

# FLORIDA FIRES

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



STATE FIRE MARSHAL



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Division of State Fire Marshal  
Florida Department of Financial Services

# FIRE MARSHAL 2008



*This report is also available in electronic format through the  
State Fire Marshal Section of the  
Florida Department of Financial Services*

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## State Fire Marshal Alex Sink



**Alex Sink**  
State Fire Marshal

The past year presented new challenges to fire and emergency service personnel as arson for profit and other crimes have risen in these tough economic times. In 2008, the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations received nearly 4,000 new requests for investigative assistance from fire departments, law enforcement, federal and state agencies, individuals and insurance companies: Fires started by arson cost approximately \$51 million in property damages in Florida last year.

Yet, despite increased demand, our Division of State Fire Marshal has stood up to the challenge. Under the direction of Chief Julius Halas, who took over as Director in May, the Division of State Fire Marshal has successfully collaborated with fire and rescue departments throughout Florida as well as the Florida Fire Chiefs Association and Florida Professional Firefighters Association for prevention, enforcement and educational outreach. Our arson detectives have an arrest clearance rate nearly twice the national average, which attests to the success of these partnerships, and our Florida State Fire College is recognized among the top in the nation for its world-class training facilities.

I am also pleased to report that both the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations and the Bureau of Forensic Fire and Explosives Analysis have begun the process of seeking accreditation. To become accredited, the bureaus must establish and maintain standards that represent current professional law enforcement practice; increase effectiveness and efficiency; and establish standards that reduce liability. I am confident that the bureaus will be successful in this commendable effort.

As your State Fire Marshal, I thank you for your dedication to protecting the lives and assets of Floridians around the state, and encourage you to keep up the good work in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Alex Sink





## Division Director Julius Halas



The year 2008 once again challenged our State's response plans. Our fire and rescue resources were put to the test in daily response, in wildfires, and in the record setting Tropical Storm Fay. Our fire and emergency personnel met the challenges and continued to show why Florida is a recognized leader in all-hazards response. 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.



**Julius Halas**  
**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 issues. FFIRS and NFIRS have two objectives: (1) to help state and local governments develop incident reporting and analysis capability for their own use; and (2) 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 2008 statistics submitted by fire service agencies from across the state. For 2008, the total number of incidents reported to FFIRS again exceeded two million. This number clearly shows that even during challenging economic times and budget constraints, 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 from 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 many life saving functions performed by Florida Fire and Emergency Service organizations. The number of agencies reporting continues to increase as we strive to reach our goal of seeing every agency represented in this report.

We are currently launching four important ventures to raise our level of quality services to you, our customers throughout Florida. We are seeking Accreditation of our Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations, Bureau of Forensic Fire and Explosives Analysis and also seeking re-accreditation of several of our training programs and accreditation of several newer programs at the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training. In addition, we are beginning a multi-year Strategic Planning process which we will begin to implement during the upcoming year.

Keep safety first as you help protect lives and property in your communities, and let us know how the Division of State Fire Marshal may serve you in the future.

Sincerely,

Julius E. Halas





## Bureau of Fire Standards and Training



**Barry Baker**  
**Bureau Chief**  
**FSFC Superintendent**

It is my pleasure to provide the 2008 Florida Fires report from the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training (BFST). Let me begin by mentioning how proud I am to serve as the newest Bureau Chief of BFST and the Superintendent of the Florida State Fire College. The core mission of BFST continues to be providing high quality education, professional and appropriate fire standards development and enforcement, and ensuring both volunteer and career firefighter safety. I can assure you that our staff recognizes that each of these core functions are critical to Florida's fire service community.

This past year was a year of transition where the leadership and direction at BFST was reviewed and realigned. Several senior leadership positions were changed and additional emphasis was placed on the future of the fire college. An aging infrastructure, combined with the opportunity presented by the acquisition of an additional 50 acres adjacent to the fire college campus, will receive much attention as we plan, with your input, its development. Recognizing that the Florida Fire College is your institution, we want your ideas on how this site is developed and specifically what should be added to our campus to further our joint missions. In the end, it will become the legacy of many involved in the site's design and the resultant backbone of present and future Florida firefighters. Let me suggest that it be our vision to make this campus a drawing card for all firefighters and fire service leaders that is second to none in our nation. Thanks in advance for sending me your thoughts and ideas for the development of this site.

Since August of 1999, the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training has chosen to submit documentation of its programs to the Pro Board. Programs that have been or are seeking future Pro Board accreditation include Firefighter I and II, Fire Officer I and II, Fire Inspector I and II, Fire Instructor I and II, Public Fire and Life Safety Educator, Hazardous Materials Technician and the five disciplines of Technical Rescue Technician. The Bureau continues to aggressively seek accreditation for courses taught that match Pro Board accreditation standards.

The success of meeting our ever-growing missions is best achieved through trusting partnerships and willingness to place value in doing what is right for the millions of Florida residents and visitors as we move into an uncertain future. BFST staff will continue its tireless work to best serve Florida firefighters and related groups. I will continue to believe that the fire service community will do their part in providing safe, high quality deliverables as they always have done. Together we will not fail to achieve the most difficult goals or master the largest of emergencies facing our communities. Please enjoy the following updates developed by the program supervisors for each of the various section disciplines we are responsible for at BFST. We at BFST look forward to our part in taking Florida's fire service to the next level.

## **DOMESTIC SECURITY PROGRAMS**

—Lorin Mock, Domestic Security Program Manager

To address 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 the 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 in the State's Domestic Security planning and funding process, including the Domestic Security Oversight Council and the State Working Group on Domestic Preparedness.

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 Florida's nine Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Forces, 48 Technical Rescue Teams and 29 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 Program Manager Lorin Mock and Regina Saueracker. Additionally, in order to manage the numerous technical questions related to SHSGP funding, Tom Quinn serves as the USAR Program Coordinator and Scott Chappell serves as the Hazardous Materials Program Coordinator. Both assist in planning for future training and funding needs of these respective programs.

Further, in order to make the Domestic Security Program's information more readily accessible to both the Department's sub recipients and our first responders, the program maintains the following web page: [http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sfm/sfm\\_domestic\\_security.htm](http://www.myfloridacfo.com/sfm/sfm_domestic_security.htm).

The web page links the user to valuable information relating to SHSGP Funding, such as DHS Grant Guidance, the DHS Authorized Equipment List, programmatic reimbursement and financial forms, and other pertinent information.

## **TRAINING SECTION**

—Susan T. Schell, Training Supervisor

The Florida State Fire College (FSFC) offered over 250 classes on campus in 2008. These classes included training from basic level firefighting to fire officer, as well as technical training. The training section has six full-time instructors that also serve as program coordinators and part-time instructors that are current practitioners.

The Marion County Community Technical Adult Education (CTAE) is contracted to provide additional instructors and program management for the Firefighter I and II programs, Technical Rescue, Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) series, Hydraulics, Apparatus and Aerial Operations and other non-collegiate technical programs.

In response to the goal of providing quality instruction, which is current with technology and information, the Training Section has worked with its partners to be proactive in assuring that training is occurring in a safe environment. Train-the-Trainers courses for Firefighter I and II have been conducted throughout the state in preparation for implementation in 2009/2010. Train-the-Trainers for Course Delivery, Course Design, Hydraulics and Apparatus Operations were also conducted with the classes being fully implemented by January 2009. The Ethical and Legal Review Committee continued its update throughout the year and scheduled a pilot class for 2009. The Live Fire Training program continued to grow with the refresher course being finalized and distributed in April 2008.

2008 was a year of firsts at the Florida State Fire College. The on-line Structural Collapse program finished its first full year with over 2,165 students completing the class which was awarded CEUs for instructors, inspectors, EMTs and paramedics. The Honor Guard Academy was resurrected and held twice at FSFC. This course had not been offered within the previous four years. In cooperation with the Florida Fire Chiefs Association (FFCA) Fire Rescue Cadet section, a cadet academy was held in the summer. Cadets learned basic rappelling skills, hose handling techniques, PPE and SCBA use and search and rescue techniques in a safe environment which also included some fun activities as part of the training.



Also, in cooperation with the FFCA Volunteer Fire Officers section, a meeting was held during the Volunteer Week where the leadership from the Officers Committee met with attendees on various subjects such as training, resources and how the two groups could work together.

Continuing in its goal to make safety a priority, personnel from FSFC assisted with the development of the Maintenance of Traffic program, which was a cooperative effort between groups such as FLDOT, University of Florida and FDLE. A Train-the-Trainer for the program was delivered at FSFC in the fall of 2008. The program is being finalized for distribution in 2009. The program will be accessible to all fire departments across the state so that the information can be disseminated to all providers. FSFC also partnered with the national ammonia safety committee to deliver the “Fire Codes and Ammonia Refrigeration Systems” class. Thirty-two students attended the training which included a field trip to a local industry using the technology.



Thirty-two students attended the training which included a field trip to a local industry using the technology.

The training section continued to deliver and assist with conferences throughout the year. Instructors delivered training during Fire Rescue East and participated in the Standards workshop, Instructor Professional Development seminar, FACAP, Building Officials Association and Volunteer Week. The Health and Safety Conference was initially postponed due to the threat of a hurricane, however it was rescheduled and had a record attendance.



The Northwest Florida Volunteer Firefighter Weekend continued to grow, expanding to the offering of a 40 hour class and boasting record attendance.

The Great Florida Fire School completed its final year in the Sebring/Avon Park area and will move to Indian River State College in 2009. Despite being understaffed for most of the year, the faculty continued to offer classes leading to fire inspector, fire officer, fire instructor and fire investigator

certifications. The section has worked closely with standards to assist with testing concerns and has provided assistance as needed to the other sections of the Bureau. Props have been continually upgraded to maximize facility usage.

BFST/FSFC facility usage has been at a maximum this year with overlapping Firefighter I/II classes. The tradition of training the students to prepare them for being hired has continued. Students are alerted at any time during the day or night to respond to a simulated emergency, and are given the Rapid Intervention (RIT)/Firefighter Safety and Survival Training. FSFC has been approved to offer EMT training which will begin in 2009. This will give students additional skills to make them

more employable. Specialty Florida USAR classes were offered including medical specialist and heavy rigging specialist in addition to the operations and technician level courses.



The main function of the facility continues to be the training of firefighters from across the state. Classes continue to be offered that lead to certification as a firefighter, Fire Service Instructor, Fire Safety Inspector and certificates of competency for Fire Investigator and Fire Officer. The faculty continues to maintain a busy schedule in the classroom as well as provide a resource for instructors in the field needing guidance or up-to-date information. However, FSFC continues to host seminars and meetings for customer groups such as the Building Officials, Florida Advisory Council on Arson Prevention (FACAP), Standards Workshop and numerous other events.

### **COLLEGIATE PARTNERSHIPS**

—Dr. Barbara Klingensmith, Higher Education  
and National Fire Academy Liaison

The Bureau maintains a strong partnership between the FSFC and the colleges and universities throughout the State. While previously in partnership with the University of Florida, the Bureau now supports the meshing of the National Fire Academy's Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) with the colleges and universities throughout the state in concert with national standards, curriculum and the primary constituent groups. This effort supports college degrees in Fire and Emergency Services at the Associate, Bachelor and Graduate levels. Partnerships with 27 community colleges, colleges and universities offering Bachelors and Associate Degrees in Fire Science have resulted in articulation agreements between the FSFC and those schools, as well as opened the door for articulation between the colleges and universities.

Through participation and leadership, Florida plays an integral role in the FESHE Conference and Curriculum Committees, and the Emergency Management Institutes (EMI) Higher Education Project. In partnership with the universities, colleges and community colleges, the FESHE national curriculum, which is based on the International Association of Fire Chiefs Professional Development Model and cross-walked to NFPA Standards, is being used to develop new AS, BS and MS degree frameworks 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 and can advise on sensitive educational program issues.

The Florida State Fire Colleges serves as the Fire Science program for the Central Florida Community College, when providing a part-time coordinator onsite for degree seeking students. However, FSFC provides leadership and direction to students seeking higher education opportunities at all levels.

**National Fire Academy Programs** - The Fire College has been identified as the lead agency for course distribution by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Fire Academy (NFA). The Fire College, through federal grants sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security through the National Fire Academy, offers programs throughout the state, as well as on the FSFC campus.

Coordinating the delivery of the NFA's Florida State Weekend held on the NFA campus and two, three and six day courses and enfranchised courses throughout the state, are also a part of the FSFC responsibility as lead agency. All NFA courses are approved, monitored and processed through the lead agency.

### **Urban Search and Rescue**

—Scott Chappell, US&R Coordinator

### **Operational Readiness Evaluations**

The State Fire Marshal (SFM), through its responsibility as the authority for Emergency Support Function ESF 4-Firefighting and ESF 9-Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) is responsible for ensuring the operational readiness and capability of the State of Florida's US&R System comprised of nine US&R Task Forces and 50 Type II Technical Rescue Teams.

Since September 12, 2001, urban search and rescue in Florida has grown from an emerging structure to a comprehensive state-wide search and rescue system. Through planning and visioning, collaboration and negotiations with other disciplines, Florida was able to establish an organization that is emulated by other states.

## **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.



In August of 2008, at the request of the Department of Homeland Security, the State of Florida initiated for the first time ever, an on site Operational Readiness Evaluation's (ORE) of all agencies that participate in the State US&R System. The purpose of the ORE was twofold: 1) to evaluate the operational capabilities of each task force/team and 2) to ensure fiscal accountability for all funding provided through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP).

Additionally, as the administrative agency that provides reimbursement for each of the specialty teams through sub-recipient agreements for approved projects and training, the SFM is also responsible to conduct monitoring and site visits at each participating agency. These site visits are to ensure proper reporting, documentation and use of the reimbursed funds in accordance with grant guidance and administrative rules established by the Department of Homeland Security, Florida Division of Emergency Management and the SFM.

### **Air Deployable Search and Rescue**

Personnel who are members of a Florida State sponsored US&R Task Force are continuing to train as they take on the added responsibilities as Air Deployable Search and Search responders. The prime **ADSARS** 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 co-operative program with the Florida Wildlife Commission, US Army, Florida Air National Guard and other air assets.

### **Search Planning & Management Course**

Through a cooperative effort of FEMA and the State of Florida this course is being developed to enhance the ability of both the State and National US&R Task Forces to more effectively meet the operational objectives of searching for and locating victims within the assigned area of operation. It is also the goal of this course to teach participants about the essential elements of planning and managing search operations using a wide variety of tools available including grid reference systems USNG, as well as the documentation and reporting requirements of the Incident Commander.



### **US&R Training Prop**

The Fire College US&R prop is gaining a reputation as one of the premier US&R training facilities in the country. Over the past year, the facility has been host to several national training programs involving US&R Task Forces from as far as California. The prop served as host to a Collapse Structure Management Team from India for 10 days. The instructors did an outstanding job of overcoming the language barrier and the food services of the on-campus cafeteria worked diligently to meet the dietetic needs of the Indian students.

## **FIRE STANDARDS SECTION**

—Henry Sheffield, Acting Field Examiner Supervisor

The Standards Section continues to evolve and improve efficiencies in both manual and electronic processes while maintaining a strong validation presence. Florida Statute and Administrative Code currently regulates thirteen certifications including Firefighter, Inspector and Investigator certification programs for Florida's estimated 45,000 fire service men and women. The Fire Standards Section is responsible for the oversight and maintenance of these certification and competency processes, as well as the Firefighter's Educational Supplemental Compensation Program.

**Statute and Code** —The Section participated in the generation and proposal of critical revisions to both our statutes and administrative code, including the updating of 69A-37. These changes are being driven by industry practice, national standard, recommendations from legal and updating to current procedural capabilities. 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 the 1997 National Standards that have been revised twice and need to be updated. 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** — The aggressive annual training center inspection program initiated in 2005 continues with the end result of fully certified training centers and a better trained firefighter. During the year, in addition to the previously existing 32 training centers, five more centers were certified. Of the current 37 training centers, two are completing major renovations and one is not operational while deficiencies are being corrected. The one non-operational facility has advised they should be ready for inspection in the first quarter of 2009. In addition to the existing training centers, there are 11 additional organizations in various degrees of completion through the training center approval process.

**Firefighter II Practical Test Revisions** — The revisions to the practical component of the Firefighter II certification exam (previously unchanged since 1997) was phased in this year with only a minimal amount of the disruption normally associated with change. By the end of the year, it had become part of the training culture. The new practical will remain in place through the transition to new curriculum in 2009 and will be revised to meet the new curriculum requirements.

The goal of any change is guided by the following:

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 are based upon safe and current industry practices.
3. To support all testing parameters be supported by current industry firefighting textbooks.
4. To produce a better trained and prepared firefighter.

**2008 Standards Initiatives** — There were a number of initiatives the section set for itself for the year 2008.

**Initiative - *Subject matter expert meetings for Contractor and Blaster exams***

This initiative was to improve the tests given on behalf of Prevention for Contractor and Blaster licenses by involving recognized experts from the various affected disciplines. One meeting was held that reviewed and made recommendations regarding the emphasis and content for each type of certification. Those recommendations are being put into place with the expectation of having them fully implemented during 2009. The Blaster meeting is planned to be held in 2009.

**Initiative - *Sending the balance of exams to Promissor (now called Pearson Vue)***

This initiative was to move all exams, not currently delivered through PearsonVue. Due to budget constraints this initiative was not funded. As tests with practical exams require the presence of field evaluators to conduct them, the advantages of moving initial firefighter I and II written tests to Pearson Vue are minimal. The advantages to applicants of being able to take retests at one of the various Pearson Vue sites around the state are convenience and timeliness.

**Initiative - *Updating and expanding test banks***

The security of exam questions and answers is only as great as the number of questions in the bank. During 2008, the test banks were increased for the contractor, firefighter II and instructor test banks.

**Initiative - *Decreasing Supplemental Compensation processing time***

Supplemental compensation applications and quarterly reports were cumbersome and duplicative. Through a combination of internal processing changes, combined with shifting to email and education at the fire department, FCDICE (Fire College Department of Insurance Continuing Education) users have seen a continuing decrease of processing time for applications, and a decrease in duplicate efforts.

**Initiative - *Moving to all electronic processing***

The time to process submissions for certifications, renewals and other standards functions is greatly reduced when it is done on-line. The applicant also gains value in knowing that the application has been received and the time to approval time also decreases. By word of mouth, presentations (whenever possible) and the convenience value to the customer, the number of paper applications has and continues to decrease.

**Initiative - *Simplifying and making FCDICE more intuitive***

With budget constraints, the Bureau's ability to upgrade the system has been limited to mostly maintenance. With that in mind, our efforts have been redirected in providing tools to assist our customers navigating through FCDICE. Tutorials, voice mail announcements and home page information have been well received toward this end.

**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.

**2009 Initiatives:**

- Subject matter expert meetings for Blaster License exams.
- Move firefighter retests to PearsonVue.
- Update and expand firefighter I & II test banks.
- Continue to work toward all paperless operations.
- Support efforts for revisions to 69A-37.

## **FIREFIGHTER SAFETY and HEALTH PROGRAM SECTION**

—Charlie Brush, Program Manager

During 2008, there were Three Florida Firefighter Line of Duty Deaths; one en route to a fire, one from a random act of violence, and one due to surgical complications. The bureau responded to five complaints related to violations of FFOSHA guidelines, and eight firefighter serious injury incidents. During 2008 16 new investigations were open and ten were closed. Two investigations that were opened in 2007 were also closed in 2008. The section conducted one Voluntary Safety Survey Evaluation at the request of the City of Hallandale.

The Firefighter Safety and Health web page is located at:

<http://www.myfloridacfo.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 Julius Halas, the Director of the Division of State Fire Marshal sharing the state advocate's position with Deputy Chief Brett Pollock of the 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, 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. Firefighters must have the courage to face a multitude of risks in order to save lives and protect their communities. 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 compelling 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 and 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 and one career fire department seeking to comply with FFOSHA rules and regulations.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

—Angela Cain, Student Services Supervisor

The Florida State Fire College (FSFC) is a multi-discipline training facility with an emphasis mainly on fire training. Programs are offered to Florida's fire and emergency services, as well as to law enforcement and the fire service industry. It is not uncommon to see more than 200 students on-campus participating on the drill grounds and occupying every classroom.

This Section serves as the registrar for FSFC and schedules all facility and dormitory usage for on-campus providers, including the training section, standards section and CTAE, as well as outside agencies and constituency groups. Administrative support is provided to all groups as needed and events are coordinated with the maintenance section and housekeeping to ensure on-campus classes and training programs are successful.



### **Fire College students during an exercise discussion**

Our existing facilities are highly utilized year-round for classes, workshops, conferences, testing and meetings. In addition, we are the proud home of the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial and coordinate efforts with the Joint Council of Fire and Emergency Services for the annual Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service held during the National Fire Prevention Week in October.

This Section assisted over 7,500 students last year with registration and dormitory reservation requests. 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. In addition, timely A-list email announcements keep students and agencies informed of the latest news, class offerings and legislation offered by the Bureau.



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 providing breakfast and lunch food service for the campus. The program includes all facets of food service facility management, although food service equipment is state owned.





## Bureau of Fire Prevention



**Jim Goodloe**  
Bureau Chief

The Bureau of Fire Prevention's approach to the Division's comprehensive compliance and enforcement programs continue to have a positive impact on the reductions in fire and property losses within our state. Direct code compliance activities impacted over 4,000 boilers, 6,000 licensed entities in a variety of regulated industries and reached over 16,000 public and private buildings. The Bureau continues to be responsive to emerging technologies and the public's concerns over existing technologies such as smoke detector effectiveness.

The Bureau has completed the first phase of a detailed business case for the replacement of our computer databases. This effort, to have all sub-units capture its data on a single internet based platform, will drastically improve our service delivery. Looking forward, this database is projected to eventually become the single source for all agencies to access data on buildings owned, managed or insured by the state. Interconnections between the programs will improve access to data from Risk Management used to generate values for compliance inspection services. In addition, it proposes to track FEMA related data necessary for evaluating the risk of buildings lying in high velocity hurricane zones.

Improvement in efficiency is being realized in the application of the Boiler Safety Act being streamlined to reduce the impact on the Bureau for devices under the control of authorized inspection agencies. In anticipating the needs of the growing regulated industries, efforts are being applied to continue the improvement of continuing education tracking procedures and advancing the use of technology in industry competency testing processes. Improved security procedures have been put in place to safeguard information relating to the storage and use of explosive materials. Statutory changes are being pursued to improve the training and experience of persons working in the industries that service and install chemical and water-based fire protection systems.

Campus fire safety remains a top priority of the Bureau's public education efforts throughout Florida's eleven state universities. The offering of quality fire safety programs are extended to the state's eleven state universities, state employees and their work areas and smaller public school districts. The 2007 edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code has been completed and is now in effect. The Florida Fire Safety Board, Florida Fire Code Advisory Council and the Florida Building Commission continues to make a definitive impact on the Bureau's standing task to regulate fire safety in Florida's built environment.

The interagency effort code named "Operation Spot Check" continues to be a productive and innovative enforcement practice reducing the exposure of Florida's elderly to fire violations. Consistent with today's emerging national interest, Florida continues to lead in code development performing a key role in development of the National Fire Protection Association's Hydrogen Technologies Standard, H2. This standard is in the final stages of review and is expected to be promulgated in 2011. It will prove to be one of the nation's first fire protection standards devoted exclusively to the storage and use of hydrogen as an alternative vehicular fuel.

The Bureau, under the direction of the Department of Homeland Security and the National Fire Academy, remains a key authority in the Prevention Advocacy Resource and Data Exchange (PARADE) initiative. PARADE continues to impact the fire service in the eight state Federal Region IV sharing resources and networking fire prevention best practices to compliment 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 seek ways to enhance the safety of our personnel stressing innovations in injury prevention. Professional development of our administrative and field staff continues to be a high priority of the Bureau, as we continue to seek out quality training opportunities offered through the National Fire Academy, state agencies and allied industry organizations.

### **BOILER SAFETY PROGRAM**

—Mike Burns, Chief Boiler Inspector

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 Boiler Safety Program is supervised by a Chief Boiler Inspector appointed by Florida's Chief Financial Officer. Commissioned deputy boiler inspectors employed by the department and authorized insurance inspectors employed by boiler insurance companies inspect boilers in accordance with the Act and Rules. 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.

The Florida Administrative Code Rule Chapter 69A-51 adopts specific American Society for Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler codes and the National Board Inspection Code (NBIC), which in conjunction with 69A-51, describes the safe construction, installation, inspection, maintenance and repair of boilers. ASME and NBIC are national standards used throughout the United States and Canada for the construction and in-service inspection of boilers and pressure vessels.



A Certificate of Operation is a licensing permit that provides evidence that a specific boiler has been inspected and will state its expiration date. The certificate is issued to all **A boiler taken out of service just before overhaul.**

boilers (covered by the act) operating in a public assembly location as defined within the statute. The certificate is valid for a period of one year or two years, depending on the pressure of the boiler.

For the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2008, the Program's deputies and special inspectors conducted 4,912 and 5,923 boiler inspections respectively for a total of 10,835 inspections. The state of Florida's database has 15,916 boilers in active service.

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](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. The section is made up of five plan reviewers, an administrative secretary and a section manager. Our objective is to identify code violations during the design phase, which reduces construction time, 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 all life safety features such as automatic sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, smoke detection and evacuation systems.

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 Florida, 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 2008 included: Magnolia Hall, a seven story residential hall at the University of South Florida, at a construction cost of 64 million; a four story School of Medicine at the University of Central Florida, with a construction cost of 47 million; a three building complex for the Department of Revenue, with a construction cost of 80 million; a five story Engineering and Computer Science Building at Florida Atlantic University, with a construction cost of 32 million; a 60 million dollar correctional facility in Suwannee County; a five story Pathogen Research Facility at the University of Florida, with a construction cost of 28 million.; and a 27 million dollar renovation of the Ruby Diamond Auditorium at Florida State University.



**In 2008, the Plans Review Section reviewed 942 plans, an 18% increase from 2007**

## INSPECTION SECTION

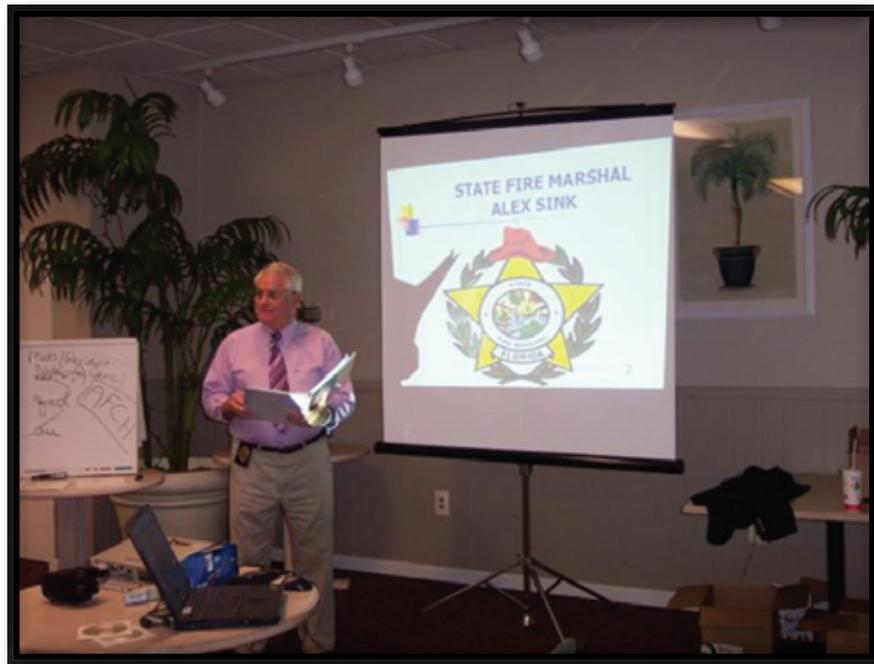
—Arlan Davis, Senior Management Analyst Supervisor

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.

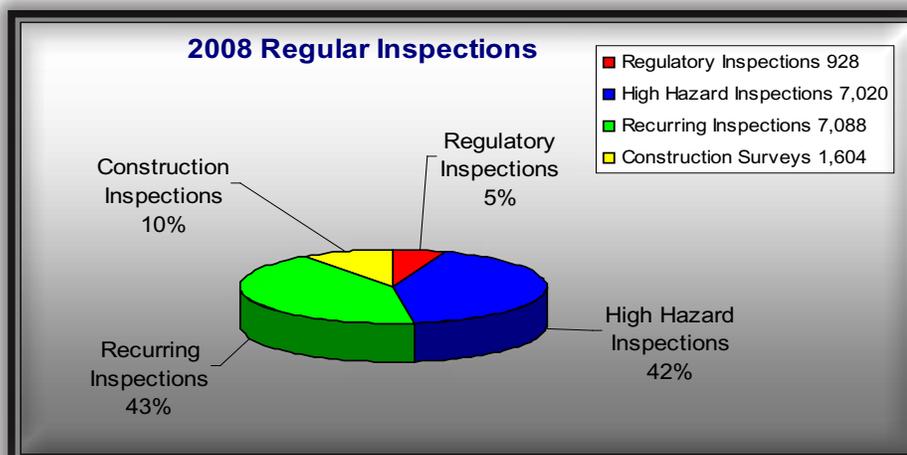
The purpose of these inspections are to identify, advise, and ensure correction of fire code violations, licensing renewal and to prevent or reduce the start and spread of fire through code compliance.

While the Section has the responsibility to identify violations, 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 the calendar year 2008, the Section conducted more than 16,600 statutorily required inspections.



**A Bureau of Fire Prevention fire protection specialist conducts training for staff personnel.**





**Personnel from Orange County Fire Rescue assist State Fire Marshal personnel with an automatic sprinkler system flow test.**

Section personnel continue to be involved in numerous activities around the state. They made fire prevention presentations at the Tampa State Fair and the North Florida Fair and provided technical assistance to local government officials and other state agencies. The section also assisted with disaster and damage mitigation training. A fire extinguisher training program developed by the Bureau and made available to all state agencies continues to be an asset in the training of state employees, encouraging fire safe behavior in and outside of the workplace.

Fire protection specialists inspected new and existing fire alarm systems and investigated complaints related to these systems. Applicable alleged violations were reported to the Department of Business and Professional Regulations for their review and appropriate administrative action. Other regulated facilities, explosives magazines and construction mines where blasting occurs were also inspected. Licensing infractions and numerous complaints of alleged damage resulting from blasting throughout the state were investigated. The results of licensing and blasting investigations were reported internally through channels to the Department's Division of Legal Services for final resolution. The Section conducts follow-up inspections of fire incidents to identify associated damage from fires which may have been caused or impacted by a fire safety code violation.

The Section continues 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. The Section continues to strive for maximum efficiency and responsiveness through technological operational program enhancements. The gathering, storing, and retrieval of related critical data and historical information is integral to the core responsibility of improving the fire safety of the State of Florida and its citizens.



**A Bureau of Fire Prevention fire protection specialist interacts with students at the University of Central Florida during Fire Prevention Week 2008.**

## **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 (Fire College Department of Insurance Continuing Education) 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, automating functions and expanded customer service.

### **Regulatory Licensing Section Accomplishments**

The Regulatory Licensing Section is the first point of contact for individuals who wish to gain the certification necessary to service and maintain portable fire extinguishers, pre-engineered fire

systems and engineered fire sprinkler systems. In addition, the section services individuals and firms who wish to manufacture, distribute, purchase, use and store explosives in the State of Florida. The Section also 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.

## *Regulation & Licensing*

### **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: 2008**

\*Construction Mining Permits Issued: . . . . . 5  
*Total figures represent New Construction Mining Permits only during 2008*

### **Explosives Industry**

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

**License/Permit Type: 2008**

Manufacturer-Distributor of Explosives. . . . . 29  
Dealer of Explosives . . . . . 4  
User of Explosives . . . . . 170  
Blaster Permits. . . . . 346  
Total . . . . . 549

### **Fire Equipment Industry**

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

**License/Permit Type: 2008**

Class A Fire Equipment Dealer . . . . . 12  
Class B Fire Equipment Dealer . . . . . 6  
Class C Fire Equipment Dealer . . . . . 19  
Class D Fire Equipment Dealer. . . . . 27  
Portable Extinguisher Permits . . . . . 389  
Reengineered System Permits . . . . . 152  
\*Total . . . . . 605

*\*Total figures represent New Licenses/Permits only during 2008*

### **Fire Protection System Contractors**

Section 633.534, Florida Statutes  
Engineered Fire Protection Systems  
Biennial Expiration

**License/Permit Type: 2008**

Fire Protection System Contractor I . . . . . 13  
Fire Protection System Contractor II. . . . . 28  
Fire Protection System Contractor III . . . . . 2  
Fire Protection System Contractor IV . . . . . 0  
Fire Protection System Contractor V. . . . . 38  
Inactive Contractors . . . . . 0  
Water-Based Protection System Inspectors . . . . 140  
\*Total . . . . . 221

*\*Total figures represent New Contractors/Inspectors only during 2008*

### **Sparkler Industry**

Chapter 791, Florida Statutes  
Annual Expiration: January 31

**Registration Type: 2008**

Manufacturer of Sparklers . . . . . 1  
Distributor of Sparklers. . . . . 11  
Wholesaler of Sparklers . . . . . 204  
Retailer of Sparklers and Retail Locations . . . . 4198  
Seasonal Retailer of Sparklers. . . . . 1211  
Total . . . . . 5625

### **Sparkler Testing**

Chapter 791, Florida Statutes  
Annual Expiration: January 31

**Product Submission: 2008**

Sparkler Products Submitted: . . . . . 45

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. The staff jointly documents and maintains 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. *Thirty-seven* new products were approved during the 2008 product testing. The approved list was updated and is comprised of **1,860** approved products and is available on the Division's website at [www.myfloridacfo.com](http://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 2008 for all licensed entities, including 692 Fire Protection System Contractors and 428 Fire Equipment Dealers, while providing customers with maintenance of insurance records. The staff is also responsible for producing photo identification cards for 1,545 fire equipment permittees and 275 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 while 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 2008, the board reviewed and approved **115** continuing education courses. Continuing education coursework for both industries is available by mail or via the Division's website at [www.myfloridacfo.com](http://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](http://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](mailto:fire.prevention@myfloridacfo.com). Packets will be made available on the website within the next year.

The Section continues its ongoing role in developing and monitoring 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 point of contact for members of the public wishing to lodge a complaint regarding the construction materials and mining activities in their area. The staff is responsible for 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 that surround the five industries statewide.



# Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigation



**John Corbett**  
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 and arson related crimes. The Bureau also works to enhance investigations and prosecutions and to deter arson and related crimes through education and training.

The Bureau is staffed statewide as a law enforcement organization consisting of 131 employees, including one Chief, three law enforcement majors, six regional law enforcement captains, one Special Operations captain, one Professional Standards captain, sixteen law enforcement lieutenants, seventy-seven sworn law enforcement detectives, eight crime intelligence analysts and eighteen civilian support personnel. The Bureau is under the direction of Chief John Corbett.

The Bureau is divided into two operational districts: north and south. Each district is comprised of three regions. These six regions respond to requests for service and provide investigative support to fire, police, citizens and visitors of Florida. The North District (District 1) is comprised of the Northwest, North and Northeast regions and is under the command of Major John Burch. The South District (District 2) is comprised of the North Central, South Central and South regions and is under the command of Major Mark Sauls. The Bureau also has a Special Operations section, which is commanded by Major Mark Trammell.

Our Bureau Chief and other Tallahassee headquarters staff can be reached by calling (850) 413-3173 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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

**Dispatch Centers:**

Tallahassee	(800) 459-6861
Jacksonville	(800) 387-1290
Tampa	(866) 369-4613
Orlando	(800) 226-5350
Miami	(305) 470-2500
Ft. Myers	(866) 833-2715
Lake Worth	(561) 357-4000

**BFAI Region(s)**

Northwest and North
Northeast and North
South Central
North Central
South
South and South Central
South



## Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations Field Offices Monday – Friday (8 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Pensacola (NW)	(850) 453-7803	West Palm (S)	(561) 640-6704
Ft. Walton Beach (NW)	(850) 833-9014	Tallahassee (N)	(850) 413-3900
Panama City (NW)	(850) 747-5888	Ft. Myers (S)	(239) 278-7525
Jacksonville (NE)	(904) 798-5804	Ocala (NE)	(352) 369-2801
Daytona (NC)	(386) 323-0904	Plantation (S)	(954) 321-3704
Orlando (NC)	(407) 893-3654	Tampa (SC)	(813) 972-8604
Lake Wales (SC)	(863) 679-4180	Headquarters	(850) 413-3173

After normal work hours 1-800-NET-FIRE (800-638-3473)

Fire and law enforcement agencies requesting assistance for fire investigations and Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) may contact the state law enforcement radio dispatch center in their area. Fire and law enforcement agencies, citizens and visitors may also request investigations by contacting the State Fire Marshal's regional offices during work hours (Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or, after work hours, by calling the 24 hour toll free number 1-800-NET-FIRE (638-3473).

### 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: investigative processing of fire scenes, determining the origin and cause of fires and explosions, rendering safe explosive devices, conducting latent investigations, making arrests, staying abreast of current 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 in areas such as the identification, collection and preservation of evidence, fire dynamics, interviewing and interrogation 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 involves 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 for our sworn members to maintain proficiency involving their police skills. In addition, training in specialized areas such as fire scene reconstruction, crime mapping, statement analysis,

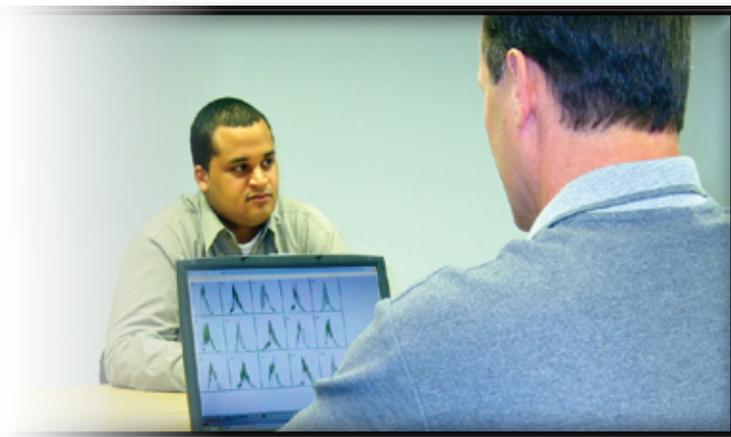
defensive driving and skid loader operation is also regularly provided to enhance the investigator's expertise in the field of fire and arson investigations. As mandated by Chapter 943, Florida Statutes, sworn personnel of the Bureau must also receive periodic training and instruction approved by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission (CJSTC). This training ensures that each investigator maintains their police certification and proficiency as law enforcement officers. 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 Mark Trammell is located at Headquarters in Tallahassee and supervises the Bureau's Special Operations Section. This Section oversees the operation and procedures of four highly trained and well-equipped Hazardous Device / Explosive Ordinance Disposal teams, six Accelerant Detection K-9 teams, the Forensic Investigative Support Team (FIST), eleven Computer Voice Stress Analysis (CVSA) Operators, the State Fire Marshal's Honor Guard, man-made and natural disaster Emergency Support Functions (ESF's) 4 (Firefighting), 9 (Search and Rescue) and 16 (Law Enforcement) 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 Trammell can be reached by calling (850) 413-3669 during normal working hours.

## **Computerized Voice Stress Analysis Unit**

This equipment, together with a trained operator, is thought to be one of the most acceptable, less intimidating and less intrusive means to verify truthfulness in law enforcement investigations. These units are utilized as a tool to assist with determining truthfulness in all types of criminal investigations performed by the Bureau, thus expediting the time needed to reach successful conclusions. The Bureau has ten CVSA units and eleven certified operators. During 2008, CVSA operators offered over 129 examinations to persons of interest as a part of the investigative process and over 110 examinations were actually conducted.



## **Hazardous Device / Explosive Ordinance Unit**

The Bureau's Explosive Ordinance Device (EOD) unit is made up of seven certified bomb technicians within four regional teams. Each team is equipped to provide for the safe resolution of both criminal and non-criminal incidents involving incendiaries or explosives. In addition to handling the normal core duties of a fire and arson investigator, EOD members are capable of safely handling, transporting, disposing of ordinance and investigating explosive or incendiary incidents.



The Bureau's primary function is to investigate the cause, origin, and circumstances of fires. However, the Bureau also investigates explosions since they are actually very rapidly burning fires an accelerated combustion process. Bombs, including both explosive and incendiary devices, have been used as tools of violent criminals in terrorist attacks and threats, drug-related attacks, domestic violence and vengeance incidents. Due to our expertise in fire investigations, the Bureau is also able to provide exceptional investigative assistance involving most explosive incidents.

Team members are comprised of Bureau personnel who have completed extensive hazardous devices training provided by the Department of Justice. Team members 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 Ordinance Disposal Units (EOD) to meet the domestic security challenge. The Bureau's EOD personnel are participants in each regional domestic security task force where a team is present. These personnel, 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 within mutual aid agreements with local law enforcement and fire service agencies. The teams respond to any type of incident or terrorist act (i.e. bomb threats, suspicious packages, drug labs) involving explosives or incendiary devices. They investigate the incident from the initial request through the post blast investigation, if needed. Identifying, collecting, and submitting evidence to our forensic laboratory and effecting arrests are tasks routinely performed by EOD members.

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. During 2008, members of the Bureau's EOD teams responded to 277 EOD related calls for service.



### **Accelerant Detection Canine Unit (K-9)**

In 1998 the Bureau implemented an Accelerant Detection K-9 program with financial and technical support and assistance from the State Farm Insurance Company. The support and assistance provided by State Farm funds scholarships for training fees, canine acquisitions, 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 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 trained law enforcement detective. Currently the Bureau has six Accelerant Detection K-9 teams located in strategic areas throughout the state. Bureau K-9 handlers responded to 396 requests for assistance in 2008.



1. Northwest: Panama City  
Detective Tom Barron & Amy



2. North: Tallahassee  
Detective Karl Morgan & Ace



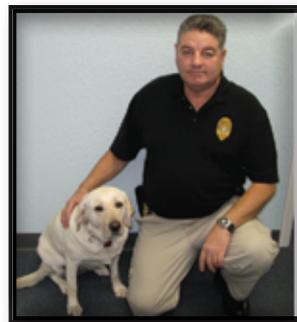
3. North Central: Orlando  
Detective Paul Patterson & Misty



4. Northeast: Jacksonville  
Detective Robert Redding & Molly



5. South Central: Lake Wales  
Detective Mike Douglas & Misty



6. South: West Palm Beach  
Detective Greg Gilkey & Ember



## **Crime Intelligence Analyst Unit (CIA)**

In 1994, the Bureau developed the Crime Intelligence Analyst Unit (CIA) to assist our detectives with criminal investigations. The availability of criminal intelligence information is essential for successful case conclusions. Currently, the Crime Intelligence Analyst Unit has grown to eight analysts located throughout the state. These crime intelligence analysts help support the Bureau's detectives by providing



intelligence information and analysis which is often time-consuming and tedious to identify and compile. The crime analysts provide crucial background and/or historical information in a time-critical fashion. This is necessary for both officer safety and to allow the expeditious apprehension of identified criminals. The analysts also provide a valuable service to the Bureau, through criminal trend analysis and intelligence gathering, which allows for the detection and prevention of arson and arson-related criminal activities. Bureau Analysts provide an average of 2.4 hours of analytical support for each investigation they assist with.

Analysts receive mission-enhancing education by attending analytical training classes provided by institutes such as the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, ANACAPA Sciences, the International Association of Law Enforcement Crime Intelligence Analysts and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. 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 the investigative and analytical process.

## **Forensic Investigative Support Team and Statewide Arson Task Forces**

Since the early years of the Bureau, the task force concept has been considered the most efficient and effective method of investigating large or complex fire/explosion scenes. In the past a task force was comprised of available investigators who worked in close proximity to the fire scene. In October of 2001, the Bureau recognized the need to develop and train a specialized team to provide a complete and thorough investigation of large or complex fire/explosion scenes. Thus, the Bureau established the Forensic Investigative Support Team (FIST).

The primary objectives of the FIST are to reduce incendiary fires by effective investigation and prosecution of those who commit arson. The FIST also provides the necessary personnel to conduct the preliminary investigation to determine the origin, cause and circumstances of the fire so the resources of the local bureau office are not overtaxed. This is done by providing an immediate and sustained statewide response team to large or complex fires/explosions, where state-of-the-art equipment and the most qualified personnel are used to assist the citizens of Florida at the city, county or state level.

## *Cases of Interest*

### NORTH WEST REGION

#### **Juveniles Damage Drainage Pipes**

On February 4, 2008, the Gulf County Sheriff's Office requested a fire investigation involving numerous PCV drainage pipes that were being stored in a local park in Port St. Joe, Florida. Detective Don Cioeta's investigation determined that the fire was incendiary and was the result of juveniles playing with a disposable lighter inside one of the PCV pipes. The PCV pipe was ignited with an open flame from the lighter. There was over \$175,000.00 in damages caused to these pipes as a result of this fire. A juvenile was charged with Felony Criminal Mischief. The juvenile plead guilty to this crime and was sentenced to probation. He was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$177,000.00 to Gulf County for the pipes and \$1,201.00 to the State Fire Marshals Office for the cost of the investigation.



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#### **Numerous Arsons, Burglaries Solved**

Beginning with a vehicle burglary and arson fire on November 26, 2008, Detective Steve Callahan from the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations and the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office initiated a joint investigation into a series of burglaries and arsons in the Milton community. In less than a month, a total of five burglaries and three arsons were committed in close proximity to one another. The perpetrators took jewelry, computers and firearms. Damage estimates for the affected two vehicles



and three structures were \$160,000.00. The subsequent investigation revealed that four juveniles were responsible for these criminal acts. All four perpetrators were arrested and charged with multiple counts of arson, armed burglary, grand theft of a firearm, grand theft and felony criminal mischief.

## NORTH REGION

### **Retaliation Against Witness/Informant Leads To Multiple Arrests**

On May 21, 2008, Detective Scovotto assisted the Tallahassee Fire Department in investigating a vehicle fire in Tallahassee, Florida. The vehicle was identified as a 2004 Ford F-150. The origin and cause investigation revealed the fire was incendiary. It was also noted that all four tires were slashed and a concrete block was thrown at the vehicle, shattering the front windshield. A follow up investigation revealed the victim was a confidential informant for the Tallahassee Police Department.



Three individuals were identified as suspects, based on witness statements and video surveillance footage from a local gasoline station. The three individuals were arrested and charged with Conspiracy to Commit Arson, Arson to a Vehicle, Criminal Mischief (greater than \$1000), Burglary of a Vehicle and retaliation against a Witness/Informant. One of the defendants was also charged with Drug Trafficking. It was determined this fire occurred as retaliation towards the victim for assisting law enforcement by purchasing narcotics.

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### **Arsonist Sentenced To 30 Years...No Early Release**

On May 22, 2008, Kevin Walsh was sentenced to 30 years in the Florida Department of Corrections for a fire that occurred on August 26, 2006. Walsh was sentenced as a Prison Release Re-Offender and will not be eligible for early release.

The Tallahassee Fire Department requested the assistance of the State Fire Marshal's Office to determine the origin and cause of a fire that occurred to an 8-unit apartment building in Tallahassee, Florida. At the time of the fire, more than 20 residents were living in the apartment building. A joint fire investigation was conducted involving Detectives from the Florida State Fire Marshal's Office, the Tallahassee Fire Department and the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The fire was determined to be incendiary in nature. A person of interest, Kevin Walsh, was developed as a suspect, from an occupant of the apartment building. A routine check of a local 24 hour convenience store video tape revealed an individual matching the description of Walsh purchasing gasoline just prior to the fire. Walsh was located and taken into custody on an outstanding warrant and questioned about the fire. Walsh denied any knowledge about the fire until he was confronted with the video tape. Walsh admitted to purchasing the gasoline, pouring the fuel on the ground outside of the apartment building and igniting it with a cigarette lighter. Walsh was dating the daughter of an occupant of the building and was mad because the occupant had filed a complaint against them with the Department of Children and Families.



## NORTH EAST REGION

### **Arson / Suicide**

On September 29, 2008 an individual was observed inside a burning vehicle in St. Augustine, Florida. The victim was a 54 year old white male. State Fire Marshal Detectives Duane Cooper and Robert Jenkins, along with Captain Phil Roman, ATF Special Agent Jeff Brown, St. Johns County Fire Department and Sheriff's Office Investigators conducted the investigation. The investigation revealed the victim poured gasoline on himself and then lit the fire to commit suicide. The victim died from injuries sustained as a result of the fire.



### **Arson / Homicide**

On December 13, 2008, Detectives Jerry Baker and Andy Redding, with K-9 Molly, and Lt. Robby Stephens responded to a single-family wood framed structure fire involving a fatality. The investigation revealed that the victim had been stabbed numerous times prior to the fire. The fire was determined to have been intentionally set. K-9 Molly alerted to the presence of accelerants in several areas of the home, including around the decedant's body, which was located in the kitchen area. The fire damage was estimated at \$50,000.



On December 24, 2008, Leo Kaczmar III was arrested for murder and arson. Kaczmar set the residence on fire in an attempt to cover up the murder. This lengthy investigation was conducted by Detectives from the Clay County Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit and Detectives from the State Fire Marshal's Office, Bureau of Fire and Arson.

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## NORTH CENTRAL REGION

### **Zellwood Arsonists Arrested**

In December 2008, Bureau Detectives from the Central Region arrested two brothers for Arson. They are suspected of setting a total of seven structure fires over the course of eight months in their rural neighborhood in North Orange County. The last structure fire occurred to an occupied residence while the other properties had been vacant at the time of the fire. Residents of the neighborhood had been threatened by the suspects to remain quiet. Extensive investigation by Detective George Holcomb resulted in sufficient evidence being collected to place the brothers at one scene and then, using case law and method of operation, SFM detectives were able to connect them to the others. Charges of Arson are currently pending.



## Persistence Pays Off

On February 12, 2008, Detective Paterson investigated a fire involving a hotel under construction in the Sanford area. The building was a total loss and was valued at over one million dollars. From the beginning, Detective Paterson received information that local area transients were possibly involved. Working with transient witnesses and suspects often is a difficult task. These individuals can be challenging, if not impossible, to locate and transient witnesses are often uncooperative when asked to provide testimony in a court of law. These obstacles did not deter Detective Paterson. After months of conducting follow-up, Detective Paterson was able to identify the perpetrator of this crime and obtain an arrest warrant charging the defendant with Arson. The defendant had been arrested for Arson prior to this incident and the prosecuting attorney was made aware of this information.

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## SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

### Complex Case Comes to an End

On April 13, 2000, Detectives Randy St. Clair and Mike Douglas responded to an investigative request by two insurance companies involved with a fire that affected a 10,000 square foot commercial building known as Bottom Line Supply. The business sold screen printing supplies and also sold screen printing machines. The fire scene examination revealed liquid accelerant pour patterns in an office portion of the business. Samples collected were later determined by the SFM Forensic Laboratory to contain medium petroleum and aromatic solvents. The building was



secure with no signs of forced entry discovered. The owner, Mr. McClelland, was seen leaving approximately 5 to 10 minutes prior to the fire. The investigation revealed the company was experiencing financial troubles and was defrauding vendors, finance companies and customers. The fire occurred just 28 days before a \$5,000 premium payment was due, or the policy would be cancelled. The investigation rapidly became complex and Detective John Womer from the Department of Financial Services Division of Insurance Fraud (DIF) was contacted, along with ATF Special Agent Pat Mohoney (Tampa Office), to assist in the investigation. The investigation began leading into other countries, such as Canada and the Bahamas. In May of 2000, a search warrant was served by ATF, SFM, DIF and FDLE's Forensic Computer Examiners on the private residence of the business owner McClelland. Business financial records were the focus of the search. An ATF Forensic Auditor, Renee Wills, was

contacted to assist in coordinating a financial profile of the company. This forensic audit revealed the company had been in debt since it opened five years prior. US Attorney Colleen Murphy was brought into the investigation. Nine months later Detective St. Clair was re-canvassing the scene area and identified an eye witness who saw the owner driving away from his business in a Ryder Truck while heat waves were rising off of the building's roof and a smoky haze hung in the air. The

US Attorney impaneled a Grand Jury and indicted the business owner on one count of Arson and two counts of Wire Fraud.

By this time, McClelland had fled the country to Central America. In February 2008, McClelland tried to re-enter the United States through Atlanta Airport to attend his brother's funeral. Customs Agents arrested McClelland on the outstanding warrant and the US Marshal's took him into custody. In August 2008, a trial was held in Tampa. After three days of trial, Federal Judge Merryday allowed the defense to accept a plea deal. The judge stated at this point in the trial he could easily attest to overwhelming evidence showing the defendant was guilty of the crimes charged. McClelland pled guilty to one count of Arson and one count of Wire Fraud and was sentenced to five years in Federal prison, with three years probation.

### **Warehouse Fire Traced to Lighting**

On February 11, 2008, Polk County Fire Rescue responded to a commercial structure fire, located in Winter Haven, Florida. Within moments of their arrival, the second, third, fourth, and fifth alarms were initiated. Polk County Officials requested the State Fire Marshal to investigate the origin and cause of the fire.



Detectives Stacy McIntyre, Jeff Batz, Miles Davis and Captain Brandon Ball responded to the scene. Upon arrival, it was discovered the 135,000 square foot warehouse was heavily involved with fire. The warehouse contained manufacturing and storage facilities for plastic and cardboard containers. At the time of the fire, the factory contained 20 million pounds of corrugated paper and approximately 40 pallets of plastic flower pots. Detective McIntyre was assigned the duty of primary investigator for this incident. Over the next seven days, Detective McIntyre coordinated the efforts of 43 different private fire investigators, fire protection engineers, structural engineers and electrical engineers who represented seven interested parties. These parties included insurance companies, lighting manufacturers and fire protection system manufacturers. Witness interviews revealed that only two employees were in the building at the time of the fire. The information they provided was verified and they were eliminated as suspects. The investigation began to focus on the lighting system, as several nearby structures contained outdated and out of code lighting. The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental as a result of a lighting fixture. Remnants of the light were found embedded in the debris from the area of origin and verified as defective at an independent laboratory.

## SOUTH REGION

### **Arsonist Injured and Dies - Accomplice Arrested**



On November 30, 2008, Detective David Lepper was requested to respond to a structure fire involving a single family residence in Lehigh Acres, Florida. While en-route to the scene of the fire, he was notified that an individual had been dropped off at an area hospital with severe burns. Detective Eduardo Blanco responded to assist with the fire investigation and interviews. A possible suspect was brought to the sheriff's office and interviewed by Det. Blanco. The suspect denied any involvement with the structure fire and claimed his brother had been burned by gang members. However, when confronted with the physical evidence left at the scene, the suspect confessed that both he and his brother were responsible for the burning of the residence. The injured suspect suffered second and third degree burns over 40-percent of his body and he succumbed to his injuries two weeks later. The decedent's brother was arrested for Arson and Murder.

### **Restaurant Fire Determined Accidental**

On June 30, 2008, Detectives Scott Bialy, David Lepper, Charles Toledo and Greg Gilkey, along with K-9 Ember, and Captain Ross Holt responded to Clewiston to investigate a structure fire involving a Sonny's BBQ restaurant. The restaurant was a complete loss and the fire was determined to have started accidentally.



## Field Operations

### **DISTRICT 1**

Major John Burch is the Commander of Field Operations for District One, which is comprised of three geographic regions (Northwest, North and Northeast). Major Burch is headquartered in Tallahassee and can be contacted by phone at (850) 413-3667.

### **NORTHWEST REGION**

The Northwest Region is under the command of Captain Gloria Whitehurst. The region has three field offices that service the eight westernmost Florida counties, totaling 6,064 square miles. The Captain, Administrative Secretary and Crime Intelligence Analyst are based in the Ft. Walton Beach field office.



Lt. Kevin Fiedor supervises the Ft. Walton Beach and Pensacola offices. He and six law enforcement detectives cover calls for service in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and north Walton Counties. Lt. Les Nelson coordinates the activities of the four law enforcement detectives assigned to the Panama City office. This office covers South Walton, Bay, Holmes, Washington, and Gulf Counties. The Northwest region responded to 510 requests for service this year. Of those requests, 268 accidental fires and 182 incendiary fires were investigated.

Ft. Walton Beach Office: (850) 933-9014

Pensacola Office: (850) 453-7803

Panama City Office: (850) 747-5888

Counties of Assignment: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Holmes, Washington, and Gulf.

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

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## NORTH REGION

The North Region is under the command of Captain Joseph Steadman. The region is comprised of 13 counties covering 491,336 square miles. The field operations of the region's six detectives are coordinated by Lieutenant Jason Roberts. The region has one administrative secretary and one Crime Intelligence Analyst. The North Region responded to 301 requests for service this year. Of those requests, 119 accidental fires and 76 incendiary fires were investigated.



The field office is located in Tallahassee: (850) 413-3900

Counties of Assignment: Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Hamilton, Jefferson, Jackson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor and Wakulla.

Specialized Units: Explosive Ordinance Disposal Unit (EOD), Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA), Accelerant Detection Canine (ADC) Team, and Crime Intelligence Analyst.

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## NORTHEAST REGION

The Northeast Region is under the command of Captain Phil Roman and consists of 14 counties in the Northeast Florida area. The region is divided into two field offices, Jacksonville and Ocala. Both field offices are supported by Administrative Secretaries. The region has one Crime Intelligence Analyst.

The Jacksonville Field Office is under the supervision of Lieutenant Robby Stephens and serves seven counties. There are seven law enforcement detectives assigned to the Jacksonville Field Office. The Ocala Field Office is under the supervision of Lieutenant Bernie Kleinschmidt and serves seven counties. There are five law enforcement detectives assigned to the Ocala Field Office. The Northeast region responded to 570 requests for service this year. Of those requests, 106 accidental fires and 287 incendiary fires were investigated.



Jacksonville Field Office (904) 798-5804  
Counties of assignment: Duval, Clay, Nassau, Bradford, Baker, Clay and St. Johns.

Ocala Field Office (352) 369-2801  
Counties of Assignment: Marion, Alachua, Levy, Gilchrist, Columbia, Dixie and Union.

Specialized Units: Accelerant Detection Canine (ADC) Team Computerized Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA), and Crime Intelligence Analyst.

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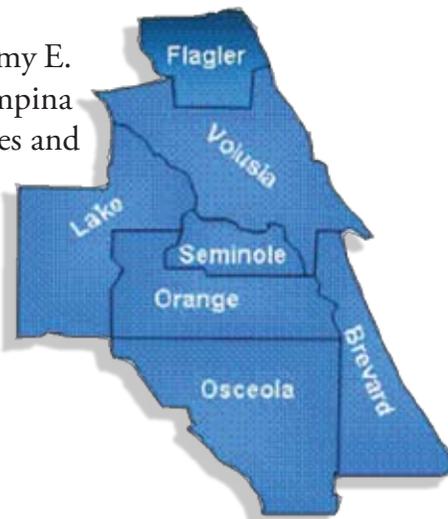
## Field Operations

### **DISTRICT 2**

Major Mark Sauls is the Commander of Field Operations for District Two, which is comprised of three geographic regions (North Central, South Central and South). Major Sauls is headquartered in Tampa and may be contacted by phone at (813) 972-8637.

## NORTH CENTRAL REGION

The North Central Region is under the command of Captain Jimmy E. Ruthven and consists of seven counties. Lieutenant Cindy Campina and Lieutenant Norm Harris lead the Orlando squad of detectives and Lieutenant Greg Kunkle leads the Daytona Beach field office. Both field offices are supported by administrative secretaries. The Orlando Field Office is supported by an additional OPS administrative secretary. The Orlando Field Office covers a three county territory and is supported by ten law enforcement detectives. The Daytona Beach Field Office covers a four county area and is supported by five law enforcement detectives.



The North Central Region responded to 934 requests for service this year. Of those requests, 260 accidental fires and 569 incendiary fires were investigated.

Orlando Field Office (407) 893-3654  
Counties of Assignments: Orange, Osceola and Lake.

Daytona Beach Field Office (386) 323-0904  
Counties of Assignments: Brevard, Seminole, Volusia and Flagler.

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

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## SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

The South Central Region is under the command of Captain Brandon A. Ball and consists of 12 counties, totaling 9,300 square miles. The region is comprised of two field offices, in Tampa and Lake Wales. The Tampa Field Office is under the supervision of Lt. Eric Saccasyn and is supported by seven law enforcement detectives, an administrative secretary and a crime intelligence analyst, with a service area of eight counties. The Lake Wales Field Office is supervised by Lt. Thomas Bosco and is supported by seven law enforcement detectives and an administrative secretary, with a coverage area of four counties. The South Central Region responded to 767 requests for service this year. Of those requests, 268 accidental fires and 392 incendiary fires were investigated.



Tampa Field Office (813) 972-8637  
Counties of Assignment: Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota and Sumter.

Lake Wales Field Office (863) 679-4180  
Counties of Assignment: Polk, Highlands, Hardee, and DeSoto Counties.

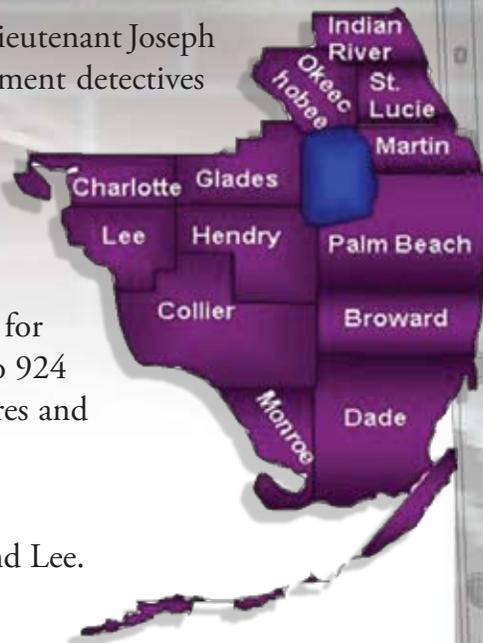
Specialized Units: Computerized Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA), Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team, Accelerant Detection Canine Team, and a Criminal Intelligence Analyst.

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## SOUTH REGION

The South Region was newly created by merging the former South West and South East Regions. The Region is supervised by Captain Ross Holt and consists of 13 counties, with offices located in Ft. Myers, West Palm Beach and Plantation.

The Ft. Myers Field office encompasses a five county territory with Lieutenant Joseph Minervini supervising the activities of this area. Five law enforcement detectives are located throughout this area to assist the local authorities. The Plantation Field Office is under the supervision of Lieutenant Joseph Schwartz and consists of nine law enforcement detectives responsible for providing service to three counties. The West Palm Beach Office has three law enforcement detectives, under the direction of Lieutenant Anthony Stafford, that are responsible for providing service to five counties. The South Region responded to 924 requests for service this year. Of those requests, 334 accidental fires and 461 incendiary fires were investigated.



- Ft. Myers Field Office (239) 278-7525  
 Counties of Assignment: Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee.
- Plantation Field Office (954) 321-3704  
 Counties of Assignment: Broward, Dade and Monroe.
- West Palm Beach Office (561) 640-6704  
 Counties of Assignment: Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and St. Lucie.
- Specialized Units: Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), Computerized Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA), Two Criminal Intelligence Analysts and an Accelerant Detection Canine (ADC) Team.

## Education and Training

The Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations and its employees are recognized throughout Florida, and nationally, as leaders in fire origin and cause investigation and other arson related crimes. As a result, the Bureau and its members are continually called upon to provide instruction and training to law enforcement, fire, government and insurance industry professionals. Several



agency personnel also provide instruction in Florida Community Colleges, Universities, the National Fire Academy and the Florida State Fire College.



Various members of the Bureau serve on a variety of state, national and international boards, commissions, associations and professional organizations. Several of these members have been recognized in publications, reference books and materials written by noted authors in the field of fire and explosion investigation.

In addition, Bureau employees spend large numbers of hours providing prevention education to adults and children in communities throughout Florida.

Bureau personnel have also conducted numerous training classes and presentations throughout Florida at events such as job fairs, high school and college career days and the Florida State Fair, in an effort to increase arson awareness, fire safety and the mission of the State Fire Marshal's Office.

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## Accreditation

The Bureau has initiated the process to become an accredited law enforcement agency through the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. The Commission establishes standards, oversees an accreditation program, and awards accreditation to compliant Florida law enforcement agencies. The Commission strives to improve the ability of law enforcement agencies to deliver professional public safety services.

To become accredited, the Bureau of Fire and Arson must establish and maintain standards that represent current professional law enforcement practices, increase effectiveness and efficiency in the delivery of law enforcement services and establish standards that address and reduce liability for the agency and its members.

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### **Bureau employees are members, or participants in, the following: (List is not all inclusive)**

- **F**lorida **A**dvisory **C**ommittee on **A**rson **P**revention (FACAP)
- **I**nternational **A**ssociation **A**rson **I**nvestigators (IAAI)
- Florida Chapter IAAI
- **I**nternational **A**ssociation **B**omb **T**echnician's and **I**nvestigators (IABTI)
- **I**nternational **A**ssociation of **L**aw **E**nforcement **I**ntelligence **A**nalysts (IALEIA)
- **N**ational **F**ire **P**rotection **A**ssociation (NFPA)
- **F**lorida's **R**egional **D**omestic **S**ecurity **T**ask **F**orces (RDSTF)
- **R**egional **O**rganized **C**rime **I**nformation **C**enter (ROCIC)
- **F**lorida **I**ntelligence **U**nit (FIU)
- **T**echnical **W**ork **G**roup for **F**ire and **E**xplosion Annual Symposium (TWGFX)
- **F**lorida **G**ang **I**nvestigator's **A**ssociation (FGIA)
- Florida Arson Seminar
- Hosts of Post-Blast Investigation Training classes

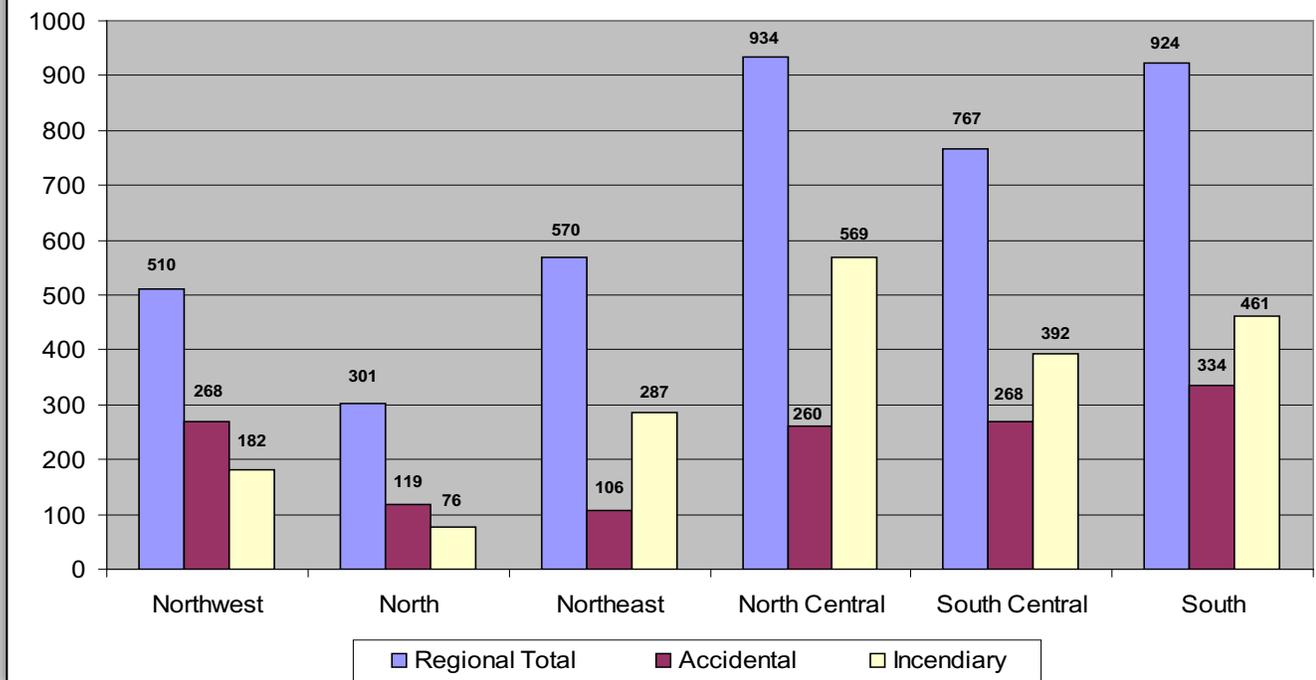
## Bureau Statistics:

During the calendar year 2008, the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations received 3,992 new requests for investigative assistance from fire departments, law enforcement agencies, federal and state agencies, individuals and insurance companies.

Investigative responses are classified according to type of incident:

Attempted Explosion	1	Fire	3,753
Attempted Fire	18	Miscellaneous – EOD	59
Explosion	41	Miscellaneous – Other	120

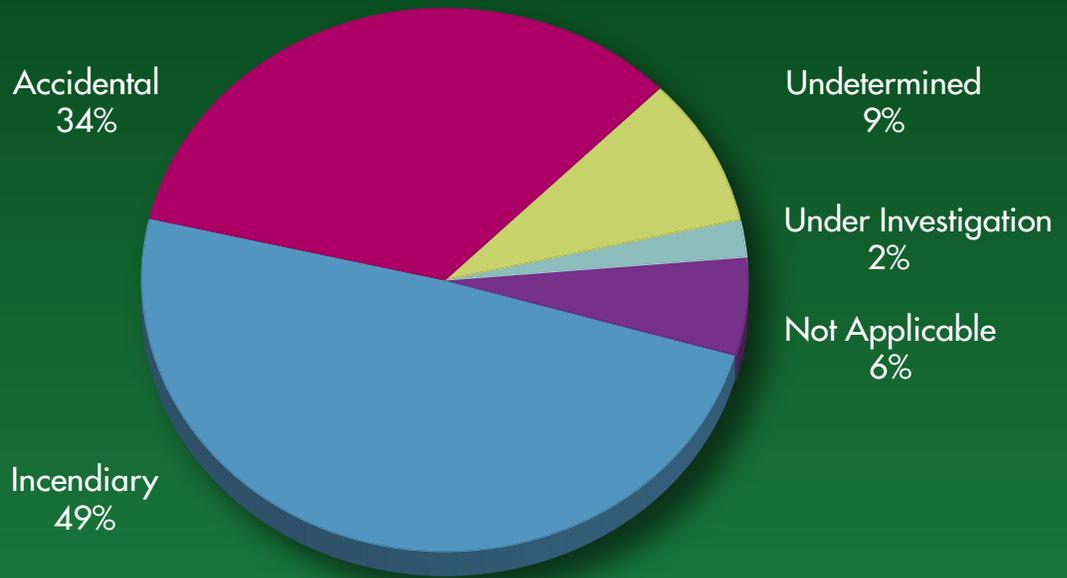
**2008 Investigative Responses by Region**



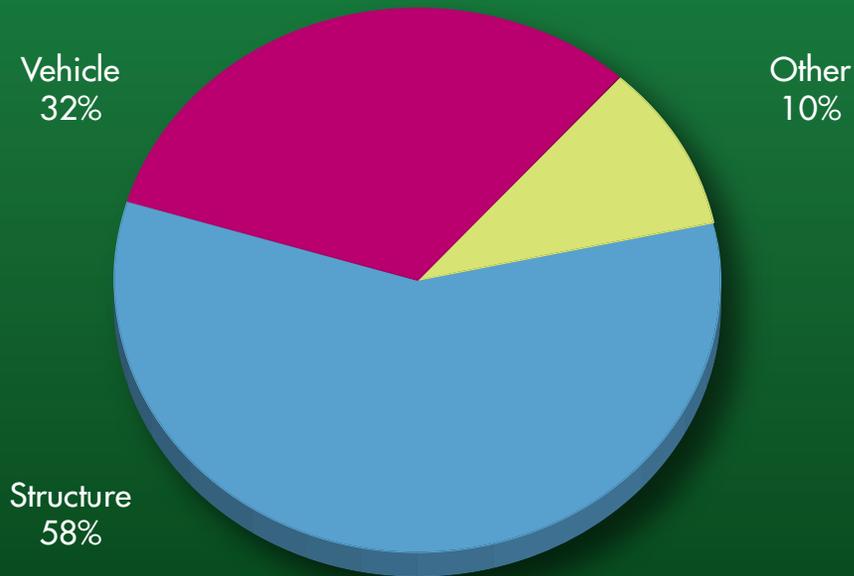
This year, the Bureau conducted investigations on properties that resulted in estimated losses of over \$248 million. Of this estimated property loss, approximately \$51 million was attributed to the crime of arson.

The Bureau classifies their investigative findings as – *Incendiary, Accidental, Undetermined or Not Applicable*. An **Incendiary** fire is defined as “a willfully and unlawfully set fire.” An **Accidental** fire involves all those for which the proven cause does not involve an intentional human act to ignite or spread into an area where the fire should not be. An **Undetermined** fire cause includes fires that have been investigated, fires that have not been investigated or fires that are currently under investigation, and have insufficient information to classify further; however, the fire might still be under investigation and the cause may be determined at a later date with the introduction or discovery of new information. A **Not Applicable** finding is used when an investigation involves a non-fire related incident such as outstanding warrants, suspicious packages or other non-fire requests for assistance.

## 2008 INVESTIGATIONS - CAUSES REPORTED



## 2008 TYPES OF INCIDENTS INVESTIGATED



### Arrests:

Sworn personnel of the Bureau made arrests in 455 investigative cases in 2008, resulting in the arrest of 505 defendants. This information is based on an arrest date of 2008 and often includes on-going investigations from previous years, not just cases initiated in 2008. Of the 455 cases with arrests, 310 of these investigations were classified as “incendiary” fires and resulted in the arrest of 319 defendants. This represents an arrest clearance rate for incendiary fires of 16 percent, which is within the reported national arrest percentages of 16 to 18 percent.

Charges against the perpetrator(s) included Arson, Burning to Defraud the Insurer, False/Fraud Insurance Claim, Murder/Arson, Grand Theft, Criminal Mischief, Possession/Placement/Discharge of a Destructive Device, along with other related crimes.

In addition to arrests made in association with “Incendiary” fire cases, our sworn investigators will often encounter situations that may result in additional arrests that are often not associated with arson-related crimes. (i.e. burglary, fraud, assault, probation violation, drug/drug paraphernalia and wanted persons). Bureau detectives arrested 186 defendants for these types of criminal activities.

## **Arson Penalties:**

Arson is a devastating crime and the penalties associated with arson reflect Florida’s commitment to punish offenders. In Florida, the crime of arson is punishable by imprisonment, fines and restitution. Currently under Florida law, anyone who willfully starts a fire which damages a dwelling, a structure occupied by a person, or any structure where persons are normally present, is guilty of a first-degree felony punishable by up to 30 years in prison. In cases where a juvenile is convicted of arson, 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.

*A person who perpetrates any arson that results in bodily injury 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 confinement not to exceed one year and a monetary fine of up to \$10,000.*

**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 up to 15 years and a monetary fine of up to \$10,000.**



## Bureau of Forensic Fire and Explosive Analysis



**Carl Chasteen**  
**Bureau Chief**

The Division of State Fire Marshal has had a forensic laboratory since the early 1970's. The facility is located outside of Tallahassee, Florida, on the grounds of the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy, off of Route 90 West near Quincy, Florida. The State Fire Marshal of Florida is one of only three State Fire Marshals in the United States to have their own laboratory dedicated to the forensic analysis of evidence from fires or explosions.

The facility has over 12,000 square feet of laboratory, office and conference rooms. The Bureau currently has a staff of ten full-time employees.

The Chemistry Section consists of four Crime Laboratory Analysts (three are Senior Analysts) and a Crime Laboratory Technician. The Imaging Section consists of one Crime Laboratory Analyst and two Forensic Technologists. A Maintenance Mechanic assists with facility operations and upkeep. The only administrative support is a part time OPS receptionist.

Evidence from fire and explosions are some of the most difficult types of forensic evidence to work with. Basically, the analyst is trying to find a mixture of chemicals added to another mixture of chemicals. Sometimes the ones you are looking for are almost the same as the ones that were originally there. How do you determine what is extraneous? Can you say that the chemicals you find are really meaningful? It's like having a mixture of sand from Panama City Beach mixed with sand from other beaches in Florida. Then you are asked to separate only the grains from Panama City Beach. You have to have the right combination of skill, equipment, and knowledge, to be able to characterize the grains from Panama City Beach from the exclusion of all the others.

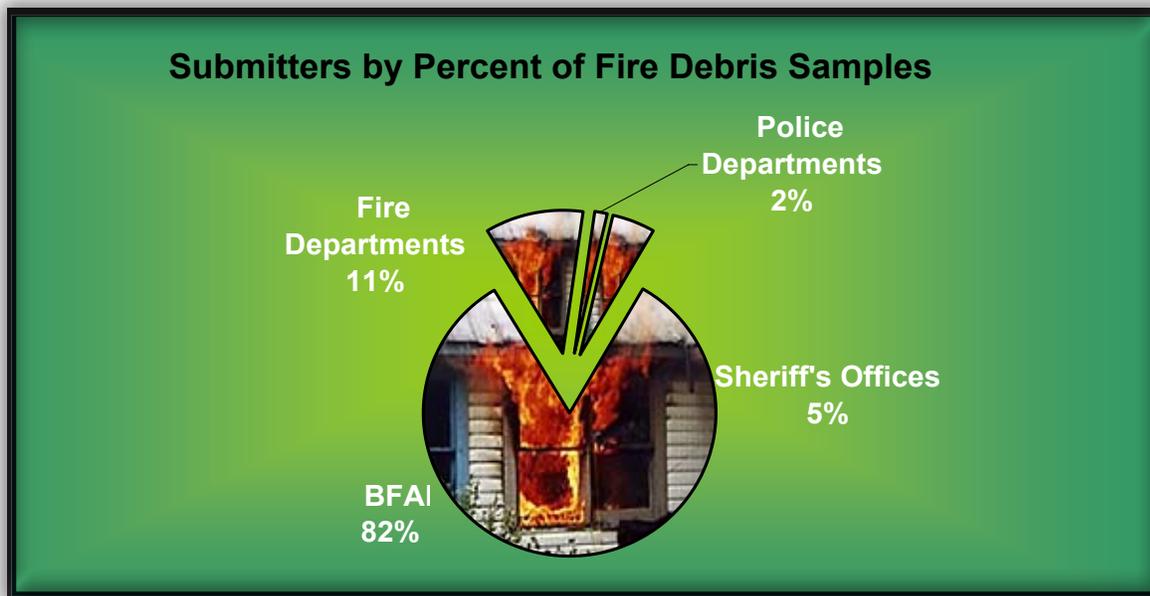
The goal of the Bureau is to provide timely and credible forensic analysis of evidence. The Chemistry Section achieves this objective through its analysis of: fire debris to determine the

presence and identity of any ignitable liquids, explosives debris and residues to identify chemical components of the explosives, and non-drug chemicals recovered from clandestine laboratories. The presence of an ignitable liquid from the point of origin of a fire often aids investigators in determining the source of a fire.



The identity of chemicals in explosive scenes and clandestine laboratories aids investigators with information critical to concluding their investigation. In the calendar year 2008, the Bureau analyzed 2,446 cases containing 4,722 samples. Quality assurance samples are also routinely prepared and analyzed in order to assess the efficiency and quality of the laboratory's extraction, analysis and interpretation procedures.

These add to the total number of forensic samples processed by the laboratory. The Bureau also completed 1,838 analyses on samples submitted from suspected explosions, chemical reaction bombs, and clandestine laboratories. When a fire debris or explosives case was submitted to the Bureau, the average turnaround time to complete the analysis in 2008 was only 6.6 days.



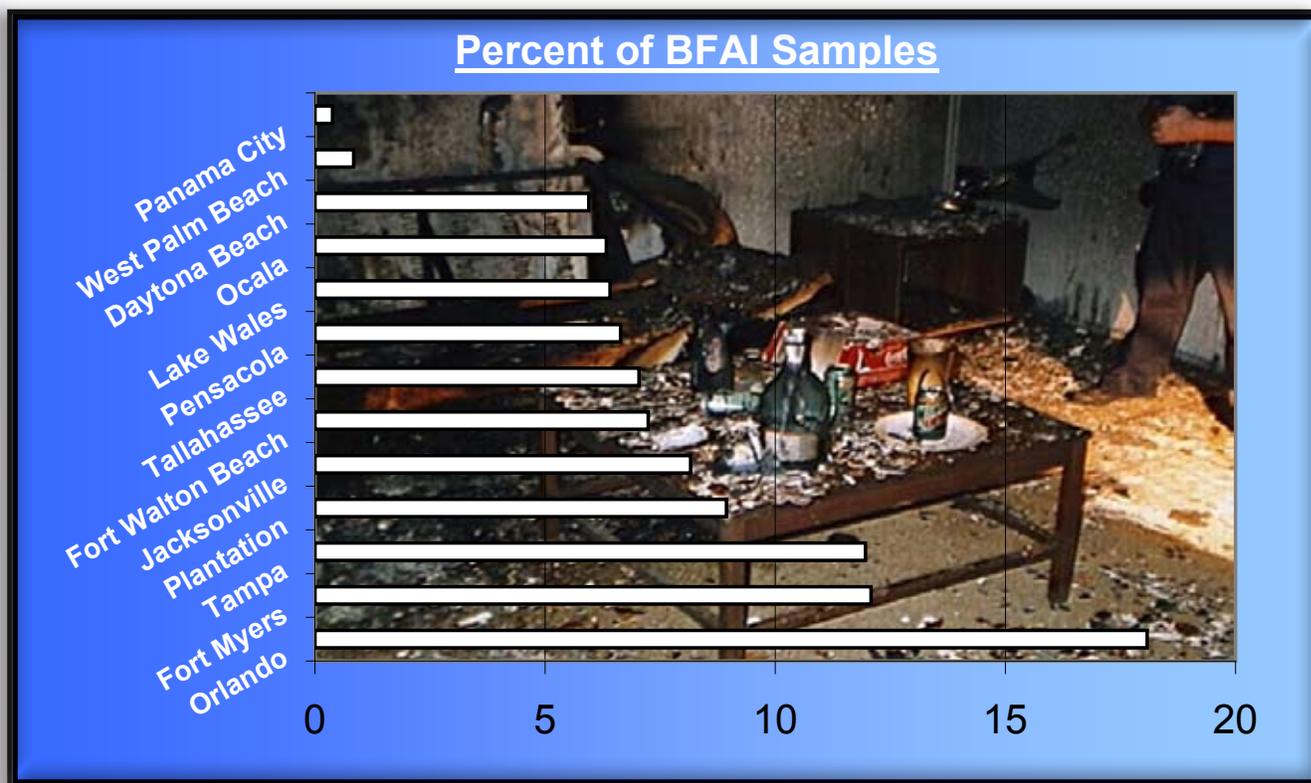
Most evidence requiring fire debris, explosion, or chemical analysis is submitted by the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations (83.1% of samples submitted from July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008). The Bureau also receives evidence from police departments (1.6%), fire departments (10.7%) and sheriff's offices (4.6%) from across the State of Florida. Laboratory services are provided to all law enforcement and fire departments without cost. Analysts will be made available for expert testimony provided a proper subpoena is presented.

Forensic evidence must be submitted to the Bureau either by hand delivery or via a certified carrier (United States Postal Service - registered mail only, Federal Express, United Parcel Service, DHL, etc.) ([Evidence Submission Form DFS-K5-1096](#)). Please be aware that there are federal, as well as company specific restrictions regarding the shipment of materials. Specifically, you must also be aware that certain items must be listed as "dangerous goods" and thus have special labeling requirements. Other items may have an "excepted quantities" variation.

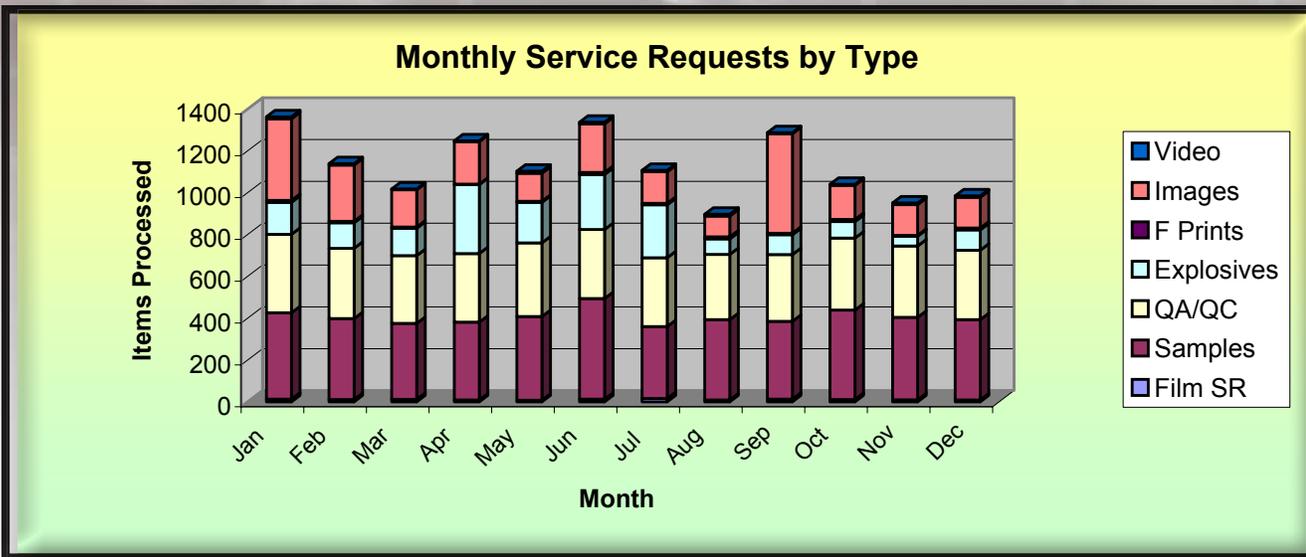
The Bureau offers a variety of imaging services. The original is a Digital Darkroom where digital images (from digital cameras) of crime scenes are processed, placed into a database and archived. The digital darkroom is also equipped to scan conventionally developed photographs into a digital format for archival and processing purposes. The digital darkroom processed 2,589 cases in the calendar year 2008.

The Bureau has the ability to import, analyze, manage and archive video from most video media. The placement of closed circuit security cameras has grown significantly. It is estimated that each of us is caught on film from eight to twelve times a day. These cameras are in ATM machines, businesses, government buildings, private residences, etc. As these cameras capture images, they often will capture either individuals committing a crime or individuals associated with a crime. It is logical then that these images have become an important piece of the investigative puzzle. In some cases, the Bureau can aid in the physical recovery and restoration of damaged video capture devices and media.

Forensic evidence submitted to the Bureau will be returned to all submitters other than those from the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations. Evidence will either be returned or placed in storage only after the samples are tested and a report is mailed. Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations submitters will be queried on a periodic basis as to the need for continued storage of their evidence. Should evidence be needed for court purposes, either the investigator or a court officer may request the evidence to be shipped to them.



The Bureau will respond to all “public records requests” it receives, but can only provide information on those cases which are not under an active criminal investigation. Because records of analyses, photographs and digital images are used in criminal and civil litigation, it is often necessary to prepare photographic reproductions, prints, and enlargements for attorneys and investigators. In some cases, a compact disk (or DVD) with copies of the scanned photographs, digital images, or case files can be provided.



### Customer Satisfaction Survey for FY 2007-2008

**92 of 141 (65.25%) returned**

Services	% Ranking as "More Than Satisfied"	% Ranking as "Extremely Satisfied"	% Stating BFFEA Results Used in 76 to 100% of case closures
Fire Debris	33.70%	47.20%	57.70%
Explosives/Chemicals	38.10%	40.50%	57.80%
Latent Prints	19.40%	6.50%	20.00%
Digital Archiving	41.70%	35.40%	70.90%
Video	25.00%	59.40%	35.30%
Consultation	42.00%	46.00%	52.10%

Additionally, employees from the Bureau are available to train personnel from other agencies in various aspects of forensic science, digital imaging and evidence preservation. Employees contribute to the field of forensic science through involvement in organizations such as: the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD), the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), and the Technical Working Group on Fire and Explosions (TWGFEX) which is organized by the [National Center for Forensic Sciences](#). Bureau Chief Carl Chasteen served as the Chair of TWGFEX, from its inception through 2004. He has been elected as TWGFEX Vice-Chair in 2008. He has also served as Chair of the IAAI Forensic Science Committee between 1993 and 2007. Chief Chasteen has also been a Fellow of the American Board of Criminalistics in Fire Debris since 2008.

The Bureau has long insisted on customer service and quality. To enhance this, the Bureau has identified forensic laboratory accreditation as a major goal. In 2008, a shift in the focus as to the level of accreditation was required when the decision was made to seek accreditation from a forensic accrediting body that adheres to the International Standard's Organization's (ISO) standard 17025. The two forensic accrediting bodies in the United States who use the ISO 17025 standard are the American Society of Crime Laboratory Director's Laboratory Accrediting Board International (ASCLD/LAB) and Forensic Quality Services International (FQS-I).

Regardless of the accrediting body, the preparation is intense and time consuming. All laboratory documents: quality manual, standard operating procedures, test methods, compliance manual, training programs, etc... must comply with the requirements of ISO 17025 and any additional requirements of the accrediting body. The laboratory must have procedures in place to track all instrument usage, chemical inventory, access to evidence, temperature and humidity of work areas, security, etc... Many of these items are already in place, but must be harmonized with the language of ISO 17025. Some modifications to the facility are planned to augment some of these requirements. More importantly, Bureau personnel must become knowledgeable of the accreditation language and requirements and adhere to them. This is a time, labor, and personnel intensive process. In 2009, the Bureau will accelerate this program and will seek to achieve accreditation by the end of February 2010.



**Three analysts from the Forensic Science Center of the Criminal Investigations Bureau of the Republic of China (Taiwan) visited the lab for a week. From left to right: Liu Chih-Fen, Chief Chasteen, Hsieh Chin-Lin, PhD, and Lee Hsieh-Chang.**



# Florida Fire Incident Reporting System



**Keith McCarthy,**  
Statistician Supervisor II

What type of responses do Florida firefighters make? Are the individual fire departments equipped and staffed sufficiently, or do their programs need more funding? The Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) Section of the Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) can help answer these and other questions, based on the information that hundreds of Florida fire departments voluntarily submit each year.

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. Established under 633.115 F.S. and charged with collecting, evaluating, and making available information about Florida fires, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and the people who protect the citizens of the state of Florida. The FFIRS section which handles this information assists in every stage of the process. Personnel conduct training on the software used to gather the data. Currently, this software is the Federal Client Tool 5.0 software, version 5.7.0. Software and training are free to all fire departments. If you are using an earlier version, you must download 5.7.0 by logging onto [www.nfirs.fema.gov](http://www.nfirs.fema.gov). In addition, the section also provides handbooks, coding guides and technical support. Once the data has been submitted, staff will analyze and evaluate it, upload it into the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) database, supply each fire department with annual statistical reports and then produce the annual report, "Florida Fires."

## What Can The Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) Do For Florida's Fire Departments?

-  Assist 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 Division of State Fire Marshal manages FFIRS in conjunction with the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). By participating in the FFIRS program, your department becomes a part of the cooperative effort among fire organizations to make Florida a safer state. Your efforts to report data also help to more accurately assess and subsequently, combat the fire problem at a national level. Our efforts and yours can help make Florida a safer place. Join the Division of State Fire Marshal and FFIRS in its endeavor to Fight Fires with Facts!

If assistance is needed, please contact FFIRS at (850) 413-3698 or [ffirs@myfloridacfo.com](mailto:ffirs@myfloridacfo.com).

The Section is staffed by Keith McCarthy-Statistician Supervisor II, Matt Hinson-Statistician II, Dalfnie Burt-Records Specialist, Angela Reid-Records Specialist, and Marissa Jasmin-Data Entry Operator.





## Emergency Management and Response

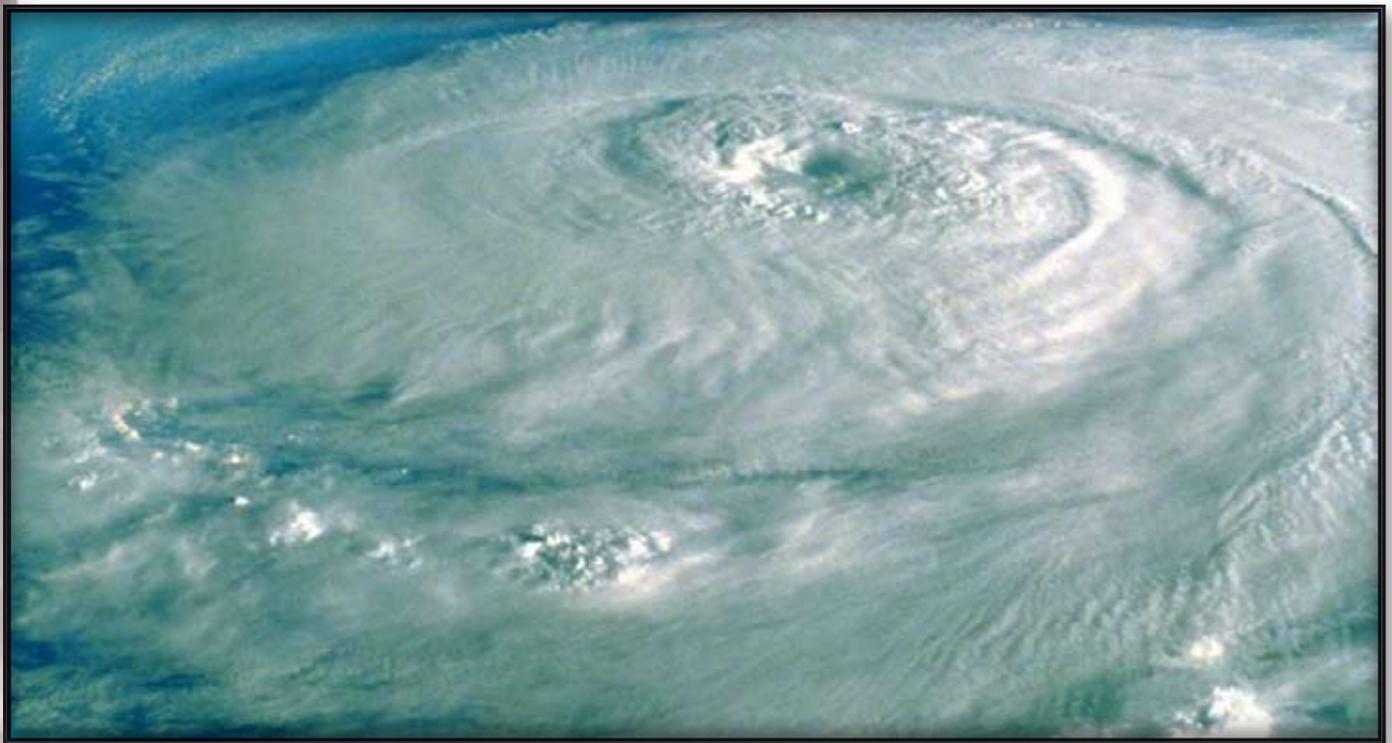


The Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) continues as the lead agency for two Emergency Support Functions (ESF) at the State Emergency Operation Center (EOC) during a disaster or state emergency. The Division is responsible for the management and staffing of ESF 4 (Firefighting) and ESF 9 (Search and 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), Health and Medical (ESF 8) and Hazardous Materials (ESF 10), which are the three additional ESFs in the Emergency Services Branch, as well as the 13 other ESFs, which are organized in other branches.

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 SFM staff.

The Division of State Fire Marshal uses the Incident Management System as a standard for EOC and ESF operations and did so prior to the issuance of the National Incident Management (NIMS) guidelines. Training in emergency management is an ongoing cooperative effort with four major 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, Division of State Fire Marshal staff respond and perform duties which may range from law enforcement and security to road clearing and damage assessment.

ESF 4 & 9 are 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 the Regional Domestic Security Task Forces, in accordance with provisions of the CEMP and Florida Statutes.

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.





# Outstanding Fire and Rescue Service Personnel Honored



## STATE FIRE MARSHAL ALEX SINK PRESENTS FIRE SERVICE AWARDS

TALLAHASSEE—State Fire Marshal Alex Sink honored Florida firefighters in a ceremony at the Florida Cabinet, recognizing April 13-18, 2009 as Florida Firefighter Appreciation Week.

CFO Sink remembered Florida's fallen firefighters at a ceremonial 'last call' bell-ringing in Florida's Capitol. CFO Sink was joined by State Senator Charlie Justice and State Representative Bill Heller,



sponsors of legislation creating the Florida Firefighter Memorial Flag. "We all know it takes a special person to fill the boots of a firefighter", said CFO Sink, "all of our firefighters go above and beyond the call of duty, risking their lives to protect Floridians".

*Last year, Florida's firefighters raised \$2.2 million during their annual "Fill the Boot" Campaign*

During Florida Firefighter Appreciation Week, Florida's firefighters and paramedics are recognized for efforts to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), and Florida's finest firefighters were honored with Fire Service Awards. Last year, Florida's firefighters raised nearly \$2.2 million for the

Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) during their annual "Fill the Boot" campaign, ranking second in the nation and making them MDA's largest single source of giving in Florida.

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

- **Volunteer Firefighter of the Year**  
— Scott Malone, Punta Gorda Fire Department
- **Fire Service Inspector of the Year**  
— Maurice Majszak, City of Miami Fire-Rescue Department
- **Fire Instructor of the Year**  
— Wane Watts, South Walton Fire District
- **Forestry Firefighter of the Year**  
— Chris Worell, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry
- **Fire Marshal of the Year**  
— Foster Gover, Southern Manatee Fire District
- **Professional Firefighter of the Year**  
— Shayne Stewart, Okaloosa Island Firefighter's Association and Florida Professional Firefighters
- **Fire Chief of the Year**  
— Thomas Weber, Port Orange Fire & Rescue
- **Fire Investigator of the Year**  
— Kurt Lathrop, West Manatee Fire & Rescue
- **Florida Fire Investigator of the Year (Department)**  
— Mark Sauls, Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations
- **Training Center of the Year**  
— Tampa Fire Training Center

Fire Service Awards are coordinated through the State Fire Marshal's Office annually and are sponsored by the fire-service related organizations: comprising the Florida Joint Council of Fire & Emergency Services.



# Average Response Frequencies Reported by Florida Fire Departments



One Fire Department  
Responds  
Every **15**  
Seconds



One Structure Fire  
Occurs  
Every **30**  
Minutes  
and **3**  
Seconds



One Actual Fire  
Occurs  
Every **9**  
Minutes  
and **6**  
Seconds



One Other Emergency  
Call Occurs  
Every **1**  
Minute and  
**50**  
Seconds



One Vehicle Fire  
Occurs  
Every **48**  
Minutes  
and **5**  
Seconds



One EMS/Rescue  
Call Occurs  
Every **20**  
Seconds



One Outside/Other  
Fire  
Occurs  
Every **18**  
Minutes



One False Alarm  
Call Occurs  
Every **4**  
Minutes



These figures do not include Automatic/Mutual Aid given responses.





# Florida Counties Fire

Counties	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Other Fires	Exposures	Total Fires	Rescue EMS	Other Calls	False Alarms
Alachua	266	139	513	0	918	9,039	4,297	2,165
Baker	69	44	111	0	224	1,741	454	46
Bay	272	130	384	4	790	6,886	4,121	2,059
Bradford	31	29	106	0	166	1,828	541	127
Brevard	377	247	978	22	1,624	38,092	10,777	3,517
Broward	1,622	944	1,591	29	4,186	151,908	44,816	19,322
Calhoun	34	11	64	0	109	109	233	15
Charlotte	75	82	357	5	519	13,705	4,546	926
Citrus	129	100	322	7	558	2,505	2,046	440
Clay	104	78	286	1	469	10,733	4,158	440
Collier	264	158	526	24	972	19,615	8,349	3,741
Columbia	92	81	336	8	517	2,297	848	153
Desoto	35	26	234	0	295	751	214	101
Dixie	16	11	42	2	71	80	59	3
Duval	823	525	1,758	17	3,123	83,967	25,232	6,871
Escambia	234	103	498	13	848	6,434	2,959	1,243
Flagler	76	55	228	0	359	13,615	2,199	836
Franklin	7	5	10	0	22	34	86	1
Gadsden	110	57	128	3	298	359	1,603	243
Gilchrist	17	6	82	0	105	561	310	34
Glades*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gulf	14	3	26	0	43	134	23	7
Hamilton	29	26	83	3	141	224	239	10
Hardee	34	28	169	0	231	2,741	718	191
Hendry	50	30	165	2	247	2,221	1,042	158
Hernando	127	89	315	3	534	22,016	3,966	822
Highlands	110	76	316	2	504	3,782	993	372
Hillsborough	109	82	205	2	398	5,146	1,566	1,400
Holmes	19	8	53	6	86	145	156	1
Indian River	82	65	262	6	415	17,212	1,489	992
Jackson	44	13	64	0	121	43	270	51
Jefferson	28	25	87	6	146	128	264	77
Lafayette	11	10	16	1	38	17	20	2
Lake	262	203	658	7	1,130	25,212	5,882	2,014
Lee	610	379	1,046	39	2,074	60,606	14,263	6,294
Leon	471	235	799	23	1,528	10,049	10,242	2,743
Levy	47	40	257	0	344	1,428	732	67
Liberty	10	2	13	1	26	3	15	0

# & Non-Fire Totals



Total Incidents	Add Mutual Aid Given	Total Responses	Total Dollar Loss	Civilian Injuries	Firefighter Injuries
16,419	1,296	17,715	\$7,116,829.00	6	5
2,465	61	2,526	\$814,400.00	1	2
13,856	627	14,483	\$6,685,390.00	9	5
2,662	486	3,148	\$1,072,550.00	0	0
54,010	713	54,723	\$19,820,096.00	16	25
220,232	5,698	225,930	\$34,843,175.00	91	103
466	72	538	\$321,850.00	0	1
19,696	229	19,925	\$2,823,354.00	4	1
5,549	587	6,136	\$5,470,631.00	17	1
15,800	1,120	16,920	\$5,802,845.00	8	4
32,677	1,982	34,659	\$7,111,284.00	11	27
3,815	814	4,629	\$2,824,216.00	3	7
1,361	9	1,370	\$174,520.00	0	0
213	30	243	\$589,100.00	0	1
119,193	70	119,263	\$19,021,514.00	19	26
11,484	259	11,743	\$3,258,970.00	13	7
17,009	618	17,627	\$1,723,358.00	3	7
143	2	145	\$262,700.00	1	0
2,503	97	2,600	\$3,107,964.00	0	4
1,010	92	1,102	\$380,000.00	1	0
0	0	0	\$0.00	0	0
207	12	219	\$858,330.00	0	0
614	311	925	\$959,880.00	0	0
3,881	35	3,916	\$0.00	2	0
3,668	391	4,059	\$862,650.00	1	1
27,338	539	27,877	\$4,231,033.00	5	8
5,651	726	6,377	\$17,814,610.00	6	5
8,510	419	8,929	\$5,158,510.00	2	3
388	111	499	\$1,070,750.00	0	0
20,108	21	20,129	\$4,269,507.00	3	3
485	160	645	\$958,165.00	0	0
615	10	625	\$2,564,405.00	1	1
77	14	91	\$746,670.00	0	1
34,238	2,266	36,504	\$8,285,989.00	7	6
83,237	1,210	84,447	\$22,355,400.00	25	35
24,562	1,152	25,714	\$6,064,390.00	10	2
2,571	484	3,055	\$990,406.00	2	0
44	7	51	\$157,500.00	1	0





# Florida Counties Fire

Counties	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Other Fires	Exposures	Total Fires	Rescue EMS	Other Calls	False Alarms
Madison	59	40	101	3	203	594	392	68
Manatee	238	188	551	14	991	15,302	3,606	2,758
Marion	397	249	941	1	1,588	35,897	13,163	1,864
Martin	93	79	209	2	383	14,264	2,818	1,080
Miami-Dade	2,610	1,734	2,399	1	6,744	241,974	16,226	5,743
Monroe	105	61	224	2	392	5,643	1,452	853
Nassau	61	62	224	0	347	5,449	1,471	454
Okaloosa	206	78	277	21	582	11,984	3,441	1,220
Okeechobee	40	32	126	0	198	5,175	531	127
Orange	1,509	889	1,448	9	3,855	104,589	31,117	13,271
Osceola	286	162	386	5	839	23,756	4,472	2,197
Palm Beach	849	665	1,406	17	2,937	136,612	18,493	14,472
Pasco	392	264	545	48	1,249	28,477	8,900	2,690
Pinellas	1,071	443	1,313	65	2,892	123,040	27,637	8,267
Polk	779	462	1,151	36	2,428	48,997	12,015	2,438
Putnam	159	84	343	2	588	12,248	2,304	319
Santa Rosa	109	52	339	3	503	5,238	1,533	405
Sarasota	239	174	768	1	1,182	44,614	3,792	3,338
Seminole	283	174	471	8	936	30,001	8,304	3,167
St Johns	162	93	470	10	735	15,888	3,287	1,677
St Lucie	123	140	505	0	768	25,820	1,983	2,108
Sumter	62	56	157	3	278	9,403	2,374	358
Suwannee	41	56	173	0	270	407	656	128
Taylor	62	25	110	0	197	181	204	64
Union	14	8	21	0	43	19	23	5
Volusia	499	330	1,227	32	2,088	49,949	17,452	3,626
Wakulla	36	20	84	0	140	323	138	40
Walton	93	41	310	3	447	7,827	1,728	649
Washington	20	10	26	2	58	47	142	13
<b>Total Incidents</b>	17,307	10,816	29,393	524	58,040	1,519,084	349,382	130,883
<b>Mutual Aid</b>	4,110	721	3,013	0	7,844	27,160	28,449	5,028
<b>Total Responses</b>	21,417	11,537	32,406	524	65,884	1,546,244	377,831	135,911

\* No Data Received

The above statistics are based on the data submitted by 528 fire departments that reported to the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) in 2008. 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 82-85.



# & Non-Fire Totals (Cont'd)

Total Incidents	Add Mutual Aid Given	Total Responses	Total Dollar Loss	Civilian Injuries	Firefighter Injuries
1,257	193	1,450	\$1,756,520.00	0	5
22,657	412	23,069	\$7,474,710.00	10	3
52,512	741	53,253	\$3,210,025.00	6	4
18,545	861	19,406	\$3,284,751.00	4	0
270,687	63	270,750	\$30,207,714.00	0	2
8,340	398	8,738	\$15,927,675.00	2	0
7,721	456	8,177	\$1,317,391.00	2	8
17,227	2,596	19,823	\$8,840,289.00	12	4
6,031	128	6,159	\$2,003,450.00	5	0
152,832	6,054	158,886	\$28,051,701.00	56	195
31,264	1,199	32,463	\$9,467,235.00	4	9
172,514	1,795	174,309	\$30,398,616.00	77	173
41,316	593	41,909	\$13,162,135.00	38	8
161,836	7,061	168,897	\$32,639,542.00	148	225
65,878	2,071	67,949	\$49,912,102.00	31	13
15,459	456	15,915	\$1,835,100.00	7	3
7,679	789	8,468	\$2,256,535.00	4	1
52,926	337	53,263	\$5,102,234.00	9	7
42,408	11,053	53,461	\$7,668,075.00	29	112
21,587	99	21,686	\$3,879,651.00	11	24
30,679	9	30,688	\$3,888,407.00	0	1
12,413	714	13,127	\$1,289,067.00	0	10
1,461	29	1,490	\$1,425,285.00	3	0
646	33	679	\$1,857,050.00	0	0
90	57	147	\$102,100.00	0	0
73,115	6,959	80,074	\$18,062,337.00	69	23
641	33	674	\$1,376,400.00	2	0
10,651	560	11,211	\$2,018,122.00	0	10
260	34	294	\$400,420.00	0	0
2,057,389					
	68,513				
2,057,389		2,125,902	\$489,387,580	797	1,131

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.





# 2008 Florida Wildfires

County	Total Fires		0.1 - 0.2 Acres		0.3 - 9 Acres	
	# Fires	# Acres	# Fires	# Acres	# Fires	# Acres
<b>All Counties</b>	<b>2,887</b>	<b>105,289.8</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>1,624</b>	<b>3,606.7</b>
Alachua	51	198.2	17	1.9	28	68.3
Baker	15	114.7	5	0.6	7	12.9
Bay	54	576.3	10	1.3	25	63.0
Bradford	48	98.9	14	1.5	32	51.4
Brevard	48	13,124.3	5	0.6	22	55.6
Broward	16	1,073.8	2	0.3	6	23.5
Calhoun	18	145.9	4	0.5	9	20.4
Charlotte	56	968.0	14	1.7	28	75.3
Citrus	79	1,223.4	22	2.6	52	125.4
Clay	61	491.5	15	1.3	41	93.9
Collier	57	1,650.5	11	1.2	32	94.3
Columbia	54	525.5	21	2.2	25	36.9
DeSoto	20	723.8	3	0.3	7	20.5
Dixie	54	710.9	15	1.6	23	54.3
Duval	25	202.1	4	0.4	18	45.7
Escambia	44	108.1	5	0.7	38	95.4
Flagler	52	203.4	31	3.8	15	22.1
Franklin	19	2,271.4	7	0.9	8	20.5
Gadsden	9	28.7	2	0.2	6	8.5
Gilchrist	31	1,359.7	4	0.4	18	41.3
Glades	31	41,343.5	7	0.7	11	15.9
Gulf	24	151.6	7	1.1	15	49.5
Hamilton	31	228.3	7	1.0	20	50.9
Hardee	22	446.2	1	0.2	14	56.0
Hendry	27	868.7	7	0.9	13	22.8
Hernando	40	486.0	9	1.0	24	50.0
Highlands	90	828.3	30	4.0	52	84.5
Hillsborough	30	1,129.3	4	0.3	14	43.0
Holmes	21	96.8	6	0.7	11	27.1
Indian River	27	661.5	1	0.1	17	37.4
Jackson	45	167.1	10	1.5	32	70.6
Jefferson	21	131.0	7	0.8	10	10.2
Lafayette	31	2,560.1	12	1.5	8	27.8
Lake	64	1,694.6	17	1.8	35	63.1
Lee	59	598.4	7	1.1	42	104.2
Leon	13	94.7	5	0.7	6	15.0
Levy	136	1,354.5	11	1.1	96	186.1
Liberty	7	215.2	1	0.2	3	7.0
Madison	40	242.6	17	2.1	17	54.5
Manatee	22	415.6	1	0.1	11	13.5
Marion	64	84.8	17	2.1	47	82.7
Martin	9	208.6	2	0.1	5	8.5
Miami-Dade	57	1,027.2	4	0.4	38	107.8
Monroe	5	1.6	3	0.3	2	1.3
Nassau	29	234.6	8	1.0	16	43.2
Okaloosa	45	179.1	17	1.9	22	34.2
Okeechobee	45	4,463.5	13	1.3	21	45.9
Orange	42	762.1	6	1.0	22	44.6
Osceola	50	3,616.4	1	0.1	26	47.2
Palm Beach	24	4,061.6	3	0.3	15	34.3
Pasco	50	607.6	8	0.9	31	66.5
Pinellas	1	3.0	-	-	1	3.0
Polk	176	2,529.8	22	2.3	101	224.5
Putnam	94	1,647.3	36	3.8	51	106.0
Santa Rosa	88	1,461.0	17	2.4	52	133.6
Sarasota	61	921.4	16	2.2	31	64.2
Seminole	17	37.2	5	0.8	11	16.4
St. Johns	40	191.0	15	1.5	21	44.5
St. Lucie	17	397.5	1	-	7	17.5
Sumter	22	374.6	4	0.4	11	29.5
Suwannee	61	256.5	12	1.5	42	86.0
Taylor	60	292.8	19	2.1	36	70.3
Union	21	103.0	3	0.4	16	42.3
Volusia	121	1,481.6	44	6.2	63	118.4
Wakulla	21	195.9	9	0.9	9	16.7
Walton	59	367.1	23	2.9	26	61.2
Washington	14	104.9	2	0.3	10	38.1

# 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
470	12,932.0	72	11,188.7	22	12,387.0	9	20,112.4	2	44,981.0
6	128.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	101.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	332.0	1	180.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	46.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	341.7	3	482.4	1	597.0	2	4,666.0	1	6,981.0
4	150.0	3	500.0	1	400.0	-	-	-	-
5	125.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	291.0	3	600.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	113.4	-	-	1	982.0	-	-	-	-
4	119.3	1	277.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	286.0	3	469.0	1	800.0	-	-	-	-
7	186.4	-	-	1	300.0	-	-	-	-
9	194.0	-	-	1	509.0	-	-	-	-
15	495.0	1	160.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	51.0	1	105.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	12.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	177.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	50.0	1	100.0	-	-	1	2,100.0	-	-
1	20.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	163.0	2	225.0	1	930.0	-	-	-	-
9	233.5	2	337.0	-	-	1	2,756.4	1	38,000.0
2	101.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	176.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	140.0	2	250.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	145.0	-	-	1	700.0	-	-	-	-
6	97.0	-	-	1	338.0	-	-	-	-
6	183.3	1	146.5	1	410.0	-	-	-	-
9	246.0	2	340.0	1	500.0	-	-	-	-
4	69.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	94.0	3	530.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	95.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	120.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	161.3	4	620.5	1	377.0	1	1,372.0	-	-
9	185.4	2	444.3	-	-	1	1,000.0	-	-
9	306.1	1	187.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	79.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26	582.3	2	210.0	1	375.0	-	-	-	-
2	28.0	1	180.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	186.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	159.0	2	243.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	20.0	1	180.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	274.0	2	310.0	1	335.0	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	190.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	143.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	398.3	-	-	-	-	1	4,018.0	-	-
12	403.5	2	313.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	509.1	5	818.0	4	2,242.0	-	-	-	-
3	125.0	1	102.0	1	700.0	1	3,100.0	-	-
9	260.2	2	280.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
47	1,365.0	5	550.0	1	388.0	-	-	-	-
4	101.5	2	336.0	-	-	1	1,100.0	-	-
16	378.0	2	240.0	1	707.0	-	-	-	-
12	430.0	2	425.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	20.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	39.0	1	106.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	180.0	1	200.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	86.7	1	258.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	169.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	220.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	60.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	201.0	3	359.0	1	797.0	-	-	-	-
3	178.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	303.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	66.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-





# Summary Statistics 2008



In 2008, fire departments responded to a total of 2,057,289 incidents. When mutual aid calls were added, the total number of reported responses increased to 2,125,902 which generated fewer requests for fire department services than in 2007. Total fire response incidents decreased by 14.7% and total dollar loss decreased by 3.7%. The number of fire departments that reported to the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) was 528, which increased by 2% from the previous year.

**2008 State Incident Summary**

Structure Fires	17,307
Vehicle Fires	10,816
Other Fires	29,393
Exposures Fires	524
<b>Total Fires</b>	<b>58,040</b>
Rescue/EMS	1,519,084
Other Emergencies	349,382
<b>Total Incidents</b>	<b>1,868,466</b>
False Alarms	130,883
Mutual Aid Given	68,513
<b>*Total Incidents plus Mutual Aid Given</b>	<b>2,125,902</b>

**Summary Statistics 2008**

- Rescue/EMS: 74%
- Other Emergencies: 17%
- False Alarms: 6%
- Total Fires: 3%

**2008 State Incident Summary Compared to (2003-2007) 5 Year Average**

**2008 Fires**

Category	2008	5 Yr. Avg.
Structure Fires	17,307	19,358
Vehicle Fires	10,816	13,023
Other Fires	29,393	30,099
Exposures Fires	524	459
<b>Total Fires</b>	<b>58,040</b>	<b>62,480</b>

**2008 Non Fire Related Incidents**

Category	2008	5 Yr. Avg.
Rescue EMS	1,519,084	1,314,135
Other Calls	349,382	331,788
False Alarms	130,883	121,749
<b>Total Fire &amp; Non Fire Incidents</b>	<b>2,057,389</b>	<b>1,830,153</b>

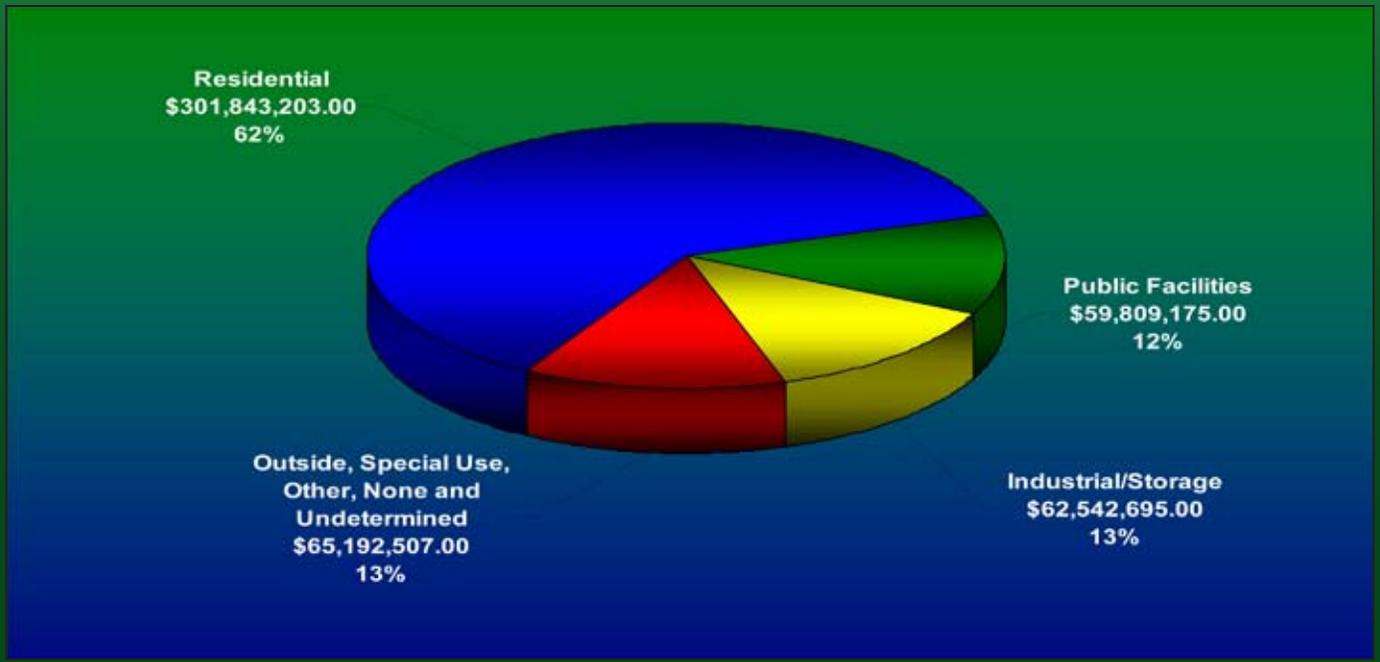




# Total Breakdown of Fires by Property Use



## Total State Dollar Loss Reported Value of Property Loss for 2008

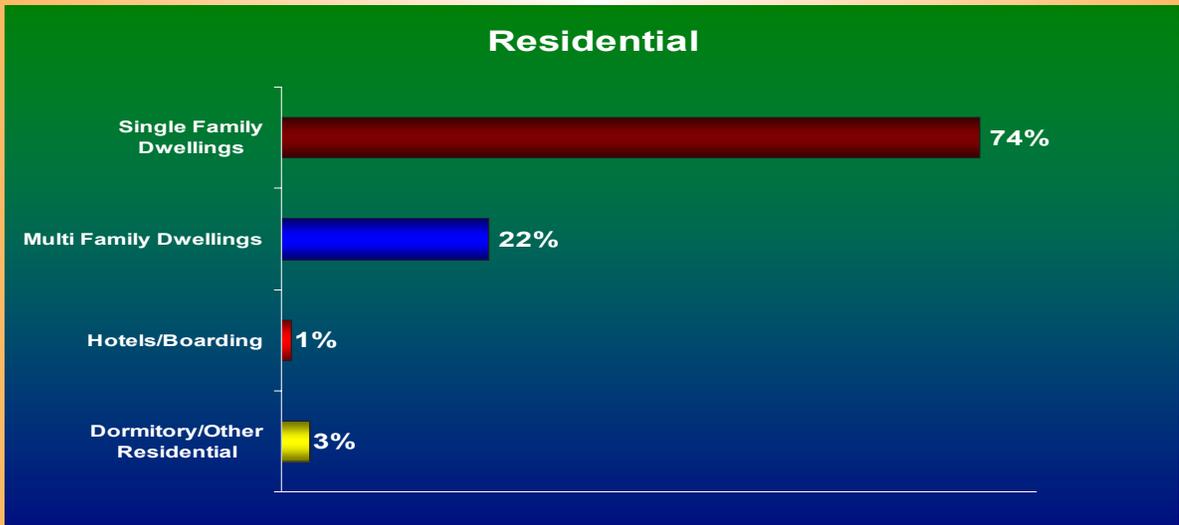


**Total Loss for 2008: \$489,387,580.00**

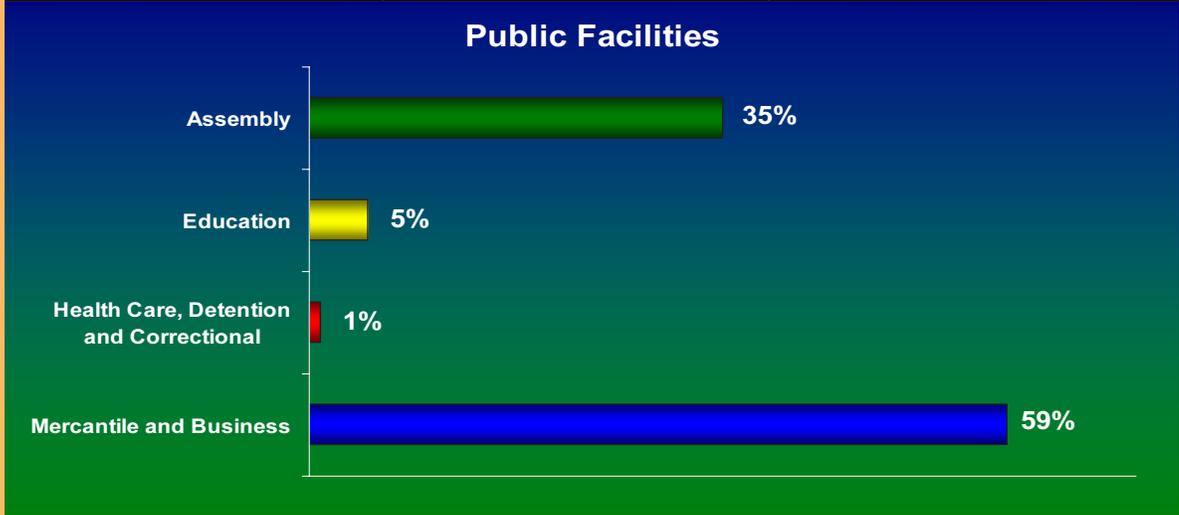




# Percentage of Structure



Residential Property Type	Number of Incidents	Total Dollar Loss
Single Family Dwellings	9,986	\$221,072,014.00
Multi Family Dwellings	3,131	\$47,360,233.00
Hotels/Boarding	226	\$15,465,958.00
Dormitory/Other Residential	481	\$9,170,986.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,824</b>	<b>\$293,069,191.00</b>



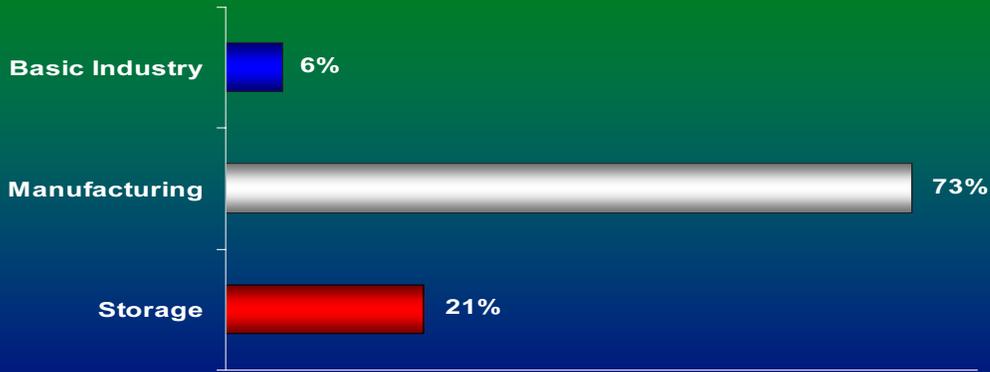
Public Facilities Property Type	Number of Incidents	Total Dollar Loss
Assembly	599	\$19,304,753.00
Education	129	\$2,906,735.00
Health Care, Detention, and Correctional	213	\$617,175.00
Mercantile and Business	745	\$32,885,472.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,686</b>	<b>\$55,714,135.00</b>



# Fires by Property Use

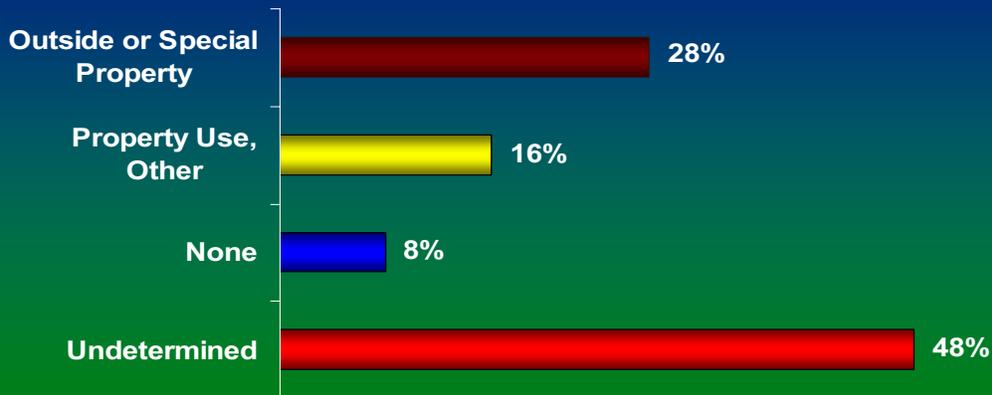


## Industrial/Storage



Industrial Property Type	Number of Incidents	Total Dollar Loss
Basic Industry	104	\$2,865,703.00
Manufacturing	86	\$33,973,985.00
Storage	492	\$9,571,035.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>\$46,410,723.00</b>

## Outside, Special Use, Other, None and Undetermined

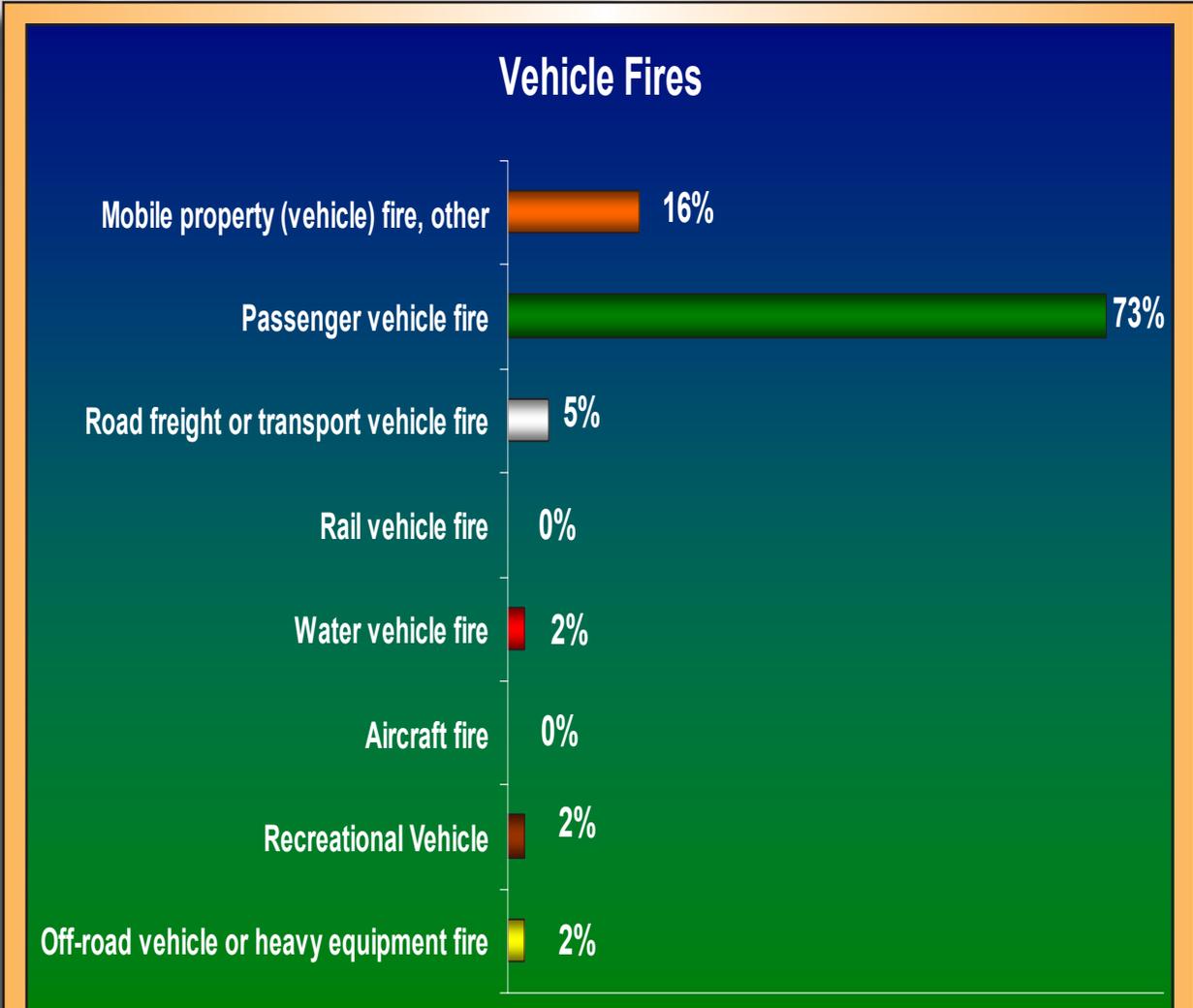


Outside, Special Use, Other, None and Undetermined Property Type	Number of Incidents	Total Dollar Loss
Outside or Special Property	1,020	\$3,100,495.00
Property Use, Other	143	\$1,728,152.00
None	53	\$908,602.00
Undetermined	57	\$5,190,750.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>\$10,927,999.00</b>





# Percentage of Vehicle Fires and

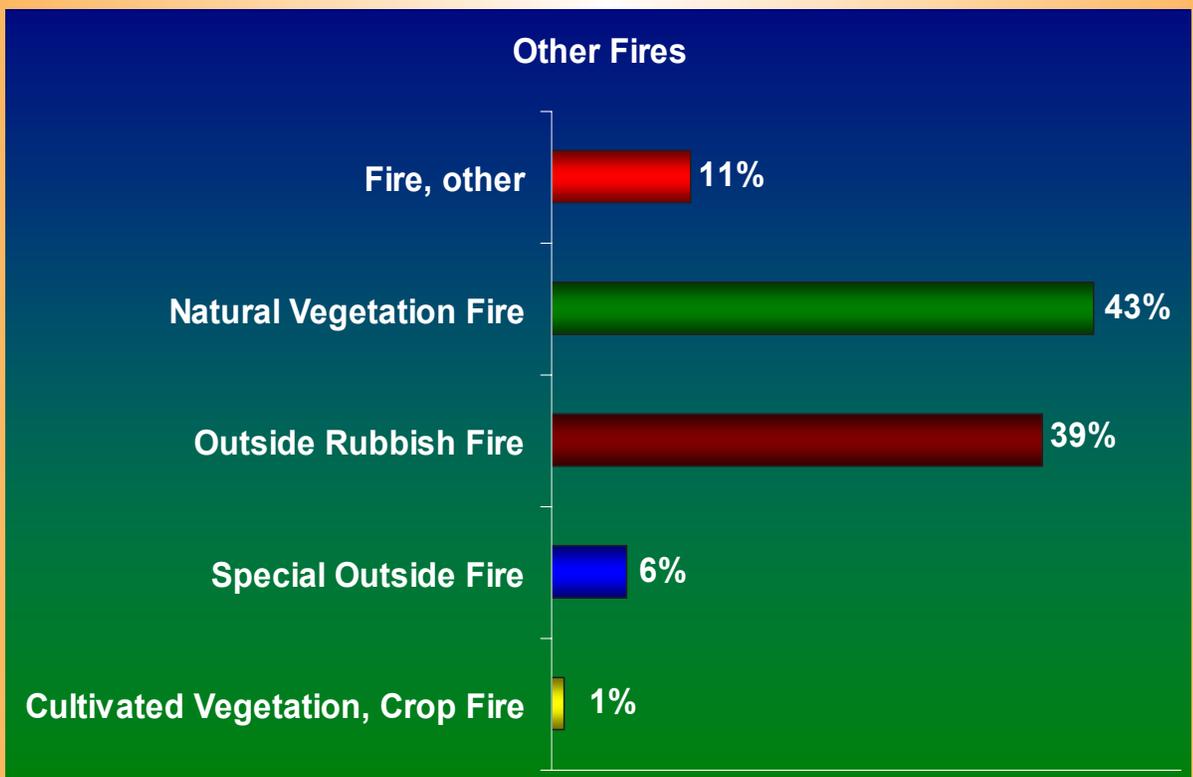


Vehicle Fires By Incident Type	Number of Incidents	Total Dollar Loss
Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1,814	\$9,012,095.00
Passenger vehicle fire	7,944	\$31,791,203.00
Road freight or transport vehicle fire	581	\$8,946,786.00
Rail vehicle fire	12	\$42,500.00
Water vehicle fire	210	\$4,435,198.00
Aircraft fire	21	\$1,230,000.00
Self-propelled motor home or recreational vehicle	40	\$752,600.00
Camper or recreational vehicle (RV) fire	166	\$2,074,722.00
Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	240	\$6,704,773.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,028</b>	<b>\$64,989,877.00</b>





# Other Fires by Incident Type

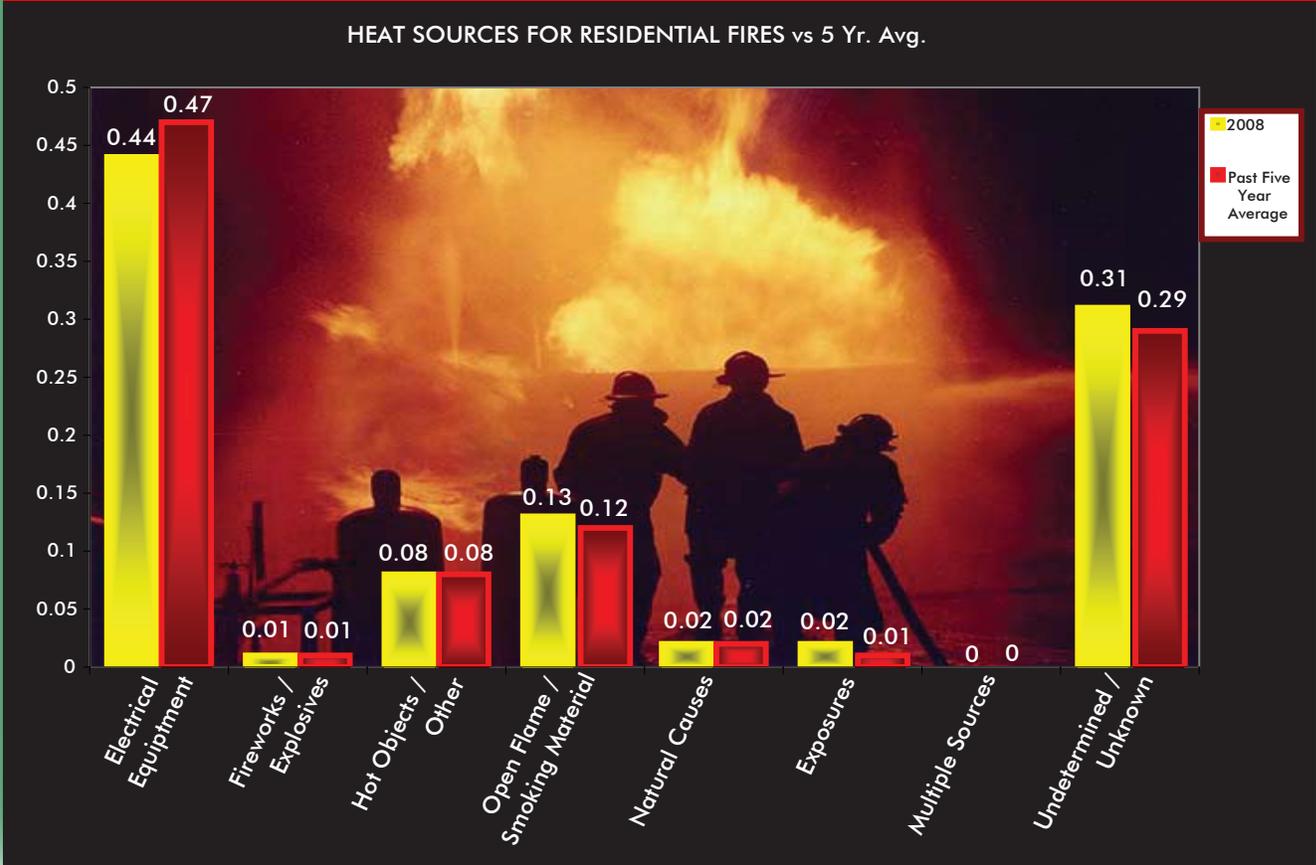
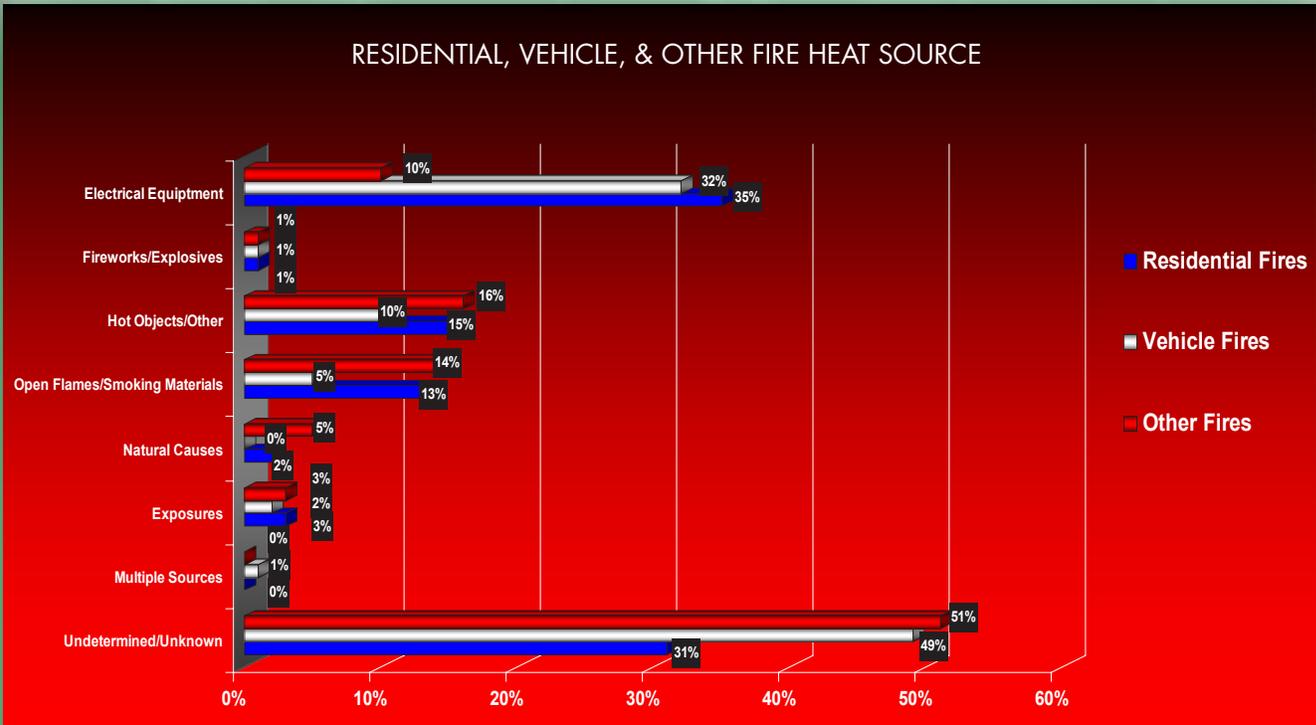


Other Fires By Incident Type	Number of Incidents	Total Dollar Loss
Fire, other	3,304	\$12,124,431.00
Natural vegetation fire, other	2,209	\$0.00
Forest, woods or wildland fire	1,579	\$0.00
Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	6,035	\$0.00
Grass fire	3,123	\$0.00
Outside rubbish fire, other	3,967	\$0.00
Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	5,144	\$0.00
Garbage dump or sanitary landfill fire	104	\$0.00
Construction or demolition landfill fire	142	\$0.00
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	1,995	\$0.00
Outside stationary compactor/compacted trash fire	38	\$0.00
Special outside fire, other	887	\$433,640.00
Outside storage fire	151	\$1,349,213.00
Outside equipment fire	535	\$3,995,259.00
Outside gas or vapor combustion explosion	35	\$58,125.00
Outside mailbox fire	24	\$1,387.00
Cultivated vegetation, crop fire, other	67	\$3,938.00
Cultivated grain or crop fire	30	\$7,359.00
Cultivated orchard or vineyard fire	2	\$0.00
Cultivated trees or nursery stock fire	59	\$302,303.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,430</b>	<b>\$18,275,655.00</b>



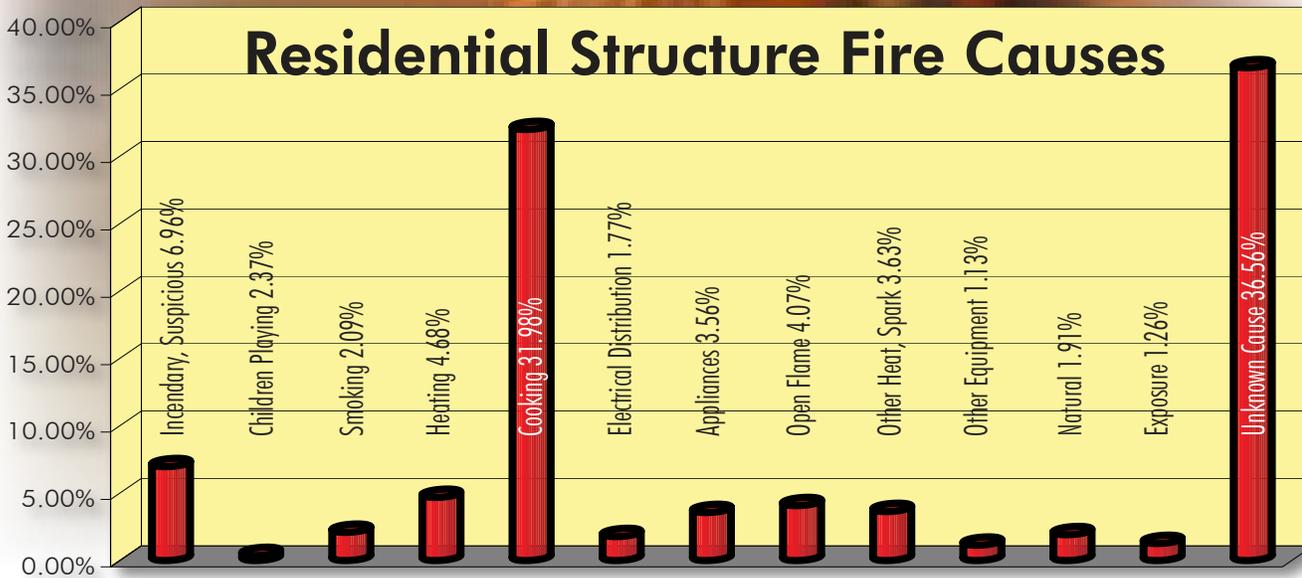


# 2008 Heat Source Percentages





# Area of Origin for Residential Structure & Fire Causes

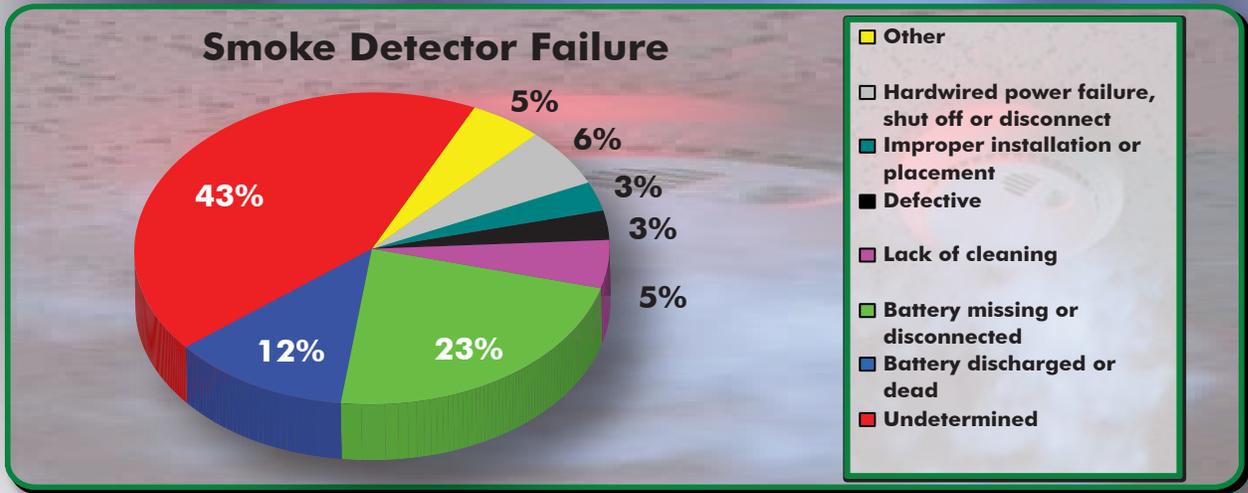
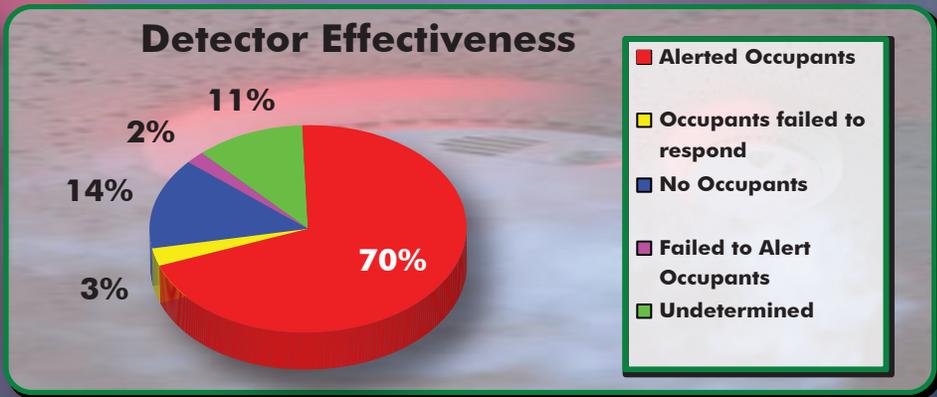
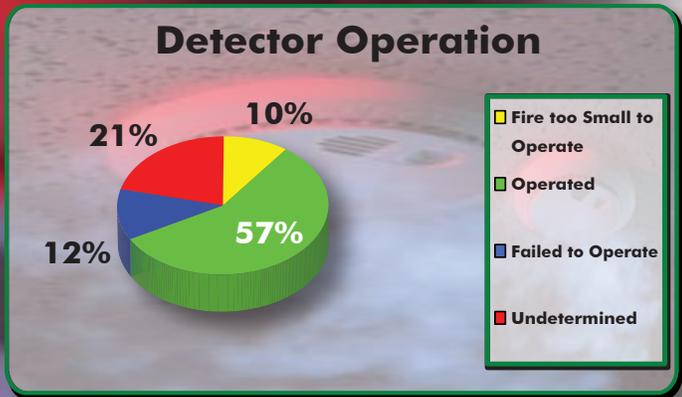
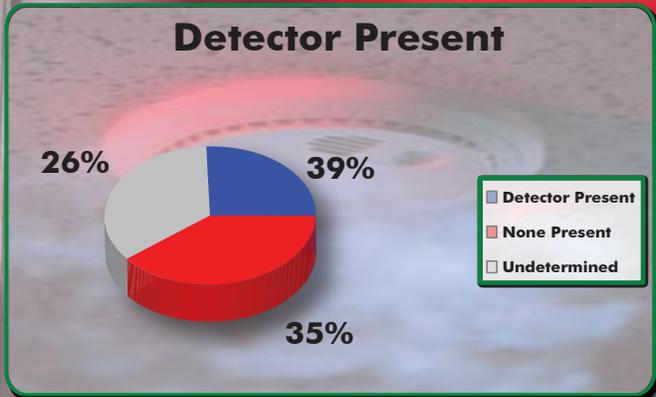




# Smoke Detector Use Data



Smoke detectors were present in **39** percent of reported structure fires, in which the presence or absence of detectors were reported, with **58** percent of those operational. **Twenty-one** percent were reported as undetermined and **12** percent did not operate due to a variety of reasons such as no batteries, lack of maintenance, etc., and in **10** percent the fire was too small for the detector to operate. Unfortunately, **35** percent of the structures did not have smoke detectors and **26** percent of the structures reported as undetermined

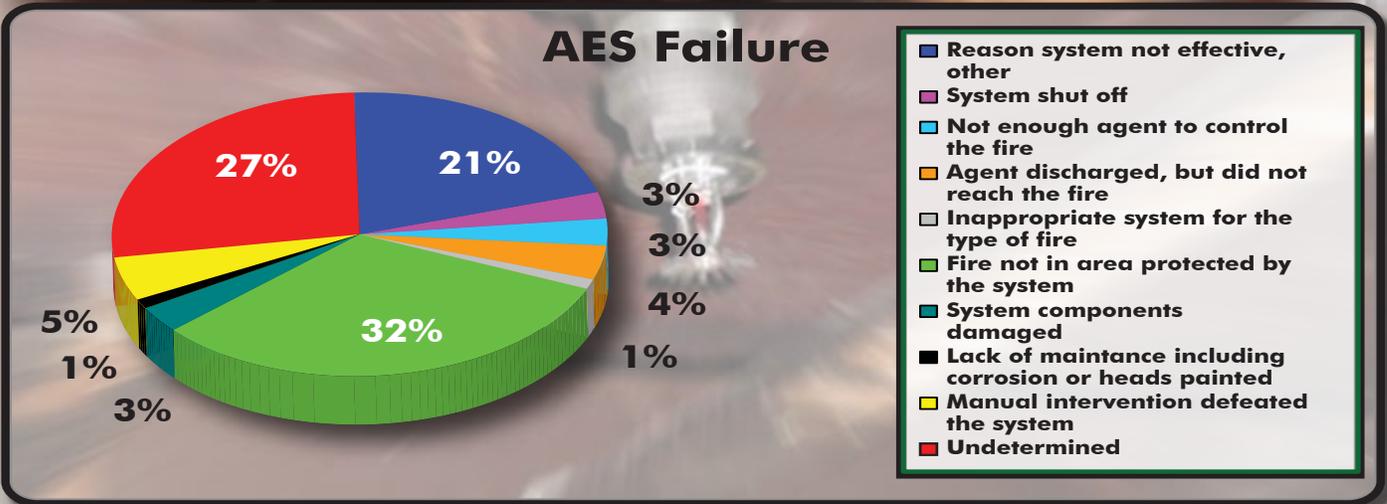
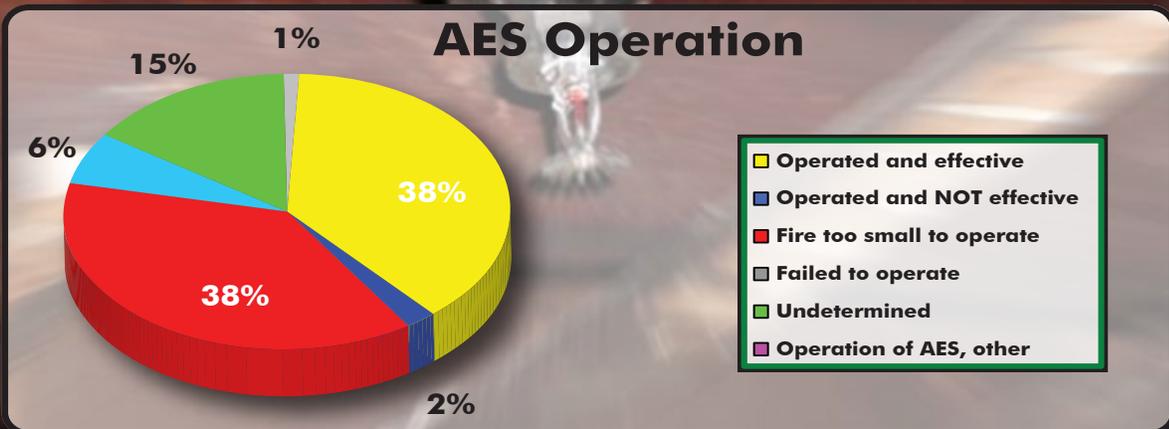
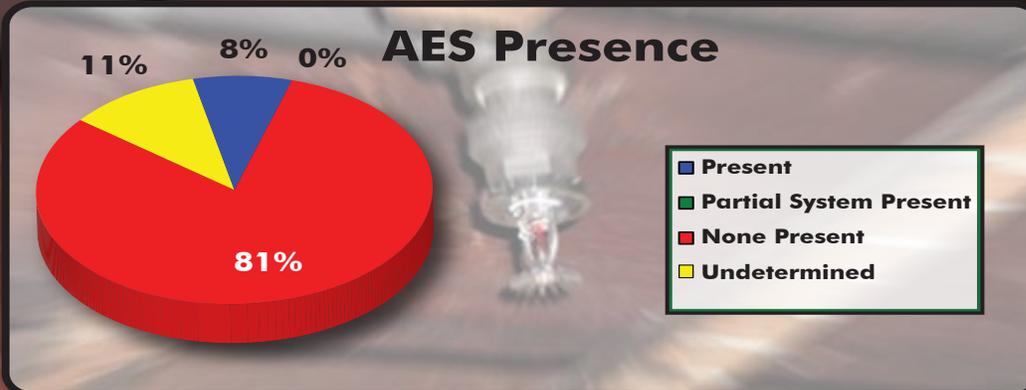




# Fire Sprinkler Use Data



Automatic Extinguishing Systems (AES) were present in eight percent of reported structure fires with 39 percent of those operational. Fifteen percent were reported as undetermined and six percent did not operate due to a variety of reasons, such as manual intervention, agent discharged but did not reach the fire, etc. In 32 percent of structure fires, the fire was not in the vicinity of the AES for it to be effective. Unfortunately in 81 percent of the structure fires there was not an AES present and 11 percent were reported as undetermined.





# Civilian Deaths from Fires



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 tenth revision of the International Classification of Disease (ICD).

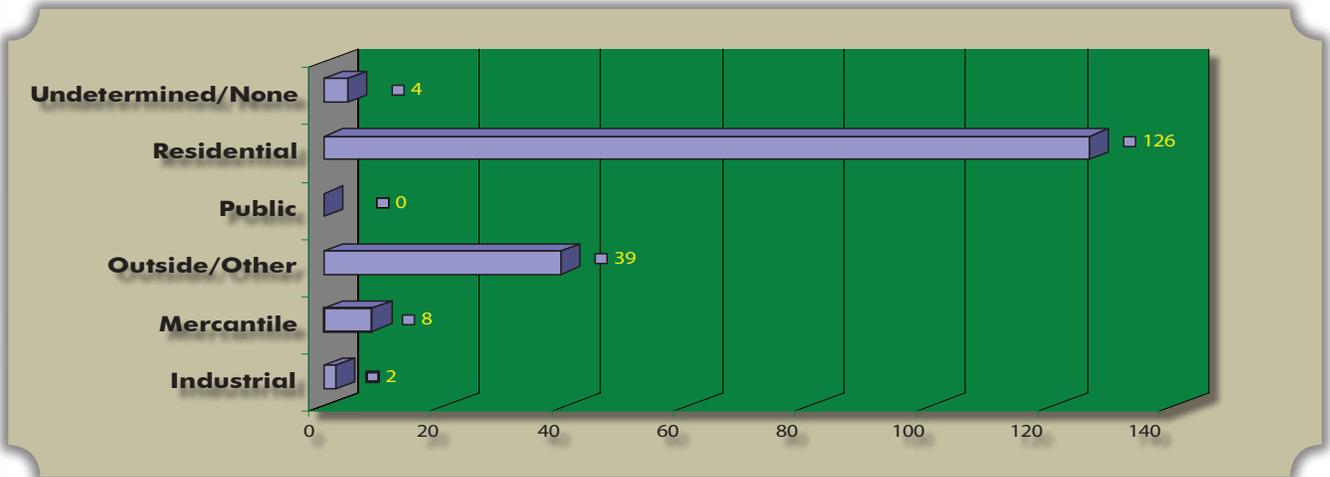
Based on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), fire deaths – and only fire deaths- are primarily identified by the code range for accidental fire exposure X00-X09. The X00-X09 range includes most, but not all, fire deaths. The code refers to uncontrolled vs. controlled building/structure or non-building/structure fires. Using these guidelines, the State of Florida had a total of **123** civilian fire deaths.

Deaths due to homicides (X97) and suicides (X 76) 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 **142** (an additional **13.38 %**).

Excluded from NFPA, CPSC, Tri-Data and USFA analyses are fire deaths in vehicles, which would increase the civilian fire deaths in 2008 to **176** (an additional **19.32%**). 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 **179** (a further increase of **1.68%**).

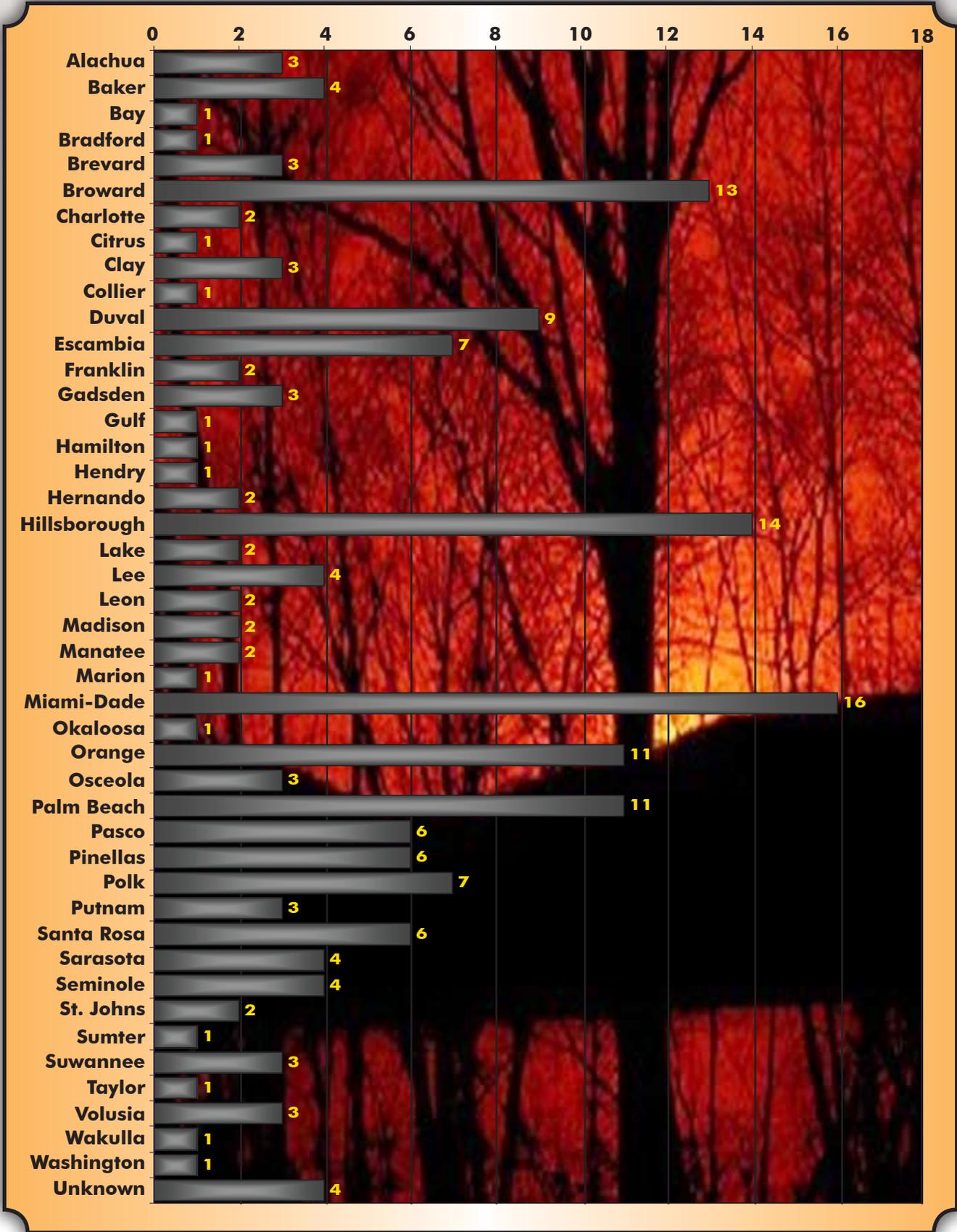
## CIVILIAN DEATHS FROM FIRES BY PROPERTY USE

*The following graph depicts 179 civilians that died from fire related incidents based on data received from the Department of Health, Vital Statistics Section*





# Civilian Deaths by County

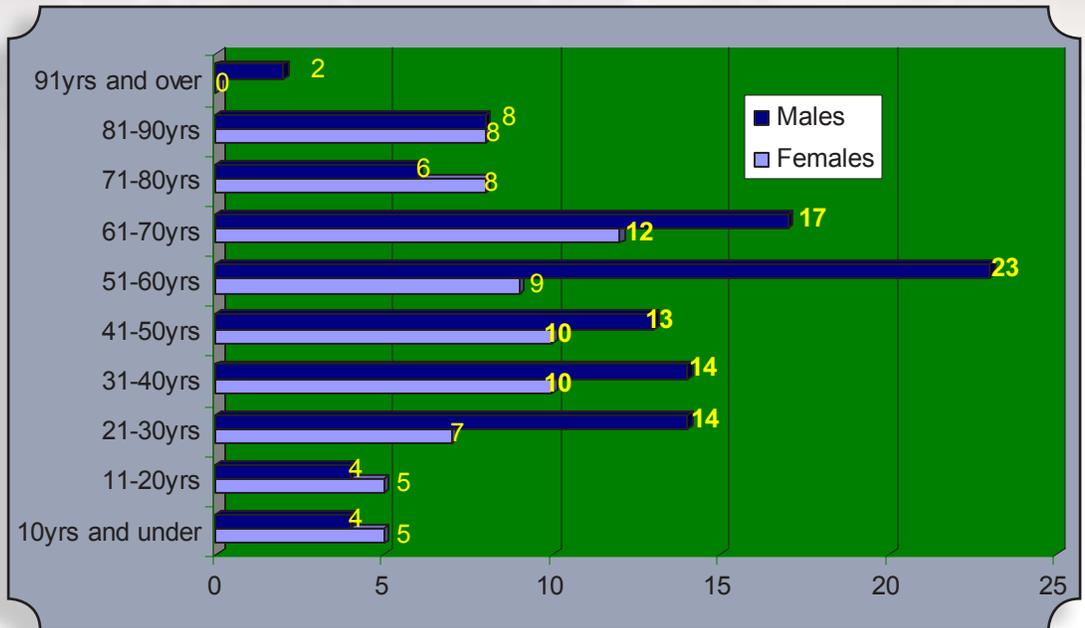




# Civilian Fire Deaths by Age and Sex

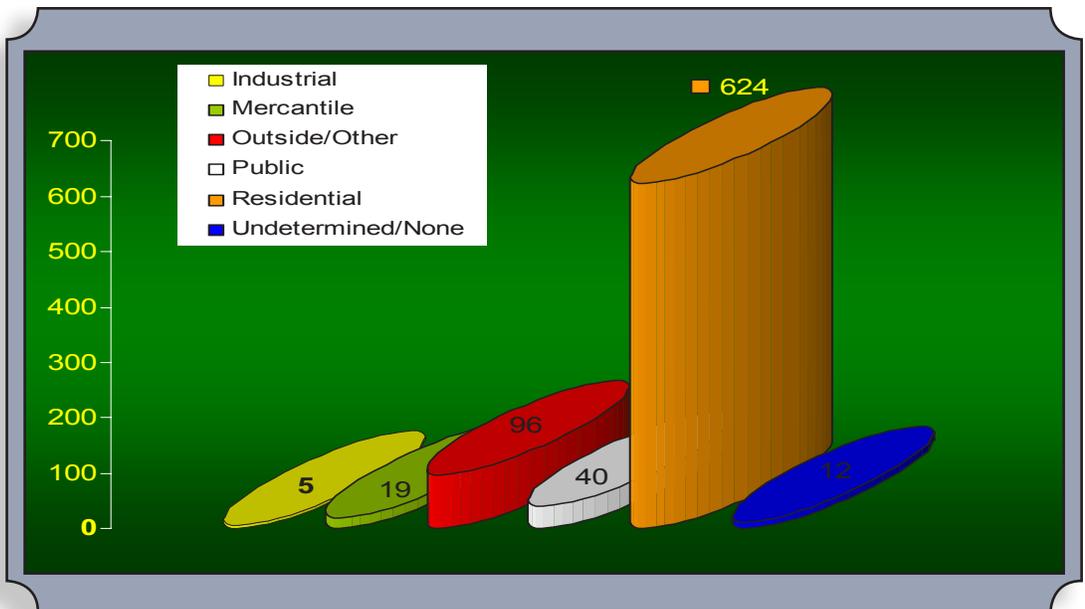


Fire education is extremely important. There were a total of **179** fire deaths in 2008. People ages 51 and older account for **52%** of Florida's reported deaths.



# Civilian Injuries from Fires by Property Use

During 2008, **796** civilians were injured based on data received from fire departments via electronic submissions. 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 **32%** of residential property fires originating in the kitchen.

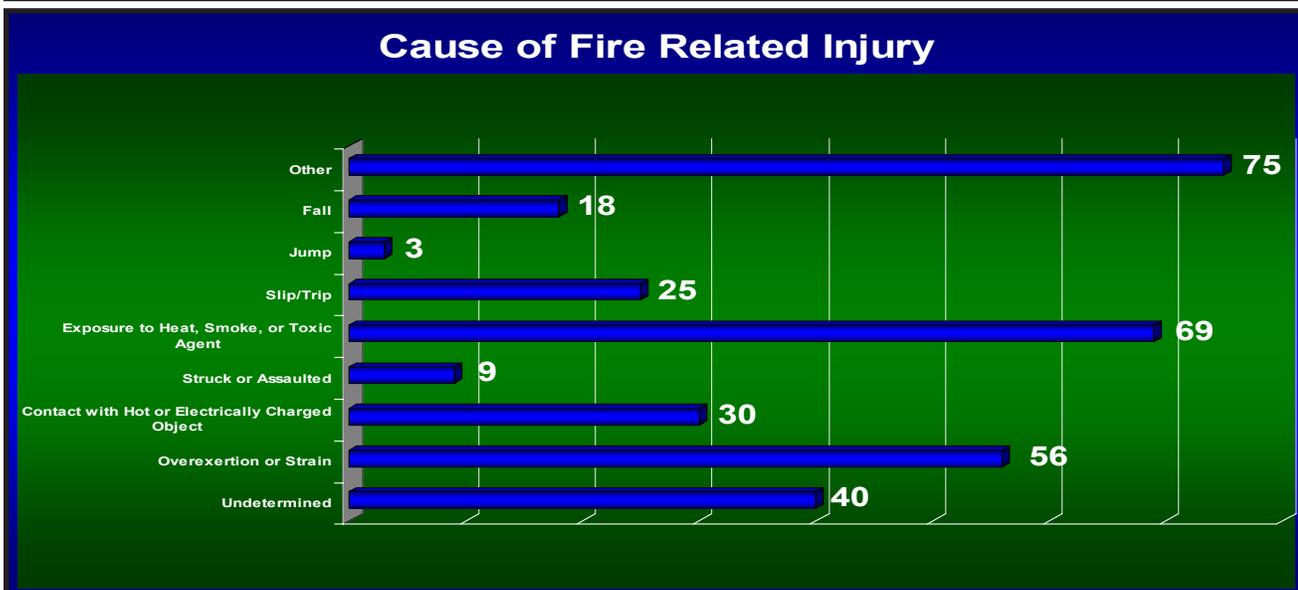
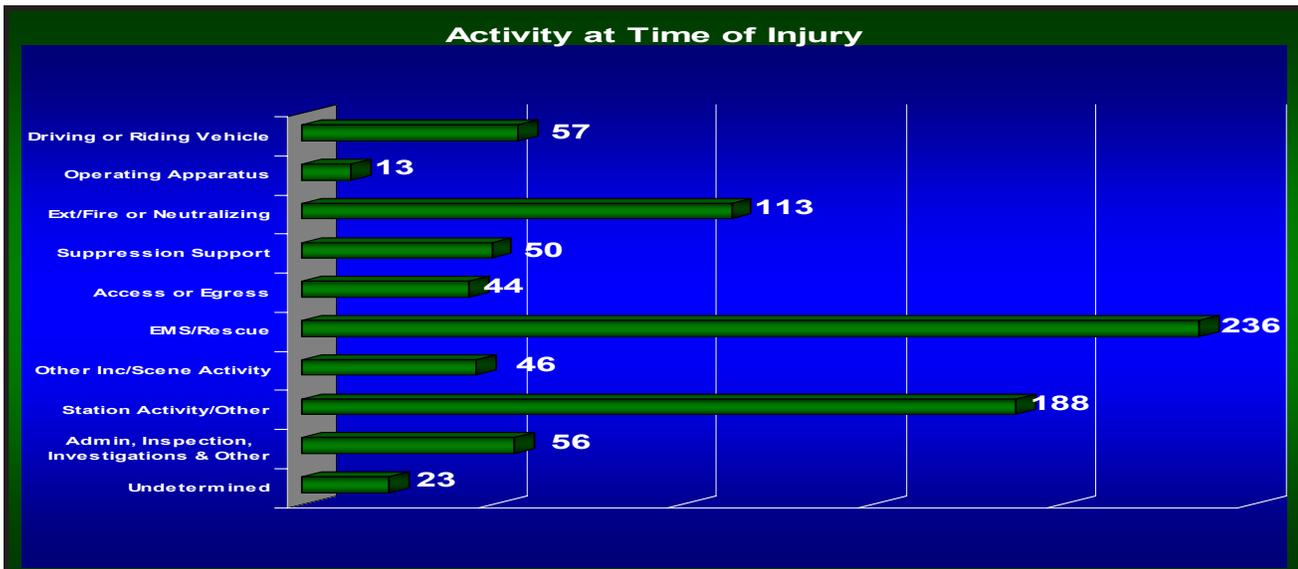




# Firefighters Injuries vs. Number of Fires Incidents



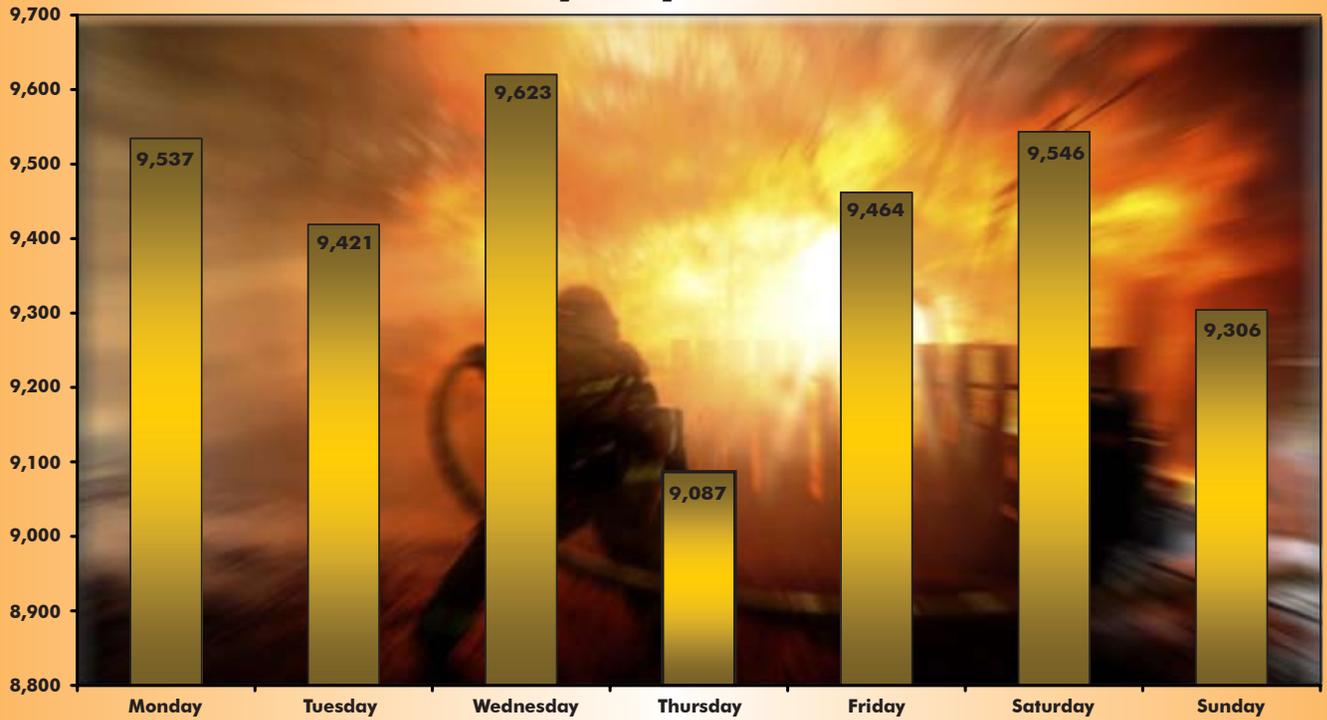
Firefighters throughout Florida deal with a variety of hazards while performing their duties. These hazards include, but are not limited to, smoke inhalation, burns, straining of body parts, exposure to chemicals and stress. In 2008, there were **325** fire related injuries to firefighters.



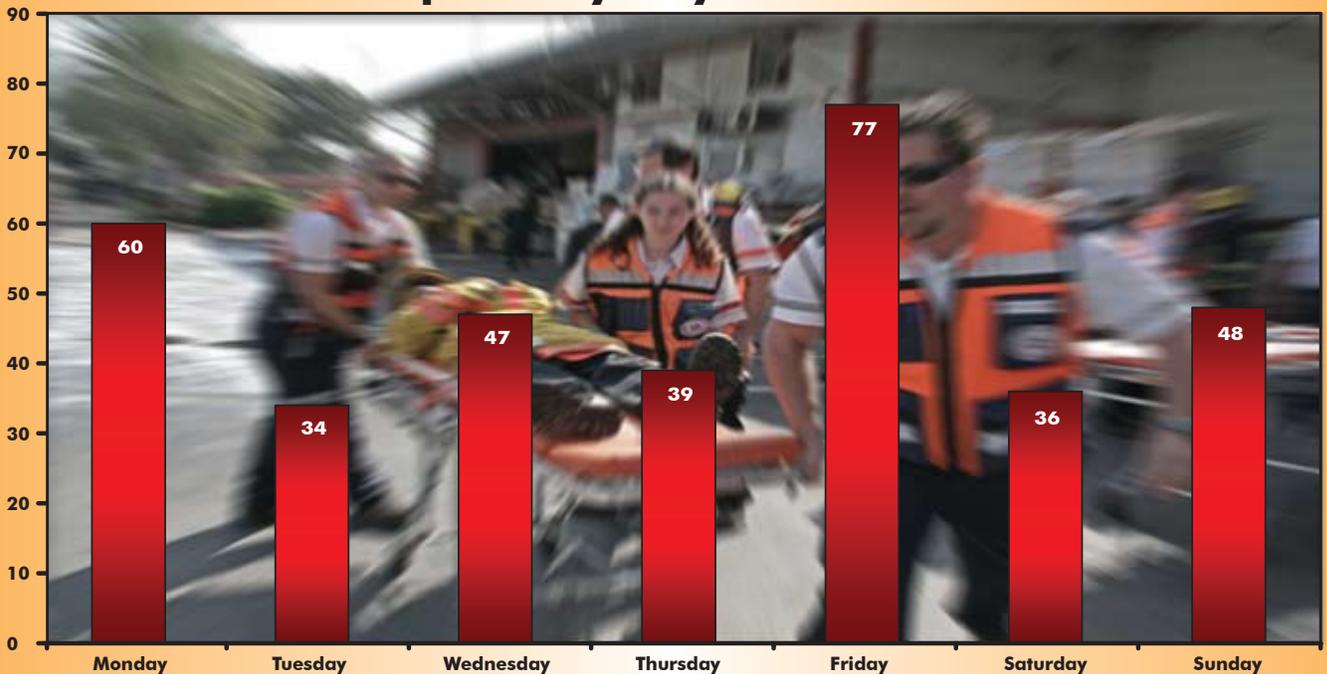


# Fire Incidents & Firefighter

## Fires by Day of the Week



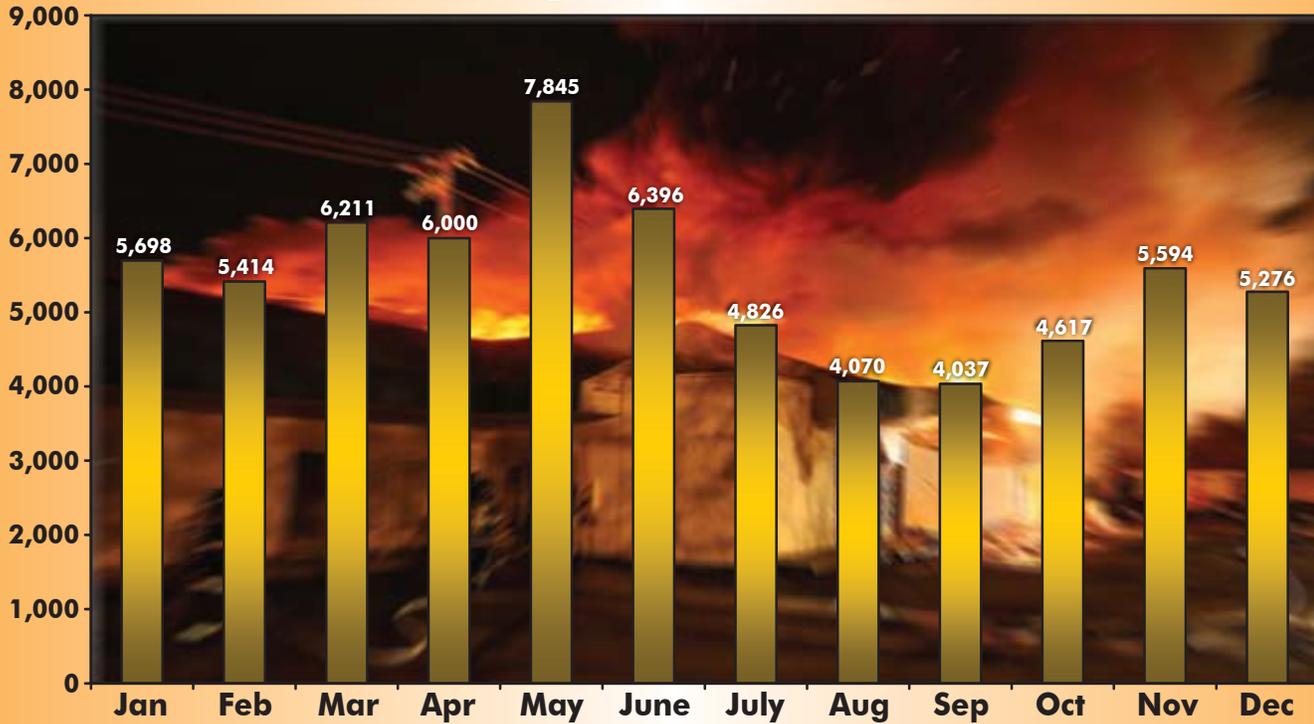
## Injuries by Day of the Week



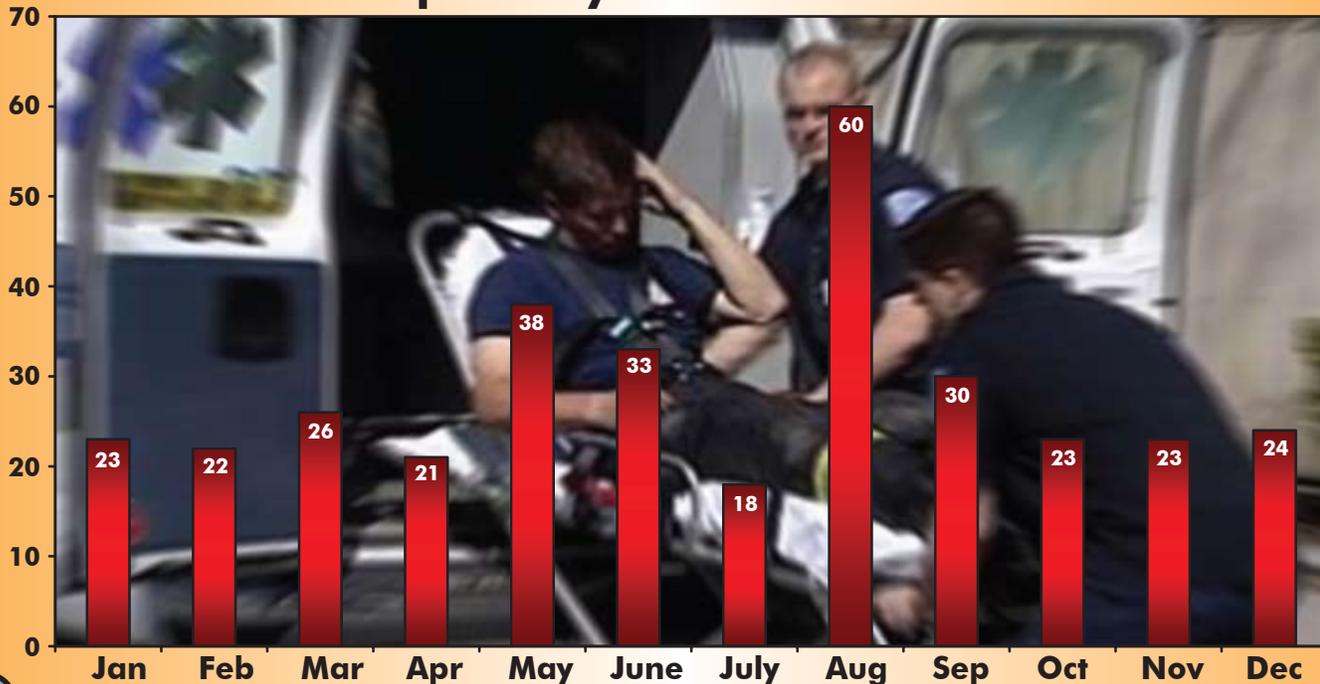
# Fire Related Injuries



## Fires by Month of the Year



## Injuries by Month of the Year

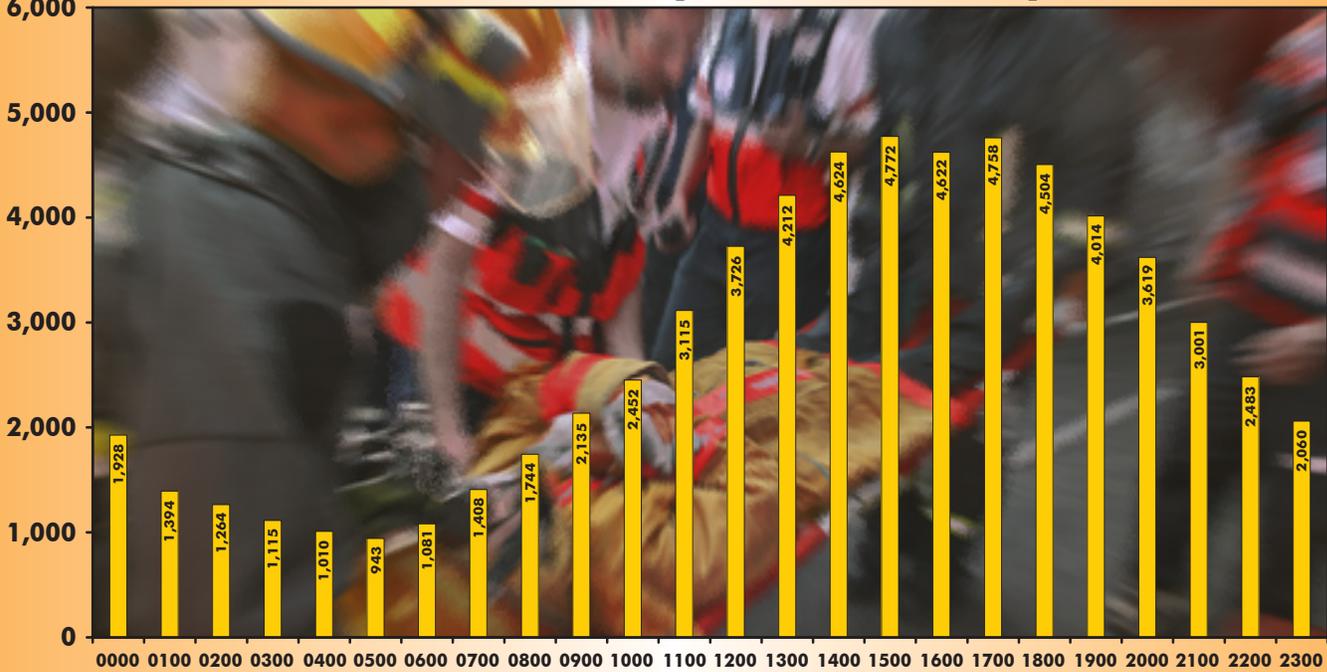




# Peak Hours of the Day for Fire Incidents & Firefighter Fire Related Injuries



## Fire Incidents By Hour of the Day



## Fire Related Injuries by Hour of the Day

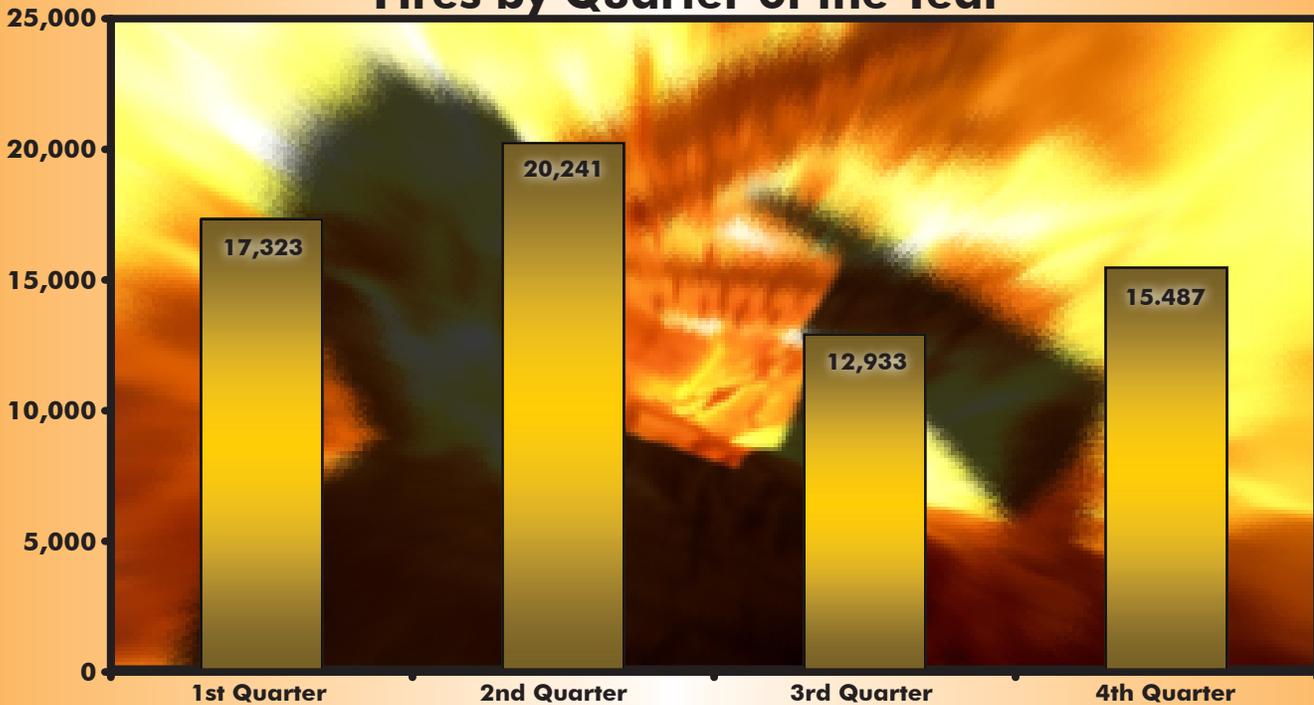




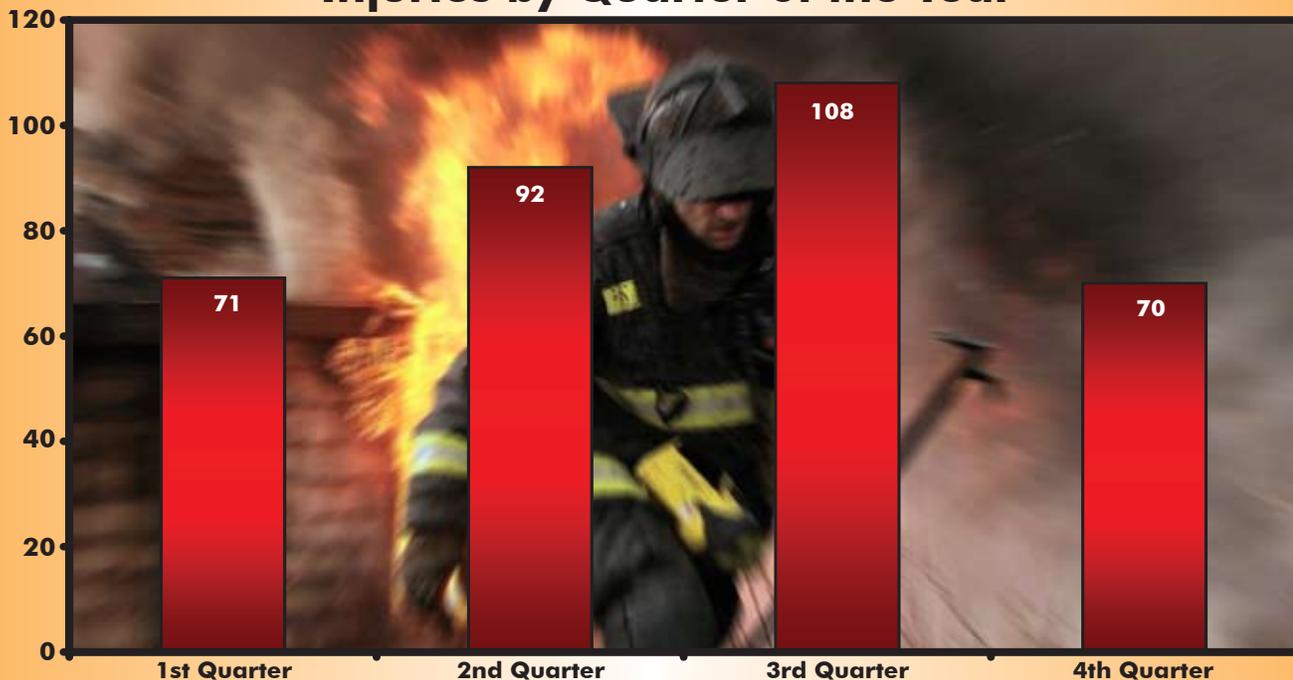
# Number of Fire Incidents & Firefighter Related Injuries by Quarter of the Year



## Fires by Quarter of the Year



## Injuries by Quarter of the Year





# 2008 Fallen Firefighters



Name: Johnny Bajusz  
 Age: 69  
 Cause of Death: Vehicle Collision  
 Rank: Firefighter  
 Nature of Death: Trauma  
 Classification: Volunteer  
 Emergency Duty: Yes  
 Incident Date: 01/16/2008  
 Death Date: 01/18/2008  
 Fire Department Info: Layton Volunteer Fire Department

*Initial Summary:* Bajusz was just out of Conch Key when he heard the tones sound of a vehicle fire. He was attempting a U-turn when his vehicle was struck by a utility truck. He was pinned in the wreckage and had to be extricated by rescue personnel. He was then flown to Ryder Trauma Center in Miami where he remained for more than six months. One of his legs had to be amputated above the knee.

*Memorial Fund Info:* In honor of Firefighter Johnny Bajusz, C/O Layton Volunteer Fire Department- Monroe County Fire Rescue 68260 Overseas Hwy, P. O. Box 624, Long Key, FL

Name: Rafael Vazquez  
 Age: 42  
 Cause of Death: Assault  
 Rank: Lieutenant, Firefighter/Paramedic  
 Nature of Death: Trauma  
 Classification: Career  
 Emergency Duty: No  
 Incident Date: 03/03/2008  
 Death Date: 03/03/2008  
 Fire Department Info: Palm Beach Fire Rescue

*Initial Summary:* Vazquez was on a lunch break and had been attending a course called "Strategy and Tactics". As Vazquez stood at the counter waiting to exchange a promotional toy for his child, he was shot point blank in the back by a gunman wearing a jacket, tie and baseball cap. Four others were wounded by gunfire during the lunch hour rampage.

*Memorial Fund Info:* A fund has been set up to help the family. To donate, please make checks payable to: Palm Beach County Firefighters' Benevolent Fund, Vazquez Family, 2328 South Congress Avenue, Suite 2C, Palm Springs, FL 33406

Name: Charles Yarborough  
 Age: 50  
 Cause of Death: Surgical Complications  
 Rank: Firefighter  
 Nature of Death: Other  
 Classification: Career  
 Emergency Duty: No  
 Incident Date: 12/03/2008  
 Death Date: 12/09/2008  
 Fire Department Info: St. Lucie Fire District

*Initial Summary:* Suffered an injury at the firehouse while on duty that was determined to need outpatient surgery.





## 2008 Assistance to Firefighter Grant Awards



The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has reported that the following departments received Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Award for 2008. 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 immediately after notification of an 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 2008 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 2008 recipients listed below may be reviewed by entering the following link into your web browser:

<http://www.firegrantsupport.com/afg/awards/08>

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.

FDID #	Name of Fire Department	Award Announcement	Reporting
36111	Argyle Vol Fire Department, Inc.	12/12/2008 12/13/2008	Yes
43201	Blackman Fire District, Inc.	08/29/2008	Yes
06142	Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services	11/14/2008	Yes
19011	Cape Canaveral Vol Fire Department, Inc.	07/25/2008	Yes
58031	Carr-Clarksville Vol Fire Department	07/25/2008	Yes
35031	Cherry Lake Fire & Rescue, Inc.	11/21/2008	Yes
12012	City of Eustis Fire Department	11/28/2008	Yes
11012	City of Gainesville, Gainesville Fire Rescue	03/06/2009	Yes
10052	City of Hollywood	01/16/2009	Yes
07182	City of Maitland Fire Rescue	07/04/2008	Yes

10132	City of North Lauderdale	03/06/2009	Yes
10082	City of Pembroke Pines	11/14/2008	Yes
09022	City of Pensacola Fire Department	12/05/2008	Yes
20012	City of St. Augustine Fire Department	02/06/2009	Yes
26022	City of St. Cloud Fire Department	12/05/2008	Yes
10202	City of Tamarac Fire Rescue	12/19/2008	Yes
39041	City of Williston Fire Department	02/20/2009	Yes
05142	City of Winter Haven	01/02/2009	Yes
48032	Clay County Fire Rescue	02/06/2009	Yes
64072	Collier County EMS	07/25/2008	No
29091	Columbia County Fire Department	12/26/2008	Yes
21071	Concord Vol Fire Department, Inc.	11/14/2008	Yes
34022	Desoto County Fire Rescue	12/12/2008	Yes
04081	East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control	12/26/2008	Yes
64012	East Naples Fire Control & Rescue	01/02/2009 02/06/2009	Yes
50061	Ebro Vol Fire Department	01/02/2009 03/06/2009	No
08042	Edgewater Fire Rescue	03/06/2009	Yes
43032	Fort Walton Beach Fire Department	11/14/2008	Yes
19071	Four Communities Fire Department, Inc.	07/04/2008	Yes
64022	Golden Gate Fire Control & Rescue	03/06/2009	Yes
32042	Indian River County Fire Rescue	11/28/2008	Yes
18142	Iona McGregor Fire Protection & Rescue	12/19/2008	Yes
38041	Islamorada Village of Islands Fire Rescue	02/06/2009	Yes
49031	LaBelle Fire Department	11/21/2008	No
17011	Lake Mary Fire Department	03/06/2009	Yes
43041	Laurel Hill Vol Fire Department	02/06/2009	Yes
45061	Lawtey Vol Fire Rescue	11/14/2008	Yes
35011	Lee Community Vol Fire Department	11/14/2008	Yes
36101	Liberty Fire District	12/19/2008 01/16/2009	Yes
10252	Lighthouse Point Fire Rescue Department	12/26/2008	Yes
10092	Margate Fire Department	12/12/2008	Yes
12131	Mascotte Fire Department	02/06/2009	Yes
11022	Melrose Vol Fire Department, Inc.	12/19/2008	Yes
58061	Mossy Pond Vol Fire Department	12/19/2008	Yes
12081	Mount Dora Fire Department	01/02/2009	Yes
51041	New Hope Vol Fire & Rescue	04/17/2009	Yes
16011	Nokomis Vol Fire Department, Inc.	02/06/2009	Yes

43210	North Okaloosa Fire District	03/06/2009	Yes
10182	Oakland Park Fire Rescue	04/17/2009	Yes
43042	Ocean City Wright Fire Control District	07/25/2008	Yes
04092	Palm Harbor Special Fire Control & Rescue	02/06/2009	Yes
23032	Panama City Fire Department	11/21/2008	Yes
51091	Pine Log Vol Fire & Rescue, Inc.	02/06/2009	Yes
03032	Plant City Fire Rescue	03/06/2009	Yes
45091	Sampson City Vol Fire Department	01/16/2009	No
35071	Sirmans Vol Fire Department, Inc.	12/12/2008 02/06/2009	Yes
65041	Sopchoppy Vol Fire Department	11/21/2008 11/28/2008	No
08112	South Daytona Fire Rescue	08/01/2008	Yes
20151	St. Johns County Fire Rescue	02/06/2009	Yes
04112	St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue	02/06/2009	Yes
66091	Stone Mill Creek Fire Department	07/04/2008	Yes
21041	Town of Havana	07/04/2008	Yes
36161	Walton County Fire Rescue	12/19/2008	Yes
58015	Westside Vol Fire Department	07/18/2008	Yes
51051	Westville Vol Fire Department	03/06/2009	Yes
28032	Zephyrhills Fire Rescue	01/16/2009	Yes



A total of 528 fire departments throughout the state of Florida reported incidents to FFIRS for 2008 and of those 66 received grants.





# Listing of the Fire Departments that Reported to the Florida

## ALACHUA COUNTY

Lacrosse Fire Dept. {5.0}  
 Newberry 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}  
 Hawthorn Fire Dept. {5.0}  
 Waldo Fire Dept. {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}  
 Theresa 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}  
 Indialantic Fire Rescue {5.0}  
 CCAFS/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}
 

- 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}  
 Lauderdale 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}  
 Lighthouse Point Fire Rescue {5.0}  
 Hollywood Fire Rescue {5.0}  
 Fort Lauderdale Fire Dept. {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}

## DESOTO COUNTY

Desoto County PSD {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}  
 Escambia County Fire Rescue {5.0}
 

- Pensacola Beach VFD
- Ensley VFD
- Molino VFD
- Beulah VFD
- Pleasant Grove VFD
- Brent VFD
- Cantonment VFD
- Ferry Pass VFD
- Myrtle Grove VFD
- Warrington VFD
- McDavid VFD
- Innerarity Point VFD
- Century VFD
- Bellview VFD
- West Pensacola VFD
- Walnut Hill Fire Dept.

## FLAGLER COUNTY

Flagler Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}  
 Bunnell VFD {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}  
 St. George Island 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}

# Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) Section During 2008



Midway VFD {5.0}  
Mt. Pleasant VFD {5.0}  
Gretna VFD {5.0}  
Robertsville VFD {5.0}  
Chattahoochee Fire Dept. {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.

## GULF COUNTY

Gulf County Beaches VFD {5.0}  
Howards Creek VFD {5.0}  
South Gulf County Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Port St. Joe VFD {5.0}  
Stone Mill Creek {5.0}

## HAMILTON COUNTY

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

## HARDEE COUNTY

Hardee County Fire/Rescue {5.0}

## HENDRY COUNTY

Felda VFD {5.0}  
Pioneer Plantation VFD {5.0}  
Clewiston VFD {5.0}  
Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Montura Fire Dept. {4.1}

## HERNANDO COUNTY

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

## 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}  
Highlands County Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Venus VFD {5.0}  
Leisure Lakes VFD {5.0}

## HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

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

## HOLMES COUNTY

Westville 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 {5.0}  
Ponce de Leon VFD {5.0}

## INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Indian River County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Sebastian VFD
- Indian River County EMS

Indian River Shores Public Safety {4.1}

## JACKSON COUNTY

Cortondale VFD {5.0}  
Campbellton VFD {5.0}  
Marianna Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Alford VFD {4.1}  
Graceville VFD {5.0}  
Jackson County Fire Rescue {5.0}

## JEFFERSON COUNTY

Jefferson County Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Ashville VFD {5.0}

## LAFAYETTE COUNTY

Lafayette County Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Hatch Bend VFD {5.0}

## 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}  
Montverde Fire Dept. {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}  
Upper Captiva FRD {5.0}

## LEON COUNTY

Chaires Capitola VFD {5.0}  
Lake Jackson Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Tallahassee Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Bradfordville FR {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}  
Bronson VFD {4.1}  
Levy County FR {5.0}  
South Levy 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}  
Southern Manatee FR {5.0}  
Trailer Estates Fire Dept. {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}  
Jupiter Island Dept. of Public Safety {5.0}

## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Hialeah Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Coral Gables Fire Dept. {5.0}  
City of Miami Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Miami-Dade Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Village of Key Biscayne FR {5.0}

## MONROE COUNTY

Monroe County Fire Rescue {5.0}

- Big Coppitt VFD
- Big Pine Key VFD
- Layton VFD
- Tavernier VFD

Key West Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Ocean Reef Public Safety {5.0}  
Islamorada Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Marathon Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Sugarloaf Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Key Largo Fire Dept. {5.0}

#### 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}  
Ratliff VFR {5.0}  
Gray Gables/Nassau Village FD {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 {5.0}  
East Niceville Fire Dist. {5.0}  
Crestview Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Blackman VFD {5.0}  
North Okaloosa Fire Dept. {5.0}

#### OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

Okeechobee Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Okeechobee Fire Dept. {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 {5.0}  
• Pahokee Fire Rescue  
Palm Beach Gardens Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Palm Springs Public Safety {5.0}  
West Palm Beach Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Palm Beach Shores Fire Dept. {5.0}

#### PASCO COUNTY

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

#### 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}  
Lakeland 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}  
Dundee Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Lake Alfred VFD {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.  
• Grape Hammock VFD  
• Caloosa Lake VFD

#### PUTNAM COUNTY

Crescent City Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Palatka Fire Dept. {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}  
Florahome-Grandin VFD {5.0}  
Georgetown-Fruitland VFD {5.0}  
Interlachen Area VFD {5.0}  
Georges Lake VFD {5.0}  
Bostwick VFD {5.0}  
Southwest VFD {5.0}

Francis VFD {5.0}  
East Palatka VFD {5.0}  
Welaka VFD {5.0}  
Satsuma VFD {5.0}  
Riverside VFD {5.0}  
Putnam County EMS {5.0}  
Bardin VFD {5.0}

#### SANTA ROSA COUNTY

Navarre Beach Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Pace VFD {5.0}  
Avalon Beach Fire Dept. {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}  
East Milton VFD {5.0}  
Allentown VFD {5.0}  
Jay VFD {4.1}  
Munson VFD {5.0}  
Midway Fire District {5.0}

#### 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}  
Lake Mary Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Longwood Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Orlando Sanford Airport Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Winter Springs Fire Dept. {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}  
Branford VFD {5.0}  
Suwannee County Fire Rescue {5.0}  
• Falmouth Fire Dept.  
• Luraville Fire Dept.

• Wellborn VFD  
• McAlpin Fire Dept.  
• O'Brien VFD  
• Ranchette VFD

#### TAYLOR COUNTY

Perry Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Taylor County Fire Rescue {5.0}  
• Taylor Beach Fire Dept.  
• Athena VFD  
• West District VFD  
• North District VFD  
• Shady Grove VFD

#### UNION COUNTY

Union County EMS {5.0}  
Lake Butler VFD {5.0}  
Worthington Springs VFD {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}  
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}  
South Daytona Fire Dept. {5.0}

#### WAKULLA COUNTY

Wakulla County Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Apalachee Bay VFD {5.0}  
St. Marks VFD {5.0}  
Wakulla VFD {5.0}

#### WALTON COUNTY

South Walton Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Defuniak Springs Fire Dept. {5.0}  
Liberty Fire District {5.0}  
Argyle VFD {5.0}  
Freeport Fire Rescue {5.0}  
Walton County 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}  
Five Points VFD {5.0}



The FFIRS Section would like to thank each of the fire departments responsible for making this report possible. In total, **528** departments reported for 2008. 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](mailto:ffirs@myfloridacfo.com).



# Florida Fire Incident Reporting System Fire Department Information Update

Please take a moment to complete the following survey and return it to the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System Section. We are dedicated to enhancing our training services, courses, information, and support to Florida fire department's.

Fire Chief: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department: \_\_\_\_\_ FDID: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

FFIRS Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Reporting Software: \_\_\_\_\_

## \*Users of the USFA / National Fire Incident Reporting System Software Only\*

What Version is your fire department using: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you reporting On-Line or Off-Line: \_\_\_\_\_

If not currently reporting, please check the reason(s) below:

- No Computer  No Reporting Software  
 Limited Knowledge of Software  Other, Please Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
and/or Reporting Options \_\_\_\_\_

If not currently reporting to FFIRS, is your fire department providing statistics to a local or county department:

- Yes, name of department: \_\_\_\_\_  
 No

The FFIRS Section offers courses on the following:

Please check any that would be beneficial to your department.

- Incident Reporting Codes  
 Data Analysis  
 Installation and Use of the USFA / NFIRS Software

Contact Person (If Different From Above): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form by using the following fax or mailing address:

Fax: (850) 921-7525

Mailing Address: Division of State Fire Marshal  
FFIRS Section  
200 E Gaines Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32303-0340





# FLORIDA



# DEDICATED TO SERVICE



FLORIDA FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM SECTION  
"FIGHTING FIRES WITH FACTS"