

Barberton Fire Department



Annual Report **2020**



Contents

Message from The Fire Chief.....	3
COVID-19 & The Barberton Fire Department	4
2020 Accomplishments.....	5
About Us	6
Fire Personnel & Apparatus	8
Roster	9
2020 Organizational Chart	10
Fire Department Budget.....	11
Grants	12
Fire Prevention & Arson Investigation	14
Administrative Lieutenant.....	15
Emergency Response & Special Operations.....	18
Fire Stations	19
Vehicles.....	20
Resource Deployment	21
Awards & Recognition.....	32
Newly Hired Firefighter/Paramedics in 2020	33
Promotions	34
Retirements & Resignations.....	35
In Memoriam.....	36

Message from The Fire Chief



On behalf of the members of the Barberton Fire Department (BFD), it is my privilege to present our Annual Report for 2020. As the newly appointed Fire Chief for the City of Barberton in early 2020, I am honored to lead an organization that continues to grow and develop. Our department continues to meet the increasing challenges of delivering exceptional emergency services to our community. The Barberton Fire Department has an important place in the community, and it is our duty to meet that expectation each and every time we are called upon.

We are committed to providing all hazards emergency response and community risk reduction to over 26,300 residents and visitors. As you read through the report, we hope you will learn more about how the BFD can be a resource to help all members of our community. You will note that the volume and complexity of the emergency calls continue to increase. The mental and physical training required to ensure operational readiness in the form of rapid response, compassionate care, and professional service to the community is foremost on the department's list of priorities.

I am very proud of the dedicated and professional staff in the department. They have a tremendous sense of responsibility and loyalty to the community we serve. Please feel free to contact myself or any member of the Fire Department staff at any time. We look forward to hearing from the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert L. Pursley, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert L. Pursley, Jr., PhD, EFO

Fire Chief

Mission Statement

Our mission is to be responsive to the needs of our customers by providing prompt, professional services essential to the health, safety and well-being of the community.

Vision Statement

We will strive to become a fire service leader in the delivery of the highest level of care to the people we serve by utilizing a team of highly trained, dedicated professionals and state of the art resources.

Core Values

In order to adhere to our Mission and Vision Statements, we believe the following Core Values to be an essential part of our commitment to the community:

Loyalty

Having true allegiance to the community and department.

Integrity

Always doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.

Respect

Always treating people as they should be treated.

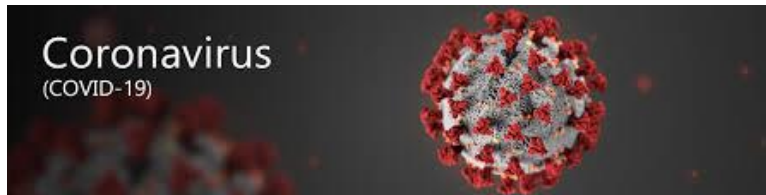
Dedication

Having a passionate belief in our mission as a fire department.

Professionalism

Commitment to the quality of service and pride in our work.

COVID-19 & The Barberton Fire Department



The year 2020 presented the department with unprecedented challenges. On March 16th the pandemic that affected other countries

became our community's reality. Over the next several months we faced a sustained shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) as we competed with other emergency services across the United States to obtain the limited resources available. Adding to the chaos was the ever changing policies, directives and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and health officials. In short, the policies and protective measures we implemented one day would need revising the next as new information was being learned about COVID-19. However, despite the confusion and lack of resources our personnel stepped up to face the pandemic head-on.

Several of our members worked tirelessly developing standard operating procedures (SOP) to protect our personnel, and more importantly preventing us from transmitting the disease to residents. Other members worked creatively and diligently to acquire the PPE we lacked by finding masks, face-shields, and eye protection from non-medical suppliers (construction and auto-body suppliers). Within the first week we had developed and implemented several SOPs and obtained enough PPE to use until normal supply chains could be restored.

Other notable actions we took to ensure the public's and our safety, was the purchase of UVC-Sanitization Lanterns that were used to sanitize the stations and department vehicles. We also, converted spaces in both stations and designated decontamination areas where our personnel and other city employees who may have an exposure could shower, launder their uniforms, and have their vehicles sanitized.

Today, we are still proactively protecting our personnel and the public by,

- continuously reviewing and revising our policies and procedures to reflect best practices, the recommendations from the CDC, the State of Ohio, and Summit County Public Health;
- routine and frequent health monitoring for COVID symptoms of personnel throughout their shift;
- routine cleaning and sanitization of our stations and equipment and;
- wearing the required PPE while in the stations, vehicles, and interactions with the community.

2020 Accomplishments

- Replaced antiquated radio equipment through Assistance to Firefighter's Grant funding;
- Replaced all the computers used for administration and training in both stations;
- Transitioned to an electronic scheduling system (Aladtec);
- Updated all of our policies and procedures to an electronic system (Lexipol) that provides a full library of customizable, state-specific policies as well as thousands of hours of online learning content—all accessible 24/7 through station computers or smartphones;
- Replaced all three HVAC units at Station 1;
- Improved firefighter/paramedic and community safety by installing air ionization units on all HVAC units at both stations. These units reduce pathogens (including COVID-19), allergens, particles, creating a healthy environment without producing any harmful byproducts;
- Improved firefighter/paramedic safety and effectiveness for rescuing people during fires by equipping every fire apparatus riding position with a thermal imaging camera;
- Improved firefighter/paramedic and public safety by equipping each ambulance with a carbon monoxide detector that is used whenever our personnel enter a building;
- Improved EMS performance and cardiac arrest outcomes by equipping all ambulances and the Shift Commander vehicles with the *AutoPulse Resuscitation System*. The system provides high-quality automated CPR to victims of sudden cardiac arrest. Consistent and uninterrupted chest compressions greatly improve the chances a person can be resuscitated;
- Improved firefighter/paramedic safety and effectiveness at motor vehicle accidents and building collapses by purchasing a stabilization system through grant funding from the Howmet Aerospace Foundation;
- Hired four new firefighters and promoted six new officers.

About Us



Before 1895, fire brigades from five factories in the city of Barborton provided the city's fire protection. Over the years, the Barborton Fire Department has evolved to meet the public's needs. The BFD protects 10 square miles of residential, commercial, industrial, and critical infrastructure. The BFD is staffed 24 hours per day 365 days per year. This is accomplished by a three shift schedule (A, B, C) servicing two fire stations strategically placed in the City to provide

the best service possible to the community. Each shift is comprised of 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants and 10 Firefighter/Paramedics. The Barborton Fire Department provides the following services to the community:

- Fire Code Enforcement
- Fire Safety Education
- Fire Suppression
- Fire Investigation
- Emergency Medical Services
- Specialized Rescue
- Hazardous Materials Mitigation

The BFD also protects infrastructure critical to national, state and local interests:

- Ohio State Route 224, State Route 619, and State Route 585
- 3 AT&T communications switching facilities
- Summa Barberton Hospital
- 2 nursing homes
- 9 senior citizen residential facilities
- Several group homes for developmentally disabled people
- 1 county-owned developmentally disabled care facility
- Barberton Municipal Courthouse, serving 7 Municipalities, Townships and Villages
- 1 regional water treatment plant with reservoir located in 4 different communities
- 1 regional wastewater treatment facility
- 10 miles of CSX and Akron Barberton Cluster Railway tracks
- 3 miles of Dominion East Ohio's High-Pressure Natural Gas Transmission Lines
- 4 Dominion East Ohio reduction stations
- 3 First Energy/Ohio Edison Electric Transmission Sub-stations
- 1 large defense contractor facility working with radioactive material and products
- Several chemical and plastic manufacturing plants
- Several historic districts and landmarks

With 46 full-time employees, the department has evolved into an all-hazard response service answering over 4,800 calls annually.

Fire Personnel & Apparatus

<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Facilities</u>
The Barberton Fire Department has an authorized staff of 46 regular full-time employees. All positions are vital to the overall success of the department's operations. These positions consist of: 1 <u>Fire Chief</u>: The Fire Chief reports to the Director of Public Safety and is responsible for the overall operation and administration of the Fire Department. 1 <u>Captain/Fire Marshal</u>: The Captain/Fire Marshal is responsible for and manages all aspects of fire prevention, including inspections, plan reviews, public education as well as fire investigations. 1 <u>Administrative Lieutenant</u>: The Admin. Lt. functions as the EMS Coordinator for the department and serves as Safety Officer on large incidents. He also assists the Fire Marshal with inspections and investigations. 1 <u>Administrative Assistant</u>: The Administrative Assistant works directly under the Fire Chief with direction from the other Officers in the department. 3 <u>Captains</u>: Captains are Shift Commanders that supervise and lead the fire crews at both stations. Captains are responsible for scene management at emergency incidents and the overall readiness of the personnel on their shift. 9 <u>Lieutenants</u>: Lieutenants function as Company Officers and are responsible to direct the personnel assigned to their trucks including training and job function assignments. 30 <u>Firefighter/Paramedics</u>: Fire/Medics are responsible to know and provide all aspects of emergency response to the public.	Station #1 – 580 Wooster Rd. W. Station #2 – 93 E. State St. <u>Apparatus</u> 1100: 2008 Ford Expedition, Fire Chief 1102: 2001 Chevy Van, Fire Marshal 1111: 2016 Chevrolet Ambulance 1112: 2004 Chevrolet Bariatric Ambulance 1116: 2008 Ford Expedition, Shift Commander 1119: 2001 Emergency One 75' Quint 1121: 2019 Freightliner Ambulance 1122: 2009 Ford Ambulance 1123: 2003 Sutphen Pumper 1124: 2000 Emergency One Pumper 1126: 2004 Jeep Cherokee, Safety Officer 1129: 1995 Emergency One 100' Quint 1131: 2014 Chevrolet Ambulance 1133: 2016 Sutphen Pumper 1136: 2010 Hackney Rescue, Mobile Breathing Air, Light Tower 1146: 2005 Ford Heavy Duty 4x4, Utility Truck

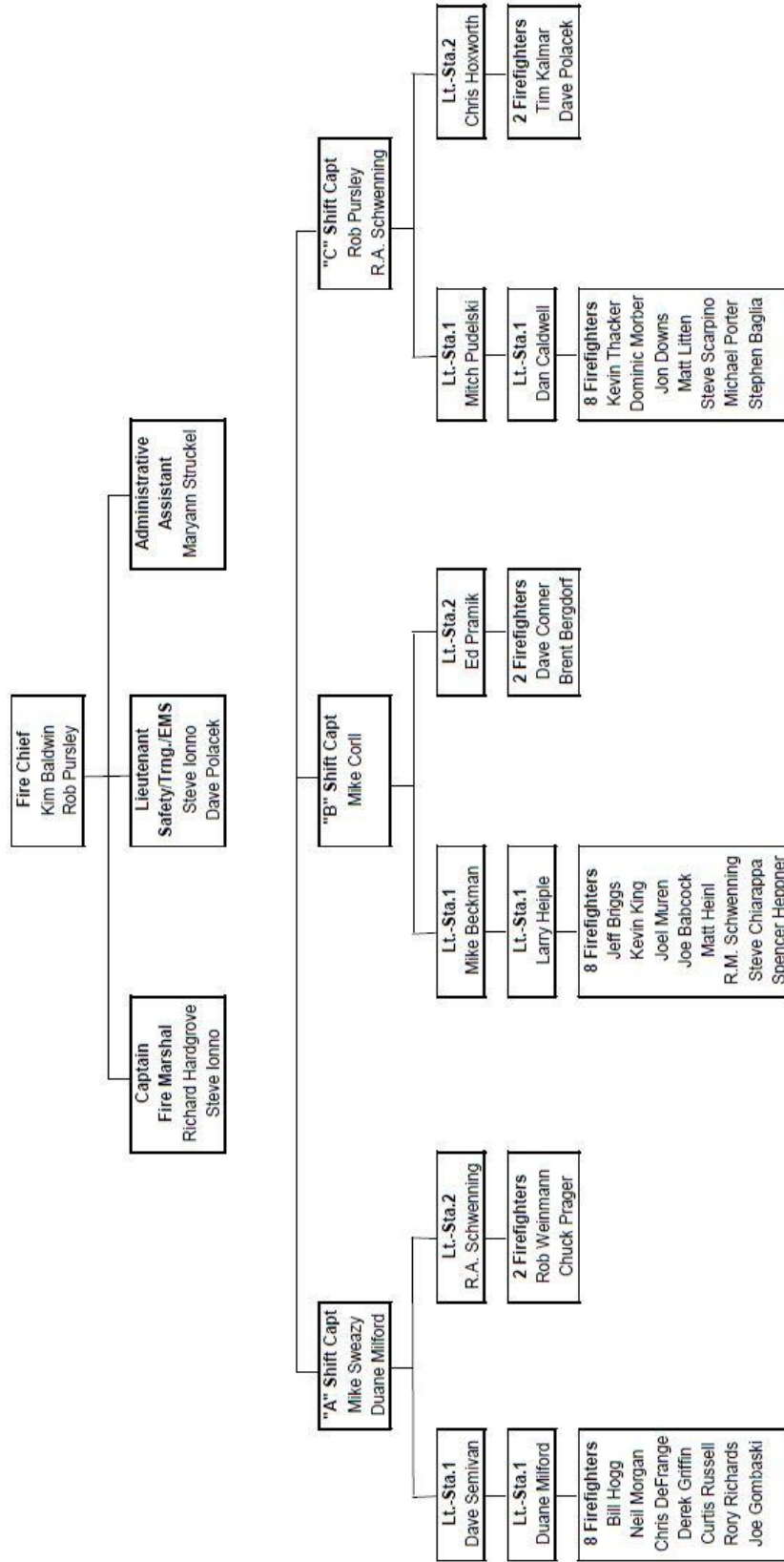
Roster

APPOINTMENT DATES

NAME	POSITION	APPOINTMENT DATE	EXIT DATE
Richard Hardgrove	Fire Marshal/Captain/Paramedic	01/19/88	02/28/20
Richard Schwenning	Lieutenant/Paramedic	03/16/89	
Stephen Ionno	Lieutenant/Paramedic	03/20/89	
Kim Baldwin	Chief of Fire	7/2/89 - (3/17/89)	03/17/20
Timothy Kalmar	Firefighter/Paramedic	01/04/92	
Chris Hoxworth	Lieutenant/EMT	01/05/92	
Edward Pramik	Lieutenant/EMT	01/06/92	
David Semivan	Lieutenant/Paramedic	01/07/92	
Robert Pursley, Jr	Captain/Paramedic	02/01/92	
David Conner	Firefighter/Paramedic	02/03/92	04/21/20
William Hogg	Firefighter/Paramedic	03/11/94	
Michael Sweazy	Lieutenant/Paramedic	11/14/94	03/31/20
Michael Corll	Lieutenant/Paramedic	02/20/95	
Jeffrey Briggs	Firefighter/Paramedic	04/08/95	
Kevin Thacker	Firefighter/Paramedic	04/10/95	
Neil Morgan	Firefighter/Paramedic	07/22/95	
David Polacek	Firefighter/Paramedic	07/08/96	
Mitchell Pudelski	Firefighter/Paramedic	05/10/97	
Kevin King	Firefighter/Paramedic	05/11/97	
Lawrence Milford	Lieutenant/Paramedic	10/13/97	
Robert Weinmann	Firefighter/Paramedic	10/23/98	
Dominic Morber	Lieutenant/Paramedic	10/24/98	
Joel Muren	Firefighter/Paramedic	05/10/99	
Christopher DeFrance	Firefighter/Paramedic	9/11/00	
Charles Prager	Firefighter/Paramedic	03/08/04	
Joseph Babcock	Firefighter/Paramedic	03/15/04	
Maryann Struckel	Administrative Assistant	2/12/2007 - (10/30/03)	
Jonathan Downs	Firefighter/Paramedic	08/27/07	
Michael Beckman	Firefighter/Paramedic	09/04/07	
Daniel Caldwell	Firefighter/Paramedic	09/10/07	
Derek Griffin	Firefighter/Paramedic	01/20/09	
Matthew Litten	Firefighter/Paramedic	09/04/12	
Matthew Heini	Firefighter/Paramedic	09/05/12	
Larry Heiple	Firefighter/Paramedic	2/11/2013	
Rich Schwenning Jr.	Firefighter/Paramedic	04/02/13	
Steven Scarpino	Firefighter/Paramedic	6/10/13	
Curtis Russell	Firefighter/Paramedic	7/29/13	
Brent Bergdorf	Firefighter/Paramedic	9/9/13	
Rory Richards	Firefighter/Paramedic	2/9/15	
Michael Porter	Firefighter/Paramedic	4/23/18	
Steve Chiarappa	Firefighter/Paramedic	5/28/19	
Joe Gombaski	Firefighter/Paramedic	7/8/19	
Stephen Baglia	Firefighter/Paramedic	1/6/20	
Cody Robertson	Firefighter/Paramedic	05/04/20	
Baron Derita	Firefighter/Paramedic	05/11/20	
Abdull Youssef	Firefighter/Paramedic	05/12/20	
Spencer Heppner	Firefighter/Paramedic	10/05/20	

2020 Organizational Chart

2020 Organization Chart



Fire Department Budget

Barberton, OH, is a community where the effects of the recession are still substantial. Stagnant tax revenues, decreased property values, increased personnel costs, and on-going capital expense obligations remain a real problem. Consequently, the financial need of the BFD is genuine despite our best attempts to be fiscally responsible.

The BFD is funded through the city's income tax-based General Fund for operations and a 0.75 mill levy specifically for capital expenses. Compounding our financial outlook are the years of depreciating property values, which have resulted in the continual decline in property tax revenue and our 20-year capital plan becoming unsupported. The BFD has aggressively sought grant funding through the Assistance to Firefighter's Grant program, Ohio's EMS grant program and other private foundations and corporate donors to fund mission-critical capital expenses.

Description	2020 approved
Fireman Wages	\$3,740,533.00
Administrative Assistant	\$47,510.00
Part Time Wages	\$0.00
Health and Life Insurance	\$815,000.00
Medicare	\$54,229.00
P.E.R.S.	\$6,652.00
Fire Pension	\$785,000.00
Severance Pay Contribution	\$75,715.00
Workers' Compensation	\$77,000.00
Retired Life Insurance	\$8,300.00
Clothing Allowance	\$53,800.00
Gym Membership Reimbursements	\$400.00
TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	\$5,664,139.00
Training/Travel	\$16,000.00
Professional Services	\$65,000.00
Laundry Service	\$9,500.00
Repair and Maintenance	\$48,000.00
Copier Lease	\$2,200.00
Radio Supplies and Repairs	\$3,000.00
Auto Insurance	\$17,479.00
Property Insurance	\$4,549.00
EMT Malpractice Insurance	\$792.00
Telephone	\$9,500.00
Advertising	\$0.00
Memberships	\$850.00
Turn out gear replacement	\$12,000.00
Office Supplies/Other	\$1,200.00
Operating Supplies	\$9,400.00
Tools/ equipment	\$5,500.00
Repair & Maintenance Supply	\$9,500.00
Annual Service Agreements	\$22,000.00
Safety Equipment DX	\$5,500.00
Air Mask Repair/Upgrade MSA	\$5,000.00
EMS Supplies	\$28,000.00
Community Education	\$0.00
EMS Grant Expenditures	\$0.00
East Ohio Gas	\$9,000.00
Electric Power	\$27,000.00
Gasoline and Oil	\$18,000.00
Radio Maintenance	\$20,000.00
Postage	\$350.00
OPERATING COSTS	\$349,320.00
BUDGET TOTAL	\$6,013,459.00

Grants

The Barberton Fire Department aggressively seeks grant funding annually to acquire new equipment and training that improves the services we provide to the community while saving tax dollars. However, because public fire departments do not have a 501(C) (3) tax exemption status there are a limited number of funding opportunities. Also, grant funding is very competitive and many project requests do not receive funding.

Over the years, the BFD has been moderately successful at receiving over 3.6 million dollars in grant aid. Because of our success at obtaining grants, mission critical projects were funded with little to no cost to the community such as,

- A Portion of the Construction of Station 2
- Two Fire Pumper Trucks
- Ambulance
- Heavy Rescue and Mobile Air Unit
- Fire Station Alerting System & City-Wide Tornado Warning System
- Radio System
- Firefighter Turnout Gear
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (air packs) and Air Fill Station
- Ballistic Vests, Helmets, and Tactical Medic Gear
- Fire Hose and Nozzles
- Thermal Imaging Cameras
- Vehicle Stabilization and Extrication Equipment
- Majority of Our Technical Rescue Equipment
- Training Courses and Training Aids
- EMS Equipment
- COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment



In 2020, the BFD applied for and received a Grant from The University of Findlay to provide Emergency Response Railcar Training to the Department. Barberton has a lot of industry that utilizes Railcar transport. These rail cars carry many HAZARDOUS and TOXIC commodities daily. Including, but not limited to, Chlorine, Anhydrous Ammonia, and Various Alcohols. Having advanced training to respond to railway incidents helps us keep the

community safe. Currently, Barberton Firefighters have multiple members who are HAZMAT Technicians that operate on the Summit County HAZMAT Team. We opened up this training to some surrounding Fire Departments to benefit all. Thanks to Fairlawn, New Franklin, and Coventry Firefighters for attending.

We would like to give a big Thank You to Star Building for the donation of 3 Sets of Lithium-Ion Reciprocating Saws! Each saw will be placed on our 3 front line apparatus. A reciprocating saw is an incredibly versatile tool used in the fire service. From extricating a person during a motor vehicle accident to salvage and overhaul operations during a fire. We were down to 2 corded reciprocating saws, one being nearly 20 years old. Thanks again to Star Building.



Also in 2020, the department applied for over 1.2 million dollars to fund various projects. The table below depicts the projects that were successfully funded

Grant Organization	Item	Amount Received
Ohio Division of EMS	Training & Equipment	\$ 2,765.00
Assistance to Firefighter's Grant	Radio Replacement	\$ 227,812.42
Howmet Aerospace Foundation	Stabilization Equipment	\$ 20,000.00
Total		\$ 250,577.42

Fire Prevention & Arson Investigation



Captain/Fire Marshal Steve Ionno

The Captain/Fire Marshal is responsible for and manages all aspects of fire prevention, including inspections, plan reviews, public education as well as fire investigations.

Inspections

Inspections and activities were impacted by the COVID-19 virus. The Inspection Bureau was able to conduct 424 activities in a 6-month period. We were able to utilize three inspectors off-duty to conduct these activities. The activities included:

- 309-Business inspections and re-inspections
- 96-Sprinkler / Alarm Activities and Test
- 19- Daycare / Foster Care Inspections

Investigations

- The Fire Investigation Unit Conducted 31 fire investigations.

Public Education

- The Public Education Personnel trained 88 people in fire extinguisher use.
- We did not conduct any Public Education First Aid or CPR training due to COVID-19.

Administrative Lieutenant



Lt. David Polacek

The Administrative Lieutenant performs several functions within the department. Specific duties consist of EMS Coordinator, building and vehicle maintenance, Public Information Officer, Training Officer.

EMS Coordinator

- Liaison between the department and Medical Director, area hospitals, and EMS training facilities.
- Upgraded EMS and fire equipment inventory tracking system.
- Purchased necessary supplies for EMS and fire needs.
- Preparing and acquiring COVID related supplies.
- Tracking and notifying those potentially exposed personnel to COVID positive patients.
- Reserve ambulance and fire engine units were fully stocked and equipped for emergency service.

Building Maintenance

- Coordinated the cleaning and organizing of the department's storage areas and equipment. Including updating inventory records.
- Coordinated upgrades to the classroom and dayroom at Station 1.
- Coordinating quotes and estimates for future work for both fire stations

Vehicle Maintenance & Equipment Testing

- Reorganization of department's equipment records
- Scheduling routine and emergency maintenance for department vehicles as well as a preventative maintenance program.
- Upgraded EMS and fire equipment inventory tracking system.
 - Purchased necessary supplies for EMS and fire needs
- Assisting the Fire Marshal with a court ordered site cleanup.
- Coordinated fire pump and ladder testing.
- Updated our probationary firefighter handbook.
- Participated in the interview hiring process of new firefighters.

Public Information Officer

- Writing press releases and giving interviews for incidents that occurred.
- Assisted with providing information and records requests for EMS reports to various agencies.

Training Officer

- Updated the department's probationary firefighter handbook.
- Assisted with the coordination and tracking of department training and State mandated continuing education.
 - EMS
 - Over 1250 hours of EMS Continuing Education including Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instruction
 - Paramedic student riders
 - One program reported 246 clinical hours were provided for their students.
 - Probationary Firefighter Training
 - Six probationary firefighters completed an 8-hour vehicle extrication/stabilization course
 - Six probationary firefighters 8-hour course consisting of live fire, forcible entry, roof operations, and vent-enter-search.
 - Firefighter Training
 - Over 400 hours of Firefighter Continuing Education including
 - Rail Car Simulator & Awareness training
 - Fire Officer Training
 - Three officers completed NIMS 300
 - One officer completed State of Ohio Fire Instructor
 - Two officers completed State of Ohio Live Fire Instructor
 - One officer completed State of Ohio Fire Inspector
 - One officer completed Incident Safety Officer
 - One officer completed NFPA 1021 Fire Officer 2
 - One firefighter completed NFPA 1021 Fire Officer 1
 - One officer completed two command courses offered at BGSU
 - Special Operations Training
 - Hazardous Materials- Approximately 289 hours
 - Technical Rescue- Approximately 266 Hours

- SWAT
 - Four SWAT medics completed Basic Bailiff Training
 - SWAT medic monthly training conducted on a regular basis- 267 hours

Emergency Response & Special Operations

The Barberton Fire Department's fire and emergency response includes 42 firefighters/paramedics who work 24-hour shifts (A, B, & C). The rank structure is:

3- Captains- Captains are Shift Commanders that supervise and lead the fire crews at both stations.

Captains are responsible for scene management at emergency incidents and the overall readiness of the personnel on their shift.

A-Shift

Shift Commander

Captain Duane Milford



B-Shift

Shift Commander

Captain Michael Corll



C-Shift

Shift Commander

Captain Richard Schwenning



9– Lieutenants- Lieutenants function as Company Officers and are responsible to direct the personnel assigned to their trucks including training and job function assignments.

30- Firefighter/Paramedics- Fire/Medics are responsible to know and provide all aspects of emergency response to the public.

Fire Stations



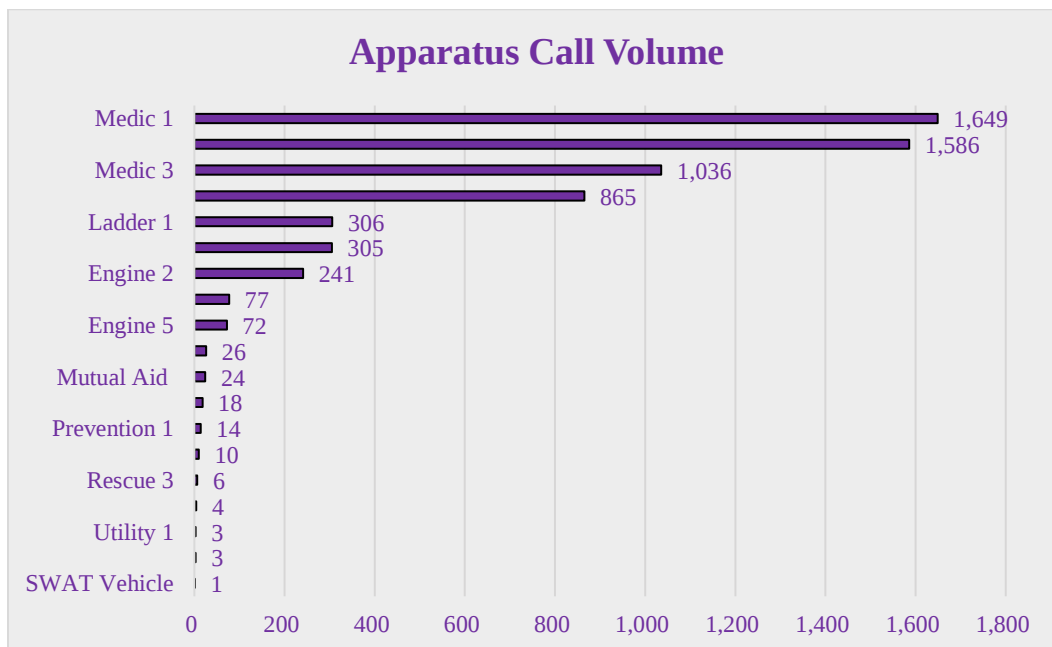
Barberton Fire Station 1, 580 Wooster Rd. West



Barberton Fire Station 2, 93 E. State Street

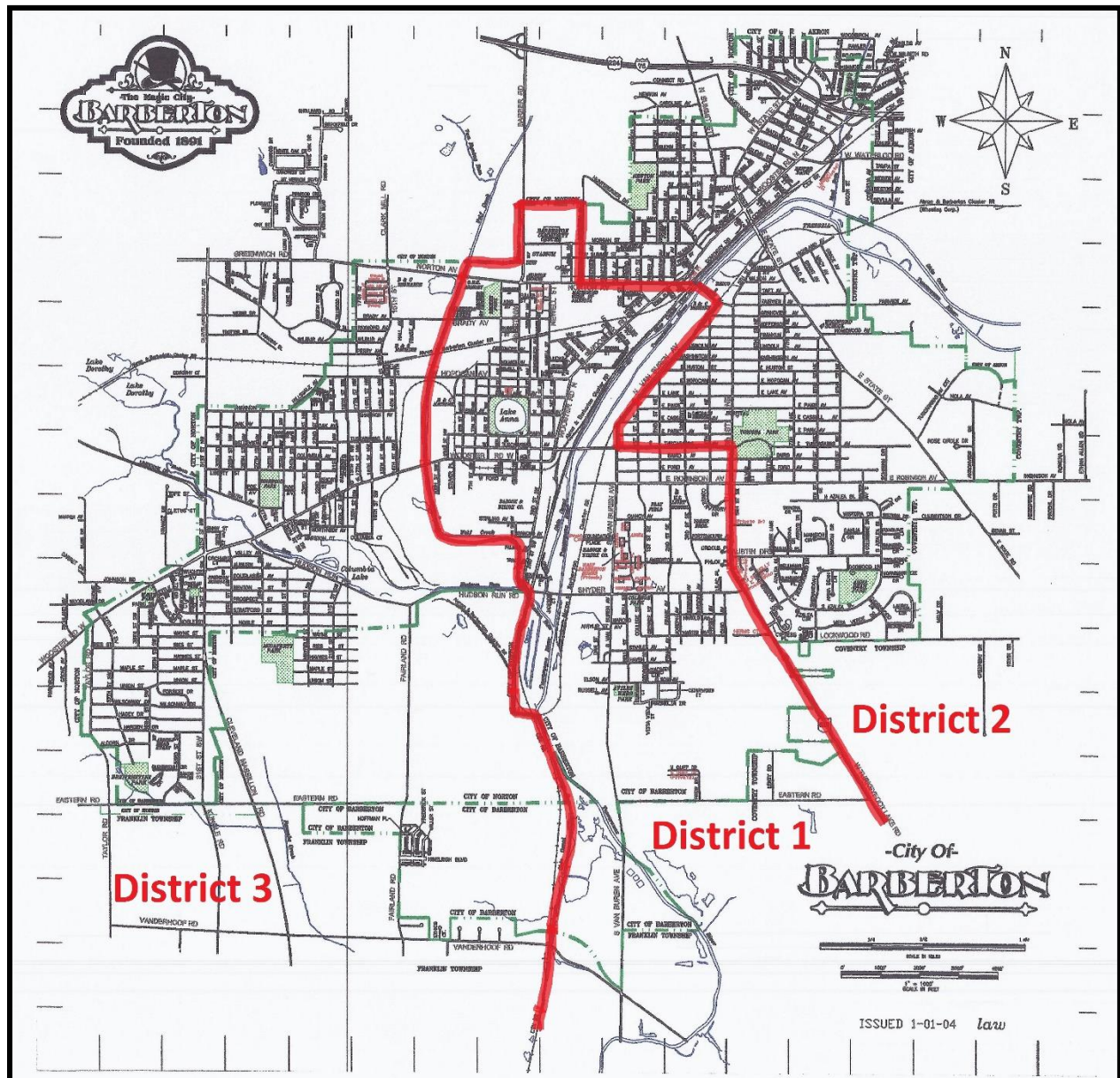
Vehicles

YEAR	MAKE	USE/SPECIAL FEATURES
1995	Emergency One	100' Ladder Truck
2000	Emergency One	Reserve Pumper 1500 GPM
2001	Emergency One	75' Ladder Truck
2001	Chevy Van	Fire Investigation Unit
2003	Sutphen	Pumper 1500 GPM
2004	Chevy	Bariatric Ambulance
2004	Jeep Cherokee	Safety Officer
2005	Ford F250	Pick Up 4x4 w/Plow
2008	Ford 4x4 Expedition	Fire Chief
2008	Ford 4x4 Expedition	Shift Commander
2009	Ford	Reserve Ambulance
2010	Hackney	Rescue, Mobile Breathing Air, Light Tower
2014	Chevy	Ambulance
2016	Chevy	Ambulance
2016	Sutphen	Pumper 1500 GPM
2019	Freightliner	Ambulance
	Trailer - White Trailer	Hazmat
	Trailer - Red Trailer	Trench Rescue



Resource Deployment

The City is divided into three response districts to ensure the best response to the community's emergencies.

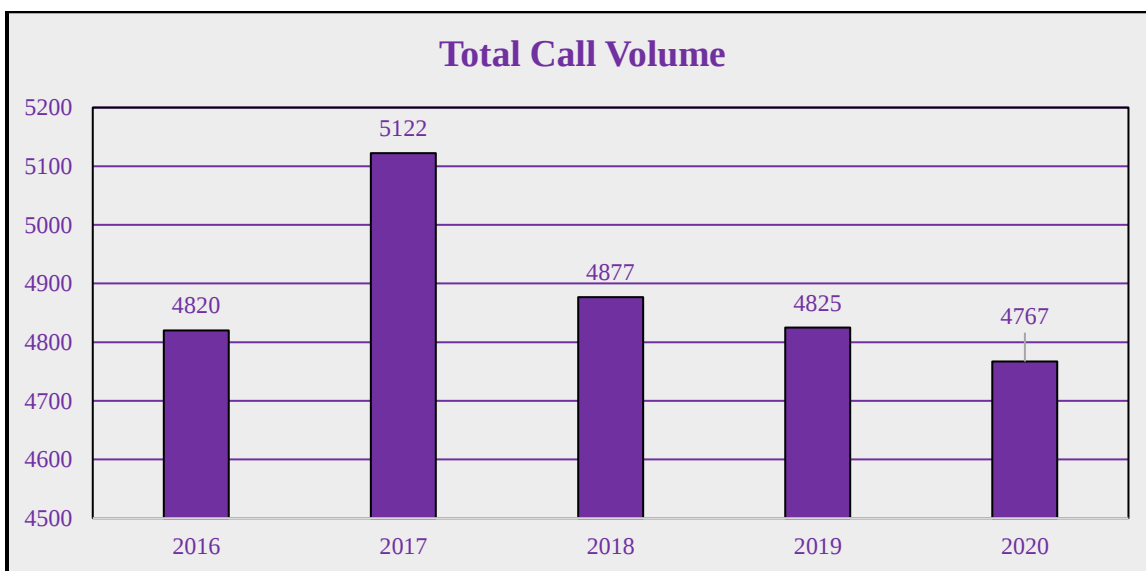


- District 1's crew responds with a 75' ladder truck or an ambulance depending on the nature of the call.
- District 2's crew responds with a 100' ladder truck, a pumper truck or an ambulance depending on the nature of the call.
- District 3's crew responds with a pumper truck or an ambulance depending on the nature of the call.

In addition, the BFD maintains a front-line regional Bariatric unit, an additional ALS ambulance for emergency call back personnel, a Heavy Rescue Truck, a boat, and a Special Operations trailer. With the BFD's limited staffing, this type of deployment matrix provides the greatest versatility and effectiveness for protecting the lives and property within our community.

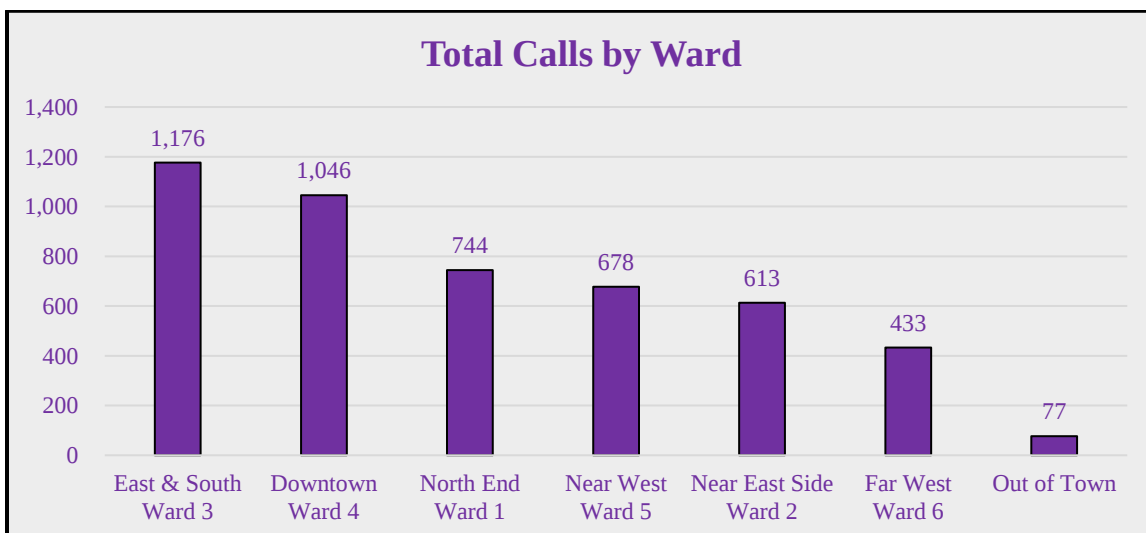
Overall Call Data

In 2020, the BFD responded to 4,767 requests for service. These requests included EMS, fires, hazardous conditions, and non-emergencies. In 2017, our call volume spiked to 5,122 but has returned to an average of 4,800 calls per year (see graph below). The spike is attributed to an increased number of fires, hazardous conditions, and miscellaneous non-emergency requests.

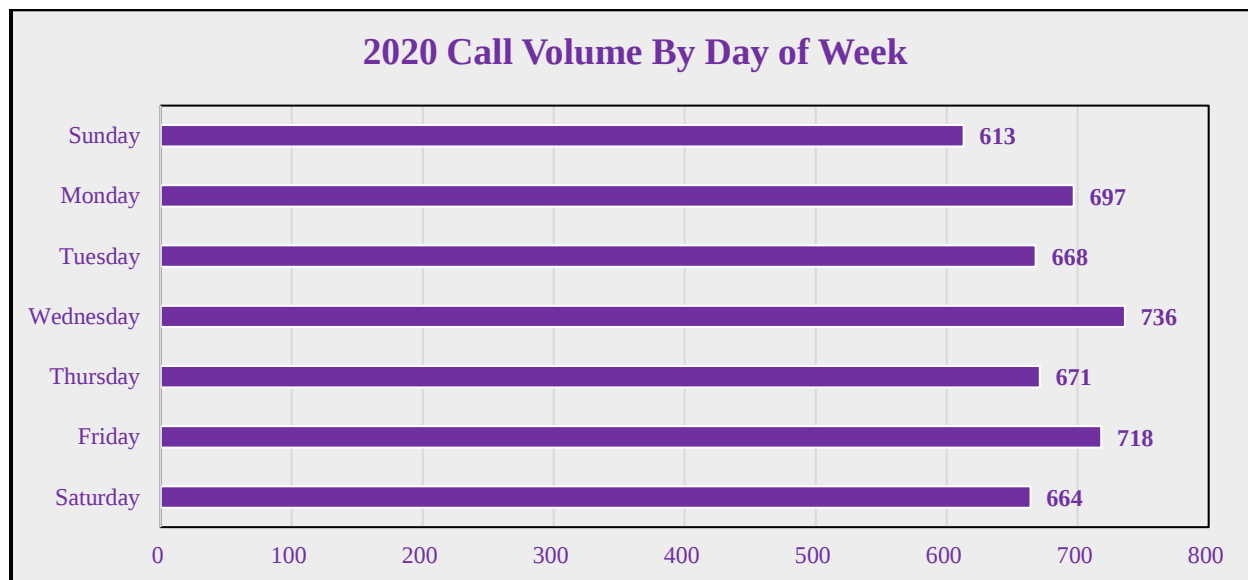


The graph below details the total calls by ward and out of town responses (mutual/automatic aid).

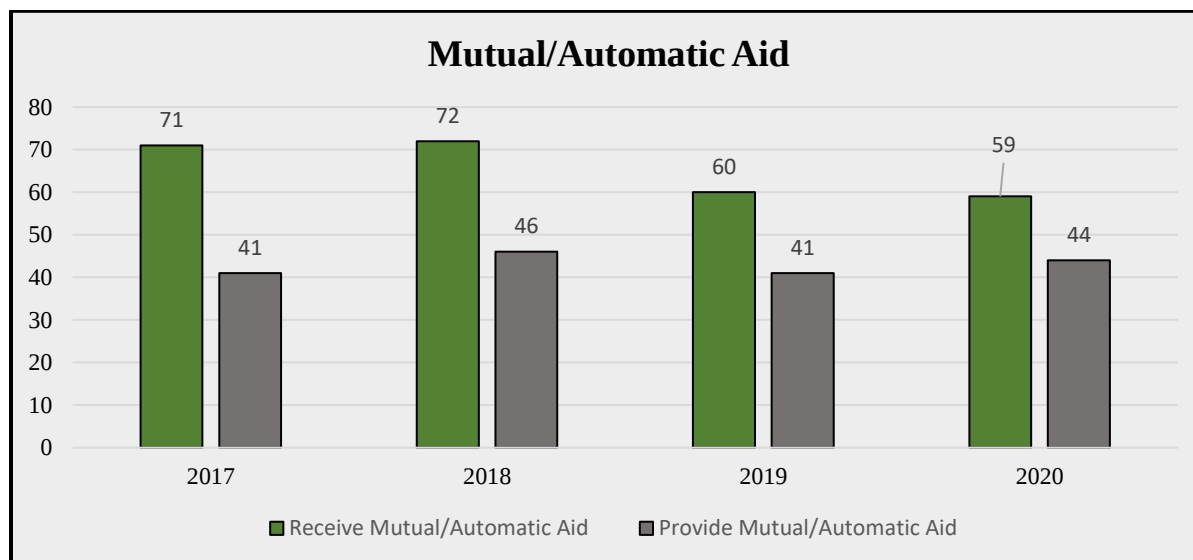
The majority of calls in each ward are EMS calls.



The graph below depicts call volume by day of the week

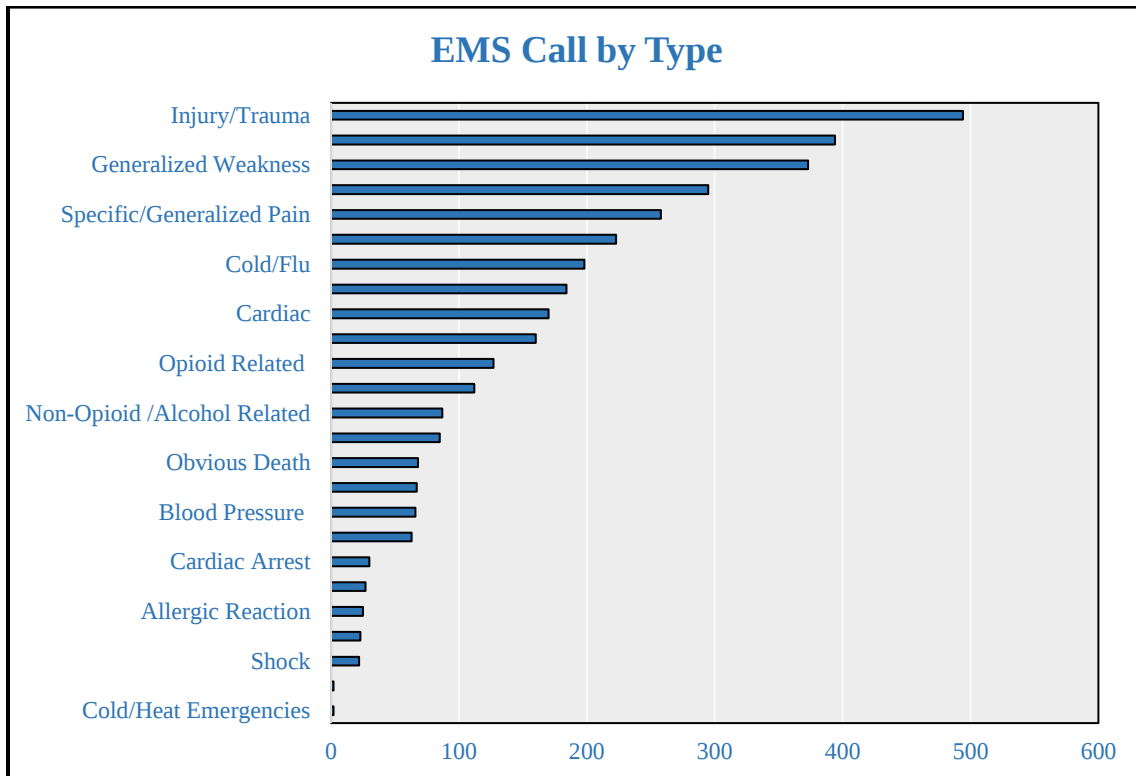


Finally, the graph below details mutual/automatic aid

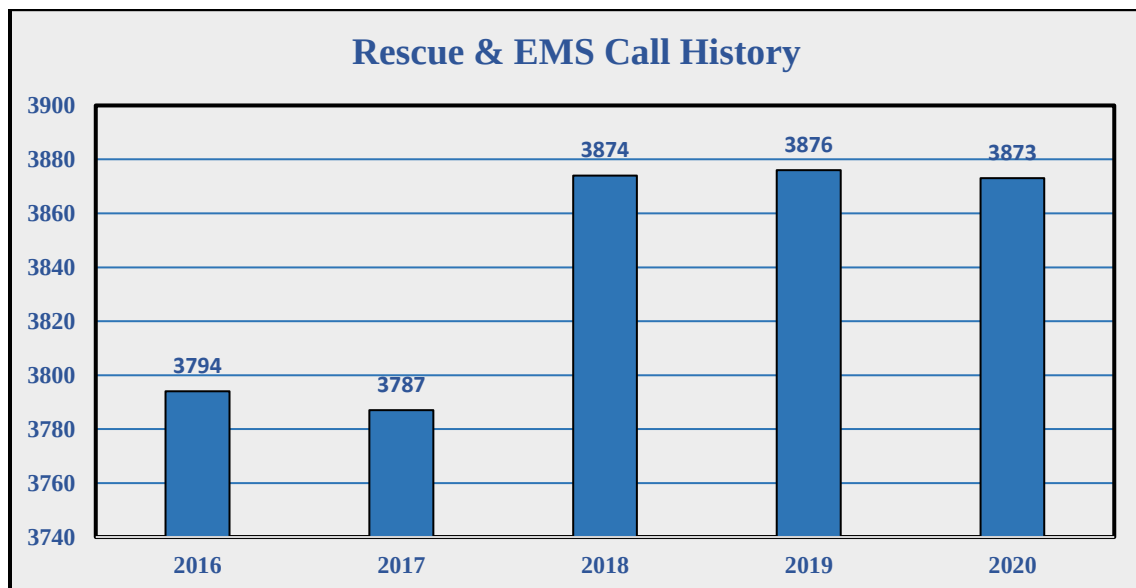


EMS Services

Emergency medical services are the most requested calls from the Barberton Fire Department. Personnel at the BFD are certified State of Ohio Paramedics and work under the medical direction of Dr. Douglas Gallo from Summa Health. Our paramedics are trained and equipped to treat and transport everything from basic injuries and illnesses to advanced medical emergencies (heart attacks, cardiac arrests, strokes, major trauma, etc.). In 2020, our department responded to 3,873 EMS calls. Of the 3,873 calls our most commonly treated and transported emergencies are in the following graph:

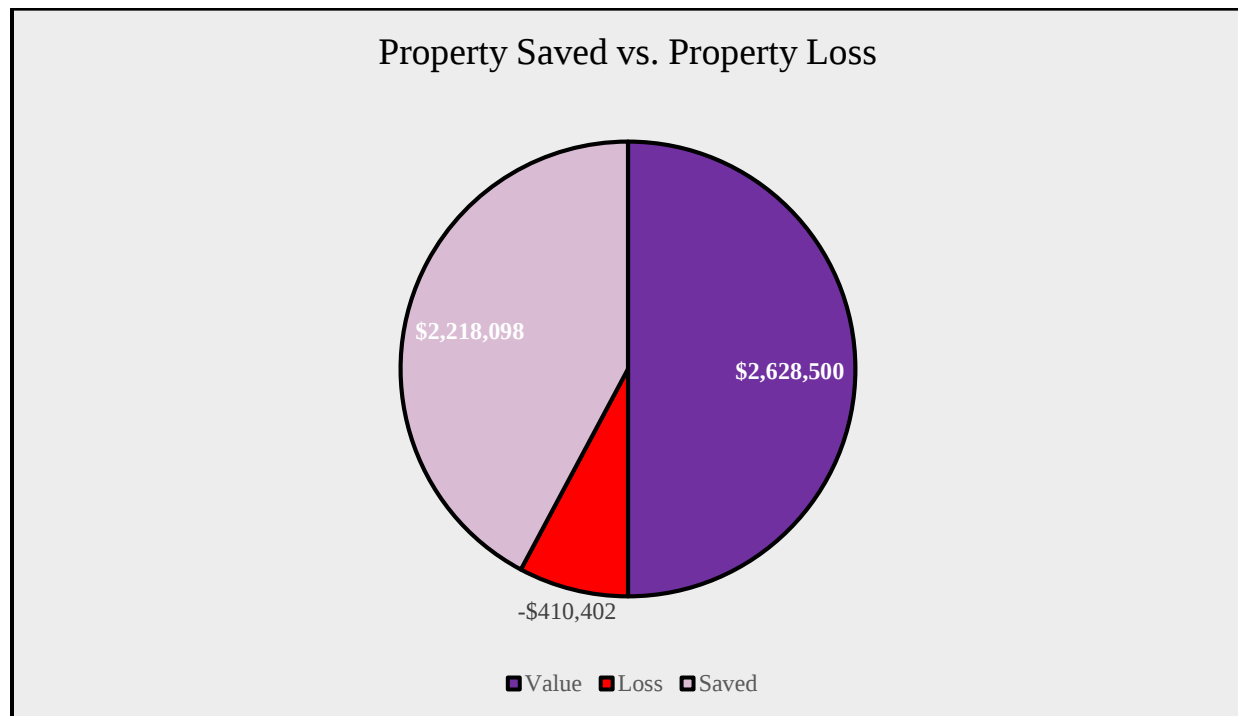


Request for EMS services have increased over the past 5-years, but have been consistent over the last 3-years (see graph below).



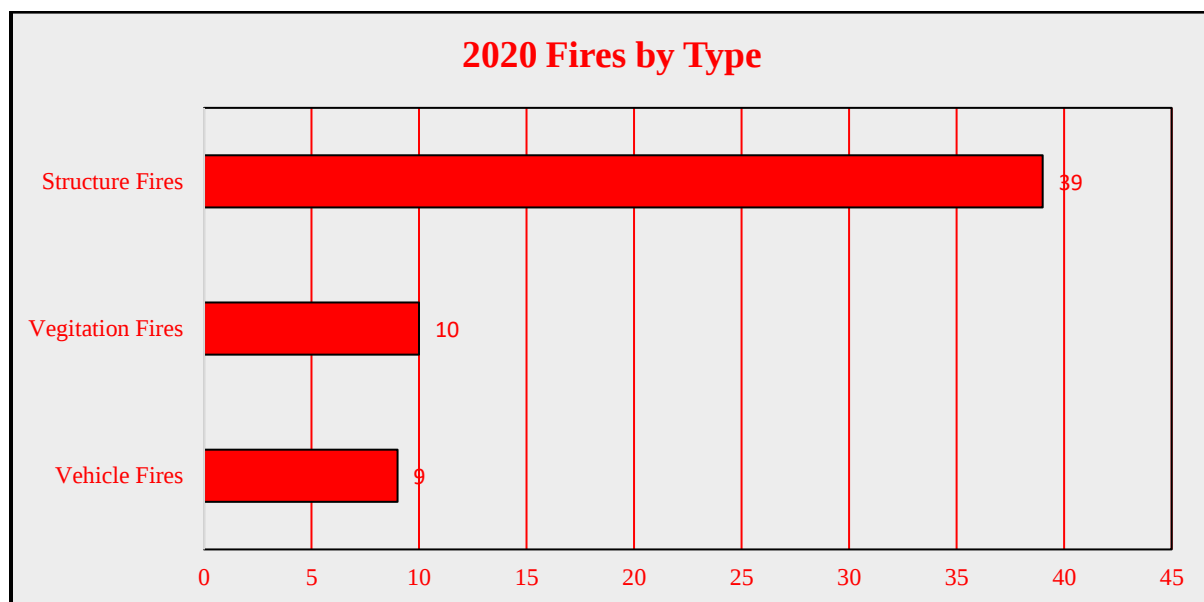
Fire Suppression

There are many ways of measuring the effectiveness of a fire department. One method is to look at the comparison of the property's value and the sustained fire loss. The graph below depicts the property value (\$2,628,500), fire loss (\$410,402) to property saved, (\$2,218,098).

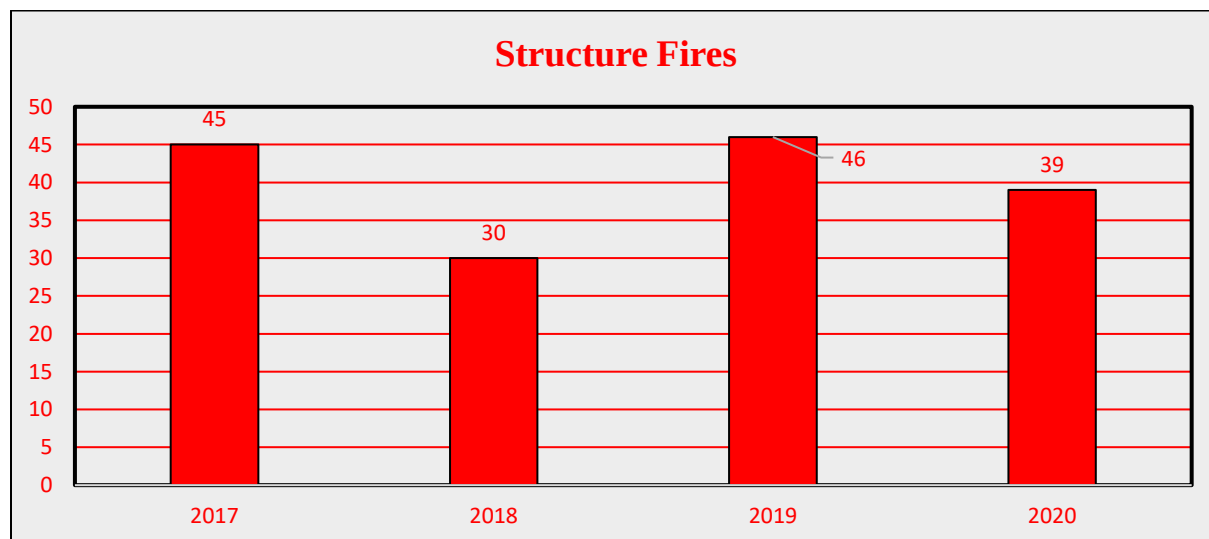


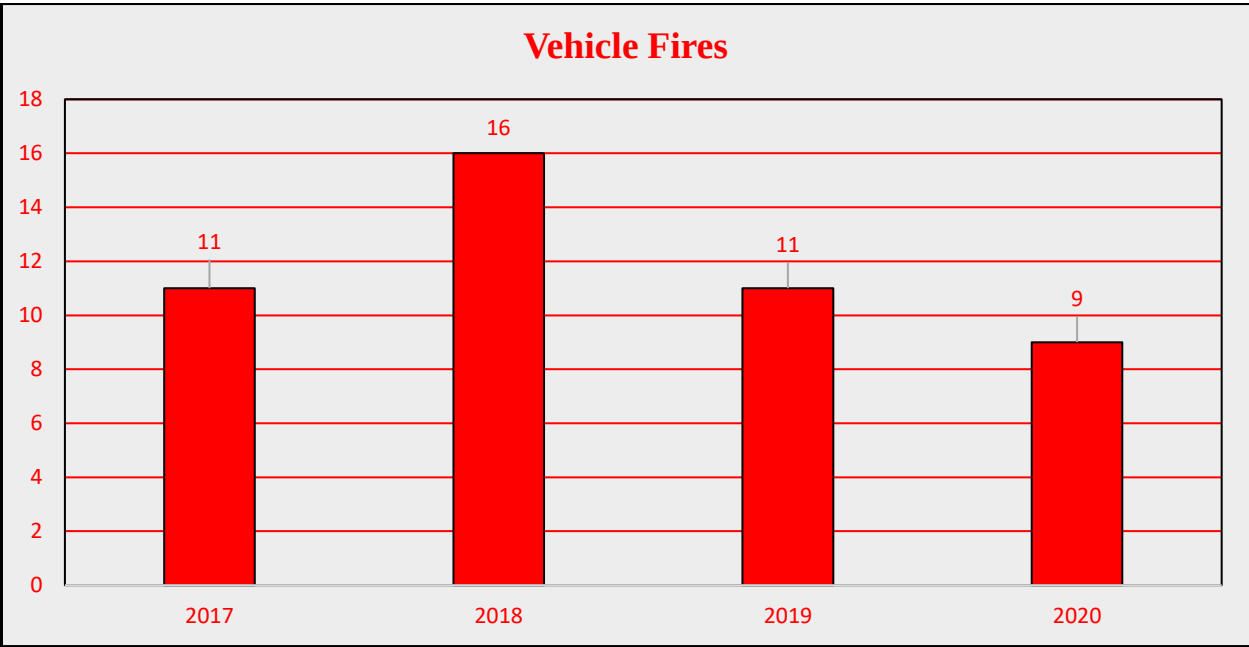
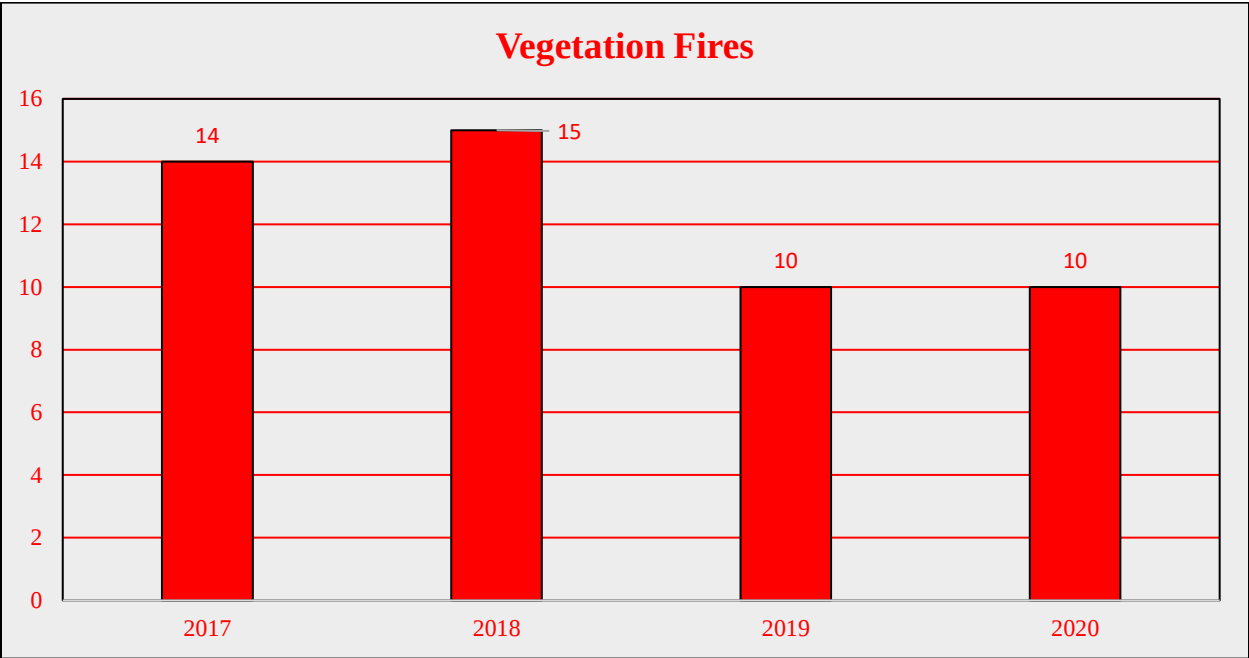
Fire data is reported to the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) is a system established by the National Fire Data Center of the United States Fire Administration (USFA). The purpose of the system is to assist state and local governments with fire reporting and analysis capability for their own use, and to obtain data that can be used to more accurately assess and subsequently combat the fire problem at a national level.

After responding to an incident, the Barberton Fire Department completes the appropriate NFIRS modules. Each module collects a common set of information that describes the nature of the call, the actions firefighters took in response to the call, and the end results, including firefighter and civilian casualties and a property loss estimate. The following graphs detail the type and number of fires the BFD responded to in 2020.



The following three graphs show the 4-year history of structure fires, vehicle fires, and vegetation fires





Special Operations



Although all members of the department are highly trained in both firefighting and EMS, many are additionally trained and capable in areas such as technical rescue, water and ice rescue, and handling hazardous materials emergencies. Members of these special operations teams train both within our own department and also with the Summit County Special Operations Response

Team, and respond to requests for emergency assistance throughout Summit County and the State of Ohio. Also, the BFD has members who serve on FEMA's Ohio Task Force 1.

Hazardous Materials



There are 19 facilities in the City of Barberton that are required to report to the Barberton Fire Department, Summit County LEPC, and the Ohio EPA. They are required to report due to the fact that their inventory of certain chemicals is over the reporting quantity as set by the Ohio EPA. This is required due to the "Community Right to Know Law" mandated by the federal government. There are also approximately 24 active oil well sites in Barberton. Not included in this figure are gas stations and oil & gas

wells which are no longer required to be reported. The EPA breaks down chemical reporting into hazardous substances & extremely hazardous substances. In the City of Barberton, there are approximately 121 different hazardous substances being reported and 15 different extremely hazardous substances. As of last report, the City of Barberton ranks number 3 in Summit County behind Akron and Twinsburg in the amount of extremely hazardous materials. Barberton Fire keeps track of these chemicals with CAMEO. This computer program shows which chemicals are where and in what volume and also lists contact names and numbers in case of emergency.

Hazardous Material incidents that occur within Summit County are handled by the Summit County Hazmat team. Barberton Fire Department is proud to provide three members from our department to train and participate as hazmat team members. Those three employees are trained to the technician level, which requires extensive initial training and regular continuing education.

Summit county Hazmat is a “Type 1” team, which is the highest level of response capabilities and preparedness. Summit County can respond to unknown chemical releases as well as incidents involving chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons. This covers a wide range of situations, including minor incidents like oil and gas spills, to large incidents such as train derailments. There is only a limited number of Type 1 teams throughout the State of Ohio.

The Summit County Hazmat team is divided into two groups; a City of Akron Group and a County Group. Both sides train together monthly and respond simultaneously and provide back-up if needed.

The continued success of the Summit County Hazmat team can be attributed to the many communities across Summit County, like Barberton, that send a few of their members to the extra training in order to collaborate for the county level response. It is crucial for the protection of the County as a whole, as well as municipalities such as the City of Barberton.

Technical Rescue

The main disciplines of technical rescue include rope rescue, confined space rescue, trench rescue, and structural collapse rescue. Members of the Barberton Fire Department participate with local, state, and federal technical rescue teams.

The Summit County Technical Rescue Team

Similar, to the Summit County Hazardous Materials Team, there is a county wide team which handles technical rescues within Summit County.

State of Ohio Region 5 Collapse Search & Rescue Strike Team

Ohio Region 5 consists of the following counties: Summit, Stark, Richland, Ashland, Wayne, Portage, Tuscarawas, Medina, Holmes, Mahoning, Trumbull, Carroll, and Columbia. The team responds to structural collapses to assist with rescuing people within Region 5.

Federal Emergency Management Agency Ohio Task Force One



The National Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Response System is a framework for organizing federal, state, and local partner emergency response teams as an integrated federal disaster response task force. The System’s 28 US&R task forces can be deployed by FEMA to a disaster area to provide assistance in structural collapse rescue, or they may be pre-positioned when a major disaster threatens a community.

Ohio Task Force 1 is one of the nation's 28 US&R teams. Ohio Task Force 1 is based in Dayton Ohio. OH-TF1 proudly serves our state and nation as one of its top Urban Search and Rescue teams. Since 2000, the Barberton Fire Department has had personnel become members of OHTF-1. Our personnel have deployed to multiple disasters:

- 2001- World Trade Center
- 2003- Hurricane Isabel
- 2005- Hurricane Dennis
- 2005- Hurricane Katrina
- 2008- Hurricane Gustav
- 2008- Hurricane Ike
- 2010- Haiti Earthquake
- 2010- Ohio National Guard Talon Shield Exercise
- 2011- National Level Exercise 2011
- 2011- Hurricane Irene
- 2016- Hurricane Matthew

Barberton SWAT Tactical Emergency Medical Support

The BFD provides four (4) specially trained paramedics (SWAT Medics) to the Barberton/Norton/New Franklin SWAT Team. The purpose and objectives of the SWAT Medics are:

- To provide specialized on-scene care for injured tactical officers. This may include temporizing management of non-serious injuries and illnesses, which will allow the tactical officer to continue functioning during the operation.
- To serve as a medical liaison and provide coordination between fire, Medical, HAZMAT and tactical units during Barberton SWAT activities.
- To provide communication and coordination with the chief officer of the responding EMS unit of the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) – usually the fire department chief or his designate. This includes establishing the safety of the medical staging area and obtaining any specialized equipment or personnel.
- To assist the EMS personnel from the AHJ. This may include providing additional medics to work with the EMS team and thereby minimize the on-scene personnel requirements for the AHJ in a prolonged situation.
- To make available specialized equipment on scene.
- To develop first-aid training and equipment for the tactical officers.
- To provide emergency care for injured canine units.
- To provide documentation of health status of persons taken into custody by Barberton SWAT prior to their release to the local police department and make recommendations for further immediate medical care vs. release for incarceration.

- To advise the Barberton SWAT Command Staff concerning non-police safety issues such as environmental concerns, dealing with hazardous materials, medical issues with team members, or evacuation of injured parties.
- To provide preventative medical support for team members.

In 2020, three (3) of the BFD's SWAT Medics attended the 40-hour Bailiff Basic Officers Course. This course covered pistol usage and carry for the SWAT Medics. Two (2) SWAT Medics also attended a Basic Swat Officers Course. This 40-hour course is to give the SWAT medics a basic understanding of tactics and policies and procedures of SWAT operations.

In 2020, the BFD Swat Medics supported the Barberton/Norton/New Franklin SWAT Team on five (5) callouts.

Awards & Recognition

Department Letters of Recognition:

- Capt. Steve Ionno and Lt. Dave Polacek for their diligent cleanup efforts of a local business
- Actions taken by members of the Barberton Fire Dept. on the morning of October 30, 2020 during a house fire with people trapped.
 - Shift Commander Capt. Rick Schwenning was faced with an extremely complex incident that required immediate, critical decision making to save lives and property.
 - Lt. Dan Caldwell, FF Rob Weinmann and FF Chuck Prager discovered and rescued a trapped occupant from a front porch roof. They then aggressively began fire suppression efforts on a fully involved structure which minimized damage to nearby homes.
 - Lt. Dave Semivan and FF Chris DeFrange stretched the first attack line, secured a water supply and were instrumental in rescuing a trapped occupant from a second story window.
 - Acting Lt. Neil Morgan, FF Rory Richards and FF Michael Porter were enroute to the hospital with a patient when the call came in for the house fire. They safely and expeditiously completed the transport to the hospital and returned to the scene to care for one of the fire victims. After FF Richards was reassigned by Command to fire suppression, Acting Lt. Morgan, FF Porter and members of the New Franklin Fire Department rendered medical care and transported one of the fire victims to the hospital.
- Acting Lt. Kevin Thacker, FF Michael Porter and FF Stephen Baglia for their mutual aid response to a house fire in the City of Norton on December 4, 2020. During this incident they assisted with search and rescue efforts and victim removal from the second floor, fire suppression, and tactical ventilation of the structure. Specifically, the Norton Fire Commanding Officer said they worked very hard at each task that was given to them.

Mayoral Proclamations

- Actions taken by members of the Barberton Fire Dept. on the morning of October 30, 2020 during a house fire with people trapped.
 - Captain Rick Schwenning
 - Lt. Dan Caldwell
 - Lt. Dave Semivan
 - Acting Lt. Neil Morgan
 - Firefighter Chris DeFrange
 - Firefighter Rob Weinmann
 - Firefighter Chuck Prager
 - Firefighter Rory Richards
 - Firefighter Michael Porter

Newly Hired Firefighter/Paramedics in 2020

- Stephen Baglia – 1/06/2020



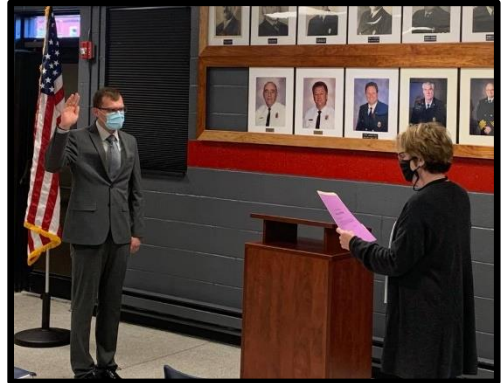
- Abdallah Youssef - 5/12/2020



- Cody Robertson – 5/04/2020



- Spencer Heppner- 10/5/2020



- Baron Derita – 5/11/2020



Promotions

- Duane Milford- Promoted from Lieutenant to Captain (Shift Commander) on 3/6/2020
- Derek Griffin- Promoted from Firefighter to Lieutenant on 3/6/2020

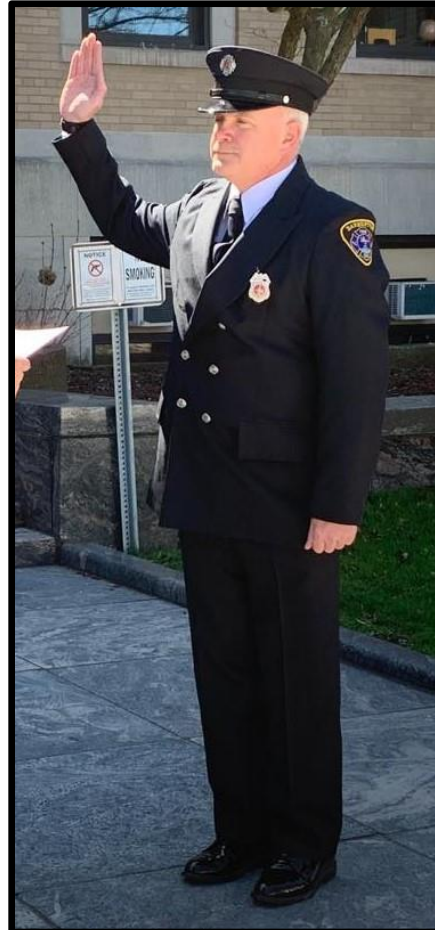


- Robert L. Pursley, Jr.- Promoted from Captain to Fire Chief on 4/30/2020
- Stephen Ionno- Promoted from Lieutenant to Captain (Fire Marshal) on 4/30/2020
- David Polacek- Promoted from Firefighter to Lieutenant on 4/30/2020



Promotions (cont.)

- Richard A. Schwenning
Promoted from Lieutenant to Captain
(Shift Commander) on 4/3/2020
- Timothy Kalmar
Promoted from Firefighter to Lieutenant
on 4/3/2020



Retirements & Resignations

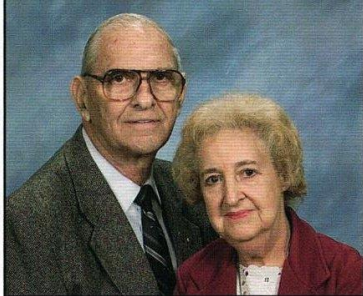
Fire Chief Kim Baldwin- Retired 3/17/2020

Fire Marshal Richard Hardgrove- Retired 2/28/2020

Captain Michael Sweazy- Retired- 3/31/2020

Firefighter David Conner- Retired 4/21/2020

In Memoriam



Former Assistant Chief James E. Arnett passed away August 27, 2020. Assistant Chief Arnett was hired by the Barberton Fire Department September 3, 1962 as a firefighter and retired as an Assistant Chief on October 5, 1988. Throughout his career he served the community in many capacities- firefighter, EMT, arson investigator and fire inspector.