

# Neosho Fire Department 2012 Annual Report



*It is the design of the department to serve the public to the best of our ability.*

*The mission of the department is to assist people through  
Prevention, Planning, Education, and Action.  
We pursue this mission with determination and resolve with  
emphases on  
Dedication, Compassion, and Constant Improvement.*

## Introduction

2012 was a busy year for us. We set a record for the number of calls, due in part to the drought and warmer than normal temperatures throughout the entire year and an increase in the number of medical/EMS calls. The fire department budget continued to improve allowing us to continue all aspects of service that we have provided in the past.

In 2012 the Neosho Fire Department responded to 2,101 calls for service. A break down of the call history, response by district, department training, and history of calls for service is provided later in this report.

I would like to say “Thank You” to the citizens that have continued to support the fire department. We have worked very hard at maintaining the high standards that the citizens of Neosho have come to expect. I would also like to say “Thank You” to the members of the department, their families and fellow City employees that have sacrificed their personal lives to assist residents and visitors to our community. Also, I would like to commend the Fire Departments in the area, EMS and Law Enforcement for pulling together over the summer months to help fight the high number of outside fires the entire area had. There were a very high number of outside fires during the months of July and August that kept everyone very busy.

### Chief Mike Eads

## Departmental facts

Fire Station 1  
125 N. College St.  
Neosho, Missouri 64850  
Phone: 417-451-8021  
Fax: 417-451-8027

Fire Station 2  
501 Industrial Drive  
Neosho Missouri 64850  
Phone: 417-451-8030  
Fax: 417-451-8047

Department e-mail: [administration@neoshofire.org](mailto:administration@neoshofire.org)

### Staffing-40 hour

Fire Chief  
Administrative Assistant  
Training Officer\*(1)

### Staffing-24 hr Shift

3 Battalion Chiefs  
3 Captains  
12 Engineers\*(2)  
6 Firefighters\*(6)

### Staffing-Paid-per-call

3 firefighters

SAFER grant is funding nine \*(9) positions. (SAFER grant ends April 27, 2013)  
Deputy Chief Position removed and not funded at this time

**Fire Department Personnel Current staff**  
**End of year 2012**  
**(Year of Full Time Hire)**

**Administrative Staffing (40 hr)**

Chief Mike Eads (86)  
Administrative Assistant Mari Mallory (99)  
Training Officer/Firefighter Scott Maness (11)\*

**A-Shift (24)**

Bat. Chief Brad Morris (92)  
Capt. Adrian Hitchcock (02)  
Eng. Tim Duncan (02)  
Eng. Beau Davis (05)  
Eng. Derek Williams (05)  
Eng. Dustin Wright (11)  
FF Gregg Lee (11)\*  
FF Travis Bracht (11)\*

**B-Shift (24)**

Bat. Chief Jim Ledford (97)  
Capt. Roy Haskett (02)  
Eng. Mark Solomon (02)  
Eng. Kyle Rogers (03)  
Eng. Wade Sterling (04)  
Eng. Charles Colvin (11)\*  
FF Kurt Williams (11)\*  
FF Taylor Lombard (12)\*

**C-Shift (24)**

Bat. Chief Bret Smith (91)  
Capt. Al Cervantes (95)  
Eng. Bryan McCutcheon (01)  
Eng. Ryan Bogle (05)  
Eng. Eric Brodie (08)  
Eng. Heath Crowder (11)\*  
FF Jacob Pim (11)\*  
FF Luke Powell (12)\*

\*SAFER Grant Funded Full Time Positions

**Paid-per-Call**

Firefighter John Edsell (81)  
Firefighter Steffen Wiest (11)  
Firefighter Derek Lawrence (11)



The Fire Service is a noble calling, one which is founded on mutual respect and trust between firefighters and the citizens they serve. To ensure the continuing integrity of the Fire Service, the highest standards of ethical conduct must be maintained at all times.

**Response area of the department is approximately 93 square miles, which includes:**

**City of Neosho**

**District A**-Inside City limit, north of South Street

**District B**-Inside City limit, South of South Street

**Neosho Area Fire Protection District**

**District C**-Area outside City of Neosho

Limits: Iris Road on the north, Goldfinch on the west, AA Highway on the south, and Panda Road on the east. District lines follow section lines where no roads are located.

**Mutual Aid (M/A)**

Assistance requested from and provided to all local fire or other agencies that request personnel, equipment, or special assistance from the fire department. Department also participates in the State Wide Mutual Aid assistance program when requested if resources and personnel are available.

**Equipment Operated by the Fire Department: (year of vehicle)**

**City:**

2 Engines (1999 & 1987)  
1 Reserve Engine (1979)  
1 Aerial-75 Ft. (1996)  
1 Light rescue (2008)  
2 Service units-pickup truck, & Air Unit (2000, 2001)  
1 Command vehicle-Staff (2006)  
1 Educational trailer (CARE)

**District:**

2 Engines (2009 & 1995)  
1 Reserve Engine (1997)  
2 Tankers (1999 & 2000)  
3 Brush trucks (2001, 2006, 2009)  
1 Light rescue (2005)  
1 Command vehicle (Chief) (2009)  
1 Cargo trailer

**County Supplied Vehicle (2001)**-Air Unit 1 is a Mobile Air Supply unit purchased through a joint agreement of the Newton County Fire Departments and Newton County Commission. (Pickup used to supply breathing air for firefighters during emergencies.) Area departments share cost of operations of this equipment.

**Homeland Security Equipment operated by fire department**- In September 2008, the City of Neosho Opted out of this program due to funding available to support the program. In January 2010, we closed out funding from Missouri's Homeland Security Regional Response System (HSRRS) program funds. Teams retained all equipment received through the program. Unencumbered funds were reallocated to the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee. Team was comprised of members of the Neosho Police (Law Enforcement), Neosho Fire (Haz-mat), and Newton County Ambulance District (Medical). Equipment has been used to support local and mutual aid operations when requested or Regional or State Responses when called for. Primary mission of the Neosho Haz-Mat Team was to support other Regional and State teams during times of emergency. Equipment listed consists of Hazardous materials and Decontamination Equipment used by the Neosho Fire Department HSRRS.

3-Prime equipment Movers (F250, F-550, and Bobcat loader)  
1-28 foot Cargo Trailer-Hazardous Materials Equipment  
1-20 foot Cargo Trailer-Equipment Mover  
1-16 foot Flatbed Trailer-Equipment Mover  
4-ATV's with Trailers and Carts-Equipment Movers  
Assorted logistical support equipment (Sheltering tents, generators, heating system, etc).  
Neosho Police and Newton County Ambulance District also received specialized equipment through the program.  
Equipment issued to and purchased for the team through the Homeland Security Program was in excess of \$410,000.

### **Vehicle Maintenance and Service**

Due to the nature of the services the fire department provides, the task of proper operation and maintenance of all equipment is of utmost importance. The maintenance programs of the department consist of daily, weekly, monthly, six-month and annual service. Records are maintained on all apparatus and motorized equipment. Minor service and repairs, such as oil changes, adjustments to vehicles, and equipment are performed by duty personnel or individuals within the department that have been factory trained in maintenance procedures on specific equipment. These would include major repairs, computerized diagnostics on apparatus engines and electrical equipment, air sampling and service of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and their air cylinders. Our annual ISO testing of pumpers, aerial, and ground ladders are performed by an outside vendor since the department does not have proper equipment for these types of testing. NFPA recommends an outside testing source as well. We do attempt to schedule and offer these testing requirements to other departments within our area to help with reducing the cost to all departments for these services.



## **Fire Department Response Information**

### **Calls by District**

District A (951) =45.26%

District B (524) =24.94%

District C (552) =26.27%

Mutual Aid (74) =3.52%

### **Yearly Average Response Time (from receiving alarm to arrival) (Fire calls only)**

City: District A 5 minutes and 12 seconds

District B 4 minutes and 30 seconds

District: 10 minutes 12 seconds

Generally, Insurance Services Organization criteria say that a build-upon area of a community should have a first-due engine company within 1.5 road miles of the protected properties and a ladder-service company within 2.5 miles. This benchmark criterion produces an expected response time of 3.2 minutes for an engine company and 4.9 minutes for a ladder-service company, based on a formula developed by the RAND Corporation. During our last evaluation ISO awarded 2.28% of a possible 4% for Distribution of Companies.

### **Time Spent On-Scene**

City vehicles: 760.70 hours of time on-scene

District vehicles: 1,127.26 hours of time on-scene

### **Man-hours by District (Man-hours=number of personnel responding X length of call) (From receiving alarm till apparatus and equipment are returned to service) (All call types)**

District A and B (City 1475 calls for service) = 2,734.44 man hours

District C (District 552 calls for service) = 1,928.78 man hours

Mutual Aid (Outside City and District 74 calls for service) = 549.16 man hours

### **Average Response Turnout (Personnel On-scene of working structure fires only)**

District A and B (City total incidents-21) Average turn out per incident -10

District C (District total incidents-16) Average turn out per incident-10

ISO evaluations recommend 10 personnel for structure alarms

**Major structure incidents, with over \$5,000 fire department estimated loss:**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| January   | City-800 Adams St.-\$60,000   |
| February  | City-1110 Strafford Pl-\$20,250<br>Dist-858 E. Spring St.-\$6,000   |
| May       | Dist-11724 Poppy Dr-\$6,000<br>Dist-9964 Norway Rd-\$50,000<br>Dist-17522 Gazelle Dr-\$20,000                                   |
| June      | City-890 Ray Carver Dr-\$10,000   |
| July      | Dist-10506 Kentucky Rd-\$40,000   |
| August    | Dist-14362 Kodiak Rd-\$7,000<br>City-5400 Doniphan Dr-\$312,500<br>Dist-15780 Ibex Rd-\$55,000                                  |
| September | City-518 Joplin St-\$65,000   |
| November  | City-908 Beverly St-\$36,000  |
| December  | Dist-12720 Poppy Dr-\$35,000<br>Dist-10968 Norfolk Ln-\$45,000<br>Dist-10702 Norfolk Ln-\$10,000<br>Dist-12499 Jute Rd-\$75,000 |

We responded to 52 calls for service that were logged as a fire (Structure, vehicle, etc.) and of that number we had an estimated dollar loss amount of \$890,567. This number reflects all calls where there was a reported loss of any amount. (Estimates for dollar loss are just an estimate from fire personnel on scene and do not reflect the actual dollar loss by the Insurance Company or Home Owner)

**Fire related injuries or deaths (Civilian or Fire Personnel)**

**2-Civilian deaths in the City or District**

**3-Civilian injury in the City or District**

**0-Fire personnel deaths in the City or District**

**0-Fire personnel injury in the City or District**

**Fire Department Manning/Personnel:**

During our last ISO review in 1999, manning consisted of 22 fulltime personnel:

2 Chief Officers, Fire Inspector, 3 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 12 Engineers and 1 civilian. At that time the department had 8 paid-per-call Firefighters.

ISO awards credit for the total number of members' on-duty: staffing is taken as a yearly average considering vacations, sick leave, and other absences. ISO gives credit for off-duty paid members and paid-per-call members responding on first alarms. At that time our department received 3.27 points of a possible 15 points for company personnel and minimum manning was

five on-duty personnel. Credit for off-duty and paid-per-call personnel only counts 3 for every 1 on-duty. If we had 18 personnel off duty or paid-on-call personnel show up for a call we would receive credit for 6 personnel per ISO.

There are several areas that ISO looks at on top of personnel. They are equipment such as fire department apparatus numbers, pumping capabilities, training, distances from fire stations, water system capabilities, roads and dispatching.

A ¼ cent Sales Tax was passed in 2001 and with that the department was able to hire 6 fulltime firefighters and 1 full time Training Officer. The tax was estimated to support the purchasing of new fire apparatus, an additional 3 full time firefighters and the future building of additional fire stations. The tax generated enough only to hire the 7 personnel mentioned above, still 3 personnel short along with new apparatus and future additional fire stations left unfunded.



### **2012 in Review:**

**SAFER Grant-**We applied in late 2010 for a SAFER grant to fund personnel that had been laid off due to budget constraints within the City. We received word in February 2011 that we had been approved for the SAFER grant to fund 9 personnel for 2 years. The shift personnel returned starting May 1 2011 which brought our staffing back to pre lay off times.

This assisted us in reinstating several programs to include: responding to EMS calls, community education, fire prevention programs and staffing of both stations reducing the time frame to respond to a call. The grant ends April 27 2013.

**Tri-State Fire Recruitment Alliance**-This program allows individuals interested in the fire service to test only one time per year for all departments participating in the program. There are currently seventeen fire departments participating in the program. This allows us to have a set standard for testing and a hiring list when or if the need arises to hire personnel. We used this list twice in 2012. (Refilled two vacated positions)

**Annual Pump Testing**-Annual testing of all apparatus pumps. Again several problems found, some repairs made, some repairs on hold due to cost.

**Annual Ladder Testing**-Annual testing of all ladders. No problems found this year.

**Community Events**-Personnel assisted with several organizations for fund raising and community assistance programs. Newton County Fire Chiefs Christmas for Kids, Shop with a Cop, Food Basket Brigade, Neosho Christmas Parade, Neosho School System events, Newton County Relay for Life, Fourth of July activities, Safe Kids Day, numerous other city and chamber events and filled numerous dunk tanks.

**Neosho Area Fire Protection District**- The district continues to work with supporting the fire department. One area that is being looked at is the ISO rating in the district and what improvements need to be made to help lower the ISO rating.

**Fire Training**-During 2012 personnel participated in 382.75 hours of in-house and outside department training.

**Community Training**-24 hours of public education was performed during the year, that consisted of extinguisher training, school fire prevention programs, fire safety talks for businesses, industry and the public.

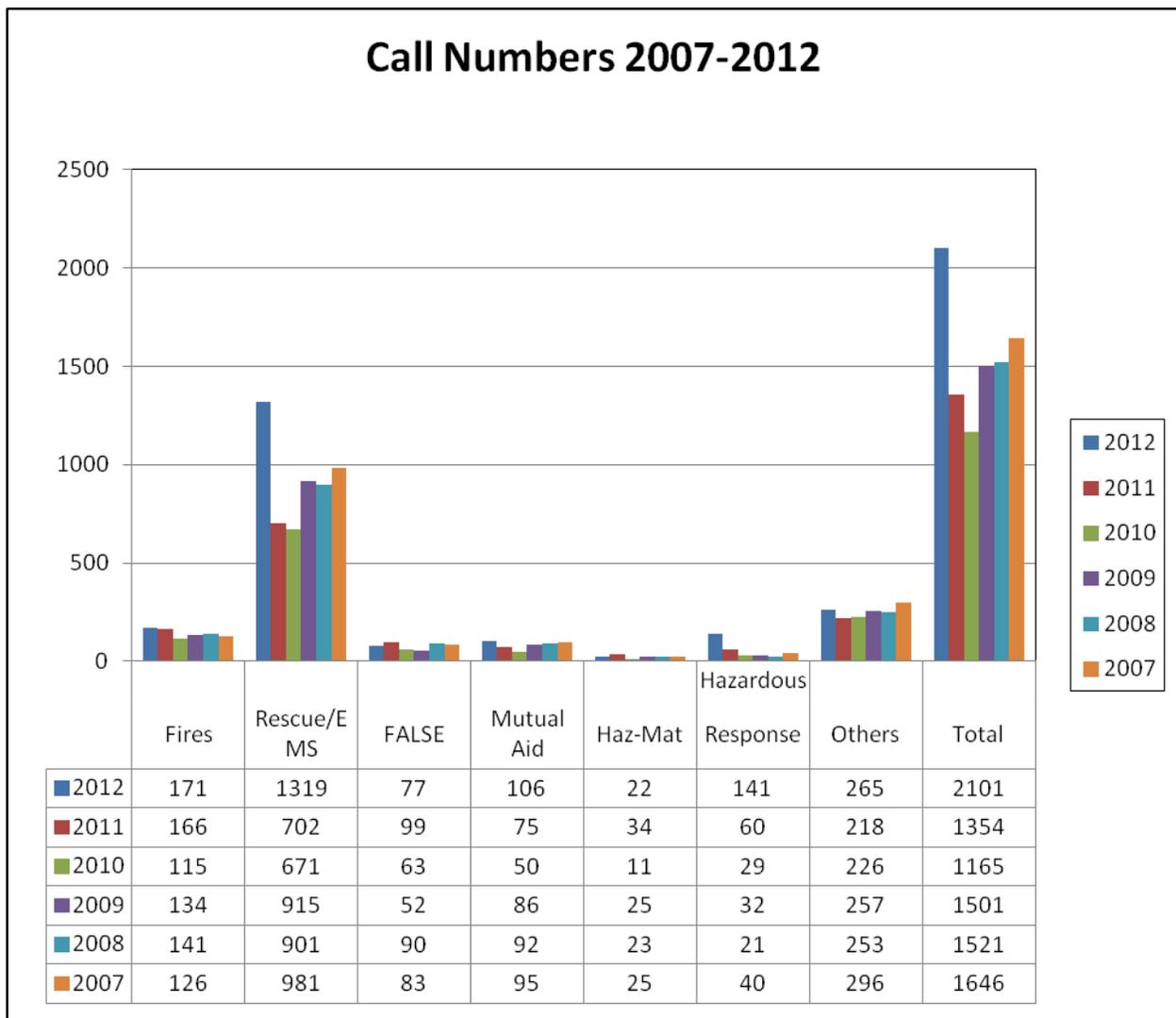
**Inspections**-461 inspections were performed during the year, those include Business/Company/Industry, new construction, remodels, tent, fireworks, and burn permits. An additional 267 re-inspections were performed to follow up on questions and or concerns brought up from the first inspection.

**AFG Grant**-(Pumper truck grant) The first part of 2012 we applied for an AFG grant. This grant if approved will help us update much needed equipment, such as a new pumper, equipment and tools. We have passed the initial phase of the grant process and hopeful that we will be approved this year. (2013)

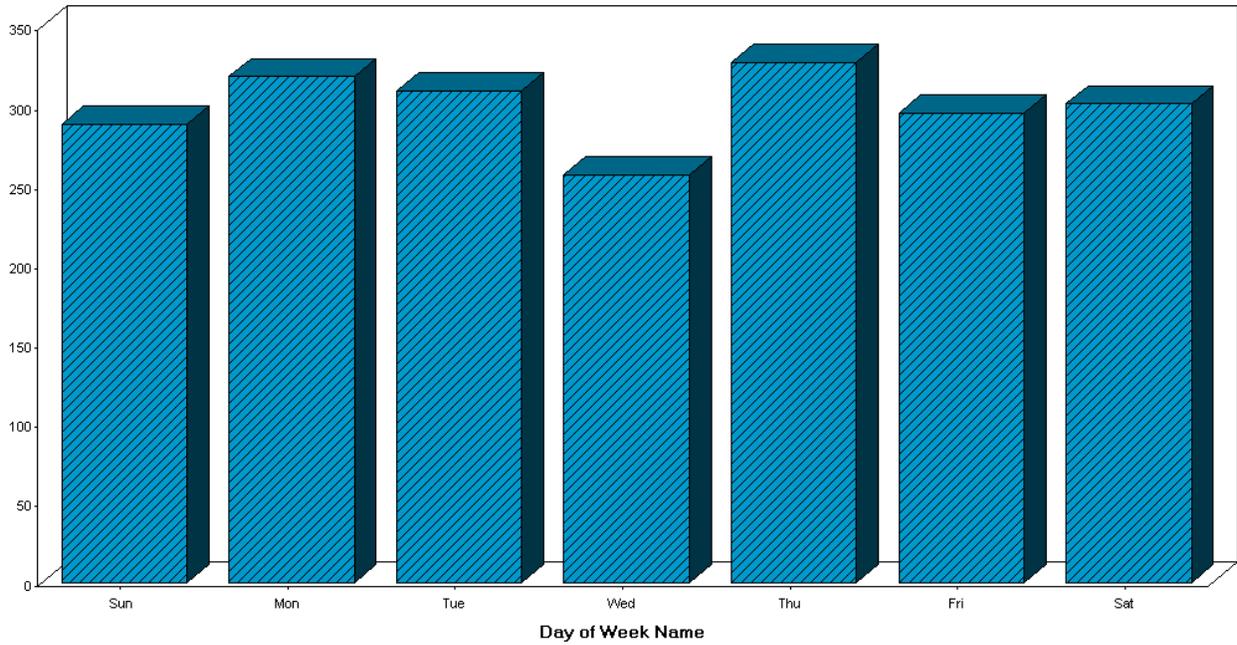
**Title Changes**-The end of 2012 saw a change in titles for personnel. The Captains were changed To Battalion Chiefs and the Lieutenants were changed to Captains. This gives us more flexibility to have a Chief Officer on average more at every scene of a structure fire call. This was addressed at the budget meetings.

**Firefighter Training**-All Firefighters are being trained to be Engineers so we have the flexibility to have enough operators of the apparatus to respond to structure fires. The department is revamping its training requirements for all personnel. These changes will give us more flexibility in our operations and what we can offer.

**Long/Hot Summer**-We were extremely busy over the summer months, between our normal calls and outside grass, brush, field fires. The months of July and August saw a record number of calls for us. The State Wide Mutual Aid System was used and resources from this area were called upon to assist with a large fire southeast of Springfield. Several fire departments sent personnel and brush trucks to their aid, including personnel and equipment from our department. Had we not had the personnel and equipment we could not have been able to support other departments in their time of need as the time we faced the need during the lay-offs.



Incident Responses by Day of Week  
 Alarm Date Between {01/01/2012} And {12/31/2012} and District In \*A \*B \*C \*MA \*



Fire vs EMS by Month  
 Fire Alarm Date Between {01/01/2012} And {12/31/2012}  
 EMS Alarm Date Between {01/01/2012} And {12/31/2012}

