

Marietta Fire Department



2023 Year End Report

January 14, 2024



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Letter from the Chief

It is my honor and privilege to present the 2023 Annual Report of the Marietta Fire Department. This report will detail the operations, direction, and goals of our department, as well as give a year-end review to what our department was able to achieve in 2023. The Marietta Fire Department experienced several positive changes in 2023, and we look forward to the opportunities that 2024 will bring to allow us to continue to improve our services to the community. Our focus has been on providing the highest level of care and service to our community, during both medical and fire related responses.

Our focus on medical responses includes continued focus to improve the level of care we provide to our citizens. We currently have 52% of our staff trained in advanced life support (ALS) skills, with an anticipated 67% by mid-year. We anticipate that this number will continue to climb until we reach our goal of 100%, by implementing a policy that all new hires will be trained to Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) or higher. We are excited about these new measures, and have made sure to have available the tools these EMS providers need to complete their missions successfully. We also have a focus on continuous quality improvement throughout every aspect of our calls, from treatment to documentation, to ensure continued high levels of patient care.

Our focus on the fire response side has included a strong focus on training of our personnel on a wide variety of emergency response training for firefighting, hazardous materials responses, driving, dive operations, water rescue, confined space rescue, and rope rescue. We are a small department, but provide a high level of response in a variety of situations that may arise, so we must make intentional efforts frequently to ensure that we keep our skill level maintained. In 2023, we were able to place a new thermal imaging camera on Engine 1, so that firefighters entering a structure fire have the ability to locate victims more efficiently, and are able to utilize it for other decision-making needs. We were also able to place an order for a new ladder truck that will increase our capabilities, while replacing a nearly 30-year-old current ladder truck. Replacing a 10 year old ambulance, establishing a truck for dive responses, as well as updating dive equipment are a few of our other accomplishments for 2023.

We are excited about the goals we have for 2024, to continue to improve our services to the community. We are currently awaiting the arrival of a new ladder truck to replace our 1994 ladder truck. We continue to work toward the establishment of a training facility that we will use to properly and safely train on a variety of techniques needed to maintain our skills. The bids were obtained and hope to have project completion of this training structure by fall of 2024. We are also continuing our efforts to start providing CPR classes to the community. We look forward to the growth and improvement 2024 has to bring to our department.

Sincerely,

Chief C.W. Durham, CFO, OFC

Marietta Fire Department





Mission Statement

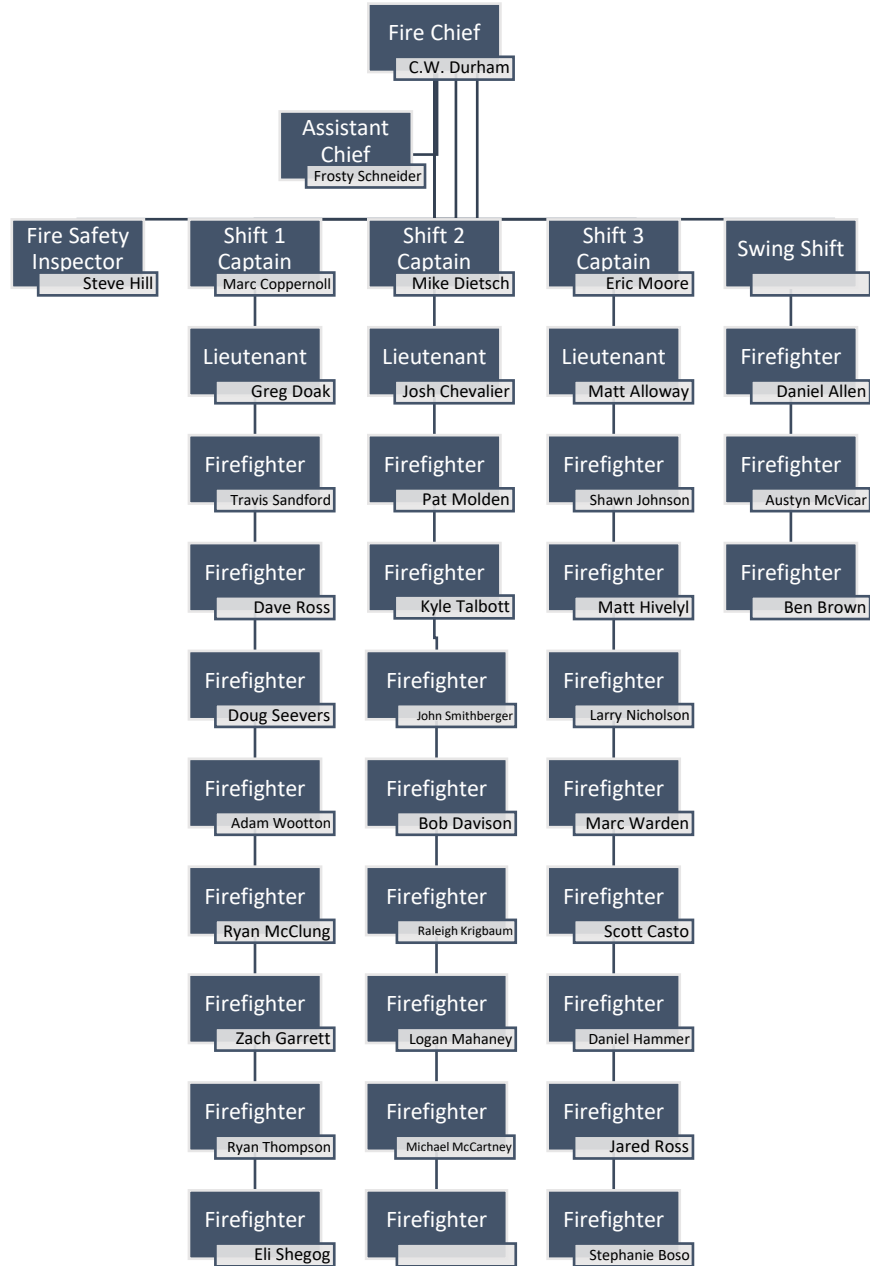
The mission of the Marietta Fire Department is to provide a wide range of programs designed to educate, and protect the lives and property of both the citizens and visitors of Marietta, Ohio, from the adverse effects of fire, sudden medical emergencies, or exposure to dangerous conditions created by either human beings or nature.

Vision Statement

It is the vision of the Marietta Fire Department to seek continual improvement for the services we provide to our community, through training, staffing, up-to-date equipment, and continuous quality improvement evaluations of all aspects of our mission.



Marietta Fire Department Organizational Chart





Overall Department Operations Report

The Marietta Fire Department responded to 3,556 calls for service in 2023. These calls include fires, hazardous materials responses, motor vehicle accidents, personal injury accidents, medical responses, water related incidents, false alarms, and a variety of other calls for service within our community, and surrounding communities that request our assistance. This call volume is a 7.5% increase over the last 10 years, a 50% increase over the last 20 years, and a 136% increase in calls for service over the last 40 years.

2023	3556 responses
2013	3306 responses
2003	2372 responses
1993	1875 responses
1983	1503 responses

We continued to see an increase in demand for our service, and continually seek to explore the best options to deliver safe and efficient services to our entire community. We are working on a long-range plan to provide for replacement of our equipment, as well as an aggressive training program, to ensure that we are ready to respond to any emergency that our services are required. We take pride in providing fast, reliable, and professional services whenever called.





Fire Response Report

The Marietta Fire Department operates three fire engines out of three separate stations, as well as a ladder truck, hazardous materials response unit, and a fireboat docked on the Muskingum River. In 2023, we had 413 calls that met National Fire Incident Reporting System qualifications. For comparison, 2013 had 323 reportable incidents, or a 28% increase in fire related calls for service over a 10-year period. These calls include, but are not limited to, structure fires, car accidents, and false alarms.





Emergency Medical Response Report

The Marietta Fire Department operates three medical response units out of three separate stations, providing immediate response to sudden medical emergencies and injury accidents. In 2023, 3,472 unit responses occurred for medical responses, with an average response time of 4.3 minutes. These numbers incorporate mutual aid responses outside of our jurisdiction that take significantly longer to reach our destination.





Specialized Teams Report

The Marietta Fire Department continues to provide a wide variety of service to our community, that few communities our size are able to provide. We have a hazardous materials response team, a confined space rescue team, and a dive team that are ready to respond should an emergency arise. These teams dedicate additional hours of training each year to maintain their high level of expertise, and to ensure that they can deliver services at a moment's notice to those in need. We were able to replace and improve some of our dive equipment and rope rescue equipment in 2023, and replaced a 26-year-old truck with a hazardous materials response trailer.





Training Report

The Marietta Fire Department invests many hours each year into ensuring high levels of proficiency in all disciplines. Our personnel train and practice life saving techniques and skills. The Marietta Fire Department members returned to a normal training schedule after the pandemic. We conduct shift trainings in person, as well as online training. These training sessions include firefighting, hazardous materials responses, confined space rescue, dive, emergency vehicle operator, emergency medical, as well as a variety of other topics intended to prepare firefighters for events they may encounter. We will be working toward a training facility in late 2024, to help facilitate the trainings required to keep current and proficient.





Prevention and Education Report

The Marietta Fire Department takes an active role in fire safety education and prevention efforts. We take the Fire Safety House to our local schools, as well as host number of tours at the fire station for school age children each year. We also attend events throughout the area including Grand Central Mall Safety Day, Safety Town, Sweet Corn Festival, BrAva Family Fun Day, and Healthy Kids Day to name a few. We also do education with staff of facilities in our area when requested. During Fire Prevention month in 2023, we educated over 1,000 students at our 6 of our local schools. We also educated 160 children during Safetytown.





Fire Safety Inspection Report

The Marietta Fire Department conducts fire safety inspections of commercial and industrial facilities in our jurisdiction, as well as facilities that maintain a fire contract with our department. Our primary mission is to ensure the safety of all occupants of the building or facility, by ensuring compliance with Ohio Fire Code. We help educate these locations on how to improve safety, while identifying faulty equipment, and gain valuable knowledge of shut offs for utilities that will help to speed firefighting efforts if an event occurred at that location. In 2023, we conducted 698 initial inspections and 240 re-inspections within our community. We also conduct fire preplan inspections, where on duty personnel will stop by a location, and confirm contact information, utility shut off locations, and any pertinent information the occupant wants to share with the fire department. This is part of our mission to protect the lives and property of our community, by having vital information about the location before an event occurs.





Congratulations to the 2022 Firefighter of the Year, Adam Wootton. The Public Safety Awards Ceremony occurred on April 20th, 2023 in Beverly, Ohio.

Achievements in 2023

The Marietta Fire Department was able to accomplish several goals in 2023. We were able to take delivery of a new Horton Ambulance to replace a 2012 model, and allow us to establish a dive response truck. We are still expecting delivery of our new ladder truck by summer of 2024, to replace a 1994 ladder truck currently in operation. We also are continuing to update our radio equipment within our apparatus for emergency communications.

We were also able to expand our dive team capabilities by replacing equipment that was at end of life. We completed a multi-year project to update chainsaws in the department, which most were 20-25 years old. We also replaced dated fire hose, and were able to place an emergency post at Fire Station 3 for the public to utilize in the event of an emergency, completing a multi-year project to place one at each fire station.





Goals for 2023

The Marietta Fire Department continues to strive for improvement in all aspects of our responsibilities. We are working to replace our ladder truck that is 30 years old. The ladder truck replacement is expected to be delivered in the middle of 2024. We are also working to establish a dive rescue apparatus repurposed from an old ambulance, to improve our dive rescue response capabilities. We are working on replacing our firefighting turnout gear, and the new gear has integrated harnesses to provide improved safety for firefighters. We are near completion of a multi-year project to establish and maintain two sets of turnout gear for firefighters, so that when one set is dirty/damaged, the on-duty crew will have a second set to utilize. This is a health and safety initiative not only to ensure a proper set of gear is available, but to help reduce the chance of exposures to carcinogens in unwashed gear.

We have plans to continue our efforts to establish a training facility, to allow firefighters not only from our department, but from around the area, to utilize a facility that can be used to practice skills in a realistic setting. We will also be continuing our work to establish a new building to house our equipment that is currently stored outside, to extend the life of the equipment, as well as improve response times for specialized teams. We also hope to bring our We are continuing to evaluate our skills and equipment in the emergency medical field, to ensure that we have the most current training and equipment to serve the public. We look forward to serving the citizens of Marietta in 2024.

