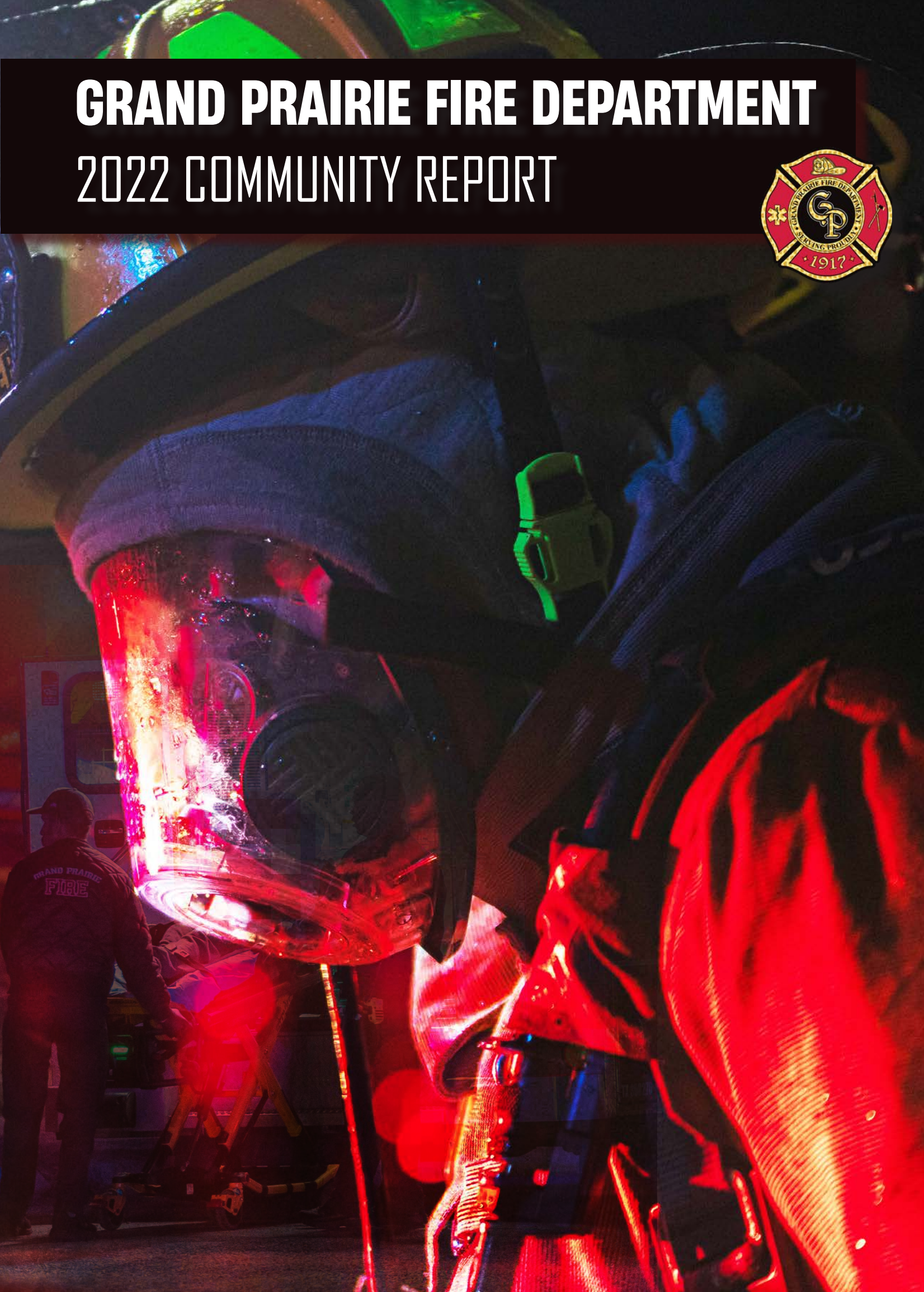


# GRAND PRAIRIE FIRE DEPARTMENT

## 2022 COMMUNITY REPORT



# MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



A stylized, handwritten signature of Robert Fite in white ink, positioned above his name.

**ROBERT FITE**

**2022 has come and gone and we finally witnessed some normalcy related to our day-to-day operations since the pandemic appears to be in our rearview mirror. Each year our department grows and continues to strive to be one of the best in Texas. What was not normal about 2022 is the vast amount of quality growth we are seeing within our city limits. From large entertainment venues, to dozens of new restaurants, and a plethora of new retail, this version of Grand Prairie is something that none of us have witnessed.**

**With growth and development come challenges to our response and fire prevention efforts. For 2022 we saw another increase of 4% in our emergency responses and we are at an all-time high for annual responses at 22,333. Complicating the entire response matrix is the cost of supplies and equipment has increased by over 15% in one year. Regardless of the challenges, the men and women of your department maintained our covenant ISO Ranking of #1 and for the 8th year in a row received the American Heart Association Gold Standard award for our treatment and transport of our cardiac patients. As your Fire Chief, I am so proud of the dedicated firefighters we have in this great department.**

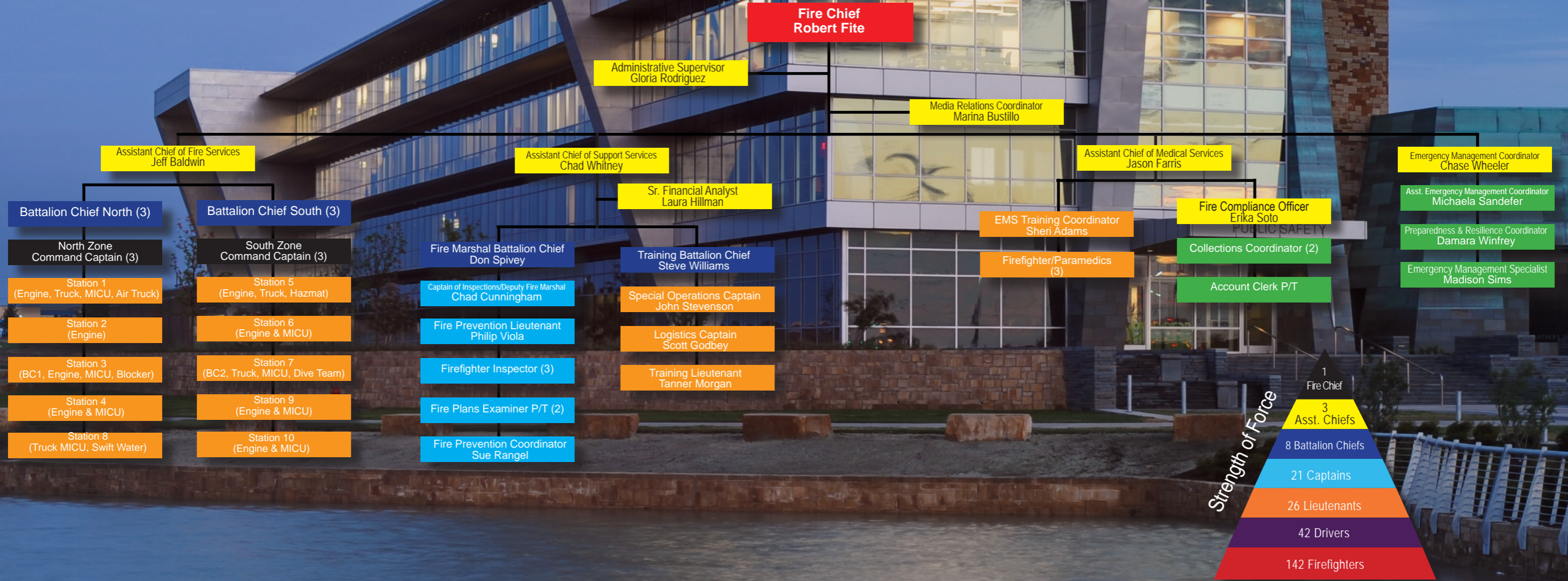
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# GRAND PRAIRIE FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

## OUR MISSION:

The Grand Prairie Fire Department is dedicated to improve and protect the quality of life of Grand Prairie's citizens, visitors, and businesses by providing medical care and reducing the loss of property.



## MEET THE CHIEFS:



**ROBERT FITE**  
FIRE CHIEF



**JEFF BALDWIN**  
ASSISTANT CHIEF  
OF FIRE SERVICES



**CHAD WHITNEY**  
ASSISTANT CHIEF  
OF SUPPORT SERVICES



**JASON FARRIS**  
ASSISTANT CHIEF  
OF MEDICAL SERVICES

# STATIONS



**STATION 1**  
510 W. MAIN ST



**STATION 2**  
3102 BOWLES



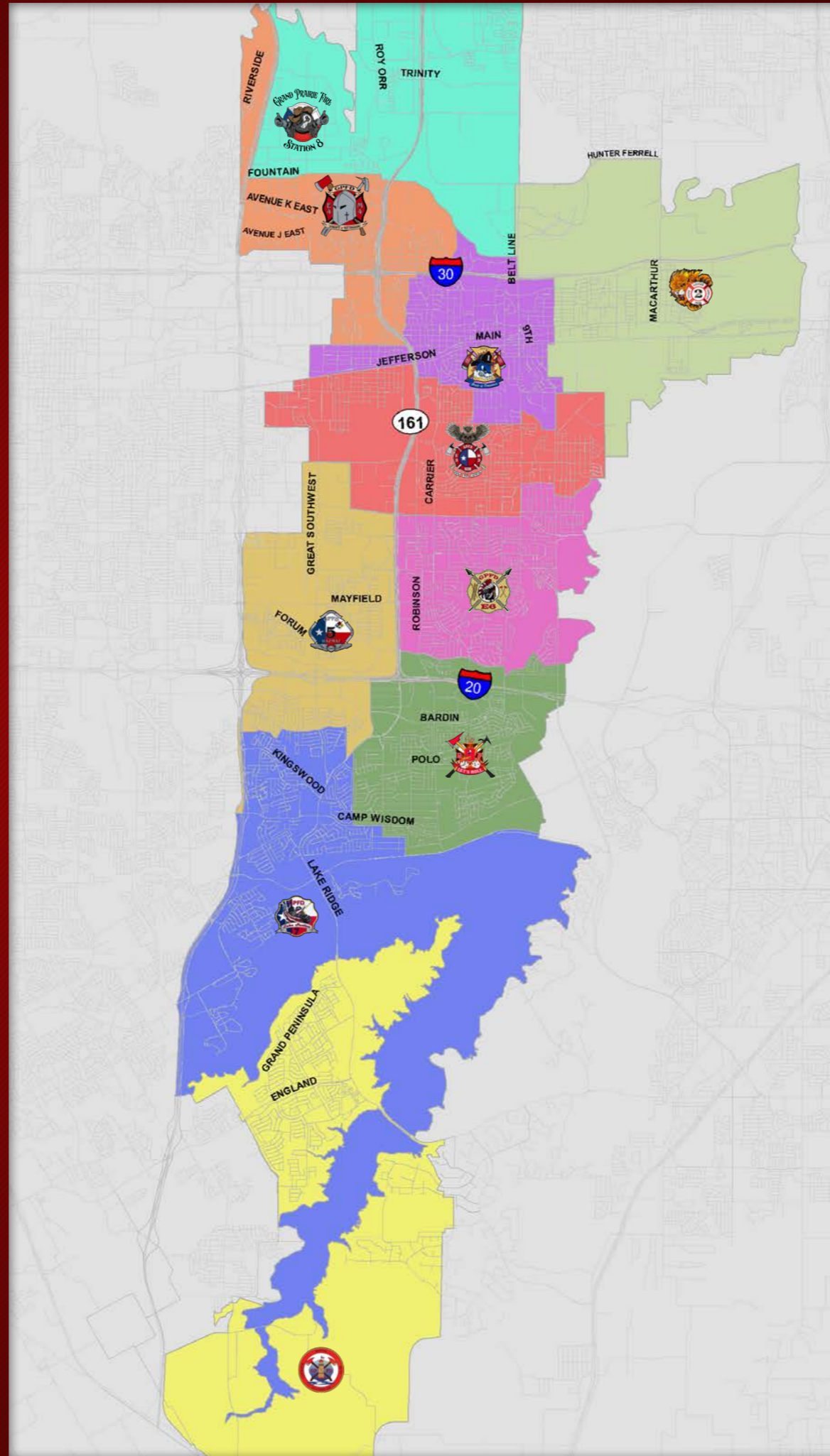
**STATION 3**  
1260 W. MARSHALL



**STATION 4**  
1502 DUNCAN PERRY



**STATION 5**  
3202 S. GREAT SOUTHWEST



**STATION 6**  
602 STONEWALL



**STATION 7**  
5610 LAKE RIDGE PKWY



**STATION 8**  
3017 ROY ORR BLVD



**STATION 9**  
315 W POLO RD



**STATION 10**  
2645 S. GRAND PENINSULA DR



# APPARATUS



## **TRUCK**

Transports highly specialized rescue equipment and a 100 foot aerial platform or ladder that provides elevated access on structures to perform rescues or allows for extinguishment of large fires.



## **ENGINE**

Transports personnel, equipment, ladders, hoses, and a 500-gallon water tank to extinguish fires.



## **INCIDENT COMMAND TRUCK**

Command trucks are assigned to Battalion Chiefs and are fully equipped to for command functions during a response to calls.



## **AIR TRUCK**

During structure fires, this asset provides air tank refills and lighting.



## **AMBULANCE**

Ambulances are staffed with two paramedics and are fully equipped to provide pre-hospital medical care.



## **HAZMAT TRUCK**

Also known as Squad 5, this truck responds to Hazmat calls and other major incidents. Squad 5 is also a mobile command post equipped for large-scale incidents.



## **TRUCK-MOUNTED ATTENUATOR**

Also known as Scorpion 3, this apparatus serves as temporary traffic control and a protective barrier for GPFD crews working on motor vehicle accidents and other roadway incidents.



## **1939 RESTORED FIRE TRUCK**

Helping connect GPFD history with the community, the restored truck is used for public education programs and local celebrations.



## **BRUSH TRUCK**

Brush trucks are used to extinguish grass or brush fires in areas hard to access for fire engines, such as wildland and urban interface fires.



## **FIRE BOAT**

GPFD's dive team uses the boat for patrolling, training, diving, and regional search and rescue efforts at Joe Pool Lake and other bodies of water.



## **RESCUE BOAT**

Allows rescuers quick access to shallow water in coves and can be used in the event of a flooded street.



## **DIVE BUS**

The dive bus carries all the necessary equipment for search, rescue, or recovery operations for easy transportation and deployment.



# TRUCK 1



This new addition to the fleet is GPFD's second Pierce Ascendant 100' Mid-Mount Aerial Tower. Truck 1 is housed in the heart of downtown Grand Prairie at Station 1 on 510 West Main Street alongside an engine, air truck, and ambulance.

Truck 1's aerial helps extinguish many types of fires and allows firefighters to work from inside the bucket. The ladder can tilt and adjust to almost any location and building. The truck deploys stabilizing mounts to help keep the apparatus secure on uneven roads and hills. As GPFD continues to grow and expand, our firefighters will be able to fight fires effectively and safely with this new apparatus.



# SQUAD 5

Squad 5 is one of the newest apparatus to join the Grand Prairie Fire Department fleet. Standing at 11 1/2 feet, the Squad was uniquely made for the City of Grand Prairie and its growing demand.

This apparatus serves primarily for Hazmat response but can be used for any major incidents and as a mobile command post. Its interior expands with a walkable workspace to give firefighters space to research and analyze chemicals to properly determine how to approach incidents. Squad 5 also has dual awnings, a mounted outdoor TV monitor, and compartments specifically made to store and transport equipment to mitigate hazardous material incidents.



# PERSONNEL

The protection of our firefighters is of utmost importance. Each tool and piece of fire gear is tested on an annual basis. Fire bunker gear has a life span of five years due to the wear and tear of thermal protection each year. As one of the most important pieces of firefighting equipment, bunker gear protects the firefighter from smoke and heat as they extinguish fires. Each firefighter has two sets of bunker gear to reduce the risk of cancer in the fire service by allowing washing in between incidents and reducing the exposure to contaminated equipment from a fire.

In 2022, GPFD changed its staffing schedule from 24/48 to 48/96, which means that firefighters now work for two days straight and have four days off as they rotate from three different shifts.



SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS MASK \$450

BUNKER GEAR SET (INCLUDING HELMET, BOOTS, HOOD, GLOVES) \$2,500

HANDHELD RADIO \$2,600

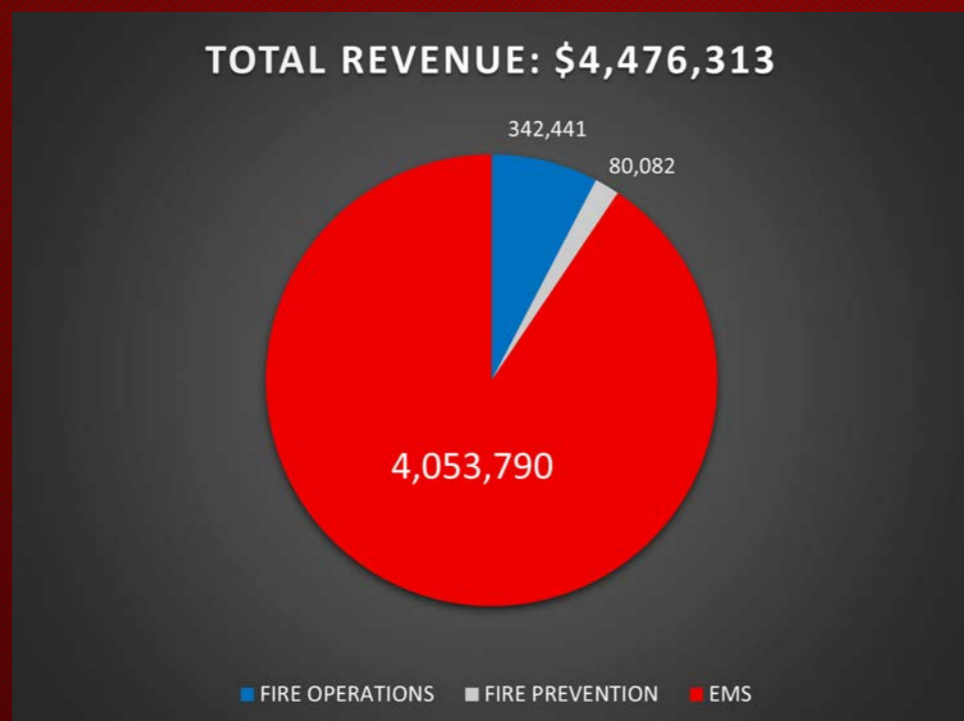
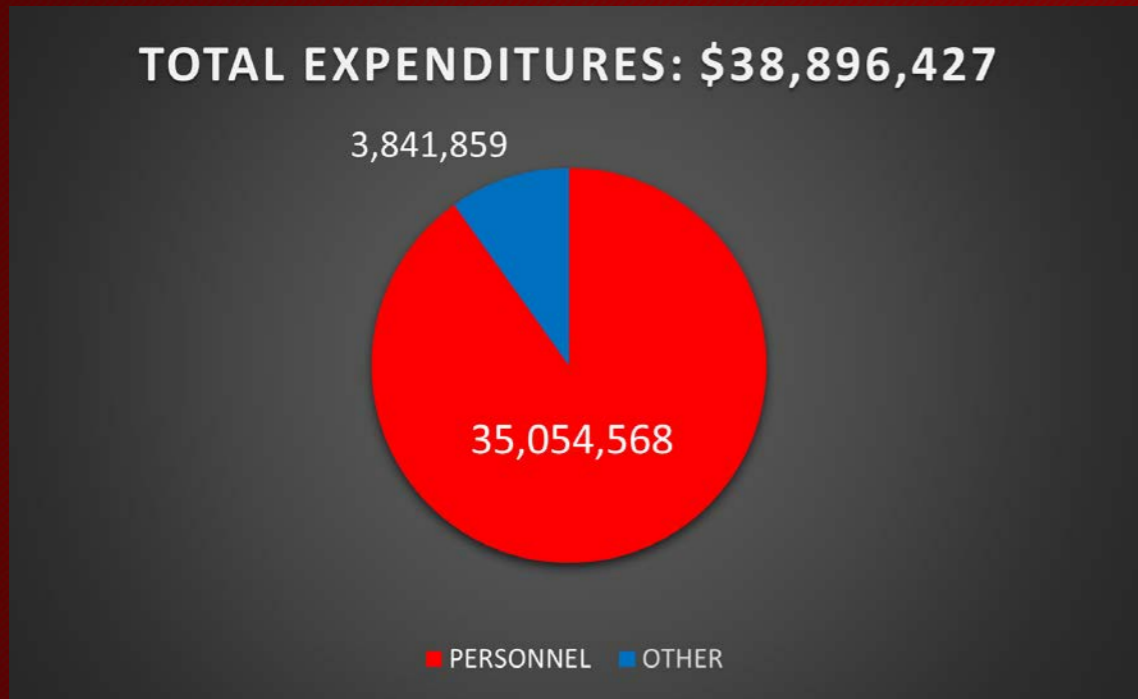
LED LIGHT \$135

THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA \$11,500



# FINANCIALS

The Grand Prairie Fire Department is funded through the General Fund of the City's overall budget to help keep our community protected and safe. General Fund revenues come from two main sources: sales tax and property tax. To help ease the General Fund, the Fire Department generates revenue through various forms, as shown in the total revenue pie chart.



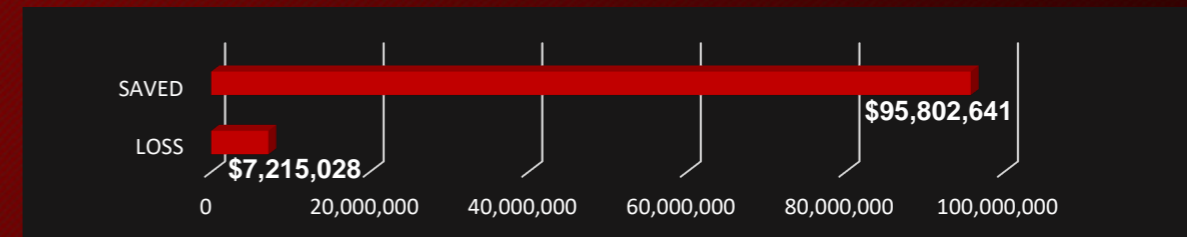
# FIRE STATISTICS

In 2022, the Grand Prairie Fire Department responded to 22,333 total calls. This total is a 4% increase from 2021. Non-EMS related incidents account for 30% of the department's total calls.

**GPFD responded to 710 fires in 2022.**



**The total value of property involved in a fire was \$103,017,669.**



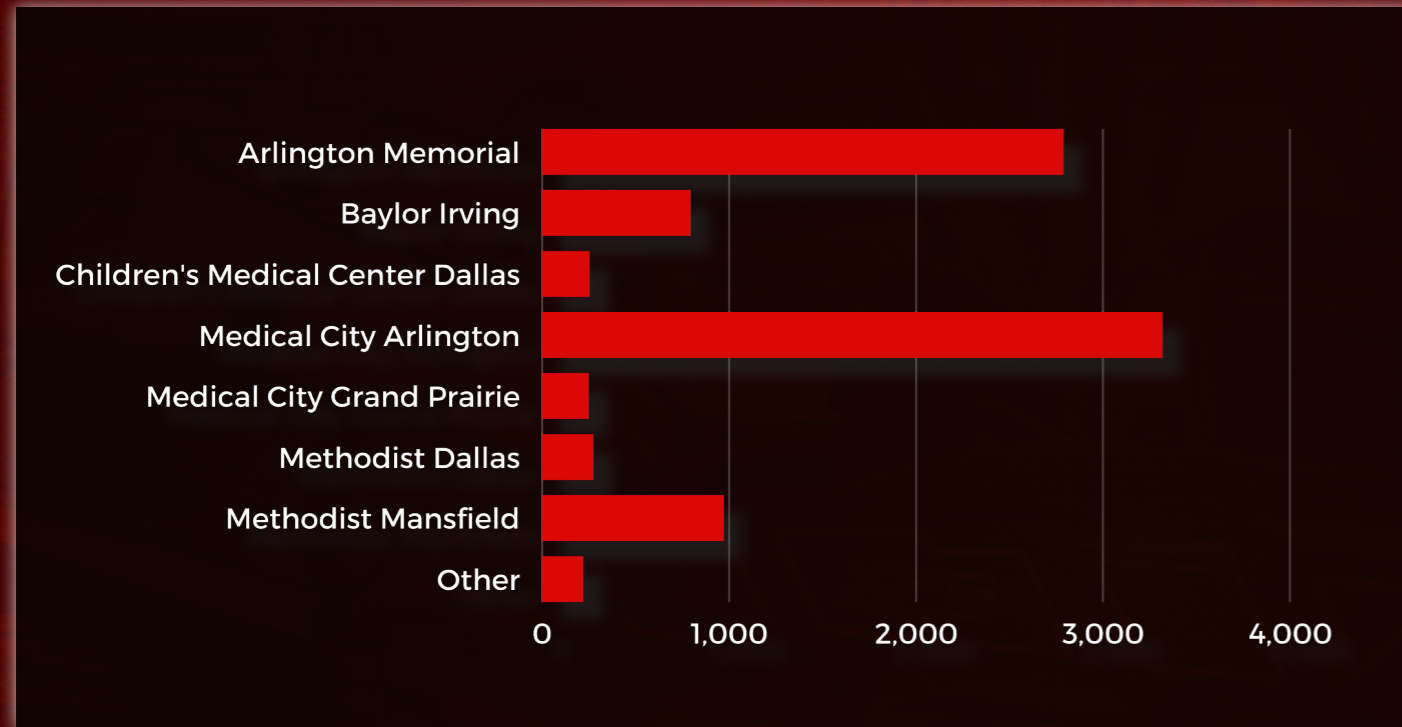
## FIRE PREVENTION

The first step to protecting the citizens and visitors of Grand Prairie starts with Fire Prevention. Our Fire Inspectors and Plan Examiners re-view various plan types, including building, site, and life safety systems, to ensure compliance with the adopted fire code and the associated standards to eliminate or control a fire before it starts.

**# OF INSPECTIONS: 1,433**

# EMS

GPFD's mission is to provide the best patient care from the moment of first contact to the arrival at the hospital.



**Medications Administered:**  
3,862

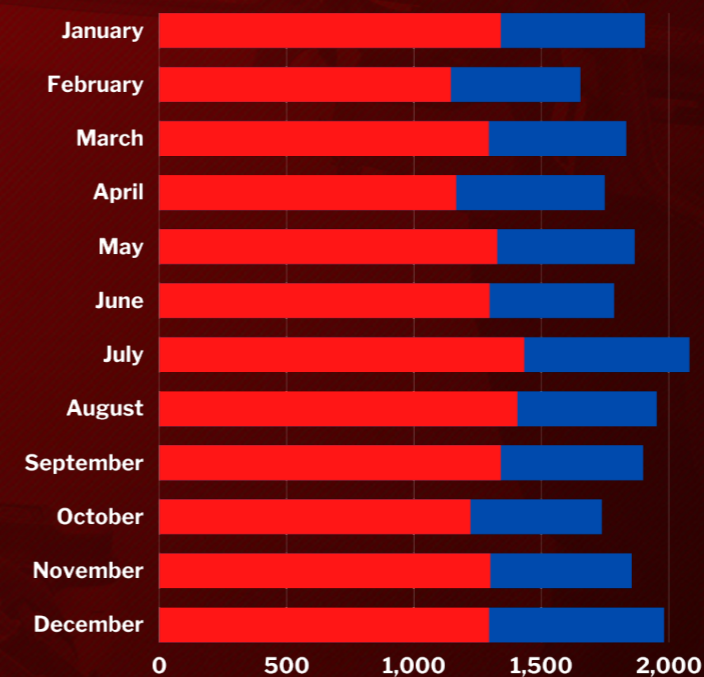
**IV'S STARTED:**  
4,252

**CARDIAC ARREST PATIENTS**  
SURVIVAL RATE: 11.5%  
NATIONAL SURVIVAL RATE: 7.4%

**GPFD UTSTEIN**  
(WITNESSED, V-FIB INITIAL RHYTHM)  
SURVIVAL RATE: 37.5%  
(NATIONAL UTSTEIN SURVIVAL RATE: 24.9%)

## EMS VS. NON-EMS INCIDENTS

	EMS	NON EMS	TOTAL
JANUARY	1,399	565	1,964
FEBRUARY	1,143	508	1,651
MARCH	1,292	539	1,831
APRIL	1,164	583	1,747
MAY	1,325	539	1,864
JUNE	1,295	488	1,783
JULY	1,431	648	2,079
AUGUST	1,404	547	1,951
SEPTEMBER	1,339	558	1,897
OCTOBER	1,220	515	1,735
NOVEMBER	1,298	554	1,852
DECEMBER	1,293	686	1,979
<b>2022 TOTAL INCIDENTS</b>	<b>15,603</b>	<b>6,730</b>	<b>22,333</b>
<b>2021 TOTAL INCIDENTS</b>	<b>15,201</b>	<b>6,238</b>	<b>21,439</b>



# TRAINING

**69,747** | **TOTAL TRAINING STAFF HOURS**

**287** | **AVERAGE TRAINING HOURS PER STAFF**

In 2022, GPFD's Training Division focused on creating multiple live fire scenarios involving the entire department and emergency dispatchers to help strengthen skills and communication on the fireground. With consistent training, GPFD strives to be as proficient as possible when it comes to protecting the lives and property of the residents and visitors of the City of Grand Prairie.

Not only do our firefighters exceed all minimum training requirements, but they are also trained in advanced specialty operation groups such as:

- Above and Below Grade Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- Dive and Underwater Search and Rescue
- Emergency Management
- Hazardous Materials Response
- Rope Rescue
- SWAT Paramedics
- Swift Water Rescue
- Wildland Response



## BELLA VISTA

For three weeks straight, GPFD used the entire month of March to train in the Bella Vista Inn and Suites before its demolition.

The training rotations were split into different focuses every week, with the first week consisting of search and rescue and various hose operations techniques. During week 2, firefighters went over forcible entry, wall breaching, and rotary saws. Lastly, on the final week of training, staff heavily instructed on ventilation, ground ladders, and a live "Mayday" scenario in collaboration with dispatchers where firefighters rescue a trapped firefighter in a two-story structure.



## JOINT TRAINING CENTER



The Grand Prairie and Irving Joint Training Center is a five-story structure located in Irving that helps mimic an active fire in different scenarios, such as a bedroom or kitchen filled with heavy smoke.

GPFD's Training Division set up two scenarios for firefighters, one occurring throughout the day and one at night. The scenarios created different conditions they could experience when responding to a structure fire and rescuing victims. Both trainings included forcible entry, hose deployment, hose operations, and victim rescues.

# SPECIAL OPERATIONS

## PUBLIC SAFETY DIVE TEAM

Summer is the busiest season for GPFD's dive team, as they patrol Joel Pool Lake and it's hundreds of visitors every single day of the week. The dive team is equipped with high a end radar that helps the team visualize where they are searching.

During off season, the divers train alongside the Grand Prairie Police Department to keep their skills sharp in different temperature environments and to stay up to date with the latest techniques. GPFD has also assisted in several mutual aid calls over the year, helping other cities with recoveries.



## SWIFTWATER

Our Swift Water members are located at Station 8 and 10. This year, the Swift Water Team was deployed in the month of August, as several areas in Grand Prairie flooded in result of heavy rain fall. They helped several citizens who were stuck in vehicles and flooded buildings.

Training for Swift Water took place at the TCC Campus, where several members went through a course refresher consisting of self-rescue, victim rescue, rope systems, night drills, and much more. Members also trained in the Trinity River and at Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark.





# HAZMAT

Housed at Station 5, GPFD's Hazmat team responds to fuel spills, oil spills, and any other incidents where there is a known or unknown hazardous substance. The Hazmat team is equipped with state of the art of equipment stored on Squad 5.

Every member must be able to analyze incidents, decide if more resources are needed, implement a strategy, and evaluate the progress of the incident. GPFD's Hazmat team has assisted cities throughout the region with natural gas leaks, fuel spills, and more. In total, the team responded to 477 hazmat-related incidents in 2022.

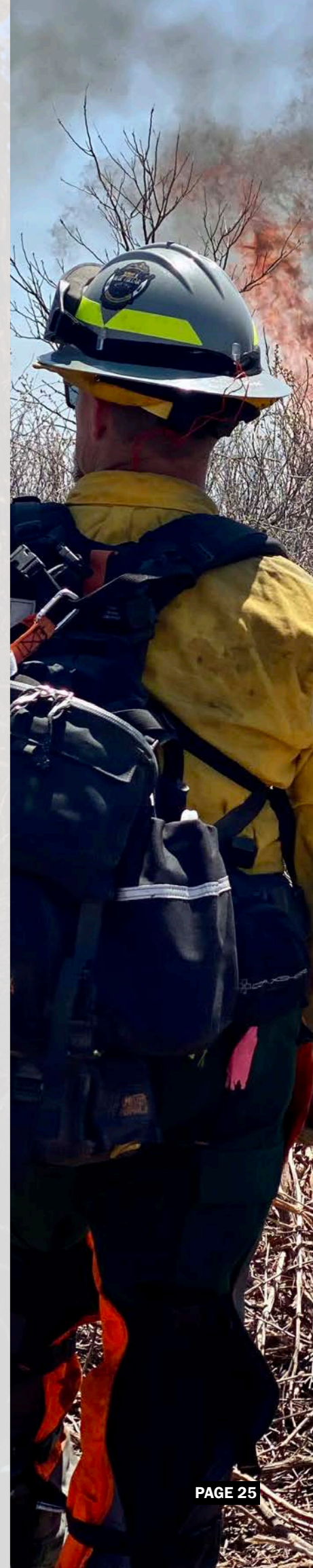


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# WILDLAND

The Wildland Team is the newest addition to the department's Special Operations teams. 2022 was a significant year for the Wildland team, as members were deployed all over Texas as part of TIFMAS (Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System), a program maintained by the Texas A&M Forest Service. These deployments can last up to 2 weeks, with members spending day and night creating firelines, cutting down vegetation, and using brush trucks to help control and extinguish the fire to protect communities.

The team was deployed six times with a total of 3,192 deployment hours in 2022. These deployments will allow GPFD to continue to learn how to support major incidents at the local and state level.



# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Emergency Management is the organization charged with creating the framework which helps our City reduce vulnerability to hazards and respond to incidents and disasters. Our Vision is to be a world-class organization with coordinated capabilities in the field of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Our Mission is to create a resilient community through a comprehensive and integrated emergency management framework that minimizes the loss of life and property from an all-hazard perspective through prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery.

Grand Prairie accomplishes this by creating and maintaining a hazard vulnerability assessment/emergency action plan, an all-hazards operation plan with 22 functional annexes, a multi-year training/exercise program with public and private partners, and the management of various Homeland Security and State disaster preparedness and recovery programs equaling over **\$265k**. For FY22, the Office of Emergency Management won three competitive grant awards related to emergency plans and infrastructure. Notably, Grand Prairie OEM, in partnership with the City of Irving, out of eight applicants in the State, received the only State of Texas Emergency Radio Infrastructure (SERI) grant award for the entire North Texas region for **\$1 Million**.

At the end of FY22, OEM added a fourth position to the program to better support the City's continued expansion and growth. The new Preparedness and Resilience Coordinator position will promote whole-community resiliency through disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation actions.

## DISASTER RESPONSE



### **WINTER WEATHER:**

Throughout 2022, Grand Prairie experienced three separate winter weather events, bringing below-freezing conditions, travel impacts due to ice, and widespread power & natural gas outages. In response, OEM activated the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for multiple days with key stakeholders, coordinated City resources and information to residents and employees, and activated a Warming Center at the Public Safety Building.



### **SEVERE WEATHER**

OEM responded to 12 Tornado, Severe Thunderstorm, and Flash Flood warnings from the National Weather Service over the year.



### **APARTMENT FIRES**

In partnership with the American Red Cross, OEM responded to two large apartment fires by coordinating resources and relocation for affected residents.

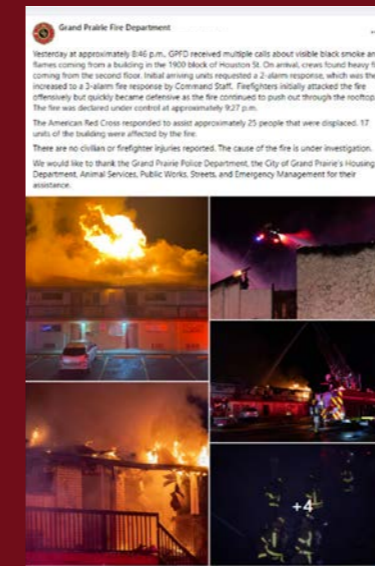
## SPECIAL EVENTS

The Office of Emergency Management continues to support safe and successful special events in the City of Grand Prairie. Overseeing the permit application process, OEM ensures that each permit meets City standards and public safety policies before approval. Our office processed over 140 special event applications through coordination with eight City departments in 2022. In the same year, we estimated an attendance of 450,000 people across City and citizen-sponsored Grand Prairie events. That's double our current population! Whether you are a citizen of Grand Prairie or just here to visit, we encourage you to experience one of our GRAND events!

# COMMUNITY

Our strength is in our community! As a department, we are thankful for the support we receive daily from local businesses and residents in the city. In 2022, the department resumed station tours and school demonstrations to enhance fire safety awareness among Grand Prairie residents of all ages.

Through social media and news media, GPF is able to connect with Grand Prairie and followers around the country as our firefighters show their pride and dedication to our city! Stay up to date with GPF by following us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tiktok. Any critical information, department events, and photos of your firefighters will be updated online.



**GRAND PRAIRIE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
16.6K users

**@GPTXFIRE**  
2K users

**@GPTXFIRE**  
2K users

**@GPTXFIRE**  
31K users

# AWARDS



## ISO 1 RATING

The Grand Prairie Fire Department maintained the City's ISO 1 rating throughout the pandemic. As a department, we are proud to continue to provide the citizens of Grand Prairie with the opportunity of competitive insurance premiums as a result of the City's ISO 1 rating and our commitment to fire protection.

Most insurance companies use an ISO rating to predict and analyze risk when establishing insurance premiums. Approximately 46,000 fire departments around the country are evaluated and classified every ten years by the Insurance Service Office (ISO), a risk management firm for the insurance industry, using a Public Protection Classification (PPC) program. The score is determined from 1 to 100 on a 100-point grading system.

## EMS GOLD STANDARD AWARD

For the eighth year, GPFD has received the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline EMS Gold Plus Award for implementing quality improvement measures to treat patients who experience severe heart attacks. Every year, more than 250,000 people experience an ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), the deadliest type of heart attack caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it's critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible, either by mechanically opening the blocked vessel or providing clot-busting medication.

The Mission: Lifeline initiative provides tools, training, and other resources to support heart attack care following protocols from the most recent evidence-based treatment guidelines. Mission: Lifeline's EMS recognition program recognizes emergency medical services for their efforts in improving systems of care to rapidly identify suspected heart attack patients, promptly notify the medical center and trigger an early response from the awaiting hospital personnel.



### Q. HOW DO I REPORT A FIRE HYDRANT ISSUE?

If you see a malfunctioning fire hydrant, please call the city's water utilities department at 972-237-8200.

### Q. HOW DO I REQUEST A FIRE REPORT?

To request a fire report, visit [www.gptx.org/fire/reports](http://www.gptx.org/fire/reports) or in-person at the GPFD kiosk located at 1525 Arkansas Ln. - 2nd Floor. For additional information please call 972-237-8312.

### Q. WHEN IS THE NEXT FIREFIGHTER ENTRANCE EXAM?

Visit [www.gptx.org/fire](http://www.gptx.org/fire) to fill out a job interest card to receive notifications on upcoming entrance exams as well as qualification information.

### Q. HOW DO I SCHEDULE A STATION OR ENGINE TOUR?

Demonstrations and fire station tours need to be scheduled a week in advance. Visit [www.gptx.org/fire](http://www.gptx.org/fire) to complete a tour application or call 972-237-8311 for more information.

### Q. WHERE DO I REPORT ILLEGAL BURNING OR FIREWORKS?

Please contact our dispatch non-emergency number at 972-837-8700 to report illegal burning or fireworks.





Grand Prairie Fire Department  
1525 Arkansas Lane - 3rd Floor  
Grand Prairie, Texas 75052  
[www.gptx.org/fire](http://www.gptx.org/fire)

Emergency: 911  
Non Emergency Line: 972-237-8700  
Admin: 972-237-8300