



# ZION FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

## 2015 Annual Report



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# CITY OF ZION

City Clerk—Diane Burkemper

## **Fire & Police Commission**

Debrah Lewis  
John Idleburg  
Shawn White



**Mayor**  
Al Hill



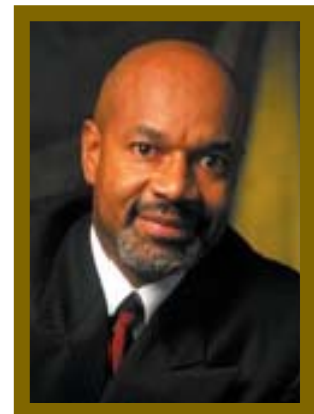
**Commissioner**  
Lloyd DiTienne



**Commissioner**  
Richard Frierson



**Commissioner**  
Mike McDowell



**Commissioner**  
Billy McKinney

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

It shall be the function of the Fire and Rescue Department and the duty personnel thereof to prevent and extinguish accidental or destructive fires occurring in the City, to provide emergency medical treatment to those persons in need in the City, to transport such persons, when necessary, to a hospital, and to enforce all ordinances relating to fire hazards.

## **VISION STATEMENT**

We, as the ZFRD, are motivated to become the model of professional and efficient delivery of fire, emergency medical care, and other related services for the City of Zion, its visitors, and other fire service agencies. We strive to be a dynamic organization by continuing to improve through innovation, education, and teamwork to exceed the expectations of our customers and make Zion the place to live and visit.

## **CORE VALUES**

**Integrity** – We will hold ourselves to the highest degree of honesty, moral character, and trust to maintain the confidence among those we serve and interact and will accept the responsibility for our decisions and actions.

**Service** – We will deliver service with respect while maintaining the highest professional standards at all times among those we serve and interact.

**Reliable** – We will be committed to being proficient and effective in seeking out methods and resources to meet or exceed the expectations among those we serve and interact.

As the Fire Chief of the ZFRD, it is with great pride and accomplishment that I present to Mayor Al Hill, City Commissioners, and the citizens and visitors to the City of Zion, our Annual Report for the calendar year 2015. This report only highlights a small amount of the activities and achievements that reflect the dedication and professionalism of the personnel that make up the ZFRD.

As I look back over the last year, I am both pleased and proud of the accomplishments the department was able to attain despite shrinking budgets, increased requests for service, mandated training, fire prevention activities, and public education. Today, fire departments have to find innovative ways to embrace and implement these changes. The biggest responsibility of any municipal government is to provide for the safety of the residents and visitors they preside over. Pulling together as a team is a challenge of every organization. This year we faced significant fiscal challenges affecting all City departments. Fire department management, Local 1999, and City staff all pulled together to accomplish budget reductions while maintaining services. Utilizing the City Website and our Facebook page, we continued to promote fire prevention and life safety to a larger population without any increase in staff time. Our Facebook page has become a very popular source of information for the local community and many outside our community.

We owe it to our customers to be the best we can, to be well trained, and always be willing and able to respond when needed. Our delivery of emergency services will continue to be our top priority. In keeping with our vision statement, we will continue to be proactive, progressive, and motivated to become the model of professional and efficient delivery of fire prevention and suppression, emergency medical care, and other related services for the City of Zion, its visitors, and other fire service agencies. We strive to be a dynamic organization by continuing to improve through innovation, education, and teamwork and shall work to exceed the expectations of our customers and make Zion the place to live and visit.

To Mayor Al Hill, Commissioners Lloyd DeTienne, Richard Frierson, Mike McDowell, and Billy McKinney, on behalf of the members of the ZFRD, and myself, I extend my thanks and gratitude for your support and service to the City. For those who have the opportunity to read this Annual Report, I hope it provides a glimpse into the daily operations of the ZFRD. We welcome visitors who wish to learn more about the fire department and the service we provide. Feel free to stop by and see us sometime!

Finally, it is my privilege to serve the City of Zion as Fire Chief. Our accomplishments are only possible through the efforts of our greatest asset, the members of the ZFRD. It is to each of them that I also express my gratitude. Please visit our section on the City of Zion web page or look us up on Facebook at "Zion Fire-Rescue Department." Feel free to stop by anytime for a tour of the station, to see our apparatus, or to just ask a question related to fire and life safety. We welcome visitors who wish to learn more about the fire department and the service we provide. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via e-mail at [johnl@zion.il.us](mailto:johnl@zion.il.us) or call me at (847) 746-4042.



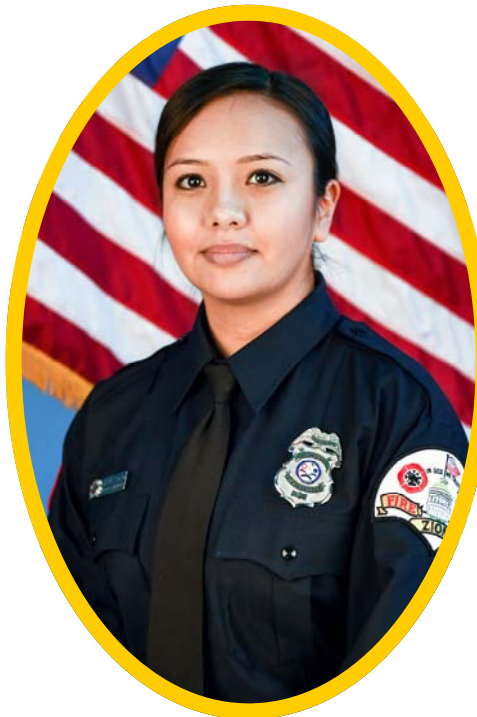
# Personnel



# Retirements and New Hires



***FF/PM Dan Reich retired after 15 years of service. FF/PM Reich served from June 2000-July 2015.***



***FF/PM Sarai Soto was hired as a fulltime member in May 2015. FF/PM Soto previously served the department as a paid on premise member since May 2014.***



# Station One Apparatus





# Station Two Apparatus




The inspection, testing, preventive maintenance, replacement schedule and emergency repair of all apparatus fall under the guidance of Lieutenant Rocky Campanella. It is critical that all of our apparatus are ready and reliable to respond to emergency incidents. Maintenance is a combination of in-house daily checks as well as preventive maintenance and repairs conducted by the City of Zion Public Works fleet maintenance division. Typically the life expectancy of our apparatus is shown below. The determining factor for replacement is based on actual use and reliability. The City budget also plays a large role in the replacement schedule based on the cost replacement. Listed next to the lifespan is the average replacement cost for Zion apparatus at today's market. Exact costs are based on options and customization by individual fire departments.

<u>Apparatus Type</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Replacement Cost</u>
Ambulance:	5 years frontline, 5 years in reserve	\$175,000
Ladder Truck:	15 years frontline, 5 years reserve	\$1.5 million
Engines:	12 years frontline, 8 years in reserve	\$500,000

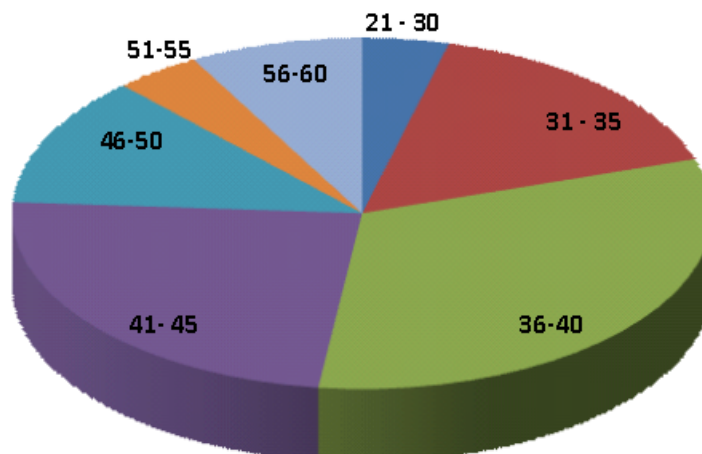


# 2015 Lake County Call Volume

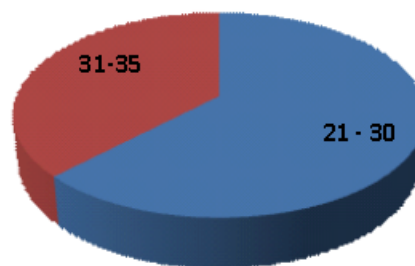
 <b>Lake County, IL Fire Departments / Districts</b> <b>Call Volume Summary</b>				
#	Agency	2015	2014	+/- (14-15)
1	Abbott / AbbVie	659	723	-64
2	Antioch	2,712	2,718	-6
3	Barrington	1,851	1,778	73
4	Barrington-Countryside	1,979	1,664	315
5	Beach Park	1,344	1,430	-86
6	Buffalo Grove	4,814	5,116	-302
7	Cary	2,011	2,165	-154
8	Countryside	4,376	4,380	-4
9	Deerfield-Bannockburn	2,766	2,765	1
10	Fox Lake	3,663	3,547	116
11	Fox River Grove	657	622	35
12	Grayslake	3,659	3,644	15
13	Great Lakes	3,673	4,083	-410
14	Gurnee	6,166	5,959	207
15	Highland Park	4,899	5,220	-321
16	Highwood	1,293	1,090	203
17	Knollwood	521	630	-109
18	Lake Bluff	603	625	-22
19	Lake Forest	3,079	3,288	-209
20	Lake Villa	2,830	2,747	83
21	Lake Zurich	3,916	4,071	-155
22	Libertyville	4,275	3,983	292
23	Lincolnshire-Riverwoods	3,077	3,013	64
24	Long Grove	1,537	1,585	-48
25	Mundelein	3,129	2,995	134
26	Newport Township	1,187	1,056	131
27	North Chicago	2,639	2,731	-92
28	Round Lake	4,630	4,613	17
29	Wauconda	4,043	3,874	169
30	Waukegan	10,792	10,751	41
31	Wheeling	4,463	4,694	-231
32	Winthrop Harbor	928	947	-19
33	Zion Fire	4,170	4,234	-64
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>		<b>102,341</b>	<b>102,741</b>	<b>-400</b>

# Personnel Statistics

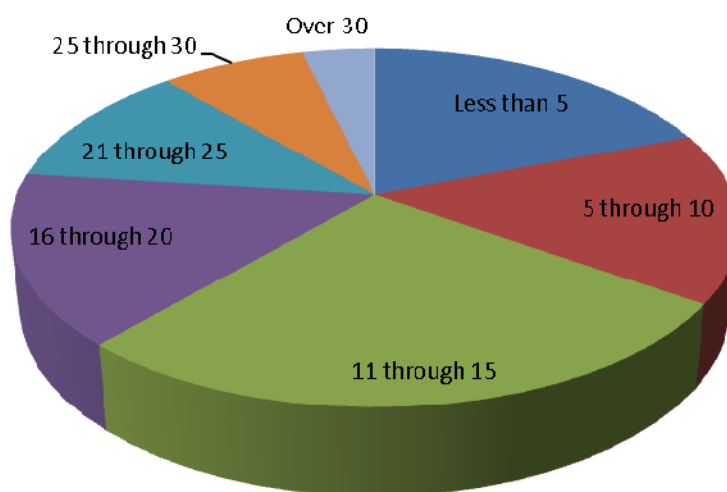
Full Time Age Range



Paid on Premise Age Range



Personnel Years of Service



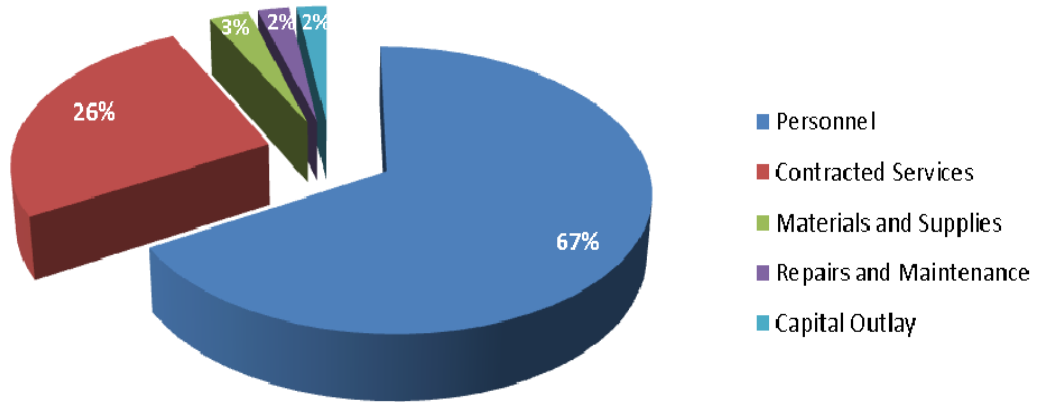


# Department Statistics

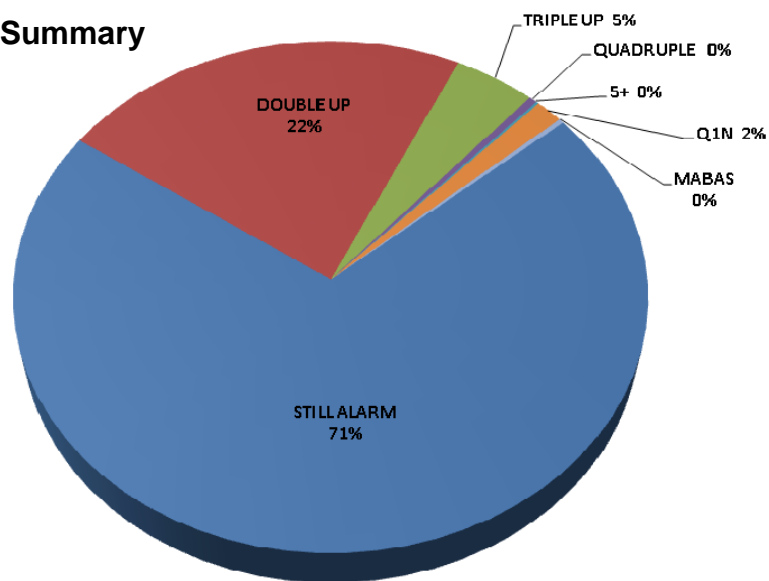
## FY16 Fire Department Budget

May 1, 2015 - April 30, 2016

\$3, 979, 038

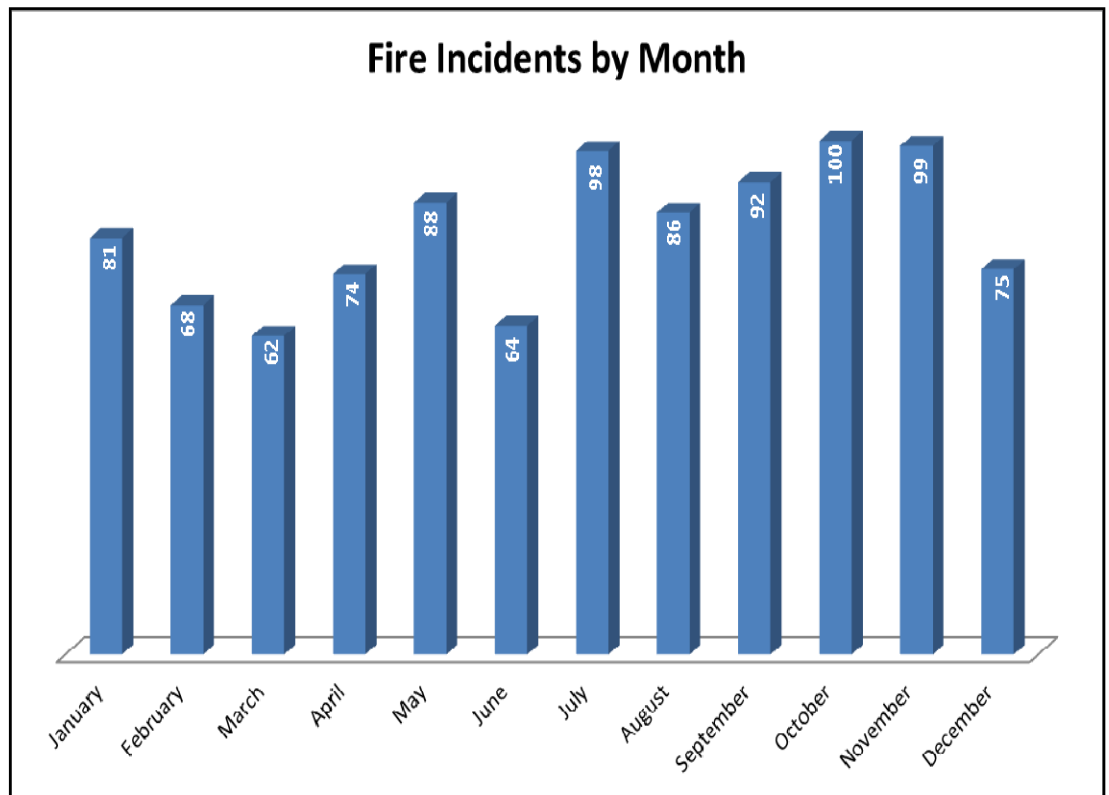
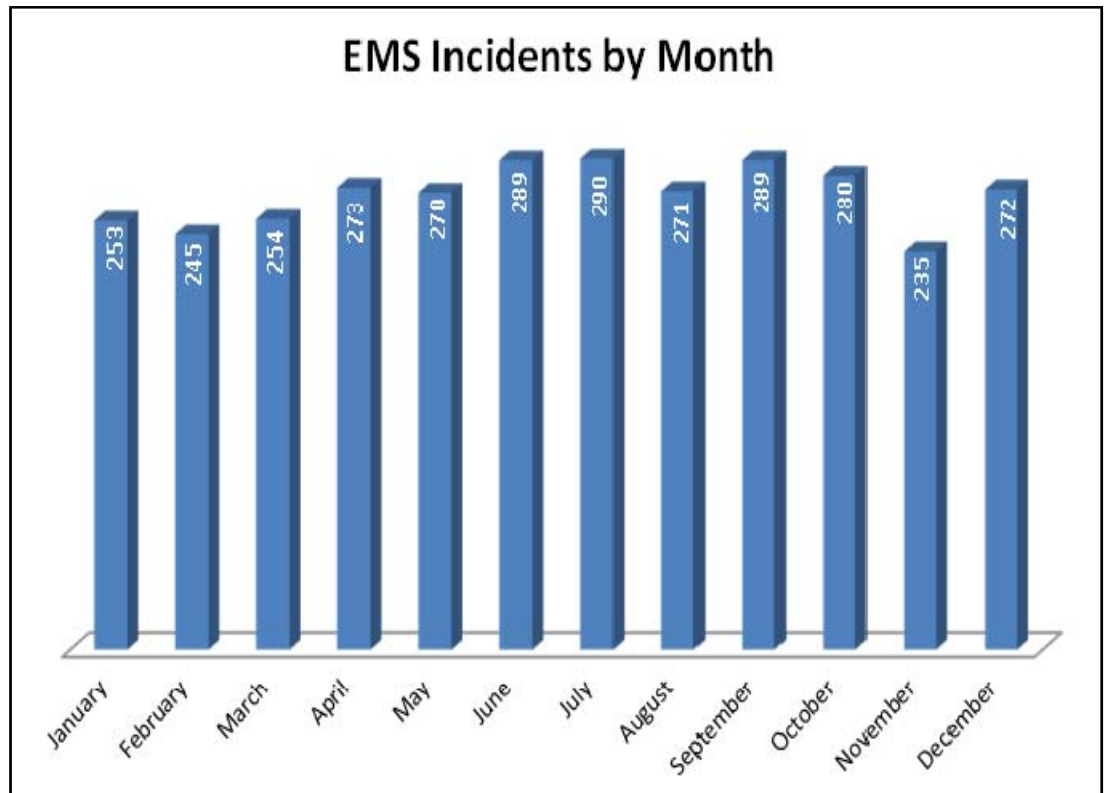


## Type of Alarm Summary



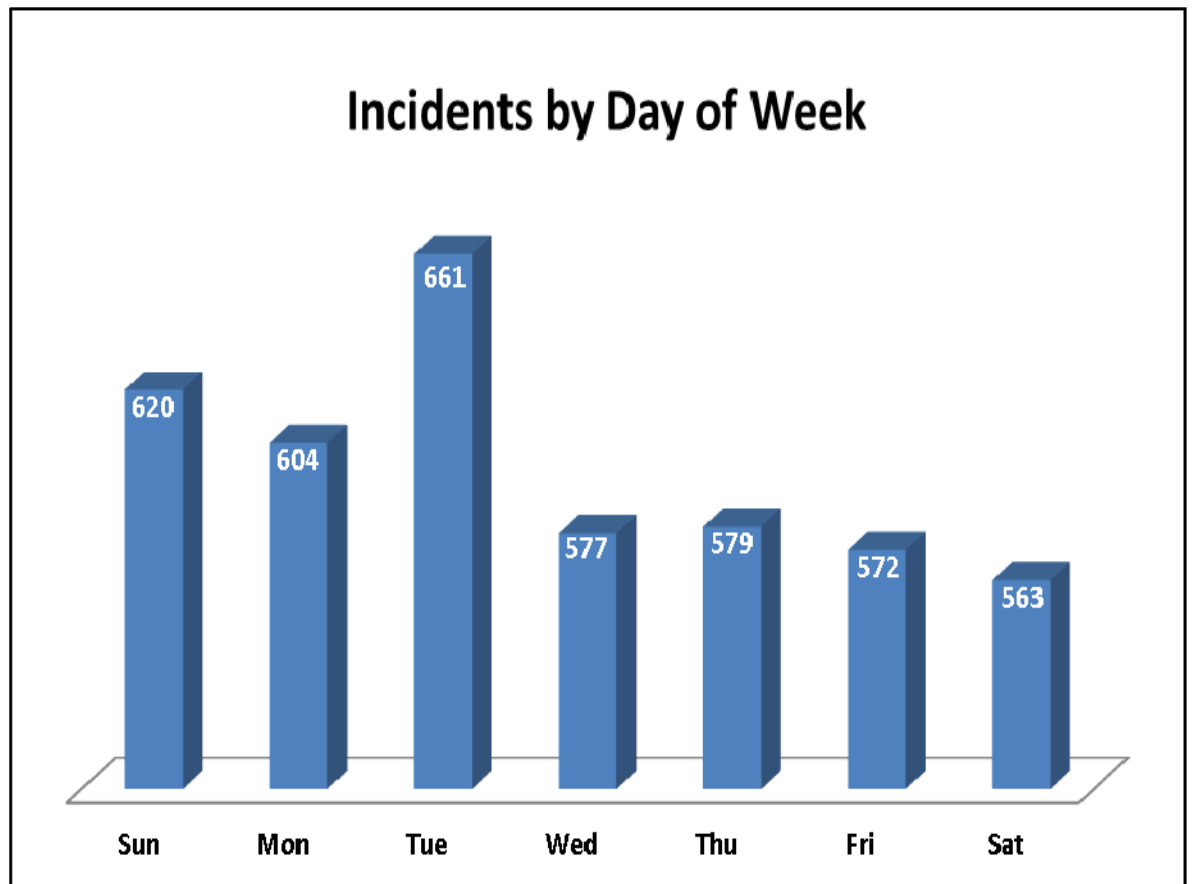
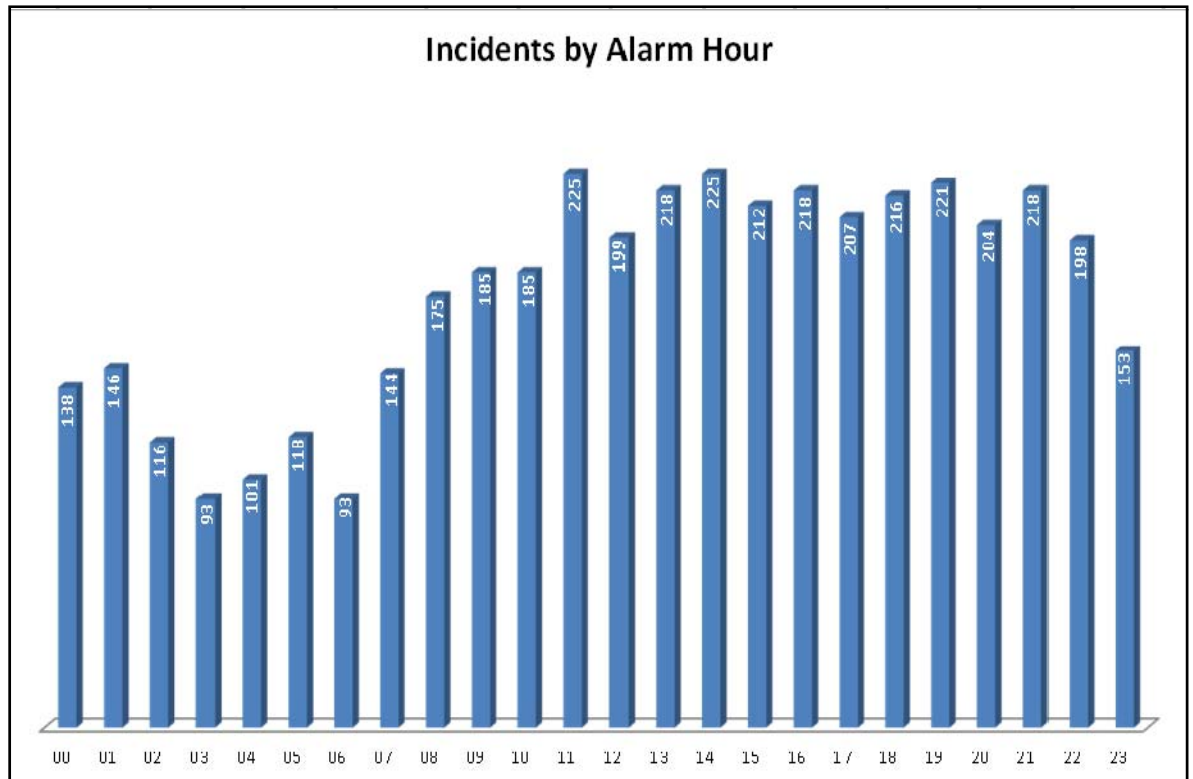
STILL ALARM: One call  
 DOUBLE UP: Two calls simultaneously  
 TRIPLE UP: Three calls simultaneously  
 QUADRUPLE: Four calls simultaneously  
 5+: Five calls simultaneously  
 Q1N: Beach Park, Newport, Pleasant Prairie, Winthrop Harbor, and Zion  
 MABAS: Mutual Aid Box Alarm System response

# Response Statistics

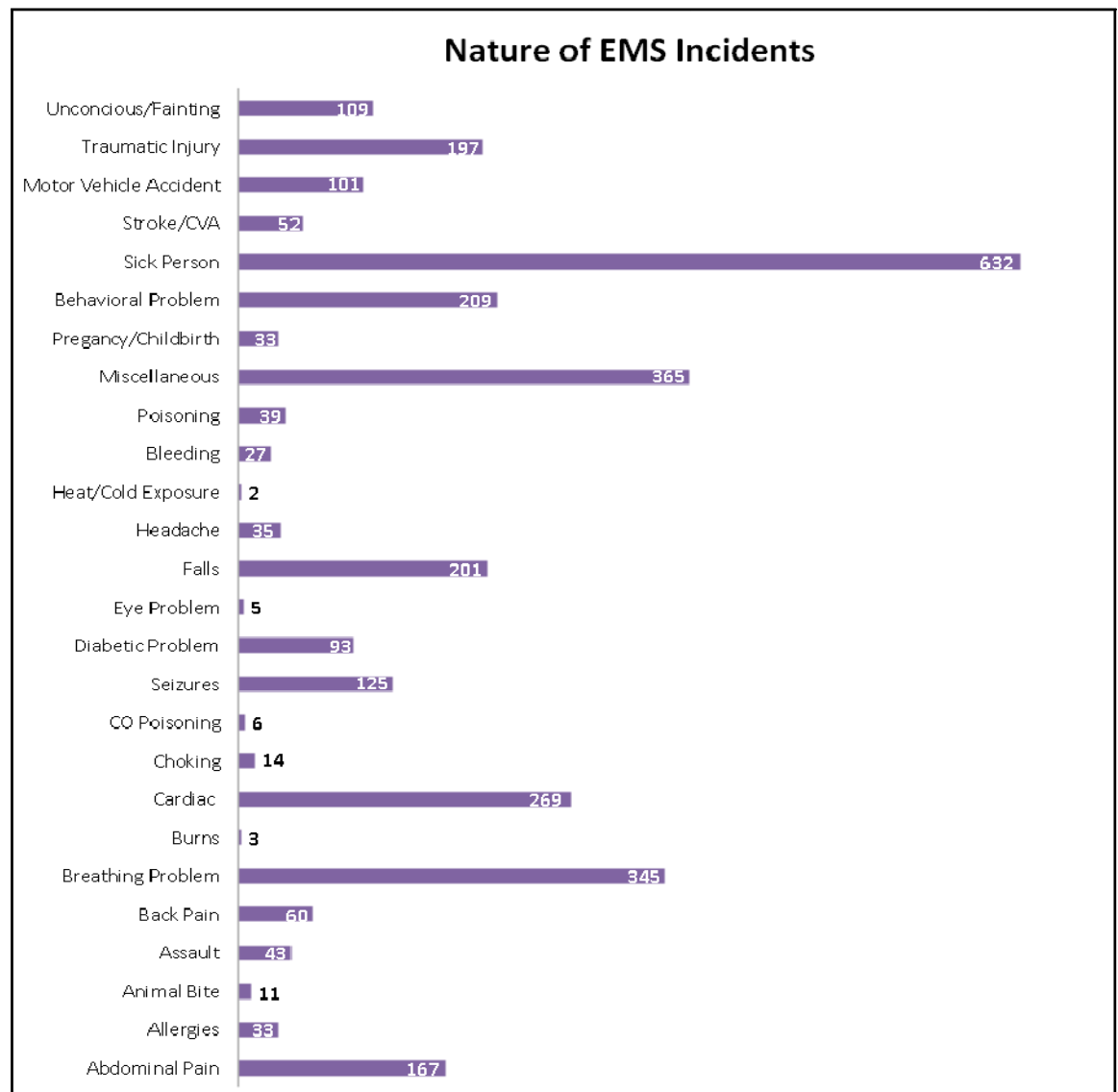
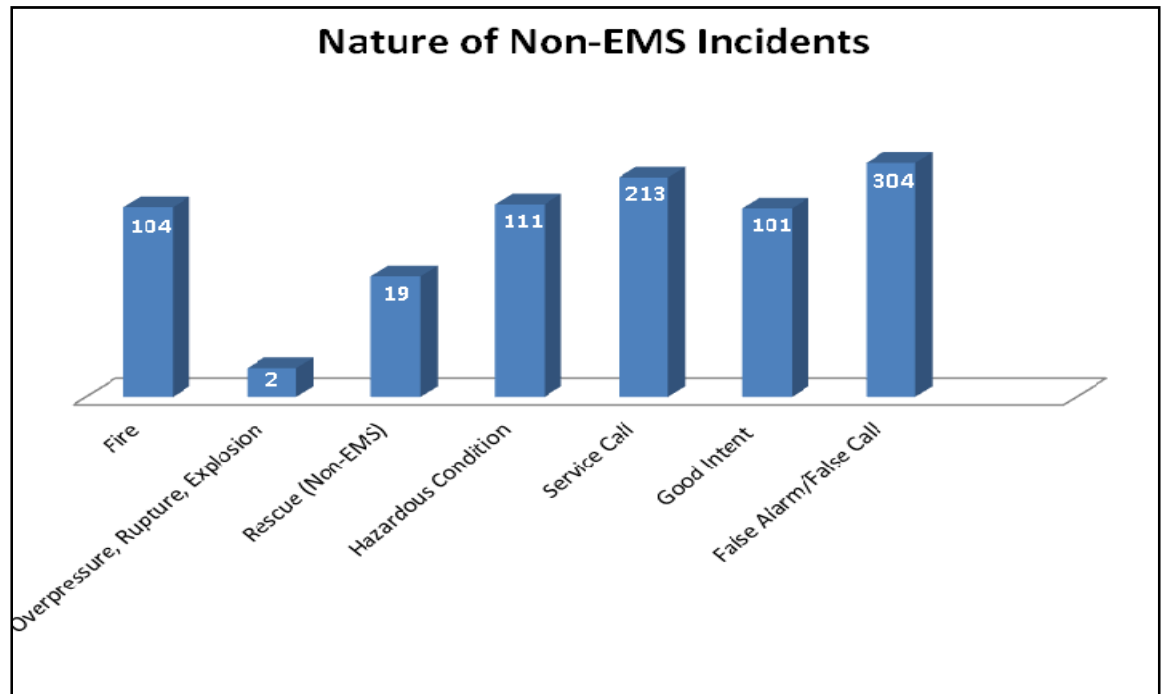




# Response Statistics



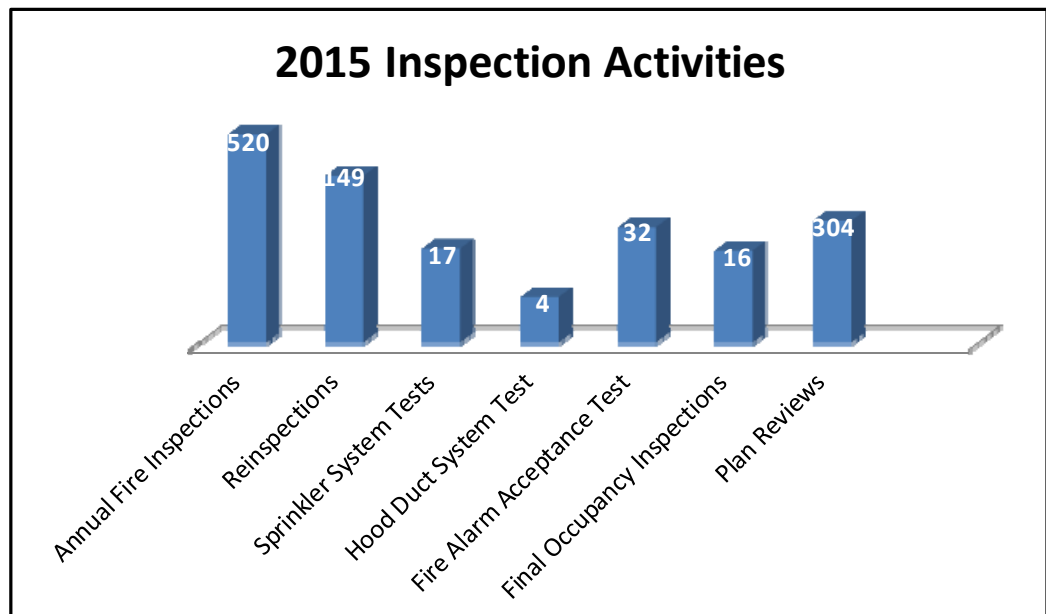
# Nature of Incidents





# Fire Prevention Bureau

Fire prevention services are provided to the residents and visitors of Zion through the Fire Prevention Bureau overseen by the Fire Chief who also serves as the Fire Marshal. Nearly everyone who lives in, works in, or visits Zion is positively impacted by the bureau's services. All places of employment and multi-family residential buildings with greater than 3 units are inspected by the bureau. The Bureau is also responsible for inspections on all new construction, for certificates of occupancy, plan reviews, fire systems testing as well as general code compliance. Inspections and plan reviews are conducted by on-duty personnel as part of their shift responsibilities.



# Fire Training



ZFRD staff attended over 100 classes totaling 1,329 hours of training in 2015

Fire Training must conform to requirements of the following agencies:

- ZFRD/City of Zion
- Illinois Department of Labor
- Insurance Services Office
- Occupational Health & Safety Agency
- Office of the State Fire Marshal

Staff attend approximately 8 classes monthly led by shift trainers. Training can be video, classroom, hands-on, or combination and is coordinated by our training officer, Battalion Chief Alan Eppers. He is responsible for planning, outlining, scheduling, administering, and evaluating courses and classes.



# EMS Training

Each staff member must attend a minimum of 30 hours of EMS continuing education annually to remain certified as a paramedic. Continuing Education consists of in-house training and outside instruction from the North Lake County EMS System at Vista Health. As in our fire training, our EMS training can be video, classroom, hands-on, or combination and is coordinated by our medical officer, Lieutenant Jason Messick. As the medical officer, Lt. Messick is responsible for all aspects of our EMS program including training, coordination with the North Lake County EMS System, quality assurance and delivery of service.





# Public Education

Our Public Education program is coordinated by Lt. Mark Klamut. The goal of our public education program is to reach out to the community and promote safety methods related to fire and rescue services. Many of the programs we deliver or assist with include but are not limited to:

- Fire safety talks for every Kindergarten through fourth grade student in Zion Schools
- Annual Open House
- Station tours
- Career fairs
- Health fairs
- Lake County Fire Expo
- Blood drives
- Car seat installations
- Block parties
- Community CPR classes
- Fire extinguisher training
- Smoke/CO Detector Program
- Internships with the Lake County High School Technology Campus

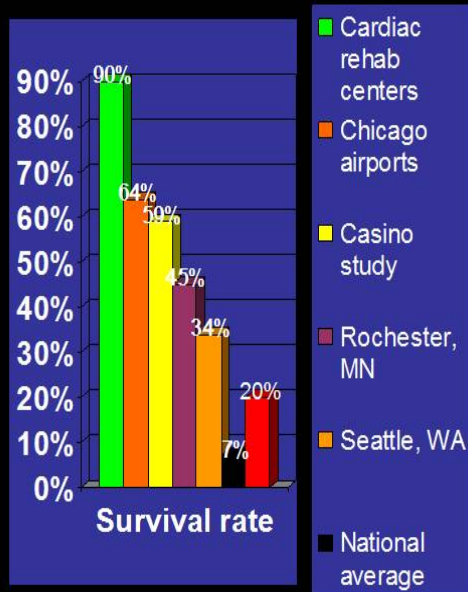


Find us on  
**Facebook** at Zion Fire-Rescue Department

Website: [www.cityofzion.com/fire-rescue-department](http://www.cityofzion.com/fire-rescue-department)

# CPR Program

## Why is early CPR and Defibrillation so important?



- Nationally less than 7% now survive
- Time to CPR and defibrillation is critical.
- If even 20% survive, 50,000 lives could be saved each year
- More people can survive.

We urge everyone to take a CPR class. You will never know when your ability to perform CPR might save the life of a family member, friend, coworker or even a complete stranger. It is now easier than ever to learn CPR. The American Heart Association now provides internet based classes in Heartsaver CPR for the general public. You can access the American Heart Association courses at [www.onlineaha.org](http://www.onlineaha.org).

After completing the eLearning course that best fits your needs, please call the Zion Fire and Rescue Department to schedule the appropriate skills test. The skills test will take approximately one (1) hour. The skills testing will cost \$35 and once completed successfully, we will process the paperwork for you to obtain your CPR card.

**To schedule a skills test, please call  
(847) 746-4038 during business hours.**



# ZBTHS Transitions Crew

As part of our ongoing efforts to support the City of Zion and provided services outside the normal day to day operations of the fire department, we have partnered with the Zion Benton Township High School to provide the students in their Special Education Transition program. This partnership gives the students an opportunity to learn work skills and life skills that will support their transition into adulthood. It is through this program that the students acquire the skills to secure and maintain employment after they leave high school.

Under the supervision of Kim Thorn, Vocational Coach, ZBTHS students work at the fire station twice per week. They help with station and apparatus cleaning. Additional time is provided to teach the students skills and responsibilities of being a firefighter/paramedic.





# Frequently Asked Questions

## Have you ever wanted to ask.....

### **Why does a fire truck come when you call for an ambulance?**

Every sworn member of the Zion Fire and Rescue Department is also cross-trained as a paramedic. There has been much advancement in the field of pre-hospital medicine over the years and paramedics can now perform many additional life saving techniques than in early years. On critical calls, an engine will accompany the ambulance to provide an additional two paramedics to assist with patient care allowing the paramedics to deliver effective care more rapidly. Additionally, the layout of many homes may require additional staff to safely remove the patient by navigating around furniture and up and down stairs. Some responses may require a third paramedic to transport a patient to the hospital and the initial response of an engine with the ambulance eliminates critical time waiting for additional help to arrive to drive the ambulance to the hospital.

### **What is the difference between a fire truck and a fire engine?**

Although most people consider the vehicle we respond on as "fire trucks", there is actually a difference between each. A fire truck, also known as a ladder or aerial truck, carries multiple ground ladders of varying length and purpose and is usually used to reach upper floors of buildings. You will usually find a hydraulic ladder attached to the top of the truck which can reach as high as 105 feet. A truck typically carries rescue equipment for forcible entry, numerous power tools such as chain saws, ventilation fans, and lighting equipment. Most trucks do not carry water or hose.

A fire engine, also known as a fire pumper, carries thousands of feet of fire hose, nozzles, hose couplings and other equipment. It also carries up to 750 gallons of water in a tank for a quick attack on a fire which is critical to fire control until they can establish a dedicated water supply from a fire hydrant. It can also carry various tools, fans, and equipment that may be used on various incidents.

### **Why do you leave fire apparatus idling when they are parked outside?**

The fire engines and ambulances carry a wide array of very important equipment that we use to treat patients, fight fires and communicate with each other. Many of these items, especially the medications and medical devices we carry, would be subject to damage in certain temperature extremes. In the summer it is necessary to keep these items cool and in the winter it is necessary to keep them warm to ensure that the electronic equipment will operate properly and the medications are not affected by dramatic temperature changes. In addition, a large number of items on the fire engines and ambulances require a constant charge to guarantee optimal and prolonged use. This includes but is not limited to suction units for clearing a patient's airway, thermal imaging cameras for seeing through smoke, portable radios for communication, spare batteries for cutting tools, on-board dispatch computers and flashlights for rescue operations. If the engines and ambulances are shut down completely for lengthy periods of time, without an outside power source, there is a slight possibility of them not starting again when needed. We do try to shut them down whenever the amount of time and temperature conditions will allow but these instances are less common than not and occur on a case-by-case basis. Manually shutting down each and every piece of equipment that causes a drain on the system is simply not possible. When the emergency vehicles are in the station they are always plugged into a power source to keep the equipment and batteries charged, but when the vehicles are out of the station they need to rely on the power generated by allowing the vehicles to idle or run when parked.

### **What should I do when I see or hear an emergency vehicle coming towards me when I'm driving?**

When it is safe to do so, you should pull over to the right and stop until all emergency vehicles have safely passed. If you cannot safely maneuver to the right, simply stop and stay stopped so the vehicles can go around you safely.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **Why do we block traffic lanes at accidents?**

Flashing lights and activities easily distract drivers which is dangerous for personnel working accident scenes or near roadways. In order to maintain the safety of our personnel and the patients, we block traffic lanes with our apparatus. Blocking extra lanes keep our personnel safe when they go back to the apparatus to get more equipment and help protect the victim we are trying to stabilize. Scott's Law, 625 ILCS 5/11- 907(c), mandates that when motorists are approaching a stationary authorized emergency vehicle, and the authorized emergency vehicle is giving a signal by displaying alternately flashing red, red and white, blue, or red and blue lights or amber or yellow warning lights, a person who drives an approaching vehicle shall reduce the speed of your vehicle, yield the right-of-way by changing lanes away from an authorized emergency vehicle and proceed with due regard to safety and traffic conditions.

## **Why do firefighters work 24-hour shifts?**

The 24-hour shift is a typical fire service shift. Although you can find varying schedules, most will revolve around a 24-hour on-duty cycle. This is closely related to the nature of our work and was developed for consistency among personnel and the tasks we perform. The traditional 8 hour work day would require more personnel to be on-duty to cover the three shifts. Our firefighters work a 53 hour work week which is averaged among the 24-hour on duty and 48 hour off duty schedule. This type of schedule is the most cost-effective work schedule to provide fire protection and is the most common.

## **What is a typical work day for the Zion Fire and Rescue Department?**

Personnel that work the 24-hour shift report to their assigned station by 7:00 am and will remain on duty until 7:00 am the next day. Administrative personnel work an 8 hour day, typically 8:00 am-5:00 pm, but their start and end times may vary depending on their daily schedule. The day typically starts with a morning "pass-down" where off going and oncoming shift personnel discuss items that need to be attended to. During the next couple of hours personnel conduct their daily fitness stretching, check out all of the apparatus and equipment to make sure everything is in proper working order and clean, and perform house chores such as mopping floors, cleaning bathrooms and living quarters, vacuuming carpets, making any necessary minor repairs, and washing the bay floors. Around 9:00 am, personnel participate in scheduled medical and fire training. This training can last up to 3-4 hours and will usually finish right before lunch. Lunch is scheduled between Noon and 1:00 pm. Working on individual areas of responsibility, conducting fire prevention bureau inspections, finishing any training or house chores that were not completed in the morning, conducting public education events and working out are just a sample of the activities that occur after lunch. Once all daily activities are completed, usually around 4:00-5:00 pm, personnel are free to read, study for classes, watch TV, workout, or go to bed. Although this is considered their personal time, they remain in the station and must be ready to respond to any emergency call. Any part of the daily schedule can be and often is disrupted by emergency calls. When this occurs, personnel will adjust the daily schedule to make sure all the necessary tasks are completed, if possible, before they go home the next morning.

## **Why do we see fire department crews shopping at the local stores?**

Because the crews work a 24-hour shift, they will eat their lunch and dinner at their respective stations as a group. On holidays or various occasions, both stations will get together for a meal. Personnel pay for their food out of their own pockets and share the cost. At some point during the day, personnel from each station decide among themselves what they want for lunch or dinner that day and one of the crews will make a quick trip to the grocery store to purchase food for the shift. The cost of the meals is then divided between everyone that eats. Crews at the store remain in service to respond to calls during this time. Sometimes the crews will eat a meal together at one of our local restaurants. We allow this to keep them engaged with the City of Zion. They must remain in service and available to quickly respond.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **My smoke detector is chirping, what does that mean?**

Most modern smoke detectors will chirp to alert you the batteries are low, you should replace the batteries and test your smoke detector. Smoke detectors can be purchased at any hardware or large commercial department store.

## **How often should I change the batteries in my smoke detectors?**

We recommend you change the batteries in your smoke detectors every 6 months; an easy way to remember is to change batteries when you reset your clock for daylight savings time.

## **Does the Fire Department fill fire extinguishers or dispose of fire extinguishers?**

The Zion Fire and Rescue Department does not fill fire extinguishers. If you have an extinguisher that needs refilling, you can find a local fire extinguisher business through the internet or yellow pages.

## **Can I burn leaves or have a recreation fire in my yard?**

You cannot burn construction/demolition material, treated wood and/or lumber, grass, leaves, yard waste, rubbish or other combustible materials in the City of Zion at any time. The burning of fuels for legitimate campfire, recreational and cooking purposes, or in domestic fireplaces, is allowed provided that no garbage shall be burned in such cases. Any outside fire pit used for recreational fires shall be five feet in diameter or less and 25 feet from any structure or tree line. There shall be noncombustible materials (rocks, concrete blocks, brick or similar) to identify the perimeter or a manufactured fire pit may be used. For more detail on the Open Burning Ordinance, please visit [www.cityofzion.com](http://www.cityofzion.com), Municipal Code, Section 34-58.

## **Does the fire department fill swimming pools?**

Our apparatus must stay in service and ready to respond at all times. We cannot chance being committed to filling a pool and needing the vehicle, hose and water supply for a structure fire response.

## **Why are windows broken and holes cut in roofs by firefighters?**

As a fire burns, it moves upward and outward. Breaking the windows and /or cutting holes in the roof, known as ventilating, stops the damaging outward movement and enables fire fighters to fight the fire more efficiently, resulting in less damage to structure in the long run.

## **What is the City's Insurance Services Office (ISO rating) for fire protection?**

The City of Zion is currently rated as an ISO 4. The ISO rating is an evaluation of the fire department and its ability to provide fire protection based on training, staff, water supply, communications. An extensive survey is conducted and each area above is examined closely. After an analysis of the data is conducted, an ISO rating is assigned between 1 and 10, with 1 being the highest possible rating that can be achieved. Insurance companies may choose to take into account an ISO rating when establishing the cost of premiums for customers within a jurisdiction.

## **Can I get my blood pressure taken?**

Stop by Fire Station One at 1303 27<sup>th</sup> Street and the firefighters will be able to take your blood pressure, free of charge. Please use the main door on the East side of station. You may also call (847) 746-4038 for more information or to schedule a time to come in.

**For more information on the Zion Fire and Rescue Department, visit  
[www.cityofzion.com/fire-rescue-department](http://www.cityofzion.com/fire-rescue-department)**





To learn more about information in this annual report, fire department operations, or how we may be of assistance to you or your group please contact the Zion Fire And Rescue Department at (847) 746-4038.

[www.cityofzion.com/fire-rescue-department](http://www.cityofzion.com/fire-rescue-department)