

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



PEMBROKE PINES FIRE RESCUE  
ISO CLASS ONE DEPARTMENT



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## MISSION STATEMENT

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*“The Pembroke Pines Fire Department is dedicated to the preservation of life, property and the environment. Our goal is to provide quality, cost effective professional services predicated upon knowledge, skills, and abilities of our members.”*

# MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

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On behalf of The City of Pembroke Pines Fire Rescue Department I am pleased to present our 2015 Annual Report. On the following pages you will find information from each of our five Divisions which include Rescue, Fire Prevention, Logistics, Operations and Training. Each Division provides interesting facts, figures and general information about our goals and accomplishments.

Some of the highlights of 2015 include the purchase and delivery of two new rescue trucks and one new fire engine. Thanks to a grant, we also received 90 new Scott SCBA's and Stryker Power Stretchers for all frontline rescue units. The air pack purchase provided us with state of the art SCBA's that are more compatible with other local fire departments and the powered stretchers have been proven to decrease on-the-job injuries. Case in point, in 2014 there were five injuries reported as a result of stretcher operations as opposed to none in 2015. In addition, we have completed several remodeling projects that will help address our concerns of exposure to vehicle exhaust. We have also participated in a course on cancer awareness that provides techniques to reduce the risk of on-the-job exposure to cancer causing agents.

As a result of this training, we have issued additional personal protective equipment which includes sunscreen, a second Nomex hood and a second set of gloves. This is in addition to a second set of bunker gear. We also developed a new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) which governs the care and maintenance of bunker gear and we are in the process of purchasing two more

extractors (industrial grade washing machines) used to clean bunker gear at each fire station. These changes were all made to address our concerns about the health and safety of our members.

Our Fire Rescue Department and our personnel continue to support programs such as KAPOW, CERT and Fire Explorers. We added a new CPR class called Friends and Family CPR which is free and is available monthly. This is in addition to our Healthcare Provider class and our Heart Saver class. All three classes combined, we trained over 1,000 people just last year in CPR. We also reached 18,900 students and residents through our public education classes and Fire Inspector Lieutenant Danny Almaguer received the 2015 Richard Korte Fire Safety Inspector of the Year Award from the Fire Inspector's Association of Broward County.

In 2015, we responded to 21,328 alarms of which 17,882 were for medical emergencies. Of those, 10,542 patients were transported to local area hospitals. This included 83 cases of cardiac arrest with an overall Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC) of 32% which is nearly double the Florida average (17.9% per American Heart Association). We also responded to 77 working structure fires within the City and our Fire Loss Per Capita was \$17.23. The National Average Fire Loss Per Capita is \$36.40 which means that our City's fire losses are less than half the National average.

It is clear that our Fire Rescue Department and Firefighters are among the best in the County and certainly throughout the State. We are well regarded by our peers, the medical community and our residents. We continue to receive countless letters, emails and phone calls every month from people wanting to express their sincere appreciation for the services we provide. I would like to personally thank everyone in the department for their dedication to their profession and the Community. It is truly an honor to work with such professionals.

I encourage you to read the report and I welcome your comments, suggestions, and feedback.

Sincerely,

John A. Picarello, Fire Chief  
Pembroke Pines Fire Department

# HISTORY

The City of Pembroke Pines was first incorporated in January 1960 after a group of residents asked for an election to create a new City, formally known as The Village of Pembroke Pines. The population was 1,429 and the City was one square mile. It was during this time that the Pembroke Pines Fire Department started as a volunteer group which included Ron Czplicki becoming the City's first volunteer Fire Chief. Originally called the *West Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department* because of its location west of Hollywood, Florida; the first fire station was adjacent to the existing North Perry Field, an airport used to train B-17 pilots. In 1973 the City hired its first four (4) paid firefighters and John Galloway as the first paid Fire Chief from 1974 through 1979. Chief Galloway was succeeded by Chief Phil Rosenthal, who was hired in 1979. Chief Rosenthal is credited for transitioning the once volunteer fire department to a professionally paid organization.

Chief Rosenthal retired in 1990; his leadership responsibilities were given to Vito Splendorio who brought 25 years of service and experience from the City of Hollywood Fire Department. He advanced the Pembroke Pines Fire Department into one of the most successful and efficient fire departments in Florida. Pembroke Pines Fire Department grew as the City flourished, experiencing its greatest growth immediately after Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Today Pembroke Pines is the second most populous city in Broward County. The department eventually grew to six (6) stations serving over 164,000

residents in 34 square miles, with 210 combat personnel and 10 administrative employees. John Picarello has been Fire Chief since 2006 and is the first Fire Chief to rise through the Pembroke Pines Fire ranks, starting as a new firefighter.

Fortunately from the growth seen in the 1990's, Pembroke Pines Fire Rescue evolved to an all hazards emergency response organization, earning and maintaining a Class 1 Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating since 1998. In 2007, the department completed its transition of all frontline units to Advanced Life Support (ALS) medical service to better serve its community. Delivering quick, proficient and cost effective services to the stakeholders of Pembroke Pines, the department provides service to a diverse group of target hazards including multiple hospitals, universities, two major shopping malls, an interstate and an airport.

Today the department includes 2 Battalions, 2 frontline Platforms, 6 frontline Fire Engines, 7 frontline Rescues, an Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Unit (ARFF) and a Tactical Support Unit. With this equipment, Pembroke Pines Fire Rescue responds to an average of 22,000 service calls annually, 80% being medical related. The department is able to meet the high volume of service calls thanks to the professional dedication and well trained men and women who proudly serve the citizens of Pembroke Pines.



Fire Chief John Galloway



Fire Chief Phil Rosenthal



Fire Chief Vito Splendorio



# CITY OFFICIALS

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The City Commission represents the public interest, promotes prompt, courteous responses to citizen problems and concerns, provides clear leadership and direction, and assures the present and future fiscal integrity of the City.



Pictured above (from left to right): Commissioner Carl Shechter, District 1, Vice Mayor Iris A. Siple, District 3, Mayor Frank C. Ortis, Commissioner Jay Schwartz, District 2 and Commissioner Angelo Castillo, District 4



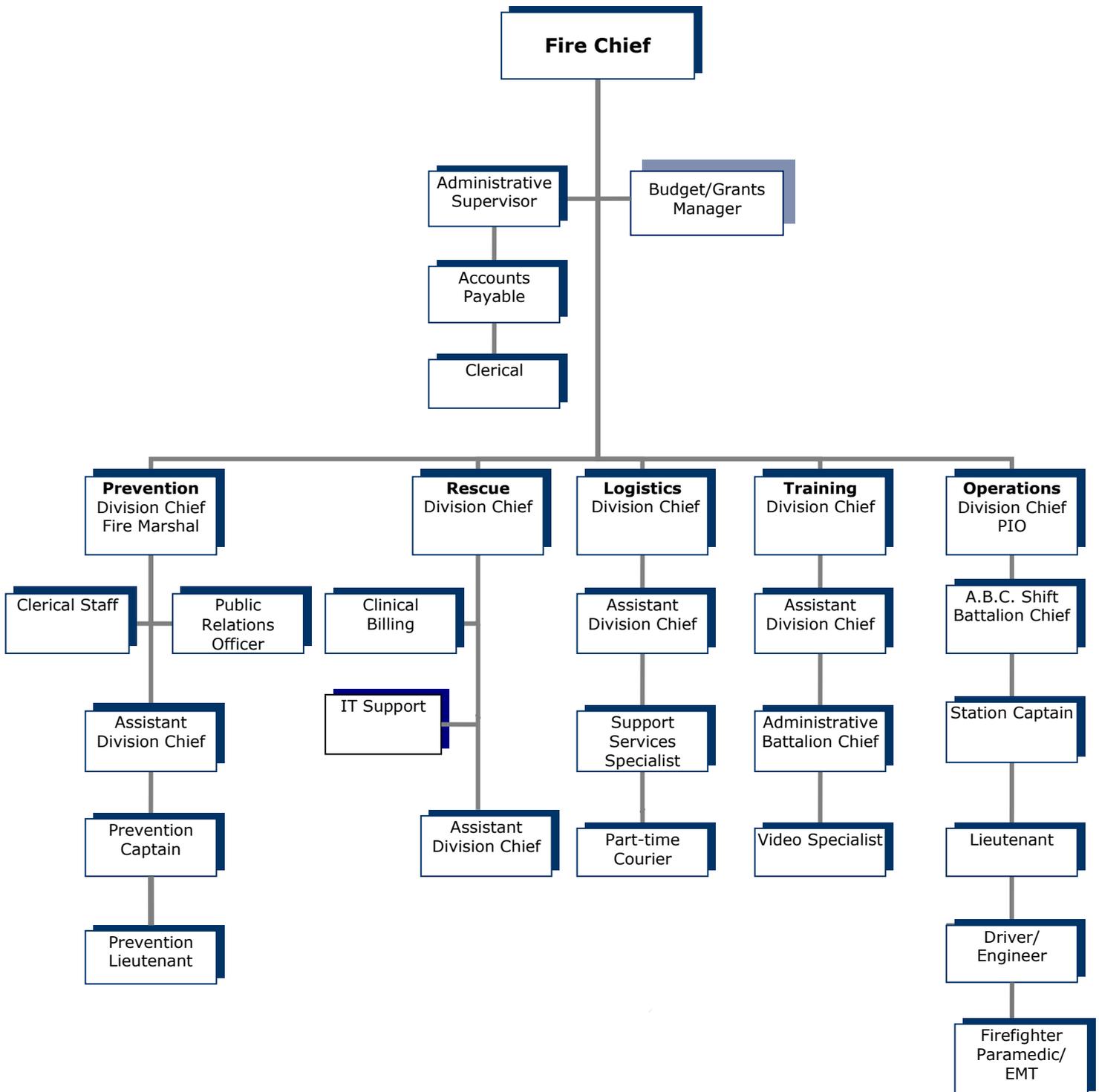
City Hall / Commission Chambers



Charles F. Dodge  
City Manager



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# FIRE STATIONS AND FACILITIES



**Station 33**

Located at 600 SW 72 Avenue, east of North Perry Airport. Station 33 provides 24-hour coverage and houses Engine 33, Rescue 33 and the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Unit (ARFF). Station 33 is also home for the Tactical Support Unit.



**Station 69**

Located at the Pembroke Pines Fire and Police Headquarters, 9500 Pines Boulevard. Station 69 provides 24-hour coverage and houses the office of Battalion 69, Engine 69, Rescue 69, Rescue 269 and Platform 69. Station 69 responds to an average of 32 calls a shift.



**Station 89**

Located on Pines Boulevard east of I-75 at 13000 SW 1 Street. Station 89 provides 24-hour coverage and houses Engine 89, Rescue 89 and Rescue 289. Station 89 responds to an average of 31 calls a shift.



**Station 99**

Located on Pines Boulevard west of I-75 at 16999 Pines Boulevard. Station 99 provides 24-hour coverage and houses the office of Battalion 99, Engine 99, Rescue 99 and Platform 99.



**Station 79**

Located on Pines Boulevard east of US 27 at 19900 Pines Boulevard. Station 79 provides 24-hour coverage and houses Engine 79 and Rescue 79. Station 79 is also home of the Fire Safety Trailer.



**Station 101**

Located on Stirling Road east of US 27 at 6057 SW 198 Terrace. Station 101 provides 24-hour coverage and houses Engine 101. Station 101 is also home of the Department's Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) maintenance and repair shop.



**Fire Administration**

Located at 9500 Pines Boulevard, the department's Fire Administration serves as the headquarters for the department. Chief Officers and support staff are based out of this building.



**Training Center**

Located at 1101 SW 208 Avenue, the department's training facility was built in 2004. The facility features a five story drill tower, multi prop gas field, vehicle extrication pad, flashover simulator, flammable liquid pits, two burn rooms, two simulated apartments and a maze room.



**Maintenance Facility**

Located at 6057 SW 198 Terrace behind fire station 101. The Maintenance Facility handles the majority of the maintenance and repairs of the department's fleet. The shop includes three double bays, fitted with lifts, lubrication pits, machining workroom and welding area.

# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



Friends & Family CPR



Kids and the Power of Work (KAPOW)



Santa's Express



Pembroke Pines Fire Explorers



Community Emergency Response Team  
Adult CERT



Community Emergency Response Team  
Teen CERT

# RESCUE DIVISION

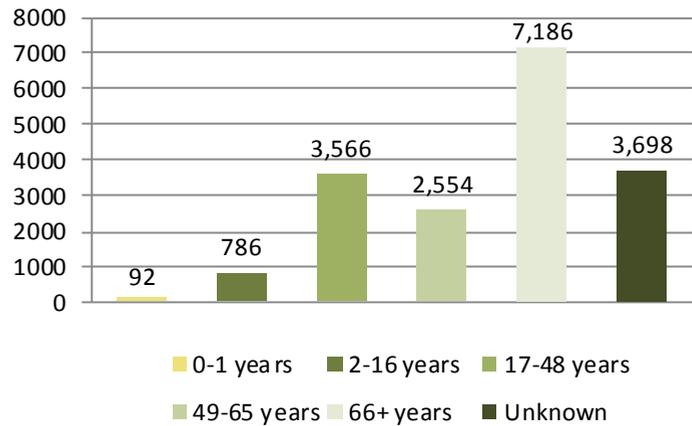
The Rescue Division manages the Emergency Medical Services provided by our Department. Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics, and Lieutenants operate under the direction of a physician who is the Department’s Medical Director.

The Department responds to calls using Advanced Life Support units and equipment from each of our fire stations. Each vehicle is equipped with the very latest medical diagnostic equipment available in the pre-hospital care setting.

## Activity Summary

Type	2013	2014	2015
Vehicular	1,642	1,752	1,926
Cardiac	1,094	1,141	1,067
Stroke	168	176	195
Diabetic	307	293	289
Respiratory	1,045	942	959
Overdose	54	244	259
Obstetrics	61	55	73
Trauma	2,134	3,264	3,355
Others	12,407	10,543	9,759
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,912</b>	<b>18,410</b>	<b>17,882</b>

## Patient Age Categories Total Patients Treated in 2015: 17,882



# FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The overall mission of Pembroke Pines Fire Rescue is the preservation of life, property, and the environment through a number of quality, cost-effective, and professional services. The Fire Prevention Division contributes to this mission through public education/events, the elimination of fire and safety hazards through fire code compliance activities such as: plans review, inspections of commercial and residential occupancies, and the investigation of fires to determine cause and origin. We have dedicated hard-working staff members eager to provide and maintain a fire-safe community.



Public Education

## Functions Performed

Tasks	2013	2014	2015
Total Inspections Conducted	11,071	11,444	10,718
Fires Investigated By Fire Prevention Bureau	7	8	18
Number of Fire Plans Reviewed	1,850	1,700	1,698
Number of People Attending Public Education Presentations	19,698	15,205	18,908
Total Inspectable Occupancies/Buildings	6,086	6,257	6,352



Fire Safety Inspection



Pre-Fire Planning

# LOGISTICS DIVISION

## SUPPORT SERVICES

The Logistics Division manages procurements and maintenance of fire stations, fire/rescue apparatus, equipment and operating supplies. The Division is responsible for developing and overseeing maintenance programs for equipment and apparatus to ensure fire-fighters are adequately equipped and emergency response vehicles are ready to respond to the needs of the citizens of Pembroke Pines.



Grant Funded SCBA's

### Functions Performed

Activity	Description
Facility Maintenance, Planning, Design and Building	Manage the repairs and renovations of Fire Stations and Fire Department buildings located throughout the City.
Oversee repair and maintenance of vehicles, equipment, generators, and fuel supplies	Coordinate and monitor the vehicle and equipment preventive maintenance, repair programs, and fuel orders.
Communication Equipment	Ensure the reliability of all communications equipment and our compliance with the National Fire Protection Association / ISO.
Research & Development	Research and test new emergency equipment and protective clothing for the Department.
Fire-Rescue Apparatus Committee	Members of the Department who research, design, and travel to manufacturing plants to inspect construction of new emergency vehicles.
Emergency Management Preparedness	Emergency Management procedures are in place to ensure efficiency and readiness of all vehicles, equipment, and supplies for the hurricane season and any other potential mass casualty event.
Civil Defense and Terrorism Response	Continue partnerships with our Police and Government task forces in response to terrorism within the County, State, and Country.
Aerial Ladder and Fire Engine Pump Test	Annual tests to ensure the reliability of Fire Department aerial ladders, ground ladders, and engine/aerial pumps to maintain compliance with the National Fire Protection Association / ISO.



# OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Operations Division is responsible for the management and supervision of all frontline personnel and emergency response activities. Emergency responses include but are not limited to fires, vehicle accidents, vehicle extrications, medical emergencies, rescue operations, and other related emergencies.

Operational personnel provide:

- Fire suppression and mitigation of related emergencies
- Emergency and non-emergency patient care and transport services
- Initial hazardous material emergency response
- Assist with fire protection system inspections
- Pre-fire planning of buildings
- Community training and public education programs
- Fire/Rescue coverage for community events
- Preventive maintenance on equipment and vehicles

## Fire Injury and Mortality Incidents

Type	2013	2014	2015
Civilian Injury	7	3	1
Civilian Death	0	0	0
Firefighter Injury	17	26	19
Firefighter Death	0	0	0

## Property Loss/Save Ratio

Loss/Save Ratio	2013	2014	2015
Property Value	68,456,965	95,035,230	291,861,068
Property Loss	823,531	841,895	2,837,155
Saved %	98.8	99.11	99.03
Loss %	1.2	.89	.97
Census	160,306	162,329	164,626
Per Capita Fire Loss	\$13.34	\$5.19	\$17.23



Cintas Fire

## Response Report

	2013	2014	2015
Total Responses	22,046	21,981	21,328

## Mutual Aid Received/Given

Municipality	2013	2014	2015
Broward County	0/0	0/0	4/1
Cooper City	3/6	0/2	0/3
Davie	0/1	0/1	2/0
Hollywood	3/7	0/2	3/15
Miramar	20/26	16/21	15/26
Miami-Dade County	0/0	0/0	1/0
Southwest Ranches	0/1	0/1	0/0
<b>TOTAL</b>	26/41	16/26	25/45

# TRAINING DIVISION



The Training Division manages the performance and educational requirements of all Fire Department employees. The Division works diligently to provide quality, up-to-date training in a variety of subjects throughout the year.

Effective training helps to achieve:

- Quality customer service
- Personal and organizational pride
- Effective use of modern equipment
- Safe operations
- Services that meet the needs of the public
- Efficient and effective performance

All facility training is accomplished by the Training Division at our own Fire Training Facility which includes a five story smoke tower with two burn rooms for creating realistic, comprehensive training. The facility also features the addition of a state-of-the-art propane field with several gas fed props, two flammable liquid pits, and a flashover simulator designed to teach fire behavior and how to recognize and control the signs of impending flashover.

## Training Hours

Type of Training	Hours
Rescue (Paramedic & EMT)	8,639
Facility (Pembroke Pines Fire Training Facility)	6,023
Company (Fire Stations)	67,931
Total	82,593

(405 hours per employee per year)

