

2020 Central Fire Protection District # 4

Annual Report



ANNUAL REPORT

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2020

Board of Commissioners
Central Fire Protection District #4
11646 Sullivan Road
Baton Rouge, La. 70818

Members of the Board,

This document is a summary of the operations of the Central Fire Protection District # 4 for the 2020 calendar year. The past year presented the Central Fire Protection District # 4 with a myriad of challenges from multiple tropical weather events to a pandemic that continues into present day. While we have had to adjust some of our policies and procedures to conform with the guidance received in response to the pandemic, we remain committed in proactively reaching the community. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,



Stephen Branscum, Fire Chief

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Hired one Firefighter / Operator with prior experience from an outside agency.
- Took delivery of (2) 2020 Ferrara Cinder custom fire engines.
- Utilized funds from LGAP grant to purchase new 1.75" fire hose, smooth bore nozzles and quick-attack ground monitors.
- Purchased 16 new SCBA to replace outdated Scott models.
- Received notification that CFD was awarded an AFG grant to replace outdated extrication equipment. Project slated for completion in the Spring of 2021.
- Replaced approximately 20 sets of bunker gear.
- Began transitioning interested personnel to Advanced EMT certification, bringing additional training and abilities to our agency.
- Upgraded all AEDs across the fleet for use by Advanced EMTs.
- Replaced older medical kits to models that are more easily decontaminated and that afford CFD the opportunity to carry additional equipment.

Personnel Changes in 2020:

FULL TIME HIRE NAME

Higginbotham, Peyton

RANK

FF / Operator

DATE

5/15/2020

CONTRACT HIRE

Weigand, Cody

FF/OP

10/1/2020

RESIGNATION / RETIREMENT / TERMINATION

Mondrick, Charles

Deputy Chief

2/27/2020

Clark, Michael

Captain

3/16/2020

Gremillion, Ross

Contract FF

10/1/2020

Eller, Bobby

Assistant Chief

12/31/2020



New Equipment in 2020



E-333 & E-353 – 2020 Ferrara Cinder Custom Engines



Quick-Attack Ground Monitors



Smooth-bore Nozzles

TRAINING DIVISION

The Training Division was under the direction of District Chief Samuel “Trip” Haynes. Together with several assistant instructors, he manages the tasks of coordinating training for all department members, record keeping, and continuing education for medical licensing.

For a large portion of the year, the pandemic restricted meeting size, forced several meetings to a video-conference style learning, and or cancelled/postponed events altogether. As a result, training numbers were down slightly in a year-to-year comparison, but the restrictions on meetings were necessary to help ensure that we kept up with our minimum staffing levels.

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Officers | 4395.5 |
| Firefighters: | 3926.75 |
| Contract: | 775.75 |

Total number of training hours for 2020: 9098 Hours



Certifications Earned in 2020

2020 saw a total of 10 personnel obtain an additional 23 training certifications and 1 college degree.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Byrd, Jordan – | Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Fire Instructor I Fire Officer I |
| Clark, Brian - | Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Fire Investigator |
| Cullen, Brandon - | Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Fire Instructor I |
| Dix, Robin - | Advanced Emergency Medical Technician |
| Fullen, Colby - | Fire Instructor I |
| Garig, Leroy - | Fire Inspector I |
| Higginbotham, Peyton - | Emergency Medical Technician |
| Jordan, Preston - | Fire Investigator |
| McDonald, Donnie - | Advanced Emergency Medical Technician |
| McCutcheon Jr, Bert - | Fire Investigator |
| Porche, Austin - | Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Fire Investigator Fire Safety Officer Fire Officer II |
| Templeton, Andrew - | Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Fire Investigator Fire Instructor I Fire Inspector I Fire Officer I Associate's Degree – Fire Science |

Total Certifications Obtained in 2020 = 24

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Firefighter Lee Walker continued to administer many of the aspects of the Public Education Programs for the Central Fire Department during 2020. Due to many of the restrictions in place for the Covid-19 pandemic, many of the programs were drastically altered. The Fire Safety house was not utilized in program delivery and allowing children to walk through the cabs of trucks were not permitted as well. Program delivery in schools was altered to in-person lectures along with Sparky the robot fire truck, as well as show and tell with the trucks. Almost all of the usual summer camps, spring / fall festivals, and community events that CFD usually participates in were postponed or cancelled.

Throughout the 2020 calendar year, the Public Education division, through this modified delivery, reached over 2,500 individuals in the community. CFD also inspected / installed 23 car seats.

SMOKE ALARMS

The State Fire Marshal's Office continued to partner with area fire departments to further the initiative of getting smoke alarms to the citizens that are in need. For the calendar year of 2020, Central Fire Department installed 39 smoke alarms at 16 separate residences throughout the community. This program is provided free of charge through a grant from the State Fire Marshal's Office and remains one of our more popular services.



INSPECTIONS / CODE ENFORCEMENT

Assistant Chief Derek Glover took over the reins of scheduling, conducting, and overseeing all fire inspection and code enforcement activity after the retirement of Assistant Chief Bobby Eller. CFD continues to be a recognized fire prevention bureau through the Louisiana State Fire Marshal's Office. All inspectors complete inspections, as well as continuing education, on a monthly basis. Together, these personnel complete over 800 inspections and re-inspections annually. Due to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the local business community, CFD withheld inspections until the Fall of 2020 to better accommodate the businesses that were having to alter their service delivery. Nonetheless, the men and women of the Central Fire Department managed to complete all inspections and pre-fire plans prior to the end of 2020.

In the year, 2020 there were 774 inspections conducted. Of 774 these inspections, 454 violations were found. They were:

| <u>Type</u> | <u>No. of Violations</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Exits locked or blocked | 13 |
| Exit signs | 52 |
| Emergency lighting violations | 58 |
| Fire Alarm violations | 22 |
| Fire Extinguisher violations | 214 |
| Unsafe electrical violations | 40 |
| Cooking Equipment Violations | 1 |
| Sprinkler | 22 |
| Address marking | 11 |
| Accumulation of waste / housekeeping | 21 |

Total Violations: 454

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION

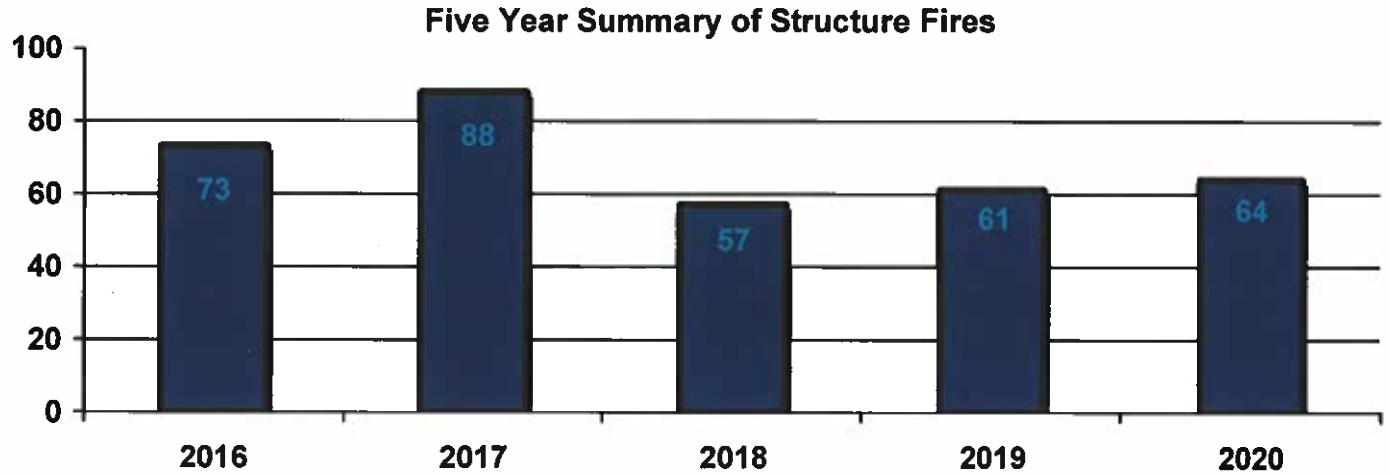
The Central Fire Department continues to respond to all types of hazardous materials incidents. In the 2020 calendar year, CFD responded to a total of 45 hazardous materials incidents. Below is breakdown of the call types with the most prevalent being natural gas leaks.

| <u>INCIDENT TYPE</u> | <u>NO. OF RESPONSES</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Gasoline Spills/Leaks | 4 |
| Natural Gas Leaks | 35 |
| Oil Spill / Chemical Hazard | 2 |
| Carbon Monoxide Incident | 4 |

Total Hazardous Materials Responses in 2020: 45

STRUCTURE FIRES

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| 73 | 88 | 57 | 61 | 64 |



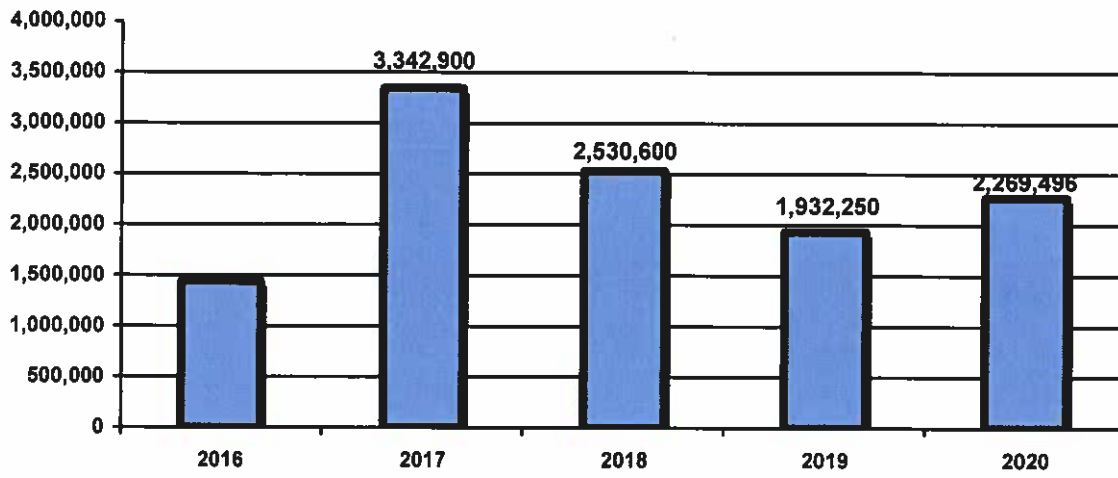
MAJOR STRUCTURE FIRES

| <u>Type of Fire</u> | <u>Street</u> | <u>Loss</u> |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| House Fire | 15290 Brown Rd. | \$450,000 |
| House Fire | 10126 Cloudland Dr. | \$300,000 |
| House Fire | 13348 Virgil Jackson Ave. | \$270,000 |
| House Fire | 9727 Sullivan Rd. | \$225,000 |
| House Fire | 10744 Landfair Ave. | \$225,000 |

TOTAL FIRE LOSS

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| \$1,441,350 | \$3,342,900 | 2,530,600 | \$1,932,250 | \$2,269,496 |

Five Year Fire Loss Summary



CASUALTIES

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Firefighter Injuries | 0 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 2 |
| Firefighter Fatalities | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Civilian Injuries | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 5 |
| Civilian Fatalities | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

There were seven reported civilian casualties in 2020:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Type of Fire</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Age/Gender</u> | <u>Injury Type</u> |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 03/12/2020 | House Fire | 15290 Brown Rd. | 86/M | Death |
| After safely evacuating the residence, the victim re-entered the residence for unknown reasons and was found deceased after the fire was brought under control. | | | | |
| 04/14/2020 | House Fire | 9477 Lansdowne # 36 | 40/F | Death |
| CFD was dispatched to a medical at the listed address. Upon arrival CFD found male deceased inside residence. No active smoke or fire at the time of the incident. | | | | |
| 05/22/2020 | House Fire | 12725 Erin Ave. | 58/F | Smoke inhalation |
| Difficulty breathing as a result of smoke inhalation from attempting extinguishment of a kitchen fire. | | | | |
| 08/14/2020 | House Fire | 17960 Will Ave. #84 | 49/F & 45/M | Smoke inhalation |
| Female fell asleep smoking in bed and suffered from smoke inhalation as a result. Male was the neighbor who attempted to put fire out with a garden hose and suffered from smoke inhalation as a result. | | | | |
| 10/10/2020 | House Fire | 4616 Salem Dr. | 62/M | Smoke inhalation |
| Male suffered from smoke inhalation as a result of attempting extinguishment prior to CFD arrival. | | | | |
| 11/5/2020 | House Fire | 11632 Delray Ave. | 37/M | Smoke inhalation |
| Male suffered from smoke inhalation as a result of attempting extinguishment prior to CFD arrival. | | | | |

There were two reported firefighter injuries in 2020

5-06-19 Water Rescue 17819 Frenchtown Rd. 42/M Dehydration

Firefighter suffered from dehydration during a dive recovery operation on the Amite River.

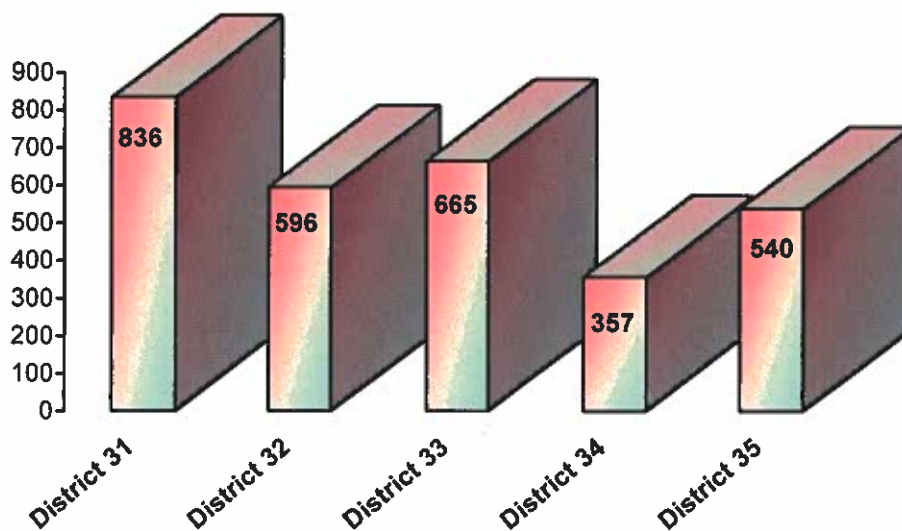
10/12/2020 House Fire 13135 Devall Rd. 42/M Dehydration

Firefighter suffered from dehydration during firefighting operations at a house fire.



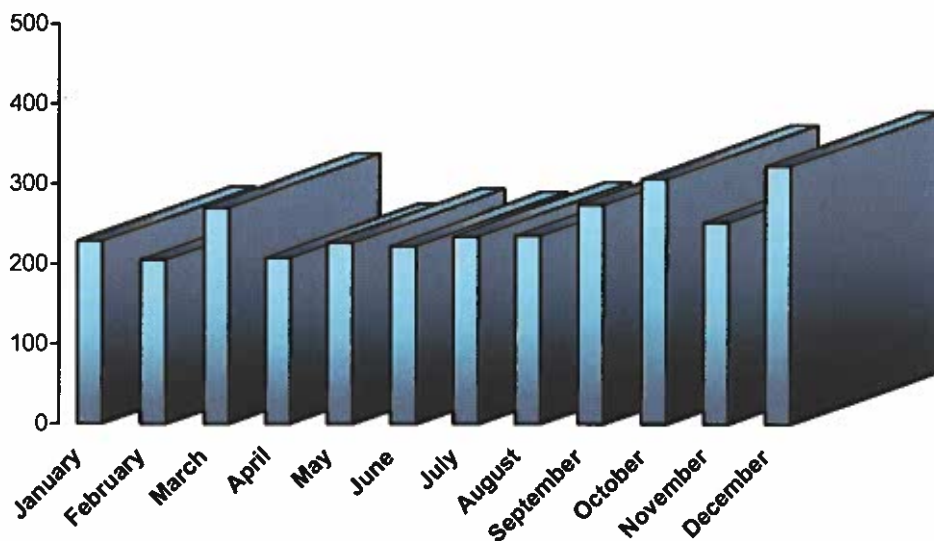
CALLS BY DISTRICT

| <u>District 31</u> | <u>District 32</u> | <u>District 33</u> | <u>District 34</u> | <u>District 35</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 836 | 596 | 665 | 357 | 540 |



CALLS BY THE MONTH

| <u>Jan.</u> | <u>Feb.</u> | <u>Mar.</u> | <u>Apr.</u> | <u>May</u> | <u>June</u> | <u>July</u> | <u>Aug.</u> | <u>Sept.</u> | <u>Oct.</u> | <u>Nov.</u> | <u>Dec.</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 229 | 206 | 271 | 208 | 227 | 223 | 235 | 236 | 275 | 307 | 253 | 324 |



EMERGENCY CALLS BY SITUATION

| <u>TYPE OF CALL</u> | <u>NO. OF RESPONSES</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Emergency medical | 1678 |
| Structure fires | 175 |
| Vehicle fires | 19 |
| Trees, brush, or grass fires | 15 |
| Trash fires | 72 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 209 |
| Extrication / Special Rescue | 16 |
| Service call | 399 |
| Good intent call | 187 |
| False call / Fire Alarm | 217 |
| Hazardous Conditions | 7 |

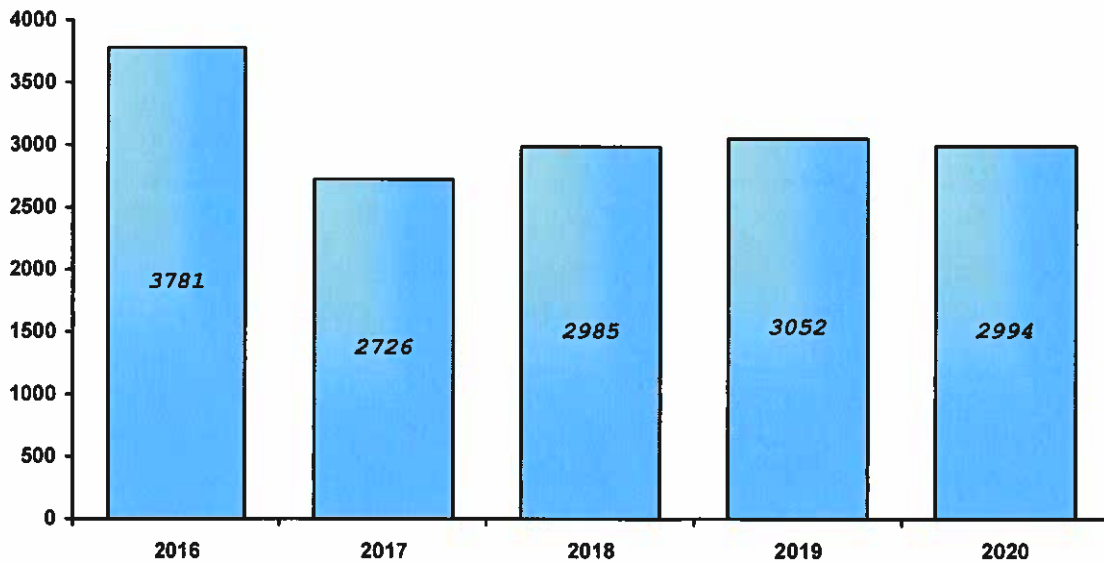
Good Intent calls consist of calls in reference to: odor of smoke, steam or fog investigation dispatched to calls and cancelled en route. No incidents found on arrival at dispatch are also in this category.

Service calls reference calls as in: smoke or odor removal, animal rescue, assist invalids, lock- outs, public service and police matter.

Total: 2,994

TOTAL RESPONSES – 5 year analysis

| <u>2016</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>2020</u> |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 3,781 | 2,726 | 2,985 | 3,052 | 2,994 |



Assisting Others in 2020

Many of our members experienced personal losses after the flood of 2016. During that time, Bossier City FD came to us to back fill our stations and afford our personnel the time off to tend to their affairs. A little over a year later, Bossier City FD returned when it looked like we were going to be flooded again. After seeing this act of kindness take place for our community, several of our personnel expressed interest in beginning to return the favor to other communities in need.

In 2020, CFD was given the opportunity to make that though a reality and after Hurricane Laura struck Lake Charles, CFD immediately sent crews to back fill a fire station for Ward 1 FD in Moss Bluff, Louisiana, just outside of the Lake Charles city limits. We maintained a presence there for over a week assisting in not only calls for service but assisting the firefighters and their families.

Several weeks later, a large group of CFD firefighters had the idea of returning to Moss Bluff to cook for the Ward 1 FD. FF Peyton Higginbotham spearheaded the organizational efforts and before long, the cooking crew had amassed all of the items needed to cook. On October 5, 2020, CFD personnel cooked for the firefighters their families at the Ward 1 Fire Department in Moss Bluff. After the successful event, I would say this is the beginning of a great outreach tool for the CFD.

