

RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT



MONTHLY REPORT

March 2024



MEMORANDUM

TO: Matt Walsh
Village Administrator

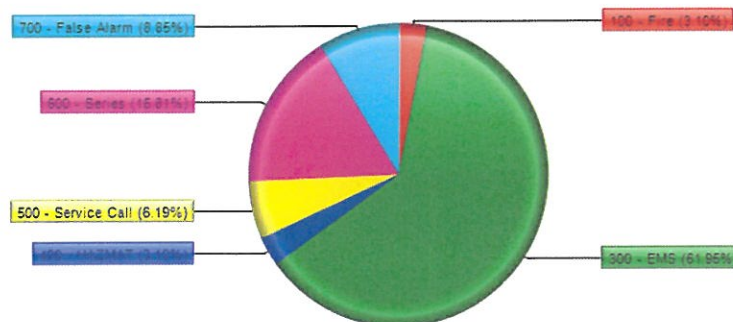
FROM: Thomas Gaertner
Thomas Gaertner
Fire Chief

DATE: April 8, 2024

SUBJECT: Monthly Report – March 2024

The Fire Department responded to 234 calls during the month of March. This is below our average number of calls in comparison to March 2023 where we had 237 calls. Emergency Medical Service calls represent 61% of our response activity for the month of March.

Incident Type Group	March 2024
100 - Fire	7
300 - EMS	140
400 - Hazardous Conditions	7
500 - Service Call	14
600 - Good Intent	38
700 - False Alarms	20
800 - Other	8
Monthly Total	234



Fire Chief Gaertner Report

- Attended the Weekly Village Administrators Staff Meetings.
- Attended the monthly Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (STIC) webinar.
- Attended the Monthly Village Board of Trustees Meetings.
- Attended the Hate Crime Prevention Panel discussion.
- Attended Fire Union Negotiations Meetings.
- Attended the Monthly Division 11 Fire Chiefs Meeting.
- Attended the Cook County Emergency Planning Meeting.
- Attended the Monthly Metro Chiefs Executive Board Meeting.
- Attended a meeting with RFPD to discuss expanding our Car Seat Installation Program.

Deputy Fire Chief Bochenek Report

- Attended monthly RFPD Officers' meeting.
- Attended meetings for Union Negotiations.
- Attended the Monthly Division 11 Fire Chiefs Meeting.
- Attended a meeting with the nursing director from Concordia on a joint effort on creating an event with OPEC for exposing youths on the area to careers in the medical field.
- Attended meetings to finalize the development and integration of a web-based platform for the use of persons seeking CPR and Stop the Bleed instruction from the department.
- Attended the Chief Fire Officer class held by the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute.
- Attended the monthly Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center (STIC) webinar.
- Attended bi-weekly IT meetings to explore technological enhancements for the department to better streamline services.
- Participated in commanding the fire at 315 Park in town.
- Scheduled a senior event with the township and the Sheridan and helped coordinate speakers.
- Currently coordinating CPR initiatives with Concordia University that will now include all university staff and the incoming student bodies.
- Attended the Monthly Village Board of Trustees Meetings.
- Co-developed the for customer friendly car seat-installation program with D/C Greenwood.
- Installed new portable routers and modems in the fire apparatus to help with the connectivity of the mobile dispatch terminals (MDT's).
- Finalized some specifications for the incoming new ambulance.
- Coordinated having a civilian rider work with personnel on shift to allow for familiarization with eh fire service and EMS.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Fire Marshal Kevin Wiley

March started off with Daylight Saving where we encouraged all residents to change their clocks as well as change/check their smoke alarms. With the new Smoke Alarm Act that went into effect last January 1, 2023, we ramped up our messages again this year in multiple public education and social media formats to get the word out about replacing older alarms with new, 10-year sealed battery alarms. We also reissued messages that we have a Smoke Alarm Recycle program. One yellow bin is located on the 2nd floor of Village Hall, and a second bin is located in the firehouse. As of this month, the village hall bin is full and the firehouse bin is approximately half filled. After the new fiscal year, I will call the recycling center and ship out all the smoke alarms that we have for recycling. There is only one company in the United States (Curie Environmental located in Albuquerque, New Mexico) that performs this type of recycling and will recycle 98% of each alarm.

Coming off a busy month of February where I inspected all buildings at the Dominican University campus, in March I performed all first-round inspections of Concordia University. The Bureau and the Shifts performed 52 Inspections and 15 re-inspections in March.

The 47th annual Fire and Life Safety Conference was held over four days in East Peoria, IL. The conference is formulated with a combination of breakout sessions on fire and life safety issues as well as code related topics. Sessions included updates from various departments within the Office of the State Fire Marshal, to a large discussion on how to prepare for the ever-increasing fire risk problem caused by lithium-ion batteries and the charging stations that will be spreading over the country to provide charging for electric vehicles. All in all, an excellent conference. I was able to attend over 15 hours of public education and code related training sessions.

The last week of the month activity increased with two structure fires and an Aerial Rescue of a worker trapped in a bucket lift at Dominican University. I was involved with two of the incidents and took photos for our social media posts.

The last item in my monthly report is a summary of activities that do not fit in any other category such as, hydrant flows for sprinkler companies, servicing a Knox Box, public education flyers, and picking up and/or dropping off vehicles for service among others. These activities may not be difficult but do take up time that I like to account for.

Miscellaneous activities of note for March:

- Code Review issues to update my Inspection Class for all shifts.
- Gathering of material for the Pub Ed events
- Weekly FPB Paperwork to Laserfiche/LAMA
- After conference paperwork



**RIVER FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
MONTHLY REPORT
March 2024**

Monthly Activities	Monthly Totals		YTD-Year to Date	
	Mar-23	Mar-24	2023	2024
**FPB Inspections	23	23	51	50
**Company Inspections	17	29	60	43
FPB Re-Inspections	9	10	14	20
Company Re-Inspections	5	5	23	6
Special Inquiry/B/L Site Inspections	0	3	0	5
Construction Inspections (Rough/Finals)	4	0	8	8
Inspections with Building Department	0	0	0	2
Inspections with/for State Fire Marshal	0	0	0	0
Permit Inspections (tent, hot work, UST)	0	0	0	0
TOTAL INSPECTIONS	58	70	156	134
School/Business Emergency Plan/Drills	0	0	2	0
Violation Notices Issued	31	23	63	51
Violations Noted	72	52	167	125
Violations Corrected	26	33	54	54
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0
**Complaints Received & Investigated	0	0	0	0
All Meetings/Consultations	4	2	20	7
Training Activities	13	11	15	20
Fire Suppress/Alarm System Test/Final	0	0	5	0
Fire Suppression Hydro's	1	0	3	0
**Plan Reviews and Revisions	7	5	13	16
**Average turn around (Business Days)	7 days	1.8	3.7 days	2.8 days
Public Education Programs	2	1	10	8
Public Education Program Contacts	10	1	142	177
Misc Fire Prev Activities (See Narrative)	7	6	21	20

** Performance Measures for the Chief

Fire Marshal Kevin Wiley

Individual Shift Reports

Black Shift Report- Lieutenant Q. Boyd

Activities: Black Shift responded to a total of 94 calls. 33 were fire related, 57 were EMS calls, 4 service calls.

Incidents/Events of note: No special incidents for the month of February.

Shift Training and Hours:

Fire: 78.5 hours

EMS: 30 hours

Specialty: LT Boyd attended monthly Hazmat and TRT drills, FF Bencik also attended the division Hazmat drill.

Public Service & Community Outreach: LT Boyd and FF Fischer continue to meet with Concordia nursing program to further develop a training partnership.

Departmental Goals:

Hydrants flow tested: 0/80

Hydrants flushed: 0/102

Hose testing: Not started.

Inspections: 19/61 complete

Red Shift Report- Lieutenant M. Smith

Activities: For the month of March, Red Shift had a total of 69 calls. 23 fire related, 40 were EMS calls, 6 service calls.

Incidents/Events of note: Red Shift responded to a structure fire at 6th and Rice in Maywood. The crew performed firefighting tasks assigned by Incident Command. Crew responded to a MVA at 7616 Division. Engine 213 used battery-operated spreaders to extricate the driver. Truck 219 raised the aerial ladder to rescue a worker on the roof of 7900 Division Street-Lewis Hall.

Shift Training and Hours:

Fire: 95.5

EMS: 35.0

Specialty: 0

Public Service & Community Outreach:

Firehouse Tours	0	0 visitors
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CPR Classes	0	0 students
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Car Seat Install	0	
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Departmental Goals:

In-Company Inspections: 20/78

Hydrant Testing: 0

Hose Tested: 0

Gold Shift Report - Lieutenant E. Howe

Activities: Gold shift responded to a total of 71 calls. 23 were fire related, 46 EMS calls and 2 service calls.

Incidents/Events of Note: On March 27, Gold shift responded to Oak Park for a 3rd floor apartment fire. Gold shift members assisted Oak Park with fire control and overhaul in the unit affected. LT Howe attended the Div. 11 TRT drill in Cicero for deployment prep.

Shift Training and Hours:

Fire: 96.0

EMS: 48

Specialty: 0

Public Service & Community Outreach:

FF Finfrock Installed 1 Car seat.

Departmental Goals:

Inspections: 1

Hydrants: 0

Hose Testing: Numbered and put into service 4 25' lengths of 4" supply hose.

Department Training Lt. Carter

For February 2024 the department participated in various training activities such as:

- Loyola CE was held on March 25, 26 and 27. Subject was Toxicology
- All shifts completed Forcible entry drill and use the training prop for the psychomotor skills.
- FF/PM Viera completed Phase 2 of CoFO in Romeoville
- All Members completed the annual FIT TEST to certify the safety of SCBA masks worn in IDLH environments.
- FF/PM Viera completed Phase 2 of CoFO through Romeoville in Minooka
- Lt. Boyd, and FF/PM Bencik attended Division 11 Hazardous Materials drill in Stickney. Subject was deployment activation and creating a shelter.
- Lt. Howe, Lt. Boyd and FF/PM Zipperich attended Division 11 TRT drill in Cicero. Subject was deployment preparation.
- Lt. Smith attended Division 11
- All shifts viewed the FireRescue1 Academy on PTSD
- All shifts viewed the FireRescue1 Academy on Sepsis.

EMS/Paramedic Activity FF/PM Finfrock

During the month of March, RFFD responded for a TOTAL of 128 patients. Of those patients Ambulance 215 treated and transported 109, while 15 patients refused further treatment/transport from the fire department. In addition, crews responded to 4 patients for a lift assist. The 109 patients were transported to the following hospitals:

Loyola University Medical Center- 15
Rush Oak Park Hospital- 76
Gottlieb Memorial Hospital- 15
West Suburban Hospital- 2
Hines VA- 1
MacNeal- 0

800 N. Harlem- 21 patients
7617 North Ave- 9
Mutual Aid from A215- 21 times
Abdominal Pain- 5
Adult Respiratory Distress- 10
Allergic Reaction- 1
Altered Mental Status- 1
Animal Bite- 0
Assault/Battery- 1
Behavioral/Psych- 9
Burns- 0
Chest Pain- 6
Cardiac Arrest- 1

Choking- 0
CO Poisoning- 0
Diabetic Problems- 2
Electrocution- 0
ETOH- 3
Eye Problems- 1
Fall- 22
General Aches/pain- 2
Hemorrhage/Bleeding- 4
Medical Alarm- 0
No Complaint- 4
Opioid Overdose- 3
Pregnancy- 0
Sick Person- 34
Traffic Accident- 13
Traumatic Arrest- 0
Traumatic Injury- 3
Unconscious/Unresponsive- 2
Unknown Problems- 1
Weakness- 0

Vehicle/Station Maintenance **LT. E. Howe & FF/PM Doran**

- 200- Nothing to report, zero issues.
- 202- Nothing to report, zero issues.
- 201- Nothing to report, zero issues.
- 218- Nothing to report, zero issues.
- 213- PM A and pump test completed
- 222- PM-A and Pump test completed. Officers seat cushion replaced.
- 219- Inventory completed and all cabinets cleaned
- 215- Safety lane inspection complete and passed. **Back up camera still needs repair.**
- 214- Nothing to report, zero issues.

EQUIPMENT

No report.

FIRE STATION

No report.

ACTIVITIES IN MARCH

**Structure Fire @ 316 Marengo-Forest Park
March 18, 2024**



Structure Fire @ 315 Park Ave. -River Forest March 28, 2024





Roof Rescue @ Dominican University March 29, 2024





