



Philadelphia Fire Department

FACT SHEET: FY 2024



From the Commissioner



Fire Commissioner
Jeffrey W. Thompson

When Mayor Cherelle L. Parker asked me to assume this role in June 2024, the answer was easy - it would be an honor to take the helm of this great institution that has been a part of my life for more than 35 years.

I want to thank Managing Director Adam Thiel and former Acting Fire Commissioner Craig Murphy for not only their guidance as I transitioned to this position, but also for their friendship and the solid foundation they left for us to build on.

The Philadelphia Fire Department made major strides during Fiscal Year 2024: Creating two new alternative EMS response units; restoring Ladder 1 and Ladder 11 after being decommissioned since 2009; adding a second arson detection canine to our Fire Marshal's Office; and putting several new apparatus in service, including three new foam pumpers and a specialized vehicle for our Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting unit (ARFF). We also received national recognition from the

Congressional Fire Services Institute for the innovative EMS work overseen by our Mobile Integrated Health unit. We have continued to build on that progress in FY25 with the reopening of Engine 6.

The PFD is also proud to play a key role in Mayor Parker's mission to make Philadelphia safer, cleaner and greener, with economic opportunity for all. Safety has always been the cornerstone of what we do as we respond to about 1,000 calls a day for emergencies of all types. We work to keep the public safe, but we also work tirelessly to keep our members safe. We make sure our members have the resources they need at fire scenes, and the mental health support they need long after their shift ends. That's in addition to continuing education classes, fireground and field training, and opportunities for professional development for both our uniformed and non-uniformed members.

It is the honor of my life to serve this City, and I'm excited for what's ahead.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey W. Thompson

BY THE NUMBERS

Calls received



387,076

EMS incidents



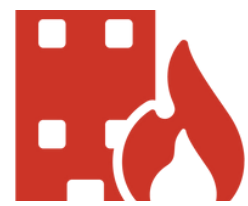
277,195

Fire incidents



55,526

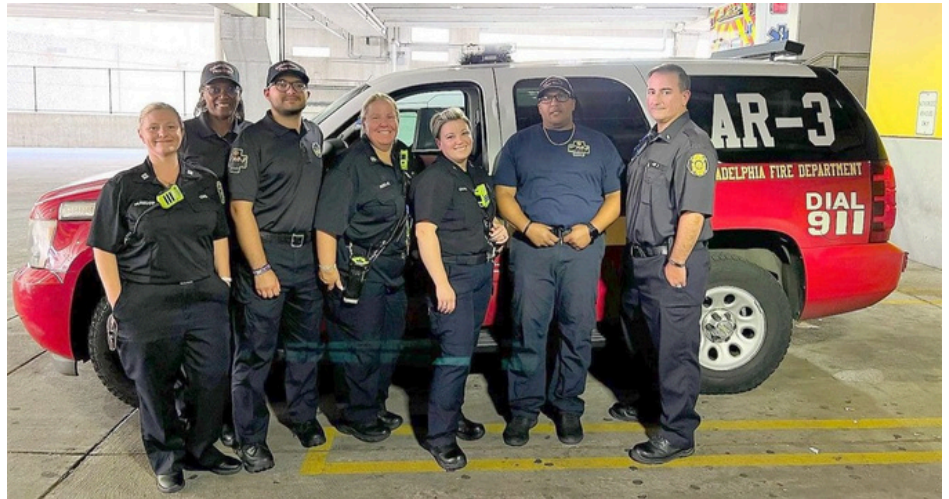
Structure fires



2,880

Fiscal Year 2024 runs from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

WELCOME ... AND WELCOME BACK!



The PFD proudly introduced two new alternative EMS response units — AR-30 and AR-3 — and reintroduced Ladder 1 and Ladder 11 in FY24. [AR-30](#) is a medical cart that enables EMS providers to quickly respond to emergencies in the terminals at Philadelphia International Airport. [AR-3](#) is dedicated to serving people with complex medical and behavioral health needs when they are in crisis. Both are part of the PFD's innovative Mobile Integrated Health unit, which earned the 2024 Excellence in Fire Service-based EMS Award from the [Congressional Fire Services Institute](#).

In September 2023, the PFD received a [\\$22.4 million FEMA grant](#) to help reopen Ladder 1, Ladder 11 and Engine 6. President Joe Biden visited in December 2023 to see [Ladder 1](#) return to serve neighborhoods including Francisville, Fairmount, Spring Garden and North Philadelphia. [Ladder 11](#) (South Philadelphia) reopened in April 2024 and [Engine 6](#) (Port Richmond, Kensington, Fishtown) returned in January 2025.

Ladder 1, Ladder 11 and Engine 6 were among seven companies deactivated in 2009 during the Recession; at the time, all had been in service for more than a century. The other four companies – Engine 1 (South Philadelphia/Center City), Engine 8 (Old City), Engine 14 (Frankford) and Engine 39 (Roxborough) – were [restored in 2019](#) with help from FEMA.



AT A GLANCE



Bailout training

Members learned how to use their new personal escape systems, which enable them to escape dangerous situations.



Dedicated service

Craig Murphy, a 37-year PFD veteran, served as Acting Fire Commissioner from January-June 2024 and then retired.



ARFF

Our Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting unit got a new vehicle to help protect Philadelphia International Airport.



'First' responders

Kelci Gray-Henderson (L) and Rhasheeda Larue received Distinguished Service awards for their work as dispatchers.



Cause & origin

The Fire Marshal's Office welcomed its second arson detection canine. Agnes & her handler received ATF training.



EMS Class 2

Our second combined class for EMS providers included three paramedics, three advanced EMTs, and 24 EMTs.



Fire Class 201

The Fire Academy graduated 67 cadets who are certified as firefighter/EMTs in December 2023.



Foam pumpers

Three new foam pumpers went into service (F16, F33, F46). They use a safer type of foam that is not PFAS-based.



National award

Our Mobile Integrated Health unit was honored by the Congressional Fire Service Institute for AR units.