

A photograph of firefighters in full gear working at the entrance of a building that is on fire. Bright orange flames and thick black smoke are visible above the doorway. One firefighter is using a hose to spray water into the opening. The building has a dark green or grey siding and a door with a silver handle. A tree trunk is visible on the right side of the frame.

RENO FIRE DEPARTMENT

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

CITY OF RENO
EST. **FRD** 1888
FIRE DEPT



CONTACT INFORMATION

Emergency
9-1-1

Non-Emergency
(775) 334-4636

Administration
(775) 334-2300

Website
Reno.Gov/Fire

Social Media

 [RenoFireDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/RenoFireDepartment)

 [@RenoFireDept](https://www.instagram.com/RenoFireDept)

 [@RenoFireDept](https://twitter.com/RenoFireDept)

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MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



David R. Cochran
Reno Fire Chief

Welcome to our annual report for 2019. Looking back, we saw continued advances in the Reno Fire Department (RFD) as we continued to be innovative and progressive.

In 2019, RFD set another record, responding to 43,383 calls. We continue to maintain this high level of performance despite the fact that our staffing levels match those of 1999, while our call volume has nearly tripled over that same period.

We are grateful for the support of Mayor Schieve and the City Council, who authorized RFD to move forward with an application for a SAFER grant to support 8 new positions in the department and we were awarded the grant. We will see those positions added to our staffing in 2020.

2019 was also a landmark year for the department in that the City Council approved a comprehensive, long-term apparatus replacement program. The City of Reno committed to medium-term financing of approximately \$6.7 million to jump-start the program. This financing, along with general fund dollars committed during each budget cycle, will put the department on a sustainable path toward having a safe and reliable fleet of apparatus for the next two decades. We took delivery of 2 engines and an aerial ladder truck in 2019, and we have 3 more engines and another ladder truck on order for 2020.

In 2019, we hired another recruit class which will hit the line in

early 2020. With the pace of retirements and the additional approved positions, we expect to be looking at an additional group of recruits in the near future.

RFD continues to serve the community in ways that go beyond emergency services. Whether it is our continued support of charitable organizations such as MDA, Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation and Moms on the Run, or our own programs like RFD's Children's Christmas Party or the Sam Saibini Food Basket Program, I regularly have members of the community contact me to express appreciation for something one of our crews have done, such as going the extra mile on a call for service, or giving a child an impromptu tour of a fire engine.

As we look forward to 2020, our goal will be what it has been every day—provide the best, highest level of service to each member of our community.

We will also work hard to support the City's Strategic Priorities including providing public safety, ensuring financial stability and reducing debt. As your Fire Chief, I pledge to work toward achieving these goals while keeping our department nimble and ready to take advantage of opportunities as they arise.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David R. Cochran". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



MESSAGE FROM RENO CITY COUNCIL



Left to right

Bonnie Weber Ward 4, **Oscar Delgado** Ward 3, **Naomi Duerr** Ward 2, **Hillary Schieve** Mayor, **Devon Reese** At-Large, **Jenny Brekhus** Ward 1, **Neoma Jardon** Ward 5

Fostering a safe city through enhanced public safety, prevention and emergency response is a top priority of the Reno City Council. As such, we are proud of the accomplishments our Fire Department has achieved this past year.

Efficient and effective emergency response to our citizens and enhancing community engagement are key benchmarks in which our fire department continues to excel.

As our community continues to grow, we are committed to providing excellent emergency services to our residents and visitors.

ABOUT US

RFD Est. May 10, 1888

RFD provides all-risk emergency service, which is the national model of municipal fire departments, providing the services needed in the most efficient way possible.

We now provide paramedic-level service to the citizens and visitors of Reno. This is the highest level of emergency medical care that can be provided in the field.

In addition to responding to fires, whether they occur in

structures, vegetation/brush or vehicles, we also provide rescue capabilities for almost any type of emergency situation.

This includes quick and efficient emergency medical care for our citizens, a regional hazardous materials team capable of identifying unknown materials and controlling or containing a release disaster, and preparedness and management of large-scale incidents.

Maintaining this level of service requires constant training of personnel. This training maintains both the skills needed to operate safely in emergency environments and the physical fitness necessary to reduce the likelihood and severity of injuries.

The minimum annual training requirement to maintain firefighting and medical skills is 240 hours per year. Special teams and company-level drills add significantly to that number of hours.

OUR VALUES



TO OUR CITIZENS AND VISITORS

The lives and well-being of our citizens, visitors and department members are our highest priority. We will be fiscally responsible in all we do.

We constantly strive to earn the respect of our community by providing the best possible emergency response based on concern, compassion and professionalism in everything we do.

We strive to provide the highest level of public safety to our citizens.



TO OUR ORGANIZATION

We work as a team to accomplish the department's missions and goals through open communication, cooperation and recognition of shared successes.

We encourage and promote pride, loyalty and a true sense of ownership in our department and our community.

We seek responsibility and take responsibility.



TO EACH OTHER

We are committed to openness and honesty in all situations.

We value each member of the department and treat each person's diverse contributions with dignity, fairness and respect.

We are accountable to those we serve and to each other.



OUR MISSION IS

TO PROVIDE OUR CITIZENS
AND VISITORS WITH THE BEST
POSSIBLE ALL-RISK EMERGENCY
SERVICE IN THE PROTECTION OF
LIFE AND PROPERTY.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND
PREVENTION EDUCATION ARE KEY
COMPONENTS OF OUR MISSION.

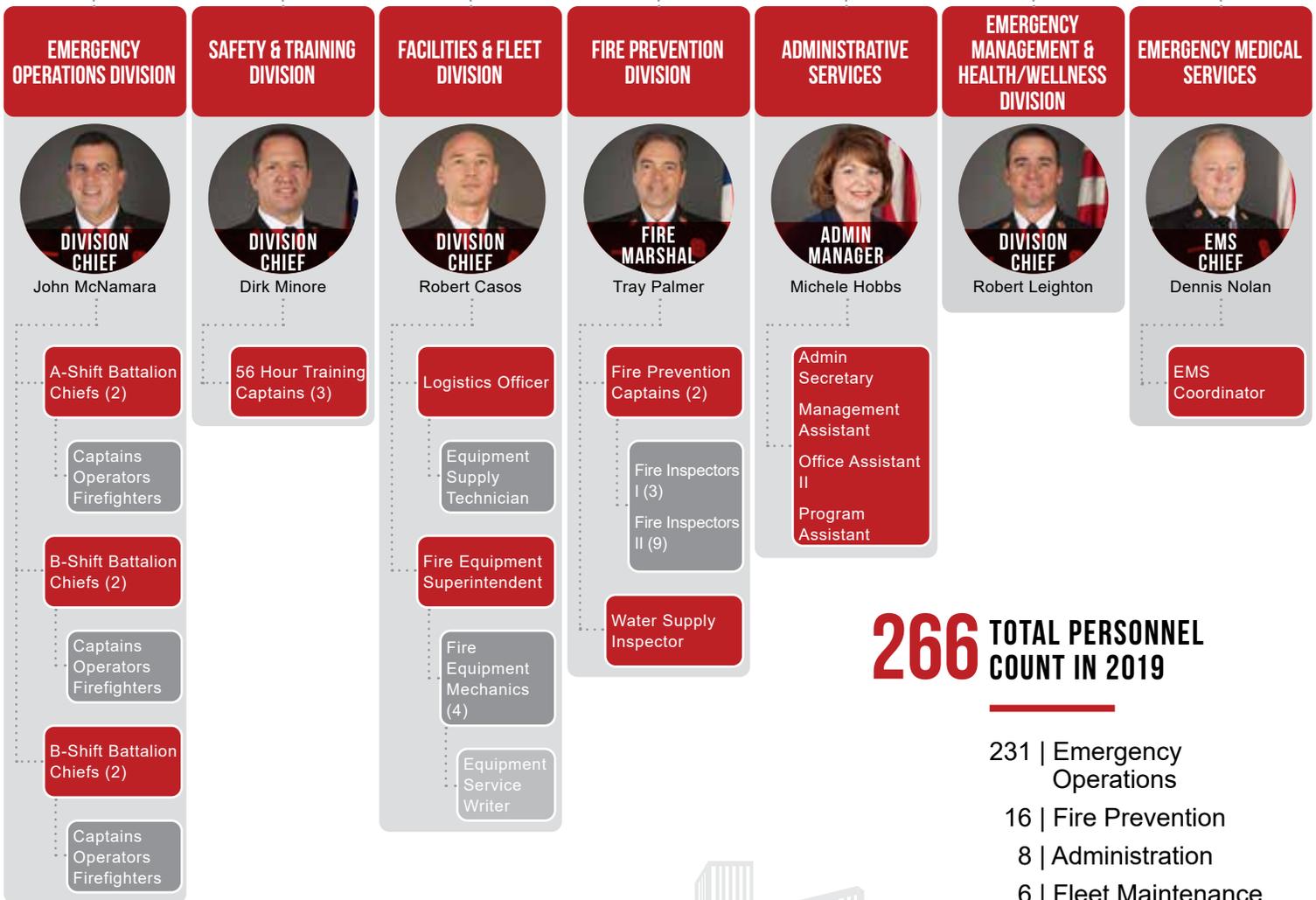
WE ARE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE
IDENTIFIED BY OUR DEDICATION
AND PRIDE IN OUTSTANDING
CUSTOMER SERVICE.



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW



David Cochran



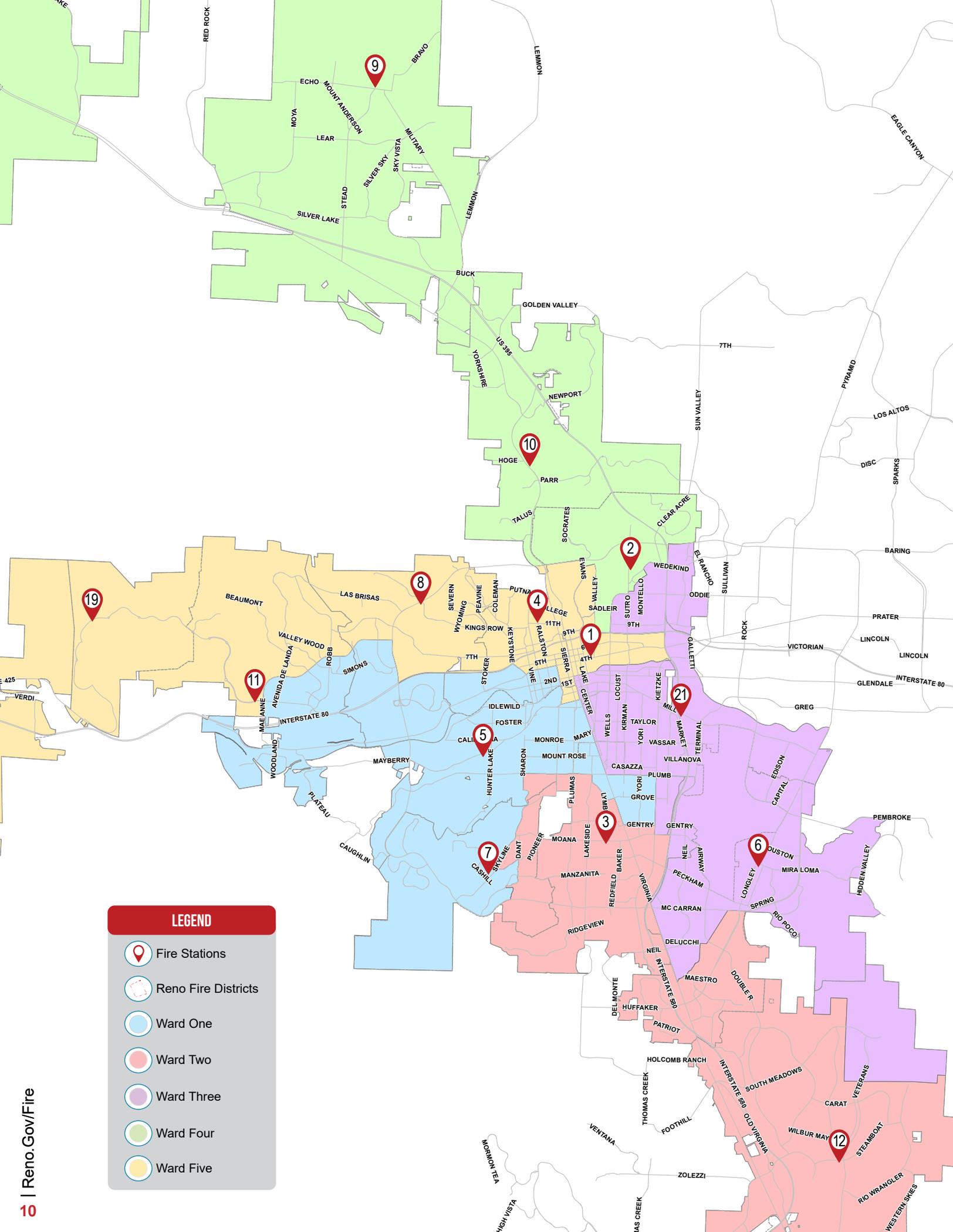
266 TOTAL PERSONNEL COUNT IN 2019

- 231 | Emergency Operations
- 16 | Fire Prevention
- 8 | Administration
- 6 | Fleet Maintenance
- 3 | Training
- 2 | EMS



LEGEND

-  Fire Stations
-  Reno Fire Districts
-  Ward One
-  Ward Two
-  Ward Three
-  Ward Four
-  Ward Five



FIRE STATIONS



01 | 495 East 4th St.
8,945 calls
20.6% increase



02 | 2500 Sutro St.
4,166 calls
9.6% increase



03 | 580 West Moana Ln.
6,380 calls
14.7% increase



04 | 1096 Ralston St.
3,416 calls
7.9% increase



05 | 1500 Mayberry Dr.
1,852 calls
4.3% increase



06 | 3970 Mira Loma Dr.
2,932 calls
6.8% increase



07 | 3050 Skyline Blvd.
988 calls
2.3% increase



08 | 3600 Kings Row
2,758 calls
6.4% increase



09 | 14005 Mount Vida St.
2,186 calls
5.0% increase



10 | 5250 N. Virginia St.
1,579 calls
3.6% increase



11 | 7105 Mae Anne Ave.
1,492 calls
3.4% increase



12 | 1190 Steamboat Pkwy.
2,627 calls
6.1% increase



19 | 2105 Hawk Meadow Trail
298 calls
0.7% increase



21 | 2501 Mill St.
3,721 calls
8.6% increase



43,383
TOTAL CALLS IN 2019

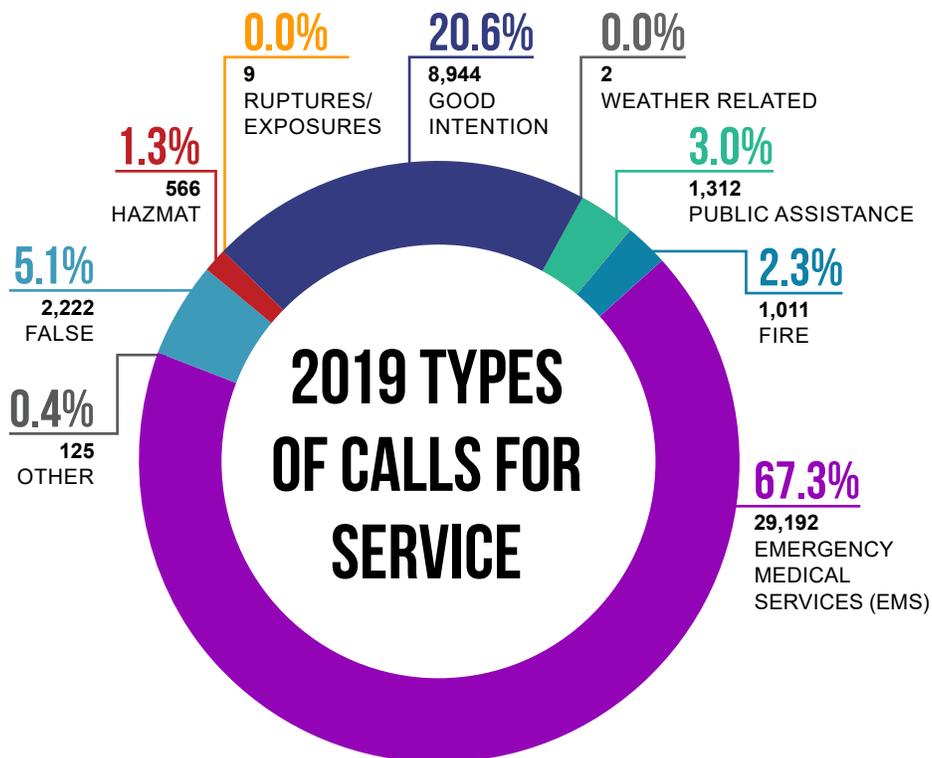
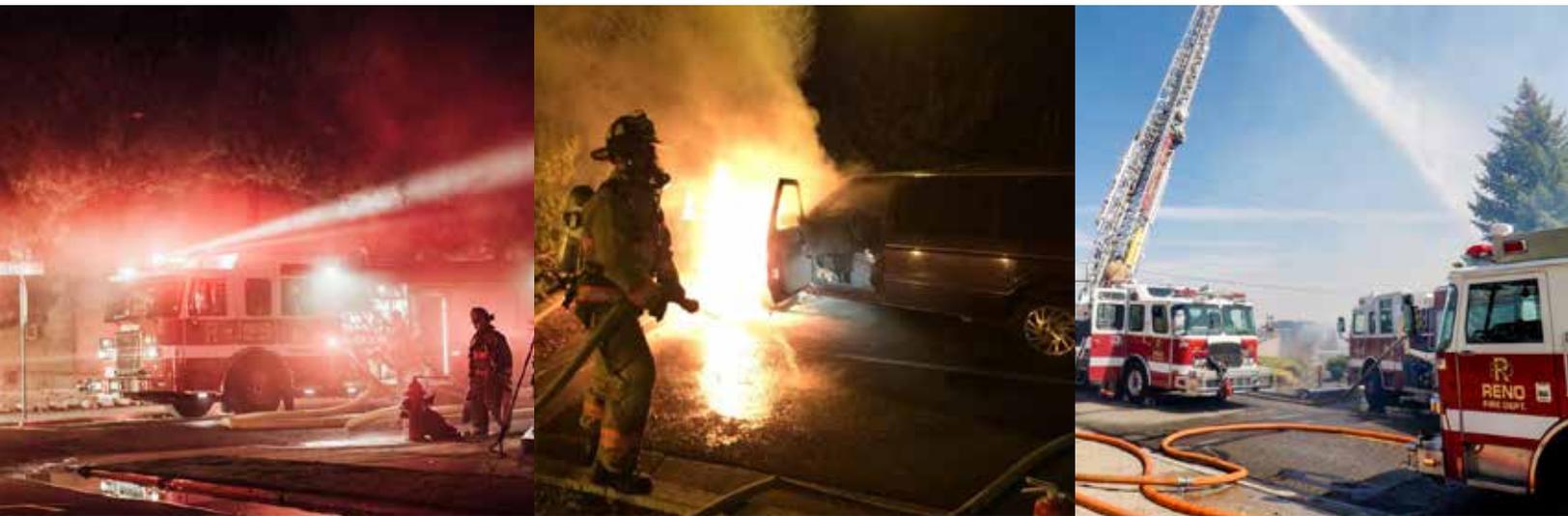
RESPONSE STATISTICS

RFD had 43,383 calls for service in 2019 and 67% of these calls were for emergency medical services.

All RFD apparatus are capable of providing care at the Advanced Life Support level. We have 70 paramedics within the Department and are now able to provide paramedic services and advanced levels of care to our citizens.

We also responded to 1,011 fire calls, an average of about three per day. As a busy metropolitan fire department, we staff all fire engines and trucks with four people to allow for maximum efficiency in fire-ground operations. Aggressive interior attack is the key to putting fires out while they are small to minimize damages and provide greater life safety.

We also responded to vehicle accidents and rescue calls, which includes extricating people trapped in vehicles, elevators and machinery and water-rescue responses. RFD also responded to numerous calls for animal rescues, because our furry and feathered friends are important too!





1,011
FIRE CALLS



29,192
MEDICAL CALLS



5-6PM
BUSIEST TIME



STATION 1
BUSIEST STATION



8MIN 19SEC
FROM 9-1-1 CALL
TO ARRIVAL



6MIN 40SEC
FROM STATION TO
SCENE



16MIN 37SEC
AVERAGE TIME
SPENT ON SCENE



FRIDAY
BUSIEST DAY



SPECIAL TEAMS



URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

Urban Search And Rescue (USAR) Team handles the low frequency, high-risk incidents that occur in Reno. The minimum level of training all members receive are Rope Rescue Tech, Confined Space Rescue Tech, Rescue Systems 1, and Trench Rescue Tech.

In 2019, the USAR Team was dispatched to three incidents. On July 5, 2019, UNR's Argenta Hall explosion incident made national news due to the large explosion and subsequent damage to the residence hall on campus. During this incident, the USAR Team:

- Performed search operations.
- Assisted UNR staff in gathering personal belongings for the students.
- Worked with the structural engineers from NVTF-1 to reassess and perform a shoring operation to assist NV State Fire Marshal Office investigators.
- Performed structural stabilization functions and secured the counter weights in the elevator shafts.

USAR's future goals are to continue to perform ongoing recurrent training in REM and other specialty technical rescue disciplines. Also, they plan to submit a spec for a new heavy rescue apparatus to replace Heavy Rescue 19.





SPECIAL TEAMS' ROSTERS

35

USAR

30-36

WET

40

HAZMAT



WATER ENTRY TEAM

The Water Entry Team (WET) firefighters receive specialized training for swift water rescues (rivers, flash flooding), still water rescues (lakes and ponds) and ice rescues where a victim has fallen through the ice.

Team members train monthly on-duty and quarterly off-duty in the classroom, rivers, lakes and ponds in the area. All WET members must pass an annual fitness/swim test that exceeds the standards of the United States Lifesaving Association for Aquatic Rescue Response Teams.

The future goals for the RFD Water Entry Team include becoming certified with CAL-OES and FEMA as a Type 3 or 4 deployable resource that can respond into California and other parts of the United States when there is a water-related disaster or a need for more resources.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE TEAM

The Hazardous Materials Team (HazMat) makes up one part of the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team (Triad) which includes Sparks Fire Department (SFD) and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD).

Monthly training is conducted with our Triad partners and the HazMat Team participates in regional/statewide drills.

It is important that the HazMat Team is ready to respond in our region. Reno is located in a shipping corridor with interstate highways, railroad lines, air cargo terminals and underground pipelines running throughout the city. Reno is also home to numerous large-scale manufacturing facilities, warehouse, fulfillment centers, and high-tech companies that utilize new technologies and materials.



SPECIAL TEAMS COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

- WET participated in providing safety personnel for the Reno River Fest
- WET participated in the KTMB Truckee River Cleanup Day
- WET & USAR team members provided manpower for the Humane Society Duck Race and Festival
- Special Teams escorted elected officials from the City of Reno & Sparks downriver to view first-hand the extent of the homeless encampment problem on the river
- In addition to RFD maintaining SRT certification, added 18 new Inland / Surface Water Rescue Swimmers to the WET roster



WATER SAFETY

The Water Entry Team (WET) responded to 52 water-related and ice-related calls for service in 2019. These events occurred in or around the Truckee River and in other lakes, ponds and ditches in the City of Reno and beyond.

With the 120-mile long Truckee River running through downtown Reno, water safety is a top priority for RFD.

The Truckee River drains 3,060 square miles and has an average flow of 804 cubic feet per second (cfs). The maximum recorded flow for the Truckee was in 1963 when the river flowed at 18,900 cfs.

As a comparison to recent events, in 1997 the Truckee was measured at 18,200 cfs, and in 2005 at 16,000 cfs.

It is critical that our citizens understand the power and force of the Truckee River. With that, here is some river, flood and ice safety information to keep you safe.

2019 CALLS FOR SERVICE



98%

WATER-RELATED



2%

ICE-RELATED





2019 TRUCKEE RIVER STATS



120

MILES LONG



3,060

**DRAINS
(SQUARE MILES)**



804

**AVERAGE FLOW
(CUBIC FEET PER SEC)**



18,900

**MAXIMUM RECORDED FLOW
(CUBIC FEET PER SEC IN 1963)**



RIVER SAFETY

- Always wear a personal flotation device.
- Fish/float/swim/boat with a buddy.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you plan to be back.
- Save the alcohol for after you leave the river.
- If you fall in, assume a defensive floating position on your back with your feet facing down the river.



FLOOD SAFETY

- Keep your distance from raging flood waters.
- Avoid skin contact with any flood water.
- Don't drive through flooded roads.
- Be prepared to not have tap water at your home for several days.



ICE SAFETY

- #1 rule – stay off the ice.
- Call 9-1-1 immediately.
- Attempt shore-based rescue; do not enter the ice or water to attempt a rescue.
- Victim has about 10 minutes of purposeful muscle movement
- They will lose heat 25-32 times faster.
- Hypothermia can cause unconsciousness in as few as 7 minutes.

TRAINING DIVISION



DEPARTMENT WIDE TRAINING

In 2019, the Training Division coordinated and conducted over 30,000 hours of training: emergency vehicle operators course, attic fire strategy and tactics, tactical emergency casualty care, rescue task force, care considerations for special needs patients, acting operator academies, acting captain academies, wildland classes, and emergency medical service training.

Our Peer Support Team delivered a department-wide training focusing on the emotional and psychological health of our peers and our public safety family. They gathered the tools needed to keep our firefighters in a healthy state of mind.

In response to the country's recent active shooter incidents, RFD's Rescue Task Force team is training with local, state and federal agencies to care for victims and rescuers. With new equipment and gear, RFD took part in the statewide Silver Crucible Drill which simulated and active shooter response in south Reno.





STAFF

The Training Division consists of the Division Chief, 3 Training Captains, and an Administrative Secretary. They rely on individuals from the line and the EMS Division to assist with teaching a variety of subjects. They coordinate all of RFD's training. The Training Captain, also known as the Safety Officer, serves as the City of Reno's Safety Officer for any employee exposed to blood-borne pathogens.



FIREFIGHTER RECRUIT ACADEMY

RFD initiated an 18-week long Recruit Academy with 14 new firefighters graduating in February of 2020. This rigorous training program prepared the firefighters with the basic knowledge, skills and abilities to safely operate around emergency scenes. Their probation will continue for the rest of the year where these skills will be enhanced and evaluated.



SPECIAL TEAMS

The Training Division continues to support and coordinate with our special teams, in setting goals and delivering realistic scenarios to hone their skills. The Hazardous Materials Team, Water Entry Team, and the Urban Search and Rescue Team are all comprised of 30-40 firefighters that have hundreds of additional training hours in very unique rescue situations. They maintain their skills through monthly trainings.

DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION



MISSION STATEMENT

The RFD Division of Fire Prevention is dedicated to providing efficient, effective, and equitable life safety and property protection to the citizens and visitors of Reno.

We will do so actively, demonstrating ethical conduct, excellent customer service, and professional integrity in all areas of fire inspections, fire investigations, plans examinations, and public education.



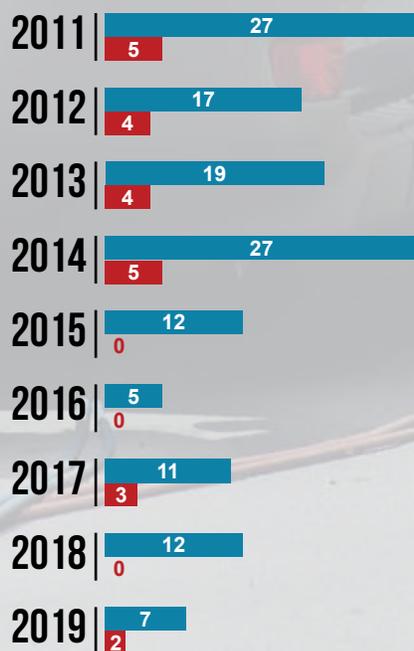
FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Suspicious fires are investigated to determine if fires are accidental in nature or intentionally set. The investigation team determines action needed to prevent future occurrence, such as product recalls, public awareness, increased code compliance inspections, or arresting and prosecuting an arsonist. Fire arson investigators are Nevada P.O.S.T. certified peace officers.

In 2019, the RFD responded to 1,011 incidents involving fires. The Fire Investigation Arson Unit investigated 196 of these fires and made 7 separate arson arrests. 8 fires were juvenile-related. From these fires we had 2 civilian fatalities and 7 smoke and burn victims. The estimated dollar amount for fire loss was \$5,374,976.

FIRE-RELATED INJURIES AND FATALITIES

■ Fire Related Injuries ■ Fatalities



2019 FPB PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION WORK LOAD DISTRIBUTION

5,804

REOCCURRING DISTRICT INSPECTIONS

Includes new businesses, annual re-inspects, special events complaints & childcare

4,227

NEW CONSTRUCTION INSPECTIONS

2,041

NEW CONSTRUCTION PLAN REVIEW



TYPE OF FIRES INVESTIGATED IN 2019

79
RESIDENTIAL

40
VEHICLE

39
WILDLAND

39
OTHER

17
COMMERCIAL



PLAN REVIEW

Fire Prevention also reviews plans to determine compliance with the adopted 2018 International Fire and Building Codes as well as all local codes, ordinances, standards and regulations. Fire plan reviewers look for such things as adequate and compliant fire safety systems, fire resistant building materials, Fire Department access, and proper and adequate exiting. The number of construction plans reviewed in 2019 increased by 11% from the previous year, and construction inspections increased by 15%.



PUBLIC EDUCATION

RFD provides public education programs upon request. Both our engine companies and our prevention personnel have an active presence in our community. Some of the programs we offer include station tours, fire extinguisher training, home escape planning, and general fire safety for children.



FIRE INSPECTIONS

Fire inspections are conducted to discover and correct any condition likely to cause a fire or life safety hazard. All properties within the City of Reno, except private dwellings, are inspected. Frequency of inspection for most commercial occupancies is annual with priority based on the associated hazards that a site may pose. The conditions we inspect include materials and manner of storage, maintenance of exits, accessibility to fire service personnel, maintenance of fire protection and detection systems and general housekeeping.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Emergency Management for the City of Reno is responsible for administering an all-hazard mitigation, preparedness, protection, response and recovery program to protect Reno residents.

The goal is to work collaboratively with regional partners to ensure adequate plans are in place to guide the City of Reno to effectively prepare, respond and recover from disasters.

Emergency Management actively participates in pre-disaster mitigation measures. In 2020, the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan was updated. The plan identifies hazards and vulnerabilities within the City of Reno along with mitigation measures needed to reduce the effects should such an incident occur.

Emergency Management for the City of Reno is organized within RFD; however, the Emergency Management response encompasses all City of Reno departments based on the individual incident. Primary department responders for

emergency management are RFD, Reno Police Department (RPD) and the Reno Public Works department. Each of these agencies responds to many types of emergencies throughout the year.

Fortunately, we rarely encounter disasters such as major earthquakes, floods, large wildfires or acts of terrorism. Nonetheless, we must always be prepared to respond to such an event to provide our citizens with the service and support needed in the event of such a crisis.

The City of Reno uses a Regional Emergency Operations Plan to guide actions in the occurrence of a disaster. Emergency preparedness is not only the responsibility of the City of Reno, but also a responsibility for all citizens.

Working together will allow the entire community to be more prepared, safe, and resilient during a disaster.

For more information on how you can prepare for a disaster, visit Reno.Gov/Fire.



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



EMS COORDINATOR HIRED

RFD is one of the largest Emergency Medical Services (EMS) agencies in the region with nearly 70 paramedics, 100 Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians (AEMTs) and 50 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). The training and recertification requirements to maintain these programs are monumental. The EMS Coordinator position was filled in December, 2019 when Cindy Green, formerly of REMSA, was hired. She will take on the tasks of EMS training, recertification, and overseeing the Continued Quality Improvement (CQI) for the department's EMS personnel.



NEW PARAMEDIC COMPANIES

The addition of newly hired paramedics, along with current RFD members who completed paramedic training, allowed for the opening of 2 new paramedic companies. Engine 11 (northwest) and Engine 6 (southeast) are currently staffed for full time paramedic response.



WILDLAND EMS

Over 30 RFD personnel have been qualified as wildland fire "Line-Medics". This specialized training along with a full complement of Advanced Life Support (ALS) equipment and supplies allows these paramedics to work alongside firefighters in remote and austere conditions and provide high levels of medical care in the event of a serious injury or illness.

Additionally, the implementation of a Rapid Extrication Module (REM) team with an off-road UTV vehicle, allows rescue and transportation of injured firefighters and victims from remote locations.



TRAINING

- Held 3 AEMT classes (1 class per each shift) for the department's EMTs, graduating 16 new AEMTs.
- Training was conducted for all 200+ line personnel, involving a "firefighter down" night scenario. This provided uninterrupted CPR, removing turnouts, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), and Advanced Life Support (ALS) care.
- Active Assailant/Rescue Task Force (RTF) training was conducted with RPD and REMSA. All line personnel, Investigators and Battalion Chiefs received NFPA 3000-Tactical Emergency Critical Care (TECC) training dealing with the response, treatment and extrication of victims of an active shooter event.
- 3 internal Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Life Support (PALS) courses to maintain the nearly 70 paramedic certifications.
- Radioactive shipment response and mitigation.
- Swift water rescue for RFD's WET team.
- AMTRAK train emergency response.
- Building Collapse and Rescue, "Tech-Team."



ACADEMIES

RFD graduated a four-month academy, which provided 16 new firefighters to the department. Among them were 6 paramedics, 4 AEMTs and 6 EMTs. Additionally, the EMS Division conducted Mass Casualty Incident and Active Assailant training along with the Reno Police Department (RPD) for the new recruits in the current 2019-2020 Academy.



28,093

EMS RELATED CALLS IN 2019

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN EMS



OVER 150 RIDE-ALONGS

RFD engages annually with Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) and Western Nevada Community College (WNCC) EMT and AEMT students for their required clinical ride-alongs.



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

RFD is an active participant in UNR's College of Public Health's internship program for 2 undergraduate students each semester.



ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Association EMT's (NAEMT) State Advocacy, the State EMS Advisory Committee, Northern Nevada Fire Chiefs EMS Committee, Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council (IHCC), Mass Casualty Incident Plan (MCIP) Committee, EMS Regional Protocol Sub-Committee, Low Acuity Calls Sub Committee, Emergency Department (ED) Consortium, WCHD Point of Distribution (POD) set up, etc.

GRANTS



APPLIED FOR AND/OR RECEIVED TO PROVIDE ASSETS

Firehouse Subs

1-ZOLL X Monitor Defibrillator

Assistance for Firefighters Grant (AFG)

4-ZOLL X Monitor Defibrillators

LEPC/United We Stand Grants

3-Trauma and Rescue Training Manikins





FIRE ENGINE

FLEET DIVISION

FIRE ENGINES

RFD has 20 front-line structure fire engines. Fire engines carry water and have pumps, ladders, tools, and medical equipment. Engine companies are our primary EMS response vehicles; they are staffed 24/7 with four EMT-firefighters. On fires, they are responsible for getting water from a hydrant, conducting search-and-rescue operations, and putting water on the fire.

We received two new fire engines this year; they are designed with a “Clean Cab” concept to help protect firefighters from equipment contaminated while fighting a fire. They also incorporate a new

pump configuration designed to dramatically reduce downtime during repairs. These new engines are currently operating in our busiest downtown districts. We have just placed an order for three engines and expect them to be delivered in December of 2020.

Average Age: 13 Years (Range from 1986-2019)
Fire Engine Cost: \$650,000
Equipment: \$150,000

LADDER TRUCKS

RFD has 4 front-line ladder trucks. Ladder trucks do not have pumps, water tanks or carry hose; they specialize in vehicle extrication, forcible entry, fire ventilation, roof

operations, search and rescue operations, the deployment of ground ladders, the 105-foot aerial ladder, and aerial master streams.

Thanks to a generous donation from the William N. Pennington Foundation and dedicated matching funds allocated by the City Council, RFD received our first new ladder truck in 13 years. We have put it in service at Station 3 on Moana Lane and look forward to delivery of another new truck in January 2021.

Average Age: 11 years (Range from 1994-2020)
Ladder Truck Cost: \$1,300,000
Equipment: \$300,000



LADDER TRUCK



BRUSH TRUCK



SPECIALTY VEHICLE



RESCUE

BRUSH TRUCKS

RFD has 8 front-line brush trucks. These 4-wheel drive vehicles respond to brush/wildland fires and they carry water and specialized brush/wildland fire equipment.

Average Age: 14 Years (Range from 1999-2008)

Brush Truck Cost: \$350,000
Equipment: \$150,000

SPECIALTY VEHICLES

RFD has 5 front-line rescue vehicles. Rescue vehicle companies are a type of specialty firefighting or emergency medical service apparatus. Rescues are designed to provide the specialized equipment necessary for technical rescue situations such as traffic collisions requiring vehicle extrication, building collapses, confined space rescue, rope rescues and river rescues. They

carry an array of special equipment to provide these services.

Two WET apparatus are equipped with whitewater rafts, river boards, ice rescue sleds, inflatable and hard-shell kayaks. An additional Flood Response Trailer is equipped with zodiac-style rubber inflatable boats.

In 2019, we added an Rapid Extrication Module (REM) that is a 4-passenger side-by-side Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV) with the capability to access and rescue injured firefighters on wildland incidents, day hikers and bike riders in the surrounding areas.

We continue to provide EMS coverage for special events with a UTV designed to provide quick access to patients during special events throughout downtown.

Average age: 20 Years (Range from 1986-2008)

Specialty Vehicle Cost: \$350,000
Equipment: \$150,000

RESCUES

RFD has two ambulances, referred to as Rescues. Rescue 19 provides Advanced EMS to the Somerset area and Rescue 7 provides Paramedic EMS to the Skyline area.

In addition, an RFD Rescue responds to all “working fires” to provide medical and rehabilitation support for our firefighters. RFD has collaborated with other local agencies to provide surge capacity for paramedic transport through mutual aid requests.

Average Age: 17 Years (Range from 2000-2006)

Rescue Vehicle Cost: \$200,000
Equipment: \$75,000

FLEET DIVISION



FLEET MAINTENANCE

RFD utilizes a dedicated fleet maintenance facility, which maintains more than 140 fire department vehicles. Other than windshields, radiators, transmissions, and tires, our shop performs all maintenance in-house, from diesel engine repair to fabrication and welding. In addition to the emergency apparatus and automotive stock, our shop maintains almost anything with a motor including portable pumps, chainsaws, fire ventilation fans and yard equipment.

With over 120 years of combined experience, the RFD fleet maintenance team maintains all equipment and refines our specifications for new vehicle purchases. This year we added a new Service Writer position to our existing team of four fire equipment mechanics and a shop superintendent.

We also implemented a new fleet management program that will allow us to improve maintenance scheduling and provide fleet and asset information for our data management program.

The RFD Fleet Maintenance Shop expanded its space by 50% to accommodate more apparatus and improve turnaround time. In that new space, we put two new engines and a new ladder-truck in service.



LOGISTICS

The RFD Logistics Warehouse expanded its footprint as well and we are consolidating our equipment and supply storage into one facility. Our Logistics Officer and Equipment Supply Technician provide our firefighters with all their logistical needs from the tools used in the field (i.e. turnouts, axes, ladders, and fire hose) to the furniture, fixtures, and equipment used in the station. With the implementation of our asset management software, we are decreasing our stores while improving our ability to provide supplies just in time for our crews.

We also rely on the logistics team to take care of our firefighters on extended incidents. Some complex fire and rescue incidents can continue for days. They plan for and procure warm dry clothing, food and coffee to keep our firefighters healthy and fed.







COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



STATION TOURS

Ever wonder what it's like to work in a fire station? RFD offers free tours of our fire stations. Tours are conducted during normal business hours and are available by appointment only.

For more information, call (775) 334-2300 or visit Reno.Gov/Fire.



RIDE-ALONGS

RFD offers ride-alongs for anyone over the age of 18 interested in experiencing the life of a firefighter. Attendees spend a nine-hour day at a fire station, experiencing firsthand what life in the firehouse is like, and what is involved when responding to emergency calls. Visit Reno.Gov/Fire to apply.



READING IN THE SCHOOLS

RFD continues to partner with the Washoe County School District during National Reading Month in March. This program allows us to better keep our area children safe by visiting elementary school classrooms to read and share our fire safety message in the hope that we can help move closer to our goal of having the safest possible community.

In 2019, RFD had the opportunity to talk with over 1,500 children, and we project to exceed that number in 2020.



CHARITY & NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

RFD proudly supports the following charities, non-profit organizations and events:

American Cancer Society-Relay for Life

American Heart Association

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Nevada

Care Chest

Gatekeeper Program

Homeless Children's Christmas Party

JUSTin HOPE Foundation

Legends of the Game Celebrity Golf Tournament

Moms on the Run

Natalia's Night

Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation

Notables

Older Americans Month

Osher Lifelong Learning

Renown Children's Hospital

Sam Saibini Christmas Baskets

Senior Citizen Outreach

Sierra Pediatric Blood and Cancer Specialists

Special Kids' Rodeo

St. Baldrick's Foundation

Susan G. Komen

Washoe County School District





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



PEER SUPPORT TEAM

The Peer Support Team (PST) offers emotional assistance and support to the City of Reno's first responders and their families by being a non-judgmental and confidential listener during times of professional or personal crises.

The PST assists our peers and vetted resources with additional or specialized assistance. The focus of the PST is to expand available resources by offering additional choices to personnel who want to talk to someone.

Each PST member is armed with resources to help prevent the day-to-day stress of the public safety profession. Some members have advanced training in Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) that allows the team to defuse and/or debrief following traumatic incidents.

The PST offers yoga to all City of Reno first responders and their spouses. Yoga is sponsored by a partnership with the Reno Firefighters Local 731 Union.



CHAPLAIN SERVICES

RFD's Chaplaincy Services Program provides trauma intervention, resource services, and spiritual care to department employees and the public.

Our Board-Certified Crisis and Trauma Response Chaplain Stephen Arvin is on call 24/7 and responds to calls from our employees, their families and the citizens we serve. The focus of crisis and trauma response varies from mental, spiritual and/or emotional care due to the loss of life and may include physical outreach such as blankets or other care items for those displaced by fire, water damage or natural disasters.

The Chaplain provides extended outreach as a liaison with the Reno Firefighters Community Assistance Program and partners with the American Red Cross.

Chaplain Arvin provided 1,050 hours of service to the community in 2019. An additional 546 hours of service was provided to local area hospitals and the Medical Examiner's Office.

2019 CHAPLAIN SERVICES RESULTS

 **880**
TOTAL CALLS OR USAGE

 **1,596**
TOTAL HOURS

 **79**
CALL TYPES: DEATH RELATED

- 0 - Homicide
- 0 - Other
- 1 - Accidental
- 4 - Suicide
- 5 - Natural
- 69 - Death Notification

 **952**
CALL TYPES: NON-DEATH RELATED

- 0 - Baptism
- 0 - Sermon
- 3 - Weddings
- 4 - Funerals
- 14 - Ceremony
- 57 - Fires
- 96 - Meetings or Office
- 358 - Welfare Check
- 423 - Other



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHY DOES RFD SEND A FIRE ENGINE WITH 4 FIREFIGHTERS TO EVERY CALL, INCLUDING MEDICAL EMERGENCIES?

The Engine Company is the basic unit of response for most fire departments and is staffed to respond to the widest range of

possible emergencies including fires, medical emergencies, hazardous materials incidents and other hazardous situations. Because the personnel operate as a cohesive crew with set responsibilities, they respond together as a unit to all emergencies.

Fire stations are strategically placed around our community to allow for quick response times to

all neighborhoods. By responding to medical emergencies quickly, we provide the best service to citizens. In most cases, an engine will arrive several minutes before an ambulance and provide extra trained personnel to assist in patient care and preparing for transport. For critical patients, our personnel will join the ambulance crew and ride with the patient to the hospital.



WHAT IS THE WORK SCHEDULE FOR FIREFIGHTERS?

Because emergencies can happen at any time, the fire department is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Firefighters work 48-hour shifts. To maintain this staffing there are three shifts. Each firefighter works two consecutive shifts (48 hours) followed by 96 hours off.

A firefighter's work week averages 56 hours. This is the most cost-effective way to provide constant staffing.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FIRE ENGINE AND A LADDER TRUCK?

FIRE ENGINE

Engines respond first, are equipped with a water pump, and a 500-750 gallon water tank to enable quick fire attack until it can be secured from a hydrant. The engine carries thousands of feet of fire hose.

LADDER TRUCK

Trucks specialize in ventilation, search and rescue, and extrication. They are equipped with an aerial ladder to access upper floors and have the ability to spray water on a fire from an elevated position.

Trucks also carry multiple ground ladders, numerous power and hand tools, ventilation fans, heavy rescue and extrication equipment.



MAKE SAFETY YOUR PRIORITY

SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR OWNERS & RENTERS

ESCAPE PLAN

- Create a fire escape plan that shows two ways out of every room.
- Ensure everyone knows where the safe meeting place is outside the home.
- Everyone living in the house should practice the escape plan two times a year.

COOKING SAFETY

- Leave no items that can burn around any cooking area.
- Ensure someone stays in the kitchen when they are frying, grilling, boiling or broiling food.
- Ensure pot handles are always turned toward the back of the stove.

CANDLE SAFETY

- Place in a sturdy, fire-proof container that will not tip over.
- Blow out all candles when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Keep out of reach of children and pets.

FIRE SAFETY

- To prevent children from starting fires, lock up matches, lighters, cigarettes, candles, etc.
- Dispose of fireplace ashes properly.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

- Located on every level of the home.
- Should not be more than seven years old.

ELECTRICAL & APPLIANCE SAFETY

- Ensure electrical cords are in good condition and not broken or cut.
- Clean dryer lint after every use.
- Ensure electrical outlets are safe and do not feel warm when touched. If they are warm, call the landlord or an electrician.

SMOKE DETECTORS

- Located on every level of the home.
- Located inside and outside sleeping areas.
- Test every month by listening for the noise when you press the "test" button.
- Batteries are changed yearly.
- Should not be more than ten years old.

