



2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Serving with pride since 1848

Middletown Division of Fire

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

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Middletown is a city located in Butler and Warren counties in the southwestern part of state of Ohio. Middletown was incorporated by the Ohio General Assembly on February 11, 1833, and became a city in 1886.

Population 48,694 Per 2010 Census

MIDDLETOWN

DIVISION OF FIRE

2300 Roosevelt Blvd. Middletown, Ohio 45044

513.425.7996 Fax 513.425.1820

Paul Lolli, Fire Chief

May 22, 2017

Douglas Adkins, City Manager
City of Middletown
One Donham Plaza
Middletown, Ohio 45042

Dear Mr. Adkins,

It is my honor to submit to you the 2016 Annual report for the Middletown Division of Fire. This report will show the activities performed by the personnel of the Division of Fire during the past year. In addition to an explanation of the services that we provide, you will find statistical data related to the delivery of these services to the citizens of Middletown and the actions taken to support the response activities.

2016 was a very exciting year for the Division of Fire. I am pleased to report that we have improved our ability to deliver fire and EMS services to the citizens of Middletown. During this past year, we were awarded the SAFER Grant from the Federal Government funding 12 Firefighter/EMT positions at a cost of \$1.8 million over two years. In addition, we were able to hire two additional Firefighter/EMT's from the City's General Fund. There were also several promotions within the Division of Fire in 2016.

2016 also presented challenges for the Division of Fire, none more prevalent than the opioid epidemic that has been felt all over the United States. In June of 2016, we implemented a Heroin Response Team that consists of a Police Officer, Paramedic, and drug addiction counselor. The team visits prior opioid overdose patients and encourages them to seek treatment for their addiction.

Also in 2016 we created the Middletown Fire Investigation Task Force. This is an investigative unit comprised of Division of Fire Investigators and Division of Police Detectives who have completed training specific to fire and arson investigations. This team has proven to be very successful and shows how the cooperation between the City of Middletown's Public Safety Divisions is a positive resource for the community.

"Serving with pride since 1848"

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Deputy Chief David Adams who coordinated the development of this annual report. As you read through this report, you will find the statistical data that documents the daily activities of the Division of Fire. I would also like to say thank you to all the personnel of the Middletown Division of Fire. Their dedication to serving the citizens of Middletown is second to none. The City of Middletown can be proud of its Fire Department. I am grateful for every member of this Division.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Lolli

Paul Lolli, Fire Chief
City of Middletown
Division of Fire





MISSION STATEMENT



- The Mission of the Middletown Division of Fire is to protect life and property from fire and other emergencies.
- This Mission is accomplished through Fire Suppression, Fire prevention, Public Education, Fire Cause Determination, Hazardous Material response and Emergency Medical Services, including Advanced Life Support skills, Vehicle Extrication as well as Confined Space, High Angle and Shore-based Water Rescue.

OUR VALUES

- The members of the Middletown Division of Fire are dedicated to operating a professional, ethical, service-minded organization.
- We value honesty and integrity in all matters, leading to the highest level of trustworthiness;
- We value respect for each person as a individual, recognizing the worth of our subordinates, peers, supervisors and customers;
- We value teamwork, as each person's capabilities enhance our performance as a whole;
- We value responsibility, taking ownership of our actions and committing to our assigned objectives;
- We value professional pride, adhering to a strong code of moral and ethical conduct;
- We value compassion, fostering a genuine concern for those we serve;
- We value safety, ensuring our own health as well as the safety of our team and those we serve;
- We value diversity of the people in our department and our community;
- We value training and education as the foundation of superior service;
- We value commitment, working through any adversity to meet the community's needs.



2016 City Employee of the Year - Tony Fink (accepting award from City Manager Doug Adkins)

2016 PERSONNEL

FIRE Chief

Paul J. Lolli

Assistant Chief

Thomas Snively

Day Staff

David VonBargen, Cpt. - EMS
Steve Ludwig, Cpt. - Fire Marshal

1st Platoon **Deputy Chief**

Brent Dominy

Captain

Jon Harvey

Lieutenants

Jess Chaille
Doug Bronnenberg
Jamison Verdin

2nd Platoon **Deputy Chief**

Jeff Spaulding

Captain

David Hoerst

Lieutenants

Brian Oliver
Brian Wright
Todd Steinbrunner

3rd Platoon **Deputy Chief**

David Adams

Captain

Robert Curry

Lieutenants

Tate Cobb
George Blake
John Scranton

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Calvin Woodrey
Gary Myers
Tony Fink
Tim Kinsworthy
Steve Soellner
Felipe Capetillo
Frank Baughman
John Kuehnle
Andrew Turner
Andy Lightner
Christopher Klug
Ryan Pennekamp
Jeffrey Kren
Omer Hurlburt
Michael
Mieczkowski
Jeff Hobbs
Terrence Zellars

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Greg Evans
Bob Hess
Tim Payne
Matthew Hall
Tim Scott
Todd Myers
Jason Venters
Shane Owens
Jason Meischke
Chad Wells
James Malin
Robert King
Jessika Tanner
Ryan McClure
Joshua Myers
Chris Butler
Amadeo Marchetti
Nick Banks
Seth Adams
Jacob Smith

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Bob Nichols
Brian Fultz
Tom Korb
Steve Riley
Brian Sebald
Brian Patton
David Pittman
Brent Hughes
Michael Vultaggio
Brett Schindler
John Fadden
Pawel Mieczkowski
David Shaw
Ben Bultman
Shawn McIntosh
Mike Jones
Alex Wargo
Adam Stitsinger



2016 PERSONNEL CHANGES

Promoted

Tom Snively, Deputy Chief to Assistant Chief 12/22/2015
Jeff Spaulding, Captain to Deputy Chief 1/2/2016
Rob Curry, Lieutenant to Captain 1/3/2016
David VonBargen, Lieutenant to Captain 1/2/2016
Jamison Verdin, Firefighter to Lieutenant 1/3/2016

Resignations

Chad Wells 8/20/2016
Zachary Hardesty 12/22/2016

Retired

Robert King 3/26/2016

New Employees

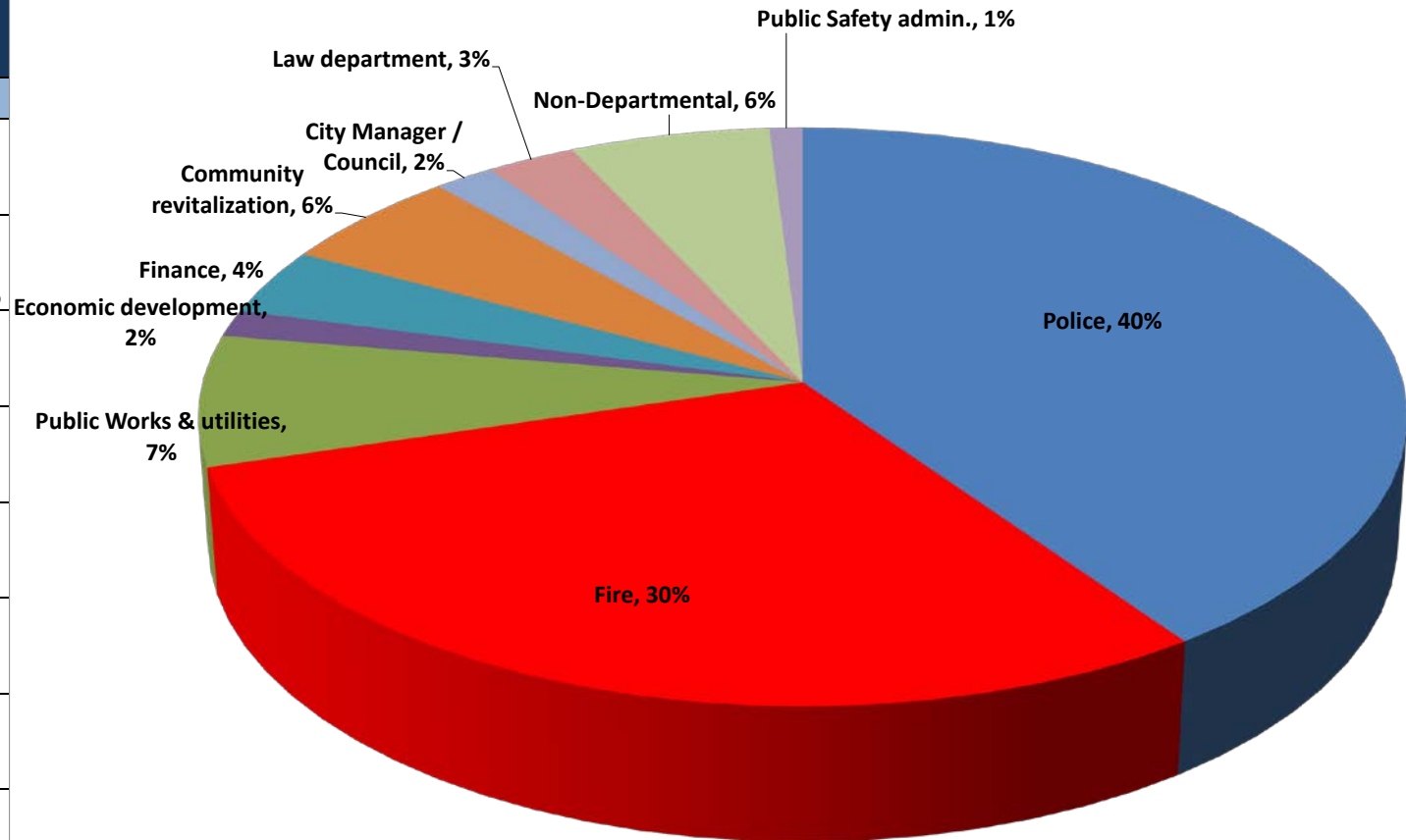
Omer Hurlburt 3/28/2016
Shawn McIntosh 3/28/2016
Christopher Butler 3/28/2016
Michael Mieczkowski 3/28/2016
Amedeo Marchetti 8/29/2016
Seth Adams 12/5/2016
William Banks 12/5/2016
Zachary Hardesty 12/5/2016
Jeffrey Hobbs 12/5/2016
Michael Jones 12/5/2016
Jacob Smith 12/5/2016
Adam Stitsinger 12/5/2016
Alex Wargo 12/5/2016
Terrence Zellars 12/5/2016



2016 City budget

\$27,311,194 total

Police	40%
Fire	30%
Public Works & utilities	7%
Economic development	2%
Finance	4%
Community revitalization	6%
City Manager / Council	2%
Law department	3%
Non-Departmental	6%
Public Safety admin.	1%





2016 Fire Budget

\$ 8,588,029.00

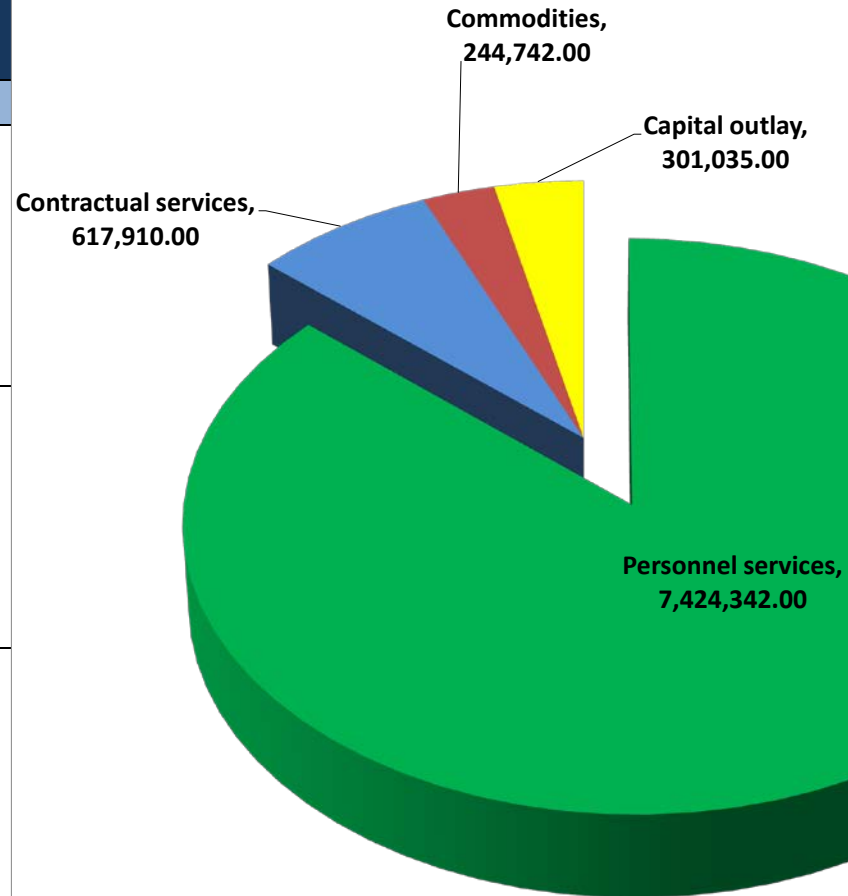
Personnel services \$7,424,342.00

Contractual services \$617,910.00

Commodities \$244,742.00

Capital outlay \$301,035.00

Total \$8,588,029.00



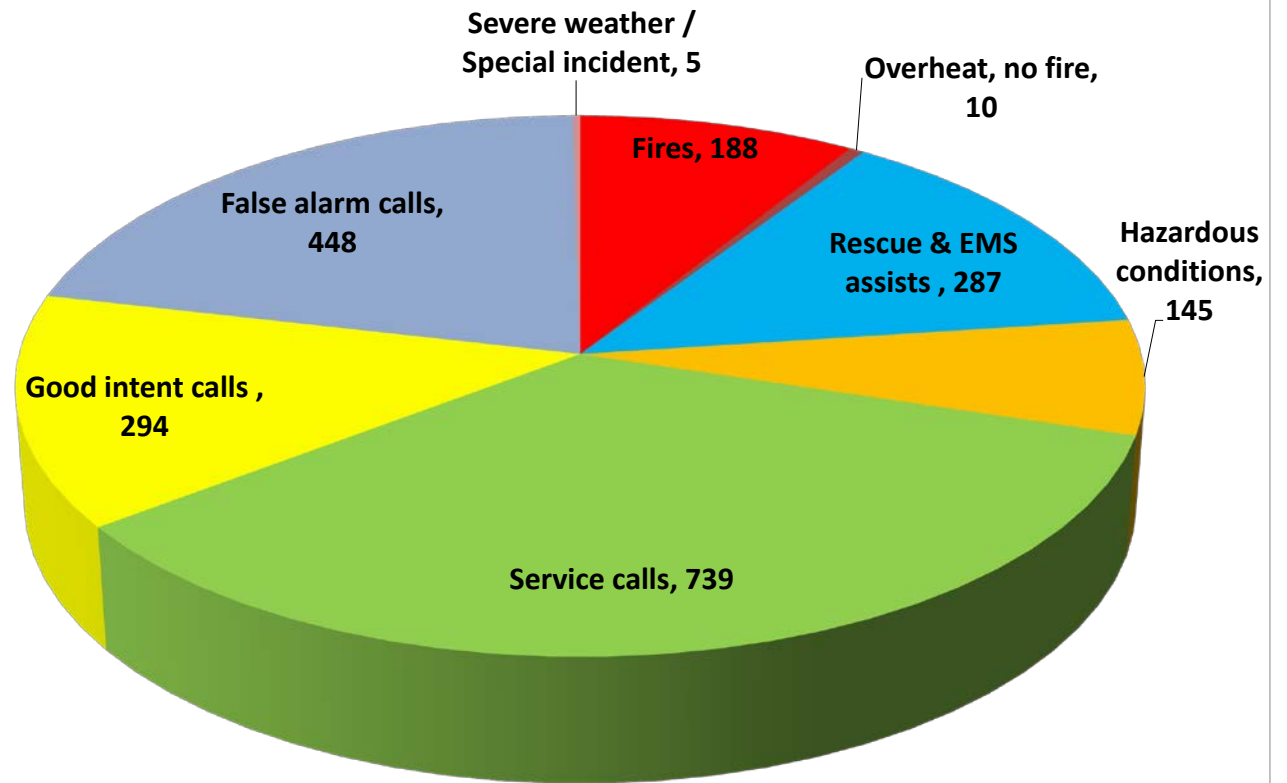


2016 Fire Incidents

Incident Type

Fires	188
Overheat, no fire	10
Rescue & EMS assists	287
Hazardous conditions	145
Service calls	739
Good intent calls	294
False alarm calls	448
Severe weather / Special incident	5

Total 2,116

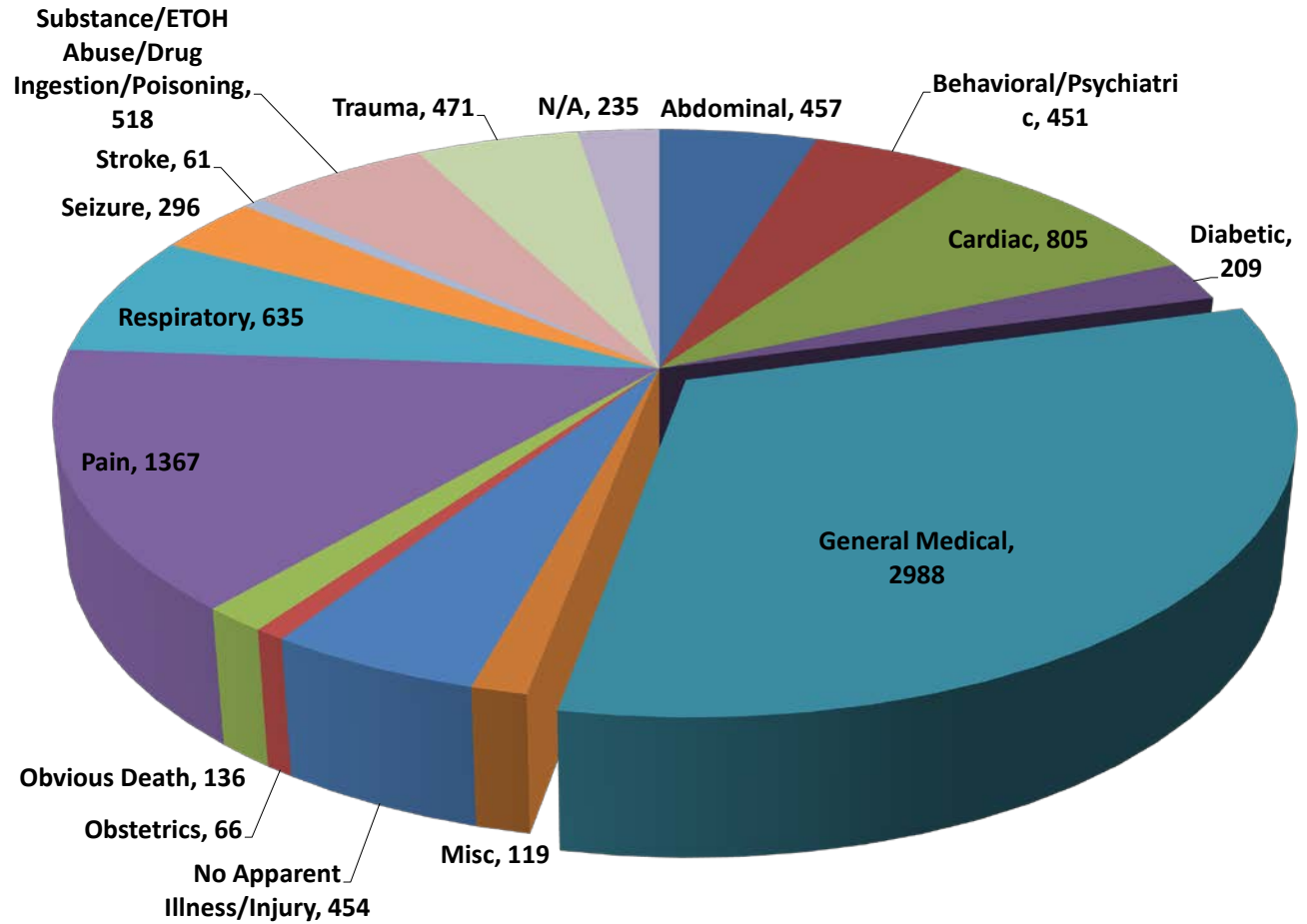




2016 EMS Incidents

Incident Type

Abdominal	457
Behavioral/Psychiatric	451
Cardiac	805
Diabetic	209
General Medical	2988
Misc	119
No Apparent Illness/Injury	454
Obstetrics	66
Obvious Death	136
Pain	1367
Respiratory	635
Seizure	296
Stroke	61
Substance/ETOH Abuse/Drug Ingestion/Poisoning	518
Trauma	471
N/A	235
total	9268





5 year FIRE /EMS totals

FIRE 2012 2042

EMS 2012 8400

FIRE 2013 1978

EMS 2013 8185

FIRE 2014 1896

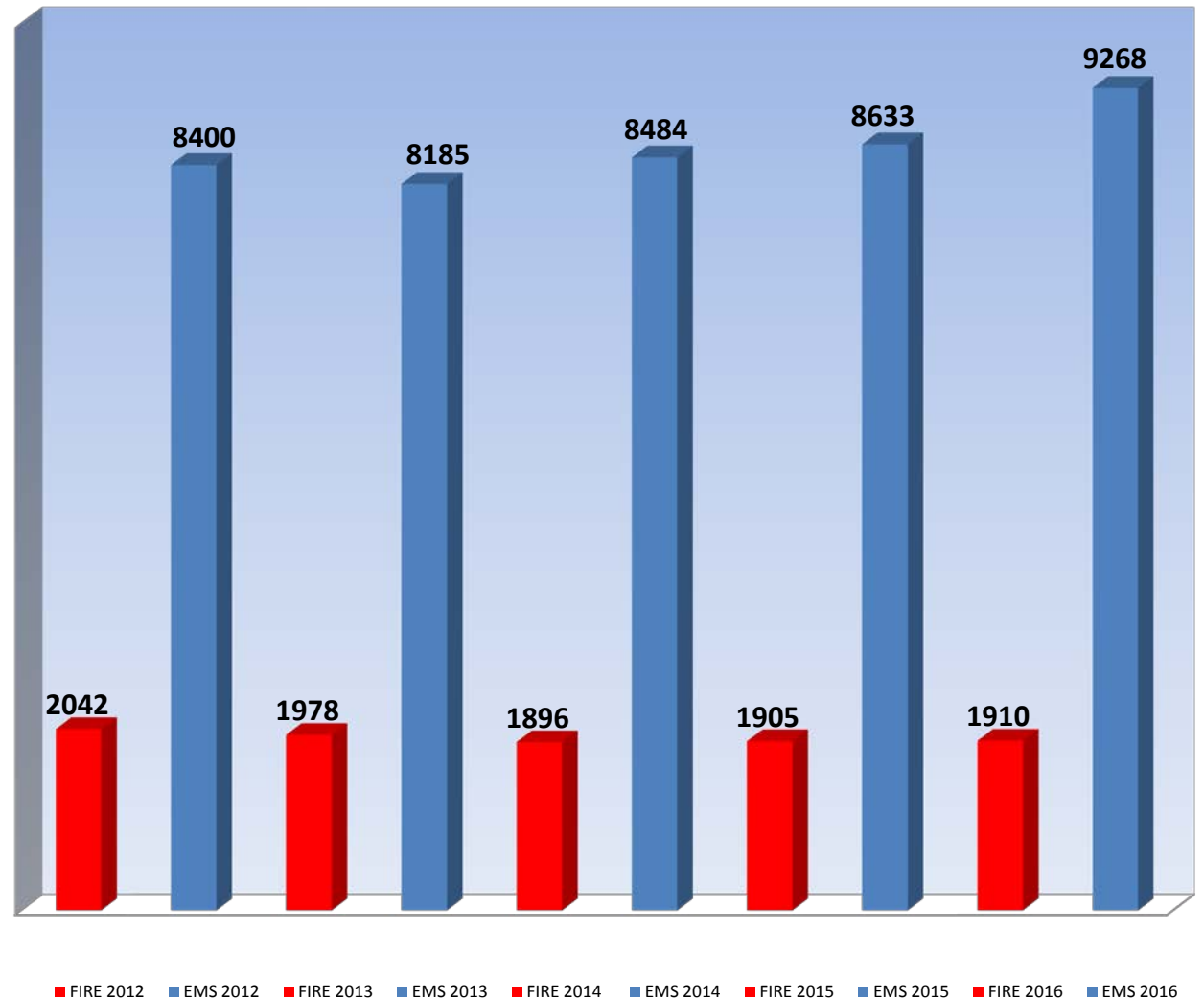
EMS 2014 8484

FIRE 2015 1905

EMS 2015 8633

FIRE 2016 1910

EMS 2016 9268



Fire totals do not include EMS assists



5 year FIRE /EMS totals

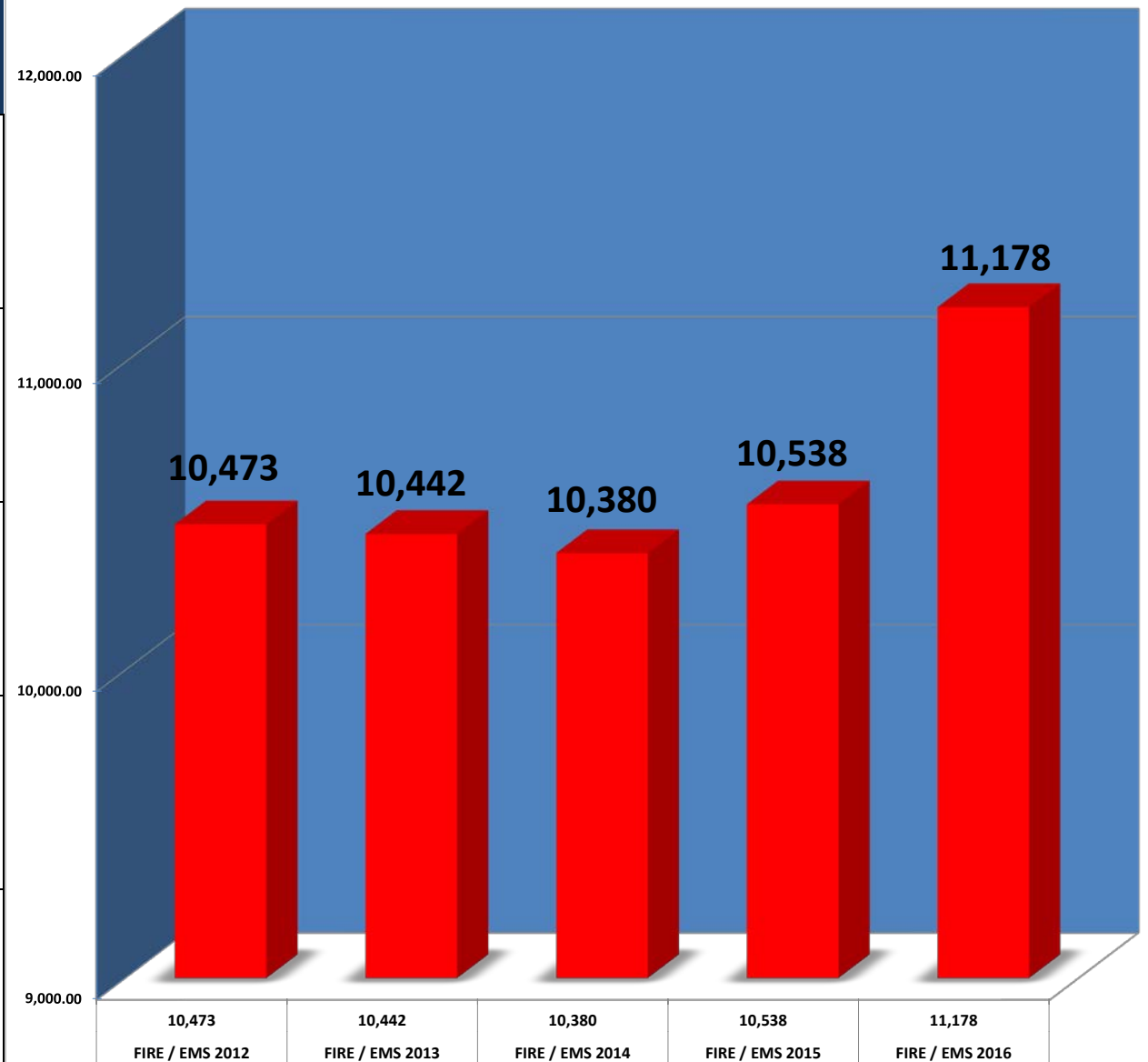
FIRE / EMS 2012 10,473

FIRE / EMS 2013 10,442

FIRE / EMS 2014 10,380

FIRE / EMS 2015 10,538

FIRE / EMS 2016 11,178





2016 Combo Company response totals (Fire & EMS)

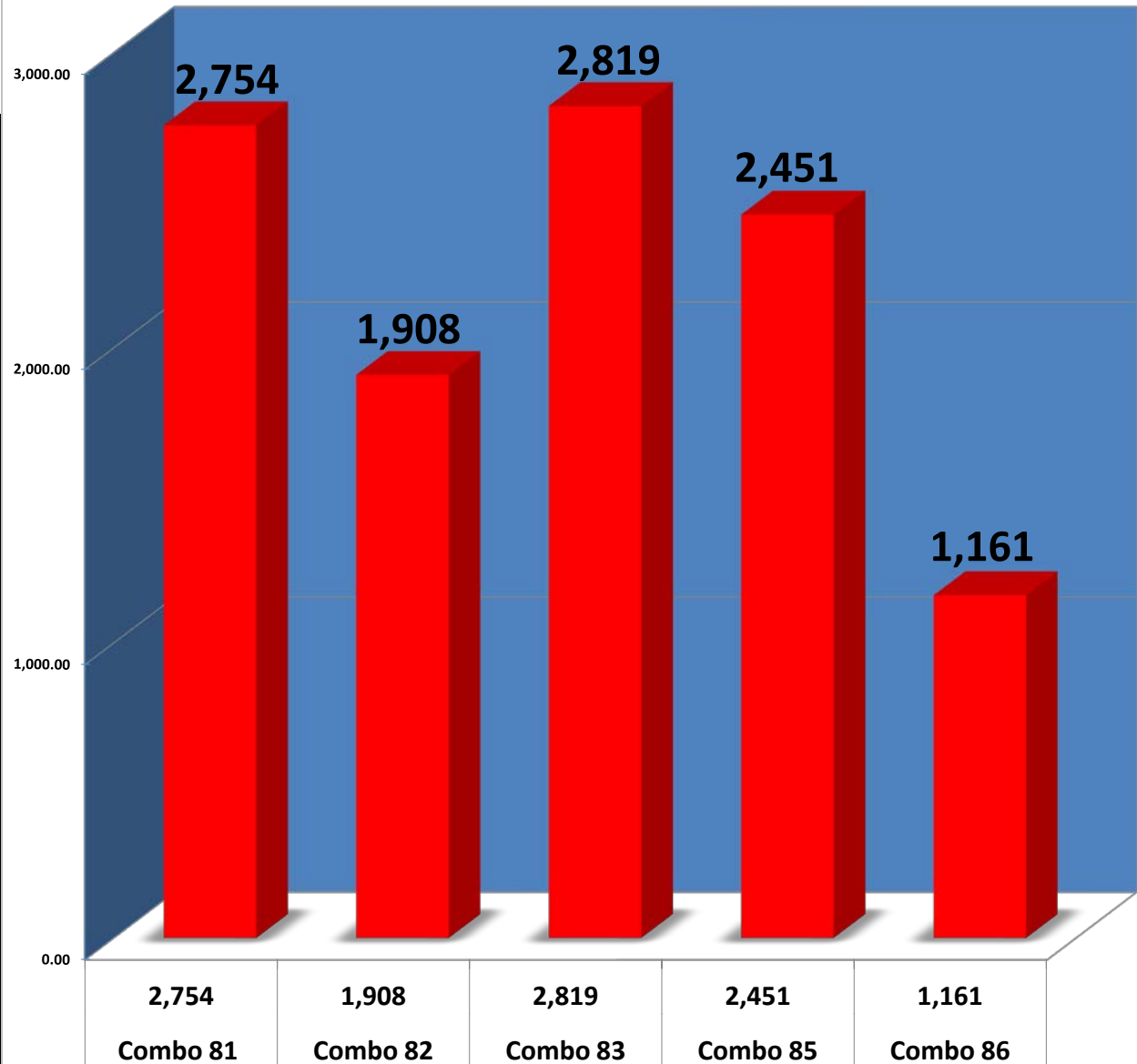
Combo 81 2,754

Combo 82 1,908

Combo 83 2,819

Combo 85 2,451

Combo 86 1,161





2016 Mutual Aid

Incoming / Outgoing

Fire incoming 92

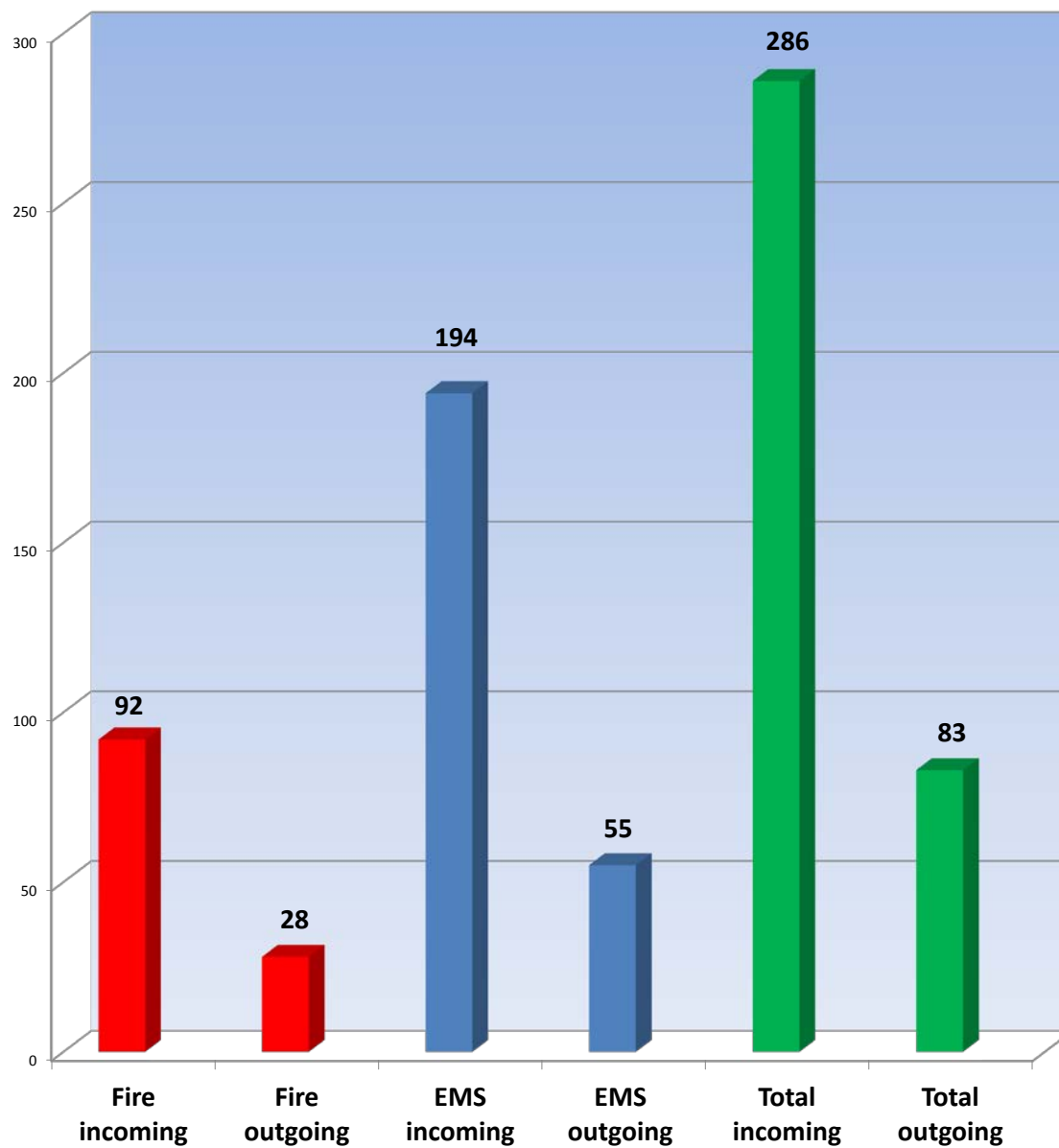
Fire outgoing 28

EMS incoming 194

EMS outgoing 55

Total incoming 286

Total outgoing 83





Response Times FIRE /EMS - min & sec

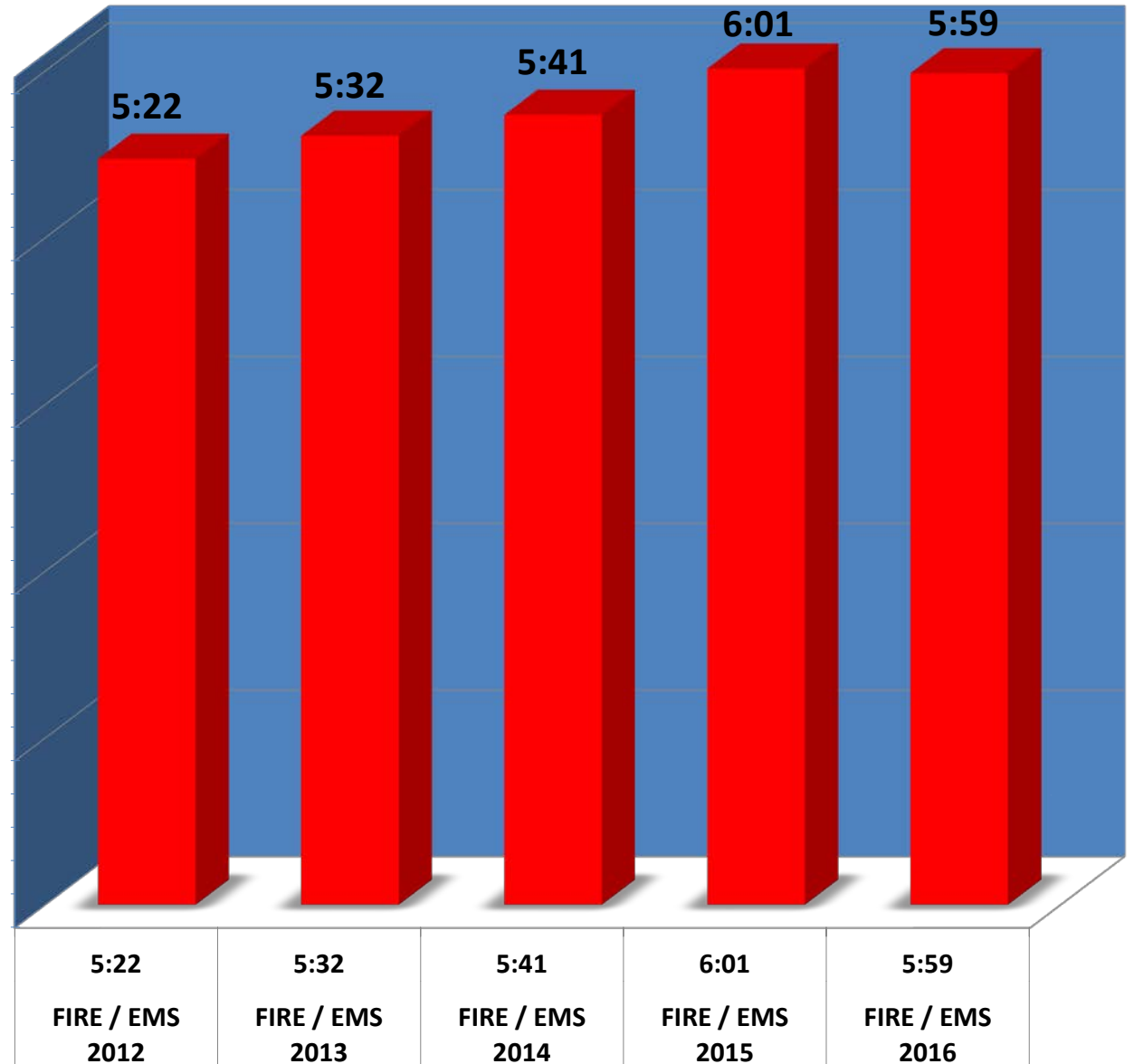
FIRE / EMS 2012 5:22

FIRE / EMS 2013 5:32

FIRE / EMS 2014 5:41

FIRE / EMS 2015 6:01

FIRE / EMS 2016 5:59



FIRE STATIONS AND APPARATUS



STATION 83

Fire Department Headquarters

2300 Roosevelt Blvd.
Middletown, Oh 45044

513-425-7996 (phone)
513-425-1820 (fax)

Emergency 911

Engine 83	2694	2006 Sutphen
Medic 83	816690	2016 Medix
Engine 86	2399	2003 American LaFrance
Medic 86	812298	2012 International
Tower 86	802383	2002 Sutphen 110' tower
Battalion 80	813330	2013 Chevy Tahoe
Engine 84	98-P2	1997 Luverne
CP81	2526	2005 Ford F350
UT80	2230	2002 Chevy C2500
UT81	2231	2002 Chevy C2500
UT82	810021	2010 Ford Passenger Van
UT83	2826	2009 F250



STATION 81

307 N. Clinton
St.Middletown, Oh
45042

513-423-4572 (phone)

Emergency 911

Quint 81	20Q-5	2000 Sutphen 75' mini tower
Medic 81	816691	2016 Medix
HAZ MAT 81	32203865	1993 Utilimaster
Decon 81	FD-201	2005 Ford F750

FIRE STATIONS AND APPARATUS



STATION 82

3765 Dixie Hwy.

Middletown, Oh 45044

513-422-8368 (phone)

Emergency 911

Engine 82

2893

2009 Sutphen

Medic 82

812295

2012 International



STATION 85

4310 Central Ave.

Middletown, Oh 45042

513-424-1532 (phone)

Emergency 911

Engine 85

813181

2013 Sutphen

Medic 85

2990

2009 Braun

Hazardous Materials

Middletown Fire Department is one of three departments that make up the response units for the Butler County Regional Hazardous Materials Team. Hamilton and West Chester complete the team.

Hamilton, Middletown and West Chester Township, in addition to Hazardous Materials Technicians from Fairfield Township Fire Department, Liberty Township Fire Department, Monroe Fire Department, and Oxford Fire Department make up the Butler County Haz-Mat Co-op. This agreement provides for regional response within the entire County.

Political subdivisions in the County requiring additional Hazardous Material team Response, may request additional resources from the Haz-Mat co-op through mutual aid. This program also provides for training of department personnel in various aspects of Hazardous Materials response and control. This includes testing and maintenance of equipment.

All Middletown Fire personnel are certified to the Operations level of responder. Several firefighters are further trained to the Technician level. Middletown Fire Dept. is working in conjunction with the International Association of Firefighters to provide, at no cost, Haz-Mat technician certification training for additional personnel in 2017.

This training has Middletown firefighters ready to deploy with the Haz-Mat team to mitigate poison, radiological, and chemical emergencies within our response area. The department maintains and tests multi gas meters for each front line apparatus and Haz-Mat response unit.

In 2016 Middletown fire responded to 32 Hazardous Material incidents with the Haz-Mat unit responding to 3 of these emergencies. The most serious was an acid leak at Pilot Chemical. The incident required the response of the entire county Haz-Mat teams. Crews used the reverse 911 system to instruct citizens to shelter in place, while Middletown fire crews secured the safety of children at Amanda Elementary School. The leak was mitigated without injury to responders or citizens.

2016 Haz-Mat Tech level personnel

Baughman, Frank
Bultman, Ben
Butler, Chris
Cobb, Tate
Curry, Robert
Evans, Greg
Harvey, Jon
Hurlburt, Omer Ludwig,
Steve
Mailin, Jim
McClure, Ryan
Mieczkowski, Michael
Mieczkowski, Pawel

Myers, Todd
Oliver, Brian
Owens, Shane
Schindler, Brett
Scranton, John
Sebald, Brian
Spaulding, Jeff
Tanner, Jessika
Turner, Andy
Wenters, Jason
Verdin, Jamie
VonBargen, David
Vultaggio, Mike





TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM (BCTR)

The Butler County Technical Rescue Team is an effort of the Butler County Emergency Management Agency and Butler County Technical Rescue Governing Board and operates under the tenants the Technical Rescue Governing Board and the Butler County Technical Rescue Administrative & Operational Policies.

Team members are comprised of trained personnel from qualified first responder agencies, including fire, police and other departments that will be an asset to the mission of the Technical Rescue Team.

Currently, Butler County Technical Rescue Team has over 65 technicians specially trained in:

- **Confined Space**
- **Trench Rescue**
- **High Angle Rescue**
- **Search & Rescue**
- **Structure Collapse**
- **Swift Water Rescue**
- **Flood Rescue**



BCTR Team had six trainings through 2016 and members (Ludwig, VonBargen, McClure, and Riley) attended the required 50% of the trainings to remain in good standing with the team.

• 2016 Middletown Fire - Team members :

Ryan McClure

Dave VonBargen, Cpt.

Steve Riley

Steve Ludwig, Cpt. (Advisory Board Rep)

Emergency Medical Services

Middletown Division of Fire responded to 9268 EMS calls in 2016. This represents an increase of 4.5% over 2015.

We received help from our neighboring communities 194 times while returning the favor 55 times. This was done while maintaining the lowest staffing level the division has seen in recent times. The operational profile was a minimum of 13 personnel running Combo companies. There were 4 front line Combo Companies in service and a 5th when staffing permitted.

The City of Middletown continued to feel the impact of the Opiate epidemic with a marked increase in EMS responses. EMS units responded to 532 opiate overdoses. These 532 incidents resulted in 77 deaths. Meth, cocaine, prescription drug abuse, and flakka incidences made for additional calls.

City Manager, Doug Adkins started a Heroin Summit in spring of 2015 which was broken into sub-committees. The Heroin Response Team (HRT) came out of one of those committees and started in June of 2016. The team consists of a police officer, a paramedic and an alcohol and drug addiction counselor (provided by Alcohol Drug and Mental Health Service Board).

The team visits prior overdose patients and/or families shortly after their incident. The goal is to close the gap between getting users to treatment and their families to support groups.

257 names of users were collected through overdose responses, referrals from requests for help, or public safety personnel talking with known users.

132 were able to be contacted and 71 of those individuals (54%) made their way to a treatment center



EMS 2016 Training

- **2016 EMS Continuing education classes included:**

20 hours made up the monthly in-service training. An additional 48 hours Paramedic refresher was conducted. There were 994 hours total man hours logged for in-service training. We upgraded our on-line training in 2016 utilizing "Fire & EMS Academy".

- **2016 Topics:**

- *Trauma Review/Toxicology
- *Pediatric Mobile Education Lab
- *EMS Topics & Review of Care Flight Scene Flights
- *Infectious Control
- *Summer Emergencies
- *Trauma Case Reviews
- *Critical Incident Stress Management
- *Endocrine/Diabetes
- *Endocrine system/Diabetes
- *Paramedic Refresher
- *Documentation
- *Pediatric Trauma Simulation
- *Respiratory CPAP
- *CPR Recertification

*Cincinnati State Paramedic Refresher course done during the year for selected Paramedics





Fire 2016 Training

Fire personnel completed over 2,296 hours of Fire training during 2016. Most of these hours were completed during in-services and company-level trainings.

Training Topics and total man hours

Aerial Ladder Operations - 3
Building construction/Hazardous Materials Operations Code Enforcement - 27
Creating Professional Investigation Reports - 32
Fire Inspection Procedures and Updates to the Ohio Fire Code - 46
Fire Investigation SOP and Chimney Fires - 104
Fire Scene Photography - 39
Fire Service Communications - 120
Foam Operations - 9
Industrial Rescue Operations - 12
NFIRS Reporting - 84
Water-Based Suppression Systems - 88
Hazardous Materials - 32
Pre-Planning - 12
Pre-planning and Fire Suppression Systems - 50
Ropes and Knots - 51
Steel Mill Construction; Fire and Vapor Suppression Systems - 15
Tower placement and operations - 5
Vehicle Fire Safety with New Technologies - 82

2016 total Fire training hours = 856

The fourteen (14) probationary firefighters hired during 2016 completed a combined 1,440 hours of recruit training to prepare them for integration in the Fire Operations Division.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The Fire Prevention Bureau manages several important functions which include: fire inspections, plan reviews, public and private education, data collection and analysis.

OBJECTIVE:

The main objective of the Fire Prevention Bureau is to promote prevention and awareness through a proactive approach to fire safety.

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

Provide public education and fire safety awareness programs.
Enforce fire, building, and life-safety codes and ordinances.
Conduct fire and life-safety inspections.
Review plans for fire protection systems and life safety concerns.
Witness the testing of fire protection and life safety equipment.
Maintain public relations and respond to citizens' concerns regarding fire-safety.
Evaluate and update codes to stay current with city needs.

NEW CONSTRUCTION AND SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW:

Plans for fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems, and hood and duct suppression systems, are reviewed for compliance in relation to adopted codes and regulations.

PUBLIC EDUCATION:

The most effective method of fire prevention is public education.

Middletown Firefighters visit the local schools in October (National Fire prevention month) to teach fire safety. The Fire Safety House, a mobile classroom, regularly visits parks and other community events such as the National Night out.

2016 Inspection stats:

Conducted **10** foster/adoption home inspections.

As a department, we conducted **1399** fire safety inspections of commercial properties.

2016 Fire Investigation Task Force - Annual Report

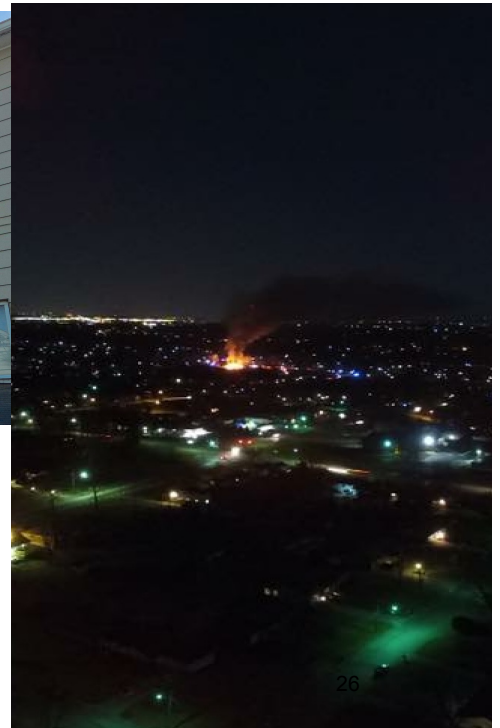
The Middletown Fire Investigation Task Force (Task Force) is a multi-discipline unit comprised of detectives and investigators from the Divisions of Police and Fire. All personnel assigned to the Task Force have completed a minimum of fifty (50) hours of training specific to fire and explosion investigations. During 2016, the Middletown Fire Investigation Task Force (Task Force), conducted seventy (70) origin and cause investigations with the following determined to be incendiary in nature.

Date	Incident Type	Location	Disposition
1/25/2016	Building fire	1309 MICHIGAN AVE	- Open
2/3/2016	Passenger vehicle fire	1800 VANCE ST	- Closed with conviction. Three (3) defendants
3/22/2016	Building fire	720 POPLAR ST	- Open
5/19/2016	Building fire	16 CLARK ST	- Open
5/20/2016	Passenger vehicle fire	824 18TH AVE	- Open, Charges pending
8/1/2016	Building fire	814 S MAIN ST	- Open
8/2/2016	Passenger vehicle fire	216 BELLMONTE ST	- Closed by exception
8/8/2016	Building fire	2600 N VERITY PKWY	- Closed with conviction.
8/25/2016	Building fire	1504 WOODLAWN AVE	- Open
9/8/2016	Building fire	323 CLARK ST, Apt 10	- Open
9/19/2016	Building fire	1912 COURT DONEGAL	- Open; One (1) suspect charged
10/8/2016	Road Transport vehicle fire	3415 CINCINNATI-DAYTON RD	- Open
10/31/2016	Building fire	1809 NORTH AVE	- Open
11/5/2016	Building fire	1507 JACOBY AVE	- Open; Three (3) suspects charged; two (2) plead guilty.
12/27/2016	Building fire	1640 LAMBERTON ST Apt 00	- Closed by exception

This represents an arrest/closure rate of forty-six percent (46%) of all identified incendiary (arson) fires which were investigated by the Task Force. It is anticipated the closure rate for incendiary fires which occurred during 2016 will increase as many of the open investigations are still active.

Investigators assigned to the Task Force completed eight (8) hours of in-service training specific to Origin and Cause investigations with one (1) investigator attending thirty-two (32) hours of tested training during the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) International Training Conference.

Additionally, an accelerant canine (K9) was added to the Task Force to assist with the detection of ignitable liquids (accelerants) at fire scenes. Investigator Chris Klug and K9 "Scottie" began their initial training in October of 2016 and are expected to be certified by the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) in May of 2017.



HYDRANTS / WATER SUPPLY

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The program guarantees that all the fire hydrants are located, inspected for damage or defects, and are accessible. Targeted fire hydrants are flushed and flow tested and records are kept on static and residual water flow on an annual basis. By comparing these numbers from year to year water system problems can be found and corrected.

All data is collected and water flow numbers are submitted to the Water Department and the Public Works Department. Any defects or mechanical problems found are documented and reported to the Water/Sewer Department for repairs. The data collected is also used in pre-plan development and for fire water-flow calculations. The inter-agency cooperation in developing long range goals for the water distribution system has also been a result of data collection and analysis of the entire water system.

2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Due to run volume and staffing this year Comp time was offered to off-duty personnel to inspect and flush city fire hydrants. A total of **247.25** labor hours were used to accomplish this. This time was used in a fashion that would not cause overtime pay in accordance with Division of Fire policies.
- The Public Works Department continued to repair all reported defects and damaged hydrants on a timely basis. **122** individual hydrants were reported to the water department as needing repairs. Several minor defects, such as missing gaskets were rectified by fire personnel during flushing. **11** Hydrants were identified as being out of service for various reasons.
-
- Fire personnel continue to work with Public Works and Engineering Departments to improve the mapping of hydrant locations.
-
- In 2016, approximately **1100** hydrants were inspected and flushed. Geographically this can be shown as beginning at the river and proceeding eastward to the Mayfield neighborhood covering all neighborhoods North and South of this area. This encompasses nearly 50% of the city's hydrants within Butler County. Warren County hydrants are not serviced by the City of Middletown.

SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus)

In 2016 Middletown Division of Fire tested:

- 52** - SCBA flow tests
- 9** – RIC pack flow tests
- 4** - SAR flow tests
- 2** – SAR base unit flow tests
- 107** – Face piece tests
- 73** – Face piece fit tests

Repairs were made to SCBA face pieces, RIC packs, and SAR units as needed. Some repairs were only adjustments, while others involved replacing damaged or worn parts.

(Additional flow tests were completed if needed, after a repair).



In Memoriam

Retired FF - Scott Bruggeman 1/18/16

Retired Deputy Chief - David Holweger 12/18/16

