Welcome to the 2016 Cudahy Fire Department Annual Report. Information found within the pages of this report reflects the activities, services, and accomplishments achieved or performed by members of the Cudahy Fire Department over the last year. With your support we provide the highest quality fire protection and emergency medical services along with a host of safety and emergency related services to the citizens of Cudahy and the Cudahy community. In addition, the Cudahy Fire Department team is regularly called upon to provide a wide array of non-traditional emergency services because often there is simply no one else to call. Members of the CFD act with the highest level of professionalism supported by state-of-the-art training as they neutralize each situation for which they are called upon to act. We remain your hometown, all-American fire department proudly sporting the name Cudahy on the side of our vehicles.

In 2016, the Cudahy Fire Department responded to 2,398 requests for emergency service. This is an increase of 81 calls over the total for 2015. It is 257 calls over the total from five years ago and almost 500 calls more than the total of ten years ago. The challenge of meeting community needs associated with this continuing increase in call volume is accomplished with five (5) fewer firefighters then were on the force in 1990.

Along with the steady rising trend in call volume, the CFD continues to face other challenges as well. One of those is the rising cost of overtime. This is a challenge faced by every full-service fire department as we struggle to meet the challenges of staffing to ensure a minimally safe initial response while also providing continuous response capabilities for subsequent emergencies.

Per the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), a minimum of 17 firefighters is required to control and extinguish a typical house fire. The Cudahy Fire Department does not staff 17 firefighters a day. To do so would be extremely costly for our taxpayers. Instead, we staff minimally to provide a reasonably safe mode of operation for the initial response to a fire incident. Once a fire call is determined to be a “working fire”, we call mutual aid fire departments for assistance and we call back our own off-duty personnel to help fight the fire and to provide emergency coverage to the city for subsequent emergency calls which occur during the fire incident.
We also call back off-duty personnel when we receive more than two emergency requests at the same time as when a second request for an ambulance occurs while one ambulance is already out providing emergency service (this is increasingly occurring with greater frequency. In fact, we increasingly receive three requests for emergency service at the same time). Both of these situations require overtime payment for staff members who are called in during their off-time and both of these situations cannot be predicted.

Another challenge faced by the Department is with the current minimum staffing levels, the risk is created that the Officer-in-Charge, a Battalion Chief or an Acting Battalion Chief may have to enter a burning building as part of a two-person firefighting team in order to initiate a fire attack or perform a rescue instead of taking charge of the entire scene as is his larger responsibility. This leaves a lesser qualified person with less training and experience in command of the scene and creates a potentially disastrous situation.

This is a breakdown of the command structure which can have far reaching negative impacts on the outcome and safety of an emergency. This practice, though necessary under current staffing conditions, is inconsistent with state and federal recommendations and requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS).

This situation does not enable the CFD to provide the best, safest service to our citizens. Combined with the overall increase in call volume and considering the CFD is staffed with five (5) fewer persons than it had in the 1990s, it is imperative to continue consideration of ways to increase minimum daily staffing levels from six to seven. The only practical way to assure proper staffing of the Fire Department is to hire three additional firefighters which would mean additional financial support which under the current economic climate is not practical.

The CFD continues to explore the practicality of an upgrade of the current emergency medical service (EMS) level from Basic Life Support (BLS) to Advanced Life Support (ALS) or paramedic service. Currently, CFD EMTs are dispatched to all EMS calls in Cudahy, and they do an outstanding job, but there are some EMS calls that require ALS skills, equipment and medications. For those calls, a paramedic unit from South Milwaukee, Oak Creek, Milwaukee or even further away is dispatched along with our CFD ambulance crew. Our neighboring departments provide us with very good and reliable service. However, a paramedic unit located in Cudahy would ensure that ALS care is on scene in a more timely fashion. Unfortunately, an upgrade of this nature cannot occur without the support, guidance and commitment from the Milwaukee County Emergency Management System.
As we reflect back on 2016, here are some of our highlights:

- **Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) and Rescue Task Force (RTF)** - As mass casualty/active shooter events evolve across our country, the way fire and police departments respond to those events has evolved as well. The CFD is now prepared to engage two important operations during events of this type. Those operations are the Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) team and the Rescue Task Force (RTF). Both of these require highly trained and specially equipped firefighters to deal with mass-casualty incidents. During 2016, the CFD, in cooperation with the Cudahy Police Department and the Cudahy School District staged an active shooter training event at Cudahy High School. This scenario-based training tested the practices and preparation of each of the organizations including CFD’s TEMS and RTF operations.

- **Smoke Detector Program** – Under the guidance of Motor Pump Operator Justin Piper, the Cudahy Fire Department joined forces with WIS-Safe and partnered with the American Red Cross to provide free smoke detectors to those in need within the City of Cudahy. More information on this life-saving initiative can be found on the following pages.

- **Social Media - Facebook** - Under the guidance of Lt. Aaron Bixby, the Cudahy Fire Department took a major step to advance our outreach and communication with our community through social media by creating a Facebook page. The page provides an avenue for a direct flow of information between the CFD and our “Friends”.

- **Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Drills** – During 2016, the CFD took part in two large scale Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) drills designed to test our response with that of neighboring fire departments to a disaster. The first was designed to test the response to a simulated explosion at the fuel farm on College Avenue. The second was to test the response to a simulated active shooter/multi casualty event. Both of these drills involved the cooperative efforts of multiple agencies from across the area, and everyone involved benefited from the practice of working together under modern emergency situations.

- **High Rise Training** – During 2016 the CFD was a lead agency in the development of a county-wide high rise training guideline. Training Officers from each fire department within Milwaukee County have been working together on this initiative under the authority of the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs. Every firefighter within the county was trained, and a training video was created by the Cudahy Fire Department to be shared and viewed as the accepted practice for fighting a fire in a high rise structure.

- **Shared Services** - The Fire Departments of Cudahy, St. Francis, South Milwaukee, Oak Creek and the 128th Air Refueling Wing continue to be the model for a successful shared service relationship. These five departments regularly train together and share equipment and knowledge. This cooperative effort is evident on the emergency scene where a potentially chaotic emergency scene evolves seamlessly, enabled by these relationships that continue to be forged.
• **Scene Call of the Year** – During 2016, the CFD team was awarded the Flight for Life Scene Call of the Year. The CFD was chosen for this award for the complicated, but well-coordinated efforts to rescue a woman who had fallen over the lake bank in Sheridan Park. The award recognized the extraordinary efforts of the CFD team, with the support of the Cudahy Police Department, Cudahy Dispatch and the South Milwaukee Fire Department.

• **American Red Cross and Fire Bell Club** – Two important partners of the CFD that usually go unnoticed to everyone except those that need them the most, deserve recognition for their efforts. They are often the un-sung heroes for many of us. They are the American Red Cross and the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club. The American Red Cross often provides shelter and assistance to our citizens who have been displaced by an emergency. The Fire Bell provides support for firefighters and police officers during extended emergencies. You will often see an American Red Cross vehicle and the Fire Bell van among fire and police vehicles during an emergency. Their free, invaluable service is greatly appreciated.

Please review the following pages of this report for a more complete picture of Cudahy Fire Department activities, responsibilities and accomplishments during 2016.

Each day, the members of the Cudahy Fire Department team demonstrate professional skills combined with compassion for our citizens as they carry out their responsibilities with dedication and commitment. They truly make this an all-American, world-class, fire and rescue agency.

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to the members of the Cudahy Fire Department, Cudahy Police Department, our Dispatchers, and all persons working at City Hall and for the City for their support and assistance during the year. I also thank Mayor Hohenfeldt, the Cudahy Common Council and members of the Cudahy Police and Fire Commission for their continued support.

Lastly, I wish to thank our citizens of Cudahy for their unceasing encouragement and their continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Daniel M. Mayer**

Daniel M. Mayer, Fire Chief
# Table of Contents

- Message from the Chief ................................................................. 2
- Cudahy City Officials ................................................................. 7
- General City Information ............................................................ 8
- Calls by the numbers ................................................................. 9
- Retirement ................................................................................. 12
- Organization Chart ................................................................. 13
- Grant Awards ............................................................................. 14
- Notable Incidents ....................................................................... 15
- Bureau of Training ..................................................................... 17
- Division of Special Operations ................................................... 20
- Division of Emergency Medical Services .................................... 21
- New Ambulance ......................................................................... 23
- Social Media .............................................................................. 24
- RTF & TEMS .............................................................................. 25
- Bureau of Fire Prevention & Public Education ............................. 27
- Division of Fire Inspection .......................................................... 29
- Fireman’s Prayer ........................................................................ 31
Cudahy City Officials

MAYOR
John Hohenfeldt

FIRE CHIEF
Daniel Mayer

FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Thomas Kujawa, President
Kathryn Wojtysiak, Secretary
Vera Trifunovich
David King
Gerald Rieder

COMMON COUNCIL
First District, Justin Moralez
Second District, Mike Johnson (April 2016)
Third District, Randy Hollenbeck
Fourth District, Jason Litkowiec
Fifth District, Michelle St. Marie Boelkow (April 2016)
### General Information

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<td>Miles of Roadway (2006) EST.</td>
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<td>False Calls</td>
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<td>Rescue Responses</td>
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<td>Total Overall Responses</td>
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Calls by the Numbers

Fire Calls
Calls are put into the “Fire” category based on the nature in which they are received from our dispatch center. Some examples of a fire call are:
- Fire (building, equipment, vehicle, dumpster, vegetation)
- Smoke showing
- Fire alarm (smoke, fire).

False Calls
Calls are considered “False Calls” when the fire department responds to the report of a fire or smoke alarm activation where the cause is found to be accidental, weather related, malicious, or due to testing of a system or simply a bad battery in a smoke detector. False alarms can also be reported by well-meaning citizens as well.

Service Calls
Service calls are a collection of calls that require fire department assistance in a variety of ways. Most service calls are “odor investigations” which are reported by someone who may smell natural gas or a strange odor that may require the use instrumentation to assess the atmosphere. It's not uncommon to help animals out of trees or sewers. Other examples of service calls include:
- Investigating water or steam leaks
- Providing lighting for crime scenes or events
- Providing the ladder truck for access to roofs and high places

Hazardous Condition (no fire)
Hazardous condition calls are related to hazardous materials such as natural gas and carbon monoxide leaks as well as chemical spills or leaks from buildings, transport and passenger vehicles. Other hazardous condition calls include:
- Electrical wiring / equipment problem
- Power lines down
- Radiation leaks

Rescue Calls
Rescue calls are typically calls that require the rescue or extrication of persons due to an accident or an equipment malfunction or mishap. Rescue calls include removing people from vehicles, buildings and machinery. We also preform rescues from natural surroundings like the cliffs, trees and the lake.
### 2016 Fire Call Break Down

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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>FIRE</th>
<th>EMS</th>
<th>SERVICE</th>
<th>HAZARDOUS</th>
<th>RESCUE</th>
<th>OTHER</th>
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<td>1950</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1950</td>
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RETIREMENT

Dean Nelson began his career at the Cudahy Fire department as a part-time firefighter on June 15th, 1988. Dean was hired onto full time on March 1st 1992. Dean was promoted to Lieutenant on April 1st, 2007. Lt. Nelson served Cudahy Fire Department for 28 years in the fire service. He was especially valuable for his knowledge and efforts in the area of radio communication and he kept our pager system operating at high efficiency. Dean was also an early developer of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System known as MABAS where he served many years as an Officer of the MABAS committee and was instrumental in MABAS card updating and distribution for the area. We wish Lt. Dean Nelson a great and relaxing retirement.
The Cudahy Fire Department employs 25 fulltime Firefighters and a part time Confidential Secretary to the Fire Chief. We operate from two fire stations that are staffed 24/7 with 4 Firefighters (full staffing) or 3 Firefighters (minimal staffing) at each station on each shift. The Fire Chief is located at station 1 and the Secretary is at station 2.

At optimal staffing levels each fire station has a Fire Officer in charge. At station 1 there is a Fire Lieutenant, and at station 2 there is a Battalion Chief who is the Operational Chief for the entire city on any given day.
Grants

In 2016, the Cudahy Fire Department applied and received one grant. In order to receive the grant reimbursement, a program or equipment costs must exceed $14,000. The grant will match funds up to 50 percent of the $14,000 or $7,000 dollars. The primary requirement placed on the award of the grant is that the equipment or program must enhance safety of the employees or the public.

For this grant, two areas were identified for equipment purchases. First was the TEMS team. The Fire Department Tactical EMS Team (TEMS) was created and equipped with retired bullet proof vests from the police department. The ballistic protection levels varied and in some cases not sufficient for the mission. The vests were past their service life and most did not fit correctly. The second area was the equipment purchase for the Rescue Task Force (RTF). The Rescue task force can enter an active shooter environment with police officers and administer point of injury care to victims, greatly improving outcomes. With the money received from this grant, ballistic vests were purchased for the TEMS team and all needed medical equipment for the RTF program division of special operations.
2016 Notable Calls

On November 29\textsuperscript{th}, 2016 a semi-tractor & trailer tipped over while attempting a turn onto Birchwood from Pennsylvania Ave. CFD arrived to find the semi laying on its passenger side and leaking fluids. CFD cleaned up several gallons of engine oil. Ray’s towing used 3 tow trucks to tip the truck back upright. The driver of the truck was not seriously injured but was transported to the hospital for an evaluation.

On December 12\textsuperscript{th} at approximately 7pm, the Cudahy Fire Department received a report of smoke in a second floor condominium on Creekside Drive. Upon arrival the Cudahy Fire Department learned that the occupant of the first floor condominium had started his gas fireplace and was noticing smoke coming into the house. The initial evaluation found that fire was within the exterior walls surrounding the fireplace exhaust vent and was extending between the floor joists between the upper and lower condominiums. Firefighting crews were requested from Saint Francis, South Milwaukee, Oak Creek and the 128\textsuperscript{th} Air National Guard. Further investigation found that the fire was well established within the walls and floor joists. Firefighting crews removed the exterior wall coverings and interior wall and ceilings around the fireplace. During the fire investigation, it was discovered that the cause of the fire to be nesting materials within the fireplace vent. Damage from the fire was estimated to be approximately $65,000.
On November 13, 2016 the Cudahy Fire Department was dispatched to 2422 E. College Ave for a garage fire. Upon arrival, the CFD found the garage fully involved. CFD confirmed that all occupants were out of the home and the surrounding homes. The fire began outside of the garage when a gasoline can was accidentally knocked over and ignited the existing portable fire pit that was in use. Estimated Fire Loss $30,000.

On September 9th, 2016 the Cudahy Fire Department responded to a report of a garbage receptacle fire in the area east of 3100 block of Underwood Avenue. Upon arrival, a large number of city garbage receptacles were burning. An unknown quantity of garbage cans were destroyed - estimate of 60-75. New trash receptacles will cost $28,290. Clean-up of the land will cost $21,416. Total damages = $49,705.90.
Bureau of Training

The Cudahy Fire Department Training Bureau completed another highly successful educational and innovative year. As a department, we continued to evolve through the use of new platforms to deliver training along with technology and communications. During 2016, our department implemented the new Milwaukee County High Rise Guidelines. Our training allows us to coordinate a unified high rise response throughout Milwaukee County should a fire occur in a commercial or residential complex. Training with Milwaukee County Airport Fire Department was completed at the Shell Oil Pipeline facility. A drill with MABAS Division 107 was conducted to test our preparedness for a large-scale Life Safety Incident. In response to the recent “Active Shooter” events across the nation, training was conducted to enable us to be prepared should one of these events occur in our community. We continued to work with our neighboring departments on various training evolutions in the fire service to make our responses safer on coordinated efforts. We also had a number of our fire fighters attend various classes to increase their knowledge and certifications in the fire service. These training components are necessary to keep the fire fighters of Cudahy prepared, respond appropriately and safely, and also to meet the needs of the community we serve.

Our personnel range from those who started their careers with no computers or cell phones, to those who have been using these devices most of their lives. The use of these devices along with social media has allowed members of all departments across the world to share ideas and videos in real time. Youtube videos are viewed and shared on a daily basis. This content has become a way of training fire service personnel on what works well, how to avoid what does not work, and to share new ideas and equipment. A common practice within our department is the sharing of videos. This technology can be seen in use on a regular basis within the Cudahy Fire Department, which leads to good discussion.

The Milwaukee County High Rise Guidelines that were researched and developed in 2015 were put into training practice in 2016. Before this plan was developed, there were no departments who operated off of the same high rise plan or equipment. Today we have all 13 departments adopting the same plan and using the same equipment. The Cudahy Fire Department assisted in creating a training video that was shared throughout Milwaukee County in various aspects of a High Rise response. We were granted permission to train with our neighboring departments at Lake Shore Towers. The South Milwaukee, St. Francis, Oak Creek, 128th ANG, and Cudahy Fire Departments met at Lake Shore Towers for three consecutive days. We trained fire fighters on the various components involved with a fire emergency in a high rise complex. The next step in regards to the High Rise Guidelines is to train Command Officers throughout Milwaukee County to execute the plan as it was written. This will occur in January of 2017, and will be followed by several large-scale simulations at various high rise buildings in Milwaukee County to test all components of the guidelines.
In September, the Airport Fire Department invited all neighboring departments to participate in simulating an emergency at the Shell Oil pipeline facility. This pipe line, which is in close proximity to the City of Cudahy, would impact our community greatly if an emergency were to occur there. The simulation was successful in that we were able to flow 3,000 gallons of water per minute. Three ladder trucks, six pumpers, and various airport fire fighting vehicles were used to keep the tank farm on College Avenue cool and extinguish possible fire.

In August, MABAS Division 107 conducted a test to determine how many EMS units could be assembled to a staging location should we ever have a Mass Casualty Incident. Our neighboring MABAS Divisions consisting of Division 106 (Waukesha County), 102 (Racine County), and 111 (Washington County) also sent Strike Teams of EMS units to the staging location. In all, we had 39 units respond to the staging location, which was held in Greenfield.

Active Shooter events across America have been occurring on a regular basis. These events have hit close to home in recent years. Training our fire fighters and developing response protocols was completed in 2016 to prepare our department should one of these emergencies occur in Cudahy. Oak Creek Fire Department member Roger Kieffer, an instructor on preparing for Active Shooter Responses and trained all members of the Cudahy Fire Department. His training included how to respond, equipment needed for the response, and lessons learned from active shooter events across the nation. Fire Fighters were trained in the best practices to save as many lives as possible, work with police departments, and how to use special medical kits that were not previously available on our ambulances. Training will continue in 2017.

Neighboring fire departments in Milwaukee County work closely with each other in emergency responses as well as training. The importance of working and training with each other makes the communities we serve safer as well making the fire ground operations safer. South Milwaukee was given the use of a large structure on Caterpillar’s premises. Search and rescue drills were performed over a three day period. Fire departments from Oak Creek, South Milwaukee, Franklin, and Cudahy worked together on these drills. These coordinated drills allowed each department a chance to improve their skills, communications, and create uniformity between neighboring departments.

The Training Bureau continued to provide training opportunities to our members in the form of outside training. Members took classes from various experts around the country on Modern Fire Tactics, Preparation for Initial Company Officers, Flash Over Simulator, and Company Officer Leadership. We currently have members working on their Associate Degrees as well as Bachelor Degrees in the fire service and Emergency Management. In 2016, we had 14 personnel complete the ISO Credential at 90% or above. This consists of 228 hours of training in the fire service. Our goal for 2017 is to have all members achieve this training benchmark.
It has been 12 years since I first took over the Training Bureau. I truly enjoyed working with the Training Officers throughout Milwaukee County. The vast knowledge and training material that is developed and shared amongst this group is vital to the success of all departments throughout Milwaukee County. I would like to thank everyone within the Cudahy Fire Department involved in the successes the Bureau has achieved. It is truly a coordinated effort by all members to have the desire and fortitude to make training successful on a daily basis. I look forward to assisting the new training officer in taking over the Bureau in 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Posda

Gary Posda
Battalion Chief
Bureau of Training
Division of Special Operations

The Division of Special Operations is responsible for organizing training and other technical skills to challenge our firefighters for the unexpected. Much of the training is centered on rescue scenarios, people trapped in cars or equipment, or special circumstances of persons in distress on the water, ice, or on the cliffs along the lake. These situations all require specialized equipment and specialized training. Confined space operations and trench rescue are also a major part of our preparation for special operations.

Hazardous materials are all around us, they are transported over the roads and by rail more than ever before. Six site facilities like Smithfield Foods (Patrick Cudahy) and ATI (Ladish) use hazardous materials daily in their processes creating special challenges every day in our community. Annual training in this field keeps the department aware of our unique risks and help prepare us for the rare mishap.

Subject area of training include:

- Hazardous Materials
- Rope Rescue
- Boat and Water Rescue
- Ice Rescue
- Auto and Machinery Rescue
- Confined Space
- Trench Rescue

The Cudahy Fire Department would like to thank Smithfield Foods who has work with us every year offering the Cudahy Fire Department training opportunities in hazardous materials and at times confined space to help us deal with any challenges in these areas. The best way to deal with an emergency at Smithfield or ATI is to work together and train together.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Schmidt

Robert Schmidt
Battalion Chief
Emergency Medical Services Division:

The Cudahy Fire Department is the sole 911 Provider of Emergency Medical Services within the City of Cudahy. Services are provided twenty four hours a day seven days a week. The fire department is licensed with the State of Wisconsin to provide medical services at the Basic Emergency Medical Technical level referred to as BLS. Two frontline ambulances are staffed with a state mandated minimum of two licensed and certified Emergency Medical Technicians. Ambulance 1487 is housed at fire station #1, responding to the north half of the city, while ambulance 1488 is housed at fire station #2, responding to the south half of the City. The Fire Department also maintains a reserve ambulance, 1489, housed in Fire Station #1. The reserve ambulance is placed into service during times of 3 or more EMS calls, staffed during special events such as July 4th and when frontline equipment requires maintenance.

The City of Cudahy is provided paramedic service through the Milwaukee County EMS System. When a request for medical assistance is received at the Cudahy dispatch center, Cudahy dispatchers triage the nature of the medical complaint and decide if it warrants a Basic Life Support or Paramedic Ambulance. If it meets the level of Basic Life Support (BLS), then the Cudahy ambulance is dispatched. If the nature may require Advanced Life Support (ALS) care than both the Cudahy ambulance and a paramedic ambulance is dispatched. Unfortunately this is not the optimal response model as there is often a delay of ALS care due to longer response times by a Paramedic ambulance coming from outside our community. If in the future, Cudahy decided to increase its service level to Paramedic, many of the response delays could be avoided. Currently primary paramedic response for the City of Cudahy is provided by the South Milwaukee Fire Department Med-10. If Med-10 is not available, paramedic ambulances can be requested from the Oak Creek Fire Department or the Milwaukee Fire Department.

The Milwaukee County EMS division provides paramedic and continuing education and refresher training for all Municipal Fire Departments within Milwaukee County. Milwaukee County EMS is a tax funded County wide system under the Milwaukee County Office of Emergency Management. As a county municipality the Fire Department EMS service is affiliated with Milwaukee County EMS. This affiliation provides the Fire Department EMT’s with a Medical Director who develops, writes and oversees medical protocols and treatments used by the EMT’s. Milwaukee County also provides, quality assurance reviews, American Heart Association affiliation for the Fire Department CPR instructors, and medical direction for the department Tactical EMS unit.
In 2016 the Cudahy Fire Department experienced an increase in requests for medical service. Fire Department ambulances responded to 2058 calls for medical service, an increase of 104 EMS calls over 2015, or roughly a 5% increase. Of the 2058 requests for medical assistance, 619 met the level of an Advance Life Support (ALS) response. When the patient condition requires ALS level of care, a BLS ambulance is dispatched along with an ALS ambulance. Paramedic requests for service increased from 596 in 2015 to 619 in 2016 which represents an increase of 4%. Of the 619 ALS calls, paramedic units transported 309 patients to area hospitals. Cudahy Fire Department participates in mutual aid agreements with all of our surrounding municipalities. These agreements include fire and EMS requests. Fire Department ambulances responded to medical emergencies outside of the city 40 times last year.
New Ambulance

2016 saw the retirement of the frontline ambulance at station #1. The normal replacement schedule for an ambulance is approximately every seven years; this unit is over ten years old. The older ambulance is then placed into the reserve status until the next changeover. The seven-year replacement has proven to optimize the trade-in value and reduce repair costs. In early spring of 2016, a committee was organized to research and design the next ambulance.

North Central Ambulance Sales was contacted and after several design meetings, the fire department committee chose a Braun ambulance on a Ford chassis. Braun ambulances are a completely customizable ambulance, which allows us to incorporate changes into the design to increase efficiencies. The crash tests results are some of the best in the industry for patient and firefighter safety. In the future, when this unit is scheduled for replacement, Braun ambulances can be remounted. This entails sending the ambulance to the factory where it is completely stripped down to the box and mounted on a new chassis. Design changes can be made and it is rebuilt to the current safety standards. Remounting saves on average twenty to twenty-five percent off the cost of a new ambulance. Delivery of the new ambulance was in December of 2016, and it will be put into service in February 2017. The new ambulance will assume the primary duties at fire station #1 and will hold the designation of 1487.
FACEBOOK

The Cudahy Fire Department has a Facebook page to better inform the citizens of Cudahy and beyond about current events related to the fire department and public safety. Facebook is a great tool to get public information and safety tips to anyone who has a computer or a smart phone. All information is reviewed and approved by its administrators before going out to the public.

In today’s digital age, many use social media first for their informational needs. CFD understands that and is taking advantage of this platform to connect with Facebook users. In addition to social media the Fire Department continues to use the boards outside of each station to relay events that are upcoming in our community.
RTF

Rescue Task Force

In 2016 the Cudahy Fire Department teamed up with the Cudahy Police Department and the Cudahy School District to prepare our city in case of an active shooter mass casualty incident. A mock incident was organized at the Cudahy High School to simulate a person, or group of persons, entering the school and causing an active shooter event. CPD and CFD responded to the incident in real time and initiated a Rescue Task Force response. A Rescue Task Force (RTF) is a set of teams deployed to provide wound care to victims where there is an ongoing ballistic or explosive threat. These teams are comprised of CFD firefighter/EMTs that treat, stabilize, and remove the injured while wearing ballistic protective equipment in a quick and efficient manner while under the protection of law enforcement personnel.

The Cudahy Fire Department has trained all of their personnel in Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC). TECC is specialized medical training to decrease preventable deaths in a tactical situation. CFD specifically trained in the Indirect Threat Care and Evacuation phase of TECC. In simple terms, CFD will send personnel to those injured in an active shooter or mass casualty incident after the initial threat is stopped by law enforcement personnel. The incident scene may still be active but firefighter/EMTs will be under the protection of a police element, quickly treat life threatening injuries, and evacuate them to a Casualty Collection Point (CCP) so victims can be quickly transported to the nearest appropriate hospital. Fire Departments will no longer wait until the entire scene is deemed completely clear of any threats before they respond from a remote staging area. TECC is designed to treat victims in a rapid, proficient, and relatively safe manner to greatly increase survivability in case the unthinkable happens in our community.
TEMS

Tactical Emergency Medical Services

The Cudahy Fire Department continued to provide support to the South Shore Joint Tactical Unit (JTU) throughout 2016. The TEMS unit is comprised of firefighter/EMTs from the ranks of the Cudahy Fire Department and provides tactically trained Emergency Medical Technicians to supplement the JTU. The JTU is a Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team that is a highly trained unit utilizing specialized equipment and tactics to perform high risk police operations. TEMS members provide medical care within the tactical environment, are equipped with the same body armor as the SWAT operators, and receive special tactical training enabling them to work seamlessly with the JTU.

In 2016 the JTU was activated on six different occasions. Five activations were for drug related search warrants and one for the report of shots fired with a possible barricaded subject. TEMS team members were present at each of these tactical incidents ready to provide medical care for any of the police officers attached to the JTU, civilians in or around the incident, or the subjects involved with incident itself.

The Cudahy Fire Department TEMS team trains twice a month with the JTU to familiarize itself with all aspects of SWAT operations. The TEMS team is also responsible for training the JTU police officers Tactical Emergency Casualty Care in case they need to treat their teammates or themselves. The South Shore Joint Tactical Unit, along with the Tactical Emergency Medical Services team, are highly motivated individuals that train and work together to become an exceedingly cohesive and effective team of operators.

Respectfully,

Aaron Bixby

Lt. Aaron Bixby
Bureau of Fire Prevention

The Bureau of Fire Prevention is vitally important to the community because of how it affects public safety. Fire prevention inspections insure every public building or business is following state and local safety codes. Public education starts at an early age in the school system and continues all the way through into our independent living facilities. The focus of the Bureau of Fire Prevention is to educate our community in all aspects of safety in order to improve the safety of everyone. We take advantage of many opportunities to do this.

The Bureau of Fire Prevention is made up of two divisions;

- Division of Fire Inspection
- Division of Public Education

Division of Fire Inspection

The Fire Inspection Division inspects most multi-family, commercial and industrial properties in the city. This essential public safety service is done semi-annually to insure a safe atmosphere to live, work and visit. This code enforcement activity is required by state law.

Division of Public Education

The Division of Public Education provides an outreach for the purposes of educating the public in fire safety. The Cudahy Fire Department works in conjunction with the Cudahy Police Department and the Cudahy Health Department to deliver safety education to our community. Our outreach efforts focus mainly on the school district, the business community, residential facilities and public education events.

Division of Public Education

The Cudahy Fire Department’s Division of Public Education seeks to deliver the message of fire safety to the citizens of the City of Cudahy, from preschool to senior citizens. The primary mission of the Fire Department is to prevent fires from occurring that would otherwise result in a catastrophic loss of life and property. The key means to achieving that goal is through education.

Each year the Fire Department hosts fire station tours for children in the earliest stages of their education. This exposure of children ages four and five years old allows for a low-stress and fun environment in the fire house to learn about what fire fighters do, how they live, and what kind of equipment they use. It is also beneficial for a child of this age to learn what a firefighter looks like in their full protective equipment. The method of having one of the adults with the class dress in the full ensemble of safety equipment, is often used to help the children understand that the person inside the mask is someone they know, and to not be afraid of them.
Again in 2016, the Cudahy Fire Department hosted the Survive Alive House at each fire station during fire prevention week. In coordination with the Cudahy School District we were able to host a very comprehensive fire safety tour for every school. The schools rotated in over a two week period to insure flexibility and to connect with most students from kindergarten to the second grade. Collectively the Cudahy Fire Department reached out to over 1000 children during our station tours and countless other event and venues.

The Fire Department shares the use of the Survive Alive House with St Francis, South Milwaukee, and Oak Creek. This type of educational tool is invaluable for teaching children how to properly evacuate their home under the adverse conditions of a fire. 2016 marks our second year we hosted the SAH for our fire prevention week tours for the Cudahy School District. The experience the children get at our fire house event is immeasurable. It has also become a great tour for the adults who chaperon the event with their children.

The Fire Department continues to speak to senior citizens upon request. Our Senior Citizen Program reaches out to all of our independent living facilities like Williamstown Bay, Evergreen Square, Washington Square, Cottonwood Trails and Cafaldi Square. These presentations cover the special senior living environment with fire safety, fire drills, and community living. The Cudahy Fire Department continues to move forward our File of Life Program. This system documents important medical information contained in a magnetic file folder that can be kept on the refrigerator for EMS crews to access. This insures the best medical treatment with the patient’s history at our finger tips.

The Cudahy Fire Department continues with our Residential Knox Box Program, designed to promote a lock box outside the home to allow firefighters to gain entry during a serious medical emergency. The lock box is very similar to those required by commercial buildings in our city with access only by the Cudahy Fire Department. The Fire Department is currently marketing this program to people who live alone with a serious medical condition. We continue to accept donations to build an inventory for this most valuable program.

Respectfully,

Robert Schmidt
Battalion Chief
Bureau of Fire Prevention
Fire Inspection Bureau

The Cudahy Fire Inspection Bureau continues to work closely with the Building Inspection office to handle referrals, code compliance and related inspection activities. New occupancy as well as change of occupancy information is very important to Fire Inspection. The City Inspection Department consults with us in exchange of information whenever it is available to them. The Cudahy Health Department, Department of Economic Development and the Assessor’s Office also assist Fire Inspection whenever asked.

The Cudahy Fire Inspection Bureau is headed by lead inspector, Lt. Jason Flaherty, who oversees 5 additional inspectors. 2016 inspectors were MPO Justin Piper, MPO Alex Steuber, MPO Brian Rynders, MPO Brian Wojciechowski and MPO Joe Fremy. MPO Piper and MPO Wojciechowski will be leaving the bureau at the end of 2016 after years of dedicated service.

The Fire Inspection Bureau is divided into 5 districts- A, B, C, D and E. Each inspector is assigned and responsible for one district and does semi-annual fire inspections on residential (3 family or greater), industrial, commercial, office, mercantile, assembly halls, schools, health care, child care, hazardous, specialty and community based residential facilities.

The Cudahy Fire Department belongs to the Wisconsin State Fire Inspectors Association, which is dedicated to the prevention of fires through inspections and public education. This association meets monthly and holds a spring and fall state fire inspectors conference. Both the meetings and the conferences are very beneficial to fire inspectors. Information available includes: inspection education, code changes and updates, discussions related to fire inspections, code interpretations, learning how other Wisconsin fire departments conduct fire inspection activities, etc.

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The City of Cudahy has 794 properties requiring fire inspections, which biannually is 1,588 individual fire inspections that were completed in 2016. Beyond our bi-annual fire inspections, the fire inspection bureau also inspects change of occupancy properties, new construction and citizen complaints that come up throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Flaherty

Jason Flaherty
Lieutenant, Lead Inspector
Division of Fire Inspection
When I am called to duty, GOD, whenever flames may rage,
Give me strength to save some life, whatever be it’s age.

Help me embrace a little child before it is too late,
Or save and older person from the horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout,
And quickly and efficiently to put the fire out.

I want to fulfill my calling and to give the best in me,
To guard my every neighbor and protect his property.

And if, according to my fate, I am to lose my life,
Please bless with your protecting hand
The special people in my life.