

Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District



Annual Report

2018

2018 MIHJFD Firefighters & EMS Personnel

Officers

Stephen Ashbrock, Chief (Paramedic)	2000
Clarence Smith, Captain	1973
Francisco Caceres, Captain (Paramedic)	2001
John Lynch, Captain (Paramedic)	2011
Kevin Scheuerman, Lieutenant (Paramedic)	2002
Patrick McCall, Lieutenant (Paramedic)	2010
Brandon Linne, Lieutenant (Paramedic)	2014

Members

Michael Benedic	1987
Doug Bingaman (Paramedic)	2007
Alex Brahm (Paramedic)	2017
Carrie Cayse (Paramedic)	1997
Brian Dapper (Paramedic)	2017
Jonathan Furbush (Paramedic)	2016
Jeff Glassmeyer (Paramedic)	2008
Dan Graham (Paramedic)	2010
Jordan Hall (Paramedic)	2012
Taylor Hester (Paramedic)	2015
Chris Higgins (Paramedic)	2006
Michael Hoying (Paramedic)	2012
Greg Lang (Paramedic)	1996
Drew Marston	2005
Sean Mesley (Paramedic)	2014
Joseph Meyer (Paramedic)	2017
Daniel Moeller (Paramedic)	2015
Dave Mohr	1980
Charlie Nurre (Paramedic)	2014
Luke Palmer (Paramedic)	2016
Dennis Parry	2002
Michael Posega (Paramedic)	2017
Toney Sanders (Paramedic)	2010
John Stager (Paramedic)	2006
Nick Stiens (Paramedic)	2015
Andrew Wickerham (Paramedic)	2014
Brian Willing (Paramedic)	1994
Ty Zimmerman (Paramedic)	2008
Dr. Phil Oblinger, Medical Advisor	1984

Total years of service with the Fire Department include:

Explorer, Junior Firefighter, Volunteer, Part time and Career time

Fire Department Administration

Personnel

In 2018, multiple personnel changes were encountered by the department.

Captain Smith retired in June 2018. He had faithfully, loyally and effectively served the JFD for 43 years.

The department promoted Lt. Francisco Caceres and Lt. John Lynch to the rank of Captain after a selection process.

The vacancies so created in the company officer position saw a Lieutenant's selection process and Pat McCall and Brandon Linne were promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to Units 2 and 3 respectively.

FF-P Sean Mesley resigned to take a position with the Sycamore Township FD. FF-P Charlie Nurre resigned to pursue private interests.

The department hired Griffin Drake, Taylor Hester and Sean McCarthy to fill the open FF-P full-time positions.

The department also had many changes in the part-time ranks as members decreased their hours with MIHJFD for full-time positions or to dedicate their available time to their full-time employment.

Resigning employment with MIHJFD were Jordan Hall, Luke Palmer, John Stager and Ty Zimmerman. Leaves of Absence were granted to three part-time employees who took full-time positions with other fire departments.

Retiring after just short of 31 years of service was Michael Benedic. We THANK Michael for his years of service!!!

These activities pointed to the developing shortage of available trained and certified personnel in our profession in the region. Many area fire departments were adjusting their approach to staffing and the few remaining training institutions in the area reported fewer students in their program.

Our authorized strength per shift is a total of eight. Our goal is to staff with eight FF-P per shift. We obtain such staffing with a combination of full-time and part-time employees.

Staffing variability increased in 2018 as is suggested by the multiple noted changes above. It is also germane to note that in 2016, we were able to cover 16,985 hours by part-time employee. This number had dropped to 13,856 in

2017 and the 2018 hours covered by part-time employees was 11,481. The goal would have been to cover 26,280 hours or three positions for 24 hours, every day of the year.

As a result of the many challenges in the employment environment, city planning, budget planning, changes in department eligibility requirements and hiring procedures set the stage for conversion of Position 6 (of 8) to full-time, as part of a plan to phase in full-time employees. The plan includes maintaining part-time employees as supplemental rather than required for a staffing level of eight.

The Safety Committees of both cities and the Board and Personnel Committees are monitoring the employment environment. A three-year plan to address the developing situation was advanced mid-2018. We moved to convert Position 6 from part-time to full-time as 2018 ended.

Safety in the Department -- Personnel

The department takes safety in the workplace seriously. Both stations are designed for focused fitness activity. With the new stations, this capability was made very effective.

We participate in WORKPLACE SAFETY programs with the Bureau of Worker's Compensation. We track workplace injuries.

During 2018, we were fortunate to have NO work-related injuries!

Safety in the Department -- Equipment

In 2018, we recorded seven incidents of vehicle/equipment damage.

In January, an ENGINE ran over a wheelchock and damaged the equipment.

In March, an ENGINE struck the station, with minimal damage.

In April, and again in June, an AMBULANCE was scraped against a fixed object and damaged.

In September, an ENGINE scarred landscaping on a run, a neighboring ENGINE also caused landscaping damage on a run and the Polaris UTV struck a tree in a clearance misjudgment.

These seven incidents are about an average of similar incidents over a long-term period. None involved injury and only one involved significant damage.

Budget

Overall spending for 2018 was 4.7% UNDER our operating budget. Salary and benefits savings were the most significant contributor. Several factors influenced these facts. Temporary reduction in full-time personnel was the principal contributor. The covered hours of part-time staff was at 62% of the budgeted amount.

On the income side of the ledger, interest income remains low. EMS user fees were as anticipated. EMS user fee collections are always in proportion to run volume and always subject to collection/payment cycles of our principal payer—Medicare. EMS user fees are credited to the cities each month.

Our union career employees received a 3% increase in hourly rates of pay in 2018, the second of the three-year term collective bargaining agreement. We increased our hourly rates for non-union employees to match. Based on budget review and evaluation of the BUDGET RESERVE maintained as planned by the JFD Board of Trustees, the District Board returned in the form of monthly credits \$175,000 for each city, Madeira and Indian Hill.

Capital purchases for 2018 included the final loan payment for our first-out/primary ENGINE. We purchased a LifePak 15 for this Engine to equip all potential first-due apparatus with this critical EMS equipment. We replaced our rescue lifting airbags that had reached the end of their safe-use life. Finally, from CAPITAL, we purchased ballistic vests to cover our personnel in the presence of potentially hostile and “gun or shooting” involved situations.

At the current level of demand for capital items, we are projecting that capital needs can be financed beyond the year 2024 at the current funding rate.

Training

Training continues to be a key element for the fire department. With effective training, our personnel not only meet the requirements for their certifications, but also maintain and enhance proficiency in their EMS and fire skills. In 2018, the MIHJFD had a total of 2,375 training hours. This represents a significant increase in overall training hours for the department.

We continued to use Centrelearn, the online training and management system. Centrelearn provides us with the opportunity to complement the hands-on sessions and lectures provided by the training division. We completed 772 hours of Centrelearn EMS and Fire training hours in 2018.

In 2018, the training division redesigned the fire apparatus operator training for our personnel. We moved from a combination of informal training and check

lists, to a formal program based on the IFSTA curriculum. Twenty-two percent of our training hours were dedicated to drivers' training. Firefighters Michael Posega and Michael Hoying obtained their certifications as Emergency Vehicle Instructors under a program designed by VFIS, our insurer. The emphasis of training in this area was indicated by the number of new employees serving in the role of fire apparatus operator and driving ambulance vehicles.

In keeping with the times, ACTIVE SHOOTER training was also a focus for all members of the department, including interaction and cooperation with our Police Departments.

We partnered with the Montgomery Fire Department and St. Bernard Fire Department to provide three days of live burn training at the Cincinnati Fire Department training tower. Eleven members participated in live fire operation training for a total of 41 hours of live fire training.

In May 2018, Laerdal came to MIHJFD to train four of our instructors on the operations of the SIM man, Kelly. This was an 8-hour training and included operations of the mannequin and programming of the computer that runs the simulations. With the completion of this training, the department was able to take full advantage of this EMS oriented training, that has the capability of using the ruggedized training mannequin in rescue scenarios. This equipment, which otherwise would not have been budget supported, was purchased with the use of ENDOWMENT FUND monies.

We certified four members of the department as ACLS (Advance Life Support) Instructors. We also affiliated with Premier Health as our new Training Center for ACLS and CPR. As we certified ACLS Instructors, we trained all of our Paramedics in ACLS, renewing their certifications.

We have begun the re-structuring of the essential skills set (ESS) to adapt to the new layout and potential of the Indian Hill station. We will resume the skills in 2019. The ESS is used to encourage and demonstrate on-going fitness levels for our personnel.

MIHJFD has been a leader in the development of a formal "after-action" review process. Whenever a significant fire occurs to which we respond, all units involved in the response, MIHJFD or neighboring, are sent a set of focused questions right after the incident to collect the comments of those responding. MIHJFD had two such reviewed incidents during 2018. This process has been very effective in increasing operational cooperation between and among our neighbors, on whom we rely regularly.

EMS Billing

In 2018, we completed our 13th full year of EMS billing. Begun in June of 2005, amounts collected were originally credited to the city in which the EMS run originated. By agreement between the two cities, beginning in 2015, EMS revenues derived from runs to the two cities are equally credited, 50/50.

EMS billing policy for the Fire District follows national trends and credits RESIDENTS of the DISTRICT for the taxes they pay, billing for insured amounts only for these residents.

In 2018, we collected approximately \$238,000 in EMS revenues. This amount is approximately \$8,000 more than in the previous year. This full amount was used to reduce the contract costs to Madeira and Indian Hill as direct savings to the general funds of both cities.

In terms of city budgets for the JFD, EMS revenues represent a recoup of roughly 6.5% of costs for Fire and EMS services for each city.

Community Outreach

The Joint Fire District publishes a bi-annual newsletter that is mailed to every address in the Fire District, commercial and residential. We have been engaged in this activity for nearly 80 years.

The evolution of the newsletter has reflected improved technologies in computers, software packages for publishing etc. We have moved from one-color to three-color to multi-color. We are very aware that the newsletter draws attention because we receive telephone calls even before the current edition has been received at the station addresses. We utilize a contract printer/mailer and construct the layout ourselves, at a cost savings.

We utilize the newsletter to provide the schedule of our meetings, deliver stories of interest from a fire department point of view and to promote fire and life safety messages to our citizens.

The JFD maintains a website at MIHJFD.ORG. This website is maintained in-house at no additional cost to the JFD. We surveyed the content of our website for its USEFULNESS, predicting questions about which you might go to the website for answers.

As a result, we added some additional information to the site content, but otherwise, feel that the site is simply laid out, easily navigable and contains the answers to the proverbial 'frequently asked questions'. We conducted an audit of our website against the websites of other fire department similarly situated.

Through that process, we will be adding some additional information to the website.

We are aware that we had over 12,800 visits by about 8,041 unique visitors in 2018. They did not spend much time on the website and accessed it most frequently by direct address connection.

We maintain a FACEBOOK page. We have developed a “censure” policy and posted it to the page to control the appropriateness of discourse. We post infrequently. Posted material is self-promoting and on occasion, a timely safety reminder or message. Our experience with the FACEBOOK page has only been positive.

Insurance Service Office Review

The MIHJFD was site visited by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) in 2017 and a review of our operation placed us solidly with a Class Rating of 3. In the report that supported that rating, we challenged the calculation for AUTOMATIC AID, the net result of which was an increase in credit for company personnel and a decrease in the divergence factor, both of which improve the overall points for the JFD. This reduction (a good thing....) was, however not sufficient enough to change the Class Rating of 3. Our point was made to ISO, nonetheless for the next rating. This review and update occurred early in 2018.

Fire Department Operations

Responses of the department are categorized under the major headings of “Fire” or “Emergency Medical Services”, labeled “EMS”.

Activity levels and a categorization of incident type under the major headings are included in this report in chart or graph format. The activity level of the department for the past ten years is presented in graph format.

Overall, there was a marked increase in total run activity for the department in 2018. We made 1,767 Fire and EMS runs in 2018, 626 Fire Runs and 1,141 EMS Runs. (The combined total of Fire and EMS runs for the JFD in 2017 was 1,577, 513 Fire Runs and 1,064 EMS Runs.)

This variation is notable, but within an expected range of activity for the last decade. Over the years, the impact of various factors contributes to annual experience. Variations in the runs made to long-term care facilities as well as the District in general, cyclic in nature over the years, is one identifiable factor. Storm occurrences trigger an increase in alarms. There were two short storm events in 2018 that increased fire alarm frequency.

We continue our relationship with our neighboring jurisdictions in an “automatic aid” arrangement through which we respond to certain of their incidents and them to ours. Such an arrangement for FIRE incidents generally is limited to reports of structure fires and major incidents. EMS assistance is provided principally when multiple simultaneous demand occurs. Overall, we receive the benefit of such assistance more often than we are asked to provide the same for FIRE and the exchange of assistance for EMS is about even.

A listing of the fire incidents where the loss was greater than \$1000 is included. The number of such incidents occurring each year remains relatively low, despite total run numbers. In 2018, the incidents with loss greater than \$1000 totaled five. Three of these incidents were fires extending from room and contents to the structure, one was a “room and contents” fire and one was a vehicle fire.

Standard of Cover

This term is used to describe the usual or average daily staffing of a department, or to answer the question, “how many persons will be available to respond to the fire incident”.

Since July 2006, we have been authorized to staff at eight per shift. At the same time, we added the services of a “part-time” class of employees and altered our rules and procedures for coverage by those employees formerly called “paid-on-call”, now “Class III” employees. With all these changes, it was our intent to strengthen on-duty staffing. Until recently, this has been achieved.

As background --- we schedule Class I (full-time) employees but provide for them paid-time-off that reduces their on-duty coverage. For Class II employees, we regularly schedule these employees for a 12-hour every-third-day, or a 24-hour every-sixth-day rotation. Our Class III employees work on an "availability" basis.

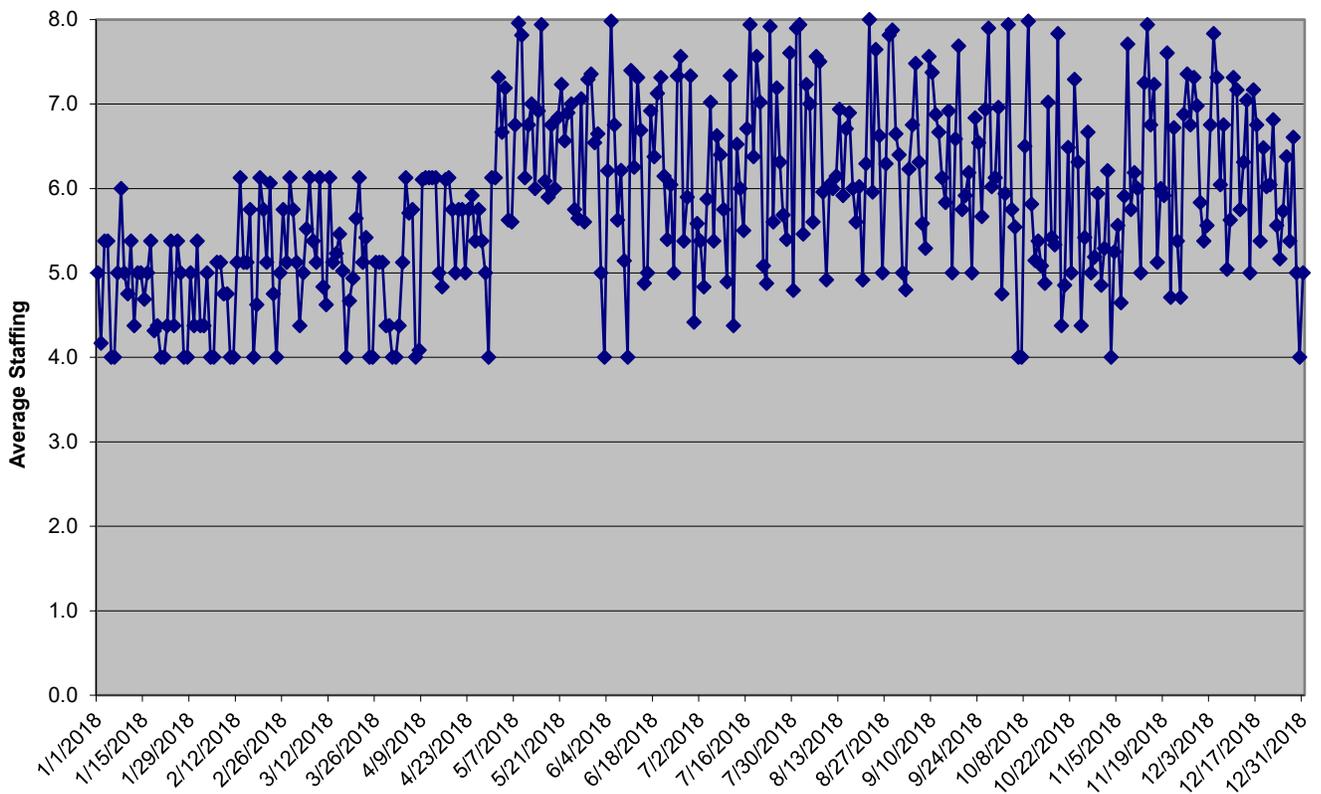
As recent history for MIHJFD: In 2016/2017, we lost three employees to the Cincinnati Fire Department. Cincinnati hired 80 new employees during the year and most of them came from suburban departments like MIHJFD. To replace these full-time employees we hired Joe Meyer, Mike Posega and Brian Dapper. Despite this, we had a reliable corps of part-time Class II and Class III employees on which to draw to fill shifts toward eight.

Cincinnati FD hired 40 additional persons, taking most from the ranks of suburban departments, making worse the growing shortage of trained/qualified personnel around the region. This shortage set up a cascade of conversion of part-time positions to full-time, albeit a shortage of part-time applicants from which to draw.

As a result, hiring in neighboring departments also took its toll on our part-time ranks as we also lost five part-time employees to full-time departments in the area.

The staffing in 2018 showed marked variability. The shortage and competition for qualified employees, both for full-time and part-time positions has become acute.

2018 Average Career Staffing (24x7)



Our part-time coverage, intended to fill Positions 6, 7 and 8 on the daily staffing schedule continued to decline in 2018. In 2016, we covered 16,958 of the 26,280 needed hours. In 2017 we covered 13,856 of these hours and in 2018, we covered only 11,481 of the hours needed for full coverage.

With the return to two station operations in 2017, short and variable staffing became a more glaring situation. As we engaged in a full-time hiring process and sought to replace part-time employees, the area-wide lack of qualified candidates contributed to staffing levels at MIHJFD that are not acceptable. The Personnel Committee and the city Safety Committees reviewed research and discussion guides with the JFD and as the year ended, a strategy to improve our situation in the staffing environment is under way.

Average Turnout per incident

We have used the capabilities of the Computer-Assisted Dispatch (CAD) system of the County Communication Center to automatically dispatch additional resources from our neighbors. Our neighbors are utilizing the same capability for the same reason, so you may have noted an increase in mutual aid received in recent years. Our orchestrated cooperation, coordination and collaboration with our neighbors serves as a “staff-multiplier” for all with rarely realized risk. See additional remarks under “Mutual Aid”.

National Standards describe the “full first-alarm response” for a working structure fire as being composed of 15 on-scene firefighters, arriving within eight minutes of dispatch for structures 2,500 sq. ft. in size and less. At the present time, with full staff, we only deliver about 50% of this number from on-duty MIHJFD staff.

The capability of the CAD system and internal procedures are in place to address this shortcoming. Even though the firefighters needed to meet the national standard are coming from a farther distance, they are being dispatched at the same time we receive the run, thanks to the capabilities of the CAD and dispatch procedures.

National standards increase the first-alarm response to 24 on-scene firefighters within eight minutes of dispatch for structures in excess of 2500 sq. ft. This is a very common structure size in the JFD.

Our response to structure fires in the fire district in 2018 showed a first-alarm response of an average of 24 firefighters to the involved incidents.

Concurrent Runs

Concurrent or simultaneous runs are an important indicator of demand for service. Analysis of such data helps focus discussion on resources and procedures. We have been tracking simultaneous runs since 2000. Concurrent runs can involve any combination of Fire and EMS-type runs.

Over many years, the incidence of concurrent runs has varied between 10% and 14%. In 2018, we have experienced a higher than expected incidence of concurrent runs and our closest calculation indicates a 20% (369/1,796) 2018 experience.

Indications are that concurrent runs to our nursing facilities are a major contributing factor. Concurrent run experience is a most important factor when staffing is lower and variable. Concurrent runs are also impacted by our mutual aid activity---a factor that would increase the incidence of concurrent runs.

We maintain this section of our annual report, so as not to lose this very important aspect of our operations, planning and cooperation with our neighbors, by design.

Mutual / Automatic Aid

Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District participates with all area fire departments in a mutual aid agreement. Our experience with mutual aid is presented in an accompanying graph in this report.

The 2018 experience shows a continuing trend in the importance of mutual aid for us and our neighbors with whom we exchange such services. This trend is clearly explainable by the effective implementation of the Computer-Assisted Dispatch (CAD) system of the Hamilton County Communications Center. The CAD facilitates automatic dispatch of neighboring companies for defined situations. This capability benefits Madeira and Indian Hill JFD as much as it causes our increased response to neighboring communities.

Analysis of our 2018 experience with mutual aid offers the following observations: our FIRE mutual aid activity primarily involves Deer Park-Silverton, Sycamore, Montgomery, Little Miami and Milford. The balance between aid given and received is essentially as has been the past experience with minor variability. Overall, for Fire, we received more mutual aid than we provided in 2017.

For EMS, mutual aid given was higher than mutual aid received for the third year in a row. This is despite the incidence of concurrent runs. We often had sufficient staff and ambulance for a backup or "M265" run---to our credit. Our predominant EMS mutual aid activity is with Sycamore Township, Montgomery and Deer Park-Silverton. We continue to monitor mutual aid, acknowledging the fact that we need to both give to and receive assistance from our neighbors.

EMS Operations

Response to EMS runs occupies a larger percentage of time and accounts for the greater number of emergency response incidents in all fire departments across the nation today. Madeira and Indian Hill Joint Fire District is no exception. In comparison to fire incident response—when often we find a “false alarm” – in EMS responses, nearly 100% of the time, we are met with a sick or injured person.

The response of four persons is the intended response level on all but prescribed EMS responses. Attention to patient care is not compromised by this level of response and logistical problems presented by the situation (moving furniture, moving the patient, taking care of worried family members, etc.) can be handled quickly by the crew of four. The EMS response is from both stations to best address response time. Our fire engine is equipped for advanced first response, the same as an ambulance (transport) vehicle.

The EMS first response in Indian Hill is made in a pick-up style truck to improve efficiency, effectiveness and economy, when staffing is full at both stations. This approach generates best efficiency in costs and response times. This vehicle, when used, has the same level of EMS equipment.

An important element of our EMS operations is the review of our performance and documentation through routine run review strategies. “QA” for adherence to medical protocols for treatment, documentation of procedures and drug administration, monitoring response times, etc. are all hallmarks of a quality EMS delivery system. A concentrated effort to conduct a QA review of ALL patient care reports has been formally in effect since 2012. Runs were evaluated for compliance to treatment protocols and for documentation of such. This approach far exceeds our requirements for QA under Academy of Medicine guidelines. As 2018 ended, automatic access to EMS run patient care reports for our Medical Director review and comment was in place.

In 2018, about 67% of our EMS runs resulted in a patient transport by EMS. The vast majority of our patients are transported to either Jewish (45%) or Bethesda North (35%). Christ, University and Children’s transports round out the top five. EMS run activity occurs around the clock, with a peak between 1000 and 1800 hours, (51%).

Overall, the number of EMS runs in 2018 was up by 77 runs. A marked increase in runs to one of the two NURSING FACILITIES in the JFD was most likely to have accounted for the increase. We are monitoring this situation as we anticipate the opening of a third related facility in the JFD.

Medical Direction and Oversight

Madeira and Indian Hill Joint Fire District's EMS operates under the auspices of our Medical Director, Phil Oblinger, MD, who is also a resident of the district. We utilize the medical treatment protocols of the Cincinnati Academy of Medicine.

The Academy of Medicine periodically visits those units for which it has granted permission to operate under the protocol for the county. We are such a unit and have been since our initial use of advanced life support (paramedic level) protocols in the early 1980's. We received our most recent Academy of Medicine approval on November 18, 2013. This site-visit assessment is made by an Academy of Medicine team every five years. As 2018 closed, in concert with Dr. Oblinger, we are recruiting a new Medical Director, as he has announced his intent to retire. Additionally, we expect an Academy of Medicine site visit to be scheduled at any time in early 2019.

Pre-Planning

The District actively engages our environment by pre-planning approaches to emergencies and collecting pertinent data that may mitigate the impact should one occur. This has traditionally been done for years in commercial and industrial occupancies, where the interface with the occupant is initiated at the time of fire inspection. Recently, we have reached out to the owner/occupant of private residences, with positive response.

Originally done on paper and stored in our vehicles in binders, computers in our apparatus have moved our ability to update and make available these "pre-plans" with more efficiency. A few years ago we made advances in standardizing the format and information contained in these pre-plans through a software purchase and in 2015, we cleaned up some problems in inconsistent versions of pre-plans in the various reference sources. We now have information on over 200 occupancies in the JFD.

Greatest value of this information comes with integration of its availability on a response vehicles' MDC. We continue efforts to make work an otherwise out of date data backbone in the county with varying degrees of success.

Water Supply Strategies

The Fire District continues to work with the water providers --- Indian Hill or Cincinnati to improve available fire flows whenever possible. Our initial goal has been to eliminate any fire flow situations that provide less than 500 gallons per minute available. After a formal review of water supply strategies---operations changes, hose laying policies, mutual aid, firefighting foam, etc. we are engaged in efforts to make changes to maximize all resources we can to improve our water for firefighting situations.

The district maintains 1,481 hydrants on a bi-annual basis. This is an increase in installed hydrants that occurred as a result of the water main work described above. Summer maintenance includes lubrication and functionality, while the fall maintenance focus is aimed at limiting freezing in the winter.

In 2018, we participated in periodic flow testing with the Indian Hill Water Department and we have begun the arduous task of synchronizing hydrant data for exact match of addressing and the update of those hydrants that are regarded as PRIVATE HYDRANTS. As 2018 closed, we had communicated with and flow tested over 125 of the approximately 177 private fire hydrants in the JFD. Including the private hydrants with the “regular” hydrants will continue into 2019.

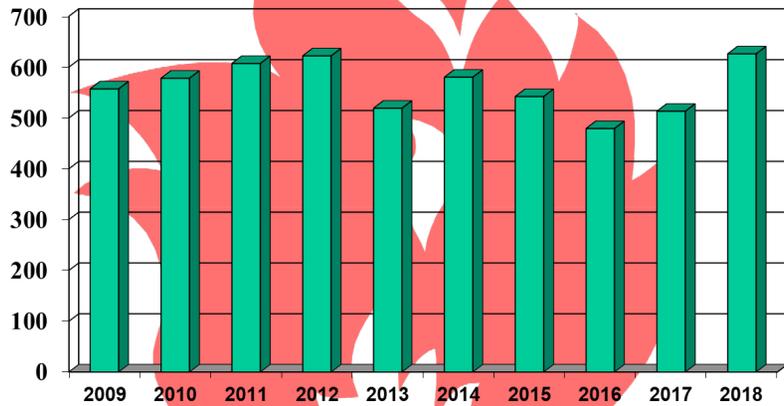
Operations Charts and Graphs

Additional information is contained in subsequent charts and graphs:

- 10 Year History: Fire Responses per year
- 10 Year History: EMS responses per year
- Fire Incident, by location, 2018
- EMS Incident, by location, 2018
- Mutual Aid Given and Received, by city, for FIRE incident
- Mutual Aid Given and Received, by city, for EMS incident

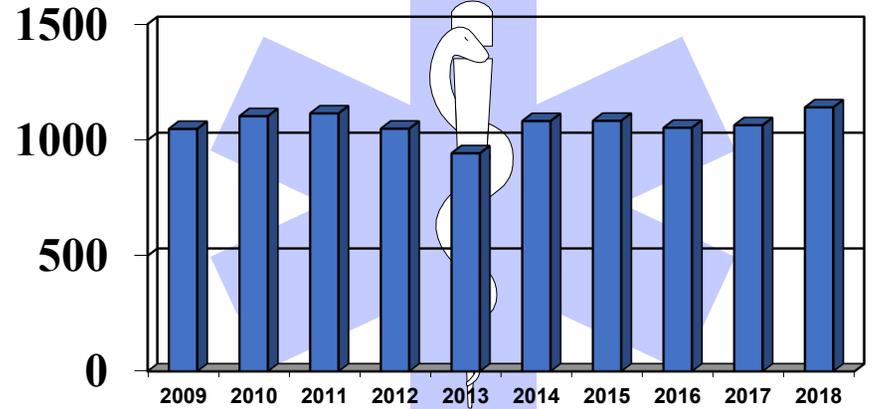
Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District 2018 Fire and EMS Statistics

10 Year Fire Runs



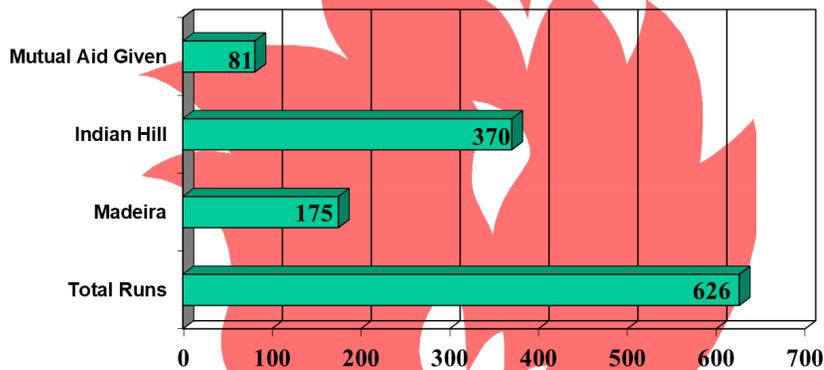
2018: 626 runs

10 Year EMS Runs

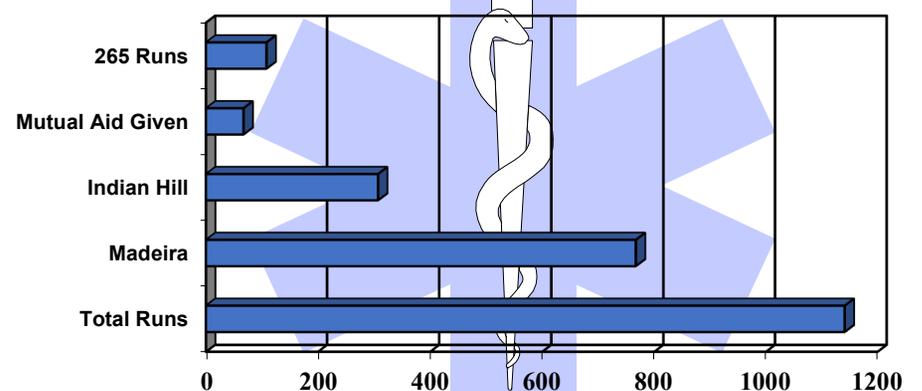


2018: 1141 runs

2018 Fire, by location



2018 EMS, by location



Mutual Aid 2018 & (2017)

Given	Department	Received
0(0)	Anderson Twp	1(1)
7 (1)	Blue Ash	0(0)
14 (13)	Deer Park-Silverton	4(9)
0(3)	Golf Manor	0(0)
4 (3)	Little Miami	0(2)
1(1)	Loveland Symmes	11(7)
3(1)	Mariemont	4(6)
7(4)	Montgomery	8(11)
0(0)	Sharonville	0(1)
27(30)	Sycamore Township	30(15)
0(1)	Terrace Park	0(0)

Mutual Aid 2018 & (2017)

Given	Department	Received
0 (0)	Anderson Township	5 (1)
1 (0)	Blue Ash	4 (0)
19 (21)	Deer Park Silverton JFD	9 (7)
0 (1)	Golf Manor	0 (0)
6 (5)	Little Miami J FD	13 (2)
4 (1)	Loveland Symmes	18 (5)
6 (5)	Mariemont	15 (10)
10 (7)	Milford	8 (1)
6 (4)	Montgomery	17 (15)
0 (0)	Sharonville	0 (2)
21 (16)	Sycamore Township	22 (8)
1 (2)	Terrace Park	0 (0)

Fire Losses Greater Than or Equal to \$1,000

Date	District	Alarm Time	Situation Found	Location	Loss
24 Feb 18	IND	1129	Structure	6748 Camaridge Pl	\$4,500
28 Sep 18	MAD	1741	Structure	7340 N Mingo Ln	\$80,000
28 Oct 18	MAD	1929	Vehicle	7950 Hosbrook Rd	\$5,000
10 Nov 18	IND	1751	Structure	6850 Tupelo Ln	\$80,000
12 Nov 18	MAD	1131	Cooking Fire	6930 Miami Av	\$6,500



2018 Hospital Transport Distribution



Destination	Count
Jewish Hospital Kenwood	345
Bethesda North	265
The Christ Hospital	63
The University Hospital	42
Cincinnati Childrens Hospital	28
Tri-Health Good Samaritan	8
Mercy Hospital - Anderson	4
UC Health Psychiatric	2
VA Medical Center	1

758 of 1141 EMS runs resulted in transport

Fire Prevention and Public Education

Inspections

Inspections are done by shift personnel throughout the year. The District has enjoyed very good cooperation by our corporate and business citizens in our inspection program.

Inspections are an important aspect of fire prevention and one of the effective ways that our personnel become familiar with the occupancies in our response district.

In 2018, nearly 100% of our 385 occupancies were inspected. Our goal is to inspect each “eligible” (non-single-family-residential occupancies) each year. Overall, there were 635 occupancy inspection activities (initial and re-inspection) for the department in 2018. This activity level is significantly greater than in the previous years. Increased monitoring and data collection in this area of FD activity and the closer supervision of effort on the units accounts for this change—important as the FD units get out and into occupancies to which they respond.

The most common violations found during our inspections were egress illumination failures, fire extinguisher maintenance neglect, unapproved electrical fixtures, use of extension cords in place of more permanent wiring and inside storage accumulations.

Plan Review

Plan reviews are conducted by fire inspectors for any remodeling or new construction in commercial buildings. During plan reviews, means of egress, emergency lighting and general life safety issues are examined. Plan review activity in 2018 was slightly higher than in 2017, as an increase in building activity has been noticed in the JFD. Major projects included continuation of the TRADITIONS residential project in Madeira, building remodels at First Watch and C-Bank, final phases of construction at Cincinnati Country Day School and several private residence projects.

Such plan reviews are an important way in which the FD assures compliance with fire codes in building projects. It is perhaps more importantly an opportunity for the fire department to provide input on discretionary features of buildings that improve access, evacuation etc.

Tank Inspections

The Fire District conducted thirteen combustible or flammable liquid storage tank removal or installation inspections in 2018. The distribution of these inspections was as follows: four inspections involved the installation of tanks for propane, seven involved

the removal of tanks--- 4 having contained heating oil and three containing propane. Two tanks, having contained home heating oil were approved for “in place” closure. In general, home heating oil tanks are being removed. The trend is toward propane for home heating where natural gas is not an option in the Fire District. As Duke Energy extends natural gas main access East and West on Indian Hill Road, it is anticipated that the incidence of tank removal will increase for the short term.

These tank inspections are regulated by the “Ohio Fire Code” and the locally adopted “Southwest Ohio Fire Safety Council Unified Fire Code”.

Fireworks Permitting

The Fire Department is the local regulator of fireworks activities in the communities. Each display of fireworks is state regulated and requires a local permit, as authorized by both the (authority having jurisdictions) Fire and Police Chiefs.

There were five fireworks permits issued in 2018, two in Madeira and three in Indian Hill. There were minimal formal complaints about the permitted events. Both communities utilize several methods to alert citizens to the issuance of permits and announcing the date and time of displays.

Tent permits

Similarly, Fire and Zoning codes provide for the issuance of PERMITS for the erection and use of TENTS that are larger than 400 square feet.

In 2018, 44 tent permits were issued. Beside the review of the location on a property on which the tent will be set up by ZONING officials, these tents receive an on-site inspection of the tent, in situ and set up, usually occurring on weekends, by fire department officials.

Public Education

Programs to improve fire and life safety awareness and knowledge for our citizens were held throughout the year at area nursing homes, schools, day care facilities and at “public” locations. Fire prevention and injury prevention have evolved to become intrinsic to the Fire Department mission.

We have continued to target public information relative to “access” for emergency response. We promote the use of 911 for emergency access – it is taught countrywide to all ages. We market and install the reflective address signs. We promote removing overhead obstructions and narrow gateways that prohibit access for fire trucks and ambulances. An increasing number of gated properties have installed FD access switches.

In 2018, we conducted CPR/Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) classes for citizens and employees working in the JFD. In 2018, we held a quarterly CPR class and posted the availability through the methods for public access in both Madeira and Indian Hill. These classes filled within two days of posting and were very popular. Fifty-seven citizens were trained in this manner in 2018.

There are 42 known AED's in the Joint Fire District. Our personnel make an effort to include inspection of an AED when they encounter one at a business during fire inspections.

We conducted more than two dozen fire station tours for various community groups—often including focused safety information—especially for the school groups that visited. Safety talk opportunities included neighborhood block parties, babysitter, library, Scout merit badge and citizenship activities, Heimlich maneuver training for a restaurant staff and the Madeira Safety Camp, held each summer.

We conducted fire extinguisher training for two commercial occupancies during 2018.

Neighborhood "block parties" have become a popular event in the area and the fire department frequently receives an invitation to attend. We take the opportunity to speak with residents about our operations, equipment and fire safety topics.

The inspection of car safety seats for children has become an issue in the child safety industry. Activity of this type is consistent with the department mission of injury prevention. The department has members trained in evaluation and inspection of child safety seat installations and provides consulting services and inspections for parents on an appointment basis. The service is provided best when a citizen makes an appointment. In late April of 2018, we held an "open house" for cars seats and experienced reasonable community activity.

In the year 2018, 158 such inspections were done—an increase in such activity compared with recent years. Seventy (equivalent to 60%) of the citizens for whom this service was done are residents of the Joint Fire District.

Since the inception of this program in 2000, over 2,100 car seat inspections/installations have been done by MIHJFD personnel. We currently have six employees specifically trained for this community service and injury prevention activity. The program continues to provide the citizens of Madeira and Indian Hill with full support for child safety in the proper use, installation of and education of car safety seats.

Indian Hill and Madeira Community Leaders Groups

The Fire Department participates in the periodic community leader forums for both of our communities. Attended by the respective school, church and civic leaders, the meetings provide an opportunity to share information and establish important relationships.

Fire Prevention and Public Education

Information updated with exception of car seat and Fireworks permitting.

Inspections

Inspections are done by shift personnel throughout the year. The District has enjoyed very good cooperation by our corporate and business citizens in our inspection program.

Inspections are an important aspect of fire prevention and one of the effective ways that our personnel become familiar with the occupancies in our response district.

In 2019, nearly 100% of our 385 occupancies were inspected. Our goal is to inspect each “eligible” (non-single-family-residential occupancies) each year. Overall, there were 504 occupancy inspection activities (initial and re-inspection) for the department in 2019.

The most common violations found during our inspections were egress illumination failures, fire extinguisher maintenance neglect, unapproved electrical fixtures, use of extension cords in place of more permanent wiring and inside storage accumulations.

Plan Review

Plan reviews are conducted by fire inspectors for any remodeling or new construction in commercial buildings. During plan reviews, means of egress, emergency lighting and general life safety issues are examined. Major projects included continuation of the TRADITIONS residential project in Madeira, construction of the Indian Hill Home of The Brave facility, and other miscellaneous remodels and additions.

Such plan reviews are an important way in which the FD assures compliance with fire codes in building projects. It is perhaps more importantly an opportunity for the fire department to provide input on discretionary features of buildings that improve access, evacuation etc.

Tank Inspections

The Fire District conducted eleven combustible or flammable liquid storage tank removal or installation inspections in 2019. The distribution of these inspections included removal of fuel oil tanks due to changes in fuel utilized by the homeowner, tanks that are “abandoned in place” due to obstacles of removal, and installation of additional tanks required for increased fuel demand.

These tank inspections are regulated by the “Ohio Fire Code” and the locally adopted “Southwest Ohio Fire Safety Council Unified Fire Code”.

Fireworks Permitting

The Fire Department is the local regulator of fireworks activities in the communities. Each display of fireworks is state regulated and requires a local permit, as authorized by both the (authority having jurisdictions) Fire and Police Chiefs.

There were five fireworks permits issued in 2018, two in Madeira and three in Indian Hill. There were minimal formal complaints about the permitted events. Both communities utilize several methods to alert citizens to the issuance of permits and announcing the date and time of displays.

Tent permits

Similarly, Fire and Zoning codes provide for the issuance of PERMITS for the erection and use of TENTS that are larger than 400 square feet.

In 2019, 34 tent permits were issued. Beside the review of the location on a property on which the tent will be set up by ZONING officials, these tents receive an on-site inspection of the tent, in situ and set up, usually occurring on weekends, by fire department officials.

Public Education

Programs to improve fire and life safety awareness and knowledge for our citizens were held throughout the year at area nursing homes, schools, day care facilities and at “public” locations. Fire prevention and injury prevention have evolved to become intrinsic to the Fire Department mission.

We have continued to target public information relative to “access” for emergency response. We promote the use of 911 for emergency access – it is taught countrywide to all ages. We market and install the reflective address signs. We promote removing overhead obstructions and narrow gateways that prohibit access for fire trucks and ambulances. An increasing number of gated properties have installed FD access switches.

In 2019, we conducted CPR/Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) classes for citizens and employees working in the JFD. In 2019, we held a quarterly CPR class and posted the availability through the methods for public access in both Madeira and Indian Hill. These classes filled within two days of posting and were very popular. Fifty-four citizens were trained in this manner in 2019 with an additional 71 others being trained within the school and transportation services.

There are 42 known AED's in the Joint Fire District. Our personnel make an effort to include inspection of an AED when they encounter one at a business during fire inspections.

We conducted more than thirty five fire station tours for various community groups—often including focused safety information—especially for the school groups that visited. Safety talk opportunities included neighborhood block parties, babysitter, library, Scout merit badge and citizenship activities, Heimlich maneuver training for a restaurant staff and the Madeira Safety Camp, held each summer.

We conducted fire extinguisher training for two commercial occupancies during 2019.

Neighborhood "block parties" have become a popular event in the area and the fire department frequently receives an invitation to attend. We take the opportunity to speak with residents about our operations, equipment and fire safety topics.

The inspection of car safety seats for children has become an issue in the child safety industry. Activity of this type is consistent with the department mission of injury prevention. The department has members trained in evaluation and inspection of child safety seat installations and provides consulting services and inspections for parents on an appointment basis. The service is provided best when a citizen makes an appointment. In late April of 2018, we held an "open house" for cars seats and experienced reasonable community activity.

In the year 2018, 158 such inspections were done—an increase in such activity compared with recent years. Seventy (equivalent to 60%) of the citizens for whom this service was done are residents of the Joint Fire District.

Since the inception of this program in 2000, over 2,100 car seat inspections/installations have been done by MIHJFD personnel. We currently have six employees specifically trained for this community service and injury prevention activity. The program continues to provide the citizens of Madeira and Indian Hill with full support for child safety in the proper use, installation of and education of car safety seats.

Indian Hill and Madeira Community Leaders Groups

The Fire Department participates in the periodic community leader forums for both of our communities. Attended by the respective school, church and civic leaders, the meetings provide an opportunity to share information and establish important relationships.

Logistics

Facilities

As 2018 closed, we had the benefit of occupying and operating from two modern fire stations. Each and every day, the benefits afforded the Joint Fire District were realized by having the facilities to logistically support the emergent response of fire engines and ambulances, house the personnel to staff these vehicles, provide for the fitness of personnel, support the JFD administratively, train firefighter-paramedics in a class room and “hands-on” environment, effectively maintain equipment and fire apparatus, educate the public on various aspects of fire and life safety and provide for the meeting of our Board and its operating committees. The fire stations have become community landmarks and of a prominence in which we hope that the citizens we serve are proud.

A special and continuing THANKS to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thomas, whose significant donation funded this reality.

Our new facilities have not been without several continuing issues that were important during 2018.

Continuing as issues are the following items: 1) The indoor air quality monitoring system at the Indian Hill station does not perform as envisioned. The design engineers are working on this project with the architects. 2) The floor drains at the Indian Hill Station are inconsistent in their outflow. The design engineers and architects have prescribed a proposed solution that is anticipated in the spring. 3) The intelligibility of the fire bay PA system is less than desirable at both stations. We are awaiting a change in the county alerting system to evaluate improvement pending action by the installer. 4) The concrete surfaces at both stations are spalling dramatically. This issue is still developing and a meeting(s) are expected soon to outline a solution to this item. 5) Slow flow through bay drains at Station 64.

We also pay close attention to the operation and maintenance of these facilities. Our staff has demonstrated pride in our facilities by paying attention to the details of housekeeping. We monitor utility costs, conscious of the fact that modern and expanded facilities have plusses and minuses as technology becomes a key aspect of our organization and emergency response. As examples: telephone capability has expanded and improved---and at an increased cost. Television feeds, that used to be provided without charge, are now an expense and the improved and proper lighting of the stations utilizes motion sensors to reduce costs the costs of the improvements. Current law requires station alarm monitoring of new systems that were previously non-existent.

We have evaluated the strategic and financial impact of the residency “requirement” for the Fire Chief and the provision of a residential structure to facilitate this requirement and expectation. The Board is moving in a direction to NOT provide a RESIDENCE in which the Fire Chief would be required to live.

Maintenance Summary

Management of the maintenance of the ten Fire Department vehicles is being accomplished by a team, of which each of the three department units has at least one member.

Though some of the repairs to our equipment are accomplished in house, increasing complexity of electrical control systems and inaccessibility of the serviceable components have begun to dictate referrals for service to authorized dealers.

Maintenance costs decreased in 2018 by 14% but overall remains 174% over budget. Our Aerial/Quint was the most expensive to repair in 2018. The Quint required repair of the stabilizer components leading to increased expenditures that were unforeseen along with front and rear brake repairs. Engine Two also contributed to the increase, with rear tire replacement, installation of a rear-view camera, repair of on spot chain system, and multiple service calls for various items. Squad One also contributed to increased costs with an engine overhaul to repair an oil leak.

Strategically, all vehicles did not receive normal preventative maintenance & NFPA inspections (oil changes, chassis lubrication and inspections) according to established schedules. The purpose was to delay the schedule by one month so all vehicle schedules align, eliminating separate service and travel fees as well as defer these expenditures to budget year 2019.

All pumping apparatus was subjected to annual pump testing with positive results. In addition, all department ladders were inspected and tested in accordance with standards and state occupational requirements.

The following is a brief description of major and significant repairs for the past year, paraphrased from the complete maintenance report for each vehicle. 2018 Maintenance cost was \$54,815.66 (\$8,770.86 decrease).

- **E1 (2003 Boise)** Ladder testing, pump testing, primer & wiring repair, and routine maintenance.
- **E2 (2013 Pierce)** Ladder testing, pump testing, rear tires, back up camera installation, on spot repairs, and misc. repairs. (\$9,315.27)
- **T1 (2009 Pierce)** Ladder testing, pump testing, stabilizer repair, beam blasting & painting, front and rear brake repairs. (\$16,259.75)

- **Squad 1 (2010 Ford)** Engine rebuild to correct oil leak, and routine oil changes. (\$9,620.28)
- **Squad 2 (2003 Ford)** Collision repairs, and routine oil changes. (\$7,844.00)
- **Car 1 (2008 Dodge)** Fuel neck replacement, coolant leak, battery, and routine oil changes.
- **Car 2 (2004 Ford)** Routine oil changes.
- **Car 3 (2011 Chevy)** Repaired spot light, and routine oil changes
- **Car 4 (2008 Dodge)** Bodywork for rust, and routine maintenance oil changes. (\$5,329.93)

Computers/MIS

Many aspects of fire department work today involve computers and the software packages they run. The District street reference map, reporting requirements to the State of Ohio for Fire and EMS activities, monitoring of department performance, pre-planning information management, hydrant, hose and inventory records and many more aspects of operating a modern fire department require data entry and analysis, and hence, computers.

Our last upgrade of MIS system components was in 2013. The system has remained stable through 2018 and meets most needs of the Department in a supportable manner. During the year, we adjusted our Microsoft Office licensing to meet current trends in cloud-based software “residency” versus on each individual computer for staff with an assigned CPU. Another change was a transition to an internet-based telephone system. Presently, we are using the internet system of Cincinnati Bell telephone, with leased handsets as we settled in to two station operation.

Our Mobile Data Computers (MDC), mounted in emergency response vehicles permit transmission of incident data for emergency response and comes from the County Dispatch Center. We are already on second and third generation replacement of the original equipment. Though we have replaced the original Panasonic Toughbook CPUs with less expensive tablet style CPUs as MDCs, there is a developing direction on this important aspect of emergency response and more will become known in 2019. In the meantime, the department remains active in advocating a direction, but most of the control of this matter lies with Hamilton County.

The direction that MIS seems to be going for us is to “the cloud”. When our software is fully located together on the cloud server of our software vendor, we are hopeful that data integration will fully return to our benefit.

Fire Hydrants / Water Supply

There are over 1,481 fire hydrants in the Fire District. One hundred seventy-seven of these are “private”. All hydrants are visited twice each year by Fire Department employees and caps and valve nuts lubricated, brush cleared away and the hydrant pumped dry of water for winter. Hydrant servicing requires about 60 days of department activity each year.

We continue private hydrant marking and mapping to improve our working knowledge of the many private hydrants that are essential in the district. Private hydrants are now marked with identifying numbers and color-coded bands of reflectorized material indicating their available fire flow in gallons per minute. The rate of private hydrant installation has slowed since our “catch up” efforts of several years ago and in the face of slower development growth.

The department implemented the “long-lay” relay system marking plan in 2013, first for those residents of Cunningham on the private “Shillito Place”, then the Peterloon Estate and several other locations have since been so marked. This effort continues and is on-going, as we continue to implement this important aspect of our “water supply strategy”.

SCBA / Personal Protective Clothing

Regular repair of firefighting personal protective equipment is scheduled and in keeping with safety recommendations, personnel are instructed to wash gear on a regular basis. Excluding the SCBA, a firefighting ensemble of PPE costs about \$3,000 per set of coat, pants, helmet, gloves, boots, hood and flashlight. As a key element of our commitment to firefighter health and safety, MIHJFD provides “turn-out” PPE to our members that provides the best level of protection available in the industry.

Testing of air that is produced for firefighter breathing air by our in-house compressor and storage system was accomplished and the air quality continues to exceed federal standards for purity. Tested quarterly, we are producing Grade E breathing air, the highest quality air defined in federal regulations. As 2018 closed, we had ordered equipment to conduct QUANTITATIVE SCBA mask fit testing of all employees to meet the state standard for employee respiratory protection.

In 2018, All SCBA units were service tested by a qualified outside contractor in our continuing program of annual inspection and certification of the performance of our SCBA units.

Dispatch Costs

In 2018, the rate per dispatch was maintained by the County Dispatch during the year at \$15 per detail. Lack of a long-term solution to the problems of financing the very important element of emergency response that is the common county 911/Communication Center persists. We will continue to monitor the fairness of this system and its application to MIHJFD.

Health & Wellness Program

With the closing of 2018, the Fire District completed its 14th year of the Health and Wellness Program. The Health and Wellness Program is the product of much research and planning to improve the health and performance of Fire District employees.

An analysis of the many aspects of our effort to maintain the health and fitness of our employees and their fitness for the demands of the job continues. In 2017, Ohio added CANCER as a presumptive occupational related exposure for firefighters.

Major components of our health and safety programs include assessment of baseline fitness at hiring, a non-smoking policy, annual evaluation of fitness for respirator use, fitness facilities, safety oriented SOPS', proper equipment and tools, a comprehensive respiratory protection program, separate and appropriate laundry facilities and the top-end personnel protective equipment.

"Above average" is the overall fitness level of our personnel and the participation of a broader group of employees in fitness activities both on and off duty is a result of a marked change in department attitude and culture.

Units continued to build fitness into training scenarios using real scenarios from the Essential Skill Set (ESS) as the basis, integrating physical activity with actual tools, equipment and scenarios.

As we have moved into our new facilities, we have begun to revisit the various components of the ESS and adjust them to reflect the increased work capacity of the staff and the opportunities to demonstrate this afforded by the new facilities with training and fitness as elements of design.

As 2018 ended, we had a qualified contractor in occupational medicine scheduled for complete physical exams for all members who had not previously had such an examination in the previous twelve months. Our plan is for annual evaluation of respirator use fitness and full and/or focused physical examinations based on results of the respirator evaluation.

Knox Program

The Knox box program continues to be an ongoing success. Since its implementation approximately 28 years ago the program has been extremely successful.

Currently there are five important aspects to the Knox Program:

- **Commercial installations**
We have approximately 97 commercial Knox boxes in the district. The Knox box contains keys, alarm system information, and contact information. These boxes are checked on an annual basis during fire inspections. In 2018, two new commercial boxes were installed.
- **Residential loaned boxes**
The District has a total of 22 residential Knox box loaners. Residential loaner boxes are intended for short term needs when the occupant may have special needs that may keep them from answering the door during an emergency. In 2018, 16 boxes were out on loan.
- **Residential gate access key switches**
In 2018, we added eight residential gate access key switches in the district. It is required that all residences with gates be equipped with a Knox key switch override for Fire access. The Knox system allows for immediate access without a gate code.
- **Key secure retention system**
This system retains the Knox key in the vehicles and keys can only be released by individual PIN numbers. Every sixty days an audit trail is run on all retention boxes for record keeping.
- **Medvaults**
The Medvault system allows for the secure storing of dangerous drugs. The main Medvault located in the Station 65 EMS room, is used to secure inventory. Each Medic Unit has a mini Medvault installed to secure drug items. Each user has an individual PIN assigned to them. Every sixty days an audit trial is run on the Medvaults for record keeping.

Address Signs

In an effort to improve response accuracy and speed, the MIHJFD instituted the manufacture and installation of green address signs (blue signs for residences with private hydrants) over two decades ago. It is a program that has found much favor across the region. The reflective sign business is still running strong and is self-sustaining from revenues generated from sales.

In 2018, 94 reflective signs were installed in the district. This number is up from 2017 when we installed 26. Address sign activity increases whenever there is a public information release through our public contact sources with our cities and through our JFD newsletter.

We continue to do some repairs to signs from snow removal or other damage that was not negligence from the homeowner. We do this at no cost to the resident, but we still are breaking even in the program.

In 2017 the price of the signs from our supplier went up but the price of our post went down. As a result, we flipped the prices. A green or blue sign now costs \$15 dollars vs \$10 previously, and a post is now \$10 vs \$15 previously. That leaves the total for people getting the combo at \$25. We are seeing an increase in decorative metal mailbox/post combinations. This is creating an increase in simple "post" sales as there is often not a good way to mount the existing sign to decorative combinations.

We also purchased shorter green signs for the streets off of Remington that are popping up and have single or double digit addresses. The typical sign did not look natural.

Favorably received and very effective, we will continue this effort into the future.

Related to the value of address signs, the department has marked three fire hydrants as "tanker refill" sites for our water supply contingency pre-planning. Beginning in 2014, we marked "drop points" along private drives on Cunningham Road to cover that section of Cunningham that had previously been termed "Shillito Place", Shawnee Run and Hopewell Road. The drop points will assist in establishing a water supply by relay pumping.

New Equipment

We were fortunate enough, in 2018, to add to our equipment the following key items:

We added to our EMS equipment two TRANSPORT PORTABLE VENTILATORS capable of automatically ventilating non-breathing patients for use in field resuscitation efforts.

A second ProPak FOAM GENERATOR was added to our firefighting equipment. The Pak is specially designed to dispense a blanket of high-quality foam for suppression of flammable liquid fires. It works very well to prevent ignition of spilled/leaking gasoline at auto accidents.

We replaced our OOD RESCUE LIFTING BAGS. Over 15 years old, these bags lift heavy loads in rescue situations and, like tires, deteriorate due to air and sunlight exposure over time to a point of obsolescence.

We replaced all of our 8-carbon chain based FIREFIGHTING FOAM. The chemical composition of these firefighting foam concentrates had been identified in recent years as carcinogenic and persistent in the environment. Our current stock was over 15 years of age. It had been tested in the interim for its ability to suppress flammable liquid fires, but its carcinogenic properties dictated its replacement with a foam less persistent and deemed “safer” in use and storage. The industry continues to look for a compound with the power to suppress flammable liquid fires but without the worrisome characteristics.

We added to our EMS training equipment a “ruggedized” PATIENT SIMULATION mannequin. With many of the capabilities of such mannequins used in hospitals for training nurses and physicians, our mannequin can be handled roughly---rescued, moved on stretchers, etc. It enables patient care training and integration of the rescue and medical functions of our profession.

We increased the number of CPR training MANNEQUINS available to the department for education of the public in CPR. This enables us to provide training to larger groups, such as in the schools.

We added a replacement LITTLE GIANT LADDER. This utility ladder is a “jack of all trades” for the fire service and the most frequently used ladder in our inventory. The ladder that was replaced had several broken welds and was over 20 years old.

We added BALLISTIC VESTS to our available personal protective equipment. A sign of the times...

In several cases, this equipment was available to us because of DONATIONS by citizens to our associated FIRE COMPANY. THANK YOU!!!!