



2014 Annual Report

Griffin Fire-Rescue



Serving the
Griffin Community
Since
1859



CONTENTS

- 3 City of Griffin Leadership
- 4 Message from Public Safety Director
- 5 Message from Fire Chief
- 6 Fire-Rescue Command Staff
- 7 Mission & Values
- 8 Organizational Chart
- 9 History—Stonewall Volunteers
- 10 History—Griffin Fire Dept.
- 11 History—Victoria Viola Co.
- 12 History—Civil Defense
- 13 Mutual Aid Partners
- 14 Divisions
- 15 Fire Stations
- 16 Apparatus
- 17 Special Operations
- 18 Training
- 19 Community Activities #1
- 20 Community Activities #2
- 21 Recognitions
- 22 2014 Major Accomplishments #1
- 23 2014 Major Accomplishments #2
- 24 2014 Incidents Graph
- 25 Age of Fleet
- 26 Call Load by Area
- 27 Fire Call Types
- 28 2014 Personnel
- 29 Media Contact



2014 Board of Commissioners



Joanne Todd
District 4



Cora Flowers
District 2



Cynthia Ward
District 1



Douglas Hollberg
City at Large



Dick Morrow
District 5



Rodney McCord
District 6



Ryan McLemore
District 3
2014 Chairman

Administration

Kenny Smith—City Manager



Message from the Director of Public Safety C. Frank Strickland

To the Citizens of Griffin

As Public Safety Director for the City of Griffin, I take great pride in reporting the accomplishments of the Fire-Rescue Department for the year 2014. All of the Fire-Rescue department members are extremely professional and dedicated to their mission of saving lives and protecting the property of the citizens of Griffin.

The Fire suppression unit answered a total of 1671 calls for service in 2014 as compared to 1677 calls in 2013. The department conducted 10,955 hours of training during the year. The Fire Inspectors office conducted a total 1005 Fire safety inspections to eliminate hazardous conditions to prevent fires from occurring during 2014. The Inspectors office also conducted 216 new business inspections during the year.

The Fire Marshal investigated a total of 2 arson or suspicious fires during 2014 as compared to 5 in 2013. Due to the professional response of the Griffin Fire-Rescue Department, the city experienced an actual fire loss of \$283,000.00 dollars versus the potential loss of \$54,651,819.00 in 2014.

Griffin Fire-Rescue has accomplished its Mission in 2014 to make Griffin one of the safest places to live, work and play.





Message from the Fire Chief

Tommy E. Jones

Dear Friends:

Thank you for inspecting the Annual Report for Griffin Fire-Rescue. It is once again to begin my letter by saying Griffin enjoyed another year without a fire death or major fire. We did, however, reinforce the commitment of the American Fire Service by continually responding to an increasing call load that ranged from structure fires, cardiac arrest, hazardous materials spills, and even assisted in the delivery of a few babies.

Our personnel have stepped up to the plate and renovated two of our fire stations by themselves. They have also proudly served their community by standing by at mostly every public event that occurs in our city. This diligence led to quick intervention and paid off huge when a crew standing by at a high school graduation used an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) and successfully shocked a patron back to life.

One of our major goals for 2014 was to facilitate our Mutual Aid Partner, Spalding Regional Hospital, by providing space for their Med 2 ambulance and crew. That ambitious undertaking saw fruit produced in the first few weeks as Engine 2 and Med 2's crews made a rapid response and together saved the life of a cardiac arrest victim.

Taking advantaged of funding by the Department of Homeland Security, 12 of our personnel attended specialized training in weapons of mass destruction, nuclear terrorist attacks, and biohazard/pandemic emergencies in Nevada, New Mexico, and the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama.

Our future goals will see us hopefully relocate headquarters station #2 to a new, state-of-the-art facility, as well as begin a top-notch hazardous materials program. We look forward to another great year serving the citizens of the great city of Griffin!!

Chief Tommy E. Jones
401 North Expressway
Griffin, GA 30223
770/229-6415
tjones@cityofgriffin.com





Fire Department Command Staff



John Hamilton Captain Operations Officer	Tommy Jones Fire Chief	Todd Wheeler Battalion Chief A-shift	Roger Slaughter Battalion Chief B-shift	Mike Shackelford Battalion Chief C-shift	Mitchell Cardell Captain Fire Marshal
---	----------------------------------	---	--	---	--



Chief Tommy Jones joined Griffin Fire-Rescue in August of 1987. After riding tailboard and working in the Suppression Division, Chief Jones was promoted to the newly created position of Fire Inspector in 1991. Chief Jones attended police mandate school and P.O.S.T. Fire/Arson Investigator training, which readied him for a promotion to Fire Marshal in 1994. Chief Jones was promoted to the Fire Chief's position in April of 2005. He holds a B.A. Degree in Communications from Mercer University, a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Columbus State University, and is a Nationally-registered Advanced EMT. He engages in his community in a variety of roles, including serving as Past-President of both the Griffin Daybreak Rotary Club and The Griffin-Spalding United Way. Chief Jones was also the principle visionary in the formation of the University of Georgia-Griffin Campus Disaster Management Institute and the Gordon State College 'Weekend College' concept.



Battalion Chief Todd Wheeler Commands of A-Shift personnel. Todd has 24 years of fire service experience and is an Emergency Medical Technician and member of The Georgia Search & Rescue Team. (GSAR). Chief Wheeler participated in a major rescue operation when tornadoes struck the South Georgia area. He is also a graduate of the Professional Management Program at Columbus State University.



Captain John Hamilton joined the department in 1997 and began working his way through the ranks to serve as the departments Operations Officer. John serves as the Program Coordinator for the Firefighter One program at the Southern Crescent Technical College. John holds an A.A. Degree in Fire Science from West Georgia Technical College and a Bachelors Degree in Fire Science Management from American Military University. He is currently working on his Masters Degree in Public Administration with an emphasis on Disaster Management. John also serves his community on the Board of Directors of The Griffin-Spalding United Way and is the CERT Coordinator for the City of Griffin.



Battalion Chief Roger Slaughter is Commander of B-shift personnel. Chief Slaughter began his career with Spalding County and joined Griffin Fire-Rescue in 1992. Roger is also the founding coordinator the Child Car Seat Safety Program. He currently attending the Professional Management Program at Columbus State University and is a recent graduate of the New Mexico Technical Institute's "Prevention and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents."



Fire Marshal Mitchell Cardell is the Chief Fire Code Analyst and Lead Arson Investigator. Over 20 years of experience guides him through the day-to-day tasks of overseeing the Fire Prevention Bureau. Captain Cardell is a former member of the elite U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division and is a certified Peace Officer and Arson investigator through P.O.S.T. He participated in rescue efforts during Hurricane Rita on a GSAR activation and is a graduate of the Professional Management Program at Columbus State University. Captain Cardell holds Certificate of Local Government Management from the University of Georgia.



Battalion Chief Mike Shackelford started with Griffin Fire-Rescue in 1987. 'Shack' was deployed for relief efforts during Hurricane's Katrina and Rita. He is currently attending the Professional Management Program at Columbus State University.



Mission

Handling each call in the most efficient and aggressive manner possible,

Training on a consistent basis for increased readiness,

Educating the public in fire protection & prevention,

Upholding the fire service's proud tradition of excellence.

Griffin Fire-Rescue, a fully-accredited and state-recognized agency of the City of Griffin, having served the community since 1859 with municipal fire protection, hereby declares its full commitment to the lives and property of the citizens of Griffin, Georgia. With the welfare of each and every resident as it's principle concern, Griffin Fire-Rescue strives to enhance the tranquility of the city by:

Handling each call in the most efficient and aggressive manner possible,

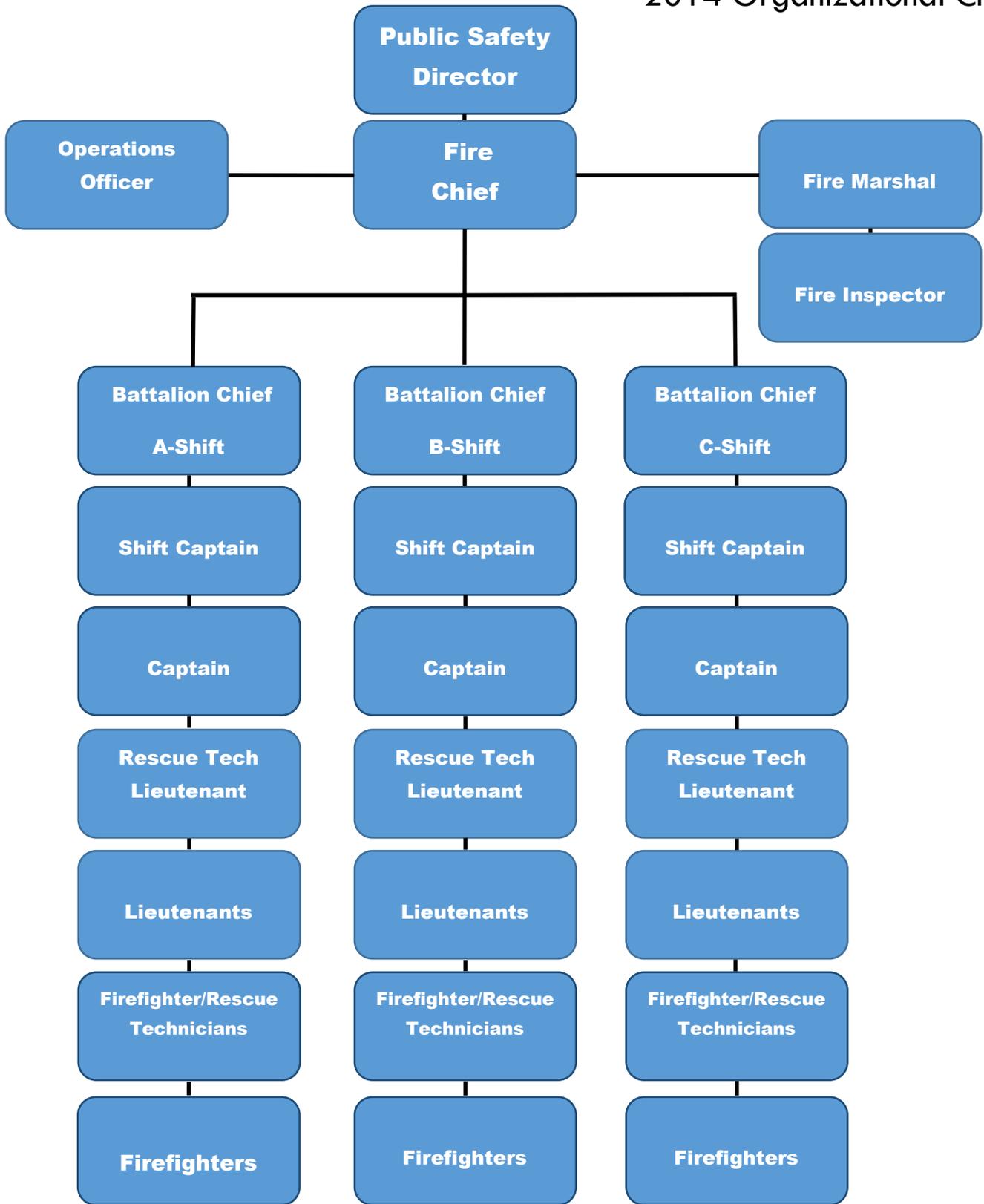
Training on a consistent basis for increased readiness

Educating the public in fire protection and prevention,

Upholding the fire service's proud tradition of excellence.



2014 Organizational Chart

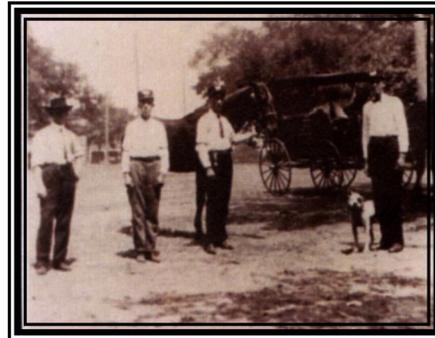
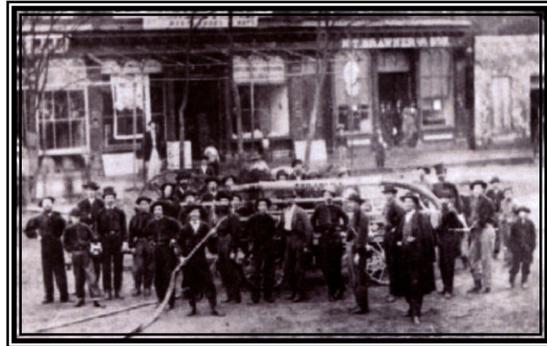




Fire Protection in Griffin—Steamers & Horses

The Stonewall Volunteers

Established in 1859, the Stonewall Volunteers were an all volunteer force who protected the City of Griffin through the formative years of the community, including during the Civil War. Their first station was located on the corner of 8th & Broad Streets and a horse-drawn steamer and hose wagon was their first fleet. Not only were they the city's first line of protection from a fire conflagration, there were also one of Griffin's most prestigious social clubs, holding an annual Fireman's Ball in the Schurman Opera House on North Hill Street.





Griffin Fire Department 1910

The turn-of-the-century saw the City of Griffin following the trend shared by most municipalities in the U.S. by going away from volunteer companies and towards a centralized fire service. With the construction of the new City Hall at the corner of 6th & Solomon Streets, the Griffin Fire Department began the new millennium with a force of 8 paid men, 40 volunteers, and 2 horses. Motorized fire apparatus became available in the coming decades and an expanding city limits prompted the construction of 2 more stations, and an eventual relocation of the 1910 Station One.





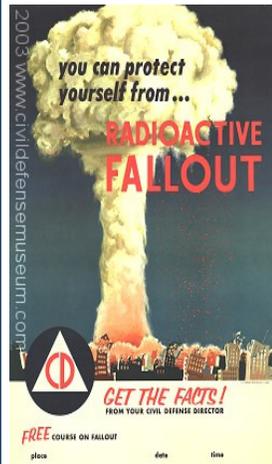
Victoria Viola Fire Company

Officially chartered in January of 1896, the *Victoria Viola Hook & Ladder Company* served their community with dignity during segregation in the Old South.





City of Griffin Office of Civil Defense



After World War 2, communities across America heightened their readiness for man-made and natural disasters by forming Civil Defense Units. Griffin followed suit and constructed Fire Station #2 as the local Civil Defense Headquarters.





Mutual Aid Partners





Divisions



Suppression Division

The Suppression Division is headed by 3 Battalion Chiefs on 3 shifts. Each shift works a 24 hours on/48 hours off rotation, answering calls around the clock. The Battalion Chief holds immediate supervisory responsibilities to the entire shift and is charged with directing the strategic attack of incidents. He is assisted by a Shift Captain, who fills in for the Battalion Chief in his absence. Each shift contains an additional station Captain and 3 Lieutenants, making a total officer corps of 18 Suppression supervisors. In total, each of the 3 shifts has a total of 20 personnel, for a total of 60 Suppression personnel.

Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Marshal and Fire Inspector make up the Fire Prevention Bureau, who are charged with enforcing fire codes, educating the public in life safety hazards, and investigating all fires, both accidental and intentional. The Fire Marshal & Fire Inspector work on the 8 hour staff and are on-call for incidents. Each building in the City of Griffin is inspected yearly and all new construction is supervised through the plans review process. Both the Fire Marshal & Fire Inspector are Deputized State Fire Marshals and P.O.S.T. Mandated Peace Officers.

Office of the Fire Chief

The Fire Chief's Office consists of the Fire Chief, who is the Chief Operating Officer of the department, and the Operations Officer. The Chief's Office handles all budgeting, spending, planning, and inventory control. The Chief is expected to maintain a heavy amount of public interaction.....building goodwill and a strong network for community relations. This division is also tasked with seeing that all annual training requirements are met by working closely with Georgia Firefighters Standards and Training. The Chief attends all meetings of the Griffin Board of Commissioners and the City of Griffin Department Director's weekly staff meeting. The Fire Chief maintains relationships with the Emergency Management Agency and is involved with planning for community preparedness and drills. The Operations Officer is tasked with major projects, day-to-day and long-range administrative activities, and compliance issues.



Fire Stations

Fire Station #1 was built in 1996 and replaced the old City Hall station on 6th & Solomon Streets. Located on the corner of Chappell & Hill Streets, Station One has 3 bays, private cubicles, an open-floor plan kitchen and day room, plus a fitness center to be proud of! This station protects the downtown and North side residential area and houses Engine One, Pumper One, Truck One, Reserve One, and an EMS team with ambulance from our mutual aid partner, Spalding Regional EMS.



Built in 1959 as the City of Griffin Civil Defense Headquarters, Fire Station #2 is located on the North Expressway and protects the Western part of the city and the retail commercial areas. The station is 2-story with 2 original brass poles that are used daily. There is also a detached fitness center and administrative offices. This station houses Engine Two, Pumper Two, Command Three, Polaris Ranger Tactical Unit, and the Trench Rescue Unit.



Fire Station #3 protects the Southside residential area and the Griffin Airport. She was dedicated in 1974 and has a split bedroom layout with open kitchen and day room. This station houses Ladder Three, Squad Three, Reserve Three, and Reserve Squad Two. Station #3 just underwent an extensive renovation project.





Apparatus



Ladder Three



Tactical Unit #1



Tactical Unit #2



Engine One



Airport Unit



Engine Two



Squad Three



Truck One



Special Operations



Honor Guard The Griffin Fire-Rescue Honor Guard is highly regarded in Georgia as one of the finest units around. Our team performs at all parades, requested events, such as Atlanta Hawk's games and also serves in funeral and memorial capacities, including the mobile Vietnam Wall.

Rescue Technicians 12 personnel in the department serve as Rescue Technicians and hold advanced knowledge in technical rescue skills. Each personnel is expected to attend advanced training classes and bring that knowledge to the entire department. Each Rescue Technician is required to be a state-certified instructor.

GSAR (Georgia Search & Rescue) Griffin Fire-Rescue maintains a relationship with GSAR and responds with the team to local and national events. Griffin Firefighters, through GSAR, assisted in both Hurricanes Katrina & Rita, the South Georgia Wildfires, & The G8 Summit on Sea Island.

Hazardous Materials Technicians The vast majority of Griffin Fire-Rescue personnel operate at the Technician level and are trained to handle most incidents involving hazardous conditions.

Emergency Medical Technicians Although the department does not operate an EMS service, over one-fourth of GFR personnel are certified at the EMT or Paramedic level. EMT's and Paramedics are required to maintain their annual certification and assist our local EMS in select medical and rescue calls.

Bike Patrol Working with members of the Lee County (Florida) Fire-Rescue Bike Team, Griffin Fire-Rescue utilized donated funds to begin a Bike Patrol and offer stand-by services at local events.

Child Car Seat Program In keeping with our department's mission of safety education and fire and injury prevention, we are proud to serve the Griffin community by offering a child car seat safety inspection center. We also distribute dozens of free car seats to low-income residents annually.





GFR Training for 2014 10,955 Hours

Training





Community Activities



The American Fire Service takes pride in the proud tradition of participating in community activities. In 2014, Griffin Fire-Rescue supported the local community by engaging in the following public relations and safety stand-by activities:

- Road Races
- Station Tours
- Office Kevin Jordan Benefit Ride
- Christmas/4th of July/MLK Parade
- Community blood drives
- Birthday Parties
- MDA Boot Drive
- Community Concerts
- Fire Extinguisher and CPR Training
- Church and Neighborhood Events
- Annual Toy Drive
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing



Community Activities



CITY PICNIC SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

The co-ed softball team from Griffin Fire-Rescue won the First Annual City of Griffin Picnic Tournament. Thanks to Coach and Rescue Tech Jesse Stewart and FF Mandy Rogers and the girls for a great job!



GRIFFIN-SPALDING UNITED WAY BOAT RACE

The department is very grateful for the volunteer effort by our team to design, build, and race in the United Way Cardboard Race for charity. We finished 2nd place overall and won the most spirited award! Thanks guys for your hard work and community spirit!



Recognitions



Captain Smoak



Lt. Gates



Rescue Tech. Thornton

PROMOTIONS

Griffin Fire-Rescue is happy to announce promotions in 2014. Lt. Chuck Smoak, a 15 year veteran of our department, AEMT and GSAR member, promoted to Captain. Rescue Technician Brandon Gates assumed the role of Lieutenant. Brandon has 10 years with the department and is a veteran in the U.S. Air Force. FF Greg Thornton, a 7 year veteran, was also promoted to Rescue Technician.



FF Cousson



FF Cowles

STRONGEST LENGTH IN THE CHAIN

Griffin Fire-Rescue is proud that two of our personnel were recognized as the City of Griffin's Strongest Link in the Chain. FF Jeremy Cousson was honored for his constant technical support to our department and the thousands he saves us on basic repairs and installations. FF Daniel Cowles also received the city's highest honor with his diligent oversight of our Child Car Seat Safety Program.

Fond Farewell

Griffin Fire-Rescue wishes our Fire Inspector James Clinkscales the best of luck in his new position as Fire Marshal in Valdosta, Georgia. We wish 'Clink' much success in his new position!



CAPTAIN EDDIE ELLIS RETIREMENT

We will miss the contributions made to this department by Captain Eddie Ellis, who retired from our department after 31 years of service. We are grateful for his hard work and dedication to his men and to the citizens of our community and wish Captain Ellis the very best in his retirement.



FF Naramore



FF Perry

New Firefighters

Two new personnel joined our ranks this year. FF's Noel Perry and Drew Naramore joined our department in 2014 and we are all looking forward to the contributions they will make in their professional careers.



2014 Major Accomplishments



Several years ago, Fire Chief Jones approached President Max Burns of Gordon State College about beginning a Bachelor's Degree program that was 'fireman friendly.' That proposal led to numerous strategy meetings that evolved into their 'Weekend College' concept. The program was formally introduced in October of 2014 for a January start date. Cohort 1 began in January with 22 participants.



Fire Chief Tommy Jones began a 4-year journey by attending Module One of the **National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program**. Chief Jones spent two weeks at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The NETC is home to the National Fire Academy and the Emergency Management Institute and the site of the National Fallen Firefighter's Memorial. Each module requires an Applied Research Project. Chief Jones will study the need for, and implementation of, a 'Command Preparatory Symposium,' a multi-day Officer's Academy to prepare the future leaders of the department.



Griffin Fire-Rescue, working closely with Spalding Regional EMS Service, took a bold step to enhance the safety of residents and businesses on the North side of town by placing MED 2 in permanent quarters at Fire Station #2 on the North Expressway. Paramedics from MED 2 and personnel from Station 2 recorded a save from a cardiac arrest call within two weeks of the positioning of the ambulance in a city fire station.



The City of Griffin sponsored Class 6 of the Leadership Development Institute, an annual program to recognize and equip the future leaders of the City of Griffin. Lt. Brandon Gates, FF Mark Saporita, FF Josh Ridgeway, and FF Benjamin Barlow attended this year's program with members of other departments, both city and county.



2014 Major Accomplishments



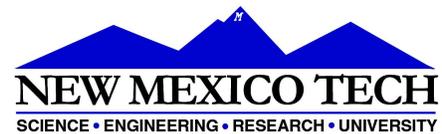
Nevada Proving Ground

Griffin Fire-Rescue personnel took advantage of funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and attended training in the Nevada desert on how to detect and safely mitigate nuclear disasters. Specialty training on terrorist 'dirty bombs' enlightened our team and enhanced the level of readiness for our community.



Center for Domestic Preparedness

The Department of Homeland Security provided funding for a team of Griffin firefighter's to attend the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. Our crew learned the dangers and the successful mitigation of biological agents, such as Anthrax, Smallpox, and other agents used in natural and man-made incidents.



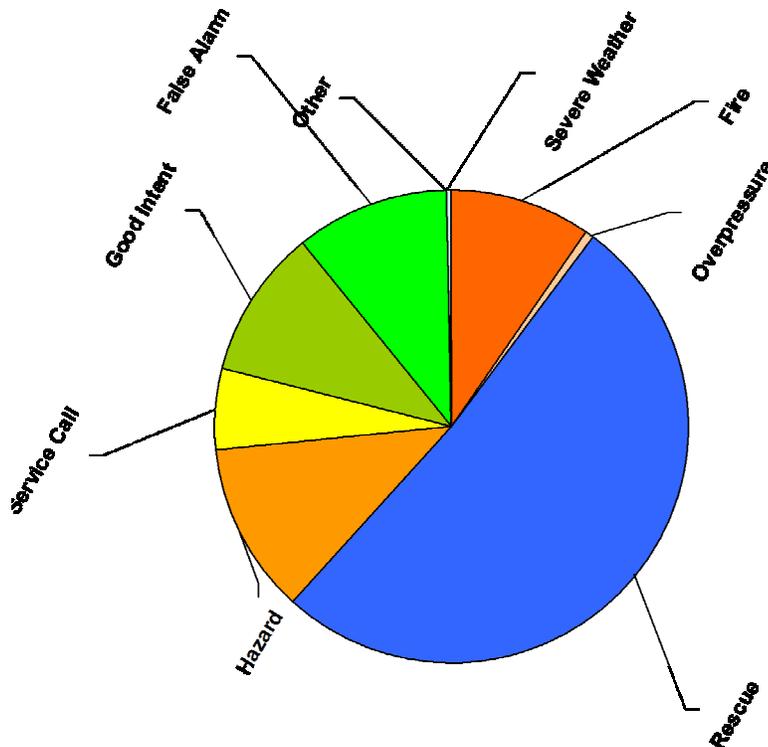
New Mexico Institute of Technology

To learn the awareness and investigation of incidents from terrorist bombings, three groups of Griffin Fire-Rescue personnel attended a DHS-funded program at the New Mexico Institute of Technology's bomb range.



2014 Incidents

Type	Number	Percent- age
Fire	163	9.66%
Overpressure	10	.18%
Rescue	856	51.59%
Hazard	198	13.54%
Service Call	92	3.81%
Good Intent	170	10.19%
False Alarm	177	10.67%
Severe Weather	2	.18%
Other	3	.18 %
	1671	100%

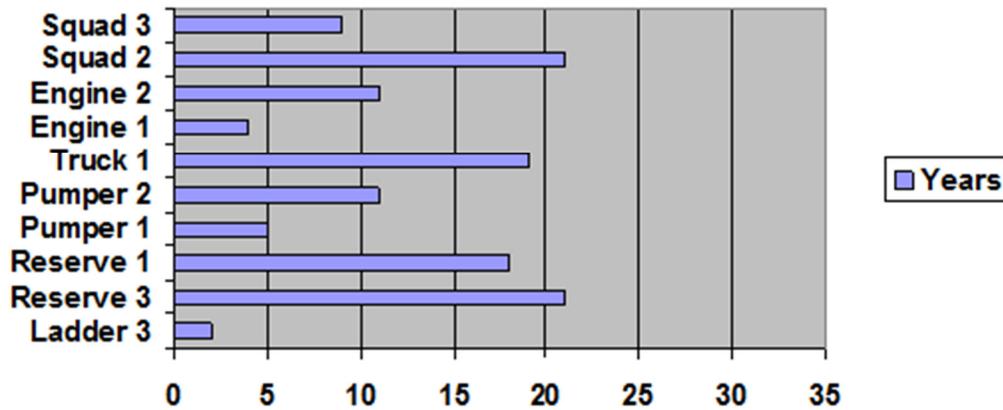




Age of Fleet

Age of Current Apparatus

Apparatus	Age	Model	Make
Ladder 3	2	2012	E-One
Reserve 3	21	1993	American Fire App.
Squad 2	21	1993	GMC
Reserve 1	18	1996	Southern Coach
Pumper 1	5	2009	Pierce
Truck 1	19	1995	Emergency One
Engine 1	4	2010	Pierce
Engine 2	11	2003	Emergency One
Pumper 2	11	2003	Emergency One
Squad 3	9	2005	Custom Works

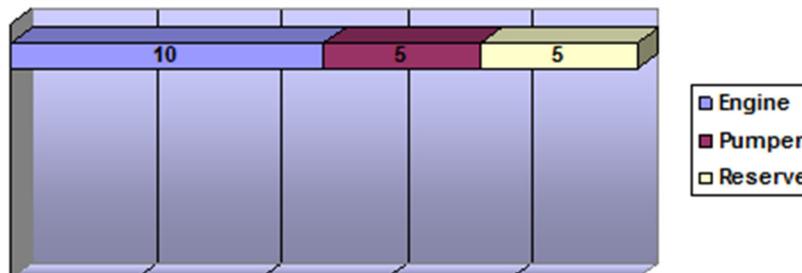


Maximum Life Expectancy of Pumping Apparatus

Use	Years
Engine	10 then
Pumper	5 then
Reserve	5
	20

Average Maximum Dependable Life Span

“Based upon current call load”

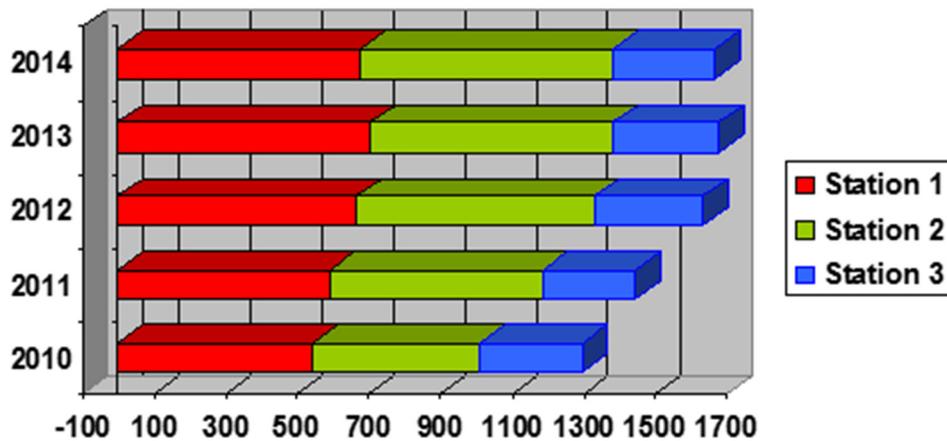




Call Load by Area

Five Year Comparison

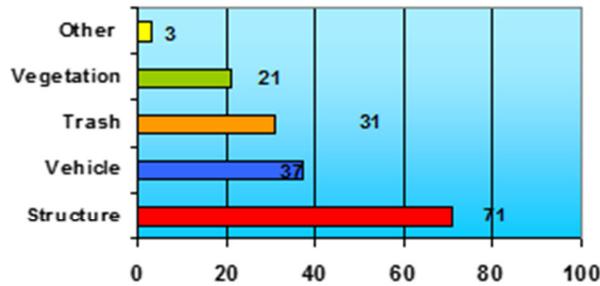
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Station 1	543	590	666	703	679
Station 2	466	596	665	682	707
Station 3	289	258	301	292	283





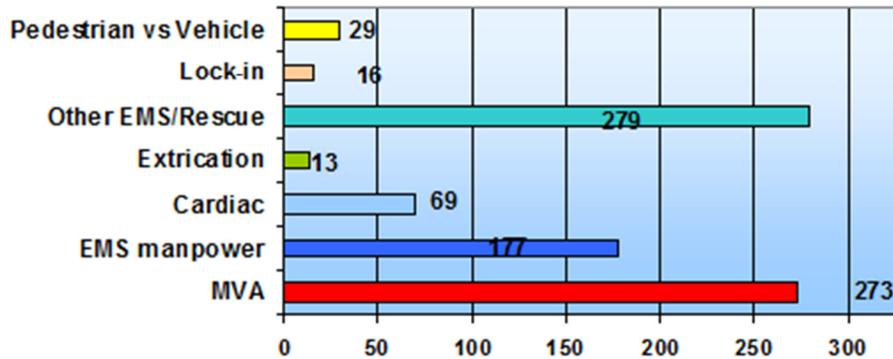
Fire Call Types

Structure	71
Vehicle	37
Trash	31
Vegetation	21
Other	3
<u>Total:</u>	162



Rescue Call Types

MVA	273
EMS Manpower	177
Cardiac	69
Extrication	13
Other EMS/Rescue	279
Lock-in	16
Pedestrian vs Vehicle	29
<u>Total:</u>	855





2014 Personnel

GFR Personnel Years of Service						
Name	D.O.E.	Years		Name	D.O.E.	Years
Ellis, Eddie J.	2/6/1983	31	Retired	Beavers, Frank	1/2/2005	9
Gilreath, Edward M.	2/6/1983	31		Gates, Brandon H.	2/14/2005	9
Stewart, Jesse R. Jr.	9/21/1986	28		Banks, Brian	5/15/2005	9
Michael T.	3/1/1987	27		Burkholder, Kevin	5/23/2005	9
Jones, Tommy E.	8/3/1987	27		Foster, Adrian	7/18/2005	9
Barlow, Benji	7/4/1988	26		Head, Jeffrey Dana	2/1/2006	8
Gunnels, James M.	8/7/1988	26		Miller, Nathan	6/29/2006	8
Clark, Marvin Jr.	3/28/1989	25		Thompson, Israel	7/11/2006	8
Cardell, Mitchell E.	4/16/1989	25		Lewis, Clay	8/14/2006	8
Wheeler, Allen T.	4/16/1989	25		Cousson, Jeremy	11/21/2006	8
Collins, Scott	10/15/1989	25		Saporita, Mark	1/28/2007	7
Teal, Dennis E.	10/15/1989	25		Pope, Steven	8/19/2007	7
Slaughter, Roger W.	5/31/1992	22		Evans, Darrell	9/10/2007	7
Meeks, Andrew N.	6/12/1994	20		Michel, Brian S.	1/2/2008	6
Eubanks, Frank E. Jr.	7/2/1995	18		Moore, Keith	3/16/2008	6
Smaok, Charles, IV	4/29/1996	18		Ridgeway, Joshua	4/21/2008	6
Spradley, Darrell E.	9/1/1996	18		Mahaffey, Geoffrey	5/8/2008	6
Dingler, Rodney	2/16/1997	17		Thornton, Greg	5/9/2008	6
Hamilton, John C.	3/23/1997	17		Cowles, Daniel	8/29/2008	6
Blount, Doug A.	9/13/1998	16		Gallman, Anthony	8/29/2008	6
Filer, Ryan W.	9/13/1998	16		Lyles, Justin	11/17/2009	5
Williams, Gerald T.	9/13/1998	16		Barnes, Ryan	8/15/2010	4
Sims, Avery M.	12/6/1998	16		Baker, Jeffrey	10/4/2010	4
Wright, David E. II	1/9/2000	14		Gonzalez, Gustavo	6/28/2011	3
Brock, Brian A.	3/4/2001	13		Smith, James	8/29/2011	3
Wilson, James III	8/5/2001	13		Whitten, Joshua	8/29/2011	3
Nix, Brian R.	9/3/2001	13		Latson, Chaz	9/27/2012	2
Thompson, Michael	4/29/2002	12		Walker, Gary	5/6/2017	1
Clinkscales, James	1/2/2003	11		Rogers, Mandy	7/12/2013	1
Hammonds, Justin	2/10/2003	11		Hancock, Sheldon	9/2/2013	1
McLaughlin, Kelly	3/21/2003	11		Perry, Noel	4/21/2014	0.5
Harris, Randy	3/19/2004	10		Narramore, Andrew	9/10/2014	0.5
Granger, Trent	5/1/2004	10				



Griffin Fire-Rescue 2014 Annual Report

Media Contact:

Chief Tommy Jones

Griffin Fire-Rescue

401 North Expressway

Griffin, GA 30223

(770)779-6415

(770)229-6444 fax

Tjones@cityofgriffin.com

WWW. Cityofgriffin.com