

Annual Report

FY 18-19



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Mission Statement:

The Harker Heights Fire Department will provide, with care and concern, the highest quality Fire/Rescue/EMS care and service to all persons for whom the City of Harker Heights is responsible.



HARKER HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT

**ADMINISTRATION / CENTRAL STATION
401 INDIAN TRAIL
HARKER HEIGHTS, TEXAS 76548**

(254) 699-2688

FireDept@harkerheights.gov

A Message From Fire Chief Paul D. Sims

Another great fiscal year has come and gone, wow where did the time go! As usual, we strive to provide a high degree of service to our citizens in their time of need. The following is a list of a few of our achievements during the 18/19 fiscal year:

- ◆ Received the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline EMS Award year for the fifth consecutive year. This award recognizes its commitment and success in implementing specific quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who suffer a severe heart attack.
- ◆ Ordered new Battalion Chief of Operations Command Vehicle during the first quarter of the new fiscal year and took possession placed unit into service during the third quarter.
- ◆ Development of new firefighter cancer prevention/risk-reduction program.
- ◆ Purchased and installed new wellness center exercise equipment and all are enjoying the benefits of this new equipment.
- ◆ Updated current fire reporting software to new ESO software under a cost neutral program.
- ◆ Update current fire inspection software to new ESO software.
- ◆ Began Community Wildfire Protection Plan Assessment.



Additionally, we work diligently to enhance the knowledge, skills and abilities of our personnel through various opportunities. This past fiscal year we introduced two new development programs to go along with those that are already in place. The first of these new programs is the Acting Driver/Operator (D/O) program, used to prepare Firefighters who aspire to serve as a step-up driver when the need arises. Furthermore, the program requires the candidates to be intimately familiar with specific policies, demonstrate a lengthy list of tasks as they pertain to all apparatuses they could be charged with operating, as well as exhibiting the ability to drive these apparatus under precise conditions. Placing these Firefighters under these circumstances prepares them to better serve in the role of D/O once they have completed the full program. In addition, we created an Acting Battalion Chief (BC) program that is explicitly designed to prepare Lieutenants to serve as the Acting BC when the regularly assigned BC is off. This program too is extremely detailed in the criteria the candidates are to complete. In fact, it is intended to take no less than six months to complete from beginning to end or more if needed. The role of any position within our department is not taken lightly and we have taken very intentional steps to prepare our members for the job they currently hold and for those positions directly above them. This makes us a stronger organization and creates a next man/women up approach!

I am confident you will find this year's annual report informative and helpful in understanding the services we provide to you the citizens of Harker Heights. We look forward to serving you in all that we do.

Paul D. Sims
Fire Chief/EMC

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



FIRE OPERATIONS

The Operations Division is led by the Deputy Fire Chief of Operations Glenn Gallenstein and is tasked with providing an array of fire suppression and specialized rescue operations. Moreover, the suppression staff of thirty nine (39) are responsible for providing Advanced Life Support (ALS) and basic emergency medical care to those who live, work and/or pass through our community. These and other areas of service are provided twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, with two front line state of the art mobile intensive care units and one reserve ambulance. As well as, one Quint “ladder” truck, one front line Class “A” pumper, one Class “A” reserve pumper, two brush trucks, one boat for high water rescue, a mobile command center vehicle and one Battalion Chief commander vehicle. The Operations Division responded to over 4,300 calls for service this year. The Harker Heights Fire Department handled an average of 11.79 emergency responses each day. This was a slight increase in daily call volume over the previous year.

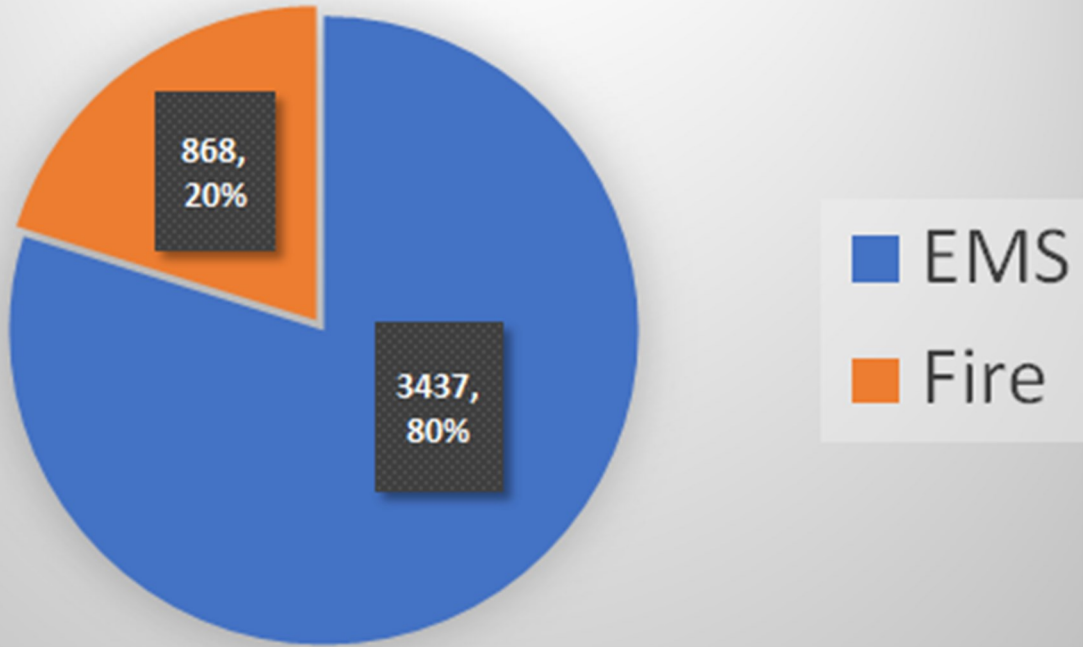


Deputy Fire Chief Glenn Gallenstein has been with the Harker Heights Fire Department since 1992. Besides being a certified firefighter and paramedic, he is also a licensed peace officer, wildland firefighter, and many other certifications.

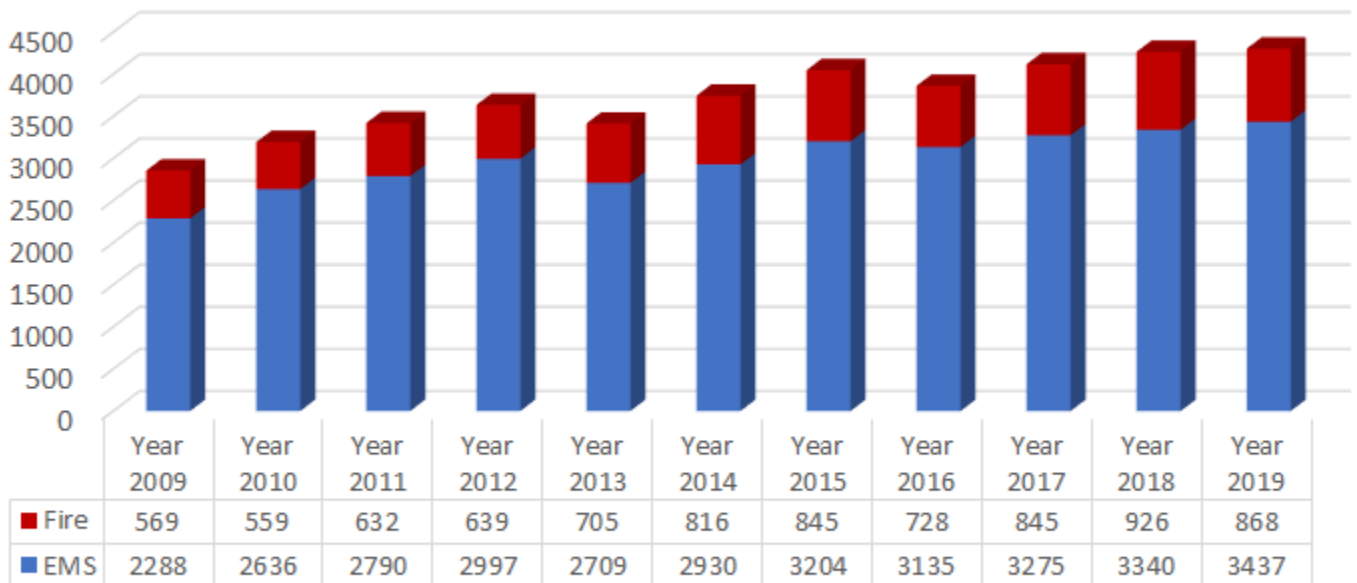


FY19 Statistics

Call Volume FY19



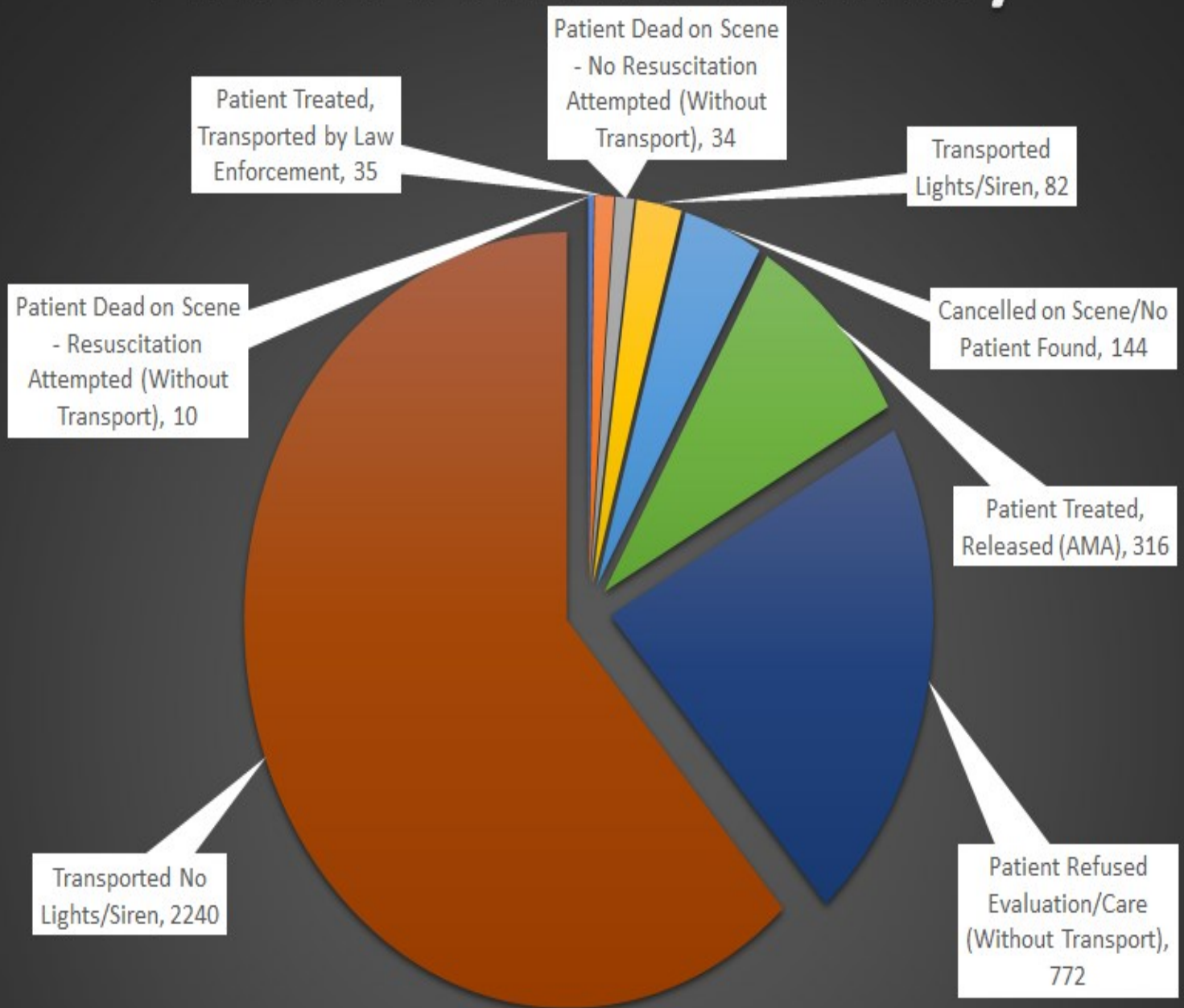
Annual Call Volume Rates



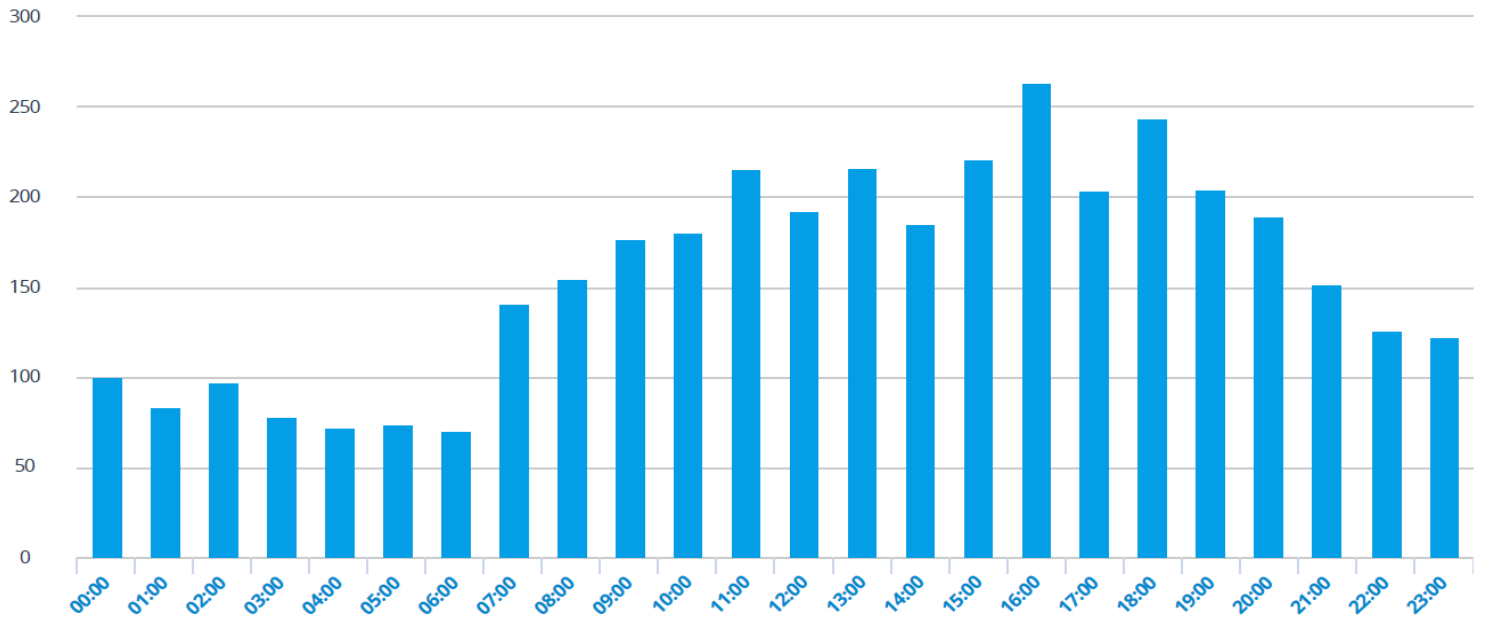
■ EMS ■ Fire



Patient Outcome Summary



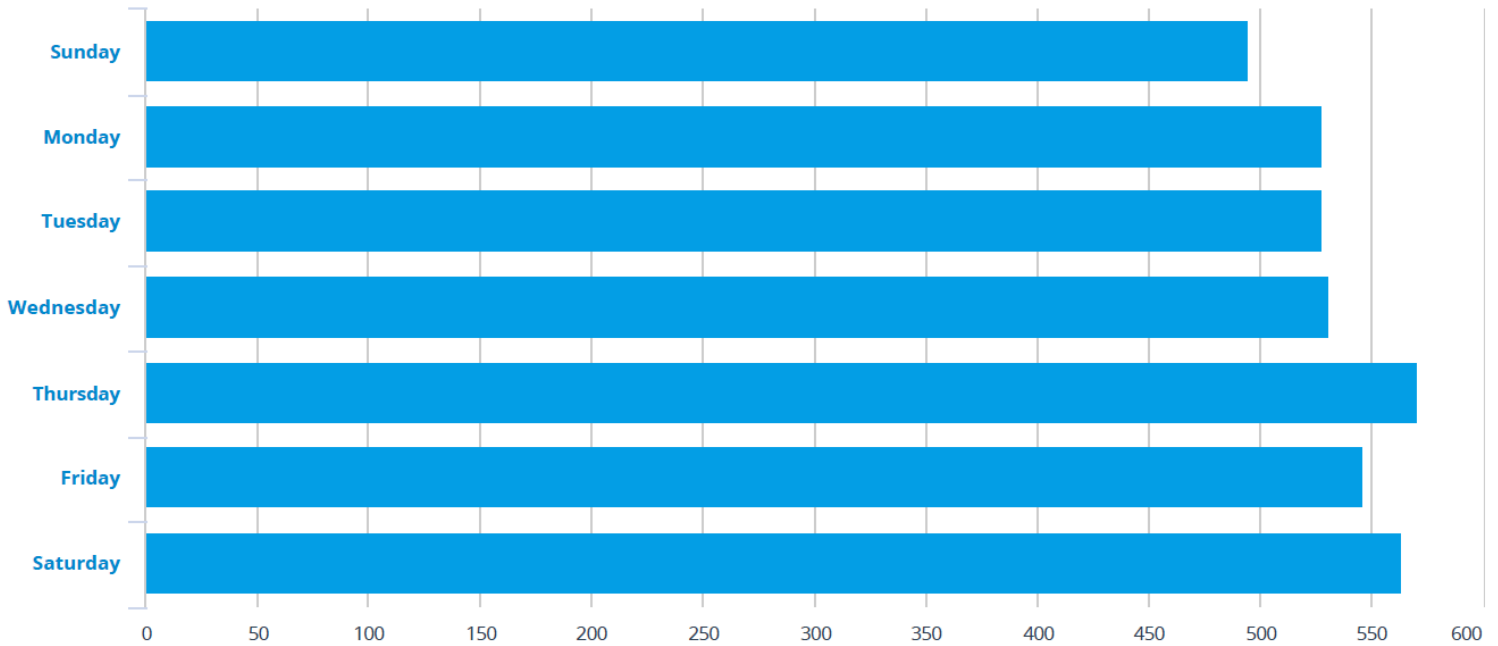
- Patient Dead on Scene - Resuscitation Attempted (Without Transport)
- Patient Treated, Transported by Law Enforcement
- Patient Dead on Scene - No Resuscitation Attempted (Without Transport)
- Transported Lights/Siren
- Cancelled on Scene/No Patient Found
- Patient Treated, Released (AMA)
- Patient Refused Evaluation/Care (Without Transport)
- Transported No Lights/Siren



EMS Responses by Hour of Day

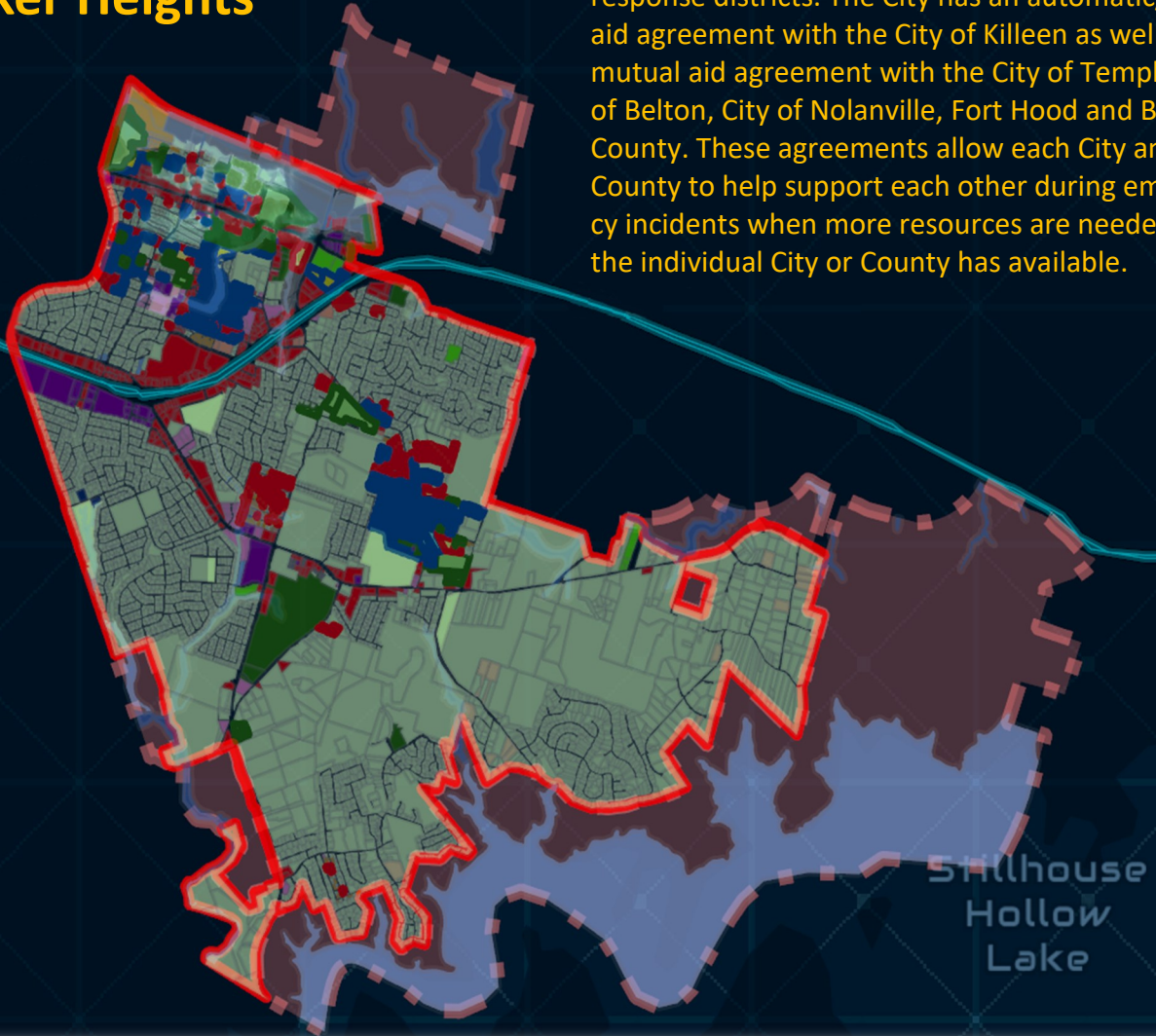


EMS Responses by Day of the Week



City of Harker Heights

The City of Harker Heights encompasses 15.6 square miles and is divided into three fire response districts. The City has an automatic/mutual aid agreement with the City of Killeen as well as a mutual aid agreement with the City of Temple, City of Belton, City of Nolanville, Fort Hood and Bell County. These agreements allow each City and the County to help support each other during emergency incidents when more resources are needed than the individual City or County has available.



Type of Fire Incidents	# of Incidents	% of Fire Incidents
Fire, Other	1	1%
Structure Fire	25	34%
Fire in Mobile Property as Fixed Structure	1	1%
Mobile Property (Vehicle) Fire	11	15%
Grass Fire	22	30%
Outside Rubbish Fire	10	14%
Special Outside Fire	4	5%
Total Fire Responses	74	100%





Central Station
401 Indian Trail
Harker Heights, TX 76548

Station #2
3207 Stillhouse Lake Rd
Harker Heights, TX 76548





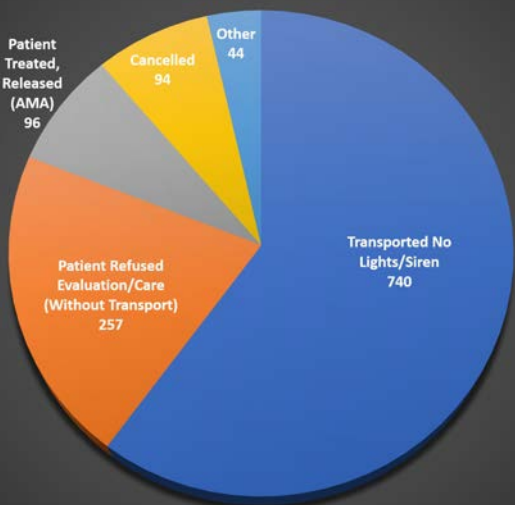
**Battalion Chief
Rick Whalen**

**Lieutenant
Martin Mercado**

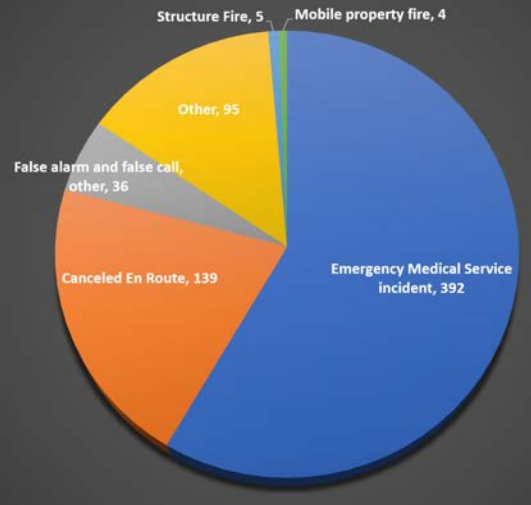
**Lieutenant
Megan Leighman**



A-Shift EMS Response Statistics



A-Shift Fire Response Statistics



A-Shift

W-2



**Driver/Operator
Damon Sprouse**



**Driver/Operator
Justin Lewis**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Kevin Rochford**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Kellie Mozek**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Austin Simpson**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Johnny Caraway**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Justin Elliott**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Jason McKean**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Jason Moore**



**Firefighter/EMT
Jonathan Gutz**



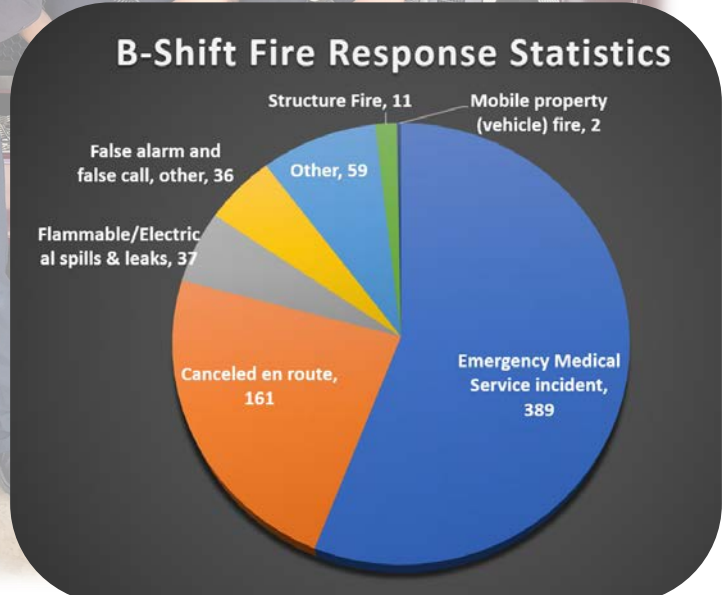
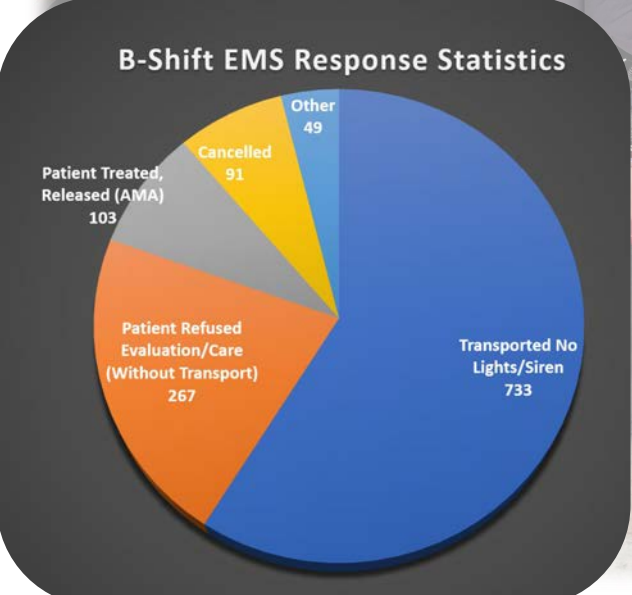
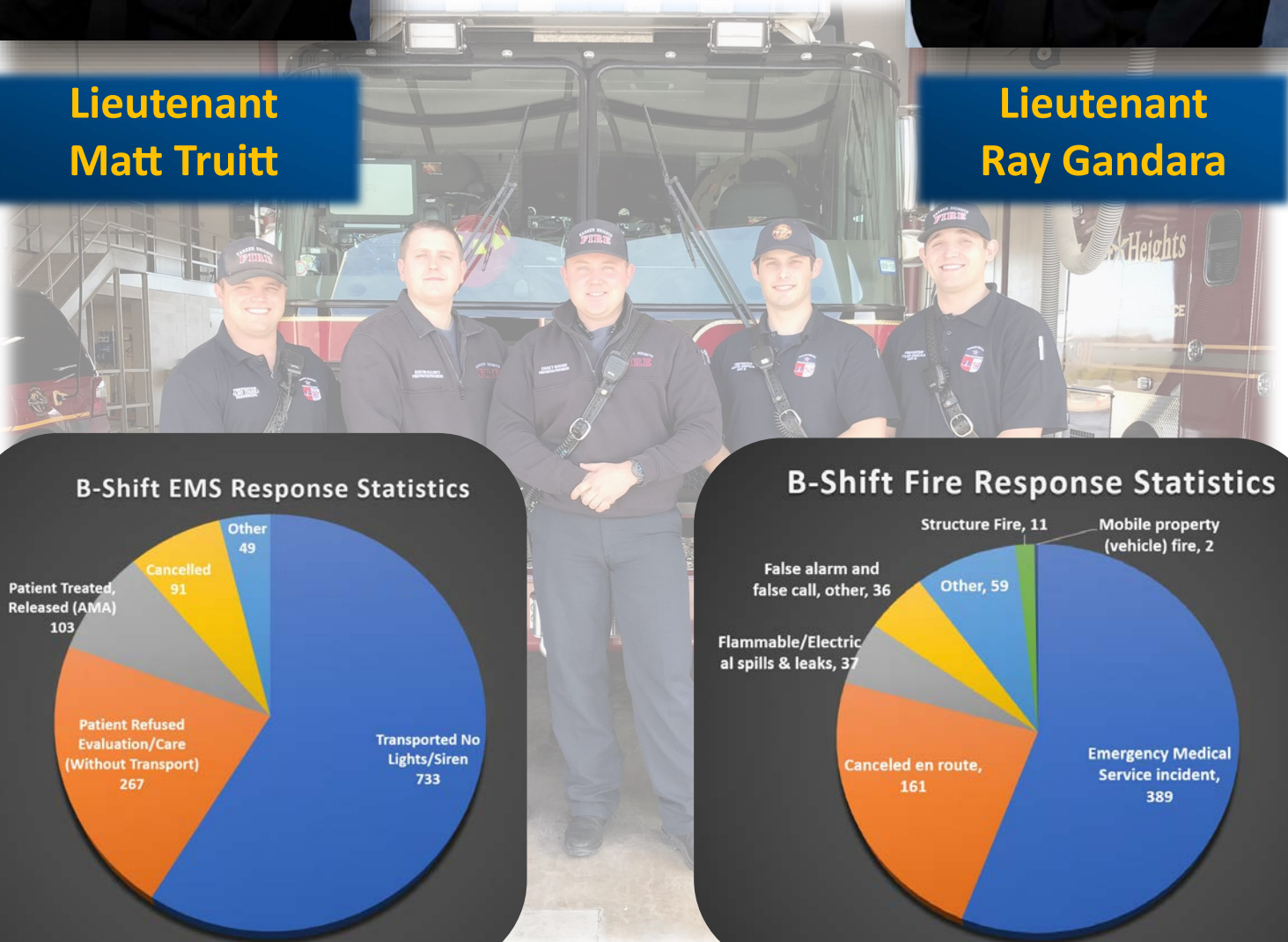
**Battalion Chief
David Ayer**



**Lieutenant
Matt Truitt**

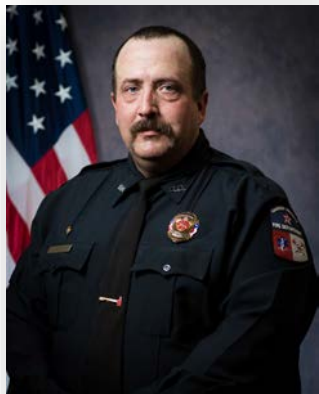


**Lieutenant
Ray Gandara**



B-Shift

D-2 Unit



**Driver/Operator
Matt Hogan**



**Driver/Operator
Cody Newman**



**Driver/Operator
Clint Chudej**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
James Myers**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Joseph Byrnes**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Zachary Gauthier**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Casey Baugh**



**Firefighter/EMT
Tyler Pavelka**



**Firefighter/EMT
Shaquille Styer**



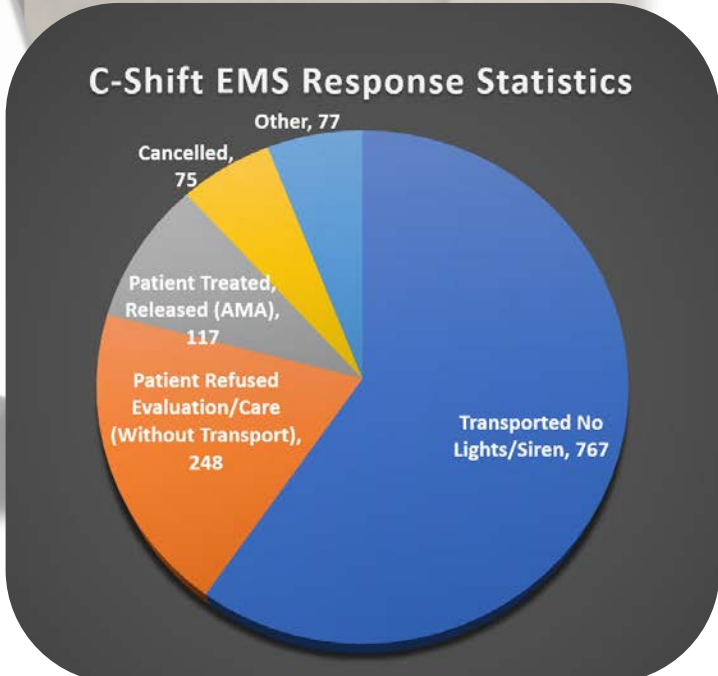
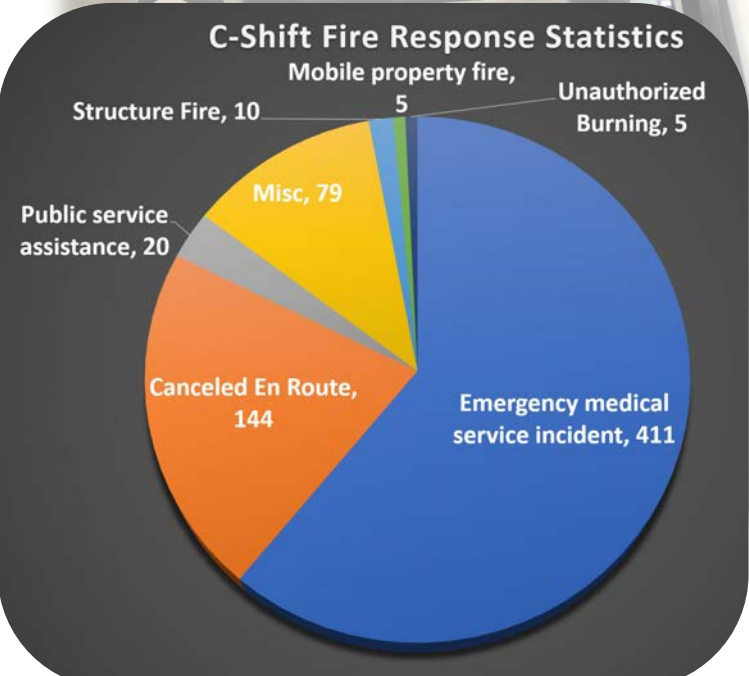
**Battalion Chief
Jimmy Carson**



**Lieutenant
Aaron Dunnam**



**Lieutenant
Jacob Cardona**



C-Shift



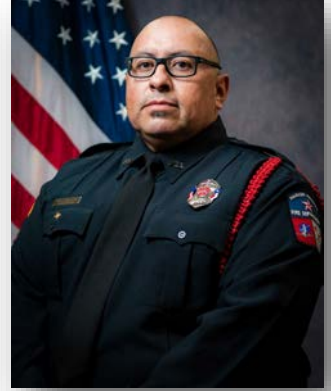
**Driver/Operator
Walter Elvidge**



**Driver/Operator
Anthony Combs**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Mike Licavoli**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Rene Fernandez**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Jordan Clopton**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Stuart Kiefer**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Charles Brummett**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Mandy Jimenez**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Tanner Read**



**Firefighter/EMT
Nathan Elliott**



Engine 1 is a 2014 Ferrara MVP Pumper Truck. It can store up to 750 gallons of water and pump 2000 gallons per minute. It carries up to 768 cubic feet of equipment. The truck is approximately 34' long and 10' in height.

Quint 2 is a 2005 E-One Typhoon Ladder Truck. It can store 360 gallons of water and pump 2000 gallons per minute. 75ft 360 degree aerial ladder.





Our ambulances have a carrying capacity of 2 people, but can be increased if needed. As a Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU). We are prepared to treat/stabilize and transport patients in almost any medical emergency.

Feature Equipment:

- Video Laryngoscopy - Digital video that assists in airway management.
- Lifepak 15 - State of the art mobile cardiac monitoring system.
- Doppler - Detects fetal heartbeats and peripheral arterial blood flow.
- Powerlift Stretcher - Hydraulic assisted lifting system that keeps patients stable.





Brush Trucks are designed to move quickly through areas that other fire apparatuses cannot. They can store up to 400 gallons of water and can be used for light rescue, initial attack or medical support. Our trucks are also equipped with a remote controlled nozzle, which enables the vehicle to fight fire while on the move.

Battalion 1 is operated by the Shift Commander and is used to respond to various events and incidents as a mobile command post. It is equipped with a wide variety of equipment to ensure communication and coordination are performed at the highest efficiency.





Stillhouse Hollow Lake- Phase 1

Stillhouse Hollow Lake, Harker Heights, Bell County



Texas A&M Forest Service, Harker Heights Fire Department and United States Army Corps of Engineers collaborated to help reduce the vegetation build up on Stillhouse Hollow Lake by Cedar Gap Park bordering many homes. This project is intended to reduce overall wildfire risk and slow potential wildfire spread that could devastate a community.



Training Division

“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other”

- John F Kennedy



Cindy Hicks is the Battalion Chief of training and coordinates both Fire and EMS training for the Department. Cindy has been with Harker Heights Fire Department for over 25 years.

In **2019**, the fire department completed over 4000 hours of fire and EMS training. This training was completed through:

- CE solutions online training and Target Solutions
- Fire training: Live fire training, hands on training in extrication, rescue, pump operations, hazmat and fire scenarios
- Mutual aid training through live fire scenarios with Ft. Hood Fire Department and Central Bell Volunteer Fire Department
- EMS training: classroom, hands on with the simulation mannequin, EMS conference, hands on emergency airway training with Dr. Ratcliff, Medical Director
- Stop the Bleed Program (over 100 employees trained in the city)
- Take 10 CPR
- Fire Extinguisher training to citizens and City employees
- Online programs in Fire Instruction, Fire Officer, and Driver Operator training
- College hours in Fire service and EMS
- TEEK fire training through Texas A & M, Leadership Symposium
- TML training
- Coordinated training with CTC, Paramedic School
- Blue Card Officer training
- Hosting Wildland Basic Certification class in coordination with TEEK, graduating 30 students from HHFD, Ft. Hood Fire Department, Killeen Fire Department, Hewitt Fire Department, and Dallas Fire Department
- TIFMAS (Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System) training and TIFMAS Conference

Training Vision for 2020

Additional live fire training with Ft Hood Fire Department

Increased documented hours for Fire and EMS using the Target Solutions online platform

Increase community training with “Stop the Bleed” and “Take 10 CPR”

Individual College Degree plans for Fire Science, through CTC

Fire Scenario computer training, using the Simshare system

TIFMAS task book training



Certifications



The following certifications are earned and issued through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection

Fire Investigators

Master 2
Advanced 3
Intermediate 2
Basic 3

Instructors

Instructor III 1
Instructor II 11
Instructor I 15

Wildland Firefighters

19 personnel

Driver Operators

34 personnel

Arson Investigators

4 personnel

Inspectors

7

Fire Officer

FO I 8
FO II 12
FO III 1
FO IV 2

Hazardous Materials Technician

5 personnel

EMS certifications through The Texas Department of State Health Service

EMT Paramedics 38

EMT Basics 4

- 100% of the department members are dual certified in Fire and EMS



TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Certificate of Promotion



A native of Killeen, **Lieutenant Megan Leighman** kick-started her career in the fire service by attending the Harker Heights Fire Academy in 1998. The following year she started as an ER Tech at Scott & White as well as working for Nolanville EMS. She remained with these organizations for several years, joining the Harker Heights Fire Department in 2004. She also volunteers her free time at the Killeen Free Clinic on her days off. In 2018 Megan was promoted to Driver/Operator on C-Shift and less than a year later promoted again to become a Lieutenant on A-Shift. Lt. Leighman is a shining star in the Department with a bright future ahead of her.

RETIREMENT

David Forwood retired from the Harker Heights Fire Department after serving 20 years in the fire service retiring to the Marshal Islands. Known for his world traveling and cultural experience we are excited he got to reside in a relaxing location. David is a certified Fire Investigator, Driver/Operator, HAZMAT Technician, Fire Instructor I, Fire Officer I and Advanced Firefighter. We wish him the best of adventures as he sails into the sunset.



New Employees



Tanner Read



Shaquille Styer



Nathan Elliott



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Fire Prevention Division

The Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) is tasked with preventing and/or reducing the incidence of fire, explosions, and other hazards that may cause harm to the residents, visitors and businesses of the City of Harker Heights. We strive to accomplish this goal through quality public education, construction plan reviews, fire and life safety inspections, application of the fire code, fire cause and origin examinations, and criminal investigations.

Our dedicated and highly trained personnel actively participate with our community, by striving to provide safety information, by attempting to serve as role models, by effectively and efficiently utilizing all resources made available, and by providing excellent customer service to the citizens and visitors to the City of Harker Heights, Texas



Top 10 Violations Found

- ◆ Improper clearance to electrical equipment.
- ◆ Improper or no required signage on exit doors.
- ◆ Portable fire extinguishers that haven't had an annual inspection.
- ◆ Exit signs and/or emergency lighting not working on battery back-up.
- ◆ Fire Alarm systems that haven't had an annual inspection.
- ◆ Commercial kitchen vent hoods that require cleaning.
- ◆ Failure to acquire proper permits or city business registration.
- ◆ Updated keys needed for the location's Knox Box.
- ◆ Unsecured or Improperly secured compressed gas cylinders.
- ◆ Storage in electrical and mechanical rooms.

Fires and Investigations

Various Fire Responded to	74
Working Fire Investigated by FMO	9
Accidental or Undetermined cause	65
Suspected Incendiary (Arson) Fires	6
Arson Arrests	1





The Harker Heights Fire Marshal's Office collaborated with the Central Texas Council of Governments to advance the knowledge of fire investigators on ignition sources and the characteristics of materials after they have been exposed to fire. This course was specifically created for forensic fire investigators to visualize competent ignition scenarios and the physical effects of heat influencing the transformation of materials. Experiments focused on accidental and intentional causes of fires to allow fire investigators to observe various sources of ignition and the resulting outcomes. The course provided fire investigators with an in-depth understanding of fire dynamics through multiple live fire demonstrations. Over 50 fire investigators across the state attended this course.





Wildland Class

The Harker Heights Fire Department is preparing to participate in the Texas Interstate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS). We are proud to have several employees that have received their Wildland certification and are excited to participate in the TIFMAS program to help our sister cities all throughout Texas.



Firefighter's Prayer

When I am called to duty, God,
wherever flames may rage,
give me strength to save a life,
whatever be its age.

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

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

I want to fill my calling,
to give the best in me,
to guard my friend and neighbor,
and protect his property.

And if according to Your will
I must answer death's call,
bless with your protecting hand,
my family one and all.

Community Programs



Every year the Harker Heights Fire Department participates in the “Fill the Boot” program. The Muscular Dystrophy Association was founded in 1950, and they continue to relentlessly pursue a cure for muscular dystrophy and muscle-debilitating diseases. We appreciate our community for generously donating to help those locally and globally as a cure is developed.

The Harker Heights Lions Club and the Fire Department coordinate an annual Thanksgiving and Santa Pal Basket to help families during the holidays. We appreciate all the generous donations for businesses, community members and all others that make this event possible each year!





Amira Bernard from the Harker Heights Elementary School won 1st place in this years Fire Prevention Poster Contest. Jordyn Diaz from Eastern Hills Middle School placed 2nd. Posters for this contest were displayed at the Harker Heights Fire Department and Library.

LOOK. LISTEN. LEARN.
 Be aware.
 Fire can happen anywhere.™

firepreventionweek.org

 **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™**
NFPA - the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since 1922




Firefighter of the Year



Chudej, Clint is a Driver/Operator at the Harker Heights Fire Department. He started his career in 2010 with Hillsboro Fire Rescue. He began his career at the Harker Heights Fire Department in 2012. Within 3 years he was tasked to serve as a Field Training Officer.

Throughout his career he has received several certifications to better himself and the fire department. Some of these certificates include Wildland Firefighter, Instructor, Intermediate Firefighter, Driver-Operator and Fire Officer.

Clint was instrumental in the development and implementation of the Departments new Phase Training Program and actively serves to mentor new employees. He has assisted in the training of many new employees over the years and truly enjoys sharing his experience and knowledge. In addition, he also assisted in the develop of the de-

partments annual Essential Functions Test and he works diligently to maintain his own health and fitness.

Clint truly has a love of helping those around him and being a public servant. In addition to working at HHFD, he also works for Whitney EMS and Hillsboro Fire Rescue part-time.

He is always looking for ways to improve himself and the department. In the future he is looking to buy a home and continue to rise through the ranks. D/O Chudej enjoys hunting, fishing, camping, spending time with his family and of course his new dog Rory.

For these reasons, we want to proudly recognize D/O Clint Chudej and thank him for his dedication to the profession and representation of the Fire Department and the City of Harker Heights in the year 2018.





Mission: Lifeline EMS recognition is a program designed to showcase Emergency Medical Service organizations across the nation for excellent STEMI care. Prehospital personnel are the first providers of care to patients suffering from cardiac emergencies. The role of EMS in the system-of-care for these patients is crucial and often sets the course for the patient's outcome. The Mission: Lifeline EMS recognition program is launched in 2014 and continues to celebrate the achievement of the pre-hospital providers and their collaboration with each other and destination hospitals specific to STEMI patient care.

Harker Heights Fire Department has received the Mission Lifeline award every year since the award was created in 2014. In 2019 we received the highest award of Gold Plus.





@HARKERHEIGHTSFD

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