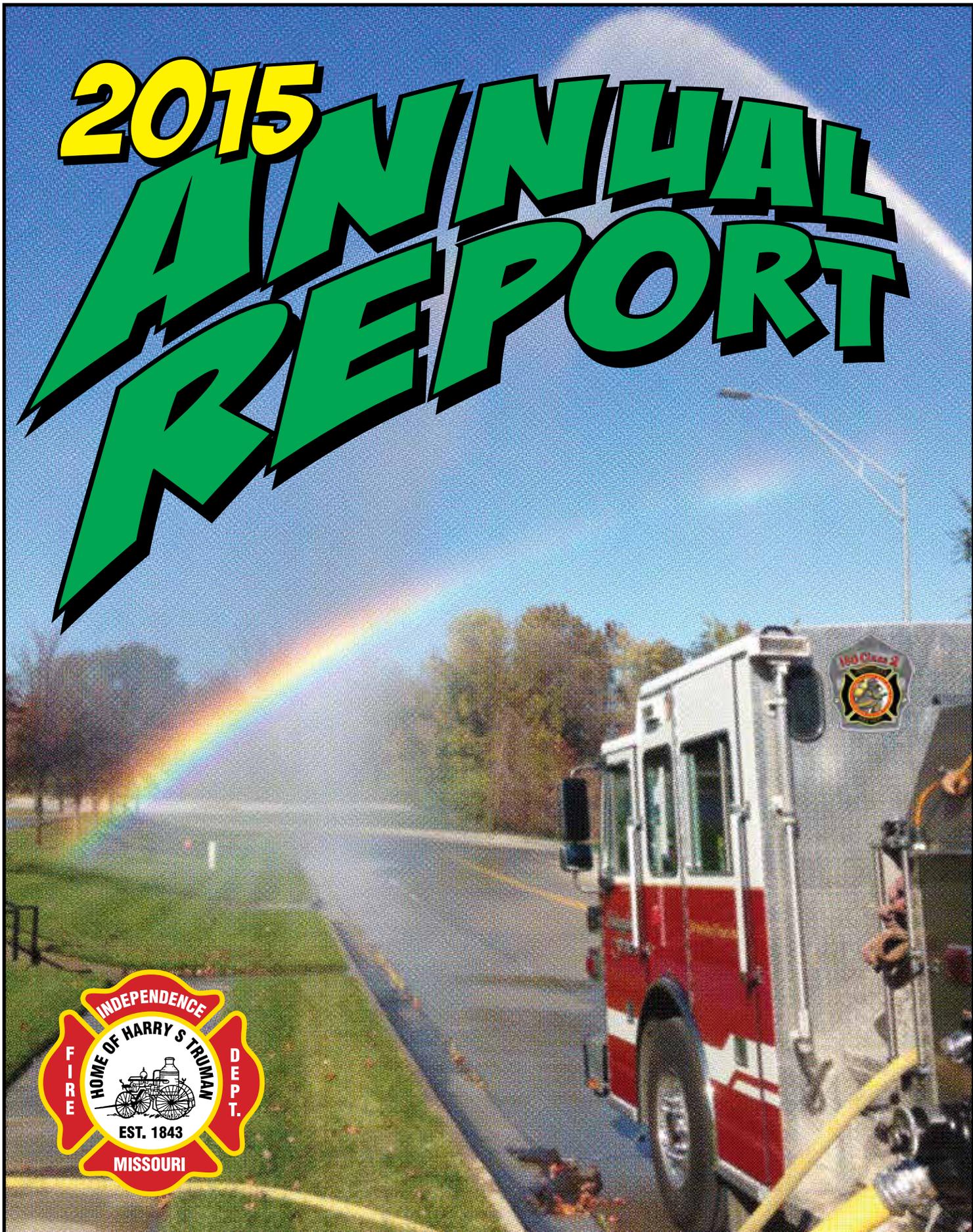


2015 ANNUAL REPORT



INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI FIRE DEPARTMENT

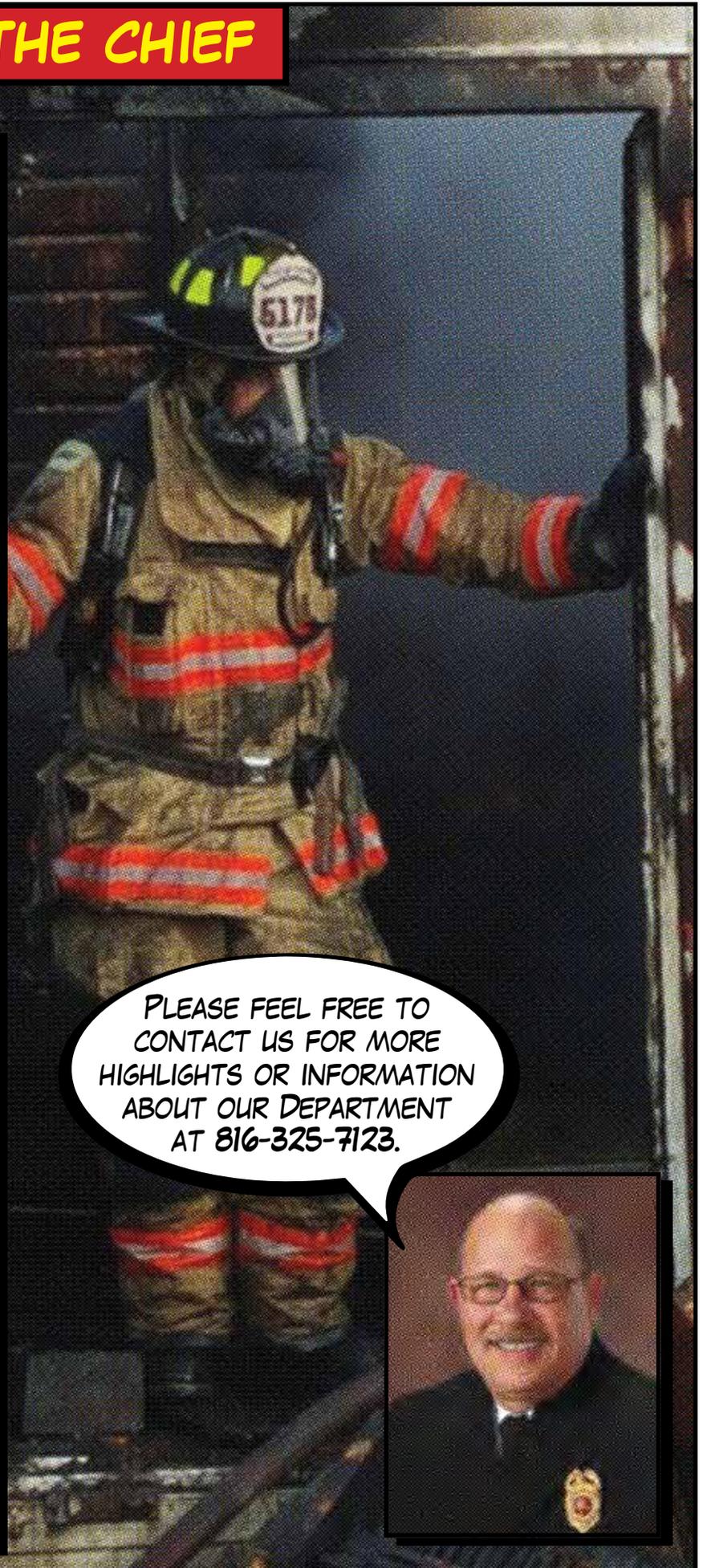
A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

IN 2015, THE INDEPENDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT WELCOMED 13 NEW FIREFIGHTERS FILLING VACANCIES LEFT BY EIGHT RETIREMENTS. PROMOTIONS IN FIRE ADMINISTRATION INCLUDED A NEW DEPUTY CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ TRAINING AND TWO BATTALION CHIEFS OF FIRE OPERATIONS.

MID-YEAR, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT SUCCESSFULLY REACHED A FIVE YEAR CONTRACT WITH THE PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS OF INDEPENDENCE LOCAL #781.

THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE EXPERIENCED SEVERAL SEVERE STORMS THAT RESULTED IN THE ACTIVATION OF THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS. THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER COORDINATED THE WORK OF SEVERAL FAITH-BASED AND VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST RESIDENTS BY CUTTING AND STACKING TREE DEBRIS AND CLEAN-UP OF THEIR PROPERTY. THE CITY RECEIVED A PRESIDENTIAL DECLARATION OF DISASTER ALLOWING RECOVERY OF DISASTER RELATED COSTS AMOUNTING TO OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

INDEPENDENCE CITIZENS APPROVED THE RENEWAL OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX. THE 1/8 CENT SALES TAX WILL BE COLLECTED BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2017 THRU DECEMBER 31, 2028. THE RENEWAL OF THIS TAX ENSURES THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S ABILITY TO PURCHASE, REPAIR AND MAINTAIN APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, STAY CURRENT WITH SAFETY STANDARDS AND UPDATE TECHNOLOGY.



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US FOR MORE HIGHLIGHTS OR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR DEPARTMENT AT 816-325-7123.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



TRAINING TO BE
READY FOR TODAY AND
THE FUTURE

1,315 PERSONNEL ATTENDED A TOTAL OF 3,207 HOURS OF SPECIALIZED TRAINING, INCLUDING ACLS AND CPR RECERTIFICATION, SKILLS ASSESSMENT, PIT CREW CONCEPT FOR CARDIAC RESUSCITATION, RESPONSE REPORTING, SUMMER/WINTER FIRE SCHOOL AND HANDS-ON-TRAINING.

39 PERSONNEL ATTENDED SPECIALIZED HANDS-ON FIREFIGHTER TRAINING. WE UTILIZE A VARIETY OF RESOURCES OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT TO EXPOSE OUR PERSONNEL TO NEW IDEAS AND TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN ORDER TO ADVANCE THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PERSONNEL.

378 PERSONNEL ATTENDED CLASSES TO INCREASE PERSONAL SAFETY AND WELLNESS.

786 PERSONNEL ATTENDED CLASSES TO RENEW CERTIFICATIONS, ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE AND LEARN NEW CONCEPTS TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF INDEPENDENCE.

105 PERSONNEL PARTICIPATED IN SKILLS ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY AND FOCUS ON SPECIFIC TRAINING AREAS.

TRAINING HOURS 2015

AUTO-AID TRAINING	1.50 HRS.
COMPANY TRAINING	18,294.32 HRS.
DRIVER TRAINING	827.76 HRS.
HAZMAT TRAINING	50.00 HRS.
MULTI-COMPANY DRILL	64.75 HRS.
NEW DRIVER TRAINING.....	41.00 HRS.
OFFICER TRAINING.....	894.08 HRS.
RECRUIT TRAINING.....	3,373.58 HRS.
SINGLE-COMPANY DRILL.....	9.00 HRS.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCY TO MAN-MADE OR NATURAL DISASTERS



THE INDEPENDENCE AND EASTERN JACKSON COUNTY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISIONS (EPD) COLLABORATES ON COMMUNITY, REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS TO PLAN, PREPARE, MITIGATE, RESPOND AND RECOVER FROM NATURAL AND MAN-MADE HAZARDS THAT THREATEN THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE.

THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER AND THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MOBILE COMMAND CENTER WERE ACTIVATED 51 TIMES IN 2015 FOR SEVERE WEATHER, RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL FIRES, EXERCISES, LARGE EVENTS AND GATHERINGS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION STRENGTHENED ITS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM THROUGH THE CREATION OF NEW LEADERSHIP POSITIONS, A VOLUNTEER HANDBOOK, ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS, JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND STANDARD OPERATING GUIDES. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION COMPLETED APPROXIMATELY 125 TRAINING SESSIONS, DRILLS AND MEETINGS. THE VOLUNTEERS IN THE EPD COMMITTED MORE THAN 11,680 HOURS TO THE PROGRAM.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION WAS ABLE TO REDUCE THE CITY'S FINANCIAL OBLIGATION TO MATCH THE SEMA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT (EMPG) AWARD BY UTILIZING VOLUNTEER IN-KIND MATCH OF \$46,214.



2015 RESPONSE BREAKDOWN

MEDICAL CALLS	12,409 / 61.51%
SERVICE CALLS	2,979 / 14.77%
CANCELLED EN ROUTE	2,904 / 14.39%
AUTOMATIC ALARMS	780 / 3.87%
OTHER CALLS	455 / 2.26%
FIRE CALLS	454 / 2.25%
FALSE ALARMS	192 / 0.95%

TOTAL 20,173 / 100%

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS/MOBILE COMMAND CENTER ACTIVATIONS

SEVERE WEATHER	38
IFD MOBILE COMMAND CENTER ACTIVATIONS	6
EXERCISES	8
LARGE GATHERINGS & EVENTS	11

VOLUNTEER HOURS

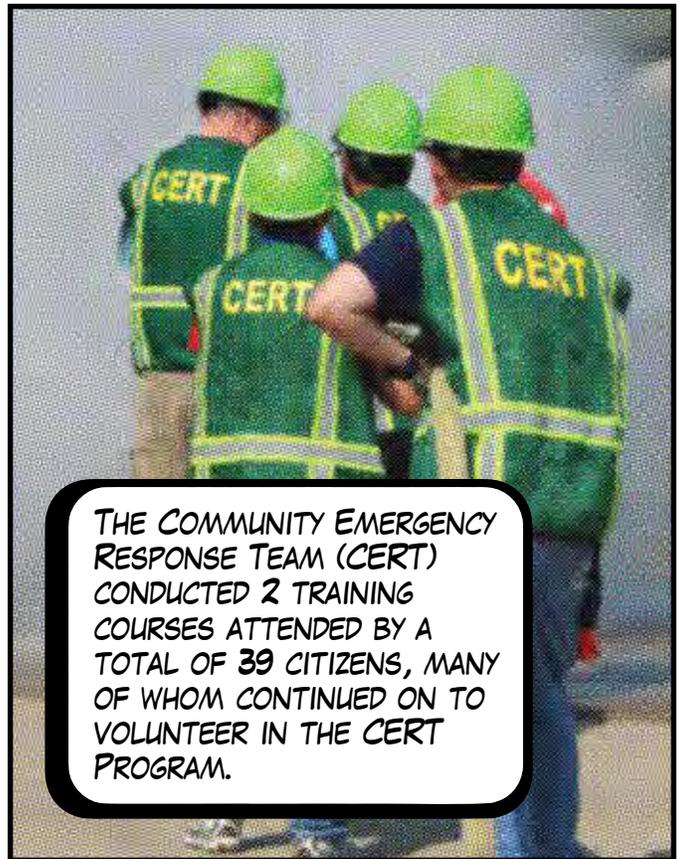
INDIVIDUAL PLANNING/TRAINING	2,460
CERT/DART	1,125
LEADERSHIP	2,863
SEVERE WEATHER/STORM WATCH	1,400
EXERCISES/EVENTS	1,607

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

LOCAL EVENTS	6
CITY COUNCIL	5
REGIONAL, STATE AND FEDERAL	65
# OF PARTICIPANTS	976

GRANT RECEIVED

EMPG	\$133,588.75
INCLUDING VOLUNTEER IN-KIND MATCH OF	\$46,214



THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) CONDUCTED 2 TRAINING COURSES ATTENDED BY A TOTAL OF 39 CITIZENS, MANY OF WHOM CONTINUED ON TO VOLUNTEER IN THE CERT PROGRAM.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION PARTICIPATED IN MULTIPLE COUNTY, STATE AND NATIONAL EXERCISES AND PLANNING SESSIONS, INCLUDING MASS CARE, CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN DISASTERS, HAZARD MITIGATION, SHOW-ME PARTNERSHIP FOR EMERGENCY HUMAN SERVICES AND VOLUNTEERISM, VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTERS WEBINARS AND THE GREAT AMERICAN SHAKE-OUT.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION HAS BEEN WORKING TO CREATE PLANS, PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2016 NATIONAL MASS CARE SHOW-ME EXERCISE WHICH IS CENTERED IN MISSOURI USING A NEW MADRID SEISMIC ZONE CATASTROPHIC EARTHQUAKE AS THE SCENARIO. INDEPENDENCE AND JACKSON COUNTY HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO BE THE MAJOR HOST COMMUNITY FOR DISPLACED EVACUEES FLEEING AN EARTHQUAKE-RAVAGED BOOTHILL REGION OF MISSOURI. IN ANTICIPATION, THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION IS ESTABLISHING SHELTER AGREEMENTS, WRITING PLANS, IDENTIFYING FEEDING SITES, LOCATING EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPLIES AND DISTRIBUTION SITES, TRAINING VOLUNTEERS AND WORKERS, ACQUIRING RESOURCES AND ENGAGING IN MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



QUALITY MEDICAL CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY

5-YEAR ALARM COMPARISON

FIRE & AUTO ALARMS

2015	1,234
2014	1,121
2013	1,017
2012	1,215
2011	1,049

SERVICE CALLS

2015	2,979
2014	2,696
2013	2,596
2012	3,024
2011	2,349

MEDICAL/RESCUE

2015	12,409
2014	10,805
2013	10,674
2012	9,607
2011	9,366

THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) DIVISION IS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING QUALITY MEDICAL CARE TO THE CITIZENS OF INDEPENDENCE. OUR EMTs AND PARAMEDICS ASSIST CITIZENS BY PROVIDING ADVANCED LEVELS OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE. THE EMS DIVISION PURCHASED STATE OF THE ART MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, PROVIDED BASIC AND ADVANCED MEDICAL TRAINING TO KEEP KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL AND PROMOTED PUBLIC EDUCATION. IN ADDITION, OVER 100 REFERRALS TO THE CITIZEN ASSIST PROGRAM (CAP) HAVE PROVIDED HELP TO CITIZENS IN NEED.

20 DOCUMENTED EMERGENCY MEDICAL LIFE SAVES.

HANDS-ONLY CPR PROGRAMS PROVIDED LIFESAVING INFORMATION TO NEARLY 1,000 CITIZENS.

PURCHASED 6 NEW BIPHASIC LIFE-PAK 15 CARDIAC MONITORS. THIS GIVES ALL 10 FIRE STATIONS THE CAPABILITY TO TRANSMIT CRITICAL PATIENT INFORMATION, SUCH AS A HEART ATTACK, TO THE HOSPITAL PRIOR TO TRANSPORTING THE PATIENT BY AMBULANCE.



5,800 HOURS OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING ENHANCING OUR EMTs AND PARAMEDICS KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS



WOW!



10-YEAR ALARM TREND

2015	20,173
2014	17,517
2013	16,956
2012	17,095
2011	16,659
2010	16,718
2009	15,633
2008	15,285
2007	14,315
2006	13,354

THE INDEPENDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS DIVISION HAS SEEN A STEADY INCREASE OF CALLS FOR SERVICE OVER THE YEARS. THIS YEAR, A NEW COMMITTEE COMPRISED OF OPERATIONS PERSONNEL AND COMMAND STAFF HAS BEGUN THE TASK OF EVALUATING OUR CALLS FOR SERVICE AND CONSIDERING VARIOUS OPTIONS FOR ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF THE EVER INCREASING NUMBER OF CALLS FOR SERVICE.

NATIONALLY, THE FIRE SERVICE HAS SEEN A MARKED INCREASE IN THE PERCENTAGE OF FIREFIGHTERS DIAGNOSED WITH VARIOUS TYPES OF CANCER. A JOINT COMMITTEE COMPRISED OF OPERATIONS AND COMMAND STAFF HAS BEEN TASKED WITH TAKING ACTION AGAINST CANCER IN THE FIRE SERVICE BY CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON THIS TOPIC. THE INTENT OF THE RESEARCH IS TO IDENTIFY STEPS THAT THE INDEPENDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT CAN TAKE TO PREVENT THIS ELEVATED RISK OF CANCER AMONG ITS PERSONNEL THROUGH CREATING POLICIES AS WELL AS IMPLEMENTING PRACTICES THAT WILL DECREASE OUR RISK OF EXPOSURE TO CANCER CAUSING AGENTS IN THE COURSE OF DUTY.

FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES



THE BEST TOOLS FOR THE JOB



THROUGH RESEARCH, ACQUISITION AND TRAINING, THE SERVICES DIVISION PLACED THE MOST EFFECTIVE EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT INTO THE HANDS OF FIREFIGHTERS IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE SAFETY AND RESULTS.

PURCHASED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR ISOLATION CONTROL TO PREVENT ANY CROSS CONTAMINATION IN THE EVENT OF CRITICAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

30 NEW PORTABLE RADIOS PLACED IN SERVICE AS PART OF RADIO REPLACEMENT PLAN. THIS IS A PHASED PLAN TO REPLACE PORTABLE AND MOBILE RADIOS PRIOR TO THE END OF THEIR SERVICE LIFE.

PURCHASED OVER 2,000 FEET OF HOSE TO REPLACE AGING HOSES.

ONE PUMPER WAS REMOUNTED ON A NEW CHASSIS AND PLACED IN SERVICE.

PURCHASED NEW SOFTWARE TO ALLOW TRACKING OF VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT INVENTORY AND MAINTENANCE.

2015 INDIVIDUAL COMPANY RESPONSES

PUMPER 1	3,555
PUMPER 2	3,001
PUMPER 3	3,285
QUINT 4	2,276
PUMPER 5	2,789
PUMPER 6	1,789
QUINT 7	2,319
PUMPER 8	348
PUMPER 9	237
PUMPER 10	1,565
HAZMAT 1	16
RESCUE 1	1,649
RESCUE 2	1,846
RESCUE 8	179
SPECIAL RESCUE	41
TRUCK 1	817
TRUCK 2	974

2015 DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TIMES

	2013	2014	2015
AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME IN MINUTES FROM DISPATCH TO ARRIVAL	5.21	5.39	5.05
PERCENTAGE OF STRUCTURE FIRES CALLS RESPONDED TO IN UNDER SIX MINUTES	88%	82%	85%
PERCENTAGE OF EMERGENCY EMS CALLS RESPONDED TO IN UNDER SIX MINUTES	81%	81%	81%



2015 INCIDENT CATEGORIES

FIRE CALLS 454

COMMERCIAL 21

PUBLIC ASSEMBLY 6
 SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES 0
 HEALTH CARE/PENAL 1
 STORES AND OFFICES 6
 INDUSTRY/UTILITY 1
 STORAGE STRUCTURES 6
 OTHER STRUCTURES 1

RESIDENTIAL 179

PRIVATE DWELLINGS 124
 APARTMENTS 40
 HOTELS/MOTELS 5
 ALL OTHER RESIDENTIAL 10

OTHER FIRES & INCIDENTS 254

HIGHWAY VEHICLE 38
 OTHER VEHICLES 32
 NON STRUCTURE/NON VEHICLE 20
 BRUSH/GRASS/WILDLAND 43
 RUBBISH/DUMPSTERS 96
 ALL OTHER FIRES 25

MEDICAL 12,409

INCLUDES MEDICAL, VEHICULAR WITH INJURIES, VEHICULAR UNKNOWN INJURIES, EXTRICATIONS AND MEDICAL SEARCH AND RESCUE

ALL OTHER RESPONSES/ SERVICE CALLS 2,979

INCLUDES EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, CARBON MONOXIDE, EXPLOSION IN AREA, GAS LEAK, GOOD INTENT CALL, LOCK OUT, SERVICE CALLS, ODOR INVESTIGATION IN AREA, SMOKE IN AREA, SMOKE/ODOR REMOVAL, WEATHER-RELATED INCIDENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS

DISPATCHED/CANCELLED EN ROUTE 2,904

HAZMAT RESPONSES 224

OTHER HAZARDOUS RESPONSES 205

POWER LINES DOWN, ELECTRICAL WIRING PROBLEMS, SHORTAGE AND ARCING

FALSE ALARMS 192

AUTOMATIC ALARMS ... 780

MUTUAL AID GIVEN 26

TOTAL: 20,173

FIRE PREVENTION



FIRE PREVENTION

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
COMMERCIAL INSPECTIONS	4,992	5,529	6,048	5,955	2,985
OCCUPATION LICENSE RECEIVED	657	667	647	522	557
OCCUPATION LICENSE INSPECTIONS & RE-INSPECTIONS	712	807	803	625	722
COMPANY INSPECTIONS	2,337	2,763	2,995	2,917	827
COMPANY RE-INSPECTIONS	727	807	1,149	1,449	475
SANTA-CALI-GON INSPECTIONS	559	485	454	442	404
OTHER ACTIVITIES	737	1,101	1,181	747	857
CITIZEN REQUESTS & SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	270	452	616	275	345
BURNING PERMITS	123	93	82	68	63
UNDERGROUND TANKS REMOVED	1	2	2	0	1
BLASTING PERMITS	1	0	0	0	0
SMOKE DETECTORS DISTRIBUTED	85	274	187	96	186
ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PROJECTS	3	17	31	27	17
JUVENILE FIRE SETTER INTERVENTIONS	4	6	12	7	1
FIRE DRILLS CONDUCTED	13	12	5	3	10
FIREWORKS INSPECTIONS	234	245	246	271	234
PLAN REVIEW/CONSTRUCTION	374	300	387	339	304
PLANS/ZONING PROJECTS REVIEWED	374	300	387	339	304
INSPECTIONS - REINSPECTIONS	296	256	210	295	195
COMMUNITY EDUCATION	99	191	280	87	191
FIRE SAFETY TALKS & JOB FAIRS	99	191	280	87	191
AUDIENCE	29,723	23,365	28,354	16,520	10,423
WEBSITE VISITORS	26,423	30,546	28,163	29,293	28,723

THE FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION IS COMMITTED TO THE REDUCTION OF RISK TO LIFE AND PROPERTY WITH PLANNING AND EDUCATION THUS CREATING A SAFER COMMUNITY.

JULY 2015, FIREHOUSE SUBS HELD A DEDICATION EVENT FOR THEIR DONATION OF THE INFLATABLE FIRE SAFETY HOUSE AND FIREPUP™ PURCHASED THROUGH THEIR PUBLIC SAFETY FOUNDATION TO RAISE AWARENESS OF LIFE SAFETY AT PUBLIC EDUCATION EVENTS.

TWO INSPECTORS ATTENDED MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING & FIRE OFFICIALS CONFERENCE RECEIVING CREDITS AND FURTHERING THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF BUILDING AND FIRE CODES.

FIRE PREVENTION PARTICIPATED IN THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT CAREER FAIR TO PROMOTE AND EDUCATE THE STUDENTS ON THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A CAREER IN THE FIRE SERVICE.

WALD FIREWORKS COMPANY CONDUCTED FIREWORKS TRAINING FOR FIRE PREVENTION WHICH AIDED IN THE REORGANIZATION OF FIREWORKS INSPECTIONS.

FOUR PERSONNEL RECEIVED FIRE INSPECTOR CERTIFICATION FROM THE MISSOURI DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY.

BATTALION CHIEF OF FIRE PREVENTION GRADUATED FROM A TWO YEAR OFFICER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS.

STRUCTURE FIRE LOSS

2015	\$4,457,185
2014	\$4,269,331
2013	\$2,592,846
2012	\$5,729,821
2011.....	\$2,917,390

SMOKE DETECTORS DISTRIBUTED

2015	186
2014	96
2013	187
2012	274
2011.....	85

COOL



HONORARY FIREFIGHTER
GABRIEL HUFFMAN



MISSION STATEMENT

THE INDEPENDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL MEET THE CHALLENGES OF PRESENT AND FUTURE COMMUNITY NEEDS THROUGH PRO-ACTIVE LEADERSHIP, DEDICATION TO OUR CORE VALUES, PROVISION OF QUALITY ALL-HAZARD EMERGENCY SERVICES AND COMMUNITY RISK-REDUCTION STRATEGIES IN AN EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE MANNER.

VISION STATEMENT

TO CONSISTENTLY PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY SERVICES IN THE MOST EFFICIENT MANNER FOR OUR GROWING COMMUNITY AND BE RECOGNIZED AS A LEADER IN PROVIDING QUALITY FIRE, EMS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SERVICES.



GREAT JOB



FIRST RESPONDERS RECOGNITION AWARDS

CALL 911 FOR EMERGENCIES

FIRE ADMINISTRATION (816) 325-7123 • EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (816) 325-7133
WWW.INDEPMO.ORG/FIRE