

# **2016 Annual Report**

## **City of York, Pennsylvania**

### **Department of Fire/Rescue Services**



**David P. Michaels, Fire Chief**  
**Chad A. Deardorff, Deputy Chief**



# The City of York Pennsylvania

101 South George Street PO Box 509 York PA 17405  
www.yorkcity.org

*Mayor C. Kim Bracey*

The Honorable C. Kim Bracey, Mayor &  
Members of the Council of the City of York  
101 S. George Street  
York, PA 17401

Dear Mayor Bracey and Members of Council:

I am pleased to present to you the 2016 Annual Report of the Department of Fire/Rescue Services. This report represents the state of our Department and our efforts to provide professional, courteous and cost effective emergency response and services to our residents and visitors.

As with every other department and bureau within the city, we faced a challenging budget year in 2016. Unpredictable vehicle repair costs were higher than anticipated. The department was successful in obtaining several grants, including a grant to replace worn and damaged turn-out boots for all department personnel. The department also received a FEMA AFG Grant. The grant in the amount of \$99,546.00, will be used to pay for officer development training. This will ensure the next generation of competent and well trained officers.

The department maintained 56 career firefighters in 2016. Four new firefighters began their careers with the department and two veteran firefighters retired. A firefighter was promoted to Captain in July.

The volunteer members of the department provided a substantial savings to the taxpayers through their time volunteered and funding contributed. The volunteers of the department gave over 2100 hours of service to the city. In additional, the Volunteer Firemen's Relief Association contributed over \$290,000 for the purchase of gear and equipment.

In 2016, the department responded to 3,106 calls for service. Estimated fire loss for the year was \$1,472,365.00. Throughout the year, department personnel responded to numerous significant events including fires, accidents, and all hazards. The Department

continued to train in order to provide appropriate emergency services for our community.

The department once again held true to the mission of protecting lives and property through our fire prevention efforts. The Fire Prevention Bureau conducted inspections, issued permits, and registered and inspected vacant properties. 7,323 people received fire safety education and training from department personnel.

The department continued to provide and install free smoke detectors to residents in conjunction with several community partners. 7,980 smoke detectors have been installed as part of the program. In addition, the Department installed 1,583 batteries in smoke detectors throughout the city. I am proud to report there were no fire fatalities in 2016.

A 2016 year in review video can be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LaleOj1NNI>.

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the members of the Department for their continued hard work, dedication and cooperation during the past year. I would also like to thank Administrative Assistant Trish McDowell for her valuable assistance.

Sincerely,

*David P. Michaels*

David P. Michaels  
Chief

# STATISTICS

# INCIDENT TYPE REPORT – 2016

## Fire

	<u>Count</u>	<u>Estimated Loss</u>
Fire, Other	2	\$ 0
Building Fire	116	\$1,371,805
Cooking Fire, Confined to Container	20	\$ 220
Cooking Fire, Confined to Appliance	28	\$ 3,250
Incinerator Overload or Malfunction, Fire	1	\$ 0
Fuel Burner/Boiler Malfunction, Fire	3	\$ 1,000
Trash or Rubbish Fire, Contained	1	\$ 220
Mobile Property (Vehicle) Fire, Other	2	\$ 500
Passenger Vehicle Fire	34	\$ 70,330
Road Freight or Transport Vehicle Fire	1	\$ 6,300
Off-Road Vehicle or Heavy Equipment Fire	1	\$ 750
Natural Vegetation Fire, Other	2	\$ 0
Forest, Woods or Wildland Fire	6	\$ 0
Brush or Brush-and-Grass Mixture Fire	13	\$ 0
Grass Fire	1	\$ 0
Outside Rubbish Fire, Other	1	\$ 0
Outside Rubbish, Trash, or Waste Fire	36	\$ 20
Construction or Demolition Landfill Fire	1	\$ 0
Dumpster or Other Outside Trash Receptacle	4	\$ 20
Special Outside Fire, Other	3	\$ 50
Outside Storage Fire	1	\$ 1,300
Outside Equipment Fire	2	\$ 500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>\$1,456,265</b>

## Overpressure Rupture/Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)

	<u>Count</u>
Overpressure Rupture from Steam, Other	2
Overpressure Rupture of Boiler from Air or Gas	1
Excessive Heat, Scorch Burns with No Fire	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>

## Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incidents

	<u>Count</u>
Medical Assist, Assist EMS Crew	26
Emergency Medical Service, Other	1
EMS Call, Excluding Vehicle Accident with Injury	514
Firefighter Injury, Non-Incident Response	1
Motor Vehicle Accident with Injuries	146
Motor Vehicle/Pedestrian Accident	41
Motor Vehicle Accident with No Injuries	75

# INCIDENT TYPE REPORT – 2016

## Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incidents (Cont'd.)

	<u>Count</u>
Lock-In	5
Extrication of Victim(s) from Buildings or Structures	3
Extrication of Victim(s) from Vehicle	9
Removal of Victim(s) from Stalled Elevator	12
Victims Self-Extricated from Stalled Elevator	4
High-Angle Rescue	1
Water & Ice-Related Rescue, Other	2
Swift Water Rescue	1
Rescue or EMS Standby	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>842</b>

## Hazardous Condition (No Fire)

	<u>Count</u>
Hazardous Condition, Other	1
Combustible/Flammable Gas/Liquid Condition	3
Gasoline or Other Flammable Liquid Spill	26
Gas Leak (Natural Gas or LPG)	88
Oil or Other Combustible Liquid Spill	23
Chemical Hazard (No Spill or Leak)	1
Chemical Spill or Leak	2
Carbon Monoxide Incident	36
Electrical Wiring/Equipment Problem, Other	4
Heat from Short Circuit (Wiring)	6
Overheated Motor	8
Breakdown of Light Ballast	3
Power Line Down	13
Arcing, Shorted Electrical Equipment	48
Accident, Potential Accident, Other	1
Building or Structure Weakened or Collapsed	7
Building or Structure Struck by Vehicle	17
Vehicle Accident, General Cleanup	93
Vehicle Accident, Unstable Vehicle	1
Attempt to Burn	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>382</b>

# INCIDENT TYPE REPORT – 2016

## Service Call

	<u>Count</u>
Service Call, Other	3
Person in Distress, Other	6
Lock-Out	4
Water Problem, Other	5
Water or Steam Leak	39
Water Leak - Broken Sprinkler Line	5
Smoke or Odor Removal	1
Animal Problem	1
Animal Rescue	2
Public Service Assistance, Other	4
Assist Police or Other Governmental Agency	19
Return to Fire Scene for Investigation	3
Police Matter	13
Public Service	29
Fire Watch Detail	12
Assist Invalid	1
Defective Elevator, No Occupants	1
Unauthorized Burning	5
Cover Assignment, Standby, Moveup	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>159</b>

## Good Intent Call

	<u>Count</u>
Good Intent Call, Other	12
Dispatched and Cancelled En Route	336
Wrong Location	5
No Incident Found on Arrival at Dispatch	62
Authorized Controlled Burning	7
Prescribed Fire	1
Vicinity Alarm (Incident in Other Location)	5
Steam, Other Gas Mistaken for Smoke, Other	2
Smoke Scare, Odor of Smoke	93
Smoke Scare, Smoke from Cooking (Not Fire)	133
Steam, Vapor, Fog or Dust Thought to be Smoke	11
Smoke from Barbecue, Tar Kettle	3
HazMat Release Investigation with No HazMat	27
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>697</b>

# INCIDENT TYPE REPORT – 2016

## False Alarm and False Call

	<u>Count</u>
False Alarm or False Call, Other	2
Malicious, Mischievous False Call, Other	3
Municipal Alarm System, Malicious False	200
Direct Tie to FD, Malicious False Alarm	31
Telephone, Malicious False Alarm	9
Central Station, Malicious False Alarm	4
Local Alarm System, Malicious False Alarm	2
System Malfunction, Other	8
Sprinkler Activation Due to Malfunction	9
Extinguishing System Activation	3
Smoke Detector Activation Due to Malfunction	87
Heat Detector Activation Due to Malfunction	3
Alarm System Sounded Due to Malfunction	71
CO Detector Activation Due to Malfunction	10
Unintentional Transmission of Alarm, Other	15
Sprinkler Activation, No Fire	8
Extinguishing System Activation	3
Smoke Detector Activation, No Fire	114
Detector Activation, No Fire	30
Alarm System Activation, No Fire	110
Carbon Monoxide Detector Activation, No CO	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>726</b>

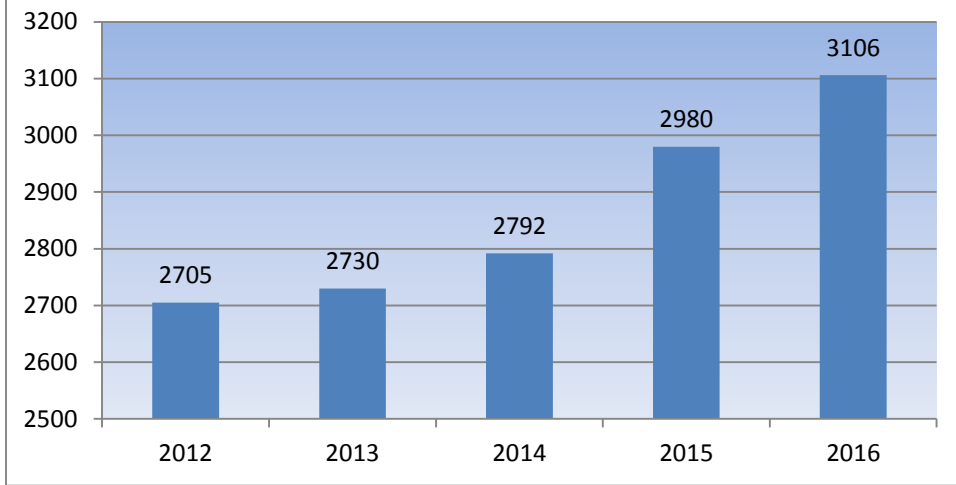
## Special Incident Type

	<u>Count</u>
Special Type of Incident, Other	2
911 Citizen Complaint	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>

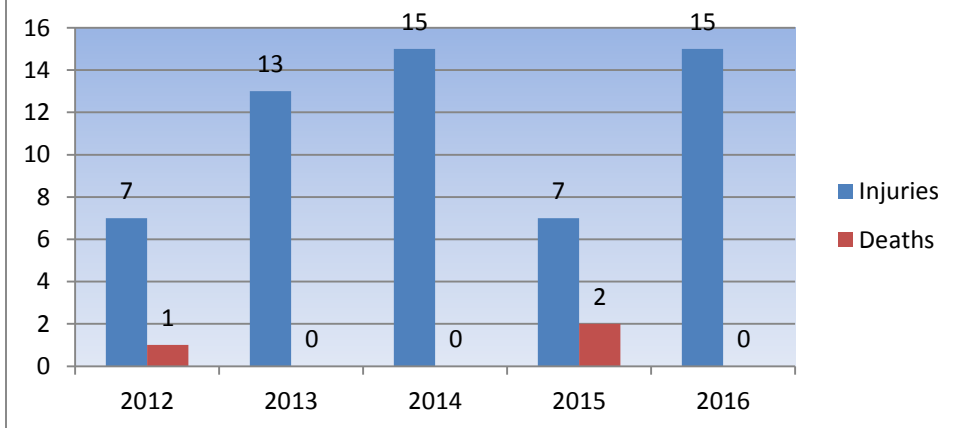
<b>TOTAL INCIDENT COUNT</b>	
<b>(INCLUDES EXPOSURE REPORTS)</b>	<b>3,106</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED FIRE LOSS</b>	<b>\$1,472,365</b>



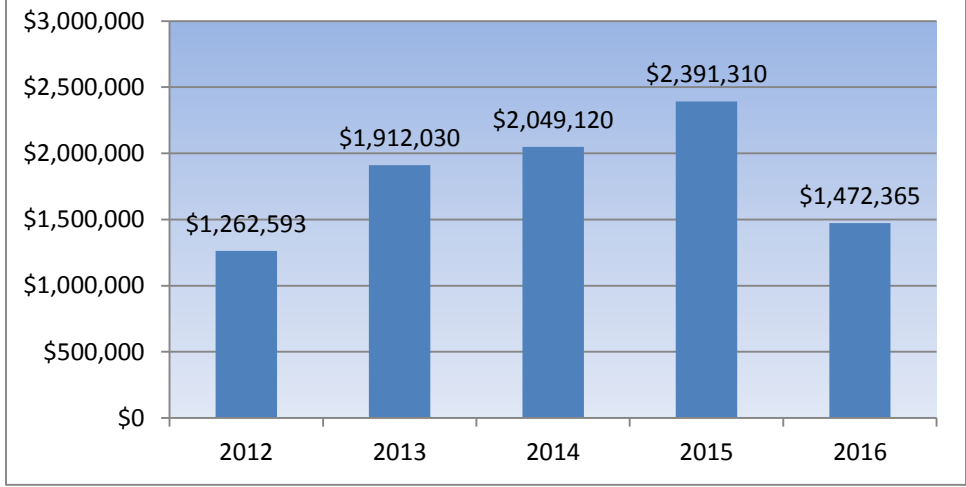
### Five Year Call Comparison



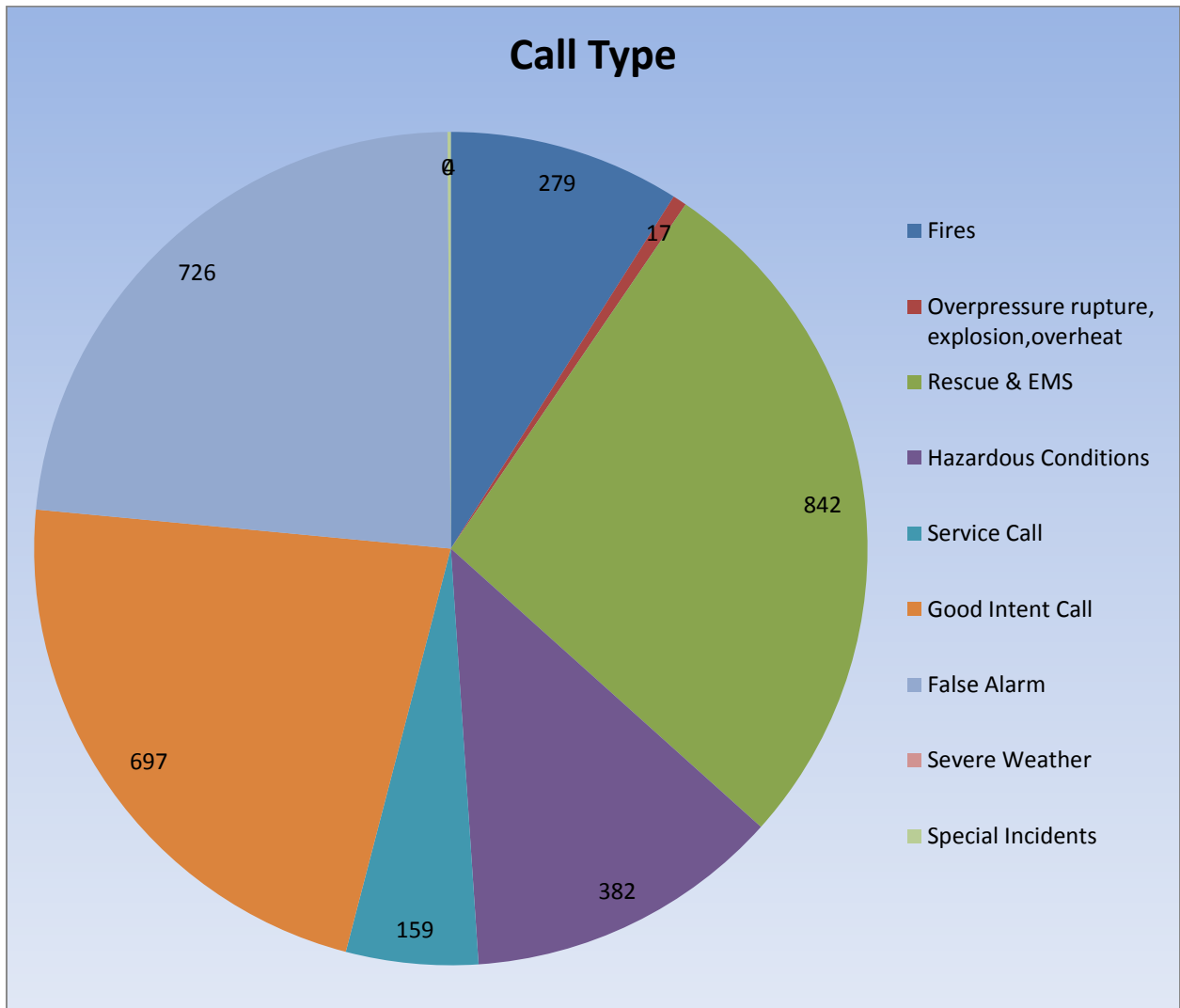
### Five Year Civilian Injury and Death Comparison



### Five Year Property Loss



### Call Type



# **O P E R A T I O N S**

# 2016 Annual Report for the Department of Fire/Rescue Services Fire Suppression

There are currently 52 personnel assigned to fire suppression. The firefighters/officers are assigned to four operational platoons. The Department operates three engines and one ladder truck. Each platoon is commanded by an Assistant Chief and a Captain.

Suppression personnel:

- Answer calls for emergencies
- Maintain equipment
- Attend trainings
- Perform fire prevention inspections
- Maintain facilities
- Perform pre-fire plan inspections
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Conduct fire safety events

In addition to performing the above duties, personnel continue to save money for the city through their work. Personnel perform vehicle maintenance, maintain ladders and small tools, service power equipment and test and maintain all department breathing apparatus. Personnel also continue to keep up with building maintenance on a limited budget.

## Personnel Changes:

The following personnel retired from the department in 2016:

Captain David Bowman	21 Years of Service
Firefighter Michael Anderson	20 Years of Service

The following were promoted in 2016:

Adam Smith was promoted to Captain on July 21<sup>st</sup> 2016.

The following were hired in 2016:

Michael Zaler	Hired February 29 <sup>th</sup> 2016
Malachi Cochran	Hired February 29 <sup>th</sup> 2016
Glenn Jansen Jr.	Hired August 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2016
Anthony Jones	Hired August 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2016

## Incidents

The department was confronted with several significant incidents throughout the year.

In late January, crews started to prepare for a major snow storm that was forecasted to hit the city. On January 22<sup>nd</sup> snow started to fall. Snow storm Jonas eventually dumped over 30" of snow on the city. Crews answered 49 calls for service during the height of the storm. Calls for service included building fires, vehicle fires, gas leaks and medical assistance calls.

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, on duty personnel were dispatched to the area of the 500 block of Susquehanna Avenue for a reported structure fire. York County 911 advised they were receiving numerous calls of a fire. Crews arrived to find a well advanced fire that involved two homes. The fire was caused by an electrical malfunction and significantly damaged two homes.

On the afternoon of March 24<sup>th</sup>, crews were dispatched to the 700 block of S. Court Street for a reported structure fire. Crews arrived to find a working fire in a row of vacant homes. Crews were able to quickly contain the fire. Several juveniles were arrested for setting the fire.

In the early morning hours of April 6<sup>th</sup>, York County 911 dispatched personnel to the 800 block of W. Princess Street for a reported garage fire. Crews arrived to find a two story garage fully involved with extension to an exposure garage across the alley. There were no injuries in the fire that was intentionally set.

On May 29<sup>th</sup>, crews were dispatched to a fire in the area of Jackson Street and Pershing Avenue. While responding, firefighters could see a large column of smoke from a distance. Crews arrived to find multiple garages in Rose Alley on fire. The fire was intentionally set and caused extensive damage.

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, personnel working at Station 99-1 heard the sounds of a vehicle accident in the area of King and George Streets. As they were responding, a dispatch was made to the 100 block of S. George Street for multiple pedestrians struck. Crews arrived to find a mass casualty incident. A vehicle had jumped the sidewalk and travelled south striking four people. Crews immediately began patient triage and care. A total of five people were transported to local hospitals including the driver who had suffered a medical emergency which caused the accident.

On July 1<sup>st</sup>, crews were sent to the 500 block of Company Street for a reported structure fire. Crews could see smoke from blocks away and arrived to find heavy fire from the rear of the home with flames impinging on the neighboring home. The fire resulted in \$50,000 property damage and was caused by an electrical malfunction.

On August 5<sup>th</sup> Crews were dispatched to 247 S. George Street (George Street Commons) for a structure fire. Crews arrived to find there had been a kitchen fire. A properly operating sprinkler system activated as designed and extinguished the fire on the stove. There were no injuries, damage was limited and no one was displaced.

On August 10<sup>th</sup>, shortly after the department's annual award ceremony, a dispatch was made to the 700 block of Roosevelt Avenue for a pedestrian struck. Engine 99-9 arrived quickly and upgraded the call to entrapment. A female who was unloading groceries from

her car was struck by a vehicle crushing her between the two vehicles and trapping her under the cars. The patient suffered serious injuries and crews used rescue tools to free the trapped patient. Care was provided and the patient was transported to York Hospital.

On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, crews were dispatched to 625 McKenzie Street for a reported structure fire. Engine 99-1 arrived to find heavy smoke coming from several row homes and declared a working fire. The fire went to a 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm before being brought under control. The fire was accidental caused by a portable heating unit.

On October 24<sup>th</sup>, York County 911 began receiving numerous calls of a structure fire in the area of West Street and Salem Avenue. Crews arrived to find the rear balconies of 600 & 602 Salem Avenue on fire. Crews quickly extinguished the fire and limited damage. A civilian, Zaavan Butts, is credited with alerting the occupants and getting them safely from the homes.

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, Crews were sent to the 500 block of Susquehanna Avenue for a reported structure fire. Crews arrived to find two vacant homes, previously damaged by fire, fully involved. The fire of suspicious origin completely destroyed the homes.

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, crews responded to three fires within 45 minutes. Crews were clearing a fire on S. Duke Street when they were dispatched to 410 S. George Street for a structure fire. Crews arrived to find a working fire and received reports of people trapped. Crews searched the building and located and removed an occupant from the third floor.

While crews were still operating at S. George Street, another fire was dispatched in the 100 block of E, Maple Street. Crews arrived to find a working fire. The fire eventually went to three alarms and damaged seven homes.

## **Training:**

Throughout the year, Department members were trained in various job skills including:

- CPR
- Hazardous materials operations
- EMS
- Officer development
- Ropes and rigging
- Vehicle extrication
- Engine company operations
- Fire prevention
- Forcible entry
- Truck company operations
- Fire behavior
- Fire instructor
- Ventilation
- College level courses

In 2016, all department personnel were trained on how to administer Naloxone per the Pennsylvania Department of Health protocols. Naloxone is used to counter act the effects of an opioid overdose.

## **Smoke Detectors:**

In 2016, the Department continued with the smoke detector program. On request, the Department will send personnel to install the proper number of smoke detectors in their proper locations. All smoke detectors used by the Department are obtained through donations. In 2016, the Department installed 432 detectors and 22 batteries.

In addition, the department teamed with the IBEW Local 229, as part of a commitment to reduce fire fatalities. On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, volunteers spent the day installing smoke detectors in the city's Fireside neighborhood. Over 200 smoke detectors were installed.

Since the beginning of the smoke detector program, department personnel have installed 7,980 smoke detectors and 1,583 batteries.

## **Air Packs:**

Thanks to the generosity of Wellspan Health and the York Volunteer Firemen's Relief Association, the Department placed new air packs in service during the year. The new air packs, the MSA G1, will offer safety to our firefighters working in hazardous and toxic

environments. The air packs cost a total of \$356,288.00 and will serve the Department for years to come.

### **Station 1 Bell Tower:**

Thanks to retired firefighter Ken Sheffer, a project to repair the bell tower at Station 1 was completed in 2016.

Firefighter Sheffer took the lead on a project to replace the siding and windows on the bell tower. Ken was able to secure funding and donations for the much needed repairs as well as donating his time and talents.

Thanks to donations of time and materials from Lowes, Quigley Motor Company, Olde York Homes, C.S. Davidson, Alpine Sign and Lighting and the Laurel Fire Company, repairs were made at no cost to the City.

Thanks also to Assistant Chief David Ferguson, Retired Firefighter George Sheffer and all others who worked with Ken on the project.

### **Commercial:**

The department was featured in a commercial for Wahl Clippers in 2016. Wahl was drawn to York based on our history, resilience and industrial working class values. A film crew spent a week with department personnel to capture the work of our firefighters. The commercial aired nationally during the year. Wahl made a donation of \$5,000 on behalf of the department to the York County Fire School and the American Red Cross. The commercial clips can be viewed at <http://grooming.wahl.com/community/real-guys>.

### **Dedication of Truck A:**

The department's former 1964 American LaFrance tractor drawn aerial truck was recently purchased by retired Baltimore County Deputy Fire Chief Gary Warren. During the annual Old Fire Farts of York County Muster in October, the truck was dedicated to the memory of Firefighter Donald Harrison.

Firefighter Harrison was killed in the line of duty on February 25<sup>th</sup> 1971. Firefighter Harrison was riding in the truck returning from a training exercise when a tree fell on the truck killing him.

The department was honored to have the family of Firefighter Harrison attend the dedication of the truck.



# **F I R E P R E V E N T I O N**

# **2016 Annual Report for the Department of Fire/Rescue Services Fire Prevention**

The Fire Prevention Bureau is comprised of a Captain and an Assistant Chief. The Fire Prevention Bureau enforces the International Fire Code and the Property Maintenance Code. The bureau strives to make the city a safer place through the enforcement of applicable codes.

Members of the Bureau:

- Conduct certificate of occupancy inspections
- Receive and investigate complaints
- Conduct certificate of compliance inspections
- Issue operational permits
- Review plans
- Conduct fire drills
- Provide public education
- Register and inspect vacant properties
- Maintain certifications
- Serve on the Civil Enforcement Unit
- Conduct clean sweeps

In 2016, the Fire Prevention Bureau collected \$171,399.79 in fees. Fire prevention education and training provided by staff reached 7,323 people.

The work of the Fire Prevention Bureau is often unable to be measured. Without a doubt, the inspection of properties and enforcement of codes reduces the number of fires, property loss and potential loss of life and serious injury. The work of the Fire Prevention Bureau is not only to save lives but also to improve the quality of life throughout the city. This work is accomplished by investigating complaints, issuing violations and writing citations when necessary.

The work of the Fire Prevention Bureau was evident at a call on August 18<sup>th</sup>. In the early morning hours, crews were dispatched to Three M Tools in the 1000 block of Elm Street for a water flow alarm. As crews were responding, they received reports of a fire in the building. Crews arrived and used the key in the Knox Box to make entry (quick entry with no damage to doors). Once inside, crews found a smoke condition. Further investigation revealed there was a fire that was contained by the sprinkler system. One sprinkler head activated and contained the fire which had started in a trash receptacle. As a result of the work of the fire prevention bureau, all fire protection systems operated as designed and a city business that employees 25 people, was able to open in the morning without interruption.

The Fire Prevention Bureau continues to enforce the International Fire Code and inspect buildings throughout the City. The Bureau also administers the Vacant Property Registration Program and the Gamewell box auxiliaries.

# 2016 FIRE PREVENTION STATISTICS

The Department of Fire/Rescue Services performed the following fire prevention activities during the year 2016.

## Inspections

Certificate of Occupancy Inspections	78
Certificate of Occupancy Re-Inspections	51
Certificate of Compliance Inspections	54
Certificate of Compliance Re-Inspections	31
<b>TOTAL INSPECTIONS CONDUCTED THIS YEAR</b>	<b>214</b>

## Operational Permits

Operational Permit Letters	0
Operational Permit Reviews	18
Operational Permit Inspections	237
Operational Permit Re-Inspections	135
Operational Permits Issued	373
Operational Permit Site Inspections	140

## Vacant Properties

Vacant Property Site Inspections	1,603
Vacant Property Letters	25
Vacant Property Registrations	182

## Testing

Alarm Tests	236
Gamewell Box Tests	253
Fire Suppression Tests	4
Knox Box/Caps	303

# 2016 FIRE PREVENTION STATISTICS (Cont'd.)

## Administration

Office Hours	1,507
Meetings	122
Training Programs	63
Training Hours	79
Incident Responses	69
Other	20

## Fees Collected

Gamewell Box Fees	\$ 83,520.00
False Alarm Fees	7,450.00
Training Fees	600.00
Vacant Property Registration Fees	32,365.00
Operational Permit Fees	43,295.69
Restitution	319.10
Miscellaneous Fees	3,850.00
<b>TOTAL FEES COLLECTED THIS YEAR</b>	<b>\$171,399.79</b>

## Citation/Hearings

Citations Issued This Year	136
Hearings Attended This Year	24

## Violation Notices

Violation Notices Issued This Year	161
Violation Notice Re-checks Conducted This Year	648
Violations Corrected	313

## Non-Inspectional Property Visits

Ownership Verifications	1,280
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## Plan Reviews

Plan Reviews	147
Pre-Incident Surveys	0
Fire Investigations	2

# 2016 FIRE PREVENTION STATISTICS (Cont'd)

## Complaints

Complaint Inspections	23
Complaint Orders Issued	28
Complaint Re-Inspections	4
Complaints Corrected	1

## Other

Properties Deemed	10
Properties Posted	6
Cellar to Attic Inspections	2
Cellar to Attic Re-Inspections	0

## Public Education/Training

	Attendance	No. of Events
Apparatus Displays		42
Fire Station Tours	255	20
Hands-On Training Programs	6,114	70
Fire Safety House	0	0
Fire Drills	379	47
Miscellaneous Events	575	260
<b>TOTAL ATTENDANCE/EVENTS</b>	<b>7,323</b>	<b>439</b>

# **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

### **Firefighter of the Year – 2015**

Firefighter Matthew B. Hoblitzell was named the Firefighter of the Year for 2015. Firefighter Hoblitzell was confronted with a person hanging from a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor window as he arrived on location of a structure fire on McKenzie St. in 2015. He did not hesitate and reacted immediately by deploying a ground ladder to the window and bringing the civilian safely to the ground.

Firefighter Hoblitzell sets high standards and continues to train to better himself and the department. He is trained in high angle and confined space rescue and is a certified instructor.

Firefighter Hoblitzell serves as a union steward and volunteers his time with several charity events including the Easter Food drive and Muscular Dystrophy Association.

### **Volunteer Firefighter of the Year - 2015**

Arthur H. Harman was named the Volunteer Firefighter of the Year for 2015. Arthur began his service to the City of York as a member of the Explorer Post. He joined the Eagle and Vigilant Fire Companies in 2011.

Arthur is an active interior qualified firefighter who routinely attends trainings to maintain his certifications. He is active in the Foreman's President's and Fire Chief's Association and the York City Volunteer Relief Association. He also serves as a volunteer with the York County Hazardous Materials Response Team.

### **MLK Image Award**

In January of 2016, Captain William L. Collins received a MLK Image award from the Black Minister Association (BMA). The award was presented at the annual luncheon held at Logos Academy. The award honors community leaders for their work towards promoting community improvement, relations, faith, education and community service.

### **VFW Outstanding Firefighter Award**

In March of 2016, Captain William L. Collins received the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Outstanding Firefighter Award. The award is presented to a firefighter who shows dedication and loyalty to the safety of citizens in the community.

### **Ray Crenshaw Neighborhood Award**

In November, the Department received an inaugural Ray Crenshaw Neighborhood Award in the Best Services Professional category. The award is in honor of the legacy of service and dedication that Mr. Ray Crenshaw has given to the City of York.

### **Red Cross Heroes Award**

In November, Deputy Chief Chad Deardorff and Firefighter Erik Swanson received an American Red Cross Heroes Award for the rescue of two dogs from a fire on West Princess Street.

# **V O L U N T E E R S**



# **2016 Annual Report for the Department of Fire/Rescue Services Volunteers**

There are nine volunteer fire companies associated with the York City Fire Department: Eagle, Goodwill, Laurel, Lincoln, Rescue, Rex, Union, Vigilant, and Royal.

The volunteer companies are combined into one firefighting unit. This allows each company to maintain their identity and unites all volunteer members under the same structure. This structure helps in the recruiting and retention of volunteer firefighters.

The volunteer firefighters operate two service trucks. The service trucks provide support during fires and other emergencies. The service trucks are capable of providing breathing air for air packs, lighting, rescue equipment and can serve as a rehab unit or command post.

Fire Police continue to provide a valuable service to the city. They provide traffic and scene control at the scene of emergencies. Fire police also provide traffic control at special events throughout the city.

The York City Fireman's Relief Association continues to provide benefits to the city. The Relief Association has purchased equipment that continues to save taxpayer's money. In 2016, the association purchased over \$290,000 worth of equipment which includes self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and turn-out gear for volunteer firefighters.

## 2015 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER HOURS

### Trainings, Meetings, Station Manning and Incident Response

	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Name</b>		<b>Hours</b>	<b>Name</b>
1.	364:19	Grove, Marlin	16.	35:10	Bowman, Robert
2.	248:16	Warren, Charlie	17.	33:42	Shilke, Fred
3.	224:28	Sheasley, David	18.	33:10	Jenkins, Sharon
4.	191:39	Shaffer, Albert	19.	32:16	Harmon, Arthur D.
5.	132:21	McDonald, David	20.	32:15	Welty, James
6.	127:22	Krone, George	21.	32:11	Shilke, Bonnie
7.	98:45	Harman, Arthur H.	22.	29:25	Kottmyer, Jr., Frederick
8.	92:09	Ferguson, James	23.	26:15	Reinhold, Harold
9.	73:19	Bowman, David	24.	23:39	Witmer, Brian
10.	53:19	Myers, Jr., Gordon	25.	17:25	Culp, William
11.	50:15	Bleacher, Sharon	26.	16:33	Kane, John
12.	48:10	Bowman, Osborne	27.	16:04	Riley, Christopher
13.	45:37	Welty, Lisa	28.	12:00	Stahle, Richard
14.	42:09	Kottmyer, III, Fred	29.	4:04	Myers, Geoffrey
15.	36:20	Lightner, Dean	30.	1:00	Ferguson, Kathy

**Total Volunteer Hours: 2,173.37**

## VOLUNTEER SERVICE UNITS 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

During 2016, Service 99-1 and Service 99-2 responded to the following calls:

	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Service 99-1	50	30.0	603
Service 99-2	3	35.0	39

A special thank you to the crew of Service 99 for the past years' service.

We also like to thank the City of York for the repairs and maintenance on the service trucks. We would like to thank the career and volunteer firefighters for all of their continued help throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

*Albert H. Shaffer*

**ALBERT H. SHAFFER**  
Captain  
Service Unit Coordinator

# CITY OF YORK VOLUNTEER FIRE POLICE

## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The City of York had nine (9) fire police members and three (3) inactive members for the year 2016.

In the year 2016, the fire police responded to 341 calls with a total of 570 hours of duty. Fire police officers supported the department by providing traffic and crowd control at emergency scenes. Fire police also provided traffic control at special events throughout the year.

The following fire police were elected as officers to serve during 2016:

President	Aaron Morthland
Vice-President	Clarence March
Recording Secretary	Bonnie Shilke
Treasurer	Raymond Sneddon
Trustee	John Housseal
Trustee	Richard Hauck
Trustee	Fred Shilke

The line officers appointed by the Mayor of the City to serve during 2016 were:

Chief	Clarence March
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A special thank you goes to our advisor, Sgt. Robert Goshen, and to all Chiefs and Captains of the York City Fire Department for all your help and advice given to us throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

*Clarence "Bud" March*

**CLARENCE "BUD" MARCH**  
Chief

# **CHIEF HISTORIAN'S REPORT**

# Chief Historian's Report

On June 5, 2015, Chief David Michaels created the position of Chief Historian. The position is a voluntary position tasked with preserving the history of the Department of Fire/Rescue Services and providing information and resources as needed. The following highlights the activities of the Chief Historian during 2016.

In February of 2016, I provided information to Rebecca Strine of Temperance, MI, on her ancestor, Horace Frank Strine, a volunteer firefighter for the Vigilant Fire Company who was one of three volunteer firemen from the Vigilant killed in the York Carriage Works fire in 1904.

On May 4, 2016, I escorted author Jim Lingg through the City fire facilities. Mr. Lingg wrote an article on York's fire stations for Vintage Fire Truck & Equipment magazine which appeared in their September-October 2016 issue.

On May 9, 2016, I made a presentation on the history of the York Fire Department for the Osher Life Learning Institute, Penn State York.

On June 11, 2016, I made a presentation on the history of the York Fire Department for the York County Heritage Trust, Second Saturday program.

On October 1, 2016, I attended the Old Fire Farts muster at Cousler Park in Manchester Township, where the Department's former 1964 American LaFrance tractor-drawn aerial ladder truck was dedicated to fallen firefighter Donald Harrison. Harrison was killed while riding in the apparatus in 1971. Prior to the ceremony, I provided historical information on the vehicle to Gary Warren, a retired fire chief from Baltimore County, Maryland, who owns the ladder truck.

Throughout the year, I provided information to Randy Keeney of Glen Allen, Virginia, who is researching the history of fire apparatus in Jacobus, PA. The Goodwill Fire Company of Jacobus purchased a piece of fire apparatus from the Union Fire Company of York circa 1930.

I provided information on all fire and EMS line-of-duty deaths in York County to a researcher who is compiling a database of line-of-duty deaths throughout the country.

Throughout the year I provided information to David Maletz of York County History Center for use at York County Fire Museum.

I provided information to author Randy Watts who is working on a history book for the Mechanicsburg Fire Department.

I developed a historical reference for firefighters working at the Rex-Laurel Fire Station to use when escorting visitors through the historic building.

In the fall, I met with Assistant Chief Gregory Altland and his wife, Lisa, and provided scans of historic fire department photographs to be used for table decorations for the IAFF Local banquet on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gregory C. Halpin*

**GREGORY C. HALPIN**  
Deputy Chief (Retired)  
Chief Historian

**YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION**

**2016 ANNUAL TREASURER REPORT**

**Submitted on January 18, 2017**

**Robert N. Bowman  
Treasurer**



## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT OF EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AND OTHER FIREMEN'S RELATED EXPENSES

2016	Expenses	
	Insurance:	
	Length of Service (LOSP)	\$ 5,001.17
	Health and Accident (pre-paid)	0.00
	Bond (2 years)	410.00
	Total Insurance	\$ 5,411.17
	Volunteer Firefighters' Supplies	488.68
	State Meetings	1,133.40
	Maintenance: Service 99-1 and 99-2	46.75
	Volunteer Firefighters' Equipment Maintenance	0.00
	Volunteer Equipment: Air Packs and Cylinders	352,858.00
	Less York City	( 66,000.00)
	Cylinder Sale	( 5,850.00)
	Balance	\$281,008.00
	Face Piece	275.00
	Volunteer Training	4,273.51
	<b>2016 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$292,636.51</b>
2015		\$117,804.68
2014		\$ 43,956.06
2013		\$ 89,136.34
2012		\$ 25,648.43
2011		\$ 31,040.34
2010		\$ 37,998.31
2009		\$ 58,592.01
2008	SCBAs	\$498,686.98
2007		\$ 64,044.51
2006		\$ 53,980.19
2005		\$ 51,291.13
2004		\$ 60,608.90
2003		\$103,338.43
2002		\$160,304.98
2001		\$ 94,873.42
2000	(Two engines)	\$385,685.99
1999	(Includes 3-year insurance and trucks-45/ladder)	\$669,822.34
1998		\$113,923.41
1997		\$ 44,247.54
1996	(Includes 3-year insurance)	\$237,835.43
1995		\$ 53,871.98
1994		\$ 60,693.93
1993	(Includes 3-year insurance)	\$ 61,983.35
1992		\$ 24,191.05
1991		\$ 24,881.63
1990	(Includes 3-year insurance)	\$ 57,053.94

1989		\$ 38,495.84
1988		\$ 43,990.79
1987	(Includes 3-year insurance)	\$ 37,431.95
1986	(Includes Service 45)	\$128,552.57
1985		\$ 83,651.50
1984	(Includes 3-year insurance)	\$ 41,239.78
1983		\$ 9,659.30
1982		\$ 13,647.36
1981	(Includes 3-year insurance)	\$ 29,002.10
1980		\$ 30,415.33

### YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION SUMMARY OF DEATH CLAIMS PAID IN 2016

Year	Number	Value
<b>2016</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$144,168.60</b>
2015	19	\$228,523.94
2014	6	\$ 72,106.40
2013	13	\$156,097.01
2012	16	\$192,249.85
2011	18	\$216,487.30
2010	11	\$157,096.10
2009	15	\$180,230.70
2008	14	\$168,227.45
2007	12	\$144,104.90
2006	10	\$120,093.60
2005	11	\$132,084.26
2004	14	\$168,188.00
2003	17	\$204,157.96
2002	12	\$144,182.15
2001	(Based on \$12,000.00)	11 \$132,087.50
2000	19	\$152,332.51
1999	(Based on \$8,000.00)	12 \$ 94,466.50
1998	20	\$100,202.30
1997	25	\$125,344.30
1996	(Based on \$5,000—7/1/1996)	22 \$ 94,178.85
1995	22	\$ 88,214.85
1994	16	\$ 64,153.15
1993	21	\$ 84,486.30
1992	22	\$ 88,163.10
1991	(Based on \$4,000)	15 \$ 59,659.70
1990	26	\$ 91,282.95

1989	(Based on \$3,500)	17	\$ 59,615.70
1988		32	\$ 96,267.40
1987		18	\$ 54,129.86
1986		32	\$ 96,177.95
1985		25	\$ 75,241.30
1984		21	\$ 63,123.20
1983		21	\$ 63,138.05
1982	(Based on \$3,000)	30	\$ 90,206.45
1981		28*	\$ 77,134.80
1980	(Some under \$3,000)	26*	\$ 65,129.70

\*Some claims for less than \$3,000

Submitted by,

*Robert N. Bowman*

**ROBERT N. BOWMAN**

Recording Secretary/Treasurer

**YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION  
2016 OFFICERS**

**President**

David C. Sheasley

**Assistant Treasurer**

Dean A. Lightner

**First Vice-President**

Marlin H. Grove

**Recording Secretary**

David L. Bowman

**Second Vice-President**

James Welty

**Assistant Recording Secretary**

Sharon A. Bleacher

**Treasurer**

Robert N. Bowman

**Financial Secretary**

Albert H. Shaffer, Sr.

**Trustees**

Frederick A. Kottmyer Jr.

Lisa Welty

Osborne W. Bowman

**Assistant Financial Secretary**

Frederick A. Kottmyer, III

**Quartermaster**

Harold J. Reinhold

**Insurance Representative**

Sharon Bleacher

**Investigating Committee**

Osborne W. Bowman

Gordon F. Myers

William Culp

**Volunteer Coordinator**

Marlin H. Grove

**Insurance Representative**

Sharon Bleacher

**Assistant Coordinators**

Frederick Kottmyer III

Dean Lightner

# **EMERGENCY PLANNING**

## EMERGENCY PLANNING 2016

The primary focus of this office is to develop and maintain resources, documents, maps and plans for the protection and safety of our community and its first responders.

The year 2016 emerged with a blizzard and snow accumulations not seen in 20 years. In a little over 24 hours the City received snow fall accumulations in excess of 30 inches. The herculean recovery taxed public works and other first responders. Cost recovery efforts from FEMA finally concluded in November with our final submission of paperwork and documentation.

In 2016 the Pennsylvania Department of Health directed local certified Health Bureaus (York was one of 6 to receive the certification in 2009.) to undertake the re-certification process for Project Public Health Readiness (PPHR). This action necessitated a complete review of our existing procedures and the development of new policies to satisfy recovery planning and new emerging threats such as Ebola and Zika.

### OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS

#### 1. Major Events

Emergency Preparedness Winter storm Jonas deposited over 30 inches of snow in York City. The storm reached a severity which resulted in an emergency declaration by the Governor of Pennsylvania and a Presidential Disaster Declaration. This office worked with Public Works, First Responders, County EMA and PEMA resources to respond to this threat. Staff was involved in all response actions from public alerts, clearing of snow emergency routes through to the compilation of paperwork and documents for cost recovery from FEMA.

Public Health Activities In 2016 there were several staff changes with PA Department of Health and within the City Health Bureau. Changes at the state level resulted in a realignment to their performance and annual reporting requirements for PPHR and other emergency preparedness programs.

- Annually the Bureau plans and executes various emergency preparedness exercises. This year a full scale shingles immunization exercise was conducted by the Bureau. This exercise provided free shingles immunization to city workers and county residents. An After-Action-Report was compiled and submitted to the State Bureau of Health.

- During 2016 the Ebola concern lost some urgency. This was largely due to the World Health Agency gaining some control over the disease overseas and limiting the spread of the infection. However, a new threat emerged – ZIKA. While this disease is not new, the explosive spread of the disease and associated impacts to those infected has brought it to the forefront in prevention and mitigation actions by public health agencies. There have been efforts to develop public information and awareness, distribution of prevention kits and monitoring/reporting actions for those who may have become infected.
- Five years ago the Bureau was one of six Pennsylvania Health Bureaus/Offices to receive certification under the Project Public Health Readiness (PPHR) program coordinated by NACCHO. In 2016 the Bureau undertook activities and actions to renew its certification. To accomplish this a complete gap assessment was performed on the Bureau emergency plans, SOGs, Reference Procedures, Just-In-Time training materials and all exercise components. Changes of focus and additional response and mitigation requirements have evolved since the original certification. Several new documents needed to be developed and crafted to meet revised PPHR requirements but, most importantly address local needs and staff abilities.

Emergency Response This office responded along with the Department of Fire/Rescue Services to eight structure fires, hazardous material and other emergency calls. One major incident was a traffic incident that involved multiple trauma victims.

## **2. Community Education and Training**

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – CERT is a training program offered to citizens to provide them with basic skill sets in disaster survival, rescue and emergency preparedness. Several classes were held for the community. Staff assisted in the program presentations to nursing students at the York County School of Technology and two courses of class work were held for Health Bureau staff.

Organizations and schools – Emergency preparedness presentations were provided to schools, colleges and organizations. This included reviews and assessments of their present emergency plans and protocols. Some of these were; Strand/Capitol Performing Arts Center, Calvary Chapel Church, St. Paul's Church, Kelly Manor, ConForCare Home Care and a presentation to the county nursing home and health care organization. Staff assisted with the development/participation of active shooter protocols for Santander Stadium, York Hospital, Kelly Manor Nursing Home, Sprenkle Village, and the SCTF victim recovery exercise/training at Penn State York Campus.

Emergency Preparedness Public Event In collaboration with multiple community partners a public emergency preparedness “fair” was planned for a “First Friday” in Continental Square. Planning partners were; York City EMA, Bureau of Health, Red Cross, White Rose Ambulance, Wellspan Health, York Fire/Rescue, York Police Community Relations and CERT Teams. The event was held in September with approximately 200-250 members of the public stopping to talk to responders and pick up preparedness information.

### **3. Emergency Planning and Exercises**

Special resource plans - These were developed for any special event in York City with an attendance of 10,000 or greater or a unique event, as required by Pennsylvania Emergency Management Authority. Resource guides and plans were developed for twelve events in 2016. In addition to City events such as the Street Fair and York Fest plans were developed for July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks, and the York Fair. At the York County Emergency Management Coordinators quarterly training staff did a presentation on our process and how the city approaches special event planning.

Plans and resource guides were developed for several special incidents in the City. Events such as the “Super Load”, the movement of an oversized load from off-load on N Hartley to final re-load at Lincoln Yard required the coordination of City, Municipal, utility company and private contractor participants. There were multiple incidents where several special events were occurring at the same time in the city. These necessitated the coordination with several organizations and development of resource guides for First Responders and community partners.

TMI Emergency Exercise – In April this office and Health Bureau participated as part of the York County EOC staff during the annual nuclear power plant drills monitored by Federal authorities. Staff functioned as Liaison Officer under the incident command system.

Plan Development – This office participated in both the YAMMRS and the South Central Task Force's (SCTF) emergency exercises and assisted with the development of Wellspan’s full-scale emergency evacuation and relocation exercise in December.

### **3. Resource Development**

Activities Through the Health Bureau we were able to acquire a large format document scanner. This tool coupled with other funds allowed the office to begin the whole scale conversion and scanning of engineering files into the digital environment. By the end of 2016 there are 3,854 engineering drawings, surveys and maps scanned into digital format. Additionally the building file contains digital plans for 445 projects with 3,784 drawing files. This conversion will allow for wider access by First Responders and other city partner groups.

Regular updates and revisions are done to major mapping coverages. There were several updates to reflect building demolitions and new construction. The available GIS data and mapping capabilities have been expanded and enhanced through a close working relationship with County Planning GIS operations, County E911 GIS operations and the SCTF GIS work group.



PEMA is providing access to software to allow municipalities the ability to rework their emergency operations plans into a current digital format. These documents are on a secure site supported by PEMA. This will bring all PA community plans into compliance in a consistent format. We would be able to access and control these documents through the WEB EOC interface.

#### **4. Training and Education**

During 2016, staff attended several training and informational events.

- i. Emergency response update and training with South Central Task Force (SCTF) at Harrisburg Area Community College.
- ii. Regular attendance at County Office of Emergency Management quarterly trainings.
- iii. Training on disaster preparedness and response as it relates to health care organizations.
- iv. An updated Donning & Doffing procedure was developed for the Health Bureau. A full-scale exercise was held to review the training and exercise staff.

#### **5. Additional Activities**

The office reviews and tracks Hazardous Material Facilities, answers "Right to Know" requests and responds to information requests on historical, environmental and engineering issues. Seventeen of these requests were processed along with 48 requests for engineering information.

City Departments and local boards requested support during 2016. Requests were received from Redevelopment Authority, Economic & Community Development, Public Works, Police, Business Administration, Mayor's Office and City Council. All requests by these departments and several associated boards and bureaus were provided services by Emergency Planning as expeditiously as possible. A final total of 73 requests were made for mapping assistance.

- i. Civil Enforcement Units were supported with mapping and aerial photography during clean sweeps and other special operations.
- ii. The Police were provided with mapping and data to support Neighborhood Enforcement Units.
- iii. Multiple maps, document exhibits and aerials were provided to Economic & Community Development, and Redevelopment Authority to support development projects and client presentations. A total of 45 projects were supported with mapping and exhibits.
- iv. This office assisted York City Police in various cases, investigations and intelligence briefs in 2016.
- v. Army Corps of Engineers requested various population, structural and economic information tailored for the 5 flood levee protection zones in the city.

Staff represents the City on several boards and committees. During 2016 we attended meetings by: Traffic Safety Committee, York County Emergency Coordinators, and York-Adams Metropolitan Medical Response System (YAMMRS).