

FLORIDA FIRES



2007 STATE FIRE MARSHAL ANNUAL REPORT



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**Division of State Fire Marshal
Florida Department of Financial Services**

Florida Fires 2007



*This report is also available in electronic format through the
State Fire Marshal Section of the
Florida Department of Financial Services
WEBSITE ADDRESS:
www.fldfs.com/SFM*



State Fire Marshal Alex Sink



Alex Sink
State Fire Marshal

As fire and emergency service personnel, your training and dedication was put to the test during 2007. From wildfires to tornadoes, you continually rose to meet the challenges faced by both natural and manmade disasters.

As your State Fire Marshal, I believe one of our most important duties is to ensure you receive the best training available to do your jobs effectively and safely.

In the year ahead, we will build on the strong and successful working partnerships with our Division of State Fire Marshal and the fire and rescue departments throughout Florida, the Florida Fire Chiefs Association, the Florida Professional Firefighters Association and other organizations and associations that share a commitment to protecting Floridians from fire.

Our collaborative efforts have led to some of the nation's strongest fire prevention codes and enforcement efforts, and together we provide hundreds of fire safety education and outreach programs every year. The state arson lab is recognized as one of the best in the nation, and our arson detectives have an arrest clearance rate nearly twice the national average – a direct result of our effective working relationships. And when it comes to training, our Florida State Fire College has developed a world-class facility that now houses one of the nation's first Urban Search and Rescue training facilities. This facility provides training scenarios that are as realistic as possible using the most current technology.

We must also continue to encourage the reporting of suspicious fires, as arson continues to be a growing problem. During 2007, the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations received 4,358 new requests for investigative assistance from fire departments, law enforcement, federal and state agencies, individuals and insurance companies. Arson fires resulted in an estimated loss of approximately \$88 million in property last year.

As your State Fire Marshal, I thank you for all you do to protect our state's citizens and their assets. For your dedication and tremendous service to the people of Florida, we will be forever grateful for your service.

Sincerely,

Alex Sink



Division Director Les Hallman



The year 2007 once again challenged our State's Emergency Response Plan. From the Ground Hog Day tornadoes to the active wildfire season, our fire/rescue resources were put to the test. As has been demonstrated all too many times, our fire and emergency personnel met the challenges and continued to show why Florida is a recognized leader in all-hazards response. It is you who make it happen, and on behalf of the members of the Division of State Fire Marshal, thank you for all you do to keep our citizens and visitors safe.



Les Hallman
Director

The Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) and the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) have partnered to provide organizations with a uniform system to gather and analyze information on the magnitude of Florida's fire problem. FFIRS and NFIRS have two objectives: to help state and local governments develop incident reporting and analysis capability for their own use; and, to obtain data that can be used to more accurately access and subsequently combat the fire problem at the state and national level.

This report presents the 2007 statistics submitted by fire service agencies from across the state. Last year, the total number of incidents reported to FFIRS topped 2 million and that trend continues in 2007. This number clearly shows that even during sluggish economic times and shrinking budgets, the need for fire/rescue services increases. By utilizing this report, officials in policy making positions are made aware of this trend.

Our appreciation goes to the Florida Fire and Emergency Incident Information System Technical Advisory Panel who provides guidance and support to FFIRS. It is made up of dedicated members who continually search for innovative ways to increase participation in reporting agencies and to seek more efficient means to collect data. This data is a vital planning tool for our disaster, domestic security and traditional response missions.

I encourage all fire service agencies to join with us and become a contributing member as we paint this statistical picture of the many life saving functions performed by Florida fire and emergency service organizations. The number of agencies reporting continues to increase, and we hope to reach our goal of seeing every agency represented in this report.

As always, keep safety first and let us know how the Division of State Fire Marshal may serve you.

Sincerely,

Les Hallman
Director



Bureau of Fire Standards and Training



Dave Casey
Bureau Chief
FSFC Superintendent

The Bureau of Fire Standards and Training (BFST), which operates the Florida State Fire College (FSFC) continues its mission of firefighter safety through education, training, professional standards and regulatory functions. Through quality programs and state mandated testing, this very important role has confidently raised expectations of fire service organizations as well as the citizens they serve. Following its Legislative Mandate, the Florida State Fire College offers training and education to career and volunteer firefighters across the state. Efforts are being made to increase training availability to volunteer fire agencies that is convenient and cost-effective. Due to the increased number of firefighter fatalities across the country, new training programs have been developed in cooperation with fire departments and training providers, that emphasize the highest safety standards while better preparing firefighters under realistic conditions and scenarios that most training centers cannot provide.

The Florida State Fire College continues eight decades of training in a leadership role to partner with local fire departments, regional training centers, community colleges and representative groups to further advance the effectiveness and safety of Florida's firefighters in the 21st Century.

DOMESTIC SECURITY PROGRAMS

John J. Delorio II, Domestic Security Program Manager

In response to the domestic security needs of Florida's fire and other emergency services, the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training (BFST) works closely with federal and state agencies, and constituent groups such as Florida Association of Search and Rescue (FASAR) and the Florida Association of Hazardous Materials Responders (FLAHR), in the development, outfitting and training for the State's special response assets. The vast majority of these assets are comprised of the local emergency responders. The BFST is an active participant at the numerous planning and funding meetings throughout the State and through its representation on the State Working Group for Domestic Security and the Domestic Security Oversight Council, plays an integral role in the development of the State's domestic security strategy.

Reach Beyond the Florida State Fire College Campus

- 33 Regional Certified Fire Training Centers from Pensacola to Marathon
- Great Florida Fire School
- Northwest Volunteer Weekend
- Mobile Confined Space training trailer for local use
- The FSFC Online Training portal, www.florida-elearning.com, right now is providing Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for Fire Inspectors, Instructors, Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics at no end user cost.
- Regional Train-the Trainer programs conducted for statewide technical rescue teams.
- Train-the Trainer programs held at FSFC for community colleges and regional training centers conducted on new curriculum for courses towards professional certifications and college degrees
- Downloadable Comprehensive Safety and Health Plan, "Best Practices", policies, and investigative reports via our website
- Safety Conference jointly sponsored by the Florida Professional Firefighters, Florida Fire Chiefs Association and State Fire Marshal

The Domestic Security program is actively engaged in the State's Catastrophic Planning efforts including coordination with the 67 County Emergency Operations Centers throughout the State, Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) and Continuity of Government operations (COG). BFST continues to collaborate with other disciplines and work to establish relationships with these disciplines so when an incident occurs, the familiarity and collegiality with the agency representatives pays dividends by ensuring a comprehensive approach to emergency response training.

Among the domestic security planning and policy development responsibilities, the BFST is also responsible for contract negotiation and management of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP), funding to the state's nine Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Forces, 52 Technical Rescue Teams and 30 Hazmat /WMD Teams. As Florida's emergency responders plan and train for all types of hazards, a major emphasis in the Fire College's training programs related to domestic security is the development and delivery of programs that can be applied to an all-hazards approach.

Because of this approach, when the Fire College provides or facilitates specialty training and interagency meetings and programs, it is not uncommon to see many disciplines represented at the Fire College including law enforcement, emergency medical services, military, emergency management and other government agencies.

A permanent USAR training facility is the cornerstone of the training plan for USAR task force training. It is the most cost effective manner of training for replacement personnel and for mobilization exercises. The facility trains trainers as well as responders and provides ongoing classes for team sustainment and team "capstone" exercises to verify readiness.

Working within the Domestic Security Program for the BFST is John DeIorio, Program Manager, Joanne Sakowicz who handles the administrative issues for the FY2005 and 2006 SHSGP contracts, and Regina Saueracker for the FY2007 contracts.

In order to manage the numerous technical questions related to SHSGP funding allowable expenses, and assist in the planning future training and funding needs, the program also has a part-time USAR program coordinator, Tom Quinn, and Hazardous Materials program coordinator, Scott Chappell.



- Over \$50,000,000.00 Federal Funds Administered by BFST under contract from DEM.
- Proven value: Numerous responses to 2006 and 2007 Central Florida tornadoes and during 2004 and 2005 hurricane season, including to Mississippi.
- 97% to local government for training, equipment and personnel costs
- Training and equipping seven Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Forces, 759 responders, 182,160 training hours.
- Development of on-line Structural Collapse Awareness training for first responders. Important life-saving training can now be received by all disciplines at any time through computer access
- The BFST's mobile Confined Space Training Simulator has brought specialized training "to the end user" at several locations throughout the State
- Florida is the only state that has Type II Technical Rescue Teams as a state resource available for statewide deployment. In keeping with Florida Domestic Security Strategy, these Teams are comprised of local departments and were funded (equipment and training) through SHSGP funds.
- USAR training center built at the Florida State Fire College, for trench, confined space, rubble pile rescue now has structural collapse simulation props added to current burn building to make the only "post blast" collapse simulator in US (collapse conditions with fire and smoke).
- 30 regional hazardous materials teams supported with funded training, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) detection equipment purchases, and tow vehicles for current trailers

Bureau Chief Casey is the Vice-Chair of the state working group on Domestic Preparedness, the multi-discipline state and local government group that coordinates Florida's Homeland Security efforts and Director Hallman is on the Domestic Security Oversight Committee, the governor's appointed body.

Additionally, in an effort to make information more readily available and user friendly, the Domestic Security Program continually updates its webpage, http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sfm/sfm_domestic_security.htm which includes valuable information to recipients of SHSGP funding such as DHS Grant Guidance, reimbursement forms, Authorized Equipment Lists, OMB and DFS financial forms and information, and other pertinent information.

Disaster Response and Inter-Agency Training

Under the direction of the Division of State Fire Marshal, the Bureau also responds to natural, technological, and man-made disasters in Florida as part of the Department's continuing role as lead agency in Emergency Support Functions 4 and 9 (firefighting and search and rescue). The Bureau provides disaster management personnel for the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and field response personnel for firefighting and search and rescue.

The Bureau takes the leadership role in many inter-agency training activities relative to emergency management, hazardous materials, incident command, and other such issues. The participating agencies include, but are not limited to the Division of Emergency Management, the State Emergency Response Commission, the Local Emergency Planning Councils around the State, and the Florida Department of Agriculture's Division of Forestry.

Mutual Aid Radio Communications (MARC)

A MARC unit consists of a trailer mounted 100 foot radio mast with a storage container, generator and radio cache. Each unit has a cache of portable VHF, UHF, and 700/800 MHz. radios. They are equipped with repeaters to extend their range and interoperability packages that allow radios on dissimilar systems or frequencies to communicate.

Following the 1998 wildfires, 7 MARC units were purchased by the Division of State Fire Marshal through a grant. The original 7 are state owned, but operated by local Fire Departments through the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association Emergency Response Committee.

Since the September 11 attacks, additional federal funding has become available and the MARCS were upgraded with the addition of 700/800 MHz capability, interoperability, and the replacement of the majority of the radios. Two additional units were put in service, one for region 7 south and one with the Division of Forestry, with a "base unit" operated by the State Fire Marshal with a smaller mast and without the portable radio cache.



TRAINING SECTION

Susan T. Schell, Training Supervisor

The Florida State Fire College (FSFC) provides over 80 courses with six full-time instructor/program coordinators that teach primarily collegiate level courses leading to state and national professional certifications. Part-time instructors serve as adjuncts and they most often are current practitioners. In 2007, approximately 125 classes were held on the campus on Fire Officer, Inspector, and Instructor training as well as entry level firefighting and the Florida USAR classes. Over 2,404 students attended these classes with 111,656 student hours achieved. Florida Fire Programs operates as part of the Florida State Fire College and is staffed and managed under contract by the Community Technical Adult Education (CTAE) section of Marion Schools. Florida Fire Programs provides current practitioners to instruct the Firefighter I and II programs, the Technical Rescue, USAR series, Aerial Operations, Hydraulics and Apparatus Operations, and several non-collegiate technical programs.

Who Do We Train at the Florida State Fire College?

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Firefighters Driver/Operators Fire Instructors Fire Officers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Inspectors Fire Investigators Hazardous Materials Technicians Technical Rescue | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban Search & Rescue Survival and Rescue Over 30 college classes Culinary Arts students |
|---|--|---|

In response to the goal of providing quality instruction, which is current with technology and information, the Training Section has worked with its partners, the Certified Fire Training Centers, to be proactive in assuring that training is occurring in a safe environment. Courses follow NFPA standards and have a major impact on Firefighter I and II training. New objectives were developed for these classes, and legislation was drafted to ensure that firefighters are staying current with national standards. The Live Fire Training Instructor (LFTI) program has been very active across the state, and the refresher course was developed with distribution scheduled for Spring 2008 so that Florida can continue to assure that live fire training is conducted in the safest environment possible. The LFTI program is so successful nationwide that Train-the-Trainer programs were conducted in both Colorado and Ohio.

Special Programs Held at the Florida State Fire College

Florida Volunteer Firefighter Week

State Urban Search and Rescue Association (SUSAR) semi-annual conference - 35 states and Puerto Rico

Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention (FACAP)

U.S. Fire Act Grant Workshop

National Fallen Firefighter's Foundation Courage to Be Safe program and train-the-trainer program

National Fire Academy classes and train-the-trainer programs

Building Officials Association of Florida Academy

Marion Legislative Day

Marion County's Leadership Day

Federal Pipeline Seminar

First FEMA recognized Heavy Rigging class (USAR) offered outside of California.

National Grid System Training

Division of Forestry delivered Wildland S130/S190 Train-the-Trainers.

Retired Firefighters Visit from the Villages

Another ongoing process by the training section is updating courses and textbooks. The Fire Service Course Delivery and Design classes were reviewed by a group of constituents representing community colleges, training academies, fire departments and other groups. A new textbook was chosen by the committee, audiovisuals were created, and the course finalized. Train-the-Trainers began in January 2008. The Hydraulics and Apparatus courses were also reviewed and updated in a cooperative effort with Brevard Community College (BCC). BCC designed the course which was then reviewed by a constituent group. These Train-the-Trainers also began in January, 2008. Through its partnerships with Florida Fire Chiefs' Association (FFCA), Florida Fire Training Directors Association (FFTDA), community colleges, and other constituency groups, committees were established to review the Legal and Ethical course with a timeline of choosing a new textbook by Spring 2008 followed by the development of curriculum and audiovisuals.

Work also continues on the three courses for the Safety Officer Certification. Two of the programs are complete with the third still in its initial phases of finding authors for the course. Annual seminars have continued to grow with each passing year. Great Florida Fire School and Northwest Florida Volunteer Firefighter Weekend were held with an excellent turnout. The Instructor Conference and Volunteer Week were held providing free CEU training to improve instructor skills and free training for firefighters. Approximately 80 instructors attended the Instructor Conference which is sponsored by FFCA and BFST in joint partnership. Volunteer Week gave volunteers the choice of attending 16 classes varying from 8 to 40 hours in length. 224 students attended the Volunteer Week with a total of 3,883 student hours achieved.

The section has worked closely with the standards section to assist with the move to on-line testing, and providing assistance as needed to the other sections of the bureau. Props have been continually upgraded to maximize facility usage.

Facility usage has been at a maximum this year with overlapping Firefighter I/II classes, a stand-alone Firefighter II class, extensive USAR training classes, LFTI, and classes leading to certifications. As part of the FFI and II training, students are subjected to being alerted for incidents at anytime day or night as well as completing Rapid Intervention Training (RIT)/Firefighter Safety and Survival making them some of the most sought after graduates in the state.

The section continues to provide assistance to community colleges and fire departments throughout the state with curriculum, FCDICE implementation, and provide a resource for instructors in the field needing guidance or up-to-date information. Our goal remains to provide quality instruction at the college as well as provide current resources to field instructors.

Major Training Initiatives

- Live Fire Training Instructor program, a 40 hour program to qualify already certified fire service instructors to teach programs with live fire such as acquired structures and permanent props that use ordinary combustibles, liquid or gaseous fuels. A joint project with the Safety and Standards sections, the course complies with the statutory requirements and has been the subject of several presentations around the country.
- Light Technical Rescue Team Renewal Train-the-Trainer programs delivered regionally to allow in house training on duty to reduce local costs.
- Rapid Intervention/Firefighter Safety and Survival class was developed with CTAE for delivery at FSFC and train-the-trainer course was offered for other certified fire training centers.

The first Campus-Community Emergency Response Team (C-CERT) Train the Trainer program in Florida was held at FSFC for all Florida Community Colleges and Universities. The training was conducted by Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice under a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.



The Training Section also continues to assist as speakers and instructors as requested by constituent groups. Participation continues in conferences as requested. This includes providing CEU classes for both inspector and instructor certifications.

COLLEGIATE PARTNERSHIPS

Dr. Barbara Klingensmith, College and NFA Liaison

The BFST maintains a strong partnership with the colleges and universities throughout the State. The Bureau supports the meshing of the National Fire Academy's Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) with the colleges and universities in the state in concert with national standards and the primary constituent groups. A Florida FESHE committee consisting of the college Fire Science Program representatives, representatives from the workforce, BFST and the Department of Education was formed to focus on curriculum and certification issues. As a result of this committee's effort the frameworks for the AS/AAS degree in Fire Science were rewritten to follow the FESHE curriculum model which parallels, and expands on the curriculum requirements for firefighters in the state. This effort supports college degrees in Fire Science as well as Fire and Emergency Services Management at the Associate and Bachelor's levels, with initial work leading toward a Master's degree. Colleges offer their degrees online, in blended learning environments as well as in the traditional classroom. Partnerships with the 23 colleges and four universities offering fire related degrees have resulted in articulation agreements between the FSFC and those higher education institutions.

Florida plays an integral role in the FESHE Conference and Curriculum Committee, chaired by Barbara Klingensmith, and the Emergency Management Institutes Higher Education Project. In partnership with the universities and colleges, the FESHE national curriculum, which is based on the International Association of Fire Chiefs Professional Development Model is being used to develop new college degrees at all levels. The result of this effort is new, as well as updated frameworks of all fire related advanced education courses at the certificate and degree levels that are offered in the state with the Department of Education and Florida State Fire College (FSFC) taking the lead. The Bureau continues to remain active on the advisory boards for many of the Fire Science Degree programs at all levels. The Florida State Fire Colleges serves as the Fire Science program for the Central Florida Community College, and they provide a part time coordinator onsite for the area students. There are also several other colleges around the state that are starting new fire science programs who will be taking advantage of the courses offered at the Fire College for incorporation in their degree programs.

National Fire Academy Programs

The Fire College has been identified as the lead agency for course distribution by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Fire Academy. The Fire College, through federal grants, offers on-site National Fire Academy programs as well as coordinating the delivery of the Florida Weekend at the NFA campus and two, three and six days courses throughout the state. With a strong partnership between the NFA and BFST, local fire training and educational institutions can advance the professional development of fire service personnel. This continues to result in the ongoing professional development and delivery of NFA courses throughout the state.

Urban Search and Rescue

Tom Quinn, USAR Coordinator

The nine USAR Task Forces in Florida continued their training with emphasis on the specialist positions during this year's training. With concerns of the stability of the Hoover Dike around Lake Okeechobee, the Task Forces are continuing to train and equip for Urban Swiftwater Flooding. The Task Forces were selected for this type of response as there is a possibility of additional structural collapse where their skills would be essential. Seven of the nine Task Forces trained to the NIMS Technician Level for Urban Swiftwater flooding in three locations in the state, from the Florida Power Light's Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant to Busch Gardens in Tampa.

The 52 Type II Technical Rescue Teams throughout the state are unique to Florida and have been the subject of presentations at several national conferences. The teams, originally designed to support their own locale in case of technical rescue events such as building collapse, trench failures, and other events, were expanded into providing search services following tornadoes and hurricanes, and were deployed during the 2006 and 2007 central Florida tornadoes. To aide in added responsibility, a Team Leadership Training Course was developed and instructed in three locations across the state. The Palm Bay's Fire Rescue, Team #524 was deployed for mutual aid after a building explosion and collapse in Melbourne to assist Melbourne Fire Rescue with the recovery of two fatalities.

Davis Productivity Awards – 2007 from left to right: Dave Casey, Allen Lovvorn, Thomas Quinn, Jody Schwaite, David Osteen, Kevin Rittenhouse, Mike Magee, John Holloway, and Shane Alexander. Other recipients not pictured include Scott Abston, Ralph Barrett, Nick Devita and Jeffery Werthmueller. These Awards of Distinction were given in recognition to the members of the Structural Collapse Prop Develop Team for their dedication and commitment to enhancing productivity within the state government.



With the cooperation of Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) leadership and the State Fire College USAR instructors, a one day course was provided for their 60 Special Operations Officers so they may better understand the mission of USAR. The areas of instruction were the breaching and breaking of concrete, use of USAR tools and proper decon of personnel and vehicles. The FWC provides force protection to the Task Forces when they are on a mission and have become an important part the FLUSAR response.

Personnel who are members of a Florida State sponsored USAR Task Force are continuing to train as they take on the added responsibilities as Air Deployable Search and Rescue (ADSARS) responders. The prime purpose is the rapid transport of search and rescue assets to remote environments or areas that have been destroyed or flooded during a natural disaster. This is a co-operative program with the FWC, US Army, Florida Air National Guard and other air assets. The principal type of airframe for a mission will be a rotorcraft.

A planning session for Florida Urban Search and Rescue Teams was held for the purpose of defining today's and the future's strategies to coordinate response efforts of all Florida's Urban Search and Rescue and Technical Rescue Teams.



The FLUSAR System hosted the fifth State Urban Search and Rescue Alliance Conference in Ocala where over two hundred leaders and members from 35 states were in attendance. The State Urban Search and Rescue Association (SUSAR) is a non-profit agency designed to promote and support state urban search and rescue teams across the United States.

FIRE STANDARDS SECTION

Charlie Brush, Field Examiner Supervisor

The plans, innovations and preparations of the previous year provided a sound base for major improvements to both constituent service and productivity. Florida Statute and Administrative Code currently regulate the professional standards for thirteen Firefighter, Inspector and Investigator certification programs for Florida's estimated 45,000 fire service personnel. The Fire Standards Section is responsible for the oversight and maintenance of these certification and competency processes including records management, test development, delivery, review, approval or denial, issuance, renewal and de-certification of candidates, and current certificate holders.

The section also manages the Firefighter's Educational Supplemental Compensation Program and the approval and oversight of the thirty-four certified fire training centers.

On-Demand Testing

The 2006 plans became reality when the section completed its initial transition to localized, "on-demand" certification exam testing. Prior to this, a candidate, once approved to test, had to either wait for the tests given quarterly at seven locations around the state or go to Ocala where it was offered monthly. After the test, the candidate had to wait for up to a week for the results.

Now once approved, the candidate can arrange when and where to take the exam and leave the testing center with the results in hand. This process can take as little as three days. On-demand testing was accomplished through a contract with Promissor (now Pearson VUE), a test delivery service. The Section worked directly with Pearson VUE as a point of contact for the Division. The process involved working out the mechanics of interfacing computer systems and processes. As an example, both the Bureau of Fire Prevention and the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training's written tests were moved to Pearson VUE. In order to accomplish this, the Section updated all of Prevention's tests to current format, categorized the question banks, expanded them as necessary, placed them in a Pearson VUE compliant format and transmitted them to Pearson VUE. In early April, most Bureau of Fire Prevention candidates started taking their certification exams at one of the 21 Pearson VUE testing sites around the state. Although there were system issues, they were few in number and easily overcome. With this experience, the necessary arrangements were made and in August BFST written exams became available through Pearson VUE also. What was a process of weeks and sometimes months became a process of days. The next step will be moving the remaining three written exams over to Pearson VUE and placing the final touches on electronic transmission of grades from Pearson VUE to FCDICE. The Blaster (Fire Prevention), Firefighter I and Firefighter II tests have not been moved over to Pearson VUE as of yet. Firefighter I is currently offered to volunteer firefighters at no cost, which is an issue with Pearson VUE's fee based structure. The Firefighter II exam is due for major revisions due to impending code and standards changes and should be moved over when those revisions are completed in 2008.

Standards Section Initiatives

- Subject matter expert meetings for Contractor and Blaster exams.
- Balance of exams to private vendor, Pearson VUE.
- Updating and expanding test banks.
- Major revision to testing for Firefighter I and II.
- Decreasing Supplemental Compensation processing time.
- Moving to all electronic processing.
- Simplifying and making FCDICE more intuitive.

Statute and Code

The Section participated in the generation and proposal of critical revisions to both our statutes and administrative code. These changes are being driven by industry, national standard, legal and procedural needs. Industry presents the perspective of the ever changing day to day operations, the impact of governmental oversight and the cost of doing business. National standards continue to evolve. Our current Administrative Code is based around 1997 National Standards that were revised twice previously and need to be made current. Legal brings its own viewpoint to the fray in terms of fairness, consistency and legally acceptable practice. Procedural requirements center on the continued march toward all electronic processing and the changes necessary to allow this. Collectively, the proposed revisions update the strategy and tactical implementation in today's environment with the goal of producing better trained and prepared personnel to serve the citizens of Florida.

Certified Training Center Inspection Program

Continuing the aggressive annual training center inspection program initiated in 2005, not only have the compliance issues been reduced substantially but centers are experiencing direct benefits. Of the thirty-one Certified Training Centers, four are in various stages of completing new facilities and three have undergone major renovations. Currently, only one training center is not operational because of deficiencies, but they are expected to be compliant in 2008 following a now planned renovation. The end product is a better trained and prepared firefighter.

Firefighter II Practical Test Revisions

The current practical examination component of Firefighter II has been unchanged since 1997. With constituent input and support, the Section has been working to update this examination. The goal of this update is three fold;

1. To make a practical examination that could be used by currently certified firefighters and found valuable as a training tool.
2. To ensure that requirements for the exam be based upon safe and current industry practices.
3. That all testing parameters be supported by current industry firefighting textbooks.

In December, the update was completed and will be phased in during the first half of 2008. The result of this update is that time previously spent in preparing for a test will now be spent more productively with the end product being a better trained and prepared firefighter.

Continuity of Service

In 2006, the Section was restructured to better distribute workload and capitalize upon both full time and OPS expertise. Practical examination delivery was changed from one evaluator to a two person (full time and OPS) team. The initial benefits of increased safety and decreased testing time were joined this year by consistency and continuity of service. Our three full time evaluators left during 2007 to pursue various endeavors. Because of the integration and team concept, two of our OPS took the full time positions with no disruption in service, consistency or quality.

The Future Looking to the future, the Standards Section will continue to evolve and improve efficiencies in both manual and electronic processes while maintaining a strong validation presence. These are some initiatives we will be pursuing in 2008.

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY and HEALTH PROGRAM SECTION

Walt Malo, Program Manager

During 2007, there were four Florida Firefighter line of duty deaths; three from heart attacks and one trauma related. (We do not typically investigate heart attacks unless the firefighter was engaged in firefighting or training activities.) We responded to three complaints related to violations of NFPA 1403, and four firefighter serious injuries and one fatality (during training). We opened eight new investigations during 2007 and closed four. We closed one investigation in 2007 that was opened in 2006.

2007 FFOSHA INVESTIGATIONS	
Escambia County: Alleged Improper Training/Unfounded:	Closed 09/15/2007
High Springs Fire Department: violations of NFPA 1403:	Closed 04/03/2007
Gulf County Fire Rescue: Alleged Improper Training/Unfounded:	Closed 02/22/2007
Freeport VFD: Violations of NFPA 1403:	Closed 10/10/2007
Sneads VFD: Violations of FFOSHA (No FF-I)	Pending
Apopka Fire Services: three firefighter injuries/ one amputation	Pending
Volusia County Fire Rescue: Firefighter LODD	Pending

The Firefighter Safety and Health web page is located at <http://www.fldfs.com/sfm/bfst/index.shtml>.

Florida is an active participant in the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation's "The Courage to Stay Safe - So *Everyone Goes Home*®" Program with Les Hallman, Director of the Division of State Fire Marshal sharing the state advocate's position with Deputy Chief Brett Pollock, West Manatee Fire-Rescue Department.

Recognizing the need to do more to prevent line-of-duty deaths and injuries, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has launched a national initiative to bring prevention to the forefront, which fits hand in glove with the Florida Firefighter Occupational Safety and Health Act (FFOSHA) and the Division's initiatives and responsibilities to firefighter safety and health. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation will play a major role in helping the U.S. Fire Administration and the Florida State Fire Marshal meet the U.S. goal to reduce firefighter fatalities by 25% within 5 years, and by 50% within 10 years.

**In 2006 All Of Florida's Firefighters
Went Home After Work.
In 2007 – Not All Did**



Firefighters must have the courage to face a multitude of risks in order to save lives and protect their communities. But a different type of courage is required to stay safe in potentially dangerous situations, avoiding needless risks and tragic consequences. That different type of courage is the subject of "The Courage to Stay Safe - So *Everyone Goes Home*®" program. This provocative and moving presentation is designed to change the culture of accepting the loss of our firefighters as a normal occurrence.

This section provided 160 contact hours to our constituent groups, 1,100 contact hours speaking to classes on campus, 300 contact hours speaking off campus at local fire departments, before city/county commissions meetings and safety based seminars and conferences. The section received in excess of 2,000 telephone calls regarding FFOSHA issues. We also conducted two voluntary safety surveys for one volunteer fire department and one career fire department seeking to comply with FFOSHA rules and regulations. In addition, our campus serves as a safe haven during emergencies for the local elementary school, Fessenden Elementary.

STUDENT SERVICES

Angela Cain, Student Services Supervisor

The Florida State Fire College (FSFC) delivers a wide variety of training to Florida's fire and emergency service organizations. It is not uncommon to see more than 200 students on-campus participating in programs on the drill grounds as well as occupying every classroom. This Section serves as registrar for FSFC and operates the Fire College Bookstore. Offering accommodations for the best possible learning experiences, our existing facilities are highly utilized year-round for classes, workshops, conferences, testing and meetings. This section schedules all facility and dormitory usage for on-campus providers as well as outside agencies and constituency groups. Administrative support is provided as needed and events are coordinated with the maintenance section and housekeeping to ensure on-campus classes and training programs are successful.

As the first line of communication for the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training, whether it's by phone or in person, the most up-to-date information and assistance is provided to our customers. The "Fire College News", FSFC's monthly newsletter and timely A-list email announcements keep students and agencies updated on the latest news, class offerings and legislation offered by the Bureau. Student Services continues to strive for customer service excellence by reviewing procedures, current practices and requests to ensure the needs of students and outside agencies are met. Food Service at the Campus Cafeteria is provided by the CTAE Culinary Arts Program located on campus. CTAE provides its own staff and chef overseeing the instructional program and actual breakfast and lunch food services delivery for campus. The program includes all facets of food service facility management, although food service equipment is state owned.

FACILITIES

The Bureau benefits from its centralized location in Ocala, where it has operated since 1949. In 1989, the Florida State Fire College moved to its current 37.5-acre campus just north of the city. We recently acquired an additional 50 acres adjacent to the current property. The picturesque campus, located in the rolling wooded hills of Central Florida's horse country, has its own dormitories, cafeteria, bookstore, learning resource center, classrooms and training grounds.

The primary drill field with the live fire training building on the left, fire station in the background and drill tower on the left.



The dormitories provide college-style lodging and the dining hall seats over 150. The William E. Clark Assembly Hall named in honor of the former FSFC superintendent and founder of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, seats over 250 and provides state-of-the-art audiovisual technology for seminars and meetings. In addition, the Fire College Learning Resource Center provides students and researchers with on-line access to a variety of electronically formatted reference materials housed at the Fire College and around the world via the World Wide Web.

The training grounds represent a multi-million dollar investment including federal grant funds and numerous donations from private industry, state funds and a state Investments in Innovation Grant. This site houses a variety of railroad cars, a full-size chemical reactor, several over-the-road freight vehicles, and pipeline manifold emergency simulators. The props are piped and plumbed for actual fires, spills, and leaks to provide the utmost in controlled realism for fire-rescue and hazardous materials responders. It is hardly a static site, with improvements and additions constantly being made.

Affiliations

The Fire College also has strong working relationships with every fire-rescue department statewide and numerous fire service organizations.

These include:

- The Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention
- The Florida Emergency Preparedness Association
- The Florida Executive Fire Officers' Association
- The Florida Fire Chiefs' Association
- The Florida Fire Marshals and Inspectors Association
- The Florida Professional Firefighters
- The Florida Society of Fire Service Instructors
- The Florida Association of Search and Rescue
- The Florida Association of Hazmat Responders
- The Florida State Firefighters' Association
- And is home to the Florida Building Officials Association of Florida Academy

With the guidance of the Florida Firefighters Employment, Standards and Training Council, BFST receives representative input from fire service organizations, higher education, and the private sector.

Maintaining a Leadership Position

The Bureau of Fire Standards and Training has taken a true leadership role in the State's activities with domestic preparedness. Working with the fire services, emergency management, emergency medical services, law enforcement and the military for training and response issues, the Florida State Fire College has prepared and delivered training programs, consulted and participated in response plans and coordination, and became the lead State agency on the Florida Urban Search and Rescue System, and coordinating specialized biological and chemical detection training for all 29 hazardous materials teams identified by the State Emergency Response Commission. The Bureau and the Fire College continue to provide training, expertise and facilitation to a more diverse group of responders than ever before. Bureau Chief Dave Casey continues his role as Vice-Chair of the State Working Group, Susan Schell serves on the training committee and is the all-discipline lead instructor for the new federally required National Incident Management System training, and Allen Lovvorn is a primary member of the credentialing committee.

The Bureau continues its role in state emergency response by being a primary force in making the Florida Field Operations Guide a reality, and expanding the organization of statewide disaster and emergency response. The Bureau of Fire Standards and Training will always be a responsive organization, dedicated to the highest levels of professionalism and quality on behalf of the statewide fire service.



2007: Design and Build Structural Collapse Props

First-in-the-nation structural collapse prop that includes immediate post explosion reality of fire, smoke and heat in a controlled oil environment. The prop allows for cost effective in-state training and is one of the most versatile in the country

2005: Implemented and Funded Firefighter Credentialing and Record System:

five-person Fire Service Credentialing Group developed a computerized credentialing system for certified firefighters, instructors and inspectors, as well as urban search and rescue, and domestic security hazardous materials teams.

2005: Launch of Florida Urban Search and Rescue System and Hurricane Response Development of statewide USAR system,

awarded to SFM, Hillsborough County and Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue for response to the year's hurricanes. Within 62 hours after landfall of Ivan, searched nearly 5,000 structures, an all-time FEMA record



FLORIDA STATE FIRE COLLEGE
URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING FACILITIES AND
PROPS DEDICATION
AND TASK FORCE RECOGNITION
May 25, 2007



(Left) CFO/State Fire Marshal Alex Sink welcomes local, state and federal officials to the dedication of the facility and recognition ceremony of the Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces

(Below) No wimpy ribbon to cut, instead a 1¼" steel bar is cut by Capt Jeff Werthmueller of Ocala



This state-of-the-art collapse building prop confronts rescuers with collapsed floors, ceilings, and crushed vehicles while reaching trapped victims. This prop is the first in the nation to use heat and smoke inside the building simulating realistic conditions. Rescuers must be able to break through concrete and wood to reach someone after a blast or collapse. All construction types (concrete block, poured concrete, steel, brick, wood frame, etc.) are used in the prop and can represent collapses due to bomb, gas leak, non-malicious intent such as tornado, hurricane, etc.





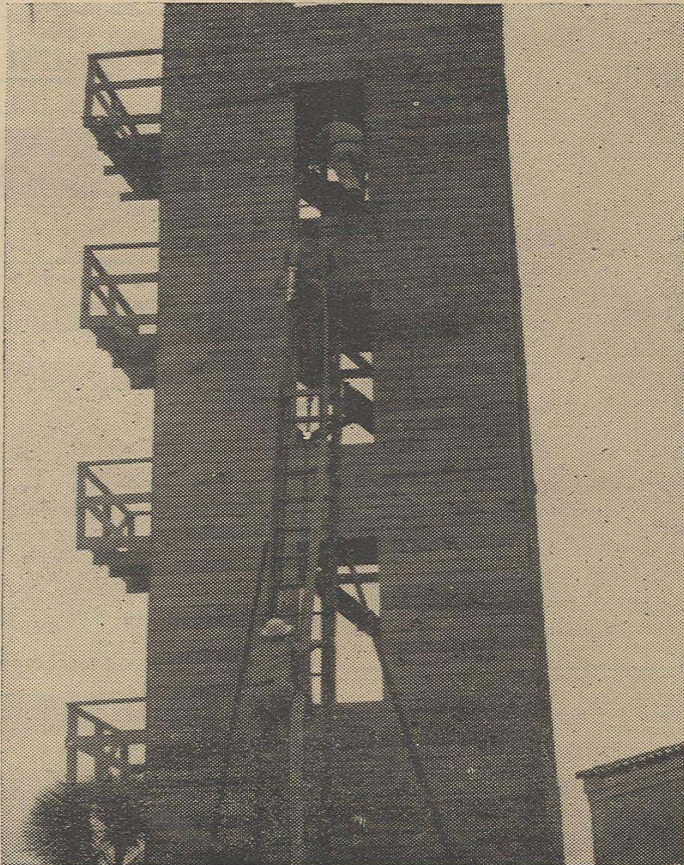
Florida State Fire College Then (1931) and Now (2008)



THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1938.

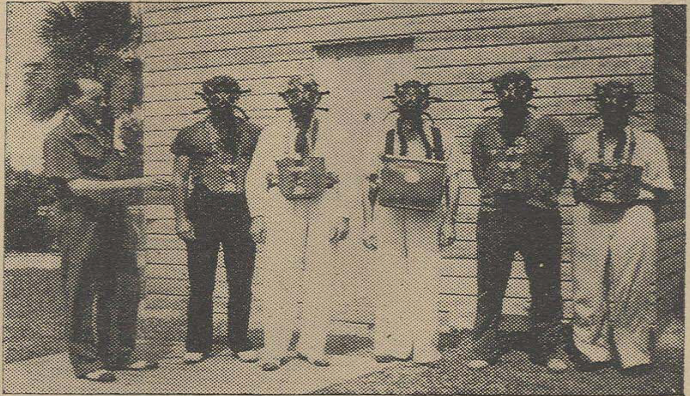
THE DAYTONA BEACH SUMMER RESORTER

Some Scenes of the Ninth Annual Fire College

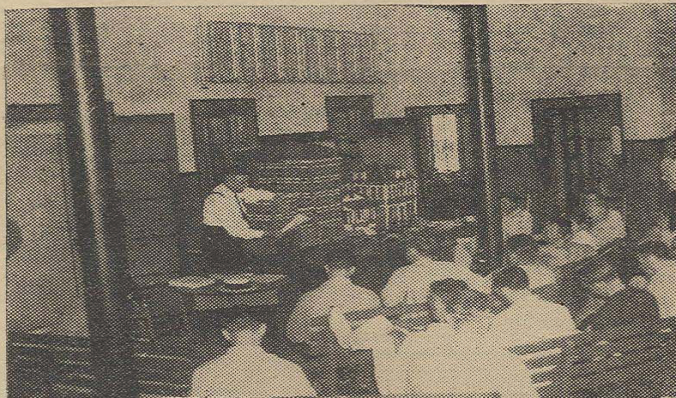


—Resorter Staff Photo

LADDER AND HOSE practice on the demonstration tower. This temporary tower, erected each year, is in the center of the fire-fighters' school.



—Resorter Staff Photo
SMOKE-EATERS of the Fire College: Frank King (left) of the Mine Safety Appliance company, demonstrates the use of gas masks and oxygen breathing apparatus used in entering smoke and gas-filled buildings.



—Resorter Staff Photo

CLASS-ROOM SCENE—In the above illustration a block of miniature houses, shown to the right of the instructor, is used to show the proper method of controlling the spread of fire to adjoining buildings. Miniature houses and buildings are used throughout the different classes of the school to show principles of ventilation fire and gas control.





Bureau of Fire Prevention



Jim Goodloe
Bureau Chief

The Bureau of Fire Prevention's approach to the Division's comprehensive compliance and enforcement programs continues to have a positive impact on the reductions in fire losses within our state. The Bureau's code development efforts have now finalized the 2007 edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code set to become effective in unison with the Florida Building Code in October 2008. This undertaking involving close coordination with the Florida Fire Code Advisory Council and the Florida Building Commission resulted in a comprehensive rewrite of Florida's Fire Safety Standards governing the built environment. Fire code enforcement activities reached over 16,000 public and private buildings including public schools, universities and correctional facilities. The State Fire Marshal's Nursing Home Loan Program administered by the Bureau continues as a vehicle for improvements to the safety of nursing home residents.

The Bureau initiated actions to improve continuing education requirements for fire equipment dealers, enhance the administration of testing for regulated industries and to clarify the lines of authority for state-owned buildings. Regulations to enforce the handling of explosives, low and high pressure boiler systems, and the industries that service and install chemical and water-based fire protection systems are all part of our core responsibilities.

The Bureau, with eleven State Universities continues to focus on campus fire safety and to assist public school districts with the delivery of quality fire safety programs. The Florida Fire Prevention Code including industry specific uniform fire safety standards are being constantly updated to reflect the use of emerging technologies and improvements to built-in fire protection features. The Florida Fire Safety Board continues to make a definitive impact on the fire protection regulatory industry practices. Our focus on technology is rapidly moving to improve business processes by making our services more accessible to our customers through the expanding use of the internet. We encourage our customers to take advantage of the available resources of the Bureau of Fire Prevention and to become actively involved in fire safety within their community.

Innovative enforcement practices continues to be deployed in "Operation Spotcheck", an interagency effort focused on fire safety in board and care occupancy housing of Florida's seniors. To ensure Florida's continuing role as a leader in code development, the Bureau is represented as a principal member on the National Fire Protection Association's Hydrogen Technologies Technical Committee. The Committee is finalizing one of the nation's first fire protection standards devoted exclusively to the storage and use of hydrogen as an alternative vehicular fuel. Today, cellular phone towers throughout Florida are powered by fuel cells designed based on this technology continuing to reduce Florida's dependence on fossil fuels.

The Bureau, in partnership with the Department of Homeland Security's National Fire Academy remains a key component of Prevention Advocacy Resource and Data Exchange, sharing resources and networking practices on a nationwide platform. Staff members of the Bureau, in conjunction with other Division personnel, continue to perform in administrative and field operational roles in support of ESF 4&9 (Fire Fighting and Search and Rescue) during periods of natural or man-made disasters. The Bureau's Safety Committee continues to evaluate the safety of our personnel and recommend changes to enhance injury prevention. Professional development of our administrative and field staff continues to be a high priority of the Bureau, reaching beyond required continuing education. Bureau personnel continue to respond to high quality training opportunities offered through the National Fire Academy in Maryland, state agencies and allied industry organizations.

BOILER SAFETY PROGRAM

This program is charged with the enforcement of the Boiler Safety Act as outlined in Chapter 554 of the Florida Statutes. The Department adopts by rule a State Boiler Code for the safe construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, and repair of boilers installed throughout this state. The rules adopted shall be based upon and shall at all times follow generally accepted nationwide engineering standards, formulas, and practices pertaining to boiler construction and safety. The Boiler Safety Program is supervised by a Chief Boiler Inspector. This Act is enforced by commissioned deputy boiler inspectors employed by the department and by authorized insurance inspectors employed by insurers. The Program requires the chief, deputy and special inspectors to maintain their commission by completing continuing education credits to annually renew their Certificate of Competency.

In complying with Chapter 554, Florida Statutes, the Florida Administrative Code Rule Chapter 69A-51 adopts the American Society for Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and National Board Inspection Code (NBIC). These codes are national standards for use throughout the United States for the construction and in-service inspection of fired pressure vessels.

A Certificate of Operation is a licensing permit that provides evidence that a fired-pressure vessel is in compliance with the code. The certificate is issued to all boilers covered by the act operating in a public assembly location as defined within the statute. Issuance of a certificate is contingent upon a satisfactory internal or external in-service inspection. The certificate is valid for a period of one year or two years, depending on the type of boiler.

Interesting Facts

- For the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2007, the State of Florida database had 14,050 pressure vessels in active operation. The Program's deputies conducted 3,553 inspections and the special inspectors conducted 7,156 boiler inspections for a total of 10,709 fired pressure vessels.
- The oldest boiler with a current Certificate of Operation is in Miami-Dade County. The boiler was manufactured by American Radiator (FL083243) and was built and installed in 1928. It is located at Miami Senior High School in Miami. The boiler is constructed of cast iron and operates with fuel oil. It has a maximum allowable working pressure of 30 PSI.
- The second oldest boiler with a current Certificate of Operation is located in Pinellas County. The US Radiator (FL074730) was built in 1930 and installed in 1932 in a basement at Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church in Clearwater. This boiler operates on natural gas and the maximum allowable working pressure is also 30 PSI.

*** Walt Disney World theme parks have a total of 618 active boilers in operation. ***

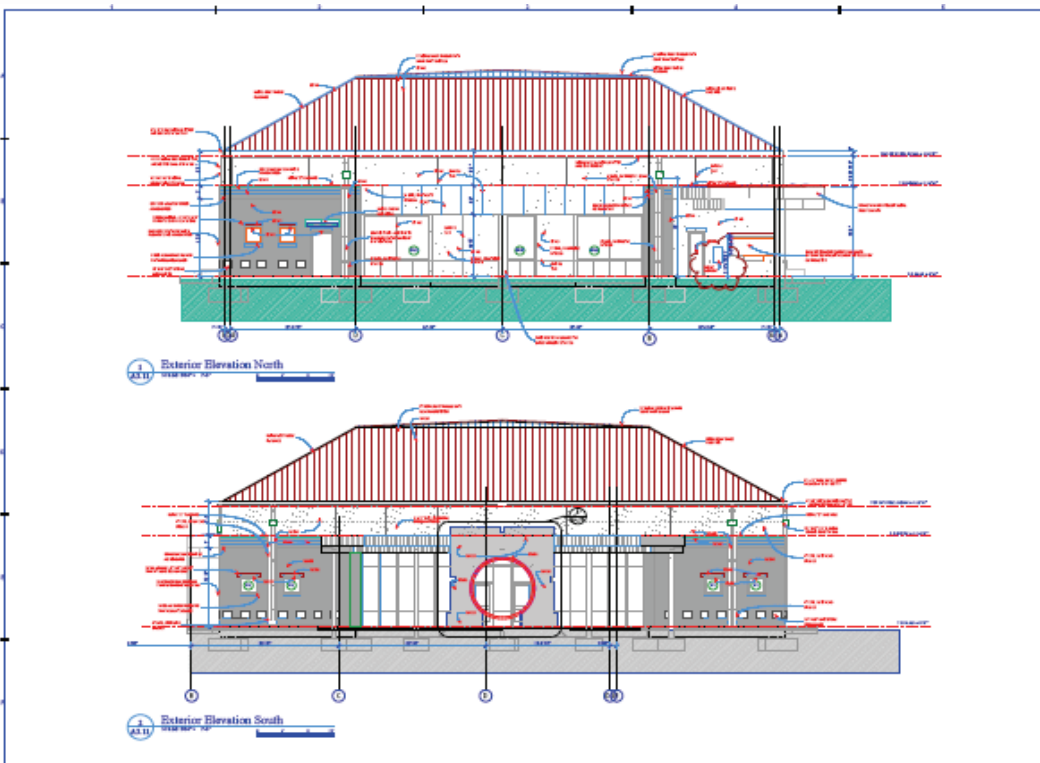
A three-step approach of education, training, and enforcement is used to manage the Boiler Safety Program. This approach achieves the goal of maintaining a safe operating boiler environment. The Boiler Safety Program has always taken a proactive approach to safety but even under careful oversight, an incident can occur.

The program staff may be reached by calling (850) 413-3722 or you may visit our website at http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sfm/bfpr/bfpr-boil_inspect.htm.

Plans Review Section

Bill Fowler, Engineer IV

The Plans Review Section is tasked with the review of construction plans and documents for new construction, alterations, and renovations on all state-owned and state-leased buildings for compliance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code. Our objective is to identify code violations during the design phase, which reduces construction time and field inspection time, and has proven to be an effective value-engineering tool in reducing construction cost to state agencies. Life safety plans review includes a complete evaluation of any and all life safety support systems, which includes automatic sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, smoke detection and evacuation systems, and the adequacy of means of egress.



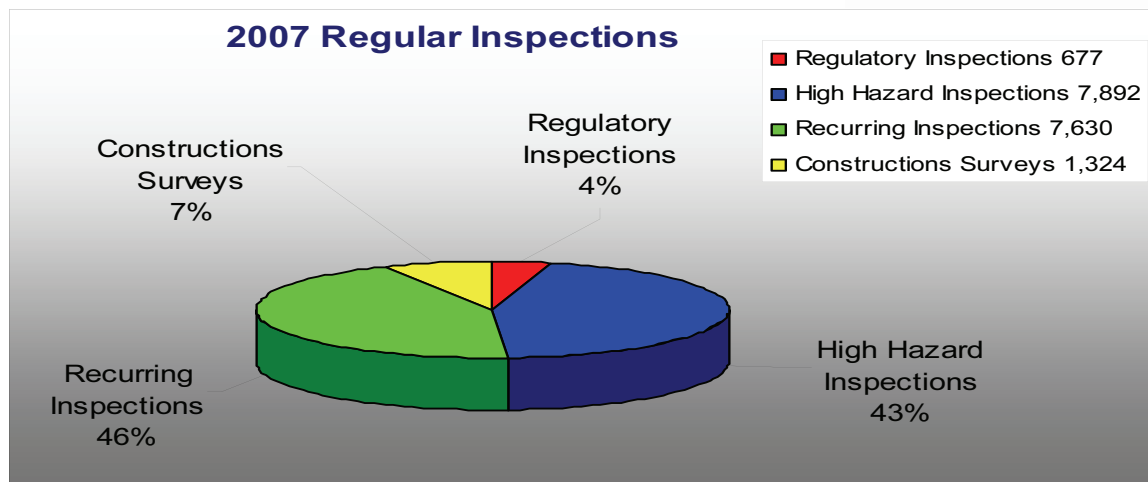
The Plans Review Section receives a wide variety of projects. Every year this Section reviews hundreds of office renovations that occur in state buildings throughout the state, as well as new construction projects that range from secure housing units submitted by the Department of Corrections, to large business and assembly occupancies submitted by state universities. Some of our larger projects in 2007 included: a five story residential hall at University of North Florida, at a construction cost of 64 million; a five story football stadium at Florida International University, with a construction cost of 20 million; a 3 building complex for the Department of Revenue, with a construction cost of 80 million; an 8 story parking garage at University of South Florida, with a construction cost of 14 million; a 60 million dollar correctional facility in Suwannee County; a six story, 31 million dollar expansion of the Moffitt Cancer Center at University of South Florida; and a East and West University of North Florida Student Union, with a construction cost of 40 million.

In 2007, the Plans Review Section reviewed 798 plans, which did not include shop drawings or addendums.

INSPECTIONS SECTION

The Inspections Section is one of four code enforcement sections within the Bureau of Fire Prevention. It is a customer oriented, multi-faceted unit with statutory authority to conduct fire safety inspections in state-owned properties and applicable regulated industries through nine field offices in six regions throughout the state. The purpose of these inspections are to identify, advise and ensure correction of fire code violations and licensing renewal, and to prevent or reduce the start and spread of fire through code compliance. While the Section has the responsibility to identify problems, section personnel emphasize their advisory role to help create attitudes of compliance and fire safe environments for state employees, while fostering a responsive customer service base.

Statutory Inspections are divided into two types: annual and recurring. Properties inspected include, but are not limited to, all state offices, state universities, state prisons, state hospitals, certain public schools, community colleges and charter schools. All High-Hazard Occupancies, as defined by Chapter 633, Florida Statutes, are required to be inspected annually, while all other state properties are inspected annually if resources are available, but at least once every two years as recurring inspections. In calendar year 2007, the Section conducted over 17,500 statutorily required inspections.



Throughout the year, section personnel continued to be involved in numerous activities around the state including a fire prevention presentation at the Tampa State Fair, assistance to local government officials and other state agencies, code development and complaint and regulatory licensing investigations to alarm assistance, disaster training, as well as mitigation duties. New in 2007, the Section added a fire extinguisher training program which is available to all state agencies free of charge and provides on site training to all interested employees; to date over 450 state employees have taken advantage of this training.



A State Inspector participating in the Fire Prevention Presentation at the Tampa State Fair.

While Section personnel inspected new and existing fire alarm systems and regulated facilities, explosives magazines and construction mines where blasting occurs, they also investigated complaints of these systems, as well as licensing infractions and numerous complaints of damage resulting from blasting throughout the state. When appropriate, results of certain system investigations were reported to the Department of Business and Professional Regulations for their review and administrative action, while other results of licensing and blasting investigations were reported internally through channels to the department's Division of Legal Services for final resolution. When notified, the Inspections Section continued to conduct follow-up inspections of fire incidents processed by personnel from the Division's Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations. They determined associated damage from fires, regardless of disposition, which may have been caused or contributed to by a code violation.

The Section continued to monitor the Florida Administrative Code, including regulations for occupancies classified by law as "uniform" buildings and structures. These occupancies include, but are not limited to hospitals, nursing homes, restaurants, public lodging establishments and childcare facilities. Specific rules are found in Title 69A of the Administrative Code, including the Florida Fire Prevention Code. Personnel also responded to calls for code interpretation and assistance while other personnel continued to participate with the Florida Building Commission and the administration of the Department's Loss Control and Safety Program.

Finally, staff training and development in the Section continues to be of the highest priority. Maximum efficiency and responsiveness continues to be emphasized through technological operational program enhancements for scheduling, reporting, recording, invoicing, and the gathering and storing of related critical data and historical information integral to core responsibilities with a successful deployment of the section's programs.



A State Inspector, conducting fire extinguisher training for staff members at the Emory L. Bennett, Veterans Nursing Home at the complex in Daytona, Florida.

Regulatory Licensing Section

Casia Sinco, Safety Program Manager

The role of the Regulatory Licensing Section is to provide licensing, certification, and regulatory enforcement for the Fire Equipment Industry (portable extinguishers and pre-engineered systems), the Engineered Fire Protection System Industry, the Explosives Industry (manufacture, distribution, and use), the Construction Mining Industry, and the Sparkler Industry (manufacture, distribution, wholesale and retail sales) pursuant to Chapters 552, 633, and 791, Florida Statutes.

The Regulatory Licensing System and FCDICE System support the licensing functions for the Section. These systems continue to be enhanced and updated, with a goal of providing increased access through the internet, automated functions, and increased customer service.

Regulatory Licensing Section Accomplishments

The Regulatory Licensing Section is the first line of contact for individuals who wish to gain the certification necessary to service and maintain portable fire extinguishers, pre-engineered fire systems, engineered fire sprinkler systems, and for individuals and firms who wish to manufacture, distribute, purchase, use and store explosives in the State of Florida. The Section additionally registers firms and individuals manufacturing, distributing, and selling sparklers in the state, as well as issues licenses to firms engaged in the mining of road base material for the building of roads statewide.

Before



After



Regulation and Licensing

Casia Sinco, Safety Program Manager

Construction Mining Permits

Section 552.30, Florida Statutes 10-Year
Permits, Variable Expiration Dates Subject to
Annual Inspection of Records and Mine Site

License Type:	2007
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*Construction Mining Permits Issued	10
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Explosives Industry

Section 552.092, Florida Statutes
Annual Expiration Date: September 30
Subject to Annual Inspection of Records/
Storage Facilities

License/Permit Type:	2007
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Manufacturer-Distributor of Explosives	36
Dealer of Explosives	4
User of Explosives	169
Blaster Permits	340
*Total	549

Fire Equipment Industry

Section 633.061, Florida Statutes Portable
Extinguishers and Pre-engineered Systems
Biennial Expiration Subject to Annual
Inspection of Equipment and Records

License/Permit Type:	2007
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Class A Fire Equipment Dealer	22
Class B Fire Equipment Dealer	4
Class C Fire Equipment Dealer	14
Class D Fire Equipment Dealer	26
Portable Extinguisher Permits	455
Pre-engineered System Permits	154
*Total	675

Fire Protection System Contractors

Section 633.534, Florida Statutes
Engineered Fire Protection Systems
Biennial Expiration

License/Permit Type:	2007
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Fire Protection System Contractor I	12
Fire Protection System Contractor II	40
Fire Protection System Contractor III	0
Fire Protection System Contractor IV	0
Fire Protection System Contractor V	29
Inactive Contractors	1
Water-Based Protection System Inspectors	104
*Total	186

Sparkler Industry

Chapter 791, Florida Statutes
Annual Expiration: January

Registration Type:	2007
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Manufacturer of Sparklers	1
Distributor of Sparklers	12
Wholesaler of Sparklers	107
Retailer of Sparklers	4972
Seasonal Retailer of Sparklers	1118
Total	6210

Sparkler Testing

Chapter 791, Florida Statutes
Annual Expiration: January 31

Product Submission:	2007
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Sparkler Products Submitted:	36
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**Total figures represent New Licenses/Permits only during 2007*

Regulatory Licensing Staff in conjunction with the Special Operations Section of the Bureau of Fire and Arson receive and process products from licensed wholesalers and distributors of sparkler products nationwide. Staff jointly document and maintain a database of the products submitted, review chemical analysis reports, weigh and perform a functional test on each item to ensure compliance with Chapter 791, Florida Statutes. **28** new products were approved during the 2007 product testing. The approved list was updated and is comprised of **1823** approved products and is available on the Division's website at www.myfloridacfo.com.

In addition to the licenses/permits issued as reflected above, section staff maintained the database of all current licenses, permits, certificates and registrations during 2007 for all licensed entities, including **692** Fire Protection System Contractors and **474** Fire Equipment Dealers while providing customers with maintenance of insurance records and producing photo identification cards for **1,922** fire equipment permittees and **551** inspectors employed by licensed Fire Protection System Contractors I and II.

The Regulatory Licensing Section additionally receives and processes continuing education courses for the Fire Equipment Industry and the Fire Protection System Industry, tracking course approvals and those courses attended by industry members.

The Section provides technical staff support to the Florida Fire Safety Board. This Board, appointed by Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink, serves in an advisory capacity to the State Fire Marshal on matters related to the Fire Equipment and Fire Protection Industries. In addition to the normal responsibilities of this Board, during 2007, the board reviewed and approved **65** continuing education courses. Continuing education coursework for both industries is available by mail or may be accessed on the Division's website at www.myfloridacfo.com.

Additional efforts to assist the public include the ability to search for licensed Fire Equipment Dealers and Fire Protection System Contractors on the Division's website, which can be found at www.myfloridacfo.com. Industry application forms and licensing requirements can also be accessed and printed from this location. Licensing packets remain available by making telephone contact with the staff at the Regulatory Licensing Section or via e-mail at fire.prevention@myfloridacfo.com.

The Section continues its ongoing role in developing and monitoring of the Florida Administrative Code related to the industries regulated. The Section works jointly with the Inspection Section personnel to ensure the proper inspection and regulation of the licensed entities. When appropriate certain investigations and files are reviewed and routed for administrative action by the Department. This Section is also the first line of contact for members of the public wishing to lodge a complaint regarding the construction materials mining activities in their area, fielding the phone calls, noting all relevant information, and passing the complaints to the appropriate Inspection Section personnel for review and investigation.

Casia Sinco, Safety Program Manager coordinates the activities of the Regulatory Licensing Section. The Section is staffed with four personnel supporting the activities surrounding the five industries statewide.



Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigation



Daniel Spillman
Chief

The Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations is the law enforcement branch of the Division of State Fire Marshal. The sworn law enforcement and non-sworn personnel within the Bureau perform functions within the criminal justice system. The core missions of the personnel within the Bureau include detection, investigation, apprehension and prosecution of offenders of arson, arson related insurance fraud and other similar crimes. The Bureau also acts to enhance investigation and prosecution and deter such crimes through education and training.

The Bureau's general headquarters is located in Tallahassee and is staffed statewide by a criminal justice agency structure of 130 employees, including 80 sworn law enforcement detectives, 14 law enforcement lieutenants, 7 regional law enforcement captains, 1 professional standards captain, 3 law enforcement majors, 1 law enforcement chief, 8 crime intelligence analysts, and 17 civilian support personnel.

The Bureau is divided into seven regions statewide to respond and provide investigative support to fire, police, citizens and visitors of Florida. All seven regions are under the command of Major John Burch (Operations/Investigations) and Major Ron McCardle (Special Operations).

Fire and law enforcement agencies requesting assistance for fire investigations and explosive ordinance disposal (EOD) may contact their local law enforcement dispatch center. Fire and law enforcement agencies, citizens and visitors may also request investigations by the Bureau's detectives by contacting the Bureau directly through any of the State Fire Marshal's regional offices during work hours or the 24 hour toll free line at 1-800-NETFIRE (638-3473).

Our Bureau Chief and other GHQ staff may be reached at (850) 413-3173.

Requests for investigative assistance can be made through the following State Law Enforcement Radio Systems (SLERS) Communications Centers or Bureau field offices:

Dispatch Centers:

Lake Worth: 561/357-6366
561/357-6667

Southeast Florida area

Orlando: 407/249-6540
407/249-6541

Central Florida area

Tallahassee: 850/487-4283
850/487-9590
850/487-9635
850/487-9859

West, North, Northeast and
Southwest Florida areas

Or by calling 1-800-NET-FIRE

Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations Field Offices (8AM-5PM):

Pensacola	850/453-7803	West Palm	561/640-6704
Ft. Walton Beach	850/833-9014	Tallahassee	850/413-3900
Panama City	850/747-5888	Quincy	850/539-2710
Jacksonville	904/798-5804	Ocala	352/369-2801
Daytona	386/323-0904	Plantation	954/321-3704
Orlando	407/893-3654	Tampa	813/972-8604
Lake Wales	863/679-4180	Ft. Myers	239/278-7525

Qualifications and Training

The Bureau's sworn law enforcement personnel are highly trained and qualified in the field of arson detection. Their duties regularly include: on-scene investigative processing of fire scenes, determining the origin and cause of fires and explosions, rendering safe explosive devices, conducting latent investigations, clearing cases by making arrests, staying abreast of emerging legal and law enforcement issues relative to interrogations and arrests, responding to domestic security and other law enforcement threats, executing searches, seizures, and providing expert testimony in judicial proceedings. In-service training programs are provided to personnel on areas such as the identification, collection and preservation of evidence, fire dynamics, interviewing techniques, post blast investigations, arson for profit, and various other criminal justice and legal aspects associated with the arson investigative process.



Sworn personnel receive "high liability" law enforcement training that covers some of the more dangerous aspects of their work duties. Firearms training, defensive tactics instruction, weapons of mass destruction, domestic security/terrorism, first responder, and traffic stop training are all required to keep their basic police skills proficient. In addition, training on specialized topics such as fire scene reconstruction, crime mapping, statement analysis, defensive driving and skid loader operation is also regularly provided to enhance their expertise in the field of arson investigations.

As mandated by Chapter 943, Florida Statutes, sworn personnel of the Bureau must also receive periodic training and education approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC). This training ensures that each investigator maintains their police certification and proficiency in basic law enforcement tasks. Such training encompasses modules dealing with juvenile sexual offender investigations, domestic violence, crimes against the elderly and disabled, and human diversity awareness.

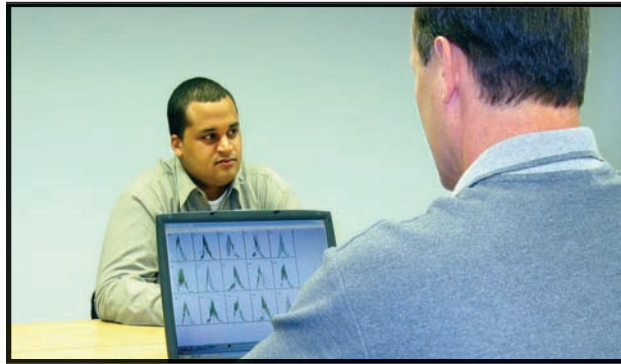
Special Operations Section

Major J. Ronald McCardle, located at Headquarters in Tallahassee, supervises the Special Operations Section. This section oversees the operations and protocols of four (4) highly trained and well-equipped Hazardous Device / Explosive ordnance Disposal teams, six (6) Accelerant Detection K-9 teams, eight (8) (CVSA) operators, the State Fire Marshal's Honor Guard, Emergency Support Functions (ESF's) 4, 9 and 16 response team support, training, crime analysis and intelligence, regional domestic security funding, research and development, wireless communications, logistics, public information, inventory preparation and the monitoring of budget activities.

Major Ron McCardle: 850/413-3669

Computerized Voice Stress Analyzer Unit

This equipment, along with a trained operator, has become the most acceptable, less intimidating and less intrusive means to verify truthfulness in Law Enforcement. This unit is utilized as a tool to help determine truthfulness in Arson, and all forms of criminal investigations performed by this Bureau, thus expediting the time needed to reach successful



conclusions. The Bureau has 10 of these units with 11 trained/certified operators. In 2007, there were 86 CVSA tests conducted and many more that were scheduled but the subject of the investigation failed to show up for the exam. Many confessions have been obtained as a result of the expertise of the operators of the CVSA tool.

Hazardous Device / Explosive Ordinance Unit

The Bureau of Fire & Arson Investigations (BFAI) Explosive Ordinance Device (EOD) unit is made up of six certified bomb technicians with four regional teams. Each team is equipped to provide experienced service for the safe resolution of both criminal and non-criminal incidents involving incendiaries or explosives. In addition to handling the normal core duties of fire and arson investigations, Bomb Squad members are capable of safely handling, transporting, disposing of, and investigating almost any explosive or incendiary incident.



The Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations' primary function is to investigate the cause and origin of fires. The Bureau also investigates explosions since they are actually very rapid burning fires (an accelerated combustion process). Bombs, including both explosive and incendiary devices, have been used as a tool of violent criminals in terrorist attack and threats, drug-related attacks and domestic violence and vengeance incidents.

Due to its investigative role in fire investigations, the BFAI is trained in handling the aftermath of most typical explosive incidents. Team members are comprised of Bureau personnel who have completed extensive hazardous device training provided by the Department of Justice and are certified by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) as bomb technicians.



BFAI's goal is to establish a framework of statewide, multi-jurisdictional Explosive Ordnance Disposal Units (EOD) to meet this challenge. All of the Bureau's EOD employees are participants in each regional domestic security task force. These units, with their sophisticated equipment, enhance existing preventive/investigative units as well as provide coverage to many local jurisdictions presently lacking such protective coverage.

The existing EOD teams work through mutual aid agreements with local law enforcement and fire service authorities. The teams respond to any type of terrorist act (i.e. bomb threats, suspicious packages, drug labs and fields) involving explosives or incendiary devices. They investigate the incident from the initial call to the post blast investigation. Discovering, collecting, and submitting evidence to our laboratory and effecting arrests are tasks routinely performed by Bomb Squad members. During 2007, the Bureau's EOD members responded to 96 calls concerning suspicious packages.

Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies have relied upon the Bureau's EOD units to provide dignitary security, threat assessment and response. President Bush, Vice President Cheney, and numerous other high level dignitaries traveled to and through Florida multiple times. In 2007, members of the Bureau's EOD units provided security services to these dignitaries and events on 5 occasions.



The EOD teams frequently satisfy requests to conduct training classes for law enforcement academies, local agency in-service training, and civilian personnel in the areas of basic explosive and incendiary device recognition, bomb threats, physical security, and post blast investigations.

The Bureau EOD Units conducted 18 trainings this year and trained well over 120 state and local agency and civilian personnel, including three Post Blast Schools in different areas of the state.

The State Fire Marshal's Bomb Team is currently ranked number 12 in the nation and number 2 as a state squad for bomb callouts.

Accelerant Detection Canine Unit



The Bureau of Fire & Arson Investigations implemented an Accelerant Detection K-9 program in 1998 with financial and technical support and assistance from the State Farm Insurance Company. The support and assistance by State Farm funds scholarships for training fees, costs of canine acquisitions, full room and board during training, chemist certification of canines and all transportation expenses related to schooling the dogs and their handlers in Alford, Maine. This mutually beneficial partnership was established in an effort to enhance the investigators' ability to identify possible evidence of liquid accelerants utilized by arsonists and has been functioning well since its inception. Each K-9 unit functions as a team, with one member being a trained accelerant detection dog and the other a Law Enforcement Detective. Currently, six (6) Accelerant Detection K-9 teams are placed in strategic areas in the state:

1. Northwest – Panama City
Detective Tom Barron & Amy



2. North – Tallahassee
Detective Karl Morgan & Ace



3. North-central – Orlando
Detective Paul Patterson & Misty



4. Northeast – Jacksonville
Detective Robert Redding & Molly



5. South-central – Lake Wales
Detective Mike Douglas & Misty



6. Southeast – West Palm Beach
Detective Greg Gilkey & Ember



In 2007, the Bureau's K9 teams investigated 285 fire scenes while maintaining their handler's normal caseloads in addition to participating in numerous K-9 demonstrations.

Crime Intelligence Analyst Unit

Since Bureau detectives are sworn law enforcement officers conducting criminal investigations, the availability of criminal intelligence information is essential for case clearances. Developed in 1994, the Crime Intelligence Analyst Unit (CIA) has grown to 8 analysts located throughout the state. These crime intelligence analysts provide direct support to the Bureau's detectives and investigations by providing intelligence information and analysis which is often time consuming and tedious to locate. They allow the detectives time to pursue crime scene investigation and latent follow-up necessary in complex criminal investigations. The crime analysts provide crucial information in a time critical fashion. This is necessary for officer safety and to allow the expeditious apprehension of suspected criminals. The analysts also provide a valuable service to the Bureau through trend analysis of criminal information and intelligence that allows for the detection and prevention of arson and arson-related criminal activities. In a recent comprehensive assessment of the Bureau by the U.S. Fire Administration, the CIA unit was described as one "that should serve as a model for other jurisdictions (state and local) to emulate."

Analysts receive mission-enhancing education by attending analytical training classes from institutes such as the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Anacapa Sciences and the International Association of Law Enforcement Crime Intelligence Analysts. Their training consists of crime mapping, link analysis, statement analysis and comparisons, charting, and accessing other law enforcement databases. Analysts also receive classroom training similar to that of the law enforcement detectives to ensure familiarity with all aspects of investigative processes.

In 2003 the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) developed the Florida Law Enforcement Analyst Academy. The Academy is the first of its kind and teaches criminal and intelligence analysis skills to be used by law enforcement analysts. Analysts attend six weeks of intense training over a six month period. The program challenges its analysts with hands-on training, assignments and weekly quizzes and a comprehensive examination for completion. State Certification as a Law Enforcement Analyst is granted to all successful graduates. To date seven of the eight analysts within our agency have become state certified law enforcement analysts.

Forensic Investigative Support Team and Statewide Arson Task Forces

In October of 2001, the need was demonstrated to provide and train a specialized team to provide a complete and thorough investigation of fire/explosion scenes. Thus, the Bureau established the Forensics Investigations Support Team (FIST).

The primary objective of the FIST team is the prevention of incendiary fires by effective investigation and by prosecution of those who set fires, thus serving as a strong deterrent to others. The secondary objective is to provide an immediate and sustained statewide response team to such situations where state-of-the-art equipment and the most qualified personnel are needed to assist the citizens of Florida at local and county levels, as well as other state agencies in minimizing the loss of life and property.

Cases of Interest

NORTH WEST REGION:

A husband and wife had embarked on a three-week vacation to West Virginia when they checked into an Alabama hotel room on September 4, 2007. This was the day before firefighters responded to a fire at their home, located in Crestview. Upon examining the fire scene, firefighters and Arson Investigators determined the fire originated in the attic, quickly spreading throughout the house. The home was destroyed and the fire caused damage to their neighbors' homes on both sides. Helping to fuel this massive fire was a propane bottle found inside the home that had been left turned on.



Interviews with neighbors indicated suspicious elements relating to the fire and the couple's actions. BFAI Detectives determined that the husband had checked himself into an Alabama medical center for treatment of burn injuries that were sustained the morning of the house fire.

As a result of a joint investigation conducted by the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations, the United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations, the North Okaloosa Fire Rescue, and the Crestview Fire Department, the husband and wife were arrested and charged with first degree arson and conspiracy to commit arson. The disposition of this case is pending. Between the dates of November 2006 and March 2007, numerous suspicious fires were occurring in the Bay County area. The fires involved dumpsters, small brush and trash fires, and abandoned buildings.



An anonymous note was left taped to the door of the local newspaper office describing the fires and stating that the fires would continue if certain demands were not met involving the homeless community. Analysis of the fire occurrences indicated the fires were taking place in the morning hours and within a short distance from known homeless camps. A task force was formed involving several local police and fire departments, along with the State Attorney's Office. This task force was headed by the State Fire Marshal's Office under the direction of Lt. Les Nelson and case agent Tommy Barron.

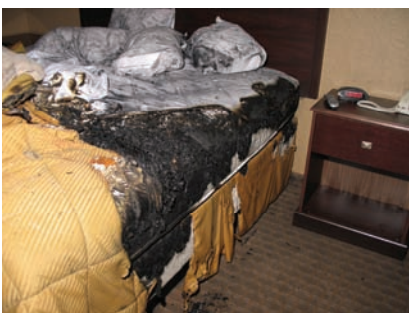
An operational plan was developed that included the insertion of an undercover detective into the homeless community in an attempt to develop intelligence and investigative leads. Bureau of Fire and Arson Detective Tommy Barron, as the case agent, was chosen for this assignment with the assistance of BFAI Detective Don Cioeta. As a result of this operation, information was obtained that led to the arrest of a member of the homeless community. This individual was interrogated and admitted to being responsible for the fires in the Panama City area, and a total of over 30 fires in Florida and other areas of the United States. The defendant subsequently pled guilty to multiple arson charges and was sentenced to prison.

NORTH REGION:



On February 18, 2007, the Suwannee County Fire Department requested the assistance of the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office in investigating a structure fire with two deaths, which occurred in Live Oak, Florida. Based upon the examination of the fire scene, physical evidence and witness statements, this fire was classified as accidental. The origin of the fire was determined to be in the southwest bedroom, in the area of an electrical outlet located on the east wall. It appeared that both victims were awake and dressed when the fire started. However, the fire blocked their access to the main front door and to the side kitchen door. There were "burglar bars" on all of the windows and doors, which prevented the victims from exiting the home.

On August 3, 2007, detectives with the North Region responded to a call for assistance from the Tallahassee Fire Department in reference to an incendiary fire. The fire destroyed a 2005 Chevy Impala in the parking lot of the Home Depot store located at 1490 Capital Circle NW in Tallahassee. In addition to the vehicle, the fire also damaged a storage building that was situated in close proximity. The three month investigation revealed that the vehicle had been set on fire multiple times with initial attempts to burn the vehicle having been unsuccessful. The owner of the vehicle, his brother, and the brother's girlfriend were charged with multiple counts of arson, conspiracy to commit arson, burning to defraud and filing a fraudulent insurance claim.



Late on October 23, 2007, the State Fire Marshal's Office was requested to investigate a fire that occurred at the Comfort Inn and Suites located in Marianna. The fire, which did approximately \$750,000 dollars in damage, was determined to have been intentionally set with the smoke detectors in the room of origin having been disabled before the fire occurred.

On the morning October 24th, investigators were requested to respond to a fire that was discovered in one of the rooms at the Hampton Inn which is located across the street from the Comfort Inn. The fire, which was contained to one room, was determined to have been intentionally set with the smoke detectors also having been disabled.

The subsequent investigation revealed that both fires were set by the same female that had occupied both rooms. She was arrested on multiple charges of arson, and preventing or obstructing fire suppression equipment.

NORTH EAST REGION:

On 08/16/2007, The State Fire Marshal's Office was requested by Ocala Fire Rescue to assist in the investigation of a restaurant fire located at 3105 East Silver Springs Blvd, in Ocala Florida. Upon arrival SFM Detective Legler teamed with investigators from Ocala Fire Rescue, and determined that the fire originated in a video game room. Initially unable to eliminate accidental causes, they later discovered significant evidence of arson which included stacks of used paper towels taken from the men's room wastebasket. These paper towels had been placed throughout the restaurant in various locations, including the room of origin and the business office. Subsequent investigation conducted jointly by the Ocala Police Department and State Fire Marshal's Office identified a person of interest but a criminal charge was not able to be filed.



On 12/19/2007 at 1333 hrs, there was a large explosion at T2 Laboratories at 3041 Faye Rd in Jacksonville, Florida (Duval County). The company manufactured gasoline octane additives such as "Ecotane" along with various chemicals.

As a result of the explosion there were four (4) fatalities and sixteen (16) other victims who received injuries ranging from dismembered limbs and heart attacks to small abrasions. The scene investigation was a concerted effort involving multiple local, state, and federal agencies. Blast debris was located and documented from as far away as one-half mile from the incident scene.

The investigation took several days. Based on the scene investigation, along with evidence and witness testimony, the explosion and fire was determined to be accidental in nature. The company was manufacturing "Ecotane" in a 2000-gallon containment vessel when the vessel suffered a critical failure. As a result, hydrogen, a byproduct of the manufacturing process, was accidentally ignited -causing a large explosion which spread to other vessels at the facility. The US Chemical and Safety Board conducted their investigation and concurred with our finding, explaining that the initial blast was comparable to 2 tons of TNT.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION:



At approximately 0930 hours, on October 19, 2007 employees of Ice Magic located at 11124 Satellite Blvd, Orlando reported a fire located on the second floor of the structure. Initially the fire was contained to the cardboard boxes and Styrofoam stacked near the ceiling. The fire quickly spread and Orange County Fire Rescue division was called. The fire spread to ultimately collapse 95% of the roof into the structure. Heavy equipment was used and debris was removed until the area of origin was reached. Several ballast lights were located among the debris in the area. Two of them appeared to have malfunctioned causing enough heat among the cardboard and styrofoam to sustain combustion. These findings were consistent with the witness's accounts of the location of the fire.

On April 11, 2007 the Daytona Field Office of the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office was requested to assist in the investigation of an explosion occurring at 1100 Mathers Street in Melbourne, Florida. Case Agent/Detective Murray McDonald initially responded based on information that it was suspected there were at least two fatalities. A team of detectives from the North Central region was assembled, and responded along with members of the Melbourne Police and Fire Departments. A Melbourne Fire Department Search & Rescue Team located the two victims, an adult male and his infant child.



After an initial scene assessment we were joined by other Public Safety Personnel, along with staff from the gas company with expertise in regard to the natural gas supply and associated hardware. Ultimately after an almost year long, and very comprehensive criminal investigation the case has been presented to the Brevard State Attorneys Office and is being currently reviewed.



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION:



On 12-13-07 the Lake Wales Police Department and the Lake Wales Fire Department requested the assistance of the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office at the scene of a commercial structure fire located at 124 W. Central Ave. in Lake Wales. The business is described as a commercial insurance agency doing business as Nationwide Insurance. The initial call was described as a business fire with 2 injuries. Initial reports revealed numerous points of origin within the structure as well as 2 occupants who were doused with an accelerant and set on fire. The 2 female burn victims were subsequently flown to the burn center at Orlando Regional Hospital. One of the victims was pregnant. Both victims succumbed from their injuries. The infant was delivered via emergency cesarean section but subsequently died from his injuries as well. A Good Samaritan who attempted to assist the burn victims on scene was shot in the face by the suspect. He was transported to a local hospital via ambulance and subsequently recovered from his injuries. A projectile fired from the suspects' gun was recovered on scene. The suspect was captured within 4 hours of the incident after fleeing from the scene. The forensic evidence recovered at the scene subsequently linked the suspects firearm to a double homicide in Polk City that occurred a week earlier. The suspect has been indicted for both the Lake Wales case as well as the Polk City case and charged with 1st degree murder as well as numerous other felony charges. The prosecuting authorities in the 10th Judicial Circuit are seeking the death penalty. The case agent for the State Fire Marshal's Office is Detective Jeff Batz. He was assisted at the scene by Detectives Greg Bubb, Miles Davis, Lt. Brandon A. Ball and Major Mark E. Sauls.

Detective Greg Bubb arrested a Polk County man who allegedly set fire to a manufacturing plant, destroying the building, causing more than \$22 million in damages and leaving 309 employees out of work for approximately three months. Efrain "Frankie" Castro, 23, was arrested in Lakes Wales on charges of first degree arson. Castro could face up to 30 years in prison if convicted. This arrest follows a seven-month investigation by the State Fire Marshal Bureau of Fire and Arson into allegations Castro set fire to Flanders Precision-Aire Factory in Bartow. Set July 10, 2007, it took local firefighters four days to fully extinguish the fire and is believed to have originated from the ignition of stock boxes located on the side of the building. At the time of the fire, 153 employees were working.



SOUTH EAST REGION:



On Monday, April 30, 2007 at approximately 22:03 hours, the Coral Springs Fire Department had requested the investigative assistance of the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFM). This request was in reference to a structure fire that was located at 9001 Sample Road, Coral Springs, Broward County, Florida, at 20:23 hours to the Brokenwoods Country Club. Detective Joan Champion along with Detective Eric Saccasyn and his K-9 accelerant dog Xena responded to the scene. The fire caused extensive damage to the structure and the New Holland was used to clear the debris from the scene. Two of the evidence samples that were analyzed were found to have gasoline within them. Three juveniles that were in the area were interviewed several times and it was determined that the initial information they gave was false. All three juvenile subjects were arrested and charged with burglary and arson in the second degree.

On May 18, 2007, the Broward County Sheriff's office requested the assistance of the State Fire Marshal's Office at the scene of a structure fire at 320 NE 44th Court, in Deerfield Beach, Florida. Detective John Esslinger responded to the scene and conducted the fire origin and cause. Along with the Broward County Sheriff's Office, it was discovered that the owners of the property were involved in a domestic related event just prior to the fire. During the argument, the suspect attempted to put "duct tape" over the victim's mouth while brandishing a kitchen knife. During the physical confrontation, the victim was able to break free from the suspect's grasp and flee the residence. As the victim fled the scene, a witness observed the suspect retrieve a red gas container from the backyard shed and re-enter the home. Approximately one minute later, the witness heard an explosion and observed flames near the front windows of the victim's residence. The witness further stated that after the fire/explosion he observed the suspect exit the residence from a side door and enter a black Jeep Cherokee and flee the scene. The suspect was arrested and charged with arson, aggravated assault and false imprisonment.





On July 22, 2007 at 01:30, the Town of Palm Beach requested the assistance of the State Fire Marshal's Office at the scene of a structure fire located at 455 County Road, Town of Palm Beach. The structure was a 22,000 square foot private residence that was in the process of being renovated and had no electrical power at the time of the fire.

Upon further investigation and with the assistance of the Department of Forestry/Meteorology, it was established that there were several lightning strikes within a quarter mile of the structure. Contact was also made with the National Weather Bureau Service who advised that the Palm Beach airport reported numerous lightning strikes in the area of the Town of Palm Beach. The fire was a \$32,000,000 loss and was determined to be accidental due to inclement weather.

On Thursday, September 20, 2007, at approximately 0648 hours, the Deerfield Beach Fire Rescue Department (DBFRD) requested the investigative assistance of the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFM). This request was in reference to a structural explosion fire that occurred at 1325 SE 8th Avenue, in Deerfield Beach, on 09/20/07, at approximately 0530 hours to a three-story, multi-unit, apartment complex.



Detectives Ryan Gustin, Charles Toledo, Bruce Hoffman, Gregory Gilkey with K-9 Buddy, Lieutenant Joe Schwartz, Captain Ross Holt, and Analyst Summer Surgnier responded to the scene along with representatives from the Broward County Sheriff's Office (BCSO), Lighthouse Point Police Department (LPPD), Broward County Fire Rescue Department (BCFRD), State of Florida – Bureau of LP Inspection, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), and members of the Urban Search and Rescue Team. There were eight (8) minor injuries as a result of this explosion fire which had an estimated \$3,000,000 loss including 52 vehicles which received damage as a result of the explosion. An accidental ignition of LP gas vapors, which were leaking from the connection line of the LP gas range/oven located in apartment #303A, caused by an unknown heat source, was the probable cause for this explosion fire.

SOUTH WEST REGION:



On 12/30/2007 the South Trail Fire Department responded to 19921 Plantation Rd. for the report of a residential structure fire. First arriving fire units found a large multi story residence (over 8600 sq. ft.) heavily involved in fire. The fire department extinguished the fire and requested the assistance of the Florida State Fire Marshals Office in the investigation of this fire. The structure and its contents were insured for over 1.7 million dollars. Detectives Lepper and Minervini arrived on scene and met with officials with the South Trail Fire Department. The origin of the fire was preliminary determined to be on the second floor at the south end. The fire department was still actively conducting overhaul operations and would be for several hours. It was decided that due to the condition of the structure and the activities of the fire department, the origin and cause investigation would commence at first light. The South Trail Fire Department remained on scene as well as the Lee County Sheriff's Office for scene security and integrity.

Detectives Lepper and Garrett returned to the scene, along with Fire Marshal Craig Brotheim of the South Trail Fire Department, and conducted an origin and cause investigation of the fire. The investigative team determined that the fire had originated in the attic above the master bathroom. This area was closely examined and the burned remains of an air conditioner handler were found. After eliminating any other possible causes of the fire, it was determined that the fire was ignited by the possible overheating or internal failure of the electrical components of the air handler. On 1/4/2008, Detective Lepper received a copy of a South Trail Fire Department Report (07-6123) dated 10/15/2007.

This report details that on that date the fire department responded to the same address for the report of an undetermined heat source. The fire department utilized a thermal imager and tracked the heat source to the air handler above the master bath. The fire department advised the homeowner to have the air handler serviced and repaired. No record of a repair to the air handler could be produced.



On March 12th, 2007 the Cape Coral Fire Department responded to 1510 SE 10th Place for the report of a structure fire. First arriving fire units found a single story residence fully involved in fire. The fire was extinguished and the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office was requested to assist in the investigation. Detective Joe Minervini arrived on scene and met with officials of the Cape Coral Fire and Police Departments. Detectives David Lepper and Ed Blanco assisted in the investigation. Detective Greg Gilkey also arrived with his K9 partner "Buddy" to assist. Buddy is a trained arson dog used to identify accelerants at a fire scene. The occupants of the residence (male and female) were involved in a domestic dispute prior to the fire. The female had been arrested by the Cape Coral Police Department for battery. Officials with the police department believed that the fire was intentionally set by the female.

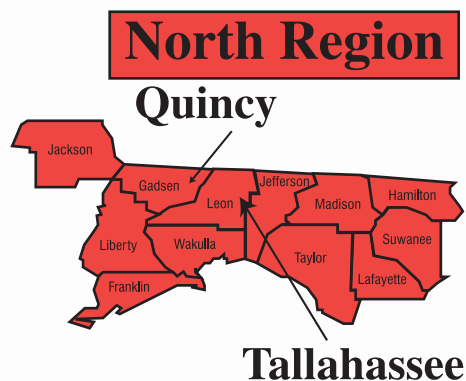
The origin and cause investigation was conducted and it was determined by the investigative team that the fire was intentionally set in the master bedroom. Buddy had alerted in the master bedroom that accelerants were present. Samples were taken from this room for analysis by the Bureau of Forensic Fire and Explosive Investigation. The samples tested positive for the presence of gasoline. Detective Minervini interviewed the female occupant at the police department and charged her with First Degree Arson.

Field Operations

Major John Burch is the Commander of Field Operations/District One, which is comprised of three geographic regions (North West, North and North East Regions). Major Burch is headquartered in Tallahassee. He may be contacted at 850/413-3667. Major Mark Sauls is the Commander of Field Operations/District Two, which is comprised of four geographic regions (North Central, South Central, South East and South West Regions). Major Sauls is headquartered in Tampa. He may be contacted at 813/972-8637.

North Region

The North Region is under the command of Captain Joseph Steadman and is comprised of thirteen counties totaling **491,336** square miles. The region has one Lieutenant, who coordinates the field operations of seven law enforcement detectives who service the counties. The region has one Administrative Secretary and one Crime Intelligence Analyst.



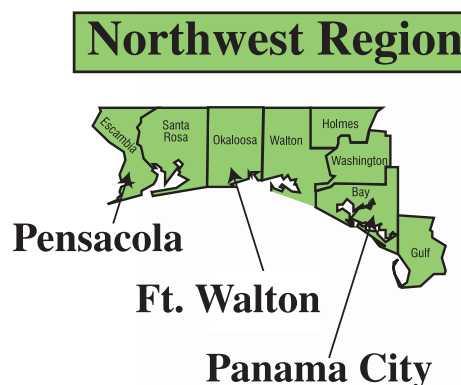
The field office is located in Tallahassee: 850/413-3900 SC 293-3900

Counties of assignment: Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Hamilton, Jefferson, Jackson, LaFayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, Wakulla.

Specialized Units: EOD, Accelerant Detection Canine Team, Crime Intelligence Analyst.

Northwest Region

Activities of the Northwest Region are coordinated by Captain Gloria Whitehurst, Lieutenant Kevin Fiedor (Pensacola), and Lieutenant Les Nelson (Panama City). The region consists of eight counties, with the main field office located in Ft. Walton Beach. Ten law enforcement detectives have primary county assignments to ensure quick response to each county.



Ft. Walton Beach Office: 850/833-9014 SC 674-9014

Pensacola Office: 850/453-7803 SC 697-7803

Panama City Office: 850/747-5888

Counties of assignment: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Holmes, Washington, Gulf

Specialized Units: EOD, Accelerant Detection Canine Team, Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA), Crime Intelligence Analyst.

Northeast Region

The North East Region is under command of Captain Phil Roman. The Northeast Region is comprised of two field offices and consists of 17 counties. The region has a lieutenant in each of the two field offices; Jacksonville and Ocala. The **Jacksonville** Office is supervised by lieutenant Robby Stephens and has seven law enforcement detectives and consists of the following nine counties:



Counties of assignment: Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Duval, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Union

Jacksonville Office: 904/798-5804 SC 826-5804

Specialized Units: Crime Intelligence Analyst

The second office within the Northeast Region is located in **Ocala** and is supervised by Lieutenant Bernie Kleinschmidt (an armed forces member of Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle). The Ocala office covers a territory of eight counties handled by five law enforcement detectives. This field office is located on the campus grounds of the Florida State Fire College.

Counties: Alachua, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy, Marion
Ocala Office: 352-369-2801 SC 667-2801

North Central Region

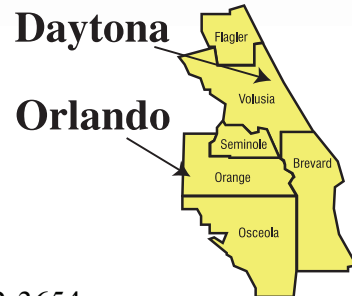
Captain Jimmy Ruthven supervises the Central Region's activities. Lieutenants Norman Harris and Cindy Campina leads the Orlando squad of detectives and Lieutenant Kunkle leads the Daytona contingent. The **Orlando** squad covers a three-county territory and is supported by eight law enforcement detectives.

Counties: Orange, Osceola, Lake
Orlando Field Office: 407/893-3654 SC 342-3654
Specialized Units: Accelerant Detection Canine Team, Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA), Crime Intelligence Analyst

The **Daytona Beach** Field Office is supported by five law enforcement detectives.

Counties: Brevard, Seminole, Volusia and Flagler
Daytona Beach Field Office: 386/323-0904 SC 380-0904
Specialized units: Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA)

North Central Region



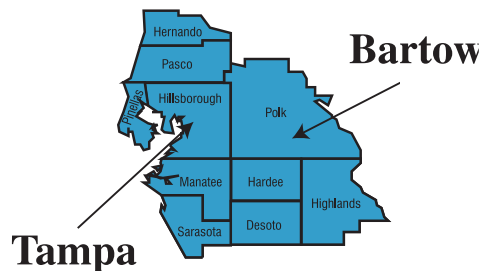
South Central Region

The South Central Region is under the command of Captain Brandon Ball and consists of 12 counties totaling 9300 square miles. The region is divided into two field offices, Tampa and Lake Wales.

The **Tampa Field Office** is under the supervision of Lieutenant Eric Saccasyn and is supported by seven law enforcement detectives with a service area of eight counties. Both field offices are supported by administrative secretaries.

Coverage area: Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, and Sumter Counties.
Phone: 813-972-8637
71904 (VOIP)
Specialized Units: Accelerant Detection Canine Team, Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team (EOD), Computerized Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA).

South Central Region



The **Lake Wales** Field Office is under the supervision of one 1 Lieutenant with a service area of four counties. There are currently five law enforcement detectives assigned to the field office with one pending detective position.

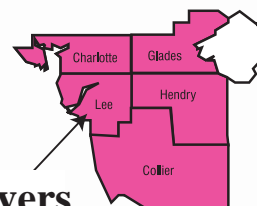
Coverage area: DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, and Polk Counties.
Phone: 1-863-679-4180
71080 (VOIP)

SOUTHWEST REGION

The office for the Southwest Region is located in **Ft. Myers**, and encompasses a five county territory. The Lieutenant supervises the activities for this region. Seven law enforcement detectives are located throughout this five-county area for assistance to local authorities.

Counties: Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee
Ft. Myers Field Office: 239/278-7525
Specialized Units: EOD, Computerized Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA), CIA

Southwest Region



Ft. Myers

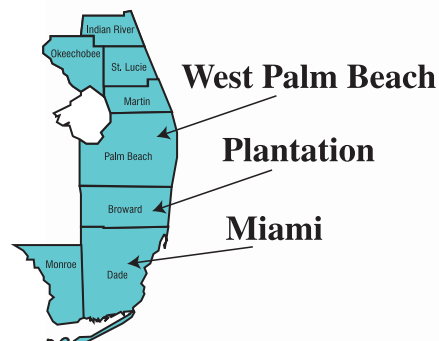
SOUTHEAST REGION

The eight-county territory of the Southeast Region is divided in two areas, with field offices located in Plantation and West Palm Beach. The region is supervised by Captain Ross Holt and consists of eight counties.

The **Plantation** Field Office is under the supervision of Lieutenant Joseph Schwartz and consists of eight law enforcement detectives and one additional detective assigned to the Florida Keys.

Counties: Broward, Dade, Monroe
Plantation Field Office: 954/321-3704 SC 423-3704
Specialized Units: Accelerant Detection Canine Team, Crime Intelligence Analyst

Southeast Region



The **West Palm Beach** Office has four law enforcement detectives under the direction of one Lieutenant.

Counties: Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, St. Lucie
West Palm Beach Office: 561/640-6704 SC 256-6704

Education and Training

The Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations and its employees are recognized both nationally and throughout Florida as leaders in the investigation of cause and origin of fire, arson and related crimes. As a result, the Bureau and its members are continually called upon to provide expert training and education to a variety of law enforcement, fire, government and insurance industry professionals. Several agency officers are instructing fire and explosion investigations in Florida Community Colleges, Universities, The National Fire Academy and the Florida State Fire College.



Various members of the Bureau serve in a variety of state, national and international boards, commissions, associations and professional organizations. Several of these members have been recognized in several publications, reference books and materials written by noted authors in the field of fire and explosion investigation. All of these efforts are force multipliers and result in enhanced prevention, detection, and investigation of arson and arson related crimes.



In addition Bureau employees spend large numbers of hours providing prevention education to adults and children in communities throughout Florida. During 2007, the training section personally conducted and were responsible for parts of 18 academic classes with a total of 350 students in attendance. This included training in Methamphetamine Lab Awareness.

Bureau instructors have also conducted numerous training classes and presentations (job fairs, public presentations) throughout the state to citizens in an effort to increase the awareness of fire safety and the responsibilities of the State Fire Marshal's Office.



Bureau employees are members or participants with the following (not all inclusive);

- Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention
- International Association Arson Investigators
- Florida Chapter IAAI
- International Association Bomb Technician's and Investigators
- International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts
- National Fire Protection Association
- Regional Organized Crime Information Center
- Technical Work Group for Fire and Explosion Annual Symposium
- Florida Arson Seminar
- Hosted the Prosecutors Seminar
- Hosted the Meth Lab Awareness Training throughout the State
- Hosted K-9 Recertification Training
- Hosted Post-Blast Training courses

Bureau Statistics

During the calendar year 2007, the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations received 4358 new requests for investigative assistance from fire departments, law enforcement, federal and state agencies, individuals and insurance companies.

Investigative responses are classed according to type of incident:

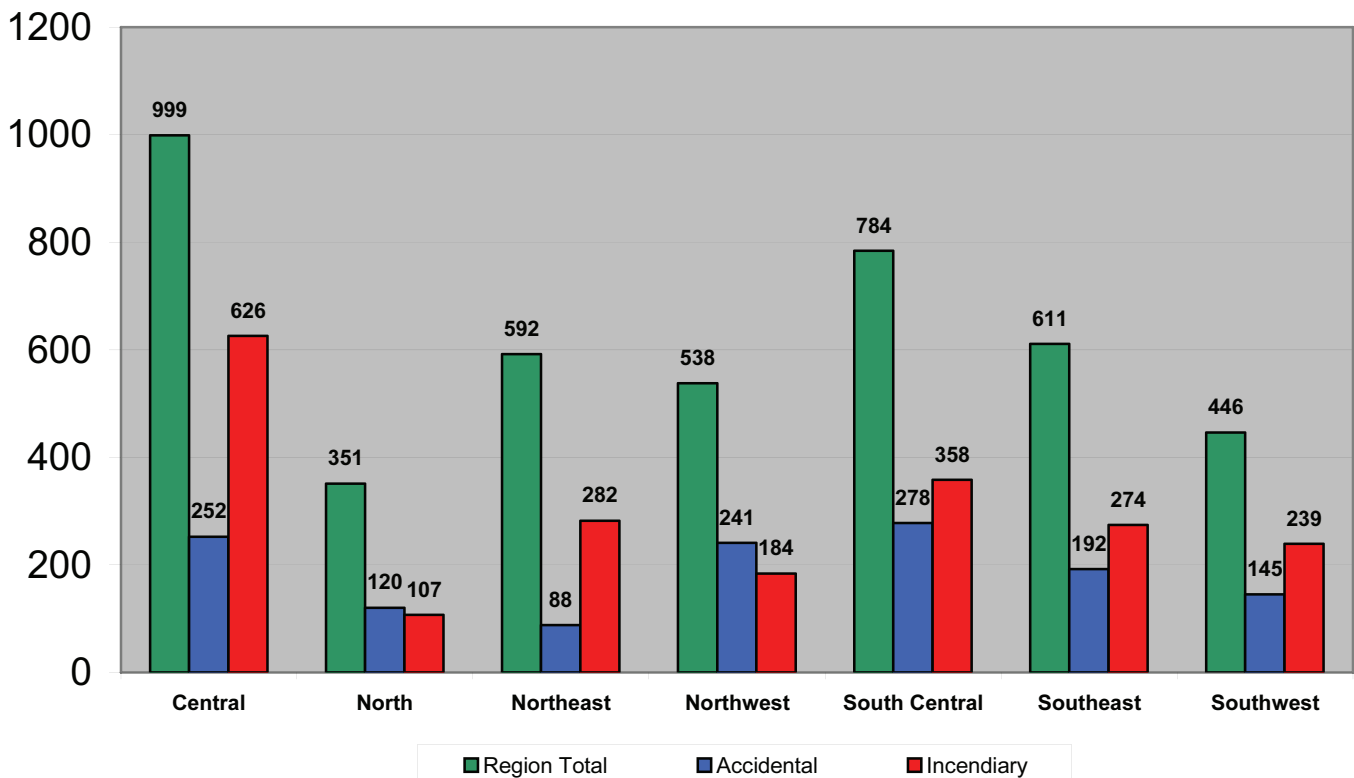
Attempted Explosion	3	Fire	4,018
Attempted Fire	17	Miscellaneous – EOD	80
Explosion	42	Miscellaneous – Other	198

The Bureau classifies their investigative findings as – ***Incendiary, Accidental, Undetermined or Not Applicable***. Incendiary is defined “a deliberately set fire.” Not applicable findings are used when the investigation involves a non-fire related incident, such as outstanding warrants, suspicious packages or other state referrals for assistance.

As of the date of this publication, on those cases opened in 2007, 2,425 cases have been closed with 227 of them having arrests pending disposition.

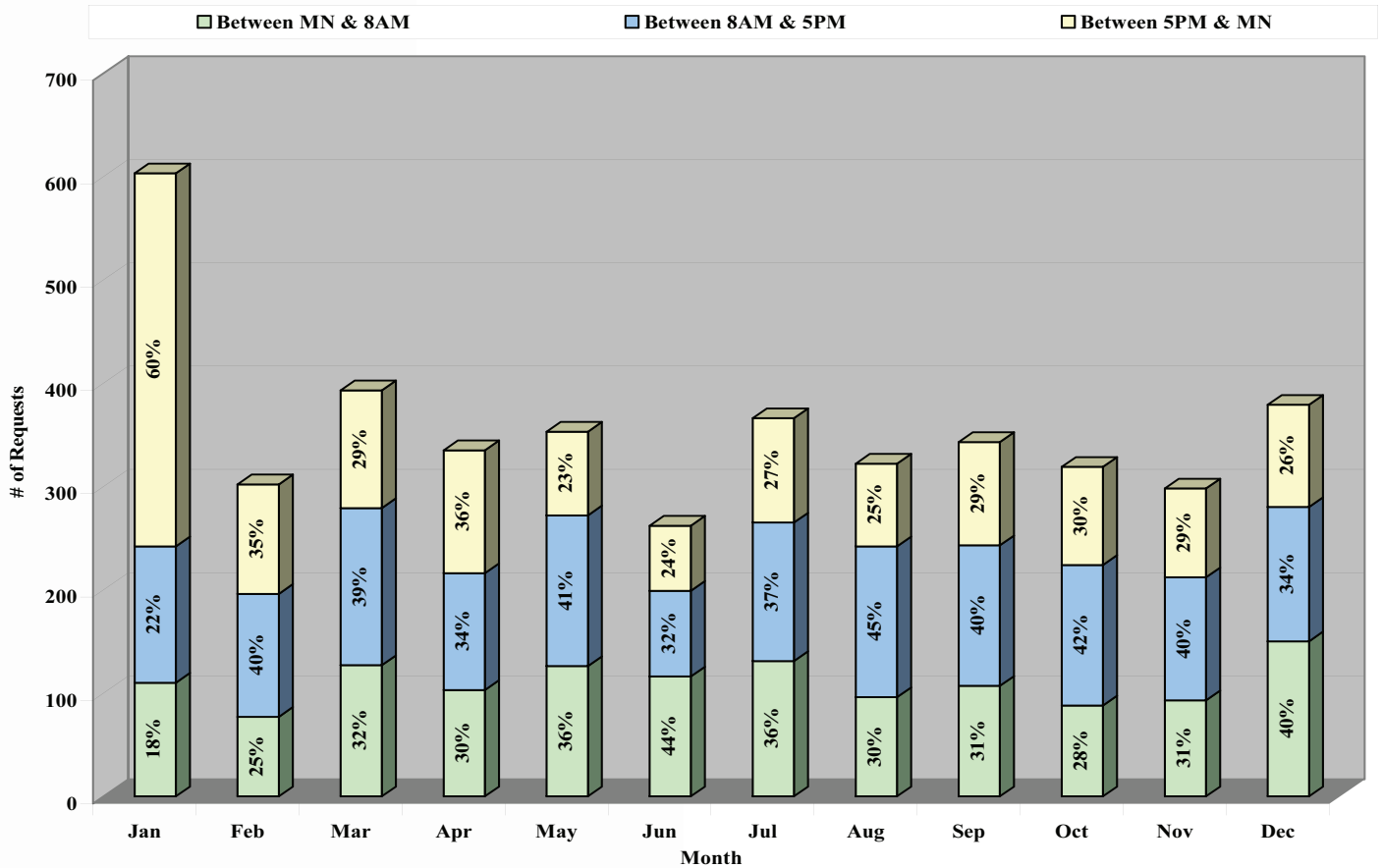
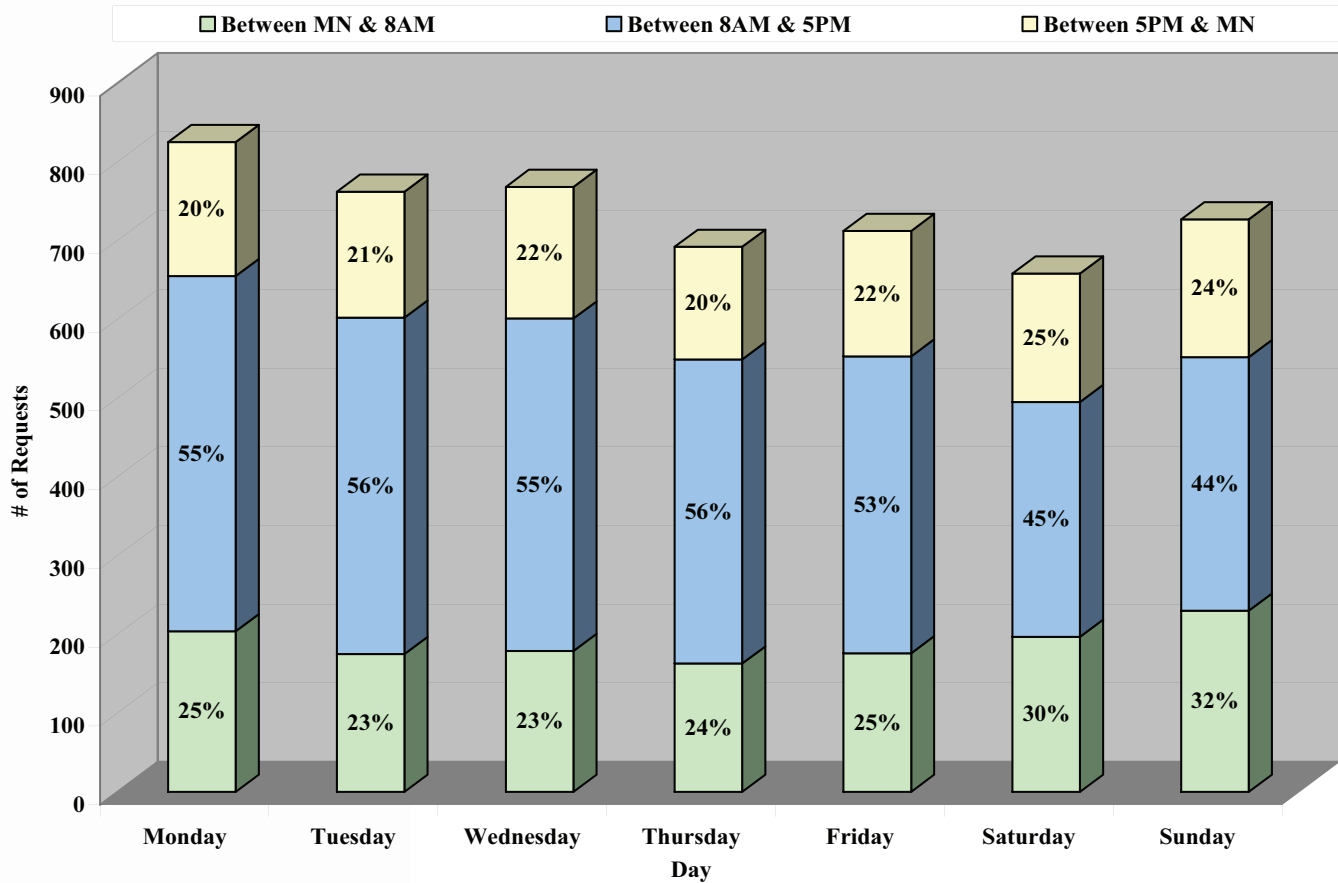
The Bureau conducted investigations on properties estimated at a loss of well over \$333 million. An estimated loss of approximately \$88 million was attributed to the crime of *arson* (this is an increase over last year by 115%).

2007 Investigative Responses Per Region

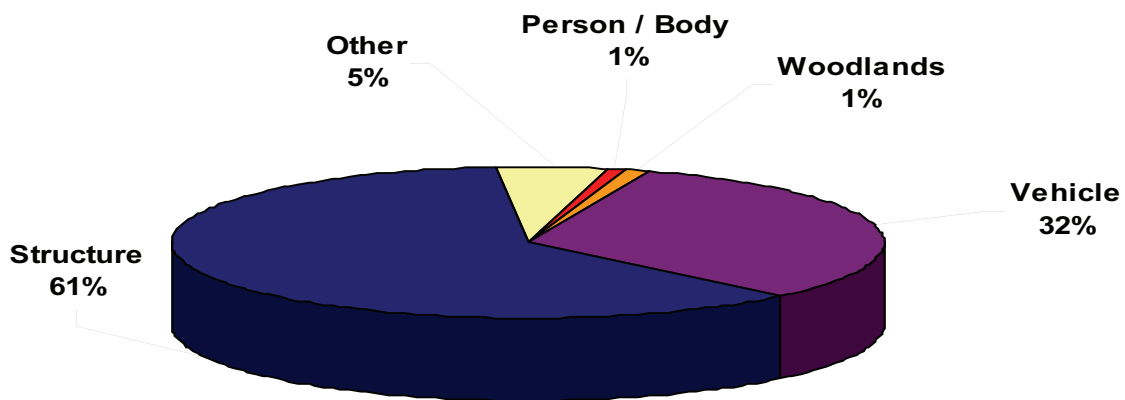


In 2007 the Bureau reported the following finding on investigations *conducted* during the calendar year.

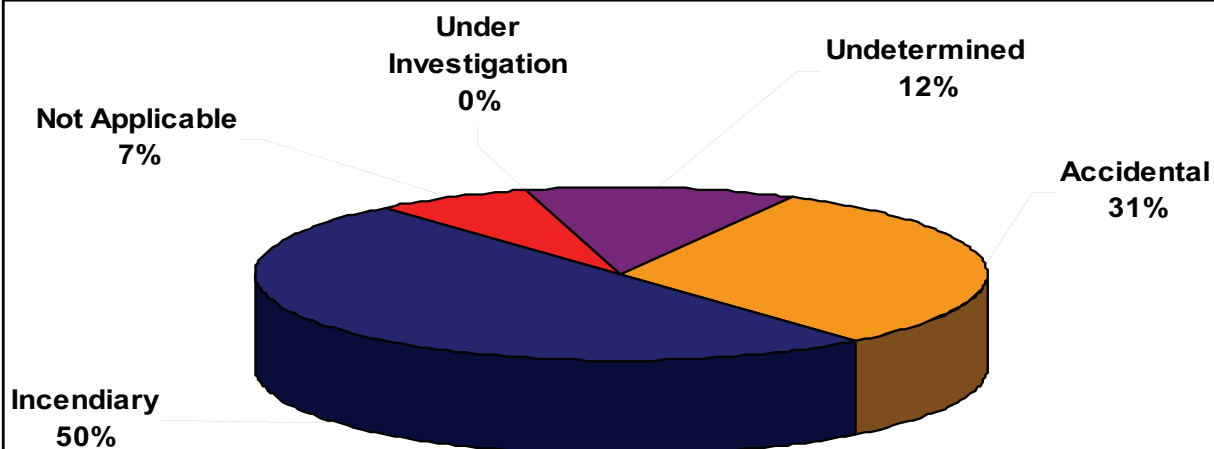
When Requests are Received



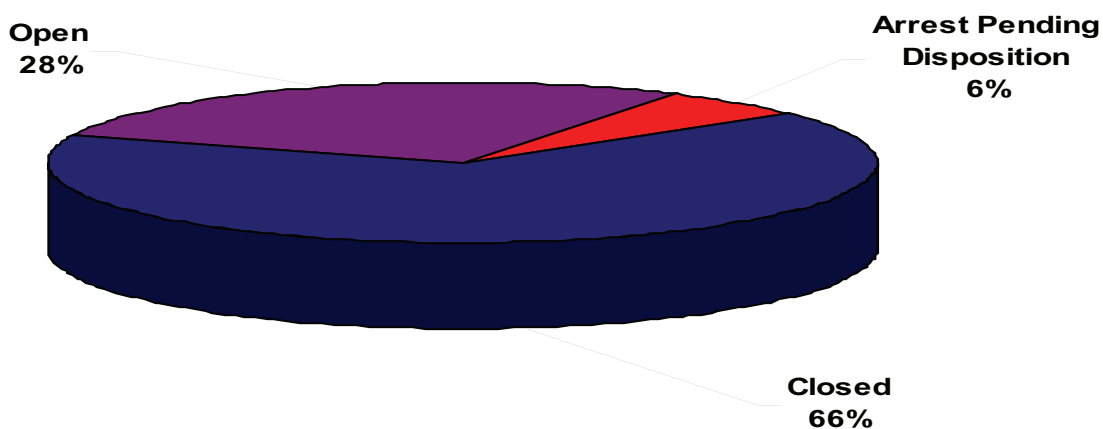
2007 Cases by Incident Type



2007 Investigations – Causes Reported



Current Case Status



Arrests

Sworn personnel of the bureau made arrests in 516 investigative cases, resulting in the arrest of 527 defendants, with a total of 927 charges distributed among them. This is based on the arrest date of 2007 and often includes on-going investigations from previous years. Of the 516 cases with arrests, 341 were classified as “Incendiary” and resulted in the arrest of 381 defendants. Charges against the perpetrator(s) included Arson, Burning to Defraud the Insurer, False/Fraud Insurance Claim, Murder/Arson, Criminal Mischief, Possess/Place/Discharge Destructive Device, and other related crimes.

In addition to arrests made in association with “Incendiary” cases, the sworn investigator will encounter situations that may result in additional arrests that are often not associated with arson-related crimes. (I.e. burglary, fraud, assaults, probation violations, drugs/drug paraphernalia and wanted persons). The Bureau Detectives arrested 146 defendants for these types of criminal activities.

Did You Know in 2007, that a Typical Investigator:

- ✓ Opened between 40 and 45 new cases during the year.
- ✓ Closed between 52 and 58 cases during the year.
- ✓ Caseload is 39% of their cases carried over from previous years.
- ✓ Determines that the fire cause is incendiary 49.7% of the time.
- ✓ Determines that the fire cause is accidental 31.0% of the time.
- ✓ Is unable to determine cause on 12.1% of their fires.
- ✓ Make’s an arrest on 22% of their incendiary cases.
- ✓ Charge’s a juvenile on 3% of their incendiary cases.
- ✓ Make’s that arrest in an average of 45 days from the date of request.
- ✓ Charges each defendant an average of 1.8 charges applied to them when arrested.
- ✓ Have 70.1% of the defendants adjudicated.
- ✓ Does not adjudicate 1.5% of the defendants.
- ✓ Have 28.8% of the defendants that are not prosecuted.

The top ten charges placed upon a defendant are:

1. Arson (394)
2. Obstruct Extinguishment (117)
3. Criminal Mischief (47)
4. Burglary (46)
5. Murder (21)
6. Grand Theft-Auto (19)
7. Burning to Defraud (18)
8. False Alarm of Fire (18)
9. Grant Theft (18)
10. Attempted Murder (13)

Arson Penalties

Arson is a serious crime, and the penalties associated with the crime are tough. In Florida, arson is a crime punishable by imprisonment, fines and restitution. Currently under Florida law, anyone who willfully starts a fire that damages a structure occupied by a person, a dwelling, or any structure where persons are normally present is guilty of a first-degree felony punishable by up to 30 years in prison. In addition, state courts can order restitution to be paid by the parents of juvenile arsonists. Florida law permits juvenile arsonists as young as 14 years of age to be prosecuted as adults for arson.

A person who perpetrates any arson that results in any bodily harm to a firefighter or any other person, regardless of intent or lack of intent to cause such harm, is also guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable by a definite term of imprisonment not exceeding one year and a monetary fine up to \$1,000.

A person who perpetrates any arson that results in great bodily harm, permanent disability, or permanent disfigurement to a firefighter or any other person, regardless of intent or lack of intent to cause such harm, is guilty of a felony of the second degree, punishable by a term of imprisonment not exceeding 15 years and a monetary fine up to \$10,000.





Bureau of Forensic Fire and Explosives Analysis



Carl Chasteen
Bureau Chief

The Bureau of Forensic Fire and Explosives Analysis is the only State of Florida forensic laboratory providing the specialized forensic analysis of evidence from fires and explosions. To date, the Bureau has been able to meet rising workload demands (36.2% increase from FY 01/02 to FY 06/07) without an increase in staff (10 FTE) since 2001. In order to rise to these demands and meet its mission of “providing timely and accurate forensic analyses”, the Bureau must carefully balance the workload against the available personnel and use of state-of-the-art instrumentation.

The Bureau can analyze a variety of criminal evidence. Examination of fire debris for ignitable liquids trapped in materials recovered from fire scenes is the Bureau's primary analysis. These examinations, along with the required attendant quality assurance tests, account for the majority of the units processed by the Bureau. The Bureau additionally can analyze and identify chemical components used in explosives, chemical reaction bombs, and clandestine laboratories. For clandestine drug laboratory investigations, all drugs MUST be submitted to and analyzed by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Laboratory. The Bureau's analysts also use alternate light sources, dyes, and powders to chemically enhance latent prints on evidence for screening purposes. If latent prints are found, they are sent to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Laboratory for comparison. The Bureau began working with digital cameras and digital images as the primary means for documenting crime scenes in 1998. Since then, the Bureau has expanded into Forensic Video analysis as well.



Bureau of Forensic Fire and Explosives Analysis

Bureau Staff

Bureau staff contribute both to their profession and to the community. Members of the staff volunteer as science and history fair judges for local schools and with Meals-on-Wheels. Professionally, Bureau personnel contribute to the development of standards in fire debris and explosives analysis through the Technical Working Group on Fire and Explosives organized by the National Center for Forensic Sciences and the National Institutes of Justice. They contribute to writing internationally used standards through membership in the American Society for Testing and Materials serving on the E30 (Criminalistics) subcommittee. Bureau Chief Chasteen is a past chair of the Forensic Science Committee of the International Association of Arson Investigators. Additionally, Bureau staff have memberships in: the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, the International Association of Arson Investigators, the International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators, the American Chemical Society, and the Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Video Association.

Half of the Bureau's employees also work on Division of State Fire Marshal teams that staff Emergency Support Functions (ESF) 4 (Fire) and 9 (Search and Rescue) during activations of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). While there, they assist in various capacities coordinating resources related to fire fighting and search and rescue. While these employees are serving Florida at the Emergency Operations Center, the employees remaining at the Bureau laboratory put forth additional effort to ensure that our regular customer's needs are met.

The Bureau hosts interns from various universities so that they can acquire practical experience and training in fire debris analysis and the instrumentation used. Many are required to complete a structured internship of over 400 hours in order to graduate. Some former interns have gone on to professional careers in laboratories and with Fortune 500 companies. Others have continued in school working on graduate degrees in science and law.



Preparing a Sample

Customer Service is a key goal of the Bureau. Bureau employees continually work on other projects to improve service for customers. The Crime Laboratory Technician maintains evidence and coordinates long term storage of evidence for BFAI investigators. Personnel have presented lectures and training at the Fire College, in seminars, and in symposia. On occasion, a question will be raised that will require the design and execution of a specific experiment in order to get an answer. Bureau personnel conduct these experiments in-house and in the field. This includes experimental houseburns where temperatures, materials, and fire dynamics can be tested and observed. The facility is also equipped with a state-of-the-art training room where various media are available for presentations. The Bureau maintains a library where numerous references related to chemistry, forensic science, criminal/fire investigation, and photography are housed. It is available for use by employees as well as the investigators they serve.

Forensic Analysis

The year 2007 saw another increase in the number of forensic cases submitted to the Bureau: 2446 in 2007 v. 2343 in 2006. In calendar year 2007, the Bureau received 4849 forensic samples for analysis. In addition, approximately 4100 quality assurance samples were tested along with the forensic samples to ensure the accuracy of the analyses. For fire debris analysis, the Bureau uses gas chromatography with Mass Spectral detection.

The analysts can extract and identify minute quantities of ignitable liquids from fire scene evidence. The volatility and range of identifiable ignitable liquids extend from methyl alcohol through deteriorated diesel fuel. For explosives analysis, a combination of wet chemical methods, microscopy, and instrumental techniques (fourier transform infrared spectrophotometry, ion chromatography/mass spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy, ion mobility spectroscopy, and X-Ray fluorescence spectroscopy) is used. Explosives, chemical reaction bombs, and clandestine laboratory samples, added a total of 1556 analyses in 2007.

The Bureau offers image processing that includes digital images and video. Because photographs are used in both criminal and civil litigation, the Bureau as the Division's central archive, is often asked to prepare copies of photographs for investigations and enlargements for courtroom demonstrations. For 2007, the Bureau responded to 153 such requests.

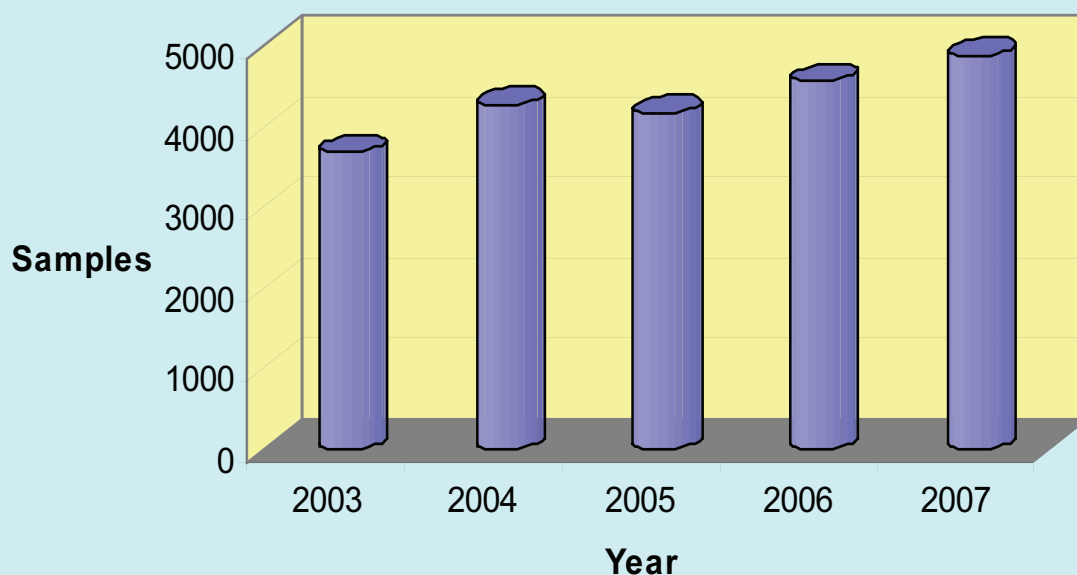
The Imaging Section is where images from digital cameras are processed and archived. The digital imaging equipment may also be used to scan conventionally developed photographs into a digital format. The Imaging Section processed 75598 digital images from 2286 cases over the period of January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007. Forensic Video Analysis is also provided by this section. Video images are captured in a wide variety of places every day. Some estimates have it that we are each caught on film an average of eight to twelve times per day. These may be on the camera at the gas station, bank, grocery store, restaurant, ATM machine, or workplace.



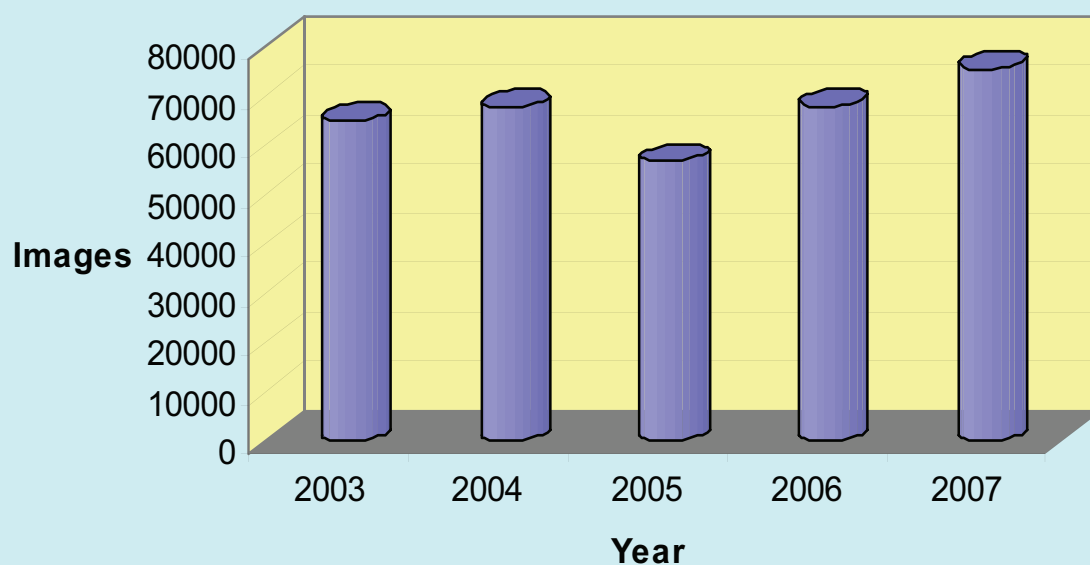
Melissa Stephens with Digital Imaging

The quality of these image captures may vary widely. Often, an investigator will look to the video cameras near a crime scene in order to seek captured images of a suspect, their vehicle, or details of the crime scene. The Bureau's equipment can cause the video images to be separated, stabilized, and enhanced so that the information can be put into a format useful to investigations. In 2007 the Bureau processed 94 video cases.

Chemistry Section Samples Submitted



Digital Images Submitted



The Bureau of Forensic Fire and Explosives Analysis services are provided to public agencies and fire investigators at no charge. Those wishing to submit samples to the Bureau are welcome to call at 850-539-2700 or visit the "Forensic Laboratory" section of the State Fire Marshal's website, <http://www.fldfs.com/SFM>.



Emergency Management and Response



The Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) is the lead agency for two Emergency Support Functions (ESF) at the State Emergency Operation Center (EOC) during a disaster or state emergency. The Division is responsible for the management and staffing of ESF 4 (Firefighting) and ESF 9 (Search and Rescue) at the EOC as mandated by the State of Florida Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).

The Division accomplishes this responsibility through a partnership with various agencies and associations, which supply personnel at the EOC as part of the staffing plan.

Personnel are assigned from all of the Division's Bureaus and are responsible for:

- ♥ **Verifying requests for resources and information from impacted local government**
- ♥ **Ensuring that appropriate assistance is provided**
- ♥ **Ordering resources**
- ♥ **Tracking and documenting resources**
- ♥ **Estimating the cost associated with resource requests**
- ♥ **Ensuring resources have the necessary logistical support to fulfill the assigned mission**
- ♥ **Ensuring relief is provided for any resources necessary for an extended operation.**

In addition, SFM personnel assigned to the EOC coordinate with Law Enforcement (ESF 16), Military Support (ESF 13), Health and Medical (ESF 8), Communications (ESF 2), Public Information (ESF 14) and Hazardous Materials (ESF 10). There are other ESF's that either supply information or receive information from ESF's 4 and 9.

The coordinated response and management of statewide fire service resources is accomplished in part via the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association Statewide Emergency Response Plan. This plan was developed shortly after Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and has been used extensively since then. Every year this plan is reviewed for necessary revisions by a committee of the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association that includes the Emergency Coordinating Officer and the Administrative Manager for ESF 4 & 9, who are SFM staff.

The Division of State Fire Marshal uses the Incident Management System as a standard for EOC and ESF operations. Training in emergency management is an ongoing cooperative effort with four partners: the Division of State Fire Marshal, the Florida Division of Forestry, the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association and the Division of Emergency Management.

In addition to responsibilities at the EOC, the Division of State Fire Marshal also staffs multiple teams of Division personnel to respond to the disaster area and perform search and rescue duties, debris removal, road clearing and damage assessment. These teams are comprised of personnel from all four Bureaus of the Division and are provided with fire apparatus from the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training, and communication vans and bobcat tractors from the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations. The teams are self-sufficient for a minimum period of 72 hours. After the initial 72-hour period, support for the teams is supplied by either the Division or through the EOC.

The Division is a major participant on State Assessment Teams with personnel from the Bureau of Fire Prevention involved. Upon activation, these personnel report to a pre-designed staging area and to a team leader from the Florida National Guard. Responsibilities are to identify and evaluate the status of emergency services, such as fire apparatus, fire stations and facilities, personnel and needs assessment associated with the fire service in a stricken area. These personnel may be deployed for up to 96 hours with the Florida National Guard. Upon fulfillment of their assigned mission, these personnel may be returned to their original staging area or the National Guard will transport them to the location of other State Fire Marshal units.

Division personnel at the EOC are also responsible for providing current information concerning any disaster or emergency to the management of the Department of Financial Services and other organizations with responsibility for providing disaster assistance. This is accomplished through the Department of Financial Services' statewide network, as well as Internet e-mail. This link ensures that the Department receives timely and accurate information concerning the disasters.

ESF 4 & 9 is also responsible for certain actions involving terrorist incidents. Statutory authority provides that the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), with respect to counter-terrorism efforts, respond to acts of terrorism within or affecting this state. As it relates to terrorism, the FDLE shall coordinate and direct state law enforcement, initial emergency and other initial state responses. The statutes further state that FDLE shall work closely with the Division of Emergency Management, other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, fire and rescue agencies, first-responder agencies and others involved in preparation against acts of terrorism in or affecting this state and in the response to such acts.

All ESF 4 & 9 actions related to preparation for and response to an act of terrorism will be coordinated with FDLE and Regional Domestic Security Task Forces in accordance with provisions of the CEMP and Florida Statutes.



Florida Fire Incident Reporting System



Division of State Fire Marshal
Florida Fire Incident Reporting Section
200 East Gaines Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0340
Phone: (850)413-3698
Fax: (850)921-7525
Email: FFIRS@myfloridacfo.com

Keith McCarthy **Statistician Supervisor II**

The Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) is a means for fire departments to report and maintain computerized records of fires and other fire department incidents in a uniform manner. The FFIRS Section of the Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) is responsible for collecting and analyzing the data submitted by fire departments. Section personnel conduct training on the software used to gather the data. Currently, this software is the Federal Client Tool, version 5.4.2. If you are using a version earlier than 5.4.1, you must download the current version by logging onto the website: www.nfirs.fema.gov. If your department is still submitting 4.1 data, as of December 31, 2008, the United States Fire Administration (USFA) will no longer be recognizing or accepting this form of submitting to The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The only means of reporting will be through using the federal 5.0 software or your fire department's preferred incident reporting software. We encourage all Florida fire departments to participate in the FFIRS program to be eligible to apply for and receive an "Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant" (AFG). By participating in the FFIRS program, your fire department becomes a part of the cooperative effort among fire organizations to make Florida a safer state.

In addition, the Section also provides handbooks, coding guides and technical support. Once the data has been submitted, the Section's staff will evaluate and correct it, upload it into the NFIRS database, supply each fire department with annual statistical reports and produce the annual report, "Florida Fires." In 2007, over 500 Florida fire departments voluntarily provided Emergency Medical Services (EMS) incidents and fire incidents to the FFIRS Section. The Section processed and released over 2.2 million incident reports to the USFA. The annual report, and the data it is based on, informs people how great a job the Florida firefighters are doing.

Functions of the Annual Report:

- Assists with justification of budget requests and provides a basis for resource allocation
- Generates statistical FFIRS reports
- Assess department activity on a national scale including EMS, department apparatus, wild land fires and personnel activities
- Summarizes annual activities
- Answers questions about the nature and causes of injuries, deaths and property loss resulting from fires
- Determines needed improvements within the department (i.e., response time, training)
- Predicts fire-related problems within your community
- Measures the success of fire prevention and safety programs

The Section is staffed by Keith McCarthy- Statistician Supervisor II, Matt Hinson- Statistician II, Dalfnie Burt- Records Specialist, Crystal Glisar- Records Specialist, and Marissa Jasmin- Data Entry Operator. Our efforts and yours can help make Florida a safer place.

Join the SFM and the FFIRS Section in their endeavor to **Fight Fire with Facts!**

The graphs on the following pages include incident report data, automatic/mutual aid, given responses, and annual summary reports unless otherwise specified.

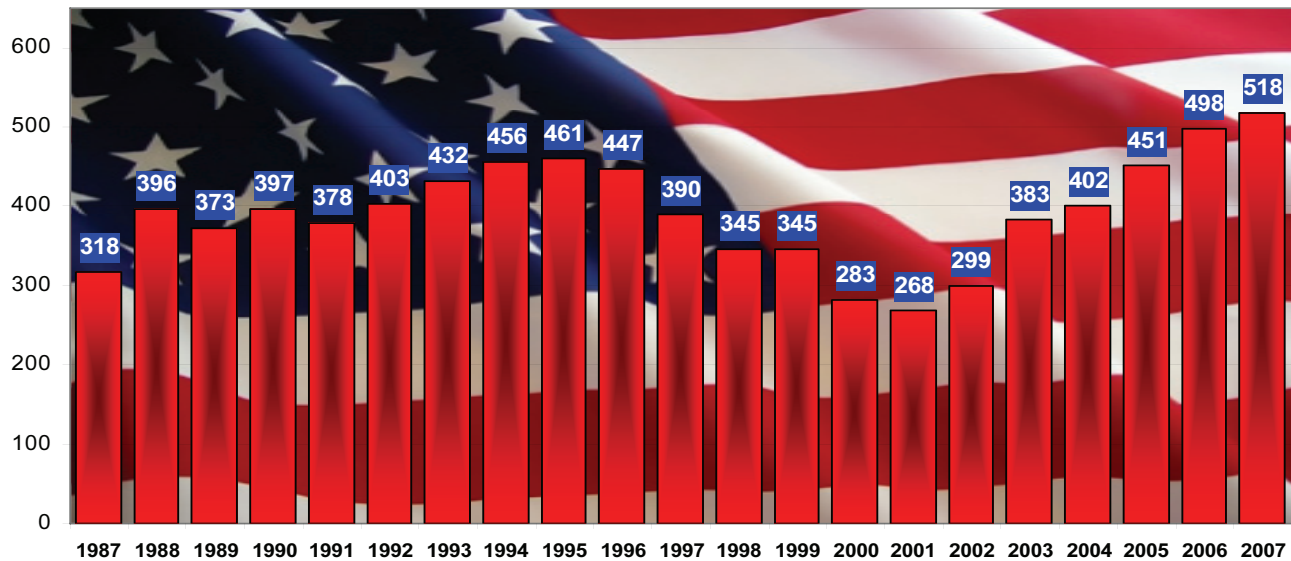


Looking Toward the Future of FFIRS

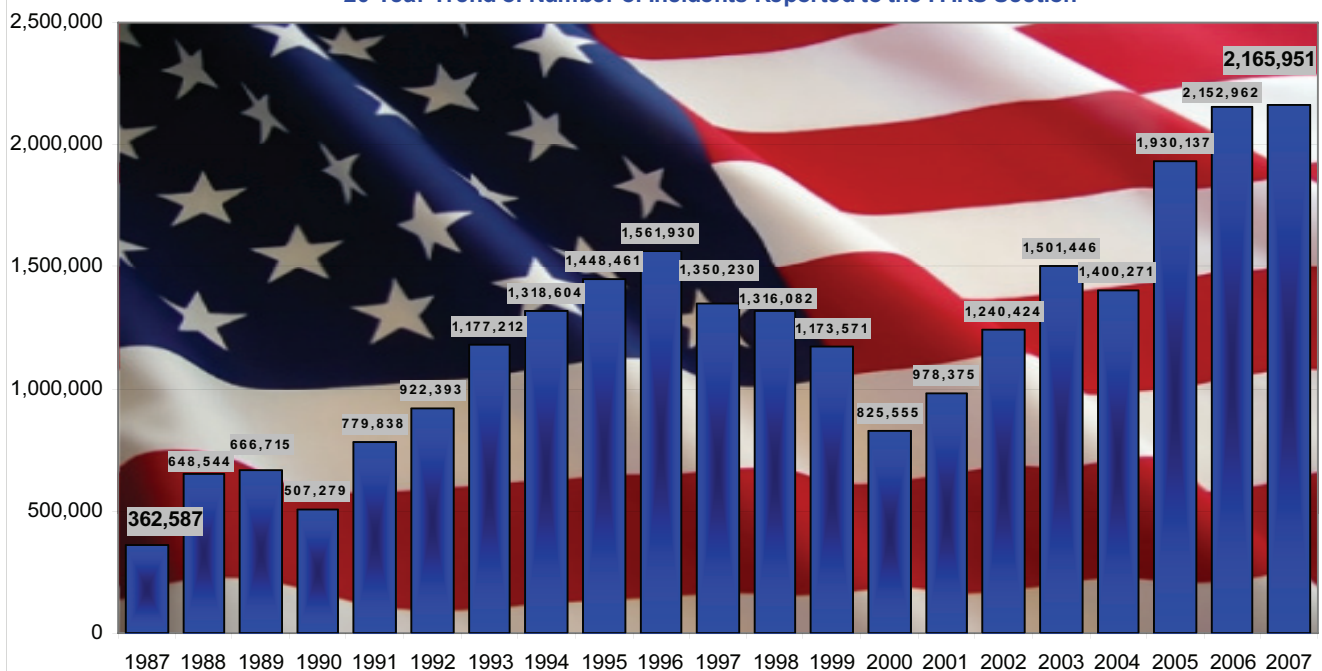


Since 1987, FFIRS has increased in the number of reported incidents by **497%**. 2007 had a record number of **2,165,951** incidents reported. Over the past twenty years the number of participating fire departments has grown from **318** to **518** reporting departments in 2007. These Fire Departments are providing us with invaluable data. Not only does the reporting system provide fire departments with a records system and opportunities for grants, but once this data is compiled it can be utilized by numerous departments to better serve the public and increase fire safety measures. We are looking forward to the future and continuing increase of participation by Florida fire departments.

20 Year Trend of the Number of Fire Departments Reporting to the FFIRS Section



20 Year Trend of Number of Incidents Reported to the FFIRS Section





Florida Counties Fire

Counties	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Other Fires	Exposures	Total Fires		Rescue EMS	Other Calls	False Alarms
Alachua	316	160	556	2	1,034		8,449	4,943	2,224
Baker	68	48	169	0	285		1,500	433	44
Bay	321	157	461	2	941		4,236	3,884	2,010
Bradford	32	19	190	0	241		1,499	473	97
Brevard	439	310	1,026	22	1,797		38,908	10,031	3,307
Broward	1,421	824	1,321	17	3,583		121,583	33,896	14,643
Calhoun	18	13	67	2	100		102	269	11
Charlotte	99	83	463	8	653		14,528	4,760	997
Citrus	108	58	290	1	457		1,954	2,065	320
Clay	114	86	361	1	562		10,205	4,490	413
Collier	262	162	694	8	1,126		21,709	7,882	3,819
Columbia	86	77	302	2	467		1,706	685	90
Desoto*	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0
Dixie	25	19	97	0	141		103	90	11
Duval	1,061	708	2,521	21	4,311		83,864	23,109	7,109
Escambia	267	115	478	15	875		6,540	2,866	1,213
Flagler	94	63	207	0	364		13,842	2,044	772
Franklin	1	1	3	0	5		1	5	1
Gadsden	121	80	235	15	451		289	1,607	286
Gilchrist	20	9	94	1	124		463	255	33
Glades*	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0
Gulf	4	2	20	0	26		41	13	4
Hamilton	34	51	147	8	240		181	197	16
Hardee*	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0
Hendry	44	41	338	0	423		1,261	1,033	105
Hernando	63	52	145	5	265		10,778	2,054	361
Highlands	107	61	253	3	424		3,598	989	334
Hillsborough	2,144	1,104	1,281	12	4,541		139,141	25,940	10,104
Holmes	30	14	81	0	125		187	177	9
Indian River	104	75	232	3	414		15,583	2,684	1,032
Jackson	74	40	155	0	269		97	204	53
Jefferson	29	22	120	4	175		122	260	57
Lafayette	5	6	22	2	35		14	8	2
Lake	320	252	874	21	1,467		24,722	5,380	1,847
Lee	521	403	1,601	103	2,628		54,557	13,981	5,703
Leon	456	214	1,325	19	2,014		13,919	6,704	2,814
Levy	31	17	111	0	159		1,180	381	60
Liberty	8	5	31	1	45		3	17	2

& Non-Fire Totals



Total Incidents	Add Mutual Aid Given	Add Annual Summary Mutual Aid Given	Total Responses	Total Dollar Loss	Civilian Injuries	Firefighter Injuries
16,650	1,933	0	18,583	\$7,931,099	4	2
2,262	40	0	2,302	\$346,980	0	1
11,071	654	0	11,725	\$5,230,689	7	6
2,310	376	0	2,686	\$715,450	1	0
54,043	860	0	54,903	\$18,410,295	24	14
173,705	5,704	0	179,409	\$19,832,992	80	79
482	63	0	545	\$307,800	3	0
20,938	292	0	21,230	\$6,101,784	9	6
4,796	630	0	5,426	\$3,610,311	3	4
15,670	1,132	0	16,802	\$5,073,672	5	0
34,536	2,110	0	36,646	\$9,515,536	11	37
2,948	388	0	3,336	\$1,844,800	5	4
0	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
345	53	0	398	\$486,500	3	1
118,393	90	0	118,483	\$42,509,761	19	45
11,494	558	0	12,052	\$3,742,309	3	13
17,022	826	0	17,848	\$2,445,757	6	1
12	3	0	15	\$0	0	0
2,633	133	0	2,766	\$1,943,020	8	1
875	130	0	1,005	\$433,846	1	0
0	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
84	16	0	100	\$392,481	0	0
634	281	0	915	\$967,010	1	0
0	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
2,822	999	0	3,821	\$30,444,900	0	0
13,458	169	0	13,627	\$949,868	4	3
5,345	792	0	6,137	\$10,247,261	7	3
179,726	579	121	180,426	\$29,408,772	27	13
498	199	0	697	\$906,340	0	0
19,713	57	0	19,770	\$911,112	4	1
623	138	0	761	\$3,119,549	0	3
614	2	0	616	\$1,028,213	0	0
59	3	2	64	\$723,700	0	0
33,416	2,436	0	35,852	\$5,284,892	5	11
76,869	1,217	0	78,086	\$18,031,765	31	44
25,451	286	0	25,737	\$2,827,531	14	8
1,780	347	0	2,127	\$255,102	2	2
67	2	0	69	\$809,300	0	0



Florida Counties Fire &

Counties	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Other Fires	Exposures	Total Fires		Rescue EMS	Other Calls	False Alarms
Madison	43	26	126	0	195		390	396	71
Manatee	243	219	649	16	1,127		15,452	3,740	3,107
Marion	355	261	1,214	1	1,831		31,524	14,226	1,936
Martin	96	108	273	0	477		14,264	3,367	1,204
Miami-Dade	2,384	1,979	3,469	1	7,833		240,290	57,380	17,215
Monroe	107	78	215	0	400		6,166	3,405	664
Nassau	80	46	328	2	456		4,992	1,220	386
Okaloosa	214	104	282	16	616		12,119	3,521	1,206
Okeechobee*	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0
Orange	1,604	1,134	1,587	21	4,346		103,459	31,808	13,227
Osceola	306	210	530	4	1,050		23,519	4,474	2,194
Palm Beach	879	691	1,550	35	3,155		139,101	20,839	14,682
Pasco	380	284	604	66	1,334		26,419	10,378	2,578
Pinellas	1,052	488	1,397	112	3,049		125,285	21,009	8,107
Polk	777	442	1,271	88	2,578		49,707	12,117	2,409
Putnam	142	89	408	1	640		5,744	1,771	271
Santa Rosa	145	116	506	3	770		5,608	1,769	447
Sarasota	290	216	894	3	1,403		44,122	3,627	3,343
Seminole	302	198	539	14	1,053		30,137	9,007	3,130
St Johns	165	118	531	6	820		15,704	3,019	1,561
St Lucie	155	125	473	0	753		3,612	1,073	1,518
Sumter	80	70	186	8	344		9,019	2,630	421
Suwannee	60	56	182	0	298		545	661	182
Taylor	55	35	117	1	208		202	140	25
Union	9	5	3	0	17		4	10	1
Volusia	490	362	1,328	14	2,194		48,552	19,229	3,277
Wakulla	14	8	66	1	89		201	95	23
Walton	107	57	361	0	525		5,156	1,326	712
Washington	24	10	60	0	94		33	189	14
Total Incidents	19,405	12,886	35,420	711	68,422		1,558,191	396,235	143,814
Mutual Aid	4,063	783	3,997	0	8,843		26,219	29,169	4,938
Total Responses	23,468	13,669	39,417	711	77,265		1,584,410	425,404	148,752

* No Data Received

The above statistics are based on the data submitted by 518 fire departments* that reported to the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) in 2007. There are approximately 617 paid, volunteer and combination fire departments in the State of Florida. A list of the reporting fire departments for this year is located on pages 76-79.

Non-Fire Totals (Cont'd)



Total Incidents	Add Mutual Aid Given	Add Annual Summary Mutual Aid Given	Total Responses	Total Dollar Loss	Civilian Injuries	Firefighter Injuries
1,052	237	0	1,289	\$738,806	0	0
23,426	683	0	24,109	\$7,825,486	20	5
49,517	624	0	50,141	\$5,104,783	4	7
19,312	1,055	0	20,367	\$5,562,041	1	4
322,718	54	11	322,783	\$19,812,161	3	0
10,635	355	10	11,000	\$3,351,980	5	3
7,054	386	0	7,440	\$2,150,202	2	5
17,462	2,549	0	20,011	\$11,084,134	18	3
0	0	0	0	\$0	0	0
152,840	5,900	0	158,740	\$28,167,744	66	185
31,237	1,345	0	32,582	\$6,141,469	3	8
177,777	1,175	1	178,953	\$28,078,674	33	9
40,709	301	0	41,010	\$11,209,265	25	21
157,450	6,125	0	163,575	\$20,566,962	146	174
66,811	2,010	0	68,821	\$62,279,350	22	22
8,426	972	4	9,402	\$2,231,840	2	1
8,594	658	24	9,276	\$2,980,025	9	1
52,495	295	0	52,790	\$7,761,687	11	7
43,327	12,466	0	55,793	\$12,347,551	34	72
21,104	444	0	21,548	\$4,149,832	6	29
6,956	9	0	6,965	\$3,620,171	2	1
12,414	604	0	13,018	\$1,151,601	3	3
1,686	22	0	1,708	\$1,185,930	2	0
575	40	0	615	\$2,263,470	0	0
32	28	0	60	\$49,350	0	0
73,252	6,540	0	79,792	\$17,539,382	46	13
408	54	0	462	\$144,350	0	0
7,719	692	0	8,411	\$3,298,584	0	2
330	48	16	394	\$938,550	0	0
2,166,662						
	69,169	189				
2,166,662			2,236,020	508,525,777	750	877

* Departments must be compliant under the Firefighter's Occupational Safety and Health Act, Rule Chapter 69A-62 and Florida Statutes 633.801 – 633.821, as well as, other Florida statutes and rules to be recognized as a fire department.



2007 Florida Wildfires

County	Total Fires		0.1 - 0.2 Acres		0.3 - 9 Acres	
	# Fires	# Acres	# Fires	# Acres	# Fires	# Acres
All Counties	1,045	125.4	2,304	5,515.5	713	21,534.3
Alachua	30	3.3	51	137.3	18	470.0
Baker	2	0.4	24	62.3	4	150.0
Bay	26	3.2	48	99.1	14	328.8
Bradford	12	1.4	32	68.5	3	75.5
Brevard	4	0.6	35	83.0	17	507.0
Broward	1	0.1	16	37.5	4	130.0
Calhoun	9	1.0	19	54.8	4	128.0
Charlotte	17	2.5	52	107.4	26	845.0
Citrus	18	1.6	53	117.1	12	402.9
Clay	23	2.8	32	59.2	10	249.6
Collier	11	1.2	48	115.7	27	1,144.6
Columbia	9	1.0	26	61.6	8	191.9
DeSoto	1	0.1	16	65.0	12	437.0
Dixie	22	2.4	49	144.6	8	246.4
Duval	24	2.9	41	92.5	6	126.7
Escambia	13	1.6	41	113.6	6	97.0
Flagler	29	3.8	30	54.3	10	262.2
Franklin	17	2.4	15	40.2	4	115.0
Gadsden	6	0.7	25	51.1	7	195.0
Gilchrist	15	1.5	21	57.5	4	131.0
Glades	17	1.8	20	42.3	15	386.0
Gulf	11	1.4	25	52.9	8	208.0
Hamilton	14	2.0	21	27.4	3	63.5
Hardee	1	0.1	7	25.3	6	175.0
Hendry	11	1.2	31	70.2	26	990.0
Hernando	13	1.4	39	80.1	9	372.0
Highlands	38	4.7	58	157.6	13	439.9
Hillsborough	7	0.6	19	58.0	13	327.0
Holmes	9	1.2	14	30.4	3	49.0
Indian River	2	0.1	10	28.8	4	168.0
Jackson	22	2.8	57	121.9	11	157.0
Jefferson	14	1.7	22	68.7	8	170.0
Lafayette	13	1.6	18	61.7	3	132.0
Lake	15	1.0	53	139.1	24	672.8
Lee	17	2.8	71	168.9	29	882.5
Leon	7	0.8	16	31.1	1	19.0
Levy	35	4.0	98	216.3	24	650.0
Liberty	4	0.6	6	10.8	3	50.0
Madison	37	4.2	38	92.5	8	304.0
Manatee	3	0.3	17	51.0	10	291.0
Marion	10	1.3	50	113.3	6	102.0
Martin	7	0.6	20	77.0	11	356.0
Miami-Dade	9	0.9	33	81.4	16	402.0
Monroe	3	0.3	3	12.0	-	-
Nassau	21	2.2	33	81.5	5	78.6
Okaloosa	12	1.5	23	54.4	7	176.6
Okeechobee	33	3.8	38	81.2	23	651.0
Orange	12	1.5	33	87.4	13	501.3
Osceola	4	0.5	31	83.2	23	737.1
Palm Beach	7	0.7	25	63.1	5	195.0
Pasco	11	1.7	49	131.6	17	554.9
Pinellas	1	0.2	4	15.0	-	-
Polk	25	2.9	97	222.7	35	1,360.0
Putnam	36	4.1	76	161.0	9	151.0
Santa Rosa	55	6.9	66	162.5	14	351.8
Sarasota	14	2.2	57	108.3	15	475.0
Seminole	6	0.8	12	17.3	5	162.0
St. Johns	24	2.8	28	73.7	4	76.0
St. Lucie	1	0.1	14	31.5	6	215.0
Sumter	9	1.2	11	27.2	7	276.8
Suwannee	13	1.7	38	104.0	7	150.0
Taylor	31	4.1	48	106.9	15	466.9
Union	8	0.8	17	32.6	2	76.3
Volusia	64	8.0	105	268.6	23	760.7
Wakulla	13	1.5	15	27.1	3	99.0
Walton	32	3.7	35	58.0	9	200.0
Washington	5	0.6	28	70.7	8	219.0

By County And Size



10 - 99 Acres		100 - 299 Acres		300 - 999 Acres		1,000 - 4,999 Acres		5,000 Acres & Up	
# Fires	# Acres	# Fires	# Acres	# Fires	# Acres	# Fires	# Acres	# Fires	# Acres
91	14,725.4	60	28,354.0	22	44,172.0	13	261,709.5	7	125,770.0
1	160.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	117.0	-	-	-	-	1	48,970.0	-	-
1	137.0	1	322.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	199.1	-	-	-	-	1	14,626.0	-	-
1	246.0	1	420.0	1	2,500.0	-	-	1	5,720.0
2	250.0	4	2,050.0	7	13,800.0	3	59,900.0	3	69,700.0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	375.0	2	900.0	-	-	1	7,104.0	-	-
2	382.0	3	1,507.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	1,424.0	8	3,896.0	1	3,335.0	2	23,027.0	-	-
3	481.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	300.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	279.0	1	422.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	400.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6,575.0	-	-
1	100.0	1	350.0	1	1,500.0	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	893.0	2	1,049.3	1	2,247.5	2	66,811.5	-	-
1	264.0	1	369.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	145.0	1	720.0	1	4,450.0	-	-	-	-
1	115.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	107.6	1	732.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	300.0	1	400.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	1	1,092.4	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	100.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	328.5	2	1,182.1	1	2,551.0	-	-	-	-
3	540.0	2	702.0	2	3,548.0	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	105.0	1	346.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	316.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	270.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	100.0	2	685.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	250.0	4	2,420.0	1	1,200.0	1	23,096.0	1	5,100.0
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	435.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	115.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	370.0	2	1,150.0	1	1,131.1	-	-	-	-
2	309.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	1,339.0	4	1,905.0	1	1,578.0	-	-	-	-
4	520.0	1	408.0	-	-	1	11,600.0	2	45,250.0
5	933.3	2	1,035.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	1,020.0	7	3,220.0	1	3,200.0	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	1	1,004.0	-	-	-	-
2	393.0	1	400.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	340.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	200.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	385.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	410.6	1	378.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	300.0	1	1,035.0	-	-	-	-
1	106.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Summary Statistics 2007



In 2007, fire departments responded to a total of 2,166,662 incidents. When mutual aid calls were added, the total number of reported responses *increased* to 2,236,020 which generated *less* requests for fire department services than in 2006.

Rescue/EMS calls *decreased* by 273,453 incidents and false alarm calls *decreased* by 10,427 incidents.

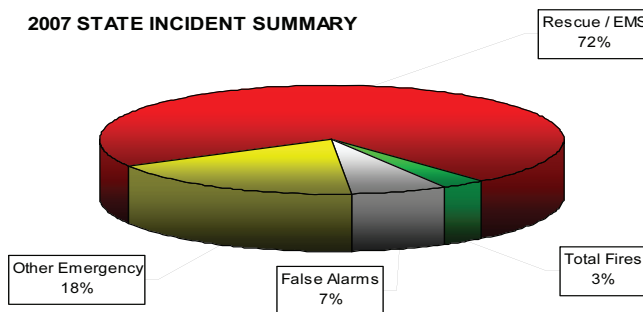
2007 State Incident Summary

Structure Fires	19,405
Vehicle Fires	12,886
Other Fires	35,420
Exposures Fires	711
Total Fires	68,422
Rescue/EMS	1,558,191
Other Emergencies	396,235
Total Incidents	2,166,662
False Alarms	143,814
Mutual Aid Given	69,169

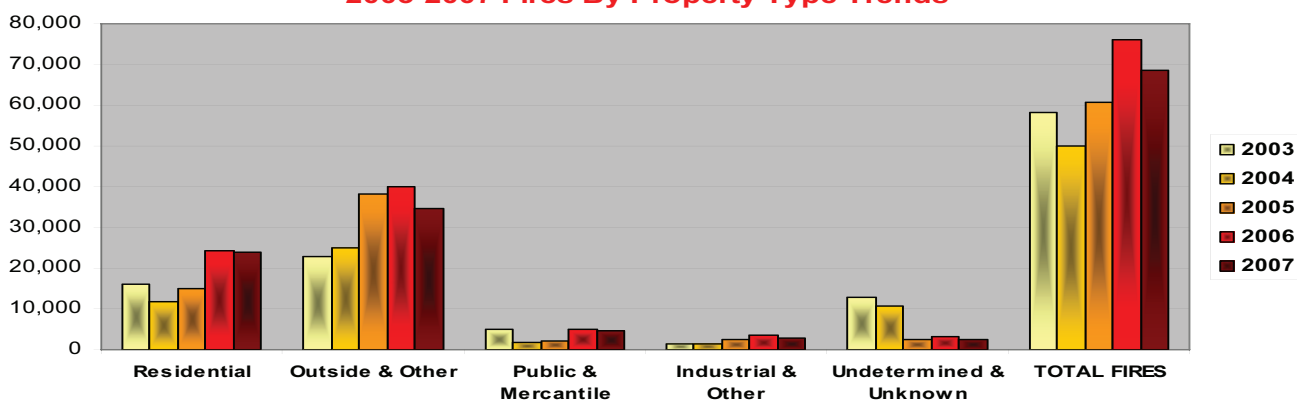
*Total incidents plus Mutual Aid Given

2,236,020

2007 STATE INCIDENT SUMMARY

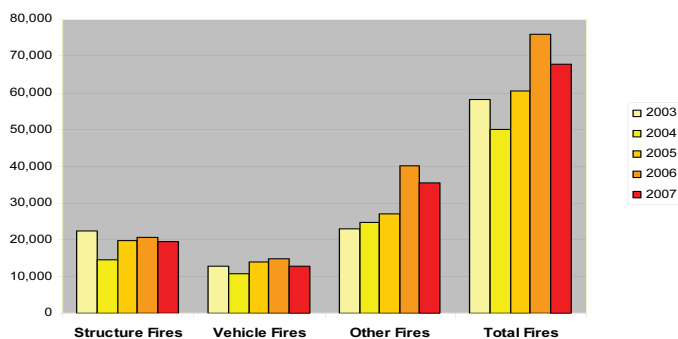


2003-2007 Fires By Property Type Trends



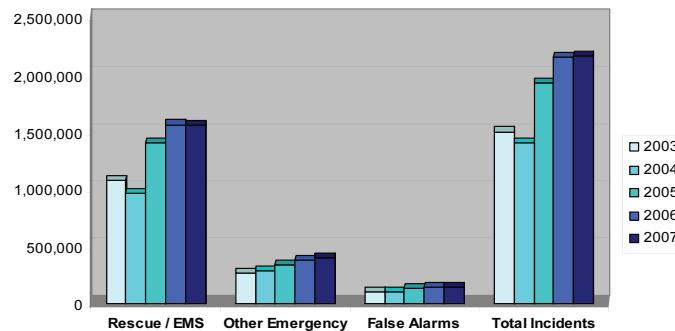
	Residential	Outside & Other	Public & Mercantile	Industrial & Other	Undetermined & Unknown	TOTAL FIRES
2003	16,069	22,975	5,012	1,312	12,783	58,151
2004	11,720	24,839	1,614	1,275	10,624	50,072
2005	15,140	38,264	2,132	2,381	2,649	60,566
2006	24,305	39,949	4,991	3,493	3,166	75,904
2007	23,772	34,492	4,651	3,025	2,482	68,422

Five Year State Fire Incident Summary Trend



5 Year Trend	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Other Fires	Total Fires
2003	22,393	12,783	22,975	58,151
2004	14,614	10,631	24,827	50,072
2005	19,653	13,880	27,033	60,566
2006	20,729	14,935	40,240	75,904
2007	19,405	12,886	35,420	67,711

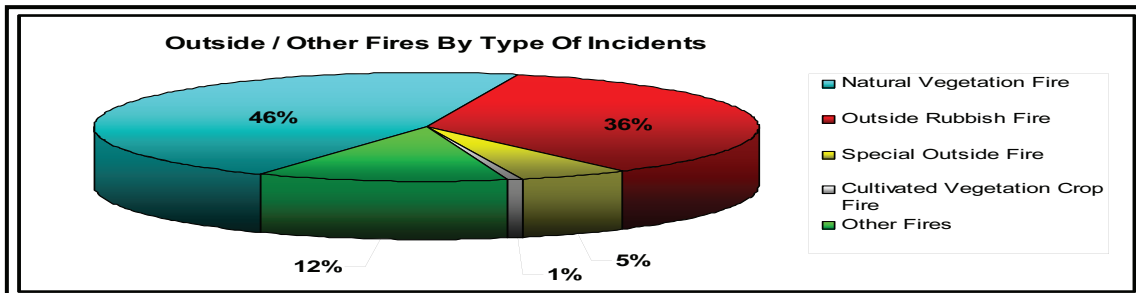
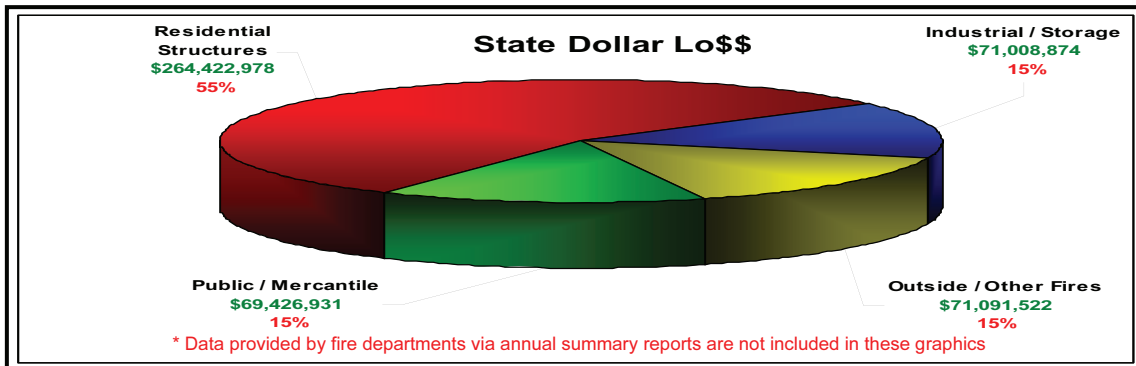
5 Year State EMS / Other Incident Summary Trend



5 Year Trend	Rescue / EMS	Other Emergency	False Alarms	Total Incidents
2003	1,077,079	264,345	101,871	1,501,446
2004	966,015	283,071	101,113	1,400,271
2005	1,405,494	337,654	126,423	1,930,137
2006	1,563,898	377,635	135,525	2,152,962
2007	1,558,191	396,235	143,814	2,165,951

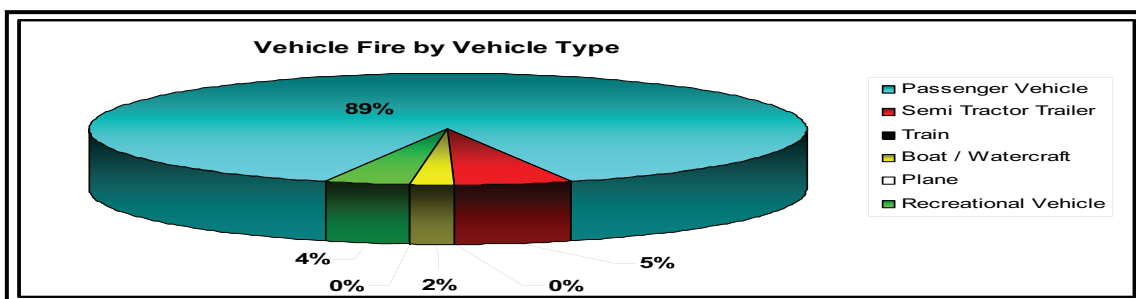


Statewide Dollar Loss



Type of Incident	Number of Incidents	Total Dollar Loss
Natural Vegetation Fire	14,473	\$1,221,091
Outside Rubbish Fire	11,160	\$679,190
Special Outside Fire	1,694	\$3,704,516
Cultivated Vegetation Crop Fire	235	\$258,699
Other Fires	3,826	\$6,933,508
Total	31,388	\$12,797,004

* Data provided by fire departments via annual summary reports are not included in these graphics

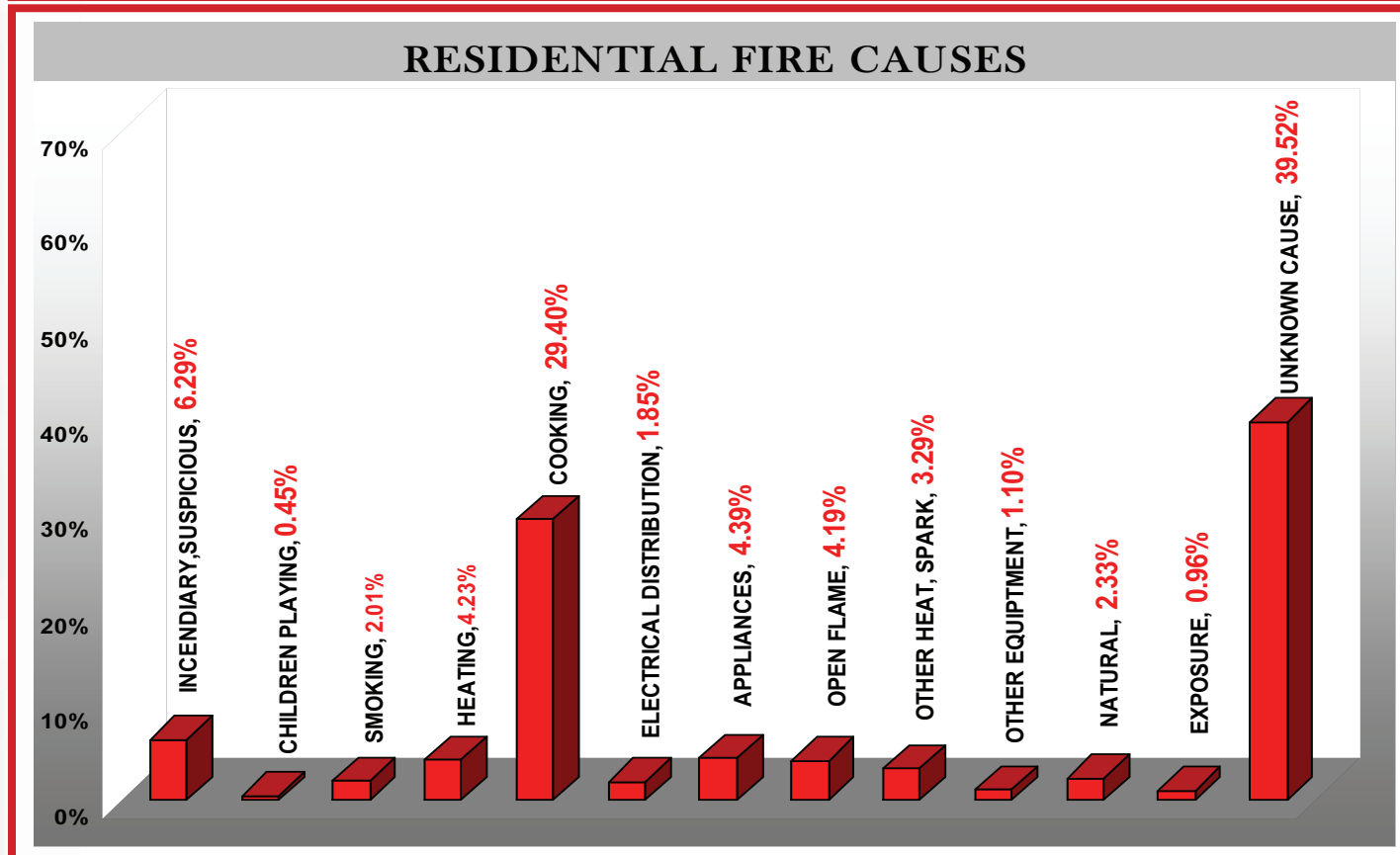
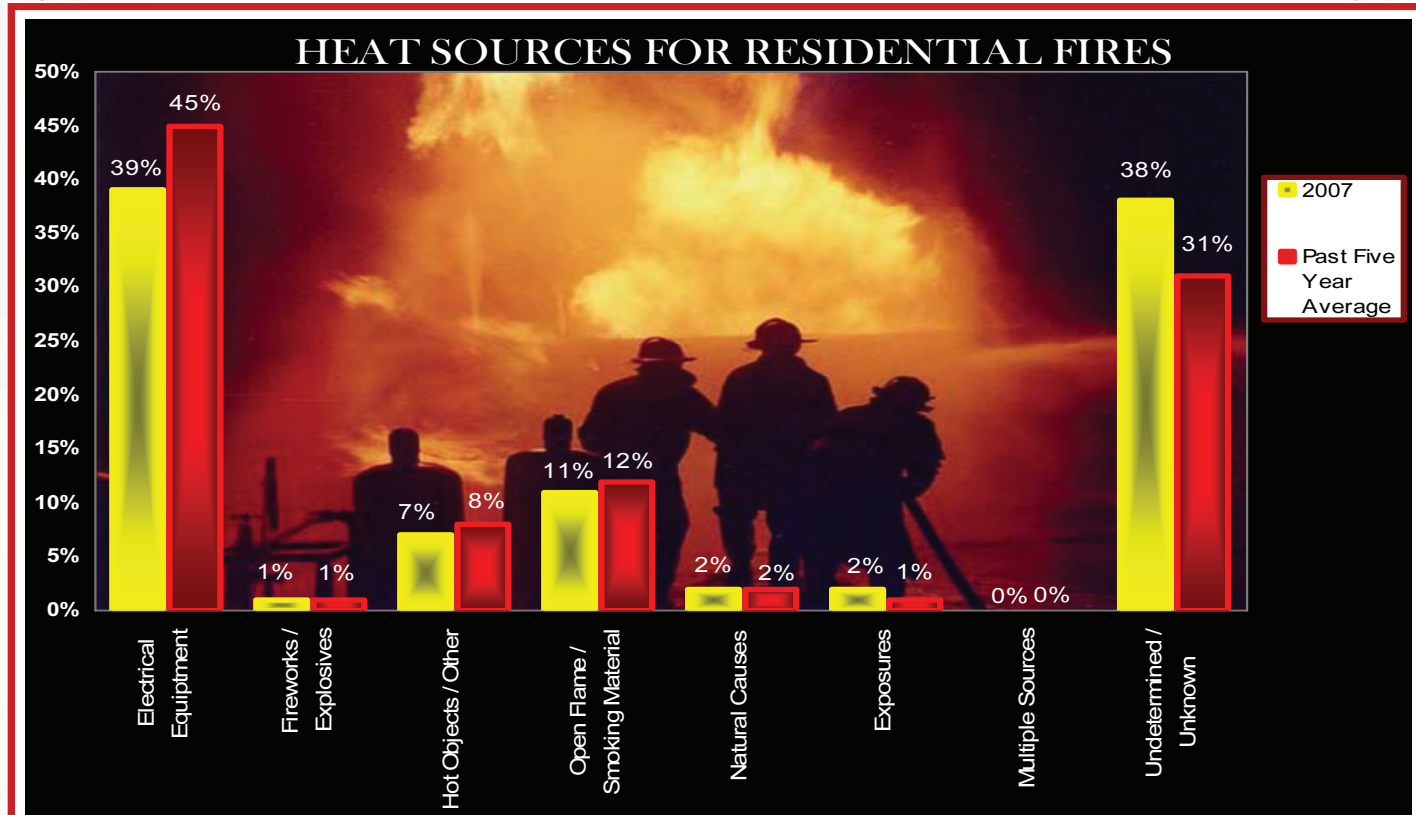


Type of Vehicle	Number of Incidents	Total Dollar Loss
Passenger Vehicle	9,203	\$39,316,726
Semi Tractor Trailer	555	\$7,543,932
Train	5	\$0
Boat / Watercraft	196	\$6,039,074
Plane	13	\$972,000
Recreational Vehicle	392	\$13,472,422
Total	10,364	\$67,344,154

* Data provided by fire departments via annual summary reports are not included in these graphics



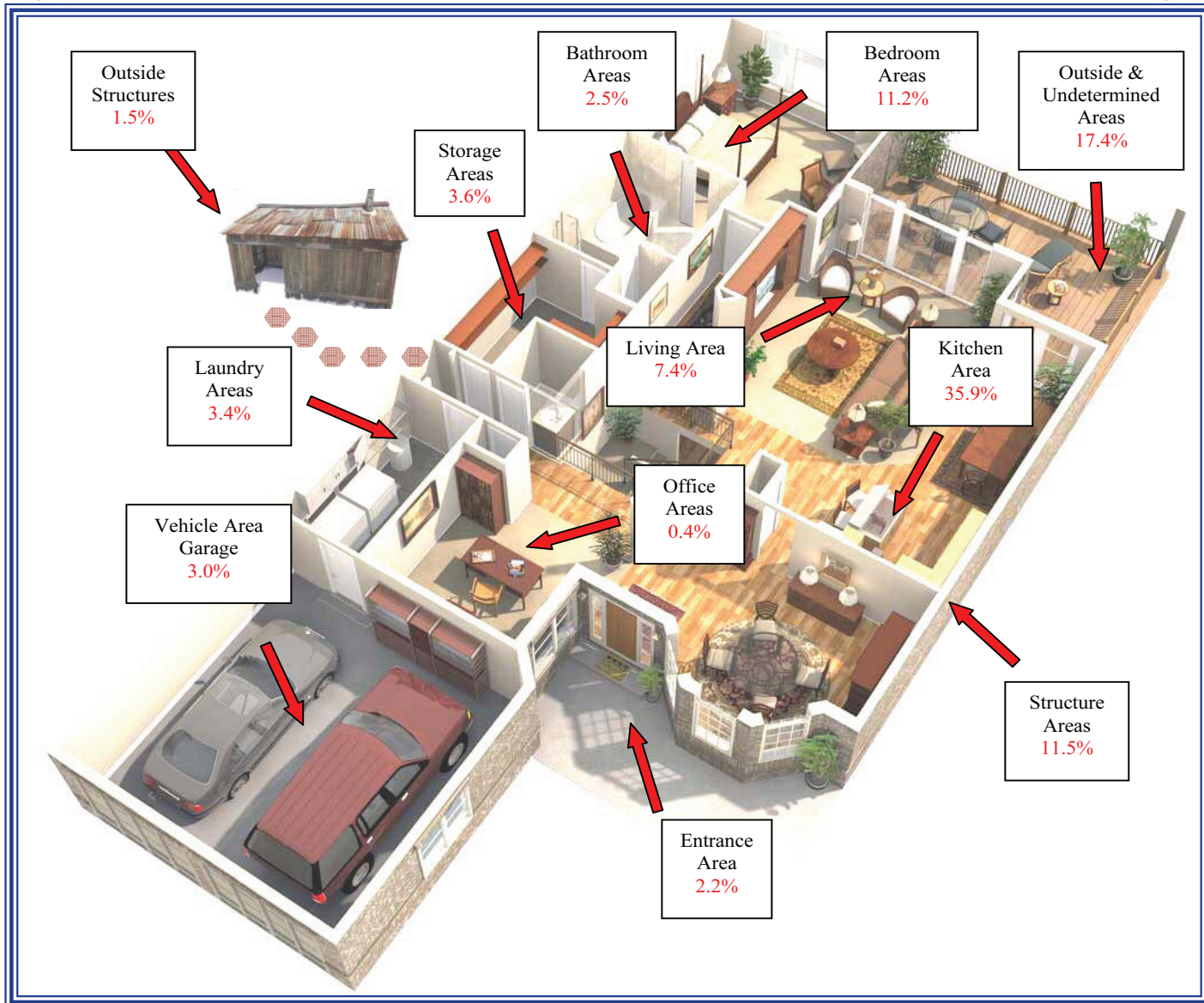
Heat Sources / Causes of Residential Fires



*Data provided by fire departments via annual summary reports are not included in these graphic



Areas of Origin For Residential Structure Fires



Total \$ Loss Per Area Of Fire Origin

Entrance Areas.....	\$2,811,580
Bedroom Areas.....	\$33,764,186
Living Areas.....	\$39,358,869
Bathroom Areas.....	\$3,610,055
Storage Areas.....	\$6,330,734
Laundry Areas.....	\$3,819,855
Kitchen Areas.....	\$32,871,103
Office Areas.....	\$1,397,425
Vehicle Area / Garage.....	\$13,586,398
Outside & Undetermined Areas.....	\$54,472,553
Outside Structures.....	\$1,276,921
Structure Areas.....	\$60,858,020

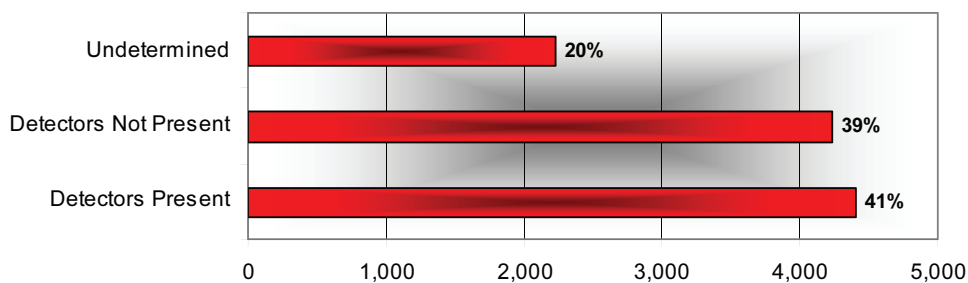


Smoke Detector Use Data

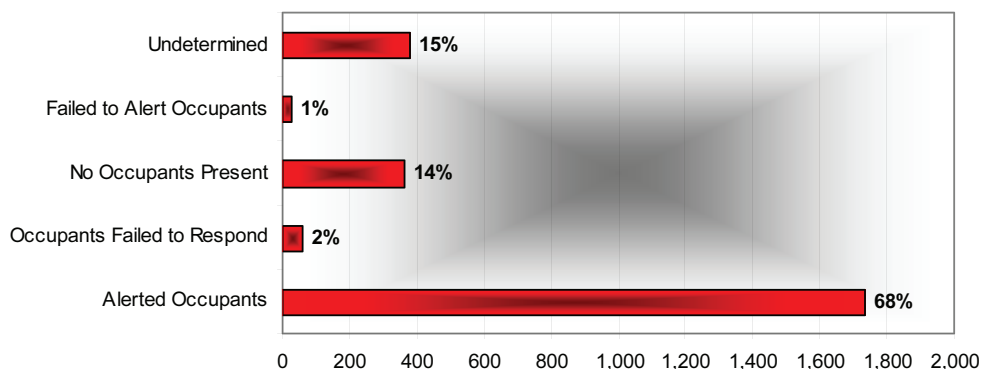


Smoke detectors were present in **41** percent of reported structure fires with **60** percent of those operational. **18** percent were reported as undetermined and **12** percent failed to operate due to a variety of reasons, such as no batteries, lack of maintenance, etc. In **10** percent of the structures fires, the fires were too small for the smoke detector to operate. Unfortunately, **39** percent of the structure fires did not have a smoke detector present and **20** percent were reported as undetermined.

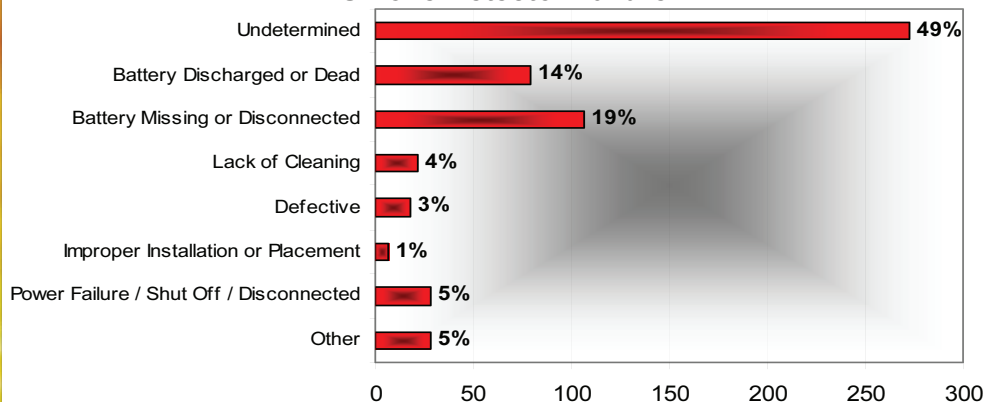
Smoke Detector Presence



Smoke Detector Effectiveness



Smoke Detector Failure



*These graphs include data submitted to the FFIRS Section in either an electronic format or by paper reports. The Annual Summary numbers are not included.

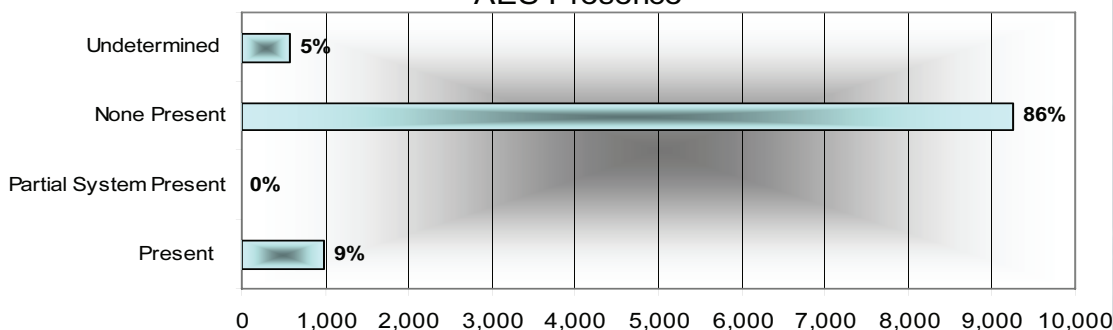


Fire Sprinkler Use Data

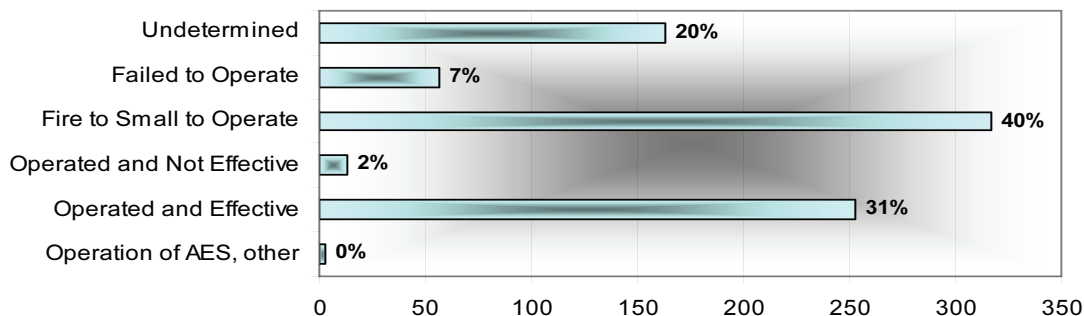


Automatic Extinguishing Systems (AES) were present in **9** percent of reported structure fires with **31** percent of those operational. **5** percent were reported as undetermined and **69** percent did not operate due to a variety of reasons, such as manual intervention, agent discharged but did not reach the fire, etc. In **30** percent of structure fires, the fire was not in the vicinity of the AES for it to be effective. Unfortunately in **86** percent of the structure fires there was not an AES present and **5** percent were reported as undetermined.

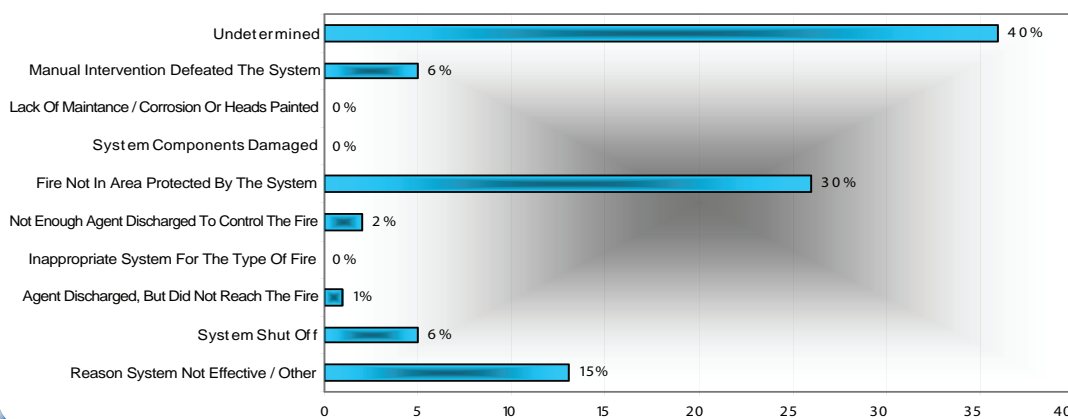
***AES Presence**



***AES Effectiveness**



***AES Failure**



*These graphs include data submitted to the FFIRS Section in either an electronic format or by paper reports. The Annual Summary numbers are not included.



Average Response Frequencies Reported by Florida Fire Departments



ONE FIRE
DEPARTMENT
RESPONDS
EVERY **17**
SECONDS



ONE STRUCTURE
FIRE OCCURS
EVERY **31**
MINUTES AND **55**
SECONDS



ONE ACTUAL
FIRE OCCURS
EVERY **9**
MINUTES AND **29**
SECONDS



ONE OTHER
EMERGENCY
CALL
OCCURS
EVERY **1**
MINUTE AND
57 SECONDS



ONE VEHICLE
FIRE OCCURS
EVERY **51**
MINUTES AND **11**
SECONDS



ONE EMS /
RESCUE CALL
OCCURS
EVERY **24**
SECONDS



ONE OUTSIDE /
OTHER FIRE
OCCURS EVERY **17**
MINUTES AND **40**
SECONDS



ONE FALSE
ALARM
OCCURS
EVERY **4**
MINUTES
AND **20**
SECONDS

*These figures do not include automatic / mutual aid given responses.



Civilian Deaths From Fire



The following civilian fire death statistics are based on death certificates received from the 24 Regional Medical Examiner offices in the State of Florida, identifying the underlying or sub-causes of fire-related deaths. The Department of Health (DOH), Office of Vital Statistics, then applies the proper codes for the cause of death, using codes defined by the 10th revision of the International Classification of Disease (ICD).

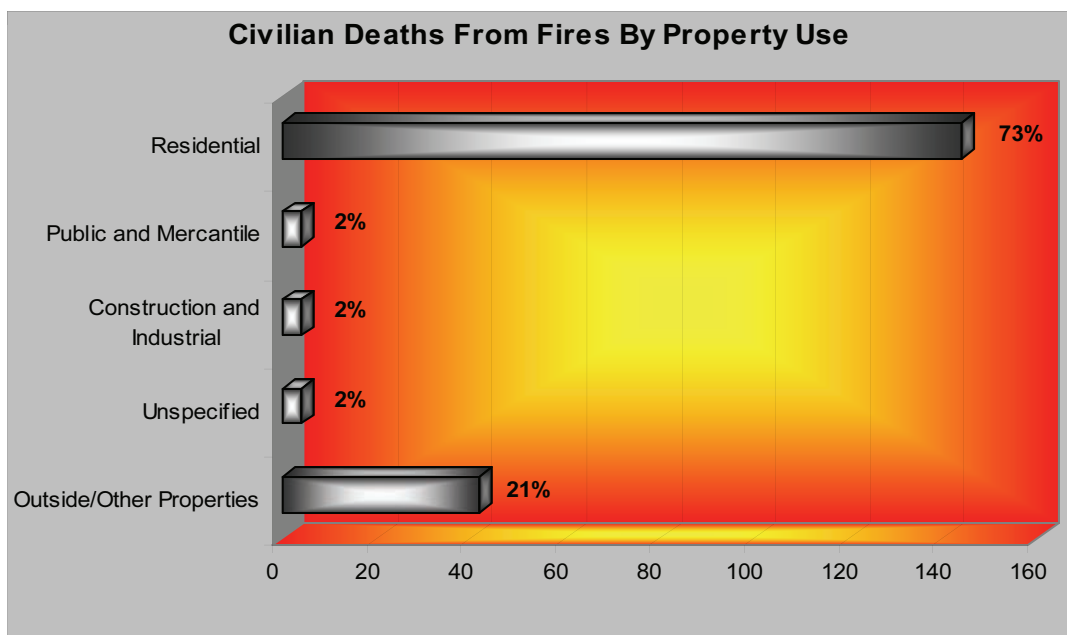
Based on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), fire deaths – and only fire deaths- are primarily identified by the code range for accidental fire exposure X00-X09. The X00-X09 range includes most but not all fire deaths. The code refers to uncontrolled vs. controlled building/structure or non-building/structure fires. Using these guidelines, the State of Florida had a total of **127** civilian fire deaths.

Deaths due to homicides (X97) and suicides (X76) involving smoke, fire or flames, pathological fire-setting (F63.1), discharge of fireworks (W39) and exposures to smoke, fire or flame with undetermined intent (Y26) are not included in the NFPA standards but are included by Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Tri-Data and the United States Fire Administration (USFA) when performing state-by-state analysis. Utilizing the five additional categories based on their methodology, the State of Florida civilian fire fatalities would increase to **153** (an additional **16.9%**).

Excluded from NFPA, CPSC, Tri-Data and USFA analyses are fire deaths in vehicles, which would increase the civilian fire deaths in 2007 to **189** (an additional **19.04%**). The State of Florida has included in its analysis deaths due to explosions (code range W35-W40), intentional self-harm by explosive materials (X75), assault by explosive materials (X96) and contact with explosive materials, undetermined intent (Y25). These deaths are not readily identifiable in the DOH Vital Statistics Database. The additional 8 categories bring Florida civilian fire and explosion fatalities to **198** (a further increase of **4.54%**).

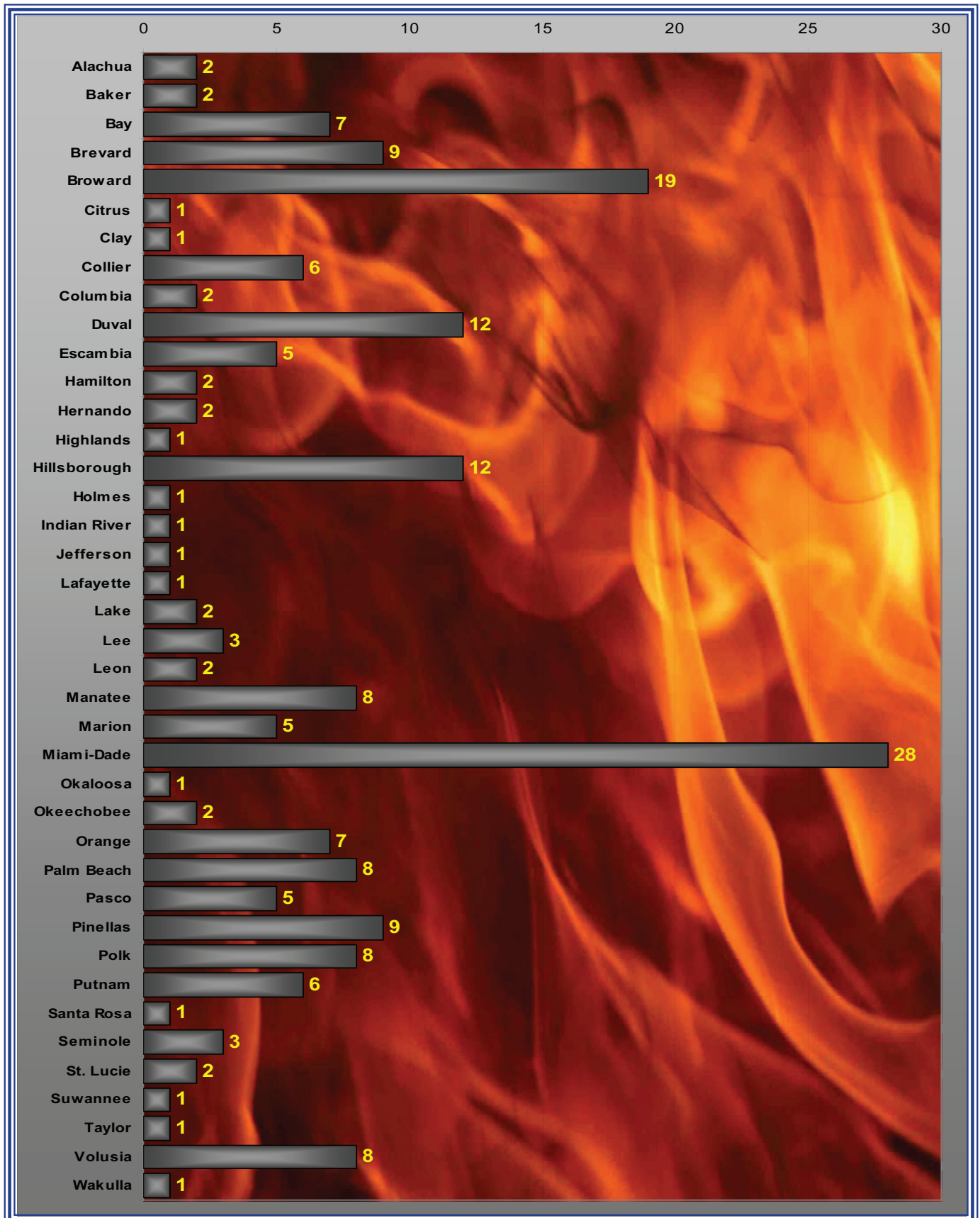
CIVILIAN DEATHS FROM FIRES BY PROPERTY USE

*The following graph depicts **198** civilians that died from fire related incidents based on data received from the
Department of Health, Vital Statistics Section*





Civilian Deaths by County

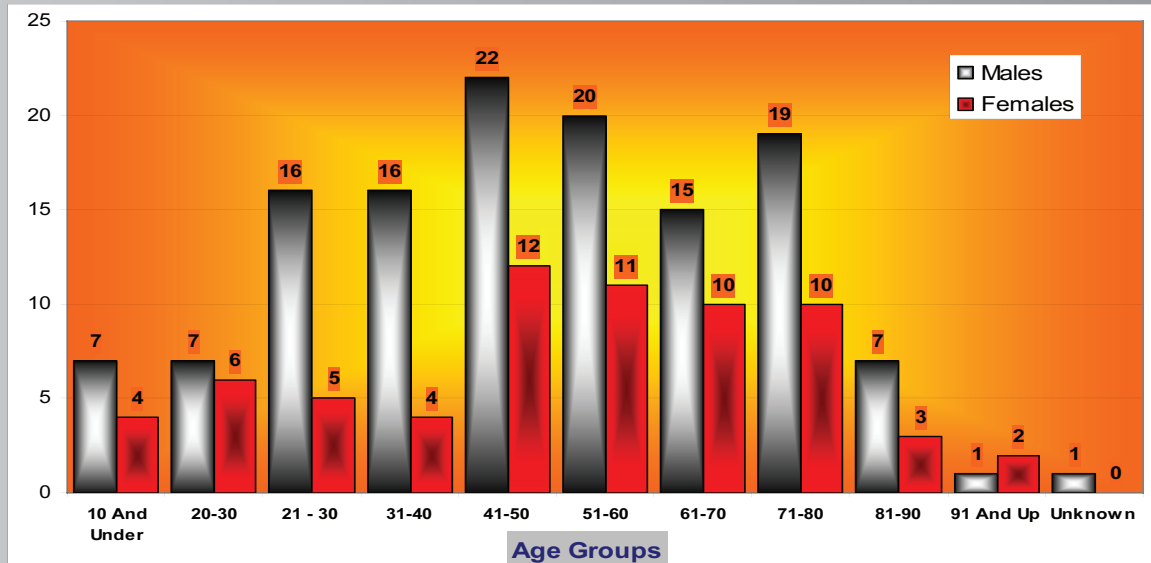




2007 Civilian Fire Deaths by Age and Sex

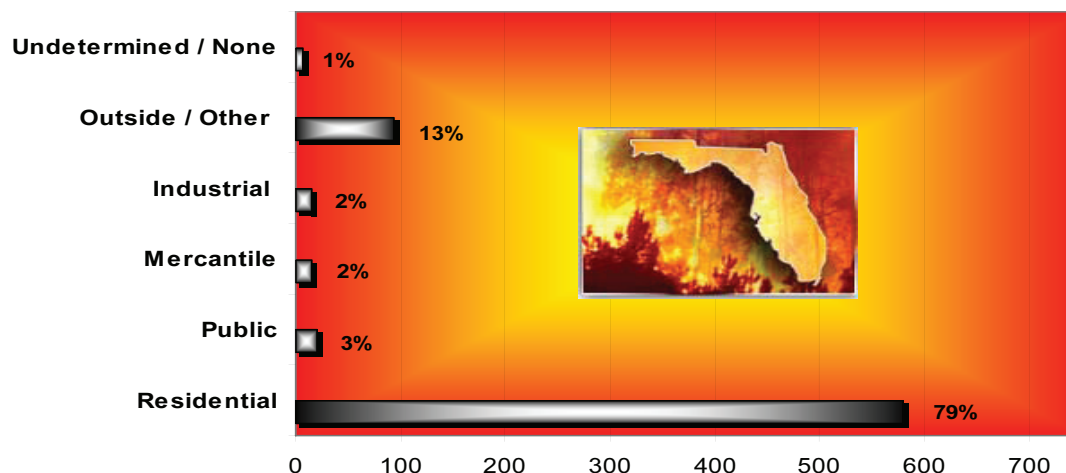


Fire education is extremely important. There were a total of **198** fire deaths in 2007. People, ages 41 and older, account for **67%** of Florida's reported deaths from fire. Small children under the age of 10 make up over **6%**.



During 2007, **750** civilians were injured based on data received from fire departments via electronic submissions and annual summaries. Residential properties continue to have the greatest number of fire injuries among structure fires. Each year, many factors contribute to the number of fire-related injuries, but cooking remains one of the most prominent factors with **35.9%** of residential property fires originating in the kitchen.

Civilian Injuries from Fires by Property Type



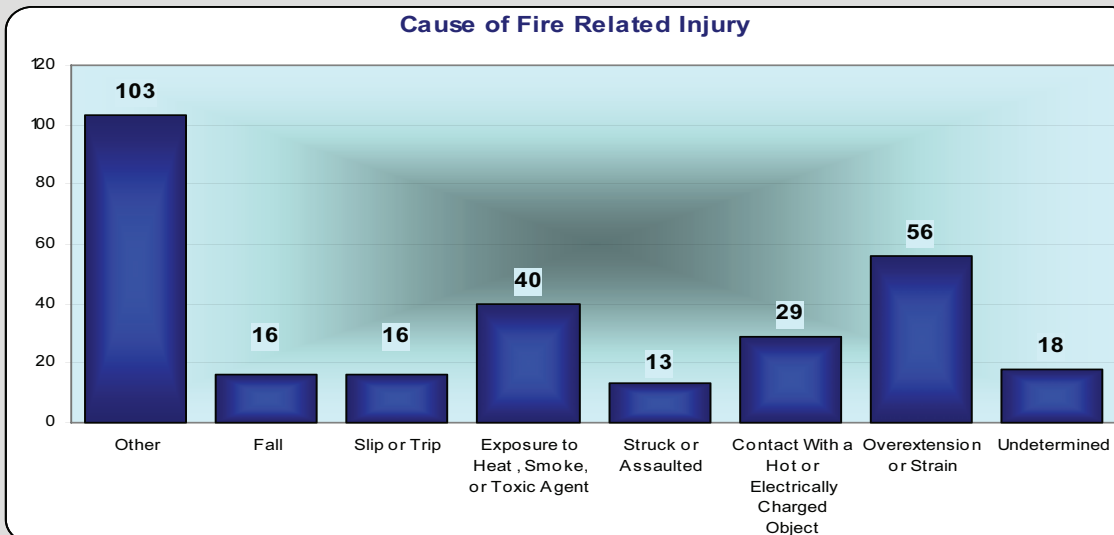
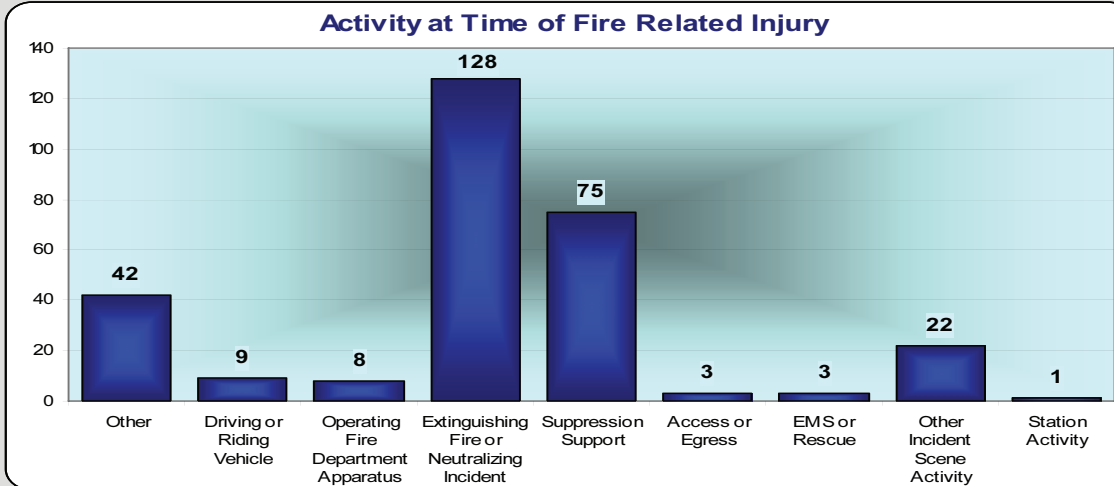
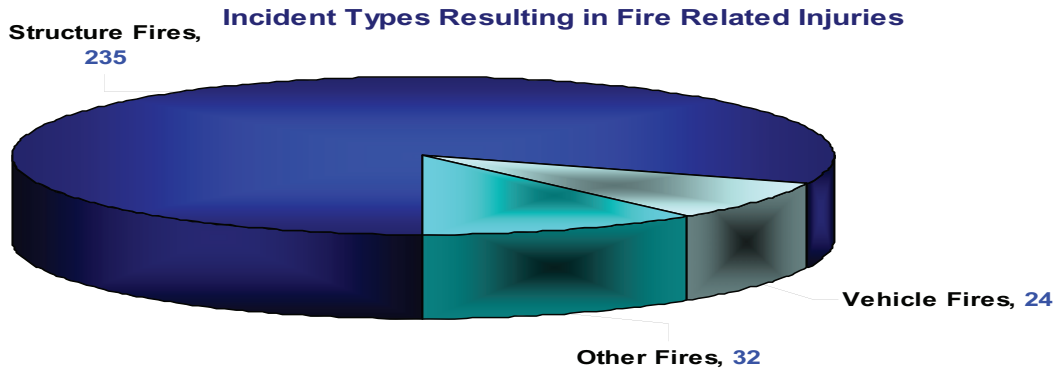


Firefighter Injuries vs Number of Fire Incidents



Firefighters throughout Florida deal with a variety of hazards while performing their duties. These hazards include, but are not limited to, smoke inhalation, burns, straining of body parts, exposure to chemicals, and stress. In 2007, there were **291** fire related injuries to firefighters.

*The statistics below are from the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System database only and do not reflect the data received from the fire departments via annual summary reports.

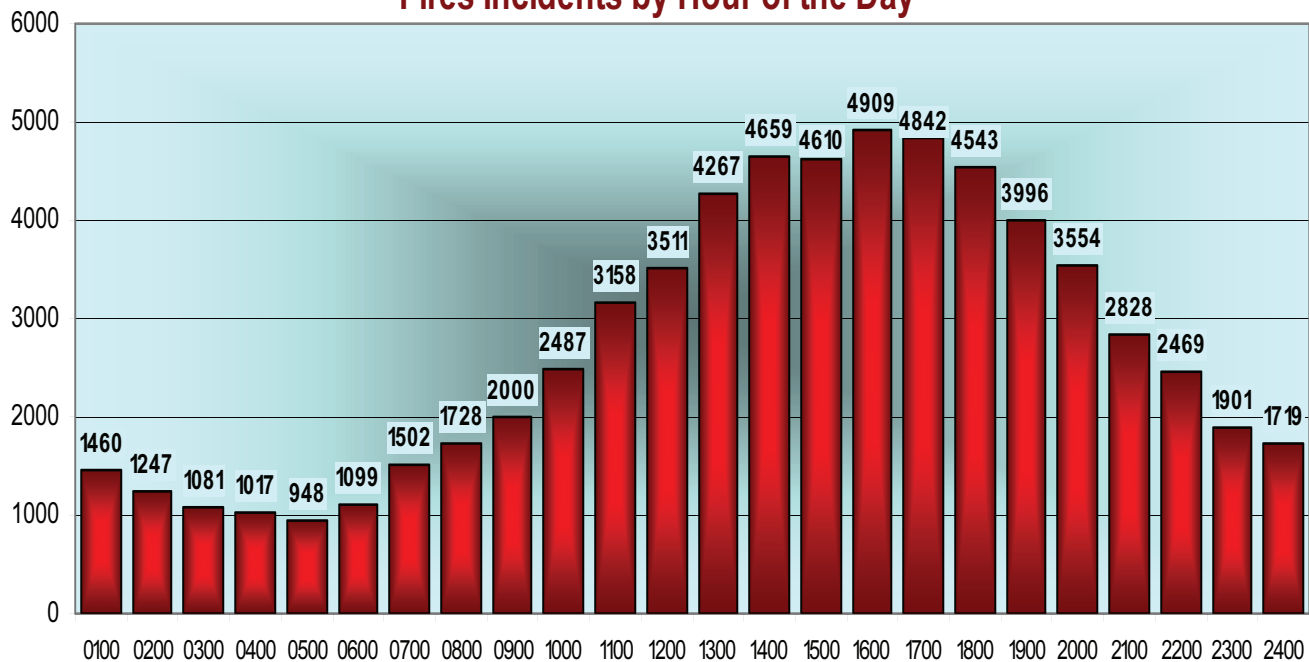




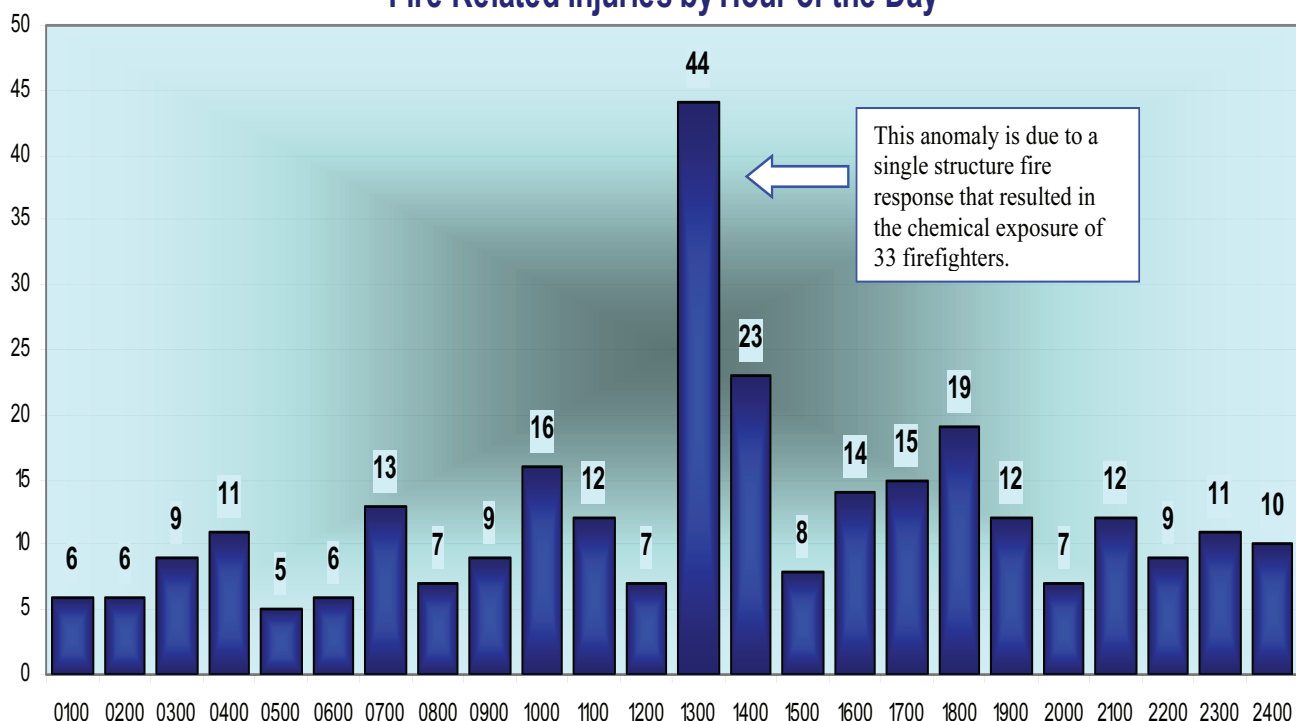
Peak Hours of the Day for Fire Incidents & Firefighter Fire Related Injuries



Fires Incidents by Hour of the Day



Fire Related Injuries by Hour of the Day

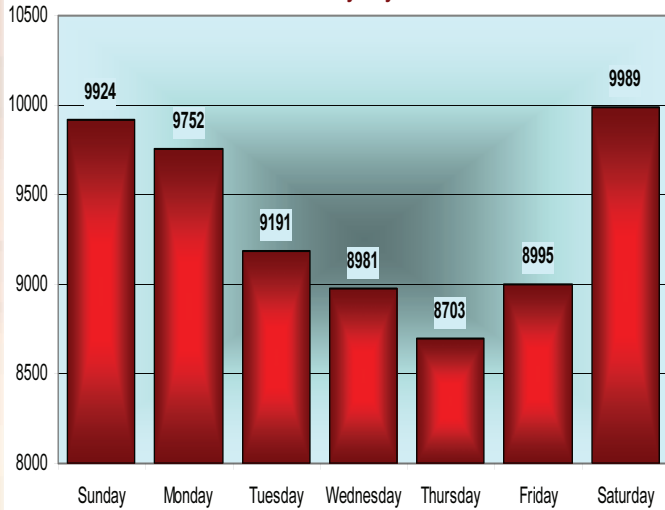




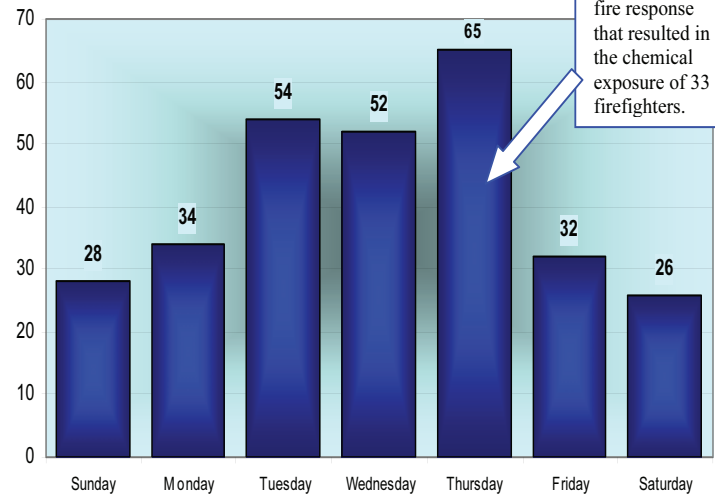
Fire Incidents & Firefighter Fire Related Injuries



Fire Incidents by Day of Week

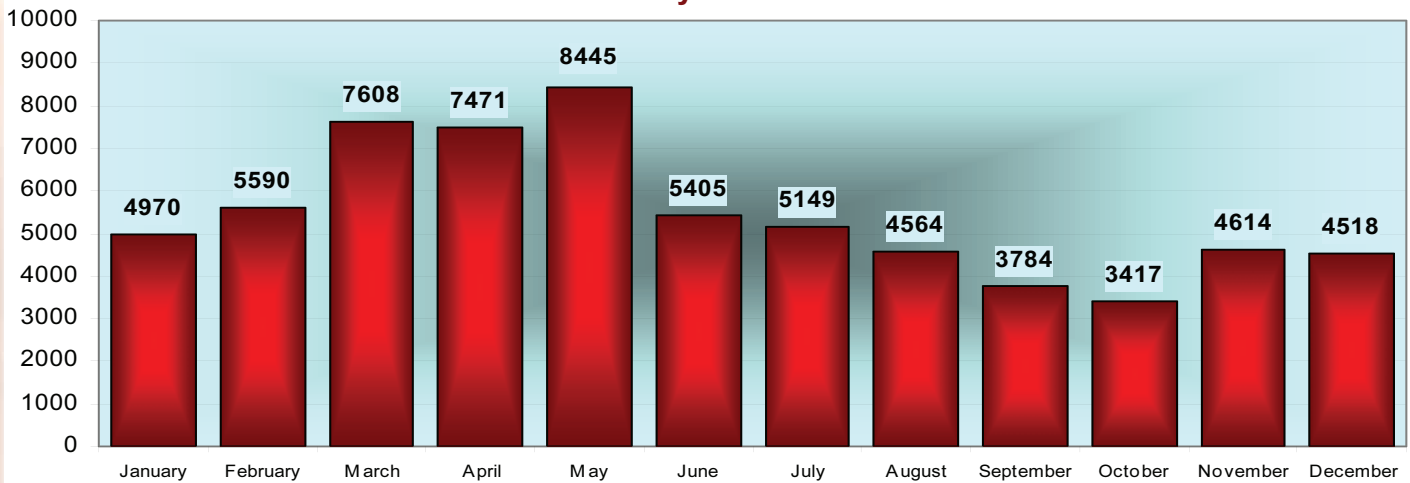


Fire Related Injuries by Day of Week

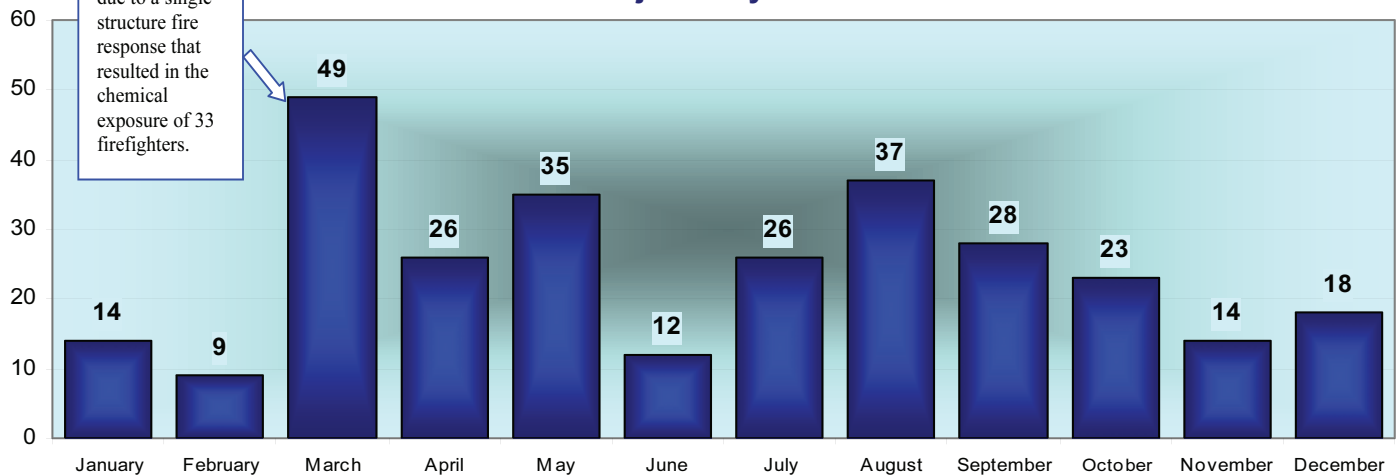


This anomaly is due to a single structure fire response that resulted in the chemical exposure of 33 firefighters.

Fire Incidents by Month of Year



Fire Related Injuries by Month of Year



This anomaly is due to a single structure fire response that resulted in the chemical exposure of 33 firefighters.



2007 Fallen Firefighters



Name: Jeremy Chris Adams
Age: 40
Cause of Death: Other
Rank: Fire Chief
Nature of Death: Heart Attack
Classification: Career
Emergency Duty: Yes
Incident Date: 01/16/2007
Death Date: 01/16/2007
Fire Department Info: Springfield Fire Department
Initial Summary: Chief Adams experienced a heart attack caused by a blood clot that was dislodged from a lung.
Memorial Fund Info: College scholarships funds for Chief Adams' two teenage daughters, c/o Springfield fire Department.

Name: Paul Tyler Reynolds, Sr.
Age: 41
Cause of Death: Stress/Overexertion
Rank: Firefighter- EMT
Nature of Death: Heart Attack
Classification: Career
Emergency Duty: No
Incident Date: 02/27/2007
Death Date: 02/27/2007
Fire Department Info: Estero Fire Rescue
Initial Summary: Firefighter Reynolds passed away of hypertension heart disease within 24 hours of working his shift.

Name: Michael Douthitt
Age: 48
Cause of Death: Stress/Overexertion
Rank: Driver/Engineer
Nature of Death: Heart Attack
Classification: Career
Emergency Duty: No
Incident Date: 07/02/2007
Death Date: 07/13/2007
Fire Department Info: Broward Sheriff's Office Department of Fire Rescue
Initial Summary: Douthitt had worked several fires during his shift and complained of not feeling well.. After receiving cardiac care and spending several days in the hospital, Douthitt was recuperating at home when he went into cardiac arrest.
Memorial Fund Info: Donations may be made in memory of Douthitt to any animal welfare organization.

Name: John Curry
Age: 30
Cause of Death: Struck by a falling tree
Rank: Firefighter
Nature of Death: Trauma
Classification: Career
Emergency Duty: No
Incident Date: 11/27/2007
Death Date: 11/27/2007
Fire Department Info: Volusia County Fire Service
Initial Summary: Firefighter Curry passed away from injuries received when a tree fell on him during a training exercise at the Volusia County Fire Training Center.



The Following is a Listing of the Fire Departments that Report to

ALACHUA COUNTY

Lacrosse Fire Dept. {5.0}
Newberry Fire Rescue {4.1}
Waldo Fire Rescue {4.1}
Micanopy Fire Rescue {5.0}
Melrose VFD {5.0}
Cross Creek VFD {5.0}
High Springs VFD {5.0}
Gainesville Fire Rescue {5.0}
Alachua County Fire Rescue {5.0}

BAKER COUNTY

City of Macclenny Fire Dept. {5.0}
Baker County VFD {5.0}

BAY COUNTY

Callaway Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lynn Haven Fire & EMS {5.0}
Panama City Fire Dept. {5.0}
Springfield Fire Dept. {5.0}
Panama City Beach Fire Rescue {5.0}
Parker Fire Dept. {5.0}
Bay County EMS {5.0}

- Northwest Side VFD
- Thomas Drive VFD
- Green Hills-Fountain VFD
- Bayou George VFD
- Southport VFD
- West Bay/ Woodville VFD
- West End VFD
- Sand Hills VFD
- Bear Creek-Youngstown VFD
- Hiland Park VFD

Mexico Beach Dept. of Public Safety {5.0}

BRADFORD COUNTY

Starke Fire Dept. {5.0}
Heilbron Springs VFD {5.0}
Theressa VFD {5.0}
Lawtey VFD {5.0}
New River VFD {5.0}
Hampton VFD {5.0}

BREVARD COUNTY

Brevard County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Scottsmoor VFD
- South Melbourne Beach VFD
- Bellwood VFD
- Four Communities Fire Dept.
- Mims VFD
- South Beaches VFD
- Merritt Island VFD
- West Melbourne VFD
- Canova Beach/ Patrick Shores Fire Dept.
- Dist. Four VFD
- Lake Washington VFD
- Micco VFD
- Suntree/Viera VFD
- Canaveral Port Fire Dept.

Cocoa Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Indianlantic Fire Rescue {5.0}
CCA/FS/KSC Fire Rescue {4.1}

Malabar VFD {5.0}
Melbourne Fire Dept. {5.0}
Palm Bay Fire Dept. {5.0}
Rockledge Fire & EMS {5.0}
Satellite Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Titusville Fire & EMS {5.0}
Cocoa Fire Dept. {5.0}
Indian Harbour Beach VFD {5.0}
Cape Canaveral Fire Rescue {5.0}
Melbourne Beach VFD {5.0}

BROWARD COUNTY

Broward Sheriff's Office Dept. of Fire Rescue & EMS {5.0}

- Lake Forest VFD
- Carver Ranches VFD
- Southwest Broward VFD

Hallendale Beach Fire Rescue {5.0}
Southwest Ranches {5.0}
Plantation Fire Dept. {5.0}
Dania Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lauderhill Fire Rescue {5.0}
Margate Fire Rescue {5.0}
Miramar Fire Rescue {5.0}
Oakland Park Fire Rescue {5.0}
Pembroke Pines Fire Rescue {5.0}
Coral Springs Fire Dept. {5.0}

- Parkland Fire Dept.

Pompano Beach Fire Rescue {5.0}
Sunrise Fire Rescue {5.0}
Tamarac Fire Dept. {5.0}
North Lauderdale Fire Rescue {5.0}
Davie Fire Rescue {5.0}
Walton Manors {5.0}
Lighthouse Point Fire Rescue {5.0}
Hollywood Fire Rescue {5.0}
Port Everglades Public Safety {5.0}

CALHOUN COUNTY

Nettle Ridge VFD {5.0}
Blountstown Fire Dept. {5.0}
Westside VFD {5.0}
Magnolia VFD {5.0}
Mossy Pond VFD {5.0}
Kinard VFD {5.0}
Carr-Clarksville VFD {5.0}
Scott's Ferry VFD {5.0}

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Charlotte County Fire & EMS {5.0}
Punta Gorda Fire Dept. {5.0}

CITRUS COUNTY

Citrus County Fire Services {5.0}
Crystal River Fire Dept. {4.1}

CLAY COUNTY

Keystone Heights VFD {5.0}
Orange Park Fire Dept. {5.0}
Clay County Public Safety & Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Middleburg VFD

COLLIER COUNTY

Big Corkscrew Island FCD {5.0}
Immokalee FCD {5.0}
Ochopee Fire Control Dist. {5.0}
Marco Island Fire Dept. {5.0}
Naples Police & EMS {5.0}
North Naples FCD {5.0}
East Naples FCD {5.0}

Golden Gate FCD {5.0}
Isles of Capri Fire Rescue {5.0}

COLUMBIA COUNTY

Columbia County Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lake City Fire Dept. {5.0}

DIXIE COUNTY

Dixie County EMS {5.0}

- Suwannee VFD
- Old Town Sta #21
- Jena VFD

Cross City Fire Dept. {5.0}
Horseshoe Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}

DUVAL COUNTY

Jacksonville Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Jacksonville Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Atlantic Beach Fire Rescue
- Jacksonville Intn'l Airport
- Neptune Beach Fire Dept.
- Baldwin Fire Dept.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Pensacola Fire Dept. {5.0}
Bellview VFD {5.0}
West Pensacola VFD {5.0}
Brent VFD {5.0} Escambia County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Pensacola Beach VFD
- Ensley VFD

*Annual Summary

Walnut Hill Fire Dept.

FLAGLER COUNTY

Flagler Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Palm Coast Fire Dept. {5.0}
Flagler County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Korona Fire Dept.
- St Johns Park VFD
- Hammock Community VFD
- Rima Ridge Fire Rescue
- Espanola VFD

FRANKLIN COUNTY

St. James-Lanark VFD {5.0}
Apalachicola VFD {5.0}
Carrabelle VFD {5.0}

GADSDEN COUNTY

Florida State Hospital Fire Dept. {5.0}
Greensboro VFD {5.0}
Quincy Fire Dept. {5.0}
Havana Fire Dept. {5.0}
Wetumpka VFD {5.0}
Concord VFD {5.0}
Sycamore VFD {5.0}
Midway VFD {5.0}

GILCHRIST COUNTY

Fanning Springs VFD {5.0}
Gilchrist County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Spring Ridge VFD
- North Gilchrist VFD
- SE Gilchrist VFD
- Bell Fire Dept.

Trenton VFD {5.0}

the Florida Fire Incident Reporting Section (FFIRS) During 2007



GULF COUNTY

Gulf County Beaches VFD {5.0}
Howard Creek VFD {5.0}
South Gulf County Fire Dept. {5.0}

HAMILTON COUNTY

Jasper Fire Rescue {5.0}
Crossroads VFD {5.0}
White Springs VFR {5.0}
Genoa VFD {5.0}
Jennings VFD {4.1}
Bellville Fire Dept. {5.0}

HENDRY COUNTY

Felda VFD {5.0}
Montura VFD {4.1}
Pioneer Plantation VFD {4.1}
Hendry County EMS {4.1}
Clewiston VFD {5.0}
Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue {5.0}

HERNANDO COUNTY

Hernando Highpoint VFD {5.0}
Brooksville Fire Dept. {5.0}
Spring Hill Fire Rescue {5.0}
Hernando Beach VFD {5.0}

- Tri-County VFD

HIGHLANDS COUNTY

Sebring Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lake Placid Fire Rescue {5.0}
Avon Park Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lorida VFD {5.0}
Sun 'N Lakes of Lake Placid VFD {5.0}
Sun 'N Lake Sebring Fire Dept. {5.0}
West Sebring VFD {5.0}
Placid Lakes VFD {5.0}
Highland Lakes VFD {5.0}
Desoto VFD {5.0}

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Plant City Fire Rescue {5.0}
Temple Terrace Fire Dept. {5.0}
Tampa Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Seminole Tribe of FL-Brighton Res Fire Dept.

*Annual Summary
Hillsborough County Fire Rescue

- Dover-Turkey Creek VFD
- Cork-Knight VFD
- Lutz VFD
- Sun-Dance Fire Dept.
- Bloomingdale Fire Dept.

HOLMES COUNTY

Westville VFD {5.0}
Ponce de Leon VFD {5.0}
Pittman VFD {5.0}
Pine Log VFD {5.0}
Gritney VFD {5.0}
Bonifay VFD {5.0}
New Hope VFD {5.0}
Esto VFD {4.1}

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Indian River County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Sebastian VFD
- Indian River County EMS

Indian River Shores Public Safety {5.0}

JACKSON COUNTY

Cottondale VFD {5.0}
Campbellton VFD {5.0}
Marianna Fire Rescue {5.0}
Jackson County Fire Rescue {5.0}
Alford VFD {4.1}
*Annual Summary
Dellwood VFD

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Jefferson County Fire Rescue {5.0}

LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Lafayette County Fire Dept. {5.0}
*Annual Summary
Hatch Bend VFD

LAKE COUNTY

Eustis Fire Dept. {5.0}
Leesburg Fire Dept. {5.0}
Groveland Fire Dept. {5.0}
Tavares Fire Dept. {5.0}
Clermont Fire Dept. {5.0}
Mount Dora Fire Dept. {5.0}
Mascotte Fire Rescue {5.0}
Minneola Fire Rescue {5.0}
Umatilla Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lake County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Fruitland Park Fire Rescue

LEE COUNTY

Tice Fire & Rescue Dist. {5.0}
Bayshore Fire Rescue {5.0}
Cape Coral Fire Rescue {5.0}
Estero Fire Rescue {5.0}
Bonita Springs Fire Rescue {5.0}
Captiva Island FCD {5.0}
North Ft Myers Fire Dist. {5.0}
Sanibel Fire Rescue {5.0}
Ft Myers Beach FCD {5.0}
Ft Myers Shores Fire Dist. {5.0}
South Trail Fire Rescue {5.0}
Alva FCD {5.0}
San Carlos Park FCD {5.0}
Lehigh Acres FCD {5.0}
Lee County Port Authority ARFF Dept. {5.0}
Boca Grande FCD {5.0}
Fort Myers Fire Dept. {5.0}
Matlacha-Pine Island FCD {5.0}
Iona McGregor Fire Dist. {5.0}
Useppa Island Volunteer Fire Company {5.0}

LEON COUNTY

Chaires Capitola VFD {5.0}
Lake Jackson Fire Rescue {5.0}
Tallahassee Fire Dept. {5.0}
Woodville VFD {5.0}

LEVY COUNTY

Inglis Fire Dept. {5.0}
Yankeetown VFD {5.0}

Cedar Key VFR {5.0}
Chiefland Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Fowlers Bluff VFD

Williston VFD {5.0}
South Levy VFD {5.0}
Morrison Montbrook VFD {5.0}

LIBERTY COUNTY

Hosford Fire Dept. {5.0}
Bristol VFD {5.0}

MADISON COUNTY

Lee Fire Dept. {5.0}
Greenville Fire Dept. {5.0}
Madison Fire Dept. {5.0}
Madison County VFD {5.0}
Cherry Lake Vol Fire Rescue {5.0}
Sirmans VFD {5.0}

MANATEE COUNTY

Longboat Key Fire Rescue {4.1}
West Manatee Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Westside Fire Dept.

Bradenton Fire Rescue {5.0}
Cedar Hammock Fire Rescue {5.0}
Parrish Fire Dist. {5.0}
North River Fire Dist. {5.0}
East Manatee Fire Rescue {5.0}
Myakka City Fire Dist. {5.0}
*Annual Summary
Trailer Estates Fire Rescue
Southern Manatee Fire Rescue {5.0}

MARION COUNTY

Ocala Fire Dept. {5.0}
Marion County Fire Rescue {5.0}
Dunnellon Fire Rescue {5.0}
Rainbow Lakes Estates VFD {5.0}

MARTIN COUNTY

Martin County Fire Rescue {5.0}
Stuart Fire Dept. {5.0}
*Annual Summary
Jupiter Island Dept. of Public Safety

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Hialeah Fire Dept. {5.0}
Coral Gables Fire Dept. {5.0}
City of Miami Fire Rescue {5.0}
*Annual Summary
Miami-Dade Fire Rescue

MONROE COUNTY

Monroe County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Conch Key VFD
- Big Coppitt VFD
- Big Pine Key VFD
- Layton VFD
- Tavernier VFD
- Stock Island VFD

Key West Fire Dept. {5.0}
Ocean Reef Public Safety {5.0}
Islamorada Fire Rescue {5.0}
Marathon Fire Rescue {5.0}
Key Largo Fire Rescue {5.0}
*Annual Summary
Sugarloaf Fire Rescue
Key West Int'l Airport Fire Dept.



The Following is a Listing of the Fire Departments that Report to the

NASSAU COUNTY

Hilliard VFD {5.0}
Fernandina Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Callahan VFD {5.0}
Nassau Oaks VFD {5.0}
Nassau County Fire Rescue {5.0}
• Bryceville VFD
River Road Community VFD {5.0}
Nassauville VFD {5.0}

OKALOOSA COUNTY

Destin FCD {5.0}
Florosa FCD {5.0}
Baker Fire Dist. {5.0}
Fort Walton Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Laurel Hill VFD {5.0}
Ocean City-Wright FCD {5.0}
• Sylvania Heights Fire Dist.
Mary Esther VFD {5.0}
Niceville Fire Dept. {5.0}
Okaloosa Island Fire Dist. {5.0}
North Bay Fire Dist. {5.0}
Valparaiso VFD {5.0}
Almarante VFD {4.1}
E. Niceville Fire Dist. {5.0}
Crestview Fire Dept. {5.0}
Blackman VFD {4.1}
North Okaloosa Fire Dept. {5.0}
Holt VFD {5.0}

ORANGE COUNTY

Apopka Fire Dept. {5.0}
Maitland Fire Dept. {5.0}
Ocoee Fire Dept. {5.0}
Orlando Fire Dept. {5.0}
Winter Garden Fire Dept. {5.0}
Greater Orlando Aviation Authority {5.0}
Orange County Fire Rescue {5.0}
Winter Park Fire Dept. {5.0}

OSCEOLA COUNTY

Kissimmee Fire Dept. {5.0}
St Cloud Fire Rescue {5.0}
Osceola County Fire Rescue {5.0}

PALM BEACH COUNTY

Boynton Beach Fire Rescue {5.0}
• Ocean Ridge Public Safety
Greenacres Dept. of Public Safety {5.0}
Lake Worth Fire Rescue {5.0}
North Palm Beach Public Safety {5.0}
Boca Raton Fire Dept. {5.0}
Delray Beach Fire Rescue {5.0}
Town of Palm Beach Fire Rescue {5.0}
Riviera Beach Fire Rescue {5.0}
Tequesta Fire Rescue {5.0}
Palm Beach County Fire Rescue {4.1}
• Pahokee Fire Rescue
Palm Beach Gardens Fire Dept. {4.1}
Palm Springs Public Safety {5.0}
Palm Beach Shores VFD {5.0}
*Annual Summary
West Palm Beach Fire Rescue

PASCO COUNTY

New Port Richey Fire Dept. {5.0}
Zephyrhills Fire Dept. {5.0}
Pasco County Fire Rescue {5.0}
• Land O'Lakes VFD

PINELLAS COUNTY

Pinellas Suncoast Fire Rescue {5.0}
South Pasadena Fire Dept. {5.0}
Clearwater Fire Dept. {5.0}
Oldsmar Fire Rescue {5.0}
Largo Fire Rescue {5.0}
Lealman Fire Dept. {5.0}
Tarpon Springs Fire Dept. {5.0}
Pinellas Park Fire Dept. {5.0}
Gulfport Fire Dept. {5.0}
Dunedin Fire Dept. {5.0}
East Lake Tarpon Spec. Fire Control {5.0}
Madeira Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Palm Harbor Spec. Fire Control {5.0}
Safety Harbor Fire Dept. {5.0}
St Petersburg Fire Rescue {5.0}
St Petersburg Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Belleair Bluffs Fire Dept. {5.0}
Seminole Fire Rescue {5.0}
Treasure Island Fire Dept. {5.0}
St Pete/Clearwater Airport Fire Dept. {5.0}

POLK COUNTY

Auburndale Fire Dept. {5.0}
Davenport VFD {5.0}
Dundee Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lakeland Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lake Alfred Fire Dept. {5.0}
Bartow Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lake Wales Fire Dept. {5.0}
Frostproof Fire Dept. {5.0}
Mulberry Fire Rescue {5.0}
Winter Haven Fire Dept. {5.0}
Fort Meade Fire Dept. {5.0}
Haines City Fire Rescue {5.0}
Polk County Fire Dept. {5.0}
• Fedhaven VFD
• Babson Park VFD
• Jan Phyl Village Fire Dept.
• Medulla VFD
• Rifle Range Fire Dept.
• Eagle Lake City Fire Dept.
• Indian Lake Estates VFD
• Polk City Fire Dept.
• Providence Fire Dept.
• Highland City VFD
• Willow Oaks Fire Dept.
• Loughman VFD
• Poinciana VFD
• Golfview Park Fire Dept.
• Caloosa Lake VFD
• Grape Hammock VFD
• Lake Hamilton VFD

PUTNAM COUNTY

Crescent City Fire Dept. {5.0}
Palatka Fire Dept. {5.0}
George's Lake Area VFD {5.0}
Southwest VFD {5.0}

Interlachen Lake Estates Fire Dept. {5.0}
Pomona Park-Lake Como VFD {5.0}
West Putnam VFD {5.0}
Hollister VFD {5.0}
Riverside VFD {4.1}
Satsuma Fire Dept. {4.1}
Francis VFD {5.0}
Florahome-Grandin VFD {5.0}
East Palatka VFD {5.0}
Georgetown-Fruitland VFD {5.0}
Interlachen Area VFD {5.0}
*Annual Summary
Boswick VFD

SANTA ROSA COUNTY

Navarre Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Pace VFD {5.0}
Avalon Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Jay VFD {4.1}
Midway Fire Dist. {5.0}
Skyline Fire Prot & Rescue Dist. {5.0}
Holley Navarre Fire Prot. Dist. {5.0}
Gulf Breeze VFD {5.0}
Bagdad VFD {5.0}
Munson VFD {5.0}
East Milton VFD {5.0}
*Annual Report
Berrydale VFD
Allentown VFD

SARASOTA COUNTY

Englewood Area FCD {5.0}
Venice Fire Dept. {5.0}
North Port Fire Rescue {5.0}
Nokomis VFD {5.0}
Sarasota County Fire Dept. {5.0}

SEMINOLE COUNTY

Sanford Fire Dept. {5.0}
Oviedo Fire Dept. {5.0}
Seminole County Fire Dept. {5.0}
Casselberry Fire Rescue {5.0}
Winter Springs Fire Dept. {5.0}
Lake Mary Fire Dept. {5.0}
Longwood Fire Dept. {5.0}
Orlando Sanford Airport Fire Rescue {5.0}

ST JOHNS COUNTY

St Augustine Fire Dept. {5.0}
St Johns County Fire Rescue {5.0}

ST LUCIE COUNTY

St Lucie County Fire Dist. {5.0}

SUMTER COUNTY

Sumter County Fire Rescue {5.0}
The Villages Public Safety Dept. {5.0}

SUWANNEE COUNTY

Live Oak Fire Dept. {5.0}
Suwannee County Fire Rescue {5.0}
• Falmouth Fire Dept.
• Luraville Fire Dept.
• Wellborn VFD
• McAlpin Fire Dept.
• O'Brien VFD
• Ranchette VFD

Florida Fire Incident Reporting Section (FFIRS) During 2007 (Cont'd)



TAYLOR COUNTY

Perry Fire Dept. {5.0}
Taylor County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Taylor Beach Fire Dept.
- Athena VFD

UNION COUNTY

Lake Butler VFD {4.1}

- Worthington Springs VFD

Union County EMS {5.0}

VOLUSIA COUNTY

Ormond Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Deltona Fire Rescue {5.0}
Daytona Beach Shores Public Safety {5.0}
Deland Fire Dept. {5.0}
Edgewater Fire Rescue {5.0}
New Smyrna Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
South Daytona Fire Dept. {5.0}
Daytona Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}
Holly Hill Fire Rescue {5.0}
Orange City Fire Dept. {5.0}
Port Orange Fire Rescue {5.0}
Volusia County Fire Services {5.0}

- Daytona Beach Int'l Airport FD

Ponce Inlet Fire Rescue {5.0}

WAKULLA COUNTY

Wakulla VFD {5.0}
Crawfordville Vol Fire Rescue {5.0}
Apalachee Bay VFD {5.0}
Ochlockonee Bay VFD {5.0}
St. Marks VFD {5.0}
Wakulla County Fire Rescue {5.0}
Medart VFD {5.0}
Riversink VFD {5.0}

WALTON COUNTY

South Walton Fire Dept. {5.0}
Defuniak Springs Fire Dept. {4.1}
Liberty Fire Dist. {5.0}
Argyle VFD {5.0}
Walton County Fire Rescue {5.0}
Freeport Fire Rescue {5.0}

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Country Oaks VFD {5.0}
Hinson Crossroads VFD {5.0}
Orange Hill VFD {5.0}
Chipley Fire Dept. {5.0}
*Annual Summary
Five Points VFD



The FFIRS Section would like to thank each of the fire departments responsible for making this report possible. In total, 505 departments reported for 2007. This annual report is the product of the compilation of information received from the fire departments. We appreciate your support which is essential to the production of the annual report. It is our goal to have all fire departments utilizing the reporting system. If your department is interested in participating in FFIRS, please contact our office at (850) 413-3698 or ffirs@myfloridacfo.com



Assistance To Firefighters Grant Awards for 2007



The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has reported that 57 departments received a Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Award for 2007. One of the requirements, placed upon grantees under this award, is that recipients “agree to provide information, through established reporting channels, to the USFA’s National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for the period covered by the assistance if the grantee is a fire department. Nonaffiliated EMS organizations do not have to comply with the NFIRS reporting requirement. If a fire department grantee does not currently participate in the incident reporting system and does not have the capacity to report at the time of the award, that grantee must agree to provide information to the NFIRS system for a twelve-month period commencing as soon as they develop the capacity to report. We expect non-reporting grantees to pursue the capacity to report as immediately after notification of award and for these non-reporting grantees to be actively reporting to NFIRS within the approved period of performance. AFG program grantees from previous years will not be allowed to closeout their grants until they demonstrate that they are complying with this requirement. Failure to closeout your previous years’ grants may affect the consideration of future awards.” This requirement is included in the 2007 Program Guidance for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program, as well as being included in the actual grant agreement. The award announcement dates for the 2007 recipients listed below may be reviewed by entering the following link into your web browser: <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/afg/awards/07>

In Florida, the established reporting channel would be through the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) Section of the Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM). **Please note that submission of an annual summary to the FFIRS Section does not comply with the responsibilities for grantees as mentioned above and is not an established reporting channel to NFIRS.** Please contact the FFIRS Section at (850) 413-3698 for assistance in helping your department comply with this reporting requirement.

A total of 518 fire departments throughout the state of Florida reported incidents to FFIRS for 2007 and of those 57 received grants.





Outstanding Fire and Rescue Service Personnel Honored



CFO AND STATE FIRE MARSHAL ALEX SINK PRESENTS FIRE SERVICE AWARDS

TALLAHASSEE-- Florida Chief Financial Officer and State Fire Marshal Alex Sink this week recognized the Coral Springs Fire Academy and honored 10 fire and rescue service personnel for exceptional dedication to fire and rescue services during the past year. CFO Sink presented each honoree with an individual resolution signed by Governor Charlie Crist and members of the Cabinet at Monday evening's Fire Service Awards ceremony. The honorees were also recognized jointly at Tuesday's Cabinet meeting in the Capitol.

"Every day, brave firefighters across the state risk their lives to protect Florida's families," said CFO Sink. "Today, we honor the men and women who went above and beyond the call of duty and exemplify a deep commitment to their profession."

In addition to honoring these individuals, the Florida Cabinet designated April 13-19, 2008, as Florida Firefighter Appreciation Week. During the week, Florida's firefighters and paramedics are recognized for efforts to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

**Last year, Florida's firefighters
raised a record amount of
nearly \$2.6 million
during their annual
"Fill the Boot"
campaign.**

CFO Sink presented the following individuals with a Fire Service Award:

- **Volunteer Firefighter of the Year**
Chad Destories, Hillsborough County
Fire-Rescue Department
- **Fire Service Inspector of the Year**
Kevin M. Rausch, Clermont Fire
Department
- **Fire Instructor of the Year**
Gregory L. Lanning, City of St.
Petersburg Fire Rescue
- **Forestry Firefighter of the Year**
Sidney Brown, Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services, Division of
Forestry
- **Fire Marshal of the Year**
Randall A. Mells, Division of State Fire
Marshal
- **Florida Professional
Firefighter of the Year**
George Sucarichi, Miami-Dade Fire
Rescue
- **Florida Firefighter of the Year** Martha
Scott, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue
- **Fire Chief of the Year**
Bill Gulbrandsen, West Palm Beach Fire-
Rescue Department
- **Fire Investigator of the Year**
Tim Robles, Sanford Fire Department
- **Emergency Preparedness Manager of
the Year**
Dan Summers, Collier County
Department of Emergency Management
- **Training Center of the Year**
Coral Springs Fire Academy, accepted by
Captain Robert Betrone, Chief of Training

Fire Service Awards are coordinated through the State Fire Marshal's Office annually and are sponsored by one or more of the following fire-service related organizations: the Florida Joint Council of Fire & Emergency Services, the Fire Training Director's Association, the Florida State Firefighters Association, the Fire Chiefs' Association, the Fire Marshal and Inspectors.



**In 2006 All Of Florida's Firefighters
Went Home After Work
In 2007 – Not All Did**

