

Brookfield

Division of

Fire & Emergency

Medical Services

-2023 REPORT-



January 5, 2024

It is the pleasure of my office to provide to our community the 2023-year end report.

Members of the Div. of Fire & Emergency Medical services handled a total of 2,221 dispatched emergency 911 calls requiring either a fire, medical, or rescue response. We typically handle the shift, when fully staffed, with five (5) members on duty. Two (2) of those members are out of Firehouse 51 located on Addison Road, and three (3) members stationed at our headquarters, located on St. Rt. 7 NE. The Fire Chief works a day turn schedule of Monday-Friday and manages the department with the assistance of the command staff. Brookfield Div. of Fire & EMS is contracted with the Township of Hartford to provide fire and emergency medical services, making our response district approximately fifty (50) square miles. We provide this service with the following pieces of apparatus:

- 2004 Seagrave Quint Aerial • 2004 Pierce Rescue Pumper • 2012 Freightliner Pumper/Tanker •
- 2024 Chevy Silverado 3500 • 1991 KME Pumper • 1987 Pierce Arrow Engine •
- 2022 UTV Brush Fire Unit • 2016 Ford Ambulance •
- 2023 Ford Ambulance • 2019 Ford Explorer • 2021 Ford Ambulance
- 14' Boat for water emergencies

The department is comprised of seven (7) fulltime Career Firefighter/Paramedics, one (1) fulltime Fire Chief, five (5) Volunteer Firefighters, eleven (11) part-time Firefighter EMT's & Paramedics, & a Chaplain. All members are certified to their level through the State of Ohio Div. of EMS and most have certifications and education well above the baseline requirements. These classes include but are not limited to the following:

- EMT- Basic • Paramedic • Firefighter I & II • Fire Officer I & II • Educator/Instructor • Inspector •
- Confined Space Rescue • Trench Rescue • Structural Collapse Rescue • Pump Operations I & II • Hazardous
- Materials Technician • Advanced Auto Extrication • National Incident Management • Investigator •
- Fire Officer III & IV

Two thousand and twenty-three was a great year for the department, we faced some challenges, but we persevered and pulled through as a team and pushed the department in new directions. I feel challenges are necessary because they create a sense of resilience and resolve, therefore generating a strength and understanding amongst the stakeholders. This all proved to be true as we look back and review our accomplishments and our deficiencies throughout the year 2023.

We had some great achievements and notable events throughout the year, and although our biggest challenge at times was low staffing, it did not prove to be an insurmountable odd that held us back. We definitely have a solid team of employees that deserve a lot of credit for the job(s) they do. Our men and women undeniably work hard for the community and not just putting their lives on the line fighting fires and caring for ill and injured patients, these men and women come to work when asked and work tirelessly until the job gets done, no matter the task at hand. I wish that everyone in the public could see the behind the scenes work that gets done daily here at the firehouses and even sometimes while our employees are off duty. This is a tight knit bunch that would go to the ends of the earth for anyone at any time and even when they are knocked down, they continue to stand right back up and face the day. I am proud and honored to work with our people let alone be able to call myself their leader. They make all the difference.

The department in 2023 was the recipient of grant monies to support the purchase of four mechanical chest compression or CPR assist devices (aka LUCAS Machines) and four brand new state of the art cardiac monitor/defibrillators. These were sought to complement each ambulance and our newly purchased and redesigned chase truck. Very soon you will see this new pick-up with a utility box mounted to the bed responding to calls within the district. This truck which was purchased jointly between the department's budget and the township trustees who provided funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). This will provide on duty personnel quick response to additional medical calls, services calls, and other misc. runs the department handles without wear and tear on our aging fleet of large fire apparatus. This new unit is equipped with full Advanced Life Support Equipment, hand tools, chainsaws, specialized equipment, and rescue gear. It will also be utilized to pull our boat and grass fire UTV trailer. This truck replaces an older Ford that was costing us money in maintenance, and no longer met the needs and demands of the department.



We also replaced one of our aging ambulances with a brand-new 2024 Medix ambulance on a Ford chassis very similar to the one purchased a few years ago during the pandemic. We are now able to mirror equipment on all three ambulances making it easier on the employee to keep track of and remember where supplies are located to care for the medical patient in times of emergency.

Other inspiring happenings within the department came in the latter part of the year when four of our part-time members completed their yearlong (+) training to become certified as Paramedics. For those that do not know, more than 1,100 hours of training goes into becoming a Paramedic; which is the highest level of medical care one can achieve in the pre-hospital setting. That number is also very conservative as it does not include the time needed to study and the hardships of balancing life, family, work, and sleep. So, a huge congratulations and kudos to those whom worked to put themselves through this training to better oneself for the purposes of protecting our community.

Also, I am very pleased and excited that in December, in a cooperative spirit and agreement, the Hartford Township Trustees signed a contract to have a new pumper/tanker built to meet the needs of our protection district. This new truck will carry 2500 gallons of water, be equipped with a 1250 gallon per minute pump, and will allow for the safe transport of personnel and equipment to and from emergencies. This is huge for the department and the area, as this new truck will be available to help bring larger amounts of water to an incident and have the capacity to pump considerable volumes to help meet the flow requirements of a fire.

A first for the fire department, was the addition of a third fulltime employee on one shift. For the first time in a long time our fulltime staffing increased and over the next few years it is in the plans to add one additional employee on each turn so that the career staffing is at three (3) Firefighter/Paramedics per day. The addition of this position has already proven itself many times to be invaluable, saving the department on expenses and filling the gap when staffing is at low numbers. The addition of one career employee per year was an item agreed upon by the township and the firefighter's union in the last contract talks. Not only do these positions play a pivotal role in staffing numbers but they also assist to help with our insurance ratings and improve the overall safety of our firefighters.

We had many other great accomplishments throughout this year and are pushing forward into the future; but I would be remiss if I didn't elaborate on the hardships we are experiencing especially with staffing. We have a shortage of part-time members to fill positions each day. We simply do not have enough personnel and this shortage is being experienced nationwide as the numbers of recruits in the fire service is dwindling at alarming numbers. In addition to that, we are limited on the number of hours one can work by existing labor laws and the education required for these roles. This problem, across the state, has been so severe that in 2023 the Ohio State Fire Marshall's Office designated a task force to address the decline in firefighter numbers throughout the state.

I am asked regularly as to what we are doing locally to address this issue, so let me first explain the effects and why we such actions are taken. When low-staffing occurs here in Brookfield, the challenges become safety of our members and district coverage. Typically, when we are low staffed, we must close Firehouse 51 to accommodate fewer personnel on duty. We must do this because all of our needed equipment is housed at our headquarters station and with no feasible way to move it back and forth, this results in the closing of FH 51. We have tried very hard to attract, recruit, and retain personnel but we often find ourselves competing with other departments locally, statewide, and even sometimes throughout the country. In attempts to engage and entice people to Brookfield we have again raised the rate of pay for our part-time employees to try and be competitive with other local agencies. In 2023, after raising wages and not seeing a desired result, we began to employ members who are credentialed as "EMS Only", meaning that they are not certified as firefighters and are employed to help to fill the gap when shift staffing is short. This sometimes allows for us to staff an ambulance and permit for a cross trained (fire/EMS) member, or members, to be left back at the firehouse to answer subsequent calls. We often find that our calls stack one right after another. Therefore, the additional staff not responding to the initial call can handle the next call for service. We also have utilized, and been utilized as mutual aid to help fill the staffing voids in other communities while other departments in turn provide us the same courtesies and services when we call for help. The department has worked very hard to recruit and retain new employees, but unfortunately for us our industry has so many vacancies that our part-time employees are leaving to take fulltime/career jobs within other departments. We have struggled to compete with wages and benefits, but some of the main competitions are bigger cities with larger budgets and higher wages. Like was said earlier and in years past, we continue to provide for our employees and have done so these past few years by working hand in hand as a team to overcome some of the previous obstacles identified within the department and the township, these include updating out of date/older equipment, pay increases for workers, bringing contracts in line with current and future needs, implementing standards, and increasing our fulltime



staff. These measures mentioned, and many more, have been an effort by all whom are involved; the township trustees, my office, members of the department, the firefighter's union local, & the volunteer division, as well as other area departments and their command staff, all whom have supported our endeavors. We all work very closely to meet the growing needs of our community and this region.

As I close the books on 2023, I cannot do so without first thanking our township trustees both in Brookfield & Hartford for their dedication to our department. These men and women entrust in me and the members of this department who serve to carry the mission of the township(s).

Finally, to our employees, especially the command staff, for leading and dedicating yourself, sticking together, and believing in and trusting in my office and the future vision of this department. Thank you for all that you do and know that we are a team defined as one unit and cooperatively together we will achieve our mission and our goals.

Your resoluteness, steadfastness, and commitment do not go unrecognized. Thanks for all you do to keep this community safe and the department moving in a positive direction.

Overall, looking back the year was good for the department, we persevered and met the needs of our community. Our job is dynamic which means that we will always be changing and adapting to the needs and demands that we face. We, here at Brookfield Division of Fire & Emergency Medical Services are here for you and whatever it is you need, we stand at the ready to give you, our best.

Thank you for all of the support each person in our community gives to us and we look forward to a safe and prosperous 2024.

D. E. Masirovits

Fire Chief



BROOKFIELD TWP.
DIVISION OF

51

18

27

FIRE & EMS





2023 CALLS BY MONTH WITH TYPING & TOTALS

	Medicals	Structure Fires	MVC	Vehicle Fires	Fires Misc	Service Calls	Wires/Trees	Fire Alarms	M/A In	M/A out	Hartford	Total
January	138	2	8	1	1	1	7	1	8	8	31	159
February	86	4	8	0	3	14	6	3	11	9	22	124
March	163	2	7	1	5	16	52	5	21	12	46	251
April	137	6	4	1	10	14	71	2	18	14	33	245
May	139	3	6	3	9	5	1	6	17	12	30	172
June	129	3	4	0	6	9	7	2	10	11	18	160
July	125	2	14	2	4	6	10	5	9	12	25	168
August	149	7	9	1	3	10	24	3	8	28	27	206
September	148	6	7	2	6	7	1	5	21	19	25	182
October	164	4	15	0	3	3	6	3	18	19	36	198
November	131	8	6	4	12	5	4	4	26	16	23	174
December	145	6	12	0	2	13	2	2	20	30	21	182
TOTAL	1654	53	100	15	64	103	191	41	187	190	337	2221

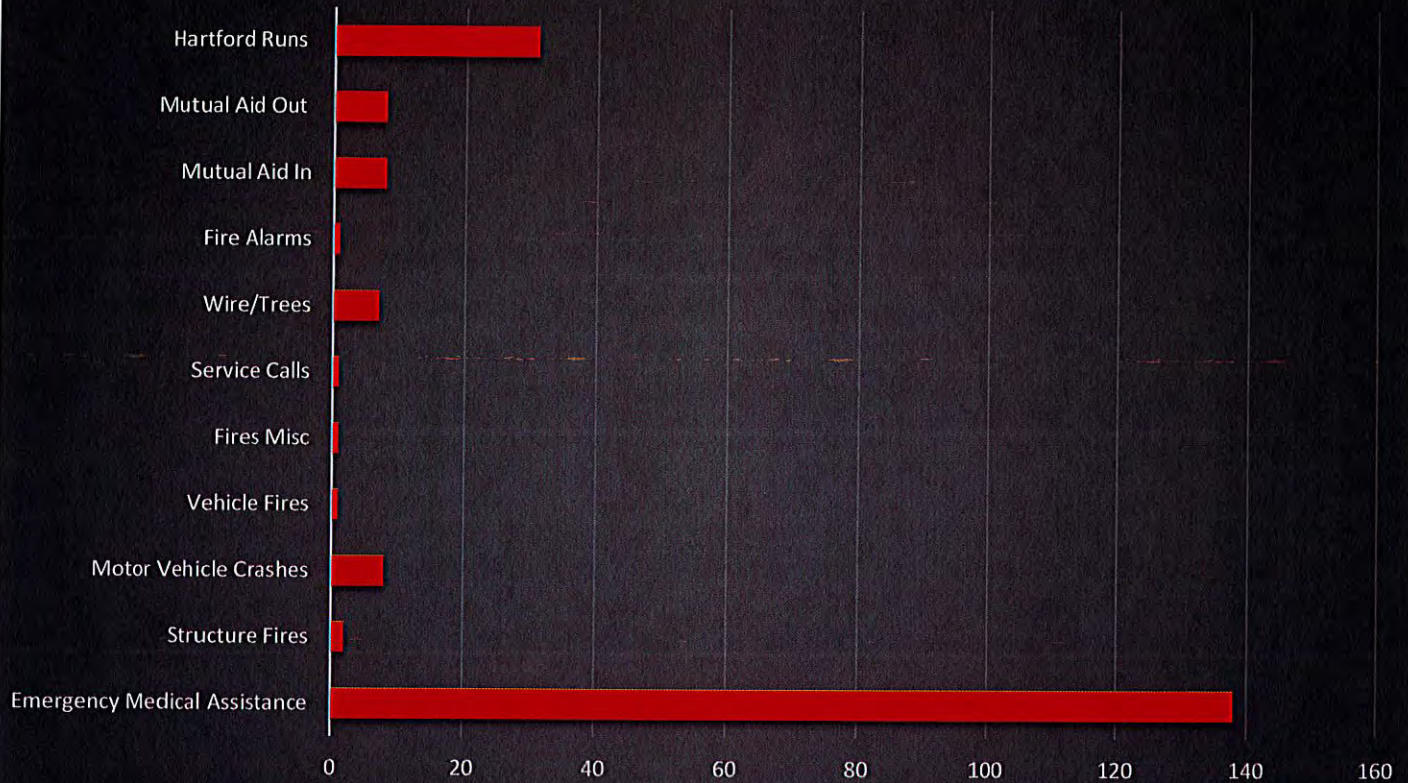






COMMUNITY EDUCATION, PREVENTION,
& TRAINING

January 2023



	Emergency Medical Assistance	Structure Fires	Motor Vehicle Crashes	Vehicle Fires	Fires Misc	Service Calls	Wire/Trees	Fire Alarms	Mutual Aid In	Mutual Aid Out	Hartford Runs
■ Call Volume	138	2	8	1	1	1	7	1	8	8	31

■ Call Volume

January 2023 Highlights

- Ballistic helmets were approved for purchase to compliment the body armor worn by Fire/EMS employees
- Outdoor lighting and signage added to Headquarters Station
- Four (4) LUCAS CPR Assist Devices received as part of FEMA/AFG Grant put into service
- New three-year contract signed with the firefighter's union
- Plans recv'd for new Frito Lay distribution center





Gerard J. Larella
Photography
2023



*Commitment &
Dedication
Equals value to the Community*

February 2023



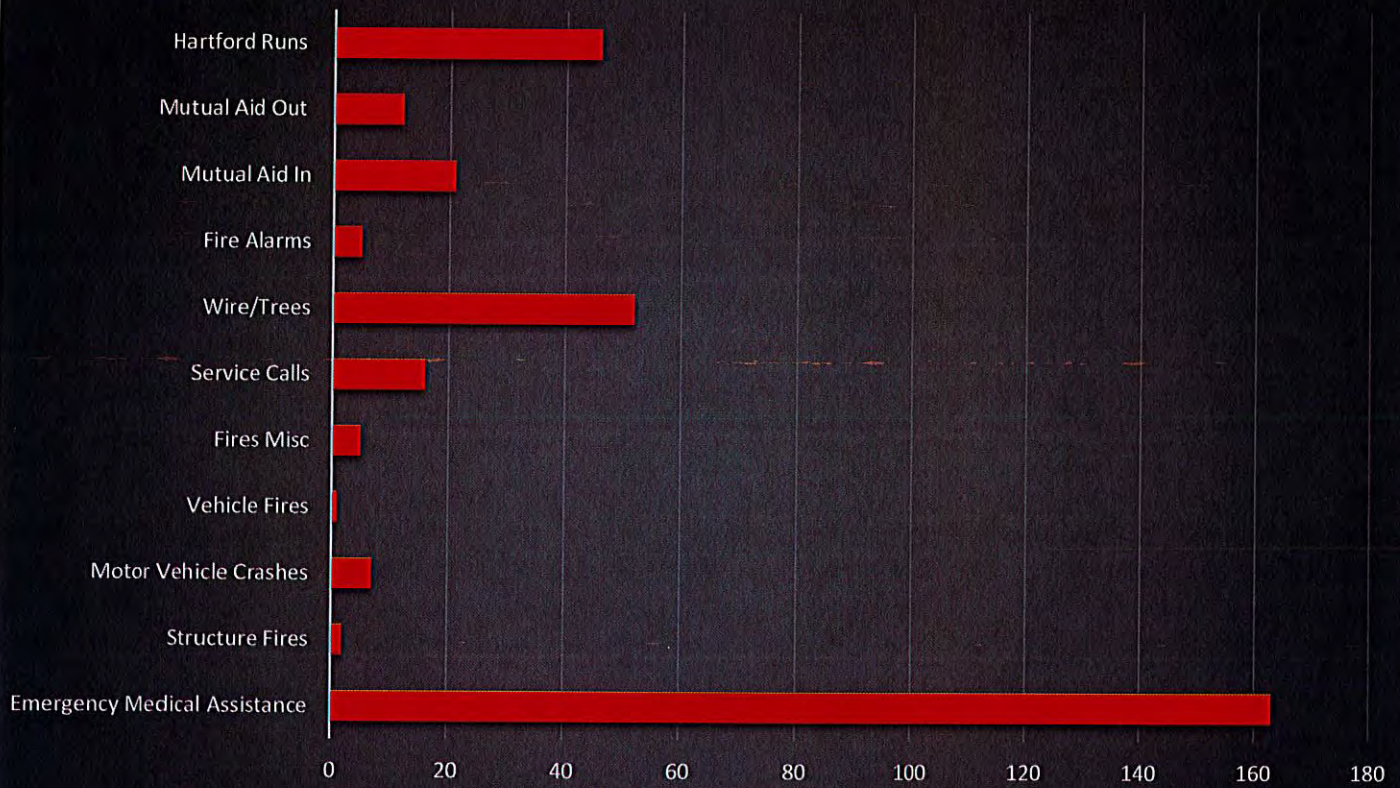
February 2023 Highlights

- Large trail derailment with hazardous materials fire in East Palestine, Ohio. Mutual Aid requested from Trumbull County FD's





March 2023



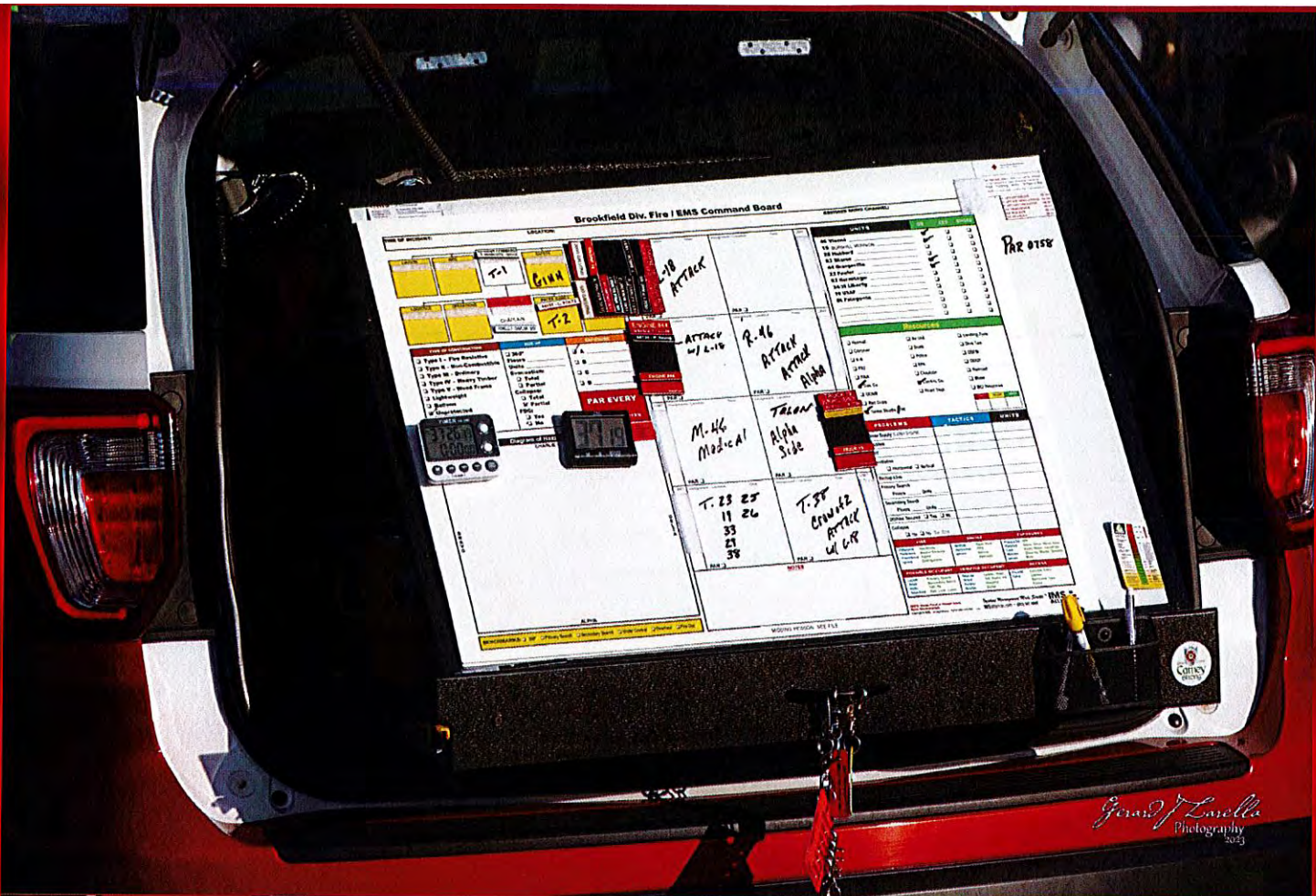
	Emergency Medical Assistance	Structure Fires	Motor Vehicle Crashes	Vehicle Fires	Fires Misc	Service Calls	Wire/Trees	Fire Alarms	Mutual Aid In	Mutual Aid Out	Hartford Runs
■ Call Volume	163	2	7	1	5	16	52	5	21	12	46

■ Call Volume

March 2023 Highlights

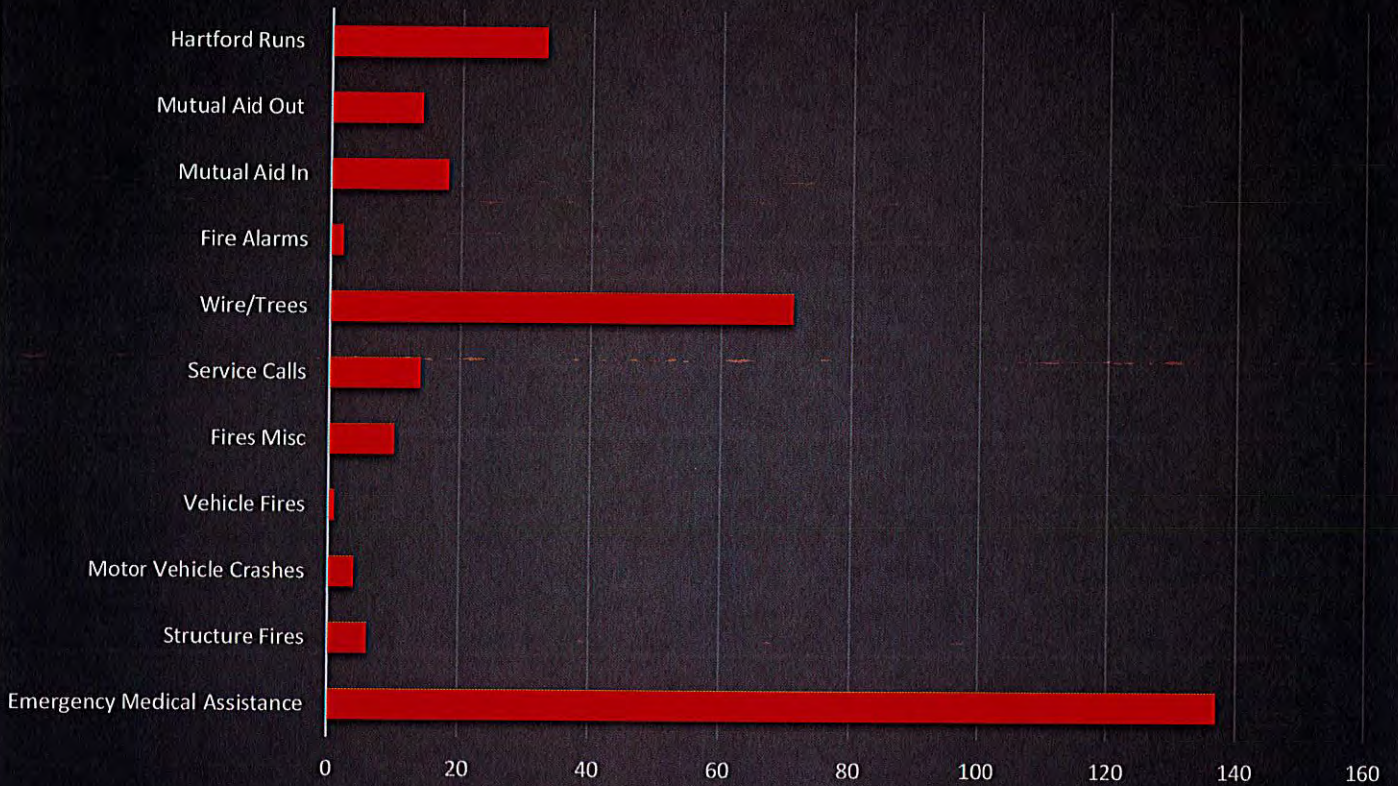
- Purchased 2024 Medix Type III ambulance from Penn Care
- Recv'd \$10k grant from the Ohio State Fire Marhsall's Office for the purchase of FF gear
- Major wind storm in the township with 60+ mph winds reporting major damage resulting in over fifty calls for the FD in a 48-hr. period







April 2023



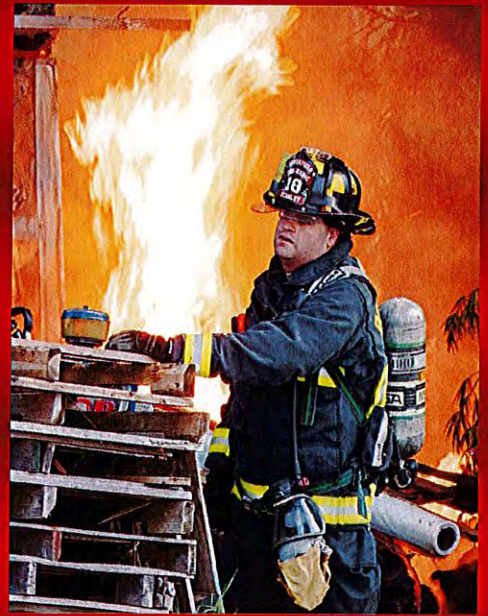
	Emergency Medical Assistance	Structure Fires	Motor Vehicle Crashes	Vehicle Fires	Fires Misc	Service Calls	Wire/Trees	Fire Alarms	Mutual Aid In	Mutual Aid Out	Hartford Runs
■ Call Volume	137	6	4	1	10	14	71	2	18	14	33

■ Call Volume

April 2023 Highlights

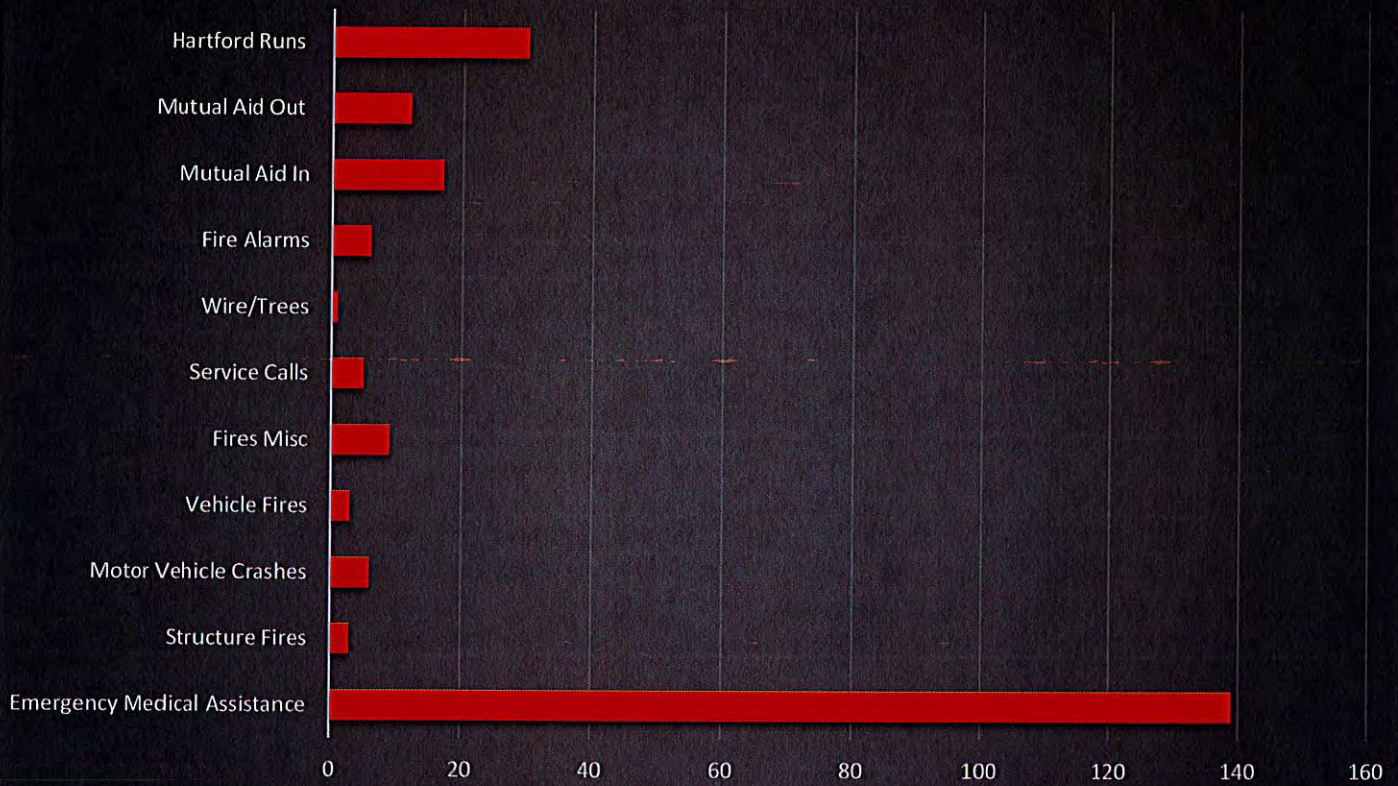
- Another major wind storm hits the area resulting in over seventy calls for service relating to weather
- Large commercial structure fire on Warren Sharon Road.
- Large commercial structure fire St. Rt. 7 Hartford Twp.







May 2023



	Emergency Medical Assistance	Structure Fires	Motor Vehicle Crashes	Vehicle Fires	Fires Misc	Service Calls	Wire/Trees	Fire Alarms	Mutual Aid In	Mutual Aid Out	Hartford Runs
■ Call Volume	139	3	6	3	9	5	1	6	17	12	30

■ Call Volume

May 2023 Highlights

- New energy efficient bay heaters installed at headquarters station
- Four new chest compression devices placed in service for the department. These were purchased with monies recieved through a grant award from the Federal Emergency Management Agency





Genard J. Lucella
Photography
2016

June 2023



June 2023 Highlights

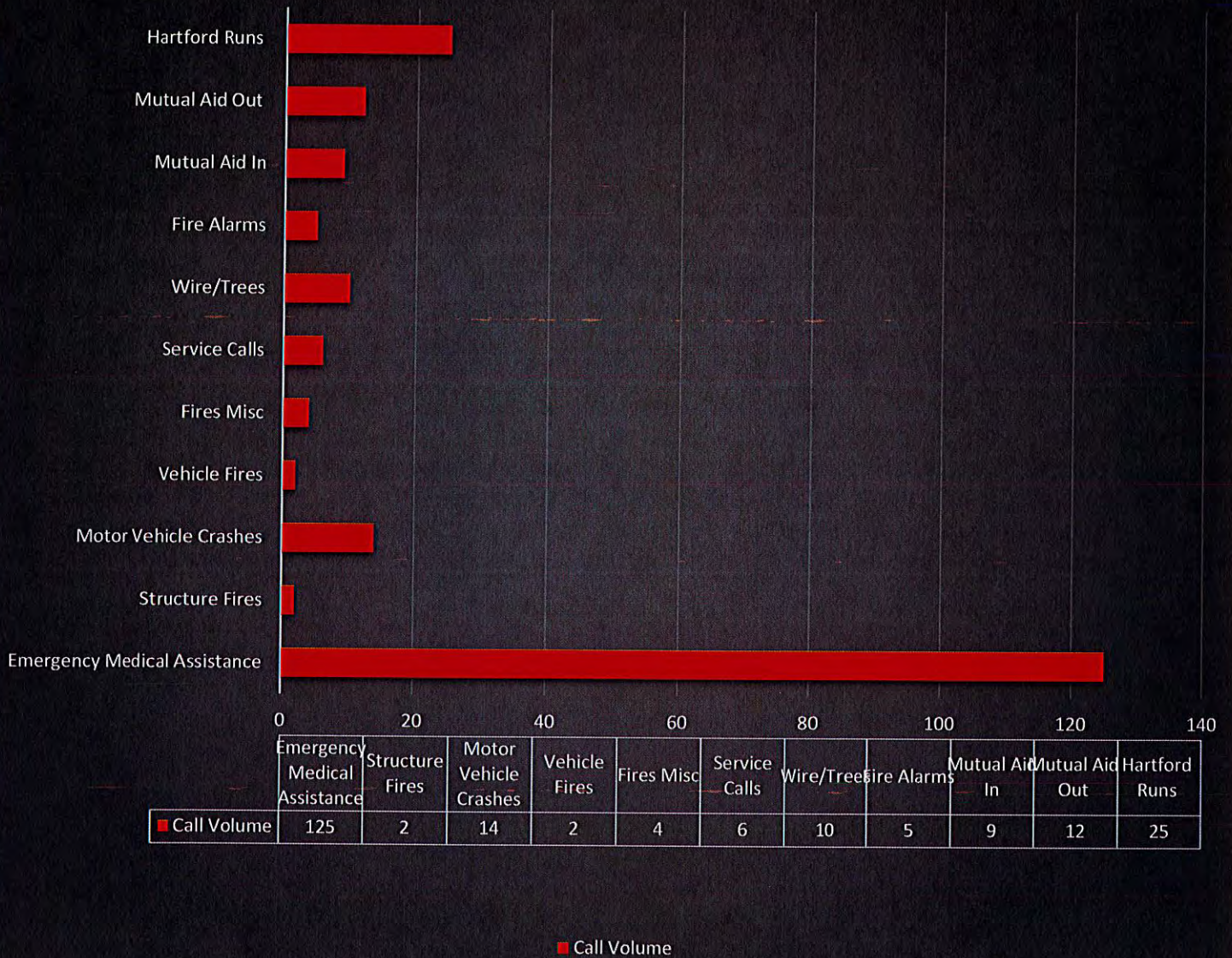
- Hired Thomas Young & Joseph Milano as Career Firefighter/Paramedics after receiving resignation from Carly Jackson.
- Joe Milano will serve as the first third man on a career shift in department history
- Sold both 1976 FJ5 brush fire jeeps at auction
- EMS Only personnel were approved to be hired to help fill duty positions when staffing is low.
- Part-time employees received wage increase
- Commercial fire mutual aid to Orangeville
- Recv'd FEMA/AFG grant for third cot loading system
- Took delivery of new ambulance





Gerard J. Scellia
Photography
2023

July 2023



July 2023 Highlights

- New cardiac monitors recv'd from FEMA/AFG Grant
- Received Ohio Dept. of Public Safety EMS Grant



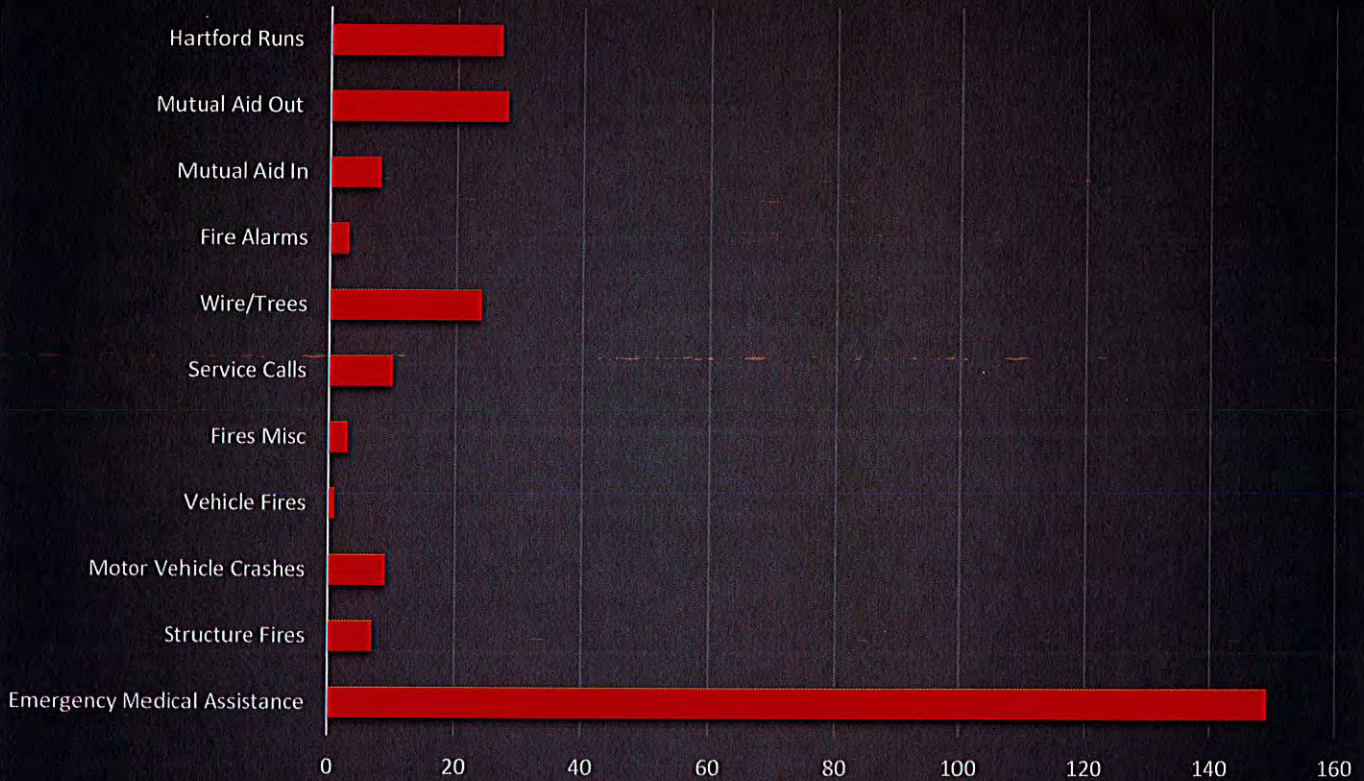


Gerard J. Larella
Photography
2023



Gerard J. Larella
Photography
2023

August 2023



	Emergency Medical Assistance	Structure Fires	Motor Vehicle Crashes	Vehicle Fires	Fires Misc	Service Calls	Wire/Trees	Fire Alarms	Mutual Aid In	Mutual Aid Out	Hartford Runs
Call Volume	149	7	9	1	3	10	24	3	8	28	27

■ Call Volume

August 2023 Highlights

- Worked on bid specs for new Hartford pumper
- Attended open house for schools as they began the new school year
- Hurricane Idalia, a Major Cat. 4 hurricane makes landfall on the big bend area of Florida before making a trek across GA & SC dumping record amounts of rain







September 2023



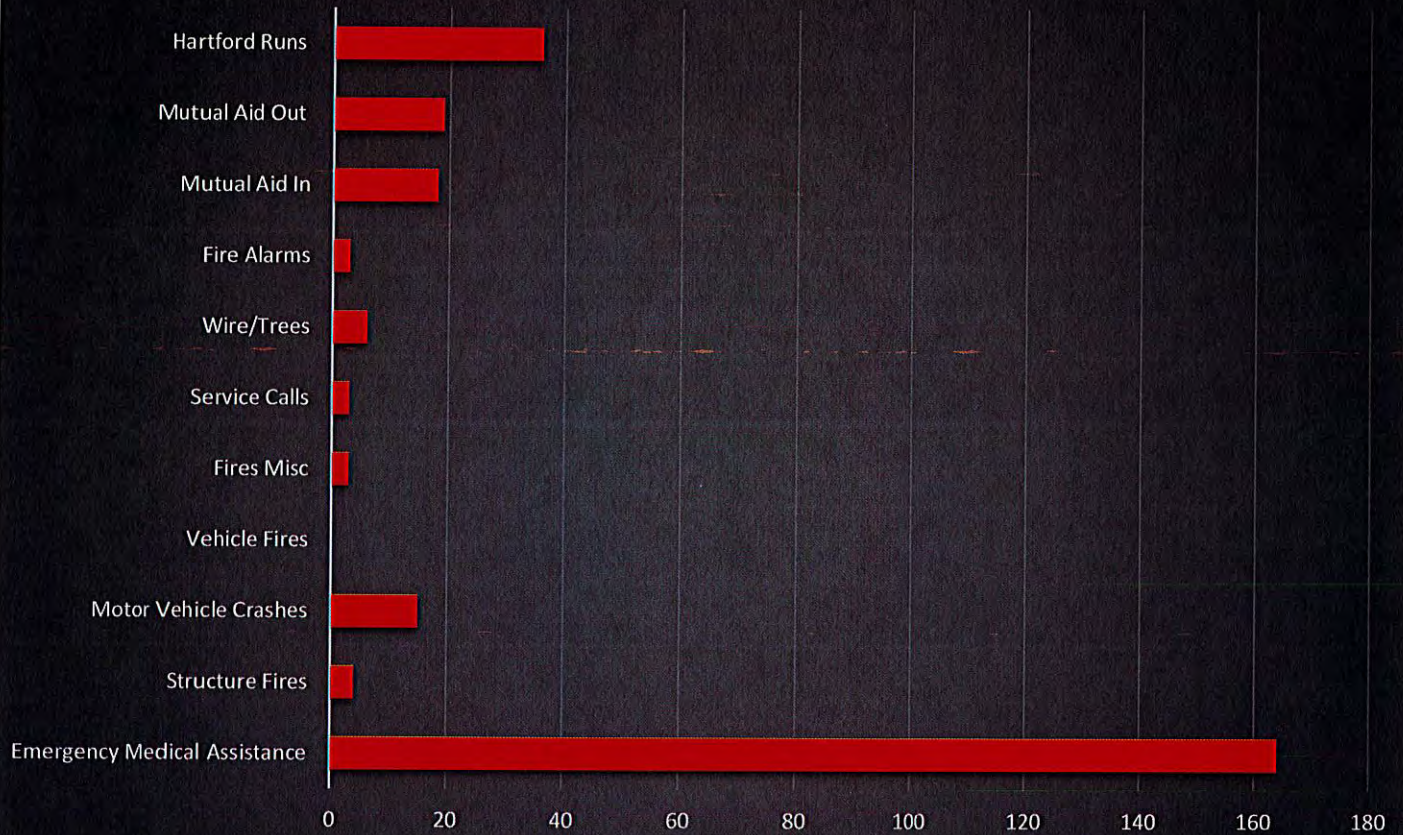
September 2023 Highlights

- New T-18 purchased
- Jenna Omar, student at Brookfield Schools, saves the life of fellow classmate by performing the Heimlich Maneuver





October 2023



	Emergency Medical Assistance	Structure Fires	Motor Vehicle Crashes	Vehicle Fires	Fires Misc	Service Calls	Wire/Trees	Fire Alarms	Mutual Aid In	Mutual Aid Out	Hartford Runs
■ Call Volume	164	4	15	0	3	3	6	3	18	19	36

■ Call Volume

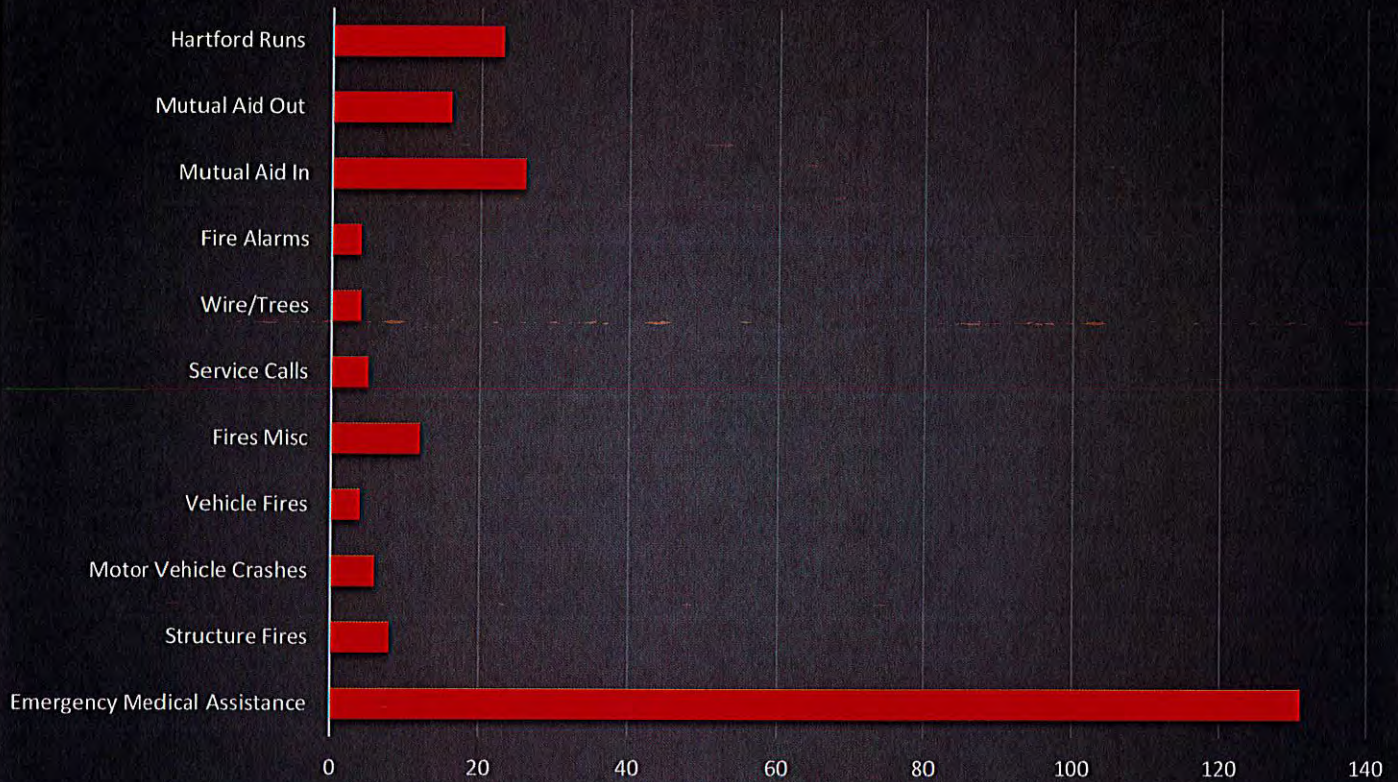
October 2023 Highlights

- Fire Prevention within the community and schools
- Annual Safety Night held at Brookfield Schools
- 911 rates to increase for the FY2024
- Truck 18 prepped for service
- Four new Cardiac Monitor/Defibrillators placed in service. These were purchased with monies recieved through a grant award from the Federal Emergency Management Agency





November 2023



	Emergency Medical Assistance	Structure Fires	Motor Vehicle Crashes	Vehicle Fires	Fires Misc	Service Calls	Wire/Trees	Fire Alarms	Mutual Aid In	Mutual Aid Out	Hartford Runs
Call Volume	131	8	6	4	12	5	4	4	26	16	23

Call Volume

November 2023 Highlights

- ISO grading completed
- Worked on preparing specs for new Hartford pumper
- Multiple large brushfires
- Veteran's Day barn fire St. Rt. 7 Burghill
- Thanksgiving Day house fire with loss of sixteen dogs on Stewart Sharon Road





James J. Lavelli
Photography

December 2023



December 2023 Highlights

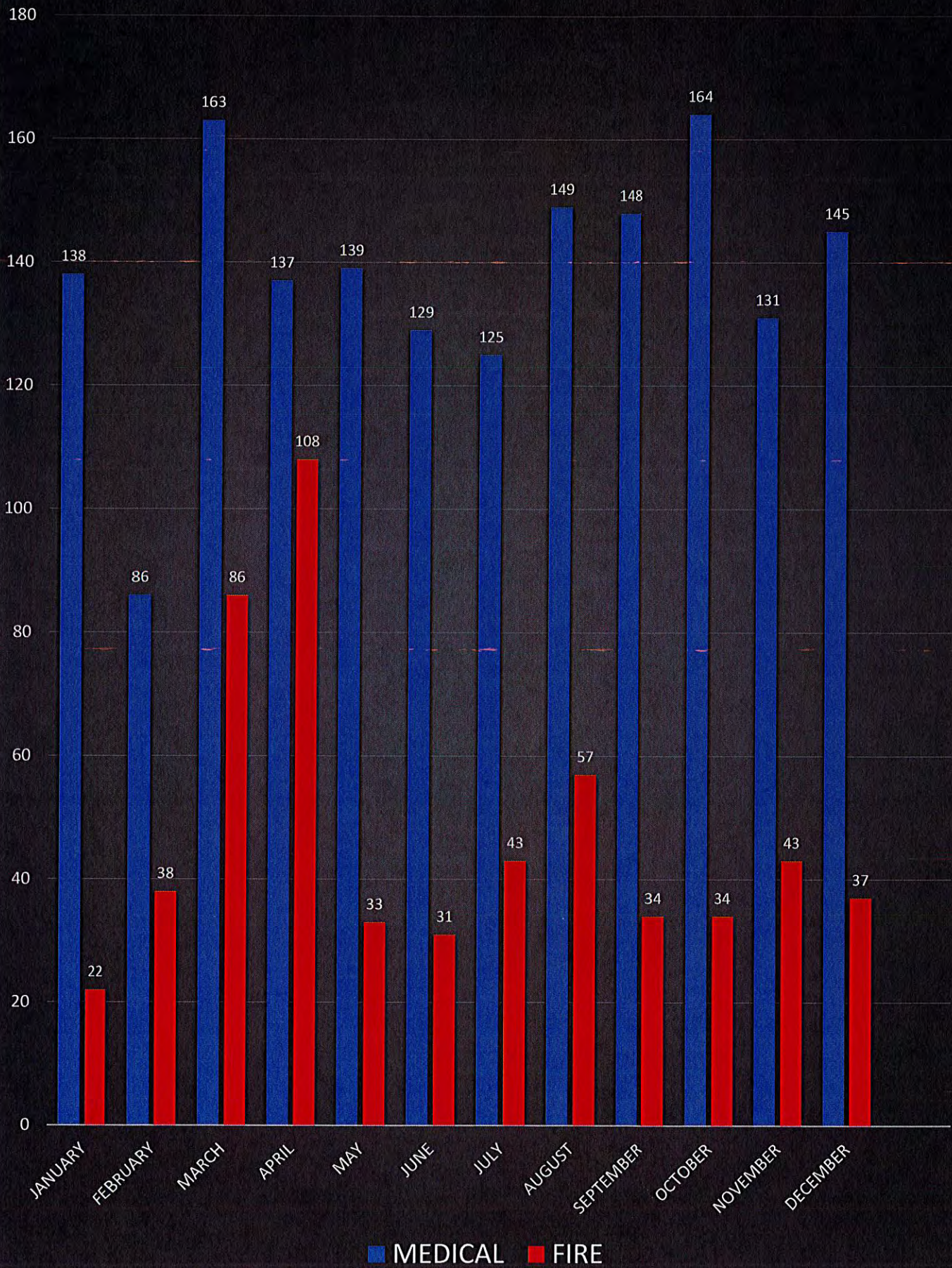
- Multiple working residential structure fires put local jurisdictions to the test
- Hartford Twp. Trustees signed with All American Fire Equipment for the purchase of a new engine/tanker combination pumper through Rosenbauer Inc.
- Four part-time members of the department received their Paramedic Certification
- New statewide fire reporting system implemented by the Ohio State Fire Marshall's Office
- Fatal house fire on Custer Orangeville Road
- New pick-up truck placed in service and equipped for rapid responses to all types of service calls. This truck was purchased with monies from the Fire/EMS funds and matched by monies received through the American Rescue Funding Program.





Hartford Trustees signing for the new Engine/Tanker 27 to be built

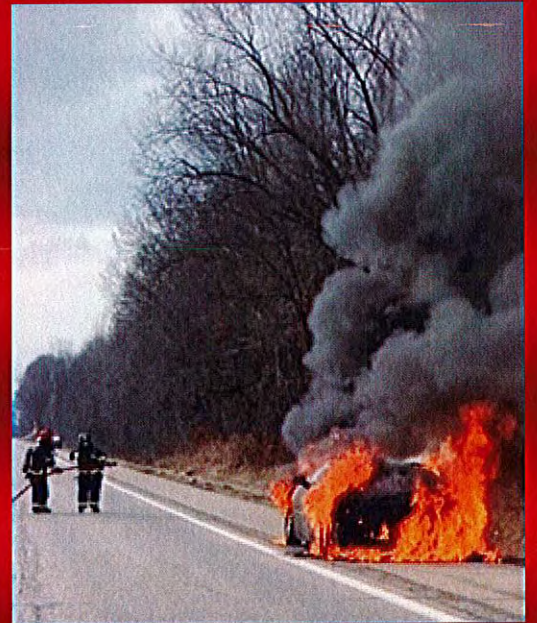
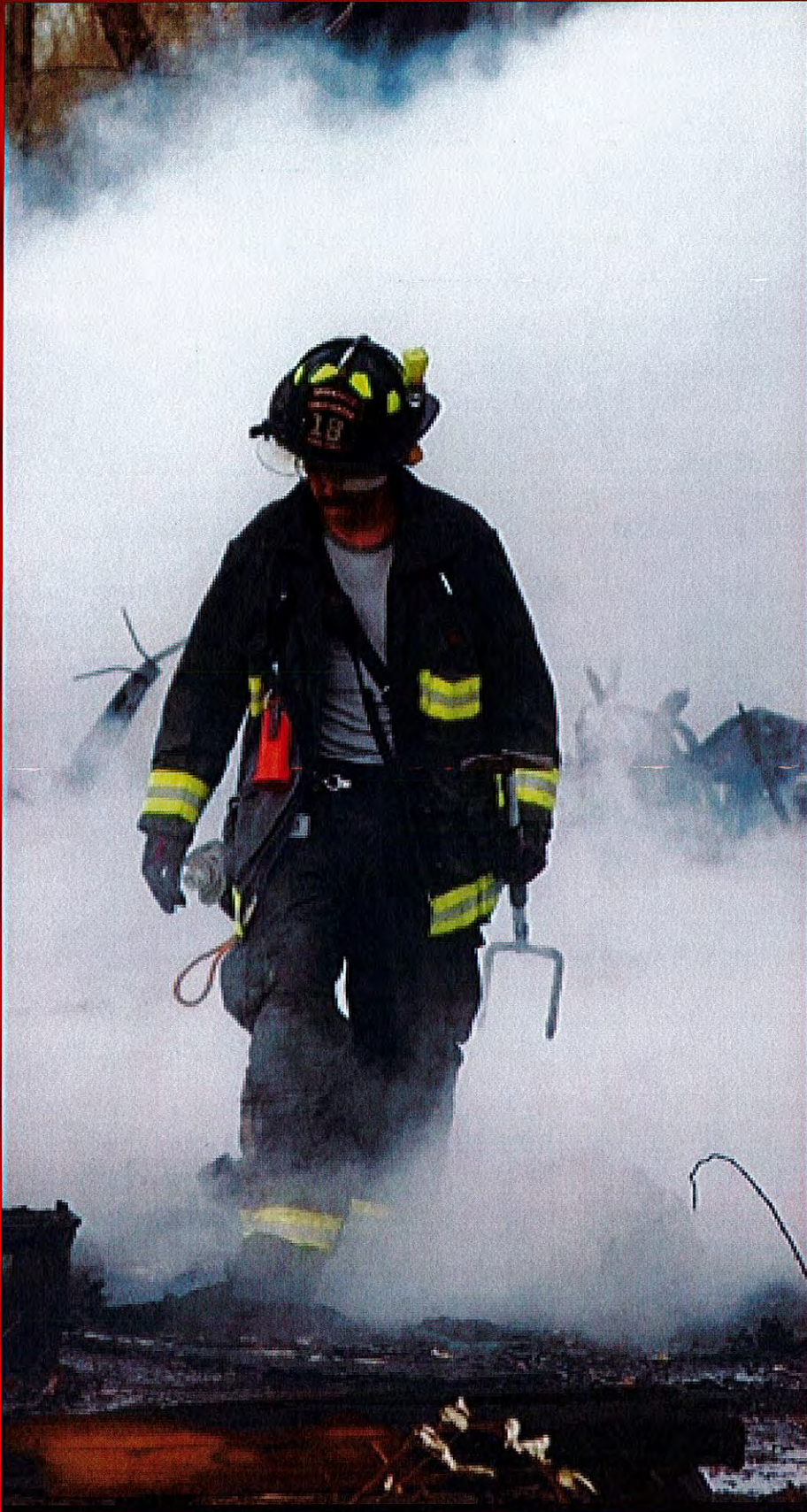
MEDICAL VS. FIRE MONTHLY 2023





Joey LaSalle
Photography
2015



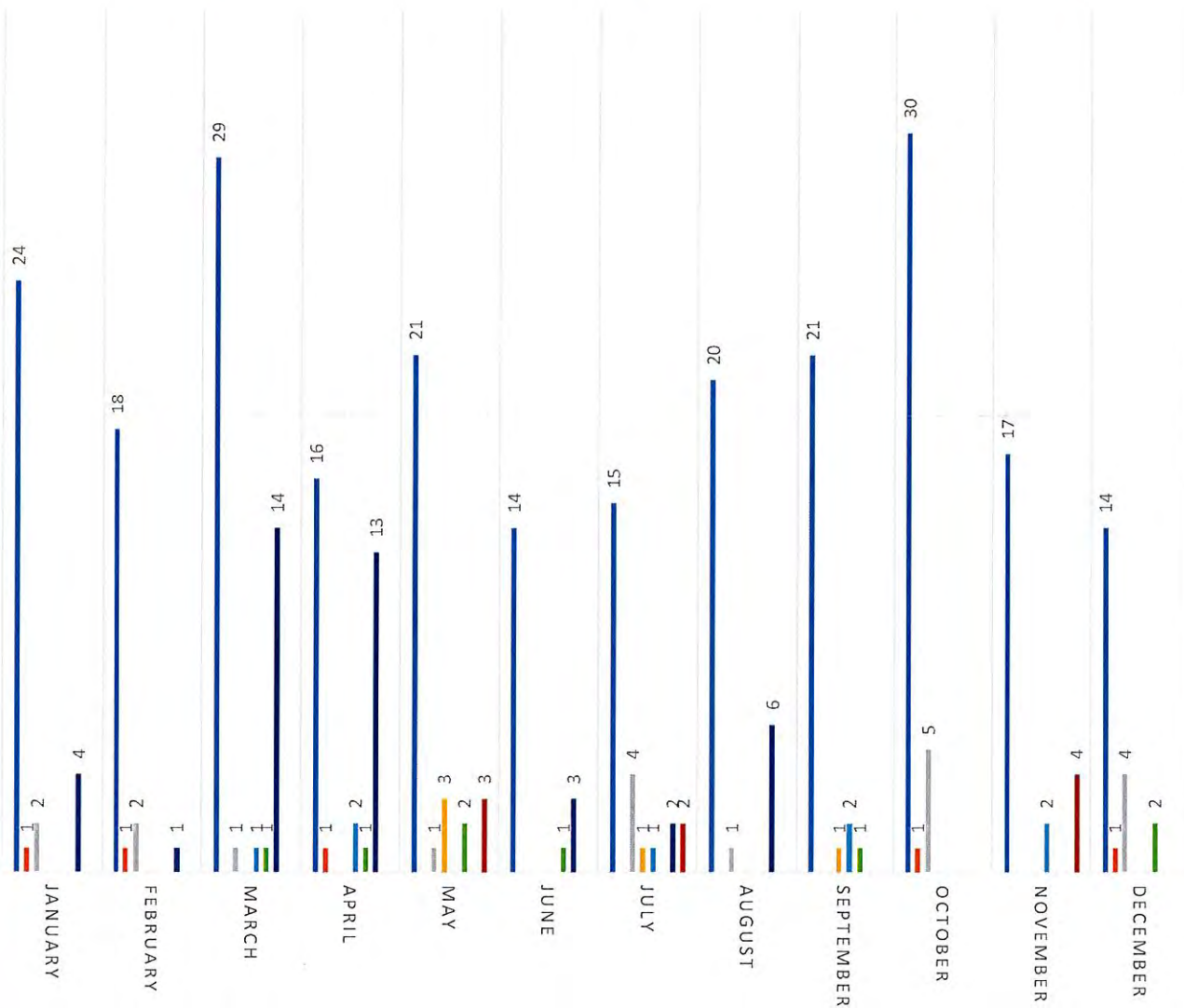


HARTFORD TOWNSHIP RESPONSES

2023

HARTFORD TWP. RESPONSES BY TYPE/MONTH 2023

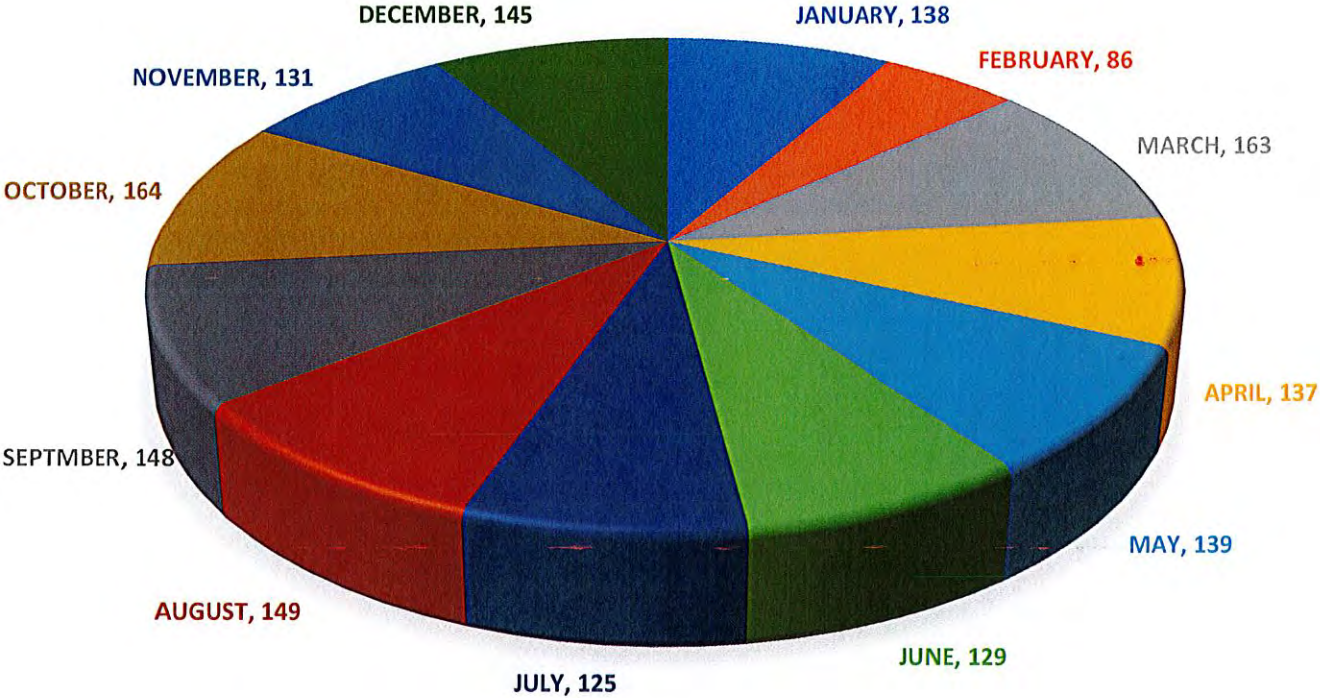
■ EMS
 ■ Structure Fire
 ■ MVC
 ■ Vehicle Fire
 ■ Fire Misc.
 ■ Service Calls
 ■ Wires/Trees
 ■ Fire Alarms







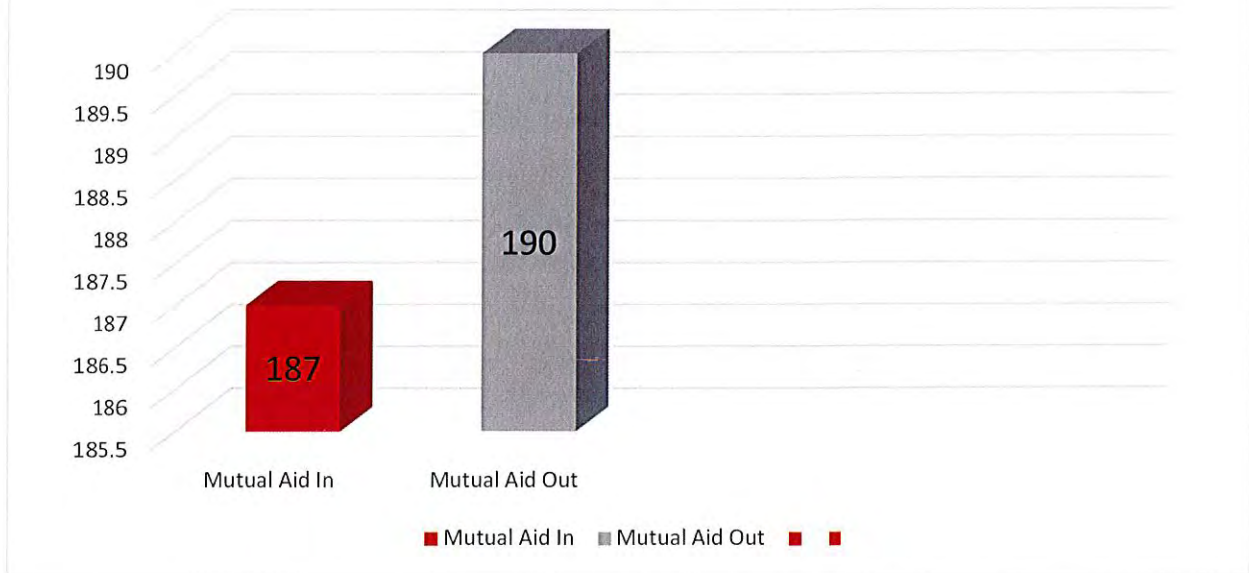
MEDICAL CALLS BY MONTH 2023





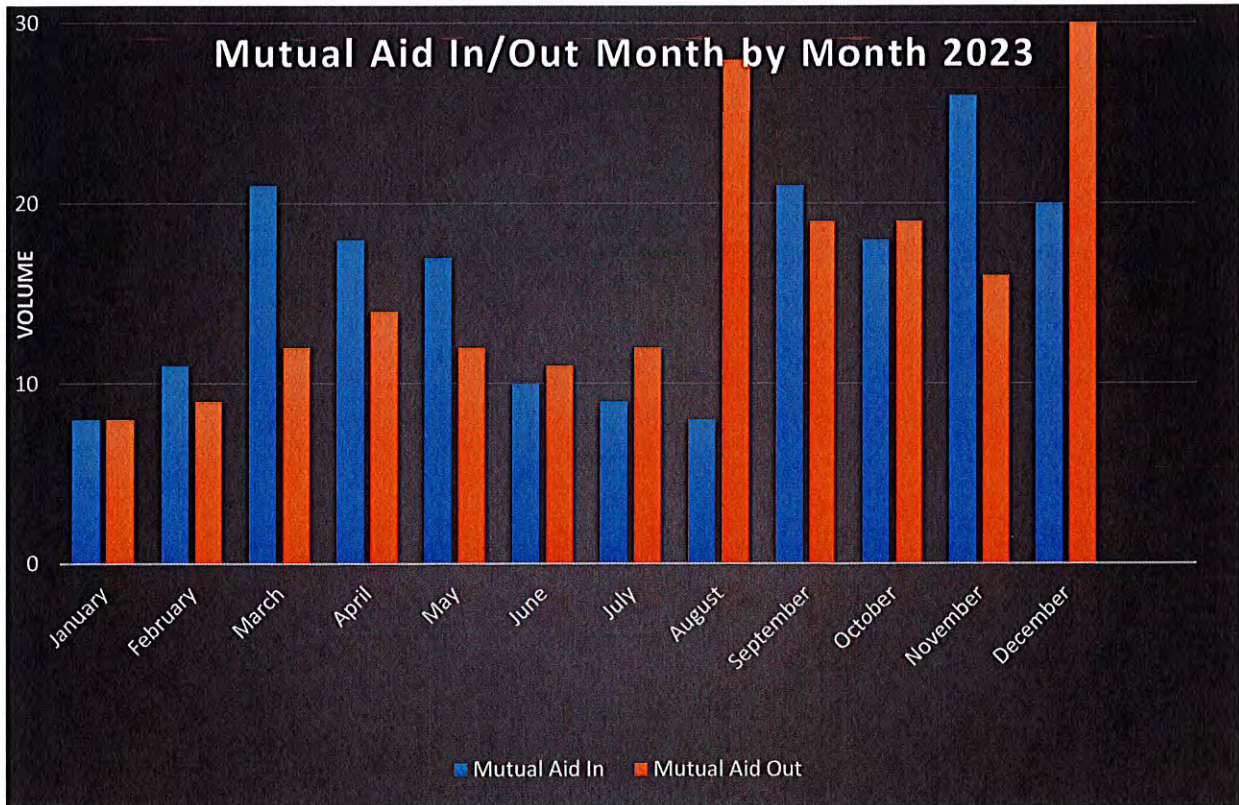


Overall Mutual Aid 2023



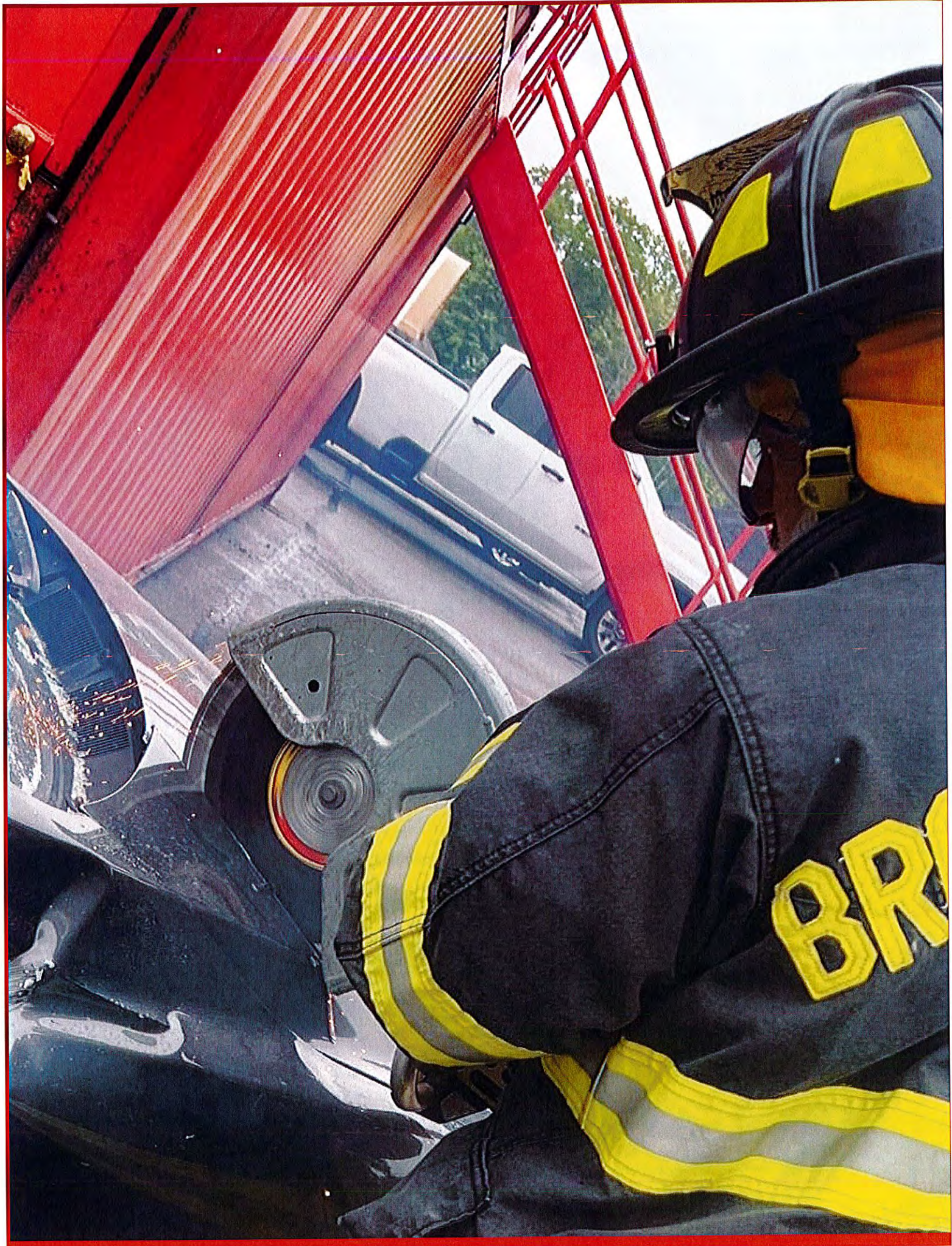
Mutual aid is defined as just that, it is aid from one jurisdiction to another mutually exchanged based on a fire or EMS system being overstrained for one reason or another. This may include incidents, based on their size & complexity, call volume, manpower shortages, vehicle shortages, etc....agreements with our neighbors throughout the area to assist them, and vice versa, in their time of need. It is this department's position that boundary lines do not exist and when someone calls for assistance, they need just that...assistance.

They deserve and we will continue to provide the best we can.

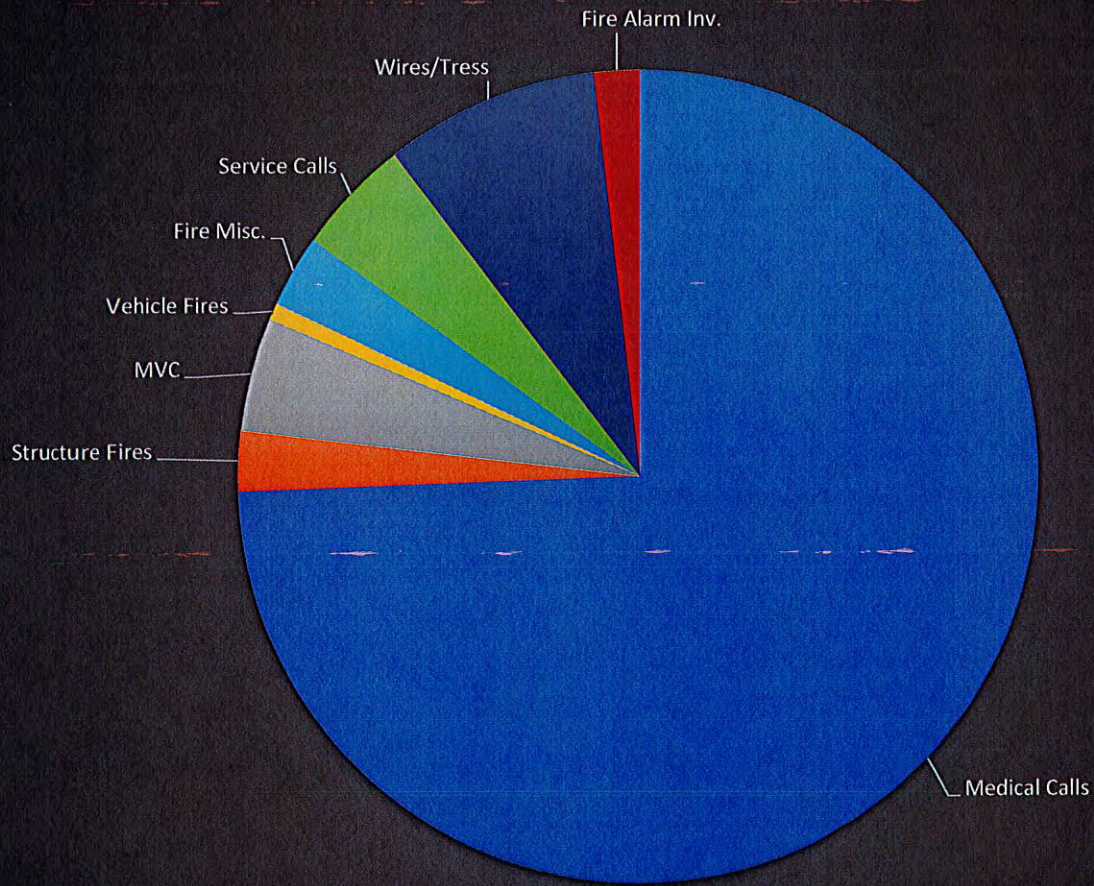


***These numbers reflect both Fire/EMS and include automatic aid ***





Overall Call Typing 2023



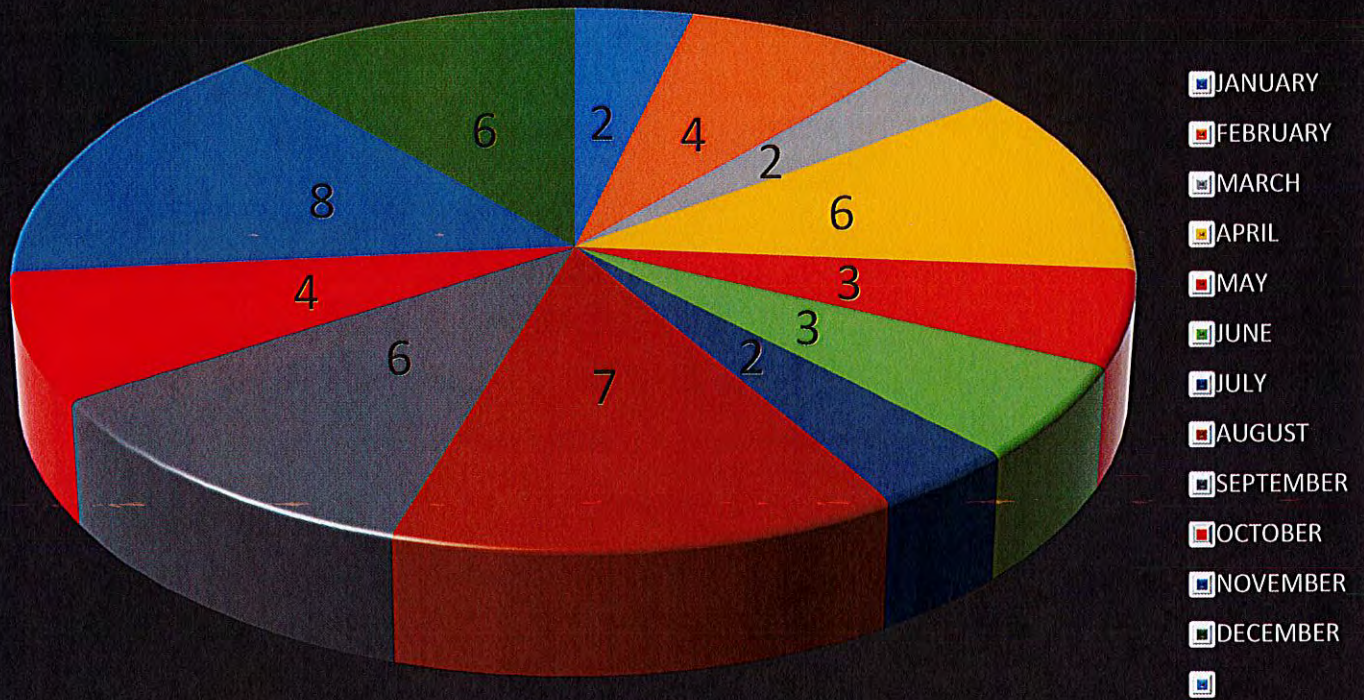
■ Medical Calls ■ Structure Fires ■ MVC ■ Vehicle Fires ■ Fire Misc. ■ Service Calls ■ Wires/Tress ■ Fire Alarm Inv.







STRUCTURE FIRES BY THE MONTH 2023

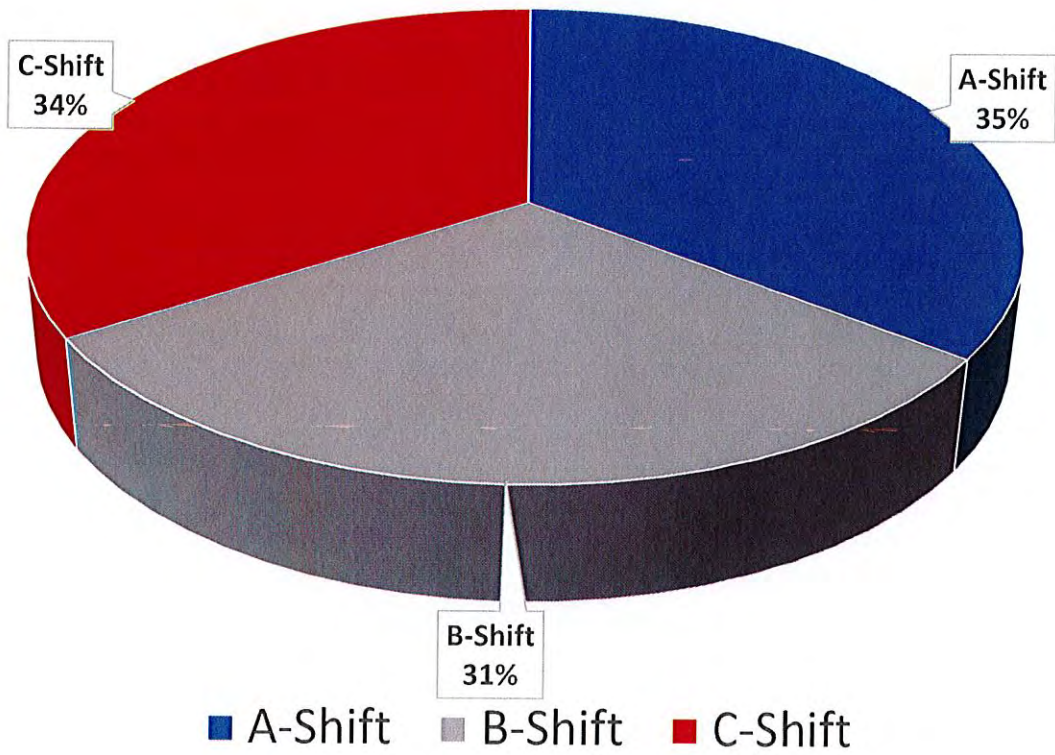






Melissa Hunter
PHOTOGRAPHY

EMS Calls by Shift 2023





Photography credited to Gerard Zarella, Joe Pinchot (News on the Green), & Melissa Wayner Photography