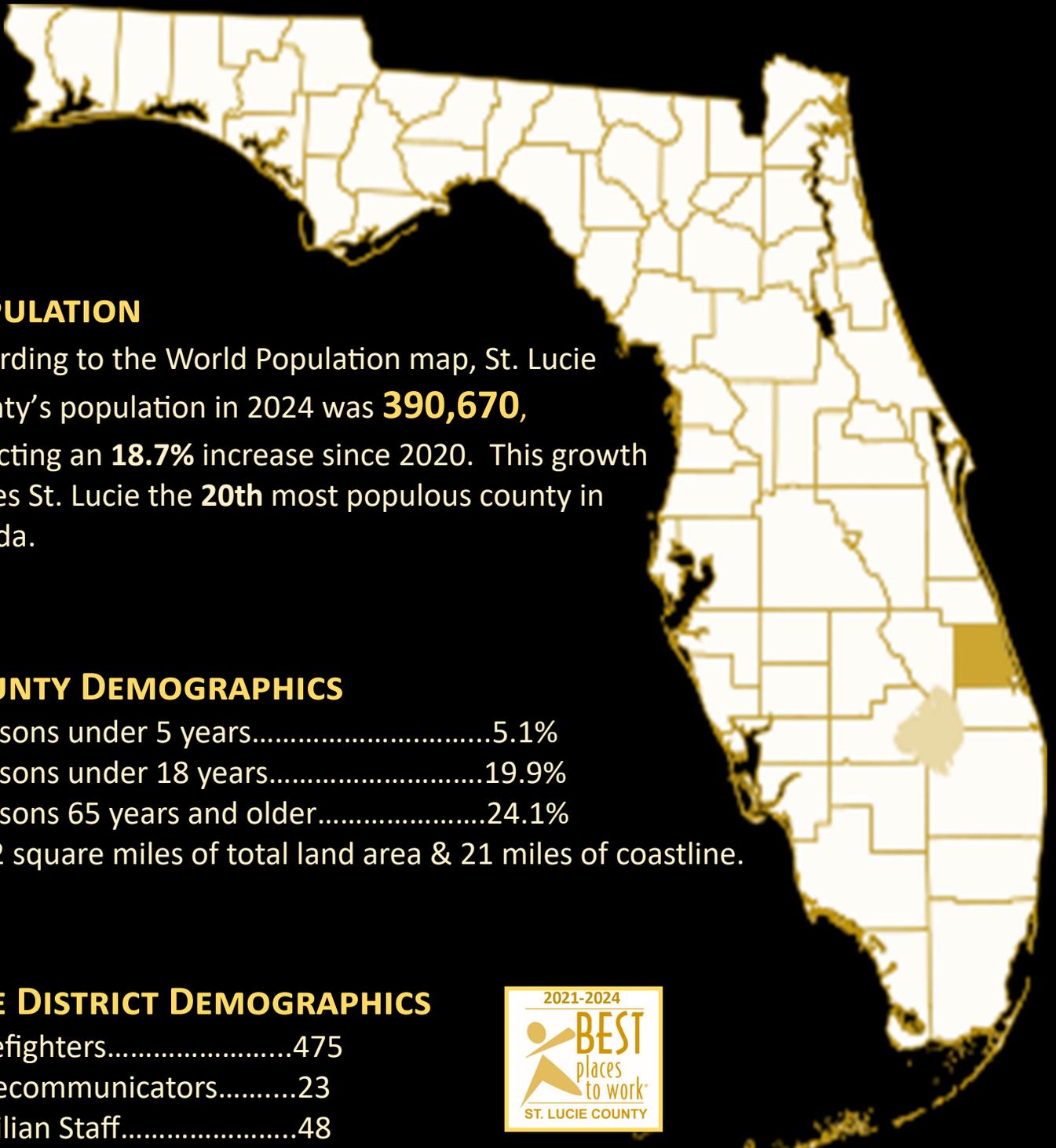




2024
ANNUAL REPORT



St. Lucie County Florida



POPULATION

According to the World Population map, St. Lucie County’s population in 2024 was **390,670**, reflecting an **18.7%** increase since 2020. This growth makes St. Lucie the **20th** most populous county in Florida.

COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

- Persons under 5 years.....5.1%
- Persons under 18 years.....19.9%
- Persons 65 years and older.....24.1%
- 572 square miles of total land area & 21 miles of coastline.

FIRE DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

- Firefighters.....475
- Telecommunicators.....23
- Civilian Staff.....48
- 17 fire stations strategically located throughout the county.
- Fire Stations 18, 19, and 20 are now under construction.
- St. Lucie County Firefighters are dual certified as paramedics (PM) or emergency medical technicians (EMT).



ST. LUCIE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENT

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In 2023, the Fire District successfully regained agency accreditation for its second consecutive time through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). The Fire District is the only agency on the Treasure Coast to achieve Internationally Accredited Agency Status with the CFAI and the Center for Public Safety Excellence Inc. (CPSE).



A WORD FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



As I look back on 2024, I am reminded once again of the unwavering dedication and strength of our St. Lucie County Fire District family. This year brought challenges. It also brought growth and defining moments that reminded us of who we are—resilient, compassionate, and mission-driven.

Among our most exciting milestones was the groundbreaking of Fire Station 20, the second of three new stations being built to better serve our growing community. We also made significant progress on Fire Station 18, which is on track for completion in the second quarter of 2025. Alongside these projects, the expansion of our logistics facility is moving forward, giving us the infrastructure we need to support our people and operations well into the future.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, we deployed three separate crews and equipment to Florida's west coast to assist affected communities. Their work reflected the very best of who we are—not only standing strong for our own residents but also answering the call to help others in need across the state.

This year also tested us in ways we could not have predicted. Hurricane Milton brought an outbreak of unprecedented tornadoes, causing destruction across parts of our county and placing an extraordinary demand on our services. In those critical hours—and in the many long days that followed—our telecommunicators, firefighters, and support personnel worked tirelessly to protect lives, stabilize situations, and restore calm. Their response was swift, selfless, and deeply inspiring.

Throughout 2024, in every call, every shift, and every behind-the-scenes task, our people have shown what it means to serve with heart and integrity. Whether responding to emergencies, training future responders, or supporting daily operations, each member of the SLCFD family plays a vital role in the care and safety of our community.

As we look to 2025, we do so with gratitude for how far we've come and with energy for the work ahead. Guided by our shared values, we remain committed to serving St. Lucie County with excellence, professionalism, and pride.


Jeff Lee
Fire Chief



Our Family Serving Yours

Mission & Core Values

It is the *MISSION* of the St. Lucie County Fire District to preserve life and property by providing safe, efficient, and professional emergency services, community risk reduction, and public education; together with community services for our residents and visitors now and into the future.

COMMUNITY

Decision-making is based on the needs of those we serve.

COMPASSIONATE, COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE

Deliver services in a considerate, caring and sympathetic way.

FAMILY

Our motto: "Our Family Serving Yours".

INCLUSIVITY

Everyone feels valued, welcomed, respected, included and represented.

INTEGRITY

Uphold the beliefs of being moral, ethical, loyal and honest.

PRIDE, PASSION, PURPOSE

Display the utmost personal and ethical behavior at all times.

PROFESSIONAL

In application, appearance, attitude and standards.

SAFETY

Ensuring the welfare of ourselves and those we serve.

STRATEGIC

Plans, monitor, analyze and assess the needs of the fire district.

TRANSPARENT

Maintaining public trust through shared information.

TEAMWORK

Dedicated and committed to each other and our community.



Our Family Serving Yours

FIRE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



2025

CITY OF FORT PIERCE

Curtis Johnson– Chair
Linda Hudson

CITY OF PORT ST LUCIE

Shannon Martin - Vice Chair
Stephanie Morgan

ST LUCIE COUNTY

James Clasby
Jamie Fowler

GOVERNOR APPOINTEE

Travis Leonard

The St. Lucie County Fire District is an independent special district in Florida, separate from St. Lucie County and the cities of Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie. It is governed by a seven-member Board of Fire Commissioners, consisting of two members each from the County Commission, Fort Pierce City Commission, and Port St. Lucie City Council, along with one governor-appointed member.

By charter, the board appoints a Fire Chief to oversee operations and enforce state fire laws, and a Clerk-Treasurer to manage finances and records. The board also employs a District Attorney to handle legal affairs, though this position is not established by charter.



In November 2024, the Fire District welcomed Commissioner Clasby



2024

CITY OF PORT ST LUCIE

Stephanie Morgan - Chair
Shannon Martin

ST LUCIE COUNTY

Chris Dzadovsky– Vice Chair
Jamie Fowler

CITY OF FORT PIERCE

Linda Hudson
Curtis Johnson

GOVERNOR APPOINTEE

Travis Leonard

OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF & LEADERSHIP TEAM



JEFF LEE
Fire Chief



KIM SABOL
Fire District Attorney



TIM BARGERON
Clerk Treasurer



KENNETH PALESTRANT
Medical Director



BRIAN GONZALEZ
Assistant Fire Chief



MARK CRISTALDI
Deputy Chief



PAUL LANGEL
Deputy Chief



DIVISION CHIEFS : OPERATIONS



KYLE STIRRAT
A-Shift



RYAN JAY
B-Shift



DONNY STEFANI
C-Shift

DIVISION CHIEFS : ADMINISTRATION



CHAD CROUSE
Day Shift



DANIEL MIKELS
Day Shift



DANE VACHON
Day Shift

FIRE MARSHAL



ANDRES ELIZONDO
Captain



CHAPLAIN



TOMMY NEIMAN
Retired Lieutenant

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR



Andrew Myers

Now in his tenth year with the Fire District, Andrew serves as a Paramedic/Engineer, playing a key role in operations, innovation, and improvements while exemplifying the Fire District's core values.

His dedication has earned him the title of 2024 Firefighter of the Year.

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR



Teresa Toto

Now in her fifth year with the Fire District, Teresa serves as a Management Analyst. Her dedication and expertise contribute to the Finance Division's efficiency and success.

Her commitment has earned her the title of 2024 Support Staff of the Year.

PROMOTIONS

JANUARY

- Craig Stokes, Special Ops Engineer
- Donny Stefani, Division Chief
- Daniel Mikels, Division Chief
- Jesus Bayona, Battalion Chief
- Keith Bergeron, Battalion Chief
- Wayne Boyer, Battalion Chief
- Steven Kozac, Captain
- Roman Garcia, Captain
- Matt Ramsay, Captain
- Anthony Hood, Lieutenant
- Robert Hall, Lieutenant
- Justin Baker, Engineer

MAY

- Kevin Whitaker, Battalion Chief
- Alberto Herrera, Lieutenant
- Sam Greene, Engineer

JUNE

- Eric Barnes, Captain

JULY

- Jeremy Rouse, Lieutenant
- Colton DiFrancesco, Lieutenant
- Steven DiPalma, Lieutenant
- Jesus Monaco, Lieutenant
- Jason Diamond, Engineer
- Brandon Tedder, Engineer

AUGUST

- Craig Stolzer, Lieutenant

OCTOBER

- Richard Hall, Battalion Chief

NOVEMBER

- Brandon Tedder, Lieutenant
- Jason Jamerson, Engineer

DECEMBER

- Roberto Santa, Lieutenant
- Oscar Leiva, Lieutenant



RELEASED PARAMEDICS

JANUARY

- Carlos Hernandez
- John James
- Anthony Pace
- Kole Shagena
- Salvatore Spera

FEBRUARY

- Dianne Carrasquilla
- Tristan Robinson
- Jarius Hodge
- Samuel Saxton

MARCH

- Lane Clanton
- Johnathan Blanchard
- Montana Hall

MAY

- Robert Aylsworth
- Jasper Snead
- Jhonattan Lopez
- Andrew Mayo
- Aaliyah Frank
- Matthew Lohse

JULY

- Drew Share
- Justin Caddell
- Joseph Ryan
- Logan Herl

AUGUST

- Dillon Honeycutt

SEPTEMBER

- Austin Rouleau
- Alejandro Echevri
- Dylan Brister

OCTOBER

- Steven Turner
- Kyle Kirkham
- Jason Demata

NOVEMBER

- Blake Jacquin
- James Ashley
- Luke Lohse
- Anthony D'Ambra
- Joseph Coburn

DECEMBER

- Amber Allen
- Tucker Meyer
- Jacqueline Ramirez
- Scott Oneyear

RETIREMENTS

FEBRUARY

- Janna Wiedeman

APRIL

- David Vandermeulen
- Ralph Ernsberger

MAY

- Leeann Suit

JUNE

- Eric Vanderlaan
- Charles Hubbard

JULY

- Charles Chandler
- Mark Wilson

AUGUST

- Donovan Nottage

SEPTEMBER

- William French
- Kenneth Langel

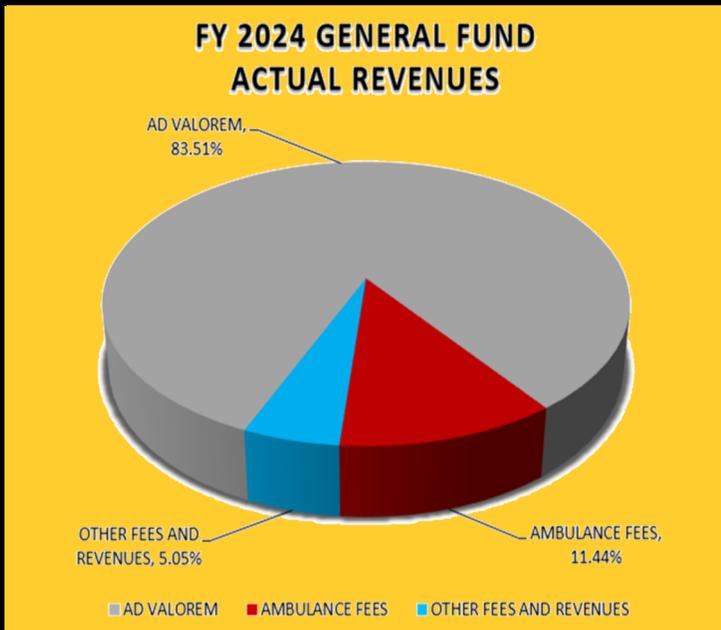
DECEMBER

- Allison Roy

FINANCE AT A GLANCE

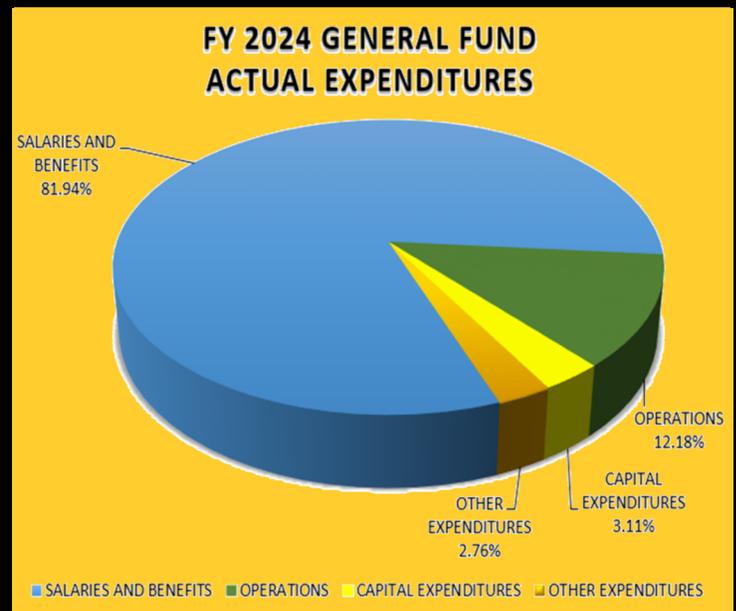
FY 2024 – Year End

The following charts reflect the fire district's revenue and expenditures for the 2024 fiscal year. Actual revenues do not include reserve fund balances, cash on hand, or transfers in. Actual expenditures do include transfers out. Due to prior accounting changes, ambulance fees now include a reduction in unallowable amounts charged to Medicare. They are no longer classified as an expenditure, as was the prior practice. These numbers are unaudited and subject to change during the fiscal year audit.



	<u>REVENUE</u>		
	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Actual</u>
Ad Valorem	\$102,977,617	\$102,832,580	83.51%
Ambulance Fees	\$ 11,000,000	\$ 14,085,829	11.44%
Other	\$ 12,630,820	\$ 6,212,888	5.05%
Total Revenue	\$126,608,437	\$123,131,297	100.00%

	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Actual</u>
Salaries/Benefits	\$ 98,545,132	\$ 85,993,090	81.94%
Operations	\$ 17,719,018	\$ 12,785,711	12.18%
Capital	\$ 6,031,835	\$ 3,268,930	3.11%
Other	\$ 4,312,452	\$ 2,895,563	2.76%
Total Expenses	\$126,608,437	\$104,943,294	100.00%



*Note: These numbers are unaudited
 Reduced due to ambulance fee write-offs / reductions
 2023-2024 Fiscal year is October 1–September 30*

BY THE NUMBERS

DEMAND FOR SERVICE

Total Calls for Service
69,349

Emergency Medical Calls
62,087

Fire Calls
7,262

Emergency Medical Transports

By Ground
41,884

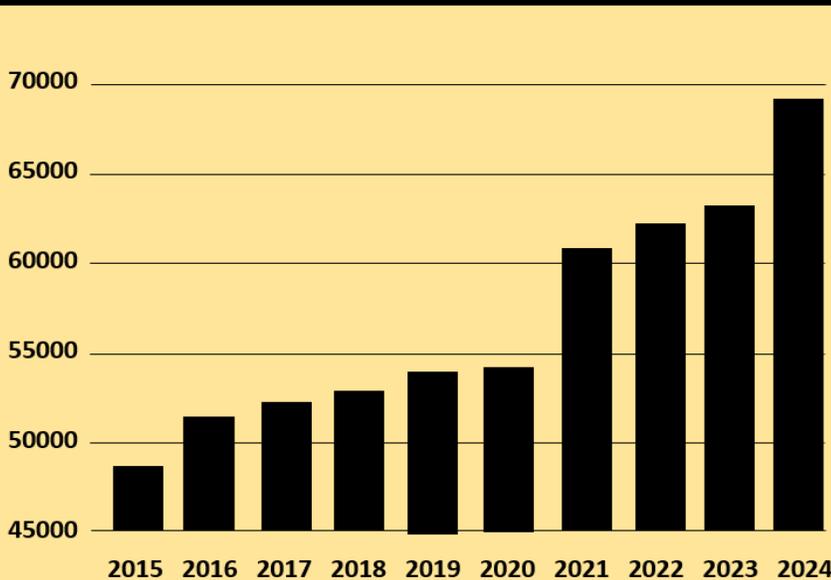
By Air
69

TRANSPORTS TO FACILITIES BY GROUND

Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital	681
Cleveland Clinic Martin Health SLW	494
Cleveland Clinic Martin North Hospital	633
Cleveland Clinic Martin South Hospital	10
Cleveland Clinic Tradition Hospital	10,758
Darwin Medical Center	154
HCA Florida Lawnwood Hospital	19,919
HCA Florida St. Lucie Hospital	9,202
HCA Florida Vero Beach Emergency	101
St. Mary's Medical Center	1



COUNT OF CALLS BY YEAR



CALLS BY THE YEARS

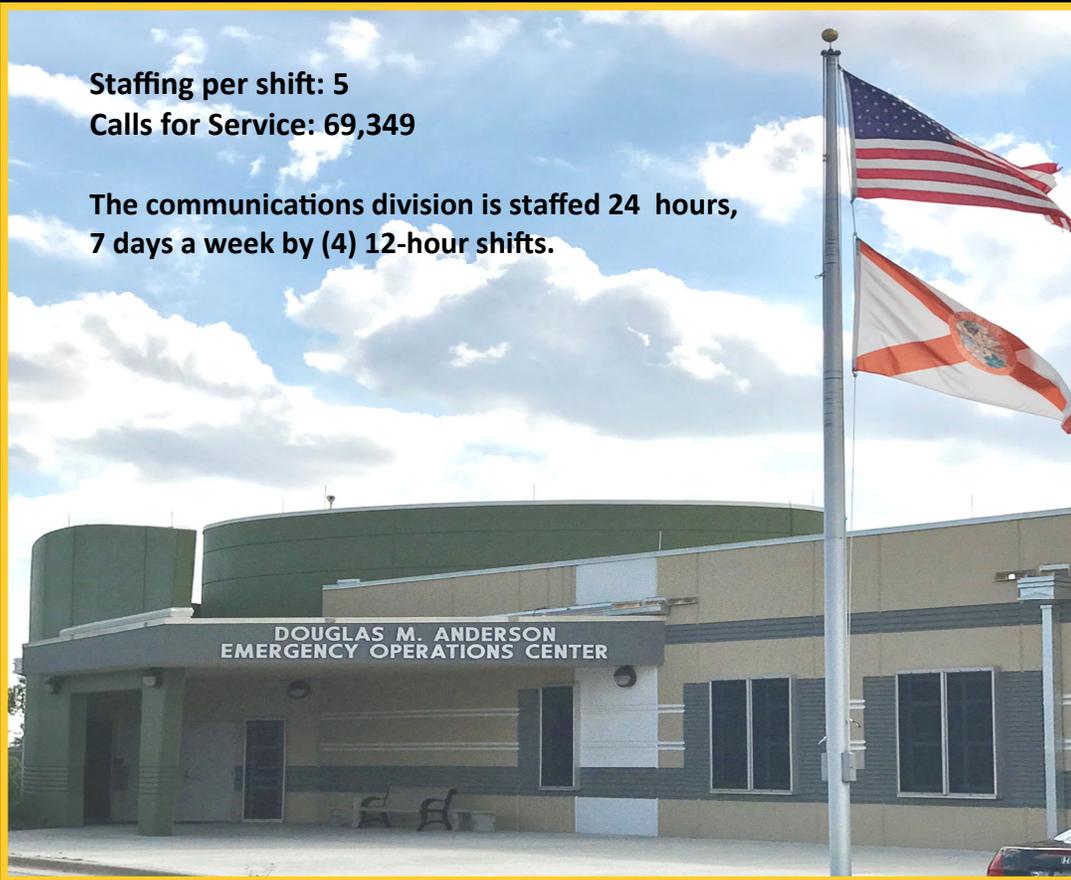
2015	48,022
2016	51,935
2017	52,996
2018	53,046
2019	54,478
2020	54,618
2021	60,912
2022	62,919
2023	63,381
2024	69,349

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

15305 W. MIDWAY ROAD * FORT PIERCE

Staffing per shift: 5
Calls for Service: 69,349

**The communications division is staffed 24 hours,
7 days a week by (4) 12-hour shifts.**



The Fire District Communications Division is located at the Douglas M. Anderson Emergency Operations Center. The Communications Division plays an important role in the fire district, accomplishing its mission by providing the most effective emergency communications as possible. It is the nerve center of the fire district's operations and is the first point of contact for the public. It is where calls for service are received, information is obtained and transmitted to the appropriate units or stations, and where pre-arrival instructions are given through the Emergency Medical Dispatching process making the Telecommunicators the first of the first responders.

All Fire District Telecommunicators are required to maintain the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) certification. Furthermore, all Telecommunicators have a minimum of nine certifications and are also CPR and NIMS certified.



AIR RESCUE

3105 AIRMANS DRIVE * FORT PIERCE

Staffing per shift: 3
Calls for Service: 1487



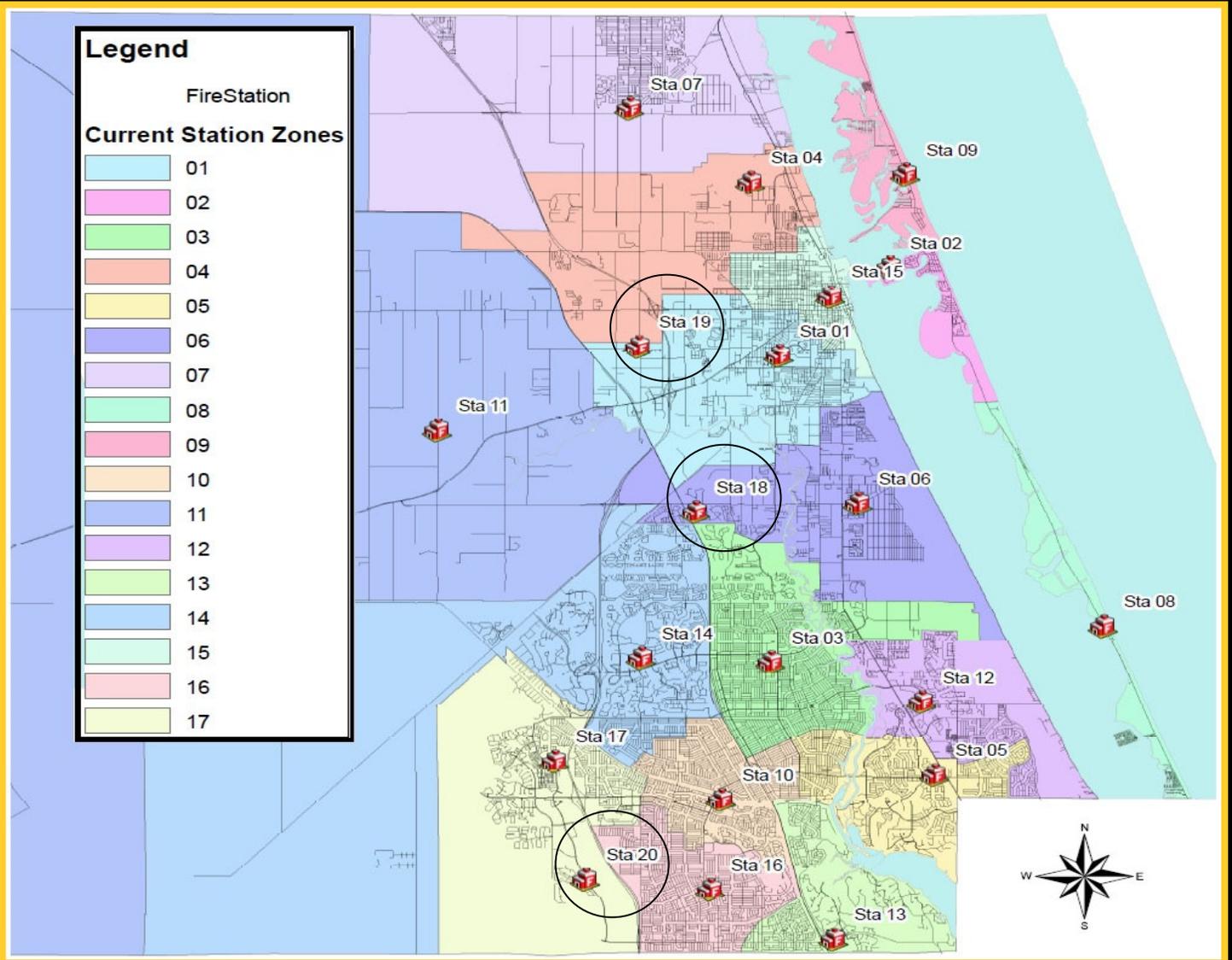
1 Eurocopter EC135



Air Rescue is stationed at the Treasure Coast International Airport. The Air Rescue Program is a partnership with the St. Lucie County Fire District and Air Methods, Inc. It was established in 2008. Under this partnership, known as St. Lucie County Air Rescue, expeditious air transport of emergent patients is provided by a highly skilled crew of three: a pilot, a dual certified critical care flight-nurse/paramedic provided by Air Methods, along with a flight-paramedic provided by the Fire District. The St. Lucie County Air Rescue Program leads the community based flight program with most flights in Region 12, which consist of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina.



STATION MAP & APPARATUS PROFILE



17	Fire Stations	25	Rescue Trucks
15	Engines	4	Tankers
3	Quints / 75 ft. Aerial	1	ARFF
1	Ladder / 100 ft. Aerial	1	Marine Unit
2	Heavy Rescue	2	Beach Rescues
13	Brush Trucks	2	Detail Units

All Fire stations are staffed 24 hours, 7 days a week by (3) 24-hour shifts.

All St. Lucie County Fire District firefighters are dual certified as paramedics or emergency medical technicians.

FIRE STATION #1

2400 RHODE ISLAND AVE * FORT PIERCE



Constructed in 1983, Fire Station 1 (also known as Central) is the only two-story fire station in the county that has a slide pole for personnel to utilize for rapid response from the second floor down to the first. In addition to single family residences, there is a very heavy volume of commercial facilities in Station 1's zone, including: Lawnwood Regional Medical Center, several multistory professional buildings, several dialysis clinics, Indian River State College, seven large nursing facilities, one psychiatric hospital, six high-rise hotels and several smaller motels. There are also two industrial parks located to the West, four major truck stops and the St. Lucie County jail. Fire Station 1 response zone includes North and South US Highway 1 as well as approximately 58 miles of Florida's Turnpike & Interstate-95.

Staffing per shift: 8
Calls for Service: 9,151

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



1 Fire Engine
2 Rescue Trucks
1 Brush Truck
1 Field Training Truck



FIRE STATION #2

855 SEAWAY DRIVE * FORT PIERCE



Original Fire Station 2 was built in 1967, and in 2007 the current station was built. In 2022, the station was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Chi Chiou Liu, who was the first Fire District Medical Director and served the community for 41 years. It was one of the first fire stations to house an Advance Life Support (ALS) ambulance. The primary response area is residential and commercial that encompasses the Port of Ft. Pierce, Intracoastal Waterway including the Inlet, Atlantic Ocean, high/mid-rise residential buildings from 2 to 21 stories, Ocean Village development, Harbour Isle development, Pelican Yacht Club and an array of small apartment complexes, hotels, motels and restaurants. The St. Lucie County Historical Museum and Aquarium, a number of high volume boat ramps and marinas are also within the response area. In addition, station 2 covers the Ft. Pierce Utility Authority Sewer Treatment Plant located on the Intracoastal and is second due to respond to the Ft. Pierce and Harbor Town Marinas as well as Florida Power & Light's (FP&L) Nuclear Power Plant on A1A.

Staffing per shift: 6
Calls for Service: 2,380

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



1 Quint
1 Rescue Truck
1 Field Training Truck



FIRE STATION #3

480 SW RAVENSWOOD LANE * PORT ST LUCIE



Original Fire Station 3 was built in 1964. In 2010, the current station was built just a few blocks southwest of the original site. In 2018, Station 3 was dedicated to the memory of Lt Mark Morrison, who died while on duty in 2012. The primary response area of Station 3 is residential with commercial corridors. Included in the response zone is the Prineville Water Treatment Facility for the City of Port St. Lucie, four elementary schools and one middle school. The area also includes five multifamily apartment complexes, the developed communities of St. James Country Club and River Place, a large assisted care facility as well as 16 smaller assisted care facilities. With the exception of two Publix plazas, the commercial occupancies are primarily small businesses. Also located in the response area is a light to medium use industrial park and a pumping station for natural gas.

Staffing per shift: 7

Calls for Service: 8,174

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Fire Engine**
- 2 Rescue Trucks**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Field Training Truck**



FIRE STATION #4

3601 INDUSTRIAL 33RD STREET * FORT PIERCE



Fire Station 4 was built in 2008 in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). In December 2023 the station was dedicated to the memory of FF/ARFF Operator Charlie Yarborough. Charlie was a 21 year veteran of the Fire District and died in 2008. Fire Station 4’s response area includes residential, commercial, industrial and the Treasure Coast International Airport. The station is located at the airport and is equipped with an Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) apparatus, specifically designed to respond to aviation emergencies. The response area includes small strip malls, convenience stores, boat dealerships, storage facilities, small motels and various restaurants. There are over 100 industrial businesses in the zone making it the largest in the county, and one of the most hazardous for potential fire and hazardous material threats. There are three large boat-manufacturing plants, a large automotive parts distributor, three large freight companies and one natural gas pumping station within the response area. In addition, the Florida East Coast Railroad passes through the area two to three times a day with various hazardous products.

Staffing per shift: 7
Calls for Service: 3,646

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.

- 1 ARFF**
- 1 Fire Engine**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Battalion Truck**



FIRE STATION #5

2288 DELANO ROAD * PORT ST LUCIE



Original Fire Station 5 was built in 1975 when the population in Port St Lucie was only 15,000. By the time the new station was built in 2020, the population exceeded 200,000. Station 5's response zone is a large established area with minimal room for growth. However, the call volume in this area has increased steadily over the years and is now amongst the busiest stations within the St. Lucie County Fire District. The response area is predominantly comprised of single family residences, with commercial occupancies along US Highway 1 and Port St. Lucie Blvd. Zone 5 has several high occupancy facilities: Call centers, Sandpiper Bay Resort, a hotel, several restaurants, Walmart Super Center, Sam's Club, several nursing homes and academic schools.

Staffing per shift: 6
Calls for Service: 5,047

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Quint**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Rescue Detail**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Field Training Truck**

FIRE STATION #6

350 EAST MIDWAY ROAD * FORT PIERCE



Original Fire Station 6 was built in 1975. In 2008, a more modern fire station was built to house more personnel and equipment to handle the increased call volume and responsibilities. The response area is a mix of residential and commercial as well as an abundance of high hazard facilities including fertilizer plants, LP gas distribution, the new Treasure Coast Energy Center, PVC manufacturing, as well as the Walmart distribution center and Tropicana. The response zone also includes nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and drug rehabilitation centers. There are five academic schools in the area as well. Fire Station 6 responds to the Florida’s Turnpike and Interstate 95. Station 6 is part of a dual-response Special Operations team—one of two in the county—that also responds to technical rescues and other Special Operations calls throughout St. Lucie County.



- 1 Squad**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Tanker**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Heavy Rescue**
- 1 Division Truck**

Staffing per shift: 7
Calls for Service: 5,070

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



FIRE STATION #7

4900 FORT PIERCE BLVD * FORT PIERCE



Built in 1977, Fire Station 7 was built to serve the growing northern edge of the county. Once a largely seasonal call volume, in recent years the seasonal population has become year-round residents. The response area includes residential, mixed commercial and wild land. Included are FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, Lakewood Park Elementary school, multiple churches, commercial buildings, a railway, water exposures, and several small assisted living facilities. There are two large manufactured home communities within the station response zone. The station boundaries include the county line to the north, Old Dixie Hwy. to the east (including some portions of St. Lucie Village area); the St. Lucie County International Airport lies in the southern portion of the Zone, and Interstate I-95 to the west. The response zone also covers Interstate 95 from the county line south to approximately the 133-mile marker.

Staffing per shift: 5
Calls for Service: 2,649

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Fire Engine**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Tanker**
- 1 Brush Truck**

FIRE STATION #8

7583 SOUTH OCEAN DRIVE * JENSEN BEACH



Fire Station 8 was built in 1983. Prior to that, this area of the county was covered either by Martin County Fire Rescue or by Fire Station 2 on Seaway Drive. Within Zone 8, there are 40 residential high-rise condominiums and two large manufactured home communities (Nettles Island Resort and Holiday Out). Residents are slowly replacing their old mobile homes and manufactured homes with regularly constructed homes, but these zero lot-lined homes are usually 2 stories high, thus doubling and tripling the current fire load potential. There are also eight other smaller developments consisting of homes, townhomes and duplexes. Zone 8 has the St. Lucie County/FP&L Nuclear Power Plant within its boundaries and a water treatment plant as well as four small strip plazas, five restaurants, a few stand-alone businesses, and a golf course with country club. This zone has fourteen miles of coastline with nine public beach accesses.

Staffing per shift: 5
Calls for Service: 736

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Fire Engine**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Beach Rescue**

FIRE STATION #9

3595 NORTH A1A * FORT PIERCE



Built in 1984, Fire Station 9 is located on a barrier island with only one roadway to Fort Pierce and Indian River County. It is unique in that the railroad tracks and the drawbridge offers complete isolation from additional St. Lucie County Fire District resources. With well-established landing zones and communication with Indian River County, mutual aid can be rendered if needed. The response area includes 42 multistory structures, several townhouse developments, and a large mobile home park, along with a host of single-family dwellings, and a small number of commercial occupancies, including a sewage treatment plant. In addition to coastline and inter-coastal shoreline, there are many heavily trafficked state parks, boat ramps, and marinas within the response zone. The National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum is also located in this response zone.

Staffing per shift: 5
Calls for Service: 811

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



1 Fire Engine
1 Rescue Truck
1 Beach Rescue

FIRE STATION #10

777 SW DALTON CIRCLE * PORT ST LUCIE



Fire Station 10 was built in 1985 and was dedicated in memory of Assistant Chief R. L. “Bunk” Barton, who served the Fire District from 1933 to 1960. The area is economically and culturally diverse. The initial response area is mostly residential with an emerging mixture of commercial and industrial properties. There are three academic schools within a three-mile radius of the station. The response area also includes several shopping plazas and light industrial business. All of these commercial/ light industrial plazas present individual characteristics, such as access issues, unknown hazardous materials, highly flammable liquids, and evacuation concerns. The response zone also includes Port St. Lucie City Hall and the City of Port St. Lucie Public Works Department consisting of vehicle and machinery storage, mechanic’s shop and fuel depot. In addition, Station 10 responds to Florida’s Turnpike as well as provides back up for Interstate 95.

Staffing per shift: 6
Calls for Service: 5,094

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Quint**
- 1 Fire Engine**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Brush Truck**

FIRE STATION #11

3501 SHINN ROAD * FORT PIERCE



Fire Station 11 was constructed in 1986 to meet the growing demand for emergency services in the western portion of St. Lucie County. This station was needed to minimize the economic impact to the agricultural areas due to brush fires. It also serves to provide emergency ambulance service to an area of the county with the longest response and transport times. The response area is mostly rural and agricultural and is the largest in the county encompassing hundreds of square miles west of Glades Cut-Off and the Florida Turnpike, from the Martin County line all the way north to the Indian River County line. Though not in their zone, Station 11 is a backup station for many incidents on I95 and the Florida Turnpike.



Staffing per shift: 5
Calls for Service: 1,503

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Fire Engine**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Tanker**
- 1 Detail Unit**



FIRE STATION #12

1850 SE VILLAGE GREEN DRIVE * PORT ST LUCIE



Fire Station 12 was built in 1988. This area was in the growing stages and had not yet developed the population density it has today. The emergency call volume of Station 12 has increased steadily throughout the years. It has a very large and diverse response area that is residential, commercial and industrial. The response zone includes St. Lucie Medical Center, Port St. Lucie City Center, two St. Lucie County schools, professional medical buildings, nursing home facilities, six retirement communities, a mix of commercial buildings, 2,500 acres of the Savannas State Preserve, approximately 5 miles of Florida East Coast (FEC) railway, Indian River Drive, as well as densely populated single-family residential areas.

Staffing per shift: 7
Calls for Service: 7,134

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Fire Engine**
- 2 Rescue Trucks**
- 1 Brush Truck**

FIRE STATION #13

201 SE BECKER ROAD * PORT ST LUCIE



Originally housed in a prefabricated building, the current Fire Station 13 was built in 2003. It is the only station in the county with an illuminated helipad for aero-medical transports. The response zone is comprised of 25 square miles. It includes a combination of residential dwellings, assisted living facilities, limited commercial areas and a recreational city park. The residential areas in the zone consist of several waterfront-gated developments. Directly across from the station is the 94,000 square foot Shoppes of Veranda Falls; this commercial shopping area is anchored by Publix and includes a mix of shops, restaurants, banks and services. Fire Station 13 is located next to the Florida's Turnpike Becker Road exit to allow for quick response to incidents that occur on Florida's Turnpike.

Staffing per shift: 5
Calls for Service: 1,976

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Fire Engine**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Tanker**

FIRE STATION #14

300 NW CALIFORNIA BLVD * PORT ST LUCIE



Fire Station 14 was built in 1999. Station 14 has one of the department's largest geographic response areas. At that time, the area was sparsely populated and had minimal commercial or industrial areas. Through the years, the area experienced an exponential growth of people, business, and enterprise. The response area extends east to Cashmere Blvd, west to Glades Cut-Off Rd, north to Midway Rd, and south to Del Rio Blvd and includes St. Lucie West, PGA, and Torino. There are numerous large business/industrial occupancies and large retail buildings and plazas. There are several medical facilities, eight (8) large apartment complexes, seven (7) churches, ten (10) academic schools, one (1) university campus, eight (8) hotels, and a professional sports stadium. The response area is divided by Interstate I-95 and is diversely interspersed with undeveloped land.

Staffing per shift: 7
Calls for Service: 7,120

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Ladder Truck**
- 1 Fire Engine**
- 2 Rescue Trucks**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Detail Unit**



Our Family Serving Yours

FIRE STATION #15

721 AVENUE D * FORT PIERCE



Fire Station 15 opened in 1997. It serves the fire district's oldest response zone that was originally established in 1924 and housed at US Hwy 1 and Avenue A, until 1983 when Station 1 was built. Station 15 was dedicated to Lt. Robert Lewis. Lt. Lewis was the first African American Firefighter in St. Lucie County and served the community from 1972-1997. The response area includes the commercial historic downtown district, four marinas with both dry and wet storage, the cargo ship terminal, and several fruit packing warehouses. The St Lucie County Court House and the Federal Court House are also covered by this zone. Fire Station 15 covers the majority of the northwest residential section of Fort Pierce. There are many historical residential and commercial properties along with two libraries and several academic schools from elementary through high school. Indian River State College Blackburn Educational Building is also in this zone.

Staffing per shift: 7
Calls for Service: 6,906

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



1 Fire Engine
2 Rescue Trucks



FIRE STATION #16

3910 SW PORT ST LUCIE BLVD * PORT ST LUCIE



Fire Station 16 is one of the latest stations to be constructed in St. Lucie County. It was completed in December 2008 to keep up with the rapid growth of single-family residential dwellings in the area. Since its construction, calls for service have increased every year. The response area is composed predominantly of single-family homes with light commercial use as well. There are numerous high occupancy buildings such as Treasure Coast High School, NAU Imagine Charter School, Windmill Point Elementary School, and Villa Seton, which is an assisted living facility. In 2009, Zone 16 was expanded to cover the southernmost part of Interstate 95 in St. Lucie County due to the new interchange at Becker Road. The C-23 canal is the southern border of the response area.

Staffing per shift: 6
Calls for Service: 3,849

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Fire Engine**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Battalion Truck**

FIRE STATION #17

10240 SW VILLAGE PARKWAY * PORT ST LUCIE



Built in 2008, Fire Station 17 is located in the Town of Tradition. The area is a mix of residential and commercial, but also serves a large agricultural area. The response area extends north to St. Lucie West Blvd, east to California Blvd, south to St Lucie-Martin County line and west to Range Line Road. The area includes multiple residential communities, several large shopping centers, restaurants, banks, gas stations, hotels, a large commercial warehouse district, a large senior living community, the Cleveland Clinic Tradition Hospital, Florida State Veterans’ Nursing Home, and Florida Center of Innovation. Also in the response area are Palm Pointe Educational Research School and Renaissance Charter School. Station 17 is part of a dual-response Special Operations team—one of two in the county—that also responds to technical rescues and other Special Operations calls throughout St. Lucie County.

Staffing per shift: 5
Calls for Service: 5,202

Station totals exceed annual call volume due to multiple stations responding to the same incident.



- 1 Squad**
- 1 Rescue Truck**
- 1 Brush Truck**
- 1 Heavy Rescue**
- 1 Battalion Truck**



ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

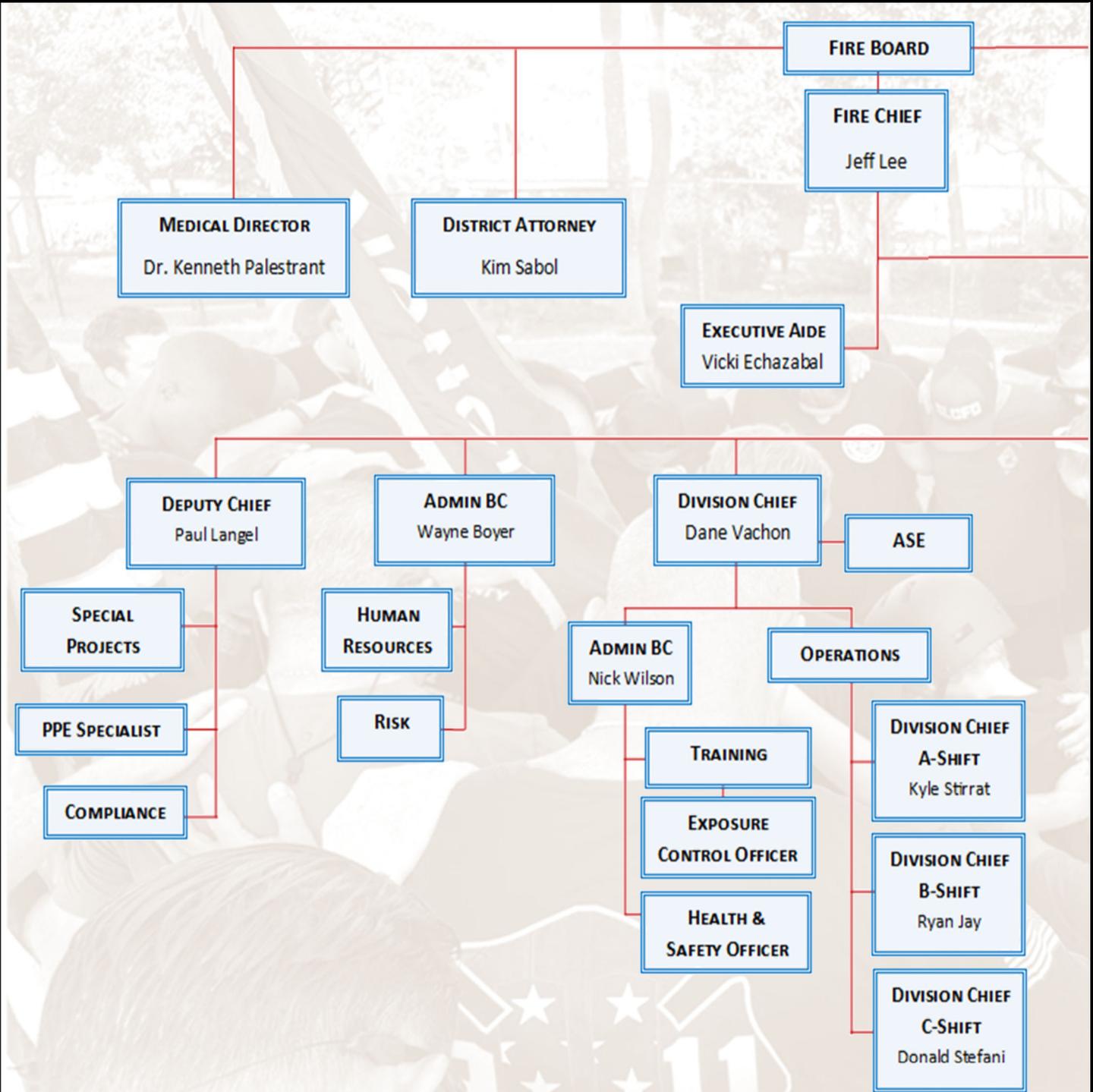
5160 NW MILNER DRIVE * PORT ST LUCIE



In 2006, all administrative and support functions were relocated to the Milner facility. This includes fleet maintenance and logistics, which operate out of separate buildings located at the rear of the property. Inside the main building, in addition to administrative offices, you'll find ambulance billing, various support services, and the Community Risk Reduction division. This division is responsible for fire inspections and investigations throughout the county, plan reviews, and fire safety education. Today, all administrative and support operations are centralized at this location.



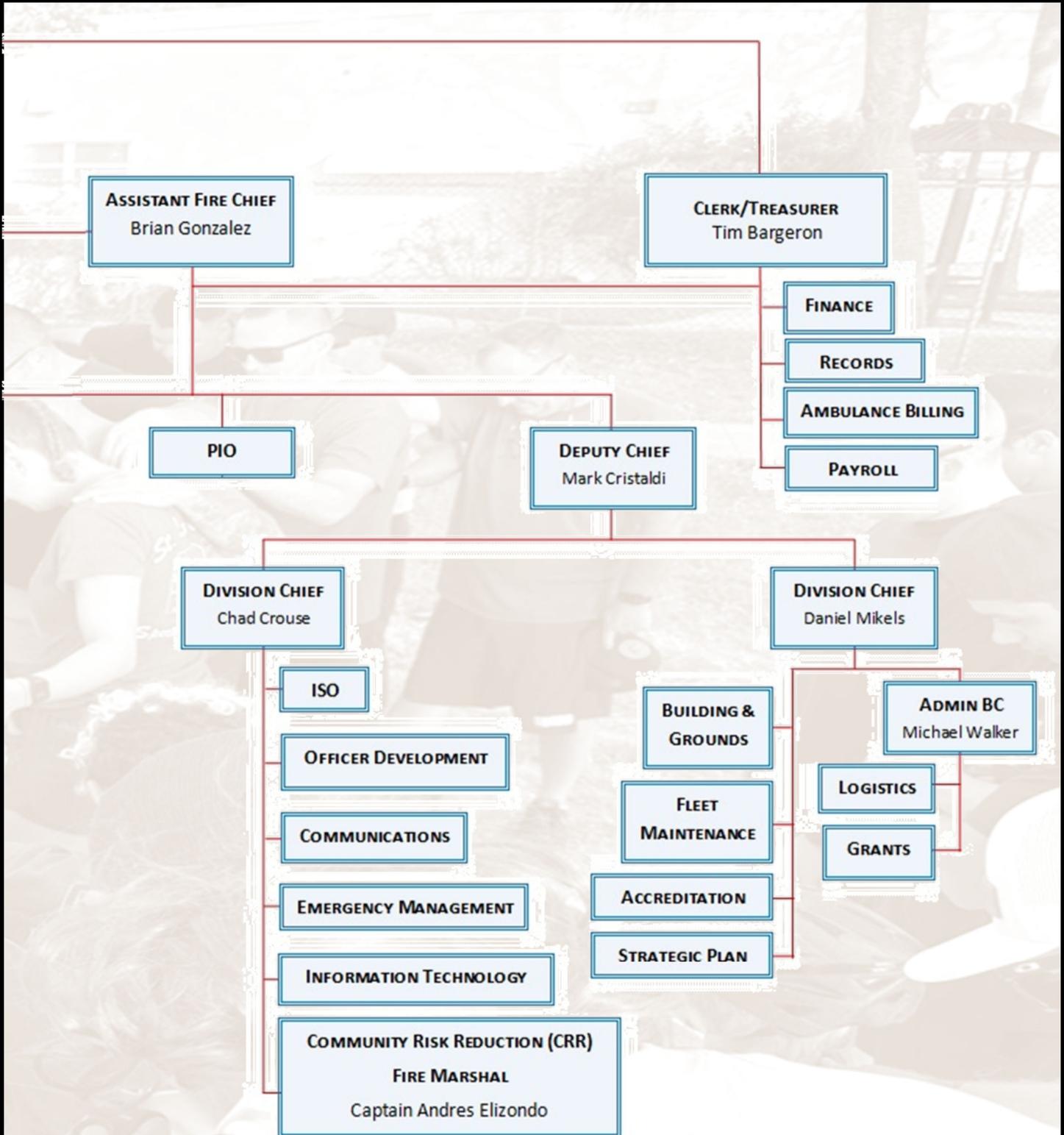
Organizational Chart



ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

St. Lucie County Florida was created in 1905 with Fort Pierce serving as the county seat. Established in 1906, the Fort Pierce Fire Department formed with the intent of lowering the rates of fire insurance in the area. As time moved forward, the department continued to grow based on need and demand within the county. In 1959, by an act of the Florida Legislature, the St. Lucie County / Fort Pierce Fire District was created. The district continued to grow and provide a broader expanse of services within its coverage area. In 1996, the organizational name change to the St. Lucie County Fire District (SLCFD) was formalized.

Organizational Chart



The proactivity of the St. Lucie County Fire District is proven by its progressive growth. The district has continued to grow as the population has increased, continuing to meet the needs throughout the county. Today, the St. Lucie County Fire District remembers its history and remains committed to preserving life and property by providing safe, efficient and professional services to all residents and visitors to our communities.

DIVISIONS

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administration Division provides overall direction, leadership, and strategic vision for the St. Lucie County Fire District. The chain of command begins with the Fire Chief, followed by the Assistant Fire Chief, then two (2) Deputy Chiefs, three (3) Division Chiefs and three (3) Battalion Chiefs. Together, this leadership oversees key administrative functions including budget preparation and maintenance, policy development, public information, payroll, logistics, human resources, information technology, and fleet maintenance. Vicki Echazabal is the Executive Aide and handles all types of administrative correspondence and support matters under the direction of Fire Chief Jeff Lee.

- ◆ Began construction on Fire Station 20 and prepared to break ground on Fire Station 19
- ◆ Expanded Logistics Division space to meet increased operational needs
- ◆ Secured CORE Grant to fund a Field Training Officer and support opioid recovery outreach
- ◆ Updated the Strategic Plan to align with current and future goals
- ◆ Partnered with St. Lucie County to update impact fees for future growth
- ◆ Collaborated with Fort Pierce, Port St. Lucie, and the County to launch Emergency Vehicle Preemption (EVP) systems throughout St. Lucie, improving intersection safety and response times

AMBULANCE BILLING

The Ambulance Billing Department processes the billing for emergency ambulance transports in St. Lucie County. Lisa Hannold is the billing supervisor. She is responsible for one (1) Quality Assurance/Coder, two (2) Ambulance Billing Coders, and four (4) Ambulance Billing Clerks. Lisa is in charge of the day-to-day operations under the direction of Clerk Treasurer Tim Barger.

- ◆ Each Billing Clerk inputs an average of 8,388 calls per year
- ◆ Charges Billed Out: \$25,070,359
- ◆ Cash Collected: \$16,733,185
- ◆ Billable Transports: 41,943

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Building & Grounds is responsible for repairs and maintenance of all fire district buildings. It is also responsible for inspection and maintenance on all self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for all firefighter personnel, all air conditioning systems, and all fuel tanks throughout the district. They participate in budget preparations for capital improvements at all fire stations. Joey Casson is the Building & Grounds Supervisor. He oversees six (6) Maintenance Personnel and one (1) Custodian, managing daily operations under the leadership of Division Chief Daniel Mikels.

- ◆ Replaced acoustic ceiling at Fire Station 1
- ◆ Replaced the roof at Fire Station 2
- ◆ Pressure washed exteriors of several fire stations
- ◆ Painted exteriors of Fire Stations 2 and 17 as well the interiors of many stations
- ◆ Resurfaced floors in the apparatus rooms at Fire Stations 8, 9, 11 and 12

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

The Community Risk Reduction Division identifies and prioritizes local risks, strategically invests resources to reduce their impact, and manages key public safety programs. These include plan review, fire code enforcement, fire investigations, public education, and water supply coordination. Captain Andres Elizondo serves as the Fire Marshal and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the division under the leadership of Division Chief Chad Crouse. He oversees one (1) Site Plan & Development Reviewer, two (2) Plans Reviewers, six (6) Inspectors/Investigators, one (1) Fire & Life Safety Educator, and one (1) CRR Manager.

- ◆ Completed 7,822 fire inspections, 58 fire investigations and 1,998 site and plan reviews
- ◆ Site plan review, building plan review and life safety permitting accumulated \$2,214,806.19
- ◆ The Compliance Engine web based software generated \$83,723.75 in revenue
- ◆ False Alarm Fees program accumulated \$233,717 in revenue
- ◆ Participated in Ft. Pierce, Port St. Lucie and St. Lucie County development review committees to facilitate all commercial development countywide. Larger projects include; Costco Distribution Center, Florida Coast Surgical Hospital, St. Lucie Medical Center Expansion, Buc-ee's, Shoppes at the Heart in Tradition, SLCFD Fire Stations 18, 19, 20 and Logistics Building Addition and Renovation, Port St. Lucie Police Complex – Training Building, Treasure Coast Food Bank, P1 Motor Club, Developments including Wylder, Legends Point, Tidewater, Eden at Tradition, Astor Creek and Riverland

DIVISIONS

COMPLIANCE

The Compliance Department ensures adherence to fire safety regulations and standards critical to protecting firefighters, emergency responders, and the community. By following established protocols, the District minimizes risks, promotes operational consistency, and fulfills its legal obligations at the local, state, and federal levels. Maintaining proper documentation helps mitigate potential fines, penalties, and liabilities. Amy Kwasnicki is the Compliance Manager under the supervision of Deputy Chief Paul Langel.

- ◆ Renewed Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (COCPN) on schedule with St. Lucie County
- ◆ Streamlined certificate of insurance process for faster response and improved vendor accountability
- ◆ Reviewed and renewed all mutual aid agreements to ensure continuity and policy compliance

FLEET MAINTENANCE

The Fleet Maintenance Division ensures the operational readiness and reliability of the Fire District's apparatus, vehicles, small engines, and support equipment for both emergency and non-emergency response. Responsibilities include maintenance of generators, extrication tools, fire suppression appliances, and ambulance stretchers assigned to each apparatus. The division also oversees the testing of fire pumps, ground and fixed ladders, and more than 60,000 feet of fire hose. Fleet Maintenance is managed by Robert Kelly, who reports to Division Chief Daniel Mikels. He is responsible for one (1) Service/Parts Manager and five (5) Mechanics.

- ◆ Serviced over 160 vehicles across the District's fleet
- ◆ Placed into service 3 new fire engines, 2 aerials, 11 ambulances, 1 safety officer vehicle, and 1 brush unit
- ◆ Maintained traffic preemption systems on all rescue units
- ◆ Completed installation of preemption systems on all suppression apparatus

FINANCE / RECORDS

The Finance Department is responsible for the management of all accounting and investing of the fire district's funds, as well as maintaining and overseeing all public records for the fire district. Under the direction of Fire Chief Jeff Lee, Clerk Treasurer Tim Barger is in charge of the day-to-day operations and oversees one (1) Staff Accountant, one (1) Budget Analyst, one (1) Accounts Payable Specialist, and one (1) Records Custodian.

- ◆ Managed a total budget of \$173,544,364 for FY 2023-2024
- ◆ Responded to a total of 2,900 records requests

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources (HR) Division plays a critical role in fostering a positive and productive workplace by supporting employees and maintaining strong labor relations. HR is responsible for a broad range of functions, including performance management, benefits administration, leave management, workers' compensation, workplace health and safety, talent acquisition, promotional process oversight, and the seamless onboarding of new hires. Under the leadership of Assistant Fire Chief Brian Gonzalez, Battalion Chief Wayne Boyer oversees the daily operations of the division, managing a dedicated team of three (3) HR Specialists and one (1) HR Generalist.

- ◆ Processed 263 applications and onboarded 53 new employees
- ◆ Coordinated 432 physicals and wellness visits to support workforce health and readiness
- ◆ Facilitated 12 retirements, ensuring seamless transitions and policy compliance
- ◆ Recognized as a 2024 "Best Place to Work in St. Lucie County" by the St. Lucie County Human Resource Association—for the fourth consecutive year
- ◆ Continued focus on improving organizational efficiency, employee well-being, and regulatory compliance

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The IT Division ensures seamless data and voice communication across the Fire District. Responsibilities include tech support, system installations, and management of critical infrastructure such as email, phones, and radio networks. They also maintain the systems that support real-time vehicle tracking (Automatic Vehicle Location-AVL), emergency dispatch alerts (Computer-Aided Dispatch-CAD), and data links to the Emergency Operations Center-EOC. Chief Information Officer Bret Sundblad oversees four (4) IT Systems Administrators under the direction of Division Chief Chad Crouse.

- ◆ Upgraded card access system to enhance security and reliability
- ◆ Transitioned fire stations to Windows 11 for improved security and compatibility
- ◆ Implemented multi-factor authentication (MFA) to strengthen cybersecurity
- ◆ Deployed a new device management application for better security and efficiency
- ◆ Replaced 185 radio microphones for clearer communication
- ◆ Introduced a centralized service ticket system to streamline requests and identify trends

DIVISIONS

LOGISTICS

The Logistics Division supports the operational readiness of the Fire District by managing the procurement, storage, and distribution of essential supplies. This includes medical equipment, office and janitorial products, uniforms, and bunker gear for all firefighting personnel. Led by Logistics Supervisor John Wallace, the division includes four (4) Supply Clerks and one (1) Buyer. John oversees daily operations under the direction of Division Chief Daniel Mikels, ensuring timely delivery of resources to meet the District's needs.

- ◆ Issued uniforms and protective gear to 39 new firefighters and support staff
- ◆ Procured and delivered equipment and furnishings for the newly constructed Fire Station 18
- ◆ Supported the ongoing Logistics Division expansion project, which will double current capacity

OPERATIONS

The Operations Division is responsible for delivering front-line emergency services, including fire suppression, emergency medical response, aeromedical support, and special operations. Under the leadership of Division Chief Dane Vachon, the division operates on a three-shift schedule:

A-Shift: Division Chief Kyle Stirrat | **B-Shift:** Division Chief Ryan Jay | **C-Shift:** Division Chief Donny Stefani

With 436 line firefighters, the division responded to nearly 70,000 incidents in 2024, with call volume expected to rise in 2025. To meet increasing demands and strengthen service delivery, the following operational improvements were made:

- ◆ Deployed large diameter hose (LDH) to improve water supply operations
- ◆ Added a 2nd Field Training Officer (FTO) to strengthen incident safety, training, and apprentice program support
- ◆ Placed new units into service, including Rescue 215 and Brush 5
- ◆ Acquired two new aerials and three new fire engines
- ◆ Replaced 11 rescue units to modernize and strengthen the frontline fleet
- ◆ Earned State Technical Rescue Team (TRT) designation for the Special Operations Team, expanding regional response capabilities
- ◆ Outfitted all water tankers with TurboDraft systems to improve rural water access
- ◆ Deployed a tethered drone to enhance situational awareness and support incident command
- ◆ Completed installation of traffic preemption equipment on all frontline vehicles to improve response time and intersection safety

Application Support Engineer (ASE)

The ASE team serves as the technology liaison for the Operations Division, optimizing the software and digital systems essential to emergency response. They oversee the functionality, integration, and support of platforms used for electronic requests and filing systems, inventory and fleet management, report writing, data collection and analysis, and new device development. Firefighters Matt Neilson and Doug Wile manage the day-to-day responsibilities under the direction of Division Chief Dane Vachon.

- ◆ Tagged Fire District equipment with RFID for efficient tracking
- ◆ Created, monitored, and processed Laserfiche forms for operational workflows
- ◆ Fulfilled data requests related to incident responses for various divisions
- ◆ Monitored dispatch systems to detect and address technical issues in real time



DIVISIONS

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Public education is delivered through the Fire District's Fire & Life Safety Educator (FLSE), Stacey Carter, under the supervision of the Community Risk Reduction Division. The FLSE is responsible for developing and presenting fire and life safety programs to residents of St. Lucie County, promoting awareness, prevention, and community risk reduction.

- ◆ Partnered with Fort Pierce Police Department for Unity in the Community, distributing 600 school supply bags with fire safety info
- ◆ Dusty the Dragon delivered fire safety education to 94 schools, childcares, and station tours; each child received a fire safety book
- ◆ Facilitated Friends & Family CPR/AED training for multiple HOAs and businesses, including Atrium on the Ocean and Maschmeyer Concrete
- ◆ Teamed up with St. Lucie County Aquatics to teach pool, beach, and boating safety to 207 residents
- ◆ Participated in major community events including the County Fair, Safety Festival, Hurricane Expo, and more—reaching 134,198 residents with fire safety education
- ◆ Hosted 37 educational station tours for schools, homeschoolers, and camps, each with hands-on safety activities
- ◆ Reached 75,861 people with public safety messages through social media

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Public Information Office is responsible for sharing information about Fire District programs, services, and events, managing media relations, and supporting community outreach. Public Information Officer (PIO) Brenda Smith also serves as the District's liaison during emergency incidents, coordinating communication between the incident commander and the media. The office operates under the direction of Assistant Fire Chief Brian Gonzalez.

- ◆ Managed and assisted in scheduling more than 300 Public Education /Public Relations requests
- ◆ Organized new specialty shirt designs for April, September, and October to raise funds for local charities: *\$1,100 for Autism Awareness | \$1,356 for the Firefighter Benevolent | \$1,400 for Windsor Community Angels*
- ◆ Organized retiree badges and plaques for 14 exiting personnel
- ◆ Photographed new and promoted personnel for files and ID badges
- ◆ Worked with Heritage Photographer to schedule photos of all personnel for upcoming quarter-century yearbook
- ◆ Assisted with planning and organization for Station 20 Groundbreaking, 2023 Medal Day, two New Hire Graduations, four Push-In Ceremonies, Lil Feet Fundraiser and Big Heart Brigade

TRAINING & SAFETY

The Training & Safety Division is responsible for fire and EMS training for all St. Lucie County Fire District firefighters. The division is also directly involved in health, safety, and exposure risk management for the fire district. Under the direction of Division Chief Dane Vachon, Battalion Chief Nick Wilson oversees the day-to-day operations and supervises one Training Captain and four Training Lieutenants.

- ◆ Held two, 5-week orientation academies for 41 new firefighters
- ◆ Trained 33 paramedics in preparation for Medical Director release interviews
- ◆ Delivered vehicle extrication training with over 250 members attending last year
- ◆ Conducted 3 Pump Operator & Hydraulic Course trainings
- ◆ Conducted 2 Difficult Airway training sessions
- ◆ Updated and implemented revised EMS guidelines
- ◆ Trained personnel on new EMS and fire tools, including the TurboDraft
- ◆ Integrated two advanced adult and pediatric training mannequins into EMS education
- ◆ Expanded the EMS lab in the training auditorium
- ◆ Produced Hot Minute refresher videos on operational topics
- ◆ Delivered multiple state-certified training courses



REPRESENTING THE BADGE

SLCFD HONOR GUARD

Members of the Honor Guard and Pipes & Drums are among the most visible representatives of the Fire District, committed to serving with pride, integrity, and remembrance. Each year, they participate in local civic occasions, including parades and community events, as well as districtwide ceremonies such as dedications, graduations, promotions, and awards. The Honor Guard plans, organizes, and performs at funerals and memorial services for Fire District members, and also assists other agencies upon request. Members have represented the District at both state and national events, including the Florida Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Ocala and the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

2024 Honor Guard Members

Jason Kershanick - Commander
 Jesus Bayona Austin Hodge
 Paul Castlow Anthony Lopez
 Jeff Curl Ryan Prussing
 Rob Demski Salomon Rincon
 Anthony Fitzpatrick Erin Storey
 Johnathan Fraga John Wozar
 Chad Gallagher Eric Wright

2024 Events

- ◆ 3 Paramedic Graduations
- ◆ 4 Fire Academy Graduations
- ◆ 1 Firefighter Funeral
- ◆ 2 New Hire Graduations
- ◆ PSL St. Patrick's Day Parade
- ◆ PSL Christmas Parade
- ◆ Ft Pierce Christmas Parade
- ◆ Martin Luther King Parade
- ◆ Station 20 Groundbreaking
- ◆ September 11 Events
- ◆ Fire District Medal Day
- ◆ Memorial Day Event
- ◆ Armed Forces Day Event
- ◆ Veterans Day Event

New Members

Justin Caddell
 John Lopez

Pipes & Drums

Allen Civita
 John Craton
 Austin Halle
 Eric Wright
 AJ Young



SLCFD FIREFIGHTER CHALLENGE TEAM

Formed in 2018, the Firefighter Challenge Team has become a nationally recognized group of elite competitors. What began with individual efforts has evolved into a unified team of men and women committed to excellence and inclusion. The team has set records, earned championships, and continues to represent the Fire District with strength and resilience on the world stage.

Ladies 2024 Team

CAPTAINS: Maria Fernandez, Sasha Hernandez, & Alexia French
 MEMBERS: Amber Allen, Kayla Gammie, Jhnealle Gilman, Lindsey Lambert, Dana Oliver, Morgan Taylor, Amanda Ledbetter-Yoder

Men's 2024 Team

CAPTAINS: Matt Coney, Brian Riebe, & Justin Baker
 MEMBERS: Remi Dieujuste, Dante Hill, Kevin Reilly, James Spagnuolo, Luke Stewart, Trey Thompson, Carlos Torres, Brenden Ward, Caden Wilson



Accolades

- ◆ Men's team formed in 2018 (20 members to date)
- ◆ Ladies team formed in 2022 (10 members to date)
- ◆ 12 total Lions Den inductees (11 men, 1 woman)
- ◆ Men's team holds State, Regional & National Records (relay & FD Showdown)
- ◆ Coed team holds State, Regional & National Relay Records
- ◆ 6 National & 4 World Titles (men's team)
- ◆ 1 National & 1 World Title (coed team)
- ◆ Matt Coney: 45+ State Record & 45-49 Tandem World Record
- ◆ Kayla Gammie: Female Division-2 World Record
- ◆ Brian Riebe.... ~Individual: World Champion "King of the Jungle"
 ~Individual: State, Regional, National & Division-1 World Records
 ~Tandem: National & World Records



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

FIRE CADET PROGRAM

The Fire Cadet program has remained active and continues to grow, with 40–50 motivated young members from the St. Lucie area. Cadets have competed across the state in events like the Florida Winter Games, Gator Games, and Cadet Fest. They have received district-sponsored scholarships and some have even joined the Fire District as firefighters. The program plays a vital role in mentoring and recruiting future firefighters.

- ◆ 4 cadets awarded District scholarships to the Fire Academy at IRSC
- ◆ Assisted with “Camp Backdraft,” a summer youth program
- ◆ David Ritchie named 2024 Fire Cadet of the Year

AUTISM AWARENESS PROGRAMS

In 2021, Lt. Adam Zuccaro and the Firefighter Benevolent brought a local chapter of Surfers for Autism to St. Lucie County. Through their continued efforts and fundraising, they have supported Surfers for Autism and expanded autism awareness initiatives across the county. In 2024, the St. Lucie County Firefighters Autism Awareness and Acceptance Program donated \$5,000 to the Surfers for Autism Foundation, helping our chapter serve over 200 children. An additional \$5,000 was donated to the school board, allowing us to adopt 50 special needs classrooms. The program also raised and donated \$1,000 to support the Dunn’s Kid’s Foundation during the 2024 Touch-A-Truck event. Throughout the year, several events were held to promote autism awareness and acceptance in our community, including the Firefighter Takeover of Mission BBQ and the fifth Annual SLCFF Chili Cook-Off. This ongoing effort continues to demonstrate the power of community, compassion, and commitment to making a difference.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY LIL FEET

Lil Feet, a nonprofit founded by Fire District personnel in 2009, began with firefighters purchasing shoes and socks for a child in need. Now a 501(c)(3) organization, Lil Feet is led by a dedicated board of Fire District personnel and their families. The annual Art Auction & Firefighter Dinner, endorsed by the Fire District and Firefighters Benevolent Association, raised more than \$39,000 in 2024. Also in 2024, working with local schools and youth organizations, Lil Feet provided \$36,000 in shoes, socks, and under garments to children in need throughout St. Lucie County.

For more information, follow us at facebook.com/LilFeetofSLC

BIG HEART BRIGADE

Members of the St. Lucie County Fire District have been feeding local families at Thanksgiving since 1992. In 2008, the Treasure Coast Big Heart Brigade became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Operated entirely by volunteers, the Brigade relies on community fundraisers and support from local hospitals and businesses to make its mission possible. In 2024, the Treasure Coast Big Heart Brigade made a significant impact—delivering over 400 turkeys with sides and cooking more than 250 turkeys to serve hot Thanksgiving meals to more than 3,500 people throughout St. Lucie County.

For more information, please follow us at facebook.com/bigheartbrigadetc

CHRISTMAS 4 KIDS

Christmas 4 Kids is a non-profit organization that was established in 2007 through the efforts of Captain David French and station 4. The crew wanted to encourage their own children to share with those less fortunate, so they began collecting gently used toys and clothing to deliver on Christmas morning. Today, the organization facilitates collection of donations from multiple businesses and at all the fire stations. On Christmas morning, while most are at home opening gifts and celebrating with family, a caravan of emergency vehicles, box trucks and cars led by a fire engine carrying Santa and the Grinch makes its way through the narrow streets of the mobile home parks in Fort Pierce. The convoy is welcomed by squealing children.

In 2024, Christmas 4 Kids delivered over 5000 gifts and clothing to more than 900 children. They also provided new underwear & socks to each child. Due to generous donors & our local community, SLCFDC4K provided toys & clothing to 5 Grace Pack schools (schools that provide food and support to children in need) and over a dozen youth agencies throughout the Christmas season. This was possible through the generous support of the community and the 63 local businesses that hosted toy drives.

For more information, please visit slcfdchristmas4kids.com.



St. Lucie County Fire District

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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