

# LIBERTY FIRE DISTRICT



## FY 2023 Annual Report



3910 KINGS LAKE RD,  
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS FL 32433

**ISO Class 4**

# Liberty Fire District FY2023 Annual Report

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# Liberty Fire District

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## **Mission**

Liberty Fire District is totally dedicated to the continuous improvement of our firefighters and our services. We vow to promote life safety of our firefighters and community members, provide fire suppression, property conservation, and fire prevention for the community served. Through ongoing training programs and in partnership with mutual aid departments and our suppliers we will achieve our goal.

## **Motto**

Courage, Commitment, and Community

## **Vision**

Members of the Liberty Fire District, through our commitment to innovation, service, and excellence, will always strive to be leaders in fire and life safety service.

## **Values**

As an organization, we value:

Family – to those that support us at home and to the people and families in our community we impact through our service.

Safety – in striving to protect the lives and well-being of our community and our peers.

Professionalism – in people who are devoted, compassionate, trustworthy, and who act with honesty and integrity.

Respect – for our community, ourselves, our team.

Innovation – via an environment that allows for new ideas and positive change to better serve our community.

## Message from the Chairman

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As the Board of Commissioners Chairman, of the Liberty Fire District, I am pleased to present this annual report on behalf of the members of the LFD who unwaveringly serve the residents and visitors of Walton County. Being a volunteer firefighter involves a tremendous sacrifice and dedication to the training and mission and we hold in esteem those that answer the call.

The report is submitted to the community and community leaders to provide an overview of services, run data, and highlight various activities your fire district is involved in throughout the year. It is important for the public to know that the LFD operates as a highly training and professional fire department that responds to all types of emergencies as well as many non-emergencies that impact the public.

This annual report will not only highlight statistics related to call response but will acknowledge the accomplishments and events that shape us as an organization. Much of our success is a testament to the professionalism, dedication, and efforts of our members and the support we receive from our community, Fire Board, and Board of County Commissioners. It is important to recognize our successes while always being consciences of our need to continually improve and strive towards excellence.

We of the LFD greatly appreciate feedback and suggestions. If you have any questions about the Liberty Fire District, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any member of the department. You can find us online at our new web site [www.libertyfire911.com](http://www.libertyfire911.com) or feel free to reach out to us at our stations.

It is a true honor from the men and women of the LFD to serve you, and we thank you for your trust and confidence. As an organization, we pledge our diligence to meet or exceed your expectations and will continue to strive towards excellence.

Stay smart, stay safe!

*Mike Engel*

Mike Engel, Chairman

# Board of Fire Commissioner's

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Fiscal Year 2022 – 2023 Budget Year (October 2022 – September 2023)

## Elected Officials/Governing Body

Voters elect Fire Commissioners to represent the fire district. The Board of Fire Commissioners is responsible for providing administrative oversight, defining the district's long-term vision, and setting budgets.

### Seat 1

Tony Roy Jr. (Elected 2010)  
Secretary  
Term Expires 2026

### Seat 2

Eugene Jack  
(Appointed Nov 2022 and resigned January 2023)  
Term Expires 2024

### Seat 3

John Hinson (Resigned December 2023)  
Vice Chairman  
Term Expires 2024

### Seat 4

Philip R. Canterbury, Jr (Elected 2016)  
Member at Large  
Term Expires 2024

### Seat 5

John Bottoms (Elected 2008)  
Treasury  
Term Expires 2026

## Regular Board Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Monday of Month 7pm  
South Station

**Meetings are open to the public.**

[www.libertyfire911.com](http://www.libertyfire911.com)

**About Your Department/  
Board of Commissioners**

Board Agendas and Meeting Minutes are  
available on our website.

## ISO Fire Protection Class 4 Rating

An ISO rating is a statistical rating assigned to cities and fire districts. Many insurance companies refer to this rating to define fire risk factors within a community. A fire department's ISO rating may affect insurance premium costs to property owners within their boundaries. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the best score, we are proud to have earned an ISO Rating of 4.



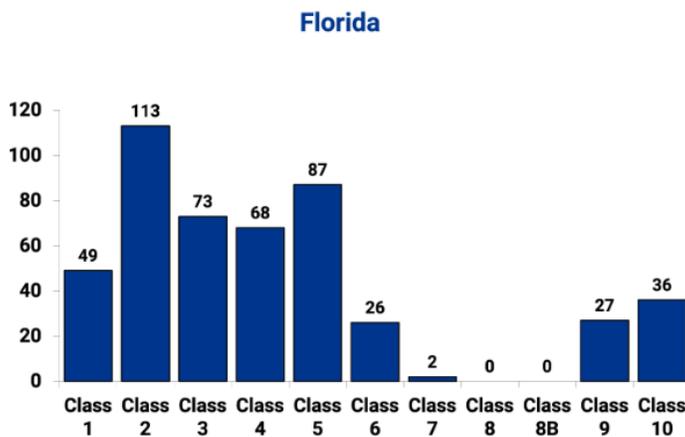
# Organizational Chart

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# Introduction

The Liberty Fire District is a proud and professional team of volunteers that sacrifice greatly to provide the citizens of Walton County, and our visitors, with quality Fire/EMS services. This is accomplished by a dedicated team of 20 individuals that volunteer their time to train, educate the community, fundraise,

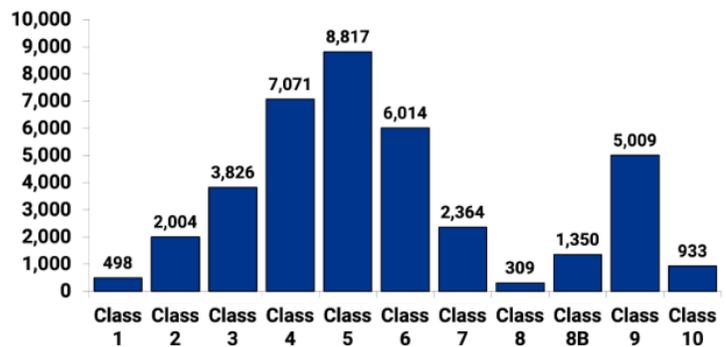


and respond to emergency and non-emergent calls for service. The LFD protects a geographic area of roughly 89 square miles and a population of approximately 10,000 residents. The LFD is currently rated a class 4/4x fire department by the

Insurance Services Organization (ISO). ISO is an insurance industry risk advisory body which helps carriers set appropriate premiums. To accomplish this, the ISO conducts evaluations of municipal fire protection efforts. According to ISO, roughly 38,000 fire departments rated by ISO, 7,071 departments across the United States had a rating of 4 or better. According to ISO, of the roughly 485 fire departments rated by ISO in Florida, only 68 departments had a rating of 4. In 2023, the

Liberty Fire District had call volume reach a historical high, responding to a total of 1165 incidents. The LFD is the busiest volunteer fire department in Walton County. LFD's firefighters are responding to more calls for service and are devoting increasing hours to training and

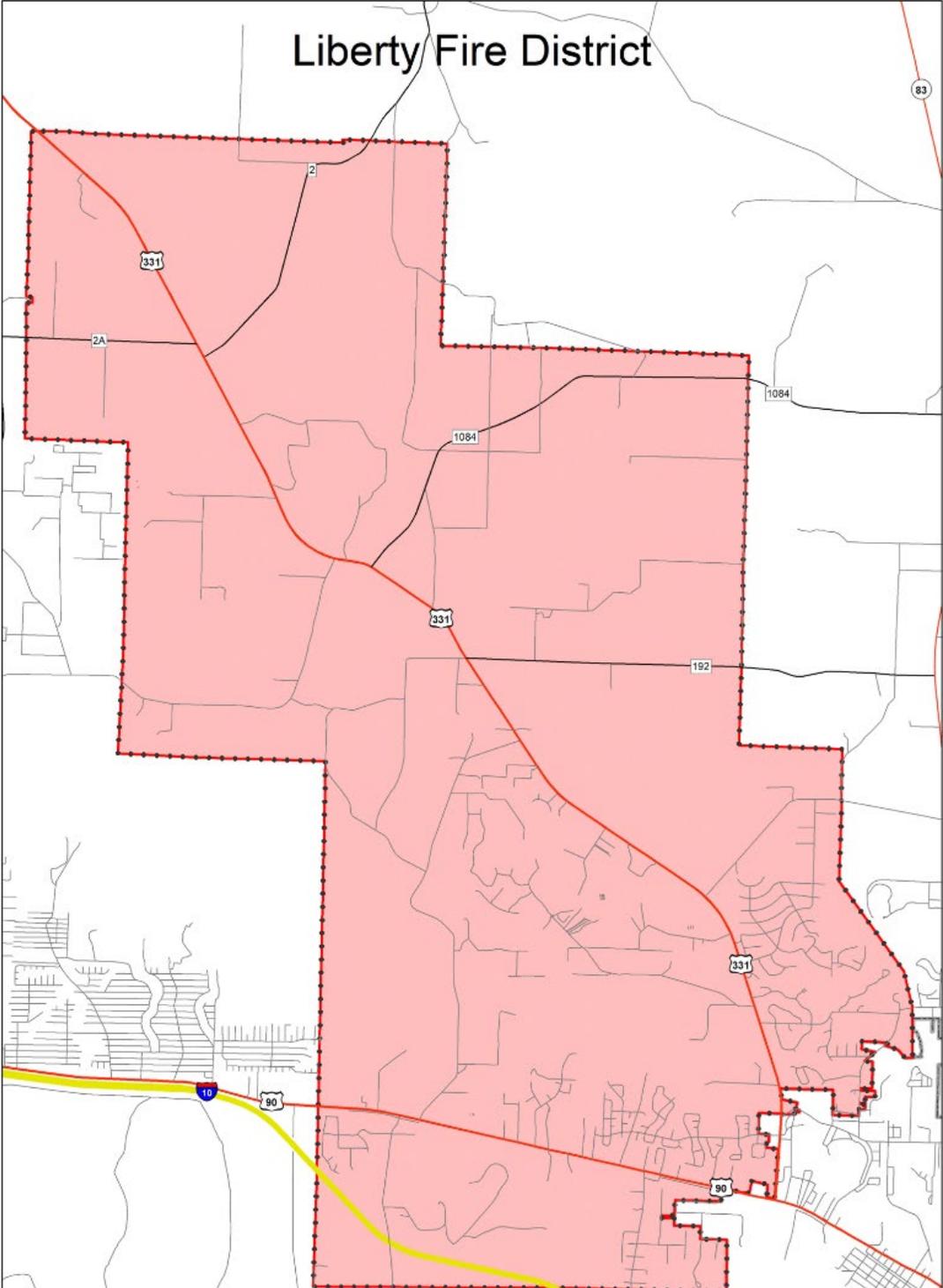
Countrywide



call response. In FY2023 members had documented **4764.49 Hours** of service and training to the citizens of LFD. A summation of the department's important statistics is located later in this report.

# District Map

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# Station and Apparatus

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## Station 7 South

Located at Hwy 90 West and Beech Road. 4.86 acres. A 3 Bay, 8,000 Sq Ft, LEED Silver Facility, 150 MPH Wind Rated Facility with Back-up 50 KVA Generator. Has Large Training Room, Bunk Rooms ADA Bathrooms, Decon Room, 2 ea 300 LBS Ice Machines, Commercial PPE Washer and Dryer, Chief's Office, Administrative offices, Full Kitchen Facilities, SLERS Base Station, 140' Lighter Radio Antenna Tower and HAM Radio Capabilities for ARES (Amateur Radio) and American Red Cross (ARC)

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## Station 7 Central

Located at 3910 Kings Lake Road. Five Bays, Office, Training Room, kitchen and bathroom facilities. Supported by 50KVA Generator back-up system. Base Station Radio Bank with Multi-banded radios (HAM, VHF, SLERS—Base Stations), Weather Station, Cascade Air System and Storage unit (permanent mounted), Station tools and storage, 199' Tower Antenna System, Repeater System with Digital Recorder capabilities (Fail-safe 911 Back-up), Station Paging/Alert System, Decon HAZMAT Shower Facilities, Bunker Gear Commercial Washer & Dryers, 400 lb Cubed Ice Machine.

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## Future Station 7 North

5 Acre parcel located at the corner of Wycoff Road and Hwy 331 North. Vacant Land parcel for future Liberty Fire District Station and Community. Future Community Center can be used for Emergency Staging Shelter. Future area location for Liberty Fire District—North Station.

# Station and Apparatus

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## Pumper 7

1,000 GL Hydrant Pumper/Class "A" 1250 GPM Pumper, Jaws of Life Hydraulic rescue tools, Med Gear, Command 70,000 Watt LED Elevated Scene lighting, cribbing, safety cones, fire extinguishers, Ventilation Equipment, Full Ladder complement, SCBAs with spare 45 minute bottles, FF Tools/ropes, chains, Pre-connect handlines (1 3/4 & 2 1/2"), Safety cones, fire extinguishers, safety vests, 800 ft of 5" Large Diameter Hose, Hard-Suction, pike poles, engineer tools/adapters/appliances, Pro-Foam Pack, Chains, Shovels, Brooms, Axes, NFPA Class A, Certified Engine/Pumper company.

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## Engine 7

1,000 GL Engine/Class "A" Pumper/30 GL Class B Foam Tank; MasterStreams/Deluge Gun, Scene lighting, cribbing, safety cones, fire extinguishers, Ventilation Equipment, Ladder complement, SCBAs with spare 45 minute bottles, FF Tools/ropes, Pre-connect handlines (1 3/4 & 2 1/2"), Safety cones, fire extinguishers, safety vests, 800 ft of 5" Large Diameter Hose(LDH), Hard Suction, pike poles, engineer tools/adapters/appliances, Pro-Foam Pack, Chains, Shovels, Brooms. Axes, NFPA Certified Engine Company.

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## Squad 7

Med Gear, AED Lifepack 1000, SCBA, 4x4, Traffic control wands, portable extinguisher, hand lights, water rescue equipment, ropes, inverter, and traffic safety cones, Bunker Gear, Shovels, Flaps, Broom and Chains, Roadway Hazard Signs, SCBA, Chain Saw

# Station and Apparatus

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## Rescue 7

Jaws-of-Life, Rescue Gear; Lifepack 12/AED - Med Gear; 400 GL Mini-Pumper, Inverter, Landing Zone Strobes, SCBA, F-550 4 x 4, 12,000 LBS Winch, Thermal Imaging Camera, Battery powered Hydraulic Rams, Rescue Tools, Traffic control wands and vests, water rescue equipment, ropes, hand lights, Portable Scene Lighting, fire extinguishers, cribbing, safety cones, AED Charging system/Inverter, scene tape, Incident Command Board, Multi-Gas Sniffer Unit, Bunker Gear, Axes, Shovels, Broom, Flap, Halligan, and Chains. Chain Saw, Broom, Roadway Hazard Signs and Battery powered Ventilation Fan and Pro Foam Pak. Rear Traffic Directional Safety Lighting System.



## Attack 7

300 GL Mini-Pumper; Wildland Equipment; Med Gear, AED Life pack 1000, SCBA, 4x4, 12,000 LBS winch, Traffic control wands, portable extinguisher, hand lights, water rescue equipment, ropes, inverter, and traffic safety cones, Bunker Gear, Shovels, Flaps, Broom and Chains, Roadway Hazard Signs, SCBA, Chain Saw, High Pressure Lifting Air Bags and Jaws of Life Set.



## Brush 7

300 GL Tanker/Wildland Equipment, Forestry Combination/Pumper, Newton Dump Valve, 3 Booster reels, Pump-N-Roll capability, 4 x 6, 1 1/2" Preconnects, Chain Saws, Industrial Chains, Hand-lights, Brush Tools, Wildland firefighting tools, Indian firefighting packs.

# Station and Apparatus

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## Tanker 7

3,000 GL Tanker/Pumper, K-12 Rescue Saw, 3,000 GL Portable Dump Tank, 30 GL Class A Foam Tank, Ventilation Equipment, Electrically operated Newton Dump Valve, 2 1/2" Float-a-Pump, Deluge Gun/Master Streams, 800 ft of 5" Large Diameter Hose, Hard-Suction, full ladder complement, pike poles, engineer tools/adapters/appliances, SCBAs with spare 45 minute bottles, Rescue Tools/Ropes, Preconnect handlines (1 3/4 & 2 1/2"), handlights, Scene lighting, fire extinguishers, safety cones, Gas powered Positive Pressure ventilation fan, pike poles, cribbing, NFPA Certified Combination Tanker/Pumper, Class A. Chains, Shovels, Brooms, Halligan, Spanner Wrenches and Axes.



## Tender 7

3,000 GL Tanker, Class "A" 1250 GPM Pumper, rescue tools, MedGear, LED Scene lighting, cribbing, safety cones, fire extinguishers, 300' Booster Reel, Remotely Operated 1 3/4" Bumper Mounted High Pressure Stream, 1 3/4" Bumper Mounted Jump-Line Pre-Connect, Pump- N- Roll Capability, Rearview Camera System, Remote Operated Swivel Dump Valve, 3,000 GL Husky Foldable Dump Tank, Rear Traffic Directional Safety Lighting System, Ladder complement, 4 SCBA with spare 45 minute bottles, FF Tools/ropes, chains, Pre-connect handlines (1 3/4 & 2 1/2"), 5' Storz Gated Master stream valve, 3,000 Watt Inverter System, 30 GL Foam Tank and proportionating system, Safety cones, fire extinguishers, safety vests, 800 ft of 5" Large Diameter Hose, Hard-Suction, pike poles, engineer tools/adapters/appliances, Chains, Shovels, Brooms, Axes, NFPA Certified Tender/Pumper Company.

# Station and Apparatus



## Heavy Rescue 7

70,000 Watt Elevated LED Scene lighting, Salvage/Overhaul; Med Gear, Rescue-Q-Jacks Heavy Stabilization Equipment System, On-Board 50KW Generator and Inverter, Hose reels (Electric and Hydraulic), Full set of Jaws of Life with Rams, Full Set of Low and Full Set of High Pressure Air Bags, Full USAR Set of cribbing, safety cones, fire extinguishers, FF Tools/ropes, Chains, Come-Along, safety vests, Rolled Hose, Pikepoles, HAZMAT Supplies & Gear, MCI Triage supplies, Chain Saw, SCBAs with Spare 45Min Bottles, Pro-Foam Pack, Floor Dry, K12 Rescue Saw, On Board External Air Supply (for Rescue Operations), Saws All Rescue tool and Windshield Glass Cutter, and tarps and PPE. Rear Traffic Directional Safety Lighting System



## BBQ 7

Portable Grill/Cooker, Community Outreach Unit. Used to further Fire Prevention efforts and Community well-being. Routinely used at the Boy Scout Camp for Community Outreach activities.



## Boat 7

## Noteworthy Events

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### Department Awards for 2022

Firefighter of the Year	John Hinson
Support Person of the Year	Katina Dunham
Officer of the Year	John Dunham
Hoser Award	Matt Perkins
Chief's Award	Michael Walden

### Training Events



Firefighter 1 Live Burn Training at Northwest Florida volunteer Weekend



State Fire Marshal Office Training



Vehicle Extrication Training

Public Education



Public Education Event at Caring & Sharing

Annual Santa Run

Public demonstration at the Spanish trail Scout  
Reservation

# District Finances

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## FY 22-23 – Year End

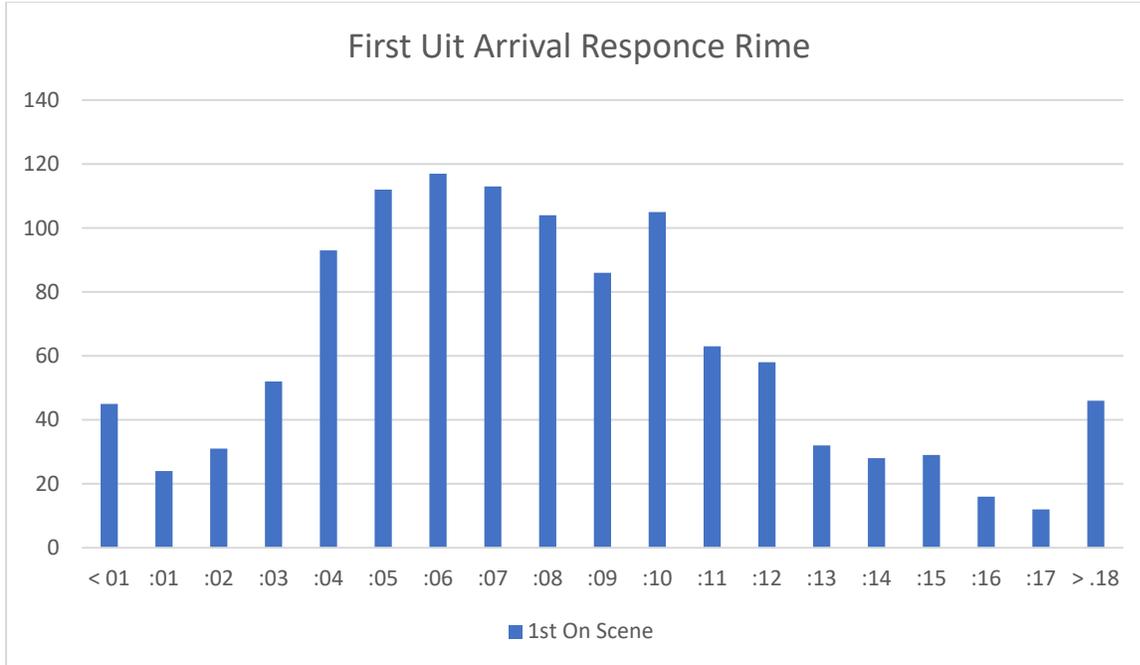
Plus Revenues: Taxes (MSBU)	\$178000
Impact Fees	\$5000
County Funds	\$125000
Interest	
Insurance Claims & Refunds	
Sale of fire truck	
Grants Donations	\$50000
Chelco credits	\$50
Total Revenues	\$358050

## FY23-24 Budget Proposed Revenues

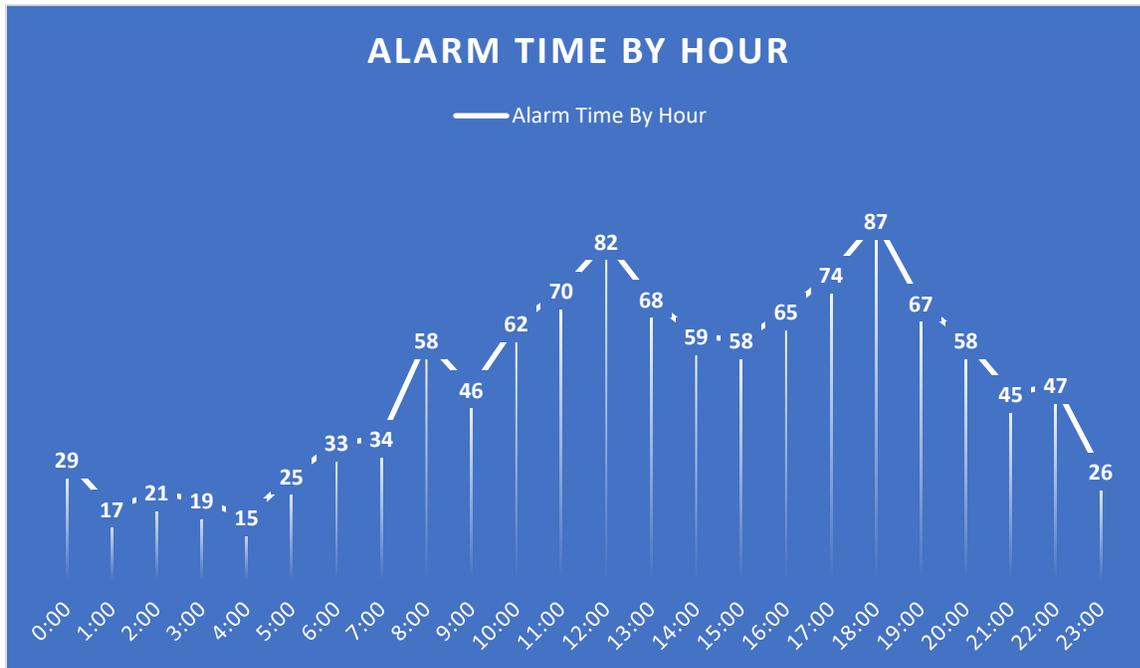
Plus Revenues: Taxes (MSBU)	\$176,000
Impact Fees	\$4,000
County Funds	\$125,000
Interest	
Insurance Claims & Refunds	
Sale of fire truck	
Grants Donations	\$150,000
Chelco credits	\$50
Total Revenues	\$477,050

## Selected Statistics

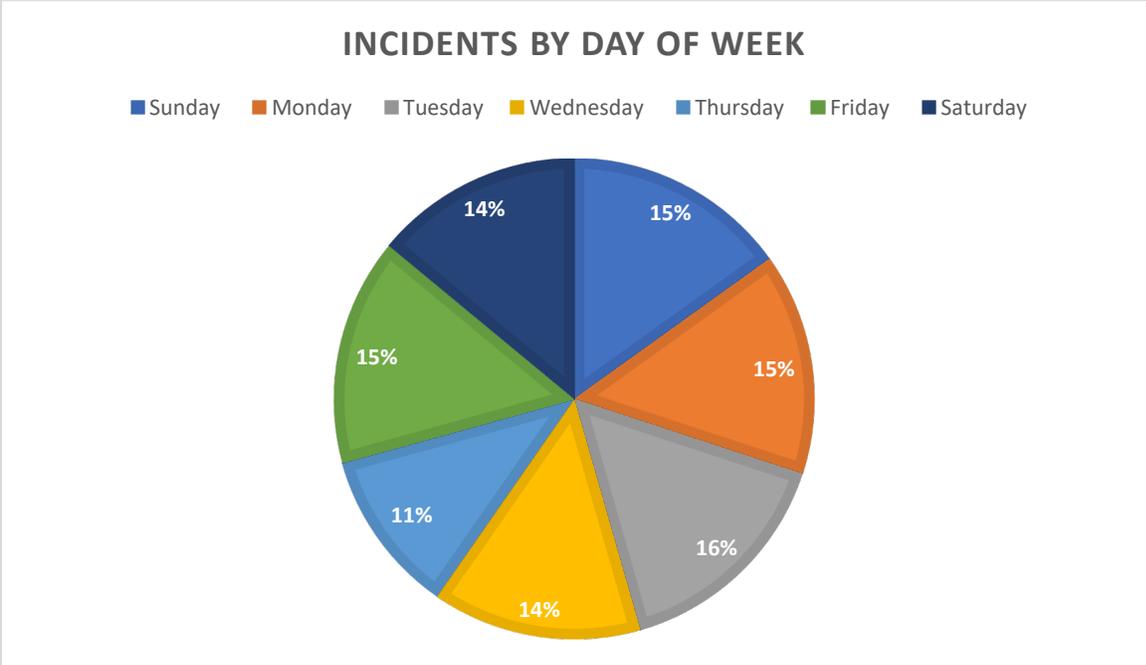
### 8:09 Minutes Average on Scene Time for 1<sup>st</sup> unit from Dispatch



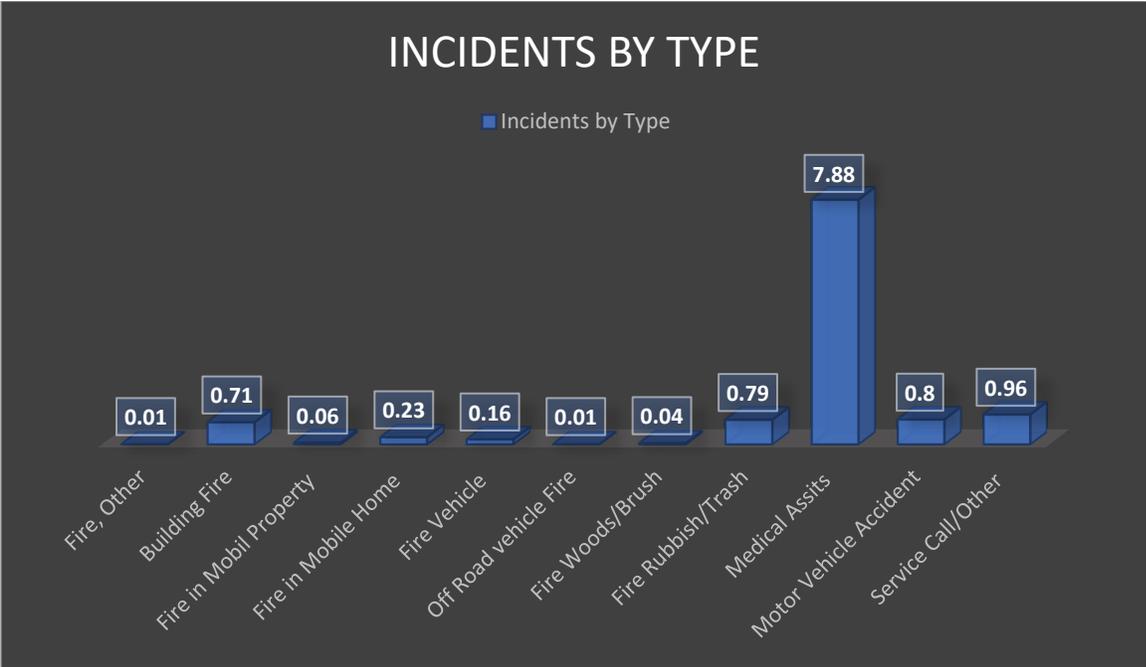
### Alarm Time by Hour of Day, 18:00 was LFD Busiest Hour



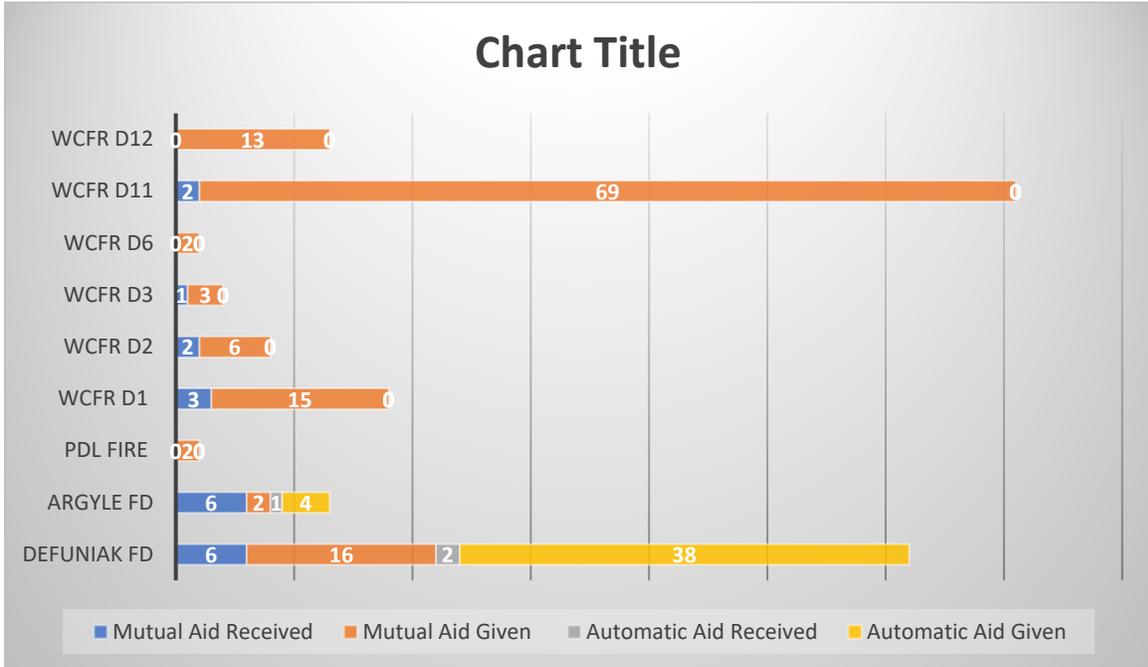
# Tuesday was the busiest day of the Week in FY 2023



## Incidents by Type of Incidents



**Aid Responses by Department/District, WCFR District 11 was provided the most Mutual Aid**



**LFD Performed 2214 Training Hours for Year FY2023**

