



City of Lawrence

FIRE MEDICAL

2007 Annual Report

Major Accomplishments

- As we prepare to serve new areas of our community, it is important that we continue to upgrade existing services. As a part of this effort, former Station No. 2 at 19th and Mass was converted to a dedicated Investigation Center for the department's fire investigators. Containing office space and storage rooms, the Investigation Center also houses a dedicated investigation vehicle, which was purchased in 2007.



Investigation Center

- In November 2007, a week-long site visit was conducted by a team of independent peer assessors to determine whether the department should be awarded accredited agency status by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. The site visit was a culmination of a two-year process and resulted in the development of three key documents: a strategic plan, a 174 page Standard of Coverage, and a 419 page Self Assessment Manual. After careful evaluation of the department, the peer assessors will recommended that the CFAI Board of Directors award the department accredited agency status at its February 2008 meeting. If approved as recommended, the accreditation status is valid for five years.



Div. Chief Shaun Coffey and Chief Manny Neves, Honolulu Fire Department

- With a steady increase of medical calls over the last several years, it is becoming increasingly important for firefighters to be cross-trained as EMTs and paramedics. In 2007, three firefighters began the paramedic program and two others completed paramedic training, bringing the total number of practicing paramedics in the department to forty-two. There are fifty-four EMTs in the department.
- Retirements:
 - o Division Chief Jim Murray retired 6/23/07 after 32 years of service
 - o Captain Phil Kuhnert retired 9/15/07 after 26 years of service
 - o Engineer/EMT-I Bruce Dixon retired 9/15/07 after 27 years of service
 - o Engineer/EMT Melissa Warren retired 6/23/07 after 16 years of service
 - o Engineer/Paramedic Dennis Knight retired 3/6/07 after 15 years of service
- Beginning in 2006 the Prevention Division staff, along with the Fire Code Board of Appeals, began review of the 2006 International Fire Code and recommended its adoption to the City Commission in 2007. In September, the commission adopted the use of the new code and it will be implemented beginning January 1, 2008.
- On December 20, the department took delivery of a Mass Causality/Fatality Trailer. The trailer was purchased by the Northeast Region at a cost of \$105,980. The trailer is a triple axel, 33 feet long, and will be able to treat up to 150 patients as well as 150 fatalities. The trailer will respond to emergencies in the Northeast region of Kansas.



Mass Causality/Fatality Trailer

Memorable programs or projects

- **The Downtown Lawrence Fire Protection Sprinkler System Incentive Program** is a proactive safety program aimed at getting fire protection sprinkler systems into downtown buildings. The Sprinkler Program encourages downtown building and business owners to install new sprinkler systems and/or upgrade existing systems through a combination of direct reimbursements and cost sharing mechanisms. In 2007, three downtown businesses now have enhanced fire protection due to installation of sprinkler systems and six more are expected to happen in 2008.

Awards presented to the department

- Tyler Tuckness received the 2007 Brain Saver Award on behalf of the American Heart Association for his assistance to a shopper who was experiencing a stroke.

A successful community engagement activity

- Chief Mark Bradford and Division Chief Bill Stark responded to Greensburg, Kansas after the city was devastated by a tornado in May. On site, Chiefs Bradford and Stark were responsible for implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), using its Incident Command System (ICS) to direct the recovery and cleanup. In July, seven firefighters responded to the severe flooding in Coffeyville, Kansas to assist with clean-up efforts. Participation in the Greensburg and Coffeyville cleanups have helped make Lawrence first-responders more prepared in case of an emergency.
- The **Wheeled Safety Program** is an annual event which provides free, high quality bicycle helmets to children under the age of 14. Each May, the department conducts the Lawrence Helmet Fair, which provides information for all types of summer activities, along with free helmets. In 2007, the department and its program sponsors gave away 525 helmets. Also in 2007, the department participated in "Operation Kindergarten", where crews visited kindergarten classes in the Douglas County and distributed 1600 helmets.
- The department, with the support of Lawrence Memorial Hospital, provides CPR training to the Lawrence community. The department provided CPR classes to 1,717 members of the community. During the 2006-2007 school year, 1,564 fifth- and eighth-grade students received CPR training.

Statistics

In 2007, LDCFM responded to a total of 9,031 calls: 2,005 fire calls, 6,858 medical calls and 168 Coroner Scene Investigation calls. A review of the 2007 fire calls indicates a 6.7% reduction compared to 2006, while review of the 2007 medical calls indicates a slight increase of 0.7% compared to 2006. Medical calls have increased steadily by 9.6% over the last five years.



