



# City of Madison Fire Department

## 2009 ANNUAL REPORT



CCR Demo



Extrication



Safety Saturday



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# Agency Highlights

## A Message from Fire Chief Debra H. Amesqua:

2009 became a year of dreams realized for the City of Madison Fire Department.

In March, the Common Council approved a smoke-alarm ordinance that raises the bar for safety in the City. The ordinance gained support from rental property owners and the family of a young man who died in a house fire where 5 of 6 smoke alarms had been disabled.

That death and 4 others in 2007 awakened the community to a renewal of purpose in safety and prevention. Led by the Fire Department, fire prevention took on a central role, and in 2009 the City marked its 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row with no fire fatalities.

These messages were bolstered by the addition of the long-awaited Station 12 on the City's far west side, and two new classes of recruits to staff that station and continue to build for the future.

The goal remains public safety, and for 2010 that means an unprecedented 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row with no fire fatalities.

That goal will take all of our best efforts along with participation from each member of the community. And so I make a personal request to each of you to embrace the first lessons we offer our recruits: Take care of yourself, and take care of each other.

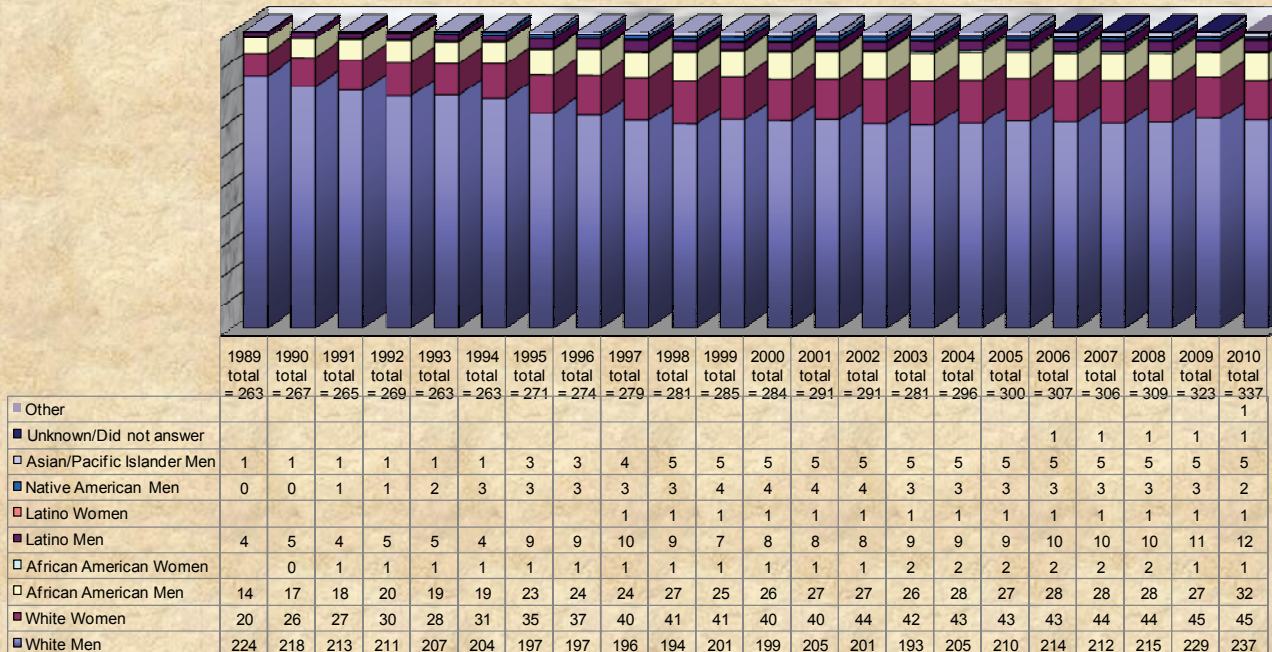
## Services Provided:

The Madison Fire Department currently operates out of 12 Fire Stations throughout the City with a staffing of 74 personnel on duty each day. There are 10 Engine companies, 4 Ladder companies, 8 Paramedic Ambulances and 1 Command Vehicle in service every day to serve the citizens of and visitors to the City of Madison. In 2009 the City of Madison Fire Department responded to 23,529 calls. The largest single type of call was Emergency Medical calls and they accounted for 18,215 of this total.

The Department's Community Education Unit reaches out to thousands of residents through educational programming. The emphasis is on children (more than 11,000 in 2009), teaching them fire safety and injury prevention.



City of Madison Fire Department  
Total Number of Firefighters Employed as of January 1st of Each Year



## Accomplishments:

- *At the end of 2009, the Department marked the second full year with no fire fatalities in the City.*
- *Fire Station 12 on the City's far west side opened in August 2009. Fire Station 12 has received many different awards, including a LEED Platinum certification.*
- *2009 Hiring Process established an eligibility panel of 225 candidates. From this process, twenty recruits were hired for an academy which began on October 19, 2009.*
- *In 2009, MFD conducted a Lieutenant promotional process, a Paramedic II selection process, and a Division Chief Promotional Process.*
- *The MFD Elevator Inspection Program began in April 2009. A total of 1,513 annual inspections, 381 reinspections, 20 installation inspections, and 26 alteration inspections were completed in 2009, bringing the Department revenue of \$490,325.*
- *119 fire investigations were conducted by MFD Fire/Arson Investigators. Forty-five of these were found to be arson. Investigations resulted in 8 arrests and 3 citations.*
- *MFD Fire/Arson Investigators spent 250 hours conducting 23 background investigations for a new recruit academy which began in October 19, 2009.*
- *A bariatric unit was installed on Reserve Medic 63. The unit consists of a larger stretcher with greater load capacity, a set of ramps, and a winch device.*
- *Knox-Box® medic vaults were installed in all of our Medic units to ensure the security of our narcotics.*
- *Researched and purchased high-rise equipment for all engines and new cordless cut-off saws to enhance operations.*
- *Delivered high-rise training, company standards testing, large area MAY DAY training, self-rescue and situational awareness training to Department personnel.*
- *38 HURT team members attended REACT center for additional heavy collapse training. HURT team members were also trained in silo rescue using grain silos on UW campus and training in grain engulfment in UW's west side facility.*
- *With the assistance of City Engineering, MFD was able to set up a Trench Collapse training scenario.*
- *Community Education Unit trained more than 1,000 people in the use of fire extinguishers through the use of its training simulator. The training program began in 2008 and has provided an opportunity to reach out to new audiences.*
- *Fire Prevention Division completed 32,178 fire inspection activities in 2009 which resulted in 7,092 violations.*
- *Fire Protection Engineering Unit conducted 698 plan reviews, performed 2,163 construction inspections, and generated new revenue of \$279,440.*
- *The Fire Protection Engineering, Code Enforcement, Elevator Inspection, and Community Education programs of the Fire Prevention Division generated more than \$1.6 million. During the last 20 years, the Division has implemented several programs funded through user fees. The fire prevention services of the Fire Department have a minimal impact on the Department budget or property taxes.*
- *The December 9 blizzard was the first activation of the City's Emergency Operations Center for an emergency event. Representatives from public works agencies, the Mayor's Office, the Police Department, and Fire Department gathered to coordinate agency actions, develop public information messages, and confer with county and state emergency management offices. The EOC served as a resource for a favorable response to the blizzard.*



## Immediate Future Plans:

- Apparatus Engineer promotional process in 2010.
- Application process for the 2011 firefighter hiring process will begin in October 2010.
- Training 3 new TEMS Team members in 2010 to fill current and future vacancies.
- Placing additional medical dispensing machines at the new Sun Prairie Emergency Center to better facilitate our east side patients.
- Implement a newly developed high-rise operations policy.
- Implement a pre-fire plan system which was researched and purchased (through grant funding) in 2010.
- Eighth ambulance went into service April 5, 2010.

## New Initiatives:

- New alerting system installed and piloted at Fire Station 12 to minimize the stress on firefighters by increasing the volume of the tone gradually from off to full volume over a longer period of time.
- A new process for obtaining a paramedic license with MFD was established. All initial paramedic training will be done through MATC with continuing education being provided by UWEEC. Seven firefighters completed the paramedic training in 2009.
- MFD Community Education Unit developed a broad-based awareness campaign, detailing the provisions of the newly-approved smoke alarm ordinance through media appearances, community presentations, and information on the Department's website.
- Community Education Unit and other members of the Prevention Division partnered with UW – Madison Panhellenic Council to host the City's first Campus Fire Academy.
- Fire Prevention developed and implemented a policy for the electronic filing of Fire Inspection Records. With this new development, a kiosk was installed in the lobby of the Fire Administration building for the public to perform record searches of our electronic documents, as well as to be used to apply for permits.

## Long-term Plans:

- Continue to refurbish and update stations with more efficient water heaters, heating systems, and lights.
- Develop an online system for fire department personnel to order clothing.
- Designing and building Fire Station 13.
- Explore regionalization opportunities.
- Explore recycled/LEED Furniture for a "Green" MFD.

## 2009 Grant Awards:

- FEMA Fire Prevention Grant in the amount of \$35,000 for a smoke alarm installation program for homeowners, with special emphasis on low-income households that include young children, older adults and/or people with disabilities. The grant is augmented by a donation of more than 200 smoke alarms from First Alert and Kidde.
- 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant - Application was submitted in February 2009. The Grant would include \$490,000 for a mobile live fire training simulator, \$17,000 to cover entry level medical exams, and \$22,000 for structural firefighting gear for new members. Notice of award will be sent in June 2010.
- Assistance to Firefighters Station Construction Grant – Application was submitted in July 2009. \$4.3 million was requested to demolish and rebuild Fire Station 2. The request was made due to the growing Westside community.
- Madison Gas and Electric Foundation - \$4500 was awarded to the Department for an ambulance Guardian Safety Seat. The Guardian was designed from the ground up as a complete seating and restraint system for all ages. It eliminates the need to carry infants unrestrained, place larger children in adult restraints that don't fit, or use seats that aren't designed or tested for ambulance use.
- Staffing for Adequate Firefighter Emergency Response, (SAFER) - Was awarded in 2008 to increase staffing by 18 members. A total of \$1.9 million over 5 years was awarded. This amount also includes a new fire engine to be placed on one of the west side fire stations in 2010.

## 2009 OPERATING BUDGET

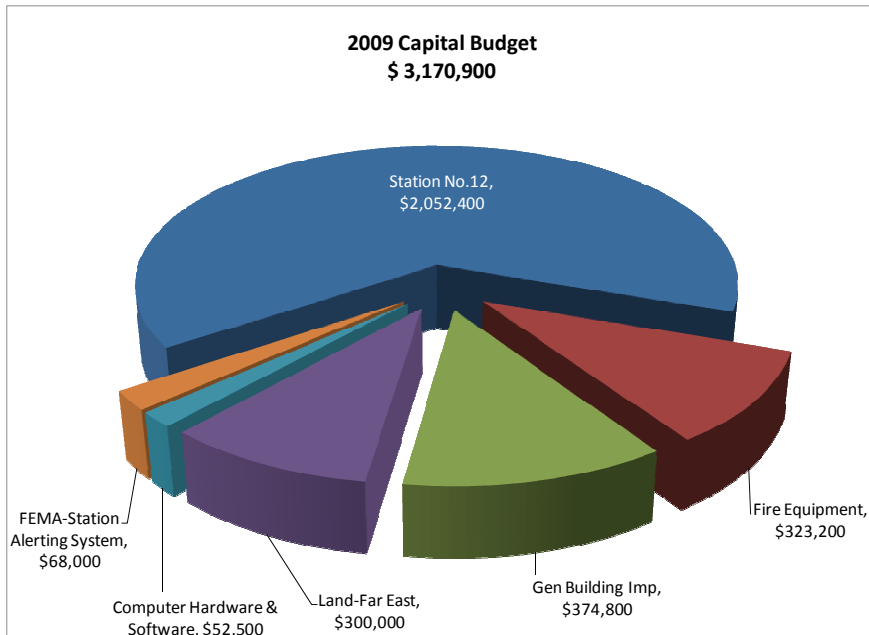
	Adopted Budget	Total Expenses w/ Encumbrances	Balance
Permanent & Premium Salaries	\$ 25,405,171	\$ 23,872,377	\$ 1,532,794
Hourly Wages	-	-	-
Overtime Salaries	831,680	674,749	156,931
Benefits	10,740,548	10,158,398	582,150
Purchased Services	1,403,037	1,111,203	291,834
Materials & Supplies	1,538,007	1,408,458	129,549
Inter-agency Charges	3,142,437	2,986,075	156,362
Capital Assets	-	-	-
Revenue	(1,451,966)	(1,181,630)	(270,336)
<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>\$ 41,608,914</b>	<b>\$ 39,029,630</b>	<b>\$ 2,579,284</b>

Reduced expenses - delay in opening Station 12, vacancies, SAFER grant, Staffing Equalization program, firefighter work backs, Inter-agency charges and other changes such as the Paramedic initial training had a positive impact on the 2009 Budget.

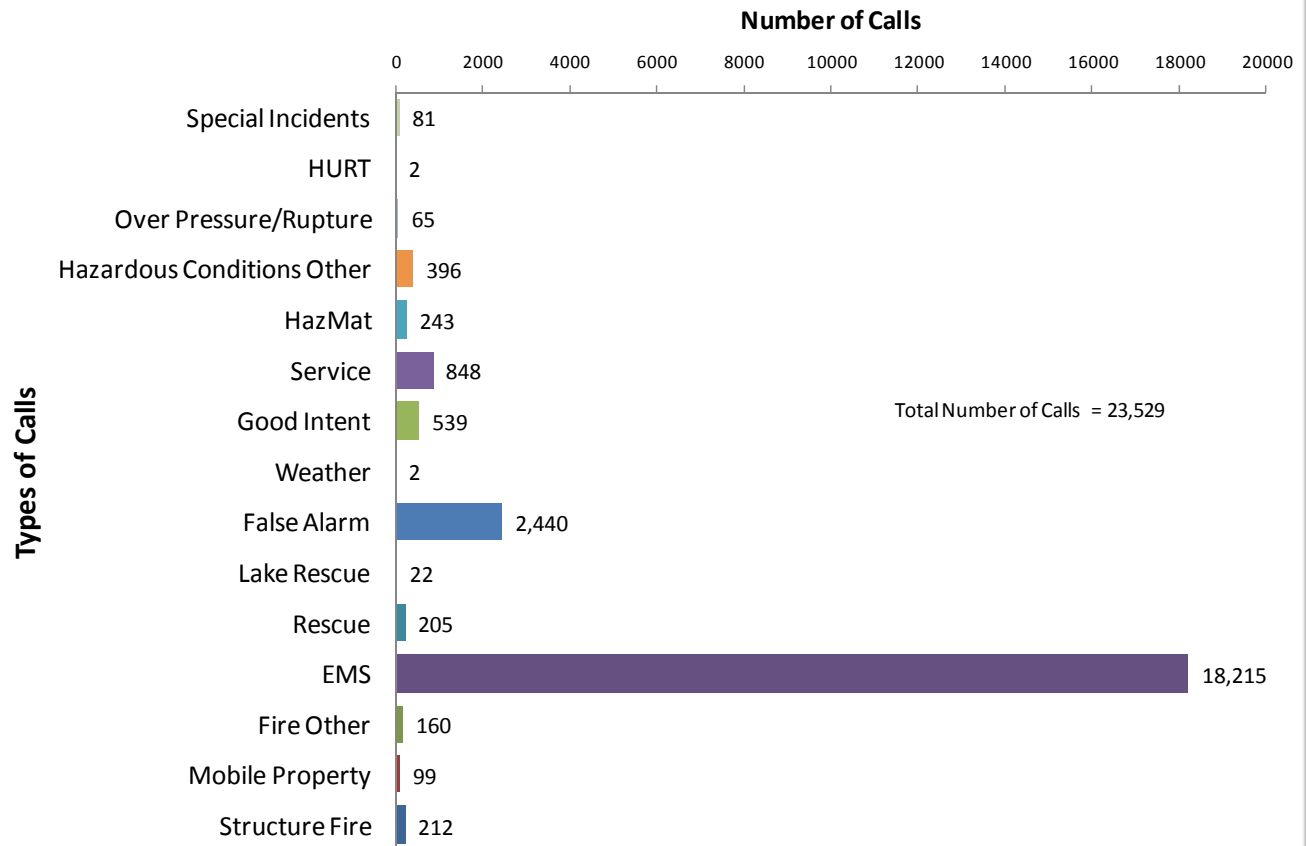
## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### 2009 Major Purchases:

- ✓ New Engine 5
- ✓ New Engine 8
- ✓ New Engine 10
- ✓ Two ambulance remounts (Medic 2 & 10)



## 2009 Activity for Madison Fire Department



There are a number of special events that the Madison Fire Department deals with every year, including the Mifflin Street block party, the Madison Marathon, Rhythm and Booms, and the Ironman Triathlon. Through planning, experience, and cooperation with other agencies, we were able to effectively deal with all of these special events in 2009. The most challenging special event remains the State Street Halloween party. In 2009 there were only 71 Fire and EMS responses during this two-night event.

### 2009 EMS Call Type

