

2022

Monroe Fire Department Annual Report



By, Alan L. Rufer
Interim Fire Chief



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

March 22, 2023

To: Mayor Donna Douglas
Members of the Monroe City Council
Members of the Monroe Police & Fire Commission
Members of the Public Safety Committee
Citizens & Visitors of Monroe

On behalf of the City of Monroe Fire Department, it is my pleasure to provide you with the 2022 Monroe Fire Department Annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan L. Rufer
Interim Fire Chief

Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report



Table of Contents

Monroe City Council	3
Monroe Public Safety Committee	3
Monroe Police & Fire Commission	3
Vision and Mission Statement.....	4
Current Staff	5
Retirements/Departures	6
Organizational Chart.....	7
Emergency Operations	8
Training.....	11
MERIT Center.....	12
Staffing - General.....	12
Staffing - Recruitment	13
Staffing - Retention.....	14
Community Risk Reduction - Fire Inspections.....	14
Community Risk Reduction - Public Education/Relations	15
Grants	16
Health & Safety.....	17
Emergency Medical Responders	18



Monroe City Council

- Mayor Donna Douglas
- Alder Brook Bauman
- Alder Josh Binger
- Alder Tom Miller
- Alder Mary Jane Grenzow
- Alder Lynn Kleven
- Alder Heidi Treuthardt
- Alder Andrew Kranig
- Alder Chris Schindler
- Alder Richard Thoman

Monroe Public Safety Committee

- Andrew Kranig, Chairperson
- Josh Binger
- Chris Schindler
- Tom Miller

Monroe Police & Fire Commission

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



Vision and Mission Statement

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.



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.”



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Current Staff

(Original date of employment)

Alan Rufer Interim Fire Chief	May 25, 1993
Chuck Montgomery Division Chief/Apparatus	August 15, 1990
Eric Welty Captain/Safety Officer	August 15, 1990
Dan Perdue Captain/EMS	May 13, 2004
Ken Rufer Firefighter	January 14, 1964
Gene Jacobson Motor Pump Operator	May 29, 1979
Todd Hasse Motor Pump Operator	March 31, 1987
Craig Whitaker Firefighter	June 4, 1994
Jared VanDellen Motor Pump Operator/EMR	August 1, 2007
Dan Bartelt Motor Pump Operator	October 7, 2007
Travis Andrews Motor Pump Operator/EMR	December 1, 2008
Andy Kubly Motor Pump Operator/EMR	December 1, 2008
Tony Anglin Motor Pump Operator	December 1, 2008
Shawn Bechtolt Firefighter	August 14, 2019
Cheryl Gassman Firefighter/EMR	August 14, 2019
Brett Broge Firefighter/EMT	August 15, 2019
Brian DeVries Firefighter/EMR	August 15, 2019
Shannon Jones Probationary Firefighter	March 2, 2021
Mike Hall Probationary Firefighter/EMR	October 26, 2021



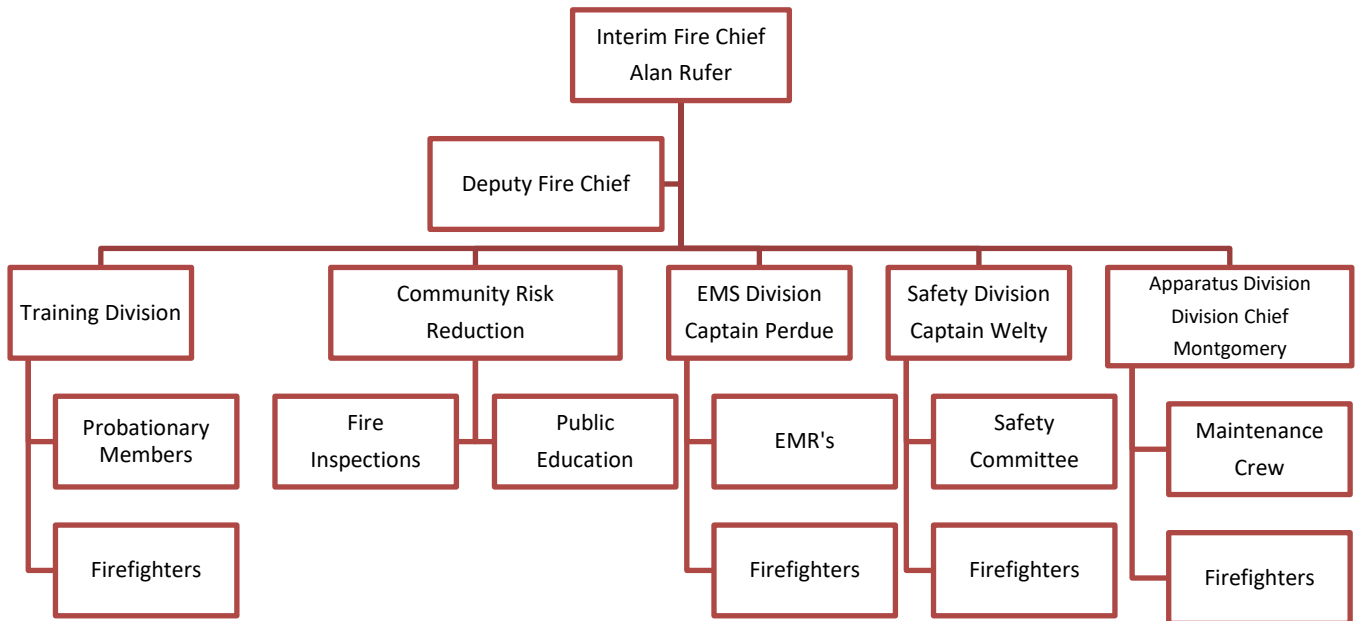
Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Retirements/Departures

Paul Mudgett Firefighter	36 Years of Service
Ryan Leistiko Firefighter	25 Years of Service
Chad Pfund Firefighter	22 Years of Service
Bob Wartenweiler Jr. Fire Chief	21 Years of Service
Scott Blumer Firefighter	20 Years of Service
Nick Bartels Firefighter	18 Years of Service
Chris Coplien Firefighter	14 Years of Service
Jesi Klarer Firefighter/EMR	6 Years of Service
Ed Graves Firefighter	6 Years of Service
Bob Kellesvig Jr. Firefighter	4 Years of Service
Joel Faith Firefighter/EMR	4 Years of Service
Jimmy Moore Firefighter	2 Years of Service



Organizational Chart





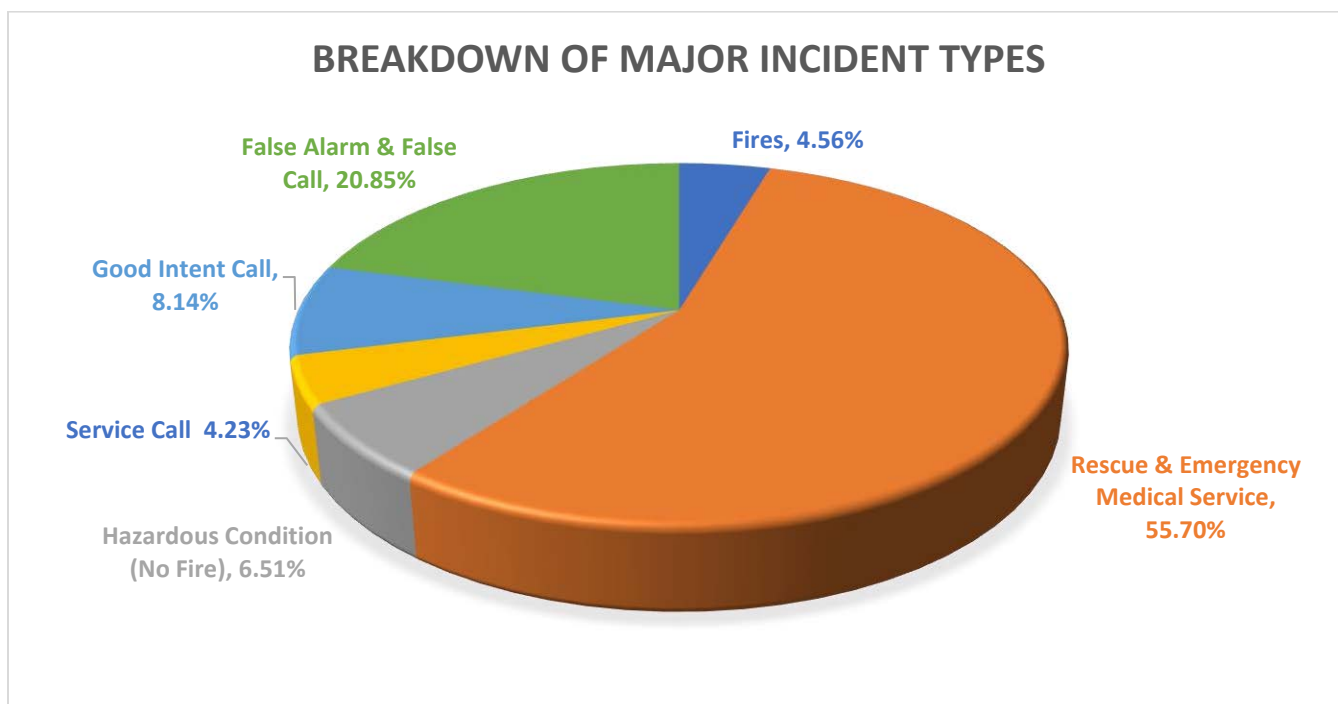
Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Emergency Operations

In 2022 the department responded to three hundred and seven (307) calls for service. This equals a twenty-four percent (24%) increase year over year and an eleven percent (11%) increase over the two-year average since the separation between the city and the rural townships.

The total fire loss for 2022 was \$165,000. The department responded to one significant fire in 2022 that resulted in a single fatality. The total fire loss for 2022 was less than 2021 (\$412,500) and 2020 (\$267,800).

The department's response times continue to outperform national standards. Response time is defined as the time from when the department is dispatched (pagers are alerted) until the first apparatus arrives on-scene. The department's average response time for 2022 was 0:07:31 minutes for EMS related calls and 0:7:56 minutes for fire related calls. The National Fire Protection Agency recommends a minimum response time of ten minutes for eighty percent of the calls for communities similar to Monroe.



- **Rescue & EMS** = Any call where the primary nature of the call is medical or trauma related. These calls include lift assists, cardiac emergencies, allergic reactions, car accidents, seizures, hospice, strokes, etc.
- **Fire** = Any call where the primary nature of the call is fire related. This could be as insignificant as a small pile of leaves burning in the street to a large structure fire.
- **False Alarm** = This is when the fire alarm system has been activated due to a malfunction of the system. It is system related, not human related, for example, if a child at school intentionally activates a pull station in the hallway it is not coded as a false alarm, it is considered a malicious alarm.
- **Good Intent** = Someone calls 911 because they think there may be an emergency, but it turns out that everything is okay. For example, someone sees smoke rising from a neighbor's back yard and calls for the fire department to respond. We arrive to find that the neighbor is using their approved fire pit.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

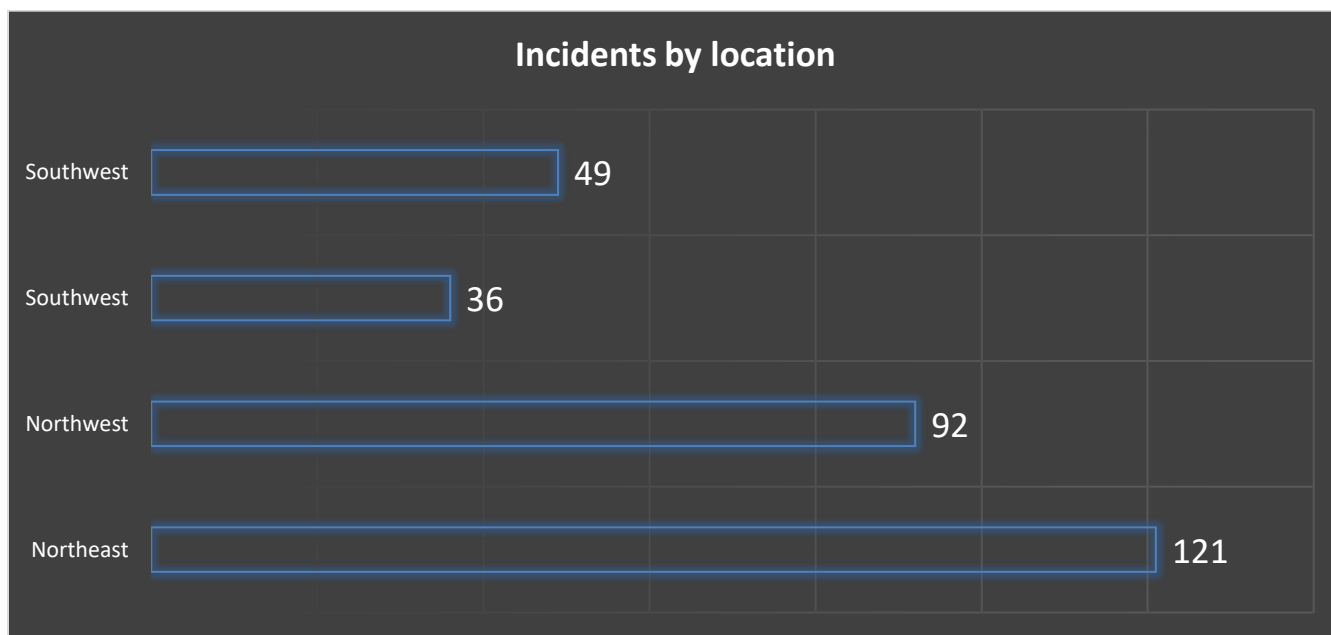
- **Service Call** = Is when someone needs help, but the situation is not a fire or medical emergency. For example, someone calls 911 to report that there are ducklings trapped in the storm sewer. Yes, this has actually happened, and yes, we successfully rescued the ducklings.
- **Hazardous Condition** = These are calls where a hazardous condition exists, but the primary concern is not related to a fire or a medical emergency. For example, a neighbor reports a car in the street with a leaking gas tank, but no fire.

Because of the metrics implemented in the fall of 2021 we now have a full years' worth of data to analyze the department's response activities. Emergency medical calls accounted for fifty-five percent (55%) of the department's overall response in 2022. Thirty-five percent (35%) of those calls are incidents involving Green County EMS. An aging population is contributing to the increasing number of medical calls for all fire/EMS departments locally, regionally, and nationally. The department's working relationship with Green County EMS is strong and continues to develop as we work with one another to provide first-class care to the citizens that live, work, and visit the City of Monroe.

Where are the calls? The new metrics allow us to track where the calls are within the city. The system divides the city into four zones: Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, and Southwest. We use 13th avenue to divide the east from the west and 12th street to divide the north from the south. These geographical lines were chosen to define the zones as they are major travel routes throughout the city.

The north side of the city has significantly more calls for service than the south side of the city. We believe this is related to the north side of the city having a larger concentration of apartment buildings and the majority of the assisted living facilities.

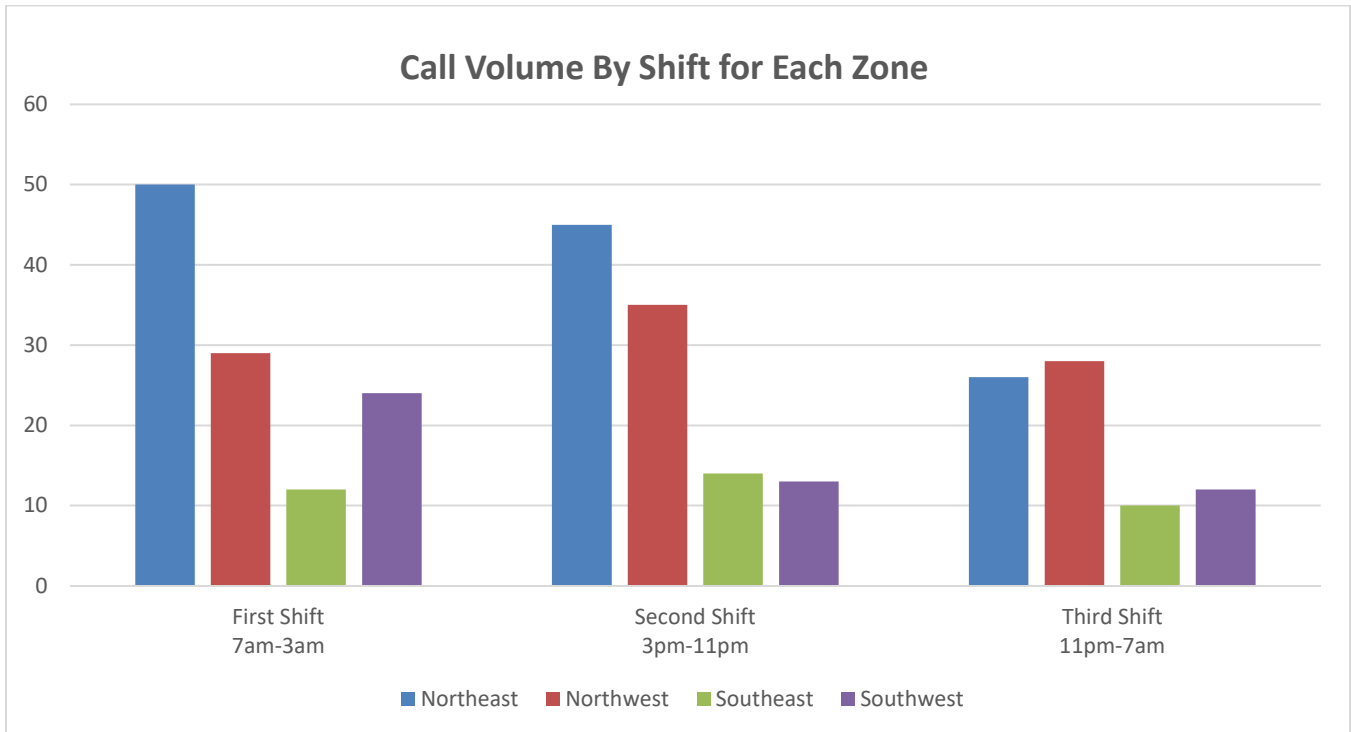
*The nine (9) calls unaccounted for are for mutual aid outside of the city.





Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

When do the calls occur? When measured by what is traditionally referred to as first, second, and third shifts; first shift is the busiest with one-hundred and seventeen (117) calls for service, closely followed by second shift with one-hundred and eleven (111) calls for service, and third shift with seventy-nine (79) calls for service.



With many long-standing partnerships within the business community the department is fortunate to have a strong day-time response as many employers allow our members to leave work. We are grateful for the on-going support of the business community.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Training

The members participated in nearly 2000 hours of training and development in 2022. Members completed professional certification in the following areas: Driver Operator, Fire Instructor, Fire Inspector, Emergency Medical Responder, and Fire Officer. These professional certification courses are delivered by Blackhawk Technical College and credentialed through the State of Wisconsin Technical College System.



One of the challenges facing the department is that we often have to send our personnel to the central campus at Blackhawk Technical College in Janesville because the courses are often not offered in Green County due to low enrollment in the area. This adds ninety minutes to each class as our members must travel to and from Janesville each night. It also adds ninety minutes of payroll expense to each class, which can increase the total cost of the course by more than five hundred dollars per student.

It is not uncommon for students to leave for class right after work at 5:00pm and return sometime after 10:00pm. They often do not see their families and rarely get a good meal on these nights. Despite these challenges our members continue to demonstrate a high level of commitment to their training and development.

The members also participated in many hours of training on topics such as Driver/Operator, EMS Operations, Officer Development, Fire Behavior, Search & Rescue, Health & Safety, CPR, Bloodborne Pathogens, Hose Loads and Aerial Ladder Operations, etc. This training occurred in-house and utilized both fire stations and the MERIT Center.

In addition to continuing to maintain our basic skills, in 2023 the department will be introducing training and response planning for hazards involving solar power sources in residential and commercial properties as well as response strategies for electric vehicles.

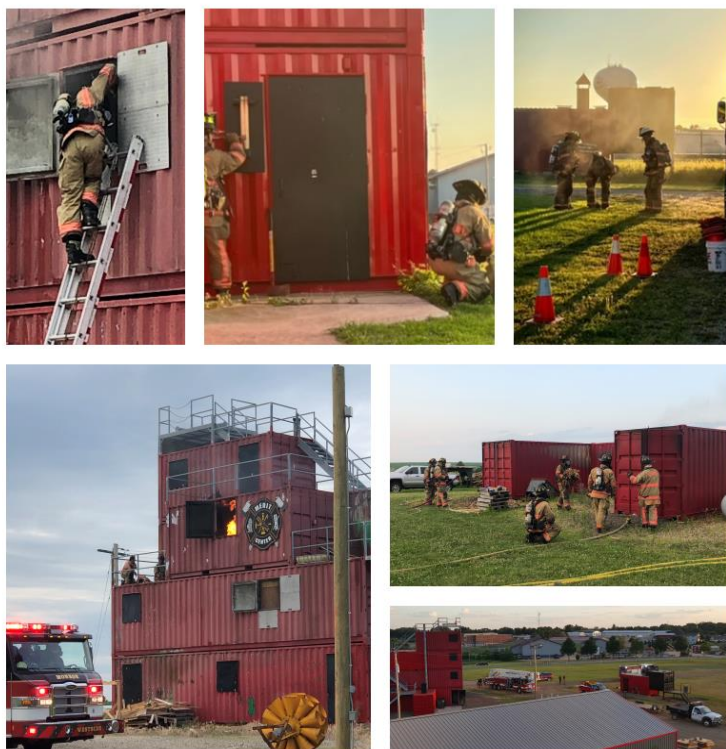
While the department does a great job of providing its members with training through its internal operations, keeping up with the latest information, strategies, and recommended tactics is a large task. The department will continue to encourage members to attend local and regional training events. These events not only offer the opportunity to learn new skills, but also expose our members to different points of view and operations and help to prevent complacency within our own systems and practices.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

MERIT Center

The MERIT Center is located on six (6) acres in Monroe's north industrial park. The department trains at the center on a regular basis from April through October. The training center has several training props that assist in developing core skills such as fire attack, search and rescue, ladder drills, confined space rescue, flashover simulations, elevated rescues, ventilation, forcible entry, motor pump operations, and hazmat operations.



The training center is utilized by a number of private and public organizations such as Badger State Ethanol, the agricultural community, and fire, EMS, and law enforcement agencies. The MERIT Center has provided a safe place to train for thousands of children, employees, and emergency service personnel over the past decade.

Due to its age and repetitive use the training center props are in need of some general maintenance and upgrades. The department will be holding a golf outing in July of 2023 to raise funds to help with the costs of ongoing maintenance at the training grounds. Identifying additional fundraising opportunities will be important for the future development of the training center.

The MERIT Center is and will continue to be an important part in the development of our current and future firefighters.

Staffing - General

The department operates primarily under a paid-on-call (POC) staffing model. Many consider this the most cost-effective and flexible staffing model in the fire service. This cost effectiveness is not without some downside, inconsistent staffing, increased response times, and training gaps are often associated with the POC staffing model.

The department made a number of operational changes in the second half of 2022 and the first quarter of 2023. Most of these changes were related to member participation requirements and response guidelines. The results have been positive. Since these changes were implemented response times have been reduced, staffing on the apparatus has increased, and participation at training events is averaging nearly ninety percent.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Many members are participating in advanced training and certifications. We have one member that will complete their probation in the spring of 2023 and another that is expected to complete their fire certification training in June of 2023. The department's members are active and well trained on a wide range of topics. If there is a weakness in the membership it would be the absence of mid-range personnel, those that have 8-14 years of experience.

This experience gap is at least in part due to the department choosing not to recruit new members from 2008 to 2012. Under the current POC staffing model it will take the department 4-6 years of consistent and successful recruiting combined with retention efforts to overcome this experience deficit.

The split between the city and the rural townships had a significant impact on the department in many different aspects with staffing being the most tangible. Defining a culture and rebuilding trust takes time and patience. There has been a palpable change in the department over the past six to nine months. Members have begun "hanging out" at the fire station again and are doing things together outside the organization. Morale is improving and the organization is taking the steps needed to move forward.

Staffing - Recruitment

In the fall of 2022, the department partnered with the Monroe High School by participating in its LAUNCH program. The LAUNCH program pairs high school students with local businesses and the two work together to address a problem/project. I was paired with four students and our project was to develop a social media campaign to recruit firefighters.

The team met weekly for 8-9 weeks and developed a plan to promote three open house events at the fire stations using the department's social media accounts. The infancy of the LAUNCH program and only having one hour to meet each week were challenges that prevented us from finishing with a "completed" project. But overall, I feel the experience was a success on several different levels. The department will use the information learned from the LAUNCH program when it implements its 2023 recruitment campaign.

To run an effective recruitment campaign takes a great deal of time. Hanging help wanted banners and placing ads on social media are an important part of a recruitment campaign, but the results are often disappointing when they are not part of a larger marketing plan. Participating in local activities that offer the opportunity for members to develop relationships across a variety of demographics will increase the success rate of print, radio, and other passive marketing efforts.

The challenge with attending community events is that it places a demand on people that often have little discretionary time left in their schedules. Recruiting is no longer a singular event or action, but rather an ongoing effort that requires a commitment of financial and human resources.

No one knows more about what it means to be a part of the Monroe Fire Department than our members, so they will be the ones leading the recruitment efforts in 2023. The members will use video, social media, and in-person events to channel their messaging to a variety of demographics. The goal is to hire 3-5 new members, but the focus is on quality and cultural fit as opposed to quantity. Getting the right people on the bus is more important than filling the bus. The recruitment efforts will take place in the late spring and early summer of 2023.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Staffing - Retention

Retention efforts in the fire service are fairly new when compared to the private sector. In the past it was normal for a firefighter to remain a member for 10, 15, even 20 plus years. But changes in lifestyle, work, and family obligations have had a negative effect on longevity. While the age of firefighters is increasing, the average tenure is decreasing. Currently the national average tenure for a volunteer firefighter is five years.

In 2022 the department began looking closer at what it can do to make it easier for members to remain “active” on the fire department. What we found through general discussions was that firefighters did not consider responding to calls or attending training as a burden, rather these were two of the primary reasons expressed for wanting to be a firefighter. Activities such as administrative work, planning and prepping the training, fundraising, apparatus maintenance, and politics were frequently mentioned as deterrents to being a member of the department.

Over the past year the department’s leadership team has tried new ways of showing our appreciation to the members and their families. We cooked and served them a homemade supper for Thanksgiving, we put ice cream and frozen pizzas in the kitchen so if they miss a meal or need a snack there is something there for them. We are very conscientious of their time during training and meetings, and we have made it a priority to give a shout-out to people that are doing good things and representing the department in a positive way. We will continue to review our recognition program and welcome new ideas for supporting and acknowledge our members.

Community Risk Reduction - Fire Inspections

The role of the fire inspector may be one of the most misunderstood roles in the fire service. Fire inspectors do so much more than just meet with people and identify code violations. Fire inspectors make significant contributions in reducing fire loss and injuries to civilians and firefighters.

Performing fire inspections is an important part of protecting the community. The preferred role is one of an educator rather than an enforcer. Learning how to interpret and explain the vast number of codes often takes several years.

There are over eight hundred (800) inspectable properties in Monroe. Most of these are required to have fire inspections performed twice a year. The total number of annual inspections may exceed 2000 when re-inspections are taken into consideration. It is estimated that it may take up to 2000 hours annually just to complete the physical onsite inspections required by the state. The fire inspector would need additional time to research specific code references, complete data entry, have time for scheduling initial appointments and rescheduling missed appointments, and attending ongoing training. This does not include any time for facility pre-planning, emergency incident response, or public education activities.

The department has not had a full-time fire inspector since late 2017. In/around 2019 the department experienced mixed results when it made an attempt to meet the state fire inspection requirements utilizing paid-on-call firefighters. In the summer of 2022, the city administrator asked several companies to provide a quote for fire inspection services for the City of Monroe. Only two companies responded to the request, the first declined to provide a formal quote because they did not have the personnel to cover such a large number of properties. The second company provided a quote for services that exceeded half of the department’s annual budget.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

For several years the fire department has struggled to develop a functional fire inspection program. Fire inspections are mandated by the State of Wisconsin statute 101.14, and nearly \$40,000 of state revenue is tied to performing those inspections. The lack of fire inspections in 2022 coupled with not having a funded inspection program in 2023 to bring the City into compliance may jeopardize this state funding and have a negative effect on business insurance premiums. To avoid these negative consequences, it is important for the city to adequately fund the development, implementation, and staffing of a comprehensive fire inspection program.

Community Risk Reduction - Public Education/Relations

The department participated in over one hundred and seventy (170) hours of public education/relations events in 2022. These events benefit the community and the department as they provide an opportunity to promote fire safety and build relationships.



The department is respected for delivering quality educational programs. One of our longest standing and most successful programs is our partnership with the Monroe School District's Parkside School where they celebrate "The Student of the Month". Once a month during the school year one of our firefighters meets the teachers at Station 1 and they pick-up a student at their home and take them to school on the fire truck where the rest of the entire school is waiting for them to celebrate their achievements.



It is a GREAT program and the department has received many compliments from both the school district and parents for our participation.

The department held its first ever "Salute to Summer" event at Recreation Park this past August. The event was held in conjunction with Park & Rec staff. There were games for children of all ages as well as fire prevention material and smoke detectors. We estimate that there were over 300 people in attendance throughout the two-hour event.

There are many activities that fall within the umbrella of community risk reduction (CRR). Performing fire inspections, public education, school visits, and fire extinguisher training are just a few of the components of CRR that reduce the demand on other public services and improves the quality of life in our community.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Grants

The department submitted four grants for consideration during 2022.

- Firefighters Assistance Grant (Chief Erb) - \$1 million dollars for the replacement of Ladder 7. We made it to the later stages of the grant process, but unfortunately were not selected as a recipient.
- WE Energies Foundation (Chief Rufer) - \$2,000 for a specialized meter that will allow firefighters to detect the presence of natural gas from outside of a building. The department was awarded this grant and the meter is in service and was recently used for a call at a business on the square.
- WI EMS Division Flex Grant (Chief Rufer) - The department was awarded \$142,500 to support EMS related operations such as equipment, training, and recruitment.
- Congressional Direct Spending Grant from Senator Baldwin (Administrator Lothspeich) The city was awarded \$825,000 to aid in the replacement of the department's aerial truck. The truck is expected to be delivered in the spring of 2024.

Apparatus/Maintenance

The apparatus/maintenance crew are the ones that keep our trucks and stations in working order. The amount of work they get done is nothing short of amazing. Members worked just over three hundred (300) hours maintaining the department's apparatus and equipment. The following is a list of key projects that were completed in 2022.

- Assembled a committee and successfully specified a replacement for Ladder 7 which is currently thirty-three years old. The new apparatus will increase reliability, provide flexibility for our emergency operations, and will increase the level of safety in which our firefighters work.
- Replaced all the batteries in the department's SCBA's (>200 batteries). In 2020, we identified a pattern of SCBA repairs related to batteries. The cost of these repairs ranged between \$100-\$200 each, and took the SCBA out of service for 1-3 weeks. In addition, it required someone to take the SCBA to Madison and then return to Madison to pick it up. In June of 2021, a battery replacement program was implemented, and the department has not experienced a battery related repair in the past eighteen months. We estimate that this program has provided a net savings >\$2000 and has reduced the number of trips to and from Madison to have the equipment serviced. ***The department has not had a SCBA out of service for battery related issues in nearly two years.***
- The department completed the testing of over 17,500ft of hose. Annual hose testing is required by the Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 330. It takes three training nights to complete the hose testing process. We are currently reviewing the feasibility of having this service performed by a private contractor.
- All of the apparatus received their annual maintenance which consists of an oil change and multi-point inspection. Division Chief Montgomery schedules the maintenance and takes off from work to take the apparatus to and from the service station. The department averages twenty-five years of service from its large fire apparatus. Because of our internal maintenance team and a well-managed preventative maintenance program, the department experiences very little unplanned downtime.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Health & Safety

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard 1521 and Wisconsin Administrative Code SPS 330.03 require the department to have a designated Health & Safety Officer. One of the responsibilities of the Health & Safety Officer is to oversee the safety committee. The following are key projects that were completed in 2022.

- Established a NFPA compliant record keeping system for all department issued personal protective equipment (PPE). This entails keeping records of the manufacturer dates, whom the PPE is issued to, the expiration dates, sizes, serial numbers, and how and when it is retired.
- Implement an inventory system for tracking spare PPE based on age, number of repairs, and current condition. One set of PPE costs approximately \$3000, this newly established inventory system will reduce excess PPE and allow for increased accuracy when budgeting for replacement gear.
- All reserve PPE was inspected, washed, dried, inventoried, and sorted for storage.
- Establish rehab kits for long-term incidents. These kits are pre-stocked with extra PPE that may be needed during long-term incidents. There are two types of kits, one for summer and one for winter. Having the kits pre-assembled allows for quicker retrieval and reduces waste. The kits are ready for immediate use and are stored in our air/support trailer at station 1.
- Delivered regular safety information/messages/training to the members

The safety committee also performs a number of repetitive tasks such as monthly calibration of our hazmat meters, inventory of PPE, assists members with PPE repairs and replacement, and the design and delivery of safety related training. Because of the efforts of the safety committee the department had zero OSHA reportable accidents in 2022.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

Emergency Medical Responders

EMS is the fastest growing category of the department's operations, now accounting for fifty-five (55%) of the calls. The department currently has eleven members that are certified emergency medical responders (EMR).

Since being assigned to EMS operations in April of 2021 Captain Perdue has updated the equipment, brought the department into compliance with the state EMS office, re-established our relationship and trust with both medical control and the other EMS organizations in the county, and is now the President of the Green County EMS Commission.



In 2022 the department had two members complete the EMR course and the national registry exam. We expect a third to complete the process in early 2023.

The following is a list of key projects completed in 2022.

- Implemented a sustainable training program for the EMR's that will continue to develop their skills and eliminate the need to attend a 40-50 hour refresher course through Blackhawk Technical College. We estimate that this internal training program will save the department \$5000 every three years.
- Modify Squads 5 & 6 so that frequently used equipment and medications are now stored inside a temperature-controlled environment. These changes will make it easier for the responders to perform their jobs and save money by reducing waste.
- Partnered with SSM Health in developing protocols for lift assists and standard practices for care. This is in the pilot stage and continues to be evaluated.
- Working with Green County Emergency Management, SSM Health, Green County EMS, and Brodhead EMS in developing a Mass Casualty Response Plan to be used across the county. This plan will standardize the response and management of Mass Casualty incidents and improve interoperability with mutual aid partners.
- Create and administer annually required Bloodborne Pathogen and HIPAA Privacy training in accordance with OSHA, State, and Federal standards.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

- Maintain and ensure operational compliance with medical control and the state of Wisconsin EMS Division.
 - Enter patient care reports into the State's Wisconsin Ambulance Run Database System (WARDS) database as required by state statutes.
 - Ensure patient care and equipment meet the Wisconsin EMS Scope of Practice for the EMS license level of Monroe Fire Department.
 - Provide training to licensed EMRs on patient care, documentation, and practical skills.
 - Provide training to Non EMRs on the equipment and techniques commonly used to move/lift patients', providing first aid and CPR, and working with EMS personnel.
 - Schedule, proctor, and train bi-annually on advance skills in coordination with medical control at SSM Health Monroe.
 - Review run data and provide monthly quality assurance reports to medical control at SSM Health Monroe.
- Connect the Monroe Fire Department with local social services partners.
 - Established relationships to connect the Aging Disabilities Resource Center (ADRC) and their adult protective services division with patients that we care for through repeated lift assist calls. Our partnership with ADRC has reduced, and in some cases eliminated calls for lift assist services as people are connected with the resources necessary to improve their quality of life while reducing their dependency on the emergency services system.
 - The department has established a number of private/public and public/public partnerships with organizations such as SSM Health Monroe, GCEMS, ADRC, and St. Vincent DePaul. These partnerships allow each of us to fulfill our mission and result in a healthier and happier community.
- Expanded the department's capabilities for training EMR's in-house. These investments have reduced our training costs, increased our competence, and improved the quality of care provided to our citizens.
 - With the purchase of training mannequins, we now have the ability to train on the use of advanced airway placement and assessment to the level of our scope of practice. We also purchased two AED trainers that allow medical providers to practice CPR and AED skills.
 - Other training supplies purchased allow us to practice our advanced skills such as: IM injections of Epinephrine for allergic reactions, Narcan administration for Narcotic overdoses, and the management of other emergency medical conditions. The ability to have hands-on scenario-based practice improves the confidence and competency of our members.
- Further developed the department's partnership with Green County EMS
 - Developed a plan to reduce response times in the City of Monroe by integrating an EMR response profile with medical calls in coordination with Green County EMS when their resources are over extended.
 - Standardized the medical equipment carried on the department vehicles. This improves efficiency and patient care while providing the flexibility in our ability to respond with different vehicles regardless of ongoing calls or assignments.



Monroe Fire Department 2023 Annual Report

As our community continues to age EMS will continue to play a large part in the services we provide. It is likely that the number of fires will continue to decline as code enforcement and public education efforts become more prevalent. With that said, those fires are likely to be larger and cause a greater amount of damage as we continue to see an increase in consumer products that are made from materials that are less resistant to fire.

It is truly an honor to work for such a caring and compassionate group of people and I am excited about what we will accomplish together as we move forward. Please feel free to reach out me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Alan L. Rufer, MBA, EFO
Interim Fire Chief