



# Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical

## 2009 Annual Report

*Committed to Saving and Protecting  
Lives and Property*



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### From the Chief



Chief Mark F. Bradford

I proudly present Lawrence-Douglas County Fire Medical's 2009 Annual Report. Our mission is "Committed to Saving and Protecting Lives and Property". We are committed to providing the highest level of fire protection, emergency medical services, technical rescue and hazardous materials response and mitigation. Our organization strives to be a benchmark for others in our profession.

Please review this report of the activities of your fire medical department. We are a career department that delivers these services in an extremely efficient and cost effective manner, has obtained a Class 2 Insurance Services Rating and has received fire service accreditation from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

I am most proud of all the firefighters and staff and thank them for the excellent job they do every day. They contribute many hours of training to enable them to respond to fire and medical emergencies and to perform in an extremely professional manner. Spouses, families and friends are commended for the tremendous amount of support and compassion they give to our members. I am also proud of the community in which we serve. The support and appreciation shown to us by our citizens and visitors is deeply appreciated.

Sincere thanks to the elected officials of the City of Lawrence and Douglas County for their support during 2009. Without your continued support, our delivery of emergency services would be greatly diminished during these tough economic times.

Mark Bradford  
Fire Chief



### Apparatus

#### Apparatus Replacement Program



#### Quint 2

Replaces a 1988 Engine



#### Quint 4

Replaces a 1988 Engine



#### Rescue 5

Replaces a converted 1983 Engine

Three apparatus were replaced in our fleet in 2009. The new trucks are equipped with Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) technology as well as new safety features including airbags, antilock braking systems, rollover protection and a better steering system to keep firefighters and the public safe.

#### C.A.F.S.

In 2009, we introduced Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) capabilities to our new apparatus. Our new apparatus carries class A foam for quick fire knockdown, reduced water usage and decreased water damage.



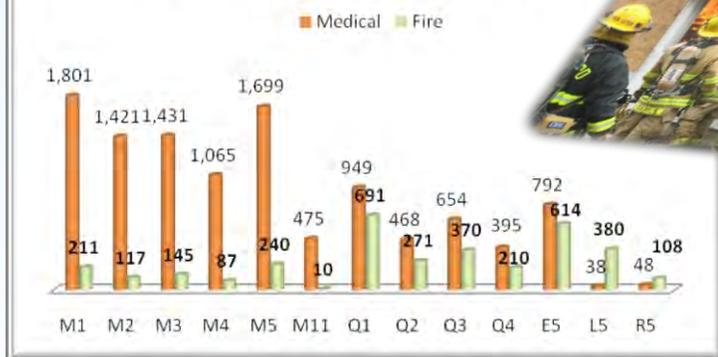
#### Solar Panels



In March of 2009, one ambulance and one fire truck were installed with solar panels. The city purchased an 80-watt solar panel for each vehicle in hopes of reducing expenses. Data will be collected to determine if solar panels will be expanded to the remainder of our fleet.



#### Number of Responses by Unit



#### Sales tax increase to help purchase new trucks

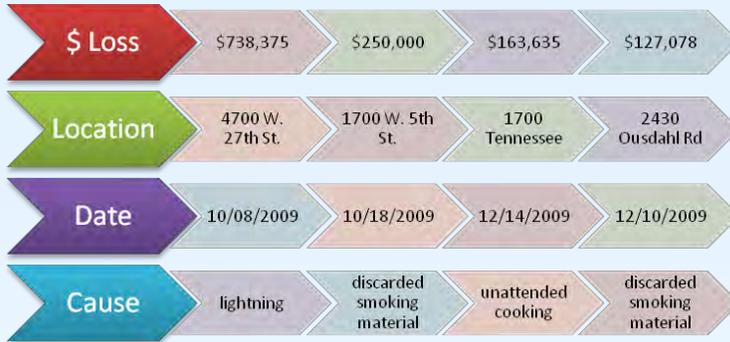
Beginning April 1, 2009 a new City sales tax went into effect. Lawrence taxpayers approved a new city sales tax in November, 2008: \$500,000 of the money generated from the new sales tax is dedicated toward purchasing replacement fire trucks.



### Operations and Prevention

#### Apartment Fires Up

The department responded to 16 apartment fires in 2009 with a total lost of \$1,352,297. Of those 16, four of the highest dollar losses were within a two month time frame.



#### Fire Investigations

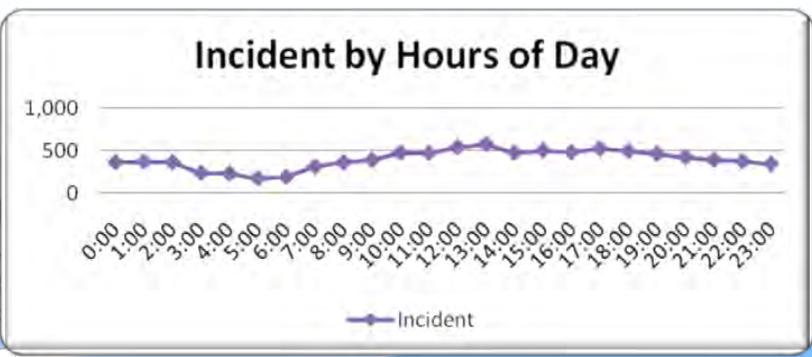
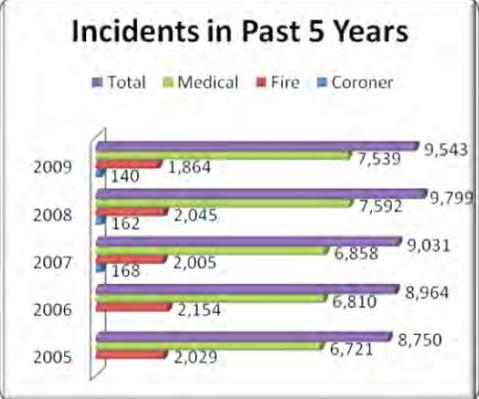
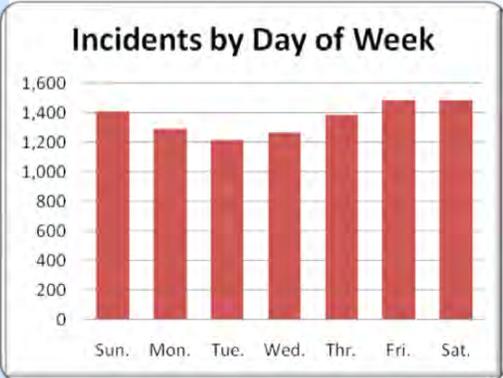
The department responded to 247 calls that actually involved fire in 2009. Of those calls, 56 were investigated by the department's Fire Investigation Unit, which is comprised of seven personnel from the Operations Division who are Kansas Fire Investigator II; one is also a Certified Fire Investigator by the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) and the Unit is supervised by a Captain who is a Kansas Fire Investigator II and a IAAI Certified Fire Investigator.

Fires investigated by the Bureau are those that have significant loss, damage, injury or where cause cannot be determined by the Incident Commander. The 56 fires investigated by the Unit were classified as follows:

- 29 Accidental
- 15 Undetermined
- 4 Intentional
- 1 Act of Nature
- 7 Under Investigation



6,662 Safety Inspections Completed



### Technical Rescue and Training



#### 'Crisis City'

The department received a grant from the Kansas Department of Emergency Management and was able to send five department members to a multistate drill at "Crisis City", a training site near Salina, Kansas. "Crisis City" was developed as part of the Great Plains Joint Training Center to enhance the state's capabilities to defend against terrorism and respond to disasters and emergencies. The goal of the training was to identify gaps in preparedness and response. In addition this training prepared us for search and rescue efforts should a disaster hit locally. The training in June was the first for the mock city and was part of a larger exercise, dubbed "Vigilant Guard".

Those who attended were: Lt. John Mathis, Eng. Andy Flory, Eng. Kevin Hodson, Eng. Chris Morrow and Eng. Kendon Regier. In addition, three of the department's Division Chiefs served as part of the Incident Management Team for this exercise: Division Chief Rich Barr, Division Chief Shaun Coffey, and Division Chief Bill Stark.

#### Vehicle Extrication

The department conducts annual extrication training in order to maintain a high level of proficiency and skill. We do this with vehicles we obtain every year. This year we added a bus that was donated from Emergency Management which brought a new and fresh element to our training. This added some realism and essential hands on training on a needed skill.



#### Technical Rescue Program

In 2009, the department received a technical rescue vehicle (Rescue 5) and reorganized its Technical Rescue Program in order to house all Technical Rescue crews and equipment in one location rather than having one specialty per station. Six firefighters with formal knowledge of rope rescue completed a Train-the-Trainer course and trained other technical rescue members in rope rescue. Formal training through the University of Kansas was conducted for confined space, trench and building collapse for members of the Technical Rescue Team. The Team also participated in multiple rescue drills at various local manufacturing facilities, further developing their skills and knowledge.

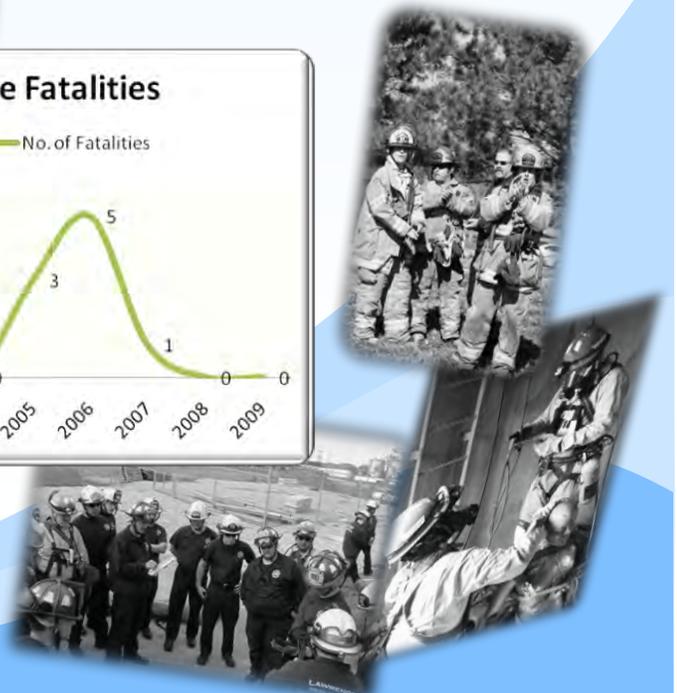
9,506

combined hours of training

was obtained by our members through direct delivering by the Training Division

#### Night Mass Casualty Drill

This year we conducted a Mass Casualty Drill utilizing the bus that was donated by Emergency Management. The simulated drill represented an accident from the bus driving into a building resulting in multiple patients. The patients were a combination of manikins and live individuals from the Fire Explorer post and children of local firefighters. One drill conducted with the Douglas County CERT members involved a larger number of patients, and helped us in learning to work with other agencies and to better manage a similar event if this should occur.



### Employee Highlights

#### Tom McCaughey Award

Members of the department were honored with the Tom McCaughey Award by the Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office at the Kansas State Fire Chiefs Conference. The award is named for former Wichita Fire Chief Tom McCaughey, who died fighting a fire in November 1968. The award was presented on Thursday, October 9, 2009 in Manhattan, KS. **Eight members were presented with the award in "recognition for an act of heroism above and beyond the call of duty" for their courageous efforts in rescuing a 14-year-old from the Kansas River who had slipped into the swiftly running water and was stuck under a large tree branch.** Honored were Captain Sandy Herd (retired), Engineers Troy Gourley, Will Hallagin, Leo Leiker, Greg Murray, Mark Parker and Firefighters Kevin Fussell and Ryan Kelly.



#### Firefighter of the Year

This year's Firefighter of the Year was awarded to Captain Allen Johnson. Captain Johnson has been serving the citizens of Lawrence and Douglas County for over 35 years. He was hired as a firefighter for the Lawrence Fire Department on September 1, 1974 and was promoted to Captain in 1984.



Captain Johnson participates in the department's Health and Safety Team, Awards Project Team, History Project Team and has been instrumental in the instruction of the 2009 Basic Recruit Class. In 2008, Captain Johnson assisted with the organization of our department's Retired Firefighters Breakfast. Over the years, Captain Johnson has been assigned as a shift training officer, manager over confined space, trench rescue, structural collapse and water rescue, acting shift commander and has twice been the lead instructor for our department's basic recruit classes.

With 35 plus years of experience, he still brings the enthusiasm and work ethic of a new recruit firefighter. Captain Johnson does an outstanding job teaching at any level, whether it is with his crew, shift, or the department as a whole.

Captain Johnson lives in Lawrence with his wife Robin and their six children.

#### Chief Fire Officer Designation

A Chief Fire Officer (CFO) is an individual who has demonstrated his or her skills and abilities required for the fire and EMS profession through structured education and proven leadership and management skills which display requisite industry knowledge. Through the CFO professional designation program, the Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) offers emergency service personnel guidance for career planning and development and recognizes lifelong career excellence and achievement. Division Chief Bill Stark successfully completed the process and on May 12, 2009, the Commission officially designated Division Chief Bill Stark as a Chief Fire Officer.



#### Chief Medical Officer Designation

The Commission on Professional Credentialing (CPC) offers a Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Designation Program, which recognizes medical services leaders who have demonstrated excellence throughout their careers. The designation verifies past accomplishments and represents a launching point for continued achievement. On May 8, 2009, the CPC officially designated Chief Mark Bradford as Chief



## Employee Highlights

### Retirees



Eng. Dennis O'Bryon  
Retired 03/14/09 after 24 years of service.



Lt. Robert Babcock  
Retired 06/28/09 after 32 years of service.



Lt. Wm. Russell Brickell  
Retired 09/10/09 after 31 years of service.



Lt. Robert Hardy  
Retired 09/12/09 after 29 years of service.



Capt. Sandra Herd  
Retired 09/12/09 after 22 years of service.



Capt. James Sloan  
Retired 12/18/09 after 31 years of service.



Lt. Larry Deters  
Retired 12/19/09 after 19 years of service.

### 20-Year Service Recognition



Eng. David Russell, Eng. Andreas Grogan, and Lt. Scott Seratte

### New Career Firefighters

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| FF David Bova      | FF Ryan Kelley   |
| FF Todd Dwyer      | FF Shadon Satter |
| FF Kevin Fussell   | FF Tyler Wade    |
| FF Ryan Hornberger | FF Greg Wurdeman |

### Promotions

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Capt. Robert Morgan | Eng. Nathan Coffman  |
| Lt. Gary Gutsch     | Eng. John Darling    |
| Lt. Nate Jamison    | Eng. Alex Del Valle  |
| Lt. Sean Sawyer     | Eng. Robert Garrison |
| Lt. Steve Weaver    | Eng. Troy Gourley    |
| Eng. James Barkley  | Eng. Brian Patterson |



### 19th Recruit Academy

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Mark Campbell     | Eric Miller    |
| Dustin Deathe     | Tim Reazin     |
| Blake Elder       | Carl Springer  |
| Brian Fitzpatrick | Malcomb Stapel |
| Kirk Landau       | Greg Wurdeman  |

### Special Recognitions

#### Distinguished Medal of Honor



Engineer Leo Leiker, Jr.

#### Clinical Save Commendation



Engineer Greg Murray



Engineer Mark Parker

#### Award of Commendation



Captain Sandy Hard (ret)  
Engineer Troy Gourley



Firefighter Ryan Kelley

#### Fire Chief's Commendation Medal



Scott Robinson, M.D.



Rev. Paul Taylor



## Programs

### Chaplain

This program is currently overseen by Chaplain Paul Taylor, who was appointed in October of 1997. His duties include conducting critical incident debriefings, counseling victims families and emergency personnel and training department personnel on stress management.

### Coroner Scene Investigation

This program has been in existence since 1995. All deaths that occur in Douglas County that meet certain criteria require investigation by the Coroner's Office. The team is made up of members from the department trained as medicolegal death investigators and investigates on behalf of the Douglas County Coroner's Office.

### Explorer Post 2555

In November 2001, the department created the explorer post which allows youth to gain insight in a possible career, while at the same time providing leadership training.

### Fire Investigation Unit

The department is charged by Kansas statute to investigate the origin and cause of fires within the city limits. Seven personnel of the Operations Division are appointed as fire investigators and are Kansas State certified Fire Investigator II.

### Greek Academy

This program is directed at university students in fraternities and sororities. It provides hands on training in fire safety and survival.

### Health & Safety Program

The department operates a health and safety program with a goal to eliminate accidents, damage to equipment and facilities for its members and the community.

### Juvenile Fire Setters

This program works to help reduce the number of fires and burn injuries caused by children experimenting with fire. Children are usually referred to our program by way of concerned teachers, firefighters, parents or juvenile agencies. The basis of the program consists of a thorough interview with the individual and family. Subsequently, a fire safety education program is delivered and the importance of fire safety reemphasized.

### Mass Casualty/Fatality Trailer NE Kansas

This Mass Casualty/Fatality Trailer was purchased by the Kansas Northeast Region of Homeland Security and housed with the department. It will respond to emergencies in the Northeast region of Kansas.

### Night Consultants

This program consists of six operations members who periodically inspect assembly occupancies and check for a variety of life safety items. The majority of inspections are directed toward bars and nightclubs to ensure state occupant levels, exits and operating life safety equipment are being met.

### Occupant Services

This program provides support for the occupant/victim of a fire damaged structure incident through assisting in retrieval of personal belongings, assessing social services and providing information on recovery or cleaning of belongings.

### Public Education

This program is provided through six incentive firefighters designated as "Public Safety Specialists." They deliver a variety of programs directed at school children, university students, commercial and business safety and general safety.

### Safety & Hazard Houses

The purpose of the fire safety house is to reinforce fire escape training from a dwelling. Hazard House is used to teach general safety and fire hazard identification through an interactive educational experience. Both programs are provided to all age groups.

### SCBA

This program consists of four operation members who are Scott Air Pak Technician certified for 4.5 and 2.2 systems. The purpose of this program is to maintain self-contained breathing apparatus, personal alert systems and breathing air compressors.

### Smoke Alarm Program

This program provides free smoke alarms to those individuals who live in the City and who are living on a limited-income, are a senior citizen or disabled. Included in this program is installation of batteries and detectors.

### Wheeled Sports Program

This program provides high quality bicycle helmets to children under the age of 14. The Department, along with many community sponsors, hosts an annual helmet fair. In 2009, 408 helmets were given away during the annual event.

### Our Values

Compassion & Respect    Leadership    Professionalism & Integrity  
Teamwork    Proactive    Excellence  
Pride



**We're On the Web**  
www.lawrenceks.org/  
fire\_medical



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#### Administration

1911 Stewart Ave.  
Lawrence, KS 66046



#### Station No. 1

746 Kentucky St.  
Lawrence, KS 66044



#### Investigation Center

1839 Massachusetts  
Lawrence, KS 66044



#### Station No. 2

2128 Harper St.  
Lawrence, KS 66046



#### Station No. 3

3708 W. 6th  
Lawrence, KS 66049



#### Station No. 4

2121 Wakarusa Dr.  
Lawrence, KS 66047



#### Station No. 5

1911 Stewart Ave.  
Lawrence, KS 66046



#### Station No. 11

212 Kibbee St.  
Baldwin City, KS 66006



#### Training Center

1941 Haskell  
Lawrence, KS 66046