

2019 Annual Report

**City of Altoona
Fire Department**



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Mission Statement

Our main function is to protect our community by being prepared to respond to the traditional fire and rescue hazard while assuring our ability to mitigate a variety of a growing number of hazards.

The mission of our department is to put highly qualified firefighters with reliable equipment into an ever-broadening variety of roles for the protection of our citizens from fire and other hazardous situations. Using a Community Risk Reduction model using emergency response, engineering, enforcement, education and economic incentive as the basis for employing Fire Department resources to mitigate community risk.

Today's citizens have come to expect fire departments to be prepared and equipped to mitigate any problem encountered. Citizens will receive prompt, specially designed service to meet their needs whether fire, rescues, chemical, environmental, or medical emergencies. With equipment designed for specific and multiple hazards, firefighters can routinely provide the services the citizens deserve.



Long-Term Plan

2019 Goals and Objectives

- **Maintain Inventory of all Department Equipment to ensure serviceability and physical security of City Assets.**
- **Provide over 600 hours of Training for Firefighters in fire suppression, technical rescue, hazardous materials and medical continuing education to ensure our personnel are ready for any eventuality in the community**
- **Sustain a Vehicle Maintenance program using a combination of City Fleet Maintenance Technicians and a third party company.**
- **Continue Applying for and receiving Federal and State Grant Monies to sustain personnel and equipment for the Department.**
- **Maintain our facilities to ensure a safe and clean work environment for employees.**
- **Affect a positive change in the incidents of fire through an aggressive inspection and fire prevention program.**
- **Update current Pre-fire plans and work to expand current occupancy database.**



Personnel

- 2 Management Officers (Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief)
- 2 Administrative Officers – Fire Inspector and Assistant Fire Inspector (AFI). AFI position added late December.
- 60 out of 60 Line Suppression Union positions filled
- 64 Total Assigned Uniformed Personnel out of 64 Total Fire Department Positions



Personnel Changes in 2019

Personnel Losses:

No retirements or resignations

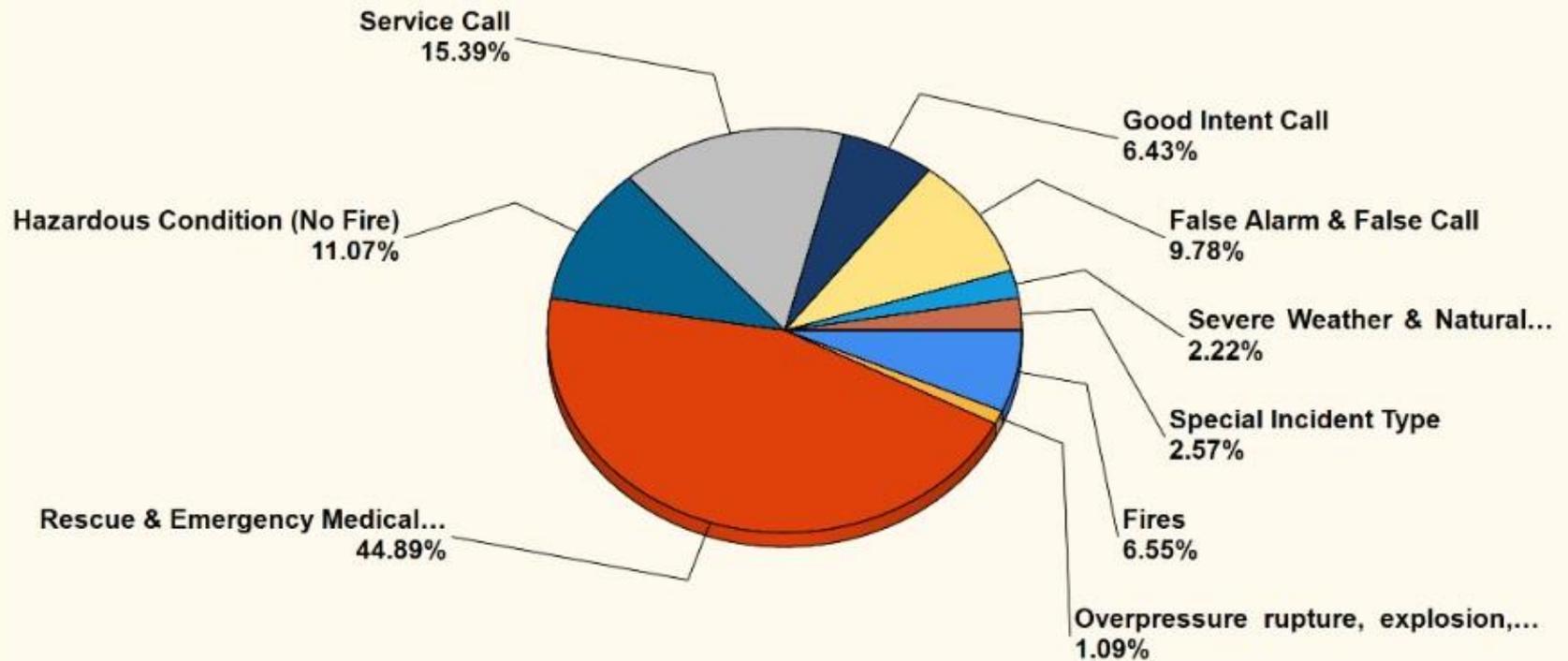
Personnel Gains:

Shane Geis	3-8-19
Andrew Gressler	3-8-19
Jeffrey Gromley	3-8-19
Ryan Gromley	3-8-19
Joshua Konkle	3-8-19



Operations

Call type breakdown by percentage



Operations Continued

Breakdown of Incident types by total call numbers

MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	168	6.55%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	28	1.09%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	1152	44.89%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	284	11.07%
Service Call	395	15.39%
Good Intent Call	165	6.43%
False Alarm & False Call	251	9.78%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	57	2.22%
Special Incident Type	66	2.57%
TOTAL	2566	100%



Training

Class Title	Hours
Haz-Mat Tech Refresher	16
Advanced RIT	16
Overhaul	3
Clandestine Lab Ops	8
Forcible Entry Update	16
Trench 1	16
Aerial Ops Refresher	8
Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	16
Apparatus Preventative Maintenance	16
Building Construction	16

Department wide training was conducted by instructors from Bucks County Community College Public Safety training division. This ensures uniform instruction across our four platoons of personnel.

In addition to the department wide training, hundreds of hours of training was conducted through the company level training program.

Each shift conducts many Company level training evolutions on individual skills. Examples include ground ladders, hose line management, firefighter survival, and using SCBA are just a few. Annually, the AFD also conducts Emergency Medical Service training. When all training is considered, the AFD conducts well over 1000 hours of training annually.



Vehicle Maintenance

- **6 Engines (2 Spare)**
 - **2 Aerial apparatus**
 - **1 Heavy rescue**
 - **2 Haz-Mat vehicles**
 - **1 Command Trailer**
 - **7 Staff / Utility Vehicles**
 - **2 Specialty Trailers**
-
- **During 2019, Fleet Maintenance, 3rd party service company, and the Altoona Fire Department processed 229 vehicle maintenance requests.**
 - **During 2019, the Altoona Fire Department spent \$114,751 on vehicle maintenance. Included in this total is preventative maintenance costs.**



Facilities – Station Locations

Station Designation	Location	Year Constructed	Apparatus
310	1319 Washington Avenue	1927	E-311, T-351, Staff Vehicles: 301, 341, 342
320	515 N. Second Street	1979	E-312, HM-362 (truck), HM-363 (trailer), E-315(Spare)
330	530 Crawford Avenue	1978	E-313, R-332, R-333 (trailer)
340	3960 Sixth Avenue	1951	E-314, E-316 (reserve), E-317 (PRR Mack)
350	1320 Washington Avenue	2007	T-352, HM-361 (Command Trailer)



Fire Inspector Report

Fire Investigations

Fire Investigations conducted: 38

Fire Causes:

CAUSE OF IGNITION	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Intentional	18	9.9%
Failure of equipment or heat source	10	5.5%
Cause undetermined after investigation	9	4.9%
Cause under investigation	5	2.7%
Unintentional	134	73.6%

Note: The fire cause statistics also include small cooking fires that do not require a full fire investigation.



Fire Inspector Report

<u>Inspections</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Rooming and Boarding Homes:	11	17	15
Domiciliary Care Homes:	51	51	56
Two Year Commercial Inspections	55	199	315
Commercial Annual Inspections	13	15	22
Schools and Daycares	16	29	29
Reinspection	42	172	429
Total Inspections Completed	188	483	866 

Fire Loss Analysis

INCIDENT #	PRE-INCIDENT VALUE	LOSSES	SAVED
2019-0000095	\$100,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$97,000.00
2019-0000095	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
2019-0000167	\$1,000.00	\$200.00	\$800.00
2019-0000212	\$90.00	\$60.00	\$30.00
2019-0000243	\$55,000.00	\$2,750.00	\$52,250.00
2019-0000318	\$1,000.00	\$100.00	\$900.00
2019-0000320	\$135,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$130,000.00
2019-0000350	\$95,000.00	\$500.00	\$94,500.00
2019-0000411	\$19,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$13,500.00
2019-0000468	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
2019-0000474	\$20,000,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$19,998,000.00
2019-0000606	\$100,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$89,000.00
2019-0000699	\$208,000.00	\$100.00	\$207,900.00
2019-0000701	\$35,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$33,800.00
2019-0000831	\$56,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$51,000.00
2019-0000843	\$47,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$45,500.00
2019-0001061	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$0.00
2019-0001061	\$100,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$95,000.00
2019-0001082	\$2,700.00	\$2,500.00	\$200.00
2019-0001096	\$8,000.00	\$100.00	\$7,900.00
2019-0001108	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
2019-0001190	\$185,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$180,000.00
2019-0001269	\$38,000.00	\$500.00	\$37,500.00
2019-0001278	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$0.00
2019-0001287	\$75,000.00	\$500.00	\$74,500.00
2019-0001387	\$535,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$475,000.00
2019-0001446	\$160,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$146,000.00
2019-0001610	\$35,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$30,000.00
2019-0001610	\$45,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$40,000.00
2019-0001610	\$45,000.00	\$23,000.00	\$22,000.00
2019-0001696	\$158,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$142,000.00
2019-0001697	\$33,000.00	\$1,350.00	\$31,650.00
2019-0001824	\$58,000.00	\$100.00	\$57,900.00
2019-0001832	\$142,000.00	\$40.00	\$141,960.00
2019-0001983	\$78,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$77,000.00
2019-0001995	\$300.00	\$20.00	\$280.00
2019-0002072	\$60,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$57,000.00
2019-0002072	\$100,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$55,000.00
2019-0002072	\$105,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$103,000.00
2019-0002098	\$27,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$21,000.00
2019-0002348	\$115,000.00	\$82,000.00	\$33,000.00
2019-0002399	\$65,000.00	\$0.00	\$65,000.00
2019-0002518	\$65,000.00	\$100.00	\$64,900.00
Totals:	\$23,278,590.00	\$505,120.00	\$22,773,470.00

\$22.7 Million
dollars worth
of property
saved in 2019



Juvenile Fire Setter Program

Mission Statement:

To prevent loss of life and property by identification and intervention of young people who have shown a tendency to start fires.

2019 Juvenile Cases

In 2019, the Altoona Fire Department's Juvenile Fire setter Program **received 7 referrals.**

1 child completed the program

2 children were referred but the Mother refused to schedule the classes

2 children had classes scheduled but did not show

2 children started the program but did not finish, the Father pulled them out

Captain Link and Engineer Chesnut have outreach programs planned in 2019 to help get the word out about our counseling program.

AFD Juvenile Fire setter

Team Members

Rank	Name	Team Assignment
Captain	Joshua D. Link	Program Coordinator
Engineer	Dan Chesnut	Intervention Specialist



Fire Prevention - Education

Fire Education

Public Attendance Summary

January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019

<u>Description</u>	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>
Fire Drill	1261	4854
Fire Extinguisher Training	127	0
Fire Prevention (schools)	169	5241
Staff In-service Training	604	62
Job Shadow	3	4
Station Tours	91	300
Totals	2255	10,461



2019 Significant Milestones

Moved the new Tactical SOP from development into the review process	New response vehicle for Fire Inspector
Assistant Fire Inspector position filled	New Aerial Truck Received
Maintained fleet of apparatus in operational status	2020 Budget Process Completed in BS&A Software
Equipped and Trained 5 New Hires	Over 600 hours of Training for Personnel including National Certifications
Completed preparations for 2020 Haz-Mat team re-certification	Fire Inspector completed the National Fire Academy Fire Investigations Class
Maintain Partnerships with Community Agencies	State Fire Grant Paid for new gear washers
Sustained Fire Education Program with Logan Township at AASD	Fire Inspections increased from 483 to 866 in one year.

2020 Goals

1. Complete and distribute the Department Tactical Standard Operating Procedures to ensure compliance with most current practices and NFPA Standards for Fire Department response.
2. Conduct over 600 hours of certified training on leadership, equipment, techniques, tactics and procedures increasing the operational efficiency of the Fire Department.
3. Put into service a new pumper at Station 320 in Juniata with new up to date equipment including battery operated rescue tools. Put into service a new mid mount aerial truck with platform for service out of Station 310 on Washington Avenue.
4. Hire candidates to replace the losses due to retirements and resignations. This process includes getting these candidates trained to national certification levels for firefighting, hazardous materials response, and emergency medical technicians.
5. Conduct Hazardous Materials Response Team Exercise in the Fall of 2020. This exercise will be used for Team recertification through an evaluation conducted by PEMA.
6. Maintain Fire Department facilities by replacing leaking roofs at Station 320 and 330, replacing the restroom at Fire Station 340, and updating carpeting at all of the stations and Fire Administration offices.
7. Conduct cross training with the Altoona Police Department in tactical training which will improve City response to incidents like active shooters and related Mass Casualty Incidents.
8. Complete and implement a Community Risk Reduction Plan using emergency response, engineering, enforcement, education and economic incentive as the basis for employing Fire Department resources to mitigate community risk.

