

WINCHESTER FIRE & RESCUE

2023 Annual Report





Administrative Officers

Jon Henschel, Fire Chief
James Orndorff, Assistant Fire Chief
Brandon Krippner, Deputy Chief of Operations
Jeremy Luttrell, Deputy Chief of Community Risk Reduction
Adam Still, Training Battalion Chief

Support Staff

Nichole Hounshell, Office Manager
Justin Shifflett, EMS Billing Manager
Nichole Lear, Administrative Assistant
Danny Thomas, Logistics Officer
Caleb Sherwood, CRR Lieutenant
Shannon Ganoë, Community Paramedic

A-Shift

TJ Vaught, Battalion Chief
Chris Yost, Lieutenant
Branyon Williams, Lieutenant
Sam Bohus, Lieutenant
Carroll Richardson, Lieutenant
Lenny Clowser, Master Tech
Gerry Pierce, Master Tech
David Hughes, Master Tech
Chris Umphrey, Master Tech
Brandon Buchanan, Master Tech
Scott Livengood, Technician
Mike Flagg, Technician
Logan Wratford, Technician
Tommy Schwietz, FF/EMT
Matt Price, FF/EMT
Kerstenn Rodgers, FF/EMT
Jeremiah Pattison, FF/EMT
Tyler Koch, FF/EMT
John Stehle, FF/EMT

B-Shift

Scott Gray, Battalion Chief
Gerald Bohus, Lieutenant
Dustin Amtower, Lieutenant
Blane Johnson, Lieutenant
Chris Dunn, Lieutenant
Al Moats, Master Tech
Kevin Layman, Master Tech
Jeff Myers, Master Tech
Luke Brown, Technician
Damien Hale, Technician
Stephen Morris, Technician
Peyton Sindedecker, Technician
Kayla Misner, Technician
Trent Phillips, Technician
Luke Jenkins, FF/EMT
Martin Franzem, FF/EMT
Eric Mears, FF/EMT
Justin Sears, FF/EMT
Robert Haggerty, FF/Medic

C-Shift

Drew DeHaven, Battalion Chief
Matt Gearhart, Lieutenant
Matt Yost, Lieutenant
Jeremy Greenbacker, Lieutenant
Matt Morris, Lieutenant
Ryan Hodges, Master Tech
Colin O'Hara, Master Tech
Allen Ballenger, Master Tech
Bryant Gochenour, Master Tech
David Brinegar, Master Tech
Nathan Hatke, Technician
Lacie Brown, Technician
Josh Hartzler, Technician
Mike Sweeney, Technician
Jesse Walther, Technician
Thomas Whipple, Technician
Michael Vickers, FF/EMT
Ryan Malloy, FF/EMT
Wyatt Claudy, FF/EMT

Recruits

Sarah Carson
Cameron Faint
Dominic Indiero
James Mood
Jacob Shanholtzer
Jesse Simpson
Rebecca States
Joseph Stehle
Matthew Wright

Part-Time Instructors

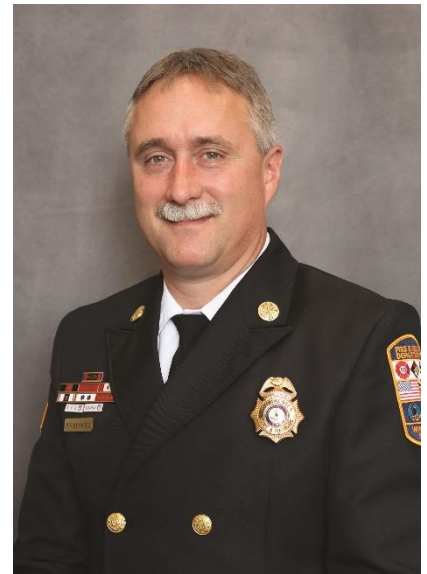
Maurice Bruce
William Dunn
John Newlin
Shane Wood
Russell Kerns

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Message from the Fire Chief

It is my pleasure to present you with the Winchester Fire and Rescue Department's 2023 Annual Report. Our organization is comprised of volunteer and career members that are ready to serve their community 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We are benefactors of unwavering support from our City Council, the city leadership team, our fire and rescue foundation, key community stakeholders, and most of all our great community members. Our successes over the past year would not have been possible without all of you. The safety, health and wellness of our community members remains our number one priority, and we strive to accomplish this by providing excellent emergency services delivery and prevention efforts through our many risk reduction offerings. We look forward to continuing this effort in 2024 as we increase operational staffing, build infrastructure, and enhance some of our programs to reach even more of our community members.



In 2023, we held another career recruit academy to bolster the number of firefighters we have to provide service as service delivery demands increase. Additionally, our volunteer staffing levels are on the rise through the efforts of our volunteer administrators and members, and the recent addition of a fire academy class at the Innovation Center. Our partnership with Handley High School is already yielding results to increase numbers in our volunteer membership. Several infrastructure projects are underway. We have ordered another ambulance and our first city owned fire engine to replace some aging apparatus in our fleet. A new city fire station continues through the design phase and we hope to break ground on the current South End site by the end of 2024. A new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system project is in the review phase as we look to replace our antiquated system that is nearly three decades old! This new system will benefit our entire public safety team and streamline responses to our community members when a call for assistance is received.

We continue to address the many action items in our department's strategic plan to evolve the fire service in Winchester. Several items have reached completion and many more are ongoing. We will continue working on action items within the document as we continually evaluate data on service delivery demands, staffing levels, infrastructure and risk reduction activities. Thank you again for supporting our fire service in Winchester!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon D. Henschel". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

Jon D. Henschel, Fire Chief

Organizational Overview

The Winchester Fire and Rescue Department (WFRD) is comprised of one city owned and three volunteer owned fire stations that are strategically located throughout the city. Volunteer personnel consist of administrative and operational personnel that run their organizations, conduct weekly fundraising and/or ride the fire and rescue apparatus. The WFRD staffs the four stations with 74 career fire and EMS certified personnel. The station personnel work a 24-hour (on) / 48-hour (off) schedule with a fixed “Kelly Day” every three weeks. The department also has administrative support staff, a logistics officer and a Community Risk Reduction Division. WFRD works in collaboration with our four volunteer organizations to provide staffing, facilities, training, apparatus and equipment that serves the Winchester community.

Station #1–Friendship

The Friendship Fire Company is located at 627 North Pleasant Valley Road in Winchester. Friendship provides engine company coverage, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) transport and is first due to the north and eastern sections of the city.

President – Brian Bannister

Chief – Bobby Luttrell

Station #2–Rouss

The Charley Rouss Fire Company Inc. is located at 3 South Braddock Street in Winchester. Rouss provides truck company coverage and vehicle extrication for the entire City of Winchester.

President – John Hawse

Chief – Philip VanSlike

Station #4–Shawnee

The Shawnee Fire Company is located at 2210 Valor Drive in Winchester. Shawnee provides engine company coverage, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) transport and is first due to the south and extreme western sections of the city.

President – Samantha Hart

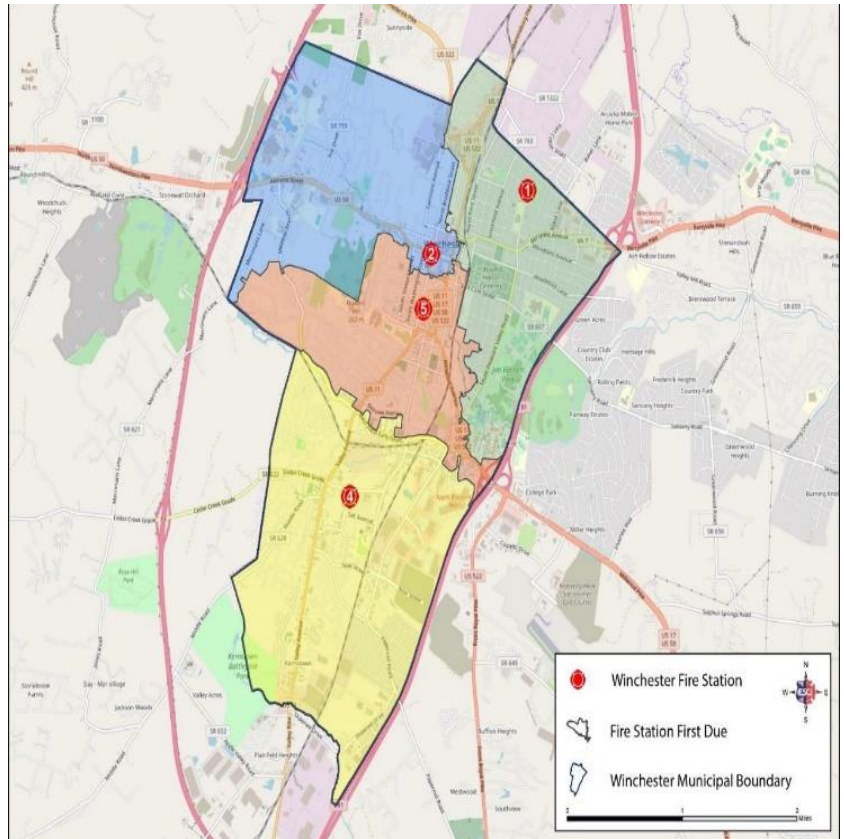
Chief – Russell Kerns

Station #5–South End (City owned)

The South End Fire Company is located at 17 West Monmouth Street in Winchester. South End provides engine company coverage, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) transport and is first due to the downtown and western sections of the city.

President – James Blocker

Chief – Tom Zirkle



Guiding Principles

The items listed below serve as overarching statements for WFRD members to base their decisions upon.

Mission Statement

To professionally provide and enhance life safety and fire protection services in a safe, resolute and respectful manner for all our community partners.

Vision Statement

Winchester Fire and Rescue Department strives to be a leader in combination Fire and Rescue Services.

Core Values

F – Fairness

I – Integrity

R – Respect

S – Service

T – Trust

Leadership Philosophy

Our focus is to empower members to grow rather than be content. Personnel are expected to be the very best in their profession, accountable, at all levels, and to make critical decisions that best benefit the community and department.

Strategic Goal

WFRD will continuously work to meet the 16 Life Safety Initiatives to make sure “Everyone Goes Home” as defined by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. We will serve the community through strategic planning that focuses on staffing, infrastructure and resources. We will strive to increase career and volunteer recruitment and retention.

Fire and Rescue Incident Response Information

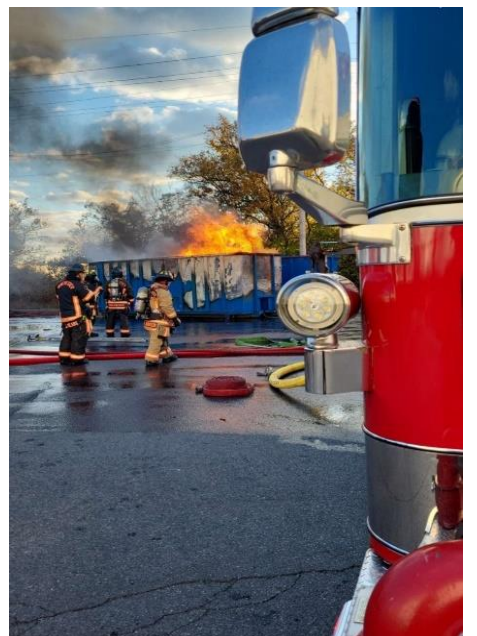
The Winchester Fire and Rescue Department continued its mission to provide excellent service to our citizens, visitors and those traveling through our city. Calls for emergency service saw a slight downturn in 2023 due to a number of positive factors including our Community Paramedic Program, revisions to Mutual Aid agreements and our risk reduction activities. Our 2023 response activities included emergent and non-emergent requests for Emergency Medical Services, Fire Services, Public Assist Services, Mutual Aid Responses and Community Paramedic Services.



Fire Incidents – 1,352
Structure Fires – 34
Mutual Aid Given – 202
Mutual Aid Received – 102



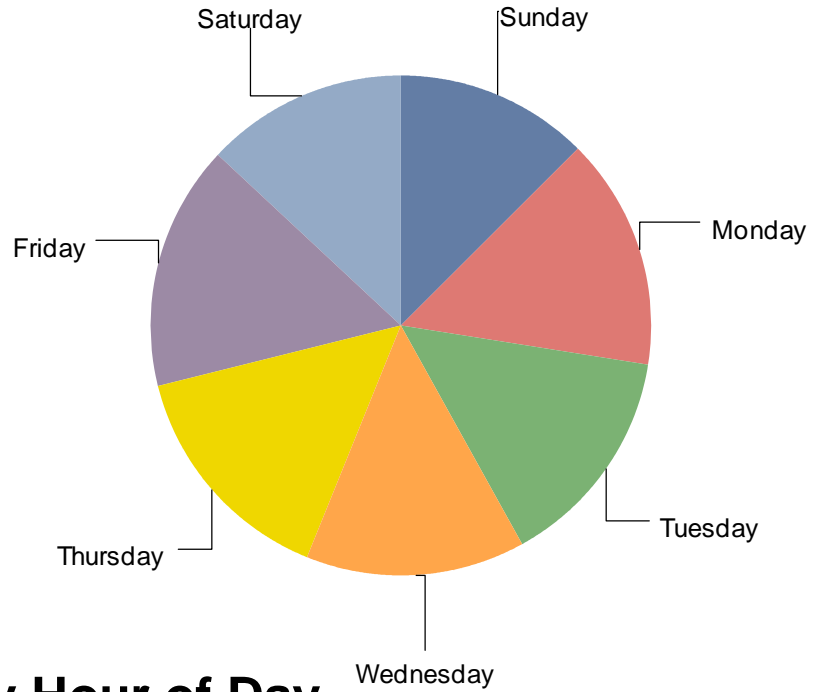
EMS Incidents – 5,092
EMS Public Assists – 278
Cardiac Arrests – 35
Cardiac Arrest Saves – 17



Fire and Rescue Calls for Service (CFS) Breakdown

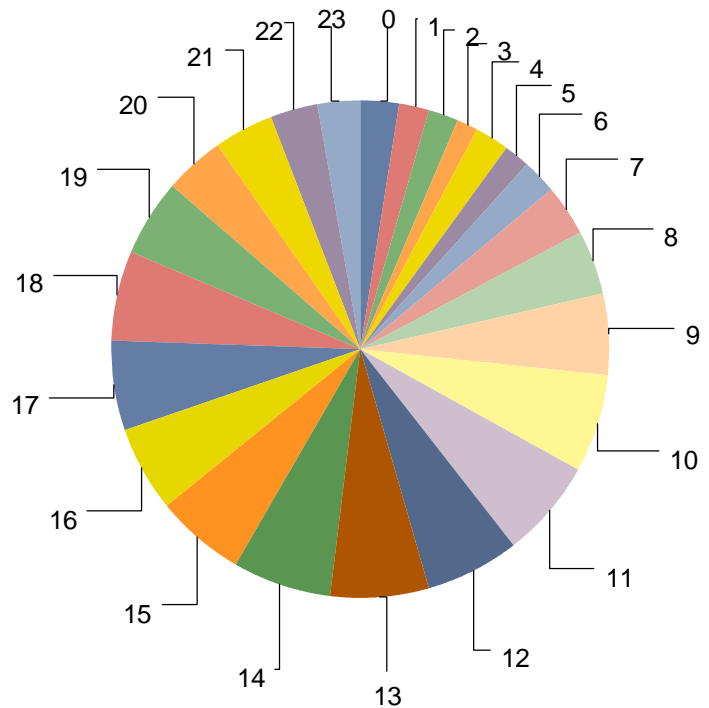
CFS by Day of Week

Sunday	815	12.6%
Monday	966	15.0%
Tuesday	923	14.3%
Wednesday	926	14.3%
Thursday	958	14.8%
Friday	1,034	16.0%
Saturday	838	13.0%
Total:	6,460	100.0%



CFS by Hour of Day

0	170	2.6%
1	123	1.9%
2	117	1.8%
3	101	1.6%
4	126	2.0%
5	121	1.9%
6	137	2.1%
7	215	3.3%
8	265	4.1%
9	354	5.5%
10	401	6.2%
11	420	6.5%
12	386	6.0%
13	426	6.6%
14	415	6.4%
15	376	5.8%
16	360	5.6%
17	366	5.7%
18	383	5.9%
19	316	4.9%
20	259	4.0%
21	242	3.7%
22	205	3.2%
23	176	2.7%
Total:	6,460	100.0%



Fire and Rescue Department Training

Fire and Rescue members participated in numerous training activities in 2023. Training is an essential component of preparedness to ensure the most efficient and effective service is delivered in our community. Operational members conducted and completed trainings to enhance fire knowledge and skills, EMS knowledge and skills, hazardous materials knowledge and skills, and several specialty hazard areas that fall under the responsibility of the fire department. Additionally, department officers conducted and completed officer and leadership training throughout the year.



Training Hours Completed – 38,606



Fire and Rescue External Stakeholder Training

Members of the Fire and Rescue department led or assisted with training across a broad spectrum of topics to bolster our risk reduction efforts in the community. These training sessions included joint efforts with our Department of Social Services partners on infant safe sleep considerations and fire extinguishers. CPR classes were held at the Innovation Center, the Rescue Mission, Winchester Public Schools and other city departments. Stop the bleed and Narcan administration classes were held for Winchester Public Schools, and fire safety awareness classes were held at local churches. Members assisted local businesses with industrial fire training at the training center, local academies with fire and EMS training, and community members with new parent child safety seat classes.



Community Risk Reduction (Fire Marshal Division)

Our fire marshals manage numerous annual inspections, re-inspections, new business inspections and fire protection system inspections throughout the year. Plan reviews are conducted for new buildings and fire protection systems. Fire investigations were conducted to identify causal factors after an incident, which helps drive our public education information to enhance risk reduction efforts. The smoke alarm program aids citizens in need by assessing their living environment and providing them with working smoke alarms. Risk reduction and operational members assisted with community canvassing throughout the year to offer home inspections that will reduce fire risk and fall risk for our senior citizens. This program has been well received and resulted in several home inspections. Our organization also partnered with the Red Cross for their “Sound the Alarm” event in 2023 to install smoke alarms throughout the city. The effort resulted in 130 installs in properties around the city.



Plan Reviews – 91

Annual Inspections – 938

Fire Investigations – 17

Homes Visited – 861

Smoke Alarm Installs – 191



Community Risk Reduction

Public education events are a well-received highlight of the community risk reduction division. These events are conducted throughout the year and comprise of station tours, pre-school and school visits, sessions with a variety of community groups and businesses, safety fairs and numerous other events.

Attendance: 3566 (children) and 3133 (adults)



Community Paramedic Program

The community paramedic program was implemented in 2022 to assist community members with a variety of needs that fall outside of normal fire and rescue operations. This program identifies clients with limited means and provides them with resources and options to enhance their physical health, mental health, addiction issues, and/or their living environments. The program has achieved great success thanks to all of our community partners and our dedicated community paramedic.

Program Referrals – 70

Assistance Rendered – 41

New Enrollments – 22

Clients Served (ongoing) – 84



Volunteers

Volunteers play an integral role in keeping our community safe. Volunteers dedicate their time to assist with fire department operations, administrative functions and fundraising efforts. Much of the infrastructure in Winchester is owned and operated by our volunteers. Their ongoing contributions to the community help to offset the costs of fire services to our citizens and are to be commended.



Recruits

The fire and rescue department graduated an academy of recruits in January of 2023. These members were assigned to stations and were all operationally cleared during the course of the year. In the fall of 2023, we started our next recruit academy that continues to work diligently on certifications.

2023 Recruit Academy Graduation



New Recruit Academy Class



Recruit Training



Innovation Center Academy

In 2023, the fire and rescue department partnered with our school system to implement a fire academy class at the Innovation Center. This academy mirrored the ongoing EMT academy class already in session. We appreciate our volunteer chiefs from Shawnee spearheading these important academies. The academies have yielded great results in bringing young community members into our volunteer organizations. The future looks bright for those that desire to be career firefighters and emergency medical service providers!



Community Involvement

Our fire and rescue department members appreciate opportunities to engage community members as we participate in a number of events throughout the year. Our outreach and involvement extends well beyond the normal day-to-day training and response activities required of our members. The fire and rescue foundation is a key stakeholder in our organization. Foundation members are comprised of local business owners that work hard to promote our service by fundraising (to assist with fire service needs and community outreach events) and attending fire service functions in the community.

Firefighter's Union Donation



Field of Flags at Handley High School



Recruitment Initiative



Community Involvement

Apple Blossom Planning



Apple Blossom

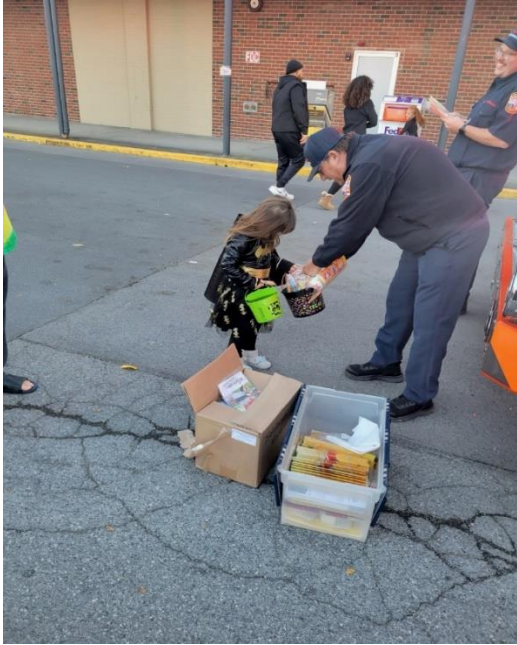


Fire and Rescue Foundation Fundraisers



Community Involvement

Trick or Treat Event



Community Safety Fair



Christmas Project for Community Kids



Awards and Recognitions

Our department received another Mission Lifeline Award for cardiac care and many of our members received distinguished awards and recognitions throughout 2023. This is a testament to the great work being done by our members to provide outstanding service to our community members.

MT Brinegar Cookie Contest Winner



Nichole Hounshell Employee of the month



MT Misner Outstanding Educator



FF Rodgers Employee of the month and year for 2023!



Awards and Recognitions

BC Vaught Leadership Academy



Valor Awards Ceremony



Resuscitation Awards

Kaitlyn Tolley – ECC

Andrea Dove – ECC

MT Jeff Hartman – F&R

MT Kayla Misner – F&R

FF Channing McGinnis – F&R

FF Peyton Sindledecker – F&R

BC Larry Baker – F&R

Unit Citation Award

Kelly Brill – ECC

Andrea Dove – ECC

FF Eric Mears – F&R

FF Peyton Sindledecker – F&R

Volunteer Awards

FF Ryan Lonas

EMT of the Year

FF Calvin Kasinski

Firefighter of the Year

Chief Russell Kerns

Volunteer of the Year (and)

VFW Firefighter of the Year

Promotions

Battalion Chief Scott Gray



Lieutenant Matt Gearhart



Lieutenant Jeremy Greenbacker



Retirements

Deputy Chief Ronald DeHaven



Battalion Chief Larry Baker



Capital Projects

In 2023, the city purchased and placed into service at Friendship Fire Company our first new city owned ambulance. We have another ambulance and our first city owned fire engine on order. The CAD project continues through the evaluation and review phase, while the first new city fire station is mid-way through the design phase. Great things are ahead for our fire and rescue system!

Ambulance Placed In-Service



Fire Station Rendering



Thank you for your support of the
Winchester Fire and Rescue Department!