

BOWLING GREEN FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

2024



625 E. 6TH AVE. BOWLING GREEN, KY 42101

BGKY.ORG/FIRE #MAKEITBETTER

BGFD COMMAND STAFF



BRET SMITH

Deputy Chief
Operations



JUSTIN BROOKS

Fire Chief



DOUG MORRIS

Deputy Chief
Logistics



MICHAEL BEAN

Battalion Chief
A Shift



JASON BROOKS

Assistant Chief
Prevention



TIM BUCHANON

Battalion Chief
C Shift



MATT FERGUSON

Battalion Chief
C Shift



JOE HARBIN

Battalion Chief
A Shift



SHANNON PARDUE

Assistant Chief
Training



ERIC SCOTT

Battalion Chief
B Shift



CRAIG WHITE

Battalion Chief
B Shift

ELECTED OFFICIALS



MAYOR

Todd Alcott



COMMISSIONER

Carlos Bailey



COMMISSIONER

Dana Beasley-Brown



COMMISSIONER

Melinda Hill



COMMISSIONER

Sue Parrigin

ANNUAL REPORT BY

Elyse Jonker, Executive Assistant



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**“THE PRESSURE
FOUND IN BEING
IN A BGFD
UNIFORM IS A
PRIVILEGE”**

JUSTIN BROOKS
FIRE CHIEF

FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK

2024 WILL BE REMEMBERED...

Time doesn't wait for anyone. The days seem longer than they used to, and the years continue to fly by. 2024 was here and then it wasn't. Turning the calendar to 2025, we reflect on a year's worth of service and sacrifice. The Bowling Green Fire Department experienced both triumphs and tragedy in 2024. Winston S. Churchill once said,

“To every man there comes in his lifetime that special moment when he is figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered a chance to do a very special thing, unique to him and fitted to his talents. What a tragedy if that moment finds him unprepared or unqualified for that which would be his finest hour.”

In 2024, the BGFD would be tapped on the shoulder and provided multiple opportunities to change the course of human life. Arriving on scene of working structural fires, the BGFD would successfully search, find, and rescue multiple citizens. For me, more pride in our people in the uniform was earned. Knowing now that all of the preparation on the training ground and in the firehouse led to a performance on scene when it mattered most, I respect and honor their sacrifice and do my part to serve those taking care of them. To meet the mission at its highest level, to serve, save, and protect, I am grateful today to work for people who take being a professional firefighter as seriously as the job of a firefighter places on those who continue to raise their hand and say, “Here am I, send me.” The pressure found in being in a BGFD uniform is a privilege.

More triumphs in 2024 include seeing four of our BGFD family retire both healthy and happy. A new fire station was opened and staffed in 2024, thus allowing more of our citizens to be served in the timeframes that are found in our stated benchmarks. Additional positions were added in Suppression, Code Enforcement, and in the Administration. Hypervigilance training was delivered to all personnel to help better educate and prepare for the demands of the job. The first surrendered baby at the BGFD in the Safe Haven Baby Box from 2023 was officially adopted in 2024 by a family here in our city. The triumphs were there to be found for the BGFD in 2024 as a few of them have been highlighted. It's sometimes hard to remember all that happened in a year, but without doubt, a tragedy from 2024 will never be forgotten.

On September 26th, the BGFD lost a beloved family member in the passing of Engineer Stephen "Rosie" Rosebrook. Rosie would collapse near the end of a community 10k run for charity, and never came back. Just a father, friend, and

professional firefighter, who was simply running a race. His absence today is still felt throughout our entire department, as his countless contributions live on today in the level of service provided by the BGFD. His legacy and life are worth remembering and will be shared for generations to come.

In closing, we must be aware that we are all running a race, some faster, some slower. Some are going up hills at the moment, while others are on a downhill section of the race. Regardless, we are still in the race, and the race I speak of is called "life." May we run it well, as we do our part to honor others by being prepared for when the moment comes that someone might need serving, saving, or protecting. We reflect back on 2024 and are grateful for yet another day and possibly another upcoming opportunity to do special things.



CHIEFS ROUNDTABLE
LUNCH MAY 31, 2024



\$22.0M

FY25

**OPERATING
BUDGET**

\$278

**COST PER
CAPITA**

03.17.24

**BREAK EVEN
DATE**

**PROPERTY SAVED
EXCEEDS OPERATING
BUDGET**

06 | 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Bowling Green, KY, best known as the home of the Corvette and Western Kentucky University, is the fastest-growing city in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The City of Bowling Green was honored as the 2024 Kentucky League of Cities City Government of the year in September. It was also recognized as the #1 city in the nation for economic development for cities under 200,000. Bowling Green serves as an economic and educational hub for the region.

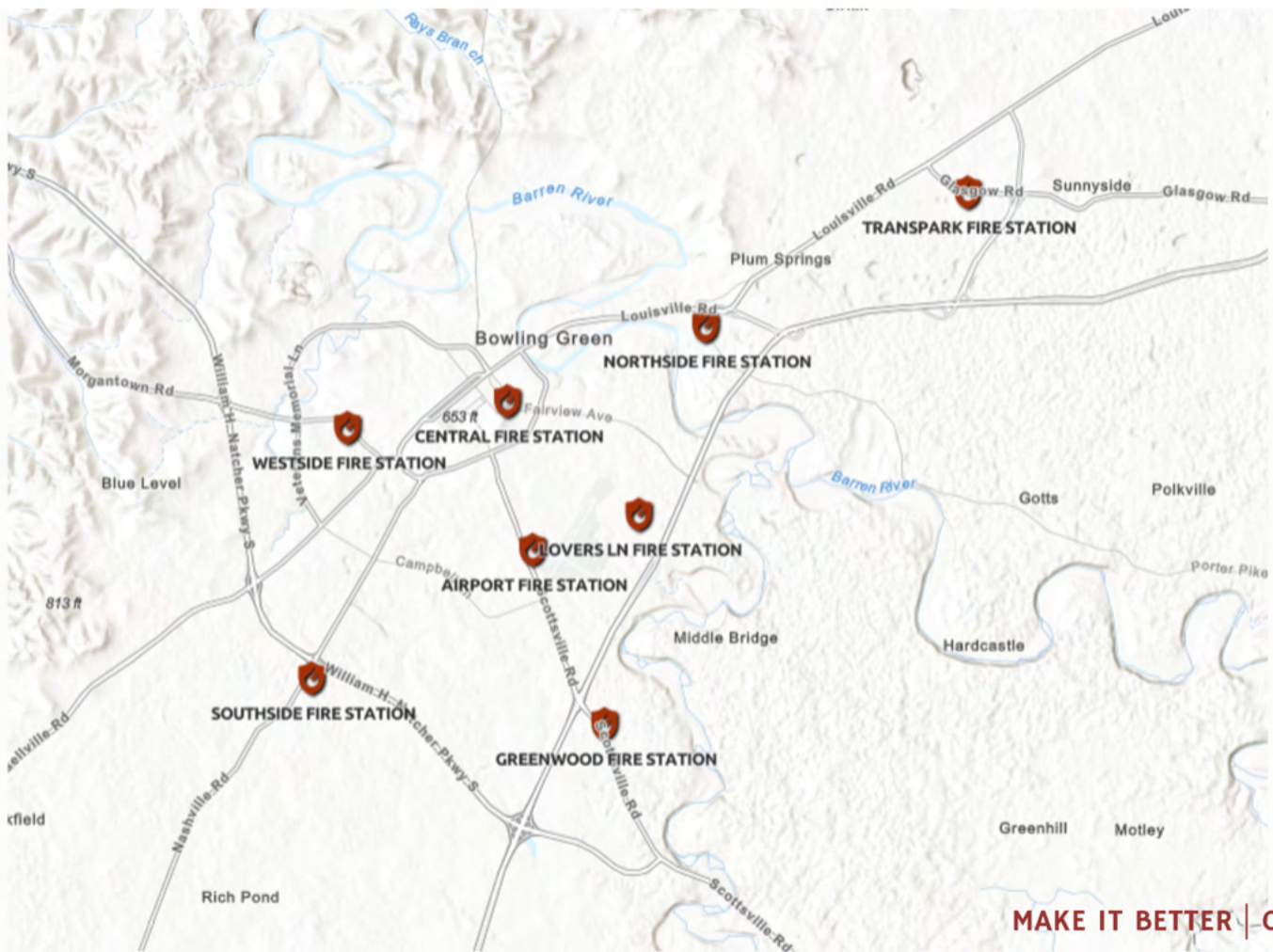
The Bowling Green Fire Department is a fully-paid, all-hazard department providing professional service to the City of Bowling Green since 1898. The BGFD protects an estimated population of 79,000 residents and an area of 42.5 square miles with eight strategically-located fire stations, ensuring adequate coverage of the City.

Operational capabilities changed significantly in 2024 with the addition of a second Battalion Chief in January and a company at Station 8 in April (see pages 12-13). Following these changes, daily minimum staffing was 38 personnel with 13 frontline apparatus in service daily: seven engines, three aerials, one rescue, and two command vehicles.

The Bowling Green Fire Department operates out of eight fire stations located throughout the response district to effectively respond to all types of hazards. The eighth fire station in the Kentucky Transpark area of Bowling Green opened in April of 2024, see page 13.

In 2023, the Bowling Green Fire Department achieved re-accredited status from the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). The BGFD is one of only 124 agencies nationwide that is both internationally accredited through CFAI and holds an Insurance Services Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification of 1, placing the BGFD in the top 1% of all fire departments in the United States. CFAI accreditation and ISO classification provide outside, third-party evaluations of the department. In 2024, CFAI approved the BGFD's annual compliance and the Department maintained accredited status.

ISO is scheduled to re-evaluate the BGFD in the summer of 2025.





MISSION, VISION & VALUES

In 2021, a committee was formed to redefine the Department's Mission, Vision, and Values statements. The committee included 12 personnel from all ranks and all shifts. The first step was to ensure common ground and shared definitions. Hours were spent brainstorming, charting, crossing out, and prioritizing. The committee landed on the following guiding principles for the Bowling Green Fire Department

MISSION

To Serve, Save, and Protect. Make it Better.

VISION

Continuous improvement through intentional efforts for excellence

VALUES

Honor
Integrity
Professionalism

“ASK YOURSELF,
DOES IT MAKE IT
BETTER? IF THE
ANSWER IS YES, THEN
WE MOVE.”

JUSTIN BROOKS
FIRE CHIEF

WE HONOR OUR OWN **STEPHEN “ROSIE” ROSEBROOK**



“A Few Things... Rosie” by Chief Justin Brooks
September 27, 2024

Finding words for what has happened over the past 13 days is hard for all of us. We are shocked, confused, disoriented, and no doubt grieving for the loss of our brother. From the beginning on September 14th, we had no idea we would sit here today without one of our own. Unfortunately, we quickly come to grips with the fact that we are not in control of all things. Simon Sinek was once quoted as saying, “We have the luxury of looking after ourselves. We have the honor of looking after each other.” Looking after yourself and each other is in our control. From the beginning, some 13 days ago, many have been collectively working together to see it to the end for both Rosie and his family, who are our family.

The end of Rosie’s journey here on this earth arrived yesterday at 1:19 PM, and to see him slip away was a nightmare. A nightmare that many have not awoken from today. But the job is not finished, the call is still open, the need to see it through to the end is at hand, and we will do just that. Part of that job is to honor Stephen “Rosie” Rosebrook here today and forevermore. Part of that job is to help care for his 4-year-old daughter because she has been and always will be our responsibility. What an honor we must feel to have the opportunity to look after not only him, but his daughter and his family. That’s why this place is special. We sometimes forget how special this place is and can be when we need it to be.

The WE – OUR – US perspective really comes into focus during times such as these. WE loved him because he was OURs and now we know it will take all of US to finish the job. In the coming days, we will learn of the arrangements the FAMILY will make that will need us to assist, guide, and in a lot of ways, help lead. Some say they want to be a part of something bigger than themselves... well once again, here is an opportunity. I know you will be there. I know you will show up. You always do! That’s what FAMILY does. All we can do today is to choose to do the things that indeed “make it better” for the FAMILY.

May we remember the memories that were afforded to us through a relationship with this man. A relationship that came from California to the BGFD because of the job of a Firefighter. Rosie wasn’t just on the job, but rather he was all in. Through it all, we became FAMILY. Thank you again for what you have done and what you will sign up to do in the future. I love you for all of it! Stay together, grow closer together, it’s what Rosie loved to do and what he would have wanted us to do.



REMEMBERING ROSIE







TO SERVE **BATTALION 2**

On January 2, 2024, the vision of Retired Fire Chief Gerry Brown came to fruition with the addition of a second Battalion Chief to the daily operations of the Bowling Green Fire Department. These positions were approved in the FY24 budget. On December 31, 2023, the Board of Commissioners approved the promotions of Battalion Chiefs Michael Bean, Matt Ferguson, and Craig White; Captains Chad Ennis, Dustin Jones, and Chase McKee; and Engineers Matt Dylan, Curtis Napier, and Matt Reynolds (see page 50).

The Administration has long recognized the need, and this is the culmination of position requests made over the last 2 decades. The addition of a Battalion Chief lends for greater span of control, safer operations on scene, and better service to the Bowling Green community. The BGFD appreciates the support of City leadership and elected officials in the mission to serve, save, and protect. The addition of Battalion 2 makes it better.

The addition of a second Battalion Chief not only allows for greater span of control on fire scenes, but also division of labor with personnel management and program coordination. Programs were divided among all six Battalion Chiefs to allow for better oversight. These changes result in better service to the community of Bowling Green.

TO SERVE STATION 8

The Kentucky Transpark area on the north side of Bowling Green has long been identified as an area of service gaps for the BGFD. Response times at the 90th percentile in this area were in excess of 10 minutes, when the benchmark performance is 6 minutes and 20 seconds.

Retired Fire Chief Jason Colson recognized the need for a fire station in this area years ago, and in 2019, 1.5 acres of land on Glasgow Road was donated to the City with the intent to build a fire station. In 2023, construction began and the station opened its doors on April 17, 2024.

A custom engine was purchased for Engine 8 in FY2023 with estimated arrival in the summer of 2025. To fill the gap, a stock fire engine was purchased in June of 2023 with support from City leadership. Engine 8 has a minimum of 4 personnel per day, resulting in an addition of 15 personnel to complement and 8 promotions, see page 51.

In the 8.5 months of 2024 that Station 8 was operational, a significant reduction in response times to this area was observed. 90th percentile response times reduced to 6 minutes and 34 seconds.

\$4.5M

STATION 8
TOTAL COST

15

PERSONNEL
HIRED FOR
STATION 8

4:00

MINUTES

REDUCTION IN
RESPONSE TIME IN
STATION 8 AREA



TO SAVE LOST CIRCLE

At 6:21 AM on March 4, 2024, the Bowling Green Fire Department was dispatched to an apartment fire located on Lost Circle. Engine 3 arrived less than 5 minutes later and reported smoke showing from the front door of a two-story four-plex. Engine 3 confirmed victims were inside, based on a reliable report from a family member on the scene. Two EMS units were requested for the mother and son who were reported to be in an upstairs bedroom.

4:41

ENGINE 3
TOTAL RESPONSE
TIME

Engine 3 located a working kitchen fire in the rear of the apartment. The Engine 3 Captain left his firefighters in the kitchen to extinguish the fire while he went upstairs to begin a search. Truck 4 arrived as the Engine 3 Captain was moving upstairs. A Truck 4 Firefighter teamed up with Engine 3 Captain to begin the search from the stairs. When entering the 2nd floor rear bedroom, the Truck 4 firefighter located both the mother and child.

The child was removed 10 seconds after being located. The mother was removed 1 minute and 12 seconds after being located. Two separate crews provided patient care until the arrival of EMS. Both patients were transported by air medical to a burn center in Nashville, Tennessee for treatment. Both patients are alive today due to the decisive and heroic actions of the members of the Bowling Green Fire Department.

Pictured below, crews accept Medals of Valor and Medals of Honor at the Annual Awards Ceremony for their heroism on the morning of March 4th.





TO SAVE **MEDIA DRIVE**

At 9:47 PM on the evening of September 3, 2024, the Bowling Green Fire Department was dispatched for a reported laundry room fire in a single-family residence on Media Drive. Engine 4 and Truck 4 arrived at 9:50 PM and reported heavy smoke throughout the residence and flames from a window on the side. Despite reports from citizens on scene that the structure had been evacuated, Truck 4 initiated a search of the residence and quickly located one victim. Truck 4 and Engine 4 crews quickly removed the victim to the front yard and provided patient care until the victim was transferred to the care of Medical Center EMS.

The victim was located 2 minutes and 2 seconds after arrival of the first-in unit and was quickly removed from the structure. The patient was transported to The Medical Center. Nine BGFD units and 22 firefighters responded to the scene and the fire was under control by 10:03 PM.

3:09
TRUCK 4
TOTAL RESPONSE
TIME

TO PROTECT COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

LOST CIRCLE

BGFD partnered with the Red Cross and held a smoke alarm drive on Lost Circle following a structure fire in which two victims were saved. Information on fire safety and smoke alarms was delivered to over 140 apartments, and crews installed 50 smoke alarms. The need for fire prevention education and smoke alarms in this area was evident. Because of this effort, families in this area now have updated smoke alarms and a chance to make it out in time. Community Risk Reduction Coordinator Katie McKee is pictured below with the Red Cross at the smoke alarm drive on Lost Circle.

140

APARTMENTS

VISITED

50

SMOKE ALARMS

INSTALLED



TO PROTECT INSPECTIONS

In 2024, the Bowling Green Fire Department's Community Risk Reduction program achieved significant milestones, surpassing key goals and strengthening community safety through targeted education, inspections, and strategic planning.

FIRE CODE INSPECTIONS

Support from city leadership resulted in an increase in staffing within the Inspection Division. Steve Coleman was promoted to Fire Inspection Supervisor on July 1, 2024, and Firefighter Jason Sowders transferred to fill the Inspector vacancy. This expansion of the Inspection Division resulted in surpassing the goal for inspections in 2024.

Pictured below: Fire Inspection Supervisor Steve Coleman and Inspector Michael Alexander

4,574

**FIRE CODE
INSPECTIONS
COMPLETED**

152%

**INSPECTION
GOAL SURPASSED**





MAKE IT BETTER

“Make it Better” is more than just a slogan on t-shirts and coffee mugs. It is the Mission, the brand, and the love language of the Bowling Green Fire Department. It is not just applied on scene; it is what we do every day in the fire station, in offices, in homes, and in everything it means to be a Bowling Green firefighter.

The Department has been making it better for over 126 years, and there were countless opportunities in 2024. From the adoption of the first baby surrendered in a Safe Haven Baby Box in Kentucky (pictured above), to additional personnel, serving the community, and improvements to fleet and facilities, the mission was clear.

In 2024, the BGFD remained committed to the mission. The BGFD served, saved, protected, responded, improved, learned, and trained. But most of all, BGFD made it better.



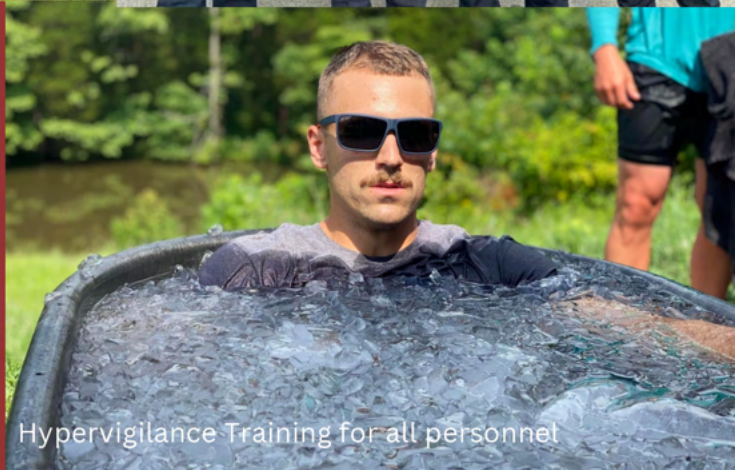
"Swing for Dale" Police + Fire Softball Game



Toys for Tots

**"ALL WE CAN DO TODAY IS
CHOOSE TO DO THE THINGS
THAT INDEED 'MAKE IT
BETTER'"**

JUSTIN BROOKS
FIRE CHIEF



Hypervigilance Training for all personnel



Added Office Associate, Christina Smith, to the team



BGFA Ruck benefitting Mason Abell



Shop with a Firefighter



New Engine 7



Structure fire on Adams St. 12.11.2024

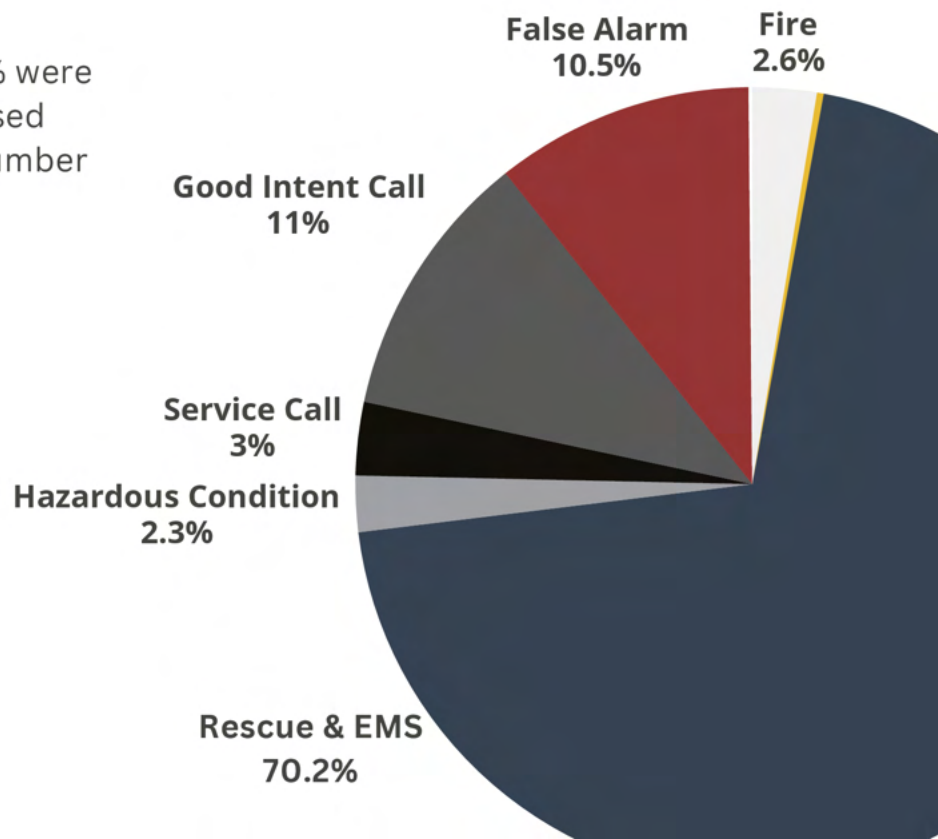
BY THE NUMBERS

The Bowling Green Fire Department responded to a total of 9,488 calls for service in 2024. This represents a 14.2% increase from 2023 total calls for service of 8,305, and 23.4% increase in call volume since 2019.

Approximately 70% of calls were for emergency medical service and 2.6% were fire-related. EMS call volume increased from 2023 by 19%, while the total number of fire calls remained steady.

248 - Fire
6658 - Rescue & EMS
217 - Hazardous Condition
283 - Service Call
1043 - Good Intent Call
999 - False Alarm
40 - Other Call Types

14.2%
TOTAL CALL
VOLUME INCREASE
FROM 2023



Stations 1 and 4 had the largest call volumes of all stations and together account for 49% of the total run volume for the department. Rescue 1 responded to the greatest number of incidents with a total of 2,461, an increase of 5.8% from 2023, despite changes in response protocols to dispatch Truck 1 to share the burden of medical calls. Engine 4 follows closely behind with 2,165 total responses. Both Station 1 and Station 4 are dual-company stations with Rescue 1 and Engine 4 both accompanied by an aerial company. This confirms that BGFD resources are distributed appropriately within the busiest response districts.

The opening of Station 8 distributed call volumes from Station 5's district between Engine 5 and Engine 8. Together, the districts had an overall call volume increase of 6.1% which was split between two engine companies after April 2024.

Calls for service in Station 7's district continue to grow with an increase of 19.7% from 2023, further confirming the appropriate distribution of resources, as well as providing return on investment in the addition of Station 7 in 2021.

Of the total calls for service, 8,058 required emergency response; where lights and sirens were activated until arrival. This represents 84.9%, which is an increase from 82% emergency response to calls for service in 2023. Responding to a higher percentage of emergency calls increases the number of times BGFD units travel and negotiate Bowling Green traffic with lights and sirens activated to an average of 22 times per day.

Travel time city-wide for all types of emergency calls was 4 minutes and 33 seconds for the first-arriving unit at the 90th percentile. This is an improvement of 12 seconds from 2023. Having adequate resources in the appropriate places increases the efficiency of response. 90th percentile total response time to all types of emergency incidents within the response district was 6 minutes and 9 seconds. This falls within stated benchmark standards set forth in the Standard of Cover.

6:09

RESPONSE TIME

90% TO EMERGENCY
INCIDENTS

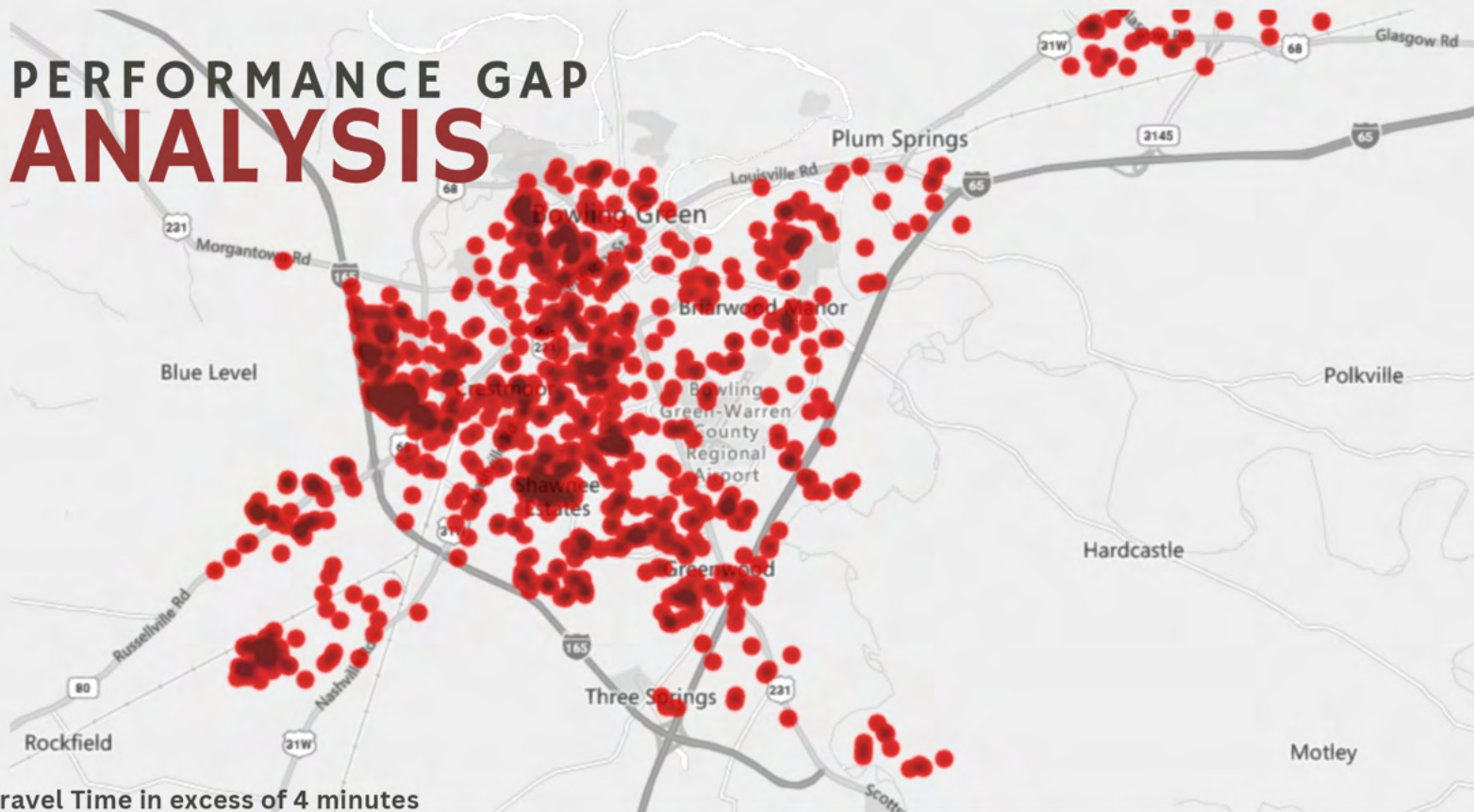
84.9%

EMERGENCY

RESPONSE REQUIRED



PERFORMANCE GAP ANALYSIS



It is the duty of the BGFD senior staff members to monitor incident data to ensure the requirements for the standards are met. When any non-conforming trends are identified, BGFD senior staff members shall make recommendations to bring response times within compliance.

0:33

TRAVEL TIME

GAP CITY-WIDE FOR
EMERGENCY INCIDENTS

Gaps in the Department's performance have been identified by analyzing the incident data from 2024.

Above is a heat map where the first-arriving unit's travel time to emergency incidents was greater than or equal to 4 minutes, the benchmark for travel time in all districts 90 percent of the time. Actual performance throughout the response district was 4 minutes and 33 seconds.

84%

COMPLIANCE

CITY-WIDE WITH 4
MINUTE TRAVEL TIME

In comparison to the travel time heat map from 2023, a great reduction in travel times in excess of 4 minutes is seen in the Transpark area on the north side of Bowling Green. This is due to the opening of Station 8 in April of 2024, see page 13.

Several areas of the response district have been identified as gaps in travel time performance. These include:

- Russellville Road area between districts 3 and 4
- Campbell Lane from Nashville Road to Westpark Dr
- Greystone Subdivision
- Olde Stone Subdivision
- Delafield / Hobson Grove area



BGFD incidents are dispatched using Automatic Resource Location (ARL) technology through the CAD system rather than using the geofence of districts. Three of the identified hot spots in travel time deficiencies are primarily covered by Engine 3 as the closest unit: Russellville Road, Campbell Lane, and Greystone.

Engine 3 is the third-busiest company by emergency call volume with a total of 1,184 emergency calls. Engine 3 had the longest first-in travel time following Engine 8. Engine 3's 90th percentile travel time was 5 minutes 22 seconds and total response time of 7 minutes. Station 3's district covers over 10 square miles, nearly 25% of City square mileage. Call volume in the Station 3 district has increased by 37% since 2019.

The focus area for Station 9 has been identified on Russellville Rd, which will relieve Engine 3 and Station 4 units of call volume, increasing their compliance with response time standards. Call volume to this focus area has increased by 47% since 2019.

The area of Campbell Lane between Nashville Road and Westpark Drive has seen a call volume increase of 78% since 2019. Travel time at the 90th percentile to this area is 4 minutes and 41 seconds which is in excess of stated benchmarks. Call volumes and incident response times should be monitored closely in this area as it continues to develop.

5:22

TRAVEL TIME

90TH PERCENTILE FOR
ENGINE 3

37%

CALL VOLUME

INCREASE IN
STATION 3 DISTRICT

47%

CALL VOLUME

INCREASE IN
STATION 9 PROPOSED
DISTRICT



GAP ANALYSIS AREAS TO IMPROVE

OLDE STONE

The area of Olde Stone at the far southern end of City limits continues to be an area of low call volume and long response time. Its distance from Station 6 accounts for this delay. Although call volume has increased in this area from 2019 by 83%, the dataset is quite small at only 11 incidents in 2024. 90th percentile response time for the first-arriving unit on emergency incidents was 9:59, well outside of stated benchmarks.

DELAFIELD/HOBSON GROVE

The area of Delafield/Hobson Grove is in the area north of 31W around Veterans Memorial Ln. This area has seen a call volume increase of 45% since 2019. Coverage in this area is split between Station 1 and Station 4 units. Travel time is in excess of stated benchmarks by 10 seconds. Due to socioeconomic factors and increase in call volume, this remains an area to watch.

Pictured above: Valor Oil Fire on Raven Ave 03.27.2024. Travel time for the first arriving unit from Station 1 was 3 minutes and 7 seconds.

MCFADIN STATION/PORTER PIKE

The area of highest call volume growth in the City when compared to 2019 is McFadin Station/Porter Pike. Call volume has increased by 368% in this area. Call volume is relatively low at 34 total incidents for the year. This area is close in proximity to Station 5 and falls below response time benchmarks with a 90th percentile response time of 5:58 for emergency incidents in 2024.

PLANO ROAD

Another area of significant call volume growth in the City when compared to 2019 is Plano Road. Call volume has increased by 200% in this area, due in part to annexation and development. Call volume remains low, however, at 30 total incidents for the year. This area is close in proximity to Station 6, so despite increase in call volume, it falls within response time benchmarks with a 90th percentile response time of 6:13 for emergency incidents in 2024.

CALL PROCESSING

Call processing times remain a performance gap area for the department due to the reporting limitations of CAD into the RMS. The RMS does not capture the call pick-up time, but rather the time the CAD incident was created, resulting in unrealistic and inaccurate call processing times reported.

In 2024, thorough quality control checks were completed on structure fire times using CAD and recording data. The true call processing time from call pick-up to dispatch is reported in all structure fire response times throughout this report.

It is not feasible to complete this check on EMS incidents due to the large dataset. Monthly, a dispatch supervisor will review recordings and send a sample of call processing time for EMS incidents. From that dataset, a 90th percentile call processing time is calculated. The discrepancy from the recording information to the report in RMS is approximately one minute.

The Department continues to work through this gap in performance toward a solution to report with greater accuracy and transparency.

0:41

CALL PROCESSING

RECORDED IN RMS

1:48

CALL PROCESSING

DISPATCH RECORDING

Below: Conclusion of SCBA week October 2024



PROGRAM REPORT

FIRE SUPPRESSION

The Bowling Green Fire Department Fire Suppression program provides an elite level of fire suppression service to the City of Bowling Green through rapid response, aggressive fire attack, and state-of-the-art equipment and technology. On every emergency incident, the top priorities of BGFD Fire Suppression response are life safety, incident stabilization, and property conservation.

In 2024, BGFD responded to a total of 248 fire incidents of all types.

BENCHMARK

For 90% of all moderate and high risk structure fire responses, the total response time for the arrival of the first-due unit, staffed with 3 firefighters shall be: **6 minutes and 20 seconds** in all districts

Below: Structure Fire on W 15th Ave 06.03.2024

FIRE INCIDENT TYPES:

Structure Fires: 94

Mobile Property Fires: 36

Outside Fires: 111

Other Fires: 7

6:05

FIRST DUE

RESPONSE TIME 90TH
PERCENTILE MODERATE
RISK STRUCTURE FIRE

94%

COMPLIANCE

FIRST DUE RESPONSE
TIME BENCHMARK





**“UTILIZING THE FIRE
SUPPRESSION
PROGRAM TO
STANDARDIZE
OPERATIONS AS OUR
DEPARTMENT GROWS
AND IMPROVES IS
NECESSARY TO
MAINTAIN
COMPETENCE FOR ALL
MEMBERS.”**

ERIC SCOTT
BATTALION CHIEF

The Fire Suppression program is responsible for preparing and progressing the Department’s equipment, procedures, and operations relating to firefighting. The Department worked in 2024 towards further standardization and improving equipment.

Fire Suppression committees worked with the Administration and the Training Divisions to purchase and implement tools to make the department better; engaging the vision of continuous improvement through intentional efforts for excellence.

A key goal of the Department is working toward compliance with NFPA 1710 regarding staffing of fire apparatus. The Department is diligently working towards meeting NFPA 1710 by adding firefighters in addition to replacements hired due to retirements and resignations. Only with the support of City leadership will compliance with NFPA 1710 be realized.

This year, four additional firefighters volunteered their time to be involved in “Hose Week” with recruits, improving the student to instructor ratio. The better ratio improved instruction and feedback for the students.

The Suppression Program includes the Hose & Nozzle and Truck Operations Committees.

Above: Hose Week November 2024

PROGRAM REPORT

EMS

The Bowling Green Fire Department provides emergency medical care as first responders at the EMT-Basic level to serve citizens and visitors. BGFD has an agreement with MedCenter Health EMS to provide assistance on certain calls as dictated by agreed-upon standard operating guidelines and procedures. BGFD’s Medical Director is Dr. Robert Wasson who provides oversight to the EMS Program. 97% of sworn members are certified to at least EMT-Basic, with several members certified at the EMT-Paramedic level. BGFD Paramedics do not provide ALS care but provide continuing education to basic providers.

In 2024, BGFD responded to a total of 6,368 EMS incidents including medical assists and accidents with injury, a 14% increase from 2023.

BENCHMARK

For 90% of all emergency medical services responses, the total response time for the arrival of the first-due unit, staffed with 3 firefighters shall be: **6 minutes and 45 seconds** in all districts

*EMS total response time includes an inaccurate alarm handling time. Actual performance is estimated to be one minute longer than reported. (See performance gap analysis on page 25)

EMS ACTION TAKEN:

Control Bleeding: 199

CPR Performed: 72

Narcan Administered: 34

Other Medications: 115

Oxygen Applied: 413

6:03

FIRST DUE

RESPONSE TIME 90TH
PERCENTILE

95%

COMPLIANCE

FIRST DUE RESPONSE
TIME BENCHMARK



2024 Recruits graduate EMT Class May 2024

PROGRAM REPORT HAZ-MAT

The Bowling Green Fire Department Hazardous Materials Program is designed to meet the standards set forth by NFPA 475, NFPA 472, and OSHA 1910.120. All members are trained to Awareness and Operations Level. Some members are trained to Technician level.

In 2024, BGFD responded to a total of 122 hazardous materials incidents, an increase of 12% from 2023.

BGFD personnel recorded 3,325 Haz-Mat training hours for 2024, a 55% increase from 2023, due in part to overtime funding covered by FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

BENCHMARK

For 90% of all hazardous materials responses, the total response time for the arrival of the first-due unit, staffed with 3 firefighters shall be: **6 minutes and 20 seconds** in all districts

Pictured: HazMat Training 12.02.2024

HAZ-MAT INCIDENT TYPES:

Gas/Flammable Liquid Spill: 15

Gas Leak (Natural Gas/LPG): 83

Oil/Combustible Liquid Spill: 2

Chemical Hazard (No Spill): 1

Carbon Monoxide Incident: 18

Other Incident Types: 3

6:06

FIRST DUE

RESPONSE TIME 90TH
PERCENTILE



VALOR OIL FIRE - MARCH 27, 2024

The largest hazardous materials incident in 2024 was a large structure fire at Valor Oil, a facility that stores flammable liquids, which occurred on March 27, 2024. This fire involved a structure, racing fuel, and 2-cycle engine oil.

Considerable runoff was present, which required a HazMat response. Damming and diking procedures were used to attempt to prevent these products from entering the storm drain. Some material did enter the storm drain system, but all hazardous materials were stopped before entering the Barren River.

The working relationship BGFD has with Public Works paid off that day. Already having an understanding of their capabilities before this incident meant crews were able to work side-by-side with them to slow down the flow of product into the storm drain along Veterans Memorial Ln.

With the BGFD hazmat crews providing absorbent booms and tarps, combined with the heavy equipment of Public Works, a large containment area was built to capture the runoff from the fire. The environmental team of Public Works is very knowledgeable about the storm drainage in Bowling Green and was able to get ahead of the product to prevent it from reaching the Barren River.

The Bowling Green Police Department was also instrumental with traffic control and evacuating the area. The collaboration seen in large-scale incidents is built in everyday interactions among multiple agencies and results in better service for the community.

No injuries were reported, thanks to quick response, training, and teamwork.

“BY ALREADY HAVING THESE RELATIONSHIPS BUILT BEFORE AN INCIDENT, IT MAKES THE ENTIRE SCENE LESS CHAOTIC”

TIM BUCHANON
BATTALION CHIEF





PROGRAM REPORT TECHNICAL RESCUE

The Bowling Green Fire Department provides seven technical rescue specialties to the City of Bowling Green: Structural Collapse, Trench Rescue, Vehicle and Machinery Extrication, Swiftwater Rescue and Recovery, Confined Space Rescue, Rope Rescue, and Cave Rescue. The specialized knowledge and skills required to perform technical rescues, as well as the low frequency but high consequence of incidents, means that personnel need to continually train to keep their skills polished.

In 2024, BGFD responded to a total of 29 technical rescue incidents.

BGFD personnel recorded 4,930 Technical Rescue training hours for 2024, an increase of 240% from 2023

BENCHMARK

For 90% of all technical rescue responses, the total response time for the arrival of the first-due unit, staffed with 3 firefighters shall be: **6 minutes and 20 seconds** in all districts

2024 TECHNICAL RESCUES

Extrication: 22

Swiftwater Rescues: 5

High-Angle Rope Rescues: 1

Sinkhole Rescue 1

6:21

FIRST DUE

RESPONSE TIME 90TH
PERCENTILE

85%

COMPLIANCE

FIRST DUE RESPONSE
TIME BENCHMARK



Swiftwater Training 06.05.2024

CAVE RESCUE

The City of Bowling Green has 24 documented caves, according to a survey conducted in the 1990s. These caves account for 13 miles of surveyed passages. Most caves have been located during construction or from sinkhole collapse. It is estimated there are an additional 20-25 undocumented caves within City limits.

Warren County has 297 documented caves, while the Commonwealth of Kentucky is 5th in the United States with 5,110.

Prior to 2024, the Bowling Green Fire Department had limited training and equipment to mitigate the potential risks associated with this topography.

In 2024, three members completed a Cave Rescue Technician course. The course included incident command, underground communications, patient packing and moving, hauling/lowering systems, and more. This training was completed in July 2024.

In August, additional personnel attended the National Cave Rescue Commission (NCRC) Orientation to Cave Rescue class at Mammoth Cave. This class included an all-day mock rescue.

Coordinators of the cave rescue program are working closely with the NCRC, the Kentucky Speleological Society, and Bowling Green Public Works Department to build the program, train personnel, and ensure the BGFD's readiness to respond to a cave incident in this region.

13 MI
CAVE
PASSAGES
WITHIN CITY LIMITS

297
DOCUMENTED
CAVES
IN WARREN COUNTY



PROGRAM REPORT

ARFF

The Bowling Green Fire Department Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) program works closely in conjunction with the Bowling Green/Warren County Regional Airport (BGWCRA). With the addition of a second Battalion Chief to operations, the program was shifted to Battalion Chief Michael Bean.

Part of the program's annual evaluation is to ensure all 12 members (4 per shift) stationed at Station 2 cover all FAA Part 139 required subject areas of training throughout the year (including first aid); this training is documented in the records management system and is provided to the FAA Inspector by the Assistant Chief of Training to ensure requirements are met and the airport can maintain its certification.

In the spring of 2024, crews completed annual BGFD airport refresher training that the airport crews conduct for their respective shifts. During the week of April 22, crews participated in an airport night drill (pictured below). In May, Station 2 and 7 crews went to Ft. Campbell to complete the annual ARFF certification burn. Station 7 continues to participate in ARFF training along with Station 2. A goal of the program is to have Station 7 personnel attend the IFSAC certification when available.

24
STANDBYS
COMPLETED

934
ARFF
TRAINING
HOURS



PROGRAM REPORT

INVESTIGATIONS

In 2024, the BGFD Investigation Division made significant strides in enhancing its investigative capabilities, achieving key certifications, and laying the groundwork for advanced technology integration.

The BGFD Investigation Division completed 94 fire investigations in 2024, a decrease from 108 investigations in 2023, with a 65.96% closure rate. Investigators put a focus on training with over 200 total training hours and by all investigators completing certification as Fire Investigator Technicians (FIT).

In 2024, 68 structure fires comprised the majority of cases. The Investigations Division was requested by the Warren County Sheriff’s Office to assist on four fires outside of city limits. Investigators spent 23 scene hours on fires in Warren County Fire districts.

The year’s efforts position the division for further advancements in 2025, particularly with NCIC integration. BGFD’s Investigation Division remains a vital asset in ensuring community safety and delivering justice through thorough fire investigations.

Investigation numbers have leveled off from 2023 to 2024 with overall fewer investigations worked in 2024. The numbers shown below indicate not just the total but the breakdown of determination categories.

2024 INVESTIGATIONS

Incendiary: 13

Accidental: 42

Undetermined: 38

Natural: 1

Total: 94



Structure Fire on W. 15th Avenue 06.03.2024



PROGRAM REPORT

PUBLIC EDUCATION

In 2024, Bowling Green Fire Department's Public Education Program effectively promoted fire safety awareness, surpassing its goals through expanded school outreach, social media engagement, and strategic program development.

The Sound Off Program was extended to several new schools, reaching a total of 8 elementary schools and 812 students throughout the year.

Moving into 2025, the Public Education Program Coordinator has prepared a bi-annual community education initiative, significantly enhancing fire safety knowledge across diverse audiences.

With impressive student learning outcomes, increased digital interactions, and a solid foundation for future programs, BGFD solidified its role as a leader in fire prevention education.

Pictured: CRR Coordinator Katie McKee and Firefighter Sutton teach fire safety in March 2024

95.3%
**POST-TEST
SUCCESS**
SOUND OFF

14,348
**COMMUNITY
CONTACTS**



2024 SOUND OFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

BRIARWOOD
CUMBERLAND TRACE
DISHMAN MCGINNIS
JENNINGS CREEK
W.R. McNEILL
WILLIAM H. NATCHER
PARKER-BENNETT-CURRY
T.C. CHERRY

PROGRAM REPORT TRAINING

160

MEMBERS
ATTENDED OUTSIDE
TRAINING

41,147

TOTAL DEPARTMENT
TRAINING HOURS

249

AVERAGE TRAINING
HOURS PER SWORN
PERSONNEL

The Training Division coordinates, tracks, and records training for all Department members in firefighting, search and rescue, hazardous materials, and all types of specialty rescue. The Training Division assists with the development of training initiatives that include the latest methods, techniques, and skills. The Department is committed to a strong training program. The training schedule is populated daily with company training opportunities to assist and educate officers in conducting drills daily. The fire service is a dynamic, changing profession requiring constant training to provide a high level of service.

Many hours are spent by the Training Division to ensure the technical competence of all personnel is maintained to the highest level. Recruits in academy receive over 400 hours of basic training and on average, sworn personnel in the department log over 200 training hours each.

The Training Division plans, coordinates, and executes the majority of training for the Departments, and is responsible for research, development, and the maintenance of best practices in all operations.

Below: Captain Maynard instructs SCBA week for recruits, October 2024





OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL CLASS 6

In March of 2024, the BGFD held the 6th annual Officer Training School (OTS). Twenty upcoming leaders from six departments spent the week learning skills to help them develop on and off the fire ground, to be the best version of themselves for their crew, department, community, and family at home. 2024 was the second year this class was open to students outside of the BGFD.





PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER

In 2024, progress continued toward the completion of the joint Public Safety Training Center (PSTC) with the Bowling Green Police Department. The new Training Center will house both Departments' training personnel, including BGFD basic fire academy and the Bowling Green Law Enforcement Academy (BGLEA).

The PSTC is set to open in the Summer of 2025, with additional changes and upgrades to training grounds planned in coming years.

One of the coming improvements is a new live fire burn facility, funded in part by the Community Development Block Grant from the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In September 2024, Battalion Chiefs Matt Ferguson and Eric Scott accepted a check for \$250,000 from Governor Andy Beshear for this project.



PERSONNEL CHANGES

2024 brought significant changes to the personnel assigned to the Training Division. In July, Captain Kevin Lashley returned to Suppression Division and Captain Larry Wehr transferred to take his place. Then in August, Captain Lee Hatcher retired and was replaced by Captain Chris Bates. Finally, in December, Engineer Dakota Justis returned to the Suppression Division and Engineer Stephen Estes moved to Training early in 2025.

9,497
TRAINING
HOURS
LOGGED AT
TRAINING CENTER

RECRUIT CLASS

The 2024 year started with the Training Division in the midst of its largest Recruit Academy to date, a class of 21. The Recruit Academy concluded in early February with 13 recruits ready for shift assignment while the others remained with the Training Division to complete their EMT certification course. A class of this size brought challenges to the Training Division and tested the capacity of the training grounds. Improvements to facilities coming in 2025 will greatly enhance recruit training and overall departmental training capabilities.

21
RECRUITS
GRADUATED

2024 Graduating Class (alphabetically): Jarrid Childress, Brandon Cline, Mark Dukes, John Embrey, Solomona Gaoa, Ryan Geraldts, Christen Graves, Austin Green, Madison Grenier, Brian Harlan, Bryce Hawthorne, Phillip James, Dylan Montelli, Tom Napolitano, Nick Orbersen, Drake Poland, John Potter, Luke Rhoton, Jason Sowders, Adam Wilson, Joe Witherington



PROGRAM REPORT HEALTH, SAFETY, & FITNESS

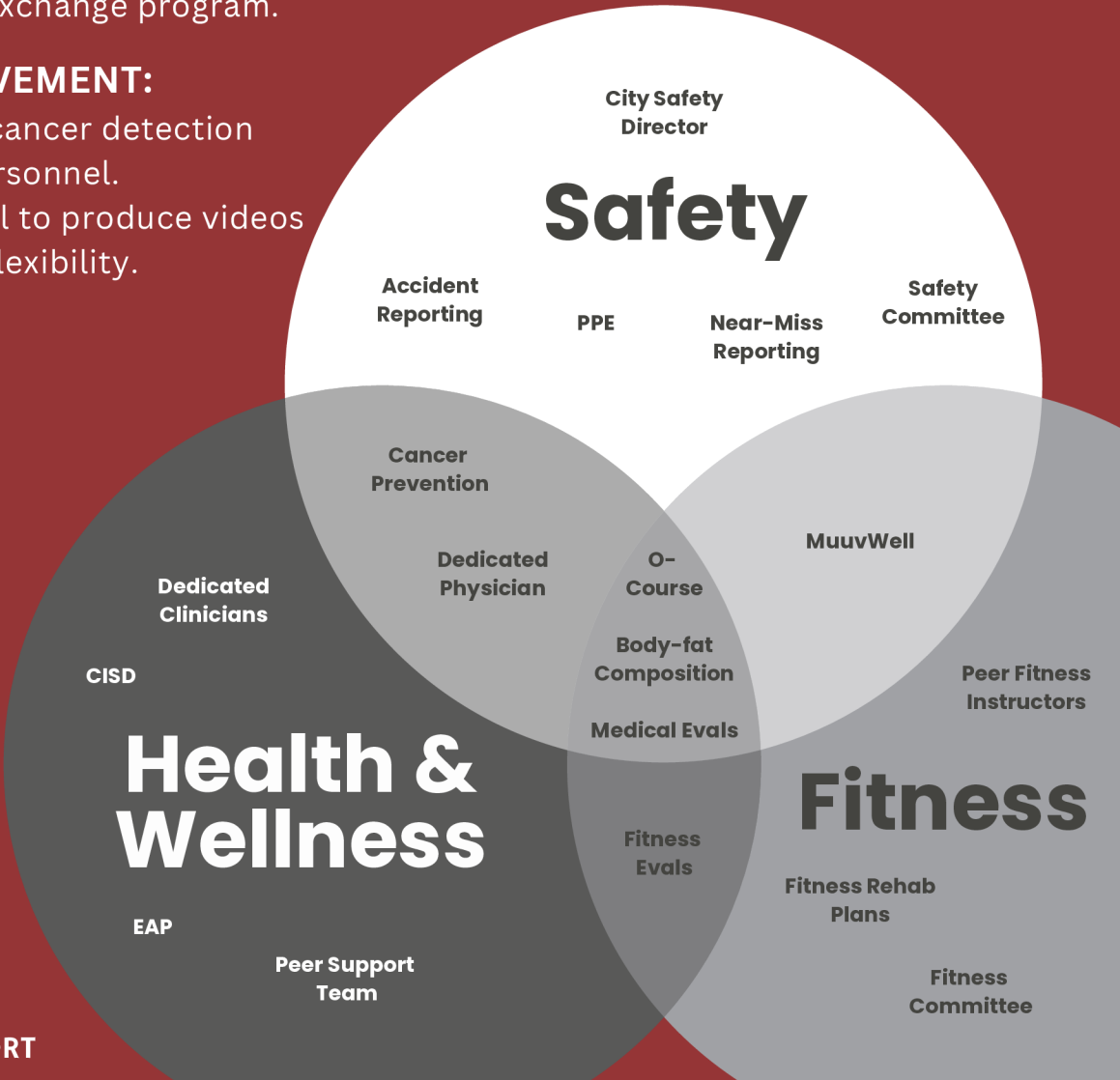
A truly successful modern fire department health and safety program must be a comprehensive set of initiatives that encompass fitness and mental wellness in addition to the traditional elements of occupational safety and health. This approach aims to prioritize total wellness for all employees. Internally, the program is administered primarily by the Safety Committee, the Fitness Committee, the Peer Support Team, and the department’s Health and Safety Officer. Partners who work closely with the program include the City Health and Risk Manager, the City Physician, the Director of HR, and dedicated mental health clinicians.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Hypervigilance training completed for all personnel
- Completed proposal for a cancer screening program comprised of a full abdominal ultrasound for all personnel. Screening should occur in 2025.
- Completed a Return-to-Duty evaluation for personnel returning from lengthy, serious medical leaves.
- Reduction of total occupational injuries from 12 in 2023 to 9 in 2024
- Instituted a hood exchange program.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

- Complete an early cancer detection screening for all personnel.
- Work with MuuvWell to produce videos for stretching and flexibility.



9

INJURIES
TO PERSONNEL

8

VEHICLE
ACCIDENTS

PEER SUPPORT

2024 saw the continued development of the Peer Support Team. In three years, this vital initiative has grown from an incipient idea to a fully-established program. The 15 members of the team met quarterly for training and education from the City's dedicated clinicians. BGF D personnel responded to 59 Critical Incidents during 2024, up from 50 in 2023. Critical Incidents are defined as any incident that could overwhelm a firefighter's usual coping strategies. These incidents and other life events led to 43 recorded contacts from the Peer Support Team, comprised of 72 hours of personal support. Confidentiality is the foundational principal of this program. The team will continue to support and care for the people of the fire department. As peer support becomes embedded in the culture, these activities will become more common and more meaningful.

59
CRITICAL
INCIDENTS

43
CONTACTS
WITH PEER SUPPORT



HYPERVIGILANCE RETREATS

The City continues to provide extensive support for the mental well-being of all public safety workers. \$80,000+ was budgeted for hypervigilance education and training in 2024. All fire department personnel participated. This training occurred off-site in a safe, comfortable environment and was led by clinicians who have extensive experience helping first responders and who know first-hand the culture, experiences, and struggles. The full-day training focused on hypervigilance, PTSD, sleep disruptions, and the sympathetic nervous system. Negative coping mechanisms were described and positive coping mechanisms were provided to aid personnel in dealing with the stressors of the job. This training will carry on and be expanded in 2025.

FITNESS

The fitness of department members continued to be of highest priority in 2024. In October 2023, the department began a new daily schedule reflecting this prioritization. At 0730 every morning, crews begin their day with a 1-hour workout. Only emergency responses, with rare other exceptions, interrupt this hour of Physical Training (PT). This assurance of a daily workout can only benefit the health and fitness of firefighters, ensuring the citizens of Bowling Green are served by the most capable individuals the department can provide.

The new fitness schedule directly resulted in more PT hours logged than ever before. The Department recorded 12,034 hours of workout time in 2024, up from 8,396 in 2023. The average per person was 73.8, up from 61. The fitness program also expanded electronic tracking of annual fitness testing. A treadmill run to reach target heart rate, push-ups, timed planks, and body-fat composition, in addition to other metrics, are measured and recorded.

Tracking the fitness test results and comparing with previous year results will provide the department with additional tools to continue evaluating and improving the fitness of all members.

12,034

**HOURS
OF PHYSICAL
TRAINING**

7:49

**AVERAGE
O-COURSE TIME
FOR ALL SWORN**

WELLNESS PROGRAM

For 2024, the Safety Committee, Peer Support Team, and Fitness Committee completed regular, annual tasks including: annual medical exams for all personnel (including blood panel), fitness evaluations, recruit class health and wellness orientation, and reviewing all accidents and injuries. The Health & Safety/Wellness & Fitness Program is functioning effectively but some goals remain unaccomplished. Most notably, an early cancer screening test for early detection should be completed in 2025. Moving forward, the program is effective but room for improvement remains.





PROGRAM REPORT COMMUNICATION

For 2024, the Department made 9,488 responses, all dispatched through the 911 Dispatch Center. 911 Dispatch received 66,738 calls from 911, over 111,500 incoming calls total, and created 139,961 incidents for BGPD, 9,619 incidents for BGF, and 4,448 incidents for Warren County VFDs. Department personnel met with Dispatch on two occasions to encourage continuous improvement in the program. Regularly scheduled meetings between the fire department and Dispatch have proven to be valuable opportunities to improve collaboration and service. Addressing issues with individual runs at these meetings has allowed for training opportunities and service improvements.

The Department purchased 12 new portable radios for new positions created in 2024. All personnel, including Administration, now have compliant portable radios. These portable radios were purchased with funds from an Assistance to Firefighters Grant for \$62,505.

Regular meetings with Dispatch yielded positive collaboration. Issues addressed included adding a Battalion Chief to any call with an unsecured weapon, restarting ride-alongs, false calls for active shooter incidents, EMS responding emergency to any structure fire, CAD upgrades, and auto-dispatching for some calls.

66,738

**9-1-1 CALLS
RECEIVED BY
DISPATCH**

\$62.5k

**AFG GRANT
FUNDING FOR RADIOS**



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

On January 17, 2025, the fourth annual employee awards ceremony was held in the engine bay of Station 1 Headquarters. The following awards were given in recognition of excellent service:

MEDAL OF VALOR

Awarded for a conspicuous act of valor and heroism by a member or unit under hazardous conditions in which the person is placed in a life-threatening position to save the life of another.

- Awarded to Captain Alan Dezern and Firefighter Cole Burton for saving the lives of two victims at a structure fire in March 2024.
- Awarded to Captain Brad Akins, Captain Chris Buchanon, and Firefighter Dustin Blair for saving the life of a victim at a structure fire in September 2024.

MEDAL OF HONOR

Awarded to a member or unit who has performed outstanding service to the Department or to the public safety of the community with regard to fire and emergency service.

- Awarded to Captain Bryan Kozak, Engineer Sean Hamilton, and Firefighters Zach Barnhart, Brandon Cline, Brett Pitchford, and Kristina Stivaletti for assisting with lifesaving efforts to save the lives of two victims at a structure fire in March 2024.
- Awarded to Engineer Brian Hope and Firefighters Justin Gentry and Bryce Hawthorne for assisting with lifesaving efforts to save the life of a victim at a structure fire in September 2024.

AWARD OF MERIT

Awarded posthumously to Engineer Stephen “Rosie” Rosebrook for performance of duties which have been carried out in an outstanding manner. Award accepted by Suzanne Moore.

SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Awarded to Firefighter Josh Scott for outstanding and exemplary act of sacrifice with regard to service to this country

SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Awarded to Stephen Parrott and Casey McCoy with Medical Center EMS for outstanding service and dedication to the community and to the BGFD

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Awarded to Firefighter Brett Pitchford for commendable time and effort donated toward the betterment of the community

FITNESS AWARDS

Fitness Award presented to Engineer Ketler Calixte for outstanding commitment to his own physical fitness and the fitness of fellow crew members.

“O” Course Award presented to Firefighter Griffin Spainhoward for completing the “O” Course in 05:13, recording the fastest time of the year.

“O” Course Award presented to Firefighter Kristina Stivaletti for reducing her BGFD “O” Course time by 02:56, recording the most improved time of the year.

LEGACY AWARD

Awarded to Retired Chief Gerry Brown for his legacy of leadership, determination, and commitment to the mission of the BGFD; pictured below with Chief Brooks.

SAFETY AWARD

Awarded to HR Director Erin Hulseley for outstanding service and dedication with regard to the safety of Department members

CHIEF’S AWARD

Awarded to Captain Kris Mitchell for his commitment to selfless sacrifice for the betterment of the department and its members





MATT JONES
OFFICER OF THE YEAR



KYLE HAMPTON
ENGINEER OF THE YEAR



MASON MICHAEL
FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

OFFICER, ENGINEER, AND FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Awarded for exceptional commitment to outstanding service and professionalism





SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

On April 25, 2024, the Bowling Green Fire Department recognized 8 individuals from Gott Fire Department for their actions on April 10th, 2024. Jason Duckett, Chris Hendrick, Craig Peay, Andy Hughes, Tony Watts, Justin Martin, Jim Allen, and Lee Fox responded for an accident with entrapment involving Battalion Chief Matt Ferguson's father-in-law, Steve Meeks. Meeks sustained multiple life-threatening injuries, but the quick actions of these men allowed the family valuable time to spend with him before he would succumb to his injuries two months later.

2024 CHIEF OF THE YEAR

Fire Chief Justin Brooks was recognized by the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs (KAFC) as the 2024 Chief of the Year. Chief Brooks pictured at right with Mayor Todd Alcott and City Manager Jeff Meisel after receiving this award.

“CHIEF BROOKS HAS A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE MEN AND WOMEN THAT SERVE WITH THE BOWLING GREEN FIRE DEPARTMENT, ALONG WITH THE COMMUNITY THEY SERVE.”

FIRE CHIEF NATHAN MULVEY
KAFC PRESIDENT





PROMOTIONS

Each year, eligible members compete in the promotional process for the opportunity to advance in the leadership of this department. In 2024, several had the chance due to retirements, the addition of a second Battalion Chief, and the opening of Station 8. The future of the services provided by BGFD is in good hands due to the current and upcoming leaders found in the uniform.

BATTALION CHIEFS

Michael Bean (12/31/2023)
Matt Ferguson (12/31/2023)
Craig White (12/31/2023)

FIRE INSPECTION SUPERVISOR

Steve Coleman (07/01)



White, Ferguson, Bean, McKee, Jones, Ennis, Reynolds, Dylan, Napier



Hollis, Hernandez, Ferizovic, Kozak, Kiser, Rodgers, Keown



Wilson, Meredith, Hurt

CAPTAINS

Dustin Jones (12/31/2023)
 Chad Ennis (12/31/2023)
 Esmir Ferizovic (04/17)
 Bryan Fulton (10/02)
 Bryan Kozak (04/17)
 Chase McKee (12/31/2023)
 William Moore (10/02)
 Justin Reesy (10/02)
 Larry Wehr (03/06)

ENGINEERS

DJ Buselmeier (03/06)
 Stephen Estes (04/17)
 Matt Dylan (12/31/2023)
 Joey Hernandez (04/17)
 Greg Hollis (04/17)
 Ben Hurt (09/04)
 Travis Keown (04/17)
 Taylor Kiser (04/17)
 Justin Meredith (09/04)

Mason Michael (11/20)
 Curtis Napier (12/31/2023)
 Matt Reynolds (12/31/2023)
 Roy Rodgers (04/17)
 Jordan Wilson (09/04)



Buselmeier, Wehr



Reesy, Moore, Fulton, Michael



Estes

RETIREMENTS

In 2024, the Department celebrated the retirement of 4 members. We congratulate these men on their retirements and thank them for their many years of dedicated service to the City of Bowling Green.

CAPTAIN BRYAN FULKERSON - 02.29.2024

28 years of service

CAPTAIN LEE HATCHER - 08.31.2024

20 years of service

CAPTAIN CHUCK TUCKER - 08.31.2024

21 years of service

ENGINEER BILLY MEINHARDT - 08.31.2024

13 years of service





Hatcher, Tucker, Meinhardt





AGENCY PERFORMANCE TRACKING

STRUCTURE FIRE

For 90 percent of all risk categories in structure fire responses, the total response time for the arrival of the first-due unit, staffed with 3 firefighters, shall be: 6 minutes and 20 seconds in all districts.

For 90 percent of all moderate/significant risk structure fire responses, the total response time for the arrival of the effective response force (ERF), staffed with 20 firefighters and officers on 6 fire apparatus and 1 command vehicle shall be: 10 minutes and 20 seconds in all districts.

There were no low risk structure fires (type 121) within the reporting period and only 3 max risk structure fires (111 in a max-risk structure). Neither type is reported below.

MODERATE/SIGNIFICANT RISK STRUCTURE FIRE (111)	BENCHMARK	2024 PERFORMANCE	GAP
Alarm Handling	1:00	1:29	0:29
Turnout Time	1:20	1:49	0:29
Travel Time - First-Due	4:00	3:41	-0:19
Travel Time - ERF	8:00	8:38	0:38
Response Time - First-Due (n=47)	6:20	6:05	-0:20
Response Time - ERF (n=34)	10:20	12:32	2:12

ERF response compliance improved significantly in 2024, likely due to the addition of a second Battalion Chief (see page 12) and Station 8 (see page 13). ERF response time at the 90th percentile for 2023 was 14 minutes and 37 seconds, an improvement of over 2 minutes

EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE

For 90 percent of all emergency medical services (EMS) responses, the total response time for the arrival of the first-due unit, staffed with 3 firefighters, shall be: 6 minutes and 45 seconds in all districts.

There were no high risk EMS incidents (mass casualty/active shooter) within the reporting period. Only moderate risk EMS incidents are reported below.

*EMS response times include a known inaccuracy in alarm handling time. Actual performance is estimated to be 1 minute longer than reported. (See performance gap analysis on page 22)

MODERATE RISK EMS (311, 322, 323)	BENCHMARK	2024 PERFORMANCE	GAP
Alarm Handling	1:45	0:41	-1:04*
Turnout Time	1:00	1:41	0:41
Travel Time - First-Due (n= 6139)	4:00	4:34	0:34
Response Time - First-Due	6:45	6:03	-0:42*

EMS emergency incidents give the largest dataset to evaluate performance with regards to travel time and deployment. A 90th percentile travel time of 4 minutes and 24 seconds for over 6,000 incidents indicates that BGFD resources are strategically and adequately placed throughout the response district at this time.



BGFD recognizes and appreciates the improvements and contributions made by Engineer Rosebrook to the EMS program. At left, Suzanne Moore accepts the Award of Merit on his behalf.

TECHNICAL RESCUE

For 90 percent of low risk technical rescue responses, the total response time for the arrival of the first-due unit, staffed with 3 firefighters, shall be: 6 minutes and 20 seconds in all districts.

For 90 percent of all low risk technical rescue responses, the total response time for the arrival of the effective response force (ERF), staffed with 7 firefighters and officers on 2 fire apparatus and 1 command vehicle shall be: 10 minutes and 20 seconds in all districts.

There were 2 moderate risk technical rescue incident (types 354, 355, 356, 357, 360, 363) within the reporting period in the response district. Only low risk technical rescue incidents are reported below.



LOW RISK TECHNICAL RESCUE (352)	BENCHMARK	2024 PERFORMANCE	GAP
Alarm Handling	1:00	1:15	0:15
Turnout Time	1:20	1:34	0:14
Travel Time - First-Due	4:00	4:42	0:42
Travel Time - ERF	8:00	8:04	0:04
Response Time - First-Due (n=11)	6:20	6:36	0:16
Response Time - ERF (n=7)	10:20	11:02	1:02

For low risk technical rescue incidents, ERF response compliance improved significantly in 2024, likely due to the addition of a second Battalion Chief (see page 12) to daily operations. Battalion 2 is strategically located at Station 2 to provide better command coverage of the response district. ERF response time at the 90th percentile for 2023 was 14 minutes and 50 seconds, an improvement of almost 4 minutes.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

For 90 percent of moderate risk hazardous materials response incidents, the total response time for the arrival of the first-due unit, staffed with 3 firefighters, shall be: 6 minutes and 20 seconds in all districts.

For 90 percent of moderate risk hazardous materials responses, the total response time for the arrival of the effective response force (ERF), staffed with 11 firefighters and officers on 3 fire apparatus and 1 command vehicle shall be: 10 minutes and 20 seconds in all districts.

There were no low risk haz-mat (type 420) and no max risk haz-mat (type 422) incidents within the reporting period. Neither type is reported below.

MODERATE RISK HAZ-MAT (411,412)	BENCHMARK	2024 PERFORMANCE	GAP
Alarm Handling	1:00	0:52	-0:08
Turnout Time	1:20	1:58	0:38
Travel Time - First-Due	4:00	4:26	0:26
Travel Time - ERF	8:00	8:27	0:27
Response Time - First-Due (n=80)	6:20	6:06	-0:14
Response Time - ERF (n=19)	10:20	9:28	-0:52



BGFD

#MAKE IT BETTER