



2014 Annual Report



*Independence, Missouri
Fire Department*

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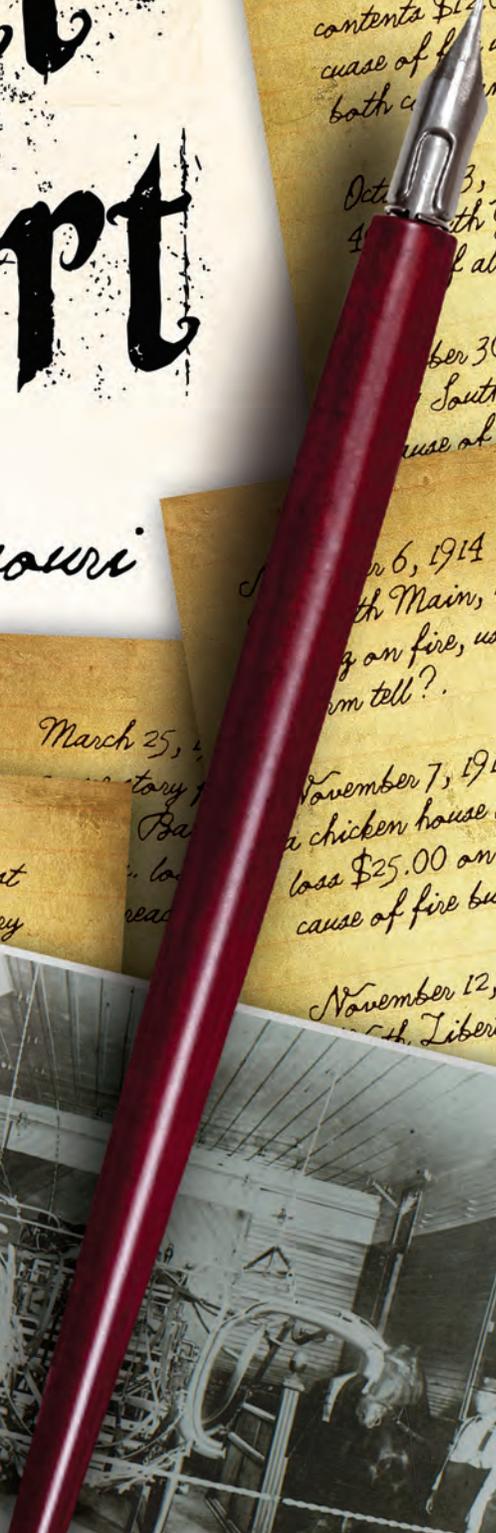
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July 24, 1914 - 3:10 PM Alarm on East
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A Letter from the Chief



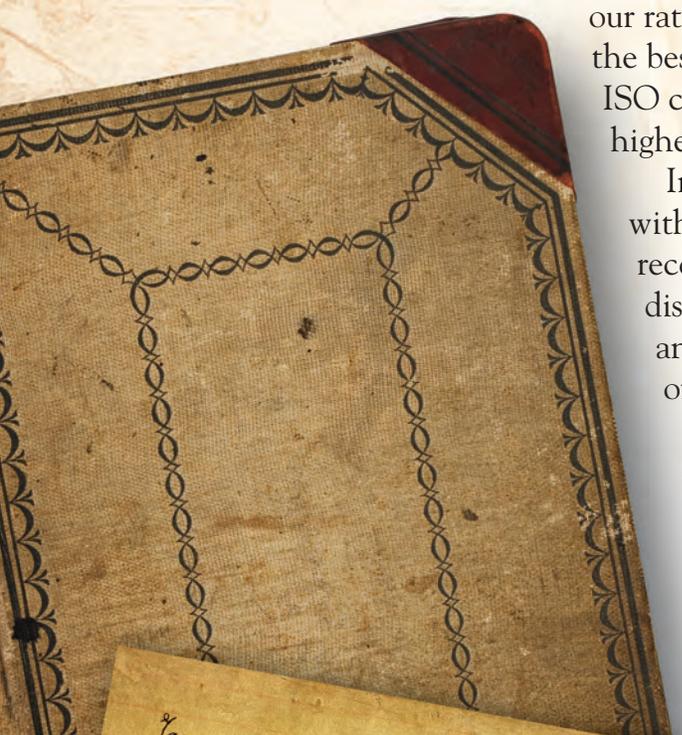
In 2014, the Independence Fire Department welcomed new Fire Chief John Greene. Promotions in Administration included a new Deputy Chief of Administration, Battalion Chief of Services, Battalion Chief of Fire Prevention and Emergency Preparedness Manager.

Early in 2014, the City of Independence was reviewed by the Insurance Services Office (ISO). This resulted in a history making accomplishment in the improvement of our ISO rating. At the beginning of this review the Fire Department ISO rating was a Class 4. After the review was completed, our rating improved to a Class 2, making this the best rating the Independence Fire Department has ever held. ISO classification rating system ranges from 1 – 10. Class 1 is the highest rating.



In response to the 2014 Ebola outbreak and in keeping with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, new personal protective equipment (PPE), training and protocols were implemented. This required the purchase of Ebola PPE kits which are now carried on all apparatus.

The items in this report are only highlights of the accomplishments and current performance of the department. If you would like more information about our department, please contact 816-325-7123.



January 4, 1914 - Alarm at County Cowthouse, loss \$5.00, cause of Alarm steam coming out of ventilation. Both Cos Responded. Alarm tell P.

January 11, 1914 - 11 AM, a one story Hardy Hatty, no loss from fire set roof on, responded. Alarm tell P.

January 12, 1914 - Alarm at the Yetter Building of alarm auming caught fire time 7:35 AM, both cos responded. Alarm tell P.

February 16, 1914 - 10:15 AM Alarm at Airline trussell, no loss, cause of alarm sinders from engine set ties on fire. Alarm tell P.

February 16, 1914 - 7:10 PM Alarm at South East Corner of Square, a 3 story brick, owned by Chris Ott, no loss, cause of alarm fire burning. Alarm tell P.

February 19, 1914 - 5:20 AM Alarm on ... frame owned and ... \$200

March 10, 1914 - 5:50 PM Alarm at ... East side Squir, no loss, ... Alarm tell P.

1914 - Alarm at Hocker & ... frame owned by L. Monroe, ... loss on house total, ... contents \$250. Ins. ... water, cause of fire un...



Professional Development - Training and Education to be Ready for Today and the Future

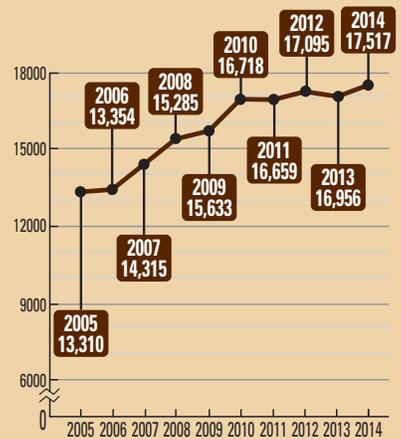
2014 marked the beginning of some new initiatives for the Independence Fire Department's Training/Professional Development Division.

- 120 personnel participated in training needs analysis testing to identify and focus on specific training areas.
- 129 personnel attended Fire Ground Operations classes incorporating new technologies and tactics in firefighting. This training provides firefighters with the latest that science and technology offers in fighting fire more safely for themselves and for the public they serve.
- 120 personnel received Trench Rescue Awareness training to increase our operational effectiveness when responding to emergencies involving trench collapse. This training enhances our ability to serve not only the community more effectively but also other departments within the City.
- 40 personnel received training focusing on State Certification for Instructor I, Instructor II, Inspector, Investigator, and Officer I certification.

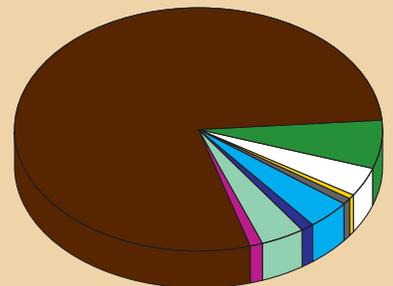


- 88 personnel received Weather Spotter training, providing firefighters with greater knowledge in recognizing various hazardous weather configurations.
- 119 personnel attended safety and firefighter training sponsored by Missouri Gas Energy. Our partnership with MGE is critical in protecting our community in the event of a gas-related emergency.
- 45 personnel attended specialized hands-on firefighter training outside the department. We access a variety of training outside the department to expose our personnel to new ideas and other organizations in order to advance the professional development of our personnel.
- In 2014, we were successful in enhancing our training partnerships with Metropolitan Community College-Blue River Campus as well as neighboring agencies by increasing our shared-use agreements.

10-year Alarm Trend



Training Hours 2014



Auto Aid	■ =	3 Hrs.
Single Company Drills	■ =	17 Hrs.
Multi Company Drills	■ =	1,312 Hrs.
HazMat Training	■ =	109 Hrs.
Driver Training	■ =	1,340 Hrs.
New Driver Training	■ =	15 Hrs.
Company Training	■ =	26,755 Hrs.
Officer Training	■ =	2,202 Hrs.
Recruit Training	■ =	1,249 Hrs.

March 29, 1914 - 6:10 AM Alarm at Boulevard Electric, no loss, cause of alarm pole on fire. Still alarm.

March 29, 1914 - 4:20 PM Alarm at 215 West Mill st, a one story frame owned and occ by West Manos, loss to house \$50, Ins on same \$600. cause of fire from flue. Alarm tell B.

April 2, 1914 - 7:40 PM Alarm at Delaware & Nettleton, no loss, cause of alarm tree on fire cause by electric light wire. Alarm tell B.



Emergency Preparedness

Emergency Operations/ Mobile Command Center Activations

Severe Weather.....	9
IFD Events.....	3
IPD Events.....	2
Hazardous Materials.....	1
Large Gatherings and Events.....	5
Exercises.....	8

Volunteer Organizations Training*

Classes/Training Sessions.....	70
Participants Trained.....	941
Exercises.....	4
Exercise Participants.....	185
Volunteer Exercise Hours.....	1,507
Volunteer Training Hours.....	13,241

Community Workshops and Presentations

Local Events.....	7
Regional, State or Federal.....	2
Participants.....	401

Grants Received

EMPG.....	\$146,575
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*Includes CERT, DART, EOC Management Team, ECS



Emergency Preparedness - Building Community Resiliency to Man-Made or Natural Disasters

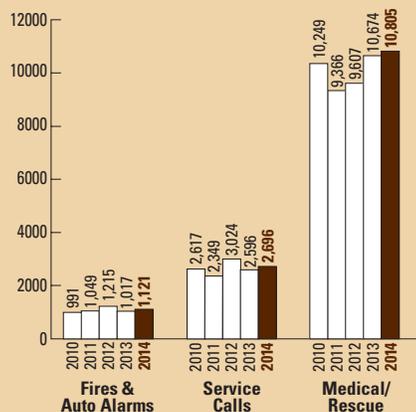
Collaborating on a Community, Regional, State and National Level to plan, prepare, mitigate, respond and recover from all risks that threaten the City of Independence.

- The Independence/Eastern Jackson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Emergency Management Mobile Command Center were activated 28 times in 2014 for severe weather, residential fires, commercial fires, hazardous materials incidents and support to the Independence Police Department.
- The Emergency Preparedness Division coordinated with Jackson County Department of Emergency Preparedness to confirm 15 disaster shelter locations. Management training was provided for more than 45 volunteers to establish and manage disaster shelter sites throughout the Independence and Eastern Jackson County area. These

facilities can shelter approximately 6,000 people displaced by disasters or emergencies, along with providing meals for more than 14,000 people. This is an effort known as Mass Care and has been an on-going, multi-year initiative in conjunction with key partners such as the American Red Cross, faith-based organizations and other partner organizations.

- A new Emergency Preparedness Manager was inducted on November 4th, 2014. The new manager has 26 years of emergency management experience at the national, state and local level.
- The Emergency Preparedness Division completed a total of 85 training sessions, drills and meetings during 2014. These sessions were conducted by volunteers and paid staff.
- The Emergency Preparedness Division provided presentations to 150 citizens through the public education program comprised of volunteer instructors, presenters and subject matter experts.

5-year Alarm Comparison



April 11, 1914 - 2:15 PM Alarm at Liberty & Ruby, two story brick, owned and occ by Adams, loss to house \$10.00 covered by laid 250 ft of hose and used one fire ext, a of fire fire spark from fire set roof on f Alarm tell P.

April 20, 1914 - 5:55 PM - Alarm at Independence Foundry on Cottage & H loss on building \$10.00 Covered by J l fire spark from a

- A 40-hour Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training course for 25 participants was sponsored by the City of Independence CERT. Within the last 10 years, over 920 citizens from the Independence area have taken this training, many of whom continue to volunteer in the CERT program.
- Continued development of the Emergency Operations Center's response capability through the installation of additional communications equipment, information/visual display technology and other technological improvements.

Emergency Medical Services - Quality Medical Care to the Community

Dedicated to providing quality emergency medical care by ensuring that all personnel are constantly trained in basic and advanced knowledge and skills, medical equipment meets or exceeds national standards for patient care and public education is provided in the form of CPR and special assistance programs.

- 5,500 hours of emergency medical

training enhancing EMT and paramedic knowledge and skills.

- Provided "Hands-Only CPR" training to more than 500 citizens, giving them simple skills to safely and adequately perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation to someone with sudden cardiac arrest.
- Completed 75 referrals to the Citizen Assist Program (CAP), a United Way funded program, to provide targeted social services to citizens in need.

Emergency Operations - Preparing and Responding to All Hazards

151 uniformed personnel, divided into three 24-hour shifts, are trained, equipped and staged in 10 fire stations located throughout the City, available to respond and provide assistance to medical, fire, hazardous materials release or situations, citizens with concerns. Personnel conduct public education demonstrations, fire inspections, stand-by at public events.

2014 Incident Categories

Fire Calls.....463

COMMERCIAL	22
Public Assembly	4
Schools and Colleges	3
Health Care/ Penal	2
Stores and Offices	3
Industry/Utility	0
Storage Structures	9
Other Structures	1

RESIDENTIAL..... 152

Private Dwellings	118
Apartments	32
Hotels/Motels	1
All Other Residential	1

OTHER FIRES & INCIDENTS..... 289

Highway Vehicle	53
Other Vehicles	30
Non Structure/Non Vehicle	25
Brush/Grass/Wildland	57
Rubbish/Dumpsters	85
All Other Fires	39

Medical 10,805

Includes Medical, Vehicular with Injuries, Vehicular Unknown Injuries, Extrications and Medical Search and Rescue

All Other Responses/ Service Calls.....2,696

Includes Explosive Devices, Carbon Monoxide, Explosion in Area, Gas Leak, Good Intent Call, Lock Out, Odor Investigation in Area, Service Calls, Smoke In Area, Smoke/Odor Removal, Weather-Related Incidents and Miscellaneous.

Dispatched and Cancelled En Route.....2,339

HazMat Responses.....200

Other Hazardous Responses..... 147

Power Lines Down, Electrical Wiring Problems, Shortage and Arcing

False Alarms..... 191

Automatic Alarms..... 658

Mutual Aid Given 18

TOTAL: 17,517

*May 9, 1914 - 9:50 AM Alarm at 330 So
a fram house occ Glenon, loss on house \$5
used one fire ext, cause of fire spark from f
of an fire. Alarm tell P.*

*May 9, 1914 - 10:55 AM Alarm at
sextan house of the MacP on Cottage, no loss,
cause of fire spark from...*

*May 15, 1914 - 8:20 AM
South Park & Lexington, no
cause of alarm holler full of
600 ft of hose. Alarm tell P.*

*May 26, 1914 - 5:55 PM Ala
808 South Grand, no loss, cau
gasoline stove. Alarm tell P.*

*June 6, 1914 - 3:45 PM Alarm at 411 East
Elm, a one story frame owned an occ by
E. Jessy, loss on house
by 7*

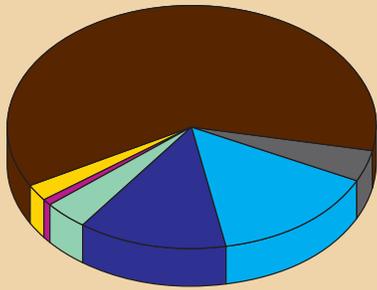


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*June 8, 1914 - Alarm at Hill & P
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2014 Response Breakdown



Medical Calls	= 10,805 (62%)
Fire Calls	= 463 (3%)
Service Calls	= 2,696 (15%)
Cancelled En Route	= 2,339 (13%)
Automatic Alarms	= 658 (4%)
False Alarms	= 191 (1%)
Other Calls	= 365 (2%)

- Firefighters were credited with 31 documented emergency medical life saves (medical and trauma).
- Responded to an average of 47.9 calls for service daily, for a total of 17,517 calls for service in 2014.
- Fire crews completed 42 pre-incident plans for entry into mobile data terminals (MDTs) providing instantaneous access to information on buildings and hazards before firefighters arrive at an emergency.
- 55 sets of protective turnout gear were purchased to replace and retire older or damaged personal protective gear.
- Two sets of battery-operated extrication tools (spreader, cutter and ram) were purchased, trained on and placed on rescue units.
- Two pumpers were re-mounted onto new chassis and placed in service.

Prevention - Comprehensive Services to Reduce Risk

Dedicated to community risk reduction through planning and educating the public in life safety skills and fire prevention before accidents happen.

- Purchased a new Fire Prevention mascot (FirePup®) and inflatable fire safety house with funding received from Firehouse Subs.
- Four personnel received Fire Inspector Certification from the Missouri Division of Fire Safety.
- Two personnel attended training on Fireworks through the American Pyrotechnics Association.
- Reorganized the commercial inspection program in order to increase efficiency.

2014 Individual Company Responses

Pumper 1	2,965
Pumper 2	2,544
Pumper 3	2,887
Quint 4	1,988
Pumper 5	2,607
Pumper 6	1,605
Quint 7	2,090
Pumper 8	263
Pumper 9	181
Pumper 10	1,213
HazMat 1	12
Rescue 1	1,442
Rescue 2	1,542
Rescue 8	207
Special Rescue	23
Truck 1	784
Truck 2	833

Facilities, Equipment and Vehicles - The Best Tools for the Job

Through research, acquisition and training, placed the most effective equipment, vehicles and working environment into the hands of firefighters in order to maximize safety and results.

- Five new staff vehicles were placed in service to retire or replace existing staff vehicles.

2014 Department Response Times

Average time in minutes from dispatch to arrival

- 2014 — 5.39 seconds
- 2013 — 5.21 seconds
- 2012 — 5.24 seconds

Percentage of structure fire calls responded to in under six minutes

- 2014 — 82.00%
- 2013 — 88.00%
- 2012 — 87.00%

Percentage of emergency EMS calls responded to in under six minutes

- 2014 — 81.00%
- 2013 — 81.00%
- 2012 — 78.00%

November 18, 1914 - 6:15 PM Alarm at Liberty & Nettleton, the Mormon Church, a loss, cause of Alarm oil stove fed to fast. Alarm tell P.

November 19, 1914 - 11:45 AM No. Liberty, a one story frame house, loss, cause of Alarm oil stove fed to fast. Alarm tell P.

November 21, 1914 - 2:30 AM on East Kansas by P.

September 2, 1914 - 10:15 AM 1217 West College, a two story frame house, loss, cause of fire unknown, both companies worked.

September 12, 1914 - 11:55 AM a two story frame house owned a loss to house and contents cause of fire unknown, no

September 30, 1914 - 11:05 AM a 3 room house owned a loss to house and contents cause of fire unknown, no

December 1, 1914 - 11:05 AM a story and a half house owned a loss to house and contents cause of fire unknown, no



- Preplans were entered into the records management system for use by fire operations on the Mobile Data Terminals (MDT's).
- Identified and coordinated purchase of replacement Public Education instructional materials and tools to address areas of high risk to life safety and property conservation that have been identified through review of incident reporting data.
- Created a process for fire inspectors to pursue personal professional development through completion of continuing education credits that will also ensure state and national training recommendations are being met.



- Completed evaluations to assess the retention of Fire Prevention Education in 50% of all formal pre-kindergarten education presentations.

FIRE PREVENTION

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

COMMERCIAL INSPECTIONS

Occupation License Received	737	657	667	647	522
Occupation License Inspections & Re-Inspections	857	712	807	803	625
Company Inspections	2,673	2,337	2,763	2,995	2,917
Company Re-Inspections	1,536	727	807	1,149	1,449
Santa-Cali-Gon Inspections	521	559	485	454	442
Total Commercial Inspections	6,324	4,992	5,529	6,048	5,955

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Citizen Requests & Special Inspections	195	270	452	616	275
Burning Permits	117	123	93	82	68
Underground Tanks Removed	0	1	2	2	0
Blasting Permits	0	1	0	0	0
Smoke Detectors Distributed	144	85	274	187	96
Environmental Research Projects	6	3	17	31	27
Juvenile Fire Setter Interventions	15	4	6	12	7
Fire Drills Conducted	6	13	12	5	3
Fireworks Inspections	203	234	245	246	271
Total Other Activities	686	737	1,101	1,181	747

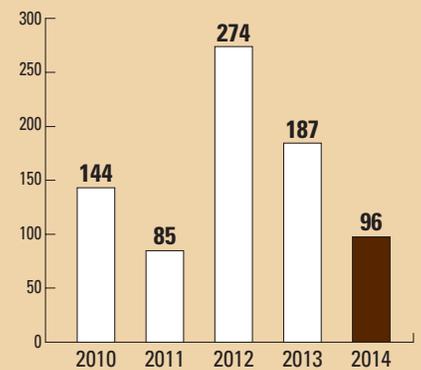
PLAN REVIEW/CONSTRUCTION

Plans/Zoning Projects Reviewed	346	374	300	387	339
Inspections - Reinspections	236	296	256	210	295

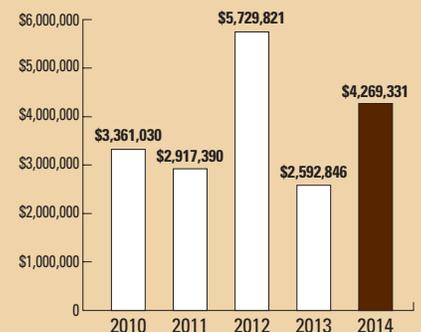
COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Fire Safety Talks & Job Fairs	202	99	191	280	87
Audience	19,996	29,723	23,365	28,354	16,520
Website Visitors	34,720	26,423	30,546	28,163	29,293

Smoke Alarms Distributed



Structure Fire Dollar Loss





2014 Firefighter of the Year



David Campbell

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.

Important Fire Department Phone Numbers

Emergency.....	911
Fire Administration.....	325-7123
Emergency Preparedness.....	325-7133
Web Address.....	www.indepmo.org/fire

