



2019 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 2019, the department responded to 3,106 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 2019 along with a few personnel changes. During the past year, the department responded to 4,250

calls for service. Those fires resulted in 2 civilian injuries/deaths, and accounted for fire losses totaling \$692,040 which is an decrease from of over \$700,000 total lost last year.

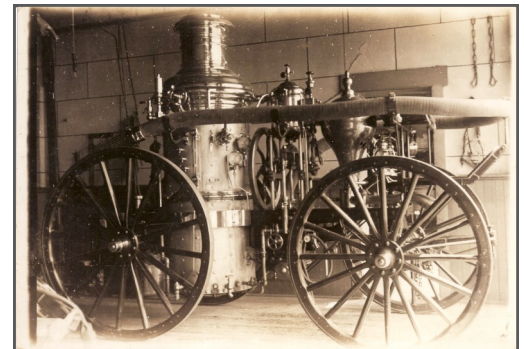
This report will attempt to encapsulate the activities and operations of all divisions within the department over the past 12 months.

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.

2019 Highlights



In September 2019 the Department welcomed FF Ross Kohler, FF Josh Waugh, FF Ken Battiston, and FF Jared Pleiman. Welcome to Sidney Fire!



At the May 6th City Council meeting, FF Jeff Simon was honored as the 2018 Firefighter of the Year. Jeff has been with the Department for over 5 years. We thank him and congratulate him on this peer-nominated award!

Personnel

(as of 12/31/19)

Chief: Bradley Jones
Deputy Chief: Chad Hollinger
Training Lieutenant: Lt. Jason Truesdale
Fire Prevention Lieutenants:
Lt. Ryan Heitman
Lt. Keith Wiley
Secretary: Katie Hoehne

Peak Crew

FF/EMT Ken Battiston
FF/EMT Jared Pleiman

A Crew

Assistant Chief Dallas Davis
Lieutenant Rod Dyer
FF/Paramedic Mark Pleiman
FF/Paramedic Brian Lundy
FF/Paramedic Bryan Ramge
FF/Paramedic Kyle Barlage
FF/Paramedic Kyle Meyer
FF/Paramedic Collin Habel
FF/EMT Lucas Woodward
FF/Paramedic Jordan Stemen

B Crew

Assistant Chief Christopher Niswonger
Lieutenant Mark Barga
FF/EMT Douglas Stammen
FF/Paramedic Wesley Goubeaux
FF/Paramedic Scott Marchal
FF/Paramedic Jeffery Simon
FF/Paramedic Adam Schulze
FF/Paramedic Derek Stitzel
FF/Paramedic Quinten Pence
FF/EMT Ross Kohler

C Crew

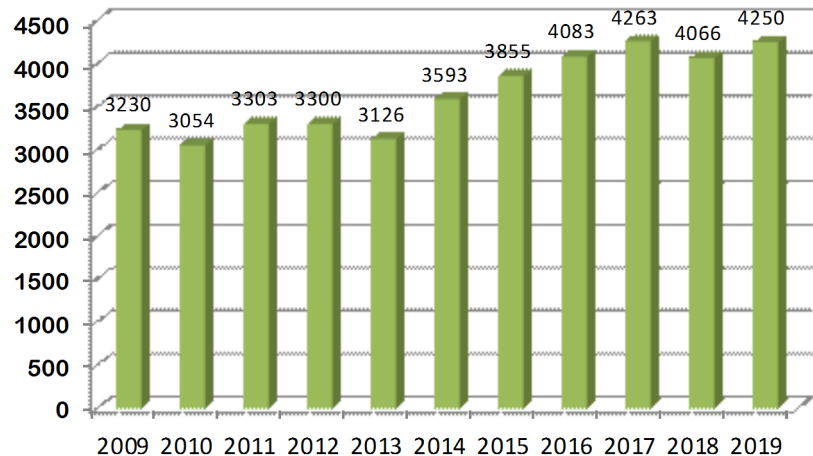
Assistant Chief Eric Barhorst
Lieutenant Rick Slife
FF/Paramedic Steven O'Meara
FF/Paramedic Gregory Francis
FF/Paramedic Michael Utz
FF/Paramedic Ray Hess
FF/Paramedic Anthony Marchal
FF/Paramedic Chance Guisinger
FF/Paramedic Andy Zumberger
FF/EMT Mitch Ahlers
FF/Paramedic Josh Waugh

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.

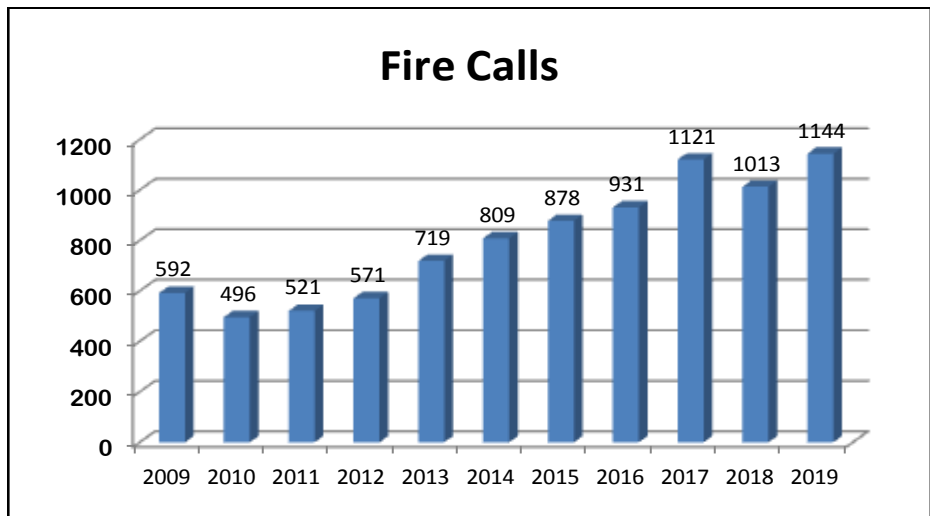
Total Calls for Service

The department responded to a total of 4,250 calls in 2019 which is a 4% increase from the 2018 total of 4,066. Calls for service include emergency medical service calls (ambulance), fire calls, rescue calls, and other miscellaneous calls.



Fire Calls

The number of fire calls increased almost 12% during 2019. There were 1,144 fire calls compared to 1,013 the previous year. In the city, there were 62 actual calls for fire, 109 calls for hazardous conditions, 398 service calls, 205 good intent calls, 241 false alarms, and 9 special incidents types. In the contracted township areas, there were 83 fire responses compared to 122 in 2018. There were 37 mutual aid runs compared to 21 last year.



Fire Loss

The total fire loss for 2019 was \$692,040, which is down 51% from last year's total of \$1,417,800. Several "significant loss" fires occurred during the year:

June 19

2640 Ross St
Building Fire \$250,000

April 10

2021 Old English Ct
Building Fire \$243,000

March 26

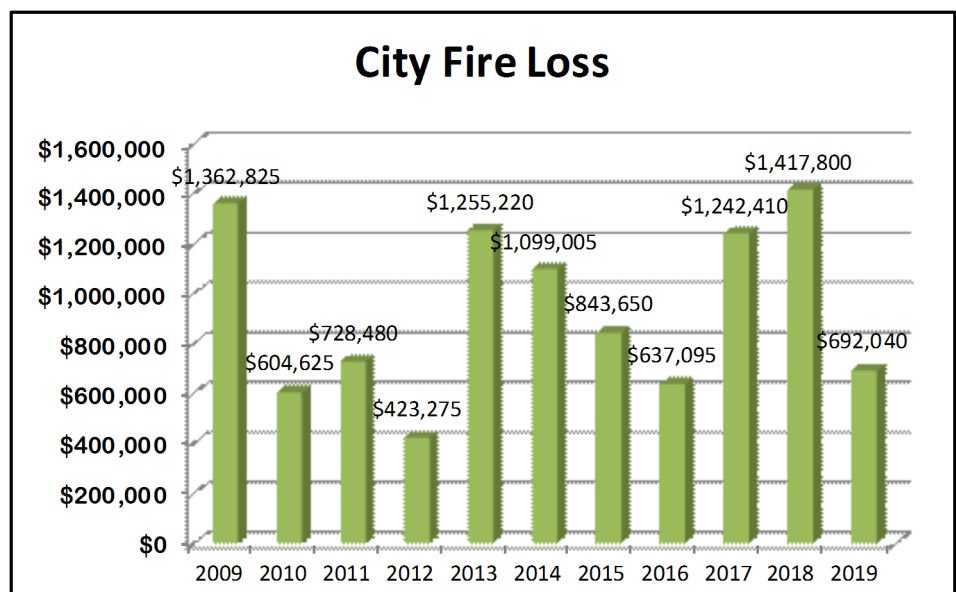
223 N Walnut Ave
Building Fire \$200,000

March 20

317 Enterprise Ave
Building Fire \$75,000

August 6

330 Linden Ave
Building Fire \$45,090



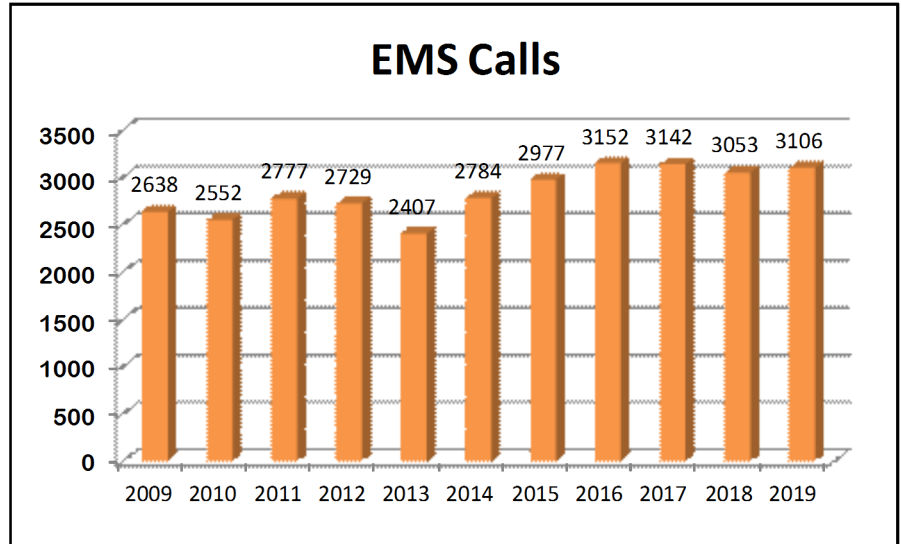
Vision Statement

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 2019, the department responded to 3,106 calls which is almost a 2% increase from the previous year. Of the 3,106 calls, 2,559 were in the city, 486 were in the contracted township, and 61 mutual aid calls.

In 2019, EMS calls accounted for 73% 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 2019, Township EMS responses increased 3% from the 2018 total of 472 to 486.

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

	Clinton	Orange	Franklin	Washington
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
2019	421	51	12	2

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.

In November 2019, Quint 3, having a 100' ladder, was added to the fleet in place of Ladder 5 which was out of service for over a year. Quint 1 therefore became Quint 2 and headed out to Station 2.

This table shows the number of calls per apparatus:

	2017	2018	2019
Quint 1 (Q2 in 2019)	630	643	564
Quint 3	N/A	N/A	43
Engine 2	269	298	320
Engine 3	70	79	127
Ladder 5	24	N/A	N/A
Rescue 9	191	178	210
Medic 1506	315	290	353
Medic 1508	2414	2326	2410
Medic 1510	1045	1115	1140
Medic 1514	24	25	26

Fire Prevention

The Fire Prevention Division was very busy in 2019 with inspections, fire investigations, and educational programs.

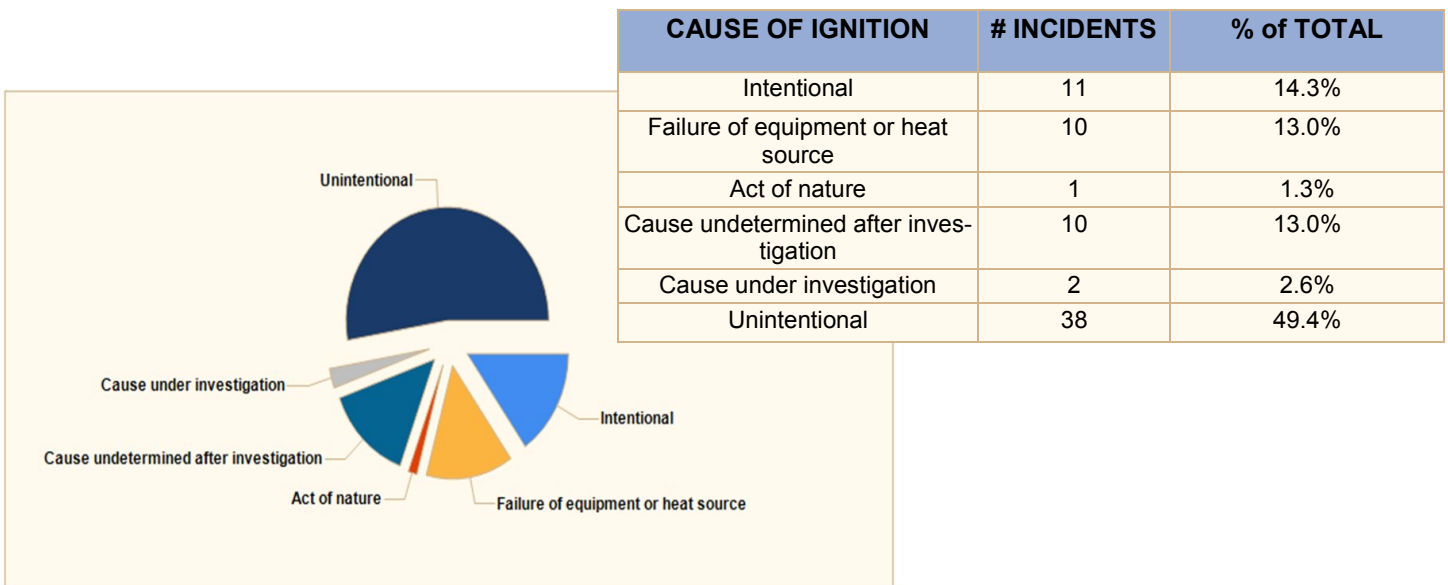
One of the major initiatives of the Fire Prevention Division is an aggressive inspection program. The program consists of inspections of mercantile, manufacturing, public assembly, and other occupancies within the city. The on-site inspection is designed to uncover fire code violations and unsafe practices 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 475 inspections in 2019.

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 2019, 3,112 children 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 2019, 0 juveniles, aged 8-14, were counseled through our program.

	Fire Prev. Inspections	Fire Investigations	School Education	Juvenile Firesetter Program
2019	475	9	3,112	0
2018	646	13	2,978	0
2017	574	14	3,493	1

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 9 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 2019, there were two civilian injuries and there were two 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



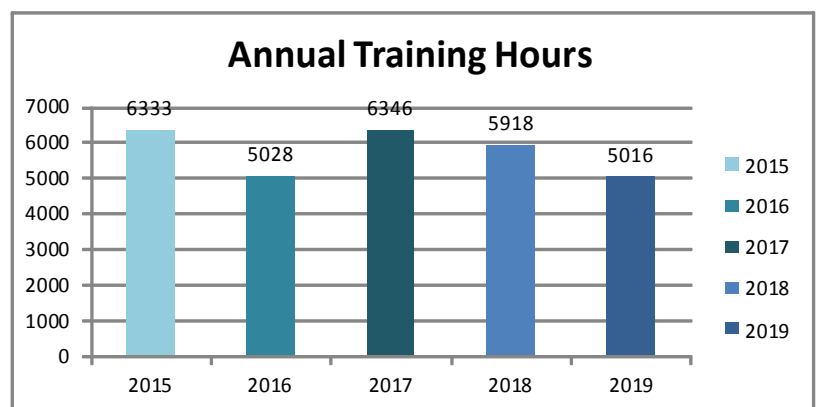
The Training office, as part of the Operations Division, is responsible for the training of all personnel to maintain proficiency of skills and professionalism in the performance of the skills. Training is categorized into the following categories: Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire, Technical Rescue, 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 5,016 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 2020 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.

