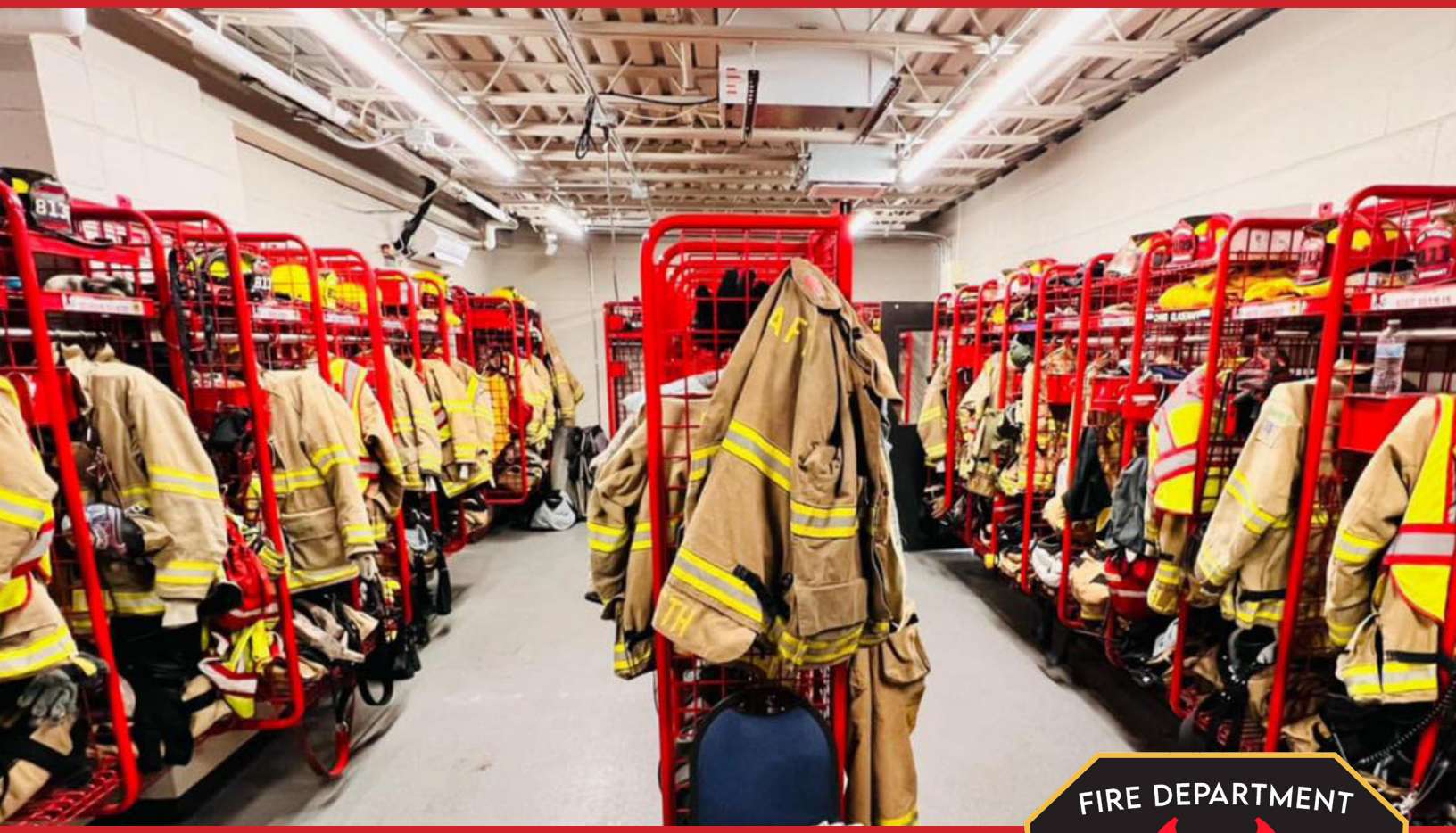
ANNUAL REPORT



FIRE DEPARTMENT

FORT ATKINSON

WI

2024

INTRODUCTION



It is with great pride that I present the 2024 Annual Report of the Fort Atkinson Fire Department. This report reflects our department's commitment to providing exceptional fire and emergency medical services to the City of Fort Atkinson and our neighboring townships of Hebron, Sumner, Koshkonong, Jefferson, and Oakland. Our dedication to continuous improvement in training, service, and response times remains at the core of everything we do.

2024 Accomplishments

Sustained 24/7 EMS Coverage – We continue to provide around-the-clock emergency medical services to our community and surrounding townships, ensuring rapid and professional care when it is needed most.

Personnel Growth & Promotions – Our department has seen significant personnel changes. This year, we welcomed four new full-time firefighters/paramedics, promoted one division chief and two captains to our full-time staff, and added one division chief, one captain, and two part-time firefighters to our part-time staff.

New Programs & Equipment Enhancements – We made great strides in improving our department's resources and capabilities, including:

- Introducing a Peer Counselor for the Jefferson County Peer Support Team.
- Placing a new Pierce Light Rescue Truck into service.
- Outfitting all personnel with new Class A uniforms.
- Graduating eight members from Motor Pump Operator School and two members from EMT-Basic School.
- Completing an ISO (Insurance Services Office) review to improve our department rating.
- Ordering a new Horton ambulance (delivery expected in 2027).
- Honoring three fallen members at the Wisconsin Firefighters Memorial.
- Successfully negotiating the first union contract between the City of Fort Atkinson and Local 580.
- Completing a large capital equipment upgrade by replacing all portable and mobile radios with the latest technology.
- Reinstating the area-wide Water Rescue Team to enhance our response capabilities. Revamped our new hire orientation, on-boarding, and probationary training programs to better prepare our members for success.

Community Outreach & Training – Strengthening our connection with the community remains a priority. This year, we:

- Hosted our Annual Open House.
- Conducted fire safety education programs at local elementary schools.
- Performed over 630 company fire inspections to ensure the safety of our businesses and their employees and customers.

Looking Ahead to 2025

As we move forward, our focus remains on strengthening our personnel, enhancing training, and improving emergency response capabilities and updating our emergency preparedness. Key priorities include:

- Expanding part-time staff participation through a daily fill-in program and additional training opportunities.
- Revamping full-time and part-time training programs to ensure continued development in modern fire and emergency medical practices.
- Completing area-wide mutual aid training with our partner fire departments.
- Launching public CPR and Stop the Bleed training to enhance community preparedness.
- Upgrading our National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) software for improved data collection and analysis.
- Updating and retraining on core Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- Creating updated Emergency Management Operations guides and developing a City Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- Renewing Township contracts to continue providing critical fire and EMS services to our neighboring communities.
- Negotiating the renewal of the Union contract to ensure fair and sustainable agreements for our personnel.

Bruce W. Peterson
Fire Chief, Fort Atkinson Fire Department

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

MISSION STATEMENT: We are committed to a future safe from fire and to provide for life and property safety from the threat of fires, natural or man-made disasters. This will be accomplished through planning, prevention, education and incident mitigation and appropriate application of technology

The **Fort Atkinson Fire Department** provides emergency services to the City of Fort Atkinson and parts of the surrounding townships of Hebron, Jefferson Koshkonong, Sumner, and Oakland. Our department operates 24/7, delivering essential services, including:

- **Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**
- **Fire Suppression**
- **Technical Rescue**
- **Fire Prevention & Inspections**

To effectively respond to all emergencies, the department operates out of a **single fire station** located at **124 Milwaukee Ave, West, Fort Atkinson**. **Our daily staffing includes five personnel**, consisting of at least two paramedics and a combination of a **Division Chief, Captain, and three Firefighter/Paramedics or EMT-Advanced.**

Personnel & Staffing

The department is staffed by a dedicated team of **15 full-time Firefighters** and **28 part-time Firefighters**, in addition to a **full-time Fire Chief.** Personnel are highly trained to handle fire suppression, emergency medical care, hazardous materials, and technical rescue operations.

Apparatus & Equipment

The Fort Atkinson Fire Department maintains a modern fleet of emergency response vehicles, ensuring rapid and effective service:

- **3 Advanced Life Support (ALS) Ambulances**
- **3 Fire Engines**
- **1 Aerial Tower**
- **1 Heavy Rescue Unit**
- **2 Water Tenders**
- **2 Light Rescue Units**
- **1 Rescue Boat & 1 Portable Boat**
- **1 All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV)**
- **1 Staff Car**

Fire Prevention & Community Risk Reduction

The department operates a **Fire Prevention Bureau**, responsible for:

- Coordinating company-level **fire inspections**
- Conducting **fire education programs** for schools and businesses
- Reviewing **fire codes and building plans** to ensure compliance and safety

Mutual Aid & Regional Partnerships

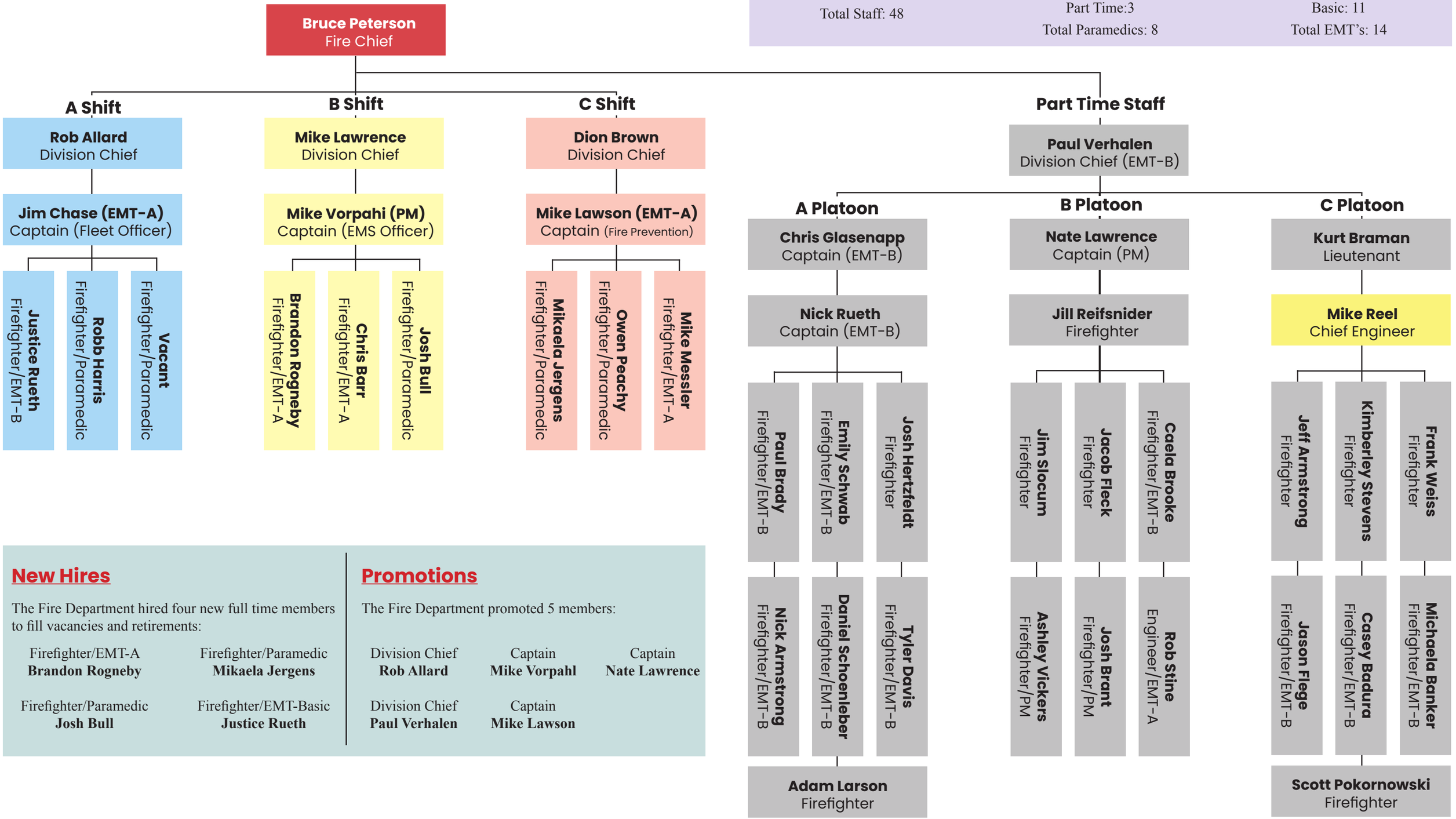
As a member of **MABAS Division 118 in Jefferson County**, the department works closely with neighboring fire agencies to provide mutual aid for large-scale incidents. This collaboration ensures that Fort Atkinson and surrounding areas receive the highest level of emergency response.

The Fort Atkinson Fire Department remains committed to continuous improvement, rigorous training, and enhancing community safety through education, prevention, and emergency preparedness. Our firefighters honor the traditions of the fire service while embracing new technology and best practices to better serve our residents.

DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP & PERSONNEL

Fort Atkinson Fire Department at a Glance

Fire Department Staff	EMS *Paramedics*	EMS *EMT's*
Total Full Time Staff: 15 + 1 Chief	Full Time:5	Advanced: 6
Total Part Time Staff: 28	Part Time:3	Basic: 11
Total Staff: 48	Total Paramedics: 8	Total EMT's: 14



New Hires

The Fire Department hired four new full time members to fill vacancies and retirements:

Firefighter/EMT-A **Brandon Rogneby**	Firefighter/Paramedic **Mikaela Jergens**
Firefighter/Paramedic **Josh Bull**	Firefighter/EMT-Basic **Justice Rueth**

Promotions

The Fire Department promoted 5 members:

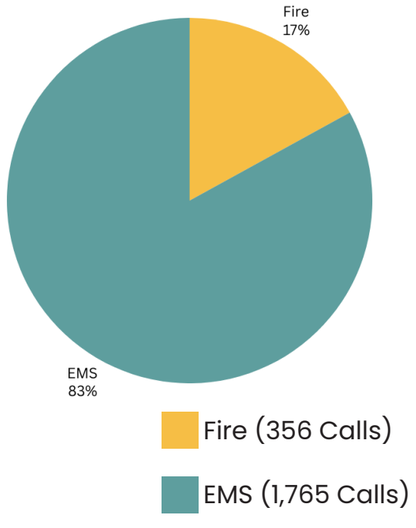
Division Chief **Rob Allard**	Captain **Mike Vorpahl**	Captain **Nate Lawrence**
Division Chief **Paul Verhalen**	Captain **Mike Lawson**	

OVERVIEW OF SERVICE DEMAND

1:22 Minutes is the average enroute time for all shifts

Type of Call

Structure Fire	32
Vehicle Fire	8
Grass/Brush/Outside Fire	8
EMS Calls	1765
Extrication	3
Water/Ice Rescue	2
Hazmat	34
Electrical Issue	38
Service Call/Assist Citizen	24
False Alarm/Alarm Activation (No Fire)	99
Smoke/Odor Report	15
Good Intent Call	4
Dispatch/Canceled Enroute	57
Other	32
TOTAL CALLS	**2,121**



Call Totals by Shift

A Shift
707 Calls

B Shift
735 Calls

C Shift
677 Calls

Total Calls:
2121

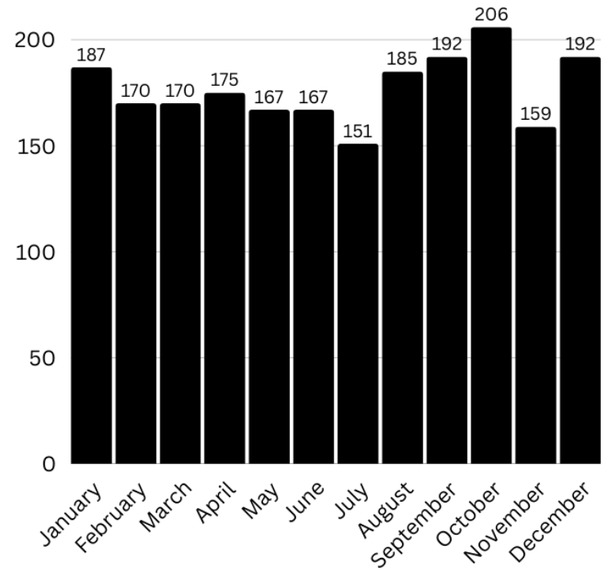
Calls by Time of Day

		FIRE	EMS	% of Total
8:00 - 16:00	925	21%	79%	43.6%
16:00 - 24:00	777	22%	78%	36.6%
0:00 - 8:00	418	25%	75%	19.7%

Calls by Location

City of Fort Atkinson	1730
Koshkonong	201
Oakland	36
Hebron	49
Summer	24
Jefferson	14
Mutual Aid	67

Calls by Month



Calls by Day of The Week

		FIRE	EMS
Monday	325	22%	78%
Tuesday	332	21%	79%
Wednesday	270	21%	79%
Thursday	305	28%	72%
Friday	305	22%	78%
Saturday	319	21%	79%
Sunday	264	23%	77%



May 20, 2024

HONORS NIGHT AWARD RECIPIENTS



Annual honors night, January 8, 2025

Jim Slocum

Firefighter of the Year: *Part-Time*

Owen Peachey

Firefighter of the Year: *Full-Time*

Captain Mike Vorpahl

Officer of the Year

COMMUNITY OUTREACH







