

BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD
Department of Fire Prevention and Protection

TO: Michael Giordano, Jr., Mayor

FROM: William F. Eaton, Fire Chief

DATE: June 21, 2012

SUBJECT: Monthly Report for May 2012

Please find attached the monthly report of the fire department. The report indicates both monthly activity and services of the department as well as year-to-date totals where applicable.

Highlights – During the past month the department held its annual Memorial Day ceremony in front of the historic and symbolic fire bell, which is a memorial for all the firefighters who have served the people of North Plainfield. We reflected on the past firefighters and other emergency responders who are no longer with us.

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

MONTHLY REPORT MAY 2012

Section 1. ALARM RESPONSE ACTIVITY

TYPES OF INCIDENTS

	This	Year to
	Month	Date
FIRES		
111 – 173 All types of Fires	4	39
200 – 251. Over Pressure no fire	1	3
300 – 381. Rescue Calls (accidents, etc.)	148	576
400 – 482. Hazardous Conditions	13	47
500 – 571. Service call/Public Assist	8	40
600 – 672. Good Intent (smoke scares)	18	75
710 – 746 All Other (False Alarms)	23	78
800 – 815. Severe Weather Incidents	0	0
900 - Special Type Incident	0	4
TOTAL ALARM ACTIVITY	205	862

TYPES OF ALARMS AND FIREFIGHTER RESPONSE:

Type	Month	YTD
General	6	42
Reduced	16	55
Still	51	214
EMS	132	551
TOTAL	205	862

MUTUAL AID ASSISTANCE FOR FIRE RELATED CALLS ONLY:

Mutual aid given is usually one engine or one truck company per incident. Mutual aid received includes all units from all departments that were called to the scene or on stand-by. Mutual Aid Units are not the number of occurrences but the actual number of units. Calls indicate only the number of calls regardless of the number of units sent or received.

Mutual Aid <u>Units</u>	Month	YTD	Mutual Aid <u>Calls</u>	Month	YTD
Units Received	0	12	Calls Aid Received	0	7
Units Given	4	27	Calls Aid Given	4	27

INJURIES REPORTED AT OR DURING ALARMS:

	Month	YTD
Civilian	0	2
Fire Service	0	4

STRUCTURE FIRES and OTHER:

During the month of May there were no fires in the month of May that required fire investigation. The department responded to Planfield for mutual aid 2 times, Watchung 1 time and Warren 1 time. No mutual aid was received.

Section 2. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CALLS	THIS MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
<i>Totals</i>	132	549

ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT

Emergency Medical Calls that meet criteria considered life threatening will result in the simultaneous dispatch of an advanced life support unit (ALS) along with the fire department ambulance.

	This Month	Year to date
ALS responses	42	158

RESPONSE TIMES- EMS

Response time is defined as the time the alarm is received in fire headquarters, to the arrival of the first unit on the scene of the medical emergency. We use the nationally accepted standard of **8 minutes** for a basic life support ambulance. The following table illustrates the average response times for the past month. During that time, the department answered **93.4 %** of its EMS calls in North Plainfield in **eight minutes** or less.

Average Response Time In Minutes			
North Plainfield Calls		Mutual Aid	
Last Month	This Month	Last Month	This Month
5:19	5:07	1 call <1 min.	3 calls 6:30

EMS REVENUE

Revenue is received in the form of insurance payments through direct billing to Federal, State and private insurance providers for medically necessary emergency service. The Department also receives revenue through personal and required insurance co-payments.

A third party company performs EMS billing for us. The service includes collecting information from patient run reports, invoicing, tracking, reporting, collection and direct deposit into a designated municipal account. The following is an accounting of the revenue received during the past month and year to date totals.

EMS billing revenue/cost		<i>This month</i>	<i>Year to date</i>
Insurance revenue	\$	17,455.40	60,360.34
Medical Billing cost @ 8.25 %	\$	0	3,317.06
TOTAL NET INCOME	\$	17,455.40	57,043.28

Section 3. DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION

Inspection activity is coordinated through the office of the Fire Official. All Borough licenses and permits, which require an inspection by the Fire Department, are performed by the Division of Fire Prevention. Permits and registrations required under the N.J. Uniform Fire Code are also processed and enforced through this division.

CODE AND ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT

Permits and LHU Registrations	Month	YTD
New Life Hazard Use Registration	0	0
Number of annual permits issued	1	7
Number of occasional use permits issued	1	2
Multiple dwelling permits issued	<u>11</u>	<u>126</u>
Total	13	140

Fire Prevention Revenues

Revenue is received in the form of a rebate of 70% of registration fees collected by the New Jersey Bureau of Fire Safety for each life hazard use (LHU) in North Plainfield. This money is returned to the municipality to pay for the enforcement of the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code.

The Department also receives fees for permits that are issued locally for occupancies not required to be registered as life hazard uses. An example would be multiple family permit fees. We also receive penalty money representing assessments for failure to comply with requirements of the Uniform Fire Code. The last source of revenue is the payment received for copies of fire alarm reports, most of which are requested by insurance companies or adjusters.

	This Month	YTD
Non-LHU fees, multi-family permits, Life Hazard Use fees	\$ 768.00	16,589.00
Penalties fees collected	\$ 990.00	5,275.00
*TOTAL	\$ 1,758.00	21,864.00

3.2 DIVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION: FIXED PROPERTY IN-SERVICE INSPECTIONS

The next table shows the numbers of properties inspected. They are listed using the same category title as are used in our fire incident reporting system.

<u>INSPECTION TYPE</u>	Month	YTD
Company Inspections	58	255
Life Hazard Use Inspections	6	97
Multiple Family Inspections	17	50
Fire Alarms/Incident violations	8	29
Complaint inspections/Other	10	56
<u>Re-inspections</u>	49	124
<u>LHU Re-inspections</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>56</u>
Total inspections	157	667

Fire Code Violations Issued

<u>Violations Issued By:</u>	Current month	YTD
Company Inspections	1	9
Life Hazard Use Inspections	1	13
Multiple Family Inspections	1	4
Fire Alarms/Incidents	1	2
All Other Inspections	0	1
Summonses issued by Engine Comp	0	0
Total	5	31

Section 4. TRAINING/EDUCATION:

4.1 REGULAR TRAINING SESSIONS

Training sessions are conducted regularly on each platoon, averaging approximately twelve to fifteen hours per month. The sessions are conducted by the platoon commander on the day/night shifts, using practical training exercises whenever possible. Individual Firefighters and EMTs also attend outside training agencies to maintain their required licenses and certifications such as Fire Inspector, EMT and Fire Instructor.

DEPT. HOURLY TRAINING	Month	YTD
Monthly platoon training	54.17	300.49
One on one training	6.00	101.00
Other training	<u>59.00</u>	<u>209.02</u>
Training Hours Totals	122.33	610.51

4.2 CALL FORCE ACTIVITY AND OTHER TRAINING

This past month, the drill topic was advancing and flowing 1 ¾" hoselines. Participants took the lines into the building and flowed water out the first floor window. Then they advanced the line to the second floor and flowed water out the second floor window. Outside of the building it was demonstrated how far the stream reached and the amount of water the line produced. Ten of fourteen callmen attended.

Section 5.1 VEHICLE MAINTENANCE:

Maintenance of vehicles and apparatus is conducted weekly. Platoon's are assigned a specific apparatus and are responsible for all the routine maintenance of that vehicle. The platoon working completes emergency repairs. Passenger-type vehicles and the five emergency apparatus are thoroughly checked, using a maintenance inspection checklist developed by the department. Platoon members make basic repairs and adjustments during the course of the vehicle inspection and report any additional repairs needed.

Approximately \$2,200 worth of repairs were made to Rescue 1 and 2 for various mechanical issues. These included problems with the engine, fuel system and electrical system. Thankfully the process of replacing one of the ambulances is almost complete and we hope to go out to bid for a new ambulance soon.

Section 5.2 TROUBLE REPORTS and VEHICLE MILEAGE

The department uses a "Trouble Report" system for reporting any vehicle related problems, as well as for other equipment or building issues that are in need of repair. Trouble reports are not submitted for routine or minor adjustments. The following table shows the number of reports submitted and those repaired during the past month.

Monthly Trouble Reports

Vehicle or Equipment	Submitted		Completed	
	This Month	Year to Date	This Month	Year to Date
Engine 2	3	3	2	3
Engine 4	1	3	3	6
Truck 1	1	3	2	6
Car-1	0	0	0	0
Car-2	0	0	0	0
Car-3	1	1	1	1
Rescue 1	0	0	2	2
Rescue 2	3	4	4	9
Building	1	2	2	8
+Radio	0	2	0	8
SCBA	2	3	3	5
Equipment	4	12	3	20
Total Reports	16	33	22	68

Vehicle Mileage 2012

Vehicle	Current Month	Odometer Reading	Vehicle Status
Engine 2	86	34,521	In-Service
Engine 4	208	52,551	In-Service
Truck 1	110	18,777	In-Service
Rescue 1	1,375	69,746	In-Service
Rescue 2	376	47,248	In Service
Car 1	1,263	19,349	In-Service
Car 2	56	27,744	In-Service
Car 3	545	108,103	In- Service