



# Camas - Washougal Fire Department

## 2014 Annual Report



### Mayors, Council, and Citizens of Camas & Washougal:

It is my pleasure to submit to you our 2014 annual report. This report encompasses the first 7 months of a 10 year contract for service between the former Camas and Washougal Fire Departments. The dedicated staff of CWFD worked tirelessly throughout the year to adapt to the changing work environment brought on by the interlocal agreement that provides for our partnership. At the same time they persevered in maintaining the level of service our citizens have come to expect despite the increased call volumes brought on by a growing community.

As we started 2014, our organization had achieved a commitment from the elected officials in both cities to move forward with a 10 year contract for service that provided for the merging of operational budgets as well as absorbing Washougal Fire Depart-

ment employees and volunteers in to the City of Camas. This was by no means an easy task. The finance departments in both cities deserve accolades for accomplishing this very complicated task. Our staff members themselves also deserve our appreciation for successfully navigating what was, at times, a confusing and stressful process.

In 2014, CWFD deployed 47 personnel working one of three assigned 24 hour shifts. Our shift personnel are deployed across three stations that include Camas Station 41, Station 42 in Grass Valley, and Station 43 in Washougal. Minimum daily staffing is 11 personnel. If available staffing drops below that threshold (e.g. sick leave) then we are required to hire back personnel on overtime. In addition to our paid staff, we have 21 volunteer firefighters who assist with public education, community events, and response to fire and EMS

## Message from Chief Swinhart, Continued

emergencies. In addition to our front line staff, our administrative team consists of the fire chief, division chief of emergency medical services, division chief/fire marshal, training captain, and two administrative assistants. Including our deputy fire marshal, CWFD employs a total of 54 personnel.

CWFD, as with most fire departments, struggled during the recent recession. The lack of available funding stressed the organization in maintaining the same level of service in an atmosphere of increasing emergency calls. Despite this, our staff have always managed to maintain minimum response times as outlined in our standard of cover. In 2012, CWFD was fortunate to receive a federal grant under the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program. This enabled the department to hire three additional full time personnel for a two year period without financial obligation to the city. Unfortunately this grant expired in 2014, and the department was financially unable to maintain those positions. With two staff retirements and a resignation, however, CWFD was able to avoid losing any of the three personnel hired under the auspices of SAFER.

The vast majority of CWFD's emergency response call volume is related to emergency medical services (EMS). We expect continued and significant upward trends in annual EMS calls for service in the coming years. This will come from not only the increased residents that a growing community brings, but as well as the increased medical needs of an aging

population that already lives in Camas and Washougal. CWFD currently deploys 26 Washington State certified firefighter/paramedics on four advanced life support ambulances to respond to the medical needs of our citizens.

### Ambulance Billing

Ambulance billing is handled in-house at the city's finance department by Ameer Rasmussen. Nationally, ambulance revenues have varied drastically over the years due to changes in federal Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements. When call volume and transports go up, the reasonable inference is that revenues should go up as well. While revenues will often trend upwards with increasing call volumes, write offs increase at an even more substantial rate. One question we get frequently is, "why not just be more aggressive with collections?" Unfortunately we are forbidden by federal law, as are all ambulance providers, to bill a patient above and beyond what Medicare or Medicaid determine is their allowable rate. Since the majority of our patients are covered by one of these federal programs, over 90% of our write offs signify money we simply cannot recover. This is the reason why there are such stark differences between the "invoiced" amount and the "collected" amount in the table below. Any collection rate approaching 60% is considered excellent in the ambulance billing industry.

The year 2015 will mark my fourth year as fire chief of the Camas-Washougal Fire Department. It continues to be my distinct honor to serve our citizens, elected officials, and our dedicated career and volunteer staff members.

Sincerely,

Nick Swinhart

Fire Chief

Camas-Washougal Fire Department



Ambulance Revenue			
	Invoiced	Collected	Percentage
2010	\$1,566,701	\$873,302	56%
2011	\$1,721,978	\$941,508	55%
2012	\$1,776,823	\$977,997	55%
2013	\$1,764,714	\$964,693	55%
2014	\$1,873,619	\$993,911	53%

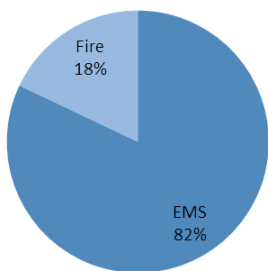
## 2014 Emergency Medical Services Report

### 2014 Call Volume and Composition:

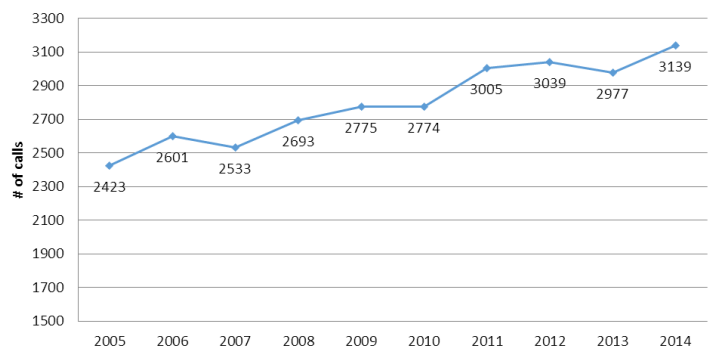
EMS requests for service account for the largest share of fire department response. 82% of calls generated through the 911 system for the CWFD were for medical response. In terms of EMS calls, 2014 demonstrated a 5.2% increase in EMS call volume over the prior year and a 22.8% increase over the prior 10 years.

CWFD provides ambulance transport primarily for the cities of Camas and Washougal and the fire district of East County Fire and Rescue. In 2014, this was facilitated through a three party agreement between the entities. EMS services are also provided to EMS District 2, North Country EMS, and Skamania County through mutual aid agreements. 89% of EMS calls were within our primary service area and 11% of calls were mutual aid calls outside of our primary service area.

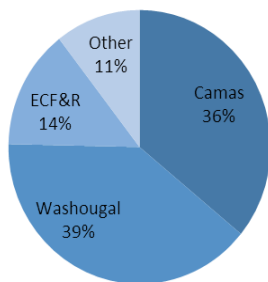
**2014 Calls by Type**



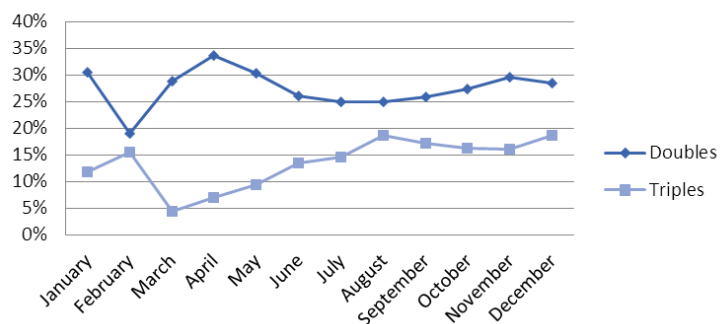
**2014 EMS Call Volume**



**2014 EMS Calls by District**



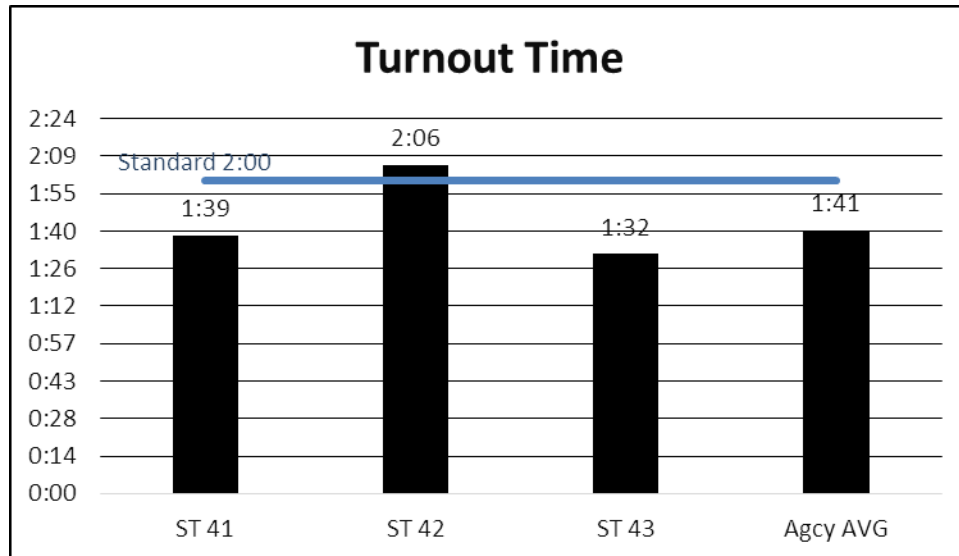
**2014 Concurrent EMS Calls as % of total EMS calls**



## 2014 Emergency Medical Services Report (continued)

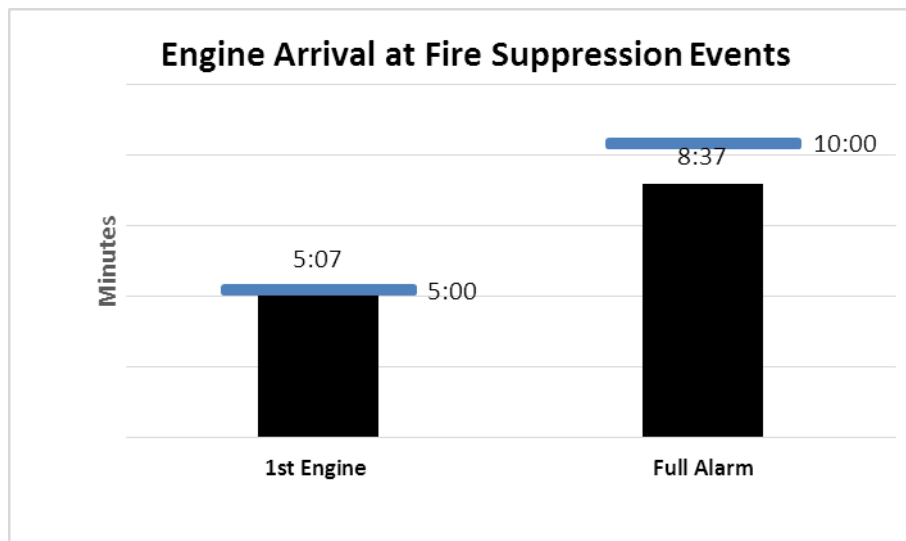
### Response Standard Report (Standard of Cover)

CWFD 2014



Turnout time is defined as the duration in minutes between initial dispatch and an apparatus leaving the station en route to a call. Turnout times depicted are for all apparatuses for all priority (meaning Code 3 response) calls, by Station, day or night. The Agency AVG is calculated from the total number of priority calls, not by averaging the individual station turnout times. Station 42 has a predictably longer turnout time average. This is due to the cross-staffing of an engine and a medic unit requiring the shuffling of personal protective gear between the engine and the ambulance depending on the call type.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Arrival Engine Company/Deployment of Full First Alarm on Fire Suppression Incidents:

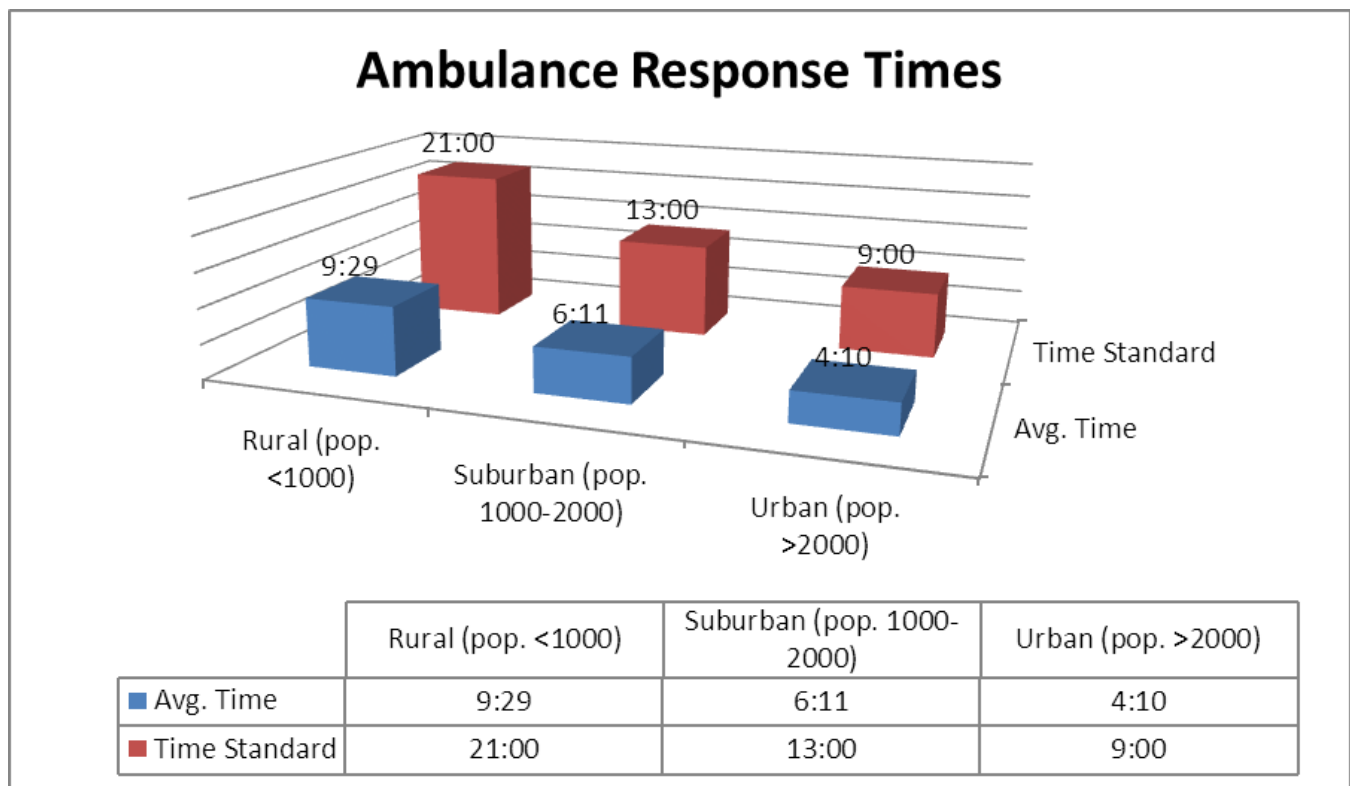


## 2014 Emergency Medical Services Report (continued)

The standard of response for a 1<sup>st</sup> arriving engine company in their first due area for fire suppression incidents is 5:00 minutes. Currently, we have no software that can calculate the first due area of each respective station engine and cross-match that with the first arriving unit. However, what is a more indicative assessment is the response time of any first arriving engine to any fire suppression incident, regardless of station of origin. Essentially, it is less important where they come from, but how long it took the first mitigating engine to arrive after dispatch for all fire suppression incidents. This is represented in the first column of the preceding chart.

The standard to deploy the first full alarm assignment to a fire suppression incident is 10:00 minutes. The second column represents this average. It should be noted, that often mutual aid is required to achieve a full first alarm assignment. It is difficult to calculate the response times of mutual aid apparatuses because their times are outside of our data set and purview. The average demonstrated above is the time to arrival of all CWFD resources dispatched to fire suppression incidents within the CWFD's fire suppression boundary.

### Arrival of Advanced Life Support Transport Unit to EMS Calls:



## 2014 Emergency Medical Services Report (continued)

Ambulance response times are monitored for all priority (dispatched as a Code 3 response) EMS calls. They are broken down into three categories: Urban, Suburban and Rural, depending on the population density per square mile. These categories are defined by the State of Washington, and do not take into account proximity of response, only population. The CWFD response area incorporates 11 sq. mi. of Urban designation, 8 sq. mi. of Suburban designation and 76 sq. mi. of Rural designation. The rural response times, at first glance, seem improbable and warrant some further explanation. Proximity (which is not a factor in designation) pulls down the response average for the Rural designation response. For example, Map page 1301 is designated by definition as Rural though it is within one mile of Station 41. This map page incorporates much of Lacamas Regional Park, which has no registered population, and also Lookout Ridge Drive, which houses an assisted living center and is the source of a disproportionate number of EMS calls. By proximity, the response times are very short, though it is designated as rural. Additionally, as you move away from the two cities in proximity, the call volume decreases, explaining the seemingly short average response times for such a vast response area. Understanding the relationship between proximity and population density explains the relatively short rural response average.

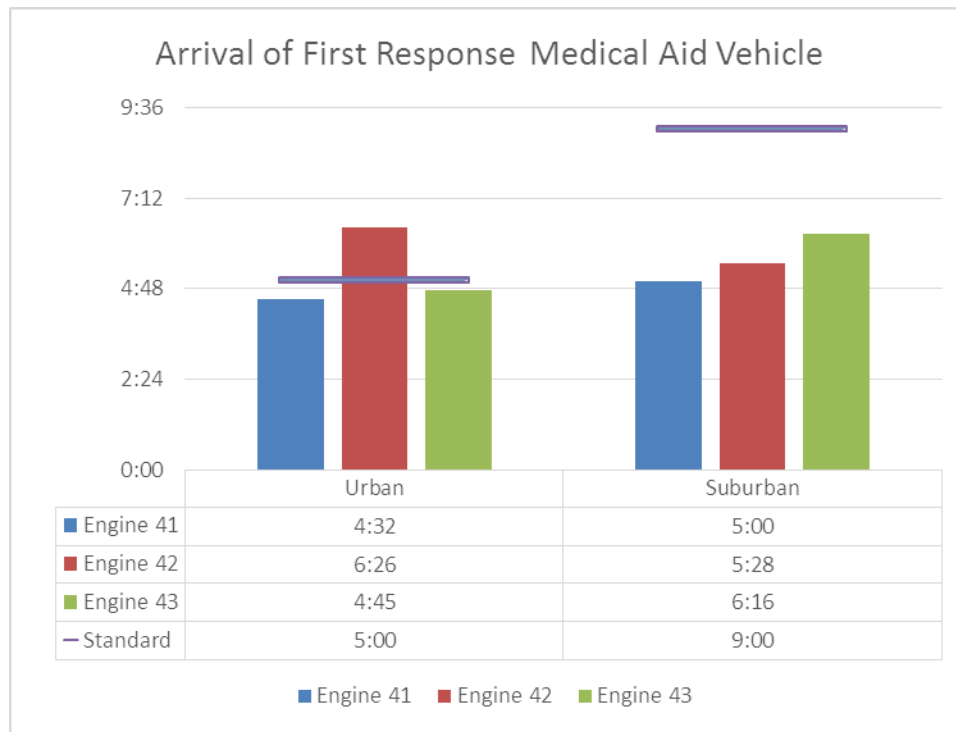
CWFD separately and additionally employs a Fractile Response Percentage. Fractile response percentages begin with the response time standard per Urban, Suburban, Rural designation, and calculates the percentage of responses that meet that criteria. Our standard for Fractile percentage is 90% for all designations. In other words, do we meet the response standard for each designation at least 90% of the time? The fractile response percentages are listed below. This answers the question of whether we are meeting our remote response times despite the proximity weighted average response times.

Fractile response percentage: Urban: 95.72% Suburban: 96.43% Rural: 97.0%



## 2014 Emergency Medical Services Report (continued)

### Arrival of First Response Medical Aid Vehicle to EMS Calls:



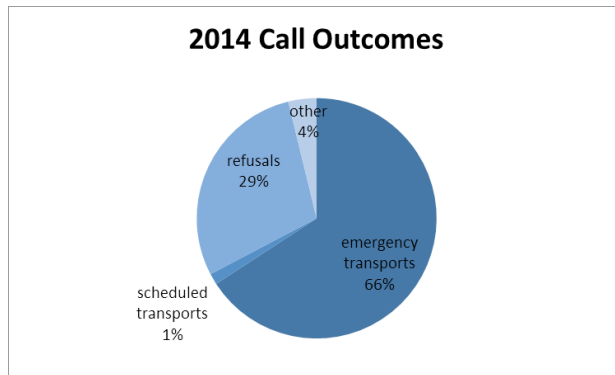
The Arrival of First Response Medical Aid Vehicles is historically used for systems where two different agencies are employed for EMS cover; an initial engine response from the local fire department and a separate ambulance transport agency. The standard is five minutes for Urban designations and nine minutes for Suburban designations. The concept is that the initial first response medical aid vehicle arrives first and ‘stops the clock’ for the response of the ambulance (usually private). In our system, the engine and the transport ambulance are both part of the CWFD. Operationally, we send the ambulance out in the lead for EMS calls while an engine follows. In some areas, we will send the engine and ambulance from separate stations so as not to deplete a response area entirely. However, the closest ambulance is always dispatched. What is unique to our EMS system, in the Cities of Camas and Washougal, is that the ambulance response times on an EMS call, more often than not, are shorter than the engine response times. However, CWFD tracks the engine response times as part of the Standard of Cover, and the above chart demonstrates the engine response times to EMS calls compared to the standard. It is important to note that Station 42’s engine response time to the Urban designation is slightly over standard. This is due to Station 42’s area being designated as largely suburban. Engine 42’s response to an Urban designation typically requires them to respond close to downtown Camas as engine support, explaining their relatively longer response times. The call volume in this category is relatively small, and intrinsic to Engine 42 being dispatched to an Urban designation pre-supposes that a closer ambulance has been dispatched and will arrive first.

### Arrival of Hazardous Materials trained and equipped Technicians:

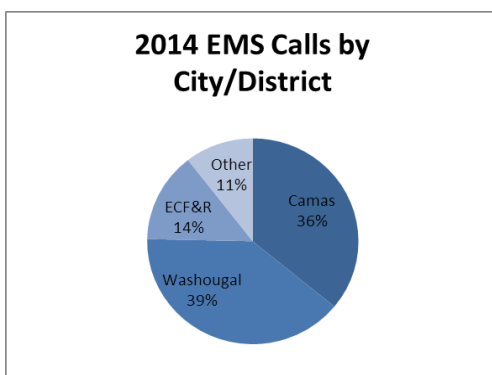
In 2014, there were no significant Hazardous Materials Incidents requiring the employment of specialty resources.

## 2014 Emergency Medical Services Report (continued)

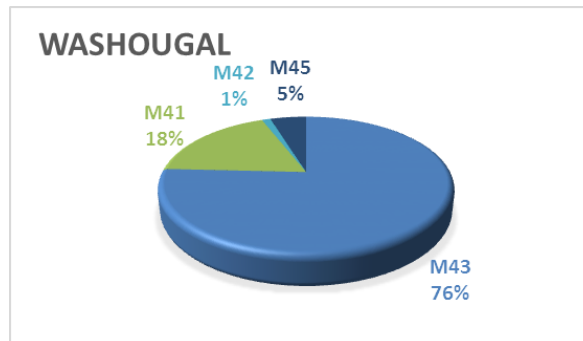
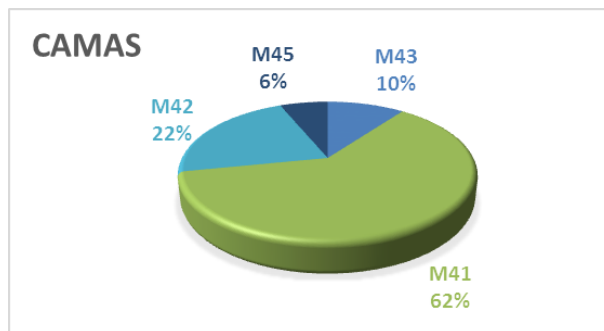
CWFD maintained four ambulances within our service area. Concurrent EMS calls are constantly monitored to assess adequate ambulance availability and distribution for our service area and call volume. In 2014, two ambulances ran concurrent calls on an average of 27% of our call volume. Three ambulances ran concurrent calls on an average of 14% of our call volume. Four ambulances (not depicted in chart) ran concurrent calls on an average of 10% of our call volume. In summary, 51% of our call volume required more than one ambulance to respond concurrently to a separate call. It should be noted that sometimes multiple ambulances are required at a single event, for example, a motor vehicle accident with multiple patients. In this case, one call is generated, but more than one ambulance becomes unavailable for response. These calls are not represented in the above graph due to the difficulty in isolating them from the database. However, the incidence of these calls is low enough to be statistically irrelevant when looking at the annual EMS data.



In terms of call outcome, 66% of calls resulted in ambulance transport to a hospital. 29% were patient refusals. 1% were non-emergency scheduled transports either to a hospital, clinic or hospice facility. The remaining 4% were treat and releases, no medical necessity, public assists, or transport through private means.



**CWFD call responses and transports by station of origin and city responding to**





## 2014 Emergency Medical Services Report (continued)

### 2014 in Review:

In 2014, medical equipment supply costs rose by an average of 20%, pharmaceutical supplies rose by an average 25%. We were able to stay within budget through constant vigilance in inventory control and management, and minimizing waste.

A new four-wheel drive ambulance was added to the fleet to replace the oldest of our existing ambulances. This gives us two four-wheel drive vehicles to navigate the challenging terrain of our response area in the inclement weather we often face during the winter months. The new ambulance replaces an ambulance that was built in 1992, rebuilt in 2001, and has been in service since that time. Despite its age, we are keeping the old ambulance as a back-up to be employed when our line ambulances are required to be taken off-line for maintenance.

CWFD continued its participation in a cardiac arrest research study funded through the Resuscitation Outcome Consortium (ROC) and the National Institute of Health (NIH). The study began in June of 2012 and is expected to continue through 2015. The goal of the study is to correlate pre-hospital cardiac arrest management, strategies and protocols with hospital survival outcome data. Though the specific results of the study are blinded until the completion of the study, CWFD has anecdotally seen a rise in the percentage of patients surviving cardiac arrest in our response area for a third consecutive year.

The study results of the pre-hospital treatment of traumatic shock (through ROC and the NIH) that concluded mid-year 2013, have been released and have significantly changed the traumatic shock therapy guidelines nationally. The new guidelines do not alter the pre-hospital treatments prescribed for our agency and Clark County. Rather, the results demonstrated that the progressive protocols currently in place in Clark County significantly improved patient outcomes over the traditional protocols in place over much of the country.

Participation in pre-hospital EMS studies is an ongoing priority for CWFD. It is through these studies that we are able to determine which medical interventions are the most advantageous to our patients and keeps CWFD on the forefront of medical innovation and 'best practices'.

### Outlook for 2015:

In 2015, we will have a much needed yet modest increase to the EMS Budget. This will help defray ever rising equipment and pharmaceutical costs, and allow us to replace or replenish present equipment that is wearing out.

A federal grant has been submitted for a new ambulance in 2015. The "demo" ambulance, purchased and provided by the City of Washougal in 2010, is nearing the end of its useful lifespan and our reserve ambulance is already there. Ambulance replacement is an ongoing financial issue, but we are slowly but surely replacing an aging fleet that was becoming very expensive to maintain.

A federal grant has also been submitted for the replacement of our gurney fleet. Gurneys are a necessary component of ambulance transport, and as with all mechanical equipment, they wear out. If we are awarded the grant, this will take some of the financial pressure off of the EMS budget. We will find out near the end of 2015 whether we have been awarded this grant.

As of January 1, 2015, EMS District 2 (our neighbor to the west consisting of the City of Vancouver and the small cities to the north) has been restructured and their ambulance response boundaries now include the small areas of the County between the incorporated City of Camas and the incorporated City of Vancouver. Traditionally, CWFD ambulances have provided ambulance transport to this area of the County, charging out of district rates for transport. With the City of Vancouver exercising their right to ambulance transport in these areas, it will alter CWFD's historic ambulance transport revenue. As 2015 unfolds, we will be closely monitoring the extent of this potential loss of revenue.

Submitted by,

Cliff Free

Division Chief of EMS



## Camas-Washougal Fire Marshal's Office

### 2014 Year End Report

It is a pleasure to submit the Fire Marshal's annual report for 2014. Our Motto "Working for a Safer Community" exemplifies our commitment to the citizens of Camas and Washougal in which we serve.

Prior to June of 2014 the Camas-Washougal Fire Marshal Office operated out of City Hall in Camas and the Washougal Fire Station. Our office had to deal with many logistical problems because of this arrangement. However, in June our offices merged and moved into the old State Farm Office in downtown Camas. Also in June an administrative assistant was hired that was desperately needed. Both would not have happened without the support of the mayor, city council, and the administration of the fire department. In the seven months since our offices merged our production, record keeping, and service delivery has greatly improved. Most inspections are done the same day as requested, which is an anomaly in the industry. Customer service has improved as well to the point that most issues are resolved with a very quick turn-around time. What were once two sets of records from the Washougal and Camas Fire Departments have been consolidated into a unified system of record keeping. In November of this year a new permitting program was rolled out, and though there were a few bumps along the way, the process is working seamlessly now. The changes that occurred did not happen over-night, the improvements were the result of many people working tirelessly as a team to make it happen. Thanks goes out to the mayor, council, the fire chief, IT, finance, public works and the building department as well as a special thanks to the staff here in our office for their efforts.

The FMO is responsible for what I call the three E's; Education, Enforcement and Engineering. Education is focused on students preschool through fifth grade and they are taught about fire prevention and fire safety. Enforcement is enforcing the fire code through routine fire and life safety inspections, hazardous materials inspections, and fire investigations. The last E, engineering, is working with architects,

civil engineers, builders and developers to create a safer community. During the pre-application process meetings are held with potential developers to ensure that not only there is plenty of fire flow available to fight a fire, but fire apparatus access roads are constructed to any new development. Once building permits are issued the FMO issues their own permits and conducts plan reviews and inspections for fire code compliance, be it new construction, alterations or change in use, and installation or alteration of fire and life safety systems. Permits are also issued to maintain, store, use or handle materials, to conduct processes which produce conditions hazardous to life or property, or to install equipment used in connection with such activities.

#### Education

Public education occurs throughout the year and is a combination of events conducted by the FMO and our fire crews. Fire crews perform station tours with show and tell presentations that include fire safety and EMS safety subjects. Our crews also have scheduled times to visit various younger age classrooms in Camas and Washougal performing safety talks. This year we had our 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Fire Department Open House. The open house invites the community to Station 42 for a "Carnival Like" atmosphere that includes Fire Prevention information, live fire demonstrations, Safety and Health vendors and of course FUN and FOOD. One such live fire presentation conducted was a side by side residential fire sprinkler demonstration. Two furnished single room units, one with a residential sprinkler system, were set on fire. The sprinkler system in one of units activated and put out the fire with very little damage, while the other unit suffered considerable smoke and fire damaged and required the suppression crews to extinguish the fire. The display really drives home the point as to the effectiveness of fire sprinklers. What was new to the open house was the Emer-



## Fire Marshal's Office Report, Continued

agency Food Preparation Cook-off. Three teams from the fire department created three different dishes from emergency prepared food packets. The judging was done by Camas City Mayor Scott Higgins and Washougal's City Council member Dave Shoemaker. I'm proud to say the Fire Marshal's Office took top honors.

### Enforcement

#### *Fire and Life Safety Inspections*

The FMO conducts annual and bi-annual Fire and Life Safety Inspections at no charge to the occupants. Our philosophy is to educate the public on how to prevent a fire from occurring rather than using penalties and fines. Serious fire code violations are corrected on the spot while most violations are given thirty days to make the corrections.

#### *Fire Investigation*

Camas-Washougal Fire Department handled a wide array of fires in 2014 and it is the function of the FMO to investigate these fires. Upon arrival the investigator immediately begins fire scene investigation procedures by interviewing occupants and bystanders. Assistance is also provided at the scene to the fire victims helping them to connect with the Red Cross and other emergency agencies. Assistance is also provided in helping those fire victims to initiate contact and facilitate the rehabilitation process with the insurance and building security companies.

### Significant Fires in 2014

Address	City	Date	Type	Cause	Dollar Loss
2525 NE Everett St.	Camas	01/15/2014	Garage Fire	Electrical	\$40,000
609 N 20th St.	Washougal	07/30/2014	Kitchen Fire	Grease Fire	\$8,000
2257 N O St	Washougal	09/13/2014	House Fire	Discarded Cigarette	\$200,000
Georgia Pacific Mill 401 NE Adams	Camas	09/17/2014	Belt Fire	Mechanical malfunction	\$10,000
5611 NW Jackson St.	Camas	10/03/2014	Attic Fire	Electrical	\$50,000
1531 NW 6th Pl.	Camas	11/13/2014	Wall Fire	Improper Chimney Installation	\$10,000
631 34th St.	Washougal	12/19/2014	Bathroom Fire	Clothing too close to wall heater	\$5,000

## Fire Marshal's Office Report, Continued

### Engineering

This past year has been extremely busy with new construction in both cities. Many of the new buildings and tenant improvements required the installation of fire alarms and fire sprinklers. Of the 271 homes built last year between the two cities 191 of them were constructed with a NFPA 13D Life Safety Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems. 187 of them were in the City of Camas alone, continuing to make Camas one of the safest communities in America. These sprinklers are protecting our citizen's lives as well as our firefighters. Just from the new construction alone they are helping to protect in excess of 40 million dollars of protected residential structural assets. Throughout Camas and Washougal there are well over 1600 homes that are equipped with these Life Safety Residential Sprinkler Systems.

*Fire Code Permits and Inspections:* In 2014 the FMO processed 418 fire code permits and performed over 700 construction or International Fire Code/Camas-Washougal Municipal Code related inspections.

*Revenue generated:* \$36,728 in permit fees was collected between the two cities in 2014 for Plan Review, Inspection and Fire Impact Fees.

### Other Projects of Note

One of the major accomplishments in 2014 that our office pushed through was the installation of a fire sprinkler system in all units of the apartments at 2900 H St. in Washougal. A property management company recently purchased the complex and was doing a complete remodel throughout the complex and though not required the company voluntarily installed a residential sprinkler throughout. In the past four years we have had three significant fires at the complex including a fatal fire which took the life of a young woman in her twenties. With the installation of the residential sprinkler system there is factual data to support that if a fire should occur in one of these apartments the occupant has more than double the chance of surviving the fire, with the added benefit that damage to the apartment would be relatively small.

Fisher Investments moved into their second five story building; their campus now has three buildings with long range plans to add several more.

### Public Contact

The FMO receives and logs a high volume of phone calls each year and in 2014 received well over 1200 phone calls providing information on permits, code violations, outdoor burning, life safety issues, hazard conditions, code development and legislation, residential sprinklers, extinguishers, smoke detection, carbon monoxide, and the list goes on.

### Goals for 2015

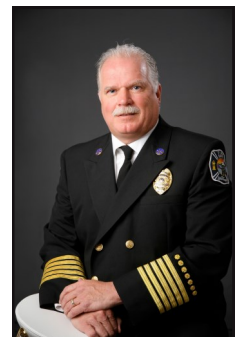
The Interlocal Agreement between the two cities for fire protection requires a unified fire code within three years. It is my plan to work with both councils and to not only have that completed by the end of this year, but also a permit fee schedule that works for both cities.

2015 looks to be even busier than last year. There are numerous projects beginning to take shape in both cities. We are excited about the new projects and look forward to the many challenges that lie ahead.

Submitted by,

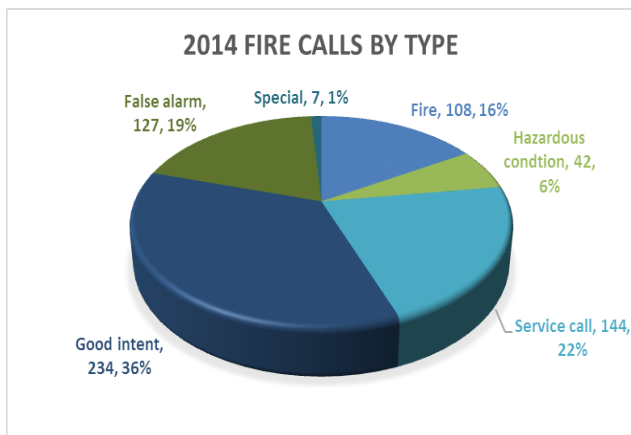
Ron Schumacher

Division Chief/Fire Marshal

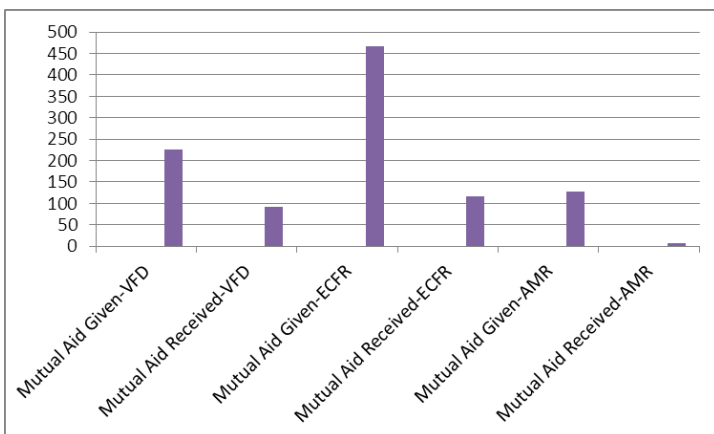


## Fire Operations Report

CWFD responded to 3,833 emergency incidents in 2014, our first full year as a fully consolidated department. These incidents include fire and emergency medical responses. The following graph only represents fire calls and associated incidents (see emergency medical service in report for EMS data).

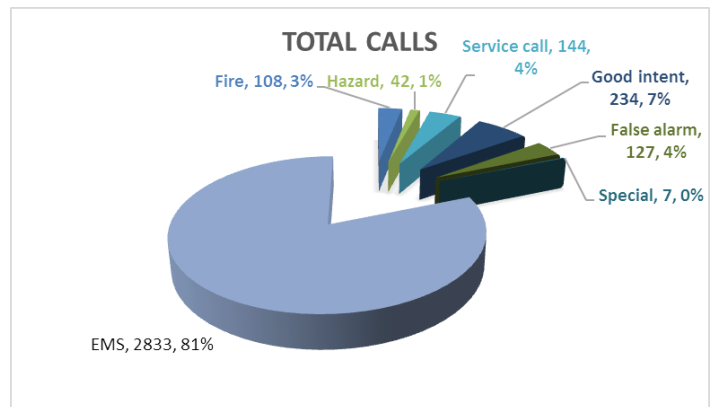


The graph below illustrates the number of mutual aid responses by agencies we work with most. The graph for ECFR is not only fire mutual aid but also our contractual obligation for ambulance response in their jurisdiction.



The only major change this year to our operations was integrating a new form of Incident Management for fire ground operations. This new operation, called "Blue Card" required all officers within our organization to take 50 hours of online training followed by 16

hours of classroom simulations to receive their certification. Moving forward we will continue to get more line personnel certified; until then all personnel are being trained in house by their officers in how to effectively use the new Incident management model.



In complying with federal reporting standards, CWFD submitted all incidents that we responded to in 2014 to the National Reporting Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) through FEMA. These reports are used by the federal government to assist fire departments nationally with statistics that can help with all aspects of fire department operations, including grants to assist with equipment, personnel, prevention and safety for fire-fighters.

Submitted by,



Mark Ervin  
Battalion Chief

## COMMUNICATIONS

One of the most significant challenges our communications system faced in 2014 was planning for the federally mandated replacement of most of the CWFD radios. The majority of the department's current radios were purchased in the 1990's. Federal changes in radio requirements drove the replacement and impacted nearly all agencies in Clark County. However, most of our current radios are at or past their useful life. CWFD was subsequently required to purchase 15 mobile radios and 58 portable radios at a cost of nearly \$300,000 to adhere to the new requirements.

The merger effected department communications in several way and required us to blend communications procedures and equipment. Most of the apparatus had to be renumbered along with the corresponding mobile and portable radios. A new, and more cost effective, paging company was found allowing volunteers the option of using their phones to receive emergency call dispatches instead of using a pager.

The merger also required computers and phones to be replaced and upgraded at the Washougal station. Mobile computer software will be dramatically upgraded in 2016. The upgrade will allow less expensive computers to be utilized as MDCs in all CWFD vehicles. Communications and technology are a quickly changing environment that will continue to challenge our agency in 2015 and beyond.

Submitted by,

Allen Wolk

Battalion Chief



*CWFD's annual open house was once again a success and drew hundreds of community members to Station 42 for a day of public education, demonstrations, and food.*



*In 2014, Captain Kevin Bergstrom and the grant writing team were instrumental in securing a \$20,000 grant from Firehouse Subs to purchase new turnout gear*

## Training Division Report

The Camas-Washougal Fire Department training program is divided among both Fire/Rescue and medical training. Most of our medical training is done through state mandated curriculum and overseen by Division Chief Cliff Free. He ensures all career staff, both IV Techs and Paramedics, receive their annual required training on a wide variety of mandated topics. He also regularly works with career staff on additional topics and procedures to keep all career staff's medical skills sharp. He oversees the ongoing training for volunteer EMTs and IV Techs, with most of this training being done by Temporary Captain Chris Richardson.

On the fire side of training we have a combination of annual, quarterly, and monthly training topics that are mandated training, as well as multiple topics which we regularly train on to keep our skill level high. This training is done by a combination of Captain lead training with their crews, drills and classes run by the Training Captain, and various web based training.

A major focus of training throughout Clark County last year was switching to a new incident command system called 'Blue Card'. This is a nationally recognized system and curriculum on effectively managing all hazard incidents short of state or federal mobilizations. Our first step was getting our Captains and Battalion Chiefs through the fifty plus hours of online training and the twenty-four hour certification process. Camas-Washougal Fire Department was the first department in the county to have all our officers Blue Card certified. We then focused on passing this knowledge on to all our crews and started making changes to our operations. A major goal for 2015 is to continue to effectively train our crews on this new emergency scene management system, which is now implemented by most of the departments in the county.

In 2014 we ran nine different Multi-Company Operations (MCOs) drills with between two and four engine companies from our department and the neighboring departments, who we regularly work with on larger incidents. Topics covered in these MCOs included: residential fires, multi-family residential fires, various search and rescue drills for occupants at

fire scenes, firefighter safety and survival, forcible entry, technical rope rescue scenarios at the Potholes, and various motor vehicle accident scenarios requiring the use of extrication tools and various stabilization scenarios.



Our Volunteer Firefighters were also involved in MCO training on their drill nights. They participated in five MCOs with career crews focusing on residential fires. They also had several MCOs with their own volunteer staff. Additionally, our volunteer firefighters attend Wednesday night drills at Station 42 two or three times a month working on various fire skills. They also attend monthly EMS training staying current with their knowledge and EMS skills.

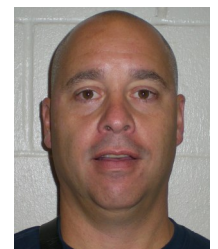
In the spring we had our annual volunteer fire academy for our new volunteer firefighters. The academy is all done in-house with a combination of instructors from the career staff as well as some volunteer staff. We had six new members successfully pass our 140 hour academy and all are now active in the department.

Overall we had a very successful year in training. Our volunteer force averaged seventy plus hours of ongoing fire and medical training. Our career staff averaged well over one hundred and fifty hours of fire and medical training. We look forward to continually enhancing our department's readiness, skills and abilities in 2015.

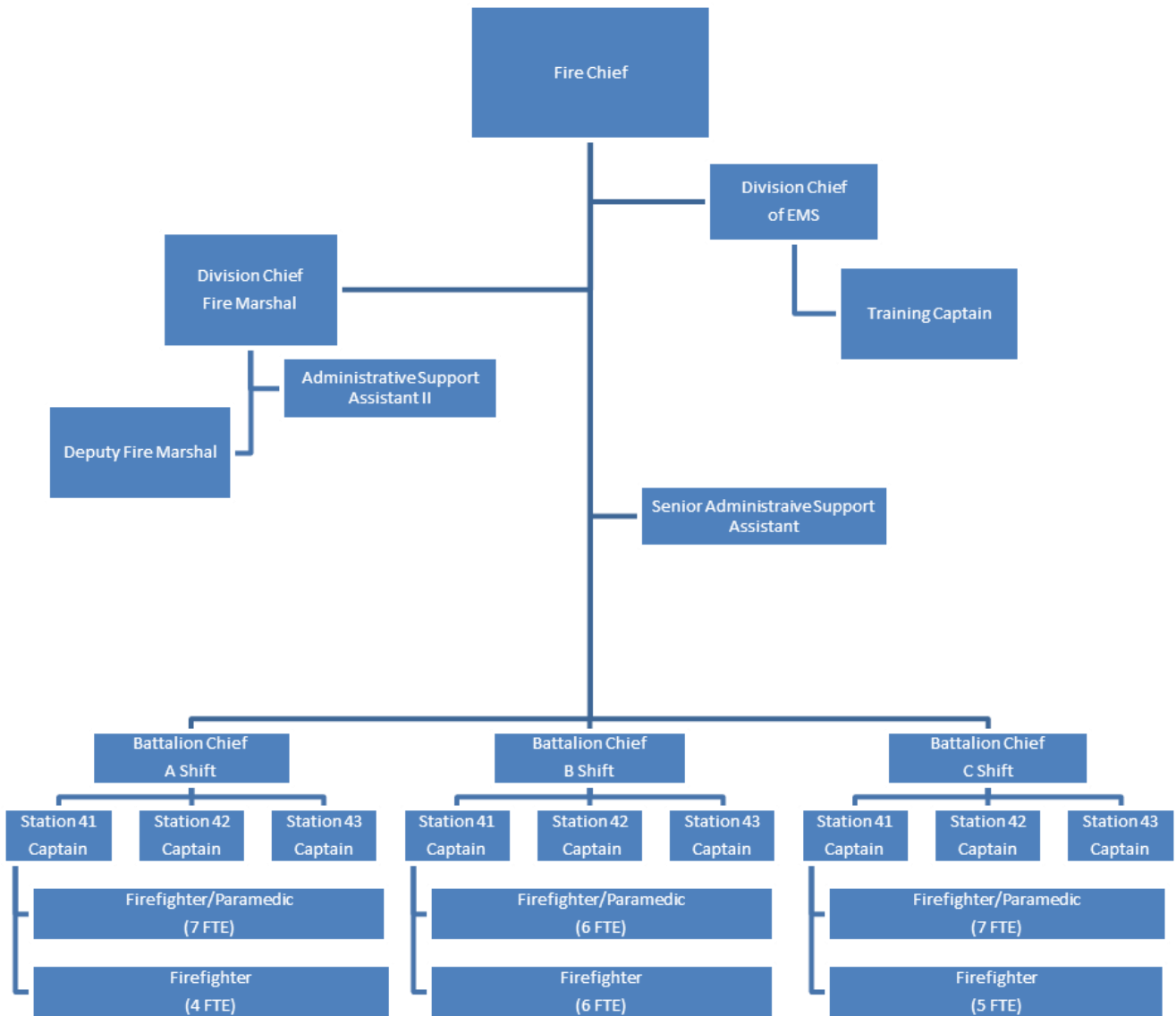
Respectfully submitted,

Greg Payne

Training Captain



# Organizational Chart





# EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Camas-Washougal Fire Department had several longtime employees celebrate significant career milestones with the department in 2014. We want to recognize those individuals here and to once again thank them for their many years of dedicated service to the department and to the citizens of our communities.

Rod Morris:	volunteer firefighter	35 years of service
Brooks Cooper:	career captain	25 years of service
Greg Payne:	career captain	25 years of service
Dale McKenzie:	career firefighter/IV Tech	25 years of service
Gene Marlow:	career firefighter/IV Tech	25 years of service
Larry Wagoner:	volunteer firefighter	20 years of service
Ben Silva:	career captain	15 years of service
Kevin Bergstrom:	career captain	15 years of service
Shayne Bradley:	career firefighter/medic	5 years of service
James Tierney:	career firefighter/medic	5 years of service