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CHIEF'S LETTER

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To the Orange County community,

This past year wasn't short of calls, challenges and successes for our organization. Our organization could not be successful without the efforts of the men and women who work each and every day for the well being of their community. Our department requires not only firefighters to answer the call but associate members who help with administrative and logistical needs which assist in the everyday mission of the fire department

We saw many positive changes within our department this past year which drastically improved our operational capabilities. Our goal was to identify aging equipment that was in need of replacement. We have replaced the following equipment:

- Swiftwater Personal Flotation Devices for Water Rescue emergencies
- Technical Rescue Helmets which serve a dual role for Water Rescue
- Rope Rescue hardware

We have also added (4) four new Ice Rescue suits to our cache of equipment. These suits, although new to our organization, provide our firefighters thermal protection in the event of an ice rescue or cold water incident in Orange County.

At the station level we are working to make improvements in and around the building. Your donations have allowed us to work towards upgrading a very outdated electrical system in our building. We recently replaced the fire alarm system throughout the building that was installed in the late 1980's and had become completely obsolete. Lastly, our back entrance was repaved and work was completed to the waterway at the rear of our property which had fallen into disrepair.

Our department continues to explore new opportunities for recruitment and retention of volunteers. In the past year we made changes within recruitment to accept applicants throughout Orange County and surrounding jurisdictions. This year we plan to design an internal system that provides these new members opportunities for success. We continue to also explore retention strategies and hope to continue to incentivize the duty of a volunteer firefighter and educate the public about the importance of serving their local community.

Our department has been a staple in this community for over 100 years. Our success has been and will continue to be contingent on the support for our local residents. Thank you for trusting in us to serve you every day.

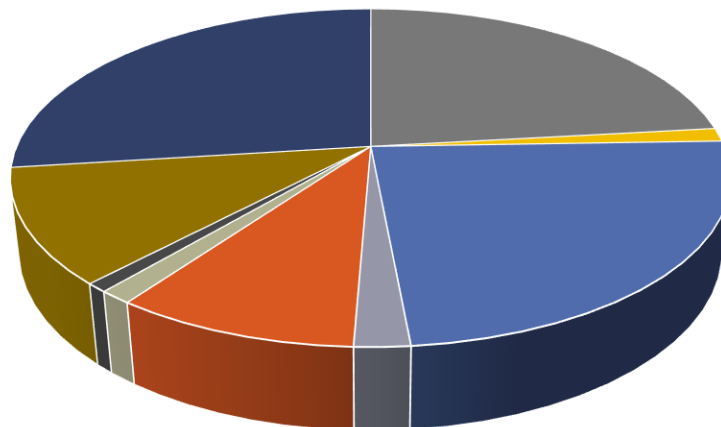
Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. W. H. J.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

2022 RESPONSE STATISTICS

	TOWN OF ORANGE	OUTSIDE TOWN
AUTOMATIC ALARMS	55	73
BRUSH FIRE	3	34
EMS	57	55
HAZMAT	5	12
VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	22	114
STRUCTURE FIRES	3	46
VEHICLE FIRES	2	14
INVESTIGATIONS	26	69
PUBLIC SERVICE	64	64
SUBTOTAL	237	470
TOTAL CALLS	707	

TOWN OF ORANGE



- AUTOMATIC ALARMS
- BRUSH FIRE
- EMS
- HAZMAT
- VEHICLE ACCIDENTS
- STRUCTURE FIRES
- VEHICLE FIRES
- INVESTIGATIONS
- PUBLIC SERVICE

2022 TRAINING DATA

Throughout 2022, our department focused its training on many different topics. We began our year with an emphasis on MAYDAY Operations. MAYDAY is the distress call for a downed firefighter or firefighter in trouble inside a building on fire. Our crews worked over the course of many months on different MAYDAY scenarios and how we could best mitigate those emergencies. We followed our MAYDAY training exercises with emphasis on the new radio system. Orange County made a tremendous investment to rebuild an obsolete radio system beginning in 2018. The new system required new tower sites, new technology and the migration of the 911 Center from the Gordon Building to the newly constructed 911 Center at the Public Safety Building located off Bloomsbury Road. Prior to the new radio system turning on, personnel across the County had to complete extensive training on use and understanding of the new radio and technology. We completed our year with multiple drill exercises that covered basic skillsets involving our Engine Company and Truck Company expectations.

TOTAL TRAINING HOURS: 1,335

TOTAL IN STATION HOURS: 513



SPECIAL AWARDS

Each year we recognize people within our organization who have gone above and beyond expectations for bettering their fire company. Each of these rewards is recognition given by their peers or by the Administrative Officers within the fire company. We also recognize a local business or individual each year for their contributions towards Fire & Rescue.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Cory Sparks

S.P. HIGGINBOTHAM AWARD

Summy's Catering

CHIEF'S AWARD

Tim Melson

DAVE COOPER AWARD

Tim Melson



IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



Hydrant Improvement Campaign

- Properly mark hydrants with reflective marking that aids in night time operations. (Unknown Completion Status)
- Provided a proposed replacement and maintenance plan to Town Administration in 2021 (See below)
- Hydrant Inspection Program – Proposed in 2021
- Hydrant Replacement behind Main Street shops near the Courthouse. (Unknown Installation Status)

(FY22) 5 Year Hydrant Replacement Proposal

FY2023

- E. Main Street & Landon Lane
- W. Main St at Bank of America
- W. Main St. & N. Madison Rd
- W. Main Street & Belleview Avenue
- Montevista Avenue & Harper Drive
- Hydrant needed between Marshal Auto and Colvin Motor Line (approved but not installed)

FY2024

- S. Madison Road (behind the County Office Building)
- Caroline Street at Orange Tire
- Blue Ridge Drive at Orange Police Station
- Burgess Street
- 268 Peliso Avenue

FY2025

- Belleview Avenue & W. Nelson Street
- Chapman Street (Old Police Station)
- Williams Drive & Mason Street
- 225 S. Madison Street
- 252 Landon Lane

FY2026

- Jefferson St & Marshall St
- Jefferson St & Mason St
- Jefferson St & Blue Ridge Dr
- S. Almond St & Lee Ave
- S. Almond St & Piedmont St

FY2027

- Piedmont St & S Madison St
- Piedmont St & Blue Ridge Dr
- Piedmont St & Mason St
- Piedmont St & Marshall St

IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS



Retention Strategies

- Local tax break incentive program
- Tiered system based upon individual effort



Smoke Detector Campaign

- Proposed in concept to the Town in 2021.
- Secured funding in 2021 through BAMA Works Funding to work towards development of a Smoke Detector Check & Install Program.
- Completed Phase 1 in Spring 2023 of a Townwide Inspection & Replacement Program.



Local Business Ordinance

Recommend a local business ordinance for any strip mall or multiple occupancy shopping center to be required to display the corresponding address of the business at the front entrance and rear entrance doors.