



DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- **2021 Calls For Service:** The WFD closed out year by responding to a total of 791 calls for service, a 7% decrease from the previous year. A 2021 Annual Report is being prepared and will share more information in statistics and accomplishments.
- **WFD Staff Photos:** During the the holidays, Chief took on a project to include a professional staff photos to include our members of the department. This has been a project in the making for sometime, and really wanted to provide recognition for our team here in Winters Fire. More photos are being developed and added to the wall.

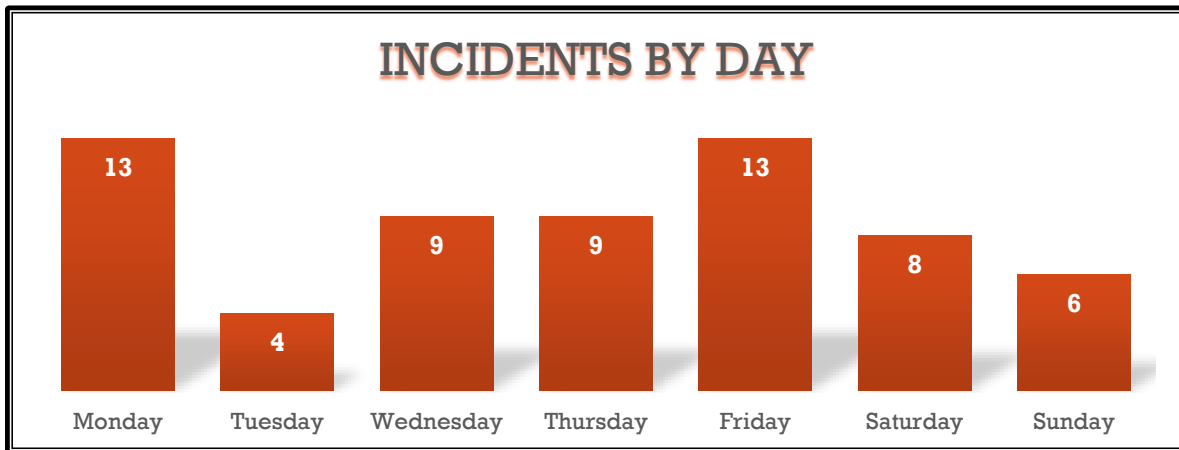


- **Tractor Parade:** The WFD upstaffed volunteers and career staff for the event. We also participated in the parade with Brush 26 with Firefighter Melvin Self tailgating the parade.



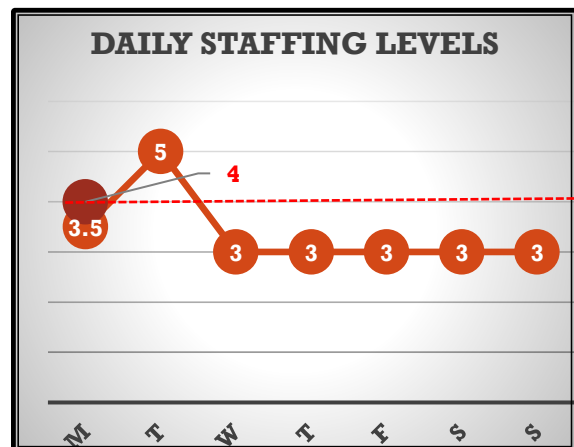
DECEMBER EMERGENCY INCIDENTS

Fires	1
Rescue & Emergency Medical	45
Hazardous Conditions	1
Service Calls	2
Good Intent	7
False Alarms	6
Other/Weather	0
TOTAL FOR MONTH	62



Daily Staffing

The Winters Fire Department is largely supported by Volunteer Firefighters to supplement daily staffing. The chart here demonstrates average daily staffing levels for the month. Our goal is to maintain a 4-person engine company to include one career Company Officer and up to three Volunteer/Reserve firefighters 24/7.



FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Hazards of Heaters

- Half of home heating equipment fires are reported during the months of December, January & February.
- Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths.
- Keep anything that can burn at least 3ft from heating equipment (furnace, fireplace, wood stove, portable heater).
- Have heating equipment & chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Give space heaters space! They account for 4 out of 5 home heating fire deaths.

Gifts for Kids

- The Winters Fire Department successfully hosted our annual holiday toy drive give away. With the help of our community, we were able to provide over 100 families and 270 kids with gifts for Christmas. Genuinely would like to thank our supporter who make this possible! We look forward to continuing this tradition next year!



OPERATIONS & TRAINING

Winters Fire Department staff completed 84 hours of training in the following areas.

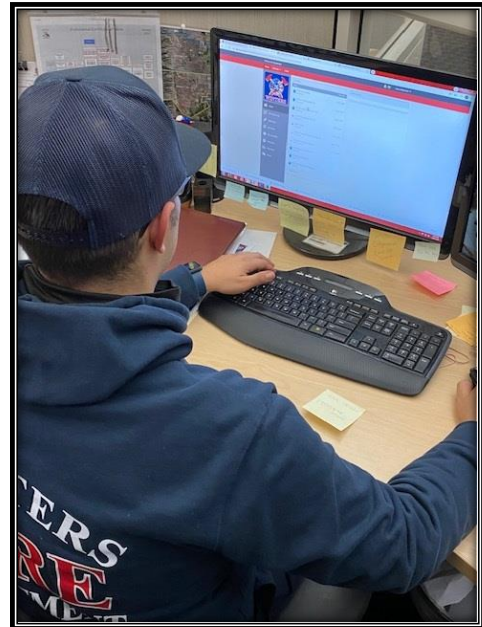
- Ladders
- Hose deployment
- Search and Rescue
- Pump Operations
- Tool Maintenance
- Risk Management / polices
- Air bags and cribbing

Vehicle stabilization is a skill that is considered low frequency / high risk. vehicles and machinery are extremely heavy and, in some cases, may need to be suspended and stabilized. Occasionally we stabilize vehicles in the air as seen to the left. In this training picture, firefighters are using a combination of airbags, wood cribbing and Rescue 42 struts to stabilize a van in the air. This operation is very dangerous and takes a lot of people working together to complete.



Target solutions

Winters Fire utilizes an online training platform called Target solutions. Target solutions is used to document trainings, manage certificates, and record course completions. The platform also provides many of the risks management courses that are required by department, city or state. For example, these are a couple of online courses new firefighters complete: Anti-harassment training, alcohol free workplace and HIPPA. Firefighters that are EMT's are required to complete 24 hours of continuing education every two years to maintain licensure. Target solutions provides a library of over 300 courses to assist in maintaining continuing education.



EMS/ FLEET/ FACILITY

- **Fleet**

The Winters Fire Department had its Brush and utility vehicles smog tested and all passed! We also welcomed back our OES Type 1 Engine that had been out of service for maintenance and repairs since October after a long fire season where it travelled around the state. The list of needs was lengthy but all were able to be accomplished at no cost to the city and we are pleased to announce that it is back in service and prepared to respond to both local and distant emergencies as needed.

- **Equipment**

- *The Department submitted a FEMA assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to purchase 15 new sets of Structural Firefighting Ensembles or “Turn Out Gear”. This is the specialized gear that firefighters wear in a hazardous area to keep them protected. One Ensemble includes helmet, coat, pants, two protective hoods, boots, and 2 pairs of gloves. If successful this grant will replace aging equipment that no longer fulfills the requirements stated in NFPA 1851.*



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