

PHILADELPHIA FIRE DEPARTMENT



FACT SHEET FY 2018



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 City of
Philadelphia

From the **Commissioner**



This is an exciting time for the Philadelphia Fire Department. An unprecedented infusion of resources has allowed us to hire more firefighters, paramedics and civilian support staff; replace ambulances, engines and ladder trucks; build two customized fast boats to boost our river response capabilities; offer a critical fireground survival training course; and provide thousands of smoke alarms to help protect the residents of Philadelphia. We are grateful to our many partners for their support, and are proud to provide dedicated service to this great city 24x7x365. Stay safe!



How we **Work**

Operations

This division supports firefighting operations, emergency medical services (EMS), special operations command (including technical rescue), and operations at the Philadelphia International Airport.

Logistics

This division supports communications, training, facilities, fleet, supplies/equipment management, warehousing, and information technology for all aspects of the Philadelphia Fire Department.

Planning & Risk Reduction

This division includes the Fire Marshal's Office, Fire Prevention Unit, Fire Code Unit, EMS Community Risk Reduction, and Planning & Special Events. It also provides data analysis to ensure proper resource allocation.

Finance & Administration

This division includes human resources, recruitment, employee relations, employee assistance, payroll, budgeting, accounts payable, accounts receivable, purchasing and inventory.



FY18 by the Numbers

The PFD extinguished 2,525 structural fires in FY18, an average of seven per day.



Fire incidents

PFD members are dedicated to saving lives and protecting property. Fire incidents include everything from stuck elevators to building fires to extricating victims of car accidents and rescuing trapped people.



EMS incidents

The number of EMS incidents has grown about 2.5% annually since FY09. To address this, the PFD added five peak-time medic units, at a cost of \$1.26 million, to its fleet of 50 full-time medic units.



Calls received

Our Fire Communications Center, which dispatches PFD apparatus and handles 911 calls from the public, handled a staggering number of incidents. It also received upgrades in equipment and furniture.

Spotlight on Grants



Smoke alarms

The Department received nearly \$1 million from FEMA in 2017 to install 30,000 smoke alarms in Philadelphia. By working with our partners at Philly311, Red Cross and the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, we expect to reach that goal by August 2019. The inventory includes 4,000 adaptive alarms for the deaf and hard-of-hearing.



Fire boats

The Department of Homeland Security awarded the PFD two grants totaling over \$1 million to build two customized high-speed boats that will boost our marine rescue capabilities on the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. One grant also includes funding to train over 100 members for shipboard firefighting.



Survival training

About 1,700 PFD members completed a critical three-day course in fire ground survival training. The goal of the program - which was designed by the IAFF and funded by a \$2.6 million FEMA grant - aims to ensure mayday prevention and mayday operations are consistent among firefighters, officers and chiefs.



At a Glance



Search & Rescue

The Department deployed 87 members with Pennsylvania Task Force 1 for 23 days to perform urban search-and-rescue operations after hurricanes in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico.



Fire Academy

Firefighter Cadet Class 193 and Paramedic Cadet Class 34 graduated from the Fire Academy, adding 56 more members to the Department.



Fire Marshal

The Fire Marshal's Office investigated 2099 incidents in FY18 and welcomed a new arson dog named Dona. She replaces Chance, who retired after six-and-a-half years of duty.



Special Events

The PFD staffed over 380 special events in FY18, from small block parties and community fairs to the mammoth Super Bowl parade.



EMS CRR

EMS Community Risk Reduction implemented the Act Now program to train bystanders on how to respond to cardiac arrests, overdoses and uncontrolled bleeding.



Recruitment

Conducted 281 recruitment events and made contact with thousands of potential members. Also oversaw the Fire Explorers, who won a \$10,000 grant from the Wawa Foundation.



Aviation

Provided continuous Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting training for PFD members as well as firefighters from airports in the Lehigh Valley, Atlantic City, Harrisburg and at the Boeing Co.



Health & Safety

The PFD received its first two specialized washing machines for cleaning protective gear to help reduce cancer risk. We also began after-action review training and bi-annual medical exams.



Fire Prevention

In addition to the smoke alarm grant (see page 3), the PFD piloted a community care initiative for residents displaced by fires.