



*Beachwood Department of
Fire-Rescue*

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Note from Fire Chief Steven Holtzman:

Thank you for viewing our 2023 Annual Report. We are proud to show our department experienced another successful year serving the City of Beachwood. We are honored to work closely with our Mayor, City Council, and other City Departments to provide the best Emergency Services possible.

Throughout this report you will see our department connected with the community, carried out numerous improvement projects, and conducted thousands of training hours across various specialties all while effectively handling thousands of emergency calls for service.

We would like to thank our residents, businesses, and visitors for their continued support. We look forward to serving this amazing community in 2024.

Thank you and stay safe!

Respectfully,
Fire Chief Steven Holtzman



**BEACHWOOD DEPARTMENT OF
FIRE – RESCUE
MISSION STATEMENT:**

It is the Mission of the Beachwood Department of Fire-Rescue to provide and deliver efficient, progressive, performance-based emergency services to preserve life and property for our community.



BEACHWOOD DEPARTMENT OF FIRE - RESCUE
2023 ROSTER AS OF 6/20/23

Steven M. Holtzman, Fire Chief

A Shift

Capt. Corpora
Lt. Domonkos
Lt. Peterson
FF Balog
FF Russell
FF Wochele
FF Kustra
FF Coyne
FF M. Holtzman
FF Ockenden
FF Unger
FF Shellenbarger
FF Hogle
FF Gullett
FF McCurdy

Assistant Chief

Shaun Lutz

B Shift

Capt. Hank
Lt. Iacobucci
Lt. Leffler
FF Brooks
FF Lucas
FF Spisak
FF Ricco
FF Searles
FF Dodson
FF Welsh
FF DiAntonio
FF Titterington
FF Worley
FF Hopkins
FF Szabo

Fire Prevention

Jessica Nevison
Benjamin Reed

C Shift

Capt. Strazzo
Lt. Bell
Lt. Thompson
FF Russo
FF Liggett
FF Majetich
FF Ripley
FF Gromek
FF Anderson
FF Robinson
FF McDermott
FF Roach
FF Baird
FF Fisher
FF Buckey

Administration

Therese Ferritto
Cathleen Nych

Personnel Report 2023



May 8th
FF McKayla Szabo hired



September 5th
Lieutenant Domonkos was promoted to Assistant Chief



FF Dan Wochele was honored as 2023 Firefighter of the Year



Lieutenant Mike Bell retired from Beachwood Fire and joined the Upper Arlington Fire Department



Firefighter Ted Mahoney retired after 20 years of service with Beachwood Fire



Assistant Chief Shaun Lutz left the department to join Aurora Fire Department

We would like to thank these 3 gentlemen for all of their years of hard work and dedication to the Beachwood Fire Department. Good luck!

**CALLS FOR SERVICE:
EMS / FIRE**

2023 EMS and Fire Calls by Zone

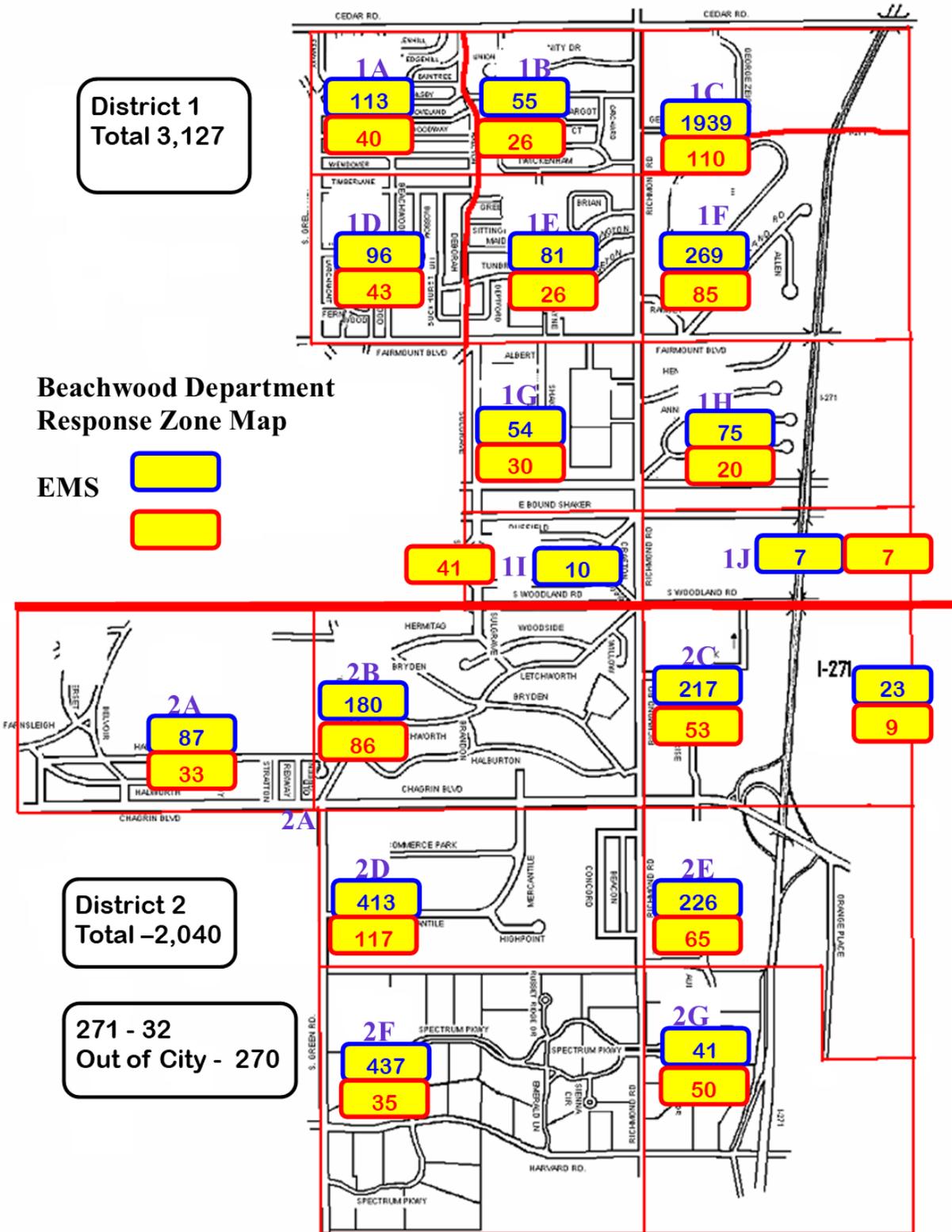
Zone	EMS	Fire
1A	113	40
1B	55	26
1C	1939	110
1D	96	43
1E	81	26
1F	269	85
1G	54	30
1H	75	20
1I	41	10
1J	7	7
2A	87	33
2B	180	86
2C	217	53
2D	413	117
2E	226	65
2F	437	35
2G	41	50
I-271	23	9
Out	94	176

2023 EMS and Fire Calls by District

District 1
Total 3,127

Beachwood Department
Response Zone Map

EMS
Fire



District 2
Total - 2,040

271 - 32
Out of City - 270

Training 2023 Report

Training continues to be a strong focus of the Beachwood Fire Department. We strive to be thoroughly trained in all facets of our profession. In 2023, the Department logged **4,160 training hours** which is over a 500 hour increase from 2022.

The department training is accomplished in many different facets. BFD utilizes on-line material and classes, hands on in-house training, conferences, seminars and regional multi-department drills to maintain our department's training requirements. The BFD bases our curriculum on industry standards set forth locally, at the state level and nationally.

In 2023 our major points of training emphasis included:

- Regional Aerial Operations Joint Training
- Regional Joint Training for Rescue Task Force (RTF)
- Blue Card Incident Command Training
- Special Teams Trainings
- Hands on Fire Training in Acquired Structures



Emergency Medical Services (EMS) 2023 Report

2023 was a busy year with EMS in The Beachwood Fire Department. Our 3 Rescue Squads were busy with 4,331 transports. Beachwood Fire offers advanced life support 911 services with rapid response times and paramount professionalism. Our crews have minimal down time while at the station because of the 911 call demands.

Beachwood fire continues to develop new Paramedic and Emergency Medical Technicians by being a site to provide field internships for students. In all elements of training, instruction will be designed to prepare competent entry- level Paramedics in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and effective (behavior) learning domains with or without exit points at the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician and/or Emergency Medical Technician, and/or Emergency Medical Responder levels.

3 Affiliate Programs

- UH Geauga Medical Center
- Auburn Career Center
- Premier Health & Safety Academy

Students spent 78 days with our Beachwood Paramedics with 689.5 hours of clinical instruction. The students find it rewarding to come to a department that has a high run volume to obtain the number of skills needed to complete the Paramedic/EMT program. June and July were the only months we did not have students because the programs take a break in the summer months. Our Beachwood Paramedics find enjoyment teaching the next generation of Paramedics.



Honor Guard 2023 Report

The Beachwood Fire Department Honor Guard is a group of dedicated members designated to provide support to firefighters and their families in times of loss, honor members of the military and community and provide a positive representation of the department at requested community events.

The ranks were reduced to eight members participating due to the retirement of Lt. Bell. A new member will take his place in 2024. The current members in the Honor Guard:

- Lt. Peterson
- FF Balog – Team Leader
- FF Brooks
- FF Lucas
- FF Liggett
- FF Anderson
- FF Welsh
- FF Fisher



In addition to the quarterly training sessions, the team attended the annual Veteran's Day ceremony, various city council meetings and presented the colors for a Cleveland Charge basketball game.

The members also attended funerals throughout the year for department members who lost an immediate family member. While attending these ceremonies is not pleasurable, the support that we can provide the families is immeasurable.



FIRE PREVENTION 2023 REPORT

Fire Prevention Bureau 2023 Report

In 2023 the Fire Prevention Bureau continued plan reviews and commercial inspections. These inspections included annual fire inspections for all businesses, schools and City buildings. A large percentage of those inspections cover construction projects and conducting pre-inspection and acceptance testing on all new or modified fire lines, standpipes, sprinkler, kitchen hood suppression and fire alarm systems.

Our Fire Prevention Bureau consists of two full-time Fire Inspectors. At this time, all occupancies requiring an annual fire inspection have been divided between the inspectors to make sure all inspections are completed in a timely manner.

Through building working relationships and educating business owners, managers, and facilities workers, the Fire Prevention Bureau takes great pride in attempting to decrease the number of violations discovered each year. Educating our businesses in Fire Prevention greatly reduces major hazards. With a continued effort to decrease violations and commercial fire alarm response, the Fire Prevention Bureau continues the objectives of education and prevention in the City of Beachwood.



Beachwood Fire Department Fire Investigations

HHRFIU Report

The Hillcrest Regional Fire Investigation Strike Force was created in 1997 to assist our membership with the determination of fire origin / cause within each respective community. The team later expanded in 2018 / 2019 to include the cities of Cleveland Heights, Euclid, Shaker Heights, and University Heights. The fire investigation unit has been renamed Hillcrest-Heights Regional Fire Investigation Unit (HHRFIU) to better-reflect all communities in our membership. This year, the Chiefs formally approved our proposed (new) HHRFIU logo / patch.

The HHRFIU functions with an ever-increasing roster of (currently 46) fire investigators who proudly serve the following (13) communities:

- Beachwood
- Cleveland Heights
- Euclid
- Gates Mills
- Highland Heights
- Lyndhurst
- Mayfield Heights
- Mayfield Village
- Pepper Pike
- Richmond Heights
- South Euclid
- Shaker Heights
- University Heights

There were (12) requests for the Hillcrest-Heights Fire Investigation Unit in 2023:

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. 01/09/2023 | Lyndhurst FD | 7. 03/03/2023 | Lyndhurst FD |
| 2. 01/27/2023 | Richmond Hts FD | 8. 03/17/2023 | Cleveland Hts FD |
| 3. 02/15/2023 | Cleveland Hts FD | 9. 08/03/2023 | Cleveland Hts FD |
| 4. 02/23/2023 | University Hts FD | 10. 08/15/2023 | South Euclid FD |
| 5. 02/25/2023 | South Euclid FD | 11. 10/12/2023 | Euclid FD |
| 6. 02/28/2023 | South Euclid FD | 12. 12/04/2023 | Cleveland Hts FD |
| | | 13. 12/29/2023 | Cleveland Hts FD |

The team normally meets bi-monthly for 2-3 hours of case review and continuing education. As a team, we continuously strive to utilize best-practices and embrace new technologies. This year our in-house training consisted of a presentation by Adam Roy (Fire & Explosion Consultants, LLC.) discussing their investigative capabilities / resources available to our team, and our in-house (required) Respiratory Protection refresher. Additionally, our team continues to work with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) agents to utilize the no-cost national Bomb Arson Tracking System (BATS) reporting software system. The BATS software system gives HHRFIU investigators the ability to work seamlessly with ATF and/or SFM investigators. We now can combine our investigation data into one unified fire investigation report as well as track arson investigations / trends in our region.

Lastly, HHRFIU finished 2023 just under our approved budget. The major expense for this year, aside from our Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), was the replacement of all (6) tires on Unit 677 due to age (>10 years old).

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY,
LIEUTENANT TIMOTHY J. NELSON
FIRE INVESTIGATOR / HHRFIU DIRECTOR**

Beachwood Fire Department FIU

The Beachwood Fire Department Fire Investigators conducted two investigations in 2023 without requiring the Assistance of the HHRFIU.

On 4/13/2023, BFD Investigated a fire at the Fairmount Temple located at 23737 Fairmount Boulevard. The cause of the fire was unspecified electrical. Special Agent Clay McClausen from the Cleveland ATF Office assisted with this investigation. The Ohio State Fire Marshalls Office was notified of this fire due to the type of occupancy.

On 12/29/2023 Beachwood Fire and Police Departments investigated a fire at the Beachwood Yeshiva High School located at 25400 Fairmount Blvd. The cause of the fire was determined to be incendiary, and one suspect was taken into custody and charged criminally by Beachwood Police Department. The Ohio State Fire Marshalls Office was notified of this fire due to the type of occupancy.



Beachwood Construction Projects 2023

We continued the trend of commercial growth and experienced another exciting year for the fire prevention bureau. The bureau is always excited to be a part of the planning & construction phases that lead great businesses and infrastructure for the City of Beachwood and our neighboring Communities.

Porsche Dealership

Porsche dealership began construction on new facility located on Orange Place. Completion date set for 2024. This facility will be an upgrade from their previous location on Chagrin Boulevard.



University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center

In 2021, Gilbane Construction began a 3-year project to add on to the current emergency room as well as a women's health center and a brand-new state of the art sports medicine facility. The project was completed in 2023.



FIRE PREVENTION PERMITS



Annual permits are issued to City businesses in order to track the use of hazardous and flammable materials that are stored in reportable quantities or any manufacturing process that may be deemed hazardous by the Ohio Fire Code. Annual permits are also issued for places of assembly such as temples, schools, and restaurants. Occupancies that have the ability to have large gatherings must be monitored for issues of general

safety and egress.

Special permits are issued to companies and persons doing limited-time work or holding special events in Beachwood. These permits alert the Department of Fire-Rescue to the temporary gathering of large numbers of people and or use of chemicals, materials and hazardous or flammable procedures, such as welding and storage of propane or other fuels for heat or construction use. Fire Prevention Bureau personnel inspect each site requiring special permits to ensure that all required safety devices and precautions are present and observed.

In 2023, the Beachwood Department of Fire-Rescue collected \$3,275.00 in both annual and special permit fees. Numerous additional fees for Fire Prevention are collected through the Building Department.

FIRE PREVENTION TRAINING

Members of the Fire Prevention Bureau are currently active with the Hillcrest Regional Fire Investigation Strike Force and the Northeast Ohio Fire Prevention Association (NEOFPA) which allows the surrounding communities to pool resources and talent in the investigation of fires and provides valuable networking in areas of continuing education.

The State of Ohio mandates that Fire Inspectors must attend 24 hours of continuing education over a 3-year period. The Northeast Ohio Fire Prevention Association provides our inspectors with monthly opportunities to obtain this valuable training.

We will continue to keep current with new methodologies and technologies in the fire investigative and inspection fields to provide the best service possible to the residents of Beachwood.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS REPORTS

Technical Rescue 2023 Report

The Beachwood Fire Department has 6 members who are part of the Heights-Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team. 2023 was another successful year for our team. Our team provides special rescue services to all of eastern Cuyahoga County, as well as, the city of Willoughby, and Willoughby Hills. The Heights-Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team provides special rescue services in the following disciplines: Rope Rescue, Confined Space, Trench Rescue, Structural Collapse, and Water Rescue. The rescue team is comprised of, 90, specially trained firefighters from eighteen fire departments. By utilizing this regional approach, the team is able to provide specialized services that no individual city could provide by themselves. Our team's specialized equipment is housed on six, Rescue Trucks, which are placed in fire stations throughout our service area.

The team also provides reciprocal rescue services to the Chagrin/Southeast communities in exchange for their Hazardous Material response capabilities. In addition to local training and emergency responses, the Heights – Hillcrest Rescue Team works closely with the Ohio Region 2, USAR Team, the Ohio Region 2, Water Rescue Team, Southwest Emergency Response Team, and the Westshore Technical Rescue Team



There was a total of 10 team call outs in 2023. This was a slower year than normal. The team normally responds to 20-25 callouts. These callouts involved 8, structural collapse calls, and two rope rescue calls.

Our team conducts twelve monthly training sessions. These trainings ensure, that our members stay proficient with their technical skills. These trainings provide invaluable experience to our members, and assures that the team is always ready to respond to any situation we are called for.

The Heights - Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team requires that all of our members are certified as Rescue technician's, in all rescue discipline's, with the exception of Rescue Diver. The teams' commitment to training, allows our members to operate safely, effectively, and efficiently in extremely hazardous situations.



Hazardous Materials (HazMat) 2023 Report

Haz-Mat Team Highlights of 2023

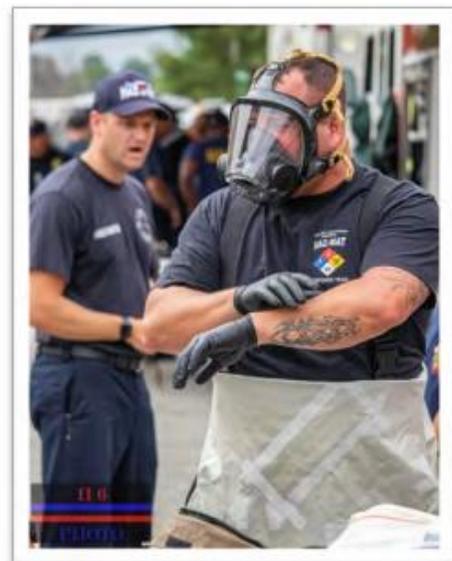
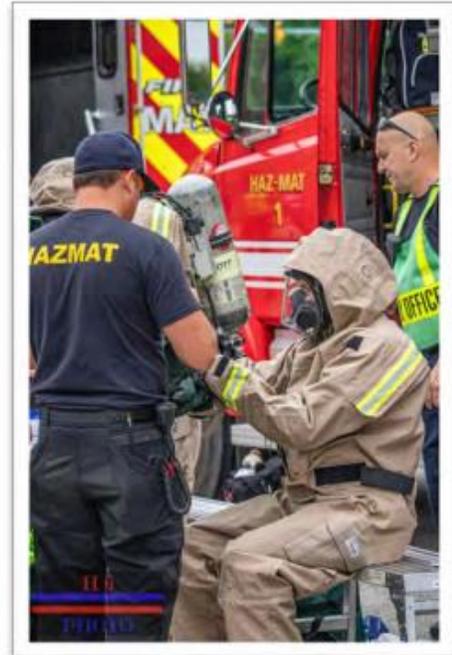
Council of Governments

Annual COG Meeting – January 19, 2023 – Solon City Hall

- Elected officers of the COG
- Approved 2023 Budget
- Authorized purchase of new box truck
- Approved scheduled replacement portable radios

Equipment

- Purchase of the new box truck continued to be delayed due to supply chain issues in the truck manufacturing industry.
- Replaced Hydrofluoric Acid Medical Kit, Cyanide Antidote Kits, Duodote Cache, and Hydrogen Sulfide Antidote Kits
- Replaced various expiring CMS Chips, Gastec Tubes, M256A1 Kits, sensors and calibration gas, as well as Level A and Level B PPE with federal grant funds
- All SCBA's and SAR's were bench tested by MES
- Purchased kit of assorted adapters to be used with 1" Propane Flaring Kit with SERC funds.
- Replaced six (6) additional Motorola Portable Radios as part of required updating of all radios to DFA by 2025.
- Purchased replacement overpack containers and drums shipping and recycling damaged, defective and/or recalled Lithium Ion Batteries
- Replaced drawer system on Hazmat 1 for gloves.



Haz-Mat Team Training – 2023

DATE	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
January 21, 2023	Inventory and Organize Equipment – All Hazmat Vehicles & Trailers	Solon FD
February 21, 2023	Lithium Ion Batteries Emergencies – Portable, Vehicle & BESS	Orange Village FD
April 05, 2023	Cuyahoga County CBRNE Type 1 Team, Joint Training	Browns Stadium
April 11, 2023	Joint Confined Space Rescue Exercise with East Tech Rescue	
March 06, 2023	ToxMedic – Antidotes – 8 hours	Warrensville Hts
April 24, 2023	Joint Training with FBI – Suspected Biological Agent Sampling	Bainbridge
May 15, 2023	Flammable Liquid Tank Trucks, Foam Operations, Grounding & Bonding	Chagrin Valley FD
June 12, 2023	Tabletop Exercise – Industrial Cyanide Release	Solon
June 27, 2023	Confined Space Rescue Drill	Tri-C West
July 10, 2023	Radiation: Fundamentals of Emergency Response – ODH	Bainbridge
August 21, 2023	Joint CBRNE Exercise with ONG 52 nd WMD CST	Solon
September 20, 2023	Joint Cuyahoga County Railroad Exercise with Norfolk Southern	Lorain
September 25, 2023	Technical and Mass Decontamination, Inventory Decon Trailer	Garfield Heights
October 06, 2023	Confined Space Rescue Drill	Beachwood
November 03, 2023	Ohio Hazmat Teams Conference – 0800-1630	Solon Community Center
November 04, 2023	Ohio Hazmat Teams Conference – 0800-1630	Solon Community Center
November 11-13, 2023	Hazmat Instructors and Commanders Conference	Ft Lauderdale, FL
December 18, 2023	Scenario Based Size-Up and IAP Development	Solon FD



Propane Flare Training at Port of Cleveland

Haz-Mat Incident Summary - 2023

<u>Summary</u>	<u>Incident Communities</u>	<u>Incident Types</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HCO Phone Consult 07• Limited Team Response 08• Full Team Response 02	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beachwood• Bedford• Chagrin Falls• Euclid x2• Maple Heights x2• Mayfield Heights• Oakwood Village• Solon x6• South Euclid• Warrensville Heights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Runaway Chemical Reaction• Threat Letter to Mayor• Industrial Chemical Spill in RR• Gasoline into Storm• Garbage Truck Fire with Hydraulic Fluid Spill• Abandoned Radioactive Material x 2• Chemical Reaction – Chlorine Gas• Muriatic Acid Spill in Truck• Potassium Hydroxide Truck Accident• Damaged, Overheated Lithium Ion Battery x 2• Transformer Leaking Oil x2• Overtured concrete mixer with diesel leak• Hydrochloric Acid Spill• Leaking Cryogenic CO2 Cylinder
<hr/> <p style="text-align: right;">Total Incidents 17</p>		



Norfolk Southern Railroad Exercise in Lorain
September 2023

Public Education and Public Relations 2023 Report

During 2023, the Beachwood Department of Fire-Rescue performed fire and safety education and attend public relations events throughout the community. The department had a packed schedule, participating in numerous events throughout the community. Events included:

- Honk n Hauling Parade
- National Night Out
- 6 Beachwood High School football games
- Beachwood Summer Day Camp
- Mandel Day School “Hero Day”
- BPM Race for the Place
- Beachwood Fall Fest
- Beachwood Safety Town
- 14 Block Parties
- Ahuja Hospital Expansion Grand Opening
- Sweet Dreams for Kids Event
- Jewish Federation Celebration
- Goddard School Visit
- Trick or Treat
- Fairmount School Summer Camp
- Kindercare Visit
- “Be Prepared” Event at Beachwood Place
- InMotion Fire Extinguisher Training
- BPM “Stop the Bleed Training”
- Shaarey Tikvah Summer Picnic
- Green Rd. Synagogue Hanukkah Event
- Fire Department Open House
- 15 CPR Classes



Tactical SWAT Paramedics 2023 Report



The Beachwood Department of Fire-Rescue provides tactical paramedics to support the E.D.G.E. (Eastern Department Group Enforcement) Regional SWAT Team comprised of the Cities of Beachwood, Euclid, South Euclid, University Heights, Shaker Heights, and Cleveland Heights. The tactical paramedic program is coordinated by Captain Anthony Strazzo. Captain Strazzo is responsible for ensuring training requirements are adhered to, coordinating the response of tactical paramedics to incidents, and acting as the liaison between the police and fire department during SWAT situations. The overall mission of a tactical paramedic is to provide emergency and preventive care to SWAT officers during deployments and training. In addition, tactical medics will provide care to suspects and civilians who may become injured during incidents.

Personnel: Current members of the team include:

Capt. Anthony Strazzo
FF Drew Spisak

Lt. Dave Peterson
FF Ben Welsh

Lt. Mike Iacobucci
FF. David Baird

Activations: During 2023, there were 69 activations of the Tactical Medics and EDGE SWAT Team. Missions were broken down into the following categories:

- Narcotics Warrants: 27
- Arrest Warrants: 6
- Barricaded Persons: 7
- Search: 19
- Other: 10
- **Total: 69**



Vehicle Maintenance and Repair 2023 Report

The Fire Department vehicles are maintained through three levels of expertise. The first level is in house by fire fighters completing daily checks and inspections, washing, waxing and minor repairs. The second level is the Beachwood Service Department mechanics for routine repairs and preventive maintenance. The third level is outside certified contractors: they complete all the testing and certifications of the fire pumps, the aerials and ground ladders for operation and safety.

In 2023 Engine 1011 was decommissioned due to increased maintenance costs rendering the vehicle ineffective. 1011 served a backup role and was not used as a front-line apparatus.

Additionally, the department purchased a new Park Rescue unit which replaced the original 'Park Rescue 1'. This unit is a 4 Wheel Drive Kawasaki Mule UTV which allows access to all portions of Shaker Park, as well as other off-road capabilities. Old Park Rescue 1 was repurposed and is still in use by the Beachwood Service Department.



Due to supply chain issues, the department is still awaiting delivery of an ALS Ambulance that was ordered in 2022.

An ambulance build that previously took six months is now estimated at two years. We are attempting to stay ahead of these issues and take these factors into consideration to maintain a safe and reliable fleet.

Below is a list of our emergency vehicle response vehicles current mileage and assignments:

<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Yearly Cost</u>
2020 Pierce	1012	14,600	Station#1	\$7,111.23
2011 E-One HP 78	1022	60,686	Station #2	\$15,607.90
2012 E-One CR-137	1025	36,516	Station #1	\$11,796.94
2017 Horton Rescue Squad	Squad 4	90,118	Station #2	\$6,315.94
2014 Horton Rescue Squad	Squad 3	117,928	Station#1	\$3,285.25
2020 Lifeline Rescue Squad	Squad 1	52,712	Station #2	\$3,000.62
2022 Lifeline Rescue Squad	Squad 2	26,848	Station #1	\$1,321.48
F-250	1071	3,956	Station #1	\$73.56
Ford F-150	1072	30,919	Station #2	\$19.46
Ford Explorer	1056	36,842	Fire Prevention	\$172.40
Ford Explorer	1055	30,919	Fire Prevention	\$247.98
2021 Ford F-150	1053	6,055	Command	\$0.00
	PR#1		Station #1	\$0.00

2023 Annual Report Conclusion

This concludes the City of Beachwood Department of Fire-Rescue 2023 Annual Report. We thank you for reading and thank you for your continued support!

We are honored to serve the City of Beachwood and we wish everyone a safe and successful 2024.

Please do not hesitate to contact the administrative offices if you should have any questions.

Stay Safe!

-Beachwood Department of Fire-Rescue

