

# ***Monmouth Fire Department December Monthly Report***

***January 17th, 2017  
City Council Meeting***



## **Emergency Responses:**

*The Monmouth Fire Department utilizes fire reporting software approved by the United States Fire Administration and the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal. This software records fire department responses in over 90 categories to track fire department emergency response statistics. This information is used by the department to support decision-making for fire response planning. Tracking response data with approved software is also required for fire departments receiving Federal and State grant dollars.*

*The chart on the following page includes a brief summary for each of the nine main categories of incident types and the number of calls that were responded to in each category.*

<b>Responses</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b><u>Fires</u></b>	02	36
Includes structure fires, fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure (mobile homes and campers), vehicle fires, vegetation fires, rubbish fires, and field fires. There may also be other types of fires that do not necessarily meet the definition of one of the subcategories in this category.		
<b><u>Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (without ensuing fire)</u></b>	00	05
Includes overpressure rupture of a steam pipe or pipeline, overpressure or rupture from air or gas pipe or pipeline, overpressure rupture from chemical reaction, explosion without resulting in fire, and overheat or scorching with no ignition.		
<b><u>Rescue and Emergency Medical Services</u></b>	77	706
Includes medical assists (majority of MFD calls in this category), vehicle accidents with injuries, vehicle/pedestrian accidents, lock-in (gaining access to a vehicle or other area where a patient is locked inside), search for a lost person, extrication (victims trapped in vehicle, elevator, trench, confined space, machinery), water and ice rescue, and electrocutions.		
<b><u>Hazardous Conditions (no fire)</u></b>	15	153
Includes combustible/flammable spills and leaks, chemical releases or toxic conditions, carbon monoxide incidents, power line down, electrical equipment problems, vehicle accidents with no injuries, incidents involving explosives and attempted arson.		
<b><u>Service Calls</u></b>	10	155
Includes people in distress (locked out of vehicle), water in basements or leaky hydrant, smoke or odor removal, animal rescue, provide police with assistance, smoke detector checks, and unauthorized burning.		
<b><u>Good Intent Calls</u></b>	02	69
Incidents where the fire department was dispatched and then cancelled while en-route to the call. Also includes calls where no emergency was found upon arrival. Incidents where steam was mistaken for smoke or smoke from a barbecue or other controlled fire was mistaken for an uncontrolled fire. Includes emergency medical calls when the patient had been transported prior to the arrival of emergency responders.		
<b><u>False Alarms and False Calls</u></b>	11	180
Includes false alarms that were malicious or mischievous in nature, bomb scares, alarm activation due to the system malfunctioning, and the accidental activation of the alarm system (example -burnt food).		
<b><u>Severe Weather and Natural Disaster</u></b>	00	00
Includes responses to severe weather and natural disasters to stand by, investigate, or to assess the damage to determine if any additional assistance is needed.		
<b><u>Other Type Incidents</u></b>	00	02
Includes citizen complaints concerning code or ordinance violations and any other incidents that may not fit any of the above categories.		
<b>Total</b>	117	1306

This is a breakdown of the annual totals. Of the 36 fires responded to in 2016, there were 13 related to structures or items inside a structure burning; 4 vehicle fires; 3 vegetation/brush fires; 11 fires for outside storage/equipment/dumpsters; and 5 fires were categorized as “other” meaning they didn’t meet the definition of any of the categories in the recording software.

Emergency medical calls made up 54% of our total call volume. There were 14 calls associated with motor vehicles and 3 of those 14 involved extrication of the victim.

In the Hazardous Condition area with no fire there were 29 calls for vehicle accidents with spilled fluids and no injuries; 7 arcing/shorted electrical equipment calls; 51 calls for power lines down; 8 carbon monoxide incidents; 22 natural gas/LP leaks; and 5 flammable liquid spills.

Service Calls included 155 calls related to inspections, smoke detector installs and burning permits. There were 47 unauthorized burning calls.

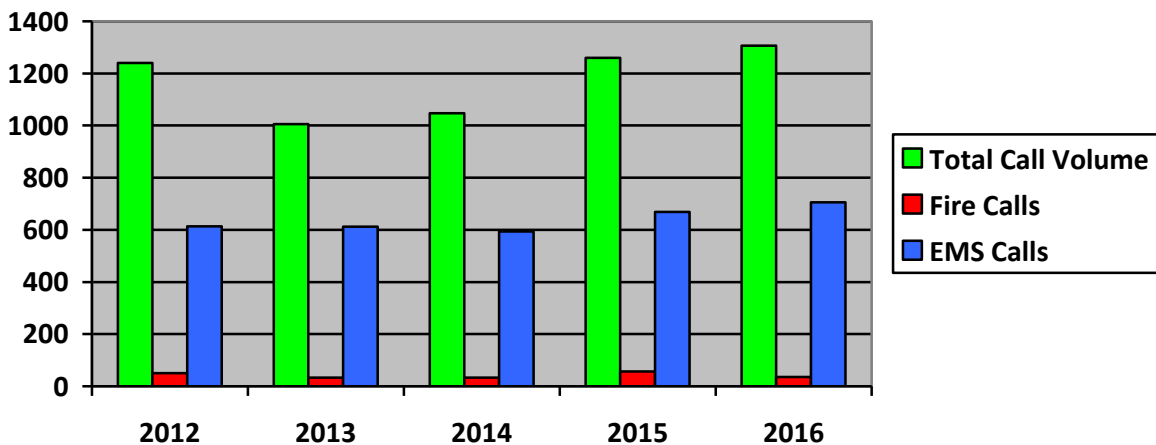
Under Good Intent calls there were 25 calls where units were cancelled in route; 17 incidents where no problem was found on arrival; and 8 authorized controlled burning (residents were complying with the ordinance).

For Fire Alarm and False Call we had 1 malicious or mischievous false alarms; 60 alarm activations with a reason for the activation; 29 alarm system activations due to a malfunction; and 4 sprinkler system activations triggering an alarm.

**Comparison between 2015 and 2016 related to Category Call Volume**

Total calls increased by 46. MFD responded to twenty fewer fires in 2016 than it did in 2015. Medical calls increased by 37; Good Intent calls decreased by 4; Alarm System related calls increased by 24 and Hazardous Conditions with no fire were down by 3.

**Trending number of fire, EMS, and total calls over the past five years**



### **Staff Training:**

In December, the staff conducted EMS training on the subject of insect bites, stings, and allergic reactions. Everyone at the department went over a PowerPoint on the subject and conducted a case review.

Shifts also took part in building familiarization by doing a walk-through of Smithfield Foods which was led by Patrick Anderson. Each shift went to the plant and were given a tour to see any updates that have been done since the last time that we were there. These types of familiarization exercises come in handy in instances such as the fire that occurred last year on Labor Day. Although it is difficult to remember every single part of the plant, the firefighters at least have a basic idea of where things are so when they are working with plant personnel during an incident they have an idea of what the personnel are describing to them.

Chief Rexroat attended a Fire Department Management class in December that was held at the Illinois Fire Service Institute in Champaign, IL. The class covered budgeting, collective bargaining agreements, discipline, grievances, and arbitration.

### **Non-Emergency Activities:**

The firefighters union purchased and delivered presents to families in need in the community for Christmas.

### **Fire Code Items:**

Chief Rexroat attended a meeting with Administrator Crow, Wade Woodward and a representative from the College who was inquiring about the code requirements for turning an existing house into a Sorority House.

### **Apparatus and Equipment Related Items:**

During December, both Engine 23 and Engine 21 had issues with the brakes that were repaired. Both of the trucks were only taken out of service for the repairs. Tower 22 also had an issue with the alternator and charging unit on the truck which both had to be replaced. The truck was out of service for about a week in order to get a new alternator. The extended time to get the alternator was because the alternator that was originally in the truck is not made any more and the part had to be special ordered.

The department purchased a new intake valve for Engine 4 because the one that was on the truck was completely froze up and could not be opened or closed. The intake valve mounts on the side of the truck and once we had the new one the firefighters were able to install it themselves.

### **Other:**

During one of the colder periods of time in December, the truck floor furnace at Station I stopped working. A service man from Independent Refrigeration inspected the furnace and said that it can be repaired but they are going to wait or better weather to work on it. In the meantime, they hooked up the second furnace to heat the truck floor. When the building was purchased, it had two roof-mount furnaces but only one is needed to heat the truck floor. Over the past 8 years, we have only used the one furnace and planned to reserve the second for instances like this so we have a backup in case one fails. Sometime (hopefully soon) when the weather warms up we will have the first furnace repaired.

Howe doors completed the installation of the new bay doors at Station II. The new doors were installed in less than one day and provide much better insulation than the old ones and offer a little more noise reduction on the inside of the building.

Respectfully submitted,  
Casey Rexroat, Fire Chief