

PIKE TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPT.



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Pike Township Fire Department
4881 W. 71st St.
Indianapolis, IN 46268
317-347-5860

MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF JEFF BEAM



Dear Stakeholders,

I am delighted to present the 2023 Annual Report for Pike Township Fire Department. This past year, our dedicated team has once again demonstrated exceptional commitment and professionalism in serving and safeguarding the Pike Township community.

Throughout 2023, we made over 25,000 responses to 14,055 incidents, providing swift and effective assistance in various situations, ranging from fires to vehicle accidents to medical emergencies. Our firefighters and EMS personnel underwent rigorous training to ensure they are always prepared to handle any challenge with skill and precision.

In addition to emergency response, our department has been actively engaged in community outreach initiatives, including fire prevention education programs, safety demonstrations, and cooperative efforts with local schools and organizations.

We are immensely grateful for the unwavering support from the Pike Township community, as well as the collaborative partnerships with other emergency services agencies. Together, we continue to enhance public safety and resilience.

As we look ahead into 2024, we remain steadfast in our commitment to excellence and pledge to continue serving the community with the highest level of dedication and professionalism.

Finally, I would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation for Trustee Annette Johnson, the employees of Pike Township Fire Department, and their families. Without their dedication, the accomplishments on the following pages would not be possible.

Sincerely,

Jeff Beam
Fire Chief



ABOUT US

Pike Township Fire Department was founded as a volunteer fire department on April 23, 1951, with 10 volunteer firefighters.

The Department has grown to 136 firefighters, 26 EMS personnel, 19 civilian staff and 5 stations. These employees serve more than 83,000 residents in Pike Township, a 42-square mile area of Northwest Indianapolis.

Pike Township Fire Department was first in the state of Indiana to earn the highest ISO Class 1 rating.



2023 ushered in a new era at Pike Township Fire Department, with a new Fire Department administration, as well as the beginning of Trustee Annette Johnson's 2nd term.

OUR CORE VALUES

Professionalism: Ethically and competently providing the highest quality customer service achievable.

Integrity: Honesty and truthfulness in what is said and done, putting honesty, sense of duty, and sound moral principles, above all else.

Kinetic Leadership: Actively influencing people to willingly strive toward shared objectives.

Enthusiasm: Demonstrating sincere interest in the performance of one's duties.

PIKE FIRE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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OUR MISSION

To safeguard our community through services designed to protect life and property from the perilous effects of dangerous conditions.

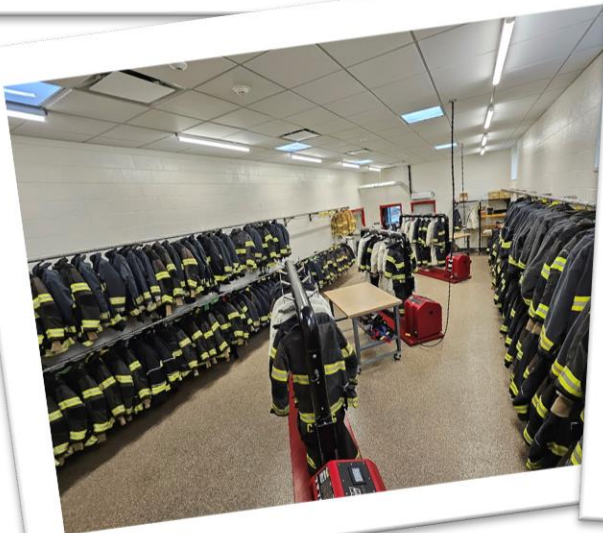


OUR VISION

To foster an environment of pride, tradition and service through belief in and application of our core values by every member of the department.

NEW DECONTAMINATION & MAINTENANCE FACILITY

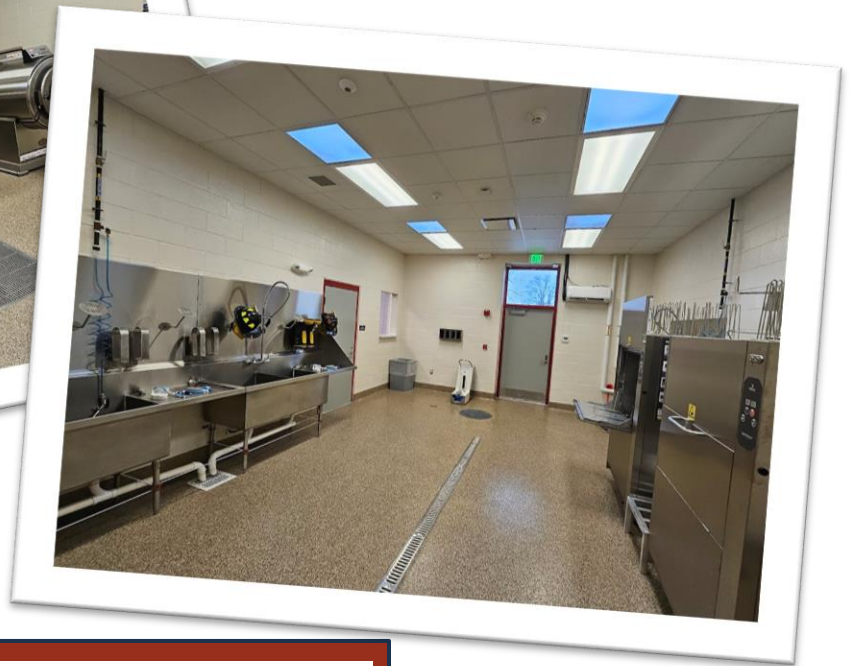
Dedicated December 1, 2023



*“Dedicated to those
Brothers and Sisters
that cancer has taken
from our lives”*

»»»
Pike Township Trustee Annette Johnson
Fire Chief Chris Tragesser
Pike Township Board Members
Architect: Etica Group
Construction Management: CPM Construction





STATE-OF-THE-ART FEATURES

- 10,500** square feet total space
 - 6,500** square feet for maintenance
 - 4,000** square feet for decontamination
- 5** maintenance bays
- 4** gear extractors
- 3** RamAir dryers
- 6** individual showers
- 2** self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) cleaners
- 22-foot** high ceiling in maintenance bay
- 31** solar tubes for natural lighting

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION TEAM:

- Architect:** Etica Group
- MEP Engineer:** Loftus Engineering
- Structural:** CE Solutions
- Construction:** CPM Construction



STATIONS & FACILITIES



Station 61/HQ

4881 W. 71st St.

- Engine 61
- Ladder 61
- Medic 61
- Battalion 60
- Safety 60
- 13 personnel per shift
- Administrative Staff
- Fire and ALS EMS Services
- Vehicle & Machinery Extrication
- Incident Management & Scene Safety
- Training Academy
- Health & Wellness Facility
- Decontamination & Maintenance Facility



Station 62

7002 N. Lafayette Rd.

- Engine 62
- Boat 62
- EMS Duty Officer 60
- 5 personnel per shift
- Fire and ALS EMS Services
- Surface & Ice water rescue
- Boat operations with sonar
- Project Life Saver (PLS) Search & Rescue



STATIONS & FACILITIES



Station 63

4009 W. 86th St.

- Engine 63
- Medic 63
- Foam Trailer
- 6 personnel per shift
- Fire and ALS EMS Services
- Flammable Liquids Emergency Response

Station 64

4750 W. 52nd St.

- Engine 64
- Ladder 64
- Medic 64
- 10 personnel per shift
- Fire and ALS EMS Services
- Vehicle & Machinery Extrication



Station 65

7221 W. 46th St.

- Engine 65
- Medic 65
- Boat 65
- 6 personnel per shift
- Fire and ALS EMS Services
- Surface and Ice Water Rescue
- Boat Operations with Sonar
Water Rescue/Sonar Locating



OPERATIONS BUREAU



**Deputy Chief
of Operations**
Aaron Bell

2023 was an exciting year for the Operations Bureau. New to the branch were Chief Ross (EMS Division Chief) and myself (Operations Chief). Chief Michalisko (Division Chief of Training and Incident Safety) continued in his position. To support Chief Beam's vision and direction of becoming masters of the skills and services we provide, we focused on training in 2023.

The Pike Township Fire Department has a long tradition of innovative thinking, training to perfection to ensure safe and efficient execution on emergency calls, and meeting our goal of providing the best emergency services to the residents of Pike Township and the communities around us. With continued support from Trustee Johnson, the Township Board and Chief Beam, the plan for 2024 is to keep moving in the same direction and fine tune operations.

Shift Commanders – Battalion Chiefs

One vital asset of the operations branch is our Shift Commanders (Battalion Chiefs). These three individuals are responsible for the oversight, managing, staffing, and ensuring that the day-to-day operations are executed smoothly for their respective shifts.

A-Shift
Battalion Chief
Darius McClendon



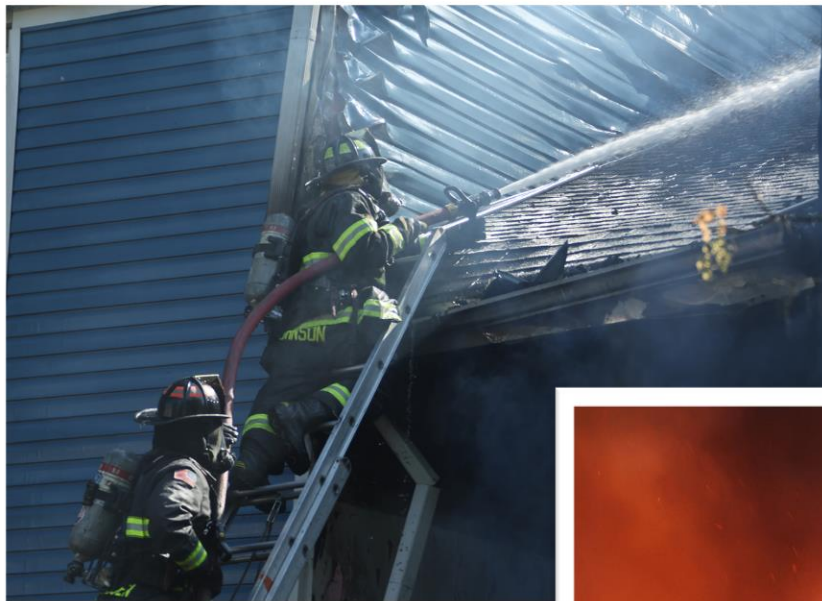
B-Shift
Battalion Chief
Craig Voight



C-Shift
Battalion Chief
Brian Sauer



OPERATIONS BUREAU




OPERATIONS BUREAU

25,180 Total Responses
14,055 Total Incidents

EMS	Fire	Other
17,881 Responses	5,492 Responses	1,807 Responses
11,310 Incidents	2,170 Incidents	575 Incidents


Responses = The number of apparatus dispatched to leave the station on an incident
Incidents = The number of events to which apparatus are dispatched

Busiest Engine
2,456 responses



FRI

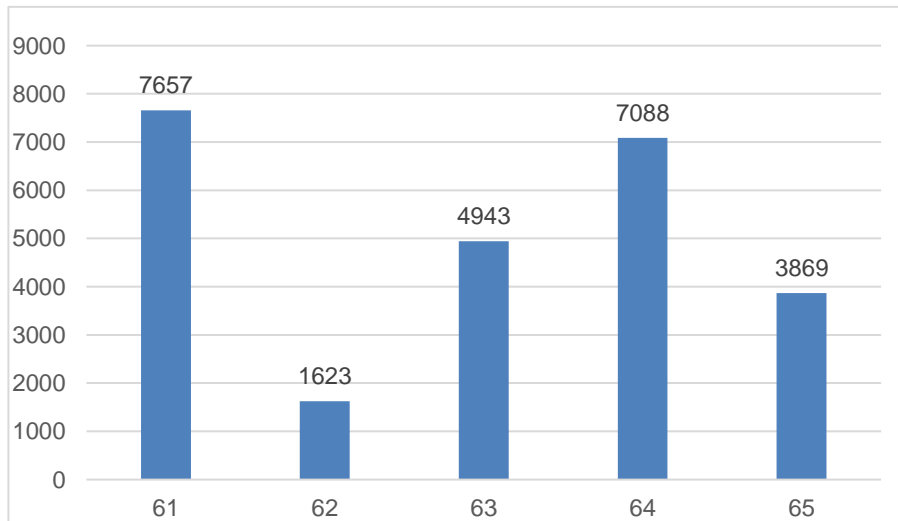
Busiest Medic
3,197 responses



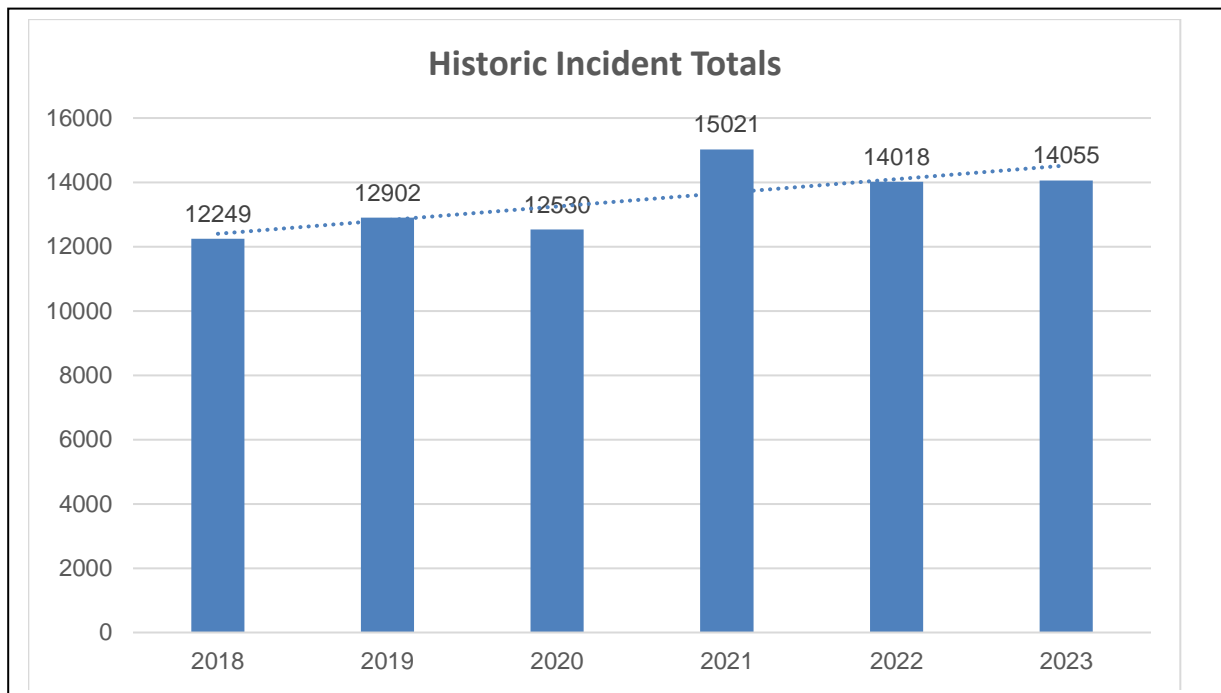
AUG

BUSIEST

Responses by Station



OPERATIONS BUREAU



66 seconds
Average time between receiving dispatch and leaving station

329 seconds
Average time to travel from station to incident location



OPERATIONS BUREAU

Employee Recognition

2023 Firefighter of the Year

Ja'Michael Hill



While he just had 5 years of fire service experience in 2023, Firefighter Hill has been performing like a veteran. His determination and commitment to learn and take on responsibility has quickly made him a valuable asset to the Department. His humble attitude, infectious smile and positive attitude make Firefighter Hill a great team player.

2023 Paramedic of the Year

Tony Fischer



Even though he is a 32-year veteran at Pike Fire, Firefighter Fischer is constantly improving his skills in both fire and EMS disciplines. His calm, attentive, gentle approach takes "patient care" to a new level. He is known as the "The Baby Whisperer" for his ability to soothe little ones (and parents).

2023 Awards of Merit

Dan Walker



Ryan Forney



Firefighters Walker and Forney were part of a ladder and medic crew that responded to an apartment fire. After assisting a woman who had jumped from a second-story window, they went inside to rescue a baby from a second-story apartment. Moving through heavy, black smoke and zero visibility conditions, they used a thermal imaging camera to help them clear the rooms. They retrieved the baby, fighting the conditions to bring the child to safety.

Dylan Christman

With only 3 years in the fire service in 2023, Firefighter Christman was part of a ladder crew that responded to 2 apartment fires during one shift. During the second fire, the crew learned that a person was still inside the structure. Firefighter Christman broke the living room window and pushed through the smoke and low-visibility conditions. Within 2 minutes, he located the semi-conscious victim in her bedroom and was able to remove her to safety.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

The Administrative Services Bureau encompasses all administrative functions for Pike Township Fire Department and includes the following areas:

- Human Resources
- Payroll/Accounts Payable Management
- Budgeting and Finance

The administrative staff members of the Pike Township Fire Department are vitally important to the day-to-day operations of the department and the Township itself. Each member of the staff brings years of experience and knowledge to their positions and routinely find ways to make the department more efficient and find cost-saving opportunities.



**Deputy Chief
of Administrative
Services**
Mike Goodrich



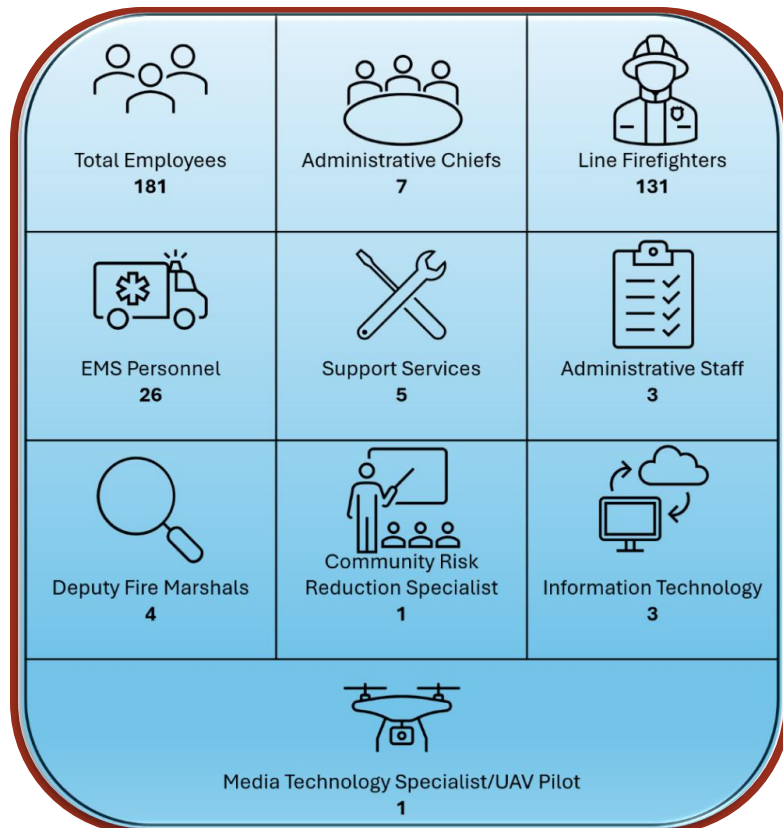
Kris Harrison
HR Manager



Stephanie Brackett
Administrative Assistant

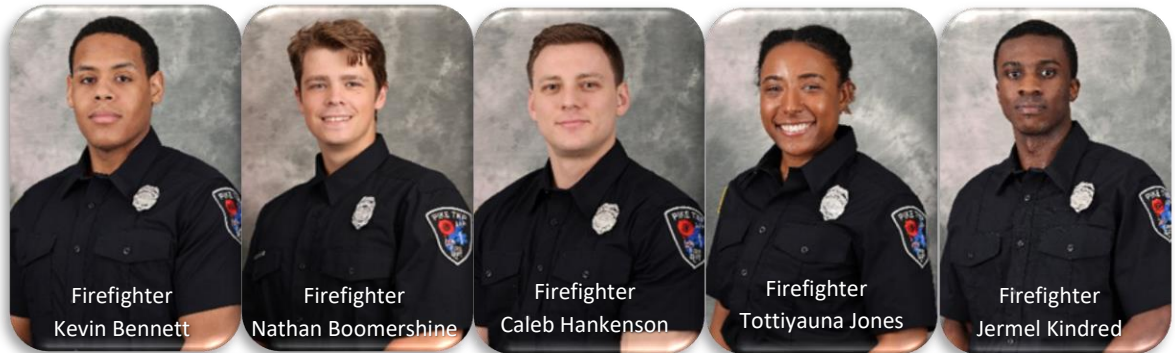


Elaine Tolen
Executive Assistant



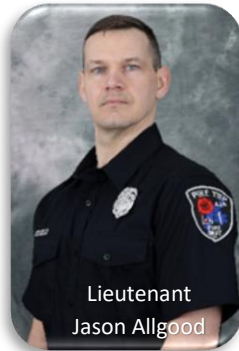
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

New Hires

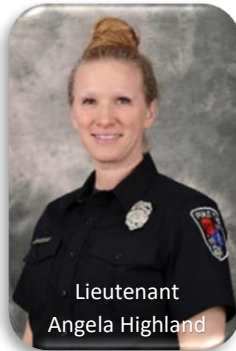


ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

Promotions



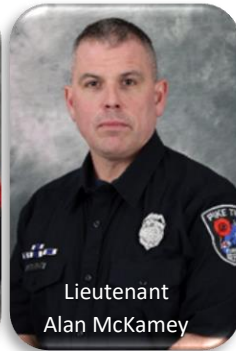
Lieutenant
Jason Allgood



Lieutenant
Angela Highland



Lieutenant
Brandon Krieger



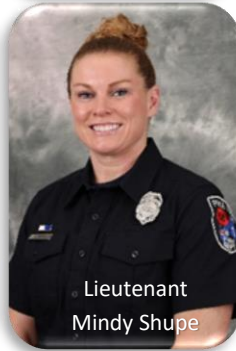
Lieutenant
Alan McKamey



Lieutenant
James Michalisko



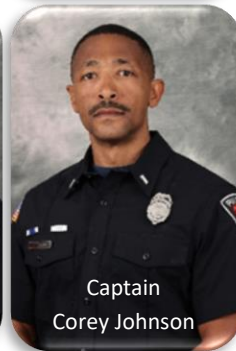
Lieutenant
Ryan Ross



Lieutenant
Mindy Shupe



Captain
Marcus Boone



Captain
Corey Johnson



Battalion Chief
Aaron Bell

Retirements



Firefighter
Barry Crone

34 Years



Firefighter
Jon Helrigel

31 Years



Engineer
Ron Hendrix

34 Years



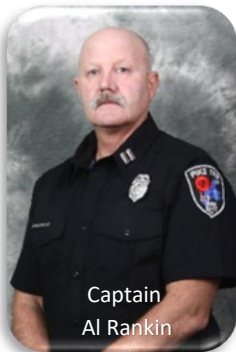
Firefighter
Joe Kersey

31 Years



Deputy Chief
Steve Mitchell

28 Years



Captain
Al Rankin

33 Years



Captain
Rob Saunders

31 Years



Fire Chief
Chris Tragesser

31 Years



Firefighter
Ron Wilke

33 Years

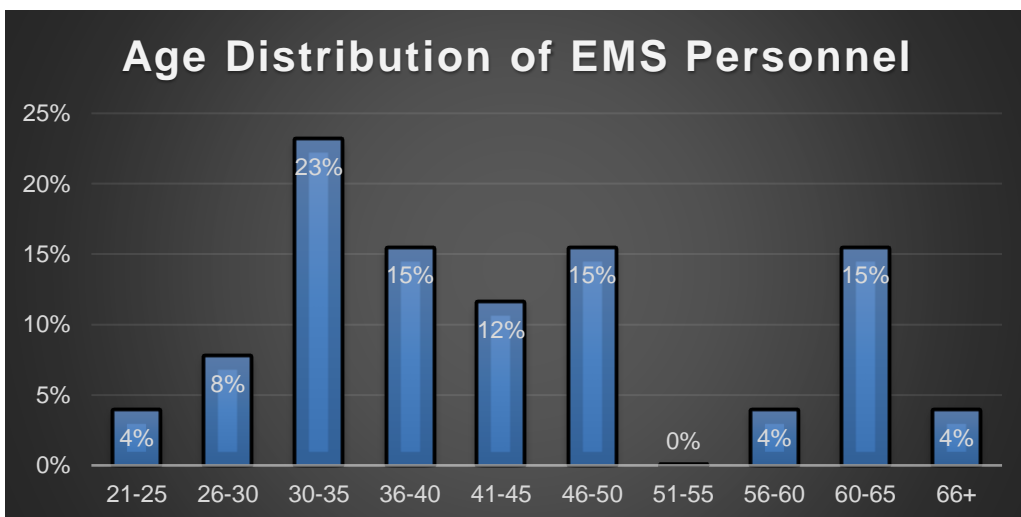
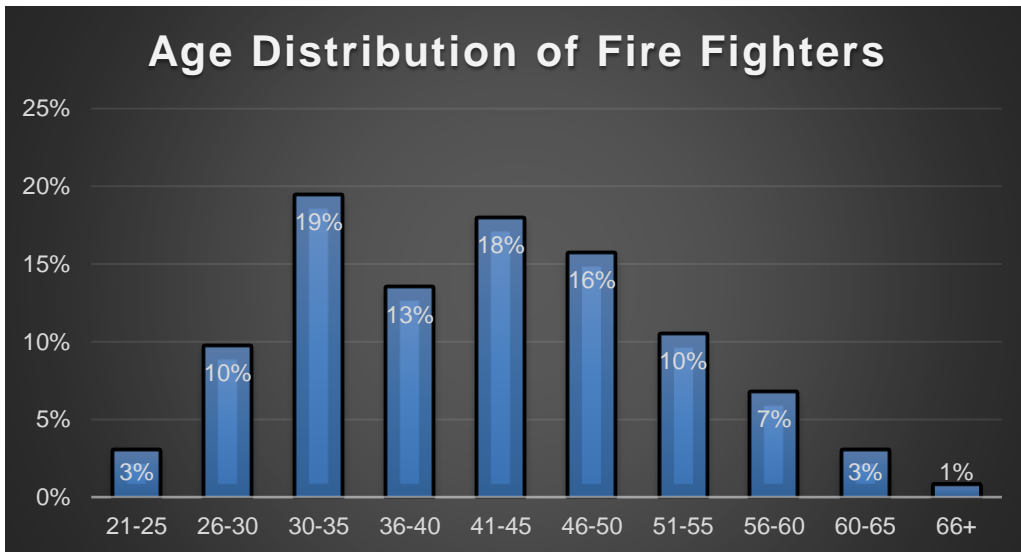
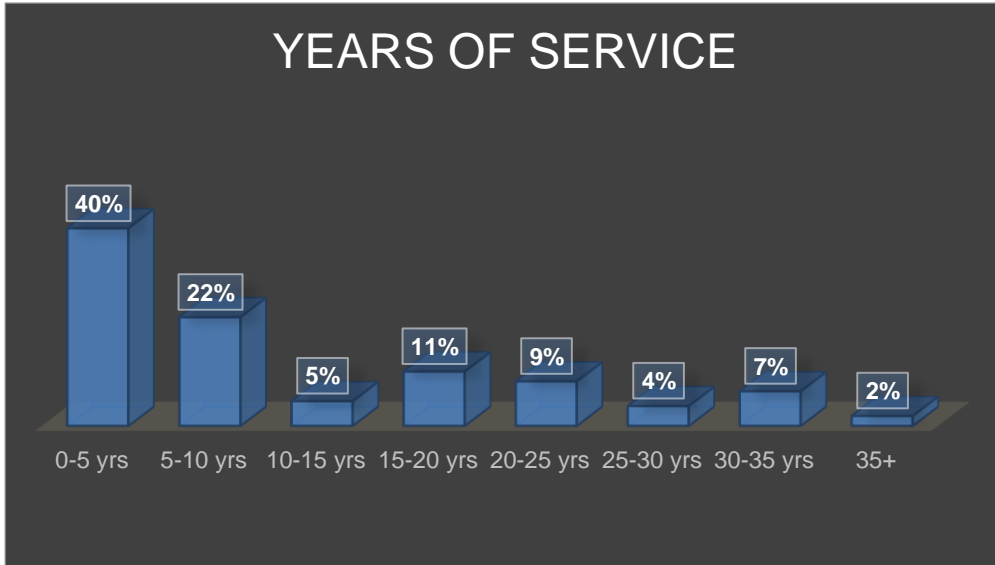


Firefighter
Mike Young

31 Years



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

Significant Projects

CANCER PREVENTION

- Partnered with Meridian Dermatology to offer free on-site skin cancer screenings to all interested personnel.
- Firefighters have an increased risk of skin cancer due to carcinogens.
- Early detection and treatment dramatically reduce the risk of cancer spread and complication.



INJURY PREVENTION

- In partnership with Public Safety Medical, PTFD piloted on-site DARI Motion exams for EMS personnel.
- DARI Motion uses advanced motion-capture technology to analyze a person's movement and flexibility.
- A trained fitness coordinator uses the data to help individuals understand where they may have joint or musculoskeletal issues.
- Increases convenience and healthcare access.
- Improves overall wellness.

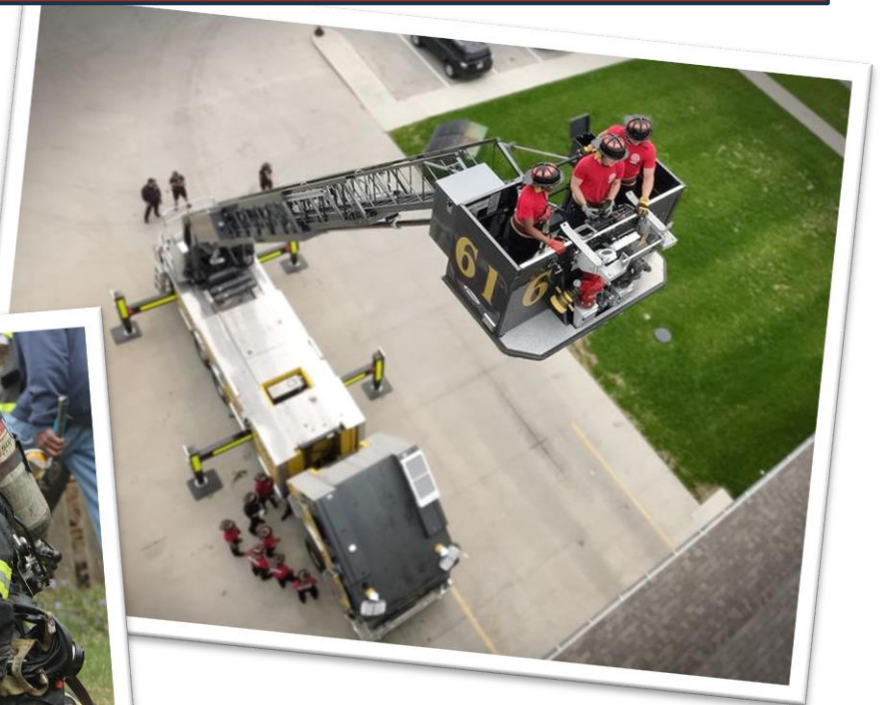


ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

COMMUNITY HEALTH



- Partnered with Overdose Lifeline of Indiana to install Naloxone kits at 3 Township locations to provide overdose reversal kits to the public.
- Locations: Township Government Building, Station 63 and Station 64.
- Naloxone (Narcan) is highly effective at reversing the effect of an overdose.
- Kits, along with addiction recovery packets, are available at no cost to the Department or citizens.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

Information Technology



**Director of Information
Technology &
Infrastructure**
Lt Brandon Krieger

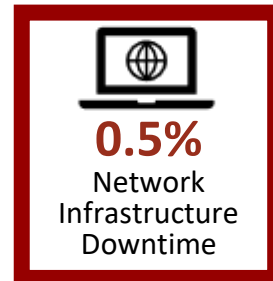
The Information Technology and Infrastructure staff maintains the technology infrastructure for the Trustee's office, Small Claims Court, five fire stations, the training academy, Support Services buildings, and mobile devices on 23 fire apparatus.



Jennifer Baker
IT Manager



Thomas Burger
Technology Support
Specialist



Significant Projects



Replaced aging on-premises server architecture and reevaluated the Township's long-term infrastructure needs. Designed a hybrid cloud system which leverages both on-premises and cloud-based resources which will increase security as well as improve reliability with automated backup and disaster recovery processes. The hybrid cloud solution cost nearly \$50,000 *less* to implement initially and is projected to reduce annual infrastructure expenses due to optimized scaling. This forward-looking approach ensures the Township's server architecture is postured for higher performance, greater flexibility, and reduced costs into the future.



Analyzed recurring license costs, hardware maintenance agreements, cloud services spend, and other budget lines to right-size expenses wherever viable alternatives could deliver equivalent or improved effectiveness for a better value. By partnering with Amazon Business, Pike Township is able to utilize more Affinity Business Suppliers. In 2023, Pike Township spent \$28,168.46 through our Amazon Business partnership. \$14,980.20 was spent with Affinity businesses, representing 53% directly benefiting Women Owned, Minority Owned, and Veteran Owned Businesses.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

IT Significant Projects (continued)



Reoutfitted all apparatus with state-of-the-art Dell Rugged Latitude Mobile Data Terminals, along with the necessary Havis mounts to replace outdated and failing Panasonic Toughbook computers.



Transitioned the Township's phone system from a Cisco-based enterprise solution to a Microsoft Teams-based solution. This reduced telephone service costs for the Township while enhancing capabilities for future collaboration.









Media Technology



Photographer/
Technology
Specialist
Tod Parker

Significant Projects

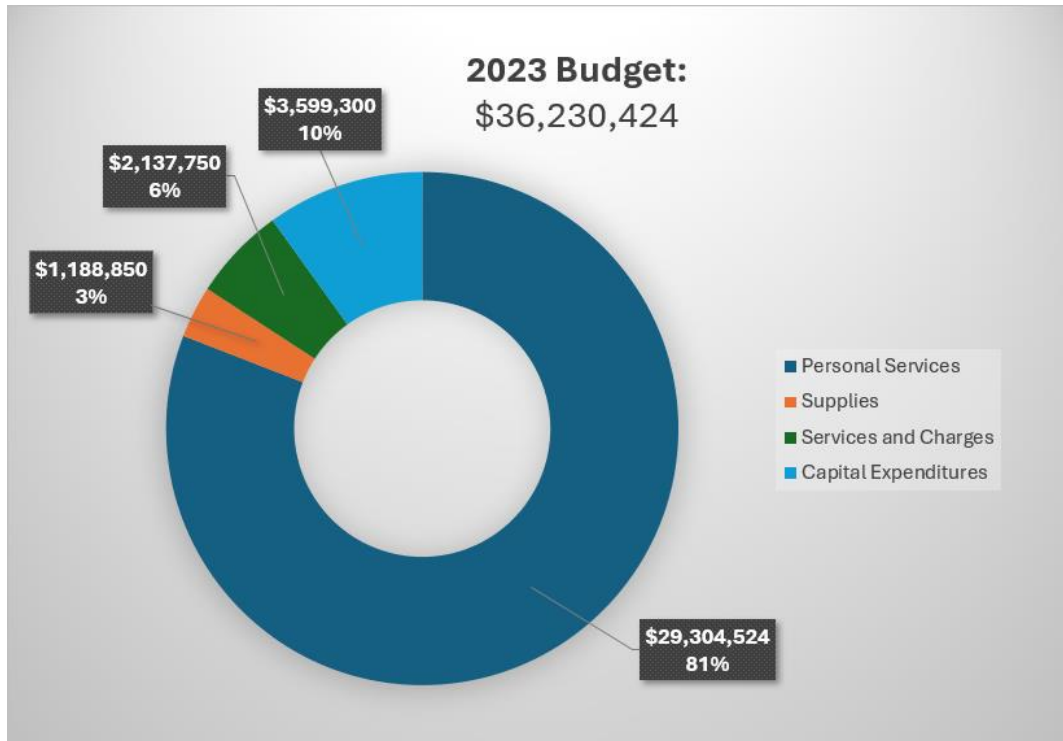
-  Responded to and documented over 130 working incidents, events, staff training, and special functions involving PTFD, most of which were published on social media for public awareness, highlighting Department preparedness, transparency, and involvement with the community.
-  Produced videos for recruitment, Department highlights and training, including instructional videos for EMS personnel.
-  Added and updated Community Outreach updates on VisitPikeTownship.com as required, notifying the public of events and special programs for the community such as food drives, blood drives, and holiday services for the needy.
-  Developed Website links, flyers, and dedicated pages on social media and PikeFire.com to aid in the hiring process for firefighters, EMS personnel, and other open positions for the department.
-  Collaborated with IFD, IMPD, and several surrounding departments to create an Indiana UAS (drone) task force, integrating and promoting coordination and communication between the various UAS programs in the state.
-  Worked with the FAA to file all paperwork and registrations for the current drone fleet, complying with all new laws to have all drones registered with the FAA.



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

Finances

One of the main priorities of the Administrative Services Bureau is ensuring that the Department operates within the allotted budget as set by the Pike Township Advisory Board and approved by the State Board of Accounts.



TRAINING AND INCIDENT SAFETY DIVISION



**Division Chief of Training
and Incident Safety**
James Michalisko

The Division's mission is to provide a safe work environment for all members by providing educational opportunities, supporting physical fitness goals, securing quality dependable equipment, and applying sound risk management practices.



Safety & Training Officers

A-Shift
Battalion Chief
Jim Campbell



B-Shift
Lieutenant
Jason Allgood



C-Shift
Firefighter
Calvin Young



TRAINING AND INCIDENT SAFETY DIVISION

Recruit Academy 23



Areas of study:

- American Heart Association Basic Life Support Provider (CPR)
- Suicide Prevention Training
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness and Education
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) 100 – Introduction to Incident Command
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) 200 – Single Resources & Initial Actions
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) 700 – Introduction to Incident Management
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) 800 – National Response Plan
- AWR111 – Concepts of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive events
- AWR160 – WMD and Terrorism Awareness for Emergency Responders
- 8 hours of Ambulance Observation
- 8 hours of Emergency Room Observation at Ascension St. Vincent Hospital
- 16-hour Emergency Vehicle Operators Course
- Emergency Medical Technician – Basic
- Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations
- Technical Rescue Awareness
- Vehicle & Machinery Technician
- Rope Rescue Technician
- And ultimately, State Certified Firefighter I & Firefighter II



TRAINING AND INCIDENT SAFETY DIVISION

Years 1 through 3 Targeted Training

During the first 3 years of employment at the Pike Township Fire Department, all merit personnel complete a 3-year module training program:

Year 1

(Firefighter I)

Recruit Academy through first year of employment

In 2023, **10 recruits** began this level.

Year 2

(Firefighter II)

Engineer Training -- State Driver Operator General, State Driver Operator Pumper, and State Driver Operator Aerial certifications; Skill Verification Task Books

In 2023, **6 probationary firefighters** began this level.

Year 3

(Firefighter III)

Officer Development -- State Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics, Fire Instructor I and Fire Officer I certifications

In 2023, **7 Firefighter II personnel** began this level.



TRAINING AND INCIDENT SAFETY DIVISION

Certification Courses & Continuing Education Classes



44,634
Total Training Hours



Concepts of Construction



Search Culture



Fire Department Instructors Conference



Fire Officer I & II



Fire Officer Strategy & Tactics



Fire Instructor I & II



Rope Rescuer Ops/Tech



Elevator Rescue Ops/Tech



Vehicle Rescuer Ops/Tech



Hazardous Materials Awareness



Hazardous Materials Operations








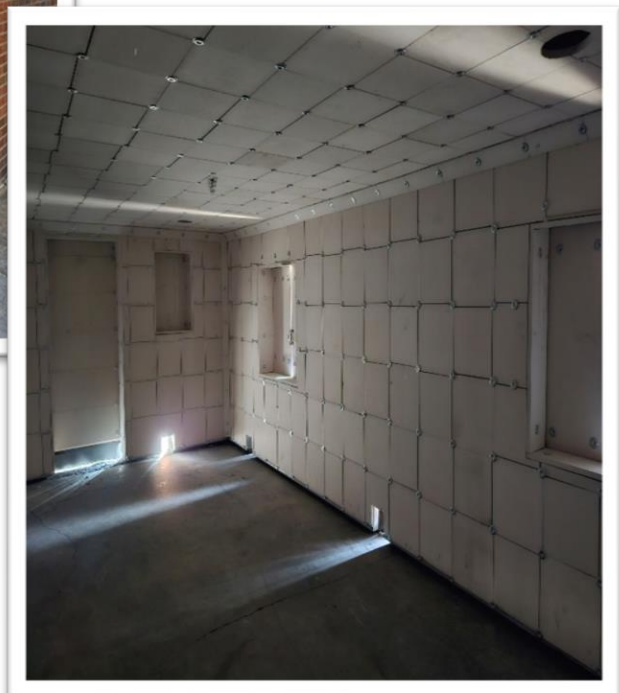
Firefighter I/II



TRAINING AND INCIDENT SAFETY DIVISION

Training Tower Improvements

-  Load-bearing cinder blocks located on the residence side burn room were replaced or repaired
-  New burn liner was installed on the entire residence side first floor
-  All exit doors were converted to outward swinging doors
-  Thermocouples were installed that are hardwired to an alarm system
-  New alarm system will alert when fires reach 800°F to provide an added layer of safety when conducting Live Fire Evolutions.



TRAINING AND INCIDENT SAFETY DIVISION

SAFETY



Radiation Detectors – Radiation Alert Rangers

Severely aging, the Department’s radiation detectors could not hold a charge very long, and some were not even serviceable. Pike Township Fire Department purchased 5 Radiation Alert Rangers to replace the aging detectors, placing them on every Pike Engine. These new detectors are rugged, user friendly, have the ability to hold a charge for 30 days, and can detect the presence of Alpha, Beta, and Gamma radiation. It is imperative for our members to have radiation detectors that work properly, and that can detect the presence of radiation at health care facilities, construction sites, factories, and potential terrorist/weapons of mass destruction incidents.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION



The Support Services Division is responsible for maintaining 5 fire stations, the training academy, Pike Township Government Center, all loose equipment, and a fleet of 50-plus apparatus and vehicles.

In addition to responding to emergency mechanical issues on vehicles, apparatus and facilities, we manage preventive maintenance to prevent small issues from becoming big problems. Support Services works with a variety of vendors to provide supplies, firefighting gear and uniforms.

Division Chief of Support Services
David Hatter

Support Services Staff



Travis James
*Support Services
Pivot Technician*



Brandon Moss
*Asset Controller
& Quartermaster*



Mike Stephany
*Support Services
Technician*



Austin Hoover
*Support Services
Technician*



Dustin Burriss
*Asset
Assistant*



623

Work Tickets through Vector Solutions resolved. This does not include emergency calls or preventive maintenance.



141

Quartermaster Work Tickets resolved. This does not include emergency calls or preventive maintenance.



SUPPORT SERVICES

2023 Significant Projects



Took possession of the new EDO vehicle and began installing the lighting and radio package to customize it for fire operations.



Completed all required annual testing on all Department apparatus, including DOT checks, axle weights, pump tests, ladder tests, SCBA pack flow tests, SCBA regulator and face piece testing, and relief valve testing. We monitored and checked all fire extinguishers, alarms and panels, and sprinkler systems for dial out and domestic water system back flow devices.



The Division was involved in logistics relating to the new decontamination and maintenance facility construction. Working for most of the year out of a temporary Shop was a challenge at times. We are very excited to start 2024 with this new facility that provides a healthier environment and will enable us to work more efficiently.



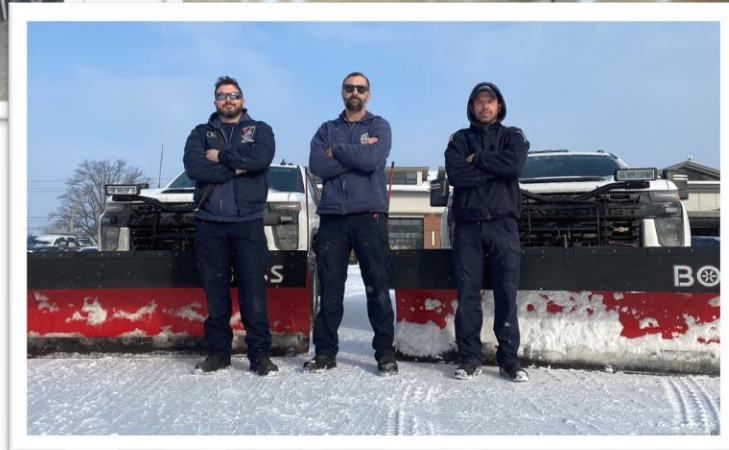
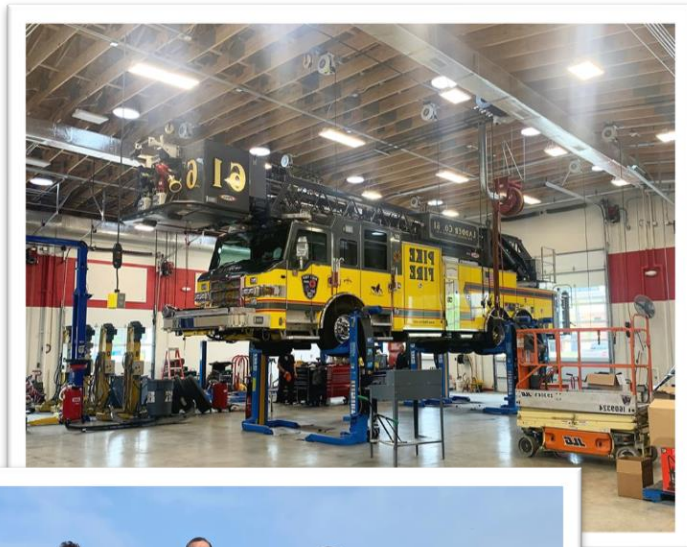
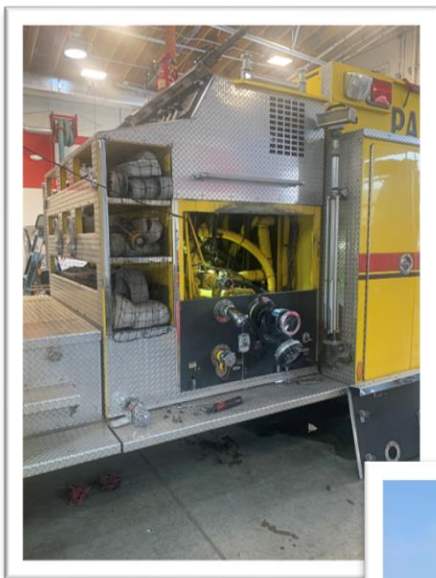
Replaced original concrete around the training facility campus as funds became available. This included replacing 6,000 square feet of concrete with an additional 6,000 square feet to be replaced.



Ordered 2 new ambulances for delivery in late 2024.



Replaced dilapidated fencing at Stations 61 and 62.



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION



**Division Chief of
Emergency Medical Services**
Ryan Ross

At the heart of our community's safety, the Pike Township Fire Department Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is dedicated to safeguarding the well-being of both residents and visitors of Pike Township and the Indianapolis Metropolitan area. We are committed to excellence, providing top-tier emergency medical care through our 9-1-1 services.



EDO60 Shift Officers

A Shift
Captain
Corey Johnson



B Shift
Lieutenant
Alan McKamey



C Shift
Firefighter/Paramedic
Jacquelyn Dunn



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Training

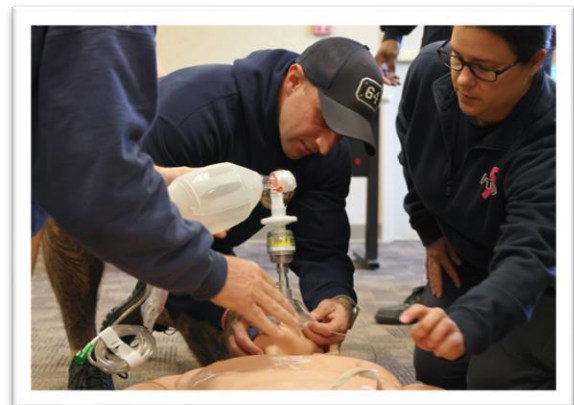
The EMS training program at Pike Township Fire Department (PTFD) boasts a comprehensive curriculum that encompasses both **Advanced Life Support (ALS)** and **Basic Life Support (BLS)**. Our dedicated members maintain a high level of expertise, ensuring the delivery of exceptional care to our community. In 2023, our care providers excelled in courses such as Basic Life Support for cardiac resuscitations for both adults and pediatrics. They went above and beyond by attending numerous additional training classes, further enhancing their skills.



We take pride in supporting our providers' pursuit of higher education. A heartfelt congratulations to (from left below) Donna Bodenhorn, Ashton Underwood and Hannah Knicely for **completing Paramedic School with honors**. Their growth as ALS providers is inspirational, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact they will have on the lives we serve.

**PARAMEDIC
SCHOOL
STUDENT
SURVIVOR**

linear
americ



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION

Top 3 Primary Impressions

483 – Abdominal Pain

354 – Chest Pain/Discomfort

283 – Generalized Weakness

Patient Interactions



7,637 patient interactions



85% transported to hospitals for further care



43% of transports went to Ascension St. Vincent



41%

Restart of heart rhythm after a cardiac arrest



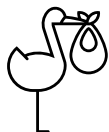
162

CPR Recertifications



5,902 hours

EMS Training



5

Newborn Deliveries

Personnel Focus



Paramedic Dan Pennington touched 353 lives



Paramedic Chris Gregory touched 349 lives



PREVENTION SERVICES DIVISION



Division Chief/Fire Marshal
Jonathan Kempler

Prevention Services Division is composed of three subdivided areas of fire and life safety:

- Fire & Life Safety Inspections
- Fire Origin and Cause Investigations
- Community Risk Reduction



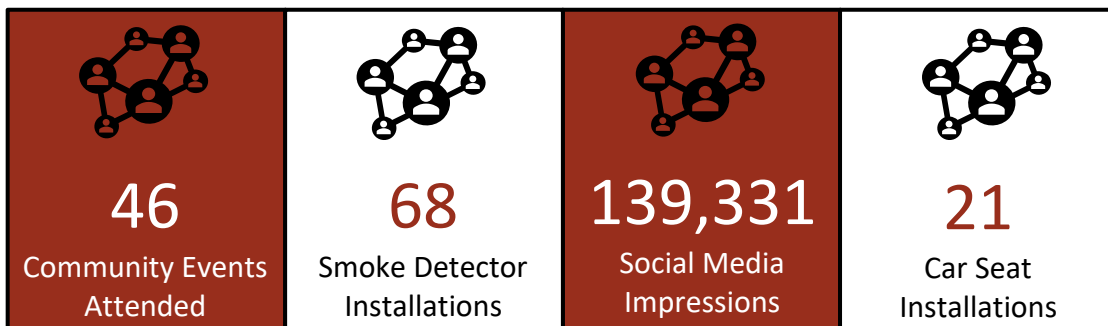
Joshua Kreigh
Assistant Fire Marshal

<p>Tanya Pickett Deputy Fire Marshal</p>	<p>Adam Brandlein Deputy Fire Marshal</p>	<p>Cade Berry Deputy Fire Marshal</p>	<p>Samantha Scott Community Risk Reduction Specialist</p>
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PREVENTION SERVICES DIVISION

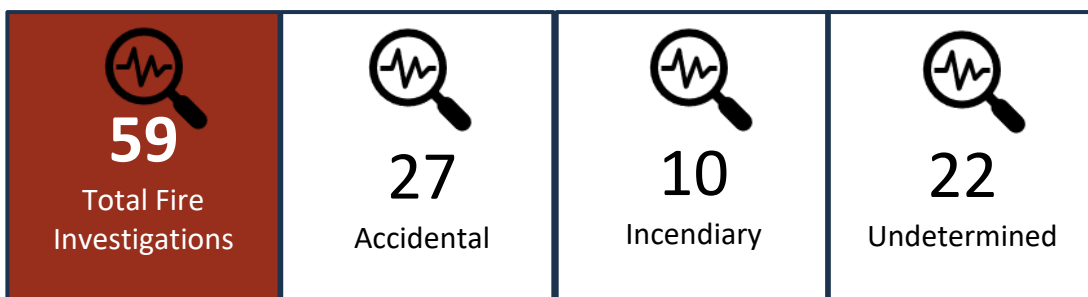
Community Risk Reduction



PREVENTION SERVICES DIVISION

Fire Investigations

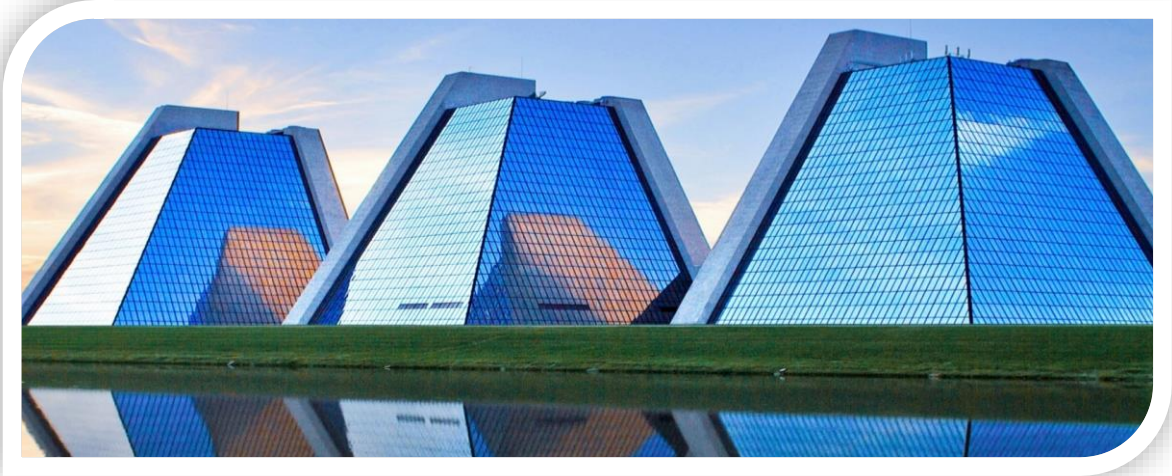
The fire investigation program examines fire and explosion incidents to ascertain the source and reason for fires that occur within the jurisdiction of the Pike Township Fire Department. Once the Department is notified of a fire or explosion incident, an investigation is initiated with the goal of determining the origin and cause of the event. These investigations follow a systematic approach and leverage both fundamental and advanced knowledge of fire science.



PREVENTION SERVICES DIVISION

Fire Inspections

The fire inspection program oversees and ensures adherence to the Indiana Fire Code, Indiana Building Code, National Fire Protection Association Standards, and Marion County Municipal Codes. Regular checks are conducted to verify compliance with relevant codes, standards, and proper documentation of annual inspections and compliance related to sprinkler systems and fire alarms.



2,713	2,044
Total Fire Inspections	Violations Cited
38,778,760	
Square Footage Inspected	



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

