



OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF



To: Fire Commissioners J. Casey Healy, Terrie Schwartz, John Hall

From: Fire Chief Jim Blanchfield

Subject: Monthly Report- Data of **February 2021**

Date: March 1, 2021

1. Incidents and Response Statistics: February 2021: 132 runs
February 2020: 110 runs 20% increase

Year to date: 2021 – 277 runs
2020 – 266 runs 4% increase

2. Chief's Activities:
 - a. COVID
 - b. On-boarding DC Plofkin, FF Traycheff
 - c. Meetings
 - i. EOC Meetings (phone)
 - ii. Multiple meetings with HR Director Sarah Taffel (Phone)
 - iii. Radio system meetings
 1. PD
 2. NORCOM– State network
 3. Trumbull – State system example (hybrid system)
 - iv. WFD Health & Safety
 - v. Vendors – all related to apparatus
 - vi. Norwalk Hospital – document retention, refusals

3. Apparatus and Equipment (see apparatus supervisor report):
Car 2 & Car 6 – Serviced
Engine 2 – Repairs completed – safety modifications

Headset interface replaced – Truck 5
Engine 1, 4, & 5 all will be scheduled for maintenance
Hose replacement

4. Apparatus Supervisor – hiring process update
5. Captain Promotional Process – update
6. Budget – schedule update
7. Facilities
8. Special Projects:
 - a. Incomplete NIMFRS reports – 12 (February)
 - b. ESO project – discontinued
 - c. Replacement for PC Based Firehouse software
 - d. Meters project – Lt. Wilson
9. Health and Safety-
 - a. Lt. Wilson was assigned a computer for multi gas meter calibration station, which was out of service due to a software issue. All items are now resolved and functioning properly.
 - b. DC Plofkin recommended CO meters (carbon monoxide) for each member of the fire marshal's office including an HCN (hydrogen cyanide) meter for monitoring post fire suppression. All meters are being implemented to ensure low level or no exposures to their division. Suppression members currently have these on all EMS bags and front-line apparatus.
 - c. COVID 19 boxes in apparatus to be streamlined, since cab areas are becoming overcrowded
 - d. Working on implementation of a signal to assist firefighters who may be caught in a compromised situation.
 - e. Began hydrostatic testing of 60 SCBA cylinders needing their 5-year re-certification
10. Training highlights
 - Monthly EMS training - Trauma head and neck presented by Harry Downs
 - Monthly training topic Hazmat/metering including 7 department SOP's/SOG's
 - Paratech strut training - stabilization of vehicles during accidents, reviewed by all shifts utilizing a donated vehicle at FD HQ thanks to our administrative assistant Cathy Horn
 - DC Plofkin met with all officers to review the re-organization of the training schedule.

11. Other

- a. Donation of fitness equipment
- b. CERT training – DC Plofkin

Respectfully submitted,

James P. Blanchfield

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Fire Chief