



OCEANSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT

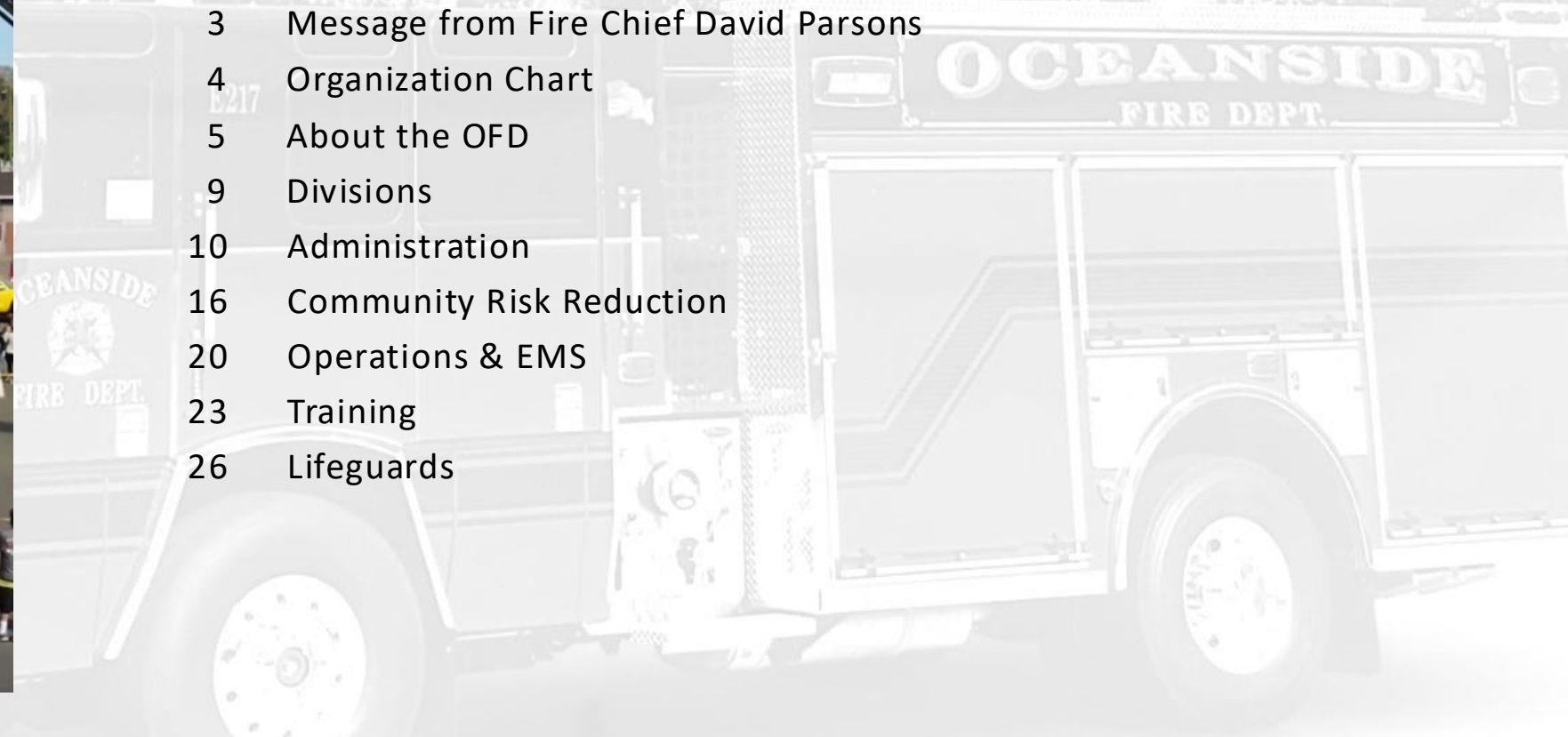
Annual Report 2023



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Message from Fire Chief David Parsons



Dear Oceanside Residents, Businesses, Visitors, and Members of the Oceanside Fire Department,

It's an honor to present the Oceanside Fire Department's 2023 annual report. I'm immensely grateful for your ongoing support and the tireless dedication of our firefighters, lifeguards, medical providers, and support staff. Together, we continually strive to fulfill our mission of protecting life and property.

This past year was marked by significant achievements. With over 24,000 responses, we had our highest call volume ever. With the assistance of Measure X, we placed into service our first Medic Squad response unit consisting of two firefighter/paramedics in the downtown area. This additional response unit will reduce response times and improve the availability of your emergency services in a very busy area, that also continues to add mid-rise buildings and increased density. We also placed into service the Marine Safety Unit (MSU), a one-of-a-kind deployment of a Lifeguard Sergeant, Senior Lifeguard, and a Firefighter/Paramedic. The MSU has increased rescue staffing at our wonderful harbor and coastline, added an advanced life support medical provider, and is able to respond by vehicle, in a boat, and with our Coast Guard partners. While we faced challenges related to long hospital waits, a young workforce, and high call volume, we are proud of how our team adapted and continued to provide exceptional service. The Measure X Emergency Medical Technician program has placed critically needed additional resources into service for our community. We continue to remain dedicated to fire prevention and risk reduction. We do this through our 100% success rate at inspecting our mandated occupancies, communicating important messages on social media, and implementing a robust fire code.

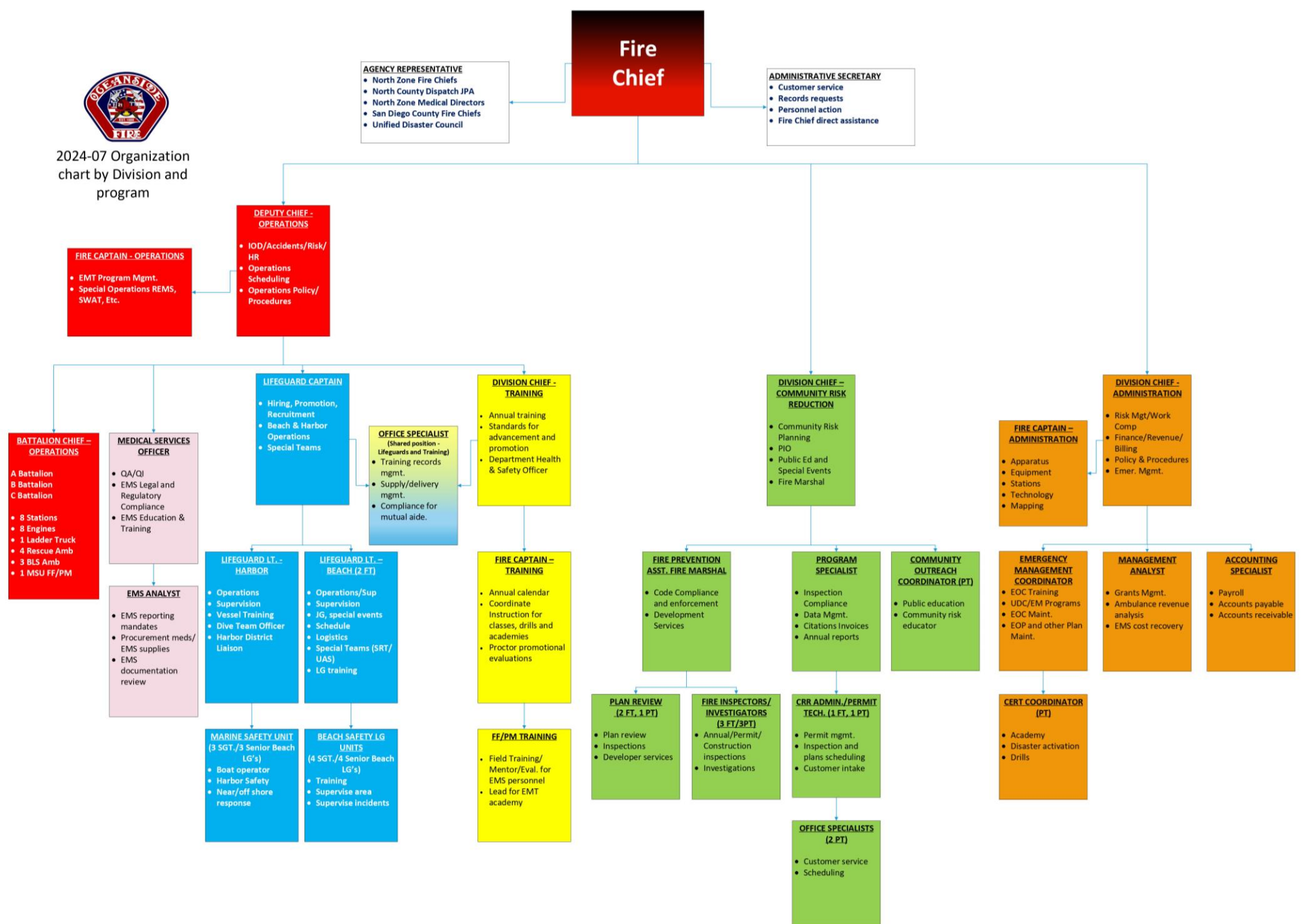
Moving forward, I'm excited to work with our community to ensure a high-performance organization that is able to respond to any incident with adequate resources. Our goals for the upcoming year include evaluating our service delivery for areas of efficiency, training in all areas of skills and leadership development, and meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing world, and a rapidly changing Oceanside.

Thank you for entrusting us with your safety. We vow to serve you with unwavering commitment.

Sincerely,
David Parsons



2024-07 Organization chart by Division and program



ABOUT THE OCEANSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT



- 1 Fire Chief
- 1 Deputy Chief
- 3 Division Chiefs
- 3 Battalion Chiefs
- 1 Medical Services Officer
- 30 Captains
- 27 Engineers
- 52 Firefighter / Paramedics
- Emergency Medical Technicians
 - 22 Full-Time, 18 Part-Time
- 1 Assistant Fire Marshal
- 3 Fire Inspectors
- 3 Fire Plans Examiner
- 1 Assistant Training Officer
- Administrative Support Staff
 - 7 Full-Time, 11 Part-Time
- 18 Lifeguard FT
- 100 Lifeguard PT

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

Mission:

"Embracing Families"

Our mission is embracing families and safeguarding communities.

Vision:

Our vision always extends beyond emergencies. We embrace our community as family, providing a protecting and caring presence, dedicated to keeping everyone safe, always.

Core Values:

Professionalism

Teamwork

Integrity

Resilience

Leadership

LOOKING FORWARD: FIRE STATION 1 IS NEARING COMPLETION

The new Fire Station 1 project on Civic Center Drive will wrap up this summer. Measure X is funding the majority of the project's design and construction costs. Along with measure X, the City received a \$3.5 million federal grant for this project, one of only 13 projects selected nationwide.

New Fire Station 1 encompasses two levels and will include a five-bay apparatus space that will house a fire engine, fire truck, ambulance, battalion chief vehicle, and equipment. The second floor will house living accommodations for up to twelve personnel, restrooms, and a kitchen. The station will be complete with rooftop solar panels and a back-up power supply.



DIVISIONS



ADMINISTRATION

Division Chief
Tim Scott



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Division Chief
Blake Dorse



OPERATIONS

Deputy Chief
Jessamyn Specht



TRAINING

Division Chief
Lucifer Keener



LIFEGUARDS

Captain Bill
Curtis



ADMINISTRATION

Division Chief Tim Scott

Fire Administration's mission is to support all members of the Oceanside Fire Department by diligently managing finances, human resources, logistics and special projects.



ADMINISTRATION

Our Major Accomplishments for 2023 and forecast for 2024 include:

Budget

The state of the budget is currently healthy as we were able to maximize the available funding for budget fiscal year 2022-2023 while coming in just under budget, near 99%. That precision takes a coordinated effort and all those who have a hand in managing and spending of the budget should be applauded. Moving into fiscal year 2023-2024, we have received a 3% increase in maintenance and operations accounts to keep up with the annual inflation. We recently had our quarter two analysis with the Finance Department, and we are right on track to repeat our performance of last year. In addition, we are currently in the process of submitting and presenting our budget requests for fiscal year 2024-2025. We will know in the short-term if we have approved funding for the proposals. We understand the need for additional staffing, equipment, and programs, and are in line with asking for these.

Mutual Aid

In comparison to previous years, the last two fire seasons have been a little slower with less resources deploying throughout the year. In addition, more OES vehicles were deployed instead of our own department vehicles. As a result of these factors, our mutual aid income was significantly lower. However, the funding still provides us with some much-needed equipment and vehicles. The Mutual Aid account has been used to purchase new wildland equipment to include helmets, pants, gloves, jet boil sets, and flashlights. This biggest purchase we have had in years occurred this year with the purchase of new VHF radios, both mobile and portable. As F02 and F04 are phased out, 2 brand new Ford F250 diesel light utility trucks will be replacing them for use on overhead assignments. Mutual aid funding was utilized to help outfit these vehicles and cover any additional costs not covered by replacement funding of the other vehicles. In addition, a new REMS side by side and trailer are in the process of being purchased and outfitted.

Measure X

Measure X continues to be active and provides much needed support to our delivery system as well as our equipment needs. In addition to increased staffing, some of the Measure X funding was used this year to purchase Watchtower RMS (lifeguards), necessary associated uniforms, strategic plan funding, health and wellness equipment for Lifeguards and firefighters, a special event trailer, and other critical equipment needs.

ADMINISTRATION

The background of the slide features a faded image of a fire truck. On the truck, an American flag is visible, and a sign with the word 'Pine' is partially seen. The truck is dark-colored with 'FIRE DEPT.' written on its side.

Grants

We have received a distribution for the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) for approximately \$88,000. Approximately \$42,000 was used to purchase firefighter protective gear for new-hires and to support the new state mandates concerning the expiration and management of personal protective equipment. The balance of the grant funding was used for annual hose and ladder testing as well as much needed equipment for the lifeguard division.

We have also received a \$90,000 grant from the California Division of Boating and Waterways for fire department equipment which will be used to repower and upgrade the 29-foot Crystaliner rescue vessel.

Finally, from the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors, the office of Jim Desmond awarded the fire department the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program grant in the amount of \$140,000 which was used to purchase four sets of electric Holmatro extrication equipment to outfit the new fire engines arriving this spring.

Payroll/Telestaff Integration

Thanks to the hard work and efforts of Accounting Specialist II Judy Garay and Fire Captain Rick Goetz, the Oracle integration will be in effect this February. The process will link Telestaff and the time-card system so the data can integrate and populate. We are hoping this saves a lot of time and effort for everyone so that it can be directed into other projects.

ADMINISTRATION

Facilities

Fire station one construction is on track and the project should be wrapping up in the next two months. By April, the building phase will be completed, and all furniture, fixtures, and fittings will be installed. The station will be ready for service August 2024.

Fire station four finally received some much-needed attention to both the interior and the exterior. There is still much more work to be completed at the site including, some concrete, roofing, and exterior painting this year.

Fire station five is scheduled for a remodel design this year with the actual labor occurring next year.

The new fire station 8 design phase is wrapping up. At this point, all the work is completed, and we will move on to look for funding for the project.

Fire administration will receive an overhaul this October. New paint, new carpet and new furniture are all items that will be completed.

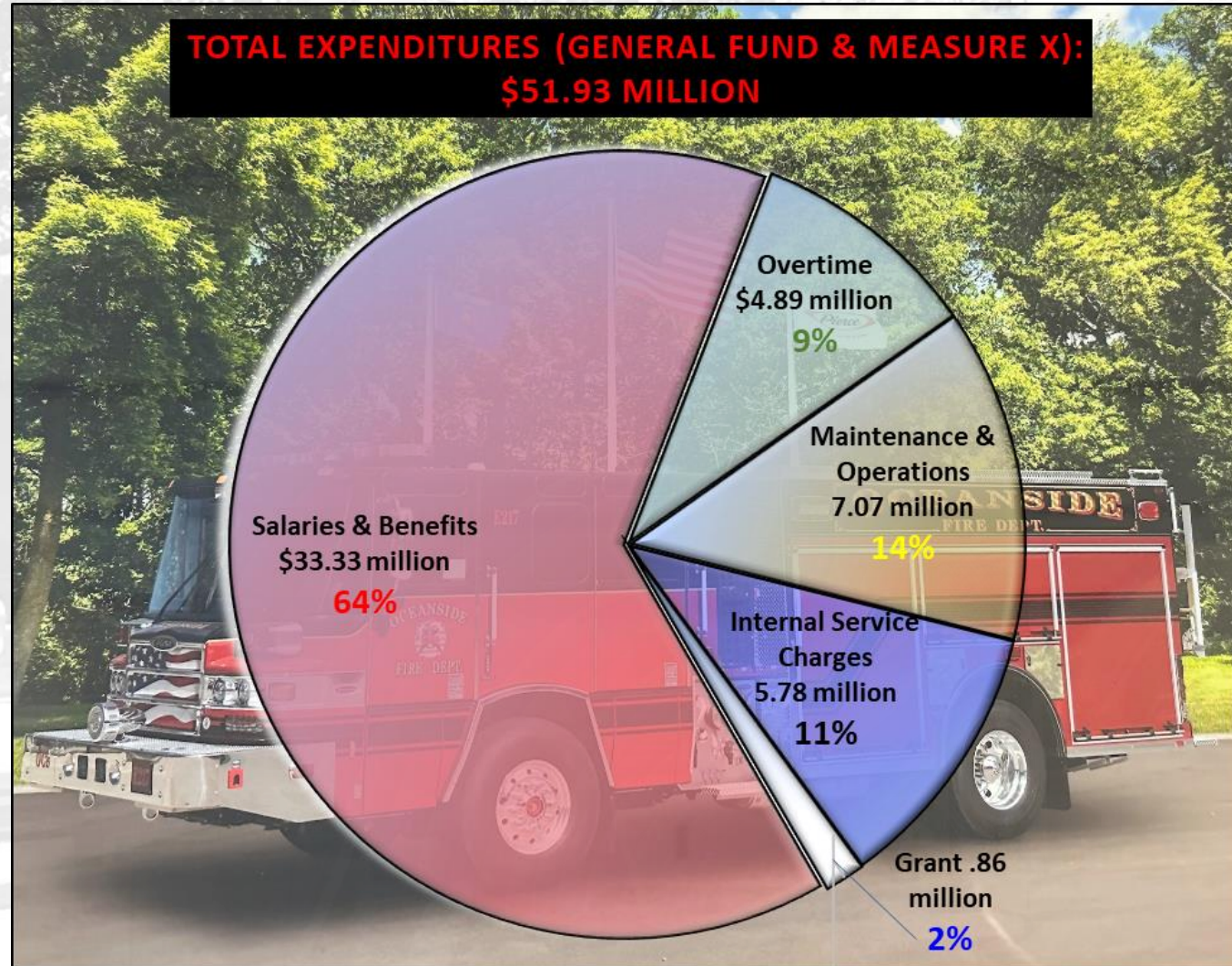
Apparatus

The BLS ambulance Ford Transits arrived this year and filled a much-needed hole in our fleet.

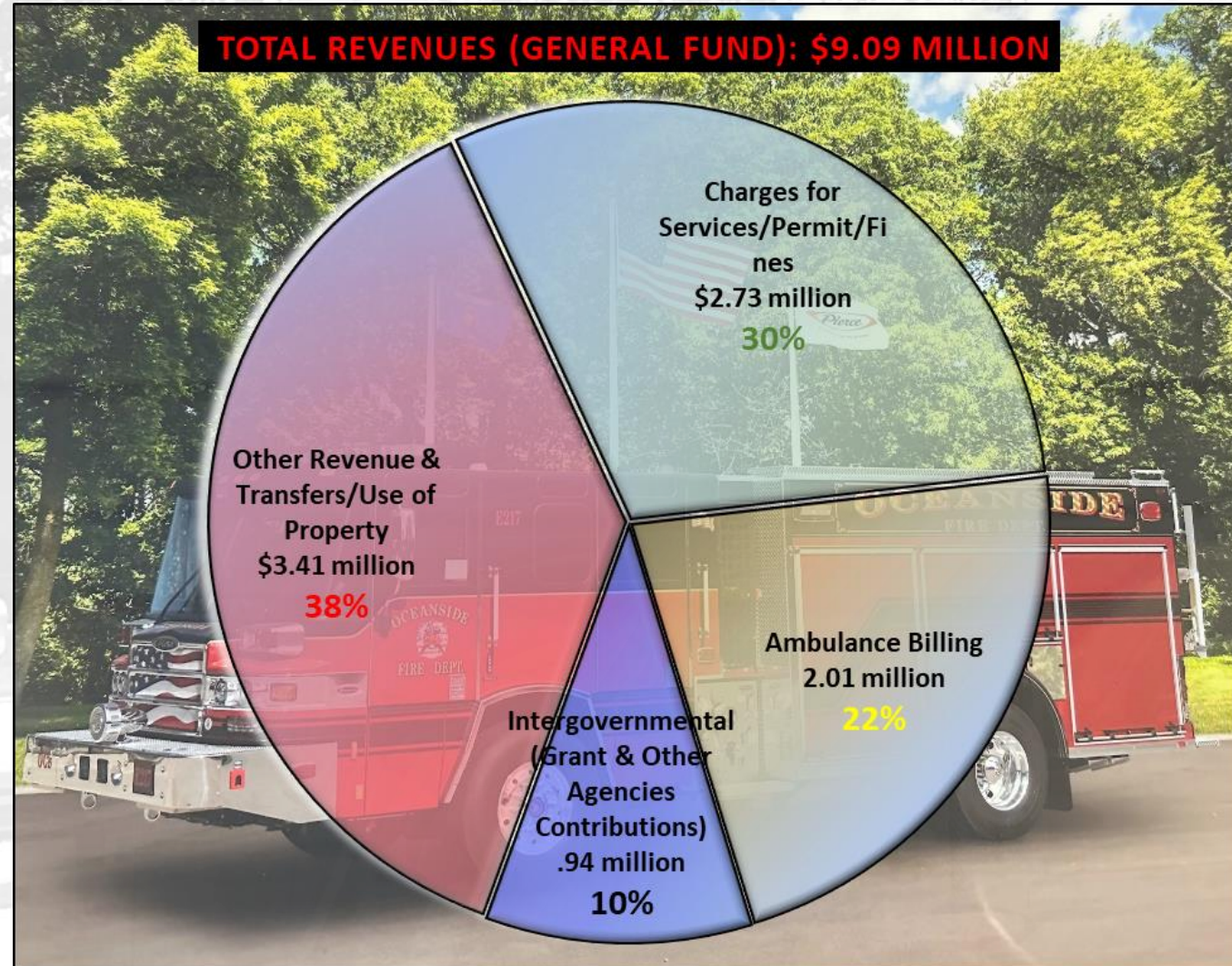
BLS 210, 213, and 217 will be operating out of the Transits as their front-line apparatus with one additional ambulance in reserve.



ADOPTED FY 2023-2024 FIRE BUDGET SUMMARY



ADOPTED FY 2023-2024 FIRE BUDGET SUMMARY



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Division Chief Blake Dorse



The Oceanside Fire Department is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community through comprehensive Risk Reduction strategies. Our goal is not only to respond to emergencies but to prevent them from occurring in the first place. This involves a multifaceted approach including public education on fire safety, conducting building inspections to ensure compliance with fire codes, and developing and implementing emergency preparedness programs. We work tirelessly to identify and mitigate risks, ensuring that our community is a safe place to live, work, and play. This requires the cooperation and participation of all community members. We encourage you to stay informed, be prepared, and actively participate in our community safety programs. Together, we can build a safer community for ourselves and future generations. It is the goal of the Community Risk Reduction Division to ensure our residents, business community, employees, and visitors are safe. This is accomplished through public education and enforcement of applicable codes, regulations, and standards. By partnering with the community, everyone will be able to safely enjoy the great quality of life that Oceanside offers.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

State Mandated Annual Inspections, Initial Visit

Occupancy Type	# of Inspections
R2 (Apartment)	754
R2.1 (Care Facility)	9
R1 (Hotel/Motel)	32
E (School)	43
High Rise	1
I (Jail)	1
Total	804

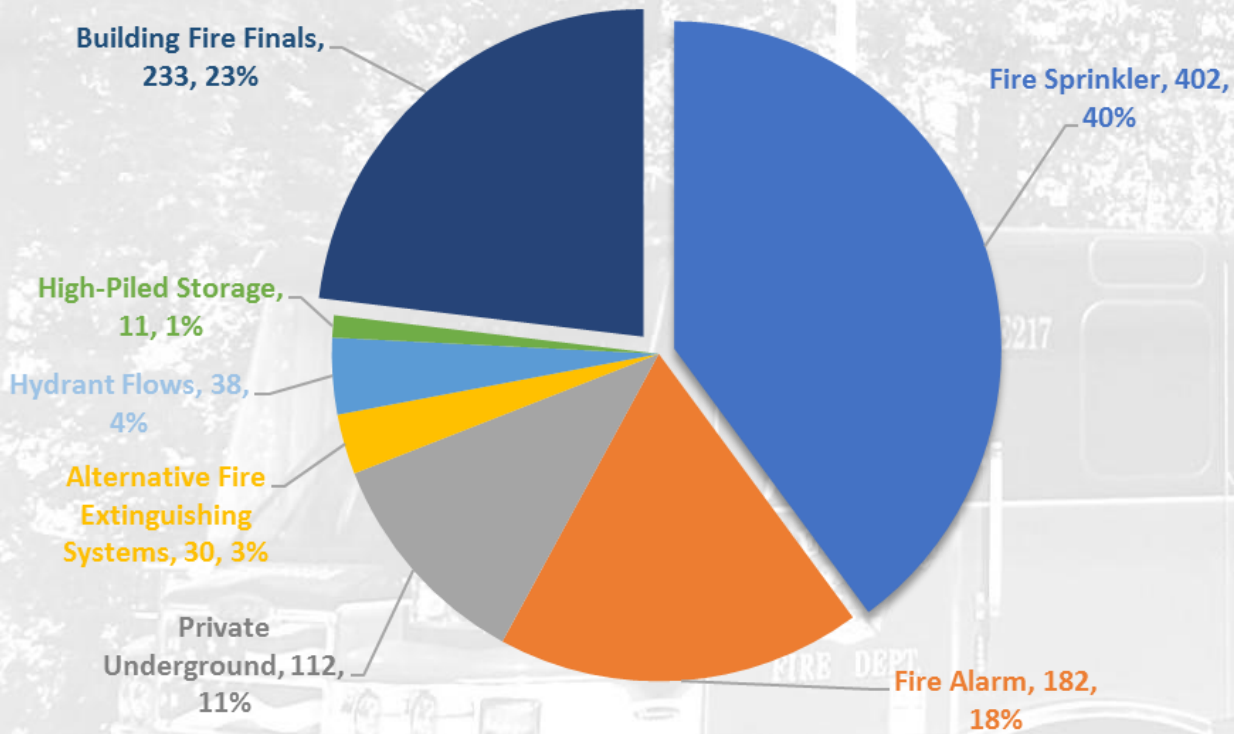
Total annual inspections conducted, including re-inspections: 1,583



OCEANSIDE FIRE DEPT.

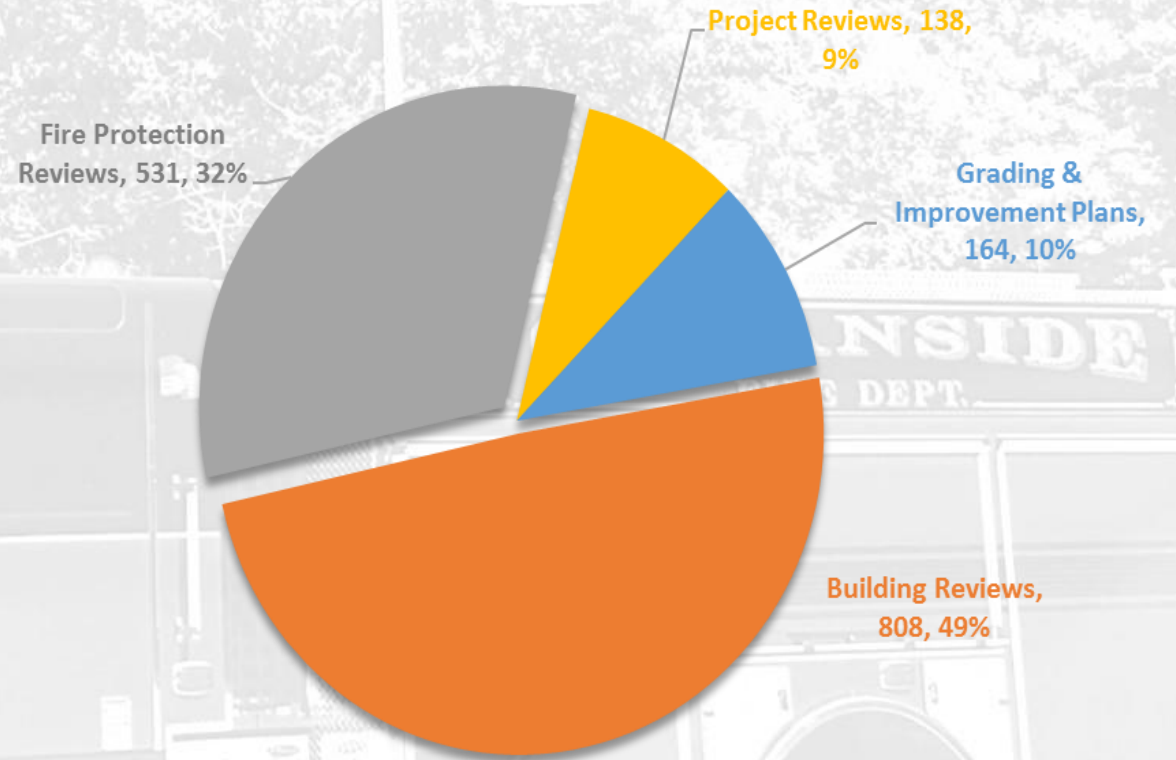
COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Construction Inspections



Total Construction Inspections 1,008

Plan Review



Total Plan Reviews 1,641

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Short Term Rental Inspections

First Inspection		270
Additional -inspection	Re	100
Total		370

Public Education & Public Service Inspections

Business License Inspections	469
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Smoke Alarm Installations	52
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Carbon Monoxide Alarm Installations	19
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Service Request	50
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Knox Box Request	65
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Special Event Inspections	32
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Defensible Space Real Estate Inspections (AB-38)	41
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Community Requested Inspections	35
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Operational Permits	64
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Licensed Care Facilities	35
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OPERATIONS & EMS

Deputy Chief Jessamyn Specht



Fire Operations is the largest division in the Oceanside Fire Department. Three shift platoons of over 100 sworn personnel are on call from eight neighborhood firehouses throughout the city. They respond to fires, medical responses, disasters, and rescue situations 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The platoons are managed by battalion chiefs who coordinate daily staffing, logistics, and serve as the Incident Commander on large emergencies. They may also be called on to be Strike Team leaders for larger scale out-of-city emergencies or disasters. Operations also manages EMS response, transport and management. This includes EMS budget, billing, quality assurance, and exposure control.

2023 Total Calls: 24,702

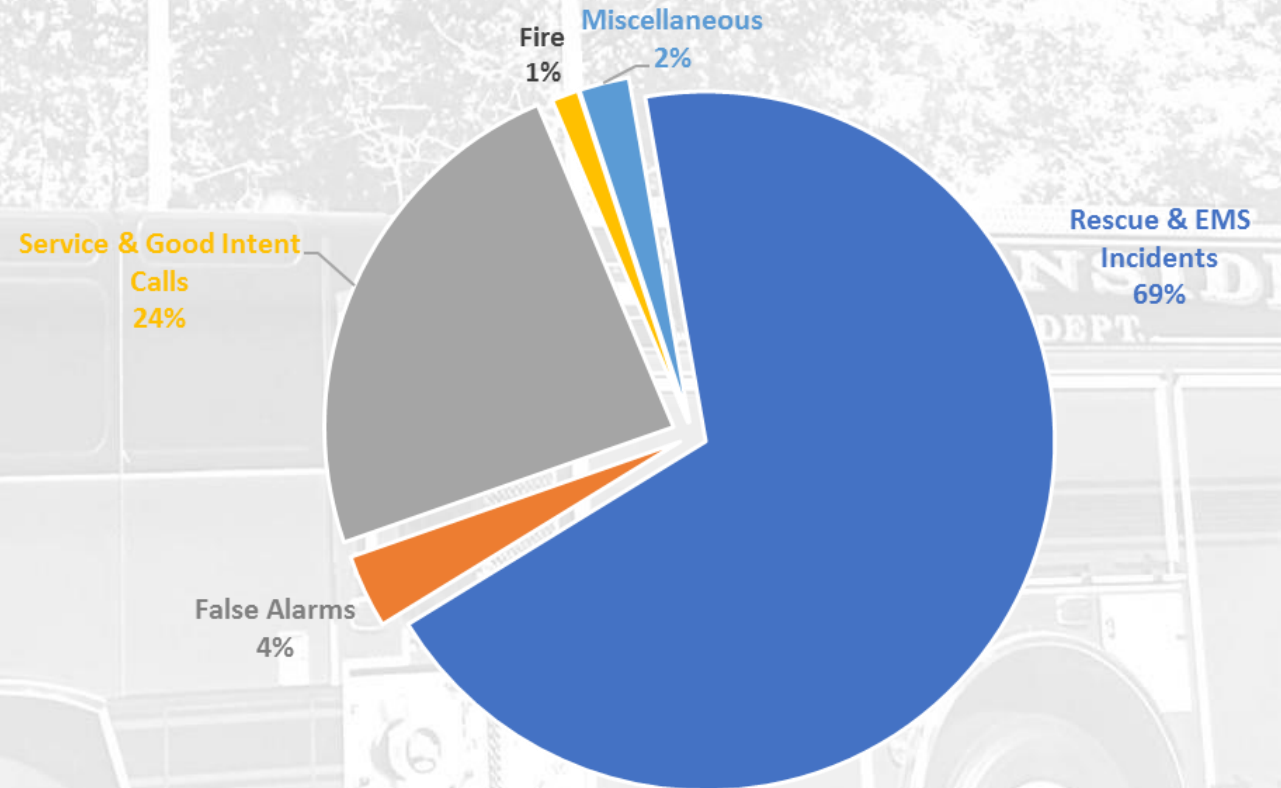
Additional accomplishments from Operations:

- Put Medic Squad 211 (MS211) into service. MS211 reduced the call load on E211 and provided faster responses in the downtown corridor.
- Put 4 new “Transit” style BLS ambulances into service. The new ambulance type is better suited and more cost effective for the lower acuity patients.

OPERATIONS & EMS

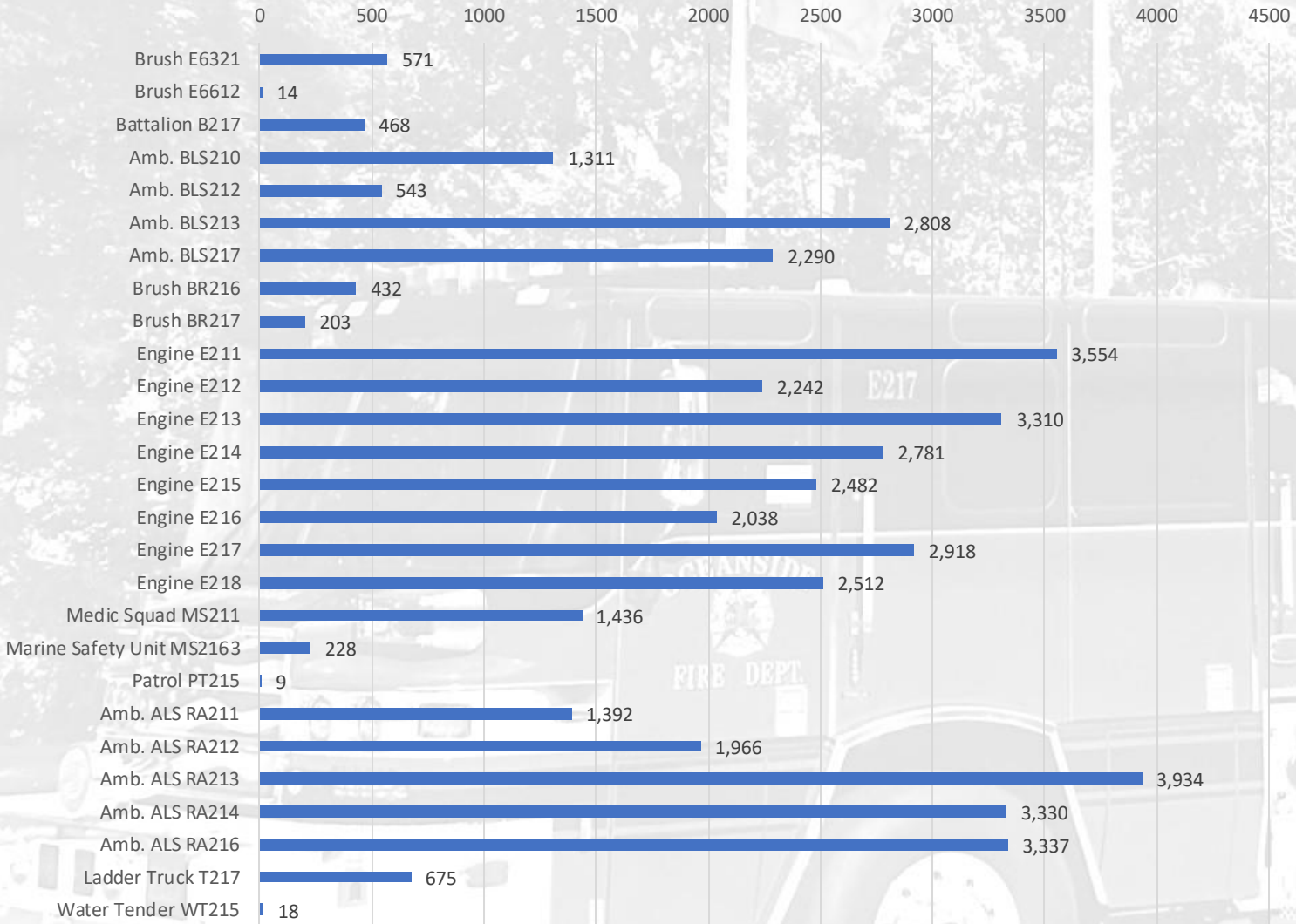
Response by Type	2021	2022	2023
Rescue & EMS Incidents	15,448	17,067	17,311
Fire	409	382	316
False Alarms	801	753	854
Service & Good Intent Calls	5,806	6,025	6,016
Miscellaneous	168	335	583
Grand Total	22,533	24,173	24,702

2023 Oceanside Response by Type

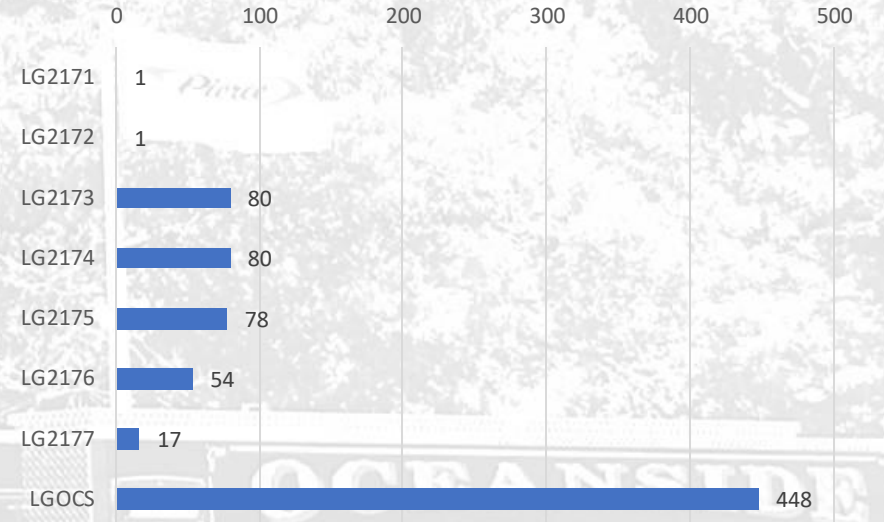


OPERATIONS & EMS

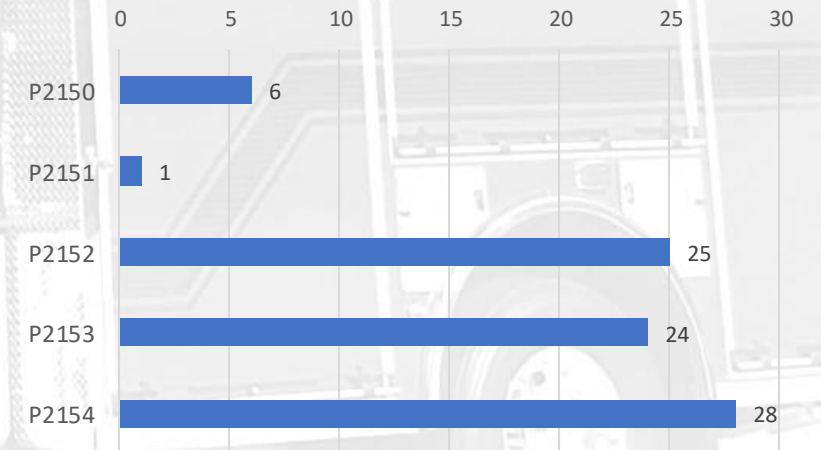
OCS Unit Responses



Lifeguard Responses



Duty Fire Investigator Responses



TRAINING

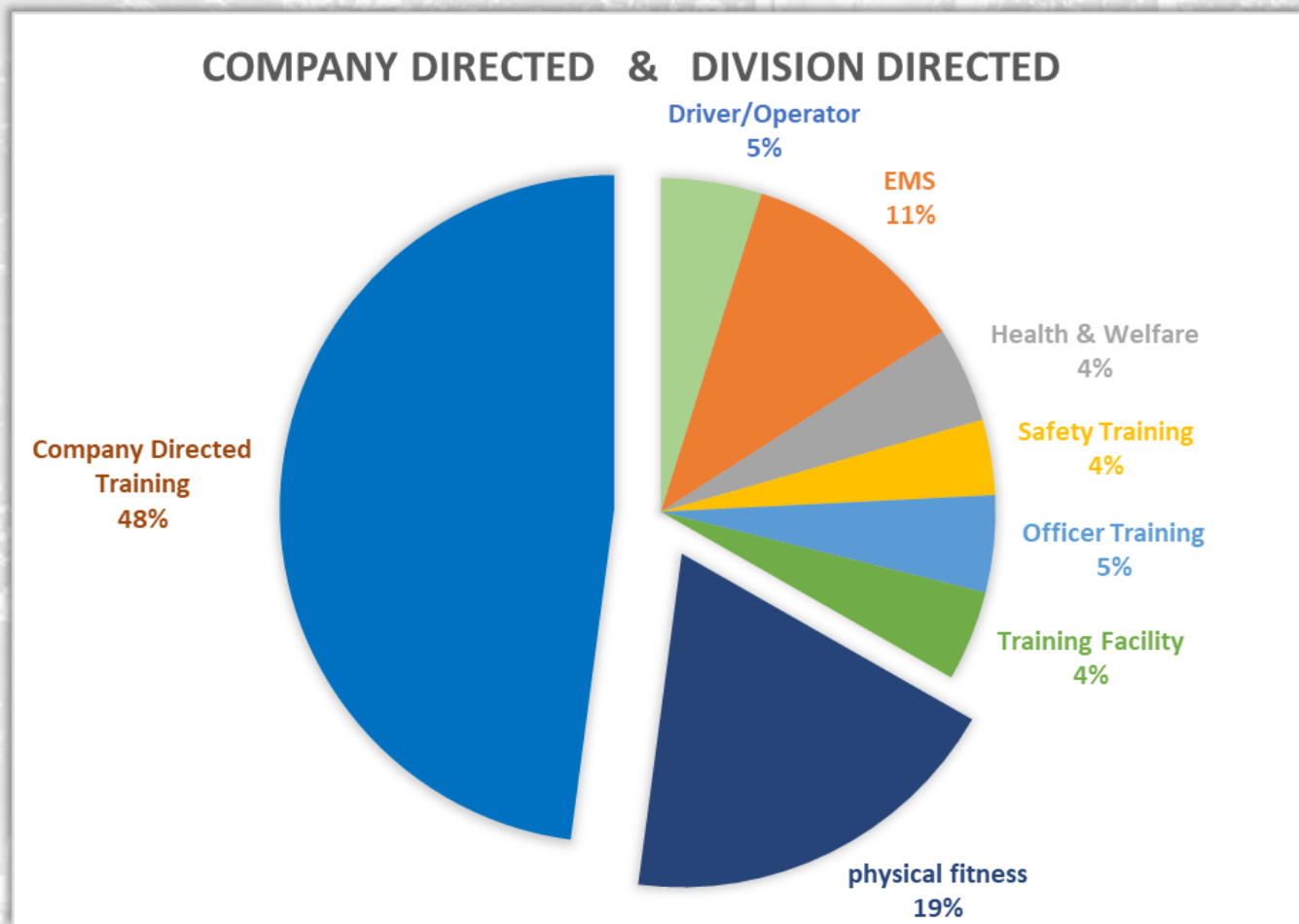
Division Chief Lucifer Keener



The mission of the Training Division is to provide all members of the Oceanside Fire Department opportunities to gain, retain, and retool technical proficiency through championing the enrichment of knowledge. We carry out this mission by aligning our staff's responsibilities to meet the critical objectives of:

- Implementing mandated training through either in-person or online opportunities.
- Developing curriculum and fostering cadres to provide high-quality instruction.
- Ensuring credentials critical to individuals and the organization are maintained.
- Evaluating opportunities to enhance knowledge and structuring its delivery for the most significant impact.

TRAINING



47,432 hours of recorded training last year.

413 categories of licenses, certifications, task books and credentials managed for over two hundred individuals within the organization.

This averages at 192 hours per individual within our organization. The chart to the left shows the types of Training provided.

TRAINING

Our Major Accomplishments for 2023 include:

Implemented an effective hiring plan, including a redesigned probationary years evaluation system for Firefighter/Paramedics that aligned with our organizational values and ensured a single Fire Academy for the year.

Graduated 16 Firefighter/Paramedics from Oceanside Firefighter Academy 20.

Graduated 24 EMTs for Oceanside EMT Academy 9 & 10.

Hosted our inaugural Oceanside Fire 101 for city, local, county, and state elected leadership and decision-makers to experience all facets of our job.

Developed the inaugural Oceanside Truck Academy, graduating 20 highly trained personnel in ventilation, ladders, and rescue equipment.

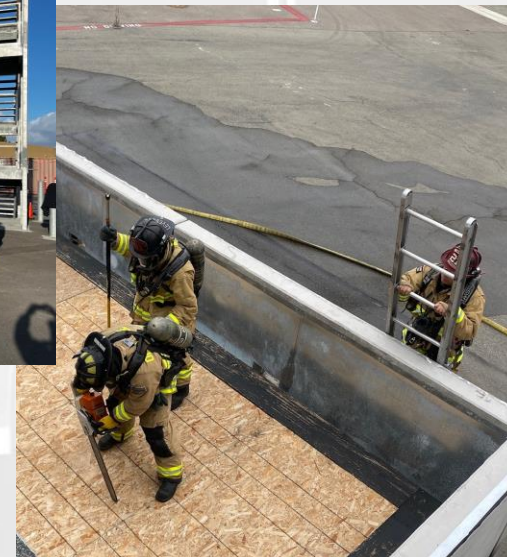
Co-hosted the fire portion of the inaugural Marine Safety Unit Academy.

Developed stand-alone and multi-company training focused on fires and rescues occurring on 2nd and 3rd floor simulated incidents similar to apartments and hotels.

Provided two exam processes for promotional opportunities (Engineer and Captain).

Worked through labor and city leadership to align advancement and promotional requirements.

Revamped our learning management system (Vector solutions) by implementing digital forms and streamlining self-driven learning opportunities.



LIFEGUARDS

Captain Bill Curtis

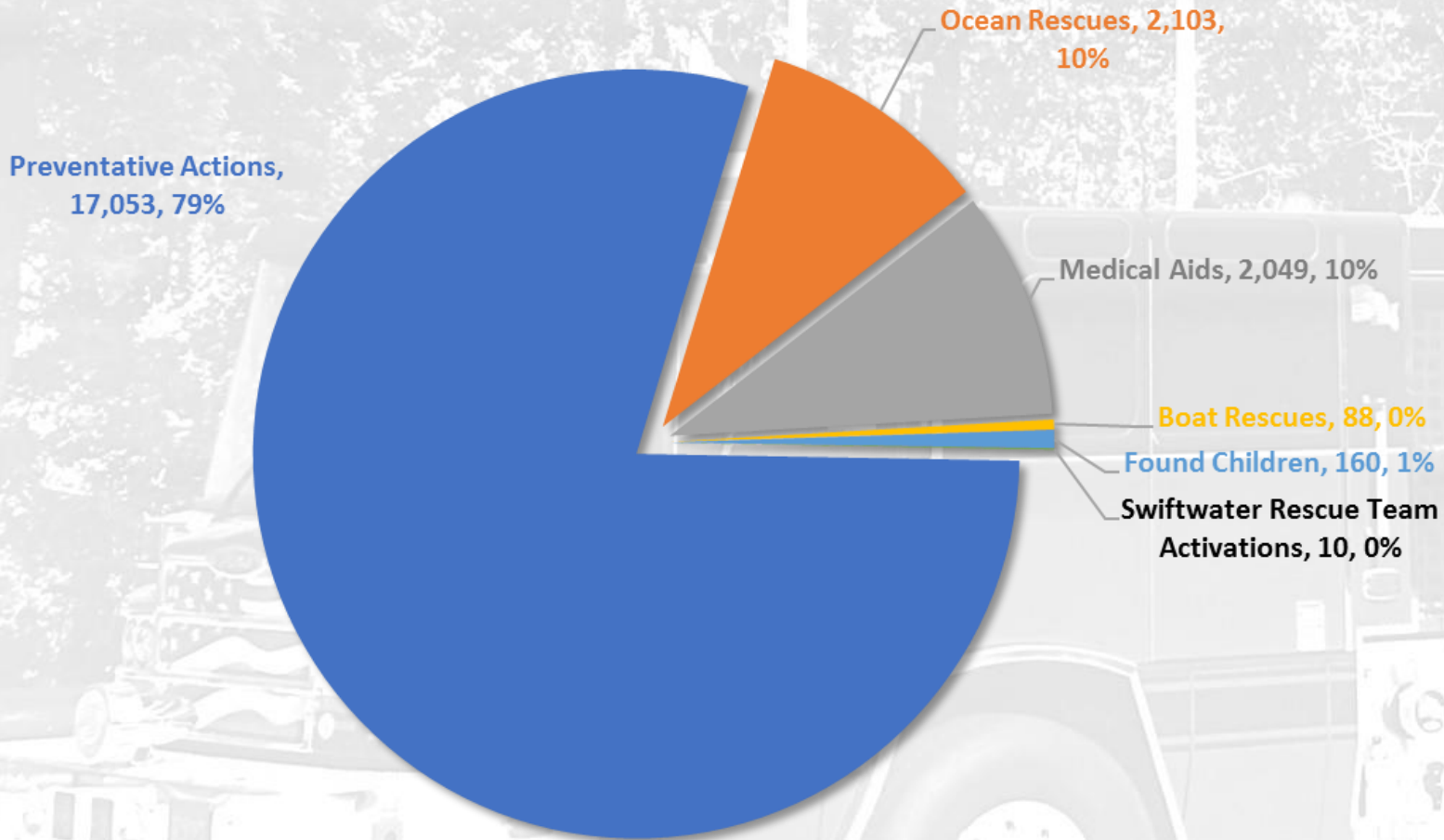


The mission of the Lifeguard Division is to prevent injury or death and enhance public safety through education, intervention, and enforcement in aquatic environments.

The Lifeguard Division protects 3.7 miles of coastline and the Oceanside Harbor District with response capability to all waterways within Oceanside's city limits 24 hours a day. Lifeguard resources include 18 full-time ocean lifeguards, 100 recurrent ocean lifeguards, 3 stations including the Pier Headquarters, Lifeguard Dispatch Tower, and the Harbor Marine Safety Unit. There are 16 lifeguard towers, the Junior Lifeguard Program, the swiftwater/flood rescue team, the public safety dive team, and 3 rescue boats. The Lifeguard Division is a community driven cog in the high-performance organization that is your Oceanside Fire Department.

LIFEGUARDS

2023 Lifeguard Division Activity



Junior Lifeguard
Participants: 813

Junior Lifeguard
Revenue: \$262,240

Special Event
Revenue: \$56,180

LIFEGUARDS

The Oceanside Fire Department Lifeguard Division has shown dedication to public safety, growth of lifeguarding as a profession, and through our involvement in Federal, State, County, and City collaborations this last year. The Lifeguard Division is committed to the safety of our community and all persons that visit city beaches. Our goal is to have a positive impact on our city and community members during all rescues, preventative actions, education, and enforcements. This is achieved on two major fronts, education and training.

The Lifeguard Division participates in many educational events throughout the year. The biggest and most impactful is our Junior Lifeguard program. This program is staffed by eleven lifeguard personnel daily: nine instructors, one lead instructor, and the Junior Lifeguard Coordinator. It sees over eight hundred participants per year, teaching them about the ocean environment, marine life, and lifesaving techniques that could save them or someone around them. This program establishes a pathway for potential employment as a beach lifeguard and this is where the majority of our recurrent and full-time staff began. The Lifeguard Division also participates at Oceanside High School's Health Academy and other scholastic and community events every year.

The Lifeguard Division trains constantly to ensure we are delivering the most efficient and current safety practices. These trainings range from our eighty-hour open water lifeguard academy to swiftwater/flood rescue and dive trainings. We also train our lifeguards to operate personal rescue watercrafts for surf, pier, and jetty rescues. Rescue Boat training for emergency boat tows, boat fires, and medical aids aboard vessels have been a priority in 2023. We are happy to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the Marine Safety Unit dedicated to the protection of the Oceanside Harbor.



LIFEGUARDS

Our Division Achievements & Awards for 2023 include:

- Hiring/Promotions: Sergeants Matthew Mattison, Daniela Bucalo, Jonathan Chesner
- Hiring/Promotions: Senior Beach Lifeguards Anthony Vazzana, Lucas Buckman, Ian Kistler, Daniel Pham, Anders Hamborg, Zachary Malcolm
- Chamber of Commerce Hero Awards: Ryan Rhoads, Mateo Esquivel, Jonathan Farner
- American Legion Meritorious Service Awards: Blake Faumuina, Greg Trebbe
- American Legion Medal of Heroism Awards: Lola Swank, Daniela Bucalo, Mackenzie Fast
- American Legion Medal of Valor: Tyler Berry

