

2012 Annual Report



SERVING THE CITY OF RENTON, KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 25 & KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 40



City of
Renton



Message from the Mayor



Public Safety continues to be one of my top priorities for our community. When a loved one has a medical emergency or there is a fire or auto accident, residents depend on quick and professional help from Renton's Fire & Emergency Services Department. Day and night throughout the year, our firefighters respond to thousands of calls and provide quality care for our residents and businesses.

Renton's Fire & Emergency Services Department constantly strives for improvement and does an excellent job of utilizing new technology and intensive training to improve service to our citizens. In 2012 crews responded to over 13,000 calls consisting of fires, emergency medical incidents, hazardous material incidents and other miscellaneous situations.

In between calls, these men and women further served the community through the **Renton Heart Month** campaign and provided over 10,000 people with free blood pressure and blood sugar checks. Members of the department also participated in a **Driving Under the Influence (DUI)** drill at a local high school, partnered with the **Nick of Time Foundation** to provide heart screenings for students and adults, completed business and multi-family housing inspections and reached out to multi-cultural communities to strengthen relationships and their understanding of fire department services.

Training and education are vital to any successful organization and the fire department is not an exception. Stringent training requirements must be met annually. Your fire department is not only committed to meeting these requirements, but in 2012 added other training including High Rise and Incident Management System (IMS) courses. Seven captains became certified in Hazmat Incident Command, all fire inspectors became Crowd Control Managers, and the Emergency Management staff became Certified Emergency Managers, the highest certification of their profession.

Emergency preparedness planning and communication efforts remained a priority in 2012. We submitted the city's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to the state, completed our first Disaster Recovery Plan, and renewed our StormReady designation through 2015.

We live in a great city and I want to extend my appreciation to every member of the department for continuing the tradition of providing excellent fire and emergency response services while still looking at new and innovative ways to improve efficiency department-wide.

Sincerely,
Mayor Denis Law



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Message from the Fire Chief / Emergency Services Administrator

Dear Citizens of Renton, Mayor, Councilmembers and Commissioners:

I am pleased to present the Renton Fire & Emergency Services Department's 2012 Annual Report. Each year we are faced with unique challenges and 2012 was no different. We met the challenges head-on with strategic planning, a determination to find successful resolutions and, along the way, made contributions and enjoyed accomplishments that benefited our community, the department and the City of Renton.

The department remains focused on our mission of maintaining a safe and livable community by safely preventing, preparing, responding to and recovering from emergencies and disasters. Overall, call volumes increased by more than 6% compared to previous years while total unit responses increased at an even greater rate. Emergency medical service incidents continue to be the highest percentage of these calls. Due to the increasing complexity of incidents, the training requirements have become more complex to meet state and federal mandates. Thus, as public involvement requests and emergency demands increase, we are prioritizing and efficiently deploying the limited resources we have available.

Serving the community is a great joy to our members. Renton Heart Month 2012 was the most successful in terms of reaching a record-breaking number of people. 10,791 citizens were provided with free blood pressure and blood sugar screenings during the February campaign. Renton Fire & Emergency Services members also participated in the 21st Annual Scott Firefighter Stairclimb, MDA Fill the Boot campaign, the Cares Enough to Wear Pink breast cancer awareness campaign, and other local community events and programs.

Our outreach to multi-cultural communities continued and the department's and the city's relationship with diverse populations was further strengthened. In February 2012, members of these communities and our department participated in video shoots to be featured on Fire 20/20's free online training program, Partnering For Prevention®.



Emergency preparedness planning and communication efforts are other areas of service to our citizens. During the January ice storm, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated.

Reimbursements from FEMA for the emergency response and damages to city facilities were successfully collected. A revised City of Renton Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan was submitted for state review, the revised City of Renton Hazard Mitigation Plan and the first City of Renton Disaster Recovery Plan were finalized and published, and a draft narrative for the city-wide Continuity of Operations Plan was completed. Among other accomplishments, Emergency Management staff completed professional certifications to become Certified Emergency Managers.

Members of our Community Risk Reduction section strived to serve the community by designing and implementing a new Multi-Family Inspection Program and were involved in a complex, multi-jurisdictional homicide/fire investigation. All Fire Inspectors became certified Crowd Control Managers and two Fire Inspectors completed Professional Fire Prevention Certification.

I speak for the department when I say we are committed to providing the best service possible to our community. 2013 has started off at an amazing pace with a variety of activities, accomplishments and announcements. Our 2013 Work Plan promises continued growth in training, efficiencies and service as we partner with other city departments and community resources.

I extend my appreciation to the citizens of Renton who demonstrate their support for the Renton Fire & Emergency Services Department. I would also like to thank the men and women of the department for their dedicated service that allowed us to achieve many of our goals in 2012.



Nine-year-old Boy Awarded Life Saver Certificate and recognized before City Council.



During the 2012 Heart Month campaign, Renton Firefighters connected with 10,791 citizens to check Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar levels.

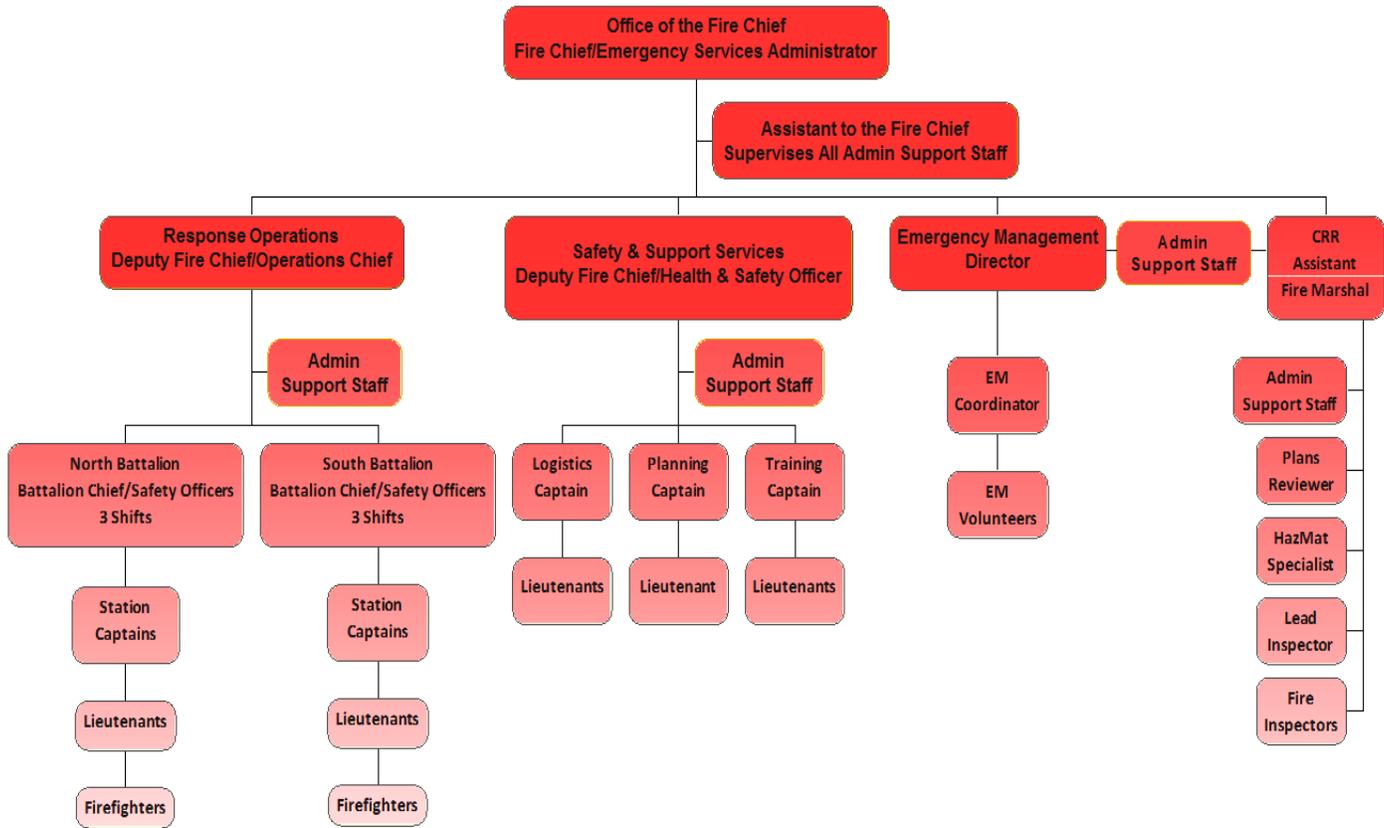


Renton Firefighters participate in community programs and especially enjoy opportunities to familiarize children with the fire engine and give safety tips.

Renton Fire & Emergency Services Department

1055 South Grady Way
Renton, WA 98057

Organizational Chart



Executive Staff—left to right: Erik Wallgren, Deputy Fire Chief; Deborah Needham, Emergency Management Director; Mark Peterson, Fire Chief/Emergency Services Administrator; David Pargas, Assistant Fire Marshal; Bill Flora, Deputy Fire Chief; Dorothy Stickney, Administrative Assistant to the Fire Chief



Administrative Support Staff Chaplains & Volunteers

Administrative Support Staff

Front row (Left to Right): Kathy Michelsohn,
Jennifer Zinck, Julie Bray, Candice Francisco
Back row: Judy Hayward, Dorothy Stickney



Chaplains



Loretta Green



Al Folmar

Volunteers



Betty Kirkland
Headquarters



Margaret Stephens
Community Risk Reduction



Tyler Esh
AmeriCorps

Fire Stations & Service Calls by Unit



Station 11
211 Mill Avenue S

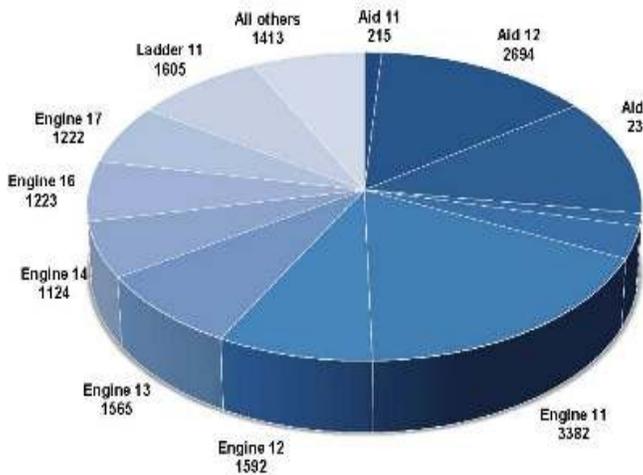


Station 12
1209 Kirkland Avenue NE

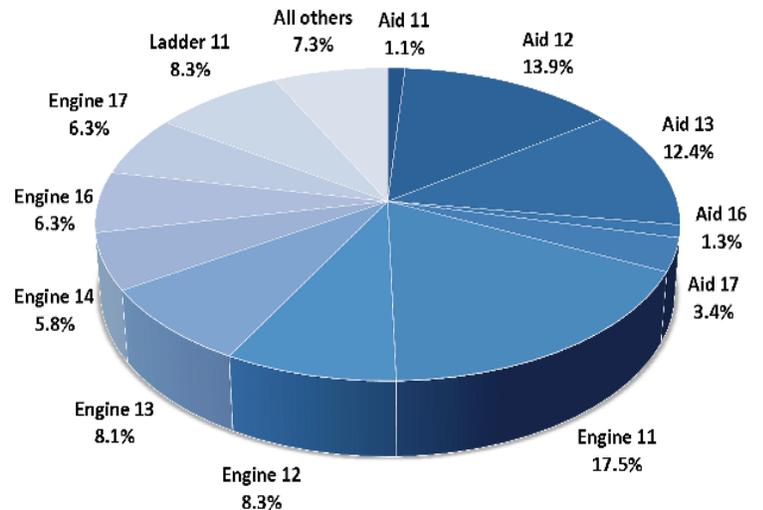


Station 13
18002 108th Avenue SE

Number of Responses by Unit



Percentage of Responses by Unit



Note: Aid 11 and Aid 16 were not staffed full time.



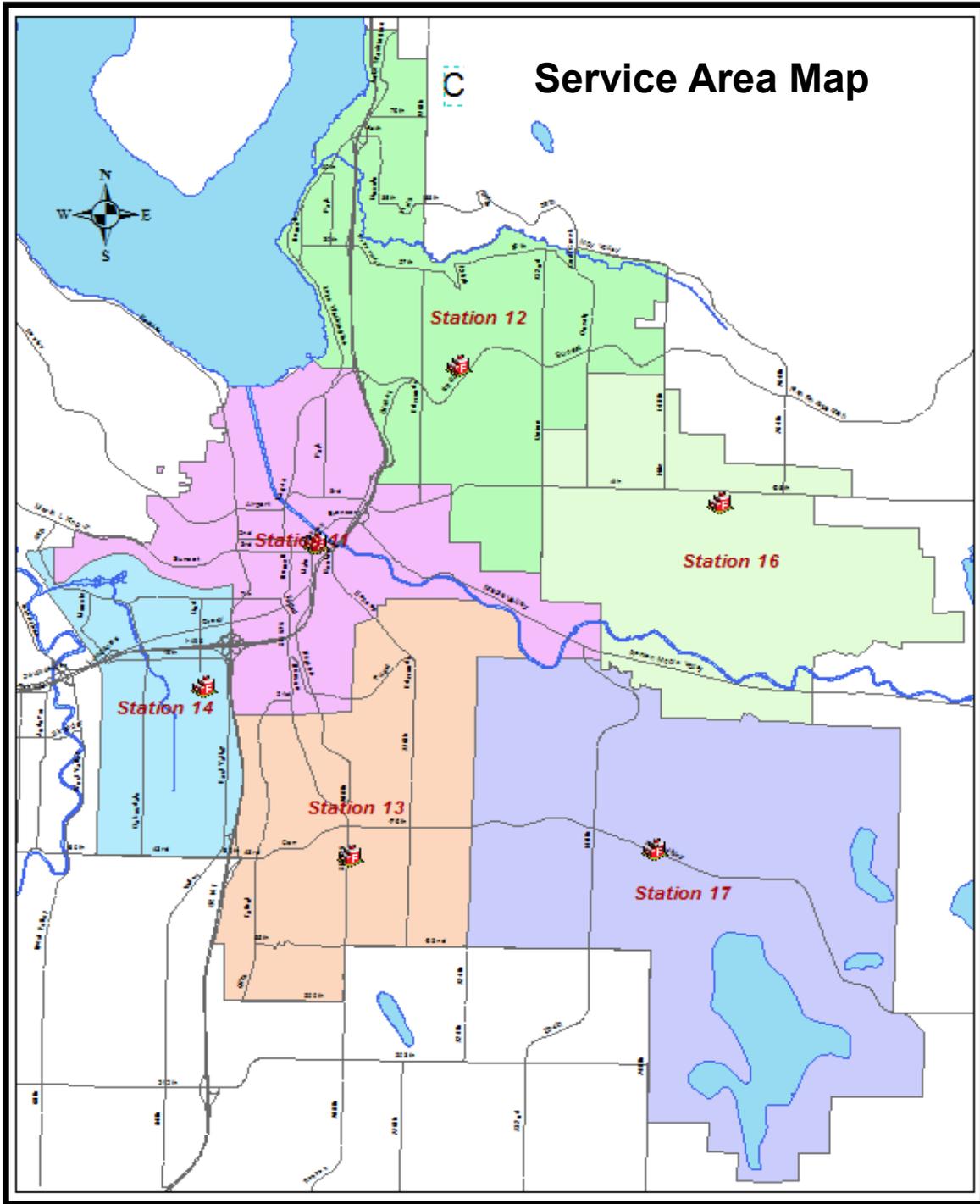
Station 14
1900 Lind Avenue SW



Station 16
12923 156th Avenue SE



Station 17
14810 SE Petrovitsky Road



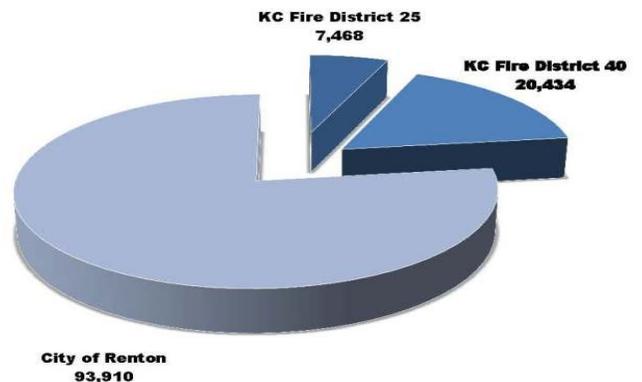
King County Fire District #25 Commissioners

Myron Meikle, Chairperson
 Ray Barilleaux
 Tom Tasa

King County Fire District #40 Commissioners

Linda Sartnurak, Chairperson
 Ronnie Little
 Steve Parsons
 Charlotte Ryan
 Mike Warfel

Population Served by RF&ES



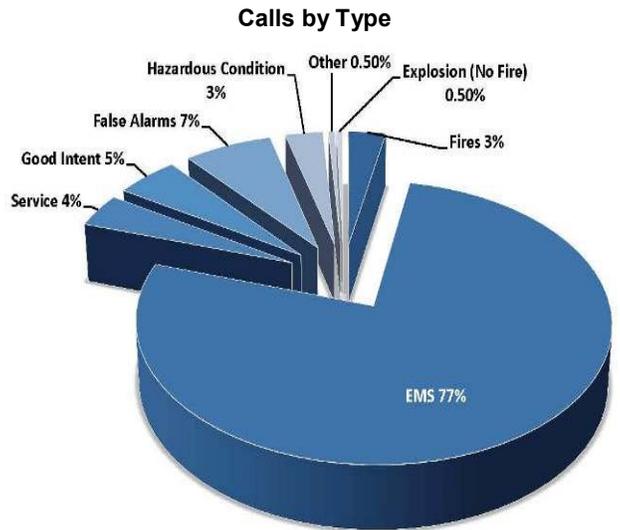
Response Operations



Response Operations personnel continue to provide an outstanding level of service to the citizens of our community. Time is divided between emergency responses; training in all facets of our "all-hazards" emergency environment to maintain expertise and safety awareness; and public interaction in the schools and at school and city-sponsored events.

Activities and Accomplishments

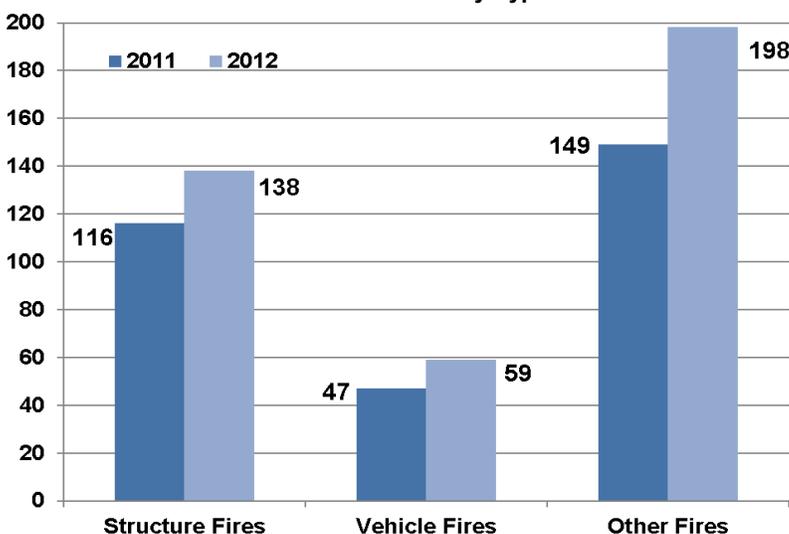
- Renton Fire & Emergency Services (RF&ES) improved reporting data collection to increase the accuracy of statistical analysis and included property and contents value versus loss and fire spread after the fire apparatus arrival.
- Zoll, a new records management system, was evaluated and the implementation initiated.
- RF&ES transported 36% of all patients needing to go to a hospital. King County Medics and private ambulances transported an additional 63.5% of patients.
- Fire response levels were updated and enhanced to conform with our region (Zone 3), adding more resources to commercial structure fires and freeway responses to improve efficiency and firefighter safety.
- RF&ES' CPR save rate (patient transported to hospital with a pulse after CPR) is 52.38%. The King County average is 52%.
- Crews responded to 915 more incidents in 2012 than in 2011, for an increase of 6.7% in call volume.



Emergency Responses

- 13,667 total responses:
 - 395 fire incidents:
 - ◆ 138 structure fires.
 - ◆ 59 vehicle fires.
 - ◆ 109 natural vegetation fires.
 - ◆ 89 other types of fires.
 - 10,577 emergency medical incidents:
 - ◆ 807 motor vehicle.
 - ◆ 53 involved pedestrians.
 - 608 non-emergent calls for service.
 - 626 good intent incidents.
 - 945 false alarms.
 - 341 hazardous conditions.
 - 115 other types of incidents.
 - 60 explosions (no fire).
- Total dollar loss from fires in 2012:
 - \$2,918,515 on property value of \$169 million.
 - The single biggest loss was \$365,000.
 - The 43 cooking-related fires resulted in almost \$396,300 in property loss.
- Technical rescue teams play an integral part in the safety of our residents, as well as cooperating with other teams in South King County.
 - The water rescue team responded 17 times to incidents involving every type of water condition found in the greater Puget Sound area.
- The hazardous materials team responded to 21 incidents, while technicians responded on numerous other occasions.

2011 - 2012 Fires by Type





Response Operations (cont.)

Response Times

2012 Response Time Report Factors

Below are the top three factors that impact response time in excess of the aspirational goal:

1. Distance to call in assigned response area.
2. Responding out of assigned response area.
3. On scene but not communicated.

The Renton Fire & Emergency Services Department uses a fractal time measurement to monitor overall response times. The first goal is to have each apparatus en route to the emergency within two minutes (turnout time). The second goal is to have the first unit arrive at the scene within seven and one-half minutes 90% of the time. These response time measurements allow the department to analyze those incidents where response times do not meet department goals and find ways to reduce response times in order to provide the highest level of service possible.



Washington State law mandates that fire departments establish priority response criteria and measure their performance each year in meeting these standards. This measurement is taken in intervals that include:

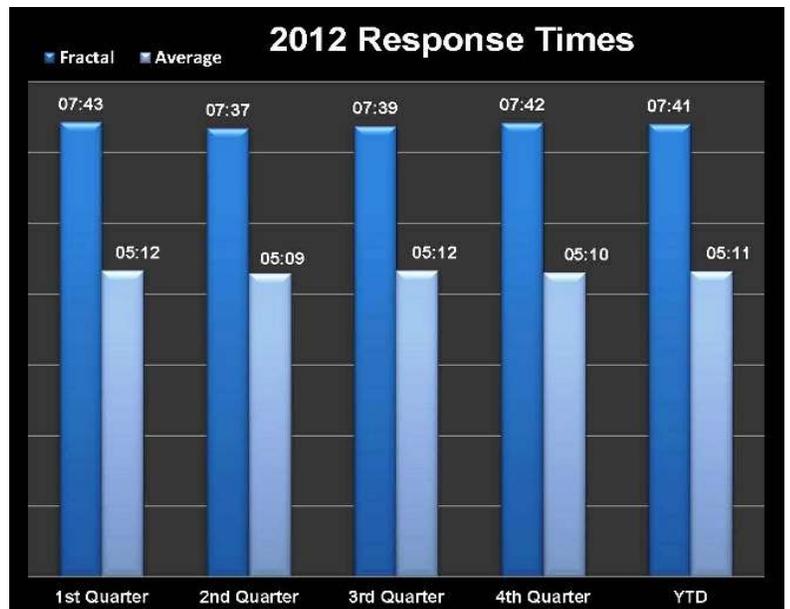
Turnout Time: The time between being dispatched and acknowledging the call to the time they are en route.

Travel Interval: The measured time between turnout time and when the first fire department unit arrives at the scene/incident.

Response Time: The time between being dispatched and when the first fire unit arrives at the scene (Turnout Time + Travel Interval).

2012 Priority Response Results

Response Measures	Time
Turnout Time <i>The initial time when units first receive notification of emergency to the point they respond.</i>	Average: 1 minute, 22 seconds Fractal: 2 minutes, 11 seconds or less 90% of the time
Arrival of First Alarm Assignment <i>Three engines, one ladder, one aid unit, one command unit.</i>	Average: 10 minutes, 17 seconds Fractal: 13 minutes, 28 seconds or less 90% of the time
Arrival of First Engine at Fire Incident	Average: 5 minutes, 24 seconds Fractal: 7 minutes, 33 seconds or less 90% of the time
Arrival of EMT* at Emergency Medical Incident <i>*Emergency Medical Technician</i>	Average: 5 minutes, 8 seconds Fractal: 7 minutes, 38 seconds or less 90% of the time
Total Response Time (Both Fire and EMS)	Average: 5 minutes 11 seconds Fractal: 7 minutes, 41 seconds or less 90% of the time





Logistics Division



Activities and Accomplishments

- Organized the Logistics Division with reduction of staff to efficiently and effectively utilize Response Operations personnel for ongoing programs while maintaining budgetary control of said programs.
- Utilized and further developed an asset management system to track inventory and budgeted items with the assistance of a new records management system.
- Updated Standard Operating Procedures and completed a Desk Manual for the Logistics Division.



Training Division

Activities and Accomplishments

- Ensured all personnel received required and documented training that met state and national standards and certifications.
- Maximized efficiency through coordination of job performance requirements to include matching training needs with the resources available internally and regionally.
- Implemented a new training management software program, Training Tracker.





Safety & Support Services (cont.)

Planning Division

Activities and Accomplishments

- Project coordination of the most productive Hearth Month in department history with over 10,000 people tested.
- New "First Due" Map books designed, produced and distributed for use by Response Operations crews.
- Championed efforts to find solutions for pager and radio challenges.
- Initiated work on "Standards of Cover" documentation.
- Evaluated department insurance rating to ensure Washington Survey and Rating Bureau criteria are met.
- Continued the self-assessment process through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) strategic planning process, community risk assessment/mitigation and standards of cover documentation.
- Partnered with the Information Technology Division to develop an information/data management system that includes project management, GPS/GIS mapping and mobile tracking of response apparatus through the new computer-aided dispatch system.
- Continued to develop a 5 to 10-year strategic plan for Response Operations to include a predictive model of future incident call volume.



Emergency Management



Activities and Accomplishments

- Completed a remodel of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to increase effectiveness during disaster response operations.
- Responded to the January 2012 ice storm and successfully collected FEMA reimbursements for the emergency response and damages to city facilities.
- Completed and submitted a revised City of Renton Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to the state for review.
- Finalized and published the revised City of Renton Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Finalized and published the first City of Renton Disaster Recovery Plan.
- Conducted two exercises to test effectiveness of emergency plans and selected disaster assignment trainings.
- Facilitated staff and volunteer involvement in multiple training classes related to Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Emergency Operations Center, Mass Care and Sheltering, Amateur Radio, Resource Management, Weather Spotting and Post-Seismic Building Assessment disaster assignments.
 - Licensed 14 new amateur radio operators.
 - Graduated 22 new CERTs.
 - Trained 32 new Skywarn weather spotters.
- Renewed the City of Renton's StormReady designation through 2015.
- Conducted an assessment of future emergency planning needs for vulnerable individuals with functional and access needs.
- Established a community forum to solicit and incorporate community input into department and emergency planning.
- Completed a pilot Teen CERT program through a local high school.
- Successfully lobbied to retain threatened grant funding source for another year.
- Emergency Management staff completed professional certifications to become Certified Emergency Managers.
- Completed a draft narrative for the city-wide Continuity of Operations Plan.
- Continued to operate the Renton Emergency Preparedness Academy (REPA) for training residents and businesses in appropriate emergency/disaster actions.





Community Risk Reduction

Activities and Accomplishments

- Community Risk Reduction (CRR) staff attended a Fire Marshal Round Table needed for Continuing Education Units (CEU).
- Completed a new addition to the Respiratory Protection policy applicable to Fire Investigators.
- Redesigned Notice of Fire Code Violation (NOFCV) form to be in line with 2009 International Fire Code (IFC).
- Improved respiratory protection program for Fire Investigators by providing three full options of protection from one vendor: SCOTT SCBA, Scott filters used in conjunction with SCOTT SCBA masks, and SCOTT PAPRS used in conjunction with SCOTT SCBA mask.
- Members of CRR designed a new Multi-family Inspection Program.
- Participated in the design of the new EnerGov software for inspections.
- Performed a complex, multi-jurisdictional homicide/fire investigation with Renton Police Department; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms (ATF); and the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab.
- Developed a new fire investigation report form based upon the scientific method.
- All Fire Inspectors became certified Crowd Control Managers.
- Two Fire Inspectors completed Professional Fire Prevention Certification.
- The Assistant Fire Marshal attended a “Demonstrating Your Fire Prevention Program’s Worth” at the National Fire Academy.
- Developed and printed a new fire inspection manual.
- 2,590 Inspections:
 - 361 New Construction.
 - 2,229 Business.
- 2,139 Permits Issued:
 - 231 Construction Permits.
 - 1,908 IFC Permits.
- 636 Plans Reviewed.
- \$160,305 Revenue Generated.
- 57 Fire Investigations:
 - 26 Accidental.
 - 25 Incendiary.
 - 1 Natural.
 - 5 Undetermined.
- \$2,423,465 Total Fire Loss of Investigated Incidents.



Community Campaigns & Outreach



HEART MONTH - The City of Renton's 6th annual Renton Heart Month was a huge success. Participants attended various events throughout the city to increase awareness and encourage citizens to take action to reduce their risk of heart disease, stroke and diabetes.

Free blood pressure and blood sugar screenings were provided to 10,791 community members during the campaign and resulted in identifying numerous at-risk individuals. Firefighters notified 1,517 people of possible blood pressure issues and 451 of possible diabetes indicators. They also reached a large population of multi-cultural and high-risk communities and started new or nurtured existing relationships.

Partnerships with Valley Medical Center, Kind Health Foods and The Balanced Athlete enhanced RF&ES' efforts in striving to reach community members with life saving messages.

FIRE 20/20 & PARTNERING FOR PREVENTION®

Renton Fire & Emergency Services continued our relationship with FIRE 20/20, a non-profit organization that helps fire and emergency services departments connect with multi-cultural and high-risk communities to increase the reach and effectiveness of fire prevention and community risk reduction programs.

Our partnership began in July 2011, with the goal of developing a national free online training program called Partnering For Prevention® and continued in October 2011 when the partnership worked to conduct leader-to-leader meetings and focus groups with multi-cultural and high-risk communities. In February 2012, members of these communities and RF&ES participated in video shoots to be featured on the training website. Partnering For Prevention® launched the free online training program in September 2012 to help fire and emergency services departments throughout the United States and Canada connect with their multi-cultural communities.



READY IN RENTON - The 2012 Ready in Renton campaign emphasized "Know Where to Go for Info." How to get information during an emergency was publicized through a media release as well as a feature article and map in the city's What's Happening catalog. In addition, updated maps of the city's Neighborhood Information Centers were direct mailed to every home. The first real-time use of the Neighborhood Information Centers to disseminate emergency information occurred during the January ice storm when power outages cut off communications for thousands of Renton residents.

RENTON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ACADEMY (REPA) - The Renton Emergency Preparedness Academy (REPA) is a partnership between the City of Renton, the American Red Cross and Renton Technical College that provides a variety of classes to help residents become prepared for any type of emergency. In addition to general emergency preparedness, classes offered included Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training, CERT Animal Response training, amateur radio licensing preparation and Wilderness and Remote First Aid. REPA also offered youth-centered classes including a Red Cross babysitting class.

Two of the best attended classes in the REPA offerings last year included "SKYWARN® Weather Spotting Training" with the National Weather Service, and "Shake, Rattle, and Roll" with a United States Geological Survey scientist. The weather spotter class not only educated residents about weather phenomena, it also added dozens more volunteers to the ranks of trained weather spotters who report precise weather conditions in our area, including potentially dangerous developing systems.



2012 Awards & Special Recognition

Members of the Quarter

Officers

Stephen Rawson, Lieutenant
Tom Curtis, Lieutenant
Shawn Mendenhall, Captain

Firefighters

Keith Adams, Firefighter
Nathan Blakeslee, Firefighter
Al Koskovich, Firefighter

Civilians

Kelly Carey, Administrative Secretary I
Judy Hayward, Administrative Secretary I
Kathy Michelsohn, Administrative Secretary I
Jennifer Zinck, Office Assistant III

Members of the Year



STEPHEN RAWSON
Lieutenant
Officer of the Year



AL KOSKOVICH
Firefighter
Firefighter of the Year



DAVE LAHA
Firefighter
EMT of the Year



KATHY MICHELSONN
Administrative Secretary I
Civilian of the Year

Transitions 2012

Promotions

Jeff Vollandt, Lieutenant

Retirements

Brad Raspet, Firefighter
Roy Luquette, Lieutenant
Joe Jorgensen, Firefighter

Response Operations Top Companies

Top Ladder Company

Ladder 11, B Shift
Roger White, Lieutenant
Mike Boyer, Firefighter
Marcus Rismiller, Firefighter

Top Engine Company

Engine 13, B Shift
Fred Heistuman, Lieutenant
Randy Sheffer, Firefighter
Eleanor Cantrell, Firefighter

Top Aid Crew

Aid 12, B Shift
Joshua Brown, Firefighter
Ryan Simonds, Firefighter



Our Values

- There is no higher calling than that of service and protection to our community.
- Nothing is of more value than human life and the safety of our members.
- Trust is the foundation on which success is built.



- Prevention, where possible, is preferred.
- The reputation of the organization is paramount.
- We can only do what we are trained, capable, equipped and prepared to do.



- Competence is the ultimate measure of performance.
- There is richness in the diversity of the community we serve and the organization of which we are a part.
- To reach our full potential as an organization, our working environment must be open, accepting and courteous for all members.

Renton Fire & Emergency Services

2012 Summary

Service Calls by Unit

Aid 11	215
Aid 12	2,694
Aid 13	2,392
Aid 16	249
Aid 17	651
Engine 11	3,382
Engine 12	1,592
Engine 13	1,565
Engine 14	1,130
Engine 16	1,223
Engine 17	1,222
Ladder 11	1,605
Battalion 12	538
Battalion 13	564
Staff Chief Officers	29
Fire Marshal/Inspectors	143
Dive/HazMat/Utility	58
Chaplain	75

Notes: More than one unit may respond to a single incident.

Aid 11 & Aid 16 were not staffed full time.

Total Incidents Dispatched
13,667

Total Unit Responses
19,327

Arrival of First Engine at a Fire Incident

Average: 5 minutes, 24 seconds
Fractal: 7 minutes, 33 seconds
or less 90% of the time

Arrival of Emergency Medical Technician at an Emergency Medical Incident

Average: 5 minutes, 8 seconds
Fractal: 7 minutes, 38 seconds
or less 90% of the time

Population Served

Renton Population	93,910
KCFD #25	7,468
KCFD #40	20,434
Total Population	121,812

Fire Stations	6
ISO Rating	3
Land Area	43.3 Square Miles

Fire Loss

Structure Fires	138
Loss	\$2,731,865
Vehicle Fires	59
Loss	\$164,000
Other Fires	198
Loss	\$22,650
Total Fires	395
Total Loss	\$2,918,515

Calls for Service

Fires	3%
EMS	77%
Service	4%
Good Intent	5%
False Alarms	7%
Hazardous Condition	3%
Other	.5%
Explosions (No Fire)	.5%

Volunteer Hours

3,372

For more information,
please visit

rentonwa.gov

RF&ES Personnel

• Uniformed	139
• Civilians	15
• Intern	1
• Chaplains	2
• Volunteers	55

Average Age of Personnel 45

Number by Age Group

• 20-29	13
• 30-39	31
• 40-49	43
• 50+	52

Average Years of Service 18

Number by Years of Service

• 0-5	26
• 6-10	12
• 11-15	22
• 16-20	11
• 21-25	32
• 26-30	29
• 30-35	6
• 35+	1

Inspections

New Construction	361
Business	2,229
Total Inspections	2,590

Construction Permits	231
IFC Permits	1,908
Total Permits	2,139

Plans Reviewed 636

Revenue Generated \$160,305



*There is no higher calling than that of
service and protection
to our community.*



City of
Renton

