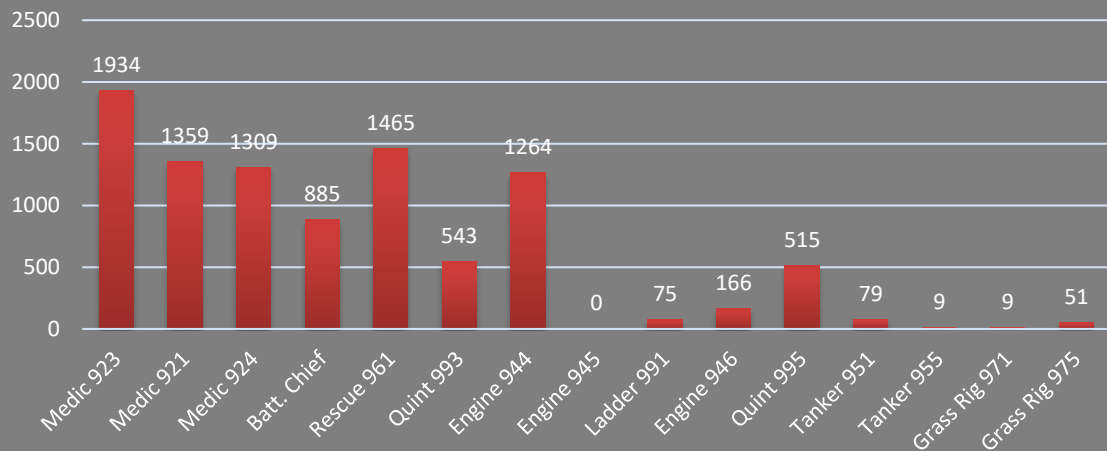
Apparatus Average Response Times for ALL Calls		
Apparatus Name	Dispatch Time to En-route	Dispatch Time to Arrival @ Scene
B9	1 min 43 sec	4 min 35 sec
921	2 min 00 sec	5 min 25 sec
923	1 min 51 sec	5 min 46 sec
924	1 min 49 sec	6 min 04 sec
925	1 min 52 sec	5 min 36 sec
961	1 min 39 sec	4 min 54 sec
944	1 min 23 sec	4 min 41 sec
945	1 min 31 sec	5 min 03 sec
993	1 min 43 sec	5 min 06 sec



AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME FIRE



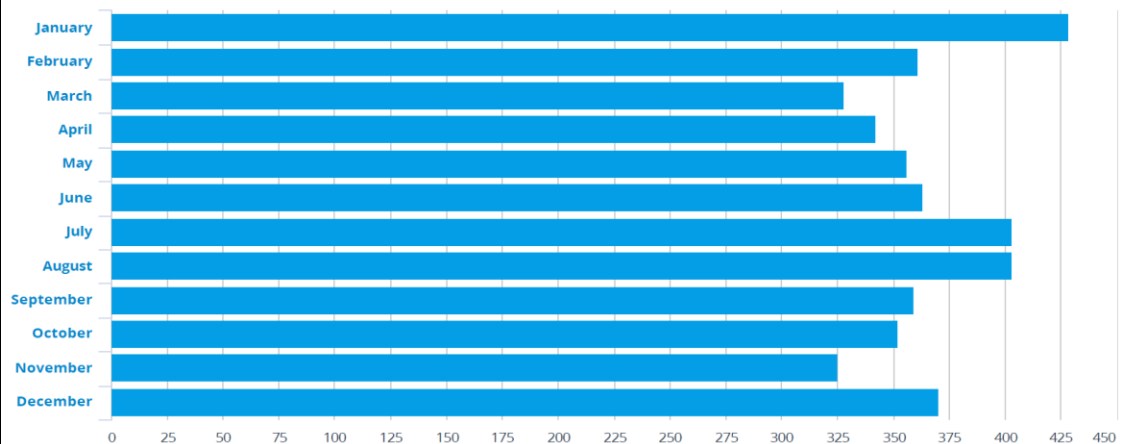
Responses 2022

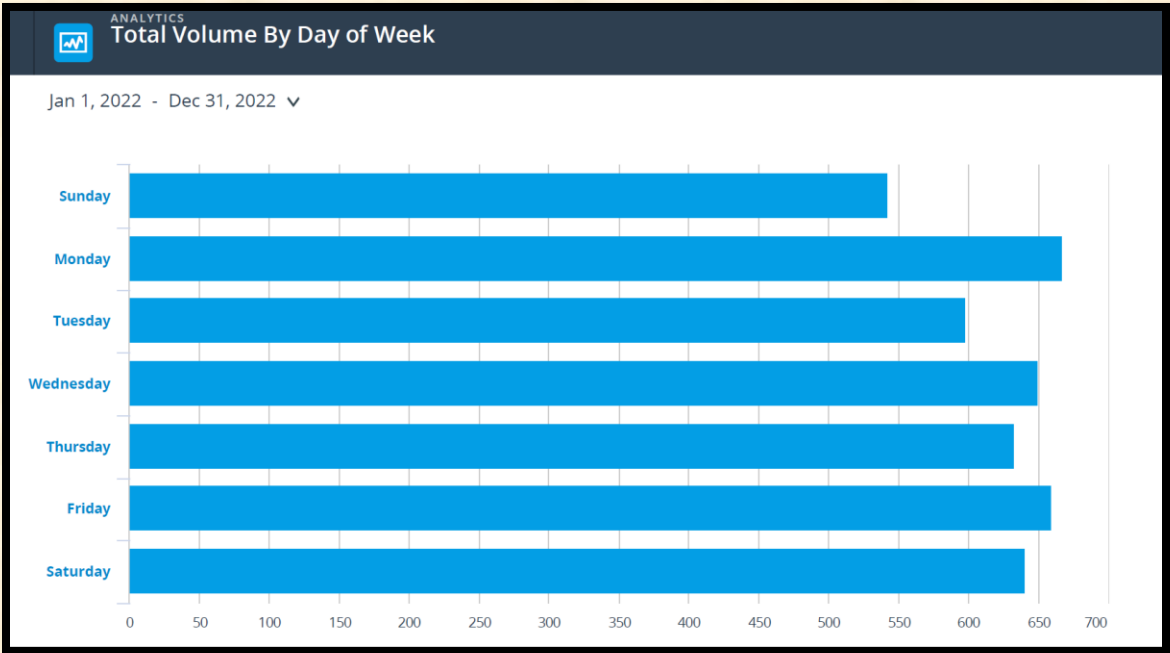
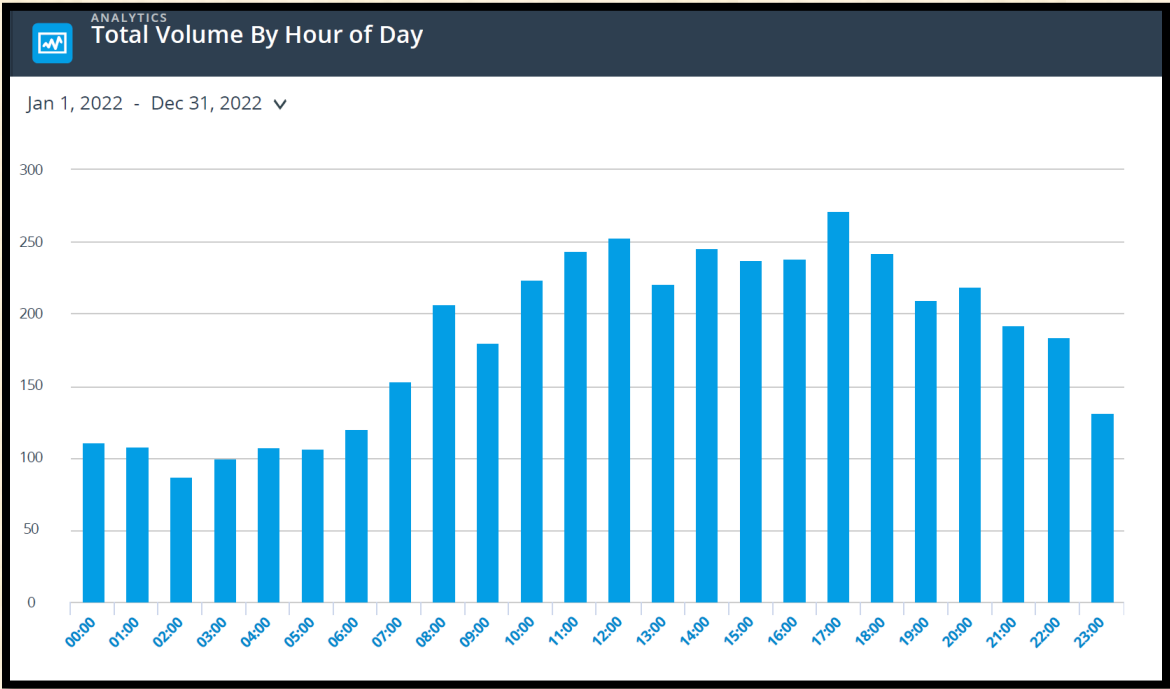


ANALYTICS

Total Volume By Month of Year

Jan 1, 2022 - Dec 31, 2022 ▼





➤ **Emergency Medical Services** – *Asst. Chief of EMS Bruce Nethercutt*

Division Officers: Captain Kit Castetter, Lieutenant Shane McKerchie, Lt. Andrew Priem, Sergeant Jon Weishaupt, Sgt. Lucas Mason and Sgt. Winston Lechlitner.

The number of calls the Fire Department responded to increased from last year's record of 5,101 to a new record of 5,491 calls. 4,317 of these calls were EMS related. This is a drop of 89 calls from last year. In 2022, EMS related calls made up 78% of the department's total call volume.

Medical supply issues continued to be a problem throughout the year. Shortages of many supplies and increasing costs were addressed. Lt. Shane McKerchie developed a multi-layered system of vendors to address supply shortages. An increase in our budget's supply line covered the inflated supply costs and no additional funds were needed for supplies.

The 12-lead problem with our ECG monitors continued to harass our medics. The ongoing problem of obtaining diagnostic quality 12-leads was happening more frequently. This was despite ongoing efforts with Stryker Corporation in finding and fixing the problem. In March, the EMS Division began to collect and analyze information about new ECG monitors from various monitor companies. We were able to decide on Philips Tempus ECG monitors and the purchase was approved by the Board of Works. Delivery of the new monitors will be early in 2023.

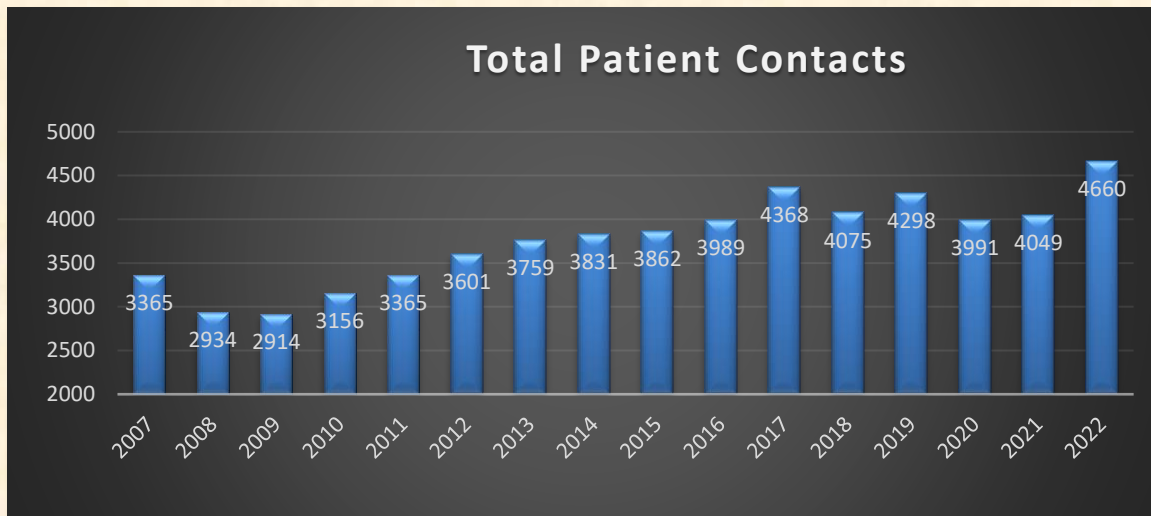
In 2022, the Department began a new Field Training Officer (FTO) program for orienting and affiliating new paramedics. The program was developed by Lt. Andrew Priem and has received praise from our Medical Director and Goshen Hospital's EMS Director. We will continue to develop and modify the program as we move forward.

Ventilators were researched and purchased in 2022. Captain Kit Castetter put together and oversaw a committee to purchase the ventilators and complete the in-service training. These ventilators give us a new and powerful tool in managing our patient's respiratory system. Since 2020 there has been an increase in respiratory related emergencies and it has been found that hands on, manual ventilation is a major vector for passing disease. The use of ventilators greatly reduces the risk of disease transmission from patient to paramedic. Ventilators also provide superior artificial ventilation performance compared to manual ventilation.

A major focus of the EMS Division has been quality training. We will continue to develop our joint fire and EMS problem solving training scenario days. A main focus of our training will continue to be respiratory management to improve cardiac arrest and stroke outcomes. Additionally, we will focus on trauma care and related decision making. Finally, our EMS Shift Instructor's, Lt. Priem, Sergeant Lucas Mason and Sgt. Winston Lechlitner will continue to deliver relevant and informative Audit and Reviews to improve the critical thinking during incidents.

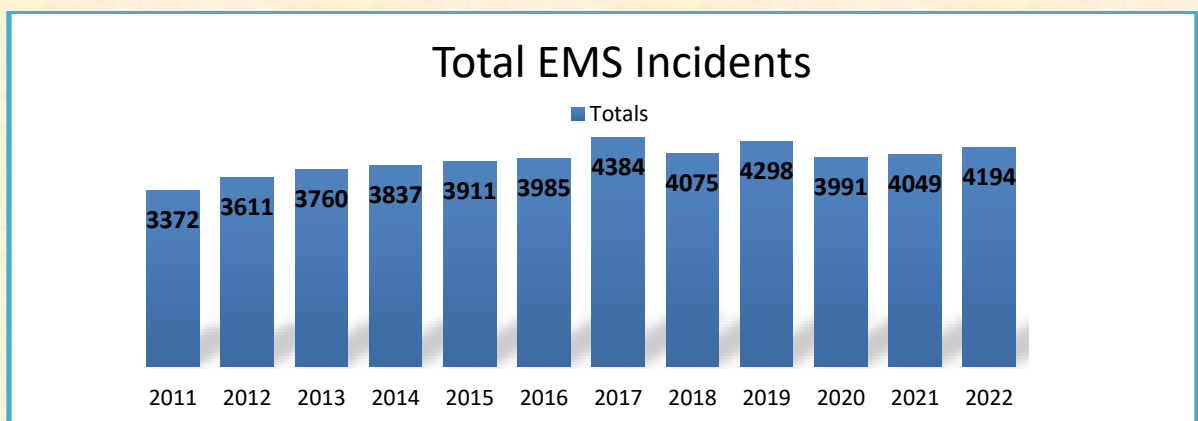
Another on-going goal of the EMS Division is to improve and streamline our reporting and billing process. In 2022, Sgt. Jon Weishaupt took on a much greater role in this process. ESO is the suite of programs the department uses to document patient care reports and provide statistical information used to guide our practices and supply issues. Sgt. Weishaupt has been removing mistakes and looking for areas to streamline the patient care reporting process.

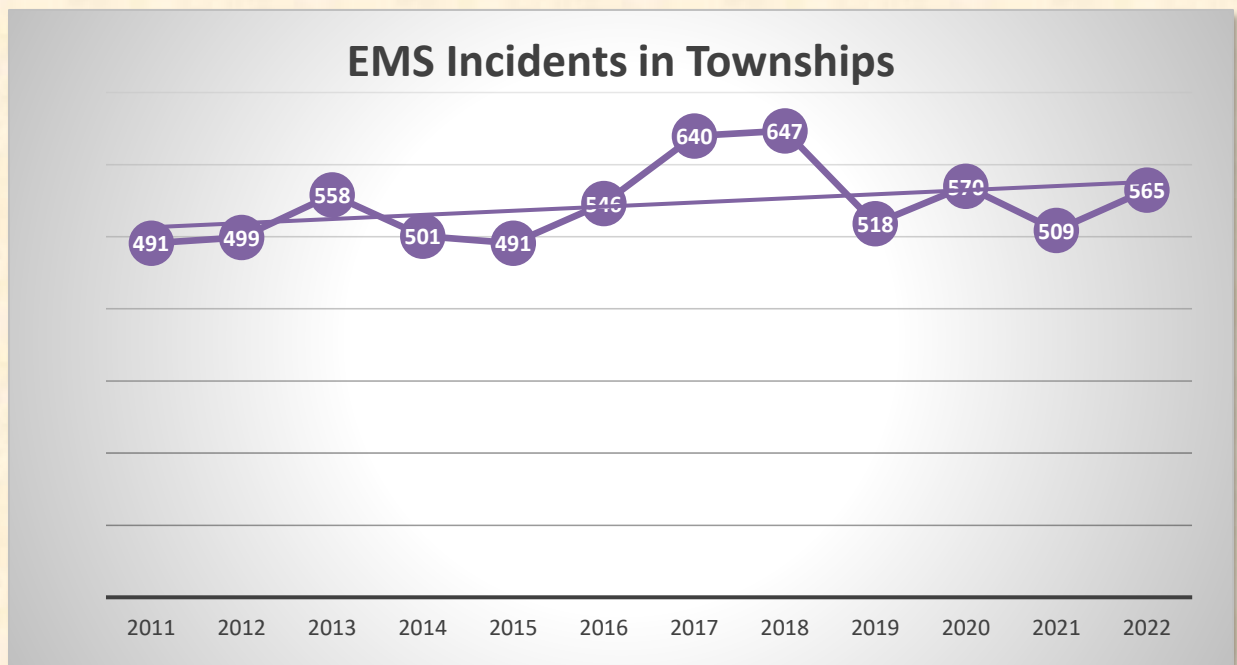
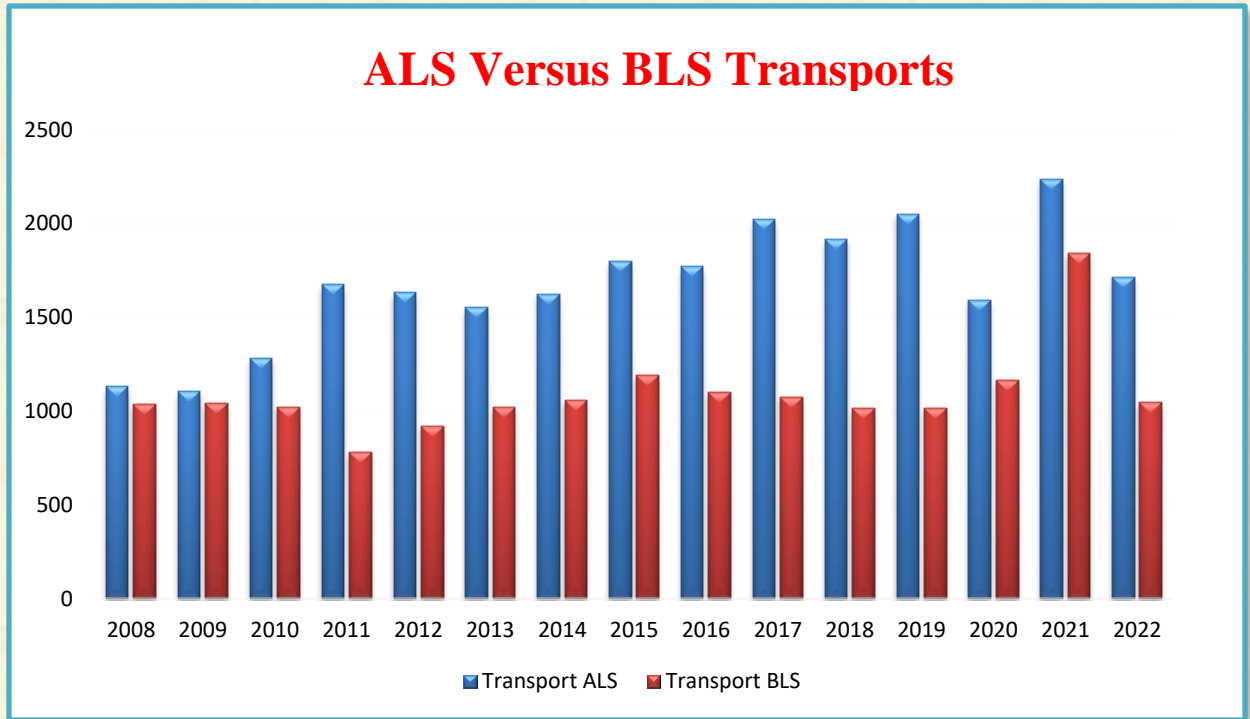
Looking ahead to 2023, we are excited to continued moving our equipment technology forward and expanding our training capabilities to improve our ability to help people when needed.



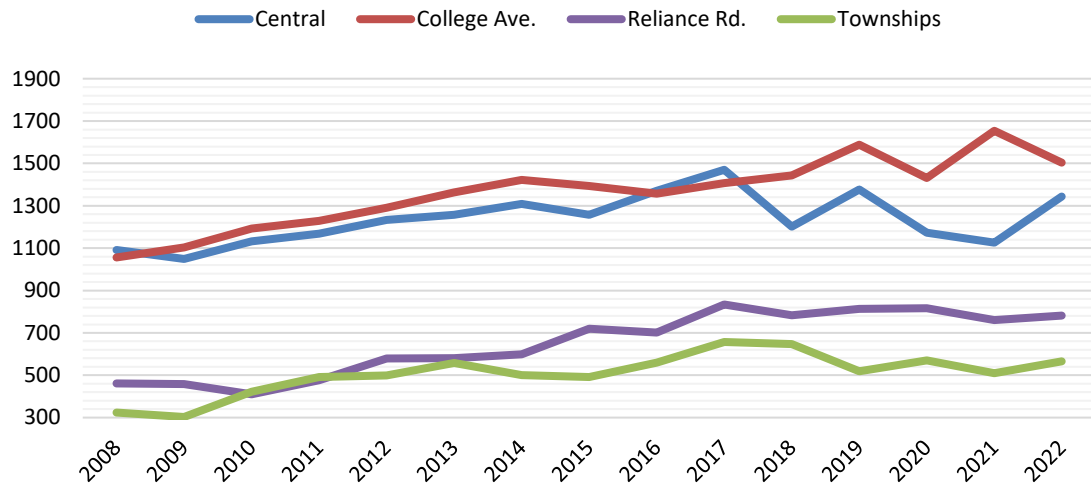
In 2022, the department had 4660 patient contacts, which is a increase of 611 or 13%. The charts and tables below show total patient contacts, total of advance life support vs. basic life support transports and transport destinations.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total Patient Contacts	3768	4056	3856	3970	3893	4049	4660

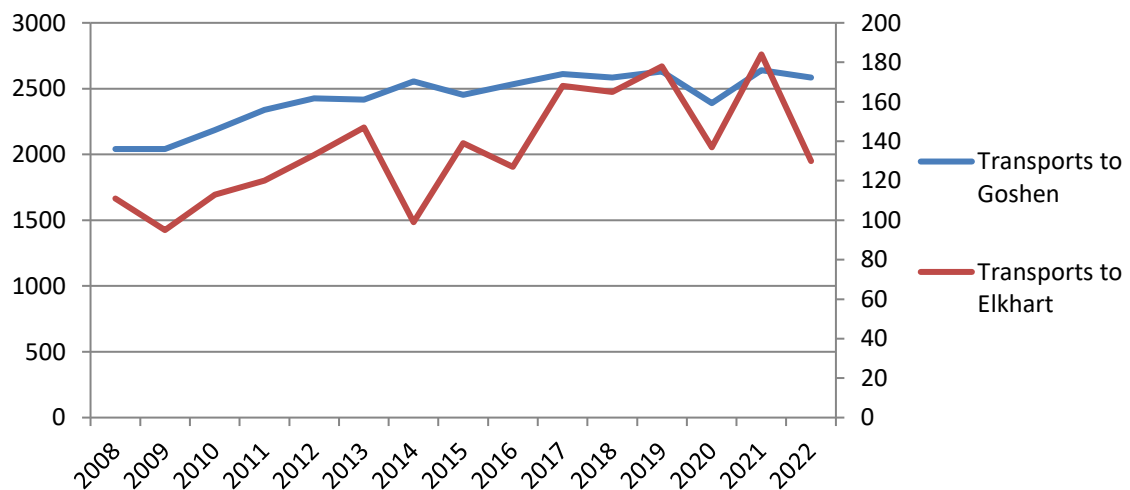




Patient Contacts by District



Transport Destinations





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

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.

2022 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 2022 equaled 8883. A deeper breakdown of the total training hours reveals 3108 hours of EMS training, 5646 hours of firefighting / rescue training and 129 hours of community risk reduction training were completed. On average all personnel received 12 hours of training per month.

A number of goals and objectives were met in 2022. The highlights include the following

For the first time in over a decade Goshen Fire Department all personnel completed live fire training scenarios at the training facility. This was made possible after burn rooms were constructed inside the training facility. In addition to live fire training at the training facility we began a monthly skills and drills day. This monthly training day was open to any area firefighter wanting to participate in firefighting skills and drills. This training outreach was part of the vision while developing the training facility.

The entire year was dedicated to improving our ability to respond to structure fires in Elkhart Township. This preparation included work on pump operations and preplanning target hazards.

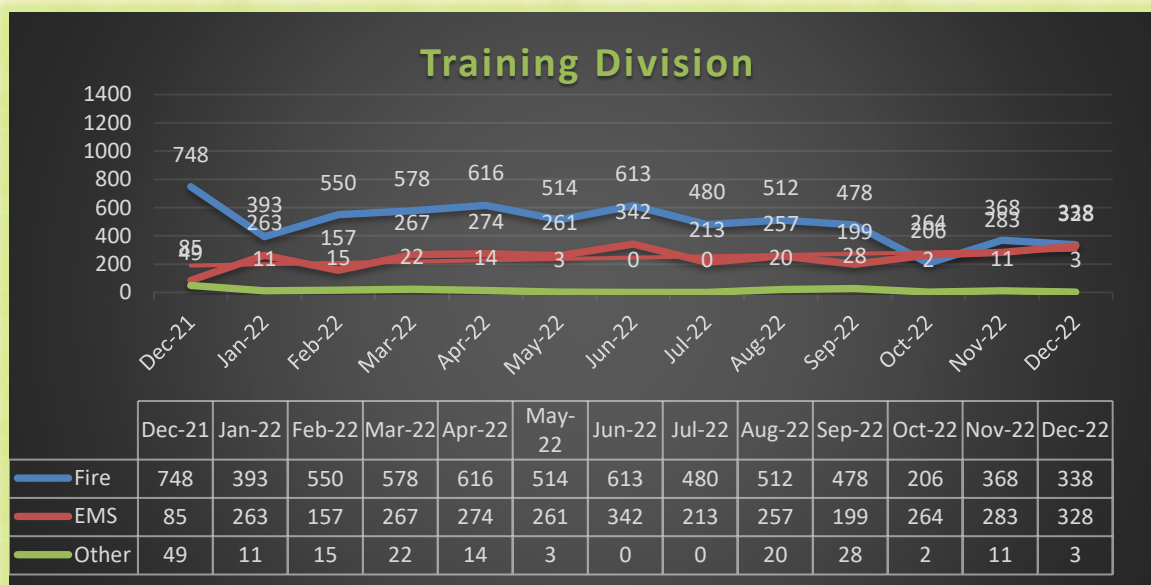
As we prepare for the future growth of Goshen we sent personnel to Airport Rescue Firefighting School in Kentucky and Hazardous Materials Technician School in Warsaw. The knowledge obtained at these classes will help build a solid foundation as we begin to improve our ability to respond to aircraft emergencies and mitigate hazmat incidents

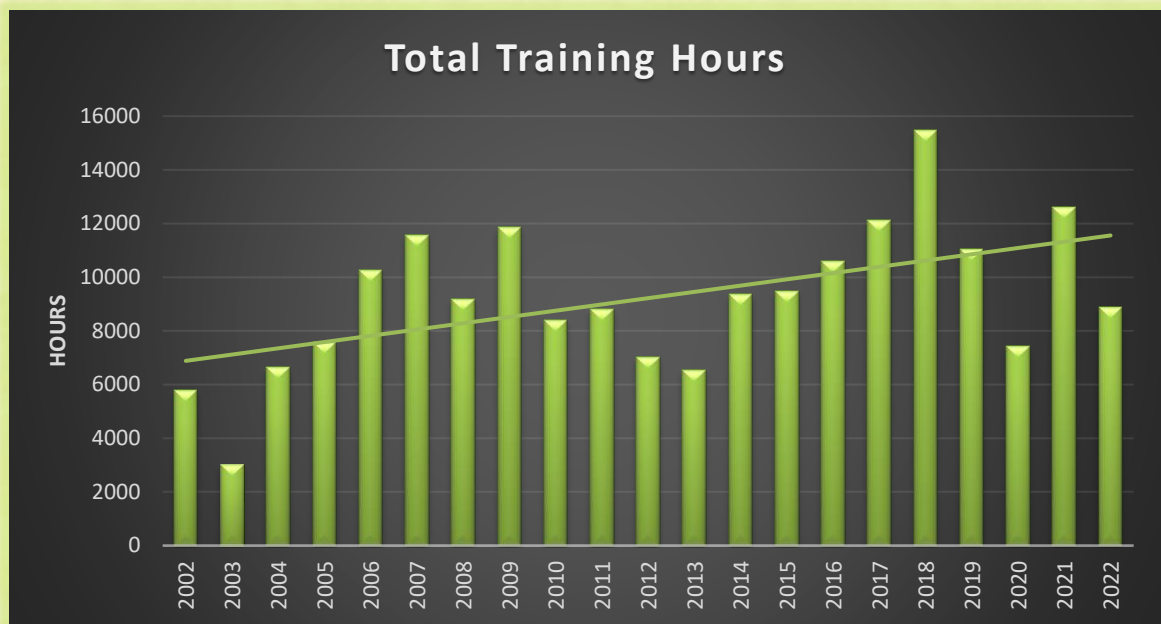
Our final 2022 highlight is the implementation of Target Solutions as our training recording management system. Target Solutions will allow us to better track our progress as we grow and develop as a fire department.

The Training Division will ride the momentum gained in 2022 to help us achieve the following goals in 2023:

- Implement Phase II plan at the Training Facility
- Develop an Officer Candidate School for use during the 2024 promotional process
- 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



Confined Space Training



Fidler Pond Park
Water Rescue Training



Firefighter Down
R.I.T. Training



Live Fire Training



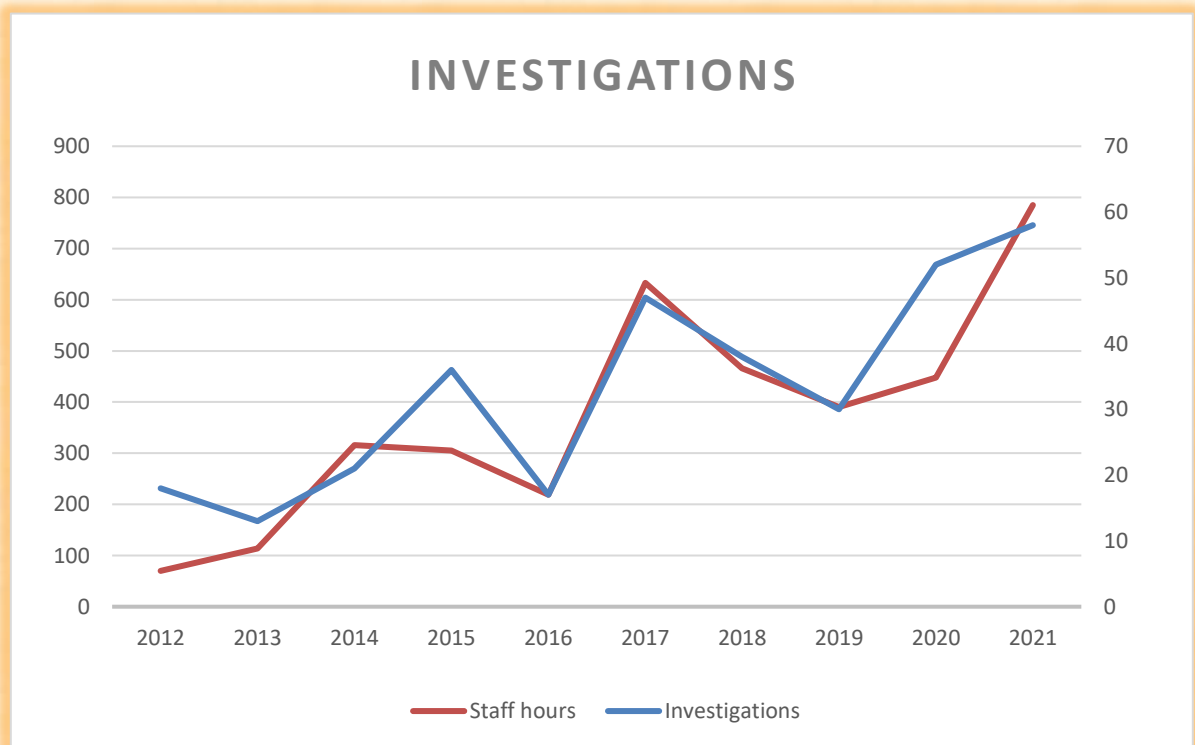
Pumper Operations
Draft Training



➤ **Fire Investigations** – *Chief Inspector Scott Thomas*

Division Inspectors – Inspector John Evans

In 2022, the division investigated 60 fires, a 50% increase from 2021, and recorded 448 hours for an average of 7.5 hours per investigation.



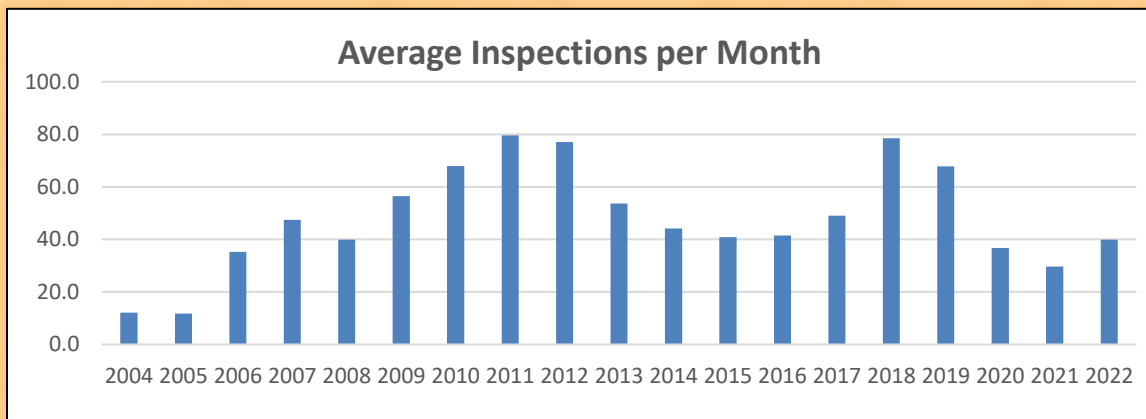
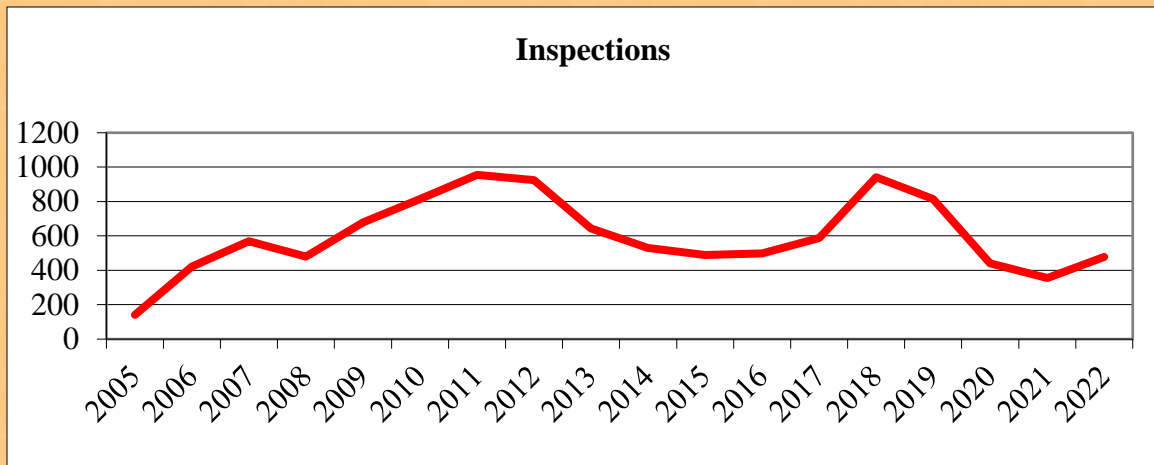
➤ **Inspections** – *Chief Inspector Scott Thomas*

The Goshen Fire Department is responsible for ensuring the life safety of all living, working and visiting Goshen. The Fire Prevention Bureau inspects all new construction, including conducting site plan, construction design and fire protection systems plan review. One of our vital functions is inspecting class one structures, commonly known as commercial buildings open to the public or employees. We also educate the public on fire safety issues and questions. Often, we answer questions from the public on general code questions or business ventures. Fire investigations is also a primary function of the Fire Prevention Bureau. In 2022 GFD fire investigators investigated 62 fires.

We would not be able to provide these services without continuing education and the dedication of the GFD fire inspectors, fire investigators and public educators. We look forward to providing the same great service in 2023.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Inspections	490	498	588	942	814	440	356
Violations	636	657	715	487	667	309	725
Violations per Inspection	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.5	0.8	0.7	2.0
Average Inspections per month	40.8	41.5	49.0	78.5	67.8	36.7	29.7







➤ **Fire Prevention/Education**

Sergeant Michael Masbaum - Public Education Coordinator

Public Education Team Members – Lucas Wickey, Charles Stevens

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 2022. We are hopeful that we will expand that training in 2023. 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 2023 we look forward to being able to pick up where we left off in 2022. Increasing community trainings and trying new and different ways to engage with the schools.



Fire Prevention Month, 1st Grade



Trick or Treat



Field Day at Goshen Intermediate School

➤ Human Resources

As of December 31, 2022, the department is staffed with 59 sworn personnel, 1 Civilian Fire Chief, 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 Civilian Firefighter.

Change in Rank

Promotions of 2022	
White, Wesley	Promoted to Private First Class on January 5 th
McKerchie, Shane	Promoted to Lieutenant on May 2 nd
Martin, Patrick	Promoted to Sergeant on May 2 nd
Kurtz, Daniel	Promoted to Private First Class on August 2 nd
Perry, Timothy	Promoted to Private First Class on August 2 nd
Fairfield, Michael	Promoted to Private First Class on August 2 nd
Berry, Megan	Promoted to Private First Class on November 22 nd
Estes, Hannah	Promoted to Private First Class on November 22 nd
Cestone, Joseph	Promoted to Private First Class on December 20 th



Joey Cestone



Megan Berry

Hannah Estes



Lt. Shane McKerchie



Sgt. Patrick Martin



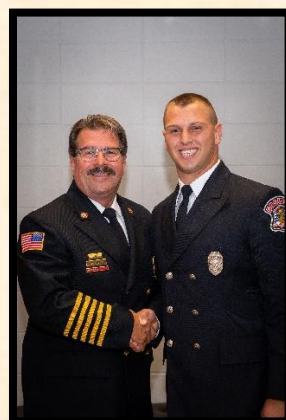
Pvt. Wesley White



Daniel Kurtz



Tim Perry



Michael Fairfield

Retirements / Separations

Separations and Retirements	
Dunithan, Matthew - Lieutenant	Separation on April 30 th , 2022
Thibodeaux, Tyler - Firefighter	Separation on July 25 th , 2022

Appointments

New Hires	
Gadson, Doug	Hired on January 5 th
LoPresti, Andrew	Hired on April 12 th
Pilling, Matthew	Hired on August 15 th
Kauffman, John	Hired on August 15 th



Doug Gadson



Andrew LoPresti



Matthew Pilling



John Kauffman

Miscellaneous Photo



Courageous Caleb
March 2, 2022

Caleb's ARK

Caleb brought treats to the fire department on Caleb's ARK day. They spent some time with him and let him get in the truck. 🇺🇸 😊
Thank you so much Goshen Professional Firefighters Local 1443 for making Caleb's ARK day a special day 🧡







Salvation Army



Northridge Students
dropped off Cookies



9/11 Memorial



Pancake Breakfast



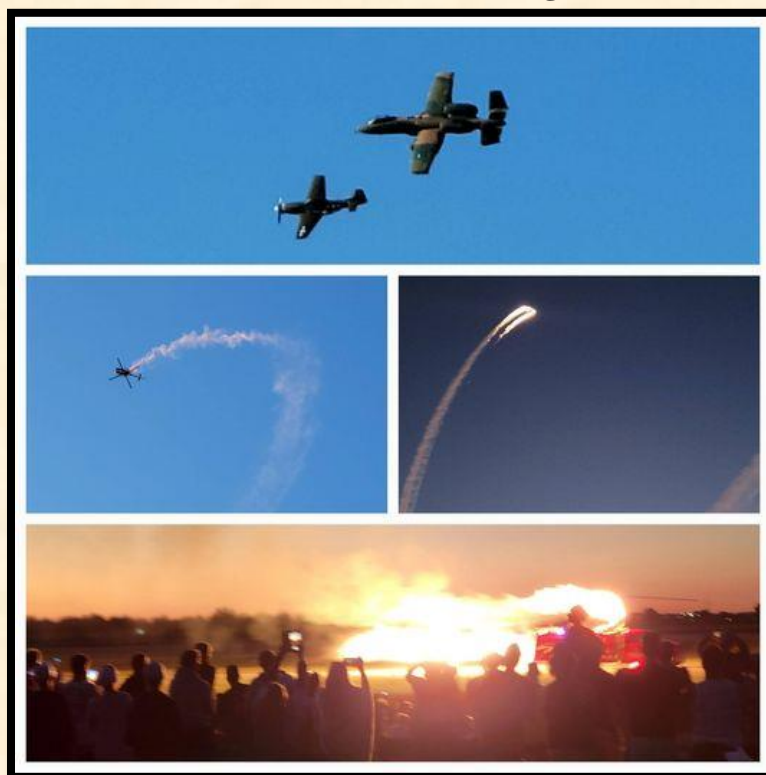
**Joey Cestone
Ready for Medic Class**



Elkhart Grand Prix



New Candidate Testing



Goshen Freedom Fest Airshow

In Memoriam



On February 23, 2022, Chaplain Jim passed away after his struggle with cancer. While he will be missing from the sight of our eyes he will always be within our hearts. Our lives will not be the same without you, but they are better because you were in them.

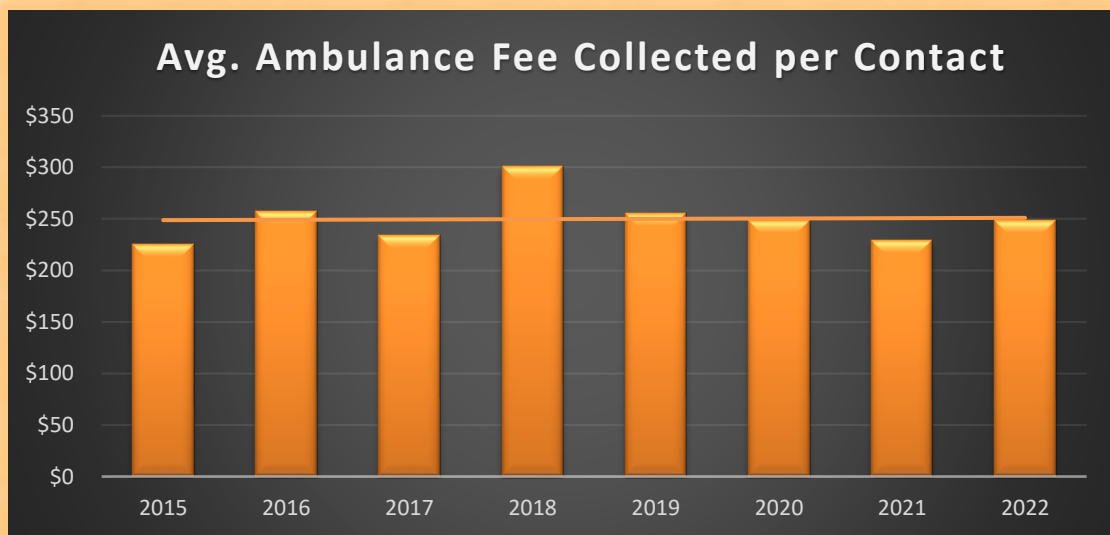
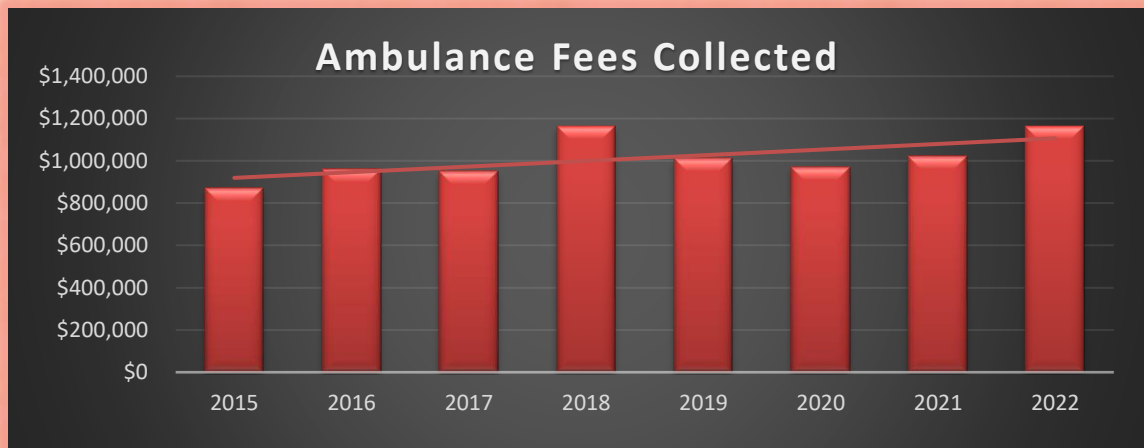
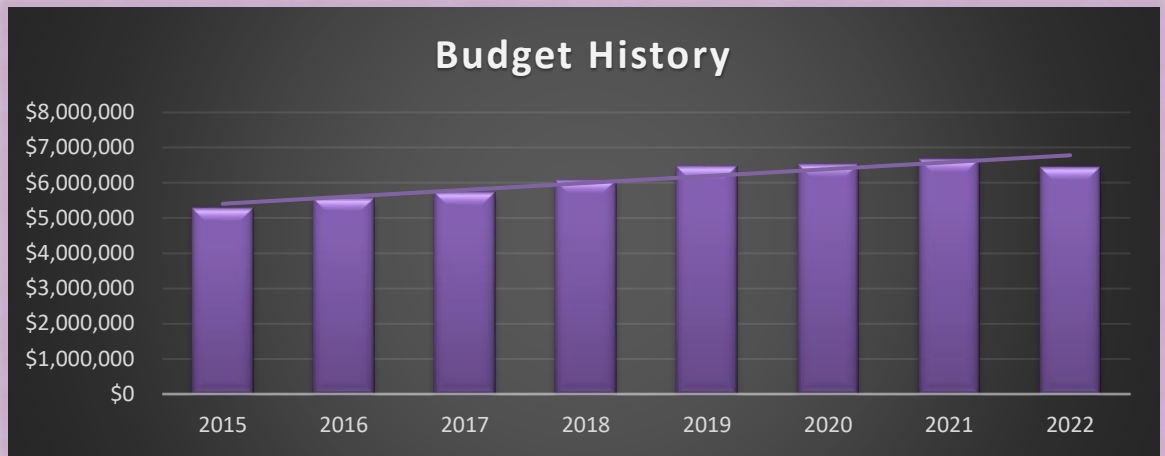
With a matter of fact tone he told the doctor, "You don't know how many days I have left. There is only one person who knows how many days that I have on this earth. He knew when my last day was before my first day started."

This was a statement from Chaplain Jim Schrock during one of our Tuesday morning bible study sessions. It was part of a story he relayed while talking about all the treatments he had endured and how many times a doctor said, "This treatment will give you 'X' more months." He wasn't upset. He wasn't dejected. He wasn't sad. He was resolute in his faith that God had a plan for him well beyond his or any physicians understanding. It was a steadfast faith that he displayed with grace during times when many in his situation would have abandoned their faith and hope. It was a faith that gave him the strength to carry his family, his friends, his church, his police officers and his firefighters through not only his illness but the dark times in our lives as well.

Chaplain Jim, we love you, we miss you, we mourn you, we are happy for you and we look forward to seeing you again.

➤ Budget

	2020	2021	2022
Budget	\$6,539,537	\$6,455,593	\$6,455,593
Ambulance Fees Collected	\$970,397	\$1,020,109	\$1,161,065
Budget (minus) Ambulance Fees	\$5,569,140	\$5,435,484	\$5,294,528
Avg. Ambulance Fee Collected per Contact	\$249	\$252	\$249
Cost per Incident	\$1,235	\$1,102	\$964





➤ **Summary**

This report conveys the activities of the department for 2022. Additional data may be available upon request.

Dan Sink

Chief of the Department