

Monthly Report: Mason Fire Department Facility and Operational Overview

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Our Mission

We humbly serve as a Guardian to our community, always ready to respond to those who are unable to help themselves. We do not advertise the nature of our work or seek recognition for our actions. We voluntarily accept the inherent hazards of our profession placing the welfare and security of others before our own.

Facility Safety and Compliance Issues This report aims to outline critical safety and compliance concerns within the fire station facility, in accordance with OSHA, TOSHA, and NFPA standards.

1. Electrical Safety

- Multiple electrical outlets are exposed, with plugs hanging outside their housing and lacking appropriate covers, posing a significant safety risk.

2. Storage Safety

- Heavy equipment has been improperly stored on top of 7 ft. shelves, increasing the risk of injuries from falling items.

3. Structural and Fire Code Compliance

- The building lacks proper fire code compliance for sleeping quarters. A firewall must be installed between the equipment storage area and the firefighter sleeping quarters, and a functional sprinkler system is also required.

4. Fire Extinguisher Inspections

- Fire extinguishers have not undergone the mandatory annual and monthly inspections, leaving the facility non-compliant.

5. Cylinder Bottle Storage

- Cylinder bottles are not stored in designated areas, creating potential hazards.

6. Access to Storage Areas

- The stairs to the storage area have been replaced with a ladder, which is unsafe and impractical.

7. Water Damage

- Water damage has been identified on the walls, raising concerns about structural integrity.

8. Blocked Exits and Entrances

- Fire trucks obstruct exits and entrances, hindering movement and emergency responses.

9. Space Constraints

- Overcrowding by fire trucks limits operational efficiency and maneuverability within the facility.

Apparatus and Equipment Safety Concerns

1. Tanker 74

- Missing strobe lights and hanging wires.
- Malfunctioning lights and siren that randomly activate or deactivate, violating the Vanessa K. Free Act.

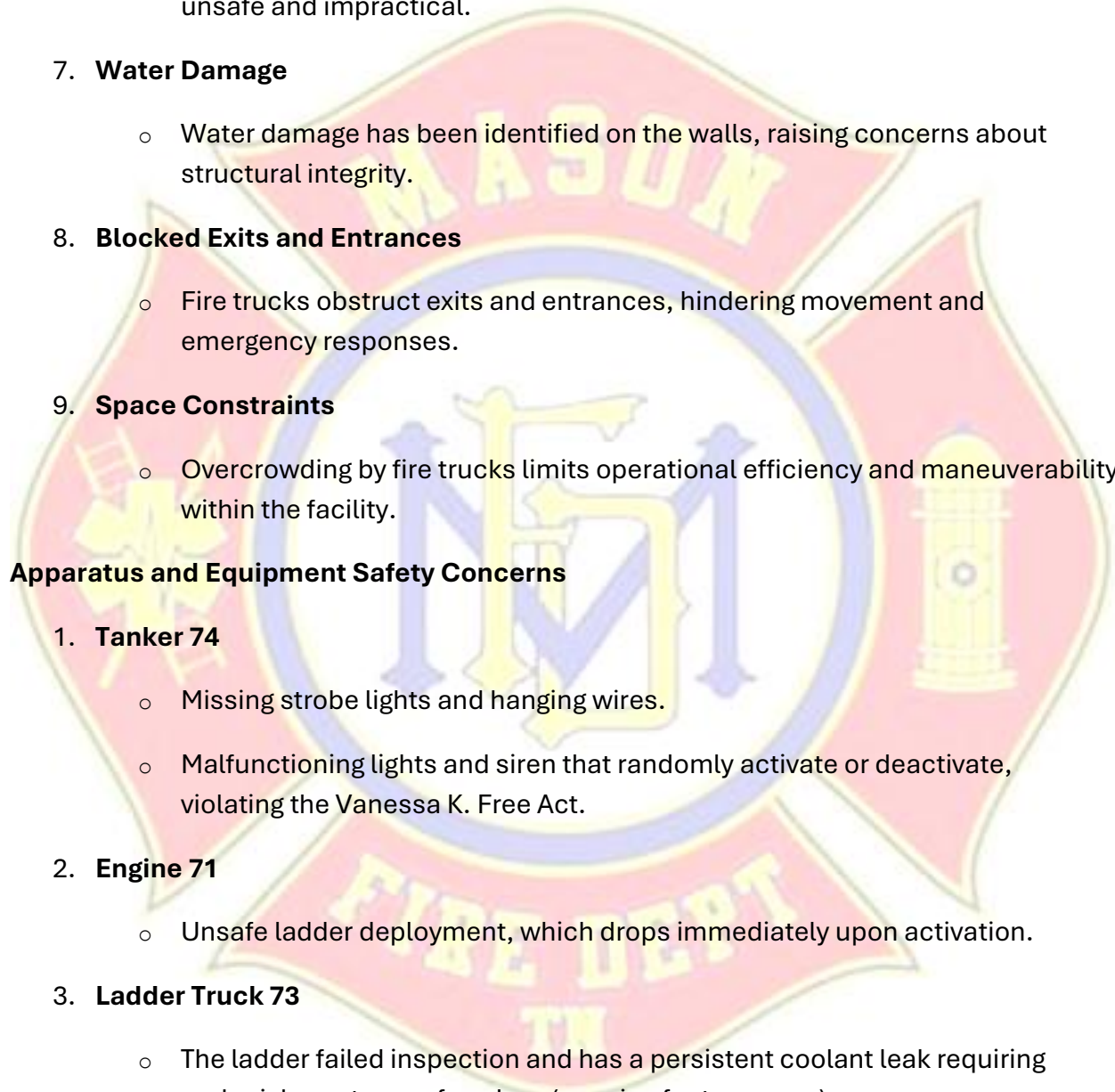
2. Engine 71

- Unsafe ladder deployment, which drops immediately upon activation.

3. Ladder Truck 73

- The ladder failed inspection and has a persistent coolant leak requiring replenishment every few days (ongoing for two years).
- Improperly installed flashlight holders with protruding screws on the back passenger side.

4. Engine 72



- Unsafe ladder deployment, which drops immediately upon activation.
- Missing lights in several areas and an ongoing oil leak.

5. Lack of a Brush Truck

- A brush truck is critical for responding to brush and wildfires in our rural area. The absence of this apparatus severely impacts operational effectiveness.

Inventory Issues An inventory review has revealed the following missing items:

1. Three radios that have not been activated in over two years.
2. One Samsung Galaxy tablet, unaccounted for.

Closing Statement The Mason Fire Department is committed to addressing these critical issues to ensure the safety, efficiency, and compliance of our operations. Efforts are being made to develop actionable solutions and secure the resources needed to meet OSHA, TOSHA, NFPA standards, and the Vanessa K. Free Act. Collaboration with relevant authorities will be key as we strive to create a safer and more effective work environment for our firefighters and the community.

Applicable Standards and Violations

1. OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) Standards

- Exposed electrical outlets: **29 CFR 1910.303(b)(2)**.
- Improper ladder use: **29 CFR 1910.25**.

2. TOSHA (Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration) Standards

- Fire extinguisher inspections: **29 CFR 1910.157(e)**.
- Blocked exits: **29 CFR 1910.36**.

3. NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) Standards

- Sleeping quarters without sprinklers and firewall: **NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code)**.
- Apparatus issues (e.g., ladder truck, Tanker 74): **NFPA 1901**.
- Improper storage of cylinders and heavy equipment: **NFPA 1 (Fire Code)**.

4. Vanessa K. Free Act

- Malfunctioning emergency lights and sirens: Violation of legally required operational standards for emergency vehicles.

