



ANNUAL REPORT



2022

STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

Jennifer Porter
Chief

***Jeremy Cross**
Fire Inspector

Dr. Brian Jennett
Medical Director

Charlie Stover
Photographer

Pastor Nate Liedtke
Chaplain

Shelley Stravers
Admin Asst

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Luke Nelson
City Manager

Lindsey Offenburger
City Clerk

Jean Kelly
Finance Director

Jim Dougherty
City Attorney

STATION 61

Full-Time Staff

Austin Lancaster
Lieutenant

James Mease
Lieutenant

Jake Pemberton
Lieutenant

Kari Davis
Firemedic

Thomas Fischer
Firemedic

Kelly Miller
Firemedic

Part-Time Staff

Philip Broderick

***Nolan Brunsen**

Shane Card

Frank Curtis

Tyler Dahms

Cory Deaton

Alan Delker

Eric Delker

***Jeremy Dietch**

Gerrit Foreman

Brooklyn Hageman

Dayton Harryman

***Brian Jones**

Jason Kling

Coby Klocko

Bryan Koster

Jim Luzier

Dominic Madonia

Colby Martin

Mark Muerner

Jared Osterloh

Rich Pentico

Doug Richardson

Chris Settles

Jason Smyser

Seth Turner

Eric Wallace

**newly hired in 2022*

RETIREMENTS/ RESIGNATIONS

David Hadenfeldt

Dr. Patricia Newland

ELECTED

Tom Phillips
Mayor

Jaki Livingston
Mayor Pro Tem

Ed Kuhl
Council Member

David Lester
Council Member

Brian Baker
Council Member

Stephanie Riva
Council Member

Merle Huff Award*
FIREFIGHTER FRANK CURTIS



Officer of the Year
CHIEF JENNIFER PORTER



EMS Provider of the Year
FIREMEDIC KARI DAVIS



Firefighter of the Year
FIREMEDIC JIM LUZIER



5 Years of Service

ALAN DELKER
COBY KLOCKO

15 Years of Service

KELLY MILLER
DOUG RICHARDSON

Chief's Certificate of Excellence

DOUG RICHARDSON
SHELLEY STRAVERS

Honorary Member of the Year

PAUL APPLEGET

*The Merle Huff Award is given to an individual who displays dedication to the department, going above and beyond in their willingness to assist with special projects and opportunities for the betterment of the organization and the community.



Awards & Recognition

Strategic Planning

Mission

"The mission of the Norwalk Fire Department is to provide top level Fire and Emergency Services and to build a safer community through fire prevention and public education."

Goal 1

**Plan for future needs
of our growing
community**

The Norwalk Fire Department was established in 1950 as an all volunteer agency. Today, the department provides fire protection and emergency services to the residents and businesses of the City of Norwalk, City of Cumming and Linn Township through paid, in-housing staffing, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Fire Chief is supported by a Fire Inspector, 3 Lieutenants and 3 full-time Firefighter/Paramedics. The remainder of the response plan is supported by part-time Firefighter/EMS Providers.

Goal 2

**Maintain the Fire
Prevention Program**

The primary responsibility of the Fire Department is to respond to a variety of call types ranging from Fire Protection, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Search and Rescue, Hazardous Material Incidents, Water Rescue, Extrication and Public Service requests. Understanding the diverse nature of the Fire Service, the Department maintains a variety of apparatus and crew members that are cross trained to respond as both Firefighters and EMS Providers.

Goal 3

**Evaluate Contracted
Services between
Neighboring Cities
and Townships**

In addition to Operations, the Fire Prevention Division supports the organization with various responsibilities that promote safety within the community through public education, plan review, site inspections and code enforcement, all aimed at preventing an emergency before it occurs.

Goal 4

**Evaluate Providing &
Receiving Mutual Aid
with Neighboring
Agencies**

In order to provide these services effectively it becomes imperative for staff to engage in strategic planning to include future growth, budgeting and goal setting. Through this, services are maintained or implemented to meet the needs of the growing community.

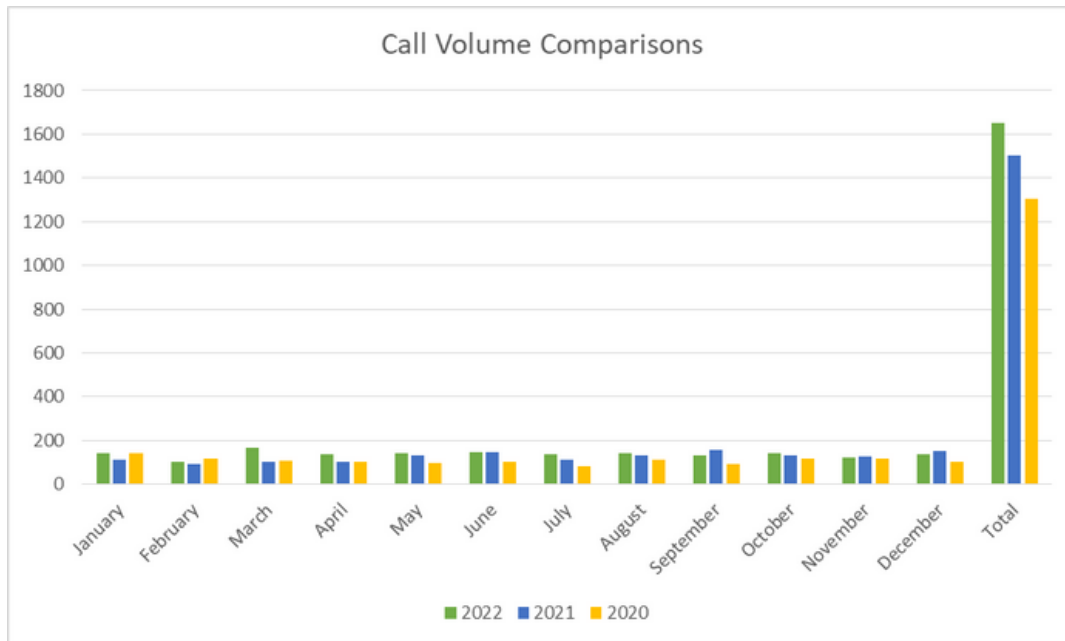
Goal 5

**Opt in to the
GEMT* Program**

*GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transportation) is a voluntary Federal reimbursement program for ambulance transport services who receive Medicaid revenues. The program provides funding to supplement the shortfall between the actual cost of providing services and Medicaid base payments.

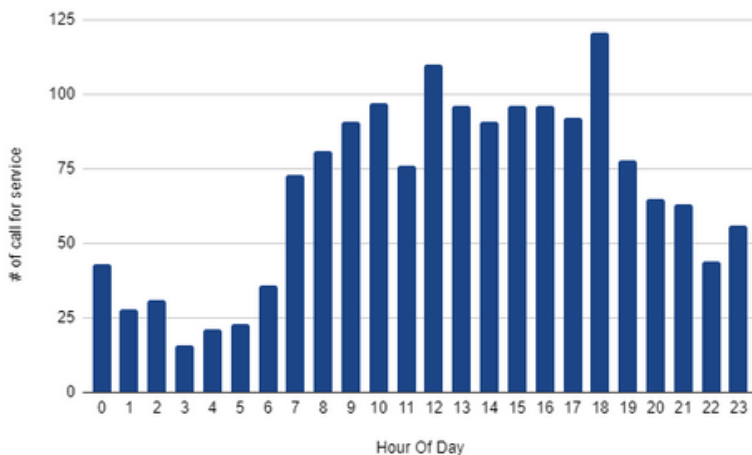
Statistics

Calls Per Month



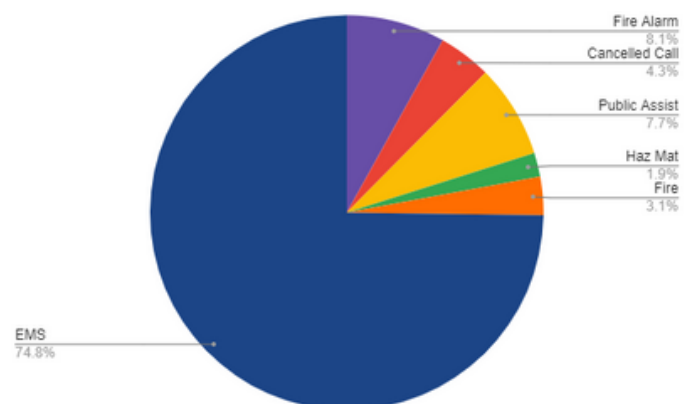
The chart above is a comparison of calls for service for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. The Fire Department experienced a 9.92% increase in total call volume from 2021 and 26.61% from 2020.

Calls by Time of Day



Calls for service by hours of the day

Calls by Type



Total calls for service by major call types

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE = 1651

Training

Crew members dedicate both on and off-shift time training through hands-on evolutions and lectures, covering topics in Fire, EMS, Officer Development and Leadership.

Together, the department logged 2335 hours!



Fire Prevention

- 186 life and safety inspections were conducted of existing commercial properties to provide a safer community.
- Plan reviews and site inspections of new construction projects were conducted aimed at the safety and vitality of the city.
- Final Inspections of new construction projects were conducted along side of the Building Dept. to ensure code compliance.
- Fire extinguisher training was offered to several business for their employees.
- Several activities were held during the month of October for National Fire Prevention month.

Public Relation Events

- Attended Media Day for the announcement of DMACC's new Paramedic Associate's Degree program with a concentration in Fire Science and the DMACC Career Fair promoting the fire service industry and the Norwalk Fire Department.
- Crews visited with members of the community at Front Porch Norwalk events and provided a fire truck for tours at the United Methodist Church Family Fun Night and the Fellowship Community Church 5K.
- World Link International students from Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Georgia, Pakistan, Bahrain, Kuwait and Lebanon visited the Fire Department. They toured the station, got an overview of the apparatus and tried on gear used in structural firefighting.
- Attended Fareway's 15 Year Anniversary Celebration, a Carnival at Holland Farms, the Fall Festival at the Library, the ribbon cuttings for the Norwalk Physical Education and Competition Center (NPECC) and Norwalk Central along with several pancake breakfasts and dinners sponsored by various civic organizations.
- Medical stand-by was provided at the Norwalk High School for the home football game, Norwalk Music Fest and the Polo on the Green charity event. CPR Instructors conducted multiple CPR Classes for individuals and business in the community.
- Visited the elementary schools during Fire Prevention month to teach fire safety while Cub Scouts, the Clover Kids 4-H Club and various daycares received a tour of the Fire Station and learned how to stay safe from the dangers of fire.

January

Vehicle Rollover Accident – Single vehicle rollover accident on I35 NB. 1 patient was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

Dumpster Fire – Report of a dumpster fire at 614 Knoll Dr. Fire was extinguished without incident.

Structure Fire – 7310 70th Ave – Provided mutual aid to the Martensdale Fire Dept. for a structure fire. Additional resources provided by the St. Marys and Northern Warren Fire Depts. 1 patient was transported for evaluation.

Fire Training – Fire training for the month covered Winter Pump Operations and Roadway Safety.

EMS Training – Crews practiced advanced level EMS skills on a newly acquired Interosseous (IO) mannequin.



Donation of Ground Beef – Kyle Doyle of Iowa Distilling and Crash from the Iowa Wild visited the station and donated 50 lbs of ground beef for crew meals. The beef was raised locally, fed corn from the Iowa Distillery and was a ribbon winner at the Warren County Fair.

February



Vehicle Fire – 33150 Echo Valley Dr – Vehicle was found to be fully involved but was quickly extinguished. No injuries reported.

Ice Water Rescue Training – Hands on evolutions were conducted at the marina on Lake Colchester.

Emergency Response Plan – Staff began updating the Emergency Response Plan following the severe weather incident.

SWOT Analysis – A SWOT Analysis was conducted by staff in preparation for strategic planning.

Fire Inspector Hired – LT Jeremy Cross was hired for the newly created position of Fire Inspector.

March

Tornado – Following severe weather incident, crews responded to multiple calls for service due to high winds and tornado activity.

Power Outage – Crews worked to establish power for the residents at the retirement community located at 1313 Wright Road.

Structure Fire – 124 North 43rd St, Cumming – Heavy smoke and fire were present upon arrival. Mutual aid was provided by West Des Moines and Windsor Heights Fire Depts. Significant damage to the structure was sustained; no injuries were reported.

Grass Fire – 4927 Erbe St – Mutual aid was provided by Martensdale and St Marys Fire Depts. Crews remained on the scene for 2.5 hours until the fire was extinguished.

High School Fire Alarm – Responded to an activated fire alarm at the Norwalk High School where crews found smoldering objects in the art room; situation was quickly mitigated.

Fire Training – Fire training for the month consisted of basic pump operations and crews completed classroom review of ice water rescue tactics, and roles and responsibilities in preparation for hands on evolutions.

EMS Training – Crews reviewed the use of needle decompression kits and DC Rayhons from West Des Moines EMS presented ventilator training.

April

Pancake Breakfast – The Firefighters Association hosted their annual pancake breakfast.

Fire Training – Crews conducted the Pittsburgh Drill that simulates rescuing a downed firefighter. Crews also conducted hands on training through National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1410 drills with Tower 615 (T615) including Water Supply, Aerial Operations, Driving and Rescue Operations.

EMS Training – Crews reviewed the application of emergency medications.

Annual Banquet – The Firefighters Association hosted their annual banquet. Service and Recognition Awards were presented.

Additional Training – Firemedic Fischer attended the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) course and the EOC Operations and Planning for All-Hazards Events course, both sponsored by FEMA and held at Polk County EMA.



Electrical Fire – 1116 Parkhill Dr – Upon arrival smoke was coming from rear of the structure. A small electrical fire was quickly found inside the wall and was mitigated. No injuries were reported.

Water Rescue – Boat 61 was requested by the West Des Moines Fire Dept. for assistance with a water rescue. Crews responded to the Raccoon River where a total of 4 individuals and 1 dog were brought to shore without injuries.

Fire Training – included search and rescue, simulating rescuing a victim inside of a burning structure and the use of air bags to be used in lifting a vehicle during an extrication assignment.

REDD Sleds – The Norwalk Firefighters Association purchased 3 REDD Sleds that were placed in service on front line apparatus. This device, developed for firefighters, by firefighters, provides a safe and effective means to move patients and/or downed firefighters.



MOBAT Training – Fire training included the use of the Mobile Breathing Apparatus Trailer (MOBAT) provided by the Fire Service Training Bureau. This prop gave crews an opportunity to train in (theatrical) smoke filled conditions on search and rescue and SCBA breathing techniques.

Fire Training – Crews practiced Boat Operations and Water Rescue at Lake Colchester.



Iron Man Competition – Medical stand-by was provided for the bicycle portion of the Iron Man Competition. NFD participated alongside of the Des Moines, West Des Moines, and Waukee Fire Departments, Dallas and Madison Co EMS. This provided an opportunity to participate in the planning and management of a regional, multidisciplinary event.

Structure Fire – 4221 Dawson Ave, Cumming – Upon arrival a detached garage was found with heavy fire. Mutual aid was provided by the Martensdale Fire Dept. Fire was extinguished without incident; no injuries were reported.

Laid Retired Member to Rest – Jack Lane, who gave 55 years of service to the organization was laid to rest.

May

June

July

Faulty A/C Unit - 1313 Wright Rd - Crews responded to the report of a structure fire. Upon arrival a light haze was found in the residence that was found to be coming from a faulty window air conditioning unit.

Dumpster Fire - 2317 Timberview Dr - Crews responded to a small dumpster fire caused by improperly discarded fireworks. Fire was extinguished without incident.

Firefighter Down CPR Training - Crews practiced the specialized skill of firefighter down CPR. This technique teaches the most effective manner to remove turnout gear and SCBA in the event a firefighter resuscitation.

4th of July - Staff participated in the parade and provided stand-by for the fireworks display.

Aircraft Management and Scene Management Ground Training - Presented by Lifeflight, this course provided an opportunity for crews to discuss aircraft operations and included a visit by the aircraft.

Vehicle Extrication Training - This joint training was conducted at the Public Works Facility using donated vehicles with members from the Martensdale, St. Marys and Truro Fire Depts.



Fire Pump Simulator Training - Crews conducted training on a fire pump simulator that was on loan from the Fire Service Training Bureau. This prop is a full size replica of a fire engine pump panel that provides highly-realistic training in a controlled, repeatable environment.



Structure Fire - 930 Cherry Pkwy - Upon arrival a detached garage was found with heavy smoke and fire. Crews worked to mitigate the incident and protect exposures. Mutual aid was provided by the West Des Moines Fire Dept. The structure was a complete loss but no injuries were reported.

Sprinkler Training - Fire Inspector Cross and Lieutenants attended sprinkler training at the West Des Moines Fire Dept. sponsored by the National Fire Sprinkler Assn.

Drivers Training - All members completed the Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC). This course provides crews with hands on training and knowledge to operate and mitigate the many risks associated with driving emergency vehicles.

Gas Leak - North Ave and Redwood Dr - Upon arrival it was verified that a construction crew had punctured a gas main. MidAmerican was contacted; roadway was closed and nearby homes were evacuated until it was repaired.

Stove Fire - 2741 Cedar St - Upon arrival a light haze was found in the residence that was determined to be food on the stove.

HazMat Response - Beardsley St and Bottlebrush Rd. - A large fuel spill was found upon arrival and was mitigated without incident.

National Fire Academy (NFA) - Chief Porter attended "Command and Control of Incident Operations" at the National Fire Academy in Emmetsburg, MD.

FT FF/Paramedic Hired - Kari Davis, a PT employee of 4 years filled a vacated FT position.

Forcible Entry Door Prop - The Department took delivery of a forcible entry door prop that was purchased with funds received from the Warren County Philanthropic Partnership Grant.



August

September

October

Fire Prevention Open House – Kids and their families visited the Fire Station to learn about fire safety for National Fire Prevention Week. Sparky and Smokey the Bear were both in attendance.



Motor Vehicle Collision with Entrapment – 5123 Hwy 28 – Crews responded to a 2 vehicle MVC. 3 patients were transported to local hospitals with non-life threatening injuries. Mutual aid was provided by West Des Moines EMS.

Grass Fire – 5022 45th Ave – Crews responded for the report of a grass fire that was extinguished without incident.

Hazardous Materials Spill – I-35 Southbound – Upon arrival a semi trailer was found leaking diesel with approximately 890 gallons on board. Crews quickly worked to mitigate the incident; assistance was provided by Iowa DOT Highway Helpers, Iowa State Patrol and Iowa DNR.

November

Motor Vehicle Collision with Extrication – 1054 150th – Requested to assist Carlisle Fire Dept. for a MVC with extrication. 1 patient was transported to a local hospital with minor injuries.

Vehicle Fire – I-35 Southbound – Crews arrived to find a fully involved truck. Fire was extinguished and incident was mitigated without incident.

Head On Motor Vehicle Collision – 856 Sawgrass Dr. – Crews arrived to find 5 patients with 1 requiring transport to a local hospital with minor injuries.

Thanksgiving Pies – Took delivery of Thanksgiving Day Pies from Fire Chaplain Nate Liedtke and New Life Lutheran Church.

Tree Lighting – Delivered Santa Claus to the Tree Lighting Ceremony sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

Structure Fire – 103 N Warren Ave – Requested to assist the Martensdale Fire Dept. on a structure fire. Additional assistance provided by the St. Marys and St. Charles Fire Depts. Fire was extinguished and hazard was mitigated; no injuries reported.

Peer Fitness – Lt Lancaster attended the Fit to Thrive (F2T) Peer Fitness Training course sponsored by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) and hosted by the Des Moines Fire Department.



December

Motor Vehicle Collision – I35 SB – Requested to provide mutual aid to the Martensdale and St Mary's Fire Depts on a single vehicle MVC. 1 patient was transported to a local hospital with minor injuries.

Motor Vehicle Collision – G14 and 50th – Crews arrived to a t-bone style MVC. 3 occupants were evaluated, 1 was transported to a local hospital with minor injuries.

Single Vehicle Rollover – I-35 North of Hwy 92 – Crews arrived to a single vehicle rollover. Occupant was evaluated and transported to a local hospital with minor injuries.

Burst Water Pipes – Crews responded to multiple calls pertaining to frozen water pipes that had burst following an arctic cold snap.

Structure Fire – 4933 Lakewood Dr – Crews arrived to the report of a structure fire. Upon arrival a small fire was found on the exterior of the residence and was quickly extinguished. Mutual aid was provided by the Northern Warren Fire Dept.; no injuries were reported.

Animal Rescue – 9310 Marketplace Dr. – Requested for an animal rescue; a kitten was successfully removed from a storm drain.

Fire Training – Ice Rescue training was completed on Lake Colchester.

Santa Day – Santa Claus toured the City on the fire truck.

The Norwalk Fire Department would like to thank the Citizens of Norwalk for their continued support as we strive to provide top level Fire and Emergency Services and to build a safer community through fire prevention and public education into 2023!

