

The Command Post

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Did you know?

The Little Rock Fire Department became a paid fire department on February 8, 1892.

Upcoming Events

Police and Fire
Rotary Luncheon
Tuesday, March 29th

From the Chief's Desk

"When Seconds Count"



As firefighters we are faced every day with making split second decisions. The type of decisions that dramatically impact the lives of others. Our citizens and visitors place a certain expectation on our service delivery; an expectation of trust, professionalism, compassion, and an expectation of integrity. How you behave when conditions are optimal and life as we live it is good is not a true depiction of character. Character is better defined by those decisions made under pressure, when no other eyes are on you, when the road is bumpy and the view is blurred. How do you respond when seconds count? Training prepares us for these moments. It can be said that a good firefighter will know his/her job. A GREAT firefighter will also know the job of others on his/her crew as well as teach their job to the person below them. We should not train until we get it right, we should train until we continually get better at it and train again. When seconds count, have you optimized your training? When seconds count, did you give your very best? When seconds count, can others count on you?

New ISO Classification

We are ecstatic and proud to announce our achievement of an ISO Class 1 designation. Insurance Services Office (ISO) provides information to insurance companies to help establish appropriate fire insurance premiums for residential and commercial properties through its Public Protection Classification program. The ISO analyzes data collected on municipal fire protection efforts using their Fire Suppression Rating Schedule. The schedule distributes points to a municipality based on the effectiveness of its fire department, its municipal water system, and its alarm dispatch center. Once this analytical process is complete ISO then assigns a Public Protection Classification from 1 to 10. Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria. Becoming a Class 1 organization "is a huge and significant accomplishment for the City of Little Rock, as we have demonstrated that our fire protection capabilities are second to none," Chief Summers said. "The men and women of this dynamic organization should be gleaming with pride for their efforts and dedication. In becoming an ISO Class 1 organization we joined a small elite group of departments. In the United States there are approximately 30,000 fire departments and 144 of them have the distinction of being ISO Class 1. We cannot and will not rest on our laurels," Chief Summers said. "We will continue our efforts to remain a Class 1 department."

2015 At-A-Glance

As in past years, the year 2015 was a very productive one for the Little Rock Fire Department. A lot of work was done by many of our dedicated members to break barriers and create innovative approaches to effectively work through the challenges faced by the Department. New operational and community programs have been developed, and many changes have occurred in personnel; with the advancement of some through promotion, and the retirement of a few of our loyal and dedicated comrades.

In the earlier part of 2015 we celebrated a number of our members who went above and beyond by recognizing them at the Police and Fire Rotary Luncheon that was held March 3, 2015. Shortly after, we added new apparatus to our fleet, and a short time later several firefighters were recognized for taking home the trophy in the Fight for Air Climb that was held at War Memorial Stadium. Throughout the year firefighters can be counted on to participate in events that make a difference in the community.

As spring turned into summer, we had many of our members working tirelessly on several of our charitable drives, projects, training programs, and the beginning of a new recruit school. With the contributions of FF Bo Hagar, we were able to make great strides in our trek to becoming accredited. He also created the first expanded version of the Department's Annual Report. The report includes information on statistical numbers for the Department as well as information about our fleet and departmental divisions. With the collective efforts of our executive staff, Training Division members, and adjunct instructors, the Department was able to effectively create and execute several new training courses that immensely benefit the Department's Operations Division. A Peer Support Group was introduced to our members in May, to allow firefighters to assist one another in times of need. Efforts also continued with the annual cereal and fan drives that are held each summer. All of these efforts were successful and will be continued in the future.

Latalia Jeffries, a summer youth intern assigned to the Fire Prevention and Community Outreach Division, created and introduced the "Aqua Marshal Pro-

ject" to the citizens of Little Rock. Latalia, who was an e-Stem high school senior at the time, was tasked with creating a project that would benefit the community. During the summer months the "Aqua Marshal Project" provides water to individuals in the community that are active or working in the heat and may not be properly hydrated. The project was successful in its inception and will return in the summer.

In July 2015, the Department had the distinct privilege of graduating eighteen (18) bright and promising probationary firefighters from recruit school. Shortly after, another recruit class began and those individuals will graduate in March of 2016. In August, the Department's Annual Citizen's Fire Academy began, graduating eighteen (18) citizens who went through eight (8) weeks of classroom and hands-on training. Those individuals were recognized by the Board of Directors on October 20, 2015. Also in October, fire personnel joined in and provided encouragement for participants in the Race for the Cure, which is one of the largest celebrations in the country. Fire Safety Day was held the same day and was enormously successful with approximately 10,000 people in attendance.

Efforts toward meeting the Department's 2015 goals were continued during the last quarter of the year with some notable contributions. Throughout the year the consistent hard work of the men and women of this organization gave the Department the distinct honor of becoming one of the few departments in the nation with a Class 1 ISO rating. Through a collaboration between Rock Region METRO and the Little Rock Fire Department the first AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) was placed on a city bus. Engineer Nathan Collie worked with the Transit Authority to train their staff on the proper use of AEDs in case of an emergency on city buses. Many of our Battalion Chiefs worked together to effectively create training sessions for their subordinates to help improve their efforts in the Training and Operations Divisions. Overall, 2015 was a great year for the Little Rock Fire Department and strides taken throughout the year have paved the way to make 2016 even greater!

Retirements



**Assistant Chief
Don Bradley**
Retired on
November 27, 2015
After 28 Years of
Service



**Captain
Paul Gunther**
Retired on
March 1, 2015
After 41 Years of
Service



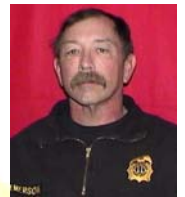
**Captain
Dwight Mitchell**
Retired on
March 30, 2015
After 31 Years of
Service



**Captain
James Coppock**
Retired on
April 29, 2015
After 29 Years of
Service



**Captain
Randy Davenport**
Retired on
June 12, 2015
After 35 Years of
Service



**Captain
Albert Emerson**
Retired on
June 18, 2015
After 32 Years of
Service



**Captain
Anthony Springer**
Retired on
October 29, 2015
After 28 Years of
Service



**Captain
Ronnie Hudson**
Retired on
November 30, 2015
After 44 Years of
Service



**Engineer
Robin Allen Moore**
Retired on
May 15, 2015
After 24 Years of
Service



**Engineer
Stephen Evans**
Retired on
May 29, 2015
After 24 Years of
Service



**Engineer
Harold Davies**
Retired on
December 3, 2015
After 27 Years of
Service



**Firefighter
Wendell Taylor**
Retired on
December 15, 2015
After 21 Years of
Service

Promotions



Eric Hildreth
Promoted to Captain
on March 6, 2015



Gary Duncan
Promoted to Captain
on April 14, 2015



Frederick Chapple
Promoted to Captain
on April 27, 2015



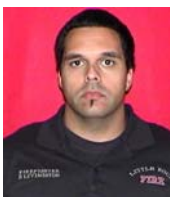
Shannon Towns
Promoted to Captain
on June 16, 2015



James Reed
Promoted to Captain
on June 24, 2015



Jason Langston
Promoted to Captain
on November 5, 2015



Franklin Livingston
Promoted to Captain
on December 4, 2015



Cody Smith
Promoted to Engineer
on March 2, 2015



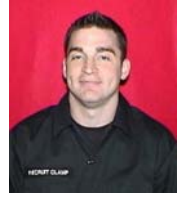
James Greilick
Promoted to Engineer
on April 17, 2015



Jeffrey Fryar
Promoted to Engineer
on April 28, 2015



Broderick Ghant
Promoted to Engineer
on May 19, 2015



John Clamp
Promoted to Engineer
on May 27, 2015



Clint Milum
Promoted to Engineer
on June 23, 2015



Jean Bisbee
Promoted to Engineer
on June 25, 2015



Matthew Bradford
Promoted to Engineer
on November 3, 2015



Eric Patrick
Promoted to Engineer
on December 2, 2015



Bradley Sanders
Promoted to Engineer
on December 4, 2015

Firefighter Profiles



Name: Steve McGhee
Rank: Captain
Station-Shift: Sta. 2-B
Years of Service: 15 years

Q: What are your hobbies/interests?

A: Being outdoors and hanging out with family and friends.

Q: What motivates you to do what you do in your personal and professional life?

A: My family.

Q: What would someone be surprised to know about you?

A: Sometimes I lose my temper.

Q: What are you most proud of?

A: My family.

Q: How would you like to be remembered?

A: As a loyal friend and caring husband and father.



Name: Cherie McGhee
Rank: Engineer
Station-Shift: Sta. 23-B
Years of Service: 22 years

Q: What are your hobbies/interests?

A: Spending time with family and friends, traveling, community service and reading.

Q: What motivates you to do what you do in your personal and professional life?

A: Family.

Q: What would someone be surprised to know about you?

A: That I considered joining the Sisters of Mercy.

Q: What are you most proud of?

A: My husband Steven and our 19 year old son Logan.

Q: How would you like to be remembered?

A: As a woman who is passionate about the people and issues that matter to me.

Peer Support Group

In their daily work firefighters can face many stressful situations including rescuing people trapped in burning homes or automobiles following a wreck. Sometimes their lives or the lives of their comrades are at stake. Experiencing these events can have a psychological effect that is sometimes not immediately recognized by the firefighter or his or her peers. Fire Administration recognizes the need for each firefighter to have access to a trusted person they can turn to when they feel the pressures of the job.

In May 2015, a "Peer Support Group" was established. The group is comprised of eleven (11) firefighters who volunteered their time to assist fellow firefighters in their time of need. The group's focus is to provide an anonymous and confidential avenue for help with personal and professional issues for firefighters and their families. This gives firefighters an opportunity to address any issues or concerns before they become problematic. Each member of the "Peer Support Group" received training from the Employee Assistance Program in an effort to better assist their peers in the best way possible. This is a big feat for our firefighters, as many of them do not always seek the help needed if and when necessary. The peer support group creates a level of comfort by giving those in need a relatable person to talk to. "We Are One" is the motto that was created for the group; symbolizing unity and the importance of being the "gatekeepers of our profession and [being] there for one another."

Check Out Those Rookies!

A hearty congratulations to the eighteen (18) new Little Rock Fire Department probationary firefighters that graduated from training in 2015. We are pleased to have them as members of the Little Rock Fire Department family.



Left to right: FF Michael Newton, FF Andrew Rogers, FF David Barber, FF Jonathan Wilkins, FF Willis Brazear



Left to right: FF Chancellor Jackson, FF Jeremy Hill, FF Steven Shelnut, FF Dorian Edwards, FF Nicholas Harris, FF Edward Jackson



Left to right: FF Chris Brown, FF John Millikan, FF William Barcafer, FF Ryan Knauer, FF Jeffrey Hildreth, FF Sean Grigsby

Below are the new heroes that recently joined the Little Rock Fire Department. These individuals graduated from Recruit School on March 14, 2016 at the Statehouse Convention Center.



Left to right: Recruit Michael Patton, Recruit Christopher Phillips, Recruit Chadwick Rhodes, Recruit Eric Carpenter, Recruit Andrew Moore, Recruit Jason Riggs, Recruit Jimmy Appleby, and Recruit Christopher Walker

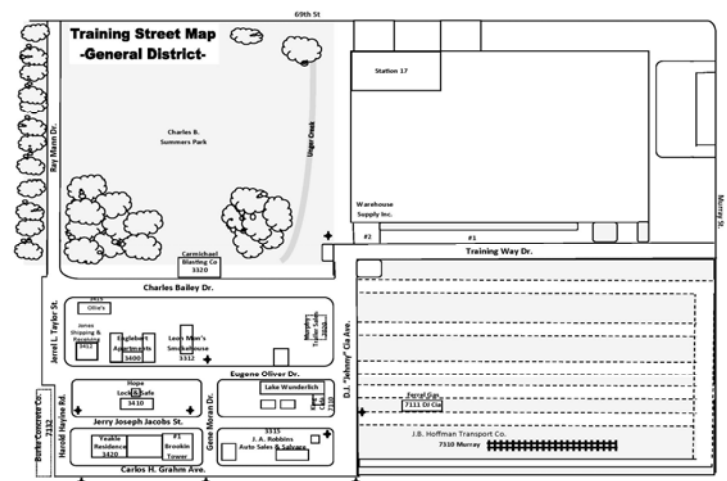
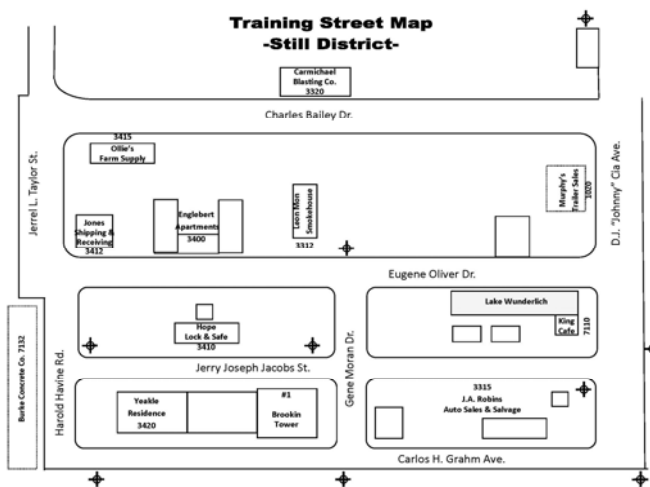
The "Aqua Marshal Project"

The Little Rock Fire Department and Central Arkansas Water (CAW) partnered during the summer months to help people stay hydrated with a new program called the "Aqua Marshal Project". We all know how important it is to stay hydrated in the summer months. In 2014, 126 heat related emergencies were reported in Central Arkansas between May 1 and October 1. By May 2015, we had reached 98 heat related emergencies. In an effort to help combat these emergencies, the Little Rock Fire Department worked with CAW to implement the program. The "Aqua Marshal Project" is a community outreach effort created by Little Rock Fire Department Intern and e-Stem High School Senior, Latalia Jeffries. The project aims to provide water to those in the community who are stranded or working in the heat and may not be staying properly hydrated. Fire Marshals carry water in their vehicles. While the Marshals are out performing their regular job duties, they will be keeping an eye out for those in the community that need water. For more information about the "Aqua Marshal Project" contact Firefighter Bo Hagar with the Fire Prevention Division at 501-918-3700.

Training Streets Named After Fallen Firefighters

In the early part of 2015, some changes were made to the training drill field. The Training Division worked with the City Street and Sign Division of the Public Works Department to create additional street signs and business labels to honor the 25 firefighters that lost their lives in the line-of-duty. Below is a list of each firefighter that made the ultimate sacrifice along with a street map indicating the streets and buildings named after these individuals:

Henry Brookin	March 11, 1891	N.J. Carmichael	November 12, 1960
Robert V. Yeakle	January 27, 1892	D.J. "Johnny" Cia	January 23, 1961
James Robbins	December 16, 1895	Carlos Graham	September 28, 1963
George Englebert	April 24, 1911	Gene Moran	February 11, 1967
Charles Summers	February 17, 1920	A. Harold Haynie	January 29, 1970
T. Roscoe King	May 15, 1924	Eric Oliver	January 14, 1972
Joe M. Hope	June 2, 1924	Jerry Jacobs	January 14, 1972
James A. Jones	December 6, 1928	Jerrell L. Taylor	March 8, 1977
Joe Hoffman	June 7, 1936	C.E. Bailey	December 21, 1980
Ralph Unger	July 24, 1937	Charles E Burke	December 27, 1980
W.E. Blevins	October 8, 1940	Edwin G. Murphey	January 26, 1984
Leo A. Mons	April 7, 1944	Geo Wunderlich	December 23, 1985
Ray D. Mann	December 14, 1956		



Fire Prevention Recieves Grant

The Fire Prevention and Community Outreach Division was awarded a \$4,000 grant by the Arkansas Fire Prevention Commission in February. Each year, the Commission awards the grant to fire departments across the state to further assist in the reduction of life and property loss due to fire. Fire Prevention intends to use the grant to purchase fire extinguishers and surge protectors. The extinguishers will be used to kick start the "Operation Safe Kitchen" initiative. "Operation Safe Kitchen" aims to place fire extinguishers in the kitchens of low income families and senior citizens in the city. The surge protectors will be given to college students who live in university dormitories to aid in reducing electrical fires due to overloaded outlets. Both the extinguishers and surge protectors will be distributed on an 'as needed' basis.

LRFD Announces Release of Public T-shirts

LRFD is pleased to announce that it will have t-shirts made available to the public for purchase. The creation of a Fire Department t-shirt which could be sold to the public was the brain-child of Brittanye Gyce, Administrative Assistant in Fire Administration, after she received numerous requests from fire house visitors asking for memorabilia during their visits. She collaborated with FF Bo Hagar to have him create a design for the t-shirt and they presented the idea to Chief Gregory

Summers who gave his approval. Together they worked closely with a local screen printing company to bring FF Hagar's artwork to life. Administration is pleased and very excited about the shirt and making it available to the public. Below is a picture of the artwork. Availability of the t-shirt will be released in the near future. The proceeds from the sale of the shirts will go towards funding for the Department's Fire Prevention and Community Outreach efforts. Will you support?

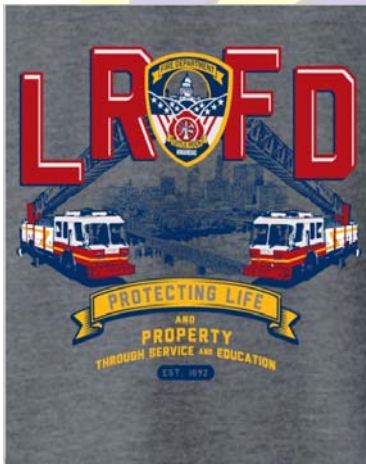


Photo courtesy of the Little Rock Marathon.

Congratulations to Firefighter Dan Ramirez of Engine 8, B-Shift for winning the 5K/Male Division of the Little Rock Marathon on March 5th. Out of 1,300 participants for the 5K event, Ramirez came in first in the Men's Division with a time of 18:26. He was one of four runners who took home a trophy for the 5K and 10K events.

9/11 Honors

On September 11, 2015, many events were held to memorialize the events that took place on that day in 2001 as well as honor those that lost their lives and those that continue to protect our country and local communities. The Rescue Remembrance Project expressed their thanks to the Department for assisting them with keeping the memory of 9/11 alive through education. The following was sent:

"We strive to keep the remembrance alive every day and I truly appreciate your support and assistance with the Remembrance Rescue Project. It has grown and developed over the past 4 years only with the help from people across the country just like you. On behalf of the entire Project...Thank You!

Chris G.

Remembrance Rescue Project
Preserve. Educate. Honor. Remember."

In January 2014, the Rescue Remembrance Project traveled to Little Rock for two weeks. The purpose of the project is to preserve the legacy of the events and individuals who played a role in those events through education. For more information on the Rescue Remembrance Project, please visit www.remembrance.co.



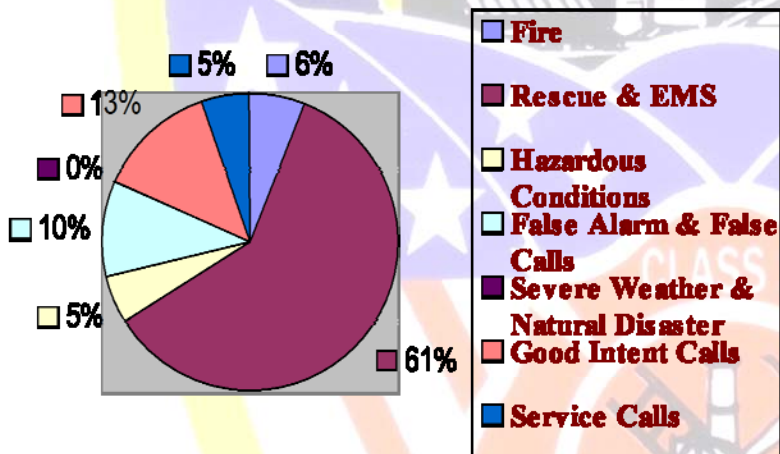
Above: Firefighters come to attention and observe a moment of silence at 8:59 a.m., the time of the collapse of the South Tower at the World Trade Center.

2015 Year-End Totals

The total number of runs in 2015 was 29,778, which is slightly higher than our year-end total for 2014. We can expect this number to continue to rise gradually as the city expands with new developments. Below are charts and data that display total number of runs, incident types, total number of responses by Battalion/District, and other year-end totals.

Total Company Responses for 2015									
Engine 15	2941	Engine 01	2051	Engine 12	1466	Truck 09	960	Engine 04	461
Engine 03	2537	Engine 02	2004	Truck 15	1423	Truck 11	954	Truck 21	415
Engine 07	2463	Engine 17	1952	Truck 07	1367	Engine 10	943	Truck 04	225
Engine 09	2235	Engine 14	1807	Rescue 2	1305	Engine 23	782	Red Ball 1	89
Engine 08	2161	Engine 18	1708	Engine 13	1294	Engine 21	746	Red Ball 2	30
Engine 11	2109	Engine 06	1662	Engine 20	1240	Truck 18	739	Red Ball 3	27
Engine 19	2072	Truck 01	1610	Engine 16	1117	Hazmat 11	565	Red Ball 4	3

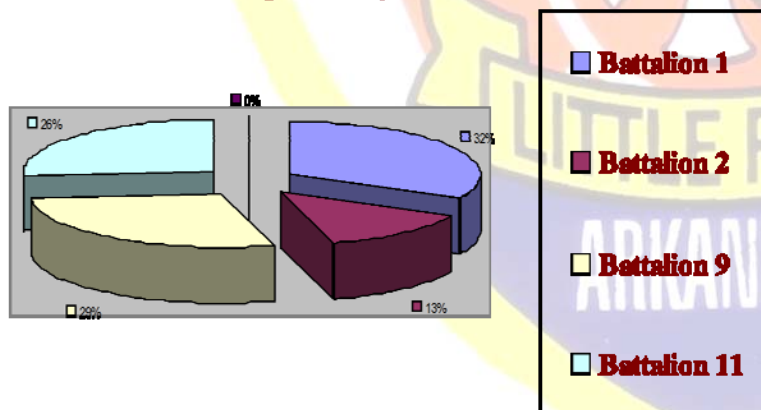
Incident Listing By Incident Type



	Total Fire Corps Members	Total Fire Corps Volunteer Hours
2013	18	289.25
2014	15	1021.25
2015	10	604.5

	Fire Prevention Programs Delivered	Smoke Alarms Distributed/ Installed
2013	703	257
2014	973	255
2015	1,261	138

Total Responses By Battalion/District



	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Fire Investigations	291	276	319
Arrests	11	26	13
Convictions	12	15	3
Arson		56	73
Arson Dollar Loss		\$1,867,300	\$1,417,300