



VICTORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Message From the Chief

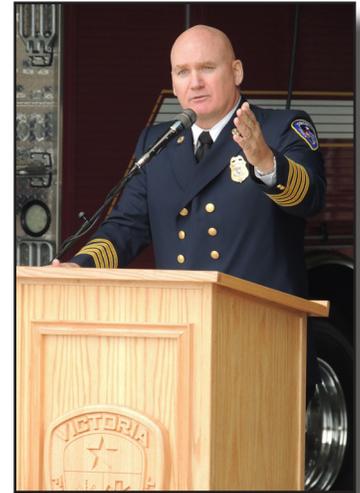
On behalf of all the men and women of the Victoria Fire Department, I am pleased to present the 2015 Annual Report. 2015 was a year of organizational enhancement for the department. The department completed the construction of Fire Station #6, hired and trained twelve (12) new employees for the station, and began operations in December 2015. The department also promoted new Assistant Fire Chief Shannon Martin who will be responsible for Fire Operations.

Calls for service increased by 5.1% for a total of 9,789 calls compared to 9,286 in 2014. EMS calls increased by 5% from 7184 calls to 7542 calls. This year's calls for service represent the most the department has ever responded. The Health & Wellness Program continues to exceed the goal of reducing the 3-year average of Worker's Comp claims by 50% with an actual reduction of 81% for years 2013-15' compared to 2010-12'. The firefighters had a wonderful property saved vs. loss ratio of 97% (95% Goal). The department also continues to exceed the goals in the Critical Care Program in an effort to give our citizens the greatest chance of survival from injury.

The department is blessed to have incredible employees. They continue to reach and exceed the goals of the department as well as find ways to give back to their community. They take pride in the services they deliver and hold themselves to very high standards. They continue to act with honesty, integrity, and respect; show the way with a positive attitude and open communication; take pride in our work and take responsibility for their actions; work together to achieve a common goal; and encourage and support a family life – all representative of the core values of the department.



Taner Drake – Fire Chief



Mission

To preserve life and property with dedicated and caring service.

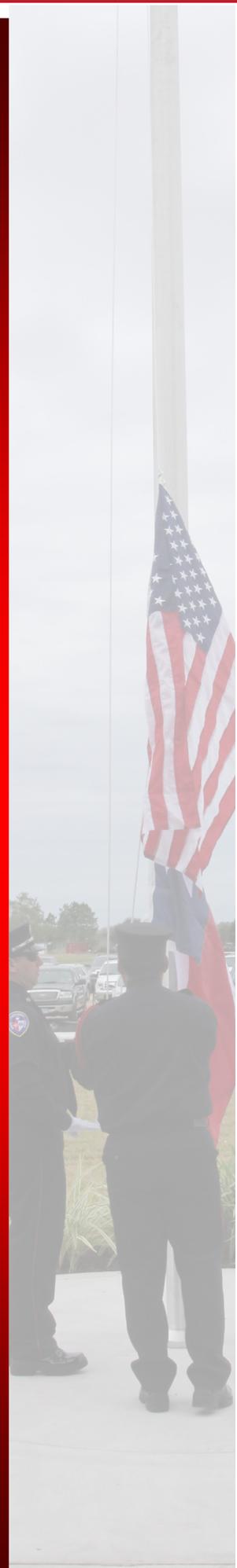
The members of the Fire Department will achieve the Mission by maintaining a positive, productive work environment filled with a professional and highly trained staff.

Vision

The Leader in Emergency Service Excellence



Station #6 Grand Opening November 24, 2015



Fire Operations

In 2015 the department opened Fire Station #6 on Ball Airport Rd. after many years of planning and preparation. The station opening gives the department the ability to respond in a timely manner into the northern corridor of the community.

The department was awarded an \$18K donation from the 100 Club to train all supervisors to the Blue Card Certification level.

The Health & Wellness Program continues to be a focus of creating opportunities for self-improvement for our employees and by measuring their successes we are able to see a decrease in Worker's Comp claims to the tune of 81% from years 2010-12' compared to 2013-15'.

The members continue to focus on the performance parameters outlined in the Fire STAT Program by evidence of a 97% property saved vs. loss ratio.

The department members also stepped up admirably and raised over \$34K for Muscular Dystrophy through the Fill the Boot Campaign in 2015.



Emergency Medical Services



In 2015, the department added three (3) new ambulances. With the addition of these ambulances, all front-line ambulances are the larger more versatile 14' units.

The department has also seen a significant increase in the number of front-line paramedics. In 2014, the department had 12 paramedics below the rank of Engineer to ride the ambulances each and every day and in December of 2015 that number has increased to 29.

The department also added two (2) additional Lucas II CPR machines, placing a unit on every front-line ambulance.

The department was awarded the Mission: Lifeline Silver EMS Award by the American Heart Association for the care of patients suffering a heart attack. There was a 10% increase in STEMI cases during this same time. On an annual basis the department has become a key player in helping the local hospitals achieve their accreditations in Chest Pain, Stroke and Trauma.

SILVER
EMS

2015

MISSION:
LIFELINE



Training

The Training Division continues to handle the task of preparing our employees for the challenges they face when called into action.

From a training perspective, they coordinated 84 fire continuing education (CE) classes and 64 EMS ensuring that all members met their individual CE requirements for the year. They taught 3 professional development classes (exceeding their benchmark of two) and hosted several outside agencies for advanced training courses.

From a logistic perspective, they managed the daily supply and equipment needs to support the EMS response. They managed the department's uniform purchasing process and coordinated the department grants totaling \$10,387.

From a recruitment perspective, the training division started the department's first firefighter online academy and graduated the first 2 candidates to attend the program.

A 99% safety record when involved in training was obtained with one minor injury and achieved an 88% pass rate for protocol testing (Goal is 80%).



Fire Marshal's Office

In 2015, The Victoria Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) continued to work diligently to protect the citizens and visitors of Victoria. The year started off with the Fire Marshal Office personnel being named Crew of the Year for 2014.

The FMO continued to build on their success while meeting an increased demand for inspections. Multiple apartment communities were under construction simultaneously. The FMO completed more inspections in 2015 than in the past 10 years. Using iPads, the Inspector/Investigators are able to complete more inspections and spend less time entering data.



The Compliance Engine continues to provide an accurate snapshot of the status of the fire protection systems within the city. Entries in the Compliance Engine increased by nearly 240% to 602 inspection reports. This system helps the fire protection service providers and the FMO ensure fire protection systems are compliant and deficiencies are corrected. In 2015, 14.1% of the fire protection systems were found to be deficient during their required inspections.

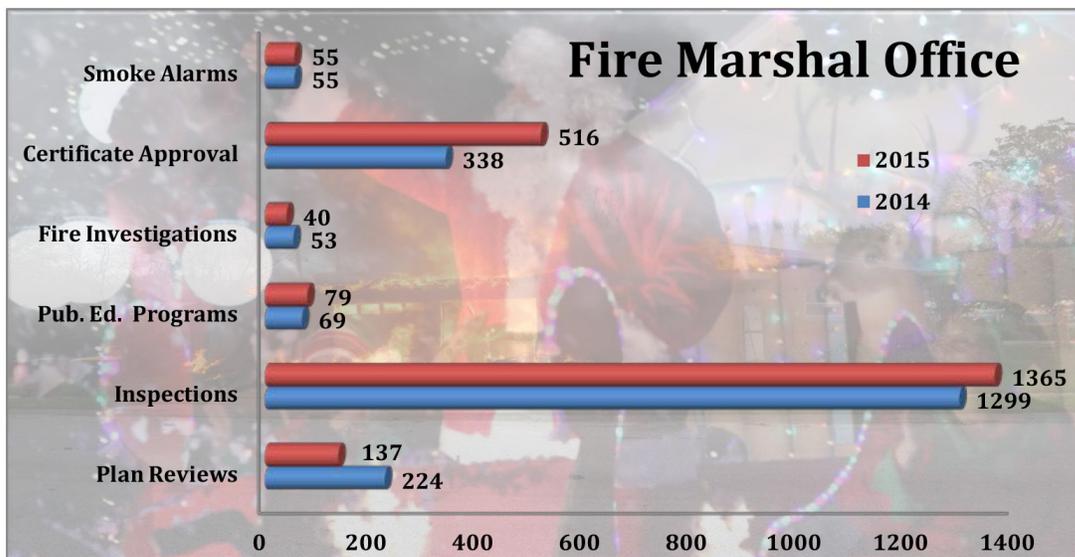
The FMO continued to persistently pursue those who use fire as a weapon. Several fire investigation cases from 2014 were prosecuted through the criminal court system in 2015.

Sentences ranged from 5 years probation to multiple 20-35 year sentences.



The most visible portion of the FMO is Public Education. Due to scheduling conflicts, the annual fire prevention show was delayed until February of 2016. However, the FMO participated in multiple public education events including National Night Out, Fire Prevention Poster Contest, Shattered Dreams, Smoke Alarm installations, group presentations, and impromptu meetings as needed.

In October, Fire Marshal Tom Legler achieved Fire Marshal Designation (FM) from the Center for Public Safety Excellence. There are only 99 FM's worldwide and 7 in the State of Texas.



2015 Public Service Awards



Nathan Ojeda
Rookie of the Year



John Bedwell
Medic of the Year



Wendell Geige
Member of the Year



Cody Langridge
Firefighter of the Year



Brandon Strelczyk
Officer of the Year



Tim Hunter
Civic Achievement



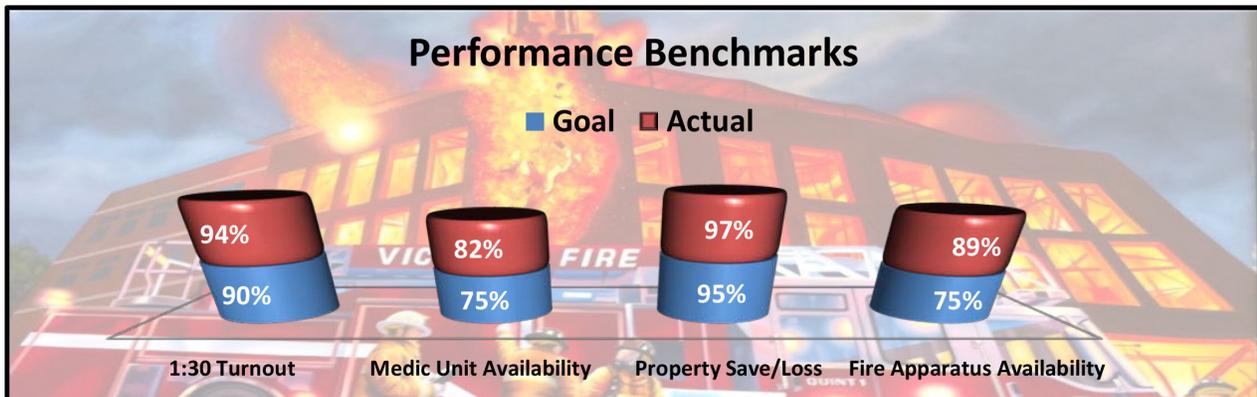
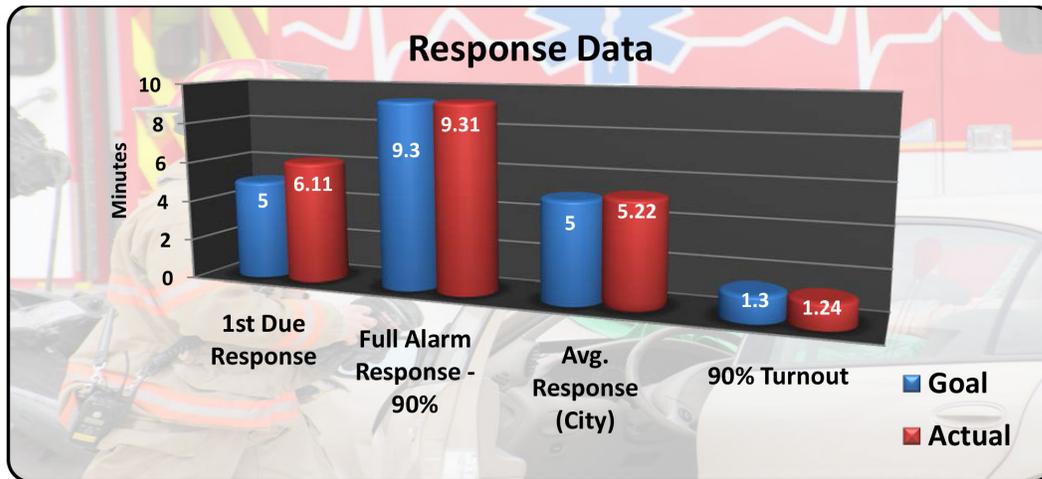
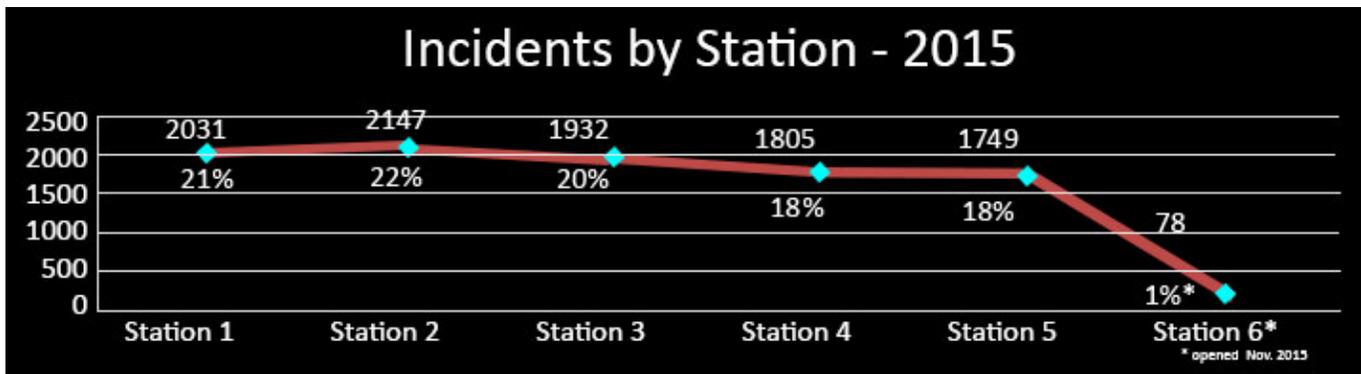
Crew of the Year - Station #1 "C" Shift
Pictured l-r: Michael Wallace-Bell, Zac Thorpe, Lupe DeLaGarza, Robert Bayer, Dale Hartman and Jeff Cowan.
Not pictured: Jacob Hanks



Wendell Geige
Fire Chief Commendation

Response Data

Emergency Responses	2013 All Calls	2014 All Calls	2015 All Calls	2013 County	2014 County	2015 County
Fires - Includes Structures, Vehicles, Grass, Trash, etc.	356	426	308	165	211	146
Overpressure - Includes Fireworks, Excessive heat, etc.	48	35	49	1	3	1
Rescue & EMS - Includes EMS calls, MVA, Rescue, etc.	6657	7184	7543	1217	1306	1432
Hazardous Conditions - Includes Arcing, Power Line Down, etc.	273	300	354	45	43	47
Service Calls - Includes Assist Pt., Assist Police, Unauthorized Burning, etc.	224	212	215	16	16	28
Good Intent Call - Includes Canceled Enroute, No Incident Found, etc.	726	730	870	296	254	281
False Alarm - Includes Alarm System, Smoke Detector, Sprinklers, etc.	378	397	446	22	25	45
Severe Weather - Includes Wind, Lightning, etc.	0	1	1	0	0	1
Special Incident - Includes Other, Citizen Complaint, etc.	3	1	3	0	0	0
Totals	8665	9286	9789	1762	1858	1981
Percent of total calls into the county.				20%	20.0%	20%

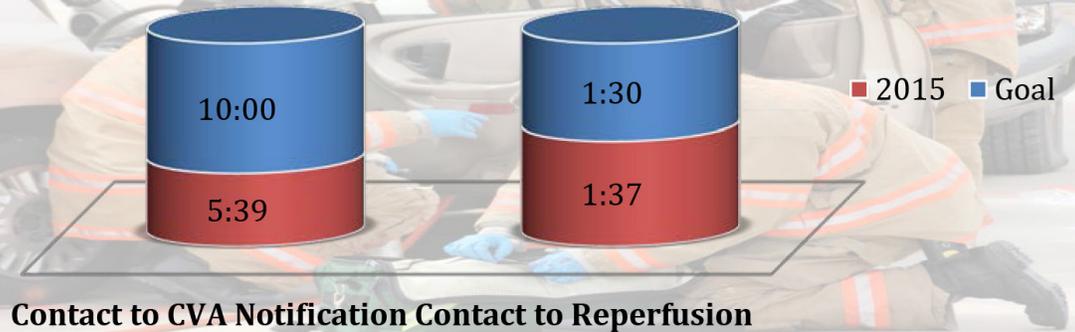


Critical Care - By the Numbers

Critical Care - STEMI



Critical Care Stroke Cases



Critical Care - Trauma



Volunteer Support

The VFD continues to be blessed with incredible volunteers that provide for us in many different ways ranging to new hire testing processes to our spiritual peace of mind. The Fire Corp. and Chaplain's Program have been partners with the department for many years and provide valuable services to our employees.

The Fire Corp.

The Fire Corp. continues to be a great partner with the department in providing many different services to our employees and the citizens. In 2015, they started providing rehab to our new hire candidates as a part of the new hire process. The new hire candidates have amazing things to say about being treated with such kindness and the hospitality certainly leaves them with a wonderful impression of the VFD as a potential employer.



Chaplain's Program

The Chaplain's Program provides wonderful counseling services to our employees. They drop by to check on the firefighters from time to time just to make sure their mental health is strong and to provide an ear if one is needed. We are blessed to have them as an internal support group and thankful for their support to this agency and community.

Employees



PHILOSOPHY OF OPERATIONS

MISSION

TO PRESERVE LIFE AND PROPERTY WITH DEDICATED AND CARING SERVICE

THE MEMBERS OF THE VICTORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL ACHIEVE THE MISSION BY MAINTAINING A POSITIVE, PRODUCTIVE WORK ENVIRONMENT FILLED WITH A PROFESSIONAL AND HIGHLY TRAINED STAFF

VISION

THE LEADER IN EMERGENCY SERVICE EXCELLENCE



CORE VALUES

The Victoria Fire Department is dedicated to providing excellent service to our customers. The members of the Victoria Fire Department have identified a set of core values for each member to uphold. The actions and decisions of the Victoria Fire Department will reflect these core values.

Professionalism - Acting with honesty, integrity and respect.

Leadership - Showing the way with a positive attitude and open communication.

Accountability - Taking pride in our work & being responsible for our actions.

Teamwork - All members working together to achieve a common goal.

Employee Well-being - Employee wellness and fitness.

Employee education and professional development.

Encourage and support of employee family life.