

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

www.elburnfire.gov

630-365-6855

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

As Fire Chief of the Elburn and Countryside Fire Protection District, I am proud to present our 2025 Annual Report. This report reflects far more than statistics and milestones; it represents the daily commitment, professionalism, and dedication of our firefighters, officers, and administrative staff who serve this community with pride. This is a team deeply committed to service to others.

Over the past several years, we have made a deliberate investment in leadership development in every level of our organization. Through training, mentorship, and real-world experience, we have strengthened our officer corps and reinforced a culture built on accountability, preparation, and leading by example. This "next-person-up" mindset ensures our organization remains resilient, capable, and ready, regardless of challenge or vacancy.

In 2025, our focus expanded beyond the emergency response environment to include strengthening our internal operations and administrative systems. These efforts were not about adding bureaucracy, but about supporting our people, improving efficiency, and ensuring the high standards our community expects are reflected in everything we do. From front-office operations to succession planning, we continue to build an organization that is sustainable, scalable, and prepared for the future.

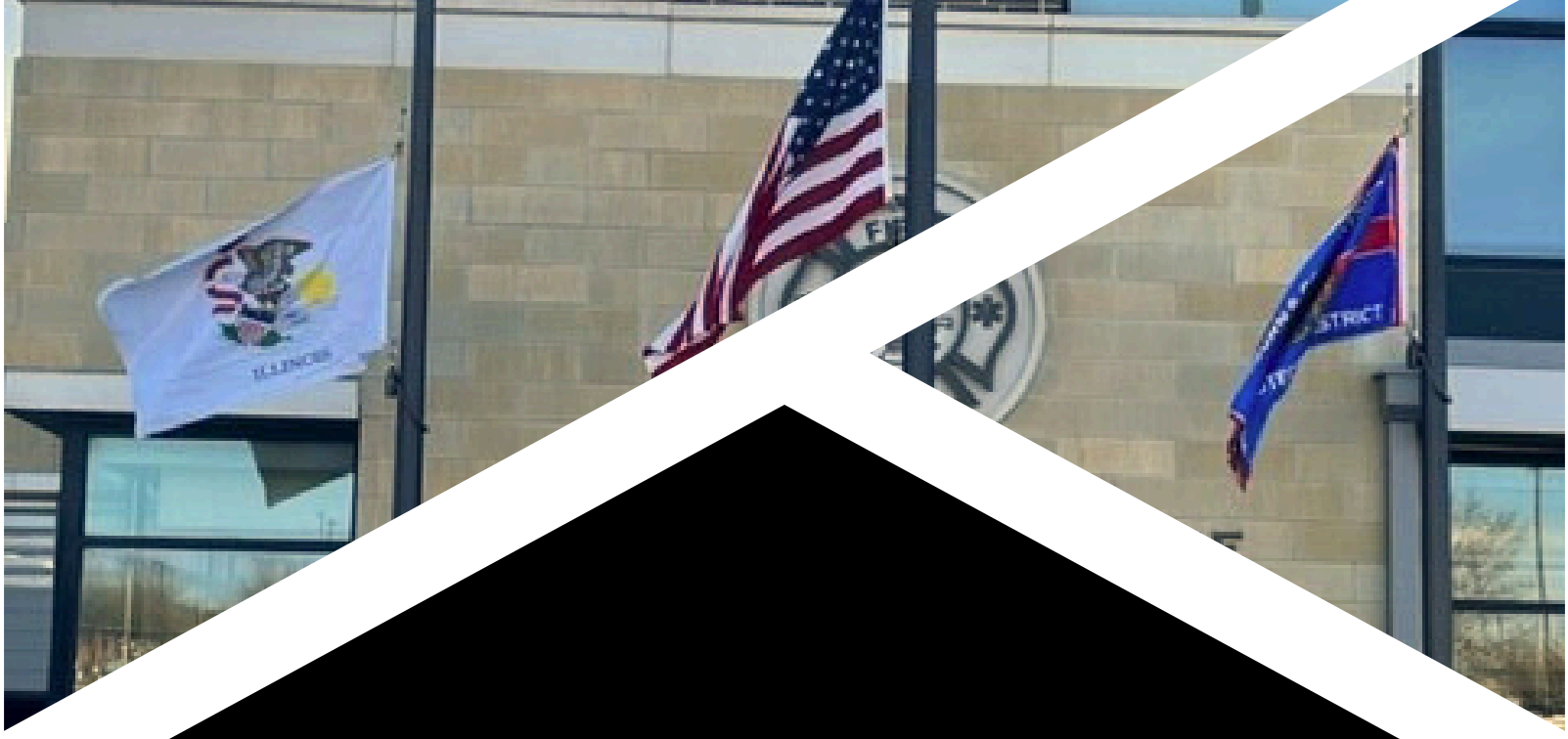
As a relatively young department, we recognize both the opportunity and responsibility that comes with growth. Excellence is not something we achieve once; it is something we must demonstrate every day, in every role, and in every interaction. Whether responding to an emergency, participating in training, managing resources, or welcoming visitors into our stations, our goal remains the same: to represent this organization with professionalism, integrity, and pride.

This annual report highlights key initiatives, major projects, and operational outcomes from the past year. But most importantly, it highlights our people. Their commitment to continuous improvement, fiscal responsibility, health and wellness, and community service is what makes this organization strong. I would also like to thank those who dedicated their time and effort to compiling this report, as well as those who are invested in our organization and take the time to review it. Transparency and engagement are critical to our continued success.

As we move into 2026, our team remains focused and motivated. We are ready to take on new challenges while completing the objectives we set out to accomplish in 2025. I am extremely honored to serve as the Fire Chief of this organization. It is truly a privilege to lead such a dedicated and professional team.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the leadership team, thank you to our members for your dedication, and thank you to our residents and partners for your continued trust and support. We remain committed to leaving this organization better than we found it.





GOVERNING BODIES

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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 second 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, Commissioner Peter Panagakis, and Commissioner Stephen Herra.
Meetings are held quarterly.







ADMINISTRATION

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DEPUTY CHIEF HANSON

Deputy Chief Hanson is responsible for personnel and day-to-day operations of the Department.

Thank you for reading our 2025 Annual Report. Each year we have so many proud moments and achievements by our members. This will be evident as you read the reports following this letter where each of our Battalion Chiefs share their particular area of responsibility and plans for the future.
I continue to be humbled, serving this organization as its Deputy Chief. In my position working with our personnel, I am excited each year when we build on the talents and skills of our members and work to find areas where each person may thrive and find fulfillment. We continue to have great support from our Board of Trustees and Board of Commissioners, allowing us to provide opportunities for growth and development for our members. This empowers us to tackle the challenges we face daily with not only the highest level of skill and professionalism, but also with the single most important human factor; genuinely caring for one another and those we serve. The firefighters who wear our uniform are the best in the area and I am confident, should you ever require our services, you will be proud of your Elburn Firefighters.

We always enjoy welcoming back our past members. The Elburn Professional Firefighters Local 4749 partnered with the District this past year to complete construction of our new commemorative Badge Wall at Station #1. This wall serves as a testament to the service of those who came before us and helped to build our foundation, it also serves as inspiration to current members to build on that foundation and take our department to new levels. The dedication of this wall brought many past members and their families back, as a homecoming, to Station One. You will read and see more about this later in this report.

2025 was my final year serving as the Kane County Fire Chiefs Treasurer, after an eight-year term. This position has historically been held by a Chief Officer from Elburn, for nearly the past thirty (30) years. It was because of Pam Hall, our Office Manager, Elburn has been able to hold this position for so long. We were proud to recognize Pam at the Kane County Fire Chiefs Holiday party for this very proud accomplishment (see photo on page 33). I was invited this year to continue my role as an instructor with the State Fire Academy, The Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI), in the Chief Fire Officer Program (CFO). The CFO is the highest level of training and certification through the Office of the State Fire Marshal. It is a humbling and rewarding experience to mentor and develop neighboring departments Chief Officers.
My family and I remain active with the Elburn Lions Club where I continue to serve as a director of the Lions Club Park Board.

Please, enjoy reading each report that follows, and continue to expect only the very best from your Elburn Fire Department!



ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



Pam Hall
HR Operations Manager

Pam manages everything Human Resources for the District, from benefits administration to employee relations. She also plays a key role in supporting ECFPD Leadership & financial functions.

Merry Morris
Payroll & Accounting Specialist

Merry is the first face you see when you visit ECFPD. Her main focus is providing high level administrative support as well as processing payroll & completing Accounts Receivable & Payable responsibilities





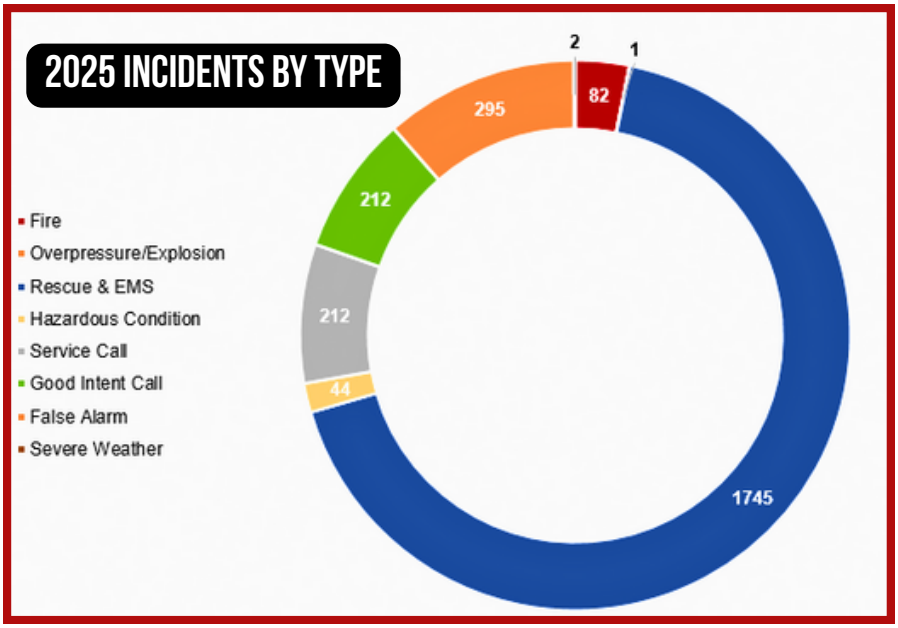
Maggie Walsh
Data Systems Analyst

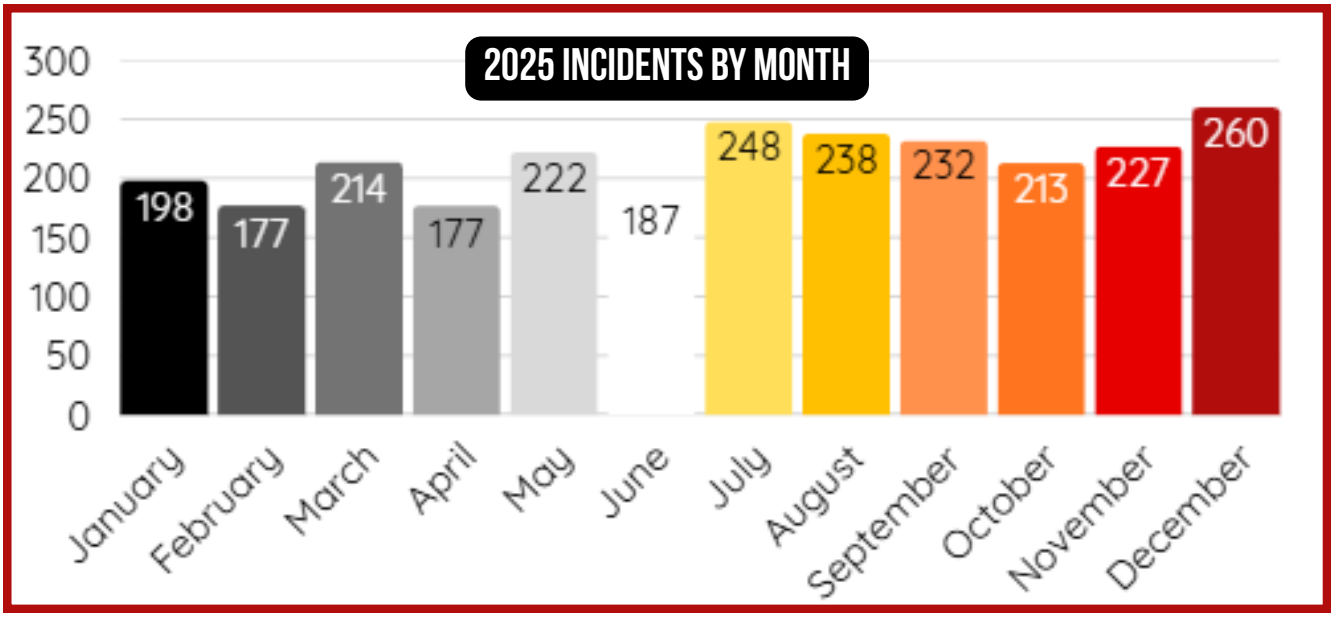
Maggie manages and oversees ECFPD's data. This includes ensuring accurate collection, analysis and reporting. She also is the administrator for the majority of the District's software programs.

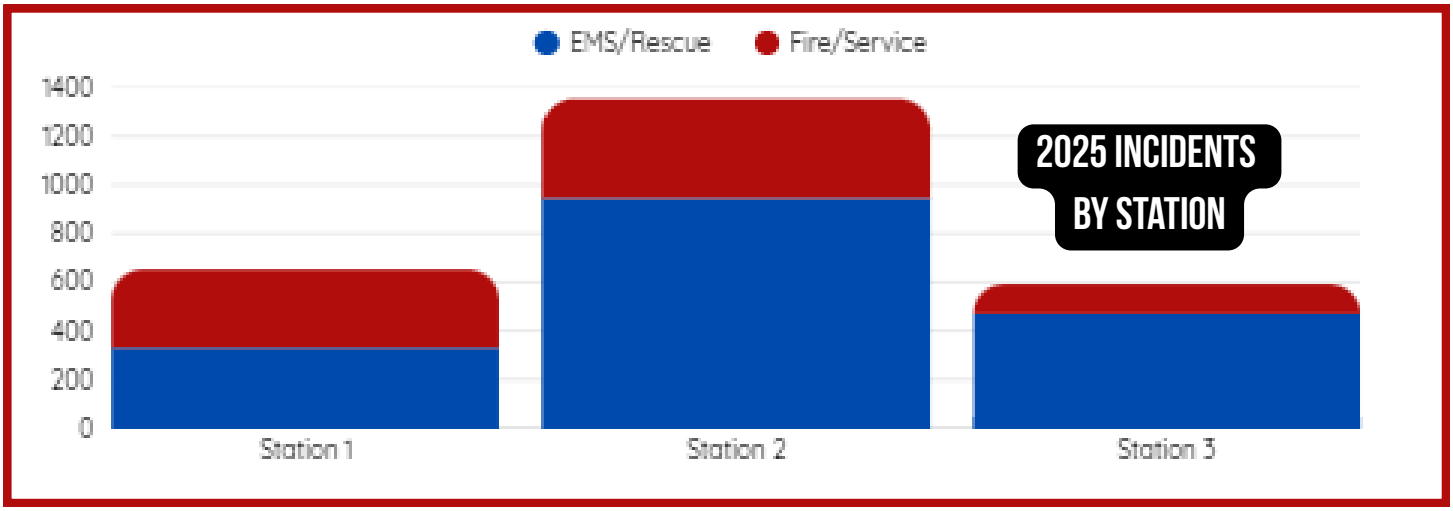
ANNUAL INCIDENT DATA

2593

TOTAL INCIDENT RESPONSES IN 2025

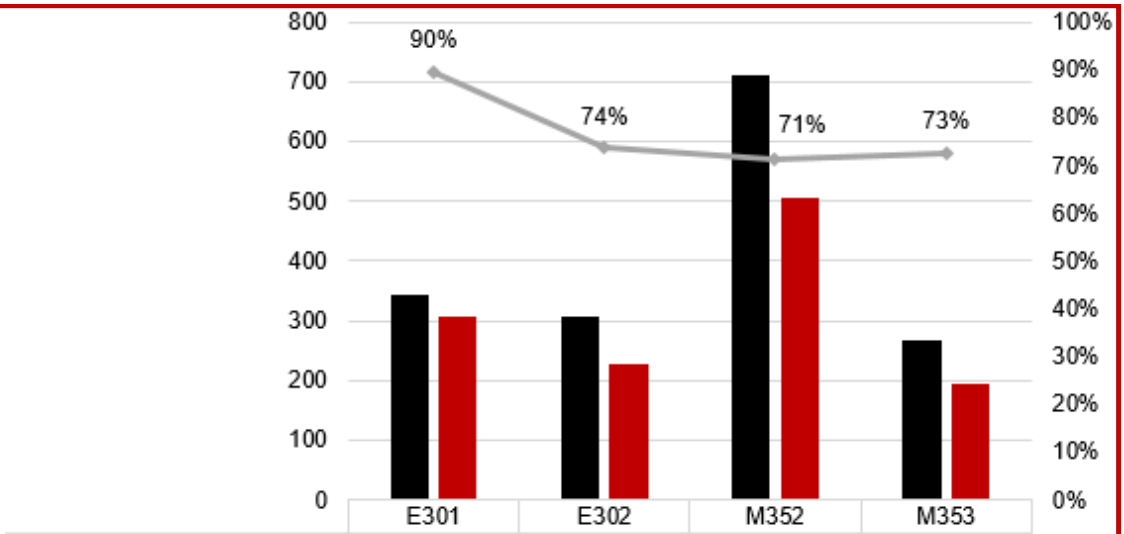




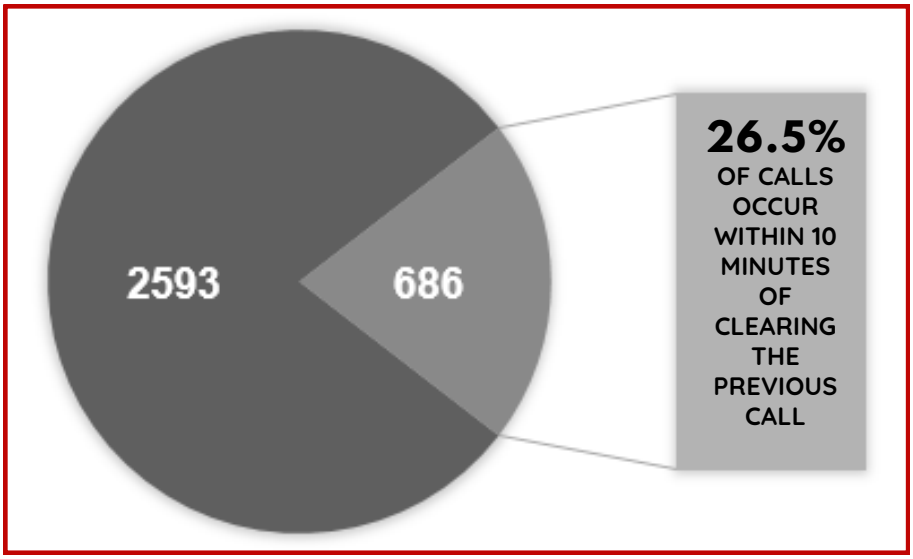


ANNUAL INCIDENT DATA

The ECFPD desires to have , an Initial Arriving Response Force, on scene in 6 minutes or less 80% of the time, to all areas of our district. The priority of the Initial Arriving Response Force will remain Life Safety, Incident Stabilization, Property Conservation and ALS intervention

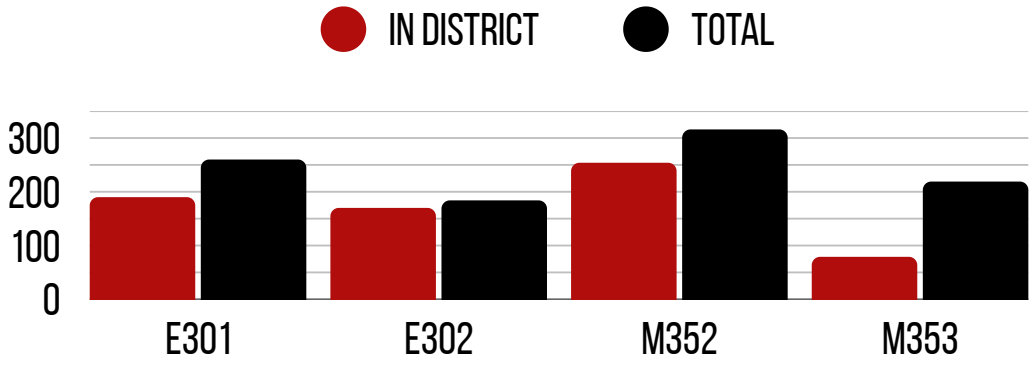


	E301	E302	M352	M353
First Arriving	343	307	711	267
<= 6:00 SDO	307	226	507	194
Percentage Meeting SDO	90%	74%	71%	73%



We closely track how often emergency calls occur. ECFPD frequently responds to new incidents within 10 minutes of clearing a previous call. Understanding this pattern helps us plan for community needs and continue providing reliable, high-quality emergency response.

Recognizing that many calls occur within minutes of one another, we further analyze this data by unit and by location to ensure resources are appropriately allocated. This approach supports both current operations and long-term planning for the District.



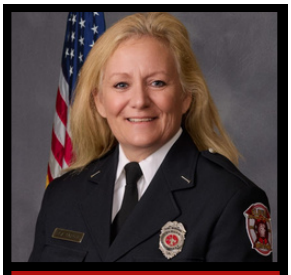


COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

The Community Risk Reduction(CRR) Bureau is an integral part of the “resilience (prevention and planning)” portion of our Mission Statement. Under the leadership of Fire Marshal Lisa Schopp, CRR spearheads fire and risk prevention efforts.



Fire Marshal Lisa Schopp

PUBLIC EDUCATION & SOCIAL MEDIA

This year, our Public Education team has worked diligently to expand our program through both social media outreach and participation in community events. As a district, ECFPD took part in more than 60 community events, including block parties, school visits, and station tours. Through these efforts, we connected with and educated over 15,515 individuals—9,862 children, 5,023 adults, and 630 seniors. This represents more than a 55% increase in community members reached compared to 2024, reflecting the success of our expanded initiatives. Some notable events from 2025 were our annual school visits during Fire Prevention Week, The Elburn Christmas Stroll, National Night Out and the return of our very own Open House. The Open House was a wonderful way to introduce the community to who we are and what we do while welcoming them into our headquarters.

Our social media platforms have also played a major role in amplifying our message. This year, our content received over 484,443 views. The overall reach clearly demonstrates that our presence in the community is growing and that the content we share is engaging.

Looking ahead to 2026, our team plans to further enhance our social media presence and continue expanding community engagement. We are in the process of ordering new camera equipment and editing software to improve our production quality, with the goal of producing all video content entirely in-house at the highest standard.











PROJECT FIRE BUDDIES

Project Fire Buddies is a national charity that partners with fire departments to offer support for critically ill children and their families, bringing comfort, fun, and companionship. Elburn Fire has been a local chapter for Project Fire Buddies for two years now. Currently, Elburn has three “fire buddies”. Throughout 2025, the fire buddy families were visited for birthdays, holidays, surprise visits before surgeries, and a celebratory visit. One of the families joined us in the Elburn Day’s Parade. At our open house this year, we raised $2,000 to donate back to Project Fire Buddies. This was accomplished with Project Fire Buddy swag sales, cash donations and silent auction baskets.

This November, one of our buddies became a graduate of the program. This is great news as he has reached the one-year milestone of clear CT scans with his cancer. On November 17th, a celebration party was held at this fire buddy’s house.





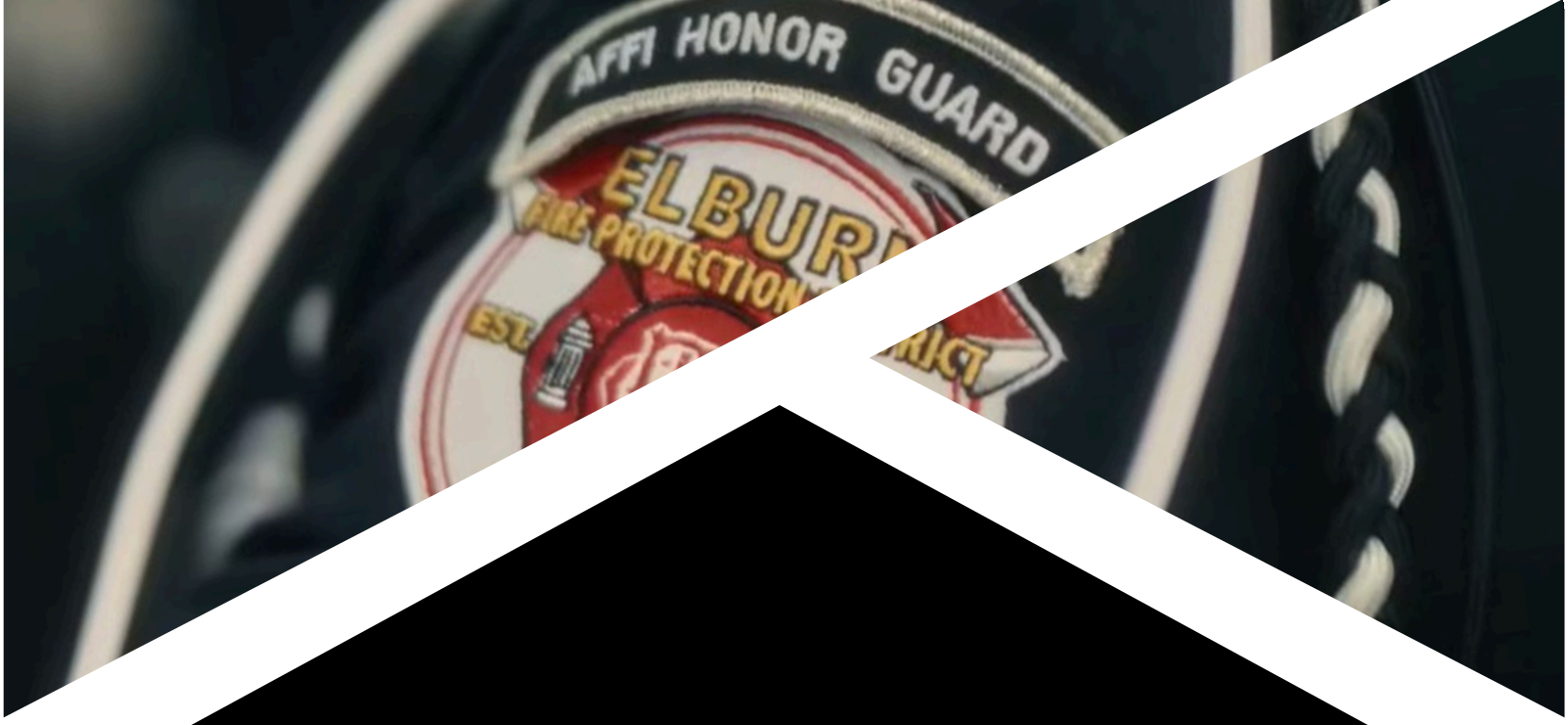






FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

The Elburn Fire Investigation team consists of five members. The Fire Investigation Team is tasked with identifying the origin and cause of fires, safeguarding lives and property, and preventing future incidents. We aim to understand the circumstances behind fires to prevent recurrences and to ensure accountability for those responsible.
ECFPD Investigators are also active members of the Kane County Fire Investigation Task Force, which is designed to assist area fire departments with investigations. We are proud to have such a strong presence on such an important task force.



LOCAL 4749 & HONOR GUARD

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Local 4749 had several achievements this year from welcoming a new member, designing station logos, the continued dedication of the Honor Guard and most meaningful, the dedication of the new Badge Wall

As we close out another year of dedication, progress, and brotherhood, I am proud to present this annual review on behalf of Elburn Professional Firefighters Local 4749. Our local continues to grow not just in membership, but in purpose, unity, and pride in the work we do every day for the Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District and the community we serve.

This year, we were honored to welcome our newest brother, FF/PM Jon Olson, into Local 4749. Jon came to us with multiple years of experience and has already demonstrated the professionalism and drive that define our membership. He will be proudly presented with Badge #74, marking his place in our department's history.



BADGE WALL

One of our most meaningful achievements this year was the unveiling of our new Badge Wall at our headquarters station. After many years of research, planning, and collaboration, and with the invaluable support of the District, this installation has become a powerful tribute to preserve the legacy, commitment and sacrifice of the brothers and sisters who have served—past, present, and future. It stands as a constant reminder of who we are, how far we've come, and the legacy we continue to build.



In continued partnership with the District, we also designed and introduced three new station logos, each proudly displayed in their respective stations. These logos reflect the identity and character of each station and the area they represent in our district, and it is our hope that their use will expand in the coming year as we further strengthen our department's shared culture and pride.

We are proud to acknowledge the continued dedication of our Local's Honor Guard. Our nine brothers who serve on the team represent Local 4749, our department, and the Illinois State Honor Guard at the highest level of professionalism and respect. Through continuous trainings, ceremonies, and statewide activations, they uphold traditions that honor our fallen brothers and sisters and ensure that their memories are preserved with dignity. Their commitment reflects the very best of our values, and we remain grateful for the honor they bring to our local and our community.

Looking ahead to 2026, Local 4749 is committed to building on the strong, positive working relationship we share with the District. We look forward to opportunities to welcome additional brothers and sisters into our local, to support them in their careers, and to uphold the high standards our community expects of us.
Above all, we remain dedicated to the people we protect. Our service, our traditions, and our Unity.

NEW STATION LOGOS







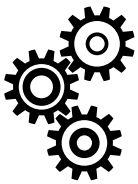


SHIFTS & PERSONNEL

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

SHIFTS & PERSONNEL

The strength of our Fire District lies in the men and women who serve on each shift. Through a combination of full-time and part-time personnel, the department maintains 24/7 readiness while fostering teamwork, dedication, and a shared commitment to protecting our community.



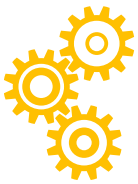
Shifts

ECFPD has three shifts titled by color: Black, Red & Gold. Each shift is on duty for 48 hours, or two consecutive days, This schedule ensures 24/7 coverage and quick emergency response for the community.



Full-Time Personnel

ECFPD has 30 sworn full-time members assigned to one of the three shifts. A Battalion Chief oversees each shift which is comprised of three Lieutenants, one at each station, and six full-time firefighter-paramedics.



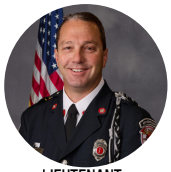
Part-Time Personnel

Part-Time Personnel are an integral part of each shift . There are five assigned part-time(APT) firefighter-EMT/paramedics on each shift and several swing part-time members(SPT) who support the District by filling open spots where needed.

BLACK SHIFT



BATTALION CHIEF
C. SPITZOCK



LIEUTENANT
M. LINDEN



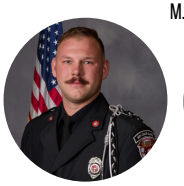
LIEUTENANT
A. POYNOR



LIEUTENANT
M. DIDENKO



FF/PM
A. SHINGLEDECKER



FF/PM
S. DARLAK



FF/PM
C. ZEPEDA



FF/PM
J. KUEFLER



FF/PM
D. MCHALE



FF/PM
J. OLSON

RED SHIFT



BATTALION CHIEF
T. HALL



LIEUTENANT
S. FULLER



LIEUTENANT
R. SEGGEBRUCH



LIEUTENANT
E. DAFFRON



FF/PM
J. HOMON



FF/PM
A. OLIVER



FF/PM
S. WALTER



FF/PM
S. FERRIS



FF/PM
J. KONEN



FF/PM
D. CLUCHEY

GOLD SHIFT



BATTALION CHIEF
D. CZARUK



LIEUTENANT
S. COOMES



LIEUTENANT
K. SURIANO



LIEUTENANT
B. FERGUSON



FF/PM
T. LANGE



FF/PM
J. MILLER



FF/PM
C. MEYERS



FF/PM
S. BICOS



FF/PM
K. WIEGERT



FF/PM
Z. MARTINEZ

PART TIME PERSONNEL

ASSIGNED PART TIME


FF/EMT
N. ADAMOVICH


FF/EMT
A. CERALDE


FF/EMT
I. CORRAL


FF/PM
C. DAVEY


FF/EMT
L. DIFFERDING


FF/EMT
J. DUNCAN


FF/EMT
M. ESTRELLA


FF/EMT
J. FLORES


FF/EMT
P. GUSEWELLE


FF/EMT
N. KRAEMER


FF/PM
C. LENTZ


FF/EMT
V. LONIGRO


FF/EMT
V. PROVENZANO


FF/EMT
P. STAMATOPOULOS


FF/EMT
M. THURMAN


FF/EMT
R. ZACHMAN

SWING PART TIME


FF/PM
B. BALLIS


FF/EMT
A. JENNINGS


FF/EMT
S. KISH


FF/EMT
J. MAUTHE


FF/PM
J. RISSMAN



STATIONS & APPARATUS

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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





TRAINING & OPERATIONS

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BATTALION CHIEF DAN CZARUK

The Training & Operations Division oversees all Training, including in-house programs, specialized teams and leadership development.

As we reflect on the past year, what stands out is not just the challenges we faced, but the way those challenges became catalysts for growth. Every call, every training event, and every moment of teamwork has shaped us into a stronger, more resilient department. Our commitment to excellence has been reinforced through rigorous in house programs—including the Basic Operations Firefighter (BOF) Academy, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class, and cadet program—that prepare the next generation of professionals while strengthening the skills of those already serving.

Beyond our walls, collaboration has been a cornerstone of our progress. Monthly sessions with our neighboring fire department partners in the Joint Operations Group have sharpened our readiness for complex incidents and deepened the bonds that make interdepartmental cooperation seamless. At the same time, our specialized teams—Technical Rescue (TRT), Hazardous Materials, and Fire Investigators—continue to expand their expertise, ensuring that we are equipped to meet the diverse challenges our community may face.

Equally important has been the steady cultivation of leadership within our ranks. Developing leaders is not a separate task—it is woven into everything we do, from mentoring new members to preparing seasoned professionals for greater responsibility. This focus ensures that our department is guided by individuals who embody vision, resilience, and a dedication to service.

Looking ahead to 2026, we carry forward the lessons of 2025 with confidence. We are not only prepared to meet the demands of our community but also to continue shaping ourselves into value driven firefighters, emergency medical professionals, and mentors. The strength of this department lies in the collective effort of its members. It is with deep gratitude that I acknowledge your commitment, your support for one another, and your relentless pursuit of excellence. Together, we will meet the future head on.



CADETS

Elburn's Cadets receive hands-on experience that positions them for success for future careers in the field of fire service. The cadets complete extensive training such as self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), search and rescue, ladders, hydrant hook ups, basic pumping operations, hose deployments, apparatus familiarization, ice rescue operations, tool knowledge, forcible entry, vital signs, medical and trauma scenarios.



This year, three of our cadets were given the opportunity to attend the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) over the summer. This was a great live fire training weekend for them. They also learned rope operations and how to rappel off of a building. We will continue to budget to provide this opportunity for our cadets.

The cadets have also been volunteering at many community events this year, such as the first aid tent for Elburn days, the first annual Elburn 5k fundraiser, and teaching public education at our Open House. The eligible Cadets have been signing up 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 are very proud of our cadets and all they have accomplished this year.

BOF ACADEMY

The 2025 Fire Academy began with 17 recruits pursuing their Basic Operations Firefighter (BOF) certification. The curriculum is in alignment with the Illinois Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR) and the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). Over four months, recruits completed a comprehensive program that included classroom instruction, hands-on skill development, fireground operations, mental health initiatives, traffic incident management, Hazardous Materials, Fire Service Vehicle Operations, and live fire evolutions. Throughout the academy, department personnel provided consistent guidance to ensure all recruits met our high training standards.



GRADUATION & PLACEMENT

A total of 15 recruits successfully graduated from the program. Of those graduates:

- Five are now serving as SPT (Swing Part-Time) firefighters
- Five have advanced to APT (Assigned Part-Time) positions
- Two have secured full-time roles within career fire departments

LOOKING AHEAD: 2026 ACADEMY

The 2026 BOF Academy will transition to a daytime schedule, meeting three days each week to better support instructor staffing and improve training flow. We look forward to welcoming another class of dedicated recruits as we continue fostering excellence in fire service training.



OFFICER DEVELOPMENT

The Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District (ECFPD) continued its commitment to professional growth and operational excellence throughout the year, with a renewed focus on officer development. Our goal remains clear: to prepare current and future officers with the leadership, technical proficiency, and decision-making skills required to serve the community safely and effectively.



OFFICERS & ACTING OFFICERS AFTER COMPLETING LIVE FIRE EVOLUTIONS WITH RECRUITS IN MAY 2025

Building upon prior training models, the program shifted toward a more dynamic, hands-on learning structure closely aligned with real-world firefighting operations. Through collaboration with the Basic Operations Firefighter Academy, we successfully integrated scenario-based exercises that elevate both the quality and relevance of officer training. Members involved in the Officer Development attended the final live fire training evolutions of the Fire Academy. This helped the officers gain experience working with a company while working at a structure fire. In turn it gave our cadets experience working in a company with an officer leading them.

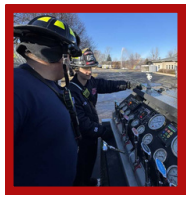
Key features of the new training model include:

- Live fire evolutions coordinated with the BOF Academy to simulate structural firefighting challenges.
- Command simulations using incident-management software and on-scene role assignments.
- Multi-company drills focusing on coordinated operations, accountability, and situational awareness.
- After-action reviews that reinforce learning through constructive feedback and peer discussion.

TRAINING

2025 was another successful year for training within our department. This is the sixth year 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. 2025's ISO Compliant Training Hours came to 16,027 hours!











In addition to our in-house department training, we also trained monthly with our mutual/auto-aid departments Joint Operations Group (JOG) on various topics to help us be better prepared for structure fire responses and other incident types where there may be a multi-agency response. Additionally, we hosted the Firemanship Conference in July and the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) for a Pipeline Awareness Class in November. We are very excited for this upcoming year as the Training Division has many unique training opportunities to look forward to. This includes our annual Leadership and Officer Development Program, the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis, and many more opportunities for our members. We are in the planning phases of hosting another In-House Fire Apparatus Engineer Class in 2026. Our training division is always working to provide the best instruction and training for our personnel to help us maintain our commitment to excellence with our emergency service delivery.

TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM

Elburn's Technical Rescue Team (TRT) belongs to the Illinois State Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) - MABAS offers a statewide mutual aid response system for fire, EMS and specialized incident operational teams. Our team is part of a MABAS regional team (Division 13) made up of highly trained member who may be deployed anywhere within the state when a technical rescue incident occurs.

This past year, the TRT members completed four drills this year with the TRT Division 13 Team. The drills this year included rope rescue from an elevated position at the former St. Charles Police Building, confined space rescues at Conco quarry in North Aurora as well as the former Aurora Post Office along with a combined drill at the Southern Kane County Training Grounds. All of these training opportunities were invaluable opportunities for members to hone our skills.

The team is making strides to enhance our capabilities and membership. With the continued support of the District, we can remain prepared to use the skills we have learned when we are called to duty.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM

This year our Hazardous Materials Response team was very active in our department and surrounding areas. We participated as an active member of the MABAS Division 13(outlined above) Hazmat Team, and attended training throughout the year with our mutual aid partners to maintain a high level of preparedness.

Lt. Coomes attended a course through the Department of Homeland Security CTOS Center for Radiological Nuclear Training and is now part of a nationally deployable branch of the MABAS 13 Hazmat Team for Radiological/Nuclear incidents. We also had one additional member added to the roster late as FF/PM Sam Ferris attended the Hazmat Technician course through the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI).

In 2026 our goal is to grow our team and to continue to modernize our equipment to best outfit us for any type of Hazardous Materials incident.



SUPPORT SERVICES

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BATTALION CHIEF TREVOR HALL

The Support Services Division has oversight of all District Facilities, Grounds, Equipment & Fleet.

Throughout 2025, steady leadership and clear communication remained essential in keeping projects moving forward. Program managers were empowered to take ownership of their respective areas while receiving the guidance, follow-through, and support required to bring tasks to completion. As the district continues to grow and evolve, proactive planning, consistent accountability, and clear communication remain critical pieces of our success. Every improvement made, whether a major facility upgrade or a small operational fix, directly contributed to readiness, safety, and reliability across the district.

Investments were prioritized based on safety, operational readiness, and long-term value. While rising costs across the industry created challenges, careful oversight and strong vendor relationships allowed Support Services to meet its objectives without exceeding financial limits. The budget supported both recurring needs and forward-looking improvements, positioning the district well for 2026.

The Support Services division made meaningful and lasting progress throughout 2025. This year's accomplishments reflect the hard work of each program manager, the support of district leadership, and the collective effort of all personnel who take pride in maintaining our facilities, equipment, and operational capabilities.Every improvement, large or small, strengthens the safety and readiness of the men and women who respond to our community. The work behind the scenes often goes unseen, but its impact is felt on every call, every shift, and in every station across our district.

As we move into 2026, Support Services remains committed to accountability, professionalism, and continuous improvement. With strong teamwork and a clear vision, we will continue building on this year's successes and preparing the district for the challenges and opportunities ahead.



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

The Buildings and Grounds program saw a productive and forward-moving year focused on stabilization, cost effectiveness, and major facility improvements.

NOTABLE PROJECTS FOR 2025

- Gear Washers & Dryers were installed at Stations 2 & 3. This was a significant step forward for the District as provides gear washers at each station, allowing for proper cleaning of gear at a much faster rate. This reducing the length of time contaminants remain on personal protective equipment. This is another example of the ECFPD's commitment to firefighter safety and wellness.

- Station 1 underwent LED Lighting Improvements supported by ComEd Conservation Incentives. This will provide a cost savings to Station 1's electric bills going forward. We anticipate moving forward with similar projects at the other stations in the future.

FLEET

The Fleet program experienced a highly productive year marked by strong teamwork, strategic planning, and several major vehicle acquisitions. The fleet team, consisting of BC Hall, Lt. Daffron, FF/PM Travis Lange, and FF/PM Josh Kuefler worked collaboratively to maintain and enhance district vehicle readiness
Lieutenant Fuller has also begun restructuring the district's long-term hose replacement plan to reflect updated conditions, expected service life, and future budget needs.

Early in the year, the district acquired two new Ford F-150s to replace Battalion 300 and Utility 303. These vehicles were upfitted and configured for command operations, including the addition of a snowplow to Utility 303. These were budgeted for over the past several years to take the place of their aging counterparts. A new graphics package was also adopted for all district pickups to match newer apparatus and present a more uniform fleet.











In May, district representatives completed the delivery inspection of the new 2024 Ford F-550 Horton ambulance in Columbus, Ohio. The ambulance has exceeded expectations, entered service in August, and has performed exceptionally well.

In October, Lt. Daffron conducted the mid-point inspection of the new tower ladder at E-One in Ocala, Florida. The new Tower Ladder will be funded by almost half through a generous grant from Congressman Bill Foster's office through a Community Project Funding. The build quality and capabilities impressed both command staff and the team. Final inspection took place in mid-December, with delivery anticipated in early 2026. The addition of a Tower Ladder to our fleet will be an incredible asset, increasing our capabilities and improving our responses.



EMS, HEALTH & SAFETY

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BATTALION CHIEF CHRIS SPITZOCK

The EMS, Health & Safety Division is responsible for all EMS & Safety systems within the department and oversees the Quartermaster program.

It is my honor to present this year's Annual Report for EMS and Health & Safety. Over the past year, our personnel have demonstrated exceptional commitment, resilience, and professionalism in the face of evolving operational demands. As our communities continue to rely on us during their most critical moments, we have strengthened our readiness and advanced our health and safety initiatives to ensure that every responder is mentally and physically prepared to serve at the highest level.

We are very excited about our new partnership with Occupational Health Provider, Worksite Wellness. This partnership allows us to continue to prioritize our commitment to health and wellness as they will be handling a multitude of services for us. Specifically, they will oversee:

- **NFPA 1582 Annual Physicals** - exams to catch health issues early, support firefighter wellness, reduce line-of-duty injuries or deaths. In short, NFPA 1582 compliant physicals help keep firefighters fit for duty and communities safe.
- **New Hire Exams** - given prior to hiring a firefighter to make sure they are physically and medically able to safely perform the demanding duties of the job.
- **DOT Exams** -A required medical exam for firefighters who operate certain large or commercial vehicles. It confirms the firefighter is healthy enough to safely drive apparatus, focusing on vision, hearing, heart health, and conditions that could affect safe driving.
- **Workers Comp Injuries** - A medical evaluation after a firefighter is injured on duty. Its purpose is to assess the injury, guide treatment, document work-related causes, and determine when the firefighter can safely return to full or modified duty.

I am proud of the progress we have made and grateful for the unwavering dedication of our team including Lieutenant Ferguson, Lieutenant Didenko, Lieutenant Suriano, Lieutenant Poynor and FF/PM Steven Walter. Together, we will continue to uphold the highest standards of service and safety in the year ahead.



EMS

The year 2025 continued the trend of increasing medical call volume across our district. In response, our department maintained our commitment to ensuring that every resident receives exceptional, timely, and compassionate care. We achieve this through data driven decision making and simulated training of real-world medical scenarios with hands-on exercises, which is provided through Southern Fox Valley EMS System, located in Northwestern Delnor Hospital. Elburn Fire is licensed through the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to provide both Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) care.

Elburn remains deeply invested in developing the knowledge and skills of our personnel. We achieve this by helping our part-time staff to become paramedics. Each student has a primary preceptor.
These preceptors dedicate countless hours to their students by personal mentoring, skill developing, and practical application in emergencies. We would like to extend sincere appreciation to all our paramedic preceptors.

- Successfully conducted in-system testing for 14 EMT-Basics, many of whom were graduates of our Fire Academy or our in house EMT-B class.
- Celebrated the graduation of five members from Paramedic School:
- Three from the Delnor Hospital Paramedic Program
- Two from the Kishwaukee Hospital Paramedic Program



2025 PARAMEDIC GRADUATIONS & EMT CLASSES

Currently, three members are enrolled in the 2025 Delnor Hospital Paramedic Program, continuing our tradition of supporting advancement in pre-hospital medicine.

Through continuous education, proactive planning, and the adoption of modern medical technology, we are confident in our ability to continue providing the highest standard of care to the Elburn and Countryside community

FITNESS

The fitness committee had a successful year with new fitness challenges, group workouts, and community events.

On May 26, 2025 (Memorial Day) multiple members participated in a “Hero WOD” called The Murph. This is a strenuous workout that is completed around the world in honor of and memory of Navy Lieutenant Michael Murphy, who was killed in Afghanistan in 2005. Members both on and off shift participated and then joined together for a Memorial Day BBQ.



MEMORIAL DAY “HERO WOD”

September 14, 2025 the ECFPD and Local 4749 worked together to host their very first 5K. FF/PM Kim Wiegert was the mastermind of the vision to host a 5K to bring awareness to Suicide Prevention and Awareness. It was decided that the proceeds would benefit the Illinois Firefighter Peer Support Group.

ECFPD & LOCAL 4749 INAUGURAL RUN FOR TOMORROW

Through hard work, organization, and the efforts of the members of the Fire Department, the 5K was a great success. We received many generous donations and sponsorships from the community. We are incredibly grateful for the 297 runners that registered for the first inaugural Run For Tomorrow and raised $12,000 - the largest single donation IL Firefighter Peer Support has ever received! We are incredibly proud and looking forward to running for a purpose again on September 13, 2026 - Save the Date!



DONATION TO ILLINOIS FIREFIGHTER PEER SUPPORT



HIGHLIGHTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ELBURN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2025

2025 was a year full of noteworthy moments to celebrate, be it welcoming new members, accomplishments of current personnel or visits from old friends to name a few.


RETIREES RETURN FOR THE DEDICATION OF THE BADGE WALL


CELEBRATING A CARDIAC ARREST PATIENT'S RECOVERY

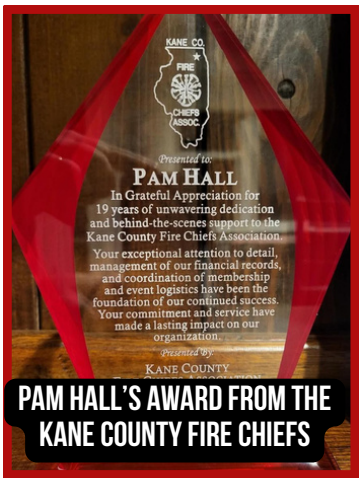

RETIRED CHIEF STRAUSBERGER & HIS WIFE, ALVERNA, JOINED THE CREWS FOR LUNCH


SWEARING IN OF FF/PM JON OLSON


SWEARING IN OF K9 CINDER


CINDER CELEBRATING WITH FRIENDS


PIONEERING FAMILIES FROM ELBURN HONORED WITH STREET NAMES:
REYNOLDS STREET
HALL ROAD
CALLAGHAN WAY



PAM HALL'S AWARD FROM THE KANE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS


5TH ECFPD ANNUAL TURKEY BOWL FEATURED BLACK SHIFT VS. GOLD SHIFT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Elburn & Countryside Fire Protection District would like to thank the Board of Trustees and the Board of Commissioners for their unwavering support and all of our members who contributed to making 2025 another successful year.

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

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