

Annual Report of the Quincy Fire Department



**Fiscal Year
2014-2015**

Introduction

To the Citizens Of Quincy:

The Quincy Fire Department presents the 2014-2015 Annual Report. This report contains information regarding the activities and efforts of the Quincy Fire Department. It is these efforts that drive the actions of the department and the correlating budget.

On May 1, 2015 Station #6 was closed. Operations have been modified to make every effort to minimize the impact of this closure. Response times in District #6 will increase but our commitment to serve has not diminished. The department has continued to modify practices and procedures to ensure apparatus availability in light of the change in response capability.

The department saw the departure of two additional personnel in the past fiscal year. This brought the total number of sworn personnel on the department to 60, down from our authorized level of 66. The additional reduction in personnel, the closure of Station #6 and the anticipated retirements of at least two more people next year have led to a change in the minimum staffing levels of the department. The minimum staffing level was 16 but has been changed to 14. This is a permanent change and went into effect on May 1, 2015.

In light of all of these changes the department is pressing forward with efforts to make our operations more efficient. The coming year should see changes that will increase efficiency and service to the citizens we serve.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about information contained within this report.

Sincerely,



Joe Henning
Fire Chief



*The Quincy Fire Department
Committed to the protection of lives, homes and properties*

Index

Introduction.....Page 2
Index.....Page 3
Response Totals.....Page 4
Responses Per Engine Company.....Page 4
Structure Fires.....Page 5
Structure Fire Causes.....Page 5
Emergency Medical Dispatch Responses.....Page 6
Fire Casualty Report.....Page 7
Fire Protection: Cost vs. Benefit.....Page 7
Responses by District.....Page 8
Response Times by District.....Page 8
2014-2015 Budget.....Page 9
Public Education.....Page 10
Inspection and Code Enforcement.....Page 11
Arson Investigation.....Page 11
Training Division Report.....Pages 12 & 13
Awards and Achievements.....Page 14



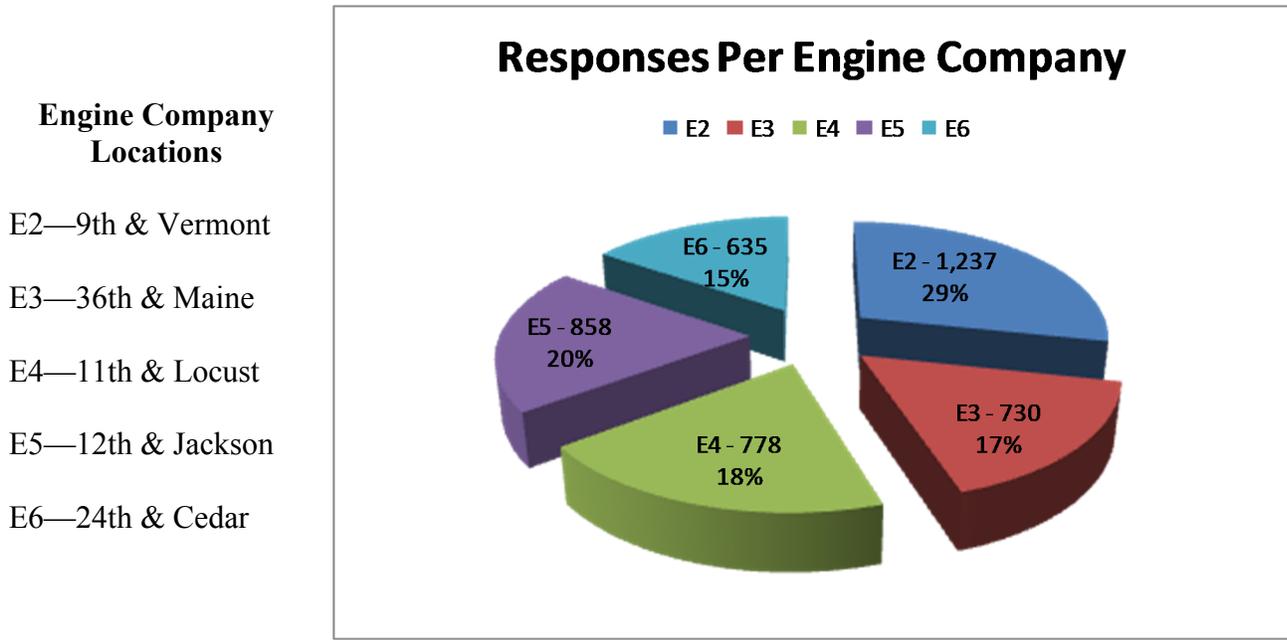
Fire Department Response

The Quincy Fire Department responded to 85 more incidents in this fiscal year compared to the last. Generally speaking, overall fire responses are up as are EMS responses. This is directly related to the shifting demographics in the City of Quincy. The population is aging and the need for access to emergency medical care is on the rise. While the department responds to fewer types of EMS calls today than it did five years ago, the run volume continues to increase.

Response Totals

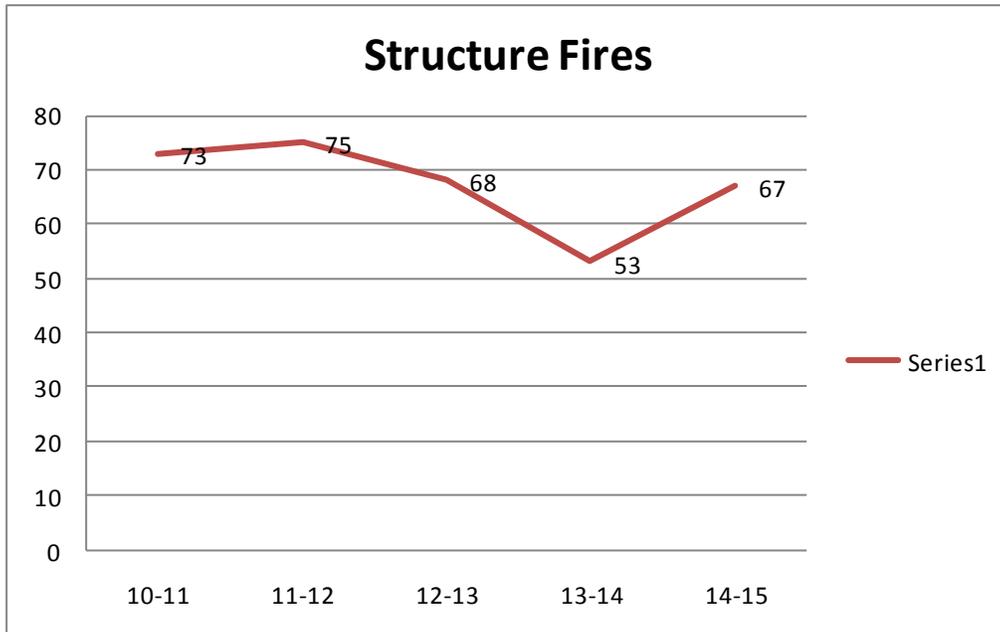
Situation Found	Last Fiscal Year	This Fiscal Year	% of Total Response
Structure Fires	53	67	1.8%
Vehicle Fires	20	17	0.50%
Other Fires	77	102	2.8%
EMS/Rescue	2,007	2,169	59.5%
Hazardous Materials	61	65	1.8%
Dangerous Conditions	164	131	43.6%
Miscellaneous	1,177	1,093	30%
Totals	3,559	3,644	100.00%

Engine Company #2 continues to see the largest number of responses of the five engine companies. This is due to two reasons. One, District #2 encompasses one of the oldest sections of town (more prone to fires) and two, Engine Company #2 responds to general alarm assignments on a city-wide basis. This is directly related to the important capabilities that Engine #2 has that no other frontline apparatus can provide.

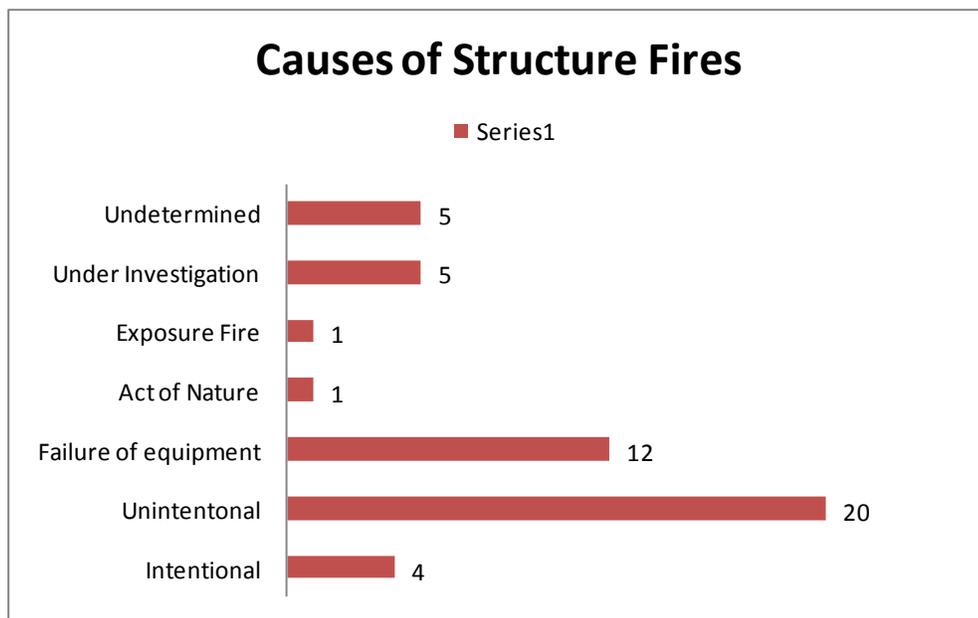


Structure Fires

This is the first time in four years where the City saw an increase in the number of structure fires. While not back to the recent high-water mark of the 11-12 fiscal year, the increase from last year to this year was significant. The majority of these fires were caused by either equipment failure or by unintentional acts.

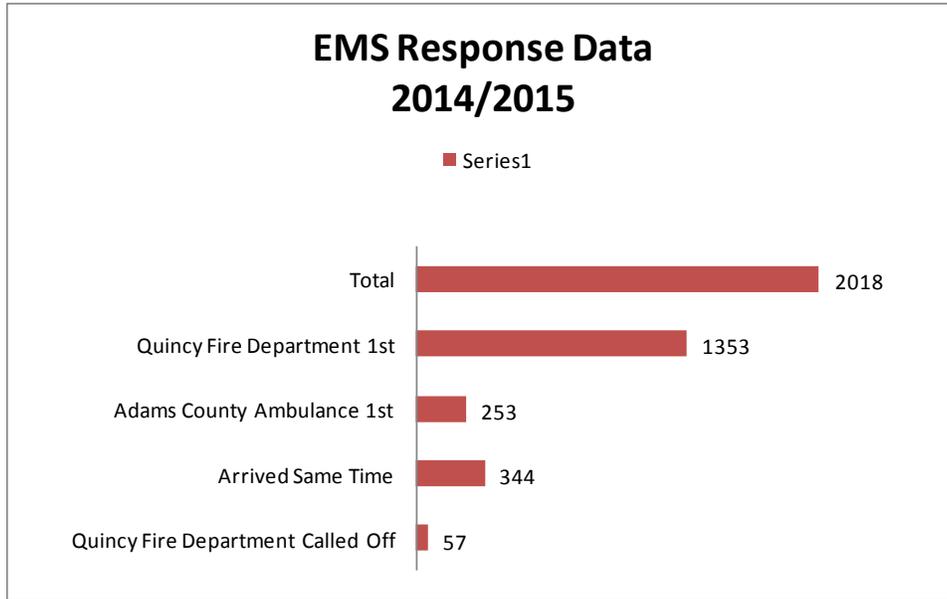


The chart below provides the causes for the structure fires that occurred within the fiscal year. The majority of the fires were unintentional in nature.

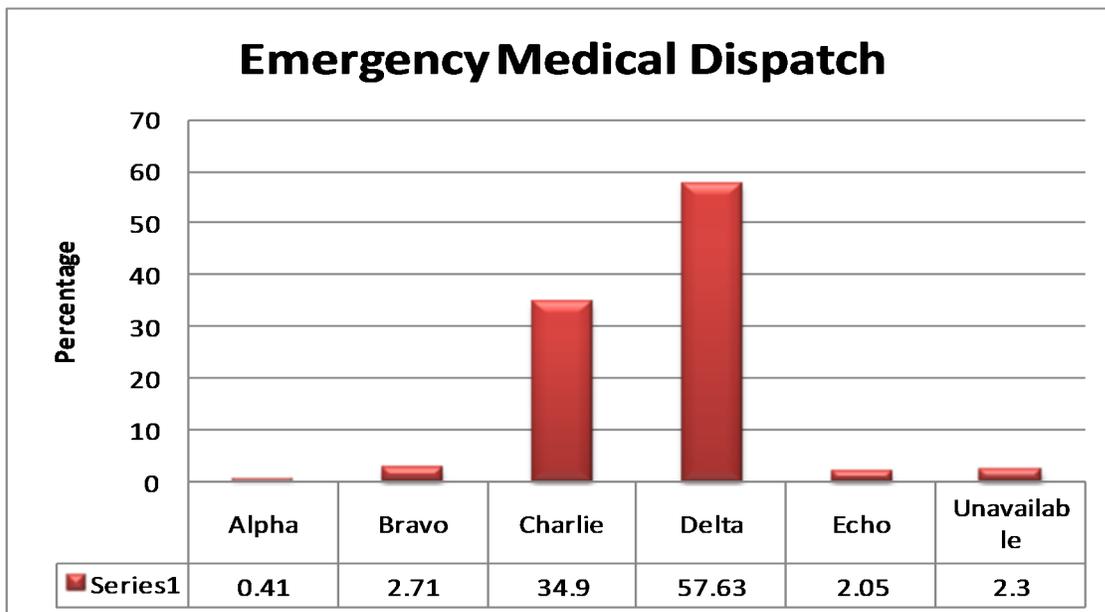


Emergency Medical Services

Emergency medical responses are again our highest percentage of responses. 59.5% of all QFD responses are to incidents which are medical in nature. EMS responses were up by 162 over last year's figure. The EMS Dual Response program continues to prove its' worth in terms of value added service for the citizens of Quincy. In 79.6% of all emergency medical calls the department responds to, crews arrive either ahead of, or at the same time as, the ambulance crews. This allows for citizens to receive timely, professional care in their times of greatest need.



The following chart details how the responses for the past year were broken down. By policy, the department is dispatched on any incident that is deemed to be a “Charlie” level of response or greater. Sometimes it is later determined that the response did not warrant as high a level of response and said response is reclassified. This is why there are “Alpha” and “Bravo” level calls indicated below.



Incident Related Casualties

This past year saw the loss of three lives in fire related incidents. A father and his two sons were lost at a fire in their home, located at 921 North 11th street, on the afternoon of August 9, 2014. These fatalities continued a trend of fire related deaths that began earlier in the year with the loss of a father and son in their home.

Fire fatality figures have been on a slight upward trend. The Quincy Fire Department's public education team continues to work toward combating this trend through education.

Fire Casualty Report

Injury Type	2013-2014	2014-2015
Civilian Fire Deaths	2	3
Civilian Fire Injuries	3 (1 minor, 2 moderate)	2 (1 minor, 1 moderate)
Firefighter Injuries (incident related)	19 (15 minor, 3 moderate, 1 severe)	20 (13 minor, 6 moderate, 1 severe)

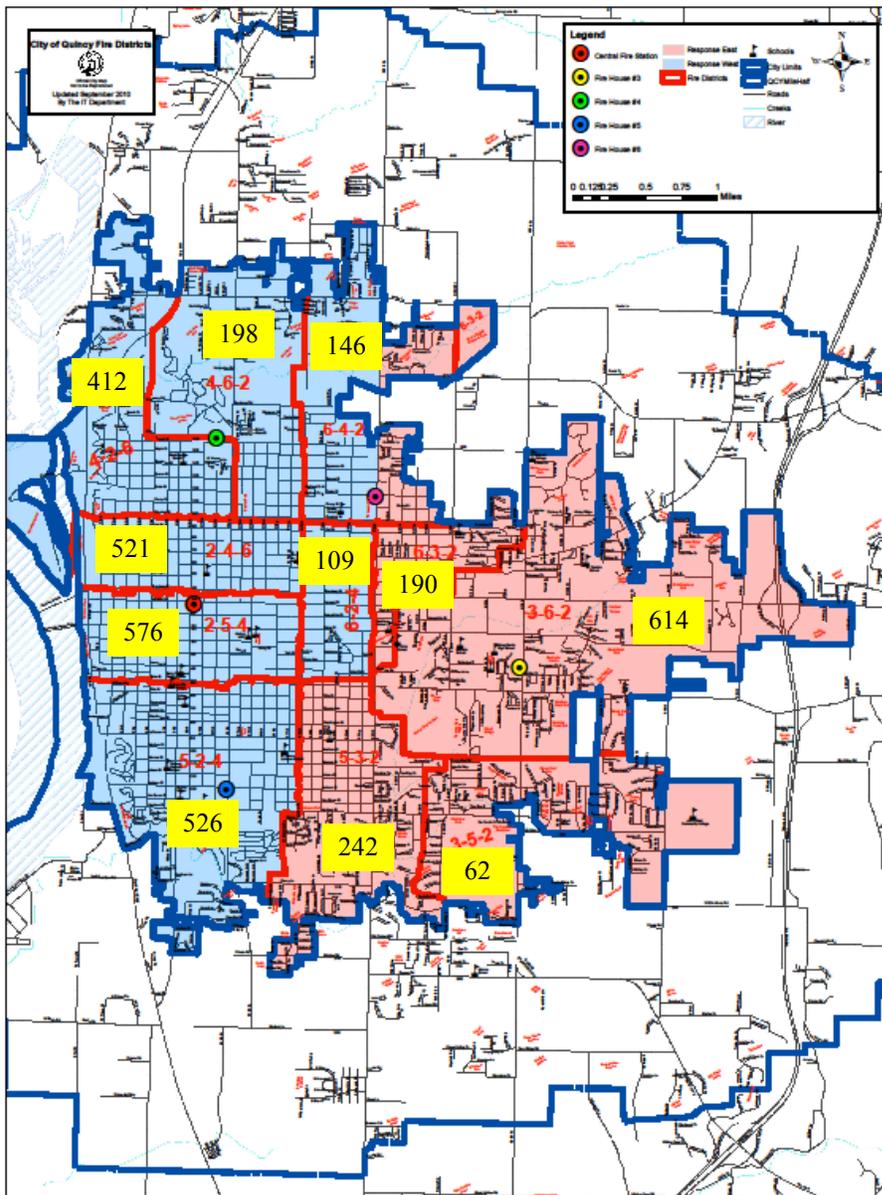
Dollars Responded To, Saved and Lost

The chart below details how the dollars that are spent on fire protection and suppression translate into dollars saved or lost. This past year saw a positive trend. While the value of property responded to increased greatly, the amount of property lost to fire actually decreased. This is a testament to the quick response and professionalism of fire crews. The most notable fire in the past year was the Hotel Elkton and the potential for loss there was huge.

	2013-2014	2014-2015	Change
Value of Property Responded To	\$17,746,715	\$25,116,505	\$7,369,790
Property Lost	\$2,456,586	\$2,030,350	(\$426,236)
Property Saved	\$15,290,129	\$23,086,155	\$7,796,026



Responses by District



Response Times by District

District	Average
2-4-6	3:51
2-5-4	3:34
3-5-2	4:58
3-6-2	3:56
4-2-6	3:31
4-6-2	3:55
5-2-4	3:30
5-3-2	4:09
6-2-4	3:25
6-3-2	3:38
6-4-2	3:19

On this page are the response totals and average response times by district. The City of Quincy is divided into eleven response districts. These are separated by the red lines on the map and the district number is indicated in red lettering. The first digit of the district number indicates the primary engine company to respond. The succeeding two digits represent the additional engine companies that would respond on general alarm assignments. The numbers in the yellow boxes represent the total number of alarms responded to within each response district.

The response times by district are an average of all responses for the year in each particular response district. As the City sees additional housing built in outlying areas we are also seeing response times increase.



*The Quincy Fire Department
Committed to the protection of lives, homes and properties*

2014-2015 Budget

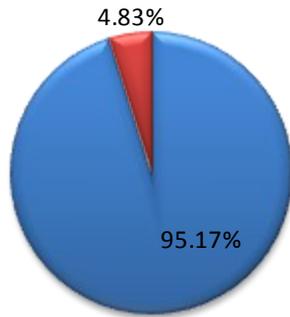
Last year the Quincy Fire Department ended up spending \$9,067,223 out of the approved 2014-2015 budget of \$9,085,332. This represents the use of 99.97% of the funds allocated for the year.

Perhaps the biggest budget issue this past year was the needed rebuild of the engine for Company #4, a 1995 Pierce. The total cost of the re-build was \$36,090.32. The work was performed by Clarke Power Systems out of Pontoon Beach, IL. The work was completed and with the recent closure of Station #6, the truck has been placed into reserve status.

The department staffing level dropped to 60 sworn personnel, 6 less firefighters than the authorized level of 66. The continued drop in personnel drove overtime costs up significantly as additional hire back was needed to ensure that all five stations remained in service.

2014-2015 Labor Costs

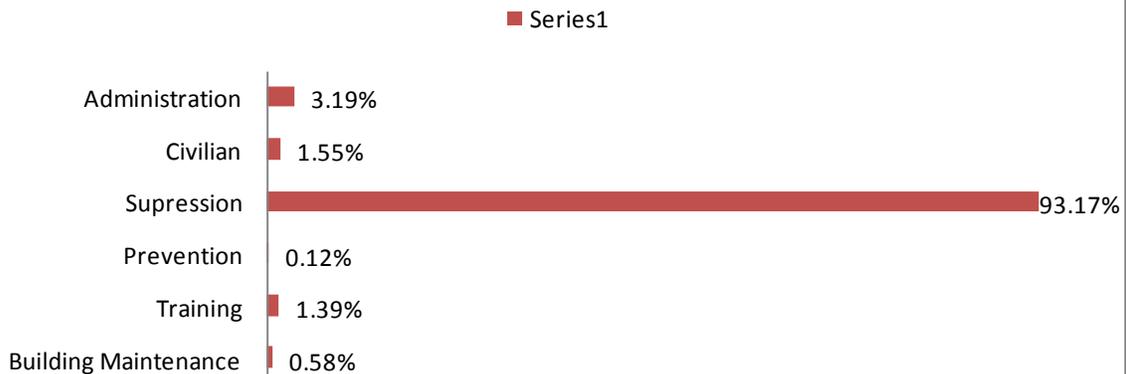
- Total Salary and Benefits - All Employees
- Total Operational Expenditures



Major Purchases Affecting the Fire Department

Bunker Gear—\$3,128.60
Hose—\$3,605.00
Station #3 Exterior Paint \$8,550.00
Central Exterior Paint \$3,685.00
1995 Pierce Rebuild \$36,090.32

Expenditures by Division



*The Quincy Fire Department
Committed to the protection of lives, homes and properties*

Public Education

The Quincy Fire Department continues to provide multiple opportunities for public education both within the classroom, and in the public. The chart below details the various events that the fire department participated in over the last year in an effort to take the message of fire safety to the residents it protects.

Public Education Totals

	Events	Adults	Children
Children's Safety House	16	36	905
Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations	11	172	
Fire Safety Presentations	7	70	214
Fire Truck Visits	20	481	1,040
Health/Safety Fairs	4	46	116
Station Tours	35	236	793
Senior Police Academy	1	30	
Citizen's Fire Academy	2	20	
CERT Class	1	6	
Other	12	306	621
Totals	109	1,403	3,689

Other Programs

Child Safety Seat Installation

The Quincy Fire Department participated in a total of 13 scheduled child safety seat check events where a total of 87 seats were installed. Additionally, another 128 seats were installed at the stations for people that stopped by for assistance.



Citizen's Fire Academy

The Quincy Fire Department's Citizen's Fire Academy continues to educate and challenge citizens. The program provides hands-on opportunities in firefighting, emergency medical skills, auto extrication and technical rescue.

*The Quincy Fire Department
Committed to the protection of lives, homes and properties*

Inspection and Code Enforcement

The Quincy Fire Department remains committed to the belief that the most efficient way to fight a fire is to prevent it from happening to begin with. The in-service inspection program allows on-duty firefighters to perform walk-through inspections of businesses in an effort to keep the businesses more safe. An added benefit is that the inspections allow firefighters to become more familiar with the properties which is beneficial should they have to respond for an emergency in the future.

Deputy Chief Dreyer has begun researching a potential partnership with a third party vendor that will allow the department to better track fire protections systems and the associated testing that go along with them. This potential partnership will improve compliance when it comes to maintenance of fire protection systems.

Activities	2013-2014	2014-2015
Number of Inspections	1333	1113
Number of Violations	1121	873
Burn Permits Issued	35	30
Demolition Sites Inspected	18	20
Liquor License Inspections	121	145
Live Entertainment Licenses	37	36
Special Inspections	15	0



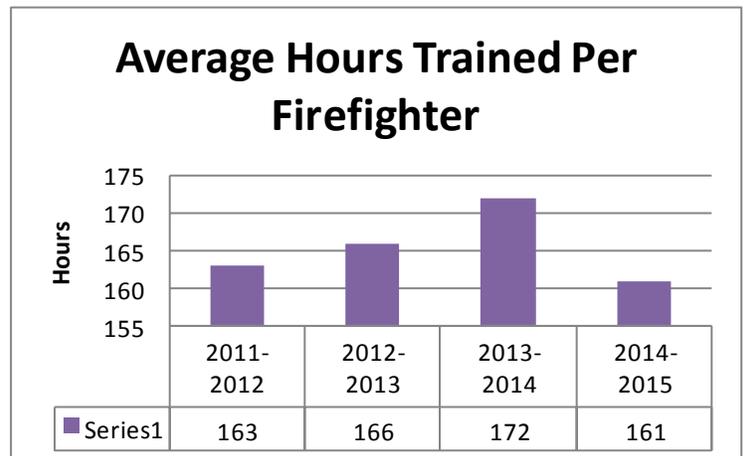
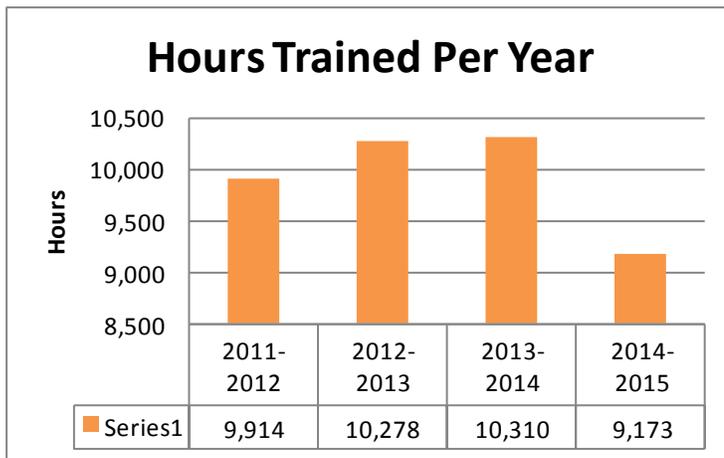
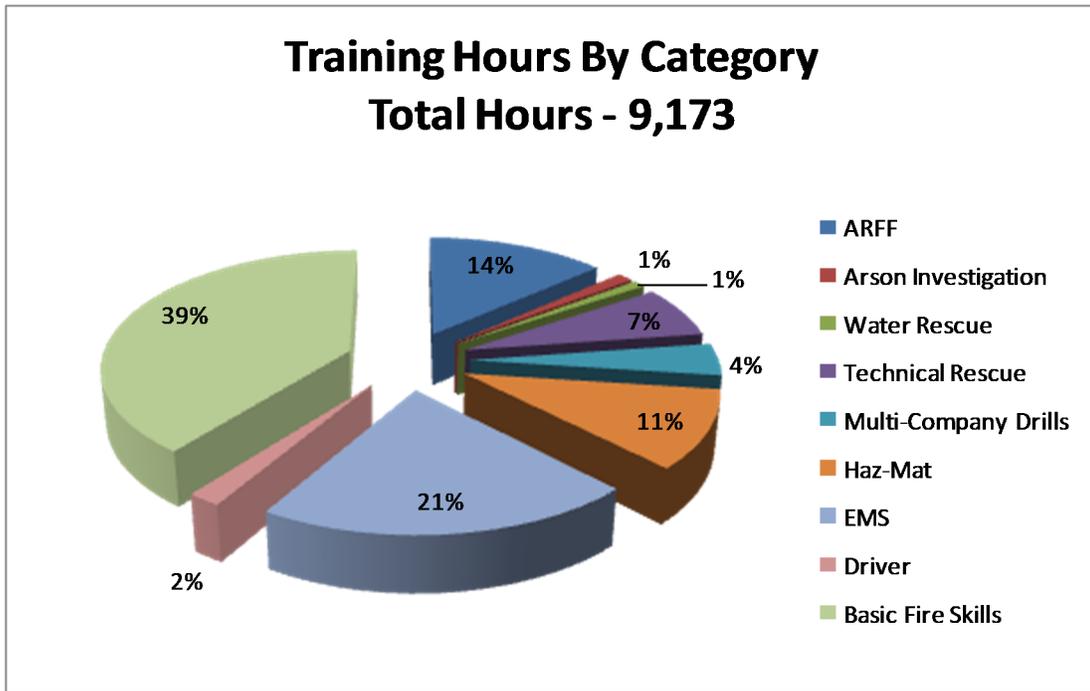
Arson Investigation

In the past year the department investigated 41 fires that were not of obvious origin. Through the efforts of QFD investigators, and in partnership with the Quincy Police Department, we have been able to determine causes for most fires as indicated in the chart on the right.

Responses	13/14	14/15
Investigations	26	41
Arson	0	3
Incendiary	3	2
Accidental	11	14
Electrical	6	12
Juvenile	1	1
Undetermined	5	9



Training Division



Training Division Continued

Educational Achievements

Trench Operations

Deon Baker
Steve Pezella

Haz-Mat Technician A

Kevin Hickey

Strategy & Tactics II

Steve Salrin
Ryan Kamphaus

Leadership III

Greg Dreyer
Steve Salrin

Fire Service Vehicle Operator

Steve Pezella

Basic Operations Firefighter

Alan Munger

Confined Space Operations

Steve Pezella

Rope Operations

Steve Pezella

Haz-Mat Technician B

Kevin Hickey
Ryan Kamphaus

Leadership II

Ryan Kamphaus

Leadership IV

Greg Dreyer
Steve Salrin

IS-800b

Ryan Kamphaus

Fire Officer II

Greg Dreyer
Steve Salrin

NFA Decision Making for Initial Company Operations

Deon Baker, Eric Becks, Don Briddle, Zelton Crose, Shawn Henson, Brad Kendrick, Alan Munger, Steve Pezella, James Pioch, Bernie Vahlkamp, Ryan Willingham, Jeff Grawe, Justin Twaddle, Jason Steinkamp and Stephen Wiewel.



*The Quincy Fire Department
Committed to the protection of lives, homes and properties*

Awards and Achievements



*Captain Chad Hummel
Quincy Fire Department
2015 Leadership Award*



*Chaplain Brother Ed
Quincy Exchange Club
2014 Fire -Volunteer of the Year*



*Firefighter Ryan Kamphaus
Quincy Fire Department
2015 Firefighter of the Year*

**State of Illinois Firefighting Excellence Award
For Actions at the Hotel Elkton Fire**



Captain
Bernie Vahlkamp



Firefighter
Nate Pool



Firefighter
Steve Peters



Firefighter
Jamie Pieper

Employee of the Month Recipients



June 2014
Captain Bernie
Vahlkamp



July 2014
Firefighter
Zelton Crose



September 2014
Firefighter
Ryan Kamphaus



December 2014
Firefighter
Greg Hay



January 2015
Captain Bernie
Vahlkamp



March 2015
Lieutenant
Alan Munger