



2021 Annual Report



Tipp City Fire & Emergency Services is an organization with a rich and proud history. At the sound of the bell, siren, or radio dispatch alert, emergency responders move with a purpose. The response is quick and efficient and concentrated on serving the needs of our city. Throughout the more than 140 years of service to the community, the sacrifices made by the emergency responders and their families in serving the community are too numerous to mention, but should never be forgotten.

Tipp City's First Bucket Brigade was organized in 1872. Tipp City's first bucket brigade consisted of fifty leather buckets, six hooks and ladders and six fire extinguishers. Two years later, in 1874, after several disastrous fires, a fully organized department was formed, equipment purchased and plans for an engine house made (the old city building at Third and Main Street). Charles Trupp was appointed first Fire Chief. The council required that "All enrolled members of the department must be sober and industrious men, and have an interest in the village."

Tipp City Emergency Medical Services was organized in April of 1975. Chief Lowell Hampton served as the first EMS Chief along with two ambulances and a twenty member all male and volunteer roster. Frings & Bayliff Funeral Home housed the first ambulance service for the community prior to 1975. The first part-time employee was hired in 1999 and the last purely volunteer responder retired in 2020.

The city's emergency services continued to operate as two separate and distinct departments until March of 2019. The city made a decision to hire a Chief of Emergency Services. A plan that had been discussed by the Fire & EMS Chiefs beginning in 2015. EMS has witnessed the incident count rise from 1,315 in 2010 to 2,247 in 2021. Fire incidents have remained more consistent over the same time period and in the

range of 302 to 401 per year. EMS incidents account for roughly 80% of the total call volume for the department.

The Department of Fire & Emergency Services provided service for 2,247 incidents in 2021. This represents a slight increase from 2020 of 11%. The fires did not result in any loss of life or injury. The total fire loss for 2021 is \$410,550.00. The pre-incident value is estimated at \$4.4 million dollars. The industrial fire at Polymershapes accounts for most of the value.

This report will attempt to encapsulate the activities and operations of all divisions within the department over the past 12 months.

The Administration Division is responsible for management of all fiscal, human, and physical resources as well as the overall operation of the 24/7 organization.

The Operations Division is responsible for the day-to-day delivery of emergency services including fire suppression, emergency medical service calls, hazardous materials mitigation, technical rescue including auto extrication and swift water.

The Prevention Division is responsible for all facets of the city's education and Fire Prevention program. This program includes an aggressive inspection program, fire safety education, fire investigations, juvenile fire setters program, and plans review.



Mission

The mission of the Tipp City Fire & EMS Department is to provide the highest quality emergency services to all who call upon us for help and to promote good will in our community.

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2021 Highlights



Completion of the first full calendar year of utilizing dual-certified personnel. Emma Pascale and Michael Wesner earned Paramedic certifications. Multiple personnel became inspectors. Local elected officials created a staffing plan for 2023-2026. Waffles were fried once again. TCFES hired our first Assistant Chief of Emergency Services, Chip Rielage.

In May 2021, Allison Hempy was recognized as the TCFES provider of the year. Congratulations on earning this peer-nominated award.



Personnel

as of 12-31-2021

TCFES is a combination department utilizing full-time, part-time and volunteer personnel. TCFES expects to remain a combination department into the future. Dr. Brandon Amburgey is our Medical Director.

Single Certifications: EMT, Paramedic or Firefighter

Margaret Armitage-Paramedic, Heather Barth-Basic, Meagan Blakely-Basic, Melissa Oostveen-Advanced, Caleb Stagner-Basic & Justin Parrett-Basic

JP Dehus-FF, Nick Hoover-FF1, Brandyn Mason FF-1, Joe Tesch, Daniel Quinn-FF1, Josh Ringo-FF1 & Zach Watkins-FF1

Dual Certifications: both an EMT and a Firefighter

Blake Ballard-FF/B, Chris Brock-FF/P, Christian Brumbaugh-FF/B, Brodey Carman FF/B, Kaleb Filadelfo FF/B, Allison Hempy-FF/B, Katie Heuing FF/B, Brooke Hilling-FF/B, Ryan Hope-FF/P, Carter Jenkins FF/P, Shane Keechle-FF/B, Josh Lang FF/B, Kris Long-FF/P, Tyler Mauk FF/B, Emma Pascale-FF/P, Keagen Putnam-FF/B, Clayton Robbins-FF/B, Gabe Rowley FF/B, Kenneth Rust-FF/A, Clayton Snider-FF/B, Sarah Trubee-FF/B, Laura Walker-FF/P, Michael Wesner-FF/P, Austin White-FF/B, & Nick Woolever-FF/P

Officers:

Mike Bowman-FF/P, Megan Holfinger-FF/P, Mike Honeyman-P, Heidi Jones-P, John McDonagh FF/P & Doug Trent-FF/P

Administration: Chip Rielage, Assistant Chief & Cameron Haller, Chief

- TCFES hired 14 people in 2021 and 12 people resigned

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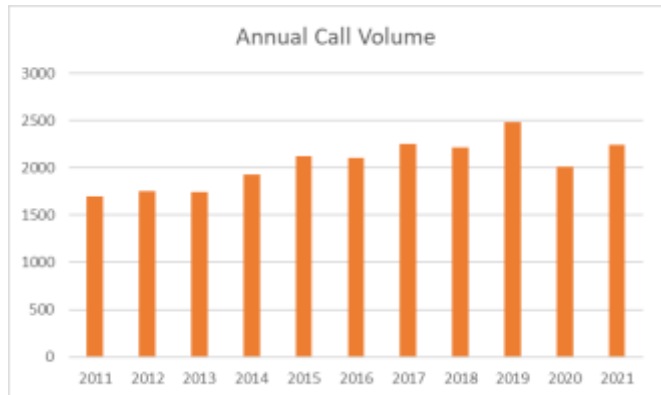
Operations

The Operations Division is responsible for the day-to-day delivery of emergency services including fire suppression, emergency medical service calls, hazardous materials mitigation, and technical rescue including auto extrication, confined space, and swift water. TCFES is staffed by part-time, paid on call and volunteer personnel. The Operations Division also maintains the department fleet and is involved in outreach events throughout the community. The operations division has volunteer shifts that are self-assigned to respond to fire emergencies from home. The volunteers are critical to obtain adequate staffing levels on incidents.

Total Calls for Service

The department responded to 2,247 calls in 2021, that is an 11% increase from the 2020 total of 2,017. Calls for service include emergency medical service calls (ambulance), fire calls, rescue calls, and other miscellaneous calls. 2019 is our record call volume year at 2,487.

*21.36% of our calls overlap on another.



Vision The renowned leader in emergency services.

Philosophy Tipp City Fire & EMS exists to serve our neighbors. We serve our neighbors utilizing shared values and goals. We will be nice, stay safe, and solve problems.

Mission

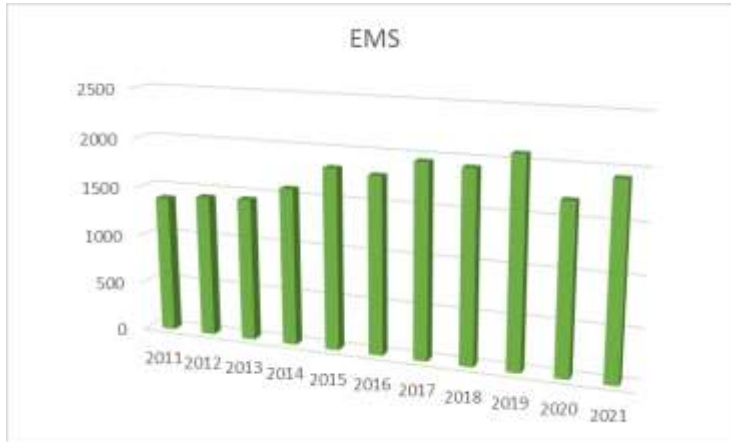
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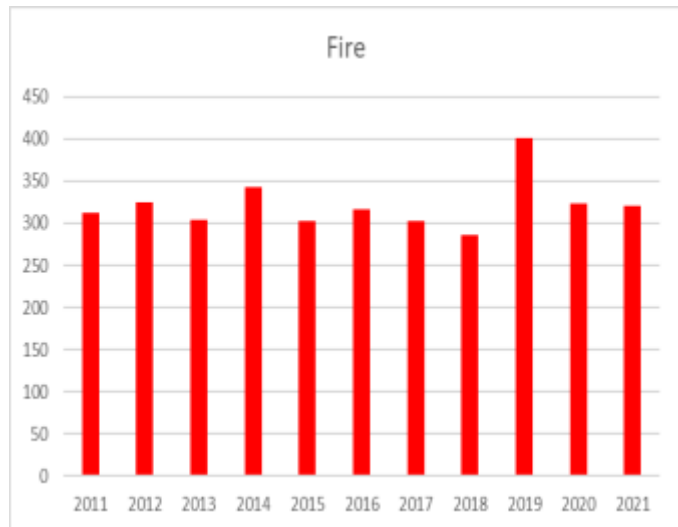
EMS Calls for Service



The department offers basic and advanced life support (depending on staffing) and transport services in our emergency medical service system. In 2021, the department responded to 1,927 calls, which is ~ 14% increase from the previous year. In 2021, EMS calls accounted for 85% of the department’s total emergency responses. Of the 2,247 calls, 1,568 were in the city, 579 were in Monroe Township, and 101 mutual aid calls.

Fire Calls for Service

The number of fire calls decreased by ~ 1% during 2021. There were 320 fire calls compared to 324 the previous year. TCFES breakdown of incidents: 65 calls for fire, 3 Overpressure rupture, 39 calls for hazardous conditions, 34 service calls, 95 good intent calls, 82 false alarms, and 2 special incidents types.



Fire Loss

The total fire loss for 2021 was \$410,550, which is down ~60% from last year’s total of \$1,000,550. Three “significant loss” fires occurred during the year: Hinder’s, Polymershapes, and Tipp City Nazarene Church. The Polymershapes loss accounts for 55.65% of the total fire loss in 2021. The three building fires accounted for 99% of our total loss.



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Apparatus & Responses

The department maintains the following fleet of apparatus and equipment (see below): in addition to the listed apparatus TCFES has 2 UTV Gators; 4 staff cars (Chief, Assistant Chief, First Responder, and Station Vehicle); 2 boats and motors with trailers and a Mobile Fire Safety Education Center. TCFES maintains two parade pieces a 1935 Mack fire pumper and a 1963 ambulance (station wagon).

	2019 (fire last 7 months)	2020	2021
Engine 31	68	122	126
Engine 32	47	68	82
Ladder 31	7	17	20
Rescue 31	10	27	84
Tanker 32	7	11	4
Tanker 31	12	19	16
Grass 31	10	16	11
Medic 31	1670	1409	1619
Medic 32	300	196	303
Medic 33	25	16	26

The boats deployed multiple days in 2021 and the gators were used on 13 incidents. The ambulances (medics) are rotated on a regular schedule to distribute the workload.

Values: to work and live by

- Love - The openness to be vulnerable in the ability to assist others with compassion in their greatest hour of need.
- Duty - The honor of understanding the commitment we have made to our fellow brothers and sisters.
- Integrity - The internal fortitude to constantly without fail place the "right thing to do in perspective." We will be honest, forthright, and loyal in our daily communications and activities.
- Excellence - Continuous improvement in service delivery and self.
- Professionalism - The ability to perform at our peak performance utilizing our honed knowledge, skill, and abilities.
- Respect - We will embrace diversity and recognize individual worth.
- Trust - Reliance on integrity, strength, and ability of our members.

Goals: general goals on a daily basis

- Maintain a constant state of readiness
- Embrace the concept of life-long learning
- Do our job and do it with excellence
- Treat people right
- Have an all-in attitude
- Give all-out effort
- Move with a purpose

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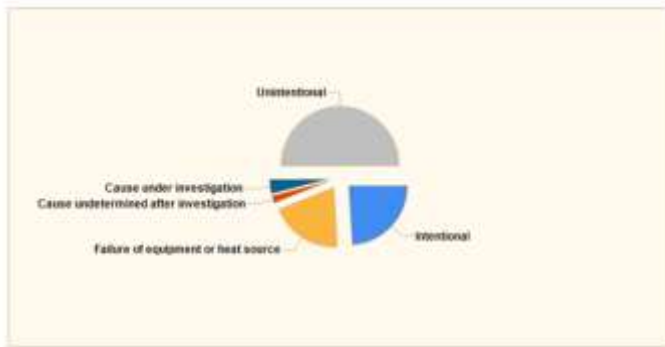
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Fire Prevention – Community Risk Reduction (CRR)

The CRR was very busy in 2021 with inspections. Education and prevention programs continued to be subdued in light of the pandemic. One of the major initiatives of the Fire Prevention Division is an aggressive inspection program. The program consists of inspections of mercantile, manufacturing, public assembly, and other occupancies within the city and township. The on-site inspection is designed to make our local businesses aware of unsafe practices in the workplace that can lead to a fire or other type of incident that may cause injury/death to our citizens and their employees, damage to the property or lost income/production. The Division conducted 278 inspections in 2021. On-site inspections continued this summer thanks to part-time personnel that stepped up to assist in a time of need.

The Division had a rebound year regarding fire safety education. One of the primary goals in fire safety education is to provide a comprehensive program for people of all ages, with a special emphasis on young children. In 2021, 2000 + adult & children were educated in fire safety. The Fire Safety Trailer was not utilized as part of the program to teach children how to react in case of a fire using real life “hands on” training and simulation applications.

	Inspections	Investigations	Outreach
2021	278	3	2000
2020	275	2	193
2019	226	3	2478



CAUSE OF IGNITION	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Intentional	12	20.7%
Failure of equipment or heat source	10	17.2%
Cause undetermined after investigation	1	1.7%
Cause under investigation	2	3.4%
Unintentional	25	43.1%



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TCFES personnel would like to point out that a key element to fire safety is to sleep with your bedroom door in the CLOSED and latched position. Smoke from an unfriendly fire is the by-product of fire that is the most deadly. A CLOSED door will stop or slow the movement of smoke in your home. The closed door provides time for an individual to become alert in clean air and make decisions accordingly. For more information on the importance to “**CLOSE BEFORE YOU DOZE**”, please visit <https://closeyourdoor.org/>



As a reminder to area citizens, the American Red Cross has a smoke detector installation program. For more information, please call the American Red Cross at 937-332-1414.

Fire Injuries or Deaths

In 2021, there were zero civilian injuries or death. We experienced zero firefighter injuries during the year.

Facilities

The Department serves the community from two sites. Station #31 is located at 520 West Main Street and houses all administrative offices. The other site is Central Station, located at 3 East Main Street which was opened in 1956. Central Station houses our parade pieces, physical fitness equipment and boats. The Central Station is not staffed.

The City has previously studied a Comprehensive Plan. That plan included a second station study to consider in the future in order to better serve our community with improved response times throughout the City.



Training

Training, as part of the Operations Division, is responsible for the training of all personnel to maintain proficiency of skills and professionalism in the performance of the skills. Training is categorized into the following categories: Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire, Technical Rescue, Hazardous Materials and Professional development. Our training is a group effort and task on an annual basis.

In EMS, training is conducted in close coordination with our local health care networks, Fire Rescue 1 Academy (online), regional agencies, and Greater Miami Valley EMS Council (GMVEMSC).



With over 1,898 total man-hours, personnel participated in medical training with specific classes in; Cardiac, Geriatric and Pediatric Protocol, Trauma, 12-Lead EKG, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), and other EMS courses. In person classes, typical in years past, were all suspended or canceled.

Fire training includes: pump operations, SCBA and fire ground tactics. Technical rescue training areas including ice rescue, river rescue, swift water, trench rescue, rope rescue, vehicle/machinery rescue, hazmat operations, grain bin extrication and confined space. Personnel attended classes outside the department for Hazmat IQ. TRT – Collapse/Auto Extrication/Vehicle & Machinery Rescue Ops/Confined Space/Trench, Fireworks Education, Ohio Fire Code Update, Arson Investigators, Stroke, Midwestern Ohio Arson Seminar, Active Shooter, EMS, and Firefighter Cancer Prevention & Mental Health Classes.

The department continues to provide car seats, AHA CPR/AED, and First Aid Training to citizens and businesses.

Hours Not included in above numbers

88 hours of Administrative training for new hires 1296 hours of orientation training with OJT.



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Summary

TCFES remains a department in transition. The troops are to be commended for their steadfast resolve to serve the citizens of Tipp City and Monroe Township, Miami County, OH. They are also recognized for the contributions made on a daily basis. Many committees and team projects have been completed in 2021. The committee that assisted in researching and providing direction on Tanker 32 is a great example of what teamwork and effort can produce. It should not overshadow the importance and necessity of people to operate at the highest most effective level possible. Managing and leading TCFES through constant change processes has been rewarding and challenging. It would not have been possible without the dedicated men and women of our department.

Multiple goals were met this year. The goals were all completed with assistance from the City Manager, City Staff, Council and the staff at TCFES. Department training remained a priority. Implementation of a new countywide station and apparatus identification is implemented. TCFES now reports as one entity to the State of Ohio and Nationally. Our growth as a department is great to be part of daily. We sometimes lose perspective while concentrating on our daily activities. Let us look back on some memorable highlights:

- An internal survey was conducted and a list of priorities was generated, i.e. Interview Process
- Joint elected official meetings generated a TCFES staffing plan. 2023-2026
- Monroe Township voters approved a property tax increase to fund the staffing plan.
- All the festivals and most of our public events returned in full force.
- We completed our first full year with dual certified troops.
- Multiple grant funds received for various equipment and supplies totaling \$311,582.00
- City Council approved and TCFES hired an Assistant Chief of Emergency Services.

Looking forward to 2022 is exciting and hopeful for Tipp City and the department. Projects, tasks or goals for the upcoming year includes and is not limited to:

- Implement the vision, staffing, funding opportunities and strategic planning with city elected officials and citizen stakeholders in respect to Tipp City Fire and Emergency Services.
- Complete FEMA Grant projects. (SCBA and SCBA fill station, \$159,714.00)
- Complete PPE Gear Room Project
- Implement dispatching and communication procedure strategies from MCCC based on the 2019 APCO study.
- Implementation of Community Risk Reduction fire inspections with current on-duty staff.

We are only as strong as our weakest link. Therefore, we shall move forward together to serve the citizens of our community. It is a true pleasure to serve all citizens within our purview. We look forward to serving one and all in 2022. Thank you for your continued support. Please practice fire and home safety on regular basis.

Cameron Haller, Chief of Emergency Services

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