

Annual Report FY 2012



West Virginia State Fire Commission

**West Virginia State Fire Commission/
West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office
1207 Quarrier Street, 2nd Floor
Charleston, WV 25301**

Phone: (304) 558-2191 Fax: (304) 558-2537

www.firemarshal.wv.gov

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State Fire Commission

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The Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety

Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor

Bob Sullivan
Chairman
Carl Sizemore
Vice Chairman
Randy James
Secretary

STATE FIRE COMMISSION

1207 Quarrier St, 2nd Floor
Charleston, WV 25301

Phone: (304) 558-2191
Fax: (304) 558-2537

September 25, 2012

The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor of West Virginia
State Capitol Building
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Tomblin:

On behalf of the members of the West Virginia State Fire Commission and in accordance with the West Virginia Code, I am pleased to submit to you the Annual Report for FY 2012.

The support you have shown for the entire Fire Service of West Virginia, the State Fire Commission, and the Office of the Fire Marshal is greatly appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Commission if you or your Office should have any inquiries in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Sullivan".

Bob Sullivan
Chairman

BS/nlo



**State of West Virginia
Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety**

Sterling Lewis, Jr.
State Fire Marshal

Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor

Phone: (304) 558-2191
Fax: (304) 558-2537

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE
1207 Quarrier St, 2nd Floor
Charleston, WV 25301

September 25, 2012

The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor of West Virginia
State Capitol Building
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Tomblin:

In compliance with the West Virginia Code, Chapter 5, Article 1, Section 20, the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2012 of the West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office is hereby submitted for your review.

This report is a representative, but by no means complete, look at the myriad of services provided to West Virginia's citizens by the dedicated personnel of the West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office.

Since 1909, the State Fire Marshal's Office has consistently increased its level of public service to the State of West Virginia through emergency response, code inspection, licensing and regulatory enforcement, public fire education, fire investigation, and many other duties.

This report is in part also a reflection of the efforts of West Virginia's fire departments and the fire service organizations that represent full-time career, volunteer and part-paid departments. It should not be forgotten that on a daily basis, these brave men and women are ready to give their lives protecting their communities from fire and other emergency incidents.

Respectfully submitted,

Sterling Lewis Jr.
Sterling Lewis, Jr.
West Virginia State Fire Marshal

SLjr/nlo

State Fire Commission

Mission Statement

To provide, through leadership, the best possible fire prevention and life safety for our citizens by legislation, education, training, standards, and resource allocation.

COMMISSION REPRESENTATION

3 members.....full-time paid firefighters
1 member.....full-time paid fire chiefs
3 members.....volunteer firefighters
2 members.....volunteer fire chiefs
2 members.....business & industry
1 member.....fire insurance industry
1 member.....registered architects

STANDING COMMITTEES

Training
Fire Department Evaluation
Codes & Regulatory
Fire Department Services
Recruitment & Retention
Legislative

FIRE COMMISSION OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN: Bob Sullivan
6007 US Rt. 60 East, Suite 109
Barboursville, WV 25504
Represents: Insurance
Term Expires: 6/30/14

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Carl E. Sizemore
323 Price Road
Mineral Wells, WV 26150
Represents: Paid Firefighters
Term Expires: 6/30/13

SECRETARY: Randy James
PO Box 155
Gassaway, WV 26624
Represents: Volunteer Firefighters
Term Expires: 6/30/12

FIRE COMMISSION MEMBERS

Michael Butcher 1704 25 th Street Parkersburg, WV 26101 Represents: <i>Business & Industry</i> Term Expires: 6/30/12	Gary Bonnett PO Box 7 Rock Cave, WV Represents: <i>Volunteer Fire Chiefs</i> Term Expires: 6/30/16
Larry Goodwin 700 27 th Street Vienna, WV 26105 Represents: <i>Volunteer Firefighters</i> Term Expires: 6/30/15	Grant Gunnoe 20 Beech Hill Drive Winfield, WV 25213 Represents: <i>Paid Firefighters</i> Term Expires: 6/30/14
Thomas Keefer 54 Riverdale Estates Winfield, WV 25213 Represents: <i>Business & Industry</i> Term Expires: 6/30/16	Robert Miller 9940 Union Ridge Road Glenwood, WV 25520-9630 Represents: <i>Volunteer Fire Chiefs</i> Term Expires: 6/30/13

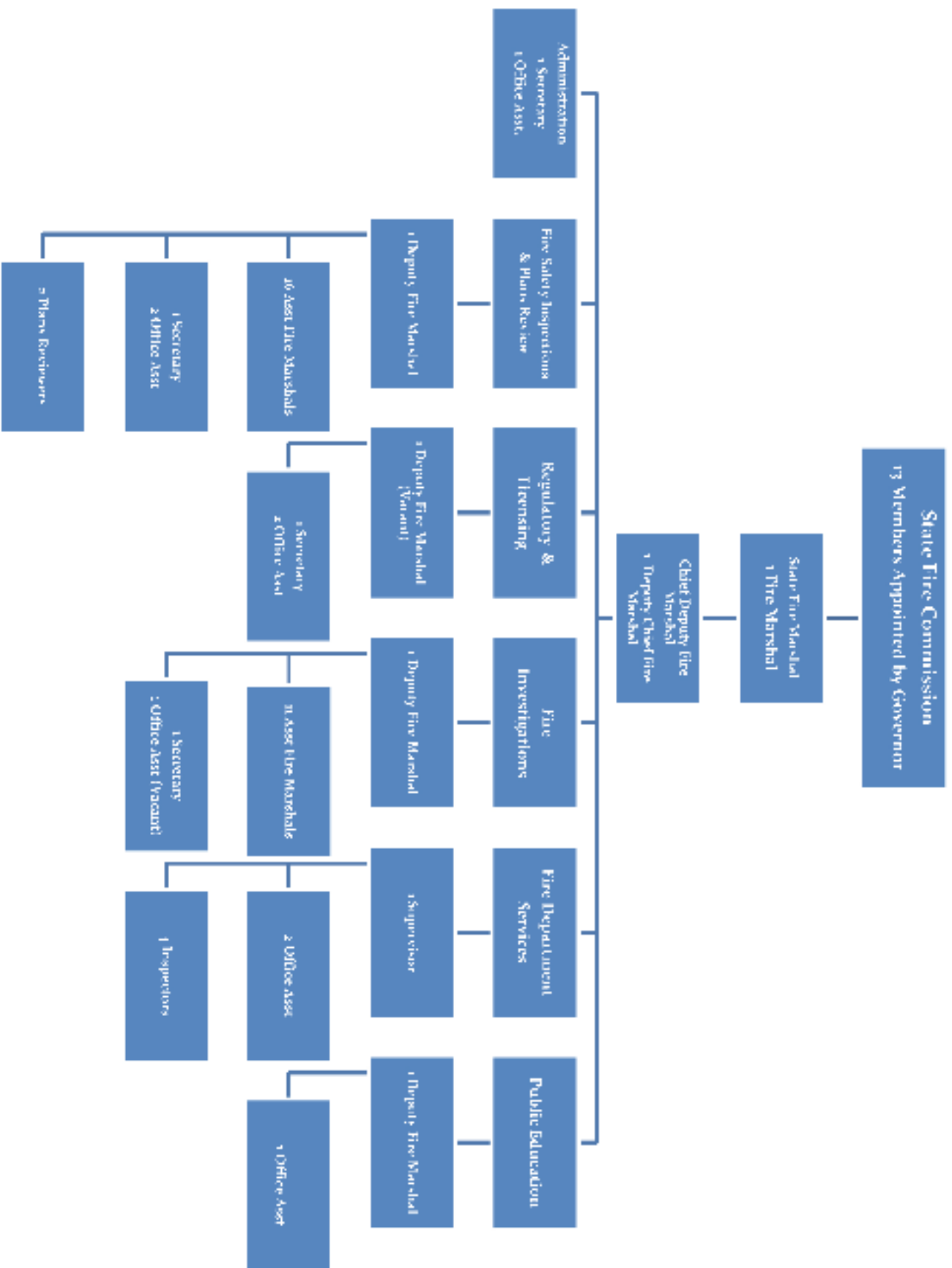
FIRE COMMISSION MEMBERS (Continued)

Doug Mongold
140 Rohrbaugh Lane
Moorefield, WV 26836
Represents: *Volunteer Firefighters*
Term Expires: 6/30/13

Ted A. Shriver
1051 Shawnee Trail
Elkview, WV 25071
Represents: *Registered Architects*
Term Expires: 6/30/12

Rick Scott
PO Box 22
Lumberport, WV 26386
Represents: *Paid Fire Chiefs*
Term Expires: 6/30/15

Virgil "Peanut" White
PO Box 18047
South Charleston, WV 25303
Represents: *Professional Firefighters*
Term Expires: 6/30/12



FIRE COMMISSION ACTIVITY FY 2012

- Developed a new committee called Fire Department Services to better serve the needs of the volunteer fire service.
- Recognized a number of firefighters across the state for lifesaving actions.
- Several Fire Commission members assisted with the annual Junior Firefighter Camp at WVU Fire Service Extension.
- Commission Chairman presented the West Virginia Fire Commission's report at the Mid-Atlantic Conference.
- Approved over 200 applications for Fire Officer equivalency.
- Resolved several fire department boundary disputes.
- Withdrew recognition of several fire departments.
- Recertified 82 fire departments.
- Worked on various rules and filed the State Building Code and Volunteer Firefighters' training, equipment and operating standards in the Secretary of State's Office and the Legislative Rule Making Review Committee for consideration in the 2013 Legislative Session.

State Fire Marshal's Office

Administration Division

STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Sterling Lewis, Jr.
CHIEF DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Anthony W. Carrico
SECRETARY:	Nancy Olson
OFFICE ASSISTANT:	Leslie Racine

Regulatory and Licensing Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL (Acting):	Anthony W. Carrico
SECRETARY:	Tanya Bradshaw
OFFICE ASSISTANTS:	Deborah K. Lucas Valerie J. Lacy

Fire Safety Inspection/Plans Review Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Clarence J. Leake
ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHALS:	
Douglas E. Gregory	Allan Casto
Rudy L. Raynes	Mike Trabert
Charles Vannatter	Norm Fetterman
John Oliver	Bobby Light
Terry Rinehart	Robert Tribbie
Bryan Casto	Timothy W. Mouse
Mike Barrick	George Harms
Brian Whittington	Jeff Armentrout
PLANS REVIEWER:	Clyde Cummings Lara Neal

SECRETARY:

Deborajean Hudson

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Monica J. Ingram
Melissa Atkins

Fire Investigation Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:

Eugene R. Cook

ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHALS:

J. Anthony Domingo
Mark R. Lambert
Ronald Ayersman
Bradley Hartley
Jason Baltic
Zach Bailey

Shawn Alderman
Robert S. Rodes, II
Patrick J. Barker
Timothy Chastain
Josh Amos

SECRETARY:

Cathy Green

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Vacant

Public Education Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:

Carol E. Nolte

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Heather Bostic

Fire Department Services Division

SUPERVISOR:

Timothy S. Provaznik

INSPECTORS:

Bradley Scott
Nevin Kilmer

Mark Stewart

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Alice Carpenter
Leanna Workman

Regulatory & Licensing Division

Annual Report

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Anthony W. Carrico

Regulatory & Licensing Division

STAFF

Division Director (Acting): Anthony W. Carrico, CDSFM

Secretary: Tanya Bradshaw

Office Assistants: Debbie Lucas
Valerie Carpenter

DIVISION OBJECTIVE

The Regulatory & Licensing Division aims to provide a better and safer standard of living for the citizens of West Virginia by ensuring only qualified applicants obtain licensure, by investigating customer complaints, by checking for compliance with all applicable codes and regulations and by providing citizens with information on State Laws and Regulations.

INTRODUCTION

The Regulatory & Licensing Division enforces and interprets laws, rules and regulations and issues licenses relating to the electrical industry, the explosives industry, the fireworks industry, Building Code Officials, Electrical Inspectors, Home Inspectors, and Fire Protection Workers.

As charged in State Code, the Licensing & Regulatory Division writes and updates in-house testing for 8 different classifications of Electrician exams as well as Indoor and Outdoor Pyrotechnician exams.

FY 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fireworks:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Fireworks Display	279	\$ 14,166.00
Pyrotechnic Operator Licenses	338	\$ 6,820.00
TOTAL		\$20,986.00

Explosives:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Explosive Magazines	673	\$ 77,690.00
Individual Licenses	1, 131	\$ 71,235.00
TOTAL		\$ 148,925.00

Inspectors, Code Officials & Fire Protection Workers:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Home Inspectors	140	\$ 14,850.00
Electrical Inspector	51	\$ 4,875.00
Building Code Officials	22	\$ 1,600.00
Fire Protection Workers	552	\$ 58,415.00
TOTAL		\$ 79,740.00

Electricians:

<u>Type of License</u>	<u>Number Issued</u>	<u>Total Fees Collected</u>
Issued	15,476	\$ 795,057.00
TOTAL		\$ 795,057.00

Test Fees:

<u>Applicants</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Fees Collected</u>
Issued	2,192	\$ 37,185.00
TOTAL		\$ 37,185.00

Total Special Revenue Collected FY 12 - *\$ 1,081,893.00*

Citations issued FY 2012 – 24

Received 20 valid complaints

Tested 2,358 Applicants for various licenses and certifications at 24 test sites and 55 test dates statewide.

Fire Safety Inspection/ Plans Review Division Annual Report

*Deputy State Fire Marshal
Clarence J. Leake*

Fire Safety Inspection/Plans Review Division

STAFF

Division Director:

Clarence J. Leake, DSFM

Field Personnel:

Jeffrey Armentrout, ASFM
Bryan Casto, ASFM
Allan Casto, ASFM
Norman Fetterman, ASFM
Douglas E. Gregory, ASFM
Bobby Light, ASFM

John Oliver, ASFM
Rudy L. Raynes, ASFM
Terry Rinehart, ASFM
Aubrey E. Smith, Jr., ASFM
Michael Trabert, ASFM
Charles Vannatter, ASFM

Plans Reviewers: Johnny Brotherton
Amanda Washington

Secretary: Deborah Jean Hudson

Office Assistant: Vacant

INTRODUCTION

The Fire Safety Inspection/Plans Review Division staff consists of one (1) Field Deputy Fire Marshal, sixteen (16) Fire Marshals, two (2) Plans Reviewers, One (1) Divisional Secretary and two (2) Office Assistants. The Assistant Fire Marshals are assigned to a designated geographical territory ranging from three (3) to six (6) counties. Three (3) Divisional personnel also assist with the review of plans spending eight (8) days each in the Charleston Office per month in addition to their inspection duties. Two divisional personnel also serve double duty as they are also assigned a geographical area to investigate fires in addition to their inspection duties. All Assistant Fire Marshals serve as liaison for all Fire Marshal services with the local fire departments and the general public.

The division's duties and responsibilities include:

- Inspection of all types of occupancies except one and two family dwellings.
- Issue citations for fire code violations.
- Assists the Licensing & Regulatory Division in the enforcement of the licensing programs, electrician, fire protection worker, fireworks, etc.
- Response to hazardous material incidents. Several members are also members of the Regional Response Teams.
- Enforcement of fireworks regulations; monitoring of display sites, investigation of complaints, seizure of illegal fireworks.
- Enforcement of blasting regulations and inspection of explosives magazines.

- Enforcement of forest fire burning laws
- Regulation of aboveground flammable liquid storage tanks.
- Conduct fire safety training educational seminars and public fire education.
- Provide assistance to the Fire/Arson & Explosives Division and other law enforcement agencies.
- Assist federal government in the implementation of the Federal Hotel/Motel Fire Safety Act.
- Response to disasters
- Administers licensing tests
- Administers the Certified Fire Inspector Program for NFPA

This fiscal year, three thousand nine hundred fifty-eight (3,958) fire safety inspections, consultations, and complaints were conducted by the division. This shows a slight decrease from the previous year. Inspections continue to be prioritized and limited to certain occupancies.

In September 2011 the four Assistant Fire Marshals assigned to the Licensing and Regulatory Division were transferred to this Division. Also, four personnel were promoted to Assistant Fire Marshal III. Also during this past fiscal year two employees with a total of thirty-two (32) years of experience left the Division and had to be replaced.

In addition to fire safety inspections, a significant number of man-hours were expended conducting fire safety training and educational programs, complaint investigations, assisting the fire investigation division and department training. Additional educational programs include: in-service training to county school maintenance and educational staffs, presentations to the West Virginia Landlords Association, Department of Health and Human Services social workers, West Virginia Advocate employees day care and Residential Board & Care providers and the West Virginia Hospital Engineers Association.

Professional development of our divisional staff continues to be a high priority. Our focus on technology will continue to simplify our business processes, making our services more accessible to our customers. Our divisional personnel are constantly striving to improve their skills and knowledge by attending advanced educational programs. This fiscal year one thousand six hundred twenty (1,620) hours were spent on training.

The Plans Review Section dedicates a significant amount of time and research to telephone calls and walk-in consultations regarding code interpretations. These direct contacts assist designers and owners with proper code requirements during the early development of the project under consideration. These contacts are not a formal review of plans; however, this

procedure has proven to eliminate costly and time-consuming changes during the design and construction phase of the project.

This section accomplishes a formal review of the plans when construction documents are submitted. This is an in-depth review of all architectural and mechanical plans for code compliance. Specialized systems such as fire alarms, automatic sprinkler systems, hood suppression and smoke management systems are reviewed at the time of submittal of the construction documents.

This fiscal year one thousand five hundred seventy-two (1,572) plans were reviewed. This is an increase over the previous year. Of these plans one hundred fifty-one (151) were projects that exceeded one million dollars. In the past five years we have reviewed and provided construction inspections for occupancy for over four billion dollars of construction. In an effort to become more efficient during the review, construction and final inspection for occupancy stages, on large projects both the reviewer and area fire marshal will conduct both the review process and inspection stages until the building is occupied.

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION DIVISION

LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS 2008 - 2012

OCCUPANCY 2012	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-
EDUCATIONAL	2982	3069	2626	1509
ASSEMBLY	337	323	296	366
HEALTH CARE	514	537	469	433
DETENTION	163	127	130	51
RESIDENTIAL	634	626	586	437
MERCANTILE	191	207	159	225
BUSINESS	678	737	818	795
INDUSTRIAL	41	50	43	51
STORAGE	55	62	57	84
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	0	0	1	1
MISCELLANEOUS	5	3	13	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	5600	5741	5198	3958

2011-2012 LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS BY OCCUPANCY

	TOTAL INSP	INITIAL INSP	CONST INSP	RE INSP
EDUCATIONAL				
Day Care	521	68	16	395
Schools	903	25	287	395
Colleges	85	0	48	21
ASSEMBLY				
Class A	75	1	50	5
Class B	50	3	36	0
Class C	241	19	115	20
HEALTH CARE				
Hospitals	219	0	76	93
Nursing Homes	141	6	14	109
Personal Care	61	15	5	38
Ambulatory Care	12	2	6	0
DETENTION	51	1	14	27
RESIDENTIAL				
Hotel/Motel	88	4	60	5
Apartments	102	3	43	8
Dormitory	43	5	10	16
Rooming/Lodging	79	1	30	35
Dwellings	0	0	0	0
Board & Care	125	7	15	90
MERCANTILE	225	0	149	4
BUSINESS	795	84	362	193
INDUSTRIAL	51	3	25	6
STORAGE	84	4	54	5
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	1	0	1	0
MISCELLANEOUS (Includes Dilapidated Property)	6	0	4	0
TOTAL	3958	251	1420	1465

*Initial inspections include only the first visit to a building or site.

* Construction inspections include all visits to a newly constructed or renovated building or site except for the first and final visits.

* A re-inspection includes inspections for licensure or normal annual inspection for other reasons.

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION DIVISION

2011-2012 OCCUPANCY PERMITS, CONSULTATIONS, AND COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS BY OCCUPANCY

	OCCUPANCY PERMITS	CONSULTS	COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS
EDUCATIONAL			
Day Care	19	22	1
Schools	36	143	17
Colleges	0	15	1
ASSEMBLY			
Class A	7	10	2
Class B	6	5	0
Class C	38	27	22
HEALTH CARE			
Hospitals	25	25	0
Nursing Homes	4	6	2
Personal Care	2	1	0
Ambulatory Care	2	2	0
DETENTION	1	4	4
RESIDENTIAL			
Hotel/Motel	8	5	6
Apartments	27	7	14
Dormitory	4	8	0
Rooming/Lodging	6	5	2
Dwellings	0	0	0
Board & Care	5	8	0
MERCANTILE	54	5	13
BUSINESS	103	42	11
INDUSTRIAL	9	7	1
STORAGE	10	8	3
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS (Includes Dilapidated Property)	0	0	2
TOTALS	366	355	101

* A final inspection includes only the visit to a newly constructed or renovated building or site where a certificate of occupancy is issued.

* A Consultation is a visit to a building or site for discussion of problems and/or questions by the owner/occupant.

* The above complaints include life safety code violations only. Not included are hazardous material, illegal fireworks, bomb threats, etc.

PLANS REVIEW ACTIVITY 2008- 2012

OCCUPANCY – PLANS REVIEWED

	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
EDUCATIONAL	145	250	294	231
ASSEMBLY	225	223	235	325
HEALTH CARE	146	145	141	113
DETENTION	22	11	15	11
RESIDENTIAL	119	114	155	151
MERCANTILE	225	224	205	206
BUSINESS	250	213	300	355
INDUSTRIAL	64	61	32	47
STORAGE	59	50	56	72
DAY CARE	27	22	34	29
RB&C	20	18	21	19
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	1302	1331	1488	1559

PLANS REVIEW – TYPE OF PLANS – 2011-2012

TYPE OF PLANS – PLANS REVIEWED

2011 - 2012

ARCHITECTURAL	568
SPRINKLER SYSTEMS	298
HOOD SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS	206
FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS	395
FM 200 SYSTEMS	22
AGST	30
CARPET	52
UNCLASSIFIED	1
	<hr/>
TOTALS	1572

***PROJECTS OVER 1 MILLION DOLLARS
PER FISCAL YEAR***

FY 2002 – FY 2012

FY 2002-2003	64 Projects
FY 2003-2004	88 Projects
FY 2004-2005	130 Projects
FY 2005-2006	121 Projects
FY 2006-2007	134 Projects
FY 2007-2008	124 Projects
FY 2008-2009	140 Projects
FY 2009-2010	135 Projects
FY 2010-2011	106 Projects
FY 2011-2012	151 Projects

MONIES COLLECTED FOR THE LAST FIVE (5) FISCAL YEARS

FY 2011/2012	INSP –	\$113,541.00
	P&R –	\$850,180.78
FY 2010/2011	INSP -	\$129,052.00
	P&R -	\$687,556.88
FY 2009/2010	INSP -	\$112,119.00
	P&R -	\$827,283.78
FY 2008/2009	INSP -	\$132,165.00
	P&R -	\$709,076.99
FY 2007/2008	INSP -	\$123,124.90
	P&R -	\$708,298.19

Fire Investigation Division Annual Report

*Deputy State Fire Marshal
Eugene R. Cook*

Fire Investigation Division

STAFF

Division Director: Eugene R. Cook, DSFM

Field Personnel:

Ronald C. Ayersman, ASFM
Zachery Bailey, ASFM
Jason Baltic, ASFM
Patrick J. Barker, ASFM
J. Anthony Domingo, ASFM
Shawn Alderman, ASFM

Timothy Chastain, ASFM
Bradley Hartley, ASFM
Mark R. Lambert, ASFM
Josh Amos, ASFM
Robert S. Rodes, II, ASFM

Secretary: Cathy Green

INTRODUCTION

The Investigation Division currently authorized staffing level is one (1) Field Deputy State Fire Marshal, eleven (11) Assistant State Fire Marshals and one (1) Secretary.

Each Fire Marshal has a designated geographical territory ranging in size from four (4) to eight (8) counties. The Fire Marshals' primary duties encompass all aspects of fire/arson identification and enforcement including determining fire origin and cause, fire death investigations, executing state or federal search/arrest warrants and subsequently giving expert testimony in criminal or civil trials. In addition, each Fire Marshal is responsible for explosives-related investigation/enforcement in their respective areas. Many non-arson related violations are identified during the course of an arson investigation, and are generally referred to other federal, state or local law enforcement agencies for prosecution.

This fiscal year 954 investigations were conducted, compared to 926 for the same period in the previous year.

The diligent, professional work of the Division's Fire Marshals continues to give West Virginia an excellent arson case resolution record; however, the objective of a reduction in the total number of incendiary fires has not been achieved. The sustained operation of the Arson Hotline (1-800-233-FIRE) made possible by a generous grant from the WV FAIR PLAN continues to enable the State Fire Marshal to better define the scope and severity of the continuing arson problem in West Virginia,

and providing quicker investigative response and making monetary rewards available for information leading to the arrest of arsonists.

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Requests for fire investigations from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012 increased by twenty-eight (28) cases. This is directly attributed to increased direct positive interaction between Fire Marshals, fire service, law enforcement and better initial fire cause determinations being made prior to calling for assistance. This is also a direct result of Fire Marshals providing advanced in-service training classes to fire/law enforcement agencies and the insurance communities with more widespread use of the statewide toll-free "800" Arson Hotline.

CAUSE DETERMINATION	2011 – 2012
INCENDIARY	289
ACCIDENTAL	55
UNDETERMINED/ PENDING	593
NO INVESTIGATION	17
TOTAL	954

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS CONTINUED

OCCUPANCY TYPE	2011 – 2012
ASSEMBLY	4
BUSINESS	64
CORRECTIONS	3
EDUCATIONAL	5
GRASSLANDS	10
INDUSTRIAL	5
MERCANTILE	2
RESIDENCE	728
STORAGE	55
VEHICLE	51
HEALTH CARE	0
UNUSUAL	27

FIRE-RELATED DEATH INVESTIGATIONS

This fiscal year 64 fire-related deaths in 50 fires have been investigated. It must be noted that West Virginia continues to experience a grossly unacceptable rate per capita. Only proactive statewide fire safety programs will begin to reduce these alarming statistics.

While many of these deaths were either directly or indirectly caused by alcohol/drug abuses, the majority were preventable through increased fire safety awareness by the public, installation of home fire sprinklers, consistent use of smoke alarms, statewide fire code enforcement and increased media attention to fire safety as an important year-round topic.

Occupancy Type	2011 – 2012
Dwellings: One/Two Family	28
Dwellings: Multi-Family	3
Dwellings: Mobile Homes	10
Vehicle	3
Storage	1
Grasslands	2
Industrial	3

This fiscal year, Fire Marshals conducted (8) eight fire death investigations where the fire was determined to be incendiary in nature; therefore, the manner of death was homicide. The breakdown of the disposition of homicides is as follows:

Cleared by arrest: Fire Marshals charging defendant(s) with First Degree Arson and/or other felony charges	2
Suicides, no other action taken	4
Unsolved, still pending	2
Total Number of Deaths Resulting From Arson Fires	12

ARRESTS:	TOTAL NUMBER OF ARRESTS	97
	ADULT	85
	JUVENILE	12
	CHARGES	167

TRAINING GIVEN

Fire Marshals continued to provide direct and in-direct training programs in the areas of fire/arson and explosives investigation to fire service and law enforcement agencies of the state. This support primarily involved providing instructors for formal training programs for the Governor's Committee-approved law enforcement in-service training programs, and informal training classes at county fire schools, fire departments and task force meetings.

Listed below are all the classes this division teaches:

Level I Fire Investigation

Level II Fire Investigation

Level III Fire Investigation

Miscellaneous Training

(Training presented to fire and police departments, civic groups, insurance groups, etc.)

TRAINING RECEIVED

All Fire Marshals continue to receive advanced training from the National Fire Academy, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and other nationally accredited training courses.

Public Education Division Annual Report

*Deputy State Fire Marshal
Carol E. Nolte*

Public Education Division

STAFF

Division Director: Carol E. Nolte, DSFM
Office Assistant: Heather Bostic, OA2

INTRODUCTION

The Public Education Division staff consists of one Field Deputy Fire Marshal and one Office Assistant (OA2).

The Public Education Division is responsible for duties which include, but are not limited to, fire and injury prevention education (primary); media communications; coordination of continuing training for deputized assistant fire marshals, SFMO sworn personnel and other code enforcement personnel; administration of the testing certification program for the sales of reduced ignition propensity cigarettes in West Virginia, for tobacco manufacturers; and enhancement/upgrades to the SFMO website.

The Public Education Division promotes programs that aim to reduce loss of life and property through education including but not limited to, the following:

- Fire and injury prevention for all groups, including high-risk (seniors, people with disabilities, young children)
- Train-the-trainer instruction in public fire/life safety education for firefighters and other emergency responders
- Fireworks law and safety for general audiences
- Smoke alarm education and distribution programs
- Fire safety and emergency planning for public facilities
- Public speaking for civic, governmental and advocacy organizations
- Participation in health and public safety fairs/seminars, and career days
- Membership and active participation in health/safety organizations
- Press conferences, TV and radio interviews
- Media promotion of fire safety and related topics
- Coordination of FEMA grant writing workshops for fire departments
- Coordinating loan and distribution of educational materials to fire departments, safety groups, schools, businesses and the general public

Fire in West Virginia FY 2012

The fire problem varies from region to region in the United States. This can be a result of poverty, education, demographics and other causal factors. According to the National Fire Protection Association's Sept. 2007 publication "U.S. Unintentional Death Rates by State", West Virginia easily ranks among the top ten (10) states on three (3) of the major correlating

factors for fire deaths: poverty level, education level, and percentage of smokers. Additional risk factors in West Virginia include a large rural population, and some of the largest populations of people with disabilities and senior citizens in the United States.

Statistics reflecting smoke alarm use and operation for the state also continue to paint a disturbing picture in terms of inadequate residential fire protection.

Although the Public Education Division has significantly increased media outreach promoting public awareness of fire safety issues as well as the number of smoke alarms distributed over the past few years, much more needs to be done at the state, fire department, and community levels.

The above risk factors point to a critical need for increased fire protection in the home. Residential fire sprinklers, when used in conjunction with smoke detectors, can result in survival rates of over 90%. This could be a tremendous boost to life safety, especially given the fact that most fire deaths continue to happen in the home. Legislation continues to be sought by the State Fire Marshal's Office to require these systems in all new residential construction, but much remains to be done regarding public awareness and education about the value and functioning of sprinkler systems.

As to the capabilities of the State Fire Marshal's Office in providing leadership in public fire education: increased services such as long-term fire safety and prevention campaigns, smoke alarm programs, establishment of juvenile firesetter intervention programs, and other much-needed outreach measures will not become realities unless and until additional full-time, trained Public Education Officers are added to the SFMO staff, which has since 1997 remained at only one (1) Public Education Officer for the entire state.

SPECIAL PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES FY 2012:

- Coordinated four (4) U.S. Assistance to Firefighter Grant workshops in the following locations:

Pineville (Wyoming Co.)	Weston (Lewis Co.)
Wheeling (Ohio Co.)	Shepherdstown (Jefferson Co.)
- Coordinated a Residential Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board to promote education among stakeholders and facilitate consumer choices in installing home sprinkler systems.

- National Fire Prevention Week (October 9-15, 2011) Activities:
 - Smoke alarms and fire safety pamphlets were donated by the SFMO for distribution during National Fire Prevention Week by WCHS Talk Radio (Charleston-Metro News Radio).
 - Public Education Officer provided live interview with WCHS Talk Radio on smoke alarms and home fire prevention.
 - Press releases on Fire Prevention Week sent to all media contacts: TV, radio, newspapers, and other media partners.
 - Partnered with Charleston Newspapers for their "Newspapers in Education" Fire Safety program. Approximately 21,000 students in eight (8) counties (58 schools) used the 21-page insert for school-based activities during Fire Prevention Week.

OTHER MEDIA ACTIVITIES FY 2012

- TV, Radio and Newspaper Interviews, taped and live
- Press Releases to television and radio stations, newspapers, fire departments and State agencies

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES FY 2012

- Coordinated SFMO participation at safety/health fairs/expos
- Presentations/training sessions given for State Preschool Educators Conference
- Assisted in coordinating seminars for civilian fire wardens, fire service and code enforcement
- Testing certifications issued to tobacco manufacturers
- Initiated portal development for on-line application process for cigarette manufacturers for reduced-ignition propensity cigarettes sold in state

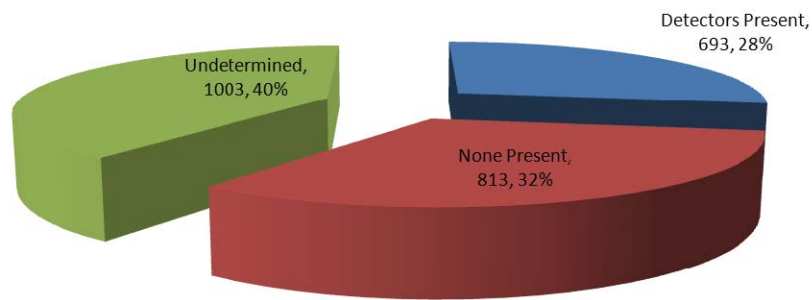
SMOKE ALARM PROJECTS FY 2012

- Smoke alarms were distributed at the WV State Seniors' Conference at Cedar Lakes, Jackson County, in May 2012. All seniors attending received a free smoke alarm and a brochure on senior fire safety, and Public Education Officer participated in a workshop on home fire safety/emergency preparedness for seniors.
- Smoke alarms and educational materials donated to Girl Scouts of America, Kanawha County, for community smoke alarm project.
- Smoke alarm project continued with the Appalachian Center for Independent Living, which enables consumers with disabilities to live in their own homes. Through the ramp project, which assists consumers in

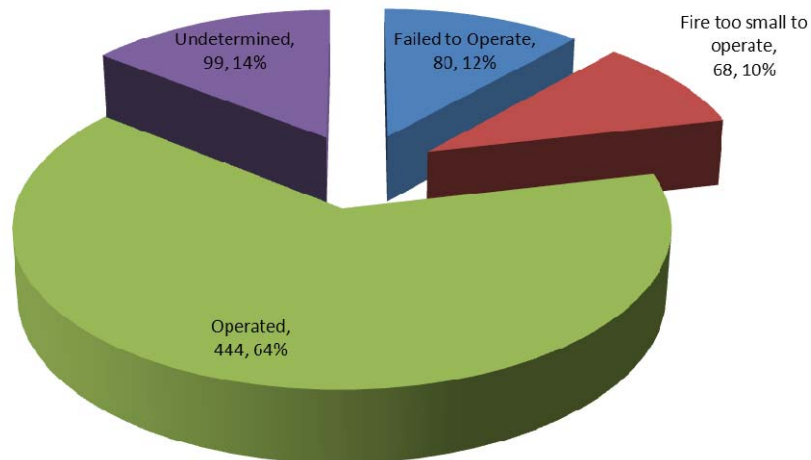
providing accessibility for wheelchairs in their homes, smoke alarms are also being installed and educational materials distributed.

- Assisted in the initial development of a smoke alarm project in partnership with the West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the West Virginia Statewide Independent Living Centers. This program will provide specialized smoke alarms to consumers based on the degree of hearing impairment.

RESIDENTIAL SMOKE ALARM PRESENCE FY 2012



RESIDENTIAL SMOKE ALARM OPERATION FY 2012



Fire Department Services Division Annual Report

*Supervisor
Timothy S. Provaznik*

Fire Department Services Division

STAFF

Division Director: Timothy S. Provaznik

Field Personnel:

Bradley Scott, Inspector 2 David Mark Stewart, Inspector 2

Nevin Kilmer, Inspector 2

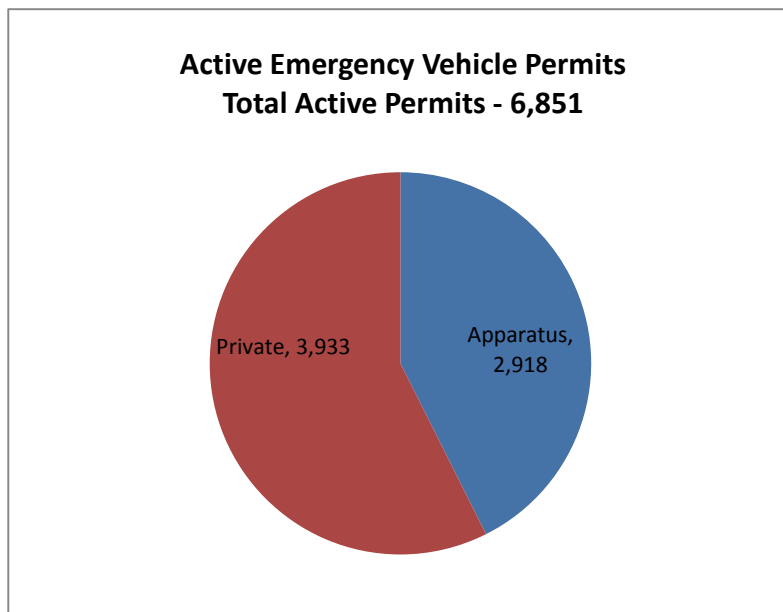
Office Assistants: Alice Carpenter
Leanna Workman

The Fire Department Services Division is responsible for duties that include administration and oversight for all fire and non-fire data collected through the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), related data analysis; fire department training; evaluation of fire departments; and the coordination and issuance of emergency vehicle permits for all West Virginia fire departments and certain other entities.

The Division also oversees, consults and assists all 442 certified fire departments in the State of West Virginia and provides information and guidance to new fire departments seeking certification.

During the fiscal year 2011-2012 the division has:

- Completed 196 evaluations (48%) of WV Fire Departments.
- 82 of the Fire Departments were Re-Certified (42%), with the remaining working under a Plan of Correction to correct noted deficiencies.
- Conducted 583 visits to fire stations.
- Attended 28 Public Relation events.
- Worked with the WV Division of Labor and Fire Departments concerning the safe operation of the Junior Firefighter program.
- Issued 630 Emergency Vehicle Permits (267 Apparatus and 363 Private)
- Deactivated 1318 Emergency Vehicle permits (264 Apparatus and 1054 Private)
- Total Active permits now stand at 6851 (2918 Apparatus and 3933 Private)



- The office staff has fielded approximately 2,000 calls, with the majority of those asking for assistance with the National Fire Incident Report filing.
- Have conducted several 8-hour NFIRS training sessions to various locations in the state.

The Fire Department Services Division will continue to assist all fire departments in the state to not only meet the required standards, but also to strive to enhance firefighter safety. The Fire Department Services Division is proud to be a part of ensuring the best possible fire protection for the citizens of the Great State of West Virginia.

WEST VIRGINIA FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM (WVFIRS)

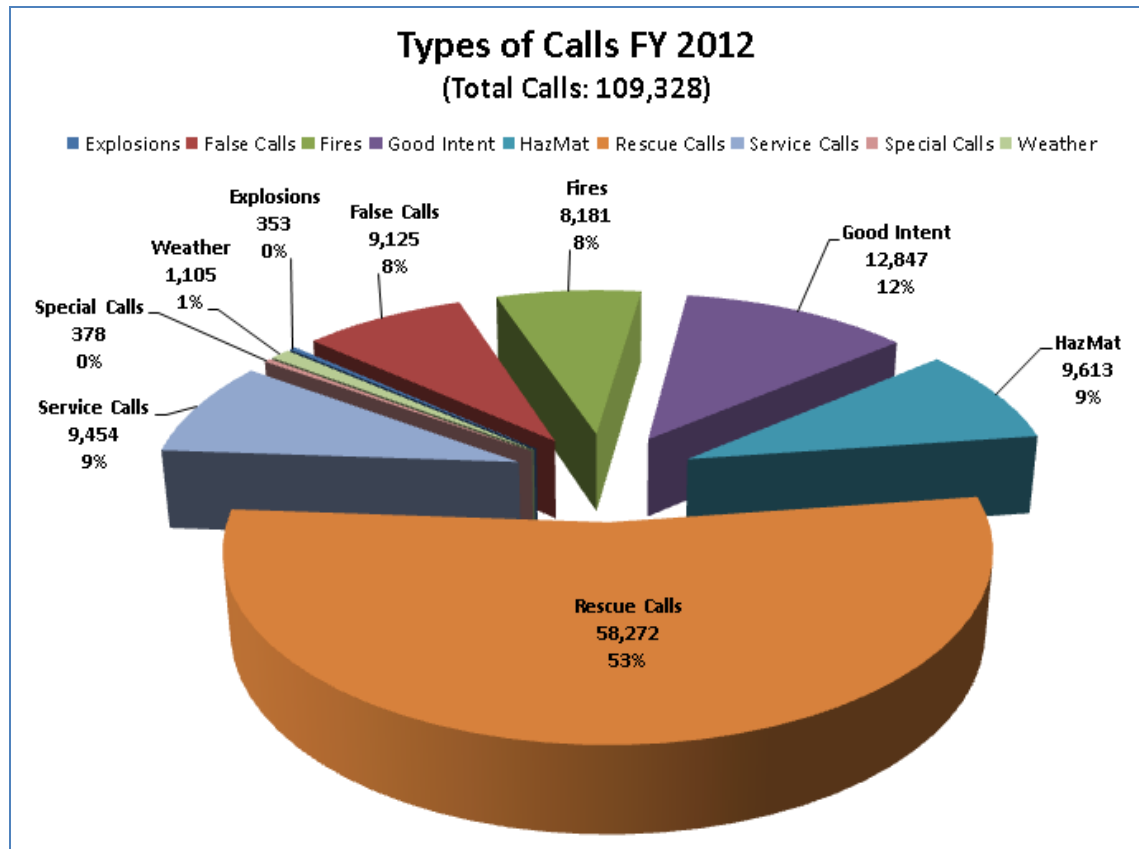
The Fire Department Services Division is responsible for administration of the state's fire and non-fire incident reporting system, which in turn utilizes the Federal Client Tool of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) as its reporting mechanism. On a daily basis, the division actively supports and promotes the use of computer-based reporting in an NFIRS-compatible format by all fire departments in an effort to standardize and expedite incident reporting. This enables both the Fire Marshal's Office and fire departments to access statistics that better reflect specific fire and life-safety trends and needs throughout West Virginia.

NOTE: All WV fire departments are required to report fire and non-fire incidents in a consistent manner by Code; therefore, participation in NFIRS is for the most part assured.

However, it is increasingly apparent that there is a significant need for improvement with regard to the quality of data submitted. Specifically, selection of the proper incident codes and completeness of the required and supplemental fields by the responsible fire department personnel must be regularly addressed by this division.

In order to correct this problem, there is an obvious need for increased participation by the fire departments in taking advantage of the free 8-hour class offered by the SFMO. NFIRS support is currently provided by two (2) staff members, who also are available to schedule in-office one-on-one tutoring for FD members.

WEST VIRGINIA FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE FY 2012



***Note:** Total number of calls represented above do not include ALL NFIRS incident types. The incident types above were selected to reflect some of the most frequently occurring responses by fire departments.*

Code Series Legend (partial):

Service Calls – include person in distress, water problem, smoke/odor problem, animal problem or rescue, public service assistance; unauthorized burning (includes fires under control and not endangering property), cover assignment/standby at fire station/move-up and service call, other.

Good Intent Calls – include dispatched & cancelled enroute; wrong location, no emergency found; controlled burning; vicinity alarm; steam, other gas mistaken for smoke; EMS call where party has been transported; HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat found; good intent call, other.

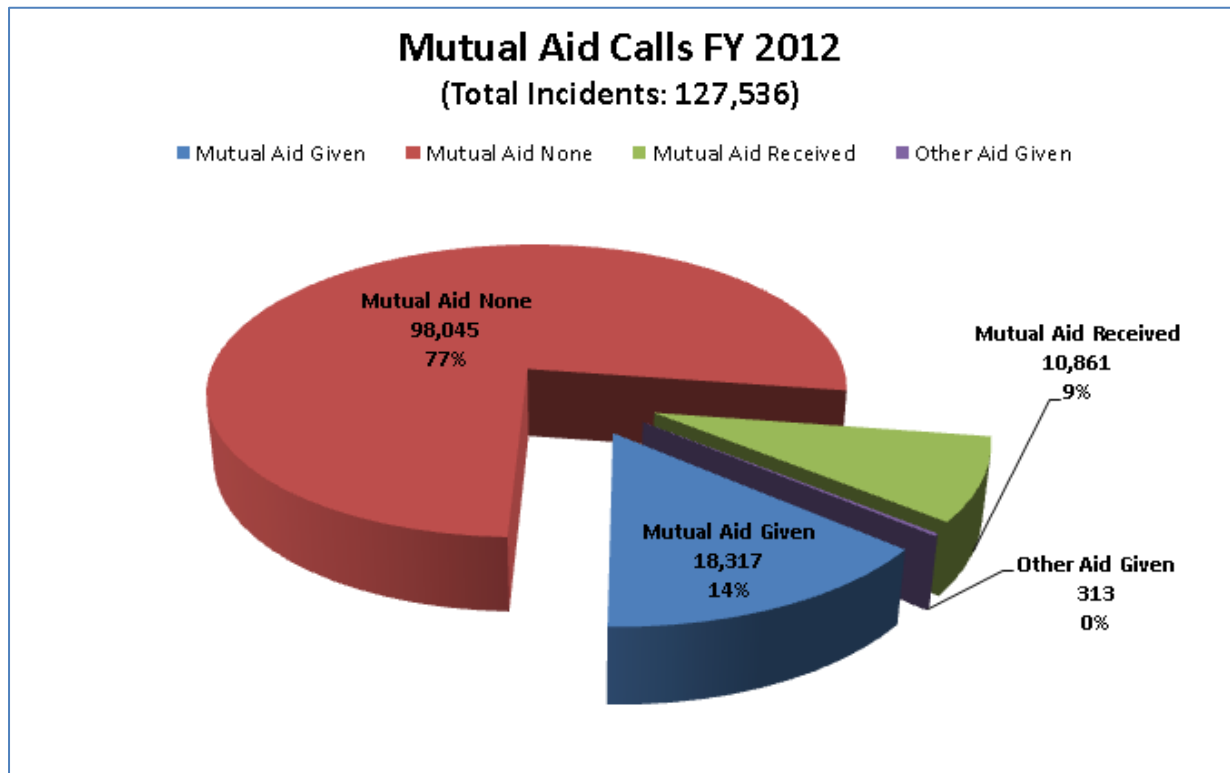
False Alarm & False Calls – include malicious/mischievous false alarms; bomb scare; system or detector malfunction; unintentional system or detector operation (no fire); biohazard scare; false alarm or false call, other.

Special Calls – Citizen's complaint, includes reports of code or ordinance violation; special type of incident, other.

Total number of FD responses for FY 2012 (All incident types).....	127,801
Total number of FD responses (Fire calls only).....	12,813
Total number of FD responses (Rescue/EMS calls only).....	63,550

MUTUAL AID INCIDENTS FY 2012

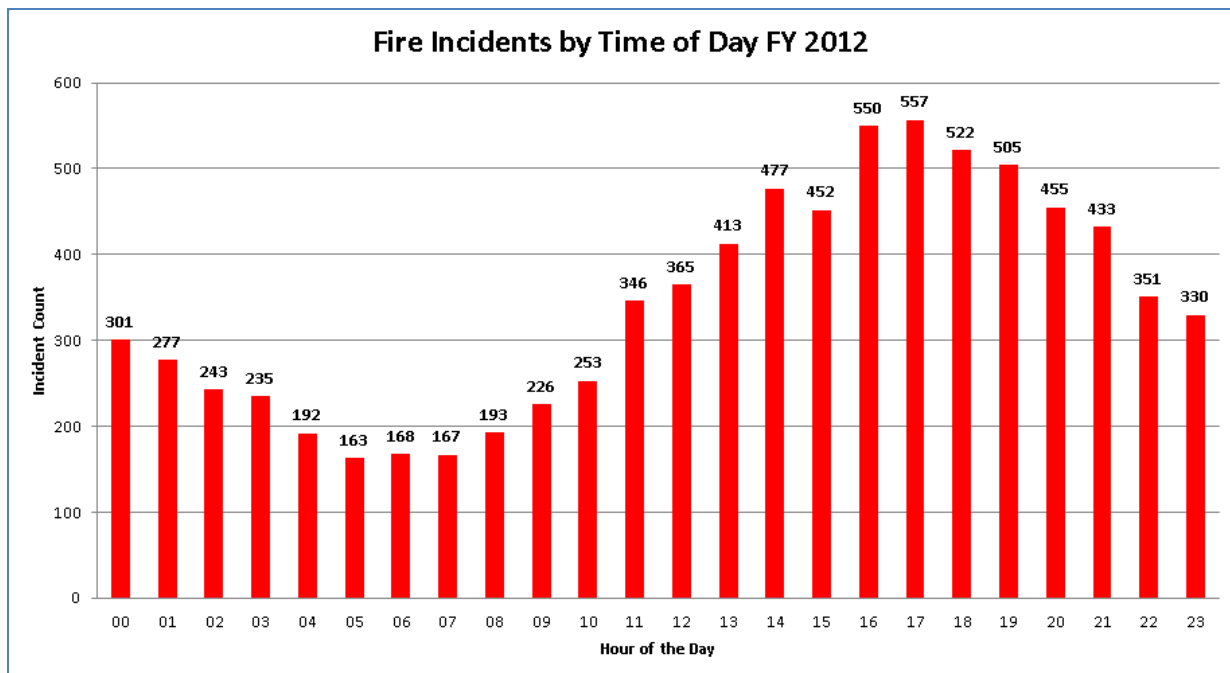
***Mutual aid given to FD's on all types incidents.....18,317**



The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) used by the State of West Virginia includes Mutual Aid incidents under the following descriptor:

- **Aid Given (automatic or mutual):** A fire department responds into another fire department's jurisdiction to provide assistance at an incident or to cover a vacated station while the receiving fire department is busy at an incident.

According to NFIRS, "aid information can be used to study response levels necessary to control various fire and emergency situations. It can be used to determine the adequacy of resources at the local level and the need for adjusting cooperative agreements. The "Aid Given or Received" entry serves as data control to ensure that the same incident is not counted more than once while still giving credit for activity performed by outside departments."



NFIRS DATA

All following NFIRS statistics have been submitted by West Virginia's fire departments. The State of West Virginia utilizes the NFIRS Version 5.0 Federal Client Tool to coordinate fire and non-fire data.

Data gathered by use of USFA vendor-approved software is also acceptable to the SFMO. In cases where fire departments choose to use such independently purchased software, the Fire Department Services Division cannot provide program-specific technical support but still assists in providing all other information needed to report in the NFIRS.

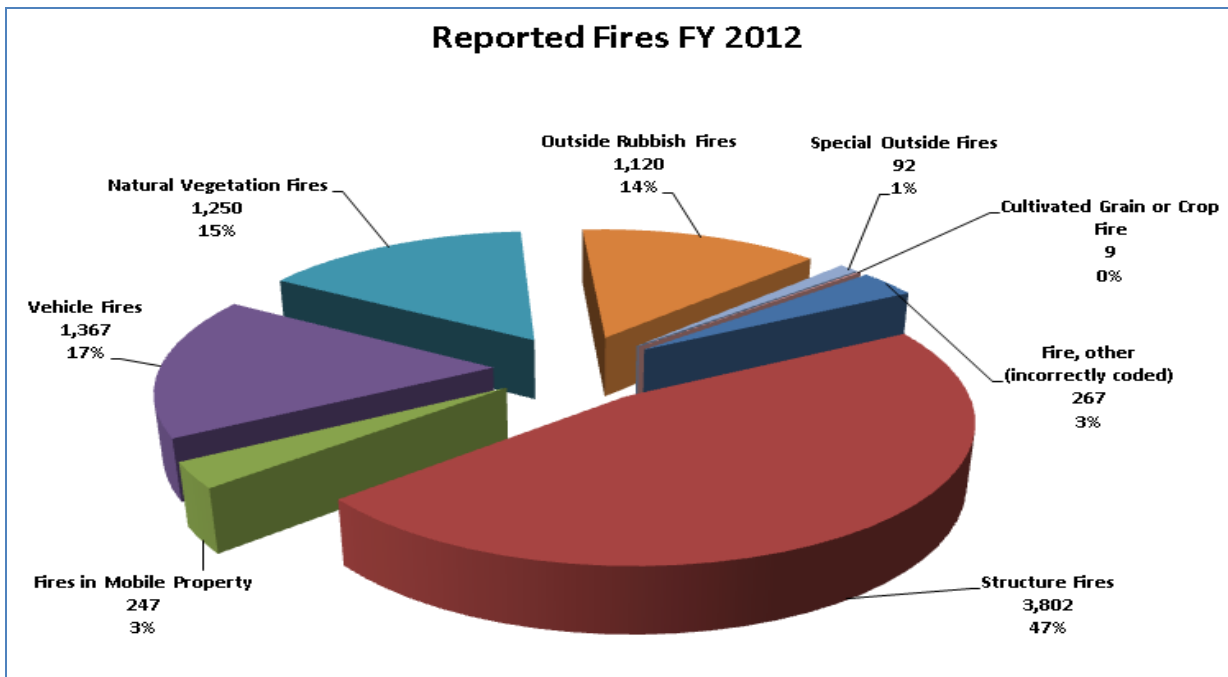
FY 2012

<i>Casualty Type</i>	<i>Civilian</i>	<i>Fire Service</i>
Fire Related Injuries	97	64
Non-Fire Injuries	213	36
Fire Related Deaths	53	1
Non-Fire Deaths	75	0
	438	101

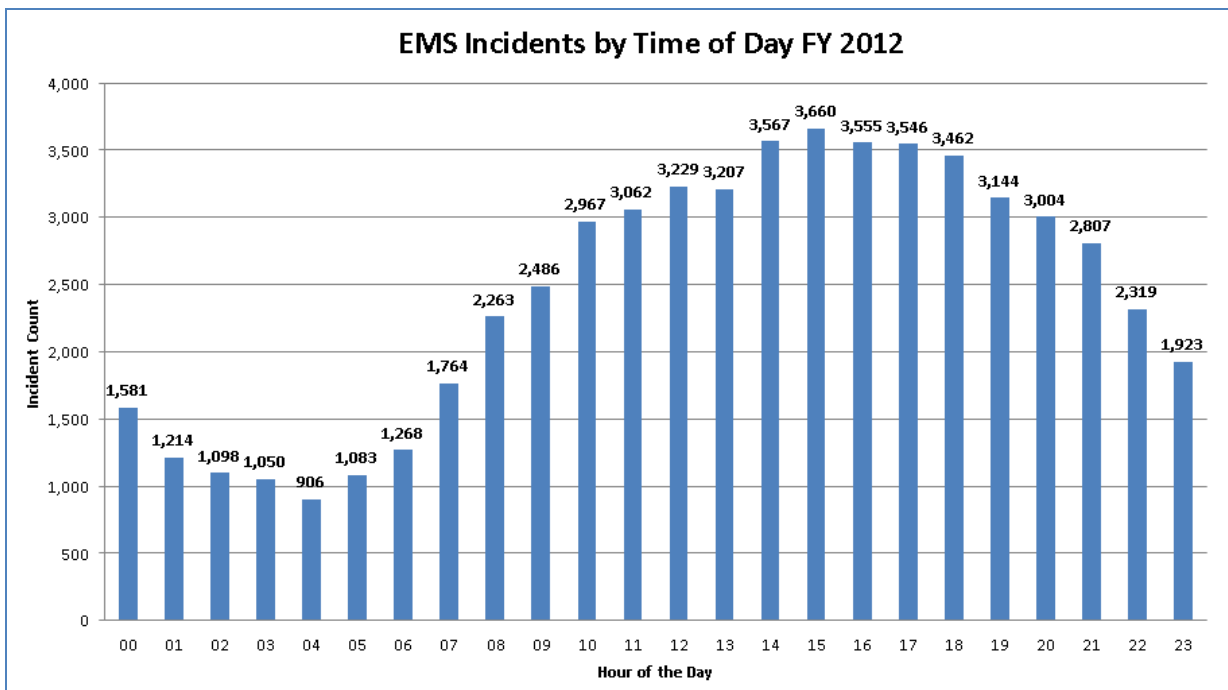
Total [estimated] fire loss: \$120,600,442

(Fire loss includes estimated property and contents)

- ***As reported by WV FD's using NFIRS Version 5.0. *Number of fire fatalities reported by FD's differs from SFMO Fire Investigation Division statistics, which show 64 fire-related deaths for this fiscal year.*** This discrepancy is in part due to lack of follow-up as to fire victims transported out of area to burn centers for treatment, and later died (fire department did not update existing fire report to reflect change from fire injury to fire death); victims who died in incidents in which no fire department was called; and other factors.
- **** This includes ALL types of injury to firefighters, including those involving fire/smoke, vehicle crashes, explosions, falls, training injuries, etc.**



NOTE: Total number of structure fire causes represented above do NOT include all NFIRS incident codes for fire cause. The categories above were selected to reflect some of the most frequently occurring fire causes.



NOTE: Emergency Medical Services (EMS) runs shown above are those incidents carried out by fire departments that run EMS and do not reflect runs made by private or any other ambulance services.