



MONROE FIRE DEPARTMENT



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Monroe Fire Department



From the desk of - Chief Bill Erb

February 15, 2022

Mayor Louis Armstrong
Members of the Monroe Common Council
Chairperson & Members of the Monroe Police & Fire Commission
Public Safety Committee
Citizens & Visitors of Monroe

On behalf of the Monroe Fire Department, it is our pleasure to provide you with the 2021 Monroe Fire Department Annual Report for your review.

On behalf of the fire department and myself, please accept my appreciation for your continued support and valuable direction that you have provided to the staff and administration during the previous year.

This report will outline the activities and events of 2021. Please feel free at your convenience to reach out if there are concerns with the report data or if additional information is required.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Erb
Fire Chief
Director of Emergency Management





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Monroe Police & Fire Commission

- Chuck Koch, President
- Robin McLeish
- Amanda Fields
- Jerry Guth
- David Deininger

Monroe Public Safety Committee

- Brooke Bauman, Chairperson
- Donna Douglas
- Josh Binger
- Andrew Kranig



Monroe Fire Department



From the desk of - Chief Bill Erb

INTRODUCTION: FIRE CHIEF & DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



William Erb
Fire Chief
Director of Emergency Management



I offer thanks to the City Manager, City Common Council, Police & Fire Commission, other city departments and our community members for your support of the Monroe Fire Department in 2021. Together, all members of the Monroe Fire Department were focused on creating positive outcomes for all those that reside, work and recreate in Monroe.

I would like to start by thanking you and the city administration for all the support you give to the department as well as the effort made to make sure the volunteer members are included in. The members, as well as I sincerely appreciate all you do for the department.

Last year was challenging for many reasons, not the least of which was providing emergency services to a community in the midst of a continuing pandemic. My staff successfully met all the challenges presented to them.

The big news of the year was the retirement of Fire Chief Dan Smits and my appointment as Fire Chief & Director of Emergency Management. I have over 25-years of demonstrated experience in the fire service, EMS field, and law enforcement, this is where I have gained extensive training, earned several certifications, and strong familiarity with the functions and requirements of this position. Positions I have held in the fire service; Probationary Firefighter, Firefighter, Training Officer, Recruitment & Retention Officer, Safety & Equipment Officer and Duty Chief. I am a former career law enforcement officer holding the position of Chief of Police, Deputy Sheriff, Patrolman and Reserve Officer. I have a manufacturing background, where I was a Continuous Improvement Manager.

This past year the members of the fire department responded to 248 incidents. In this report I have provided statistical information on these responses.

I would like to take a moment to recognize all of the members of the organization for their continued work during the transition of administration. I would also like to recognize Alan Rufer for his leadership and guidance as Interim Chief. This combined effort provided continued dedicated service to the citizens.

I am grateful for the support of the Monroe community and other key stakeholders which have partnered with us to ensure that the safety of the community remained priority one. I am optimistic that there are brighter days ahead but know it will require strength of will and a keen focus to rise to future challenges and respond well for all who work, live and play in our service area.

In closing, I would again like to thank the members for the huge time commitment they put into serving the Monroe community.

Respectfully Submitted,

William Erb



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VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

OUR MISSION

“The Monroe Fire Department is committed to provide prompt, reliable fire and life safety services to the residents and visitors of Monroe. We will do this through *teamwork, communication, and professional career development*. We, as firefighters, will promote an environment that encourages *safety, innovation, and creativity* from within, and always maintain a positive public image.”



OUR VISION

We will constantly strive to be better people, better firefighters, and a better department....not better than anyone else, but better than we were before.



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FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF

	<u>(Original date of employment)</u>
William R. Erb (Appointed) Fire Chief & Director of Emergency Management	January 10, 2022
Alan Rufer (Interim Fire Chief) Deputy Chief & Deputy of Emergency Management	May 25, 1993
Charles Montgomery Division Chief/Apparatus	August 15, 1990
Eric Welty Captain/Safety Officer	August 15, 1990
Daniel Perdue Lieutenant/EMS	August 13, 2019
Ken Rufer Firefighter	January 14, 1964
Gene Jacobson Operator	May 29, 1979
Paul Mudgett Operator	July 27, 1982
Todd Hasse Operator	March 31, 1987
Craig Whitaker Firefighter	June 4, 1994
Ryan Leistiko Operator/EMR	August 2, 1997
Chad Pfund Firefighter	September 14, 1999
Bob Wartenweiler, Jr. Operator/EMR	October 31 2000
Scott Blumer Operator/EMR	October 30, 2001





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FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF (Continue)

	<u>(Original date of employment)</u>
Nick Bartels Operator	July 31, 2004
Jared VanDellen Operator/EMR	August 1, 2007
Dan Bartelt Operator	October 7, 2007
Travis Andrews Operator/EMR	December 1, 2008
Chris Coplien Firefighter	December 1, 2008
Andy Kubly Operator/EMR	December 1, 2008
Tony Anglin Operator	December 1, 2008
Jesi Klarer Firefighter/EMR	September 9, 2015
Edward Graves Firefighter	September 19, 2015
Joel Faith Firefighter/EMR	April 15, 2018
Bob Kellesvig, Jr. Firefighter	April 15, 2018
Jim Moore Firefighter/Inspector/EMR	August 13, 2019
Shawn Bechtolt Firefighter	August 14, 2019
Cheryl Gassman Firefighter/EMR	August 14, 2019





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FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF (Continue)

(Original date of employment)

Brett Broge

August 15, 2019

Firefighter/EMT

Brain DeVries

August 15, 2019

Firefighter

Shannon Jones

March 2, 2021

Probationary Firefighter

Michael Hall

October 26, 2021

Probationary Firefighter

FACILITIES





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New Recruits

Shannon Jones
Probationary Firefighter

Michael Hall
Probationary Firefighter



Milestones

25 Years of Service

Scott Blumer
Operator

Retirements/Departure

Tom Burkhalter
Firefighter

20-Years of Service

Dustin Andrews
Firefighter

9-Years of Service

Alex Lonien
Firefighter

6-Years of Service

Dan Smits
Fire Chief

4-Years of Service

Danyell Stevenson
Firefighter

3-Years of Service

Dan Showers
Firefighter

1-Year of Service

Evan Bouc
Probationary Firefighter

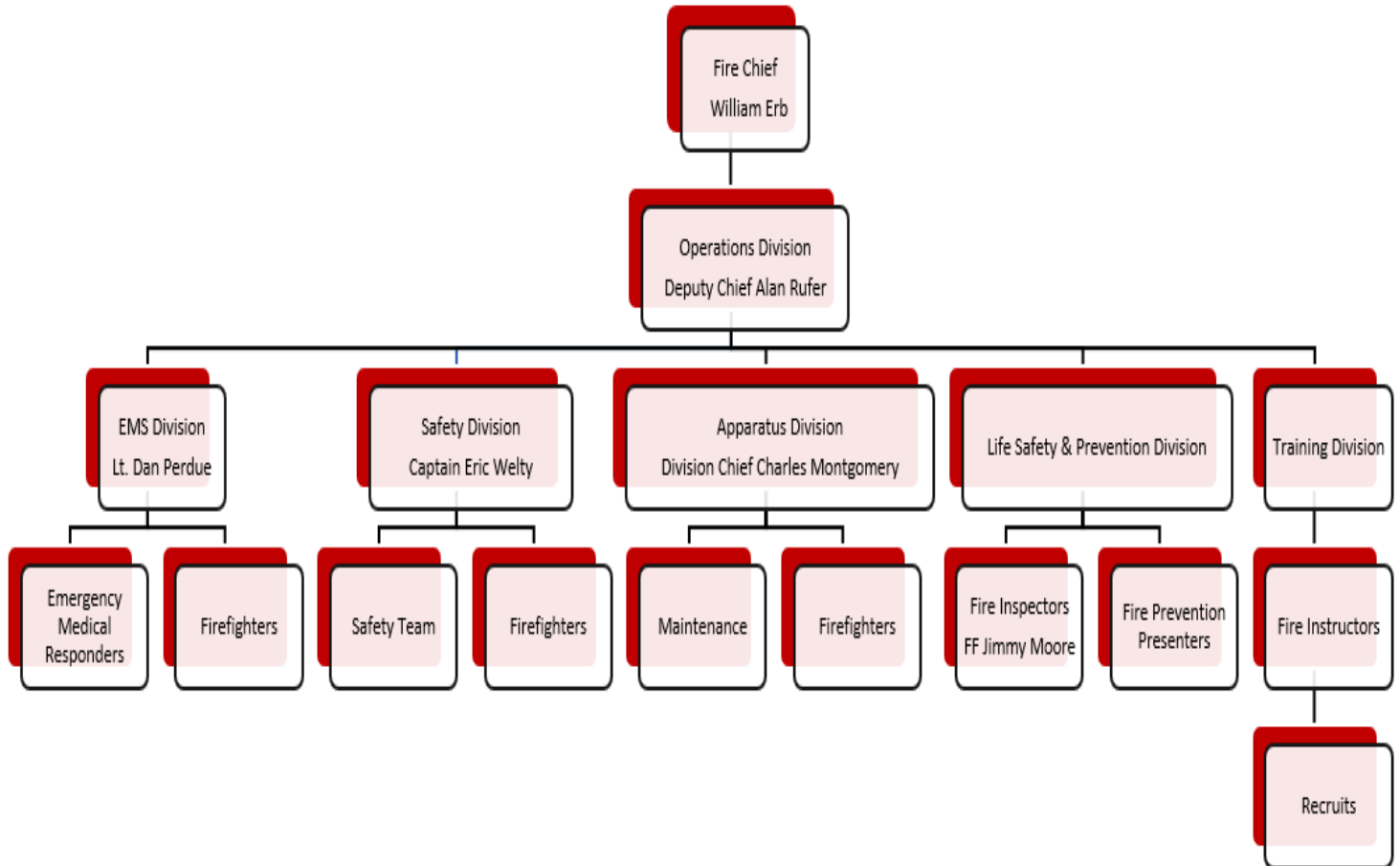
0-Year of Service





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Organization Chart





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Training Division



Alan Rufer

Deputy Chief

Deputy Director of
Emergency Management

In the spring of 2021, the Department returned to its normal training schedule (2x month). The Department conducted fifteen regular trainings in 2021 that addressed knowledge, skills, and abilities such as driver/operator training, company officer development, facility pre-planning, basic skills such as ladders and hoses, hazmat operations, natural disasters, and live fire scenarios. In 2021 the training division also developed a mentorship program for new members. The mentorship program is designed to reduce the anxiety that often occurs when a person joins a new organization. The Deputy Chief oversees the mentorship program, but the firefighters run its day-to-day operations and are the reason for its success. While still in its infancy, the mentorship program has already shown positive results in building internal relationships and shortening the time from when a member joins to when they can begin contributing during emergency responses. It is our hope that the mentorship program will also increase the Department's retention rates.

The department recognizes that well trained personnel is the key to successfully carrying out our mission. Developing volunteer staff can be challenging as you have to first have the funding, then you have to find the needed class, and finally, the class needs to be offered at a time, day, and location that the volunteer staff can make work with their personal and professional life schedules. In 2021 the department saw three members complete the Emergency Medical Responder course, one member completed the Emergency Medical Technician course, one member completed the WI Fire Officer course, three members complete the WI Fire Instructor 1 course, and five members attend an eight-hour company officer development course in Milwaukee. In all, members completed nearly six-hundred hours of training outside the department. This is a testament to the commitment and professionalism of our members.



I encourage anyone interested in becoming a member or wanting to learn more about the department's training to reach out to me at arufer@monroefiredept.com



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Apparatus Division



Chuck Montgomery

Division Chief



Once again, we conducted our yearly service on all vehicles and SCBA compressors at both stations. We continue with normal repairs and preventive maintenance of equipment and stations throughout the year.

This year brought extra cost for repairs on Squad 6 due to some safety issues with roll over system and check engine light coming on periodically.

Rennert's Fire Equipment came down and performed pump test on all the apparatus.

The cascade bottles on Squad 5 and both station compressors were hydro tested along with all of the SCBA bottles. All the air pack were calibrated and checked to make sure they were up to specs.

Purchased 2- 5" large diameter hose rollers and carriers to help prevent back or strain issues when rolling and loading the heavy 5" hose.

The safety division was been busy with a number of projects in 2021. We started a program for decontaminating the inside of the trucks to help with the prevention of firefighter cancer. We have been organizing and tagging for disposal PPE that is unfit for further use.

We have developed safety related training topics to present to the entire department. The division performs annual PPE inspections and requires facepiece testing along with fit testing members to wear N95.

We continue to be vigilant on the training grounds and fire scenes to keep our members safe so they can go home at the end of the day.

Safety Division



Eric Welty

Captain





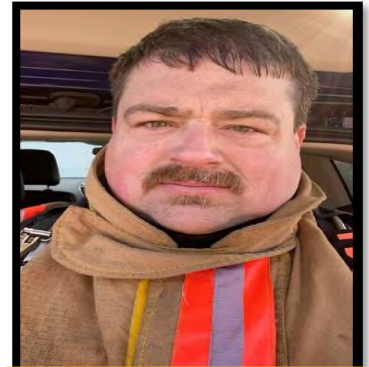
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Life Safety Division

The goals of the Fire Prevention Bureau are to reduce preventable deaths, injuries and to minimize property loss in our community. We accomplished these goals in three ways - code enforcement, fire investigations, and fire safety education.

Life Safety Inspections-Our code enforcement is a three-tiered approach.

- First, we work with the city’s development review team on new projects in town to make sure they meet the needs of the fire service in regards to fire department access for our equipment and the correct number and location of fire hydrants.
- Second, we work daily with Lakeside Engineering to do plan review and inspections on all new commercial buildings in our community with an emphasis on life safety.
- Third, we do fire safety inspections of existing commercial businesses in the city. The goal is to get into all of the occupied business spaces in our community next year.



Jimmy Moore

Fire Inspector



EMS Division

131 Inspections were completed in 2021



Dan Perdue

Lieutenant

Over 2021, the EMS division has worked hard to strengthen its ability to answer the growing demand for services. We have been able to add 4 licensed Emergency Medical Responders, and 1 licensed Emergency Medical Technician to the roster of medical responders bringing our total to 20 state licensed medical responders in 2021. This year we responded to 49 calls to assist the local ambulance service on medical calls and CPR calls or for lift assist requests that ultimately required medical treatment by our department and transport by the ambulance, and 78 calls for lift assists from elderly or disabled residents, for a total of 127 EMS related calls. While this is a 33% decrease in EMS related calls from 2020, we are still seeing a 55% increase in requests for service from 2019 as we are met with an increase in aging and disabled population within our community. We recognize the need to support the community’s high EMS demand and to make sure we continue to be a resource to our local ambulance service. As such, we have made purchases of training equipment to ensure proper and continued training for all of our Emergency Medical Responders as well as increasing training hours from prior years and continuing to meet the requirements of advanced skills recertification every six months as required by the state and Medical Control. The purchase of lifting devices has made equipment readily available to responders to make lift assists safer for the patients and to reduce the chances of injuries to firefighters.





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Lifesaving Award

The Monroe Fire Department's Life Saving Award is a prestigious and incredible honor awarded to personnel whose direct actions saved the life of a person whose heart has stopped beating and shows no signs of life. This award is only achieved when the patient who was clinically deceased is not only resuscitated and regains life sustaining functions, but moreover is able to make a full recovery and resume normal life activities. It is one of the most rewarding accomplishments any member of this organization can make in the course of their career and to know that their actions contributed to saving the life of another human being. To understand the significance of the last statement, the individual that is saved must be discharged from the hospital and resume normal life activities.

During the Monroe Common Council Meeting on June 7, members of the Monroe Fire Department were recognized for their life saving efforts on a recent EMS call.

*Pictured: Front (L-R) Lt. D. Perdue, FF B. Broge, Capt. E. Welty, FF R. Wartenweiler
2nd Row: (L-R) FF J. VanDellen, DC A. Rufer
3rd Row: (L-R) FF A. Lonien & FF J. Faith*



During the Monroe Common Council Meeting on November 16, members of the Monroe Fire Department and Monroe Police Department were recognized for their life saving efforts on a recent call.

Members of MFD: FF Cheryl Gassman, Capt. E. Welty, FF G. Jacobson, Lt D. Perdue, PF S. Jones, FF A. Lonien, FF J. VanDellen, DC C. Montgomery, & FF B. DeVries

We are both grateful and proud of all the men and women that give so much of their time to helping those that live and visit this great community.



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Fire Prevention & Community Risk Reduction Division

Fire Safety Education—With the realities of the pandemic forcing adjustments in how we typically communicate and provide school presentations, station tours, and public education events, it comes with no surprise that educating our community looked different this year. Our firefighters had to get creative and adopt a few innovative approaches to continue to provide these educational opportunities. The use of social media and virtual presentations were used to limit exposure and to still allow citizens to engage in these educational opportunities. While fire safety education may be a little unconventional this year, the importance of our collective effort is the key to making our communities safer.





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Incident Statistics on Response

PRE-INCIDENT VALUE		LOSSES	
\$5,352,900.00		\$412,500.00	
CO CHECKS			
424 - Carbon monoxide incident		3	
738 - CO detector activation due to malfunction		1	
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO		2	
TOTAL		6	
MUTUAL AID			
Aid Type		Total	
Aid Given		25	
Aid Received		4	
OVERLAPPING CALLS			
# OVERLAPPING		% OVERLAPPING	
15		6.05	
LIGHTS AND SIREN - AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME (Dispatch to Arrival)			
Station	EMS	FIRE	
Multi-Company Incident	0:05:18	0:07:40	
Single Company Incident	0:07:28	0:08:17	
Station 1	0:06:52	0:08:06	
AVERAGE FOR ALL CALLS		0:07:36	
LIGHTS AND SIREN - AVERAGE TURNOUT TIME (Dispatch to Enroute)			
Station	EMS	FIRE	
Multi-Company Incident	0:02:47	0:05:25	
Single Company Incident	0:05:21	0:04:33	
Station 1	0:03:44	0:03:39	
AVERAGE FOR ALL CALLS		0:03:51	
AGENCY		AVERAGE TIME ON SCENE (MM:SS)	
Monroe Fire Department		30:50	



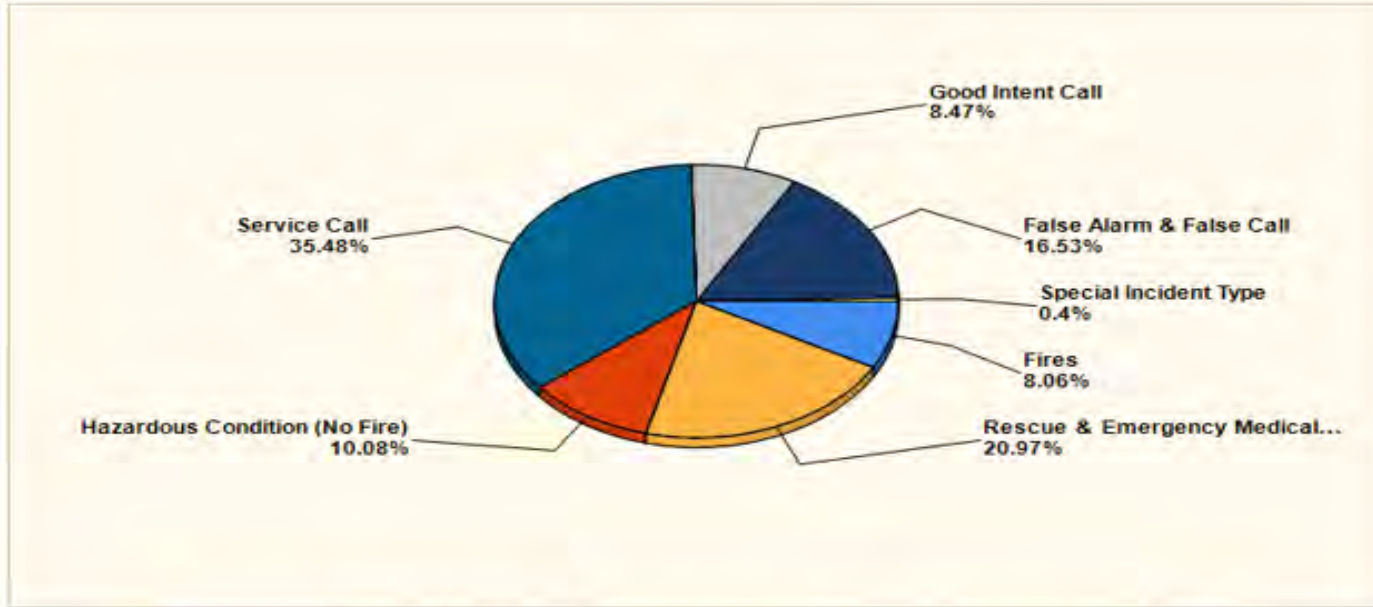
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Incident by Major Incident Type



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	20	8.06%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	52	20.97%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	25	10.08%
Service Call	88	35.48%
Good Intent Call	21	8.47%
False Alarm & False Call	41	16.53%
Special Incident Type	1	0.4%
TOTAL	248	100%

Average Response Time Per Shift

SHIFT	AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME
1st Shift - 7am-3pm	00:05:41
2nd Shift - 3pm-11pm	00:05:16
3rd Shift - 11pm-7am	00:08:23

Weighted Average Total: 00:06:26



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Average Number of Responding Personnel

INCIDENT TYPE	AVG. # PERSONNEL
111 - Building fire	14
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	8
118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained	13
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	12
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	7
150 - Outside rubbish fire, other	15
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	9
320 - Emergency medical service, other	8
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	8
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	9
350 - Extrication, rescue, other	12
410 - Combustible/flammable gas/liquid condition,	11
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	11
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	10
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	14
442 - Overheated motor	12
444 - Power line down	6
445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	6
461 - Building or structure weakened or collapsed	13
500 - Service Call, other	17
531 - Smoke or odor removal	10
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	9
554 - Assist invalid	7
571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	8
600 - Good intent call, other	7
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	10
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	10
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	13
652 - Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	14
661 - EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	7
700 - False alarm or false call, other	7
710 - Malicious, mischievous false call, other	6
714 - Central station, malicious false alarm	14
730 - System malfunction, other	8
731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	6
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	11
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	10
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	2
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire -	10
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	6
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	11
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	11
911 - Citizen complaint	20





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Significant Incident



# INCIDENTS	TOTAL PRE-INCIDENT PROP. VAL.	TOTAL PRE-INCIDENT CONT. VAL.	TOTAL PRE-INCIDENT VAL.	AVG. VAL.	TOTAL PROP. LOSS	TOTAL CONT. LOSS	TOTAL LOSSES	AVERAGE LOSS
6	\$3,727,900.00	\$1,625,000.00	\$5,352,900.00	\$892,150.00	\$309,500.00	\$103,000.00	\$412,500.00	\$68,750.00

INCIDENT #	DATE	TYPE	LOCATION	PRE-INCIDENT PROPERTY	PRE-INCIDENT CONTENTS	PRE-INCIDENT TOTAL	PROP. LOSS	CONT. LOSS	TOTAL
2021-015	01/13/2021	111 - Building fire	1621 8th Street Monroe	\$125,000.00	\$0.00	\$125,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$95,000.00
2021-025	01/30/2021	111 - Building fire	508 18th AVE Monroe	\$200,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$300,000.00
2021-031	02/06/2021	111 - Building fire	221 W 23rd ST Monroe	\$165,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$190,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$7,500.00
2021-078	04/13/2021	111 - Building fire	300 6th AVEW Monroe	\$3,000,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$4,500,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
2021-094	05/14/2021	131 - Passenger vehicle fire	2416 8th ST Monroe	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
2021-151	09/13/2021	111 - Building fire	2705 S Hwy 69 HWY MONROE	\$235,900.00	\$0.00	\$235,900.00	\$7,500.00	\$0.00	\$7,500.00





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City of Monroe
Fire Department
601 West 17th Street
Monroe, Wisconsin 53566

Phone: 608.329.2575

Web Site: monroefiredepartment.com



Fire Department
2022 Annual Report

Making House Calls Since 1858