

**WEST  
LAFAYETTE  
FIRE  
DEPARTMENT  
ANNUAL  
REPORT 2023**



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# Mission Statement



The West Lafayette Fire Department's mission is to protect our community's people, property, and environment through intervention, prevention, and education, ensuring West Lafayette is always a safe and great place to work, live, and play.

## **West Lafayette Fire Department Core Values**

**COURAGE** - Doing the right thing at the right time in the face of adversity.

**INTEGRITY** - Doing the right thing at the right time for the right reason.

**LOYALTY** - Doing right by all, including the community and each other.

# Message from the Chief



On behalf of the members of the West Lafayette Fire Department, it is my pleasure to present the 2023 West Lafayette Fire Department (WLFD) Annual Report. This comprehensive report summarizes the year's responses, activities, training, and statistical data.

For almost 130 years, the men and women of WLFD have served the West Lafayette community by providing high-quality emergency services. Although we no longer respond with horse-drawn wagons or rely on bucket brigades to douse the flames, our founding members' unwavering dedication and commitment remains to this day.

Over the past 12 months, we said good-bye to several long-serving firefighters and welcomed four new firefighters into our family. We hosted our second annual family picnic which has become an anticipated event for many of the children of our firefighters. Our second annual Citizens Academy was a huge success, helping share what we do with our local political leaders and citizens.

In 2023, we continued to foster and grow our relationships with neighboring fire departments. Almost weekly, WLFD firefighters train with one or more of our neighboring agencies. These interactions and trainings help improve our joint responses to incidents, large and small, within our communities.

As Fire Chief, I am honored to lead WLFD. I would like to thank all members of our fire department for their commitment and professionalism as they serve our community daily.

Finally, I would like to thank our citizens and elected leaders for their support. We could not do what we do without it!

Chief Jeff A. Need

*Jeff A. Need*

# **Personnel Roster**

## **Fire Chief**

Jeff Need

## **Deputy Chief of Inspections**

Tony Schutter

## **Deputy Chief of Operations**

John Irr

## **Battalion Chiefs**

Ryan Harber - A Shift

Brian Harshbarger – B Shift

Drew Fellure – C Shift

## **Fire Inspector**

Robert Molter

## **Captain of Fire Inspections**

Keith Burton

## **Administrative Assistant**

Beth DeHahn

## **Captains**

Keith Barker

Grant Birge

Eric Doyle

John Keller

Eric Lamb

Justin Taylor

## **Lieutenants**

Joe Heater

Ben Jones

Brad Schwartz

Jon VanNess

Stevie Jenkinson

Cody Stacy

## Firefighters

Shawn Leuck

Shane Chapman

Ryan Linder

Kyle Glover

Sean Mayer

Chad Dazey

Curtis Shidler

Jeff Lyons

Drew Snider

Thomas Lynch

Josh Dowell

Michael Parsons

Cadel Crowl

Adam Stanley

Derek Cook

Clint Knowles

Nick Wagner

Clayton Zak

Cody Glover

Adam Arnold

Craig Snider

Grady Fountain

Wes Geib

Conner Stacy

Thomas Clark

Danny Turner

Horraine Lewis

Gage Hegg

Tiffany Zavitsky

Tyler Droesch

# West Lafayette Fire Department 2021



Fire Chief  
Jeff Neal



Deputy Chief - Inspections  
Tony Schaefer



Deputy Chief - Operations  
Justin Ivy



Administrator  
Kelly McHale



Fire Instructor  
Bob Miller



Lt. of Inspections  
Ty Morris



Captain  
Joshua Lytner



## A-Shift

## B-Shift

## C-Shift



Battalion Chief-A  
Scott Barker  
Captain-A  
Kraig Barber  
Captain-A  
Justin Kellie  
Lieutenant-A  
Grant Stogel  
Lieutenant-A  
Jim Youness



Battalion Chief-B  
Brian Karschbarger  
Captain-B  
Ryan Barber  
Captain-B  
Justin Taylor  
Lieutenant-B  
Steve Jenkinson  
Lieutenant-B  
Eric Lamb



Battalion Chief-C  
Drew Justice  
Captain-C  
Tye Doyle  
Captain-C  
Scott Bertram  
Lieutenant-C  
Jim Redd  
Lieutenant-C  
Ben Jones



Firefighter  
Ryan Linder  
Firefighter  
Mickey Zaragoza  
Firefighter  
Curtis Shaffer  
Firefighter  
Kiff Lyons



Firefighter  
Kylie Glover  
Firefighter  
Sean Mayer  
Firefighter  
Wes Schwarz  
Firefighter  
Cody Stacy



Firefighter  
Shawn Leuck  
Firefighter  
Mason Chapman  
Firefighter  
Joe Heister  
Firefighter  
Chad Dauby



Firefighter  
Josh Howard  
Firefighter  
Adam Stanley  
Firefighter  
Derek Cook  
Firefighter  
Nick Wagner



Firefighter  
Thomas Lynn  
Firefighter  
Michael Parsons  
Firefighter  
Clint Schowke  
Firefighter  
Adam Arnold



Firefighter  
Drew Steifer  
Firefighter  
Caleb Cusick  
Firefighter  
Glenwin Zeh  
Firefighter  
Cody Glover



Firefighter  
Grady Zeman  
Firefighter  
Aron Thompson



Firefighter  
Wesley Gosh



Firefighter  
Craig Smoker  
Firefighter  
Connor Jancy

## 2023 Retirements

- Battalion Chief Scott Barker (34)
- Lieutenant of Inspections Ty Morris (26)
- Lieutenant Jim Redd (25)

## 2023 Hirings

- Probationary Firefighter Horraine Lewis
- Probationary Firefighter Gage Hegg
- Probationary Firefighter Tiffany Zavitsky
- Probationary Firefighter Tyler Drosch



## Fire Stations



Station #1 - completed in 1917 (National Historic District)



Station #2 - completed in 1963



Station #3 - completed in 2012

## Total Runs for 2023

**2,955**

**Includes the Following:**

**Fire (82)**

**Non-Fire Related (934)**

**EMS (1,939)**

## Total Inspections for 2023

**3,025**

# By the Numbers

2,955 total calls in 2023

# 8.06

calls per day on average in 2023

## STATISTICS

### Calls Answered

January 236

July 219

February 209

August 290

March 232

September 241

April 253

October 304

May 229

November 256

June 189

December 248

# 2023 Synopsis

The West Lafayette Fire Department celebrated several amazing events in 2023:

- Held our second Citizens Fire Academy
- Held our second Family Picnic with WLFD families and retirees gathering for fellowship and fun
- Grew relationships with neighboring fire departments with joint training.
- Interacted with thousands of children and adults at the Farmers Markets and festivals at the Wellness Center
- Certification of several individuals in Rope Rescue, FFI/II, and HazMat.



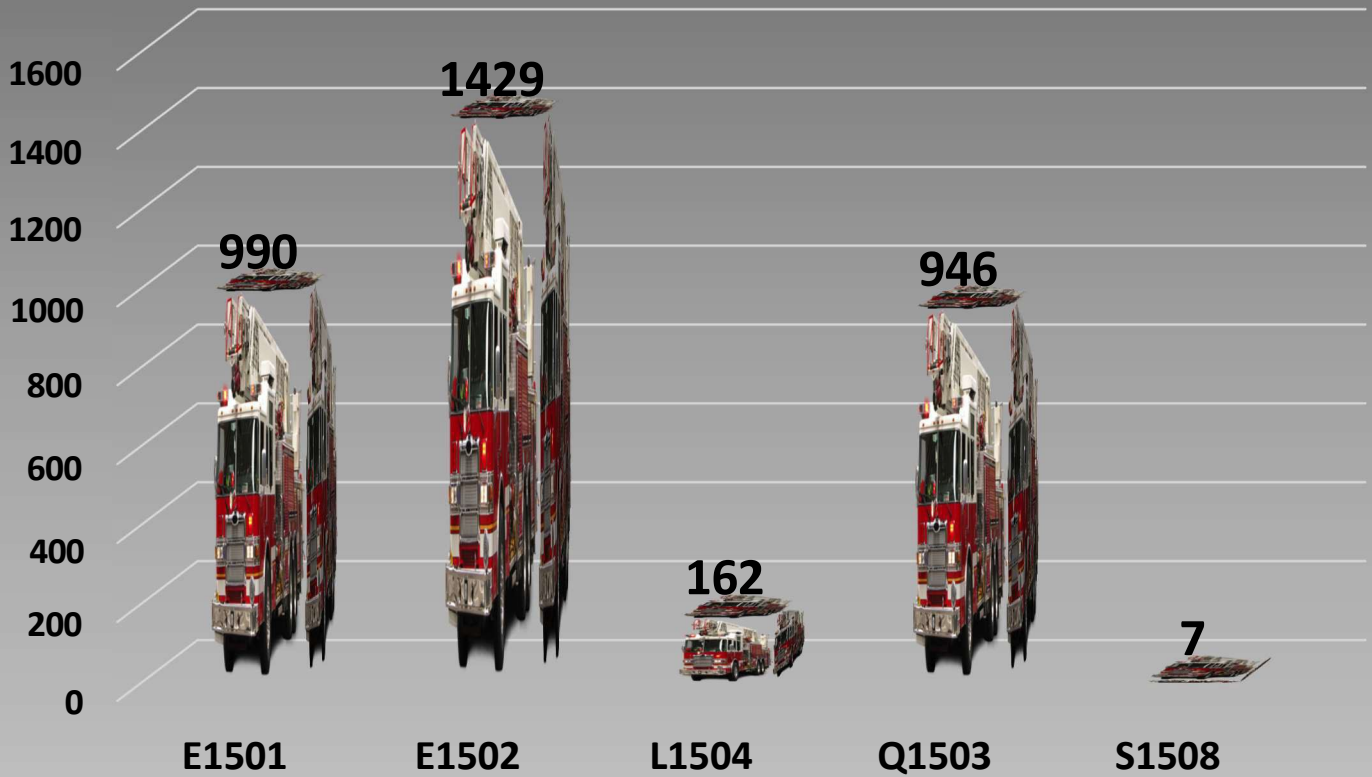
As our City grows, so do our requests for service, training hours, and inspections. In 2023, the WLFD put in 13,172 hours of training, including Medical Training, Map Study, Pre-Plans, Search and Rescue, Swift Water and Ice Water Rescue,

Ventilation, and world-class fire training under live-fire conditions.

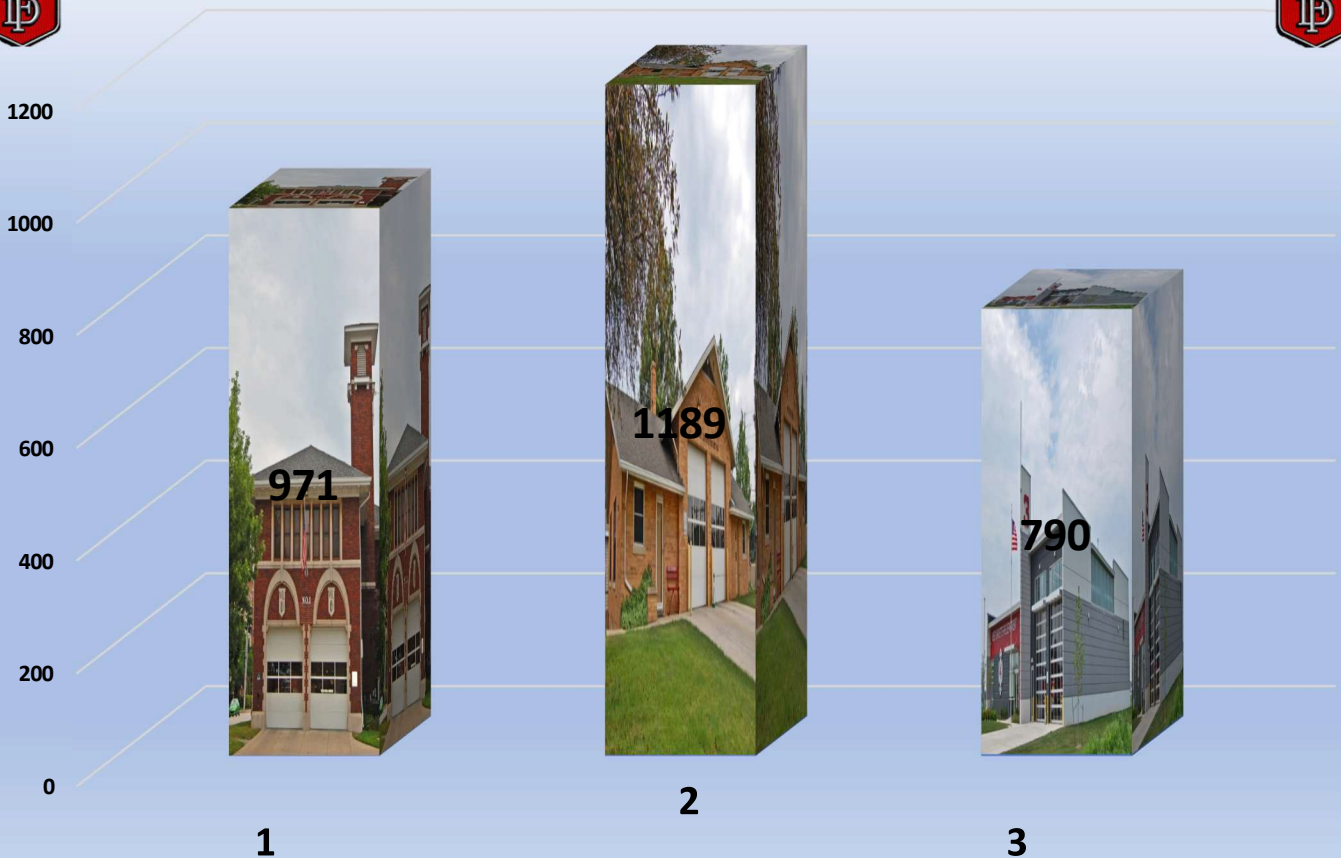
The department made 2,955 emergency runs and performed 3,025 inspections... ensuring West Lafayette is always a safe and great place to work, live, and play.



## 2023 Responses by Unit



## 2023 Responses by Station

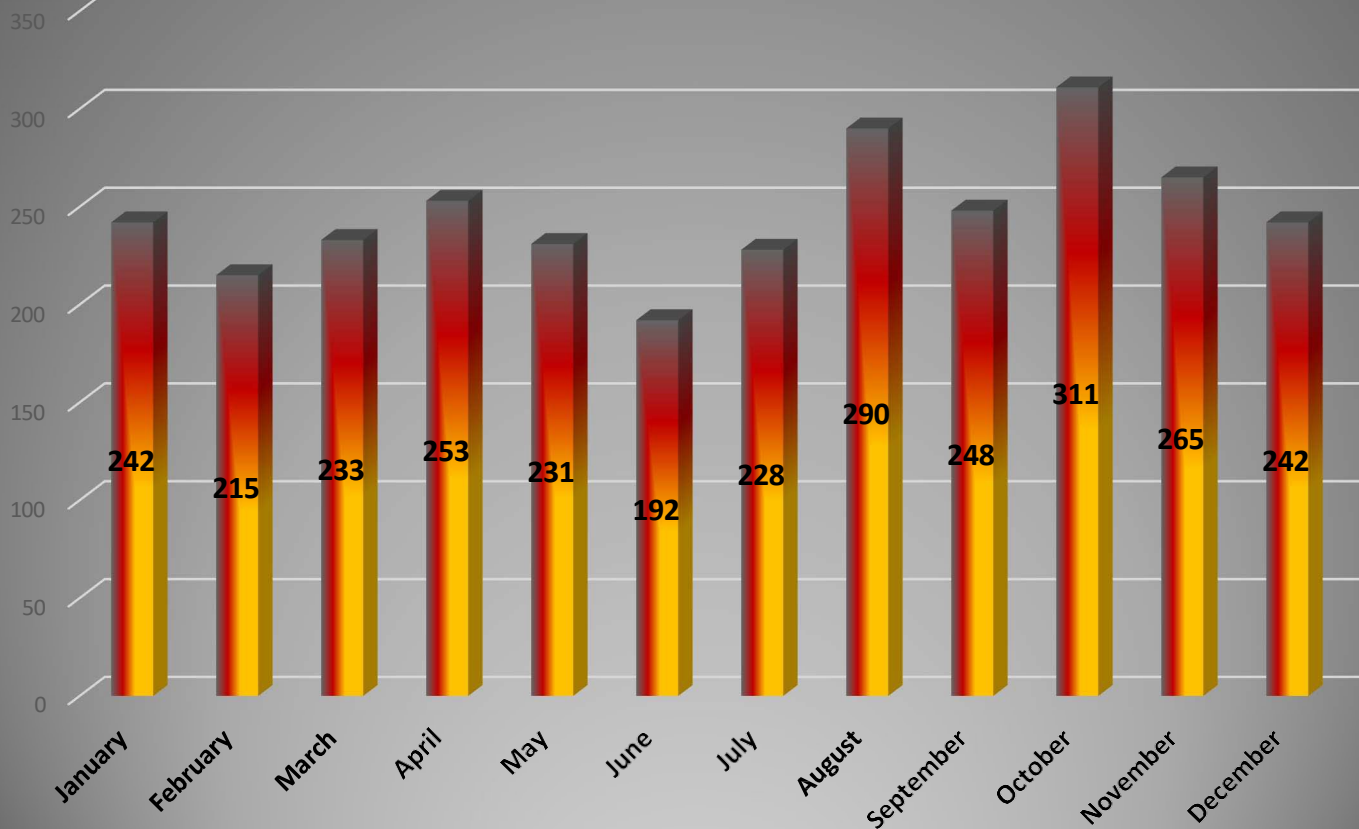




## 2023 Responses by Shift

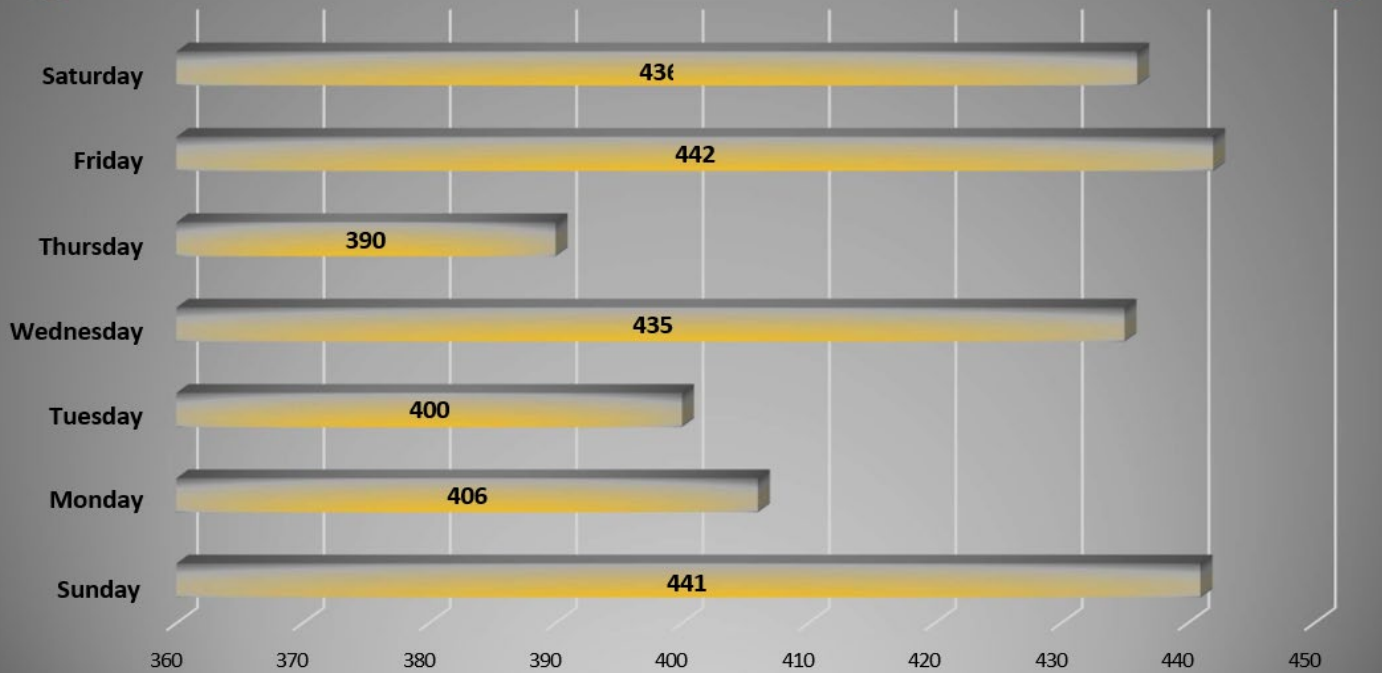


## 2023 Responses by Month

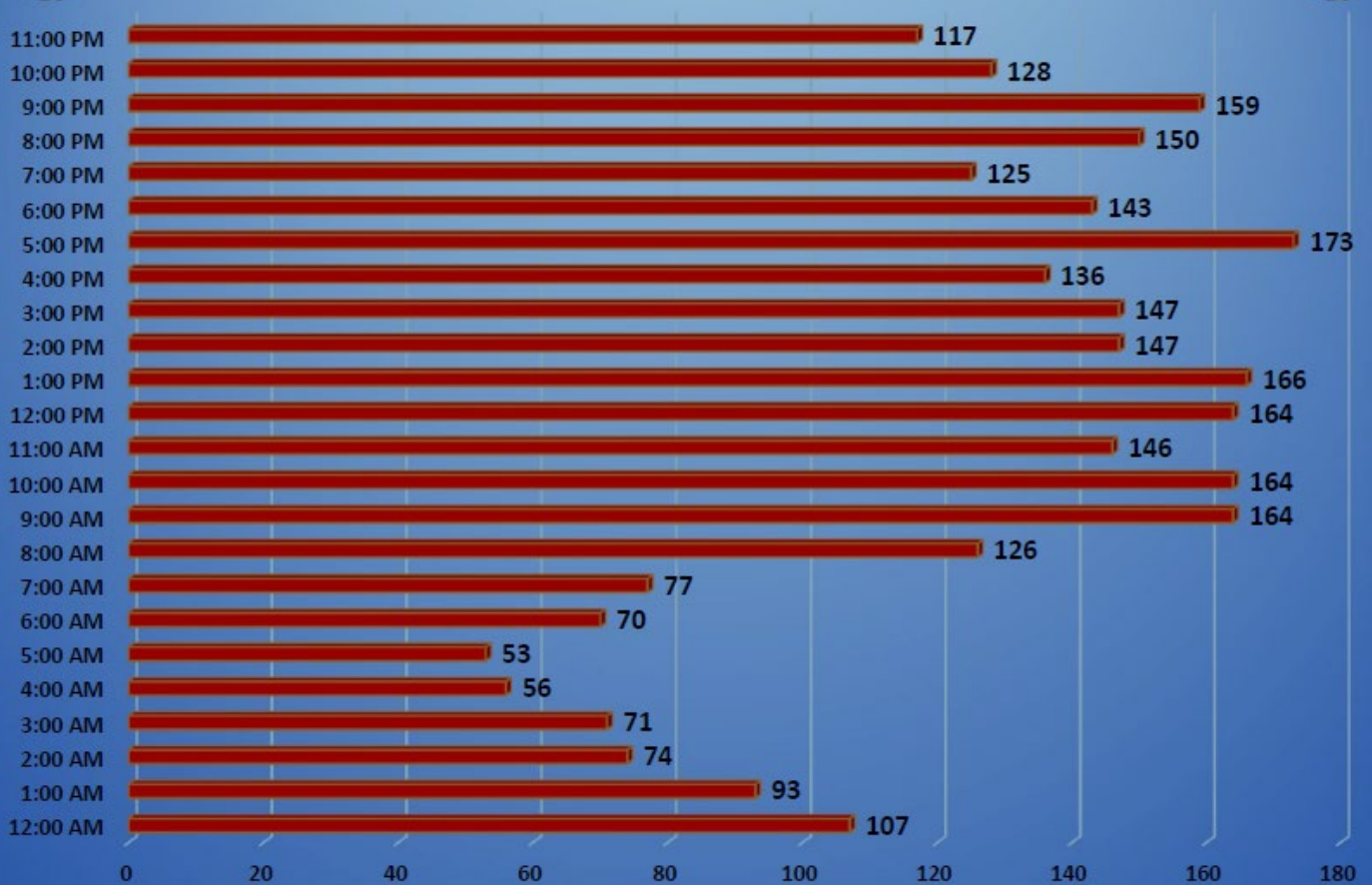


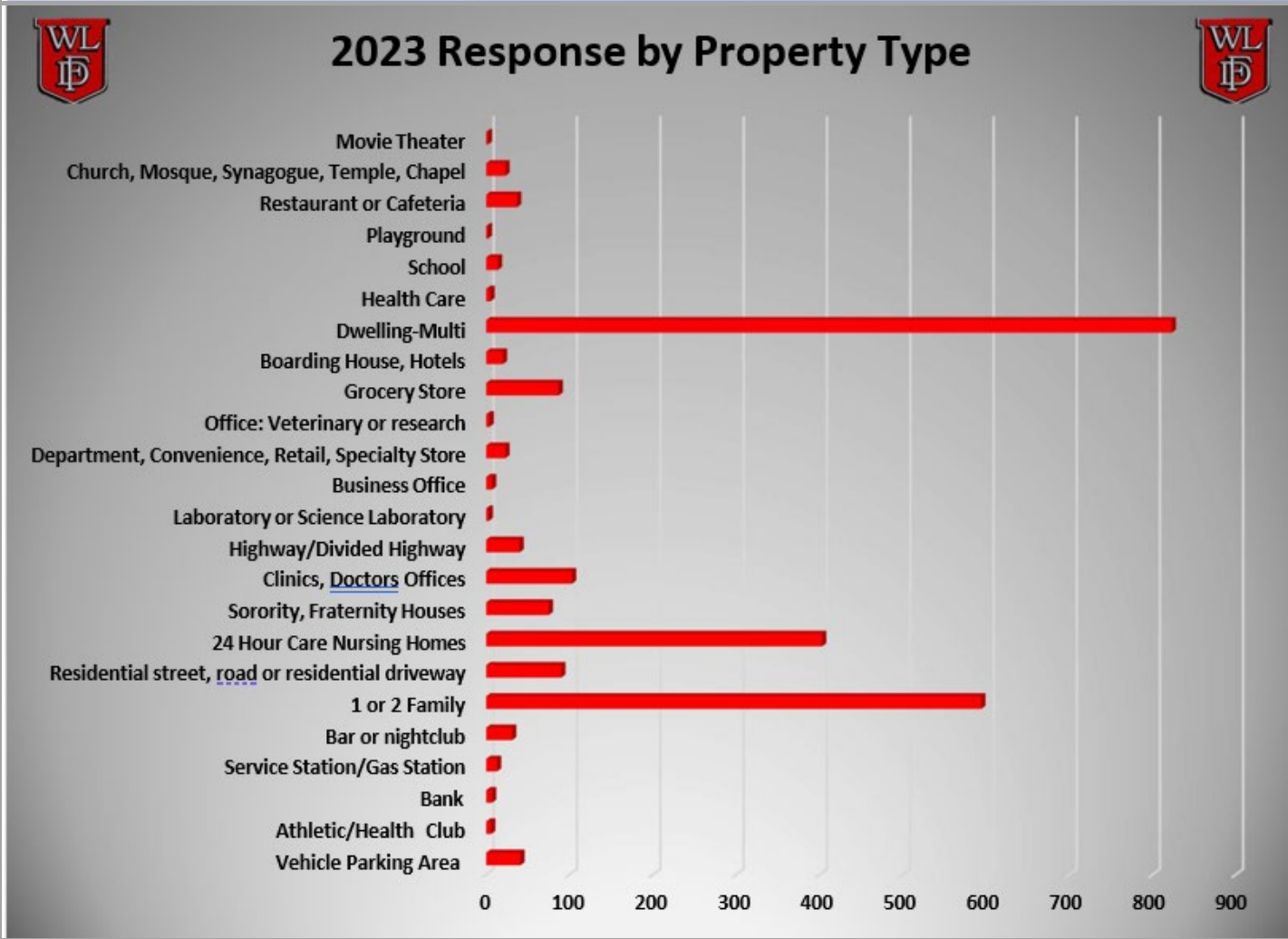
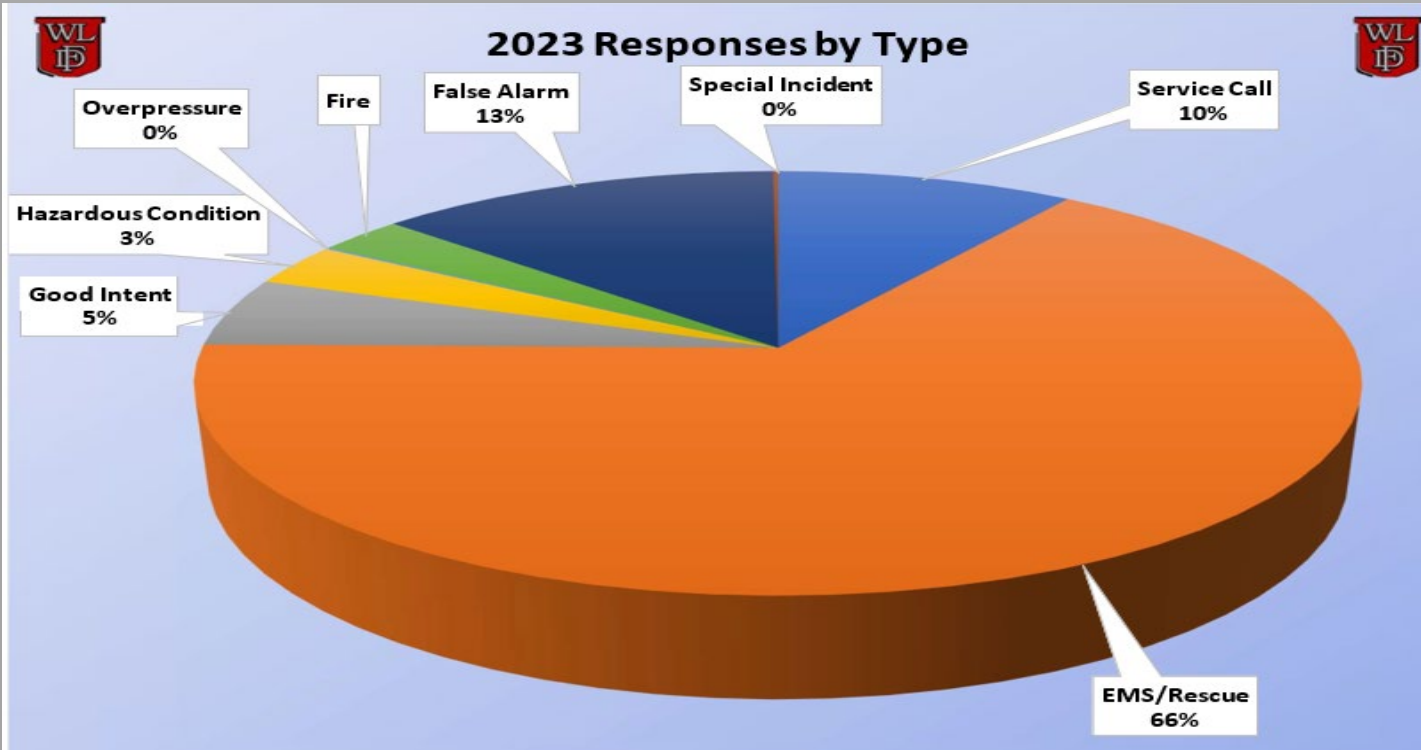


## 2023 Responses by Day of Week



## 2023 Response by Time of Day







# 2023 Highlights

January: WLFD responded to 236 calls: 156 Medical, 4 Fire, 3 Hazardous Condition, 20 Service Calls, 42 False Alarms, and 11 Other. The Inspection Division kicked off the year with 265 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 29 general; 10 new construction; 38 re-inspection; 16 plan reviews; 9 consultations; 29 code reviews; 6 fire alarm system tests; and 111 documentation reports and reviews.

February: WLFD responded to 209 calls: 142 Medical, 4 Fire, 5 Hazardous Condition, 21 Service Calls, 27 False Alarms, and 10 Other. The Inspection Division performed 323 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 64 general; 10 new construction; 37 re-inspection; 11 plan reviews; 8 consultations; 22 code reviews; 3 fire drills; and 135 documentation reports and reviews.

March: WLFD responded to 232 calls: 155 Medical, 5 Fire, 11 Hazardous Condition, 21 Service Calls, 30 False Alarms, 1 Special Incident, and 9 Other. The Inspection Division performed 283 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 17 general; 43 re-inspection; 17 plan reviews; 11 consultations; 40 code reviews; 2 fire alarm tests' 3 sprinkler system tests; 2 fire/life safety presentations; and 134 documentation reports and reviews.

April: WLFD responded to 253 calls: 180 Medical, 9 Fire, 4 Hazardous Condition, 24 Service Calls, 22 False Alarms, and 14 Other. The Inspection Division completed 218 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 12 general; 16 new construction; 6 re-inspection; 14 plan reviews; 16 consultations; 22 code reviews; 3 fire alarm tests; 3 fire drills; and 120 documentation reports and reviews.

May: WLFD responded to 229 calls: 161 Medical, 8 Fire, 7 Hazardous Condition, 22 Service Calls, 21 False Alarms, 1 Special Incident, and 9 Other. Horraine Lewis and Gage Hegg joined the department. The Inspection Division completed 213 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 30 general; 18 new construction; 23 re-inspection; 17 plan reviews; 30 code reviews; and 82 documentation reports and reviews.

June: WLFD responded to 189 calls: 109 Medical, 9 Fire, 13 Hazardous Condition, 23 Service Calls, 22 False Alarms, and 13 Other. The Inspection Division performed 253 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 43 general; 19 new construction; 21 re-inspection; 17 plan reviews; 3 consultations; 31 code reviews; and 111 documentation reports and reviews.

July: WLFD responded to 219 calls: 149 Medical, 9 Fire, 5 Hazardous Condition, 21 Service Calls, 23 False Alarms, and 12 Other. The Inspection Division performed 236 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 13 general; 20 new construction; 37 re-inspection; 15 plan reviews; 31 code reviews; and 106 documentation reports and reviews.

August: WLFD responded to 290 calls: 182 Medical, 10 Fire, 13 Hazardous Condition, 25 Service Calls, 39 False Alarms, 1 Special Incident, and 20 Other. The Inspection Division performed 241 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 17 general; 59 new construction; 9 re-inspection; 17 plan reviews; 14 code reviews; and 99 documentation reports and reviews.

September: WLFD responded to 241 calls: 166 Medical, 3 Fire, 9 Hazardous Condition, 18 Service Calls, 29 False Alarms, and 16 Other. The Inspection Division performed 239 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 78 general; 26 new construction; 6 re-inspection; 14 plan reviews; and 71 documentation reports and reviews.

October: WLFD responded to 304 calls: 195 Medical, 5 Fire, 7 Hazardous Condition, 28 Service Calls, 57 False Alarms, and 12 Other. The Inspection Division performed 245 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 66 general; 33 new construction; 30 re-inspection; 9 plan reviews; 3 Life Safety Presentations; and 75 documentation reports and reviews.

November: WLFD responded to 256 calls: 156 Medical, 8 Fire, 6 Hazardous Condition, 30 Service Calls, 38 False Alarms, 1 Special Incident, and 17 Other. The Inspection Division performed 285 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 92 general; 40 new construction; 14 re-inspection; 17 plan reviews; 12 fire drills; 2 Life Safety Presentations; and 70 documentation reports and reviews.

December: WLFD responded to 248 calls: 161 Medical, 4 Fire, 11 Hazardous Condition, 32 Service Calls, 28 False Alarms, 1 Special Incident, and 11 Other. The Inspection Division performed 224 inspections and safety tests and reviews, including 88 general; 18 new construction; 14 re-inspection; 9 plan reviews; and 72 documentation reports and reviews.

The total number of runs in 2023 was 2,955: 82 Fire; 934 Non-Fire; 1,939 EMS.

The total number of inspections in 2023 was 3,025.

## 2023 Training



In 2023, the West Lafayette Fire Department put in 13,172 hours of training, including Medical Training, Map Study, Pre-Plans, and Physical Fitness. Members took part in their annual required Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training; certification as Emergency Medical Technicians; a Fire Instructors and Fire Officer course at District 4 Training Center; a Fire Investigator course; joint training with LFD at District 4 Training Center; world-class fire training under live-fire conditions at Fire Department Training Network; new and old building tours; EMT refresher training; ice/cold water rescue training; Hazardous Material Response, Swift Water Rescue, Rope Rescue, and Confined Space Rescue; and Leadership Development/Officer Development training.

In January, personnel conducted ice water rescue evolutions at the Cook Biotech pond and started yearly assignments for OSHA compliance. Members attended a Fire Department Health & Safety Conference, an IDHS Leadership Development course, an IDHS Fire Officer III course, and a Fire Investigator I course. Total hours of training in January: 806.

In February, members took part in trauma assessment medical training through Vector Solutions and required yearly OSHA training; trained alongside Purdue, Lafayette, and Wabash Fire in donated homes covering various scenarios; performed prescribed burns at the Celery Bog; and did a cold-water rescue scenario with Lafayette Fire. Members completed the IDHS Security Fire Officer III course and Public Safety Leadership course. And two attended the Campus Fire Safety seminar. Total hours of training: 1,262.

In March, personnel continued their annual required OSHA training. One member attended the National Fire Academy's "Command and Control of Incident Operations" course. Several continued studying for the department promotional process which included testing their business skills, ability to command a fire scene, and general fire service knowledge. Total hours of training: 885.

April training consisted of a presentation from Dr. Kelly Dardeen about mental health awareness and available resources followed by an online course. Twelve members completed a 40-hour IDHS Rope Rescue Awareness course; two completed a Swift Water Rescue course; several attended classes and training at



FDIC in Indy; and the department did joint training with Lafayette, Purdue, and Wabash Township fire departments. Total hours of training: 1,480.

May training included proper coding and data entry for medical run reporting; pump operations and drafting from a portable water source; and LFD specialty team

training that included Hazardous Materials, Tactical Rescue, and Water Rescue. Some personnel completed the IDHS Rope Rescue Technicians course; Sheriff's Department Captain Hainje presented a Traffic Incident Management course on preserving roadway accident scene evidence; and eight community members participated in the second annual Citizens Academy, getting a first-hand look at what it takes to be a firefighter. Total hours of training: 1,289.

June medical training consisted of audit and review with Dr. Sansone, reviewing medical runs and reports to ensure state compliance. Fire training covered building construction and how each type of structure reacts to fire. Several members attended special courses including NFPA 13 Sprinkler System Plan Review; CPM; and LFD specialty courses for Hazardous Material Response, Swift Water Rescue, Rope Rescue, and Confined Space Rescue. Total hours of training: 1,038.75.

July medical training included completing required skills in the Indiana State SIMS lab to become Indiana State certified as Emergency Medical Technicians. All members were assigned eight hours of policy and procedure review. Fire training consisted of a refresher course on Ladder 1504 operations. HazMat Technician members performed a joint training exercise with Purdue Fire. Some personnel continued CPM courses and others attended specialty training with Lafayette Fire. Total hours of training: 954.

August medical training consisted of planning for a mass casualty incident and how to prioritize patients and work with other agencies such as EMS transportation and local hospitals. Fire training covered assisting a driver to safely reverse fire apparatus, the importance of hearing conservation and safety, and a refresher course on the operations and control of Ladder 1504. Firefighter Stanley participated in the Indiana Army National Guard Helicopter Water Rescue Teams training. Total hours of training: 811.



September included an online report writing and documentation course, hands-on practice skills of ventilation in structure fires, department policies and procedures review, and local building preplans. Six members assisted the Lafayette Fire Department Recruit Academy: Captain Doyle and Lieutenant Birge teaching; Chief Need, Lieutenant Stacy, and Firefighters Mayer and Fountain assisting with the controlled burn. Total hours of training: 953.

October was Fire Prevention Month, and WLFD celebrated by educating the public at both the Farmer's Market and the Parks Department's Fall Festival. Training included the conclusion of new recruits' 16-week training at the LFD Training Academy where they received certifications in Emergency Medical Technician, Firefighter I/II, and HazMat Technician and experienced a working fire's heat,

smoke, and low visibility. Captains Doyle and Taylor continued their CPM course with Ball State. Several members completed training with Lafayette Fire's Special Operations Team. And personnel performed annual hose testing on all fire hoses. Total hours of training: 805.

November EMT training covered trauma assessment, airway emergencies, and assisting ambulance crews. Fire training consisted of extrication equipment hands-on skills to practice with the operations, weight, and handling of the tools. Captains Doyle and Taylor continued their CPM course with Ball State. Firefighter Drew Snider and the Staton 2 crew provided the West Lafayette Parks Department with OSHA-certified respirator training. Total hours of training: 908.

December training covered annual audit and review; incident command and control; and completion of all required annual training. Total hours of training: 893.

The West Lafayette Fire Department completed 13,172 hours of training in 2023 which perfectly coincided with our mission: to protect our community's people, property, and environment through intervention, prevention, and education, ensuring West Lafayette is always a safe and great place to work, live, and play.



## **Special Operations Personnel**

### **Hazardous Materials Technicians**

Captain Keith Barker	Shane Chapman	Drew Snider	Wes Geib
Captain Eric Doyle	Ryan Linder	Adam Stanley	Thomas Clark
Captain Keith Burton	Kyle Glover	Derek Cook	Horraine Lewis
Lieutenant Joe Heater	Sean Mayer	Craig Snider	Gage Hegg
Lieutenant Cody Stacy	Jeff Lyons	Grady Fountain	

### **HazMat Team**

Captain Eric Doyle	Derek Cook	Grady Fountain
Sean Mayer	Craig Snider	

### **Ropes Technicians**

Captain Keith Barker	Shane Chapman	Thomas Lynch	Adam Arnold
Captain Eric Doyle	Ryan Linder	Josh Dowell	Grady Fountain
Captain John Keller	Kyle Glover	Cadel Crowl	Wes Geib
Captain Eric Lamb	Sean Mayer	Adam Stanley	Conner Stacy
Lieutenant Ben Jones	Chad Dazey	Derek Cook	Thomas Clark
Lieutenant Jon VanNess	Curtis Shidler	Clayton Zak	
Lieutenant Cody Stacy	Drew Snider	Cody Glover	

### **Structural Collapse Technicians**

Ryan Linder	Drew Snider	Thomas Lynch
Kyle Glover		Cody Glover

### **Tactical Rescue Team**

Captain Eric Lamb	Ryan Linder	Derek Cook	Cody Glover
Lieutenant Ben Jones	Drew Snider	Clint Knowles	Grady Fountain

### **Water Search & Recovery Team**

Captain Eric Doyle	Curtis Shidler	Adam Stanley	Conner Stacy
Lieutenant Jon VanNess	Cadel Crowl	Adam Arnold	

### **Swift Water Rescue Technicians**

Kyle Glover	Curtis Shidler
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### **Certified National Child Safety Seat Technicians**

Captain Grant Birge	Chad Dazey	Drew Snider	Clint Knowles
Lieutenant Brad Schwartz	Cody Stacy	Derek Cook	Grady Fountain

### **Honor Guard**

Captain Eric Doyle	Lieutenant Cody Stacy	Michael Parsons	Clayton Zak
Lieutenant Ben Jones	Ryan Linder	Cadel Crowl	
Lieutenant Brad Schwartz	Drew Snider	Nick Wagner	

### **Certified CPR Instructors**

Captain Eric Doyle	Sean Mayer	Drew Snider	Grady Fountain
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