



Seattle Fire Department Annual Report

20

22

HERE TO SERVE SINCE 1889

INTEGRITY

TEAMWORK

COMPASSION

COURAGE

DIVERSITY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 4** Message from the Fire Chief
- 6** About Us
- 12** Every Second Counts
- 16** Behavioral Health Program
- 18** Mobile Integrated Health
- 20** Operations
- 24** Significant Incidents
- 32** Fire Prevention Division
- 38** Resource Management
- 44** Public Affairs





MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



"WE ARE NOT MAKERS OF HISTORY. WE ARE MADE BY HISTORY."

- MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

2022 proved to be a historic year for the Seattle Fire Department.

For the first time, our number of dispatched responses exceeded 100,000. We sent units on 106,453 calls – a 12.3% increase over 2021. Part of that can be attributed to a 14.9% jump in the number of aid calls, including a rise in calls related to substance use.

We also broke the daily record for the most 911 calls to our Fire Alarm Center on December 23. The ice storm generated more than 1,200 calls in a 24-hour period and more than 600 dispatches. Contrast that with 2021, when during the hottest three days in Seattle's history, we set a record of 563 dispatches.

The department had staffing challenges through 2022, due in part to the greater number of firefighters eligible for retirement as well as impacts of the vaccine mandate. City leaders responded by providing funding for larger recruit class sizes, which allowed us to also train a record number of recruits in 2022.



Despite the challenges we faced, we were intentional in our focus on training – logging 238,000 hours – and evaluating our responses so we keep our community and one another safe. We also worked hard to move the needle in many areas. Among our successes this year:

- Introduced the Nurse Navigation program, which redirected nearly 6,000 non-emergent calls about injuries or illnesses with a state-licensed nurse for assessment
- Rolled out the First Due platform used for our building inspection program. It replaces an aging system and also brings together a wealth of information about structures that our firefighters can use on their way to a dispatched incident to increase their situational awareness and safety
- Expanded our Health One program by adding a third unit to serve the Rainier Valley
- Welcomed nearly 2,000 children and adults to our Great Seattle Fire Day event at MOHAI
- Coordinated a regional presentation of *The Who We Are Project*
- Received funding from the Mayor and City Council to support the permanent operation of Ladder 13 and Medic 26 in West Seattle
- Graduated from recruit academy 84 new firefighters and hired 14 new professional staff
- Designated a Class 1 Protection District rating from WSRB, the first fire department in Washington to ever receive this recognition

I am deeply proud of this department and its members. Our professional staff and uniformed firefighters alike have consistently stepped up to ensure that when you need us most, you can trust we will be there and providing you the very best service.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harold D. Scoggins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fire Chief Harold D. Scoggins

ABOUT US

OUR VISION

The vision for the Seattle Fire Department is to be a national leader in responding to and preventing emergencies with a commitment to excellence and teamwork.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Seattle Fire Department is to save lives and protect property through emergency medical service, fire and rescue response and fire prevention. We respond immediately when any member of our community needs help with professional, effective and compassionate service.

The Seattle Fire Department strives to provide the best service possible by putting the community and its needs first. It is the department's goal to actively engage Seattle's residents. The Seattle Fire Department values and respects diverse internal and external cultures, constantly working to improve service delivery to all community members. Through feedback and other cooperative communication processes, the department works to ensure the community is informed of and able to access programs and services.

The Seattle Fire Department was established by Seattle Ordinance No. 1212 on Oct. 17, 1889. The services provided by the Seattle Fire Department include:

- Critical fire suppression and emergency medical care
- Technical teams, including technical and heavy rescue, dive rescue, tunnel rescue, marine fire response and hazardous materials (HazMat) response
- Fire prevention and public education
- Fire investigation
- Mutual aid response to neighboring jurisdictions

Integrity: *We are honest, trustworthy and accountable. Honor guides our actions.*

Teamwork: *We each bring our own skills and experience, yet we recognize that we are better together. We support and depend on each other to achieve our goals.*

Compassion: *Caring is part of our job. We could not do what we do without a deep and motivating empathy for those we serve.*

Courage: *We show fortitude and determination in a crisis.*

Diversity: *We respect the different identities, experiences and perspectives of those that we work with and the community we serve.*





H. SUTLEY



He left his sneakers
on the floor where he
could step right into
them. "Please pick up
your sneakers," said
his mommy.

Él dejó sus zapatos en
el piso donde podría
ponérselos fácilmente.
"Recoge por favor tus
zapatos," dijo su mamá.



TIERED RESPONSE SYSTEM

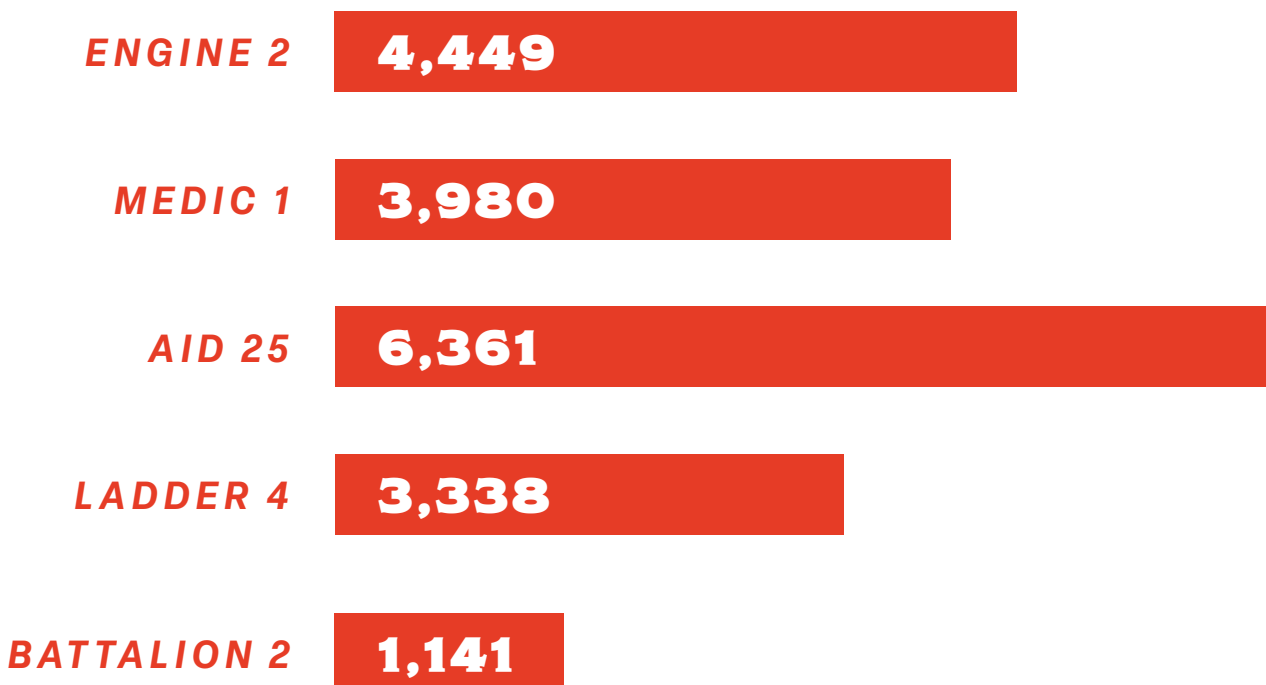
The Seattle Fire Department provides emergency response through five battalions, consisting of 33 fire stations (plus Battalion 3/Medic One at Harborview Medical Center) strategically placed around the city in order to maximize coverage and minimize response time.

These stations are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by four separate shifts. To meet the needs of the city and provide emergency response services to the residents of Seattle, in 2022, the department had 1005 uniformed personnel and 83 civilian personnel. Uniformed personnel includes 904 firefighter/EMTs, 38 chiefs and 63 firefighter/paramedics. Every day, there are 216 members responding to emergencies across the city (220 with upstaffing for two daytime aid cars).

Depending on the type of emergency, the Fire Alarm Center will dispatch the appropriate resources to provide fire suppression, Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Life Support (ALS), Health One services and technical operations. All Seattle firefighters are certified emergency medical technicians. In a BLS incident, a fire engine, aid car and/or ladder truck will be the first responders. If a medical emergency requires ALS, one of the eight medic units will also be dispatched to the scene. Certain type of emergencies require multiple units. For example, an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest will have three units come to their aid. Similarly for fires and other emergencies, the dispatcher will assign the appropriate resources to protect life and property.

2022 BUSIEST UNITS

Determined by total responding calls.



STATION MAP & APPARATUS PROFILE

33 FIRE STATIONS

32 ENGINES

12 LADDER TRUCKS
ONE LADDER TRUCK IS PART OF THE RESCUE 1 UNIT

5 AID UNITS

2 PEAK-TIME
AID UNITS

8 MEDIC UNITS

3 HEALTH ONE UNITS

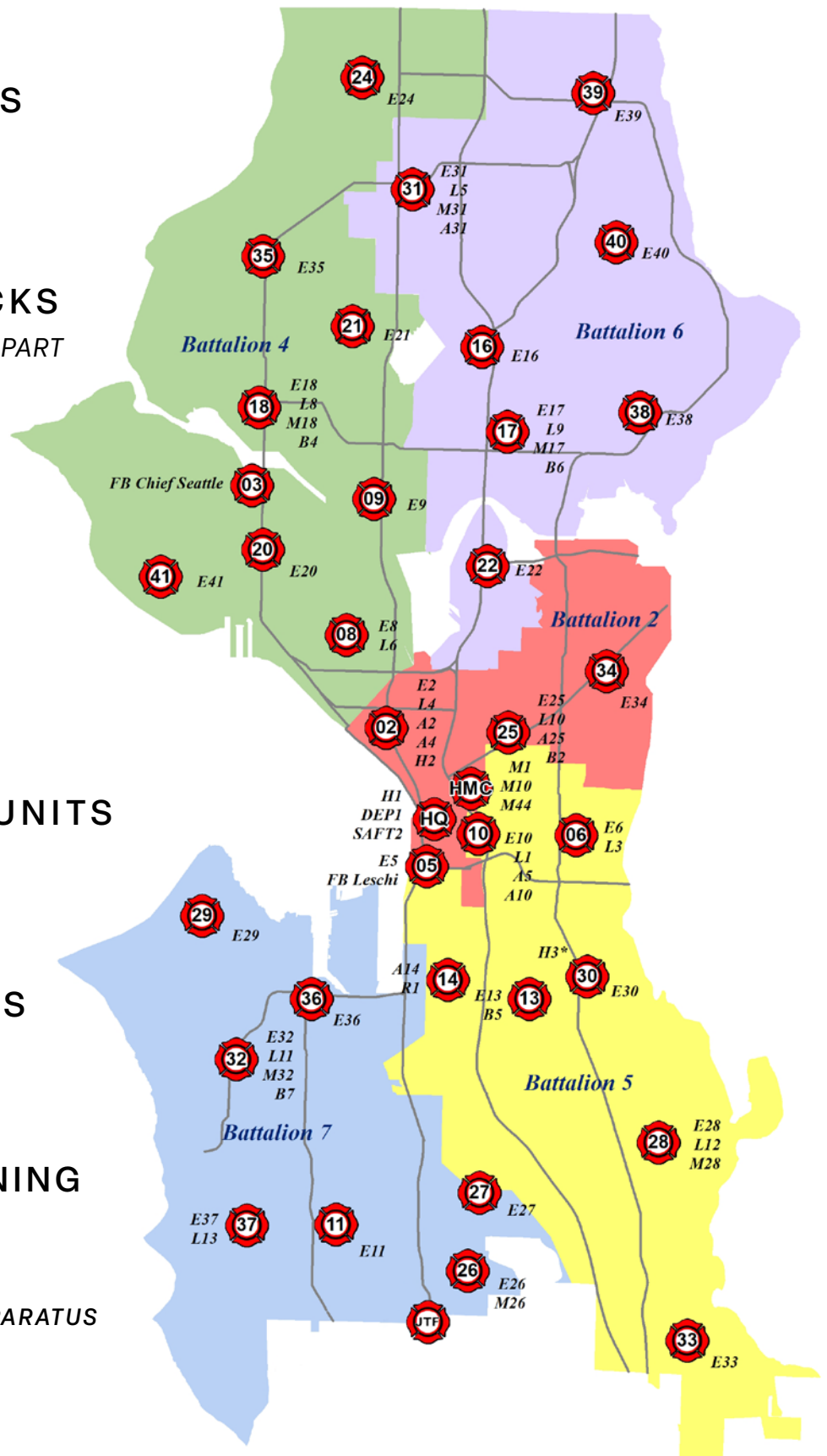
2 AIR TRUCKS

2 HOSE WAGONS

4 FIRE BOATS

1 SHARED TRAINING
FACILITY (JTF)

ADDITIONAL SPECIALIZED APPARATUS



SEATTLE FIRE DEPARTMENT BECOMES FIRST IN STATE TO EARN PROTECTION CLASS 1 RATING

The Seattle Fire Department became in 2022 the first fire department in the state's history to receive the Protection Class 1 rating from the WSRB – the highest possible rating that speaks to department's effectiveness and commitment to providing the highest standard of public safety. This places Seattle Fire in the top 1% of fire departments in the nation.

WSRB serves Washington residents as the non-profit independent insurance rating agency for fire departments, fire districts and regional fire authorities within the state of Washington. With the new rating, the SFD will join approximately 460 other fire districts nationwide with a Class 1 rating.

"This outstanding evaluation leaves no doubt that Seattle Fire Department is a pioneering and nation-leading department committed to a higher standard of public safety. Our Seattle Fire Department exemplifies Protection Class

1 excellence and One Seattle leadership," said Mayor Bruce Harrell.

Most, but not all, insurance companies insuring property in the state use WSRB protection class and loss cost data as one essential input for setting the fire portion of insurance premiums. While not guaranteed, it's possible that the new Protection Class rating could lower fire insurance premiums for owners of commercial or residential property.

"Seattle Fire and the City of Seattle have earned a Protection Class 1 rating by upgrading the department's ability to put out fires across the city," said Karl Newman, president and CEO of WSRB. "This is the first and only PC 1 rating in the state in more than 100 years of our operation. It is a measure of the department's dedication to protecting lives and property and we are pleased to celebrate this achievement with them."



PHOTO BY JOHN ODEGARD

SFD ANNUAL AWARDS

In October, the department held its annual awards ceremony at the Embassy Suites in Pioneer Square. This was the first in-person awards ceremony since 2019. The department wishes to thank the Seattle Fire Foundation and generous event sponsors. Their financial support allowed all Seattle Fire employees to attend at no cost. More than 350 employees, winners' guests and community members celebrated all of the recipients across multiple categories. The department is proud of each winner for their contributions and service to the community.

Headshot photos provided by FireDogPhotos



Christa Williams
Civilian of the Year



FF Jordan Legan
Firefighter of the Year



Capt. Kevin Flanagan
Officer of the Year



BC Erik Hotchkiss
Chief of the Year



FF Matt Runte
Lifetime Achievement



Lt. Christopher Nastos
Lifetime Achievement



Lt. Charles Meyer
Lifetime Achievement



Trina Knable
Customer Service Award



FC Harold Scoggins
Community Service Award



Debbie Steinhauer
Community Service Award



EVERY SECOND COUNTS


CASCADE OF EVENTS

The Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) has defined response time elements as a cascade of events. This cascade is similar to that used by the medical community to describe the events leading up to the initiation, mitigation and ultimate outcome of a cardiac arrest. It is imperative to keep in mind that certain intervals described, such as turnout and travel time, can

be directly influenced by the fire service via station locations and design, staffing levels as well as local rules and procedures for response. Other factors, such as the alarm interval, can be influenced indirectly through public education and engineering initiatives. The fire service can also influence the call-processing interval through its ability to define standards and compel performance by its dispatch centers.

TIME TEMPERATURE STANDARD

The “time-temperature curve” standard is based on data from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Insurance Services Organization (ISO), which have established that a typical point source of ignition in a residential house will “flash over” at some time between five and 10 minutes after ignition, turning a typical “room and contents” fire into a structural fire of some magnitude.



TIME TEMPERATURE CURVE

The utility of the time-temperature curve for fire station placement is limited to a number of factors including:

- It does not account for the time required for the existence of a fire to be “discovered” and reported to the fire department via the 911 system.
- The time from ignition to flashover varies widely (5-30 minutes depending on building characteristics); thus it cannot provide a valid basis for the allocation of resources.
- The curve is constantly shifting, given the numerous changes in building construction, built-in suppression systems, the increased use of fire resistive materials for furniture and other items typically found in the interior of occupied buildings.

CARDIAC ARREST SURVIVAL RATE

In communities where the fire service is the principal provider of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) first response, the goal is for basic life support (CPR and defibrillation) to be available to the victim of a cardiac arrest within four minutes of the event, and that advanced life support (paramedic service) should be available within eight minutes or less of the event. Early notification, distribution and concentration of emergency response services are thus paramount to successful resuscitation efforts.

THE GOLDEN HOUR STANDARD

In trauma events, the golden hour is the historic benchmark applied to victims with significant critical traumatic injuries. The golden hour reflects the concept that survivability decreases significantly if the patient isn't in the operating room within one hour of receiving a critical traumatic injury.

RESPONSE STANDARDS

These response standards measure the delivery of fire suppression, technical rescue response and emergency medical services. Guided by National Fire Protection Association Standard 1710, the standards protect the community and occupational health and safety of Seattle Fire employees. The call processing standard is guided by National Fire Protection Association Standard 1221(2019).

RESPONSE TOTALS	2020	2021	2022
Total Number of Responses	80,316	93,233	106,453
<i>Basic Life Support</i>	50,900	56,208	64,127
<i>Advanced Life Support</i>	10,817	12,356	14,681
<i>Fire</i>	18,094	24,255	27,180
<i>Special Operations</i>	-	361	407
<i>Mutual Aid</i>	505	53	58

The "Fire" category includes any incident where firefighters don turnout gear (eg: fires, vehicle collisions, etc.) These response standards measure the delivery of fire suppression, technical rescue response and emergency medical services. Guided by National Fire Protection Association Standard 1710.

CALL VOLUME	2020	2021	2022
Total Number of Calls	165,846	186,571	202,344
<i>Emergency Calls</i>	139,498	158,664	172,568
<i>Admin Calls</i>	26,348	27,907	29,776

The Fire Alarm Center is staffed 24/7 by firefighter/EMTs who have completed more than 1,000 hours of additional training to become certified dispatchers.

CALL PROCESSING	2020	2021	2022
Calls processed within 60 seconds	66%	59%	60%

NFPA 1221 (2019) states that 90% of the time dispatch centers should process high acuity fire and EMS calls within 60 seconds. This is the time from when the phone is first picked up to a unit assigned.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL	2020	2021	2022
EMS turnout time is within 60 seconds	48%	59%	55%

SFD turnout time standard is 60 seconds, 90% of the time. This is the time span between a unit being assigned to being en route.

First BLS unit arrival is within 4 minutes	73%	73%	75%
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SFD response time standard for the arrival of the first Basic Life Support unit (aid car, fire engine, ladder truck) is four minutes, 90% of the time. This is the time span between a unit being en route to on-scene.

First ALS unit arrival is within 8 minutes	81%	81%	82%
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SFD response time standard for the arrival of an Advanced Life Support unit (medic unit with two firefighter/paramedics) is eight minutes, 90% of the time. This is the time span between a unit being en route to on-scene.

Average number of EMS responses per paramedic unit per day	5.2	4.72	5.74
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2020 number does not include Medic 26, which went into service in June of that year. 2022 number does not include Medic 44.

Total Advanced Life Support transports	4,414	5,936	6,154
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Includes total transports by medic and aid units.

FIREFIGHTING	2020	2021	2022
Fire turnout time is within 80 seconds	55%	58%	60%

SFD turnout time standard is 80 seconds, 90% of the time. This is the time span between a unit being assigned to being en route.

First engine arrival is within 4 minutes	78%	75%	76%
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SFD response time standard for the arrival of the first fire engine is four minutes, 90% of the time. This is the time span between a unit being en route to on-scene.

First full alarm arrival is within 8 minutes	92%	91%	95%
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SFD response time standard for the arrival of a first full alarm assignment is eight minutes, 90% of the time. This is the time span between a unit being en route to on-scene.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM

In 2022, the department made a tangible commitment to supporting the mental health of its workforce by hiring a Behavioral Health Coordinator and implementing programs that bolster prevention, intervention and postvention resilience. The Behavioral Health programs build on the successes of the well-established and respected Peer Support program and expand the capacity to offer additional services that help employees thrive.

Accomplishments include:

- Enhancing the Peer Support team, by 10, to 53 peers available to provide confidential help for any employee encountering professional or personal stress.
- Providing more than 20 group and hundreds of individual peer support interventions following stressful situations. Collaborating with other agencies to support each other in training and following incidents.
- Offering a two-day Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) course taught by Seattle Fire instructors for 30 personnel, equipping participants with skills to provide life-saving psychological first aid to colleagues, family, friends and patients.
- Offering the mPEAK (mindful performance, awareness and knowledge) resilience skill-building course for 31 attendees. mPEAK is a hands-on, interactive program developed by the University of California San Diego's Center for Mindfulness specifically for those who perform in high stress, high stakes environments.
- Providing resilience information, tools and resources on department-wide meetings and offering resilience workshops for leadership academies, recruit classes, divisions and battalion chiefs.
- Supporting the workforce with visits from the Peer Support Therapy Dog teams after challenging shifts or to boost morale.







MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH PROGRAM

Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) had a busy and productive year in 2022. In the spring, the Health One program continued its expansion by launching its third unit. Health 3 is quartered in the Mount Baker district. Placing a unit in the Rainier Valley area was a priority, reflecting both the volume of referrals from the area and level of community need. A third Health One rig allows the team more flexibility to outreach

referred clients while remaining available and responsive to calling Operations units.

Referrals to the MIH program continued their steady growth this year. A total of 2,789 referrals were entered into the MIH tracking system in 2022, nearly eight per day. The MIH team accepted 1,730 of these referrals for enrollment into the program, providing clients with in-person outreach and remote



care coordination. Of these referrals, 484 were Vulnerable Adult reports submitted by Operations to Adult Protective Services and MIH.

A total of 519 unique referents were logged in 2022, meaning that nearly half of all firefighters referred at least one patient to the team. Within these referrals, the most common reasons were high 911 utilization (793), low acuity medical conditions (718), poor living conditions (561), neglect, abuse or lack of self-care (508), falls (507) and homelessness (496).

The MIH team expanded its work in fall prevention as well. Throughout the year, about 110 clients were referred to a partner nonprofit to reach out with fall prevention services, including home walkthroughs,

hardware installation and more. This year, MIH also debuted an auto-referral program, whereby adults over 50 with two or more falls in three months are automatically referred to fall prevention. Since its inception, 120 individuals were auto-referred through this system.

The Health One team continued its growth as well: at the end of the year there were 26 firefighters fully trained or in training in the program. MIH features five full-time case managers, expected to grow to eight in 2023. Thanks to congressional spending secured in 2022, in 2023 the MIH team will embed a full-time nurse practitioner onto the Health One team, significantly expanding its ability to offer healthcare services.



CITY OF
FIRE DEPT.
SEATTLE

EMERGENCY - CALL 9-1-1

WASHINGTON
50679D
EVERGREEN STATE

OPERATIONS

The Operations division encompasses both fire suppression and emergency medical services. Personnel include chiefs, officers, firefighters and administrative staff.

FUNDING APPROVED FOR LADDER 13, MEDIC 26

In the 2023 budget, the Mayor and Seattle City Council approved funding to support the permanent operation of Ladder 13 and Medic 26. The two units were initially put in place in 2020 after the West Seattle Bridge closed for repairs. However, there has been a long-time need to place an additional ladder truck and medic unit to more effectively provide fire and emergency medical services in this area of Seattle.

Medic 26 is located at Fire Station 26 in South Park, and Ladder 13 is located at Fire Station 37 in West Seattle. Both units will primarily serve the residents of South Park and southwest Seattle but can respond to emergencies citywide. Before Medic 26 and Ladder 13 began operating, there was only one medic unit (Medic 32) and one ladder truck (Ladder 11) primarily serving the area.

With the permanent operation of Medic 26 and Ladder 13, the department can provide enhanced coverage for a large geographical, populated and diverse area.



SOG DEVELOPMENT

The Standard Operating Guidelines program (SOG) was created to provide firefighters with strategic and tactical guidance on a normal course of action at emergency incidents. The SOG program gathers a wide range of input to develop guidelines, distributes them throughout the department for peer review, partners with the Training Division for initial and ongoing training, and continually solicits feedback for future revisions.

In 2022, the program published two SOGs: Water Rescue and Scene of Violence. The SOG library now consists of 19 published SOGs with many more currently in production.

PHOTO BY CAPT. CAMERON CHAMBERS

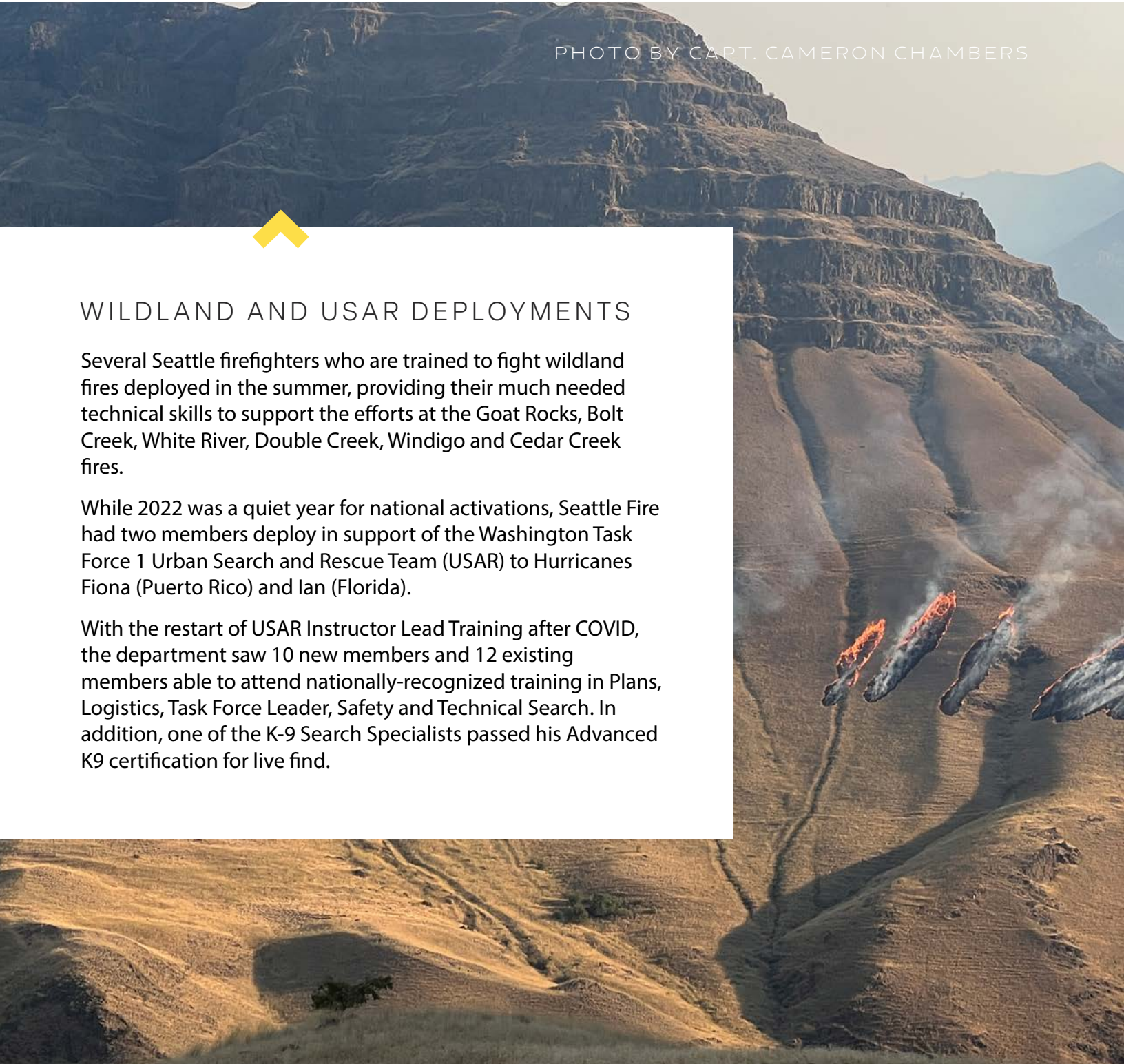


WILDLAND AND USAR DEPLOYMENTS

Several Seattle firefighters who are trained to fight wildland fires deployed in the summer, providing their much needed technical skills to support the efforts at the Goat Rocks, Bolt Creek, White River, Double Creek, Windigo and Cedar Creek fires.

While 2022 was a quiet year for national activations, Seattle Fire had two members deploy in support of the Washington Task Force 1 Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) to Hurricanes Fiona (Puerto Rico) and Ian (Florida).

With the restart of USAR Instructor Lead Training after COVID, the department saw 10 new members and 12 existing members able to attend nationally-recognized training in Plans, Logistics, Task Force Leader, Safety and Technical Search. In addition, one of the K-9 Search Specialists passed his Advanced K9 certification for live find.





FIRE SIMULATION LAB

Borrowing from Los Angeles Fire Department’s successful “Green Cell” fire simulation training, Seattle Fire established its own simulation program in 2022. Three LAFD chiefs brought their “Command and Control” class to Seattle and then provided input on Seattle’s developing SIMS Lab program.

In the SIMS Lab setting, there are two roles: the student and the players. The student enters an incident-like environment with radio communications and appropriate resources provided, then facilitated through a fire scenario. The players function as engine and ladder companies, directed by the student until the fire is tapped or under control.

The simulations are digitally created to replicate scenarios Seattle firefighters might actually face with the goal of all participants learning from their role as the student or a player so they are better prepared for the real situation. For now, the SIMS Lab focuses on officers. As it progresses, the department plans to expand it to include firefighters at all levels.

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

Jan. 7

Perkins Lane landslide major rescue response:

Crews rescued a man from a partially collapsed home caused by a landslide near the 2400 block of Perkins Lane W. The man was in stable condition and transported to a hospital for further medical care. On the day of the incident, one dog was found deceased while the second was still missing.

Feb. 19

Fire at men's shelter: Firefighters rescued a man from a burning building on the 1200 block of S. Main St. The patient was in serious condition, and paramedics transported him to a hospital for further medical care. The fire was ruled accidental with an estimated loss of \$225,000.



March 12

Carbon monoxide leak in Ravenna: Residents of an apartment building were woken up by their carbon monoxide (CO) alarms. Firefighters evacuated the building after confirming unsafe levels of (CO). An adult male was transported to a hospital in stable condition, and residents were able to return to their homes after crews ventilated the building.

Jan. 13

Perkins Lane landslide - Crews return to rescue the missing dog, found alive and well: Firefighters rescued the dog that had been reported missing from the home involved in the Jan. 7 landslide on Perkins Lane. The pup was in stable condition and transported to veterinary hospital care.



PHOTO BY JOHN ODEGARD



April 6

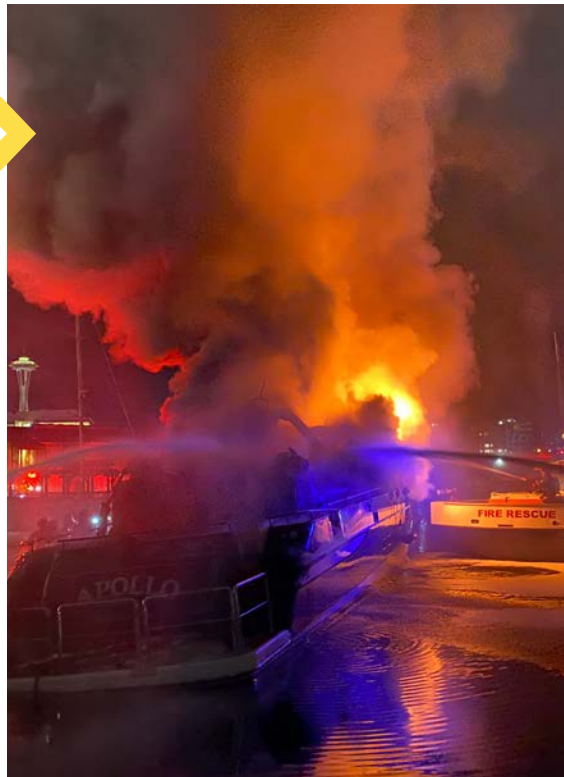
Two-alarm fire in three-story apartment building: Crews extinguished a two-alarm fire in a three-story apartment building near the 4800 block of S. Henderson St. An adult male who jumped from a balcony due to fire in the unit was transported to a hospital and was in stable condition. Firefighters utilized ladders to evacuate several residents. Investigators determined the fire was accidental.

May 3

Fire in small boathouse: The fire started on one of the boats along the Duwamish waterway before extending to two additional vessels and the boathouse structure. Unfortunately, an adult male was found deceased at the scene. Investigators determined the cause of the fire was accidental with the estimated loss at \$104,000.

March 26

Intentionally set fire on yacht: Crews responded to a well-involved fire on an 84-foot yacht docked in South Lake Union near the 800 block of Fairview Pl. N. The vessel drifted away from its dock, but the fireboat was able to secure it away from other vessels. No injuries were reported. Investigators determined the fire was intentionally set, with an estimated loss of \$1.5 million. Seattle Police conducted a follow-up investigation.



May 27

Vacant building fire in former Borracchini's Bakery: A two-alarm fire erupted from a vacant two-story commercial building at the 2300 block of Rainier Ave. S. Firefighters were unable to safely enter the building due to heavy smoke and high heat so they poured water on the fire from outside of the structure. Crews were able to knock down the fire after several hours on scene. Investigators ruled the cause as undetermined.



July 28

HazMat full response for fire on flatbed trailer: Firefighters shut down both directions of I-5 between the Lakeview and Mercer St. exits due to a truck carrying tanks of oxygen, argon, acetylene and propane being on fire. Several tanks exploded, causing a second fire at a nearby construction site. Fortunately, no injuries were reported.

June 12

Madison St. Apartment fire: The fire started in a top-floor unit and was upgraded to a three-alarm response when it quickly spread throughout the building by an inaccessible void space in between the ceiling and roof. Eight residents were treated for injuries, including three who were in serious or critical condition. Five firefighters were also treated for minor injuries. Investigators ruled the fire as accidental. Estimated loss was \$1,000,000.

June 16

Electrical fire in the attic of two adjoining condominium buildings: Firefighters extinguished a two-alarm fire that started inside an attic space of an unoccupied two-story townhome. The fire extended throughout the space, damaging several adjacent homes. Investigators ruled the fire as accidental, no injuries were reported, and the estimated loss was \$250,000.

June 29

Vehicle collision into multi-occupancy building: Crews responded to a car collision into a commercial building on Michigan St. The car's engine bay caught on fire and extended into the impacted building. As crews extinguished the fire, Seattle Police officers apprehended the driver who reportedly fled the scene. Paramedics then transported him to Harborview Medical Center.



June 30

Fire in derelict building scheduled for demo: A two-alarm fire erupted from a vacant three-story apartment building on 2nd Ave. Crews evacuated when they confirmed the fire spread into an inaccessible void space in between the ceiling and roof. The fire was eventually extinguished by pouring water from outside the building. The cause of the fire was undetermined, and no injuries were reported.



Aug. 5

Houseboat fire at China Harbor Marina: Firefighters responded to a houseboat on fire at a marina on Westlake Ave. N. The incident was upgraded to a two-alarm response in order to have additional resources to get the fire under control and minimize exposures to nearby vessels. Investigators ruled the fire as accidental and determined it was likely caused by an electrical malfunction.



Dec. 21

Fire in a single-family residence with hoarding conditions: Firefighters extinguished a fire in a residence at the 5900 block of 23rd Ave. S. They rescued an adult female from the home, but she was later declared deceased at the scene.

Sept. 14

Scene of violence progressed to a single-family residence fire: Seattle firefighters responded to the 2200 block of 25th Ave. E. to join in unified command with Seattle Police for a scenes of violence response with an associated fire at the residence. Firefighters initially applied water on the fire from the exterior of the home to help keep the fire contained and exposures protected. The Seattle Police SWAT, equipped with compressed air tanks, initially entered the home to attempt to locate the suspect and any possible victims. The incident reached a point where it was determined that there were no survivable spaces inside the residence. The scene was deemed secure, which allowed firefighters to enter to get the fire under control. While searching the structure, firefighters unfortunately found an adult female and male deceased.





RESCUE SWIMMER PROGRAM

The department's Rescue Swimmer team onboarded 13 new members to bring the roster up to 45. All new members successfully completed the four-day regional Rapid Entry Rescue Swimmer course and 14 hours of Out to Ops training to earn their active rescue swimmer status.

Rescue swimmer units were dispatched as a standard resource on 74 water rescue responses and entered the water on 14. On nine of those, the rescue swimmers entered the water and extricated the patient to Seattle Fire crews on land.

On one exceptionally well-executed water rescue, Seattle Fire companies triangulated the patient's based on witness interviews and directed the rescue swimmer to the last seen point in the water. When signaled, the rescue swimmer dropped the marker buoy, performed a subsurface breath-hold search, located the patient and swam them to shore.

Paramedics then transported the patient to the hospital with a pulse.

To be prepared for these incidents, rescue swimmers gathered for four quarterly training modules in the daylight and the dark, in fresh and salt water, in pools and under downtown piers. Members completed their annual physical fitness tests, drilled on emergency procedures and practiced extricating from entanglement hazards in the water. They practiced wide area search, breath-hold dives and interaction with fireboats and the Rescue 1 technical team.

To accomplish this training and administer the program, the team added an additional training coordinator, equipment coordinator and program coordinator, and they added two new rescue swimmer instructors.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Over the course of a year, Seattle Fire responds to more medical emergencies than fires. In 2022, approximately 73 percent of all dispatched responses were medical in nature. All Seattle firefighters also hold their emergency medical technician – or EMT – credential so they are able to provide basic life support at an emergency scene. The department staffs five full-time and two peak-time aid units with firefighter/EMTs. They receive quarterly training in a range of topics to freshen their skills and maintain their EMT credentials. Seattle Fire staffs eight medic units, each with two firefighter-trained paramedics to provide more advanced medical care or advanced life support.

MEDIC ONE PROGRAM

Seattle Fire is proud to be one of the first pre-hospital care programs established in the United States. Established in Seattle in 1970 by Dr. Leonard Cobb and then-Fire Chief Gordon Vickery, the Seattle Medic One program has served as the inspiration for countless paramedic programs worldwide.

Seattle Fire has eight medic units situated around the city, poised to respond to any incident that requires advanced life support, including strokes, cardiac arrests, major traumas, shootings and stabbings.

Becoming a paramedic requires completing a rigorous 10-month program through the University of Washington Michael K Copass Paramedic Training Program at Harborview Medical Center. In all, students complete 2,750 hours of classroom training, clinical rotations and field training. Paramedic candidates from all across King and neighboring counties receive vital training and mentoring from experienced Seattle Fire paramedics through ride-alongs on Seattle Fire Medic One units.

Seattle Fire's newest paramedics (Class 48) graduated from the Paramedic Training Program in July 2022. From left to right: Fire Chief Scoggins, graduates Timm Ryan, Brett Cameron, Alex Collins-Gauweiler, Zach Cordova and Mike Duncan, Deputy Chief Gonzales and Medical Director Dr. Sayre.



PATIENT REUNIONS

It is a special honor when patients ask to meet the firefighters and paramedics who responded to their medical crisis. It closes an important loop to learn about their recovery.

One such visit was with Miles, a 13-year-old who required life-saving efforts by his parents when he suffered cardiac arrest. Miles' mom knew infant CPR, but needed coaching by the Seattle Fire dispatcher to deliver CPR on her son until firefighter/EMTs and paramedics could arrive. Seeing the steps he has made towards recovery brought a smile to everyone's faces.

Another fulfilling reunion was with Tom and his wife, who came to Fire Station 31 to meet those who responded to his cardiac event he suffered while the two were on a walk. Armed with treats, they shared the story of Tom's collapse prior to their arrival and his complete recovery since discharge from the hospital.

In both cases, the families were extremely grateful to Fire Alarm Center dispatchers who coached CPR and to the crews who responded. They also praised the importance of learning bystander CPR. In Tom's case, it was a neighbor who first responded, buying precious time by giving compressions until firefighters arrived. Seattle residents can learn CPR by contacting Seattle Fire's Medic 2 program: medic2@seattle.gov.

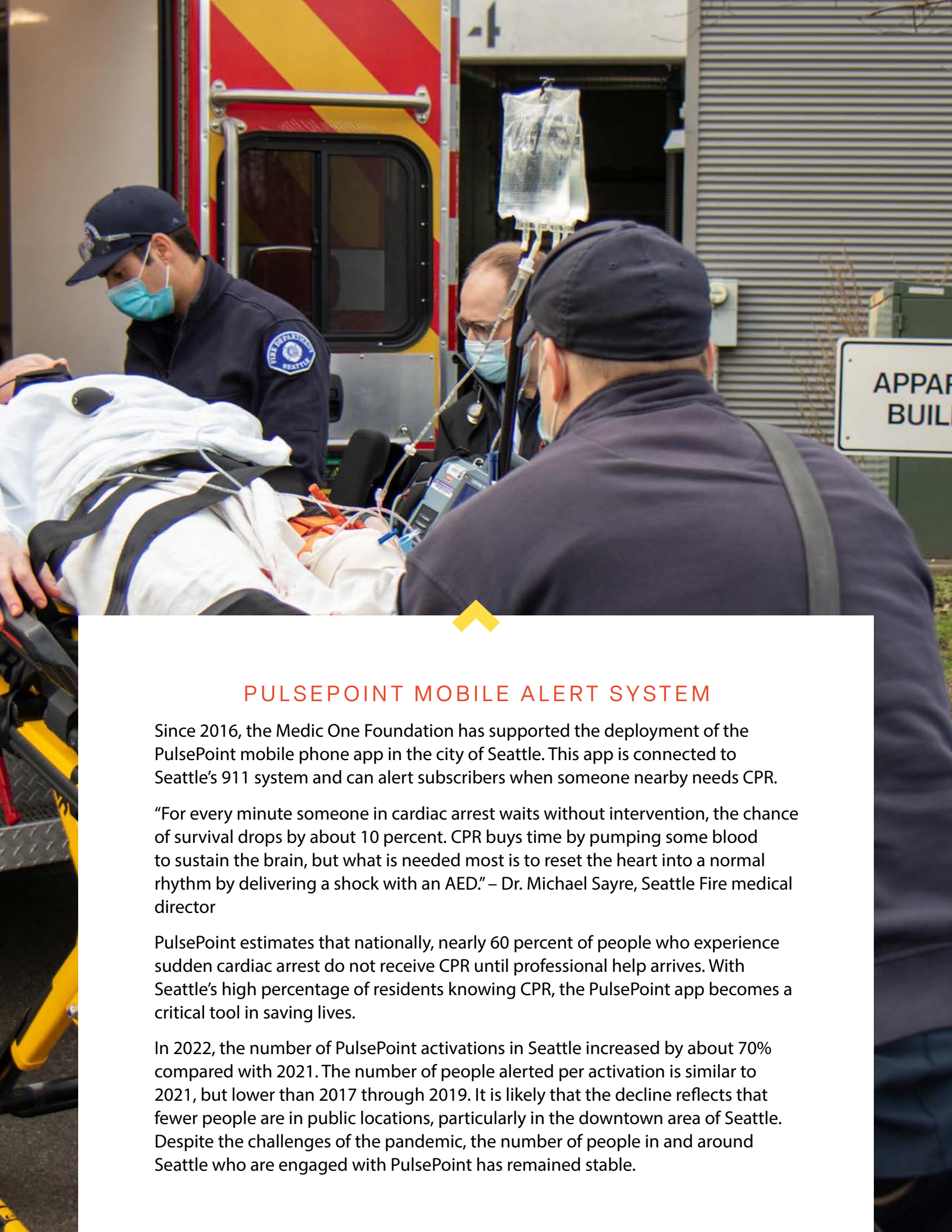


SUBSTANCE USE CALLS ON THE RISE

The rise in meth and fentanyl use has been a growing concern for public health and first responders. Seattle Fire is on the frontlines of responding to calls where substance use is involved. In 2022, the department responded to more than 5,200 incidents for patients with suspected drug use. By comparison, that total was around 3,600 calls in 2021.

To help respond more effectively and potentially save more lives, in July 2022, Seattle Fire trained and equipped its firefighter/EMTs with nasal naloxone to help counter the effects of suspected opiate overdoses.





PULSEPOINT MOBILE ALERT SYSTEM

Since 2016, the Medic One Foundation has supported the deployment of the PulsePoint mobile phone app in the city of Seattle. This app is connected to Seattle's 911 system and can alert subscribers when someone nearby needs CPR.

"For every minute someone in cardiac arrest waits without intervention, the chance of survival drops by about 10 percent. CPR buys time by pumping some blood to sustain the brain, but what is needed most is to reset the heart into a normal rhythm by delivering a shock with an AED." – Dr. Michael Sayre, Seattle Fire medical director

PulsePoint estimates that nationally, nearly 60 percent of people who experience sudden cardiac arrest do not receive CPR until professional help arrives. With Seattle's high percentage of residents knowing CPR, the PulsePoint app becomes a critical tool in saving lives.

In 2022, the number of PulsePoint activations in Seattle increased by about 70% compared with 2021. The number of people alerted per activation is similar to 2021, but lower than 2017 through 2019. It is likely that the decline reflects that fewer people are in public locations, particularly in the downtown area of Seattle. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the number of people in and around Seattle who are engaged with PulsePoint has remained stable.

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

The Fire Prevention Division (FPD) is responsible for developing and enforcing the City's Fire Code. The Seattle Fire Code provides fire and life safety standards for buildings, activities and hazardous processes.

FPD's work helps protect communities and workers from fires, explosions, and dangerous conditions. The code helps prevent dangerous conditions at home, at work, and through the city where people recreate, whether at the movies, a shopping mall, or a large fair or festival. The Fire Code also helps protect our residents' property and ensure firefighter and emergency responder safety during emergency operations.

Staff include full-time firefighters, fire officers, professional engineers and administrative personnel. The division is service-oriented, and one of our key roles is to provide information to the public, small and large business owners, event promoters, developers, architects and contractors. We coordinate inspections when residents notify us of possible fire code violations they have spotted in their neighborhood. Our team also investigates fires, including fires caused by arson and natural causes.

20,815

FIRE INSPECTIONS LOGGED

27,000

FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS TRACKED

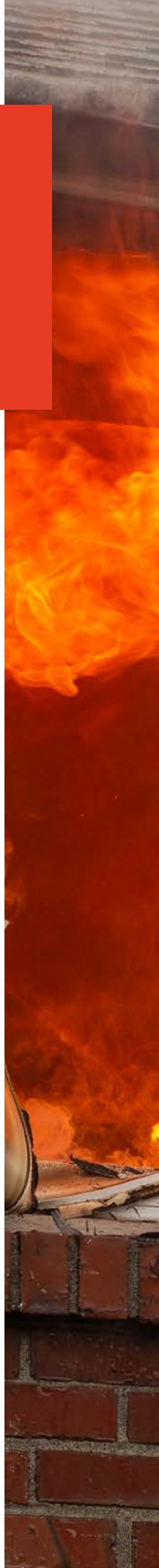




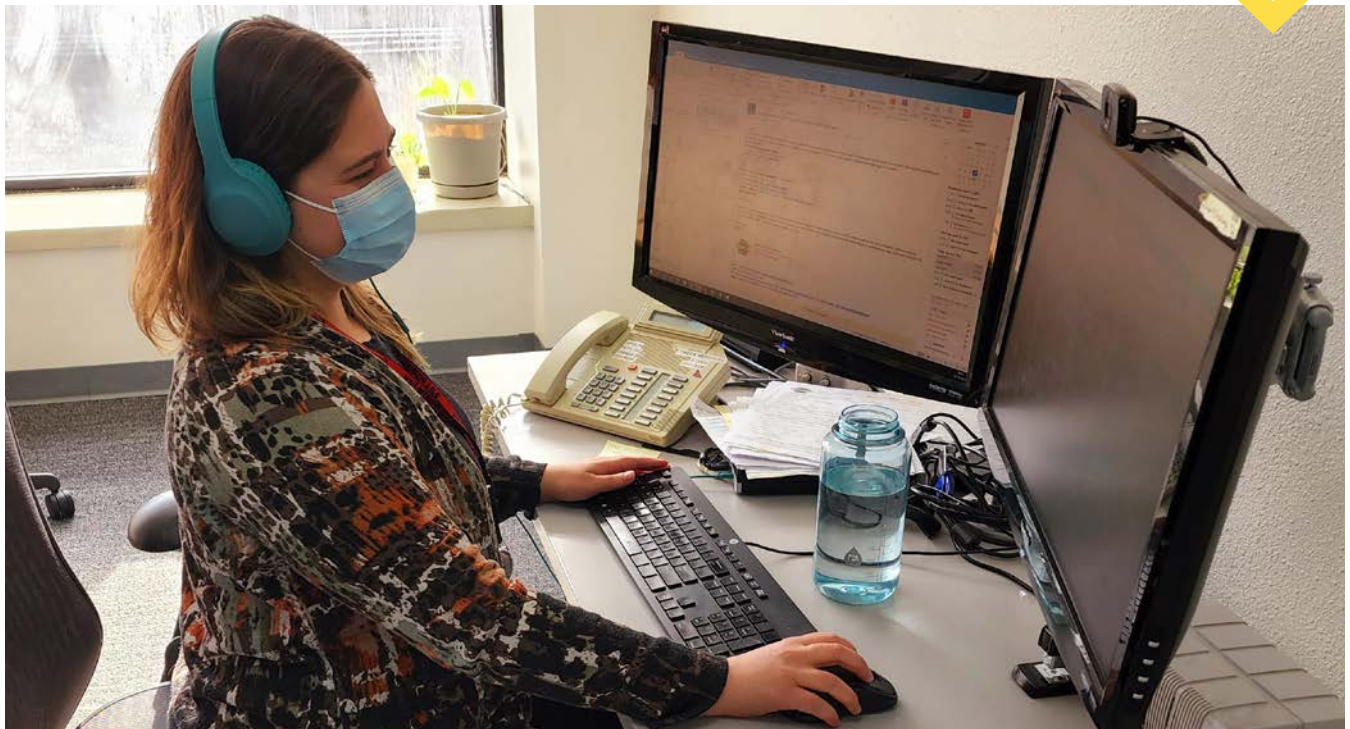
PHOTO BY FIREDOGPHOTOS

384

FIRE INCIDENTS
INVESTIGATED BY FIU

FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT

In 2022, the FIU investigated the origin and cause of 384 fire incidents. Of these investigations, 108 were determined to be accidental, 176 incendiary/arson and 100 were left undetermined. Overall, investigations were lower across the board compared to 2021, partly due to a policy change that increased the estimated loss for fires that require FIU involvement from \$20,000 to \$75,000. This dollar increase is related to property appreciation. The estimated dollars lost in fire in 2022 was \$17.9 million, and the estimated dollars by Seattle Fire response was \$32.9 million.





COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

As a first step in building a Community Risk Reduction program based on NFPA 1300 standards, the Fire Prevention Division partnered with a third-party vendor to design a Community Risk Assessment Insight Generator (CRAIG 1300) online dashboard. This dashboard allows the department to analyze fire incident information along with various community statistics. The goal is to understand the fire risks experienced by different communities, centered around race/ethnicity, languages spoken at home, household income and similar demographic data. FPD will use this information to prioritize and implement strategies to help mitigate those risks in the coming years.

ANNUAL BUILDING INSPECTIONS AND PERMITTING

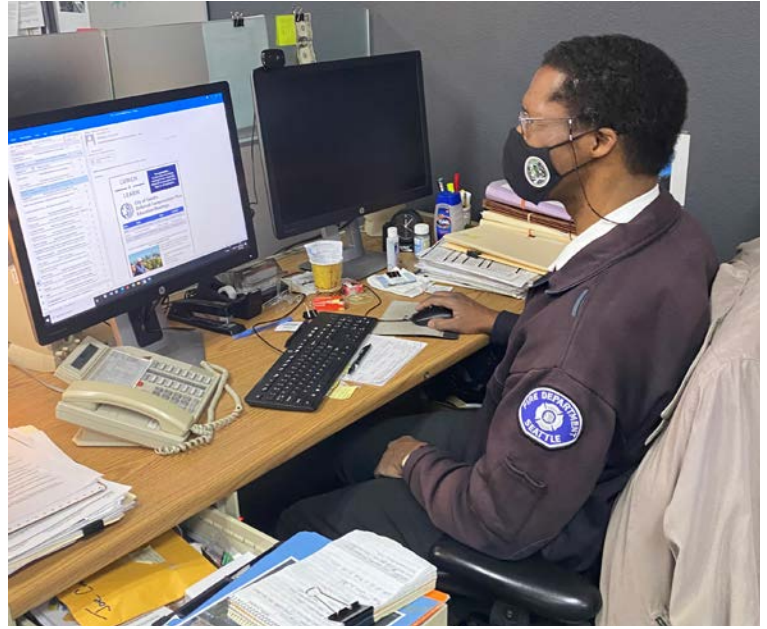
Seattle Fire provides no-cost fire safety inspections for all commercial and multi-family buildings in Seattle. These inspections are performed by on-duty firefighters. When on-duty firefighters observe fire code violations that are not quickly resolved, the violation is referred to FPD for follow-up, allowing the on-duty firefighters to focus on fire and medical response. Fire Prevention officers conducted 711 inspections in 2022 related to violations referred by Operations and the public or to support programs such as night club safety and derelict buildings. The FPD also conducted 748 high-rise inspections and issued 838 permits for annual places of assembly like restaurants.

MOBILE INSPECTIONS AND PRE-PLANNING FOR FIRE RESPONSE

In May, the FPD rolled out a new tool to SFD for mobile inspections, using the same platform introduced in 2021 for pre-planning and response. First Due gathers information from several different sources including the King County Assessor, city building permits, Seattle Fire permits, the Computer Aided Dispatch system (CAD) and The Compliance Engine (TCE). Inspectors and first responders now have more information than ever before at time of dispatch and during inspections. This allows firefighters to put out fires and perform building inspections more effectively, helping keep the public and Seattle Fire personnel safe during emergencies. During 2022, roughly 20,815 total inspections were logged in this new tool, which is a great result for the first year.

PLAN REVIEW

In 2022, the Plan Review Unit handled significant challenges caused by retirements of 50% of the seasoned team. This caused significant backlogs in FPD's ability to meet customer demand for plan review service. In total, fire protection engineers reviewed 1,369 plans. Through hiring, the team was completely rebuilt by third quarter. The FPD also used fee-supported salary savings to hire external contractors to help complete more plans. By the end of the year, the plan review backlog had been significantly reduced, from over 400 plans to less than 100 plans.



SPECIAL HAZARDS

FPD staff issued a total of 5,533 HazMat permits for a variety of hazardous operations, ranging from the storage of flammable liquids, to welding on marine vessels, to newer hazards such as those posed by lithium-ion batteries. The division also played a key role in leading the state to update the Washington State Fire Code to provide additional safety provisions related to lithium-ion batteries.

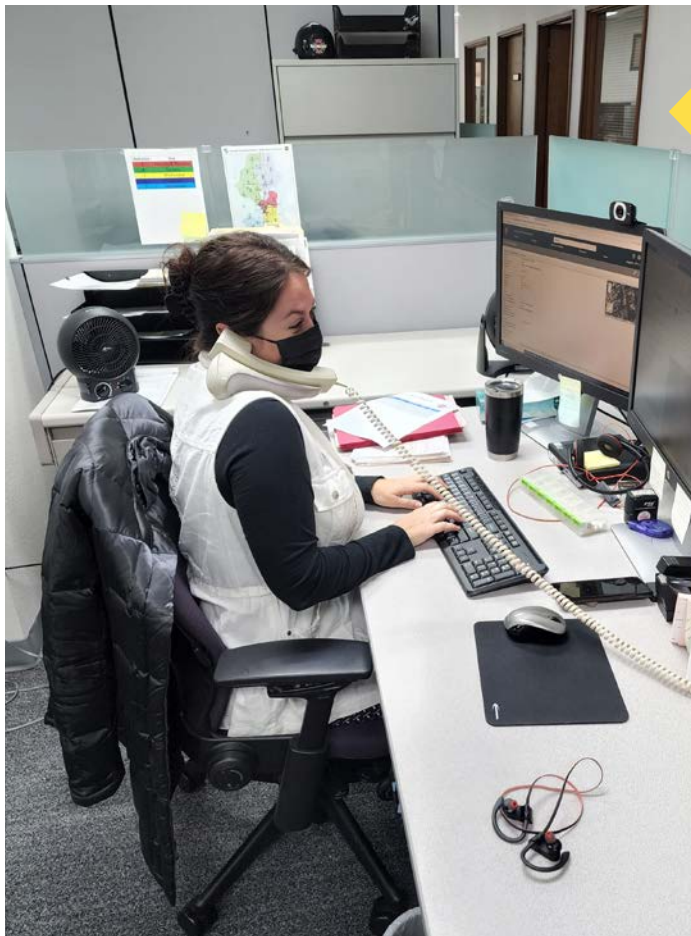
NEW CONSTRUCTION & REMODELS

The New Construction team performed over 3,400 inspections for buildings undergoing construction or remodels. Construction-related inspections focus on the installation and inspection of fire protection systems like fire alarms, sprinklers, smoke control system and fire pumps. This team experienced staffing challenges throughout the year due to retirements and unanticipated leaves, resulting in longer wait times for inspections. By the fourth quarter, increased staffing levels improved the turnaround time for inspections from approximately five weeks to two to three weeks. This is still not as timely as customers expect, and FPD is looking forward to further shortening turnaround time.



SPECIAL EVENTS & TEMPORARY ASSEMBLY PERMITS

The FPD Special Events team is a crucial part of the safety for all large events in Seattle, from Seafair, to New Year's at the Space Needle, to major concerts and professional sporting events. Inspectors review floor plans in advance of events and are present during events to help keep participants safe from fires and overcrowding incidents. As Seattle's economy was re-opening from the pandemic, Seattle Fire partnered with other departments to support the City's Safe Start and revitalization programs. This included flexible permitting for restaurants and other establishments. Fire prevention officers conducted approximately 1,037 inspections for special events, including tents used by businesses and schools operating outdoors, as well as fairs, festivals and farmers markets. A total of 1,154 permits related to temporary events were issued in 2022, including food trucks and special assemblies (e.g. weddings, conventions and concerts).



SYSTEMS TESTING

In case of emergency, lives may depend on whether the fire alarm or sprinkler in a building activates. FPD provided oversight to testing and repairs of over 27,000 fire protection systems in approximately 14,000 buildings in Seattle. Nearly 2,900 of those systems were repaired during 2022, which has an important impact on preserving lives and protecting property. At the end of 2022, there were still more than 4,000 systems with deficiencies in Seattle, so a high volume of work remains. The division remains understaffed in this program area, with just a single inspector assigned. When possible, the department supplements inspection levels by using modified duty personnel, who completed nearly 450 inspections—a 150% increase from 2021—but still not enough to handle the high volume in this program area.

NEW APPARATUS PUT IN SERVICE

The department put into service several new vehicles, including the new Rescue 1 technical rescue unit and Engine 28. Others included three new aid units, one new medic unit and an air unit.





RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The Resource Management division includes Seattle Fire's Training (spanning pre-recruit, recruit and in-service), Support Services/Fleets and the Fire Alarm Center. Personnel include uniformed firefighters and administrative staff.

202,244

CALLS TO THE FIRE
ALARM CENTER

2,232

HOURS OF LIVE
FIRE INSTRUCTION

84

NEW FIREFIGHTERS

238,348

HOURS OF DEPARTMENT
TRAINING

RECRUIT TRAINING

The Recruit Training Cadre of the Recruit Training Captain, two Recruit Training Lieutenants and combination of 21 guest instructors lead the two largest recruit classes in recent history. Recruit Class #116 with 55 members and Recruit Class #117 with 69 members. This enormous undertaking resulted in 84 new firefighters entering Operations in 2022, a 41% increase from 2021.

OPERATIONS TRAINING

The Training Division's Acquired Structure program continued to see great success, securing seven structures for direct instruction in 2022. This mode of training resulted in 4,192 instructional hours - 2,232 of those hours were live fire instruction. The highlight of the years training was the live fire at 610 2 Avenue West, which allowed 36 units to exercise the Low-Rise SOG in a live fire training environment.

Between 2021 and 2022, live fire training hours increased by 4%, and the overall documented training hours were up by 10%.

DRIVER OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

In the second year of the Driver/Operator Certification program, 34 members received their certification as back-up drivers.

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY EXPANDS

Since 2018, the University of Washington has collaborated with local fire departments on providing senior fire service leaders with an Executive Leadership Academy. Five Seattle firefighters and administrative staff completed this certificated program in 2022: Captain Ian Bennett, Battalion Chief Paul Atwater, Deputy Chief Chris O'Reilly, Lieutenant Tyler Woods and professional staff member Necia Marte.

The program now includes participation statewide and offers two additional leadership development opportunities. The Emerging Leaders is geared to those early in their leadership development, and it requires a one-year commitment. The Virtual Town Halls feature experts from outside and within the fire service to speak to issues facing the profession.



RECRUITING FUTURE FIREFIGHTERS

In March 2022, Seattle Fire opened its entry-level firefighter application pool and participated in a number of efforts throughout the year to build local awareness of firefighting as an attractive career choice. Seattle Fire used social media, conducted three webinars and did extensive local outreach to spread the word about the opportunity. As a result, more than 3,000 people applied during the six-week window, and the department plans to hire six recruit classes using the register.

In April and December, the King County Fire Chiefs Association held workshops aimed at helping prospective applicants navigate the unique hiring process used by fire department. Survey data collected by Seattle applicants indicates that most know someone who is in the fire service. Seattle Fire and other department are using these workshops to reach people who do not already have a mentor or connection to this career path.

Seattle Fire held a Fire Career Day in August in collaboration with North Seattle College and Worksource to create more awareness of the college's new Fire Science degree program and build connections with prospective applicants.

The department also participated in two Future Women in Fire and EMS workshops that targeted young women interested in exploring a fire service career. The two-day sessions gave participants important hands-on experience required of a firefighter and created mentor opportunities with women already working in area departments.

FIRE ALARM CENTER

RECORD-SETTING CALLS

The FAC broke several records in 2022. They received a record number of administrative and emergency calls: 202,344. Dispatchers sent units to 106,453 incidents – an increase of 13,220 calls over 2021. Then on Dec. 23, the FAC fielded 1,134 calls. The snow and ice storm that led to viral videos of people and vehicles slipping and sliding down hills generated 779 incidents, and resources were dispatched to 632 calls on that day alone. For comparison, on Dec. 23, 2021, there were only 481 calls to the Fire Alarm Center. Kudos to the intrepid team of Seattle Fire dispatchers, who despite the non-stop calls, kept their calm on the busiest day in department history.

CORTI

Corti hosts the department's Emergency Medical Dispatch protocols, which assist in the triage of 911 calls. Corti and the FAC worked on the ongoing build-out of a new upgraded system that when implemented in 2023 will provide unprecedented statistics that can be analyzed for life-saving efficiencies and accuracy.

IMPROVING CALL-TAKING

The FAC continues to refine its call-taking skills and protocols for the best, most efficient and correct resourcing for every call. 2022 marked a new relationship with Resuscitation Quality Improvement (RQI). This program allows the FAC to monitor and quality assure the out-of-hospital cardiac arrest calls (OHCA) with Impact and Performance Summaries. RQI also provides training to assist in teaching effective Telephone Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (T-CPR) to the callers who can then perform CPR prior to the arrival of firefighter/EMTs and paramedics.

DISPATCHER TRAINING

In 2022, the FAC hosted two classes of dispatcher training, resulting in two firefighter/dispatchers to the floor from the first class and another four in the ongoing training and certification process. The FAC is working on succession planning for two long-term retired lieutenants and the next generation of dispatchers.

PSERN RADIO PROJECT

The FAC coordinated with King County Public Service Emergency Radio Network (PSERN) to prepare to deploy Seattle Fire's portion of 17,000 county-wide radios in 2023. In 2022, the FAC facilitated the replacement of all mobile radios in the 200 apparatus in the fleet. 2023 will see the replacement of 1,000 Seattle Fire Department radios. The new PSERN radios will provide new functionalities and move users from an analog to a digital system.





NURSE NAVIGATION PROGRAM

Seattle Fire partnered with American Medical Response (AMR) to bring a new and innovative healthcare solution to help area residents and visitors quickly reach the most appropriate level of care when calling 911. The Seattle Fire Nurse Navigation Program, which launched in February, provides access to a wider range of options to meet the callers' specific medical care needs, which may include a referral to an alternative destination or virtual visit with a physician.

The program works by routing some area 911 calls with non-emergent injuries or illnesses to a Washington state licensed nurse. The nurse will assess a caller's symptoms and refer them to

the most appropriate medical care that could include a virtual visit with a board-certified emergency physician, self-care or transport to a local healthcare provider, including clinics, urgent care centers, or if needed, a hospital Emergency Department.

"This program allows us to better serve our residents by more appropriately triaging the needs of some of our 911 utilizers. In many cases, this will help to divert 911 callers with non-emergency issues away from an ambulance transport to a hospital's emergency department, and connect patients instead towards self-treatment, Urgent Care or a Telehealth appointment." – Fire Chief Scoggins



CHILDREN & YOUTH EDUCATION

During 2022, the Seattle Fire Department was able to fulfill requests for station tours and community visits across Seattle. These station tours and community visits primarily focused on providing fire and life safety education to youth audiences.

39

STATION TOURS

41

COMMUNITY VISITS



PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION & OUTREACH

In 2022, Public Education outreach returned after a long break due to the pandemic. The Community Fire Safety Advocates (CFSAs) led this targeted outreach that took place at several community events in South Seattle. The CFSAs used interactive activities to demonstrate important fire prevention messaging, such as cooking safety, grilling safety, carbon monoxide poisoning, home evacuation planning and more.

The community events included:

- *Chinatown/International District Festival*
- *Public Health Fair at Rainier Beach Community Center*
- *Neighborhood House - New Holly Health*
- *Neighborhood House - High Point Health Fair*
- *Neighborhood House - Rainier Vista Health*
- *Neighborhood House - YesFest Health*
- *Big Day of Play at Rainier Fields*
- *Rainier Beach Back to School Bash*
- *Boo Bash*

CFSA outreach activities are supported by firefighter visits which allow immigrant/refugee community members to interact with firefighters in a non-emergency situation, which builds trust and strengthens relationships between the community and department.

FIRE SAFETY FAIR

In late August, the department hosted a Fire Safety Fair in South Seattle at Fire Station 28. Hundreds of South Seattle community members attended to learn more about the Station 28 ladder truck, engine and aid unit, and watch hands-only CPR and Stop the Bleed demonstrations. Community members learned about home fire prevention and evacuation, created works of art at the arts and crafts table, met Therapy Dog Hera and enjoyed Story Time with Fire Chief Scoggins.



HOME FIRE SAFETY GRANT PROJECT

The FEMA funded project sought to reach communities at highest risk with fire safety education and smoke/carbon monoxide (CO) alarms and who may not be reached by conventional means. This project developed multi-lingual videos and graphics accessible to low and non-literate communities. In collaboration with community-based organizations, residences in targeted neighborhoods received fire safety education, home inspections and free smoke/CO alarms. Additionally, this project utilized trusted community members and groups to lead the education work and install the alarms.

GREAT SEATTLE FIRE DAY AT MOHAI

In June, Seattle Fire and the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) marked the 133rd anniversary of the Great Seattle Fire that destroyed 25 city blocks on June 6, 1889. There was record attendance with 1,500 to 2,000 attendees at this first large in-person community event held by MOHAI and Seattle Fire since 2019. Attendees of this free event explored different fire apparatus and watched demonstrations by FEMA-certified search and rescue dog Rojo. Inside the museum, children tried on firefighter gear, learned about safely escaping from a fire and toured the museum's permanent display about the Great Seattle Fire and sat down for Story Time with firefighters. The Seattle Fire Foundation joined Therapy Dogs Hera, Zoe and their handlers to educate attendees about the Seattle Fire Therapy Dog program.





SEPT. 11 REMEMBRANCES

On the 21st Anniversary of 9/11, Seattle Fire and the Seattle Police Department gathered on top of the Space Needle to raise, then lower the nation's flag to half-staff to honor and remember all of the lives lost on that tragic day. Firefighters also read aloud the names of the 343 firefighters who died on Sept. 11. Later in the day, the Seattle Mariners invited Seattle Fire personnel to participate in pre-game activities as the team honored all who lost their lives and the families forever impacted by the tragic events of that day.

Firefighter Jessica Swenson sang the National Anthem, the Honor Guard posted colors, a Seattle Firefighters Pipes and Drums Band solo piper played "Amazing Grace" and our 2021 Firefighter of the Year Jordan Legan, Officer of the Year Capt. Kevin Flanagan and Chief of the Year Erik Hotchkiss each threw a ceremonial first pitch. Seattle firefighters and the Fire Chief welcomed the Mariners on the field as part of the tunnel team to honor the bullpen's new nickname: "Los Bomberos."

ONE SEATTLE DAY OF SERVICE

Several of our personnel joined nearly 4,000 volunteers citywide for "One Seattle Day of Service." Seattle Fire volunteers pitched in at the Salvation Army's William Booth Center to beautify the outdoor area and painted several rooms inside. This center is operated by the Salvation Army and is a shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness.



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fireinfo@seattle.gov

Chapter 35.103 RCW: Revised Code of Washington Chapter 35.103 was passed into law during the 2005 legislative session (House Bill 1756). This law mandated certain response criteria be established and measured by fire departments across the State of Washington beginning in 2007 with an analysis of responses in 2006. The requirement was passed and is now the law for all substantially career fire departments. The purpose of this law is to report to the Governing Body of each fire jurisdiction, as well as to the residents of any given area, how the fire department is doing in meeting its established emergency response standards. These standards take into consideration a number of response types: A) Fire Suppression, B) Emergency Medical Services - Basic Life Support (BLS), C) Emergency Medical Services - Advanced Life Support (ALS), D) Special Operations (i.e. Hazardous Materials response and Technical Rescue response), E) Aircraft rescue and firefighting, F) Marine rescue and firefighting, G) Wildland firefighting.

