



# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

City of Sidney Department of Fire & Emergency Services

The Sidney Department of Fire & Emergency Services is an organization with a rich and proud history. At the sound of the bell, siren, or radio dispatch alert, emergency responders react with purpose. The response is quick and efficient and concentrated on serving the needs of our City. Throughout the more than 160 years of service to the community, the sacrifices made by the emergency responders and their families in serving the community are too numerous to mention, but should never be forgotten.

Our beginning dates to 1857, a time when the City was being served by four companies of volunteer firefighters. Growing rapidly with a number of manufacturing firms starting. Sidney began to anticipate the prospect of a major fire occurring in the town. The Great Chicago fire occurred in 1871. Our first Fire Chief was appointed as a result of a local fire that had disastrous outcome in 1879. In 1897, Sidney Fire Department responded to 25 fire calls for the year. The department responded to 1,013 fire calls in 2018.

Sidney was ahead of the curve in 1962 as well. The department started emergency victim care (EMS) out of a van-type vehicle. They responded to 34 calls for service that first year. In 1963, the count climbed to 98. In the year 2018, the department responded to 3,053 EMS calls. We have all come a long way from our humble beginnings.

The Sidney Department of Fire & Emergency Services experienced a large increase in activity in 2018 along with a few personnel changes. During the past year, the department responded to 4,066

calls for service. Those fires resulted in 0 civilian injuries/deaths, and accounted for fire losses totaling \$1,417,800 which is an increase from of about \$200,000 total lost last year.

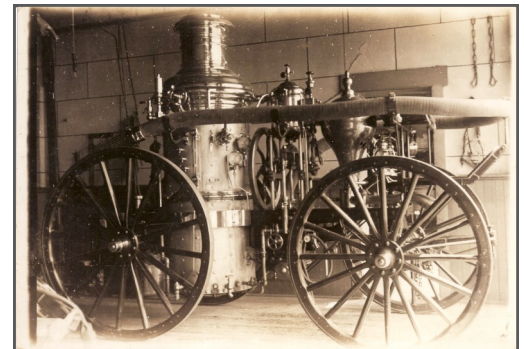
This report will attempt to encapsulate the activities and operations of all divisions within the department over the past 12 months.

The Department of Fire & Emergency Services is a full-service, full-time career department that delivers a wide range of professional fire protection services. The Department consists of three divisions: Administration, Operations, and Prevention.

The Administration Division is responsible for management of all fiscal, human, and physical resources as well as the overall operation of the 24/7 organization.

The Operations Division is responsible for the day-to-day delivery of emergency services including fire suppression, emergency medical service calls, hazardous materials mitigation, technical rescue including auto extrication, trench, high angle rope, confined space, and swift water.

The Prevention Division is responsible for all facets of the City's education and Fire Prevention program. This program includes an aggressive inspection program, fire safety education, fire investigations, juvenile fire setters program, and plans review.



## Mission Statement

The mission of the Sidney Department of Fire & Emergency Services is to serve and protect the community by preventing loss of life and property through education and the utilization of a highly-trained and equipped work force.

## 2018 Highlights



In January 2018 the Department welcomed FF Jordan Stemen, FF Lucas Woodward and FF Mitch Ahlers. Welcome to Sidney Fire!



At the June 10th City Council meeting, FF Mike Utz was honored as the 2017 Firefighter of the Year. Mike has been with the Department for over 16 years. We thank him and congratulate him on this peer-nominated award!

In June, the Sidney Fire Department partnered with UL Firefighter Safety Research Institute (UL FSRI) to conduct a series of experiments involving live-fire. The experiments were conducted in four houses donated by the Shelby County Land Bank that were scheduled for demolition. Along with members from Sidney Fire, twelve other regional departments took part in the experiments. It was an incredible learning opportunity for the department, the region and the state.



## Personnel

(as of 12/31/18)

**Chief:** Bradley Jones

**Deputy Chief:** Cameron Haller

**Training Lieutenant:** Lt. Dallas Davis

**Fire Prevention Lieutenant:** Lt. Jason Truesdale

**Secretary:** Katie Hoehne

### Peak Crew

FF/EMT Lucas Woodward

FF/EMT Mitch Ahlers

### A Crew

Assistant Chief Chad Hollinger

Lieutenant Rod Dyer

FF/Paramedic Mark Pleiman

FF/Paramedic Keith Wiley

FF/Paramedic Brian Lundy

FF/Paramedic Bryan Ramge

FF/Paramedic Kyle Barlage

FF/Paramedic Kyle Meyer

FF/Paramedic Collin Habel

FF/Paramedic Jordan Stemen

### B Crew

Assistant Chief Christopher Niswonger

Lieutenant Mark Barga

FF/EMT Douglas Stammen

FF/Paramedic Wesley Goubeaux

FF/Paramedic Gregory Francis

FF/Paramedic Scott Marchal

FF/Paramedic Jeffery Simon

FF/Paramedic Adam Schulze

FF/Paramedic Derek Stitzel

FF/Paramedic Quinten Pence

### C Crew

Assistant Chief Eric Barhorst

Lieutenant Rick Slife

FF/Paramedic Steven O'Meara

FF/Paramedic Michael Utz

FF/Paramedic Ryan Heitman

FF/Paramedic Ray Hess

FF/Paramedic Anthony Marchal

FF/Paramedic Chance Guisinger

FF/Paramedic Caleb Dersch

FF/Paramedic Andy Zumberger

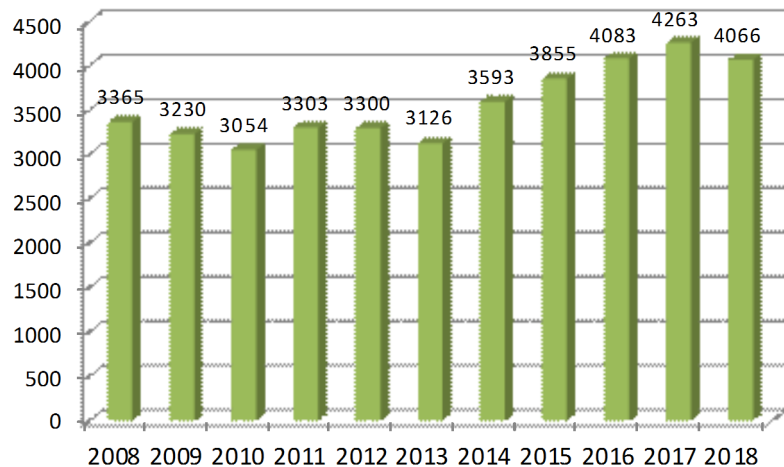


## Operations Division

The Operations Division is responsible for the day-to-day delivery of emergency services including fire suppression, emergency medical service calls, hazardous materials mitigation, technical rescue including auto extrication, trench, high angle rope, confined space, and swift water. The Operations Division also maintains the department fleet and conducts pre-emergency planning inspections of target buildings throughout the community.

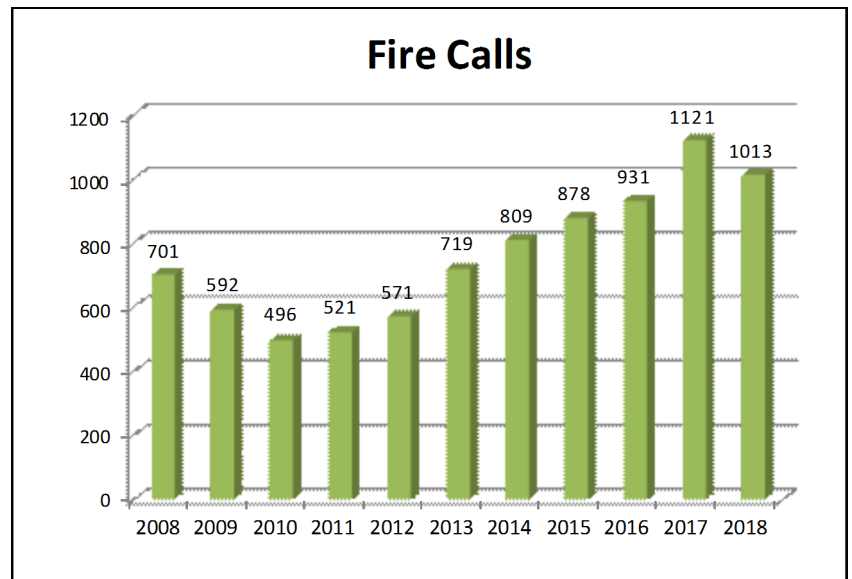
### Total Calls for Service

The department responded to a total of 4,066 calls in 2018 which is a 4% decrease from the 2017 total of 4,263. Calls for service include emergency medical service calls (ambulance), fire calls, rescue calls, and other miscellaneous calls.



## Fire Calls

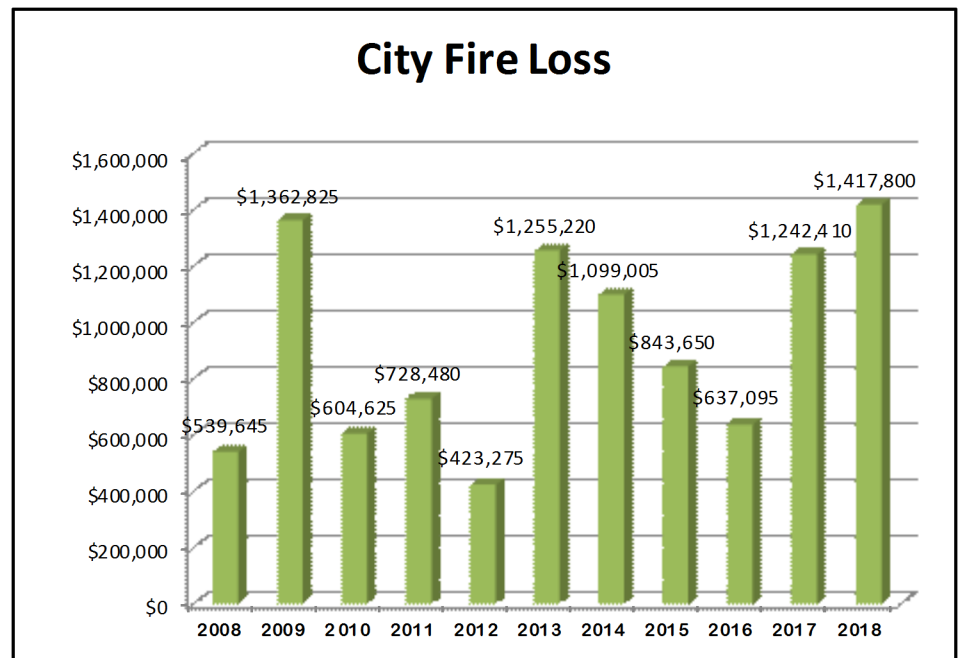
The number of fire calls decreased 9% during 2018. There were 1,013 fire calls compared to 1,121 the previous year. In the city, there were 65 actual calls for fire, 122 calls for hazardous conditions, 343 service calls, and 206 good intent calls, 234 false alarms, and 7 special incidents types. In the contracted township areas, there were 122 fire responses compared to 104 in 2017. There were 21 mutual aid runs compared to 23 last year.



## Fire Loss

The 2018 total fire loss for the year (\$1,417,800) was up 14% from last year's total of \$1,242,410. Several "significant loss" fires occurred during the year:

<b>July 29</b>	
1170 Westwood Building Fire	\$350,000
<b>July 29</b>	
1174 Westwood Building Fire	\$175,000
<b>July 29</b>	
1166 Westwood Building Fire	\$100,000
<b>September 16</b>	
450 W Russell Building Fire	\$525,000
<b>September 24</b>	
514 Oak Ave Building Fire	\$75,000



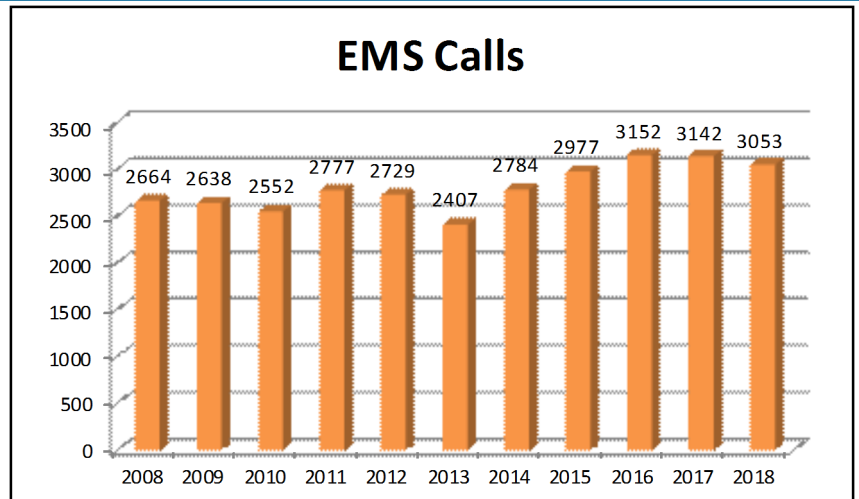
### Vision Statement

The vision of the Sidney Department of Fire & Emergency Services is to be a leader in our industry. We strive to serve the citizens by anticipating and responding to the changing needs of the community. The department will incorporate new technologies and techniques, focusing on training and education to provide the highest level of customer service and satisfaction in a professional and compassionate manner.

## EMS Calls

The department provides advanced life support and transport services in our emergency medical service system. In 2018, the department responded to 3,053 calls which is a 3% decrease from the previous year. Of the 3,053 calls, 2,561 were in the city, 472 were in the contracted township, and 20 mutual aid calls.

In 2018, EMS calls accounted for 75% of the department's total emergency responses.



## Township Coverage

In addition to providing services to the incorporated areas of the City, the Department provides contractual services to the following unincorporated areas: fire protection to the southern half of Franklin Township, fire and EMS response to the northern half of Orange Township, and fire and EMS to all areas of Clinton Township. Also included is fire and EMS service to I-75 from Sidney to the Miami County line, which includes Clinton, Orange, and Washington Townships; and fire service in Franklin Township north to Sharp Road.

In 2018, Township EMS responses increased 3% from the 2017 total of 459 to 472.

This table shows the number of **EMS calls** per township:

	Clinton	Orange	Franklin	Washington
2008	363	37	3	
2009	398	26	1	
2010	299	25	0	
2011	370	42	1	
2012	246	64	1	
2013	266	30	5	2
2014	300	50	8	4
2015	279	31	4	1
2016	333	34	11	2
2017	412	34	10	3
2018	430	30	8	4

## Apparatus and Responses

The department maintains the following fleet of apparatus and equipment: 2 Engines (pumpers) front line; Rescue Engine-used for heavy rescue; 1 Quint (77' ladder); 4 Ambulances equipped as Advanced Life Support Units; 2 Utility pick-ups w/4-wheel drive; 5 staff cars (Chief, Deputy Chief, Fire Prevention, and Training); utility car; 4 boats and motors with a trailer and a Mobile Fire Safety Education Center.

This table shows the number of calls per apparatus:

	2016	2017	2018
Quint 1	536	630	643
Engine 1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Engine 2	265	269	298
Engine 3	66	70	79
Ladder 5	64	24	N/A
Rescue 9	170	191	178
Medic 1506	330	315	290
Medic 1508	1021	2414	2326
Medic 1510	2304	1045	1115
Medic 1514	9	24	25

## Fire Prevention

The Fire Prevention Division was very busy in 2018 with inspections, fire investigations, and educational programs.

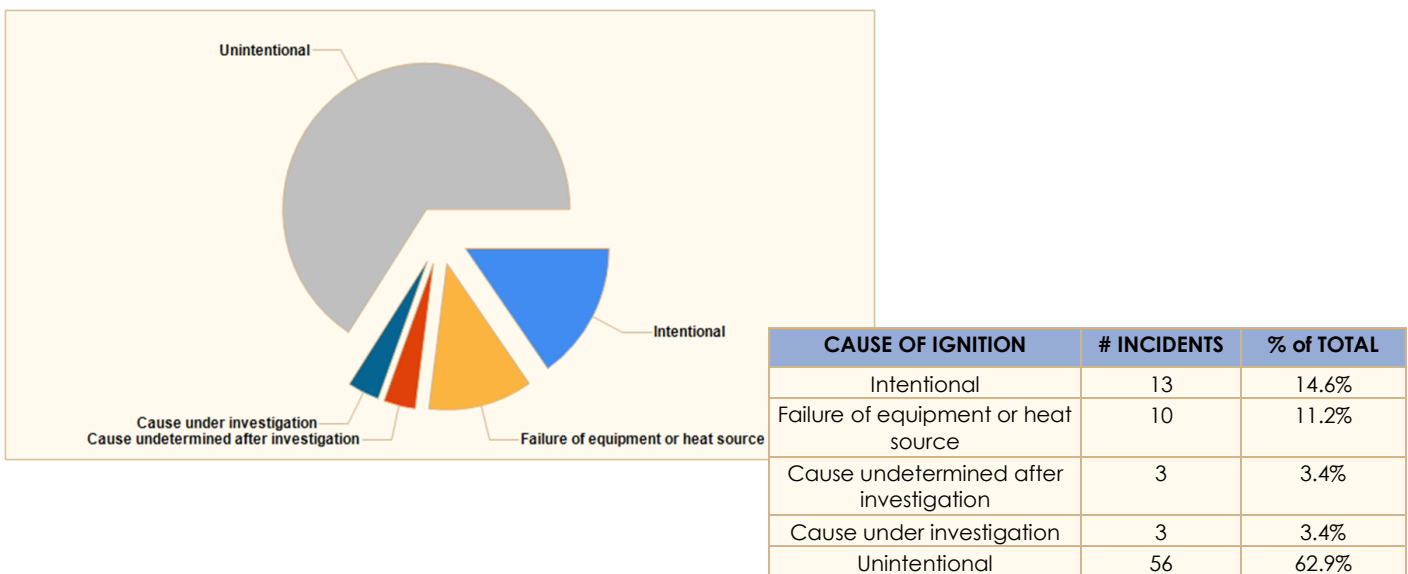
One of the major initiatives of the Fire Prevention Division is an aggressive inspection program. The program consists of inspections of mercantile, manufacturing, public assembly, and other occupancies within the city. The on-site inspection is designed to uncover fire code violations and unsafe practices in the workplace that can lead to a fire or other type of incident that may cause injury, damage to the property or lost income/production. The Division conducted 646 inspections in 2018.

The Division had a strong year regarding fire safety education. One of the primary goals in fire safety education is to provide a comprehensive program for people of all ages, with a special emphasis on young children. In 2018, 2,978 children (preschool through 5th grade) were educated in fire safety. The Fire Safety Trailer was utilized as part of the program to teach children how to react in case of a fire using real life “hands on” training and simulation applications. In addition to the many programs presented city wide, the Division also provided an informational booth at the Shelby County Fair. The Prevention Division also kept busy providing fire safety education to local employers and civic organizations, in-service training at schools, factories, and businesses.

The Prevention Division educates area youth with the State of Ohio’s Juvenile Firesetter Program. In 2018, 0 juveniles, aged 8-14, were counseled through our program.

	Fire Prev. Inspections	Fire Investigations	Pre K-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade School Education	Adult Safety Education	Juvenile Firesetter Program
2018	646	13	3,860	1,528	0
2017	574	14	3,493	1,123	1
2016	359	24	2,300	1,960	0

The Prevention Division is also responsible for fire investigations either as an individual unit or through the Sidney-Shelby County Fire Investigation Unit. This unit is made up of trained fire personnel and officers from the Sidney Police Department and Shelby County Sheriff’s Office. The unit conducted 13 formal investigations during the year.





## Fire Prevention cont'd

The FPO would like to point out that a key element to fire safety is to sleep with your bedroom door in the CLOSED and latched position. Smoke from an unfriendly fire is the by-product of fire that is the most deadly. A CLOSED door will stop or slow the movement of smoke in your home. The closed door provides time for an individual to become alert in clean air and make decisions accordingly. For more information on the importance to “**CLOSE BEFORE YOU DOZE**”, please visit <https://closeyourdoor.org/>



As a reminder to area citizens, the American Red Cross has a smoke detector installation program. For more information, please call the American Red Cross at 937-332-1414.

## Fire Injuries

In 2018, there were no civilian injuries and there was one firefighter injury during the year.



## Facilities

The Department serves the community from two sites. Station #1 is located at 222 West Poplar Street and houses all administrative offices. The other site is Station #2, located at 411 South Vandemark Road which was opened in 1982.

In 1997, the City completed and adopted an updated Comprehensive Plan. That plan recommends a third station in the next 5 years in order to better serve our community with improved response times throughout the City.



# Training

The Training office, as part of the Operations Division, is responsible for the training of all personnel to maintain proficiency of skills and professionalism in the performance of the skills. Training is categorized into the following categories: Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire, Technical Rescue, Hazardous Materials and Professional development.

In EMS, training is conducted in close coordination with Wilson Health and Greater Miami Valley EMS Council (GMVEMSC). Wilson Health provides instructors and educational classes in technical areas and

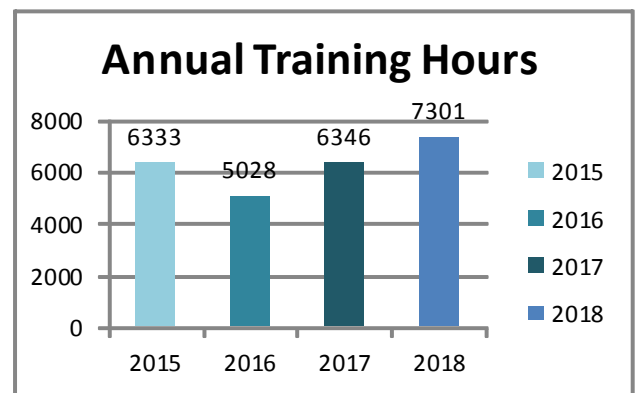
quality assurance audits that track and improve the quality and consistency of EMS delivered to the patients.

With over 7,301 total man-hours, Personnel participated in medical training with specific classes in; Cardiac, Geriatric and Pediatric Protocol, Trauma, 12-Lead EKG, Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), and other EMS courses. Fire training included: pump operations, SCBA and fire ground tactics. Technical rescue training areas including ice rescue, river rescue, swiftwater, trench rescue, rope rescue, vehicle/machinery rescue, hazmat operations, grain bin extrication and confined



space. Personnel attended classes outside the department for Hazmat IQ, TRT – Collapse/Auto Extrication/Vehicle & Machinery Rescue Ops/Confined Space/Trench, Fireworks Education, Ohio Fire Code Update, Arson Investigators, CAP Lab, Stroke, Midwestern Ohio Arson Seminar, Ohio Fire Executives, Active Shooter, Fire Dynamics Boot Camp, EMS, and Firefighter Cancer Prevention & Mental Health Classes.

The department continues to provide CPR, AED, and First Aid Training to other city departments and businesses.



## Summary

It has been a pleasure for our department to serve the community. We take pride in preparing for and delivering professional services. In 2019 members of the Department of Fire & Emergency Services look forward to continuing to serve the community and welcoming several new personnel to Sidney Fire & Rescue. Thank you for your continued support and we urge each of you to practice fire safety every day.

*Bradley S. Jones...*

Fire Chief

### Value Statement

#### Professionalism

We serve our community with honor and dedication.

#### Respect

We treat everyone with dignity and compassion.

#### Integrity

You can trust us to always do the right thing.

#### Duty

Our tradition is to do whatever it takes to get the job done.

#### Excellence

We achieve distinction through training, teamwork, and technology.





## Remembering Lieutenant Tony McLain



On November 21, 2018 the department suffered a great loss with the passing of Lieutenant Tony McLain, a 19 year veteran of Sidney Fire. Tony was a lead instructor for multiple northern Miami Valley initial firefighter certification classes and Proboard Proctor through Sinclair, as well as the Apollo Career Center, Upper Valley JVS, and Clark State. He was a Core Group Instructor for Rapid Intervention Team and "Save Your Own" along with other miscellaneous outreach programs via the Shelby County Firefighter Association, to which he was an active member, and had just been appointed Vice President to represent the Sidney Fire Department. Tony was promoted to Lieutenant in 2016 and was a Trustee for the IAFF Local 912 Union.

The loss of Tony has left a huge hole in our fire family and no words can express how much he will be missed. Tony loved being a firefighter and dedicated his life to the fire service. Please continue to keep the fire department as well as his wife and children in your thoughts and prayers. We thank you, Lt. McLain...we will take it from here.

*Forever and Always, 541.*

