

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

SPALDING COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

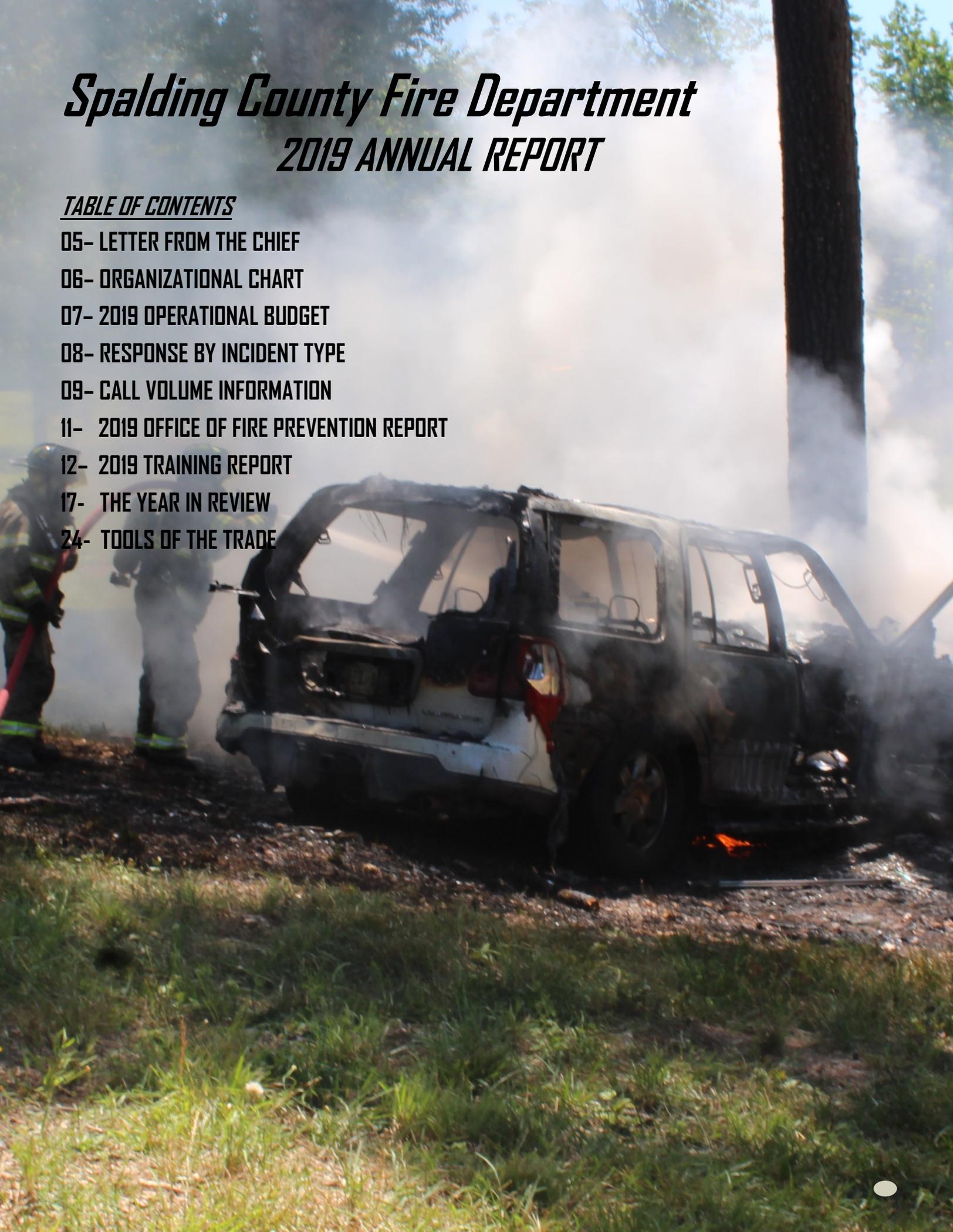


Spalding County Fire Department

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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2020 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



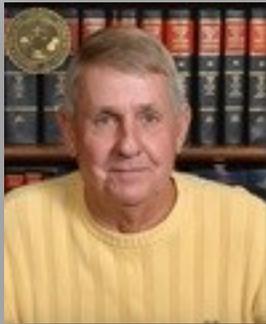
**GWEN FLOWERS -TAYLOR
DISTRICT 1
CHAIRPERSON**



**JAMES R. DUTTON
DISTRICT 2
VICE CHAIRMAN**



**RITA JOHNSON
DISTRICT 3**



**BART MILLER
DISTRICT 4**



**DONALD F. HAWBAKER
DISTRICT 5**

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION



**COUNTY MANAGER
WILLIAM P. WILSON**



**ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER
MICHELLE IRAZZARY**

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MEMBERS OF SPALDING COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT ARE COMMITTED TO GIVE OUR BEST EFFORT TO SERVE THE PEOPLE BY PROTECTING THEIR LIVES, ENVIRONMENT, AND PROPERTY THROUGH THE PROMOTION OF COURTEOUS AND RESPONSIBLE SERVICES.





Letter from the Chief

Greetings,

It is my honor to present to you what will be my final annual report as Deputy Chief and member of the Spalding County Fire Department. Throughout the years, I have watched the content of the annual report grow along with our departments level of community engagement. As such, I am happy to report that with the consistent hiring of additional personnel to meet staffing needs, along with the purchasing of much needed equipment, never before in the past has the department been as prepared as it is now to address the needs of our rapidly growing community. When I first began in 1984, it was not uncommon to have one person manning a fire apparatus who was also responsible for the entirety of operations throughout an incident. Fast forward to now, we have at minimum, two per apparatus, with some stations housing as many as four to five personnel per shift.

In the following pages, we have given our best attempt at providing you with an overview of our yearly activities, as well as a host of other information concerning all things related to the Spalding County Fire Department. With that, it is my sincerest wish that you will find this year's report as informative as the many others that have preceded it.

In closing, I would like to take this time to thank the men and women of the Spalding County Fire Department. Their unwavering commitment and quality of service to our community is nothing short of amazing and inspiring. I am truly honored to have spent my life working alongside such extraordinary, talented, and selfless individuals. Lastly, I would like to thank the community of Spalding County for allowing me to serve in such a meaningful capacity throughout all the years of my career. I can truly say that I am better for having been a part of something so much larger than myself.

Sincerely,

Jamie W. Clark
Deputy Chief of Operations
Spalding County Fire Department



SPALDING COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Deputy Chief -
Administration

Homeland Security
/ Emergency
Management-
Director

OHS / EMA
Volunteers

Budget

Grant
Management

Information
Technology

Administrative
Assistant

Deputy Chief -
Operations

Fire Marshal
(1)

Fire Safety Officer
(1)

Battalion Chiefs
(3)

Training Officer
(1)

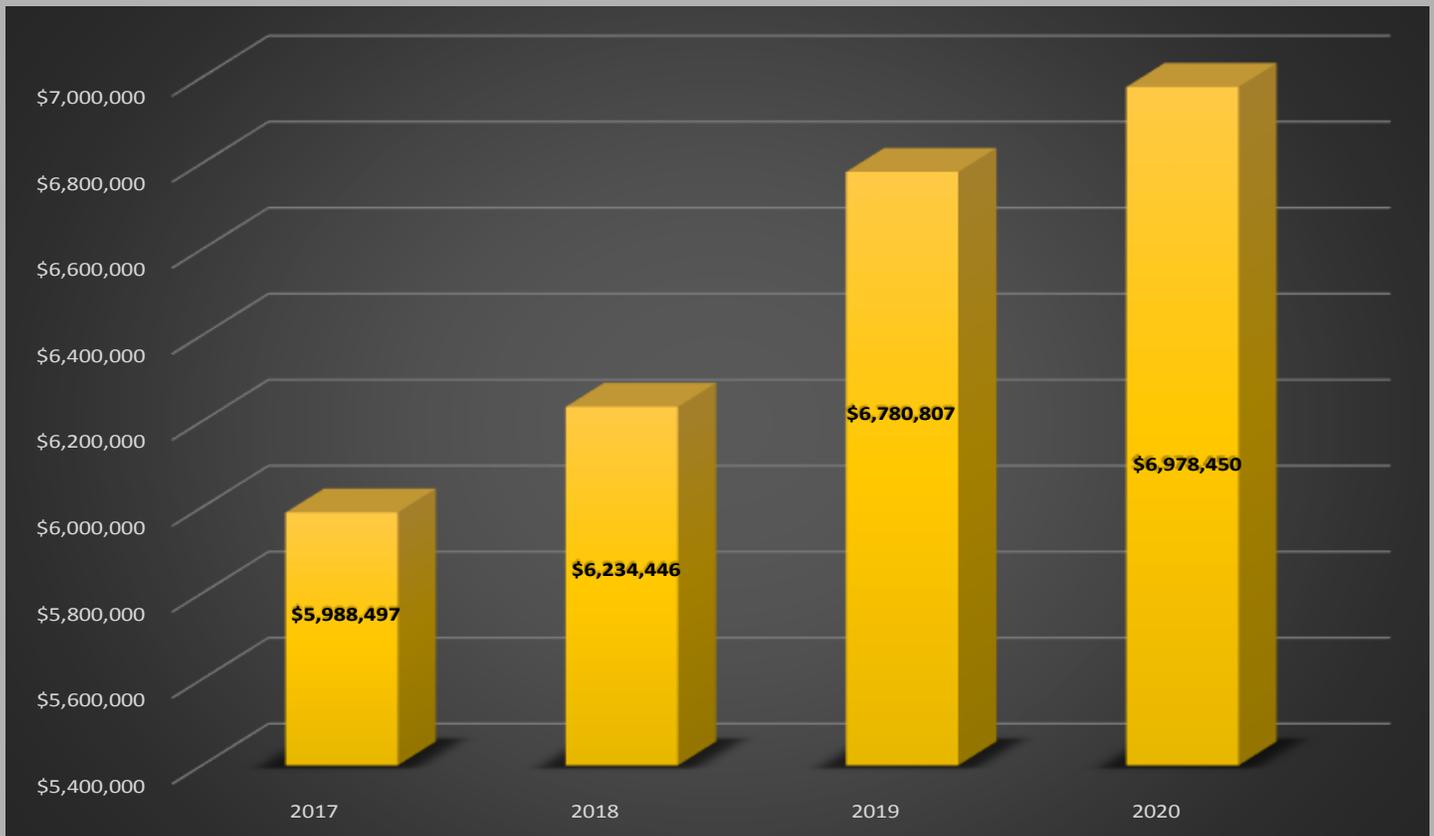
Captain (6)

Lieutenants (12)

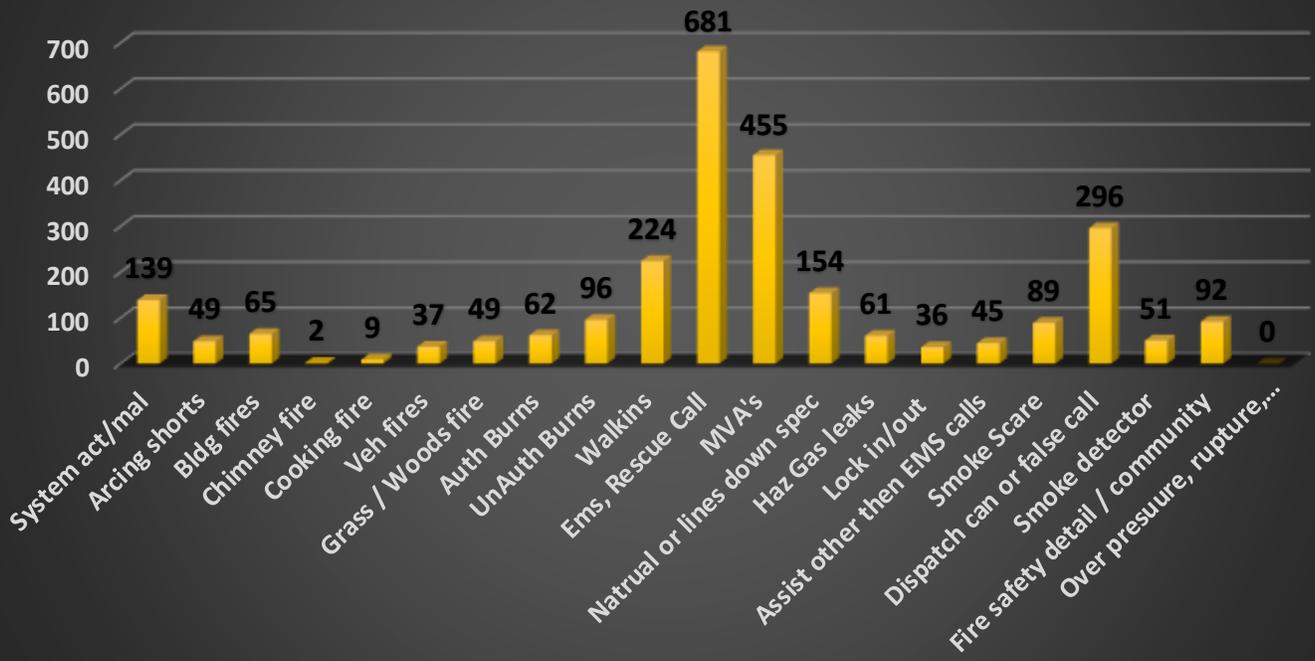
Firefighters (54)

Volunteer
Firefighters (5)

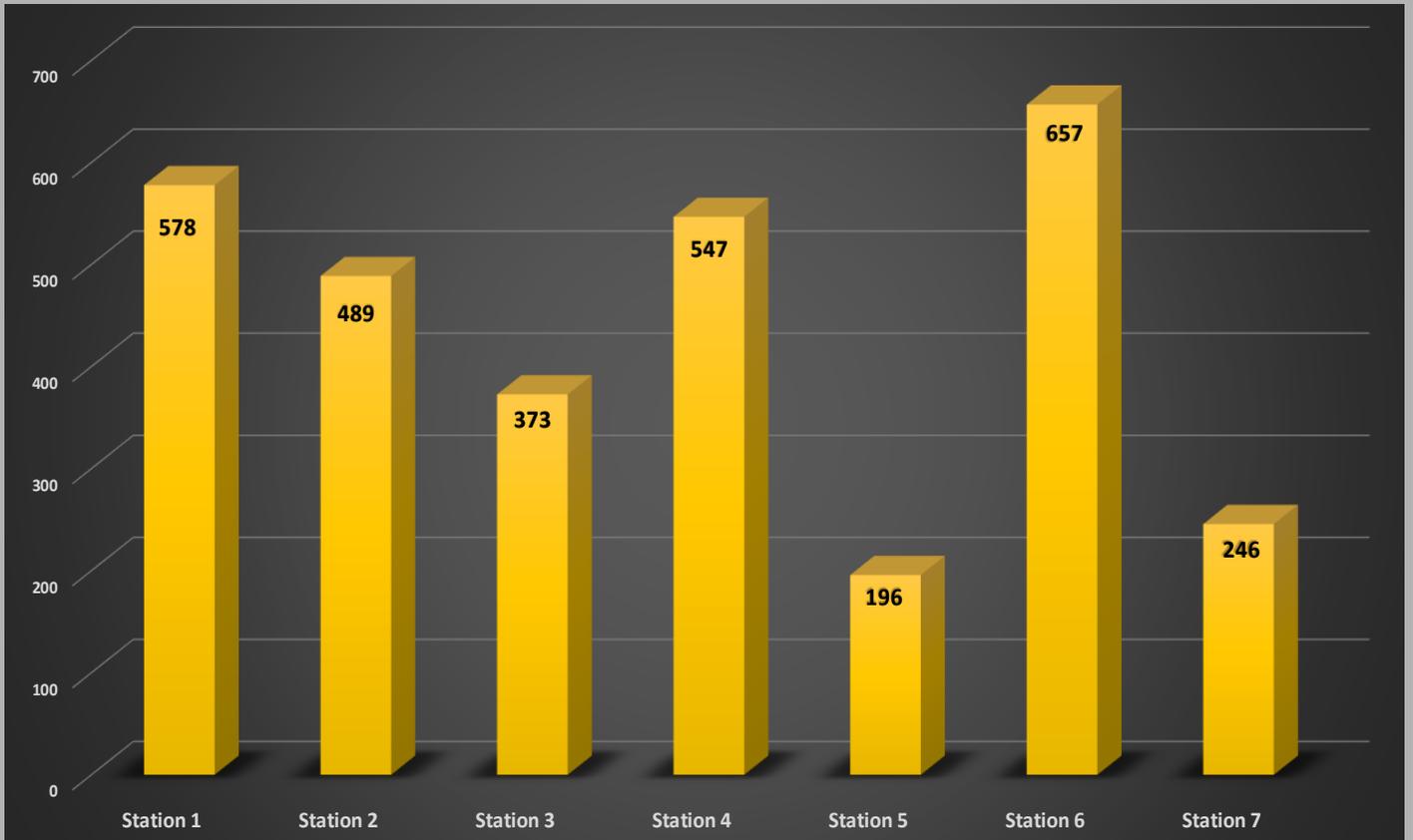
Operational Budget



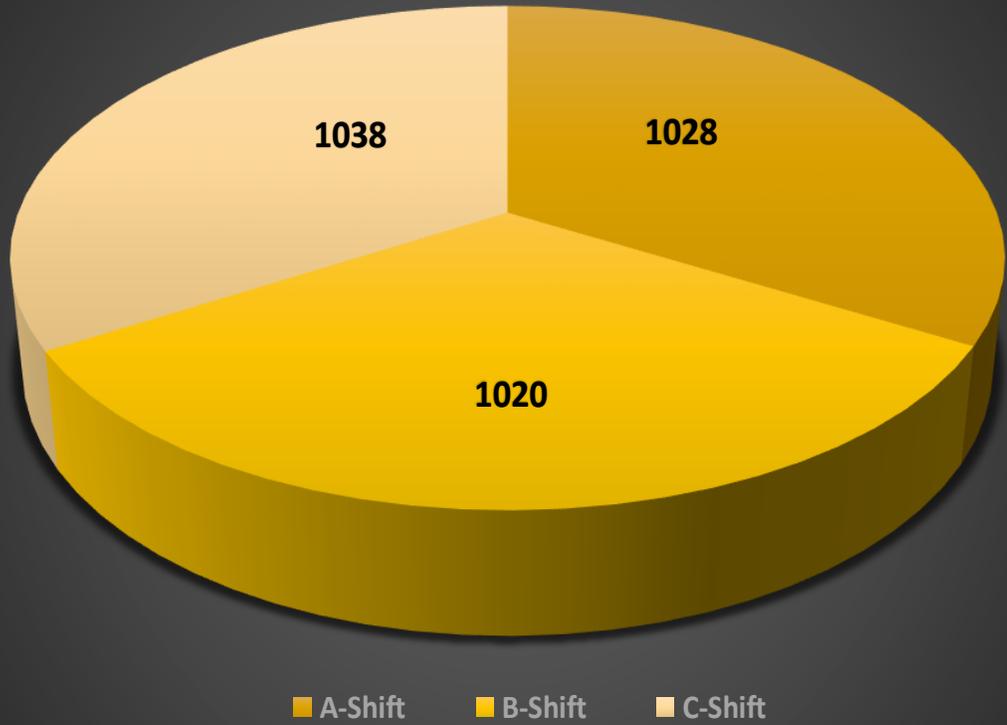
2019 Response By Incident Type



Call Volume By Station



Call Volume By Shift



Did you know?

Firefighters generally work in long shifts that include weekends and holidays. These shifts might differ from one city to another. The two most common types of shifts for firefighters are 24/48, or 10- to 12-hour shifts for three to four days in a row.

Spalding County Fire Department follows the 24/48 schedule. This uses three teams (A shift, B shift, C shift) to provide 24/7 coverage. It consists of a 3-day cycle where each team works one 24-hour shift followed by 2 consecutive days (48 hours) off duty.

Office of Fire Prevention

	Inspections	Plan Reviews	Safety Details	Special Permits	C O's	Investigations
Jan	59	3	3	0	0	8
Feb	50	1	4	4	0	10
Mar	108	8	11	0	2	10
Apr	27	8	5	0	0	11
May	85	4	7	0	0	12
Jun	90	8	9	0	0	8
Jul	57	7	6	0	0	5
Aug	31	4	5	0	13	8
Sept	23	6	13	5	0	6
Oct	33	4	20	1	1	9
Nov	11	3	6	3	0	5
Dec	4	2	3	0	0	5
Totals	578	58	92	13	16	97



In 2019, through ongoing public education, community outreach, and October's Fire Safety Month initiative, personnel from Spalding County Fire Department interacted with roughly 1,987 children and 1,023 adults.

TRAINING DIVISION

Our key mission is to provide our citizens with courteous and responsible service. To accomplish that goal, we focused on always remaining prepared. Our members trained extensively throughout 2019 to ensure we were always ready to mitigate any incident.



- Recruit Class #50 amassed over 760 hours of training while assigned to the recruit academy

Training Opportunities & Destinations

In 2019, SCFD members traveled the state and beyond searching for training opportunities to hone our skills. We logged hundreds of miles with stops in places such as:

- Monroe County EMT Program, Forsyth, GA
- Tactical Flight Officer, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- UGA Infectious Disease – Ops Level , Jackson, GA
- Basic Airport Firefighter, Atlanta Training Center, Atlanta, GA
- Bovine Emergency Response, Perry, GA
- Technical Rescue with Ropes, Trench, and Confined Space, Griffin, GA
- Haz-Mat Awareness and Ops testing , McDonough, GA
- Basic Disaster Life Support at UGA Campus, Griffin, GA
- Initial Rope for 1st Due Responder, Douglas, GA



Georgia Fire Academy Training

Thanks to approval of the newly implemented proficiency pay program, Spalding County Fire Department saw a record number of members complete specified training at the state-operated Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, GA. This has tremendously strengthened our professional development program. Many members improved their fire service knowledge by taking advantage of training opportunities such as:

- Georgia Public Fire and Life Safety Educator
- Interior Search and Rescue
- Fire Instructor I
- Structural Fire Control
- Acting Officer in Charge
- Handling Flammable and Combustible Liquids
- Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Ops
- Decision Making for Initial Company Ops
- Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations
- Leadership in Supervision Series
- Training Operations in Small Departments
- Acting Officer in Charge
- TILT Leadership Training
- Practical Fire Ground Hydraulics
- Hazardous Material Technician
- Life Safety Code
- Fire Service Safety Culture
- Basic Practices in Community Risk Reduction
- Fire Investigation for First Responders
- Chief Fire Officer Series
- Health and Safety Officer



2019 Certifications

Fire Instructor I

Kevin Hollums
Ketisha Rouseau

Georgia Fire & Life Safety Educator I

Kataleen Roberts
James Odom Jr.
Marcus Goodman



Hazardous Material Technician

Joshua Childs
Ian Hinton
James Hughes

Trench Rescue Technician

Brian Bankston
Joshua Childs
Juan Guerrero
Kataleen Roberts
James Hughes
David Eller



Confined Space Technician

Brian Bankston
Joshua Childs
Ian Hinton
James Hughes
Kataleen Roberts
Johnathan Fetters
Jordan Scibetta
Juan Guerrero
David Eller

Departmental In-House Training

- Two GEMA instructed Hazardous Materials Awareness classes
- Two Georgia Fire Academy taught Crash Victim Extrication classes
- GEMA instructed ICS/EOC Interface workshops
- Apex Insurance Agency instructed several Defensive Driver Safety classes
- Two Georgia Fire Academy taught Pressurized Container Fire Control classes
- TIME Task Force instructed Traffic Incident Management Training
- DPH Child Passenger Safety recertification class for Car Seat Technicians
- American Heart Association: BLS for Healthcare Providers recertification
- American Heart Association: Heartsaver CPR/AED classes for County employees
- Disaster Preparedness Community Emergency Response Training (CERT)
- AirLife Georgia instructed Landing Zone class
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield lead classes: Communication skills for workplace, Assertive communication, Conflict management, Science of goals
- GEMA instructed Pipeline Emergencies with Company Officer Tactics



Departmental In-House Training cont.



Recruit Class #49

L-R Christopher Henderson, Elijah Thomason, Stephan Bass, David Dick, Jason Hattaway



Recruit Class #50

L-R Felton Forehand, Josh Goss



In March, the Spalding County Fire Department served as the host location for a Pressurized Container Fire Control class. This course is designed for firefighters who may be called upon to handle emergencies involving LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) and other substances that may be stored under pressure.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



February 1, 2019
PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:
Director Glenn Polk
Deputy Director Clark
Deputy Director Huggins
(770) 228-2129

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

SPALDING COUNTY RECEIVES IMPROVED INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE (ISO) RATING

Spalding County has received an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of Class 3/3X which has been achieved by only 12% of communities nationwide. The ISO currently evaluates over 50,000 Fire Departments nationwide with only 3,456 earning the Class 3 Rating. The rating reflects the hard work and dedication of all the Spalding County Firefighters and their commitment to save lives and property. The new Public Protection Classification (PPC) will become effective on May 1, 2019.

Fire Departments across the Nation are rated by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) to determine a Public Protection Classification (PPC) for individual Cities and Counties. This rating is published by the ISO and used by the Insurance Companies to determine rates. The ISO Schedule develops a PPC number on a relative scale from 1 to 10, with 1 being the very best and 10 representing less than minimum recognized fire protection. Most U.S. Insurers of Homes and Business Property use PPC in calculating premiums.

When the ISO evaluates a Fire Department's capabilities, it uses a system called the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) which employs nationally accepted standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International.

The FSRS considers 2 main areas of a community's fire suppression capabilities including Emergency Communications (911 Call Center), the Fire Department and Water Supply. Additionally, it includes a Community Risk Reduction section that recognizes community efforts to reduce losses through fire prevention, public fire safety education and fire investigation.

The Spalding County Fire Department's improved PPC classification is a reflection of the County's commitment to provide quality Public Safety to the citizens of Spalding County.

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2019 saw the addition of several new apparatuses to the Spalding County Fire Department Fleet. A newly purchased E-One Engine was placed at Roberts Fire Station on South McDonough Rd. It replaces a 2007 E-one engine that will remain in service as a reserve unit. The total cost of the new engine was \$333,867.00 which was funded by the 2016 SPLOST.

Two KME Quick Response Vehicles (QRVS) were also purchased and placed into service. These trucks are compact Fire Engines that are better able to navigate tighter roads and driveways than a full-sized engine. One was placed at headquarters station on Carver Road and the other at Cabin Station on Jackson Rd. Both are equipped with a pump, tank, hose and specialized equipment. These QRV's were funded by Impact Fees at a cost of \$255,550.00 each.



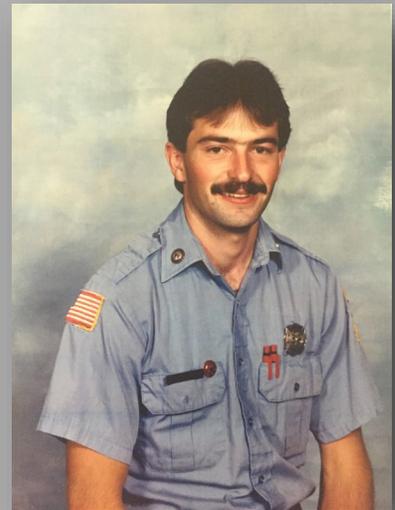
In 2019 Spalding County Fire Department began utilizing LDH (large diameter hose) as a more effective means to move large volumes of water quickly at a fire scene.



RETIREMENTS

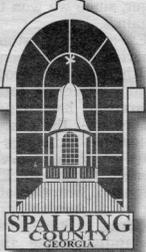


Jamie Clark
Deputy Chief of Operations
35 Years



Kenny West, Sgt. Jamie Clark and Sgt. Willie Lewis take a walk around the beach.

CONGRATULATIONS
Captain Jamie Clark



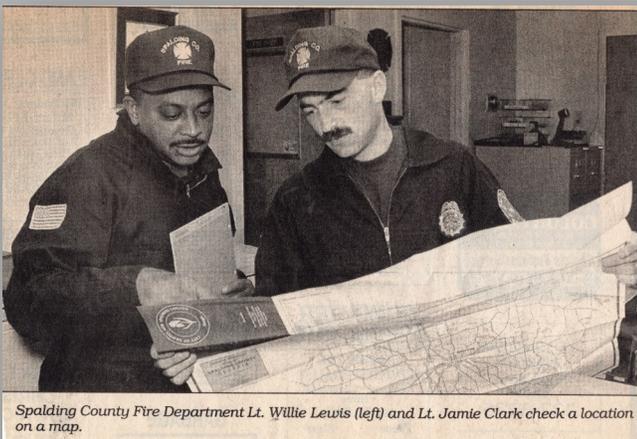
BEST FIREMAN
2007

No tax dollars were used to fund this ad.





Spalding County Firemen Jamie Clark, left, and Willie J. Lewis will wash up their own equipment at the station. They were extinguishing a fire in a utility trailer.



Spalding County Fire Department Lt. Willie Lewis (left) and Lt. Jamie Clark check a location on a map.



RETIREMENTS cont.

Alex "Big A" Leverett
33 Years



ADDITIONAL 2019 EVENTS

- Michael Byrd appointed as Deputy Chief Of Operations. Chief Byrd began his career as a Spalding County Volunteer Firefighter in 1986 and would go on to work for the City of Morrow Fire Department for eighteen (18) years. During his time there he served as both Deputy Commander and Training Officer until accepting the position of Deputy Chief at the Georgia Fire Academy in Forsyth Georgia. Mr. Byrd brings with him invaluable volumes of education and experience that will certainly benefit the department and ultimately the community as a whole
- With the help of several partner agencies that make up the Spalding County SafeKids Coalition, multiple car seat check events were held at Spalding County Fire stations
- Interior renovations were completed at Roberts (841 South McDonough Road) and Woodroof (4245 Old Atlanta Road) fire stations
- Working alongside American Red Cross, Spalding County Fire personnel participated in a Saturday morning "Smoke Alarm Blitz" which provided free smoke alarms to specifically targeted areas in addition to increasing fire safety awareness
- Through collaborative efforts, the Automatic Mutual Aid Agreement with Griffin Fire and Rescue was updated
- Spalding County Firefighters raised \$4,007 for the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation during the 2019 Boot Drive
- Spalding County Fire Department received a grant in the amount of \$2,500 from ACCG. The money was used to purchase additional turnout gloves to aid in the fight against firefighter exposure to cancer causing agents.
- During the 2019 POD (point of distribution) Drill, Spalding Fire assisted the Department of Public Health with the dispensing of 1,150 free flu shots for the community
- Spalding County Fire received a Hazard Mitigation Plan grant via GEMA (Georgia Emergency Management Agency) in the amount of \$18,000.
- Lieutenant Zavario Johnson received a 10 year service award
- Firefighter Kory Dufresne received a 15 year service award
- Through t-shirt sales and fundraising, Spalding County Fire Department's "Fight For Air Club" raised \$3031 for the American Lung Associations annual Fight For Air Climb



Spalding County Fire Department Honor Guard members (*L-R* **Lieutenant Tim Hendricks, Lieutenant Kevin Hollums**) perform the presentation of colors during the 2019 Senior Games.

TOOLS OF THE TRADE



AED

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a lightweight, portable device that delivers an electric shock through the chest to the heart. The shock can potentially stop an irregular heart beat (arrhythmia) and allow a normal rhythm to resume following a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA). SCA occurs when the heart malfunctions and stops beating unexpectedly. If not treated within minutes, it quickly leads to death.



CO Detector

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that is produced from incomplete combustion. Without the use of special monitoring equipment, it may be impossible to detect the presence of CO until it's too late. By utilizing "single gas" detectors, firefighters are able to quickly determine if CO is present in the atmosphere. Modern units typically consist of an LED light system that also vibrates in conjunction with a positive reading.



Fog Nozzle

A fog nozzle is a primary tool used for firefighting that breaks water into small droplets via adjustable settings, which enhances heat absorption. These nozzles can produce three different types of streams: the straight stream for long reach, the narrow-angle cone for advancing an attack line into a structure or fire room, and the wide-angle cone for protection and ventilation.



Halligan Tool

Based on the earlier Kelly tool, the Halligan is a multipurpose tool for prying, twisting, punching, or striking. Consisting of a claw (or fork), a blade (wedge or adze), and a tapered pick, this tool is especially useful in quickly breaching many types of locked doors.



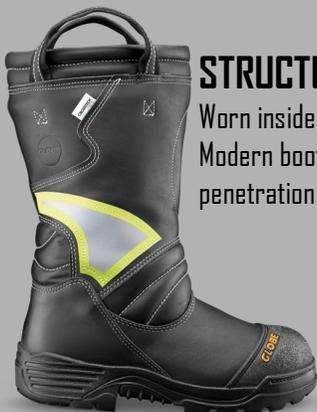
Helmet

Undoubtedly, the most distinguishing and identifiable piece of firefighting equipment, the modern fire helmet is a blend of progress and tradition. The classic shape dates back to the early 1900s, a time when helmets were made from leather and metal. The distinctive wide brim was designed to protect the firefighter from falling debris, water and burning embers.



Gloves

Structural firefighting gloves, like turnout gear, consist of an outer shell, a moisture barrier, and a thermal barrier, which may be configured as joined or continuous layers. Firefighting gloves must provide a good fit, dexterity, protection from physical hazards (e.g., sharp edges or rough surfaces) as well as protection from flame and heat.



STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTING BOOTS

Worn inside the leg of bunker pants, firefighting boots are outfitted to withstand many hazards. Modern boots are designed with safety toes and a puncture-resistant midsole plate to prevent penetration by sharp objects that may be stepped on.

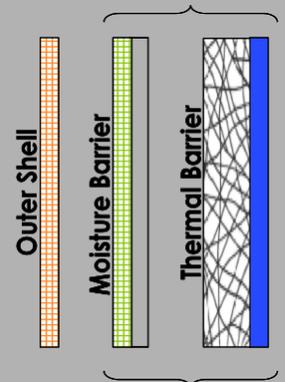
Bunker Gear

Referred to as PPE (personal protective equipment) or "Turnout Gear" this is considered one of the most important tools a firefighter possesses. Comprised of three layers (outer shell, thermal barrier, moisture barrier) these durable garments are designed to be the first and most crucial, point of protection for firefighters against burns and other injuries over a wide range of conditions. This equipment is what allows firefighters to enter hostile environments to perform rescues and fire suppression.



Bunker coat

Bunker Pants





SCBA

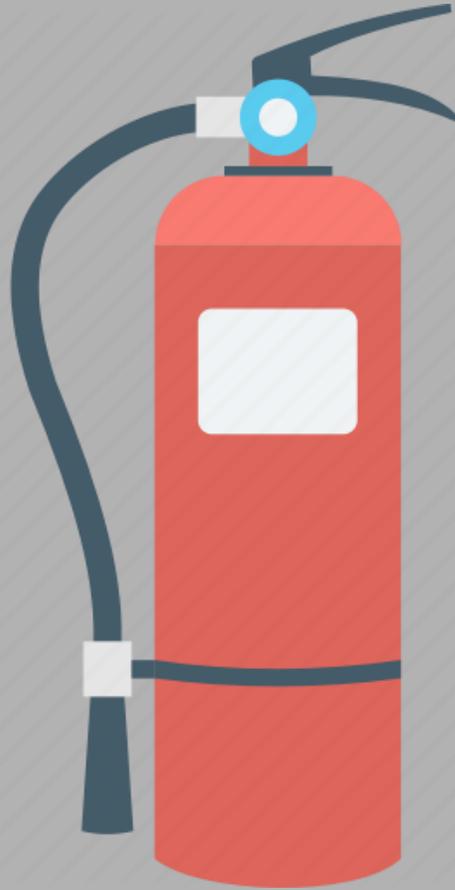
A self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) is a type of respirator that contains breathable compressed air (rather than oxygen, contrary to popular belief.) They are used by firefighters and others who may be working in areas filled with smoke, toxic gas or other contaminants that are immediately dangerous to life and health. Air is supplied from a compressed air cylinder that is connected to a facepiece that is worn by the user.

A modern SCBA unit (including cylinder and harness) weighs roughly 10-15 lbs. and can supply the wearer with approximately 45 minutes of breathable air. Units are also equipped with a low pressure alarm (ringing bell) that is triggered when only a small percentage of the available air supply remains. Because of the vital role it plays in firefighting, the SCBA is one of the first things a firefighter will inspect at the beginning of each shift.



PASS DEVICE

Integrated into the SCBA unit, the personal alert safety system (PASS) provides the user with the ability to monitor movement through a motion sensor. When a user remains motionless for 30 seconds, the PASS device goes into full alarm to alert those around the user. This is a life safety measure to locate downed firefighters. The PASS device also assists firefighters in monitoring remaining air cylinder pressure.



PULL AND REMOVE THE PIN LOCATED AT THE TOP OF THE EXTINGUISHER.

AIM THE DISCHARGE NOZZLE AT THE BASE OF THE FIRE.

SQUEEZE THE TOP HANDLE OF THE EXTINGUISHER.

SWEEP THE DISCHARGE FROM SIDE TO SIDE ACROSS THE FIRE.



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