THE ELBURN & COUNTRYSIDE
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT



2023

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ABOUT ECFPD

Welcome to the 2023 Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District Annual Report. This report highlights the efforts undertaken by our organization to protect you and your community. Additionally, this report now includes new information and data to help you understand more about our organization, as part of our continued commitment to keeping those we protect informed through direct communication and transparency.

The Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District exists to serve you through the provision of fire suppression, emergency medical, rescue, and risk reduction services to the residents and visitors to our jurisdiction, which includes the following communities (or portions thereof) and surrounding unincorporated areas:

- Village of Elburn
- Village of Lily Lake
- Village of Virgil
- Village of Campton Hills
- Batavia Township
- Blackberry Township
- Campton Township
- Geneva Township
- Sugar Grove Township
- Virgil Township

As well as large subdivisions such as:

- Mill Creek (Geneva Twp.)
- The Windings (Campton Twp.)

In addition to all-hazards emergency services, ECFPD also offers Community Risk Reduction services and programs, which include (but are not limited to):

- Fire prevention
- Public education (tours, CPR, car seat safety, and more)
- Rural water supply preparedness
- Cadet Program (Ages 14 – 19)
- Basic Operations Firefighter Academy (BOF)
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training Program
- Miscellaneous other community-related events/classes.

STATIONS AND APPARATUS

ECFPD operates out of three stations across our 61 square mile District

STATION ONE
200 E Route 38

Engine 301 - Medic 351 - Battalion 300
Tender 301 - Investigations
Hazardous Materials Team - Technical Rescue Team
Staff: 4 Personnel + Administration





STATION TWO
39W950 Hughes Rd

Engine 302 - Medic 352 - Tower 302
Staff: 5 Personnel

STATION THREE
5N276 Wooley Rd

Medic 353 - Tender 303
Staff: 3 Personnel



MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF MIKE HUNEKE



Our members work tirelessly to provide you with the highest level of service every time you call on us.

2023 has been a year of transition for the Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District. Chief Cluchey retired in October, and I was fortunate enough to be given the honor and responsibility of serving as Fire Chief of this organization. I am humbled to have been chosen by our Board of Trustees for this opportunity to lead this incredible organization. Our elected officials and the entire leadership team felt it was essential to announce the replacement for Chief Cluchey early in 2023.

This sort of forward and progressive thinking sets us apart from other organizations. We wanted to ensure that our organization stayed focused on our mission to serve others and not be distracted by the unknown, which can cause a particular type of detriment in an organization when information isn't readily shared or held close. These actions also allowed us to prioritize the organization's next steps to transition seamlessly into the future.

As part of our ongoing commitment to advanced planning, we worked with the Northern Illinois University Center of Government Studies to help us develop our strategic plan. The Strategic Plan will help guide us through the next five to ten years. After a year of internal and external stakeholder meetings and planning sessions with members and officers of the organization, as well as the elected and appointed officials, this document is set to be released in early 2024. This will identify the goals of our organization but also become a working document where members of the organization, through their leadership and development, as well as succession planning, will be assigned areas of responsibility to ensure we continue to stay focused on these goals and priorities.

We began the new Battalion Chief Officer training program, in which the Lieutenants of our organization began to train to take on this new position. The three new battalions will become permanent positions in July of 2024. Even though there will only be three, every lieutenant of our organization will be trained and ready to lead when called upon. This process has been such a successful collaboration between the District and the Union. Allowing this sort of training opportunity, again, separates us from every other organization. Deputy Chief Hanson and I will continue building relationships with outside agencies, elected officials, and neighboring departments to provide our members with the resources they need to deliver exceptional service to our citizens.

The decision to take on the responsibility of serving as Fire Chief of this incredible organization was made easier for me, knowing that the team of this organization, including Deputy Chief Hanson, commissioned officers and staff, part-time members, and union members, genuinely are what makes this organization unique. Our members work tirelessly to provide you with the highest level of service every time you call on us. Their hard work is outlined for you in this annual report, which I am pleased to share with you.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

ECFPD is governed by a Board of Trustees of five elected members, each with a six year term. The Board of Trustees has the power to supervise, control, regulate and manage the District, and to make and enforce all necessary ordinances, and rules and regulations for the proper management and conduct of the business of the Board. Current Trustees are: President Thomas Reynolds, Secretary Lisa Engberg, Treasurer Michael Anderson, Trustee Alan Lee, and Trustee Jeffrey Armesy. Regular meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 4:30 pm.







A separate board, the Board of Fire Commissioners, is made up of three members appointed by the Trustees to establish policies for recruiting, testing, selection, and promotion of members. Commissioners include Commissioner Christian Thomas, Secretary Peter Panagakis, and Commissioner Stephen Herra. Quarterly meetings dated from January 17, 2023 include July 12, 2023, October 11, 2023, January 10, 2024, and April 10, 2024.





MESSAGE FROM DEPUTY CHIEF MATT HANSON



The secret to our success is open communication, and genuine interest in each other's wellbeing.

Our membership had another great year! We have enjoyed success as a team and continue to spend time building each other. Taking the time to set each other up for success, at all levels, continues to prove itself each time we hire new career Firefighter/Paramedics who have come directly from our recruit program. When we promote the highest quality Company Officers, have a dramatic change in our upper Leadership team and the organization does not miss a step, it is because we have spent time preparing each other. The secret to our success is open communication, and genuine interest in each other's wellbeing.

Partnering with the Northern Illinois University Governmental Studies group to navigate our formal, strategic plan workshop provided valuable insight. Using this strategic plan as a tool to success, and not just shelving it, we have identified opportunities. One of which is to better inform the public about our mission and what we do. We have stepped outside of the box and will continue to take an aggressive role with Social Media, promoting our organization and our members. Soon, we will be releasing a professionally made recruitment video, that will set a high standard of professionalism and showcase our incredible members and culture. This will again solidify our position as a Department to look to for innovation and teamwork.

This past year I was selected to participate in a 14-month pilot program, that was the redesign of the Illinois Fire Chiefs, Chief Fire Officer Program. The new, intensive program, is a collaborative venture between the Office of the State Fire Marshal, Illinois Fire Service Institute, and Illinois Fire Chiefs Association. Following completion of the pilot program, I was humbled to be offered a position through the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) as an Academic Advisor to other students going through the Chief Officer Program.
I look forward to representing our fire district in these situations, demonstrating and speaking about the professionalism and advancements of our organization in the State.

I continue to write, and was fortunate to publish an article, Anticipate the Needs, in Firefighter Nation and Fire Rescue Magazine. Chief Huneke and I remain active with the Kane County Fire Chiefs Association, The Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, MABAS Division 13, Illinois Metro Chiefs and the Elburn Lions Club.

LOCAL 4749
LT. MIKE DIDENKO



The Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District and the Union Local 4749 continues to fortify a bond that goes beyond duty. This bond becomes a partnership between the Union, the Chiefs, and the Trustees shaping the department into the powerhouse it is today. The relationship between the Union and the leadership is built on mutual respect. We are not just negotiating contracts; we are working together to create an environment where everyone thrives.

It is more than just a union; it is a family that works hand-in-hand with the leadership to forge the path toward excellence. Our Chiefs and Trustees understand the value of the input from the Union. It is a collaborative effort that allows us to address challenges, implement positive changes, and ensure the well-being of our members. Local 4749 is more than a collective voice; it is a driving force behind the progress of the Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District.
The spirit of collaboration isn't just a concept—it's a reality.

Because of the collective collaboration in 2023 into 2024, the Union has successfully worked out a new four year collective bargaining agreement with the district. We have had the Honor of retiring Lt. Dave Oliver after 22 years of service to the district and being a charter member of the local. We are excited to have worked collaboratively with the district in establishing the process for the first ever Battalion Chiefs position with the goal of promoting and implementing that position into our daily command structure in the summer of 2024. Along with the new position will include the promotion of Lt. Alex Poynor, Lt. Mike Didenko and Lt. Eric Daffron. As we have done in year's past we will be adding multiple new members from our Assigned Part Time (APT) program to our Local this year. We are excited to continue working hand in hand to make our department and Union relationship greater than ever.



2023 Annual Turkey Bowl

DATA SPECIALIST MAGGIE WALSH



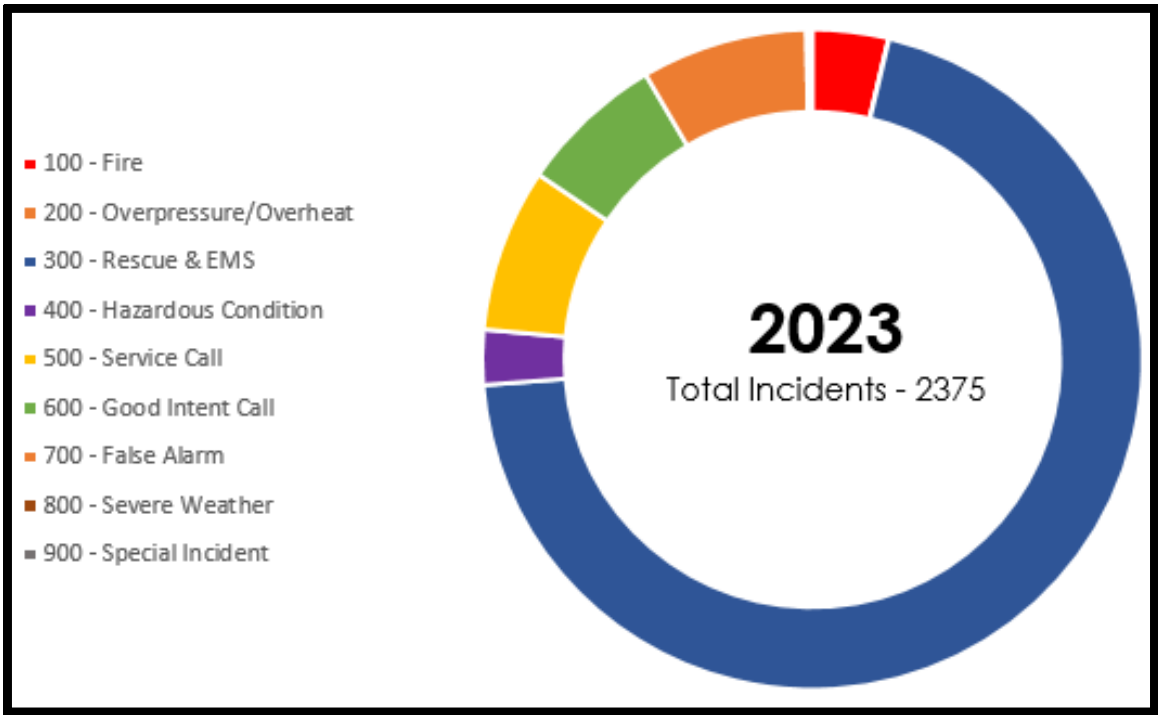
2023 has been another year of growth for Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District. We continue to see an increase in calls for service and have risen to the challenge of continuing to deliver the excellent level of service we are known for to an ever growing number of calls.

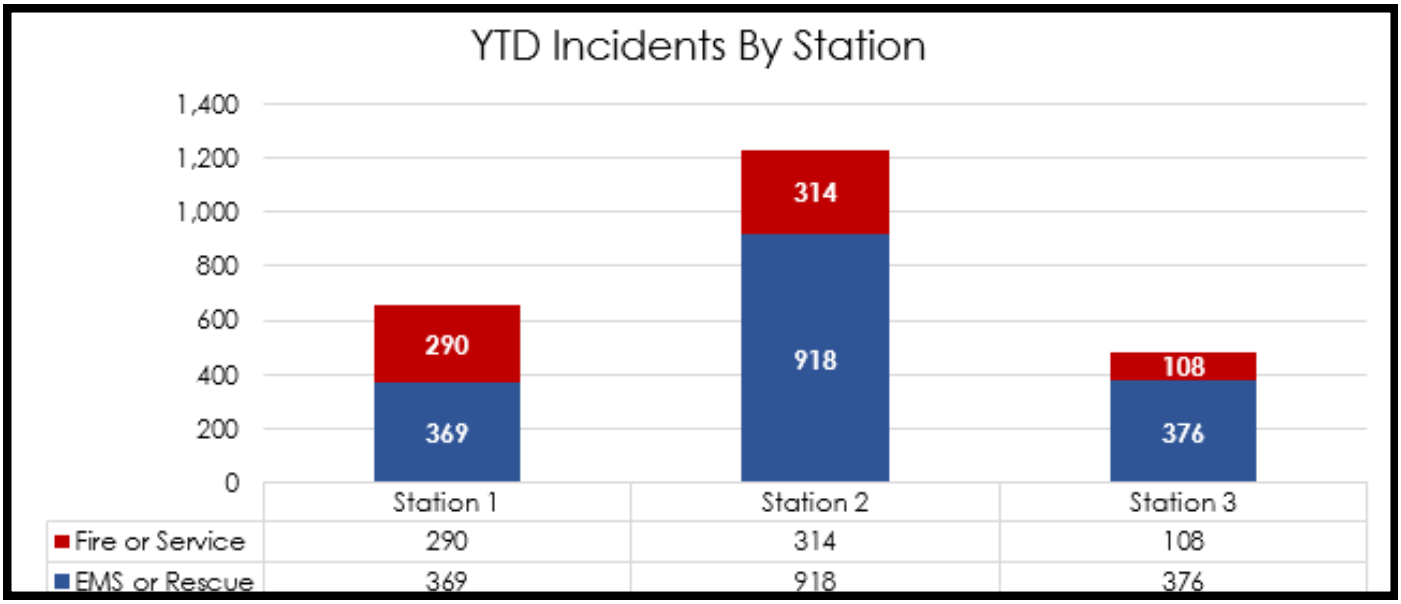
It is because of this increased demand for service that much of 2023 was focused on analyzing how to meet the growing needs of our district and planning for the future of ECFPD. One area that was a major focus was seeking funding opportunities through grants. We are fortunate to have established a strong working relationship with our Congressman, Bill Foster (IL-11), who now serves ECFPD residents through new established congressional boundaries. Congressman Foster's commitment to the fire service and the residents we serve allowed us to successfully apply for Community Project Funding through the House Appropriations Act/Committee. He has supported our request for assistance with funding the purchase of a new ladder truck, an apparatus that is a critical component of meeting the needs of our District. We were honored to have our project submitted to the Appropriations Committee by Congressman Foster and look forward to continuing our partnership focused on the safety and well-being of our residents.

In 2024, we will continue to analyze trends within our District and remain committed to adapting and growing to meet the needs of those we are sworn to protect. Data-driven decision making has become the standard for ECFPD and as such, we will continue to seek funding opportunities, adjust response strategies and plan for the anticipated future needs of the District.



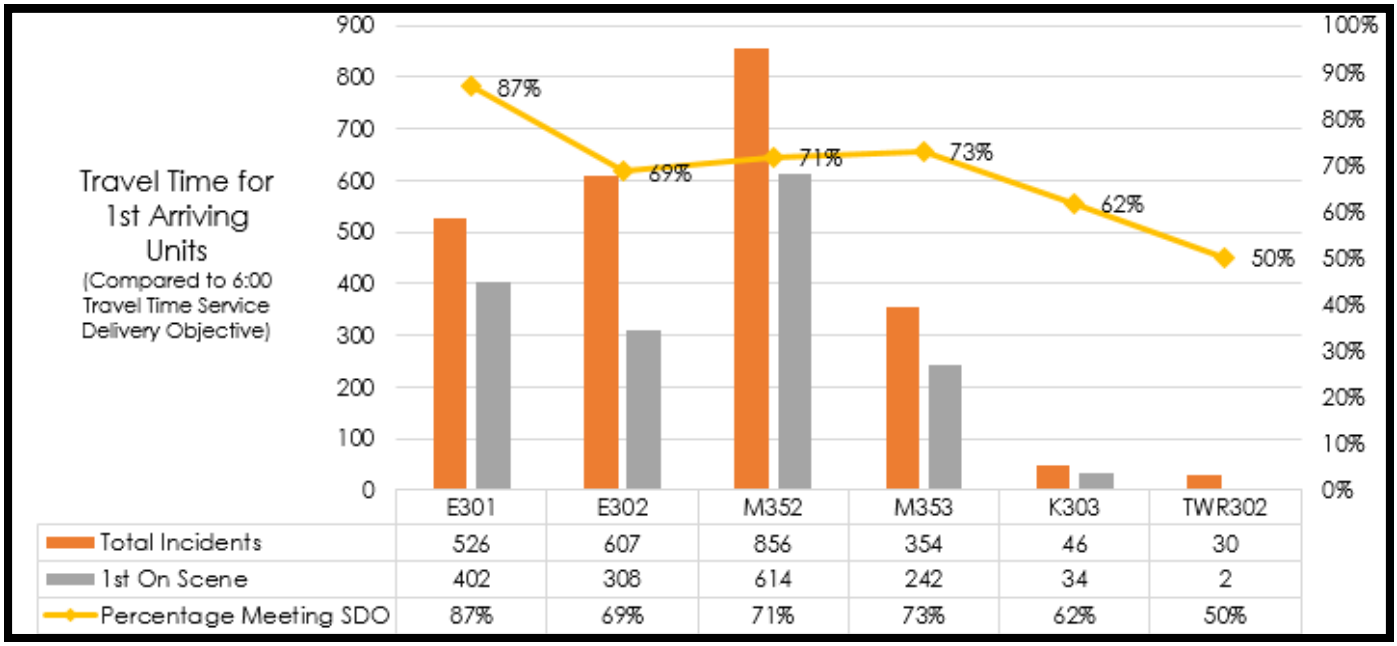
2023 INCIDENT STATISTICS



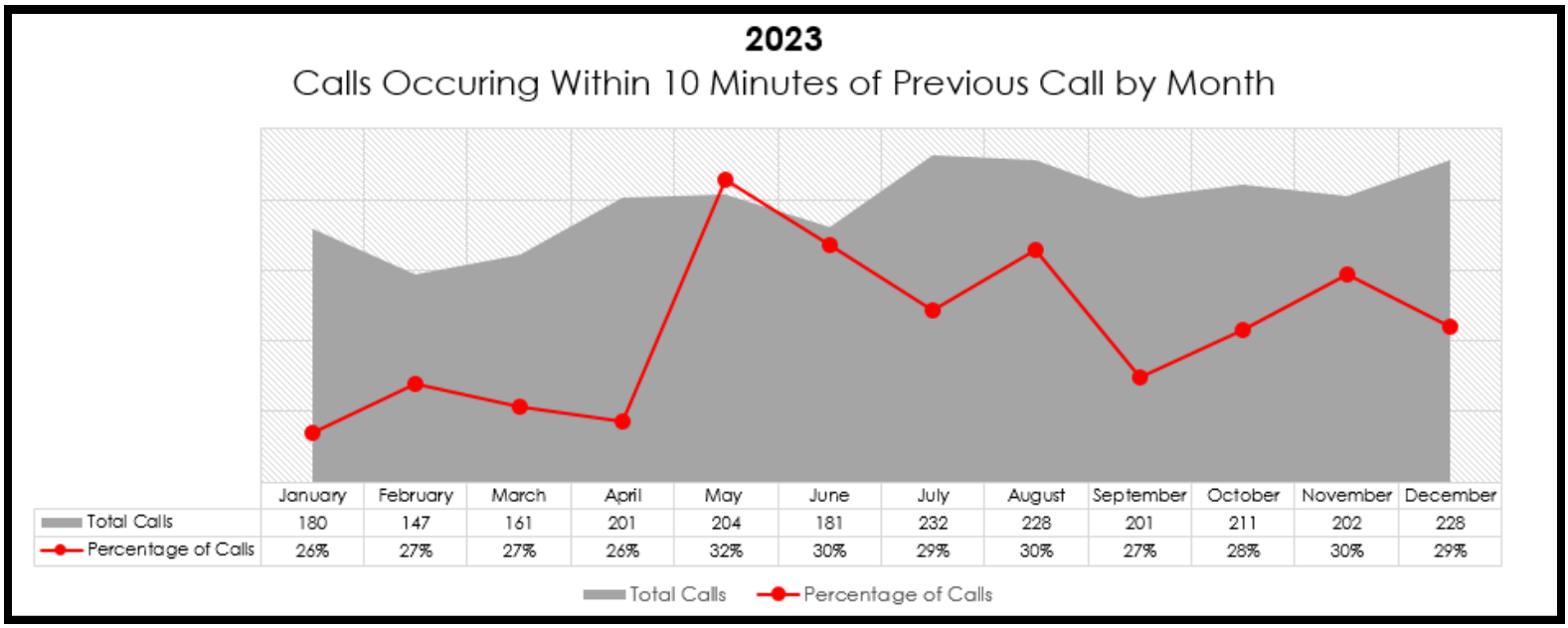


Station	EMS or Rescue	Fire or Service	Total Calls	% EMS or Rescue	% Fire or Service
Station 1	369	290	659	56%	44%
Station 2	918	314	1232	75%	25%
Station 3	376	108	484	78%	22%
Grand Total	1663	712	2375	70%	30%

2023
INCIDENT STATISTICS



	E301	E302	M352	M353	K303	TWR302
Total Incidents	526	607	856	354	46	30
1st On Scene	402	308	614	242	34	2
Percentage Meeting SDO	87%	69%	71%	73%	62%	50%



	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Total Calls	180	147	161	201	204	181	232	228	201	211	202	228
Percentage of Calls	26%	27%	27%	26%	32%	30%	29%	30%	27%	28%	30%	29%

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION
FIRE MARSHAL LISA SCHOPP



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION (CRR) BY THE NUMBERS

994



CRR INSPECTIONS & TASKS COMPLETED IN 2023

CRR Inspections and Tasks Breakdown	
524	Inspections Completed
392	Hydrants Flow Tested
63	Permits Issued
15	Fire Drills Conducted

CRR EDUCATION

Crews attended numerous public education events over the course of 2023. One of the biggest education focuses are the annual school visits during Fire Prevention Week. This years theme was “Cooking Safety Starts with You. Pay Attention to Fire Prevention”.
5 Elementary Schools were visited during Fire Prevention Week where crews set up the new inflatable fire safety house - the new house was a huge hit with all of the students in attendance.





In addition to another successful Fire Prevention Week, ECFPD participated in several other educational events, including hosting a stop on the Elburn Christmas Stroll. Crews interacted with community members of all ages, sharing fire safety education with the participants.





CRR Education Interactions by Age

Under 5	5-9	10-19	20-49	Over 50
772	6941	1561	3886	847

GRAND TOTAL - 14,007

HYDRANTS
FF/PM SEAN DARLAK



Duty crews flushed hydrants in the Village of Elburn, North and South Mill Creek, and Wasco. Specific hydrants were flow tested in the Village of Elburn, Mill Creek and Wasco. Flow testing provides information on water supply and performing this yearly helps to determine any changes in our water supply. Additional hydrants were flow tested for ISO. All dry hydrants were tested, flowed and had the yearly maintenance performed.



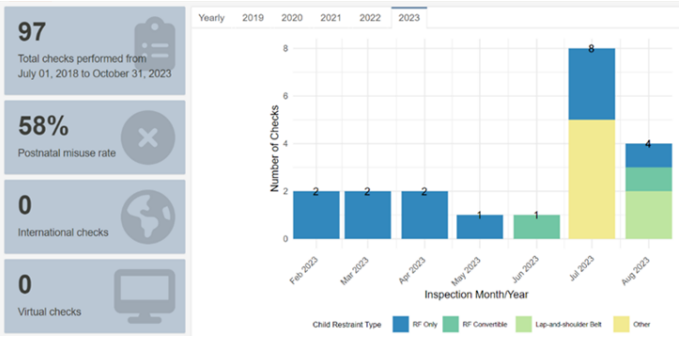
NATIONAL CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY CERTIFICATION

A Program of Safe Kids Worldwide



CAR SEATS
FF/PM JOE HOMON

Our Car-seat Safety Check program has helped over a hundred caregivers within our community by educating them with the proper use of child restraints in their vehicles. By participating in our program parents and caregivers obtain hands on training and the education they need to learn with how to safely install child restraints and appropriately harness their loved ones. This year Lt. Linden has joined the program and has completed the training requirements to obtain his Child Passenger Safety (CPS) technician certificate. I am pleased to learn three additional participants plan to enroll in a CPS course in the near future. Those volunteers are Kim Wiegert, James Konen, and Danny McHale, thank you members for your interest in our program. This year was a successful one. We hosted our annual car-seat event during Elburn Days weekend. As of late December 2023, we have completed 25 car-seat safety checks this year. We have been granted five free car-seats from the CPS program for use when children are found without an adequate child restraint. The car-seat program will have its first budget proposal considered for next year and is currently being reviewed. The 2024 budget includes car-seat dolls, a-frame signs for events, and educational tools, etc. Our car-seat program has become much stronger and I thank those who have supported it especially Chief Huneke and Deputy Chief Hanson. Our current statistics with car-seat checks are included for your review. The national database is still updating numbers so the below graphs will only represent car-seat checks up to the end of August. Three additional checks were completed near the end of December 2023.



Misuse Summary Table (All Checks)

Checks by Child Restraint Type and Child Age (All Checks)

Misuse Type	Misuse Percentage	Checks Analyzed
Harness	31.8%	22
Manufacturer Direction	3.2%	62
Handle Position	11.5%	26
Recline Angle	29.1%	55
Load Leg		3
Lower Anchor	26.0%	50
Tether	35.7%	14
Seatbelt	21.4%	14
Overall	**59.7%**	**77**

FIRE SIGNS & CPR
FF/PM JOE MILLER



FIRE SIGNS

Fire Signs are located at all of the rural addresses in our district. The District takes the responsibility to install bright red, reflective fire signs at all rural addresses. Some of these signs have been up for over 30 years and require maintenance and replacement. This is where the Fire Sign Program began. Several years ago we started to rate each sign into 5 categories. Since then, we periodically order sign replacements based on ratings. It is important to note that Fire Sign Installation is done by Duty Crews who have to balance and prioritize many other tasks in order to complete these while on shift. We are happy to report that the Duty Crews have managed to install or repair 450+ signs and countless post repairs/replacements.
Currently there are 3,439 total fire signs in the district. Our 2024 goals are to continue replacing signs. We have just received our next batch of fire signs totaling 350 replacements. While installing these we will continue to install signs on an as needed basis that are new construction, destroyed or lost.



CPR



The CPR Program consists of FM Schopp, Lt. Daniel Czaruk, FF/PM Stephen Bicos, FF/PM Sean Darlak and myself. We are an Authorized Training Site through Waubonsee Community College and American Heart Association. Our Administrative members are FM Schopp and myself. Through our CPR program we offer multiple classes for different level rescuers: Basic Life Support (BLS) Provider,
Heartsaver CPR/AED and Heartsaver First Aid. We also now teach “Stop the Bleed” classes. These classes are offered to any citizen for fees lower than area colleges and businesses. We do so while utilizing the newest high tech equipment including Prestan mannequins with live feedback. We just recently purchased brand new Bag Valve Masks from a local business as well.
This year we taught 20 total classes to 108 students. Specifically we certified 32 people in Heartsaver courses (lay rescuers) and 76 people in BLS Provider courses (healthcare workers). Multiple local organizations and businesses have utilized are CPR Program to educate and certify their employees and members. We continue to get many compliments every class on our equipment, instructors and class.
Future 2024 goals include adding more instructors, changing the schedule, changing class times and adjusting costs.

EMS
LT. DAN CZARUK



Our EMS Program, like all programs at ECFPD, is dedicated to ensuring the community we serve receives the highest level of prehospital care. Provider education, data driven decision making, and advancements in prehospital equipment are how we aim to make this possible. Accountability, dedication and professionalism are the foundational values that our program is built upon.

Our EMS program is led by Lieutenant Dan Czaruk , FF/PM Bryon Ferguson, FF/PM Travis Lange and FF/PM Joe Miller. We are currently responsible for ensuring ECFPD is complaint with the Southern Fox Valley EMS System and IDPH rule and regulations. All members assist in the completion of tasks and support the responsibilities of each member.

Another busy year is in the books and we could not have done without your hard work, collaboration and commitment to excellence in EMS.

EDUCATION

In 2023, the EMS program conducted and successfully completed in-system testing for five EMT-B's. Five students completed this year's Waubonsee/Southern Fox Valley paramedic program, four of whom are employed by ECFPD. All committed to Elburn and completed their field clinical time requirements within the department. Below are the following students and their primary preceptors:

- FF/EMT Jeremiah O'Brien and his Primary Preceptor FF/PM Sam Ferris
- FF/EMT James Konen and his Primary Preceptor FF/PM Andrew Oliver
- FF/EMT Danny McHale and his Primary Preceptor FF/PM Joe Miller
- FF/EMT Kim Wiegert and her Primary Preceptor FF/PM Steve Walter
- FF/EMT Harold Halstead and his Primary Preceptor FF/PM Chris Meyers

Thank you to all of the additional paramedic student mentors who helped ensure the success of our students!



EQUIPMENT

In December of 2023, we received our third LUCAS device. A LUCAS device is a state of the art automated chest compression system that provides nearly 100% efficient compressions with rate and depth. This device will be placed on Medic 351 when in service, otherwise the LUCAS device will be in service with Battalion 300. All of our old Nitrous Oxide kits have been replaced and a fourth has been placed in service on Medic 354.

SAFETY COMMITTEE
LT. STEVE FULLER





The safety committee meets every month and provides information, updates, and recommendations to members. The Safety Committee provides recommendations to members to be aware of their surroundings when operating equipment, operating on an emergency scene, or just daily operations at our stations.

The biggest concern for Safety committee for 2023 was the cancer causing agents (PFAS) in our turnout gear. While this is something that is out of safety committee's control, it is definitely on our radar and new training techniques to lessen the exposure time while wearing full protective gear are being discussed. We and the district want what is best for all members and will work diligently to implement the safest standards and use the most up to date information to make the best decisions for our members moving forward.

Loss Analysis for 2023 is currently three claims at $4,546.00 incurred which is down from nine claims at $518,418.00 from 2022. Members of the Safety committee have implemented multiple policies to keep safety a priority including: a slip, trip, and fall policy to be reviewed by all members annually; station inspections monthly so that we can always stay ahead of hazards that may arise while in the fire stations; implementing stretching before training revolutions and workouts; training on lifting techniques that allow us to stay safe and to help keep us from becoming injured while performing our duties for the citizens of ECFPD.

The Safety committee has reviewed cases in 2023 that have to do with cut fingers and non-slip footwear. To help alleviate these issues, the safety committee will purchase non-slip, artic grip footwear which will be pulled over boots to avoid slipping on ice and snow on emergency scenes. This footwear will be placed on all front line vehicles. Also purchased will be kitchen cut gloves, bagel slicers, and a mandolin to help alleviate cuts to fingers and hands.



QUARTERMASTER
LT. MIKE DIDENKO

In 2023 the Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District Quartermaster program continued its commitment to operational excellence. With a strong dedication to continuity, we are excited to maintain a longstanding partnership with UAS (Unique Apparel Solutions), our trusted clothing provider, ensuring the seamless provision of quality uniforms.

Our Quartermaster team undertook a comprehensive initiative, implementing the repatching of the entire department, showcasing a unified appearance for our personnel. As we look ahead to 2024, our goals will include exploring new alternatives for uniforms while prioritizing cost-effective measures and, most importantly, monitoring the health and safety of our members with updated clothing standards. The Elburn & Countryside Quartermaster program remains devoted to enhancing functionality, appearance, and the overall well-being of our dedicated members.

Newly Designed Department Patch

STANDARDIZATION & FITNESS
LT. CHRIS SPITZOCK



STANDARDIZATION

The Standardization committee had a busy year updating the Policy Manual in Lexipol, our online platform for policies and procedures, as well as standardizing equipment for our frontline Engines. We used ISO, NFPA, as well as member feedback to create our inventory list.
To date, we currently have 194 policy updates that were pushed out to department members to review. Standardization in the next year will continue to work on updating our Policy manual as well as creating/updating our procedure manual. FF/PM Shingledecker will be heading Standardization from December through April and continue to update inventory lists for our Tenders and Truck.

FITNESS

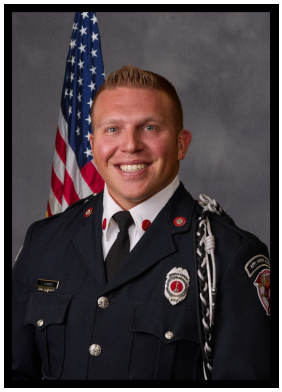
In 2023 our department moved away from group workouts at station 1. We will continue to keep our members in their response districts as much as possible while still placing a priority on physical/mental health. We have continued our working relationship with our personal Trainer Zac Schreiber. Zac is currently helping develop a physical assessment standard for our department. Zac will still play a big role in assisting our department set the standard on health and wellness in the area. We held a department wide weight loss challenge leading up to Thanksgiving, with black shift finishing as the biggest losers and receiving a $200 gift card purchased by Local 4749.



New equipment was purchased for all 3 stations including new benches for stations 1 & 2 and kettlebells for each station. We have also partnered with Dick Ponds in St. Charles to get each member a pair of workout shoes through the Foreign Fire Insurance Board. Our members continued to challenge themselves while completing multiple events from Stair Climbs, Tough Mudder Events and Half Marathons, with participation growing each time.



TRAINING
LT. STEPHEN COOMES



2023 was a very good year for training in our department. This is the fourth year that we have training data for ISO Compliance for job specific classifications. The 3 job specific categories are Firefighter, Driver/Operator, and Officer. We strive for 100% compliance in each category and have made vast improvements over last year.

In addition to our in-house department training, we also completed many different trainings with our mutual/auto aid departments, and specialty trainings including Traffic Incident Management Safety, and the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board Valve Trailer. We also hosted the Illinois Fire Service Institute for an Incident Safety Officer class in August that many of our members attended.



Mutual Aid Training 2023





2023 also saw ECFPD hosting our second Leadership and Officer Development Program.
This six week long program allowed us to work with current and future leaders within the department, as well as several chiefs from outside agencies. As part of the 2023 Leadership Academy we were proud to welcome National Speaker Mark Von Appen of All in Leadership, who has developed the “Big 4” areas of leadership and accountability. Having Mark In our station speaking to us was a great experience.





FIRE ACADEMY
LT. RYAN SEGGEBRUCH



2023 saw a change to the way we operate our Basic Operations Fire (BOF) Academy. Due to a lower enrollment, the decision was made to send five recruits to the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) blended program. While the majority of the program was based online, Recruits did complete practical evolutions at the Cherry Valley Fire Department Training Facility as well as attend in classroom training at ECFPD. Upon completion of the IFSI BOF Academy, department members spend significant time with the recruits reviewing all they learned as well as training them to our department standard. The recruits also completed an in-house Hazardous Materials Operations class taught by Lieutenant Coomes.

Out of the five recruits that completed the BOF Academy, ECFPD hired four certified members who proceeded through our fast track program. While they began as Swing Part Time Employees when released to shift, all four have since moved up to the Apprentice Part Time role.





EMT CLASS
LT. KRISTY SURIANO

The enrollment for the EMT class has increased to 13 this year. Surrounding departments have showed great interest in sending their students to our EMT-B program. The participation and learning opportunities for these students have been grand. We look forward to continuing this program in the future.

CADETS
FF/PM CECE ZEPEDA



The Cadet Program has updated its policy manual this year. We currently have 8 cadets in the program. This year the cadets have been doing a variety of training such as donning and doffing, search and rescue, ladders, hydrant hook ups, basic pumping operations, hose deployments, rig familiarization, brush truck operations, tool knowledge, forcible entry, vital signs, medical and trauma scenarios. The cadets were given the opportunity to learn about and train with the Tower ladder over the summer.



The Cadets also learned how to teach Pub ed and were able to bring in family and friends at a meeting to teach them. This year the cadets worked the first aid tent at Elburn Days. The cadets have been doing group workouts the first meeting of each month. This year we have brought back the ability for the Cadets to do ride alongs with the crews. The ride alongs are a great opportunity for the cadets to see what it is like going on 911 calls and daily shift operations. We have 2 Cadets that have started doing ride-alongs with the duty crews. We currently have 4 cadets that are eligible for ride-alongs. As more cadets complete their requirements, they will be signed off to start ride time next year. This year we were unable to go to IFSI due to scheduling conflicts. We are looking forward to IFSI next year. The cadets continued the tradition and went Christmas shopping for 3 children from the giving tree at Luau Coffee. Overall this year for the cadets has been filled with great training and a lot of new skills learned. We are looking forward to what 2024 has to offer!



HAZARDOUS MATERIAL TEAM
FF/PM CHRIS MULVIHILL

Members of the ECFPD Hazmat Team, along with other department members, were recognized by the Campton Hills Police Department for their work responding to a biohazard incident. The incident resulted in 4 patients being transported to area hospitals and several animals being rescued.

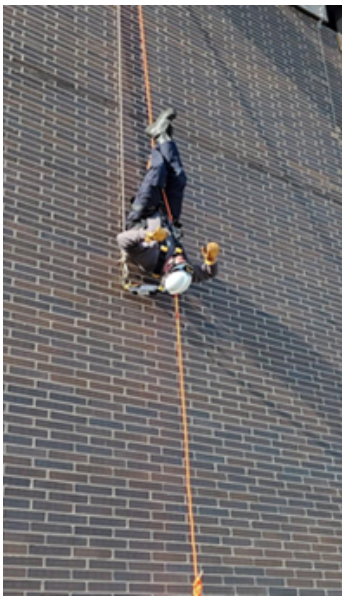




TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM
LT. MATT LINDEN



In 2023, the Technical Rescue Team (TRT) was able to conduct a complete inventory of our trailer. While cataloging our equipment, we identified out of date equipment that will be included in upcoming budgets for replacement. FF/PM Darlak completed 4 TRT Training classes this year and should complete all of his certifications in 2024. Lieutenant Eric Daffron has been added to the MABAS training roster and will begin his classes in Spring of 2024



The training this year with the Division was rich in review and development of the team. All the training was at Southern Kane County Training Association (SKCTA) grounds in North Aurora.Team members attended four different training sessions with the Division this year, and most members met the requirements to receive their team bonus. We had the DELSAR equipment out so we could use it in a controlled environment by changing parameters and positions of the sensors. The collapse monitoring equipment was set-up using an old building on site, and we were able to mimic a building shift by shifting the tripod and moving the set point. The simulated structural collapse enabled our team members to hone their skills in shoring, cutting, and construction of supports. We had the unique opportunity this year to also get in some extra rope rescue training while displaying our abilities for the video production. We as a team are looking forward to the growth of the department, the district, and our skills. Keep an eye out for us in 2024, the training schedule is out and it's looking to be a great year of training!



HONOR GUARD
LT. MIKE DIDENKO

Elburn & Countryside Elburn Local 4749 Honor Guard has become a timeless tradition, a symbol of honor and respect. Our Honor Guard is more than a ceremonial unit; it is the embodiment of our commitment to honor those who have served, both in our ranks and in our community.



In 2023, the Honor Guard demonstrated unwavering commitment and professionalism in our duties. We attended several LODD (Line of Duty Death) funerals throughout the state. The Honor Guard proudly displayed their dedication by posting colors at numerous ceremonies throughout the year, highlighted by the Retirement of Chief Joe Cluchey and the swearing in of Chief Michael Huneke. The Honor Guard added honor and reverence to each occasion. Noteworthy events included our presence at the annual Elburn Days Parade, where we showcased our commitment and respect for the community. The Honor Guard played a pivotal role in enhancing the district's capabilities by hosting essential AFFI (Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois) trainings at our stations for Districts 6 and 8.

SUPPORT SERVICES
LT. TREVOR HALL
LT. MATT LINDEN



2023 was full of updates and repairs. Lt. Trevor Hall ran Support Services from the beginning of the year till September 23, 2023 when Acting Battalion Chief M. Linden took over. There were a lot of people involved in making things happen throughout the year. The collaborations between the employees, contractors, manufacturers, and department heads has been excellent.



Some of the highlights from the year are listed below

STATION 1

- Surge Protection and RTU replacement
- Camera Systems installed
- Front Lobby Window replacement

STATION 2

- Painting of entire West side
- Kitchen cabinets were painted and new hardware installed
- New Kitchen appliances purchased and installed
- Roof Replacement



SCBA
FF/PM CECE ZEPEDA

We have had our new air packs for a year now. There have been no major issues and everything is working as it should. We have sent equipment out for warranty work when needed. The SCBA washer has been working well with cleaning our equipment after structure fires and training.





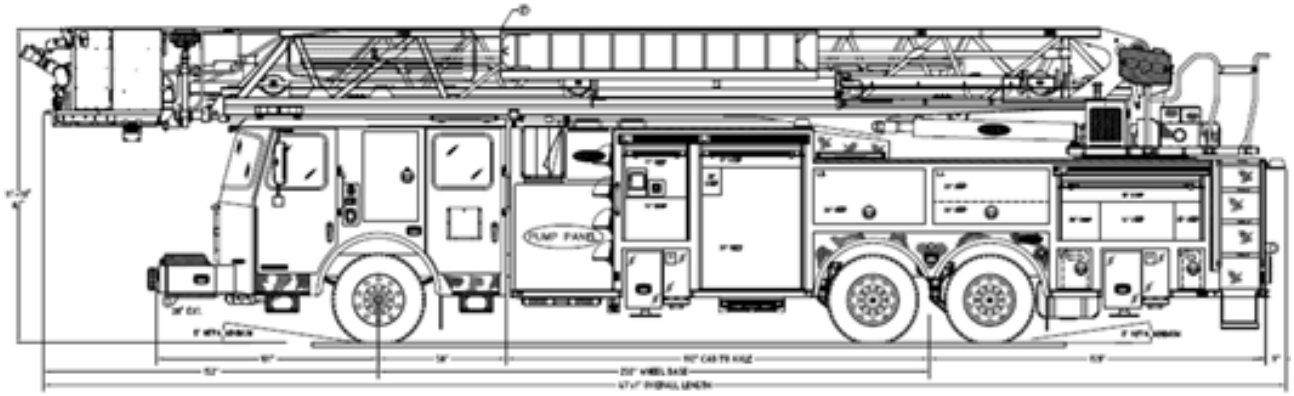
FLEET MAINTENANCE
LT. ERIC DAFFRON



Fleet Maintenance continued to keep our vehicles up and responding in the year 2023. We received a new E-One Engine late 2022. This Engine has now proved to be a great addition to the fleet after running front line at Station 2 for a year. Adding this engine has dramatically improved our program as it has required very minor repairs. Our 2019 E-One Engine continues to run strong out of Station 1.

We continue you maintain a great relationship with our service centers. In 2023 we began a more comprehensive pump test and preventive maintenance program. In this program vehicles are now individually tested and then all necessary repairs are made at time of test. In years past we had mobile pump testing performed at the station but repairs had to be completed at a later date. This proved to be difficult to coordinate. Our current fleet of ambulances is proving to be very sound. In 2023 we incurred very little downtime with our ambulance fleet. I believe this due to current manufacture and chassis options that we've chosen. In years past we suffered large expenses in maintaining diesel ambulance motors. I was fortunate to be able to attend FDIC International in Indianapolis, Indiana and the Fire Truck Technician Conference in Lansing, Michigan. These conferences provide a wealth of knowledge about the industry. I believe they're vital to staying up to date on industry trends and education. Fleet Maintenance welcomed FF Travis Lange in 2023. Travis has started to learn about the program and is beginning to share the responsibilities.

In 2024 we will continue to add more assistants that are wanting to learn and help.
Fleet Maintenance not only maintains but also is integral in procurement. We ordered a Horton ambulance in year 2022. After lengthy supply chain and labor delays we've been informed that our chassis is nearing production. Chassis will be a 2024 Ford F450 that is up fitted by Horton Ambulance. This will be to replace aging 2013 Ford F650. Fleet Maintenance has also headed up a Tower Committee to spec and design a new Tower Ladder. This Design was ordered in late 2023 and we expect delivery in 36 months. This new Tower Ladder, which will be replacing our nearly 27 year old Tower Ladder. We will also be preparing a Battalion Chief vehicle. We have decided that this will be a full size pick- up truck. This will be in an effort to have a vehicle that will be prepared for many tasks. Fleet Maintenance will continue to assist in capital budgeting for up and coming vehicles. We look forward to 2024.



FOREIGN FIRE INSURANCE BOARD
LT. ERIC DAFFRON



The Foreign Fire Insurance Board consists of seven trustees. The District Fire Chief, who holds office by virtue of rank; and six members who are elected at large by the members. It is the mission of the Foreign Fire Insurance Board to receive and account for revenues from the tax on fire insurance policies sold by foreign (out of state) insurance companies, and to use such funds for the maintenance, use, and benefit of the Elburn and Countryside Fire Protection District.
The Foreign Fire Insurance Board continued to stay productive in 2023. We've purchased items to benefit our members in equipment, training, fitness and household items.
2023 Notable purchases include:

- SCBA Identification tags.
- Fitness Torque M4 Sled
- Fitness Dumbbells and Kettlebells
- Fitness Weight Benches
- Vent master Chain Saws
- Super VAC Fans
- Station 2 Kitchen Appliances
- Channellock Rescue Tools
- Fitness Shoes for a members.







HIGHLIGHTS & AWARDS

2023 was an exciting year with much to celebrate

Chief's Award to Battalion Chief Chad Clark



At the May 3, 2023 Board of Trustee's Meeting, Geneva Fire Department Battalion Chief was presented with a Chiefs Award for his actions during several fires in the South Mill Creek Neighborhood.



Chief's Award for Leroy Herra

Leroy Herra was presented with the Chief's Award at the July 11, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting. The District thanks Mr. Herra for his constant support of the District as a devoted Firefighter, Trustee and Citizen

Lifesaving Award

Congratulations to FF/PM Stephen Bicos, FF/EMT Harold Halstead, Acting Lt. Alex Poynor, FF/EMT Jorge Flores, FF/PM Chris Mulvihill and FF/EMT Kimberly Wiegert who were nominated and received a Life Saving Award by Acting Battalion Chief Stephen Coomes. They were presented their awards at the November 7th, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting. Congrats to everyone for their teamwork and efforts towards the successful save from a cardiac arrest at Tanna Farms Golf Club.





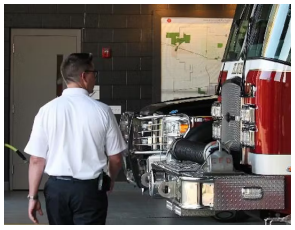
Chief Fire Officer Designation and IFCA Representation

Fire Chief Huneke was re-designated by the Commission on Professional Credentialing as a Chief Fire Officer. Additionally, Chief Huneke was sworn in as an Area 3 representative for the Illinois Fire Chief's Association.

Acquisition of Land for Future Station 4

ECFPD made the decision to purchase a parcel of land near Route 47 and Green Road as the site for future Station 4. The need for a 4th Station became apparent with the continued demand for service in Station 2's still district and the planned development in the southern corridor of the District.





IFSI Academic Advisership and Published Articles

Deputy Chief Hanson recently completed the pilot Chief Fire Officer Program through IFSI, IFCA and the State Fire Marshal's Office. Upon completion, he was offered a position as an Academic Advisor for future classes. Additionally, DC Hanson had an article, "Anticipate the Needs", published in two respected publications - Firefighter Nation and Fire Rescue Magazine.

NEW HIRES - PROMOTIONS - RETIREMENTS



Swearing In of FF/PM Josh Kuefler
July 11, 2023



Promotion of Matt Hanson - Deputy Chief
October 3rd, 2023



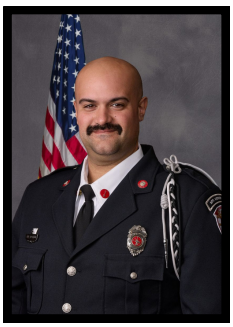
Promotion of Mike Huneke - Fire Chief
October 6th, 2023



Promotion of Eric Daffron
Lieutenant
September 23, 2023



Promotion of Mike Didenko
Lieutenant
September 23, 2023



Promotion of Alex Poynor
Lieutenant
September 23, 2023



Retirement of Fire Chief Joe Cluchey
October 6th, 2023



Retirement of Lieutenant Dave Oliver
November 21st, 2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District would like to thank all of our members who contributed to making 2023 another successful year.

We thank you for your continued support of the Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District

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