

# 2007 ANNUAL REPORT



## Annual Report

In 2005 the Washington state legislature adopted House Bill 1756 in which a predominantly career fire department would be required to provide an annual written report on response times. The bill was later codified as Chapter 52.33 of the Revised Code of Washington.

This report is provided to meet the requirements of that legislation. Prepared in 2008 this report provides the data required for 2007 reporting period. While the District has established the time standards, the capturing of the actual times has proven difficult. The current time stamp system offered by the computer aided dispatch system is not accurate nor recorded to the second. This in fact can have a time difference of 1 minute 58 seconds should a time mark be initiated at the beginning of the minute and the second time stamp at the end of the minute. Further it has been shown that a radio call to the dispatcher and subsequent entry into the computer varies significantly. Radio transmissions can be delayed due to other radio traffic on the frequency. When the dispatcher receives the radio transmission and actually enters the unit status in the CAD system also varies. While we believe this to normally be between 15-18 seconds it can be delayed by minutes if the dispatcher is busy providing other urgent dispatching functions such as providing CPR instructions to the caller.

This report uses sample independent time tests, dispatch time records and percentage of average to indicate the best information we have as to our true times for each time measurement. The District has applied for and received a grant that will significantly reduce the time inaccuracies by using Mobile Data Computers on apparatus. This method does not require dispatcher involvement in the time stamps and is delivered via a data channel that normally has a response time of less than 5 seconds. It is anticipated that the Mobile Data Computer system will be full operational in 2008.

### **Mission Statement**

**DEDICATED TO MAINTAINING A STATE OF READINESS, TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH  
RAPID EMERGENCY INTERVENTION**

### **Vision**

**TO PROVIDE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DELIVERY SYSTEM THAT EXCEEDS OUR CUSTOMER'S  
EXPECTATIONS AND TO HAVE A REWARDING AND EQUITABLE WORKPLACE THAT  
RECOGNIZES EACH MEMBER'S ABILITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MISSION OF THE  
ORGANIZATION**

### **Value Statement**

**COMMITTED TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT WITH INTEGRITY WHILE WORKING TOGETHER AS A  
TEAM.**

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## ALARM REPORT

The following represents alarm totals for the District. You will notice that some of the years had substantial increases while one year saw a slight decrease. When averaged over the years the district has seen a 6.8% increase in alarm activity each year as shown in this ten year trend.

YEAR	ALARMS	AVG per day	% Change
1997	2766	7.6	N/A
1998	3194	8.8	15%
1999	3649	10.0	14%
2000	3963	10.9	8%
2001	4273	11.7	8%
2002	4441	12.2	4%
2003	4789	13.1	7%
2004	4895	13.4	0.2%
2005	4773	13.0	-0.2%
2006	5664	15.5	8%
2007	5285	14.5	-7%
<b>10 Year Average</b>			<b>5.7%</b>

## SERVICE CRITERIA

**Turnout time:** (The time from receipt of alarm to the time the fire apparatus leaves the fire Station) Each fire stations goal turnout time is 90 seconds or less for each call but criteria has been established that acknowledges time needs for dependent on the type of incident responding to.

*This criteria cannot be obtained on an accurate basis due to the limitations of the current communications system used by the fire district. While we can obtain the alarm time and show the time the dispatcher acknowledges the response of the apparatus we find that this information is not an accurate depiction of the true turnout time. Therefore the District chose to do random timed tests of the various companies for this category of time increment.*

**First Arrival Response Time:** (The time measured from the first movement of the apparatus until arrival at the given incident location). The average first arrival response time goal being 300 seconds (5.0 minutes). The incident type is taken into consideration as to the expected response time. Larger fire apparatus will normally take longer than EMS type apparatus.

*This criteria is based on the entry into the computer aided dispatch system by the dispatcher. The time criteria is not posted in seconds and times represent the full minute time as captured in the computer aided dispatch system. While the data has some inaccuracy it is the best indicator available to the district at this time. The times are most likely slightly less than what is shown because the dispatcher is unable to make an immediate entry into CAD upon radio voice acknowledgment of unit status.*

**Full Assignment Response Time:** (The time measured from the first movement of a responding apparatus until the last assigned unit arrives at the scene). The fire district has established this time period shall be 690 seconds (11 minutes and 30 seconds) 90% of the time. The average full response time goal being 600 seconds (10.0 minutes.) A full response shall include the arrival of a minimum of 13 firefighting personnel.

*This criteria just like the first is based on the entry into the computer aided dispatch system by the dispatcher. While the data has some inaccuracy it is the best indicator available to the district at this time. The actual times are most likely slightly less than what is shown because the dispatcher is unable to make an immediate entry into CAD upon radio voice acknowledgment of unit status.*

The following charts show the times as they are available to this agency and indicate our best attempt at accuracy. It should also be noted that the only alarms analyzed and shown were the alarms within Fire District 7 and alarms that were categorized emergency response. No mutual aid calls or non emergency response calls were included in the following time charts.

## STRUCTURE FIRE

### Turn Out – Structure Fire

TURN OUT TIME	12 Tests		
(= or <) 90 seconds	5	41.6%	
91 to 120 seconds	4	33.3%	75%
121 to 132 seconds	2	16.6%	91.6%
133 to 144 seconds	1	8.4%	100%
➤ 144 seconds	0	0%	
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute, 32 seconds		

### First Arrival – Structure Fire

ARRIVAL TIME	66 Responses		
(= or <) 300 seconds	37	56%	
301 to 345 seconds	5	8%	64%
346 to 390 seconds	6	9%	73%
391 to 435 seconds	7	11%	84%
➤ 436 seconds	11	16%	100%
Average First Arrival	6 min 18 seconds		

### Full Assignment Arrival – Structure Fire

TURN OUT TIME	25		
(= or <) 600 seconds	8	32%	
600 to 645 seconds	6	24%	56%
646 to 690 seconds	5	20%	76%
691 to 735 seconds	4	16%	92%
➤ 736 seconds	2	8%	100%
Average First Alarm	11 min 48 seconds		

## WILDLAND FIRE INCIDENTS

### Turn Out – Wild land Fire

TURN OUT TIME	4 Tests		
(= or <) 90 seconds	0	0%	
91 to 120 seconds	2	50%	100%
121 to 132 seconds	2	50%	100%
133 to 144 seconds	0	0%	100%
➤ 144 seconds	0	0%	
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute, 24 seconds		

### First Arrival – Wild land Fire

ARRIVAL TIME	62 Responses		
(= or <) 300 seconds	19	31%	
301 to 345 seconds	15	24%	55%
<b>346 to 390 seconds</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>74%</b>
391 to 435 seconds	9	15%	89%
➤ 436 seconds	7	12%	100%
Average WL Response	6 minutes 14 seconds		

### OTHER FIRE INCIDENTS

#### Turn Out Time – Other Fire

TURN OUT TIME	11 Tests		
(= or <) 90 seconds	4	36%	
91 to 120 seconds	3	27%	63%
<b>121 to 132 seconds</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>81.5%</b>
133 to 144 seconds	2	18.5%	100%
➤ 144 seconds	0	0%	
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute, 46 seconds		

#### First Arrival Time – Other Fire

ARRIVAL TIME	483 Responses		
(= or <) 300 seconds	107	22%	
301 to 345 seconds	142	29%	51%
<b>346 to 390 seconds</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>70%</b>
391 to 435 seconds	49	11%	81%
➤ 436 seconds	94	19%	100%
Average Arrival time	6 min 37 seconds		

## EMS INCIDENTS

### Turn Out time - EMS

TURN OUT TIME	102 Tests		
(= or <) 90 seconds	66	65%	
91 to 120 seconds	21	21%	86%
121 to 132 seconds	8	8%	94%
133 to 144 seconds	4	4%	98%
145 to 156 seconds	3	2%	100%
Average Turn Out Time	1 min 26 seconds		

### BLS Response Time

RESPONSE TIME	2528 Responses		
(= or <) 300 seconds	1695	67%	
301 to 345 seconds	142	6%	73%
346 to 375 seconds	246	10%	83%
376 to 435 seconds	99	4%	87%
➤ 436 seconds	346	13%	100%
Average BLS Response	4 min 52 Seconds		

### ALS Response Time

RESPONSE TIME	1120 Responses		
(= or <) 300 seconds	863	77%	
301 to 345 seconds	61	5%	82%
346 to 390 seconds	50	4%	86%
376 to 480 seconds	58	6%	92%
➤ 480 seconds	88	8%	100%
Average ALS Response	4 min 22 seconds		

There were no tests performed for turn out time of these Special operation incidents. These incident type were to infrequent to capture results. Based on the CAD reports and information the Turn out time will be calculated the same as structure fire response.

### Response Time – Hazardous Materials Ops Level

RESPONSE TIME	3 Responses		
(= or <) 300 seconds	1	33%	
301 to 345 seconds	0	0%	33%
346 to 360 seconds	1	33%	67%
361 to 435 seconds	1	33%	100%
➤ 436 seconds	0	0%	100%
Average Resp. Time	8 min. 00 seconds		

### Response Time – Hazardous Materials Tech Level

RESPONSE TIME	2 Responses		
(= or <) 300 seconds	0	0%	
301 to 419 seconds	0	0%	0%
420 to 539 seconds	0	0%	0%
540 to 720 seconds	1	50%	50%
➤ 721 seconds	1	50%	100%
Average Resp. Time	9 min 40 seconds		

### Response Time – Technical Rescue

RESPONSE TIME	3 Responses		
(= or <) 299 seconds	0	0%	
300 to 419 seconds	1	33%	33%
420 to 539 seconds	1	33%	67%
540 to 720 seconds	1	33%	100%
➤ 721 seconds	0	0%	100%
Average Resp. Time	6 min 40 seconds		

**DEFICIENCIES**

The following areas are deficient in the response times as established by the fire district.

**STRUCTURE FIRE**

First fire unit arrival	73%	17% deficient
First alarm assignment arrival	76%	14% deficient

**WILDLAND FIRE**

First unit arrival	74%	16% deficient
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**OTHER FIRE**

Turnout time	81.5%	8.5% deficient
First fire unit arrival	70%	20% deficient

**EMS INCIDENTS**

Basic Life Support arrival	83%	7% deficient
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**HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE**

Haz Mat Operations level arrival	67%	23% deficient
Haz Mat Technical level	0%	100% deficient

**TECHNICAL RESCUE RESPONSE**

Technical Rescue	67%	23% deficient
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Each of the deficiencies have been noted and the district is working on improvements to improve deficiencies. While minor changes can alleviate the turn out time deficiencies the primary response deficiencies identified require the hiring of personnel and staffing of fire stations. The district plans to rebuild two fire stations for 24 hours staffing and staff these stations in 2008. While staffing will improve the deficiencies other factors such as road network and traffic congestion are factors that considerably impact our ability to respond within the standards established.

**CLOSING**

This is the second Annual report is in response to Washington State SHB 1756 which requires a reporting made available to the public. This report is the best representation of the required reporting contents. Future reports hope to include non required but interesting information about the your fire district. We are continuing to work on more accurate information to be used the time reporting intent of the legislation.

Any questions of the contents of this report should be directed to Fire Chief Richard Eastman or one of the Fire District's Assistant Fire Chiefs.