



# 2013 Annual Report

Committed to Saving and Protecting Lives and Property



## RETIREMENTS



**Captain  
Allen Johnson**

03/19/2013  
(38 years of service)



**Lieutenant  
David Rector**

06/14/2013  
(25 years of service)



**Engineer  
Danny Clouse**

08/31/2013  
(28 years of service)



**Engineer Paramedic  
Frank Angelone**

12/14/2013  
(27 years of service)



**Engineer  
Larry Hess**

12/15/2013  
(17 years of service)

## DEPARTMENT AWARDS



**Paramedic  
Andrew Krzanowsky**

**Military Service Ribbon**  
U.S. Air Force



**Extraboard  
Scott Kramer**

**Military Service Ribbon**  
U.S. Navy



**Captain  
Pat Karlin**

**20 Year Service  
Helmet Recipient**

## Certificate of Commendation



**Terry Eaton  
Public Works  
Field Supervisor**

Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical presented Field Supervisor Terry Eaton a Certificate of Commendation in recognition of his Master Automotive Service Excellence certification. Terry is one of six certified technicians in the U.S. to earn ASE

certification in each of the certification areas. Terry has been responsible for the maintenance and operational status of all department apparatus and vehicles for the past 16 years.

## VALOR PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS

### Life Saving Honor Awards:

- Engineer Nicholas Simon
- Engineer Paramedic Tiffany Saturday
- Engineer Tyler Tuckness
- Engineer Paramedic David Russell
- Engineer Paramedic Scott Seratte
- Captain Scott Dieker
- Engineer James Strohm
- Engineer Greg Wurdeman
- Firefighter Brendon Crain
- Lieutenant Andrew Flory
- Engineer Paramedic Jason Williams

## PROMOTIONS

- Engineer Paramedic Dustin Deathe
- Engineer Jesse Ens
- Lieutenant Jeff Holland
- Lieutenant Paramedic Ryan Hornberger
- Captain Chris Morrow
- Engineer Tim Reazin
- Engineer Paramedic Carl Springer
- Engineer Greg Wurdeman

## CERTIFIED AMBULANCE CODING



**Dawn Hiebert  
Medical Claim Specialist**

Dawn Hiebert received the Certified Ambulance Coding Certificate from the National Academy of Ambulance Coding in May, 2013. The certification means that Dawn has met the standards, critical knowledge and commitment to excellence required to provide accurate, thorough and compliant billing in the complex and regulated ambulance billing industry. Dawn is responsible for the department's medical billing and collections function and annually exceeds revenue projections. EMS revenue allows the department to maintain an ambulance replacement schedule and provides funds for other medical capital expenditures.

## FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR



**Captain  
Pat Talkington**

The 2013 Lawrence-Douglas County Firefighter of the Year after was awarded to Captain Pat Talkington by his peers. Captain Talkington began his career as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in Belleville, Kansas. Pat received State of Kansas certification as an EMS Instructor/Coordinator in 1985, and in 1986, he joined the Douglas County Ambulance Service (DCAS) as paramedic. In 1997, DCAS and the Lawrence Fire Department merged to become Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical and Pat was promoted to Captain and then in 2005 he began serving in the department training division. Captain Talkington is responsible department members maintaining current firefighting and emergency medical services skills, knowledge and best practices. He is leading the department's mandated transition of personnel certification to Advanced EMT status. Captain Talkington coordinates the training, testing, skills assessments, and documentation. The transition training is one of the biggest challenges undertaken by the department in recent years. Captain Talkington has balanced this training with his other daily responsibilities, and has maintained a positive, supportive attitude during this demanding time.

The department would like to thank Captain Talkington for all his hard work and dedication to the department. Captain Talkington lives in Lawrence with his wife Lisa and their children.

## PREPAREDNESS PARTNER AWARD



**Division Chief  
Shaun Coffey**

On July 23, 2013, Division Chief Coffey received the 2013 Preparedness Partner Award from the Douglas County Emergency Management Board. Preparedness Partner Awards are given annually in recognition of an agency, business, facility or individual demonstrating initiative and leadership with local response agencies on preparedness and planning activities aimed at promoting the health, safety and well-being of the community and/or its citizens.

## NEW CAREER FIREFIGHTERS

- Firefighter Charles Biggerstaff
- Firefighter Matt Dohn
- Paramedic Andrew Krzanowsky
- Firefighter Trey Strohm

## 21ST RECRUIT ACADEMY



- Seamus Albritton
- Matt Bahnmaier
- Rebekah Beegley
- Michael Brown
- Bradley Goodspeed
- Jared Gorman
- Todd Hipsher
- Scott Kramer
- Andrew Krzanowsky
- Steven Marquardt
- Libby Thompson
- Andrew White

## 2013 PIONEER AWARD



**Paul Taylor  
Department Chaplain**

On April 22, 2013, department Chaplain Paul Taylor received the Bert Nash Community Center Pioneer Award for his outstanding contributions to the Center and to mental health in Douglas County. Chaplain Taylor has served as the department chaplain since 1995. In 2005, he collaborated with Bert Nash and other community health professionals in the formation of the Douglas County All Hazards Behavioral Health Team. Chaplain Taylor continues to provide training on the behavioral health needs of first responders and their families, management of persons associated with crime scene incidents, and how to provide support with death notification for family and responders.

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**Message from Chief Mark Bradford**



It is my privilege to write this letter as the Fire Chief of the Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical Department. In my 37 years in the fire medical service I have witnessed many changes in the fire service. The changes that have occurred in the Fire Medical Department are a direct reflection of the increase in demand for our service as well as the evolution of the type of services requested. We are constantly pitting the increased workload against a shrinking financial ability to support this workload. One factor that has never changed in the department is the never ending drive of our personnel to provide the best possible service with whatever means they have.

It will be very important for this department to make plans for the future and expect a slow economic recovery. In the next year it will be of paramount importance to continue our effort as outlined in our departments strategic plan that will help guide us to our long term objectives in the most efficient and expedient manner. In times of economic regression, a lack of planning would be a decisive misstep leading to catastrophic failure. I am proud to say that in 2013 that your fire medical department has served the citizens of Lawrence and Douglas County in a most outstanding manner. The citizens can rest assured that they are receiving a better service than can be expected for their tax dollars.

It is always an honor and privilege to open the doors of our organization to you. I remain committed to leading this department with innovation and enthusiasm as we head into 2014.

**2013 Budget**  
\$14,675,715

Personnel 89%

Contractual 6%

Commodities 4%

Capital Outlay 1%



**A YEAR AT A GLANCE**

- Jan.**
  - Engine 4 in service.
- Feb.**
  - Major Snow Storm dumps 17.6" of snow.
  - Hosted the Mental Management of Emergencies : "Improving Decisions Under Stress".
- Mar.**
  - 2013 Reccreditation Conference.
  - Department Promotional Assessments conducted.
  - Station 5 members participated in the Shawnee County Disaster Drill.
- Apr.**
  - The Department, along with many community sponsors, hosted another successful Wheeled Sports Helmet Fair held before the 2013 Spring Football game by the Kansas University Jayhawks.
  - Station 4 members attended EPA Field Chemical Identification Seminar.
  - Hosted Instructor 1 course.
  - Hosted Hazardous Material Technician course.
- May**
  - During the Highway 40 bridge construction special staffing was scheduled to cover the North Lawrence area.
  - A ceremony was held dedicating the city park at 19th Street and Haskell for former Fire Chief James McSwain.
- Jun.**
  - 21st Recruit Academy Graduation and Department Awards Ceremony.
  - Battle for Blood Drive, which is an annual competition between fire/medical and local law enforcement to voluntarily donate blood for the community, was held at the department's administration office. This year fire and medical won the battle by having 29 volunteers donate blood.
  - International Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week - our department participated by suspending all non-emergency activity during this week and focused on safety and health training and education.
- Jul.**
  - Tiger Patrick, One Man's Walk across America, arrived in Lawrence and spent the evening with crews at Fire Station No. 3.
- Aug.**
  - AFG Program Award Received.
  - Quint 3 in service.
- Sept.**
  - 2013 Kansas City Kansas 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb. Nine department members joined 334 other firefighters on a 110 story climb to the top of the Town Pavilion in downtown Kansas City in remembrance of the 343 firefighters killed on 09/11/2001.
  - Hosted Fire Office II course.
  - IAFF Local 1596 Honor Guard participated in the Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Colorado Springs.
  - Centennial Birthday Committee begins preparations for 100th Birthday celebration for the department, which will be held in 2015.
- Oct.**
  - Outreach campaign on upholstered furniture regulations on exterior areas.
  - Lawrence Chamber of Commerce Valor Public Safety Awards. This ceremony recognizes the courage of those who go above and beyond normal call of duty.
  - IAFF Local 1596 Hosted 2nd District Conference.
- Nov.**
  - Station Video Conference training.
  - AEMT transition began.
- Dec.**
  - Hosted National Fire Academy Executive Skills Series: "Exercising Leadership Through Difficult Conversations."

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EVENTS**

**Department Receives Reccreditation**



Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical was unanimously awarded Reccreditation Agency Status by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) at the Center for Public Safety Excellence hearing in Henderson, Nevada on March 5, 2013. The department is one of only 167 agencies worldwide to obtain CFAI Accredited Status. The process is as important, if not more important than receiving the accreditation status. The process has integrated into the daily operations and culture, and is the foundation by which we continue to provide quality services to the citizens of Lawrence and Douglas County. All department members participated and assisted in the accreditation process. The department appreciates those individuals that participated in various roles and especially Division Chief Bill Stark for his leadership, dedication and commitment to this important project.

**PEAC-WMD Software**

In February, the department purchased PEAC-WMD Software, which provides vital hazmat information, enabling our Hazmat Team to make informed decisions at the incident. The PEAC Software includes integrated mapping, GPS connectivity, over 100,000 chemical names, synonyms & trade names, multiple modeling tools, and much more. Utilizing the many modeling tools provided, the software quickly calculates standoff distances and exclusion zones at the incident and using the actual weather and topography conditions present. All modeling tools allow the hazmat responder to deal with the actual hazmat substances, present container configurations, and the nature of the actual leak.



The PEAC Software has been designed as the complete decision support solution for Hazmat Professionals, for use at the scene, when seconds and lives count.

**New Apparatus**

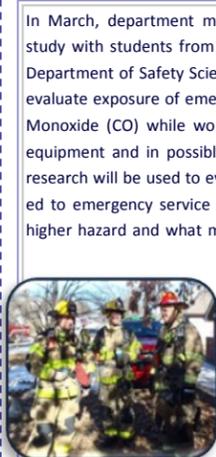


**Engine 4**  
2013 Pierce



**Quint 3**  
2013 Pierce

**Carbon Monoxide Exposure Study**



In March, department members participated in a research study with students from the University of Central Missouri, Department of Safety Science program. The purpose was to evaluate exposure of emergency service personnel to Carbon Monoxide (CO) while working in and around CO producing equipment and in possible CO saturated atmospheres. The research will be used to evaluate if there is a danger presented to emergency service personnel, what situations present higher hazard and what mitigation steps can be taken to make emergency service work environment's safer.

Those department members that consented to participate were given a CO personal air monitor to wear and were asked to document their activities during the study. All personal and department information was confidential, as well as the results of the study.

**Regional Disaster Exercise**



Members of the department's Technical Rescue Team participated with members of other regional fire departments at a disaster exercise in Shawnee County on March 25th, 26th, and 27th. The disaster exercise consisted of a tornado event that struck in and around Topeka, trapping multiple civilians in collapsed buildings. The firefighters used technical rescue equipment and skills at various locations to complete a variety of search and rescue assignments. The department is a member of Kansas Task Force 2 which provides urban search and rescue services during man-made and natural disasters in the northeast part of Kansas.

**Station Conferencing**



In 2013, The Department received a federal grant to purchase and install a video conferencing system which connected all six Fire Medical stations. The intent of the video conferencing system is to maintain coverage in each district while making training deliveries and department communications more efficient. It is anticipated that the reduction in apparatus mileage will also result in the reduction of fuel costs. The video conferencing system also allows the shift commander to conduct daily briefings with all stations and administrative staff. This ensures that all on-duty personnel receive updates on operational issues, scheduling and situations which could impact response capabilities. The Department intends to continue to explore new ways to use the system to benefit and streamline all areas of operations.

**AED Replacement Program**

In June, the department was able to purchase and outfit all Douglas County first responder agencies with a new ZOLL Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). Additionally, the department purchased new ZOLL AED's for Fire Medical Administration, the Training Center and an additional 10 AED's were purchased to replace the AED's dedicated for the use during large special events, as well as the AED's located in each of the department's vehicles. This fulfills our goal to have the same model AED located in each of the department facilities, apparatus, and vehicles.

**School Bus Evacuation Drill**

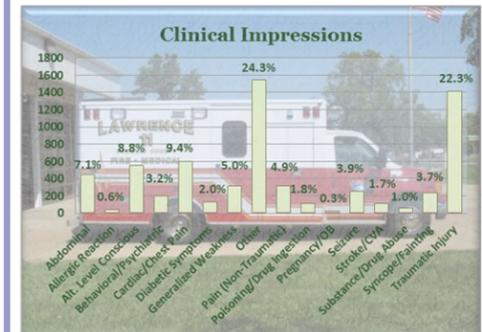
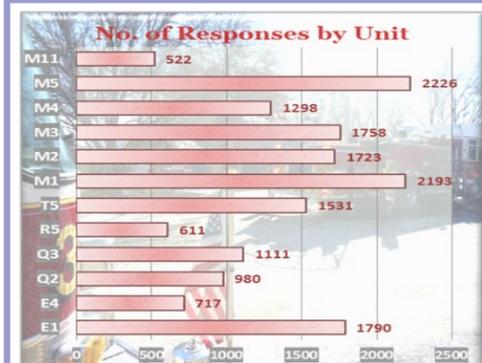
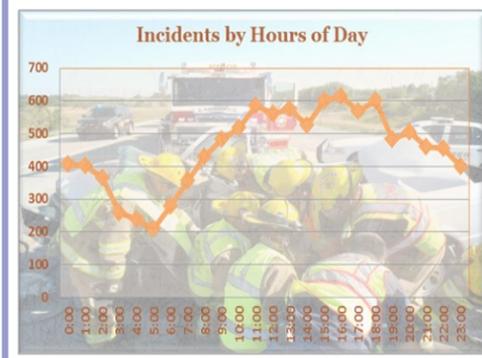
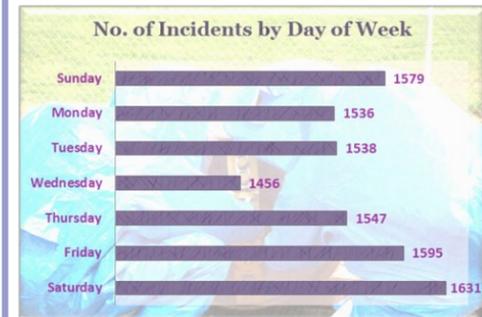


In October, department members from the Training Division participated in evacuation drills with school bus employees from First Student. First Student employees learned to evacuate a bus safely in the event of a fire. Smoke simulation was used to show them how quickly visibility can be lost in the event of heavy smoke due to a fire. They were also reminded of the importance of staying low to avoid breathing in the smoke and the toxins that are associated with smoke. Lisa Hunt, Location Safety Manager, stated: "The drills were eye-opening for our employees, providing a realistic experience we will not soon forget."

**AEMT Transition**



In November, we embarked on a new direction for EMS in Douglas County. We began the AEMT Transition course which will allow our current EMT-1's to become Advanced EMT's. The Kansas Board of EMS changed the certification levels to reflect the National Standards of EMS. The course is broken down into 5 modules consisting of Preparatory, Airway and Breathing, Pharmacology, Cardiology and Medical. This will allow our EMT-1's to become AEMT's and be better able to give good quality care to the citizens of Lawrence and Douglas County. The first two modules were completed by December and the final three modules are scheduled to be completed by the end of June, 2014.



**Prevention Statistics**

Inspection Types	No.	Inspection Types	No.
Certificate of Occupancy	159	Night Consultant	241
Complaints	14	Other	8
Daycares/Schools	187	Safety Inspections	2860
Fire Alarm	38	Sprinkler Related	157
Fire Drills	51	Type 1 Hood System	13
Investigations	No.		
Coroner Scene Investigations	169		
Fire Investigations	53		
Other	No.		
Plan Reviews	339 (approx.)		