



BRANFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2021

The Branford Fire Department provides the highest level of service to our community by valuing our members, promoting positive leadership, and dedicating ourselves to excellence.

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Mission Statement

The Branford Fire Department provides the highest level of service to our community by valuing our members, promoting positive leadership, and dedicating ourselves to excellence.

Core Values

Service - We provide the highest quality services necessary to minimize the loss of life and/or property threatened by the hazards of fire, explosion, medical, chemical, or rescue related emergencies, through fire suppression, code enforcement, and conscientious prevention and education.

Integrity - We will be honest, forthright, loyal, and articulate in all of our daily communications and activities. We will treat our customers and each other with respect and courtesy at all times. We aim to create an atmosphere that encourages individual growth, participation, creativity and acknowledges the achievements of our members.

Courage - We demonstrate bravery by our selfless commitment to the citizens we serve, overcoming fear through fortitude, good judgment and strength of character.

Competence - We will strive to be proficient and optimally effective in our professional practice. We will work to continually improve, by all available means, our knowledge of the profession and our individual and collective performances to provide a high level of customer service to the members of our community.

Board of Fire Commissioners

Branford Fire Department is a municipal agency governed by the Board of Fire Commissioners, created by CGS Chapter A237: Special Acts § A237-4.

*Robert J. Massey Jr., Chairman
Jack Ahern
David Lacroix*

*Madeline "Buzz" Clem
Kathy Fox
Paul Riccio*

The Clerk of the Board is Trista Milici.

Board of Fire Commissioners meetings are typically held on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Commissioners' Room located on the second floor of Fire Headquarters, 45 North Main Street.

Administration

Branford Fire Department operates under the leadership of Fire Chief Thomas F. Mahoney, Jr. and Assistant Chief Gary Bloomquist. The Administrative Assistant is Leah Ahern.

Department Officers

Thomas F. Mahoney, Jr., Chief, Gary Bloomquist, Assistant Chief
Robert Dobuzinsky, Fire Marshal
William Pepe, Deputy Chief of Operations – Div. 1
Jason Karpovich, Deputy Chief of Operations – Div. 2
Michael Stackpole, Deputy Chief of Operations – Div. 3
Timothy Judd, Deputy Chief of Operations – Div. 4
Timothy Murray, Volunteer Deputy Chief
John Cudgma, Deputy Chief of Safety and Administration

Career Captains

Craig O'Rourke - Div. 1
James Carson - Div. 2
Randall Chittenden - Div. 3
Joseph Petrosino - Div. 4

Volunteer Captains

Mark Hornyak – Co. 2
Eric Wagner – Co.4
Connor Ball - Co. 5
Christopher Gagliardi – Co. 9
Michael Acquino – Rescue 1
George Weted – Fire Police

Volunteer Lieutenants

Harold Barringham – Co. 2
Tom Wrede– Co. 2
Lawrence Fisher – Co. 4
Ryan Dugan – Co. 4
Conner Hennessey – Co. 5
Kirk Anderson – Co. 5
Geoff Hotz – Co. 9
John Rothfuss – Co. 9
Joseph Tulli – Fire Police
John Cappiello – Fire Police

Career Staff

Our career firefighting staff is an affiliate of the International Association of Firefighters, represented locally as Branford Professional Firefighters Association Local 2533. Forty firefighters are assigned to one (1) of four (4) divisions, each consisting of one (1) Deputy Chief, one (1) Captain, and eight (8) Firefighter/Paramedics. Each of the four 10-member Divisions works a rotating schedule to provide 24-hour coverage, seven days per week. Three additional career positions include Fire Marshal, Deputy Chief of Administration and Safety, and Fire Prevention Inspector (unfunded), each assigned to a regular 40 hour schedule.

Volunteer Staff

Volunteer members are divided into four (4) Fire Companies, a Heavy Rescue Squad and a Fire Police Squad. Collectively, these members dedicate thousands of hours each year to the residents of Branford. When not responding to emergency calls, they spend many hours in certification classes, conducting weekly drills, and performing maintenance on equipment. Their commitment greatly reduces the overall financial impact that fire/rescue services have on the taxpayer.

Part Time Staff

The Department utilizes part-time paid emergency medical personnel to staff one ambulance, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. and Saturday/Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. This is our peak demand time for emergency medical services. These personnel are also utilized to staff additional ambulances on a “per call” or “as needed basis” before utilizing mutual aid.

Career Personnel Changes

Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Shaun Heffernan retired from the Department October 31, 2020 after 25 years as a career member. Shaun served the Town for more than 32 years as a volunteer firefighter, dispatcher, career Firefighter/Paramedic, and finally as Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal. He also tirelessly volunteered to help young cancer patients have a sense of normalcy and fun at Camp Rising Sun. Shaun received several unit citations and other awards for outstanding service to the citizens of Branford.

Firefighter/Paramedic Dylan Kessler resigned from his position June 28, 2021.



Allocation of Personnel

COMMAND STAFF	QUANTITY PER POSITION
FIRE CHIEF	1
ASSISTANT CHIEF	1
FIRE MARSHAL	1
DEPUTY CHIEF OF SAFETY & ADMINISTRATION	1
VOLUNTEER DEPUTY CHIEF	1
CAREER DIVISIONS 1-4	
DEPUTY CHIEF OF OPERATIONS	1 PER SHIFT
CAPTAIN	1 PER SHIFT
FIREFIGHTER	8 PER SHIFT
MP RICE COMPANY 2 (VOLUNTEER)	
CAPTAIN	1
LIEUTENANT	2
FIREFIGHTER	6
OTHER	3
SHORT BEACH COMPANY 4 (VOLUNTEER)	
CAPTAIN	1
LIEUTENANT	2
FIREFIGHTER	3
OTHER	0
STONY CREEK COMPANY 5 (VOLUNTEER)	
CAPTAIN	1
LIEUTENANT	2
FIREFIGHTER	9
OTHER	3
INDIAN NECK COMPANY 9 (VOLUNTEER)	
CAPTAIN	1
LIEUTENANT	2
FIREFIGHTER	5
OTHER	1
FIRE POLICE (VOLUNTEER)	
CAPTAIN	1
LIEUTENANT	2
MEMBERS	4
CURRENT VOLUNTEER MEMBERS= 49	

Fire Companies and Stations

Branford Fire Department operates from five stations: Fire Headquarters, staffed by career personnel, and four district stations staffed by volunteers. These stations are strategically located throughout town to minimize response time and better distribute resources. Our buildings are maintained by the town's General Government Buildings (GGB) department.

Fire Headquarters - 45 North Main Street

Fire Headquarters is home to the department's administration, career staff, emergency medical services, and the volunteer rescue squad. The building houses two fire pumpers, one 100' Ladder Truck, one heavy rescue vehicle, one light rescue vehicle, five ambulances, as well as staff and other support vehicles. The building's most prominent feature is the four story drill tower designed to aesthetically blend into the exterior design while providing versatile drill space. This tower, along with other features on the property, allows the department to meet rating bureau requirements for a training facility. The large classroom serves to host the educational needs of the department, as well as hundreds of town and community meetings each year.



Station 2 – 341 Main Street

MP Rice Hose Company 2 has occupied Station 2 since it was built in 1901. The members of Company 2 operate Engine 2 out of this location. Engine 2 is our busiest volunteer engine company.

Station 4 – 64 Shore Drive, Short Beach

Station 4 is the only occupied station that is not owned by the town. The building is owned by Short Beach Hose, Hook & Ladder Co. 4 Inc. and rented by the Town of Branford. The members of Company 4 operate Engine 4 out of this location.

Station 5 – 41 School Street, Stony Creek

Station 5 is in part of a building that is shared with the Stony Creek Museum. The members of Company 5 operate Engine 5, Rescue 5, and Tac 5 (ATV) out of this location. In addition, they operate Marine 5 out of the Stony Creek Dock, which is located just down the road from Station 5.

Station 9 – 6 Linden Avenue, Indian Neck

Company 9's volunteers run two pieces of apparatus, Engine 9 and Tac 6, out of Station 9. This is our newest station serving the Indian Neck Pine Orchard area.

Apparatus

ENGINE 1	2015 PIERCE	TAC 2	2010 KUBOTA	MARINE 3	2018 MILLPRO 1673-X2
ENGINE 2	1997 PIERCE	TAC 5	2013 POLARIS	MARINE 4	INMAR SR380
ENGINE 4	1997 PIERCE	TAC 6	2020 FORD F-450	CAR 1	2018 CHEVY TAHOE
ENGINE 5	2020 SUTPHEN	MEDIC 1	2017 FORD E-450	CAR 2	2018 CHEVY TAHOE
ENGINE 7	2005 SMEAL	MEDIC 2	2019 FORD E-450	CAR 6	2016 CHEVY TAHOE
ENGINE 9	2001 KME	MEDIC 3	2015 FORD E-450	CAR 8	2012 CHEVY TAHOE
TRUCK 1	2008 SMEAL	MEDIC 4	2011 CHEVY	CAR 9	2012 CHEVY TAHOE
RESCUE 1	1999 PIERCE	MEDIC 5	2014 CHEVY	CAR 12	2003 FORD EXCURSION
RESCUE 2	2019 FORD F-550	MARINE 2	1993 MUNSON	CAR 15	2020 FORD F-350
RESCUE 5	2009 FORD F-550	MARINE 5	2007 DERECKTOR	CAR 18	2002 DODGE RAM

Current Fleet

In fiscal year 2021, we took delivery of a new fire apparatus to replace Stony Creek's 28 year old engine with a new 2020 Sutphen pumper at a cost of \$516,379.41. Ambulances have a useful life of approximately 10 years and larger fire apparatus, such as pumpers, 25 years or more. As new vehicles are purchased, the vehicle(s) they replace are used as a backup/spare until they are traded in or sold.

Vehicle Repair

Since moving into the new Fire Headquarters, the additional space has allowed us to expand our in-house vehicle maintenance and repair program. Approximately 90% of all repairs, preventative maintenance, and vehicle inspections are completed in-house, saving about half the cost of using outside vendors. Most importantly, this program has kept vehicle down time to a minimum, ensuring our fleet is safe and available.

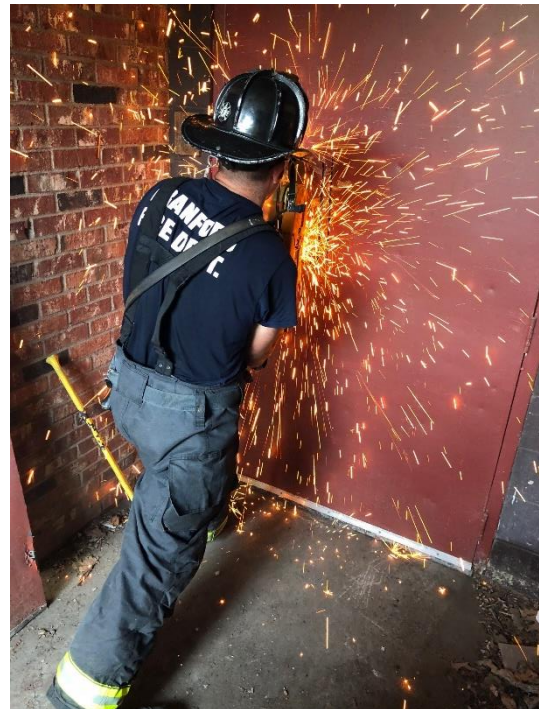
Training Division

Today's first responders are tasked with a multitude of responsibilities which require hours of continuing education, drills, and other training to meet standards and regulatory requirements. The Branford Fire Department's Training Division is comprised of certified instructors from our career and volunteer ranks. The Training Division is managed by Deputy Chief of Safety and Administration, John Cudgma; Drillmaster, Joseph Massey; Assistant Drill Master-EMS, vacant; and Assistant Drill Master-HAZMAT/Tech & Rescue, Robert Dobuzinsky. The Training Division is responsible for all facets of the department's training and education including OSHA compliance, continuing medical education, land and marine based firefighting, specialized technical rescue, and hazardous material response training.

The following are highlights of more than 1,686 hours of education and training accomplishments by our members during FY-2021:

- All shifts complete Man vs. Machine training.
- July 30, 2020, Firefighter Ian Canny graduated from the Connecticut Fire Academy after resuming the Covid-19 suspended Recruit Class #65.
- (5) Members complete Rope Technician refresher class.
- In October of 2020, on duty crews, under the direction of Assistant Drill Master Dobuzinsky, completed annual confined space refresher training at the Meadow Street pump station.

- Ten additional Hot Stick voltage detectors for assessing wire down calls were added and personnel were trained on the use.
- One member was certified to Incident Safety Officer – Fire Suppression.
- On duty crews, under the direction of Assistant Drill Master Dobuzinsky, completed training on the new Arizona Vortex, a highly versatile and portable artificial high directional rescue device. It allows users to elevate rope lines above edges, entries, or other obstructions, and is ideal in edge-mitigation for cliffs, confined spaces, mines, and other industrial rescue or rope access operations.
- On-boarded and provided training for 18 new part time EMTs and Paramedics.
- Two live burn training exercises were completed on October 19 and 26th. This was conducted at the New Haven Regional Fire Training School.
- Five members completed the state Pump Operator certification course.
- Four members were recently certified as Fire Service Instructor III.
- Six members earned their FAA Part 107 Drone Pilot's License.



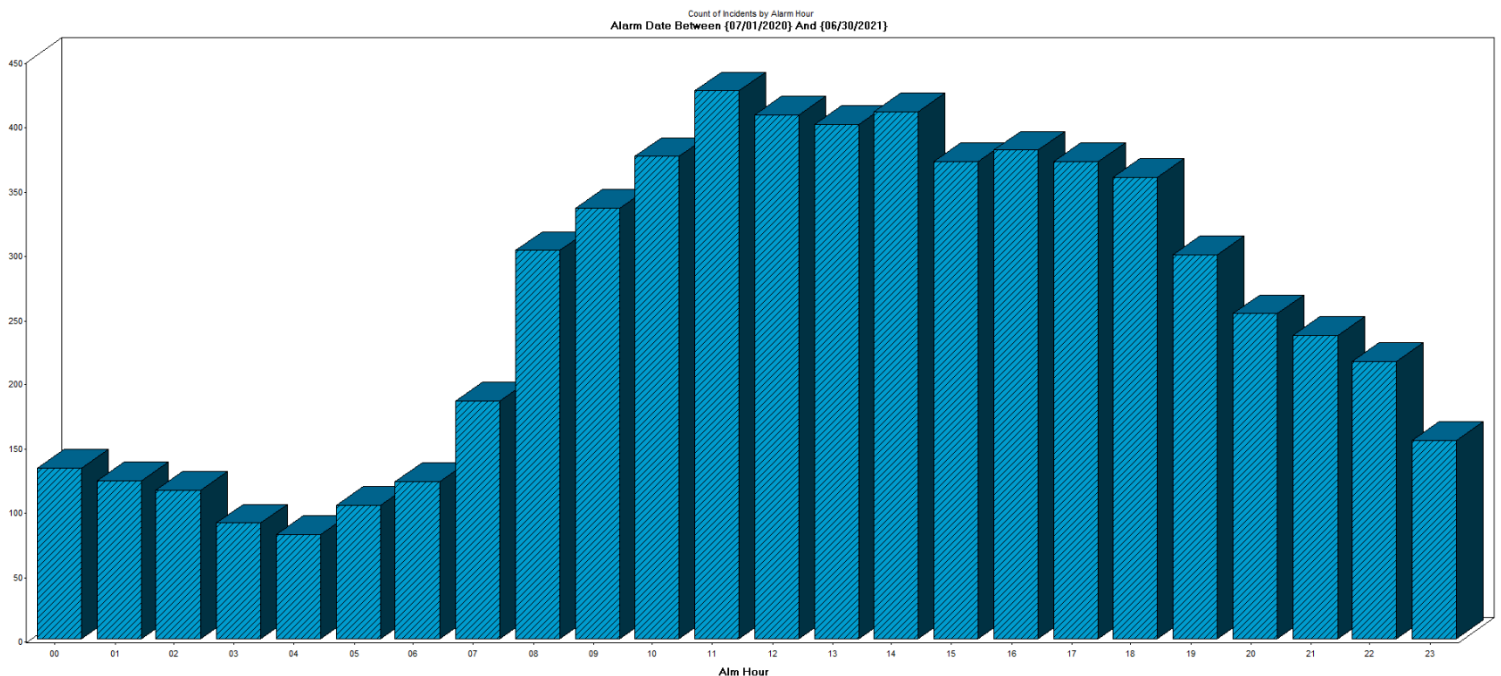
Prevention and Code Enforcement

Branford Fire Department's prevention program starts with the youngest members of our community. We deliver public education in our school system, daycares, and youth groups. Prevention and code enforcement is conducted through the Office of the Fire Marshal, overseen by Robert Dobuzinsky. The Fire Marshal is assisted by part-time Deputy Fire Marshals. This office conducts thousands of hours of inspections, investigations, and plan reviews. The goal of this Division is to reduce the overall life safety risks to Branford residents, workers, businesses and visitors.

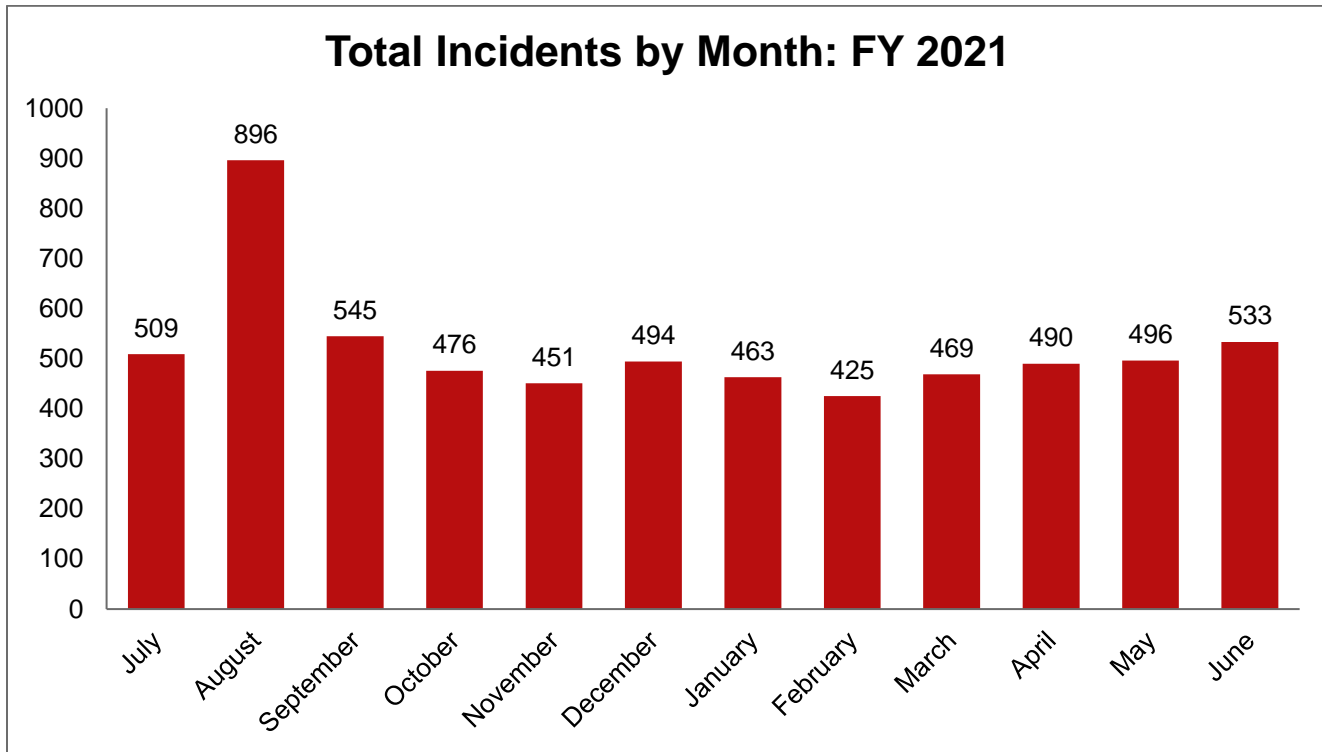
Operations

During fiscal year 2021, the fire department responded to 6,248 calls for service. Medical emergencies, including rescue calls and motor vehicle accidents, accounted for 70% of total requests for service. The early interventions and pre-hospital care provided by our EMTs and Paramedics significantly contribute to positive outcomes for our patients. While the danger from fire has been greatly reduced through our efforts in education, code enforcement, and the application of technology, it remains an ever present danger. During fiscal year 2021, Branford had 14 fires resulting in significant financial loss. These larger fire incidents account for a smaller percentage of the overall need for service, but they result in a much larger percentage of risk to our community. Our ability to rapidly respond with the appropriate resources keeps many smaller incidents from becoming larger and more costly events.

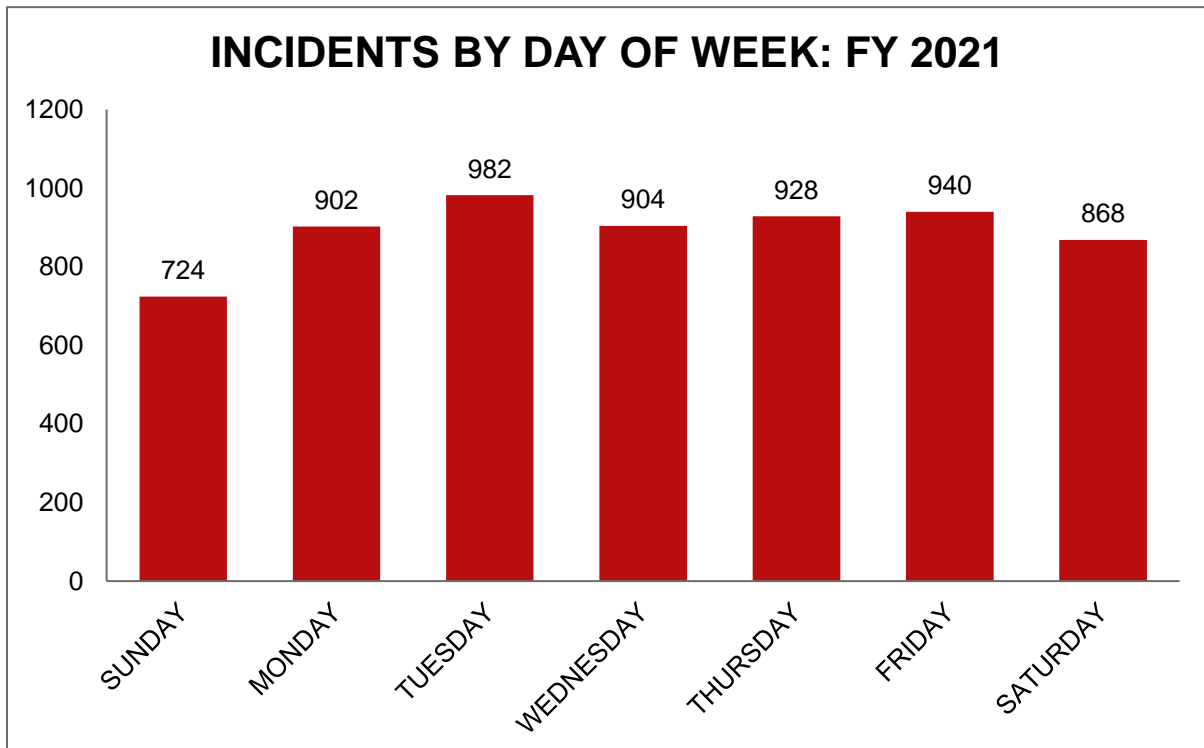
INCIDENTS BY HOUR (On Average 11:00 A.M. Was the Busiest Hour)



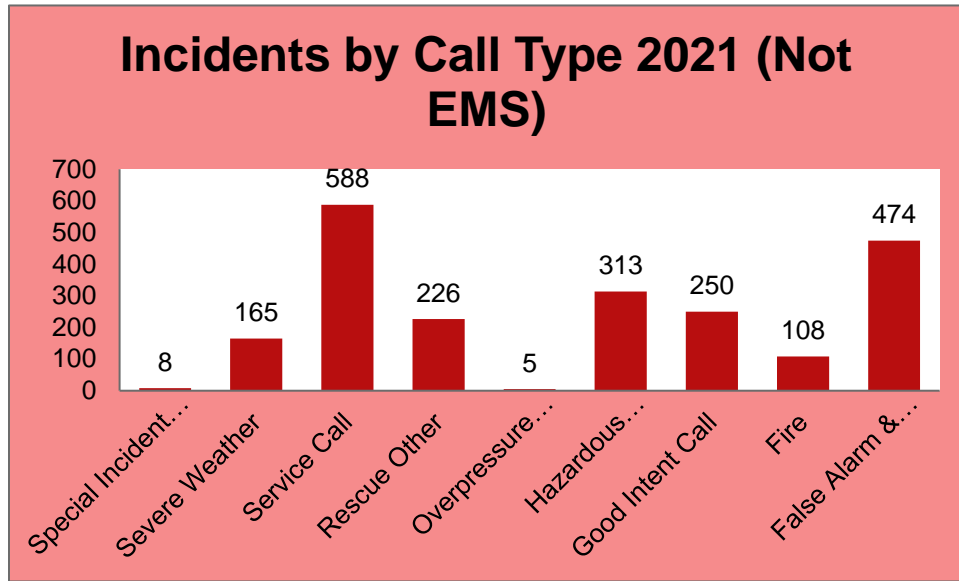
TOTAL INCIDENTS BY MONTH



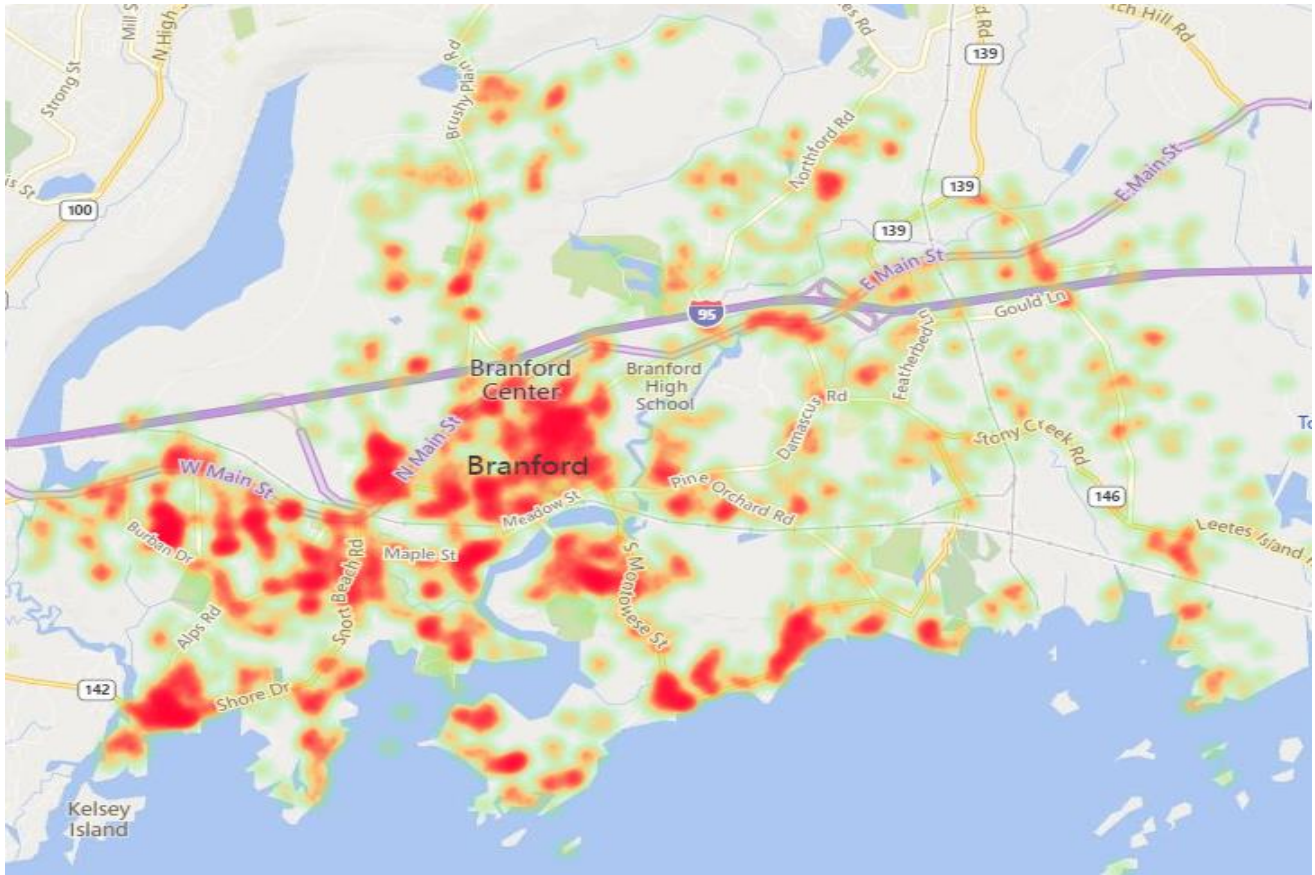
INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK



INCIDENT TYPE NFIRS (NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM, NOT EMS)



SPATIAL ANALYSIS OF INCIDENTS



MUTUAL AID REPORT

AMR American Medical Response of Connecticut	
Mutual aid received	4
Automatic aid received	2
Mutual aid given	2
Other aid given	1
	<hr/>
	9
EAST HAVEN East Haven Fire Department	
Mutual aid received	1
Automatic aid received	1
Mutual aid given	7
	<hr/>
	9
GUILFORD Guilford Fire Department	
Mutual aid received	16
Automatic aid received	4
Mutual aid given	17
Automatic aid given	4
	<hr/>
	41
MADAMB Madison Ambulance Association	
Mutual aid given	1
	<hr/>
	1
N BRANFORD North Branford Fire Department	
Mutual aid received	2
Mutual aid given	12
	<hr/>
	14
NEW HAVEN New Haven Fire Department	
Mutual aid given	1
	<hr/>
	1

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Branford Fire Department is the designated emergency medical services and ambulance provider within the Town of Branford, holding Certificate of Operation CO14P1 in the FR/BA/MIC-P category. Branford Fire Department is part of CT EMS Council Region 2 and receives medical oversight and direction from Yale New Haven Hospital Center for Emergency Medical Services. EMS service is provided by dual-role career firefighter/paramedics, and our part-time EMTs and paramedics. Our service is based upon a multi-tiered response consisting of pre-arrival instructions, first responder, and ambulance service at both the basic life support (BLS) and advanced life support (ALS) levels. The Branford Communications Center (PSAP) receives 911 calls originating within the town. The center triages the call and provides pre-arrival instructions to the caller while simultaneously dispatching the appropriate resources. The ambulance and first responders are dispatched via radio, tone activated paging, alpha numeric paging, station alerting, and mobile data terminals (MDTs). Branford participates in a mutual aid system implemented automatically to help assure EMS response during times of system overload. Branford Fire Department operates five ambulances, two full-time and three part-time or on-call. All ambulances are located at Branford Fire Headquarters.

The full-time ambulances are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week and are each staffed at the advanced life support (paramedic) level. Our other ambulances are staffed part-time or by call-in crews. When call-in ambulances are needed, the radio alert and paging system is activated and another crew is called in.

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LEARN AND PRACTICE CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSITATION (CPR)



EMS MONTHLY CALL VOLUME



EMS Incidents Disposition Breakdown

EMS Incident Disposition Breakdown Fiscal 2021	
Assist, Agency	2
Assist, Public	144
Assist, Unit	4
Cancelled (No Patient Contact)	40
Cancelled (Prior to Arrival at Scene)	9
Cancelled on Scene/No Patient Found	50
Patient Dead on Scene - No Resuscitation Attempted (Without Transport)	43
Patient Dead on Scene - Resuscitation Attempted (Without Transport)	21
Patient Evaluated, No Treatment/Transport Required	279
Patient Refused Evaluation/Care (Without Transport)	194
Patient Treated, Released (AMA)	250
Patient Treated, Released (per protocol)	114
Patient Treated, Transferred Care to Another EMS Professional	58
Patient Treated, Transported by Private Vehicle	10
Standby - No Service or Support Provided	2
Transported Lights/Siren	160
Transported Lights/Siren, Downgraded	1
Transported No Lights/Siren	3,224
Transported No Lights/Siren, Upgraded	8
Totals	4,613

Finance

The Town of Branford strives to support an efficient, well equipped, highly trained, fire, rescue, and EMS response system. We work diligently to find cost efficient solutions to maintain the high level of service that our community expects.

Operating Budget

The 2021 approved operating budget was \$6,675,482. \$810,000, or 12.1% of our total operating budget, is the amount paid to the New Haven Regional Water Authority to provide and maintain hydrants and water mains for fire protection. The total revenue from ambulance billing for fiscal year 2021 was \$1,778,032.

Capital Budget

Long term apparatus, equipment, and infrastructure improvements are budgeted through the Capital Budget Plan, often through multi-year allocations in the form of sinking funds.

Fire Apparatus – Sinking Fund

The life expectancy of major fire apparatus is more than twenty years; the average cost of new fire apparatus is between \$625,000 for a new pumper to more than \$1,400,000 for an aerial ladder truck. We budget a portion of that cost each year to prepare for these larger purchases in this sinking fund.

Ambulance – Sinking Fund

The department's fleet of five ambulances is rotated so that the newest ambulances run as front line units, with the older ambulances remaining active but used on an as needed basis. The department purchases a new ambulance on average every two years; the cost of a new ambulance is approximately \$235,000.00 with stretcher and mount.

Radio Communications - Sinking Fund

This fund is used for projected annual portable and mobile radio purchases. Any balance is carried forward year to year to fund the future replacement of major radio infrastructure.

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus

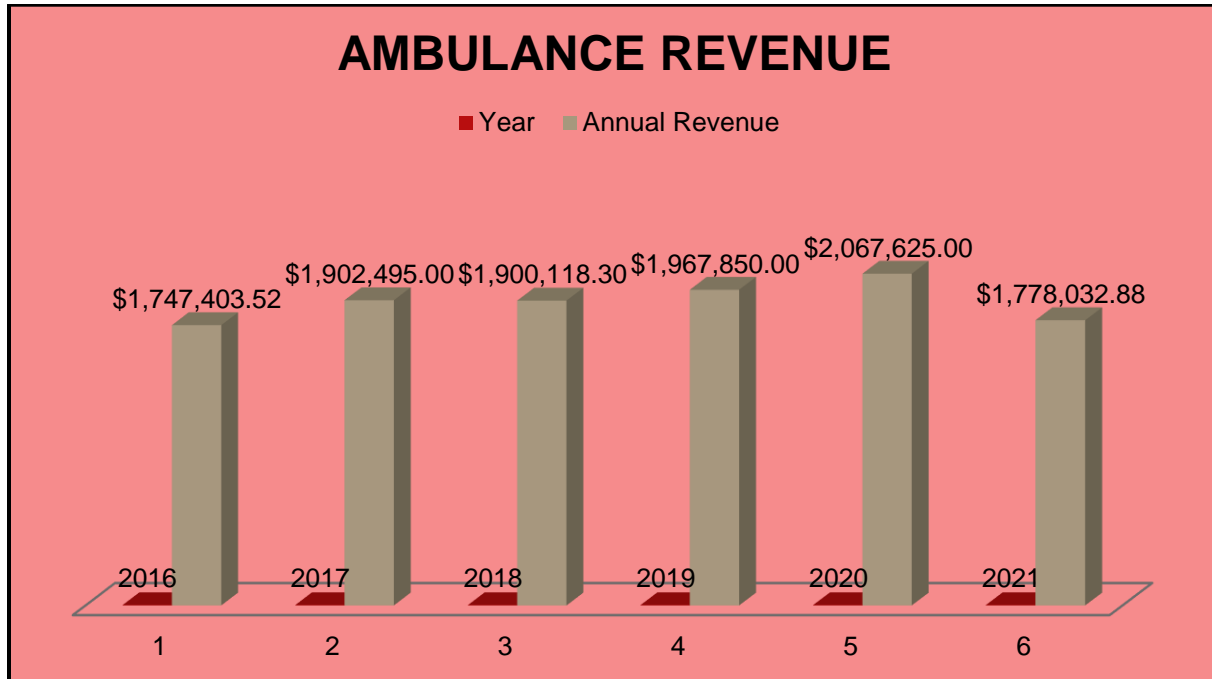
Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) is an integral part of a firefighter's personal protective ensemble. A complete unit costs approximately \$7,800.00 per unit, the department has 56 SCBAs in our inventory. This fund is designed to replace these units at the end of their 15 year life cycle.

Grants and Donations

In Fiscal Year 2019, the Department was awarded a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) FEMA Grant in the amount of \$1.46 million dollars. This grant reduced the local tax burden associated with the hiring of eight additional firefighters (two per shift). The \$1.46 million grant represents the federal cost-share of the total project cost of approximately \$2.38 million over three years. SAFER is a Federal competitive grant evaluated based on the substance of the application relative to the established SAFER Grant funding priorities. In Fiscal Year 2021, we received \$446,106.80 in reimbursements from this grant. To date we have received a total of \$1,247,959.27 in reimbursements from this grant.

Ambulance Revenue

Our five ambulances generate significant revenue, offsetting the cost of our services to the taxpayer. Ambulance revenue deposited to the Town's General fund in fiscal year 2021 totaled \$1,778,032.88. COVID-19 had a negative impact on our expected revenue in fiscal year 2021. Our billable to non-billable ratio went from an average of 23% non-billable to 28% non-billable. We expect this to return to the historic average in fiscal year 2022.



Summary

The following are highlights of Fire Department activity for fiscal year 2021.

- July 9, 2020: Deputy Chief Timothy Judd was off duty when he was alerted to a well involved truck fire on Leetes Island Road in Stony Creek. He removed multiple 20lb propane cylinders before the fire was able to reach them. His actions likely kept this minor fire from becoming a major incident.
- July 10, 2020: Firefighter/ Paramedic Alexandra Demitrack began a fundraising campaign to turn a portion of dead lawn space at fire headquarters into a living garden supporting pollinators.
- July 27, 2020: Multiple patients were transported by Branford Fire Department Ambulances from Southbound I-95 following a serious accident.
- August 4, 2020: Tropical Storm Isaias struck Branford leaving 58% of the Town without power. Branford Fire Department responded to 172 incidents during this 24 hour period.
- August 27, 2020: Branford was hit with a severe line of thunderstorms whose powerful straight line winds caused widespread damage in many areas of town. More than 78% of the town was left without power. Branford Fire Department responded to 144 incidents during this 24 hour period.

- August 30, 2020: personnel responded to Brewers West Marina on Goodsell Point Road for a reported boat fire just after 9:00 p.m. The rapid deployment of a large diameter hose line by our first due company quickly knocked down the well involved fire preventing its spread to surrounding vessels.
- September 11, 2020: The annual town wide September 11th Remembrance Ceremony was cancelled due to COVID 19. The department held a small ceremony at Headquarters to honor those lost.
- September 11, 2020: A retirement party was held for Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Shaun Heffernan on his last day of service before his retirement.
- September 24, 2020: The Board of Fire Commissioners voted to split the Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Marshal position into two full time positions, a full time Assistant Fire Chief and a full time Fire Marshal. Gary Bloomquist is appointed acting Assistant Chief.
- October 12, 2020: The Department launched a virtual fire safety campaign marking Fire Prevention Month.
- October 20, 2020: Annual live fire training began at the New Haven Regional Fire Training Academy. Only half of the members completed the training before a resurgence of COVID 19 forced us to cancel the remaining days.
- October 25, 2020: The Pollinator Pathway was completed at Fire Headquarters.
- October 27, 2020: Branford Fire Department hosted a Connecticut Fire Academy Certified Pump Operator Class at Fire Headquarters.
- October 31, 2020: Assistant Chief Shaun Heffernan retired from town service.
- November 30, 2020: Crews from Branford Fire Department were awarded Unit Citations for two successful cardiac arrest resuscitations in 2019. The citations: "For exceptional and professional effort during a cardiac arrest, resulting in the preservation of quality of life" are given by The Yale-New Haven Hospital Center for EMS. Normally these are presented during EMS week each May; unfortunately, due to Covid-19 the award ceremony was cancelled.
- December 14, 2020: Fire Prevention Poster Contest winners Liliana Vitale, Elise Kane, Aiden Piroli, and Grace Salter are announced by Fire Prevention Inspector Robert Dobuzinsky.
- December 16, 2020: Branford Fire Department regrets to announce the passing of Aerial Company 1 member (Retired) Nicholas S. Dykun Jr.
- Branford Fire Department regrets to announce the passing of Career Firefighter/Paramedic Paul Cipriani (retired). Paul began his service as a volunteer with Indian Neck Pine Orchard Volunteer Fire Co. 9 and the volunteer rescue squad. There is no single person who had a greater impact on Branford's emergency medical services than Paul. Paul was the former Chief of Branford Ambulance Service before its merger into the Fire Department in 1993. He was one of the first paramedics to serve the town and was a tireless advocate of quality emergency medical services here.
- December 25, 2020: A fire was extinguished in a residence on Howard Avenue.
- January 11, 2021: Michael Mullen stepped down as Captain of Indian Neck Pine Orchard Company 9 after serving in more than three decades in the position. The following Officers were elected at the annual meeting of the company: Captain Chris Gagliardi, 1st. Lieutenant John Rothfuss, 2nd Lieutenant Geoff Hotz, Treasurer Steve Potter, Secretary Ryan Andrews.
- January 20, 2021: The Branford Fire Department was selected by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to participate in the second phase of a pilot program to build a digital community risk assessment (CRA) tool. Aligned to NFPA 1300, Standard on Community Risk Assessment and Community Risk Reduction Plan Development, the tool, or "dashboard," enables community leaders to gain valuable insights and make data-informed decisions around fire prevention and other risk-reduction activities in their communities.
- January 24, 2021: Branford Fire sent several units to East Haven for a multiple alarm fire in a large condominium complex.

- January 24, 2021: A large wind driven brush fire was reported behind Orchard Avenue in Hotchkiss Grove. It took all available personnel more than two hours to completely extinguish the fire located deep in the woods up steep terrain. North Branford Fire Department provided coverage while Branford units were tied up.
- February 16, 2021: The Board of Fire Commissioners promoted Deputy Chief of Safety and Administration, Gary Bloomquist, to the rank of Assistant Fire Chief.
- March 13, 2021: It took all Branford companies along with mutual aid from East Haven and Guilford hours to extinguish a large brush fire in the Beacon Hill Preserve.
- April 13, 2021: The Fire Department responded, in support of the Branford Police Department, to an active shooter situation, where an individual had barricaded himself in local business/residence and began shooting towards civilians and police. The Branford Fire Department transported one civilian to Yale New Haven Hospital for a non-life threatening gunshot wound.
- April 30, 2021: A fire was extinguished in a multi-family home on Shore Drive.
- May 20, 2021: Branford Fire Units staffed New Haven Fire Department Engine Company 17 so all NHFD members could attend the funeral of Firefighter Ricardo Torres, Jr. Branford staffed the station for a full 24 hour tour. This is the first time in history that Branford covered a New Haven station.
- June 9, 2021: Branford Fire Department regrets to announce the passing of Volunteer Assistant Chief Robert J Massey Sr. (retired). Assistant Chief Massey joined the Department as a member of Hook and Ladder Company #1 in 1952, serving for more than 60 years. He was a founding member and the first Captain of Rescue Squad 1 in 1970.
- June 15, 2021: At a Special Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners, the following members were promoted. Robert Dobuzinsky to Fire Marshal, John Cudgma to Deputy Chief of Safety and Administration and Amanda Mark to Deputy Fire Marshal.
- June 30, 2021: the department finishes the Fiscal Year with 6,248 calls for service.
- The department maintained an average town wide response time of less than 5.5 minutes.
- August was our busiest month, Tuesday our busiest day, 11:00 a.m. our busiest hour.

The Branford Fire Department continues to provide the highest level of service to our community as a leader in cost efficient emergency response, prevention, and risk reduction services. We will continue to find creative solutions to overcome challenges while providing exceptional value to the taxpayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert J. Massey, Jr.
Chairman Board of Fire Commissioners

Thomas F. Mahoney, Jr.
Fire Chief

