

Bellbrook Fire Department

2014 Annual Report





CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



To the Mayor, Council and Bellbrook community,

On behalf of all of the members of the Bellbrook Fire Department, I am excited to present to you the fire department's 2014 annual report.

The past year has seen a tremendous amount of change for this department. It began with the retirement of long time Fire Chief Scott Hall. Through Chief Hall's leadership, the Bellbrook Fire Department developed a reputation for being a high performing, customer-service-centered organization. I am excited to be a small part of such an outstanding organization and community.

The year 2014 was about taking an already exceptional department and finding ways to enhance its service delivery. Any proposed changes were first evaluated using the backdrop of the department's Mission Statement, and then tested to determine whether those proposals helped toward realizing our Vision of being the best fire department in the region.

The department worked diligently this year accomplishing a number of major projects. Several part time firefighters were hired to return the roster numbers to a level sufficient to fill vacancies in the schedule. These individuals were hired after revising the hiring process and launching a limited recruitment effort. We hosted another successful car seat event where we installed 16 car seats. Fire prevention in 2014 continued to be an incredible opportunity for firefighters to interact and teach fire safety to the children of our community. It was our good fortune to be able to present these important messages to every child from pre-school to 5th grade. Those teaching moments culminated with our annual Open House which enabled us to educate the community at large regarding important safety topics. The department upgraded its staff vehicles by replacing a 2000 Ford Expedition with a 2014 model purchased using state bid pricing. With the reorganization of the water department and its subsequent move to the City Building, the fire department gained administrative space at Station 21. The department is slowly repurposing those rooms to address our growing needs.

2014 brought the continuation of other effective efforts. One of the programs the department has done for many years is to mail a survey to every person who requests our service. The surveys which were returned last year were overwhelmingly positive. In my opinion these questionnaires represent the best "report card" for evaluating our members, the department and services we provide. Throughout this year's report you will see just a few of the many positive comments taken directly from those surveys. I think you'll agree that it validates my belief that the Bellbrook Fire Department employs some of the most skilled and compassionate emergency service providers in the area.

I would like to thank the Mayor, council and the community for their support during this year of transition. The entire City staff couldn't have been any more helpful and supportive as I navigated my way through the learning curve.

The exceptional Fire Department members have made this year's successes possible, and I appreciate all of their help and patience as I learned my new role as a member of the Bellbrook Fire Department.

I look forward to 2015 and the implementation of the programs and projects that will continue to enrich the service delivery and, ultimately, the safety of the community.

Sincerely,

Jim Neidhard

Jim Neidhard
Fire Chief



CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



Year 2014 General Information

The Bellbrook Fire Department is a combination department with 7 full-time and 13 part-time employees, 8 volunteer members and 7 resource members

The City of Bellbrook's Class 3 ISO rating is still among one of the best ratings for a small community in the Miami Valley area.

The department operates 2 Engines; 1 Ladder Truck; 1 Rescue; 3 Medic Units; 3 Staff Vehicles and an equipped Special Tactics and Rescue Trailer.

The Department has 15 Paramedics, 11 Emergency Medical Technicians, 2 members on the Regional Critical Incident Stress Management Team, and 1 member on the Federal Urban Search and Rescue Task Force.

FF Hearrell received a "Service Award" for 15 years of service to the Fire Department and Edward Crowe received a "Service Award" for his 10 years of service to the Fire Department.

One member has completed the State of Ohio Level 2 Fire Certification. Two members are currently enrolled in Paramedic training at Sinclair Community College.

2014 Accomplishments

- New full-time Fire Chief
- Purchase of a new 2014 Staff Vehicle
- Successful "Open House"
- Successful "Car Seat Installation" event

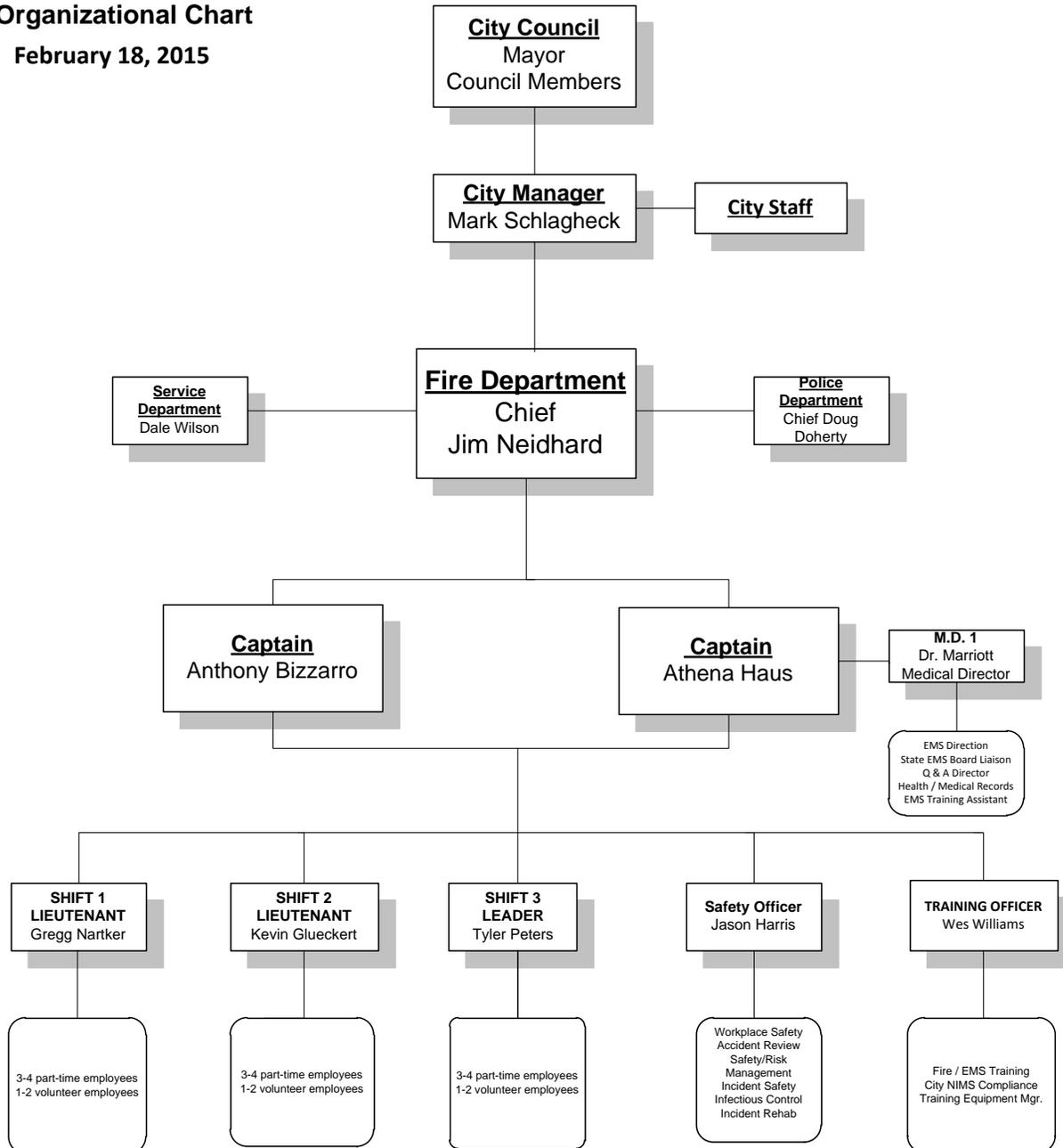
"We have had to use the fire department & E.M.T. services a lot. I have only the greatest praise for everyone we dealt with. Thank you for being so caring & helping us in our times of need."



CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



Bellbrook Fire Department Organizational Chart February 18, 2015



"All the firefighters were extremely courteous and professional. Very good people!"

Statistical Data

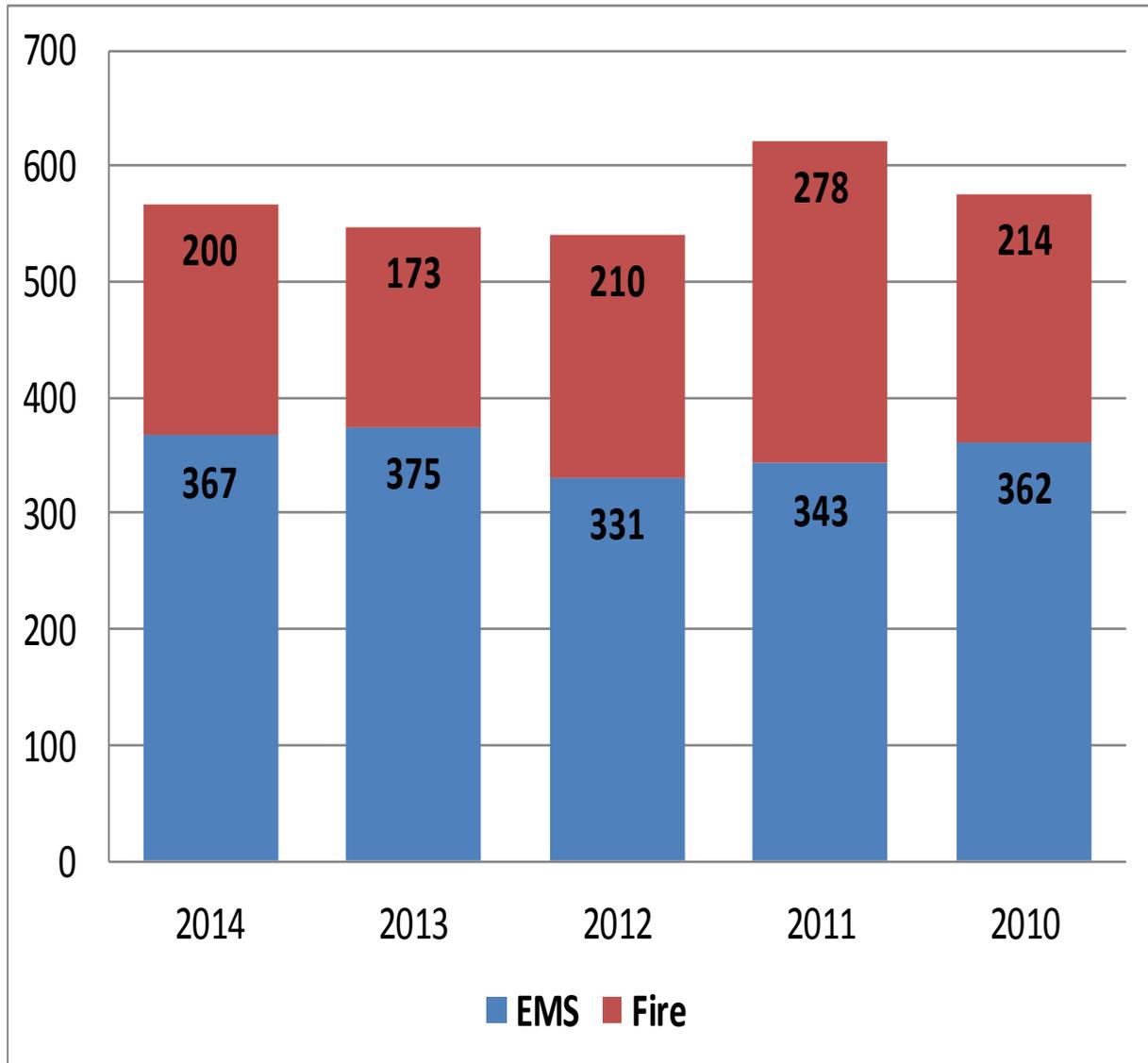




CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



5- Year Run Analysis

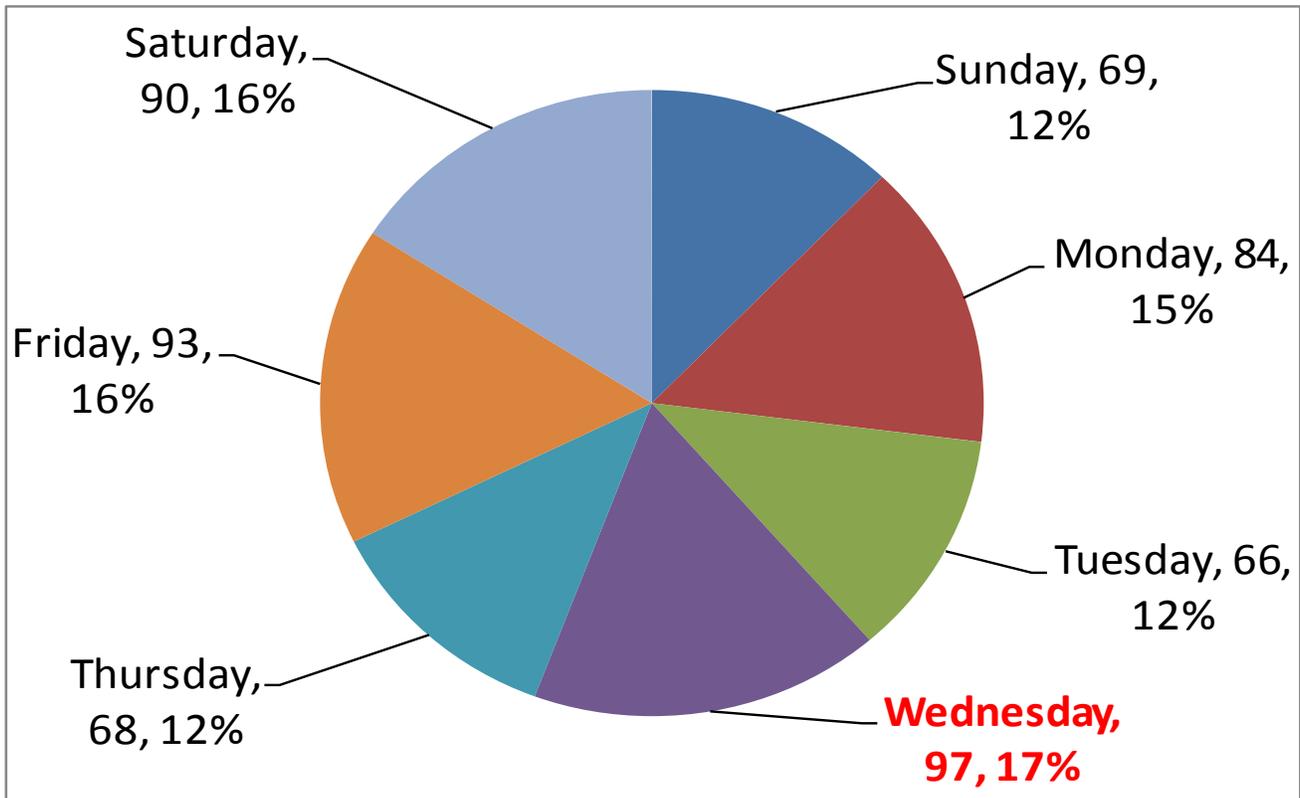




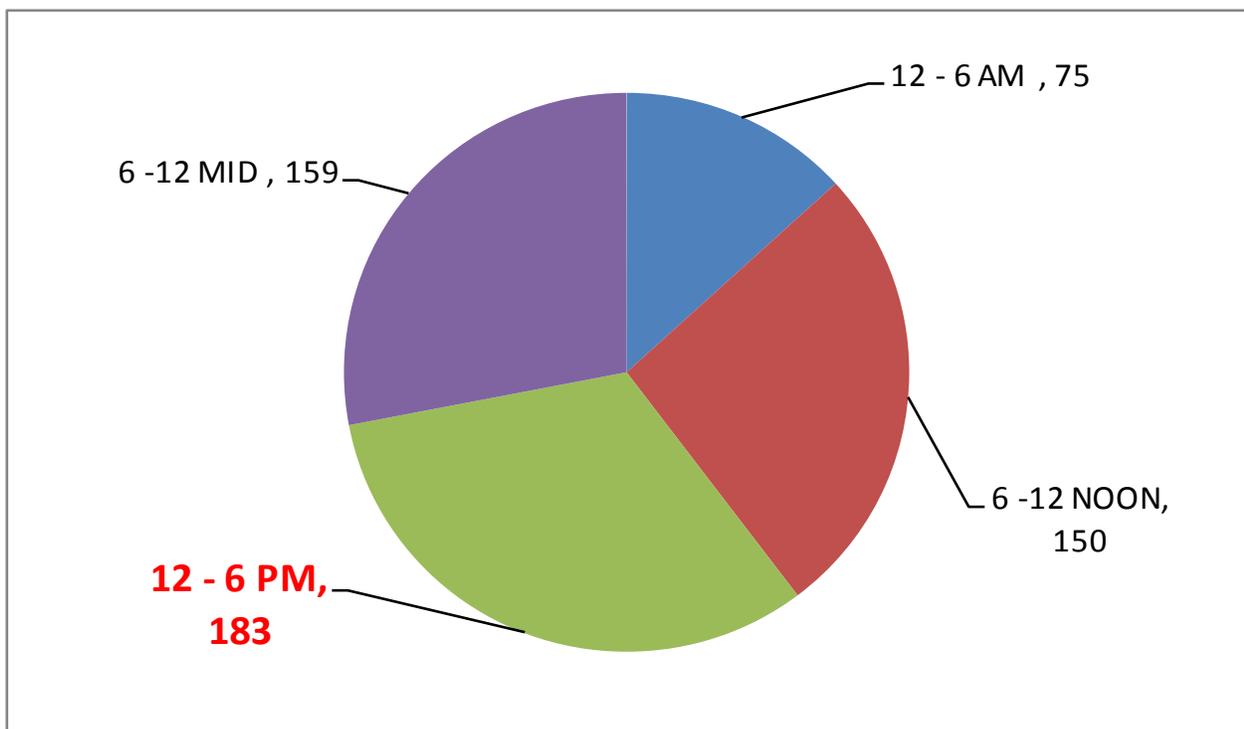
CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



Calls for assistance by Day of the Week



Calls for assistance by Time of Day

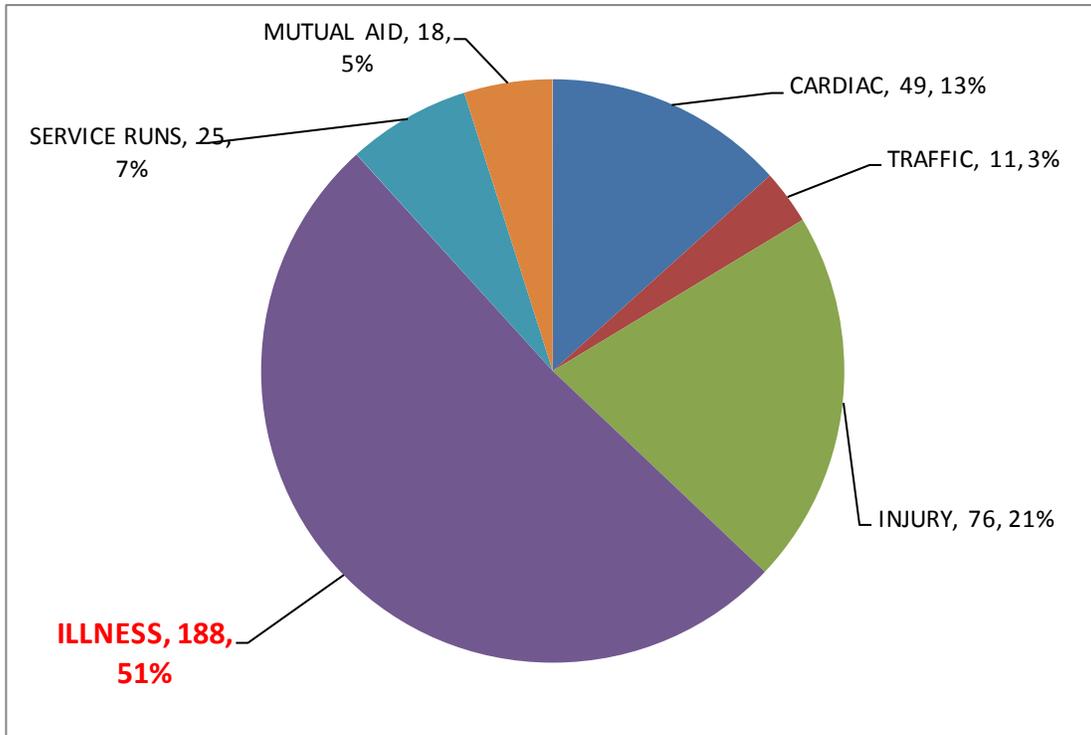




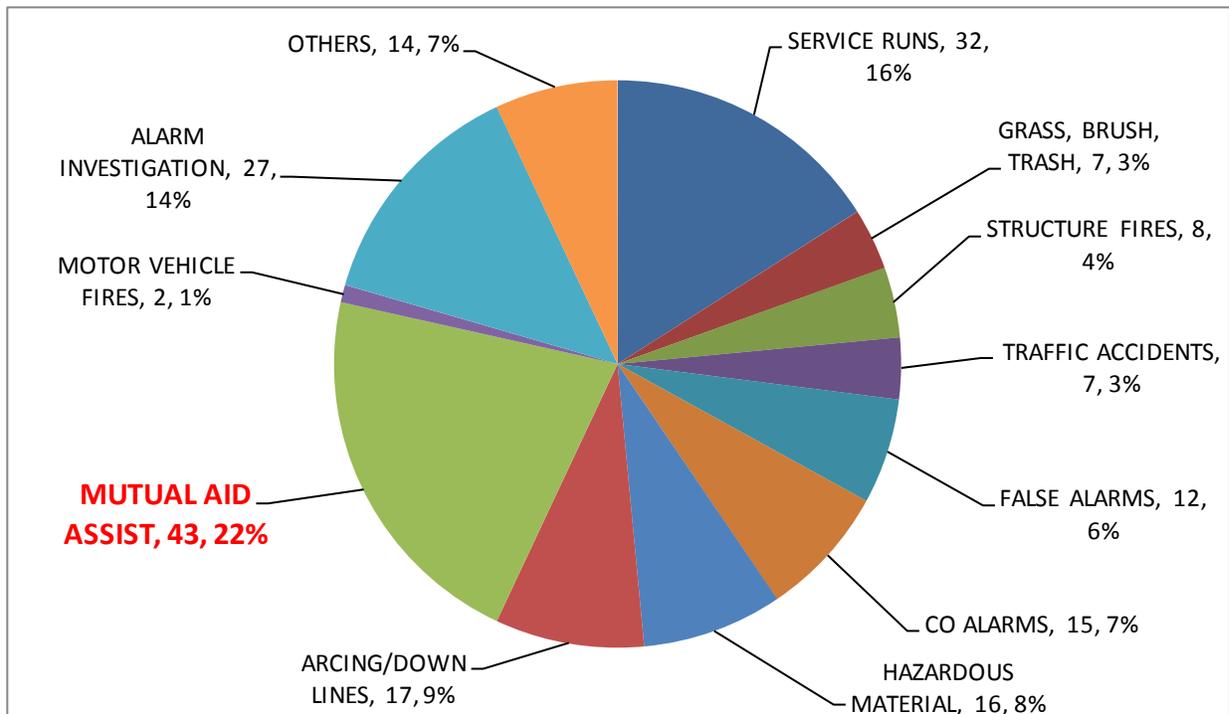
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EMS Runs by Incident
Total EMS Runs 367



Fire Runs by Incident
Total Fire Runs 200



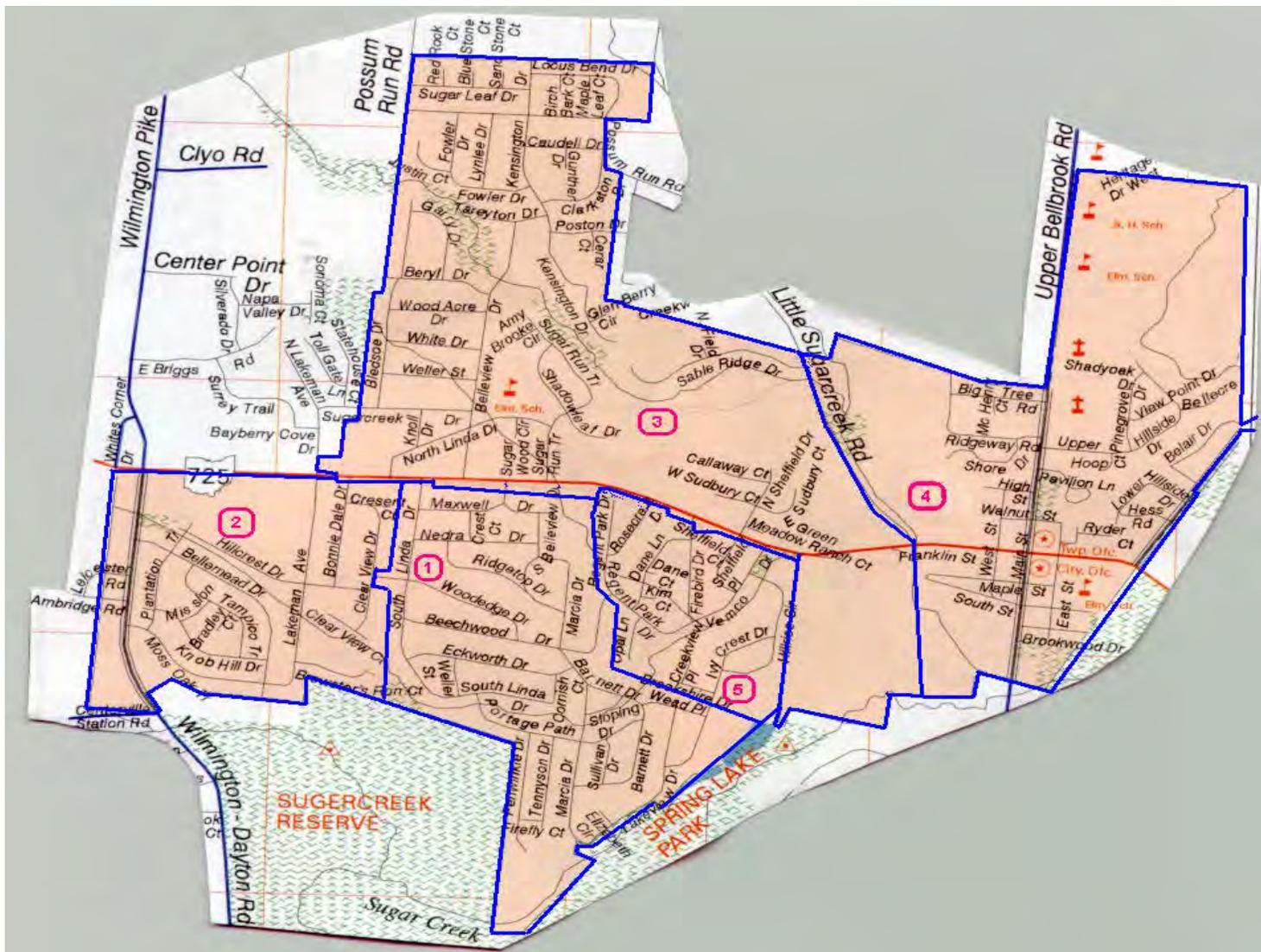
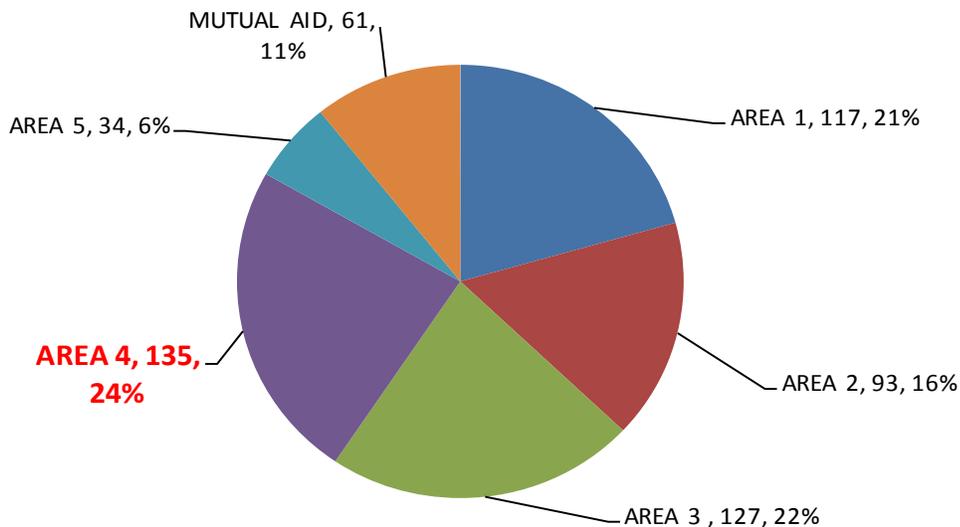
"Your people were excellent, as usual"



CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



2014 Run Analysis/Area



Operations





CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



EMS Operations

The delivery of Emergency Medical Service to the citizens of the City of Bellbrook continues to be one of the Fire Department's highest priorities. Comprising of more than 65 percent of all requests for emergency service in our community, our personnel work hard each day to provide the exemplary care the public has grown to expect of the department. Despite the growing training requirements, our membership continues to remain dedicated to the organization and the patients they serve. Members responded to 367 EMS requests for service in 2014.

The Bellbrook Fire Department is a member of the Greater Miami Valley EMS Council allowing members to operate under state of the art protocols. In 2014, 1 member taught a week long Tactical Medic Course at the Ohio Fire Academy in conjunction with Wright State School of Medicine and Ohio State University Medical Center. The Course had participants from across the state of Ohio. That same member was asked to teach at a National Conference for the Special Operations Medical Association for a second year.



A pop up tent was added for festivals and public relation events in 2014 with generous funding provided by the Bellbrook Lion's Club.

The Bellbrook Fire Department and the members continue the commitment to provide community awareness and education through the car seat installations. In 2014, 72 Car Seat Inspections were performed at the Bellbrook Fire Department by certified car seat technicians. Education is the key to injury prevention. Biannual babysitting courses are presented in a partnership with the Bellbrook Sugarcreek Park District.

The projects we'll be focusing on in 2015 are replacing an ambulance unit and Automated External Defibrillators (AED) for each command staff vehicle as well as, further implementation of community education programs and Member EMS continuing education. Each of these programs directly impacts the community we serve.

"Although I am a 911 dispatcher, I was upset regarding my toddler's medical condition. The staff was very helpful & reassuring. Top notch!"



CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



FIRE OPERATIONS

The Bellbrook Fire Department Fire Operations Platoon is responsible for overseeing fire training, research and development; self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), SCBA mask fit testing, and firefighter turn out gear (TOG).

After much research, trial and error, the recommendation was made to modify our hose selection to include a 2 inch hose line. This will give the firefighters another option for firefighting tactics. This hand line will allow more water to be flowed at a lower pressure, which in return makes it safer for the firefighters use over the larger hand lines we carry.

For the second year, we applied for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) through FEMA, for new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Our current SCBA's were purchased in 2000 through a grant and according to the National Firefighter Protection Agency (NFPA) are "obsolete". Our Current SCBA's are still safe and will continue to do the job of protecting the firefighters. In 2015 the SCBA Cylinders will no longer be serviceable and will have to be replaced. We are encouraged that the vintage of our current SCBA's will be the ones that the grant members will be looking at to award grants to. By receiving this grant, we will be saving the City sufficient funding over the next several years, instead of replacing all 25 SCBA's ourselves. We hope to hear if we are awarded the grant by mid-year.

TRAINING OPERATIONS

Training is a priority in our organization which allows for meeting the continuing education requirements for our firefighters and emergency medical personnel to maintain their State certifications. So updating our training and delivery of that training is of the utmost importance. By offering training in house we are able to meet our departments need with little or no effect on the Budget. This is accomplished through the team approach and input from department's members. This year we offered 80 hours of EMS training and 74 hours of fire training. The Training Team consisting of seven members meeting twice a year to establish a training schedule for the year.



During the year 2014, The Department continued to work on basic and advanced firefighting skills. We conducted Two Trainings sessions at Washington Township's state of the art training facility. These sessions were joint trainings with Washington Township. We provide our Training Schedule to Washington Township, Sugar creek Township and Spring Valley Township with an open invitation to attend any training we offer. We will continue to put an emphasis on training with our neighbors.

"They were very helpful, very nice, very courteous. I really appreciated their help. Thanks very much."



CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



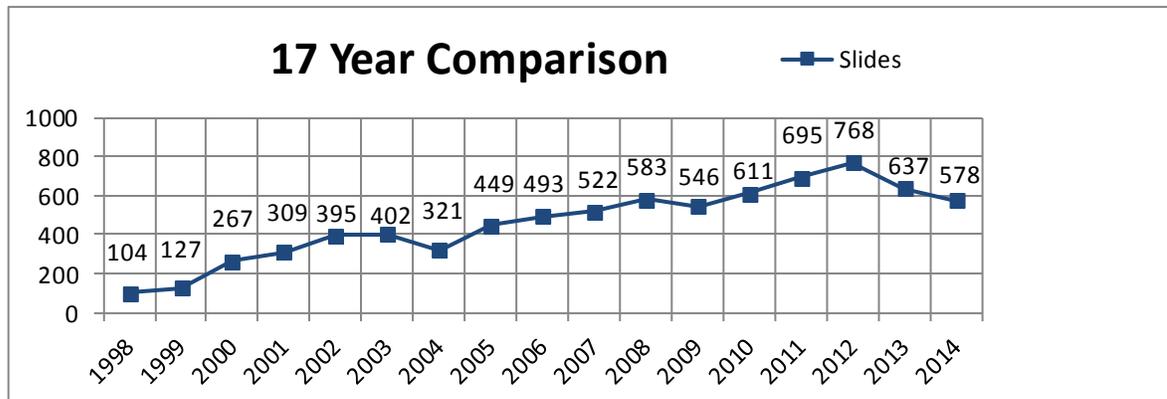
SPECIAL OPERATIONS

The Bellbrook Fire Department Special Operations Platoon continues to undertake the responsibilities of the Inspection Bureau, the Fire Investigation Unit, Bellbrook TV, and charities. The mission of the Inspection Bureau is to assure a safe environment for both businesses and citizens of our community. The bureau consists of eight state certified inspectors. The Bureau performed commercial and business inspections along with follow-ups throughout the year. During the inspection process, we are able to meet and maintain a positive relationship with business owners within our district. There was no reported commercial fire dollar loss in 2014. The Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating of class 3 is still one of the best in the entire region. The Inspection Bureau assists the county with plan reviews and final inspections for all new commercial and business structures within the City. Our role in plan review is to give insight on fire protection within the structure and make recommendations on hydrant locations. This year we welcomed at least eight (8) new businesses to our area by working with Greene County Building. Along with the inspection paperwork, we keep a record of all businesses and their emergency contacts in the city.

The Bellbrook Fire Department Investigation Unit's duty is to determine the origin and cause of fires. We make every attempt to determine origin and cause of each fire to enhance future prevention efforts. This year our department did not have to do a full investigation on any of the fires that occurred within the city. All the fires were small and easily identified as to the cause of each one.

The Bellbrook Community TV project continues to be a great way to get information out to the community. Programs that we broadcast this year included: Rebroadcast of Council Meetings, Fire Prevention & Safety Messages, Community videos, Public Service Announcements, and Parades (Sugar Maple Festival, Lion's Club).

The number of requests to have information placed on the Community Bulletin Board declined slightly again this year to 578. There are many organizations that use the bulletin board to get their message out to the community. The two organizations that use the board most are the Bellbrook Winter's Library and the Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Park District. Both of these organizations make all their own slides to place on the community board decreasing the amount of time required by us to get the message out.



Department Programs





CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

The Bellbrook Fire Department takes great pride in our involvement with local charitable organizations. Our members donate a lot of time and effort to supporting these great causes.

Over Labor Day weekend, when most people are enjoying the holiday with family, the members of the Bellbrook Fire Department hit the street for MDA. Since 1995 our members have been giving up their holiday weekend to pound the pavement in front of Station 22 for such a worthy cause. This year we were able to raise \$3,400.00 in our boots. This raised our total monies donated to MDA over the last 20 years to the sum of \$88,787.



A new endeavor we took on this year was to team up with Universal One Credit Union to collect toys, games, clothing, and toiletry items to donate to the Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Family Resource Center to help bring smiles to children this Christmas season. The Family Resource Center

works closely with families in the area that have a need for assistance during the Holiday Season. This year we took one load of donated items to the Resource Center for them to distribute. It is always great to see the smiles we are able to bring to those less fortunate.

We always look forward to working with these agencies in the future.

Bellbrook may be a small community, but it has a large heart.

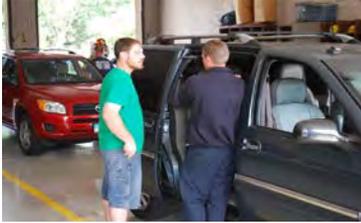
"Bellbrook E.M.S. is Always Great! Thank you for the kind care that you give."



CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



Child Passenger Safety “Drive Thru” Event



In 2014, the Bellbrook Fire Department held its 4th annual child passenger safety “Drive Thru” inspection event. This prevention program has been proven to reduce injury accidents involving young children and, for the residents of Bellbrook, this inspection process was completed at no cost—accomplished through generous donations of local businesses. The event was held on the last Sunday in September for three hours.

During that time, child safety seat technicians inspected and installed 16 child-restraint seats. Information, education, and safety were key elements of focus for crews during this event.

The Bellbrook Fire Department has always taken pride in our fire prevention programs, and the “Drive Thru” inspection event was a vital component to safety and security to Bellbrook residents. In addition to promotional flyers, the news media broadcast the call for child passenger safety seat assistance.



Additionally, the Bellbrook Fire Department and the members continue the commitment to provide community awareness and education through the car seat installations. In 2014, 72 car seat inspections were performed at the Bellbrook Fire Department by certified car seat technician Lt. Glueckert.

“I was very impressed with the professionalism of the Bellbrook firefighters who treated me at the scene.”



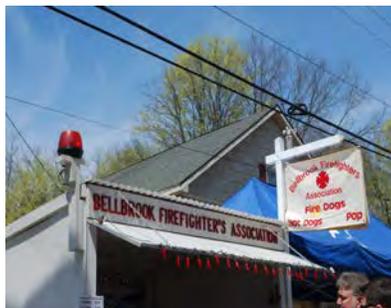
Bellbrook Firefighters' Association

In 2014, the Bellbrook Firefighters' Association continued its long tradition of collaboration and support of the Bellbrook Fire Department. As a non-profit organization, the Firefighters' Association relies on donations throughout the year to purchase much needed equipment and training adjuncts to enhance the fire department's operations.

Association members enjoyed the local community events and participated in the Bellbrook Sugar Maple Festival, sharing the famous "Fire Dog". Proceeds from this important community event are used to give back to a graduating high school senior who is planning on going into the Fire/EMS field. The Scholarship was named after Firefighter Mike Miller to honor his memory in 2013 and was presented to Bellbrook High School Graduating Senior, Nicole Kelly who plans to attend Wright State University in accounting. The Lions' Club Festival was in August and the Firefighters' Association members were there. Personnel displayed equipment donated by the Lion's Club over the years and enjoy giving back to such an important community club!

BFA continued to give back to the community in 2014 by partnering with the Muscular Dystrophy Association on Labor Day weekend to "Fill the Boot", biannual blood drives, car seat inspections, smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector installation programs, CPR, first aid and babysitting courses.

Members of the Bellbrook Firefighters' Association honored Wesley Williams with the Larry Gosnell "Volunteer of the Year" Award for 2014. Amanda Current received the Robert J. Tobias "Rookie of the Year" Award and David Stover was the recipient of the "Image Award" for the courses he teaches throughout the Nation representing the Bellbrook Fire Department. Col. Lin Stokes-C; SSgt Edward Crowe; Lt. Zachary Juniper; Specialist CJ Kline and Private Adam Watson received the "Patriot" Award in appreciation for their service to our Country as military members. Former members receiving "Honorary Member" status were former Fire Chief Scott Hall, Dr. Tim Manuel, Zach Juniper and Frank Neal. Longevity awards recipients were Lin Stokes-C for 25 years; Ron Hearrell for 10 years; Adam Crawford and Jon Nickerson for 5 years on the department. Honorary Member Bill Beeman was recognized for his continued support of the BFA with blood drives and outreach.



Bellbrook Fire Department Search Dogs



2/4/2001 – 5/29/2014

Gator was a once in a lifetime dog, the first official, sworn in Bellbrook Fire Department canine and great partner. He taught me more than any human and our journey was one of huge significance in who I am today. He was there through the rough times and the great ones. He never failed to love me and I cherish the amazing opportunities we made together. I can never explain the bond between a handler and their partner-it far exceeds that of any other bond, complete trust and sacrifice. Our journey was some of the best memories in my life. Because of this little black dog, I have so many, across the U.S. to call friends and family. No words could ever explain the blessing in that.

I appreciate all the kind words the days following his death and I know he touched the lives of so many in the entire nation-a pretty incredible accomplishment for a little lab. I shared Gator with so many people and I know that each of them feel the loss. My baby brother Edward Crowe was Gator's partner and they made a great pair. My husband, Tom was also Gator's handler, certifying him as a California resource and he took Gator back and forth to Los Angeles Fire Department to ride the engine at Station 88. He was a Fire Dog from day one at Bellbrook to his last days retired at home and never stopped loving to tug and play. Age took its toll, and my buddy spent fewer days greeting me upon my arrival at home. There were many times I would check on him to make sure he was still breathing-often startling him.

I am so very, honored to have had the opportunity to have Gator as a partner-he made me humble and a better person. I miss him more than words could explain but the memories live on and I have many to laugh at. I will never forget the lessons learned or the sweet little boy who stole my heart and kept me on my toes. I worked harder because of him and I have more blessings in my life all because of a little black dog who would give me the paw and who's expression, never failed to say you are a moron!

Cheers, to you Gator! For all the great times, run free with Frei!

The Bellbrook Fire Department currently has Wylie and Zena filling the big paws of Gator and Freitag as Search Dogs.

Apparatus





CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT INVENTORY OF EQUIPMENT (2014)

STAFF VEHICLES



COMMAND VEHICLE CHIEF (200)
2014 Ford Expedition



COMMAND VEHICLE (230)
2008 Ford Expedition



SUPPORT STAFF VEHICLE (220)
2004 Ford E-350 Van



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FIRE APPARATUS



ENGINE 22 (201)
2012 International / KME



ENGINE 21 (231)
2003 International / KME



LADDER 22 (206)
1995 International/Smeal 75' Aerial



CITY OF BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE



MEDIC 22 (235)
2012 Chevy McCoy/Miller



MEDIC 21 (225)
2000 Ford McCoy/Miller



MEDIC 23 (215)
2004 Ford McCoy Miller

SPECIALIZED RESCUE RESPONSE UNITS



RESCUE 22 (204)
95 Freightliner/3D Air & Light Truck



S.T.A.R. Trailer
Special Tactics and Rescue