

# 2011 ANNUAL REPORT





To: Mayor Walaker, Fire Commissioner Williams,  
Board of City Commissioners, and Citizens  
of Fargo

From: Chief Steven Dirksen, Fargo Fire Department

Date: April 4, 2012

Subject: Fargo Fire Department Annual Report

2011 was a year of significant change for the Fargo Fire Department. In June Fire Chief Bruce Hoover announced his retirement. Chief Hoover served the Fargo Fire Department from March 17, 1975 to July 5, 2011. During his career Chief Hoover served as Firefighter, Captain, Fire Prevention Inspector, Director of Training, and Fire Chief. During his 12 years as Fire Chief he led the department in the addition of 2 fire stations, initiated the accreditation program, encouraged the development of the ProBoard Credentialing Program, and a Public Access Defibrillation Program. I want to thank Chief Hoover for his 37 years of valued leadership and service to the Fargo Fire Department and the City of Fargo. We all wish him well in his retirement.

As we begin a new chapter in the history of the Fargo Fire Department it is appropriate to look back at what was accomplished in 2011. In the following pages you will read of the events and statistics that occurred in the year 2011. As you read through this report I want you to keep in mind that the City of Fargo has one of the most outstanding fire departments in the Upper Midwest. In my short time here I have seen that our most important asset is our employees. The group of men and women that make up the fire department are extremely dedicated to providing the highest level of service that could be expected of them. Whether they are fighting a fire in an apartment building, leading the production of sand bags, or helping someone who has fallen and has no one else to help them up, these firefighters are extremely dedicated to providing the best service possible. I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to lead the Fargo Fire Department, and for the past and continued support of the Fargo Fire Department.

I respectfully submit for your review the activities and statistics of the Fargo Fire Department for 2011.



## Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Fire Stations & Number of Responses....   | 1  |
| Fire Department Personnel Roster .....    | 2  |
| Cass Fargo Emergency Management .....     | 3  |
| Training .....                            | 4  |
| Coming & Going.....                       | 5  |
| Awards.....                               | 6  |
| Community Emergency Response Team.        | 7  |
| Business Continuity Program.....          | 8  |
| Public Access Defibrillator Program.....  | 8  |
| Public Relations.....                     | 9  |
| Lear Not to Burn.....                     | 10 |
| Facebook.....                             | 11 |
| Youtube.....                              | 12 |
| Explorers Program .....                   | 13 |
| Local.....                                | 14 |
| Average Turnout Time.....                 | 15 |
| Average Response Time.....                | 16 |
| Emergency Response Times .....            | 16 |
| Incidents.....                            | 17 |
| Loss Summary.....                         | 18 |
| Total Number of Incidents by Station .... | 18 |
| Fire Suppression Division Hours.....      | 19 |
| Fire Prevention Hours.....                | 20 |
| Number of Inspections.....                | 20 |
| Looking Beyond 2011.....                  | 21 |



# 2011 Number of Responses



**Station 1**  
Assistant Chief 800 – 1587 Responses  
Engine 801 – 1803 Responses  
Ladder 821 – 1397 Responses



**Station 2**  
Engine 802 – 1115 Responses



**Station 3**  
Engine 803 – 1085 Responses



**Station 4**  
Engine 804 – 1747 Responses  
Rescue 834 – 1898 Responses



**Station 5**  
Engine 805 – 1181 Responses



**Station 6**  
Engine 806 – 513 Responses  
HazMat Unit 846 – 57 Responses



**Station 7**  
Engine 807 – 593 Responses

# FARGO FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ROSTER

December 2011

| <u>Name</u>            | <u>Rank</u>                | <u>Name</u>        | <u>Rank</u>                |
|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Aakre, Ellis           | Captain                    | Mehlisch, Jason    | Captain                    |
| Ambrose, Michael       | Firefighter                | Meyer, Dean        | Assistant Chief            |
| Anderson, Bruce        | Captain                    | Mickelson, Luke    | Firefighter                |
| Arens, John            | Captain                    | Mitchell, Nicholas | Firefighter                |
| Balstad, Steve         | Assistant Chief            | Muffenbier, Kevin  | Captain                    |
| Bergh, Brett           | Firefighter                | Neels, Michael     | Firefighter                |
| Bernier, Kevin         | Captain                    | Nelson, Craig      | Firefighter                |
| Besette, Brad          | Firefighter                | Nelson, Doug       | Firefighter                |
| Binder, Michael        | Firefighter                | Nelson, Matt       | Firefighter                |
| Binfet, Timothy        | Captain                    | Nelson, William    | Firefighter                |
| Bolstad, Jon           | Captain                    | Ness, Jason        | Firefighter                |
| Bossert, Steve         | Firefighter                | Nester, Darin      | Firefighter                |
| Brand, Matthew         | Firefighter                | Orvik, Kent        | Firefighter                |
| Brown, Michael         | Firefighter                | Patterson, Everett | Firefighter                |
| Brueske, Jason         | Firefighter                | Payne, Andrew      | Firefighter                |
| Buchholz, Daniel       | Firefighter                | Pearson, Tyler     | Firefighter                |
| Buchholz, Matthew      | Firefighter                | Peterson, Kirk     | Firefighter                |
| Burchill, Joseph       | Firefighter                | Petsinger, Brett   | Firefighter                |
| Bush, William          | Firefighter EMT Specialist | Pieper, Chris      | Firefighter                |
| Carley, Dane           | Captain                    | Rasmussen, Chris   | Captain                    |
| Christofferson, Joshua | Firefighter                | Roscoe, Clayton    | Firefighter                |
| Chromey, Kenton        | Firefighter                | Rysgaard, Trevor   | Firefighter                |
| Cleary, Michael        | Firefighter                | Sabourin, Joseph   | Firefighter                |
| Conrad, Dave           | Captain                    | Schlafmann, Leon   | Captain                    |
| Cuchna, Robert         | Captain                    | Schmidt, Gregory   | Firefighter                |
| Czaplewski, Brett      | Firefighter                | Schmidt, Jesse     | Firefighter                |
| Darrah, Robert         | Firefighter EMT Specialist | Schuh, Larry       | Assistant Chief            |
| Dietz, Christopher     | Firefighter                | Scott, Norman      | Fire Marshal               |
| Dietz, Clark           | Captain                    | Seaberg, Michael   | Firefighter                |
| Dirksen, Steve         | Chief                      | Senn, Dan          | Firefighter                |
| Dockter, James         | Firefighter                | Severson, Rob      | Captain                    |
| Dufty, Nicholas        | Firefighter                | Shirley, Bruce     | Data Services              |
| Durensky, Brent        | Firefighter                | Simmons, Shane     | Firefighter                |
| Eisenlohr, Eric        | Firefighter                | Skarloken, LeRoy   | Assistant Chief            |
| Erickson, Perry        | Captain                    | Smith, Justin      | Firefighter                |
| Erickson, Ryan         | Firefighter                | Soeth, Lee         | Captain                    |
| Forness, Jason         | Firefighter                | Speral, John       | Captain                    |
| Forness, Marshall      | Firefighter                | Sprout, Jeffrey    | Firefighter                |
| Garvey, James          | Firefighter                | Stollenwerk, Dawn  | Firefighter                |
| Gisselbeck, Jason      | Firefighter                | Svir, Joseph       | Firefighter                |
| Guggisberg, Ron        | Captain                    | Swanson, Ben       | Firefighter                |
| Hendrickson, Mike      | Captain                    | Swanson, Terry     | Captain                    |
| Hoover, Jared          | Firefighter                | Sylvester, Steve   | Firefighter                |
| Johnson, Bonnie        | Office Manager             | Teets, Brandon     | Firefighter                |
| Johnson, Dan           | Firefighter                | Underdahl, Jason   | Firefighter                |
| Johnson, Keith         | Captain                    | Viergutz, Ryan     | Firefighter                |
| Johnson, Kevin         | Firefighter                | Vosseteig, Erik    | Firefighter                |
| Johnson, Logan         | Firefighter                | Waller, Mark       | Captain                    |
| Kankelfritz, Adam      | Firefighter                | Wehner, Brandon    | Firefighter                |
| Kankelfritz, Chris     | Captain                    | Wehrle, Ross       | Firefighter                |
| Kelsh, Scot            | Firefighter                | Weiss, Randy       | Captain                    |
| Knutson, Chris         | Firefighter                | Welder, Thomas     | Firefighter                |
| Knutson, Deric         | Firefighter                | Werlinger, Justin  | Firefighter                |
| Krueger, Mason         | Firefighter                | Westra, Thomas     | Firefighter                |
| Laddusaw, Matthew      | Firefighter                | Willey, Benjamin   | Firefighter                |
| Locnikar, Joseph       | Captain                    | Young, Paul        | Firefighter EMT Specialist |
| Lorenz, Gary           | Captain                    | Young, Ryan        | Firefighter                |
| Mangin, Joe            | Captain                    |                    |                            |



**Captain  
Leon Schlafmann  
Emergency Services Coordinator**

2011 started off with flood planning and kept us busy for the first 4 months of the year with planning meetings and flood exercises. The Red river crested at the 4<sup>th</sup> highest level at 38.75 ft on April 9<sup>th</sup>. With all of the preparation, this was a non major event. The rest of the State was not as fortunate as the City of Fargo. The communities of Bismarck, Minot and Jamestown had severe flooding. At the request of the City of Bismarck I spent one week in June in their emergency operations center. This was a very valuable learning experience.

Once the flood event was passed it was time to look at the tornado threat that Fargo's broad profile presents annually. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, city facilities took part in a Tornado drill that sent employees into the tornado shelters that the city had identified. Throughout the year we evaluated and tested our outdoor warning system. Coverage was added to the southernmost part of our city with a new siren on 64<sup>th</sup> Ave south.

October brought us into the fire prevention week with the annual facility fire drill. All city facilities were left to test their systems and were successful.

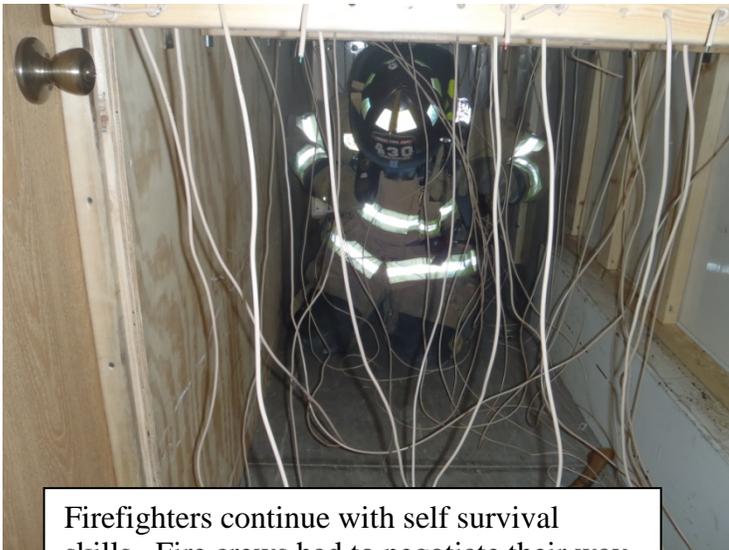
As always, the year is a full schedule of meetings, training and exercises as I sit on the emergency planning committees for many agencies, departments, and non government organizations.

# TRAINING

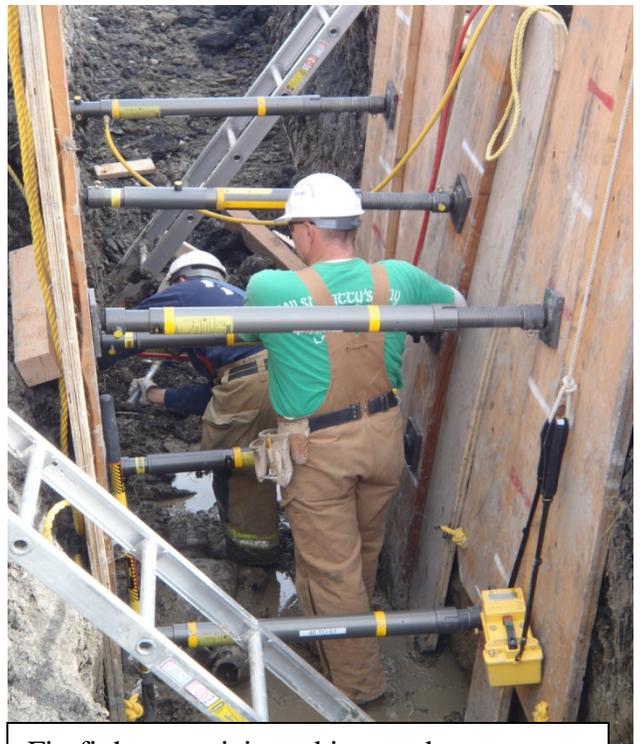


Captain Lee Soeth trained and evaluated the entire department on company evolutions. These evolutions are designed so each firefighter can train with the equipment to accomplish the fire ground tasks that they may encounter during an emergency response. Firefighters also trained in water rescue operations and trench rescue training.

To the right you see two firefighters that are entering the water to do a rescue of a victim that has fallen into the river. This training was done in December when the river was just freezing over. To protect themselves firefighters are wearing cold water rescue suits.



Firefighters continue with self survival skills. Fire crews had to negotiate their way through a maze which included a web of fallen wires.



Firefighter participated in trench rescue training in 2011. The training was paid for with a grant from the State of North Dakota.

# COMING & GOING

## New Employees



Nicholas Mitchell, Clayton Roscoe, Justin Werlinger, Brandon Teets, Jason Brueske



Chief Steven Dirksen

---

## Retirees



Chief Bruce Hoover  
37 Years of Service



Captain Terry Wagner  
37 Years of Service



Captain Thomas Schons  
27 Years of Service

# WHITE – HARTMAN AWARD

The White-Hartman Award for Citizen Assistance recognizes a member of the general public, who has provided assistance at an emergency scene during a potentially significant, potentially dangerous, or potentially life-threatening incident.

Mr. Tim Olson receives the White-Hartman award from Firefighter Eric Eisenlohr in recognition of his actions taken on June 5, 2011 at 505 10<sup>th</sup> Street South for his efforts in aiding in the extinguishment of a fire.



## Commendations



**Firefighter Matt Laddusaw**

Awarded for outstanding community service, providing leadership, and demonstrating professionalism



**Firefighter Dan Senn**

Awarded for development & implementation of a circuit training program for the Fargo Fire Department



**Firefighter Justin Smith**

Awarded for actions taken during a rescue operation on June 8, 2011 involving a trapped occupant in a submerged car in the Red River.



**Firefighter Trevor Rysgaard**



**Firefighter Kenton Chromey**

## STORK AWARDS



Above: New parents and baby, Captain Kevin Muffenbier, Firefighter Darrin Nester, and Firefighter Tyler Pearson receive Stork Awards for aiding in delivery of a baby before paramedics arrived.

# Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



Firefighter Matt Nelson

Firefighter Matt Nelson, Cass County CERT Coordinator, worked with our Teen CERT program this fall teaching thirty students from Oak Grove how to “Be Prepared” in any type of emergency and how to take action. The Teen CERT program covers five units consisting of fire suppression, search and rescue, first aid, disaster psychology, and school violence. For sixteen weeks the students learned how to help themselves, their peers, family, and neighbors in almost every emergency situation they may be presented with in their adult life. The course concluded with two large scale disaster situations where they pulled all of their skills together.

The Fargo Fire Department is looking at expanding its CERT program to educate businesses and other social groups to educate them on disaster response and helping their families and neighbors in the time of need.





**Firefighter Craig Nelson**

## **Business Continuity Program**

In January and February Firefighters Craig Nelson and Matt Nelson taught a series of workshops to local business owners and operators on how to protect their business from disaster situations. The main focus of the workshop was to plan and recover from the worst case disaster scenario. The



**Firefighter Matt Nelson**

participants had opportunities to learn what is involved when creating emergency and continuity plans, and how to implement them. Also included in the workshop was exclusive access with the North Dakota Insurance Commissioner’s Office to discuss disaster and flood insurance and how that relates to their businesses.

---

## **Automated External Defibrillator (AED) - Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) Program**

The Fargo Fire Department and Essentia Health teamed up in 2011 to launch the Heart Safe Fargo PAD Program. The program was incorporated to facilitate AED maintenance. The Fargo Fire Department gathered information about the AED’s already in the community during annual inspections. The partnership between Essentia and the Fargo Fire Department has made first aid and CPR more readily available for businesses and citizens to learn, as well as, provide them the service of tracking their AED maintenance.



## PUBLIC RELATIONS

It has been a great year for Fargo Fire Department Public Relations. Our department has not only represented itself in high regard within the City of Fargo, but on the national stage as well. Flood Fight 2011 was another “all hands on deck” collaborative effort with our firefighters leading the way at sandbag central and the front lines of sandbag dike building which put them in the spotlight for the world to see. Firefighter Jesse Schmidt coordinated the media requests from local and national affiliates at Sandbag Central.

Fargo Firefighters spent numerous hours teaching children fire safety in schools, giving station tours, raising thousands of dollars for multiple charities and participating in many other fire prevention events.

- Our social media use generates interest from citizens and media personalities who monitor the messages we disseminate.
- We have a great working relationship with the local media which includes 31 radio station interviews, numerous television appearances, and 22 press releases.
- The Fire Prevention Bureau and station crews made 51 visits to Fargo schools providing various fire safety programs.
- Over the year our department hosted 98 fire station tours.
- We attended 71 community events.



Our efforts for the next year will be to continue informing the community about the work we are doing at the Fargo Fire Department. Our goal is to continue providing the public with information that will keep the community a safe place to live, work, and play. We are committed to watching trends in the community and around the country to keep the public informed of current hazardous situations. Please follow us on facebook, twitter, and our fire department website. ([www.fargofire.com](http://www.fargofire.com))



## The Learn Not to Burn Program

The Fargo Fire Department has utilized the “Learn Not to Burn Program” in all the Fargo public and parochial elementary schools for the past twenty-nine years. All



kindergarten, first, and second grade students are taught two different fire safety lessons each year. The 2011 lessons were:

- Two Ways Out
- Burn Prevention

In the two ways out lesson, some of the topics covered are: smoke detectors, staying low if you are in smoke, using doors and windows as ways to get out, having a home escape plan, and having a meeting place.

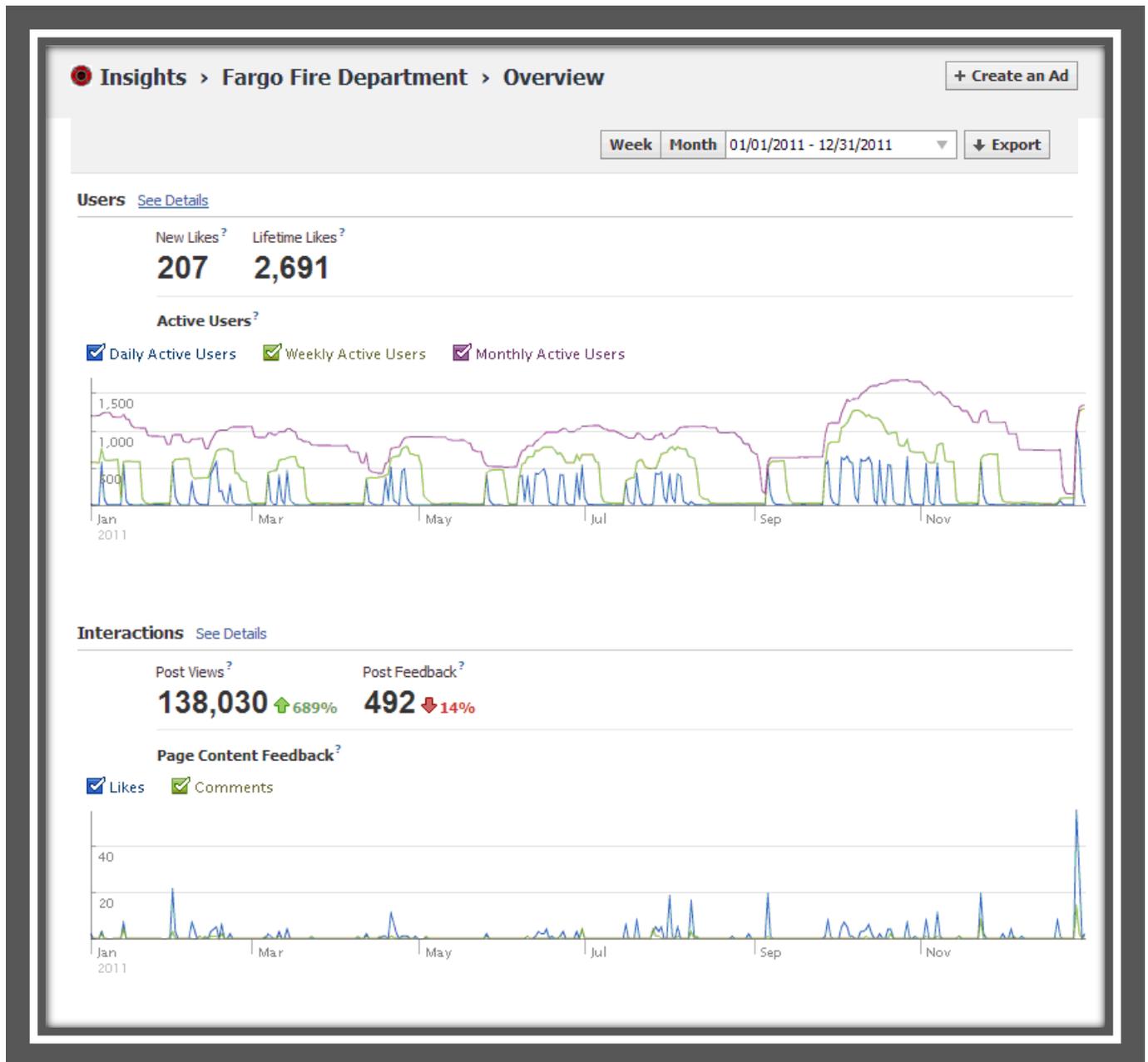
In the burn prevention lesson some of the topics covered are: avoid things that get hot, if you have to touch something that is hot - touch it in a safe spot usually by its handle, not all things have a safe spots to touch, and first aid for a burn.

The Fire Prevention Bureau went to 17 elementary schools and taught over 3,000 students on each visit.

# Social Media

## Facebook and Twitter

Facebook and Twitter are two social media tools that have been previously established with the intent to reach out to the public. Social media is currently being used to disseminate information about our department's day to day operations, providing updates on emergency information, public education, public safety messages, promoting charity functions, and for current news and events. Please refer to the charts below for information on current trends on fan viewership and interactivity.



## YouTube

Recently the Fargo Fire Department added its own YouTube channel to disseminate information in the video format. YouTube is free to use and it can be used with many other media websites like Facebook and Twitter as well as email. The recent success of the Dog Rescue video demonstrates the Fargo Fire Departments ability to reach more people than any other medium. Also on YouTube we now have a Christmas Tree Fire PSA that was created for this year's holiday season.



**Dog Rescue Video:** On December 27<sup>th</sup>, after we returned from the dog rescue, the press release was sent out with the still pictures of the event and it was on all local news outlets that evening, as well as KFGO. The helmet camera footage was not ready to send out with the original release because we do not have the appropriate editing software to be able to edit the footage. The footage was then sent to Brian Sellin, the City of Fargo's new Videographer, and the next morning he was done "snipping" the footage to a viewable

segment. On the morning of December 28<sup>th</sup> the footage was posted onto YouTube and rereleased to the media. Within 1 hour of the released footage, we fielded phone calls from CNN, The Weather Channel, and Fox News. In less than 24 hours, there was over 5,000 views of the dog rescue video. In 1 week it has grown to over 15,000 views in 95 different countries.



# Fargo Fire Explorer Program



POST 259

2011 was a year of change for the Explorers. Two members turned 21 and aged out of the program, and two new members joined. Paul Young rejoined as Co-Advisor.

The highlight of the year was the car fire training. Any time the members get to see flames is a good day for them. Everyone had two turns on the nozzle and a chance to operate the pump.



The Explorers received training in search and rescue, auto extrication, fire behavior, ropes and knots, communications, safety, rappelling, emergency medicine, and more.

The Explorers also were a big help with the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign. Six explorers volunteered for three hour shifts to ring the bells. Other community service activities included sandbagging, traffic control for the Roger Maris Cancer Center 5K, and volunteering to help with MDA's Fill-the Boot campaign.

The goal for 2012 is to recruit a few younger members to take the place of the older members that will be leaving at the end of this year.



**Firefighter Paul Young**

**Co-Advisors**



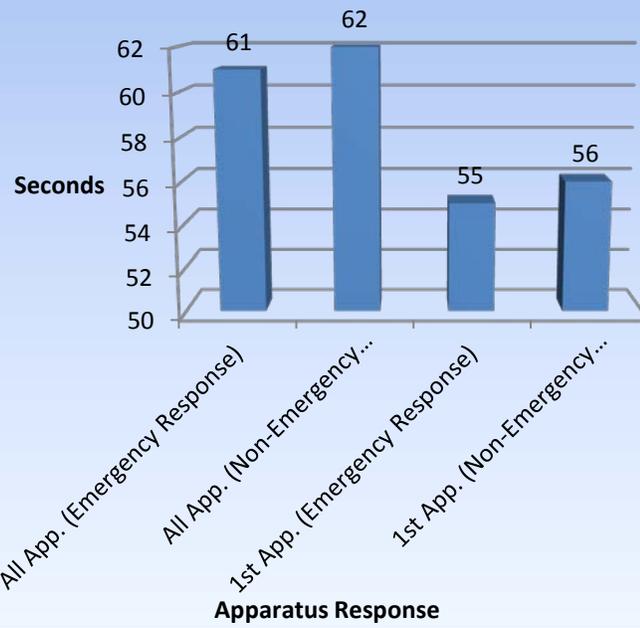
**Firefighter Justin Smith**



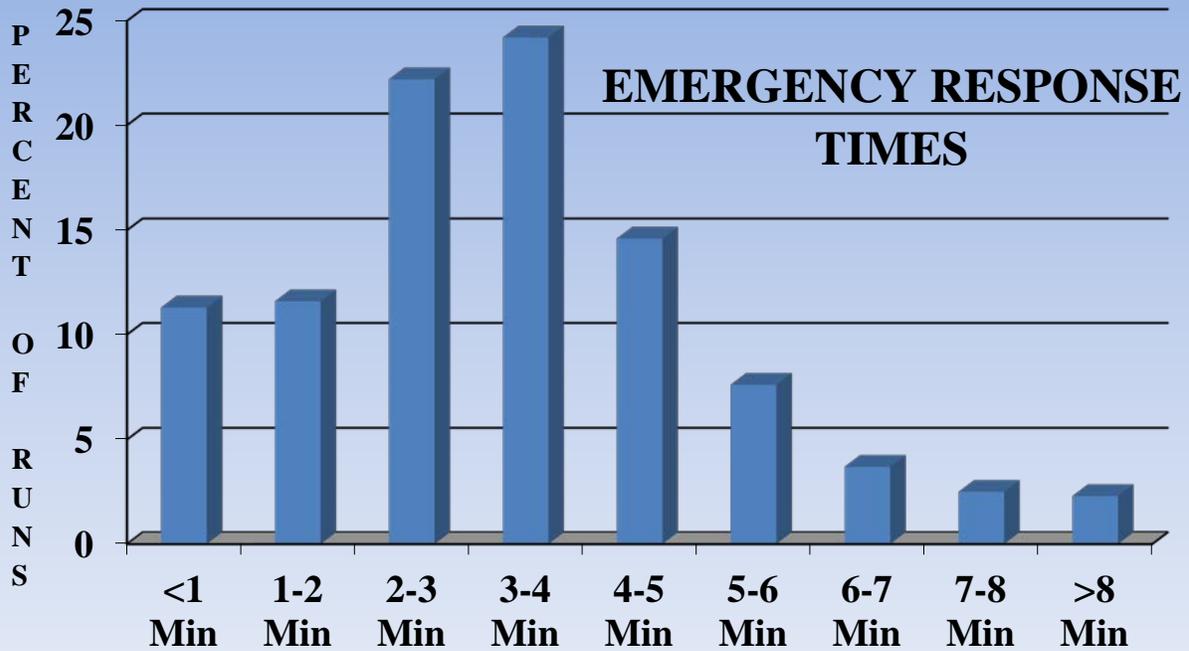
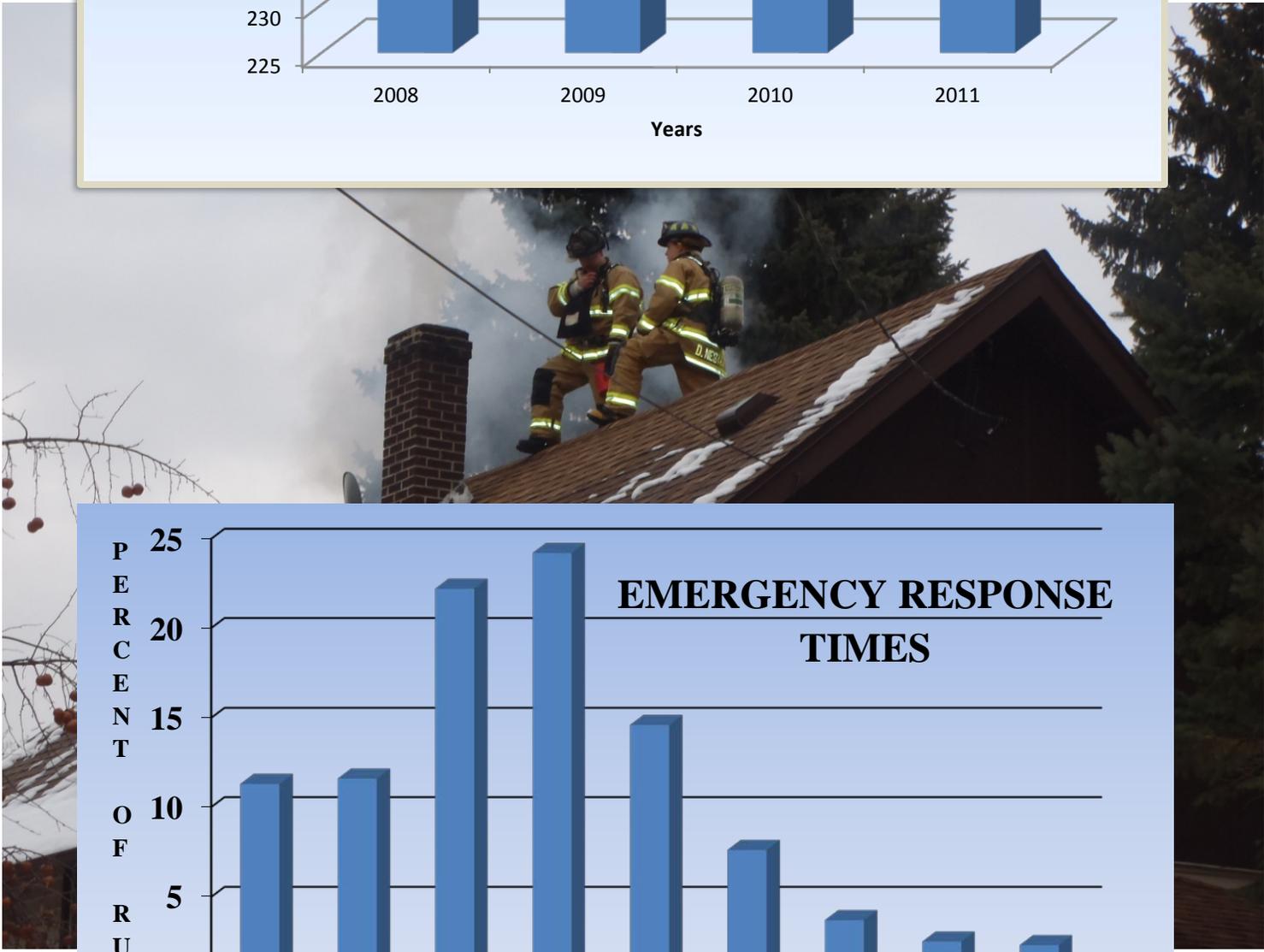
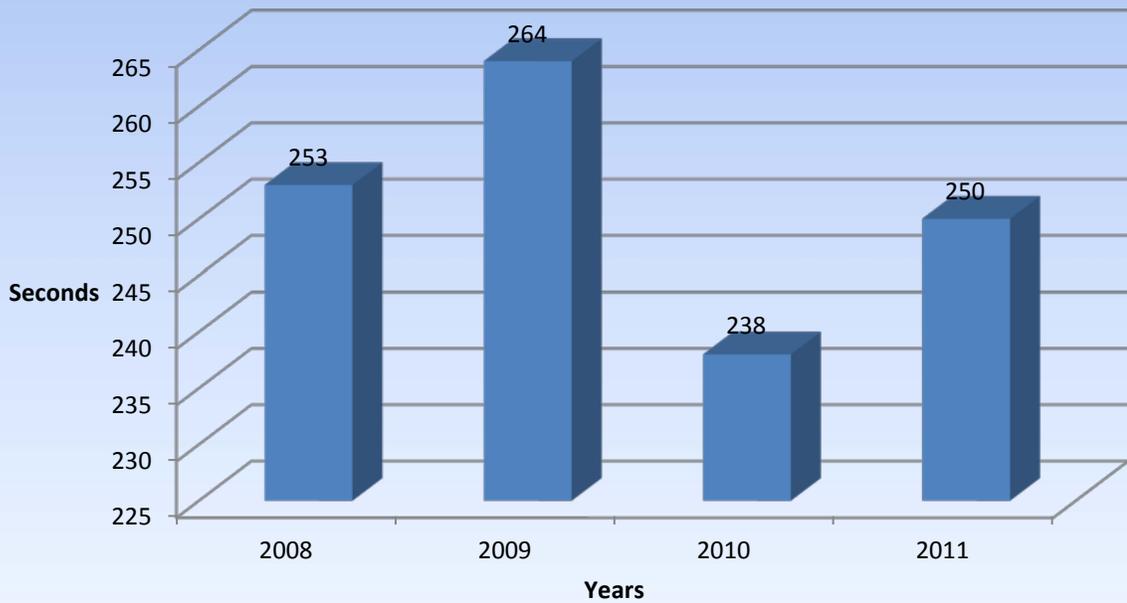
**Fargo Firefighters Local 642** Charitable events and striving to maintain a high quality service for the citizens of Fargo kept the firefighters of Local 642 busy in 2011. One hundred five Fargo Firefighters represent the organization. The Muscular Dystrophy Association is the flagship charity of the Local. Millions of dollars have been raised nationally by firefighters for children who suffer from this disease. For the second year in a row, Fargo firefighters broke two North Dakota state charity records. First, by recruiting the most blood donors for United Blood Services during the Battle of the Badges Blood Drive with over 850 units of blood and secondly, the firefighters from Local 642 broke the single day dollar amount raised for the Salvation Army with over \$26,000. For over 20 years, every Christmas morning firefighters have delivered Christmas presents to children that were in the hospitals over the holidays. The presents are bought with money from a charity account that is donated by the firefighters from their salaries. This money is also used to donate to various charities and causes throughout the year.



## 2011 Average Turnout Times

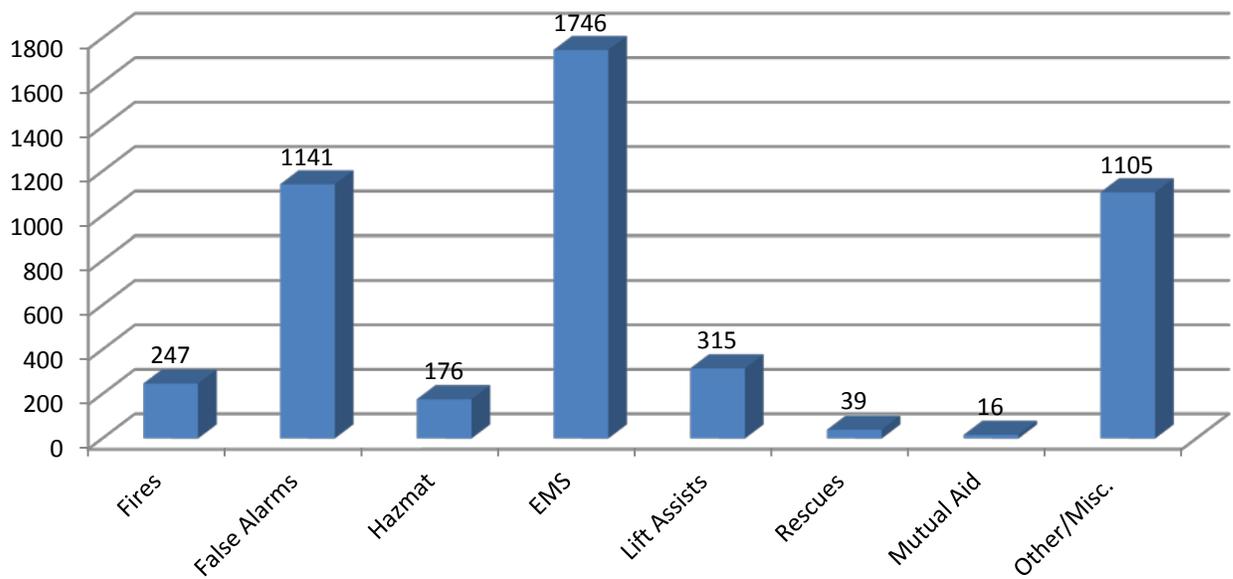


## Average Response Time (dispatch to arrival)





## 2011 INCIDENTS

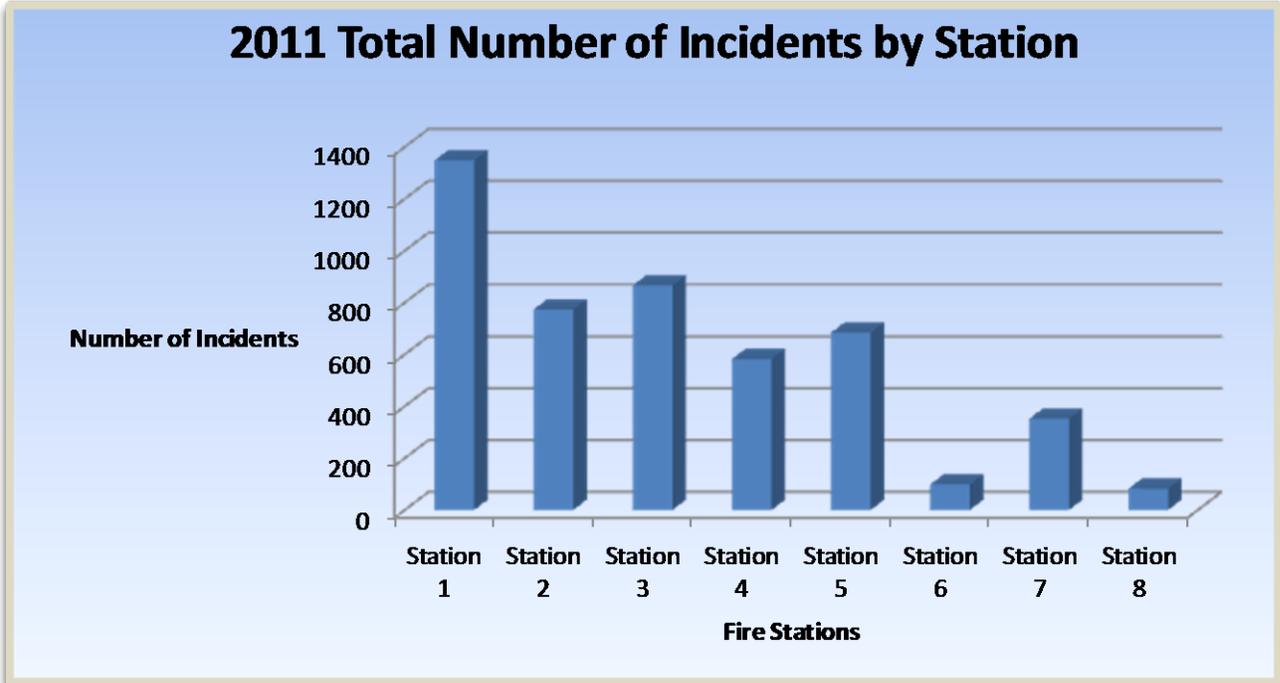


**TOTAL INCIDENTS = 4785**

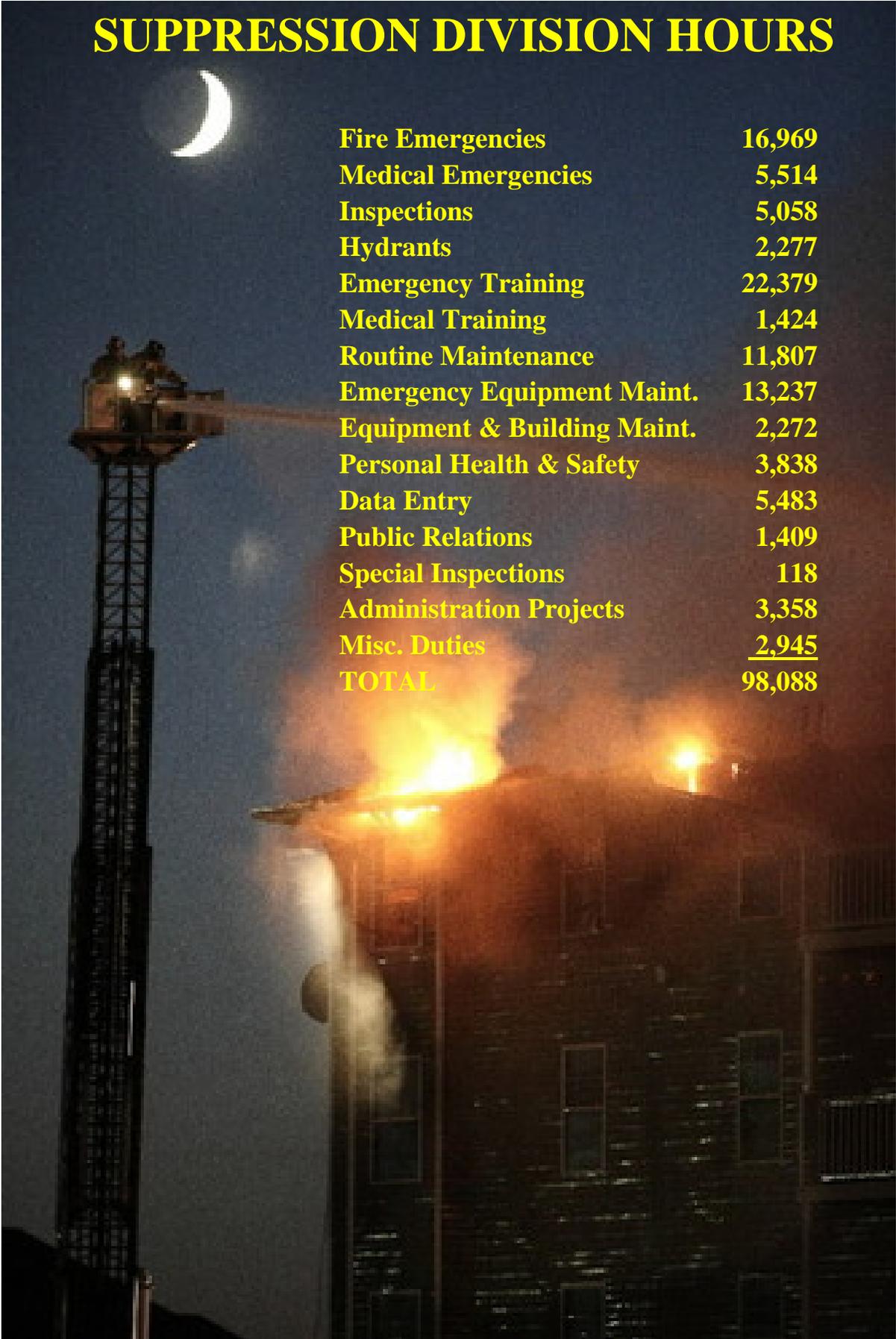
### FIRE LOSS SUMMARY

| <u>INCIDENT TYPE</u>         | <u>LOSSES</u>      |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| BUILDING FIRE.....           | \$849,832          |
| PASSENGER VEHICLE FIRE.....  | \$231,005          |
| FIRES IN OTHER VEHICLES..... | \$13,750           |
| OTHER                        | <u>\$8,905</u>     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>\$1,103,492</b> |

**TOTAL NUMBER OF INCIDENTS = 4785**



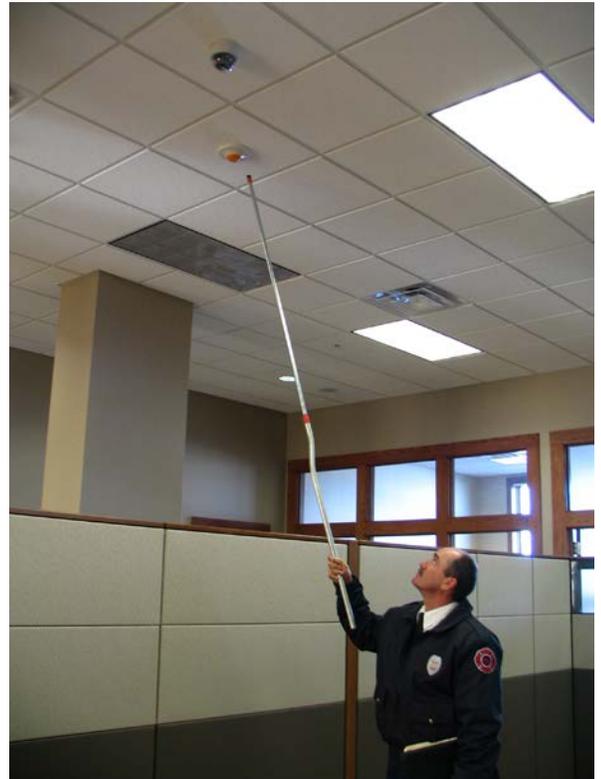
# SUPPRESSION DIVISION HOURS



|                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Fire Emergencies            | 16,969        |
| Medical Emergencies         | 5,514         |
| Inspections                 | 5,058         |
| Hydrants                    | 2,277         |
| Emergency Training          | 22,379        |
| Medical Training            | 1,424         |
| Routine Maintenance         | 11,807        |
| Emergency Equipment Maint.  | 13,237        |
| Equipment & Building Maint. | 2,272         |
| Personal Health & Safety    | 3,838         |
| Data Entry                  | 5,483         |
| Public Relations            | 1,409         |
| Special Inspections         | 118           |
| Administration Projects     | 3,358         |
| Misc. Duties                | <u>2,945</u>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>98,088</b> |

## Fire Prevention Bureau Hours

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Recordkeeping/Reports            | 855          |
| Research/Other                   | 756          |
| Building Inspections             | 630          |
| Recheck Inspections              | 230          |
| Special or Requested Inspections | 765          |
| Church Inspections               | 169          |
| School Inspections               | 66           |
| Flammable Liquid Inspections     | 115          |
| Plans Review                     | 335          |
| Investigations                   | 154          |
| Training                         | 442          |
| Fire Drill Activities            | 5            |
| Permits                          | 506          |
| Public Relations                 | <u>360</u>   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     | <b>5,388</b> |



## Number of Inspections

### Fire Suppression Inspections

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| Commercial   | 4327        |
| Apartments   | <u>1266</u> |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>5593</b> |

The yearly inspection goals are:

A) to inspect 100% of the commercial properties and

B) to inspect 100% of the apartment properties.

**Both goals were met in 2011**

### Fire Prevention Bureau Inspections

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Public Assembly.....     | 194          |
| Offices.....             | 82           |
| Educational.....         | 157          |
| Factory.....             | 63           |
| Hazardous Materials..... | 158          |
| Institutional.....       | 15           |
| Mercantile.....          | 104          |
| Residential.....         | 98           |
| Storage.....             | 166          |
| Utility.....             | 13           |
| Special Inspections      | <u>1729</u>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>2,779</b> |

# Looking beyond 2011

## **Regional Haz Mat/WMD, and Technical Rescue Response**

In partnership with the North Dakota Department of Emergency Service, the Fargo Fire Department, along with the three other career fire departments in the state, have entered into an agreement with the State of North Dakota to provide regional response for Hazardous Materials Emergencies at the technician/specialist level. Fargo will be responsible for response to the 11 counties in the Southeast Response Area. A similar program for response to Technical Rescues is currently under development. These programs will benefit the citizens of Fargo and communities throughout North Dakota.

## **ProBoard Training Certification**

In 2009, the Fargo Fire Department completed the process to become a ProBoard Certifying Agency. The department was approved to certify personnel within and outside of the organization in Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations, Firefighter Level I and II, Rescue Technician, Rope Rescuer I and II, Confined Space Rescuer I and II, Trench Rescuer I and II, and Structural Collapse I and II.

All new employees have been and will continue to be trained and tested to the Hazardous Materials and the Firefighter standards. All incumbents have been given an opportunity to obtain those certifications based on experience and demonstrating technical skill proficiency. These certifications are necessary to attain future certification levels.

Future plans include certification to Fire Officer I and II, Fire Instructor I and II, Fire Inspector I and II, and Driver Operator; also, a Hazardous Material certification program will be added that will address specific Haz Mat areas. Thirty-six personnel will be trained to the Haz Mat levels when completely developed.

Plans are underway to certify 36 to 40 personnel to all rescue levels. This process is expected to take 3 years to complete. Members of the department have received extensive training in these areas and the process we are undertaking will allow for formal certification to these levels.

## **CFAI Accreditation**

The Department is very proud of being one of 143 accredited fire departments in the country. There are nearly 32,000 fire departments in the United States. Plans are underway to evaluate our current processes to ensure we will remain an accredited agency.

## **ISO**

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) provides valuable service for the citizens of your community. ISO evaluates three areas within a community to determine insurance rates for a community. Those areas include the fire department, the water delivery system, and the emergency communications system (911). Points are awarded for various aspects throughout the community. Communities are given a value which then assists insurance companies in determining the rates that their customers will pay for property/casualty insurance. ISO uses a scale from 1 to 10 with 1 being the highest rating. Currently Fargo has an ISO rating of 3.

The Fargo Fire Department will continue to work to ensure that the department has the necessary equipment, personnel, and training levels to maintain our current rating. It is highly unlikely that we would be able to improve our rating to a 2. The cost associated would be too great for the benefit received.

## **Future Growth**

As the community continues to grow in geography and population the Fire Department Administration will continue to monitor the growth and calls for service. Current computer software allows staff to track calls for service in Planning Zone 8. This area is located in the southeast area of the City. As the demands for service in that area increase plans will be developed for Fire Department response and staffing in that area.