

# WAKE FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND CALENDAR YEAR 2023





Dear Wake Forest Community,

It is my pleasure to present to you this annual report with information about the activities of the Wake Forest Fire Department, for the fiscal year of 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) and the calendar year 2023. In keeping with our Mission, Vision, and Core Values, Wake Forest Firefighters consistently demonstrate a personal commitment to protect the quality of life and to protect property in both Wake Forest and the Wakette Fire District. During this past fiscal year, Wake Forest Firefighters responded to 5,108 incidents. During the 2023 calendar year, there were 5,563 incidents. As we enter 2024, the citizens of Wake Forest may continue to count on our exceptional dedication to the community's safety and protection, our highest priorities. The members of the WFFD work tirelessly every day serving and protecting their community and deserve to be recognized for their outstanding contributions to our community.



As firefighters, we hold a special bond, not only between each other, but also with our communities. When we are not responding to structure fires, vehicle accidents and emergency medical calls for injuries, or illness; we also provide various other services to the community. We assist community members with installing smoke alarms if people are uncertain or unable to mount them properly. All during the year, we host tours of our facilities to school children and for those who stop by. We also go out to schools and other locations to talk to children and adults alike about the importance of fire and home safety. Our Water Rescue Team, led by B/C Matt Strawbridge, is improving their service to the community by involving themselves in more advanced training and purchasing equipment that will help them complete their mission.

As your Fire Chief, I cannot express how much we all appreciate your encouragement and trust. We thank the Town Manager and Town Commissioners for working to guide and support us, as we continue to develop and grow our fire department.

Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve as your Fire Chief. I do not take my accountability and responsibility lightly, and constantly strive to meet and exceed your expectations. It is truly an honor to serve you and look forward to another successful year of accomplishments, and progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rondall L. Early".

Rondall L. Early  
Fire Chief



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## Members of the Wake Forest Fire Department

### Management

Fire Chief - Ron Early

Deputy Chief – (Vol) Clifton Keith

#### Battalion Chiefs:

Ed Barrett, Waylon Holbrook, Matthew Strawbridge, Jeremy Blake

(Vol) Chris Wilson, (Vol) Gary Sullivan, (Vol) Marcus Wells, (Vol) Bud Connelly

Logistics – David Davis

Administrative Assistant – Anne Frounfelker

Accreditation Manager/ Data Analyst – Captain Ian Moffatte

Services Administrator - Davis Sandling

### Volunteer and Part-time Staff

#### **Battalion Chiefs**

##### **Admin**

Vol/PT/Scheduling

C. Wilson

##### **A shift**

Incident Reporting QC

M. Wells

##### **B shift**

PPE/Uniforms

B. Connelly

##### **C shift**

Explorers

G. Sullivan

#### **Captains**

M. McDonald

G. Chrostowski

M. Kelling

J. Strickland

J. Schwenk

V. Curci

R. Schmidt

R. Moore

#### **Lieutenants**

T. Brown

D. Phipps

G. Wiggs

D. Stanton

#### **Relief Drivers**

S. Stewart

C. Green

J. Stauffer

#### **Firefighters**

M. Mallory

P. Campbell

Q. Kilmon

D. Leuci

C. Walston

M. Rosetti

M. Bowyer

D. Young

M. Medlin

J. Payne

T. West

R. Johnson

L. Atkinson

N. Smith

C. Sok

C. Pittarelli

J. Caldwell

C. Hicks

A. King

S. Bounemia N. Washington

T. Rotosky

W. Ramos

#### **Explorers**

B. Barbour

A. Blair

F. Bryant

M. Maloney

C. Race

J. Nordman

J. Speer

J. Wilkinson

T. Campbell

X. Harrington

C. Zwickis

#### **Chaplains**

P. Cashwell

P. Eitel



## **Full Time Suppression Staff**

### **B/C Waylon Holbrook**

#### **A Shift**

##### **Engine 1**

Captain Bryon Timberlake  
Lieut. Paul Bauer  
FFC Ross Kingery  
FF Damian Johnson

##### **Ladder 1**

Captain Nick Carter  
Lieut. Justin Schwenk  
MFF Justin Mitchell  
FFC Joseph May

##### **Engine 2**

Captain Johnathan Whitley  
Lieut. Thomas Schwenk  
FFC Justin Strickland  
FF Evan Cantin

##### **Ladder 2**

Captain Erick Mohn  
Lieut. Brendan Handford  
FFC William Windsor  
FFC Chris Kearney

##### **Engine 3**

Captain Garrett Jackson  
Lieut. Aaron Hale  
FFC Alfred Harvey  
FFC John Carr

##### **Engine 4**

Captain Alton Medlin  
Lieut. Robert Weatherford  
FFC Aaron Allen  
FFC Robert Neal  
FFC Robert Mitchell

### **B/C Jeremy Blake**

#### **B Shift**

##### **Engine 1**

Captain Ben Davis  
Lieut. Taylor Cornelius  
FFC Scott Knowles  
FF Brice Strickland

##### **Ladder 1**

Captain Ed Eason  
Lieut. Lee Blackwell  
FFC Ryan Lynn  
FFC Samuel Scales

##### **Engine 2**

Captain Rich Moore  
Lieut. Justin Alderman  
FFC William Florence  
FF Jacob Sessoms

##### **Ladder 2**

Captain Dustin Satterwhite  
Lieut. Ethan Medlin  
FFC Aaron Cashwell  
FFC Daylon Pinkus

##### **Engine 3**

Captain John-Caleb Sadler  
Lieut. Tony Lamberti  
FFC Dalmon Bailey  
FF Lucas Crickmore

##### **Engine 4**

Captain Chris Kimley  
Lieut. Steven Wagner  
FFC Justin Rimmer  
FFC Steven Haag  
FF Garrett Joyner

### **B/C Matt Strawbridge**

#### **C Shift**

##### **Engine 1**

Captain Scott Gregory  
Lieut. Zach Pleasants  
FFC Matthew Smith  
FF Jack Lilienthal

##### **Ladder 1**

Captain Kyle Mangum  
Lieut. Jonathan Mestas  
MFF Sam Coleman  
FFC Korey Floyd

##### **Engine 2**

Captain Jeff Putnam  
Lieut. Melvin Wilsey  
FFC Casey Shoe  
FF Randy Wolfenbarger

##### **Ladder 2**

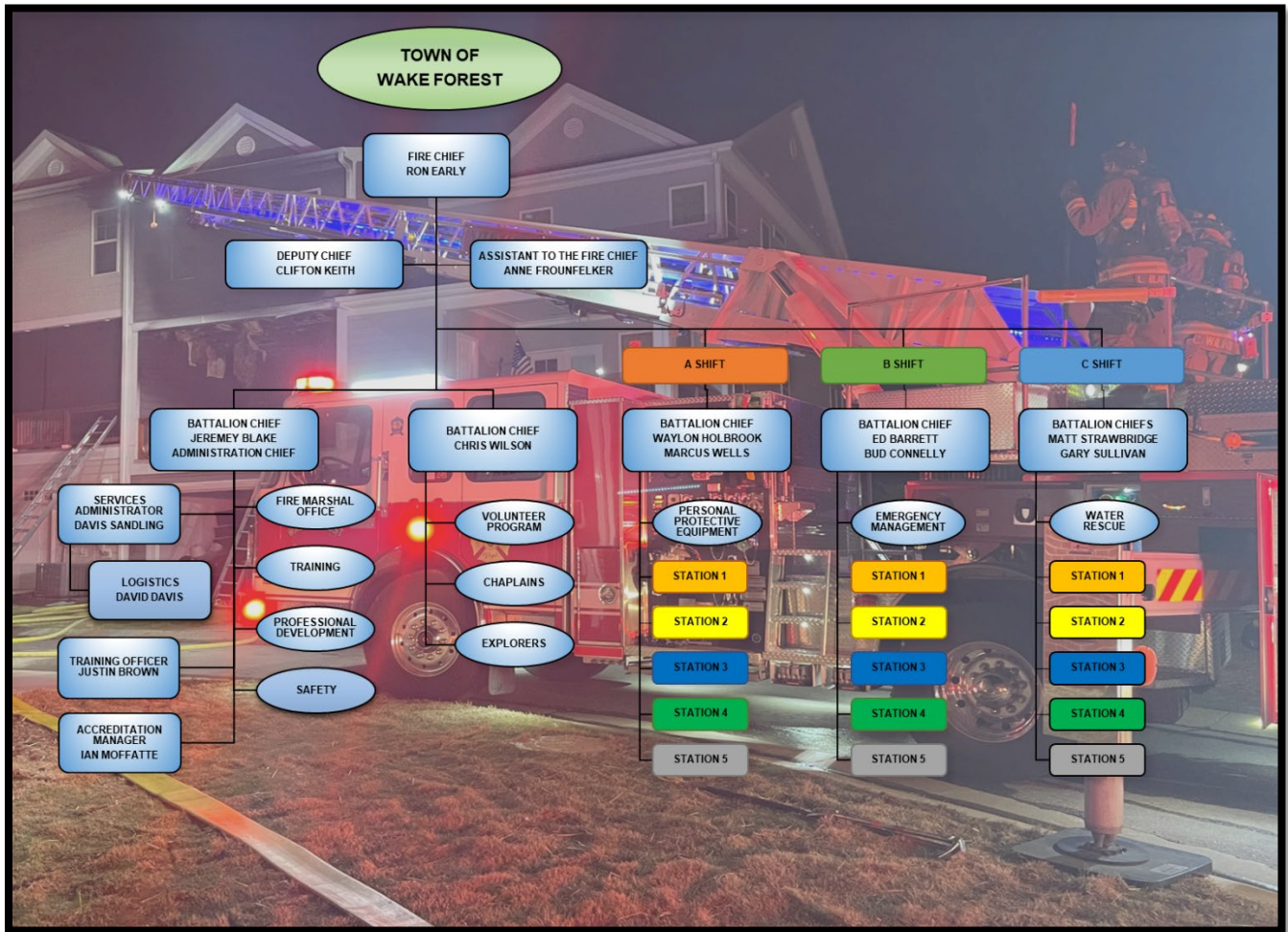
Captain Dustin Arnold  
Lieut. Chad Page  
FFC Hunter Fuller  
FFC Zach Helms

##### **Engine 3**

Captain Martin Barrett  
Lieut. Julian Todd  
FFC Paul Croteau  
FFC Glenn Ebron

##### **Engine 4**

Captain Bryan Wright  
Lieut. Brandon Brown  
FFC Austin Smith  
FFC Alex Murray  
FF Gavin Moore



## Committees and Individual Work Groups

Over the last several years, WFFD has developed several committees and individuals to assist management with making decisions on operational, administrative and projects that we are working on. Members of WFFD have recognized the needs in different categories, have stepped up, and developed these committees or tasks to make sure WFFD is making the right decisions. The organization owes a significant amount of gratitude to these individuals for their hard work and commitment to improving our department.

### Safety Committee

Brendan Handford (Chair), Bobby Neal, James Schwenk, Taylor Cornelius, Joseph May, Jeff Putnam, Dennis Phipps, Chris Kearney

### Awards Committee

Clifton Keith, Davis Sandling, Bud Connelly, Kyle Mangum, Brendan Handford, Jeff Putnam, Jonathan Mestas, Sam Coleman, Chad Page, Ian Moffatte, Ed Eason



**Apparatus Committee**

Brandon Brown (Chair), Garrett Jackson, Davis Sandling, Justin Schwenk, William Florence

**Equipment Committee**

James Kimley (Chair), Justin Schwenk, Ross Kingery, Brice Strickland, Steven Haag, Sam Coleman, Melvin Wilsey

**Social Media Team**

Ben Davis (Chair), Justin Brown, William Florence, Steve Rhode, Ian Moffatte

**Policy Committee**

Edward Eason (Chair), Justin Brown, Erick Mohn, Lee Blackwell, Bobby Neal, Taylor Cornelius

**Fire and Life Safety Committee**

Austin Smith, Dustin Arnold, Glenn Ebron, Hunter Fuller, Ian Moffatte, John Carr Jr., Joseph May, Matthew Smith, Michael Bowyer, Paul Croteau, Randy Wolfenbarger, Robert Weatherford, Sam Coleman, Zackery Helms

**Uniform Committee**

Jeremey Blake, Justin Brown (Chair), Ian Moffatte, Nick Carter, Thomas Schwenk, Bryon Timberlake, Justin Schwenk, Chris Wilson

**Honor Guard**

Chris Kimley (Chair), John-Caleb Sadler, Robert Weatherford, Justin Alderman, Chad Page, Justin Mitchell, Korey Floyd, Ryan Lynn, Scott Knowles, Alex Murray and Dalmon Bailey

**Hiring Committee**

Brandon Brown, Kyle Mangum (Chair), Chad Page, Jonathan Mestas, Jeff Putnam, Ben Davis

**PPE Committee**

Paul Croteau, Bryan Wright, Thomas Schwenk (Chair), Waylon Holbrook, Christopher Blackwell, Justin Schwenk, Joseph May

**Recruitment Committee**

Bryon Timberlake, Flip Harvey, Chad Page, Martin Barrett, Justin Mitchell, Scott Gregory, Ben Davis, Jonathan Mestas, John Stauffer, Taylor Cornelius

**Emergency Management/Special Event**

Ed Barrett, Ian Moffatte, Bobby Neal, Marcus Wells, Randall Schmidt, Steven Wagner, Ross Kingery, Kyle Mangum, Chad Page

**Membership Committee**

Tommy Brown, Jim Schwenk, Martin McDonald, Jeremy Strickland, Daniel Gregory, Ed Barrett, Taylor Cornelius, Jeff Putnam, Bryon Timberlake, John Stauffer, Chris Wilson, Vince Curci



**Fire Endurance Assessment Committee**

Jonathan Mestas, Brandon Brown, Scott Knowles, Ben Davis, Kyle Mangum (Chair), Chad Page

**Risk Management Program (Preplans, Hazard Risk Analysis, Tier II Reporting)**

Jeremey Blake, Brendan Handford, Ian Moffatte, Nick Carter, Scott Gregory, Bryon Timberlake

**Fire Investigator Program**

Jeremey Blake (CFI), Justin Brown (CFI), Bryan Wright, Kyle Mangum, and Jonathan Whitley

**County Committees**

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Administrative | Ron Early (Primary)      |
| Apparatus      | Davis Sandling (Primary) |
| Facility       | Ron Early (Alternate)    |
| Communications | Marcus Wells (Primary)   |

**Individual Tasks**

|                           |                                      |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ladders                   | Bryan Wright                         |
| Air Packs                 | Erick Mohn                           |
| Life Rope                 | Davis Sandling                       |
| Small Engine/Tools        | Dustin Satterwhite, Taylor Cornelius |
| Saw Blades                | Bobby Neal                           |
| EMS Supplies              | Martin Barrett                       |
| Active 911, Meters, Coins | Justin Alderman                      |
| Hose                      | John-Caleb Sadler                    |
| Hand Lights               | Thomas Schwenk                       |
| Equipment Inventory       | John-Caleb Sadler                    |
| Firehouse                 | Ian Moffatte                         |
| Emergency Preparedness    | Ian Moffatte                         |
| Purchasable Shirts        | Lee Blackwell                        |
| CISM                      | Jeremey Blake                        |





## Austin T. Smith

July 9, 2023 - This is a post provided by the Town of Wake Forest about Austin. They did this for all members over the last year so that the public could get to know our members. *“Say hello to Austin Smith, Firefighter First Class for the Wake Forest Fire Department. Austin has worked for the Fire Department since 2016. He works at Station 4 on Engine 4. Austin’s primary responsibility is to respond to fire, medical, and other emergency situations and provide appropriate assistance. He also participates in equipment and building maintenance, cleaning and assists in ensuring apparatus is ready for duty. Austin takes part in continuous training dealing with all phases of fire suppression, prevention, pre-plans, rescue, and emergency operation. He controls and extinguishes fires using a variety of specialized equipment and techniques, evacuates persons from areas of danger and performs emergency treatment. Austin responds to emergency medical calls and renders care as needed. His work also includes active participation in EMS, public education, training, and physical fitness programs. Thank you for all your hard work, Austin!”*



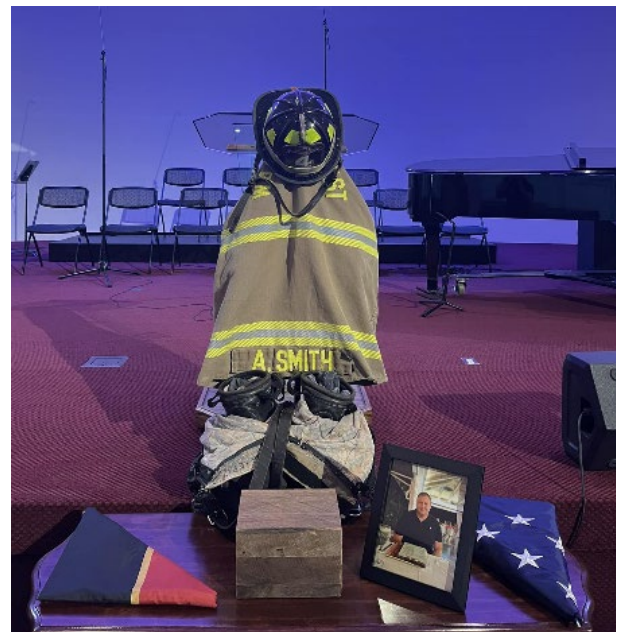
On July 26, 2023, this was posted by a WFFD member. *“It is with heavy hearts, that we announce the passing of our brother Firefighter First Class, Austin Smith. Austin passed away today and will be greatly missed by all.”*

Words cannot describe the kind of person Austin was or the legacy he will leave behind. He will be remembered for his one-of-a-kind personality and dedicated work ethic. He impacted many lives during his tenure at the Wake Forest Fire Department that will certainly last a lifetime. He gave one hundred percent and then some in everything he did, and motivated others to do the same.

On August 3, 2023, on a Monday afternoon, we celebrated the life of our brother, Austin Smith. We cannot thank our members enough, for all they have done, over the past week. Our members staffed stations, spent time helping with anything Austin’s family needed, readied our trucks, and helped coordinate the details of the service.

Also, we would like to thank all of the departments that supported us during this time. There were many fire, police, county, and state departments assisting us. These departments assisted with planning the event, staffing our stations, ensuring the funeral procession was well coordinated, traffic control and much more.

Finally, we hope Austin has encouraged you to put forth 110% in everything you do.





## Organizational Background

The Town of Wake Forest’s fire protection service was founded in 1921 and was first organized by Thomas Arrington, Sr., who served as the department’s Fire Chief. The original department was founded as a community fire brigade to provide fire protection services to areas of the Town and the Wake Forest College. As the Town and the community grew, the fire department quarters were relocated to the old town hall building. It was housed there until 1973, when the need arose to relocate to renovated quarters on South White Street.

The Wakette Fire Protection District was founded in 1956, with Willis Winston as its first Fire Chief. The Wakette organization was charged with providing fire protection services to unincorporated areas outside of the Town of Wake Forest. Equipment for the Wakette District was housed in the basement of the old town hall until it was moved to a new firehouse, constructed in 1966, at the intersection of South White Street and Elm Avenue.



These two departments existed side-by-side utilizing the same personnel but separate equipment. In 1983, with assistance from Sherman Pickard of the North Carolina Institute of Government, these two organizations were merged to form the Wake Forest Fire Department, Inc. The merger was the first of its kind in North Carolina where a municipality contracted its fire protection to another agency. In 1986, a new firehouse was constructed at 420 East Elm Avenue to meet the housing demands for both organization’s apparatus and equipment.

In 1993, the Board of Directors recognized that the explosive growth in the area was taxing the volunteer’s ability to handle the increasing incident volume. The Board of Directors deemed it necessary to create (3) full-time staff positions to guarantee the response of a fire unit to meet the fire and medical needs of the Wake Forest Fire District.

In 2000, the Wake Forest Fire Department was charged with providing emergency medical first responder services within the Wake Forest Fire District. This addition of services would aid the Wake County Emergency Medical Service’s with their efforts to reduce response times to emergency medical incidents within the Wake County area.



Located on Ligon Mill Road, Station 2 was completed in 2001. The original building included an 800 square-foot suite leased by the Wake Forest Police Department as a substation. On October 16, 2019, work began on Station 2 to remodel the entire station to accommodate another company of personnel. A new section on the North side was added for bunkrooms and a fitness room.

station was constructed.

In 2007, Wake Forest Fire Department took possession of a residence located on Forestville Road and began staffing a daytime crew to respond to emergency incidents. In 2009, a modern and progressive two bay fire



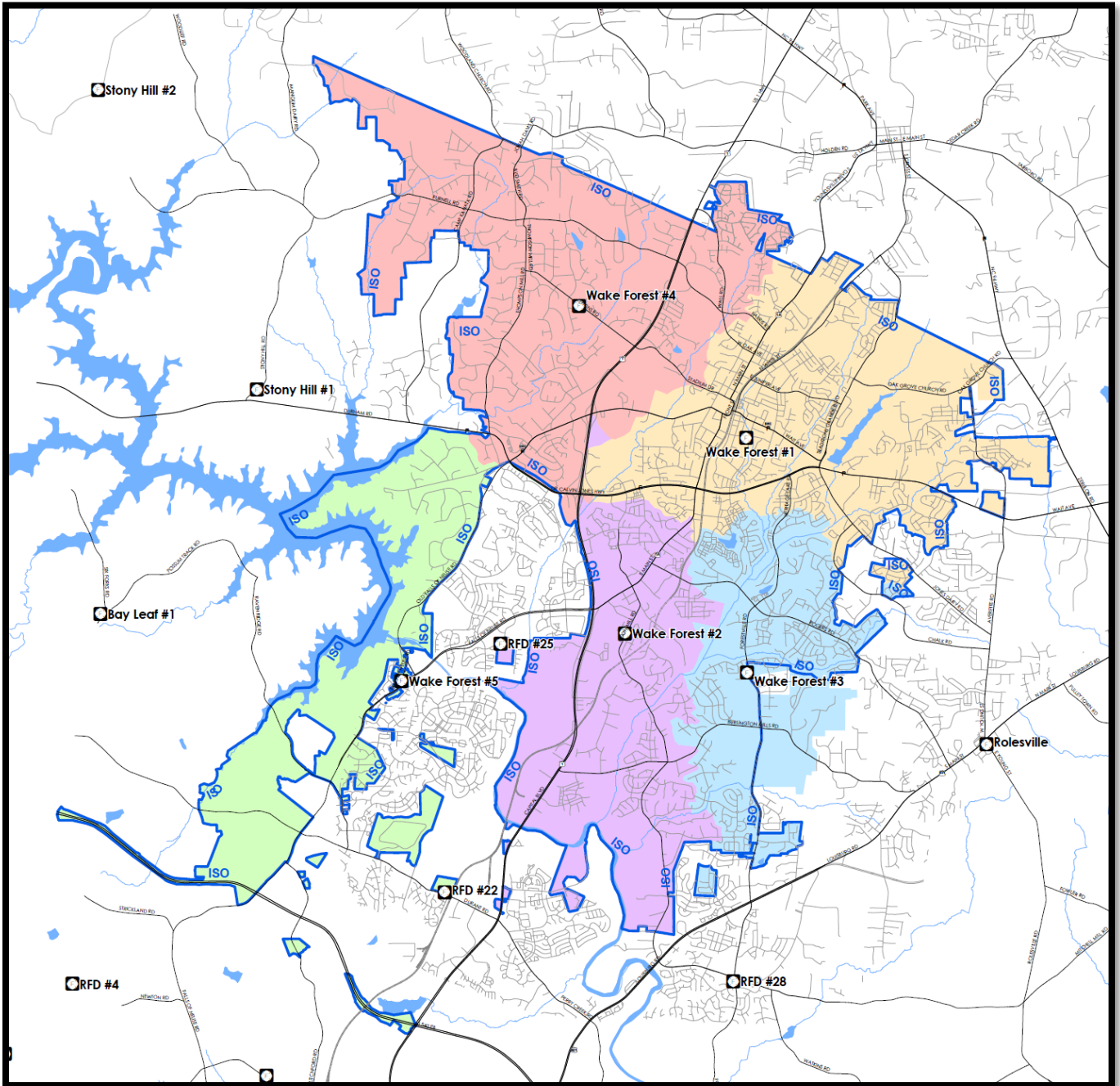
The current Wake Forest Fire Department Station 5 was previously Falls Fire Department. Before the building was used as a fire station, it was originally a community house. The land for the community center was donated to the Falls Community in November 1954 by Erwin Cotton Mills. In 1969, The Falls Club took on the organization of the fire department as their project. The department asked the Community Club for permission to build two new bays that would be attached to the community center. Permission was granted and the department began construction. Most of the construction was done by members of the department and was finished by contracted builders. Two years later the department added two more bays. Equipment was purchased as money became available while neighboring departments donated hose, nozzles, etc.

On Sunday, March 25, 2012, Wake County Fire Station 21 (Falls Fire Department) was merged with the Wake Forest Fire Department. With the increased financial pressure of today's economy, it made sense to combine the resources so that the services provided to both the Falls and Wake Forest communities would improve. The merger kept the crew that has served the Falls community in place, while adding a tremendously dedicated, trained, and experienced department of Firefighters. November of 2017, WFFD was able to purchase the property and facilities from the Falls Community. Now that the property is owned by WFFD, we have the flexibility and ability to make changes so that our members are as safe and comfortable as possible.



Station 4 was completed as of February 2016 and staffed 24 hours a day with full time employees. The station houses Engine 4, Brush 4, Tanker 4, and most of our Water Rescue equipment. The grand opening ceremony was attended by over 200 citizens of the community that had the opportunity to push the new Engine into the new Station. The ribbon that was used was a section of red hose that was uncoupled by the Board of Directors President Stanley Denton.

Today, the Wake Forest Fire Department is a progressively minded combination fire department serving the Town of Wake Forest and the surrounding unincorporated Wakette Rural District. We provide fire protection, emergency medical and rescue services, as well as an enthusiastic and dynamic public education program for the community. We currently operate out of five stations. We have 78 paid personnel 24/7, 6 administrative personnel, 24 part-time employees, and 25 volunteers supplementing the paid staff in answering approximately 5,477 incidents in FY 2023. This is a 7% jump from last years (FY 22) total and a 27% jump from two years ago (FY 21), 57% of which are emergency medical related. Our response area of 42.5 square miles is a mix of residential, commercial, and rural/agricultural. There are 16 schools in our area, including private and public, as well as The Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (the former Wake Forest College), which has a current enrollment of over 3000 students.



| Fire Station | Address                | Opened |
|--------------|------------------------|--------|
| Station 1    | 420 Elm Avenue         | 1986   |
| Station 2    | 9925 Ligon Mill Rd     | 2001   |
| Station 3    | 1412 Forestville Rd    | 2009   |
| Station 4    | 1505 Jenkins Rd        | 2016   |
| Station 5    | 11908 Holmes Hollow Rd | 1969   |



## Apparatus Profile

Wake Forest Fire Department operates a variety of fire, emergency service apparatus and support vehicles to provide service to our citizens.

### Fire Station 1

|           |      |                 |                                       |
|-----------|------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Engine 1  | 2020 | Rosenbauer      | 1,500 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Tank      |
| Ladder 1  | 2020 | Spartan         | 103' Tractor Drawn Aerial             |
| Brush 1   | 2006 | Ford F-550      | 245 GPM Pump, 300 Gallon Brush Unit   |
| Utility 1 | 2016 | Ram 2500        | Pick Up Truck, Utility Vehicle        |
| ATV 1     | 2021 | Polaris         | 4 Wheel Multi-Purpose Utility Vehicle |
| Ladder 4  | 2007 | Spartan/Crimson | 103' Tractor Drawn Aerial             |





## Fire Station 2

|          |      |         |   |
|----------|------|---------|---|
| Engine 2 | 2006 | Pierce  | 1,500 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Tank                      |
| Ladder 2 | 2011 | Pierce  | 1,500 GPM Pump, 300 Gallon Tank, 100' Aerial Platform |
| ATV 2    | 2021 | Polaris | 4 Wheel Multi-Purpose Utility Vehicle                 |





### Fire Station 3

|          |      |            |                                     |
|----------|------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Engine 3 | 2012 | Pierce     | 1,500 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Tank    |
| Tanker 3 | 2013 | KME        | 750 GPM Pump, 2000 Gallon Tank      |
| Brush 3  | 1977 | Ford F-250 | 150 GPM Pump, 250 Gallon Brush Unit |





## Fire Station 4

|           |      |            |                                     |
|-----------|------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Engine 4  | 2014 | Rosenbauer | 1,500 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Tank    |
| Tanker 4  | 2017 | Rosenbauer | 500 GPM Pump, 2000 Gallon Tank      |
| Brush 4   | 2008 | Ford F-550 | 245 GPM Pump, 300 Gallon Brush Unit |
| Utility 4 | 2012 | Ford E-350 | 12 Passenger Utility Vehicle        |







## Fire Station 5

|          |      |               |   |
|----------|------|---------------|---|
| Engine 5 | 2007 | Pierce        | 1,250 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Tank              |
| Squad 5  | 1997 | International | 1,250 GPM Pump, 500 Gallon Tank, Service Unit |
| Brush 5  | 1994 | Ford F-350    | 300 GPM Pump, 250 Gallon Tank                 |
| Boat 5   | 2006 |               | 500 GPM Pump, Boat                            |





## Reserve Warehouse

|          |      |        |   |
|----------|------|--------|---|
| Engine 6 | 1996 | E-One  | 1,500 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Tank            |
| Engine 7 | 1995 | Pierce | 1,250 GPM Pump, 500 Gallon Tank             |
| Engine 8 | 2003 | E-One  | 1,500 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Tank            |
| Ladder 3 | 1990 | E-One  | 1,500 GPM Pump, 300 Gallon Tank, 75' Aerial |





## Department Slogan *"Saving Lives, Our Prime Goal"*

### Mission Statement

We are committed to providing fire prevention education, fire suppression, medical services, and other emergency and non-emergency activities to the surrounding community, visitors, and residents of the Town of Wake Forest. We accomplish this mission through education, training, and dedication to the protection of our membership and citizens.

### Vision Statement

The Wake Forest Fire Department will set the standard of excellence by honoring tradition, professionalism, and customer service; we will also create leaders through education, training, and strong ethical values.

### Core Values

#### Duty

Duty compels us to do the right thing at the right time, regardless of adverse consequences. It is the precursor of discipline and obedience. Duty requires that we accept responsibility for our actions.

#### Pride

We take pride in ourselves as individuals, our members as a team, our department as a family, and our citizens as a community.

#### Family

We are a fire department family. We are committed and accountable to each other because our lives depend on it. We value each member in our organization. We respect those who came before us and will strive to make the organization better for those who follow.

#### Courage

Courage is the value that gives us the moral and mental strength to do what is right, even in the face of personal or professional adversity.

#### Professionalism

We are dedicated to serving at the highest level of excellence, in a manner showing commitment and respect to our mission. A commitment to excellence, possessing a positive attitude and having pride in your work while conforming to a high standard of conduct.

#### Honor

The enormous commitment necessary to perform the Department's tasks requires excellence of character. We inspire each other through pride in our department, both past and present.





## **Integrity**

We are committed to honesty and ethical behavior, and we will make decisions based on moral standards regardless of personal belief or benefit. We will work hard every day to maintain the highest professional standards and to earn the public trust through our actions.

## **Core Services for Wake Forest Fire Department**

### **Fire Suppression**

The department provides fire suppression for all types of fires that occur within the district and the surrounding communities. These includes structure fires, such as homes, businesses and industries, vehicle fires, grass and woods fires and all other types of fires that may occur.

### **Emergency Medical Services**

Wake Forest Fire Department paid Firefighters are trained and certified as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) and respond as medical first responders to emergency medical incidents that occur within the district. With fire stations strategically located throughout the city, often Firefighters are closer than an ambulance to a medical call. This allows Firefighters to reach the scene of a medical emergency faster, to initiate and provide lifesaving medical care. Ambulance transport is provided by Wake County.

### **Rescue**

Wake Forest Fire Department provides vehicle extrication and some other basic Rescue capabilities. We are training our personnel to handle most incidents that would require basic skills and equipment and we carry some of the tools and equipment needed to handle these incidents. Recently, WFFD has been classified as a Type II Water Rescue Team for NC Emergency Management. We have over 25 members trained in water rescue and over the last year we have begun our expansion on water rescue equipment working toward our goal to be a Type I.

### **Hazardous Materials**

The department provides hazardous materials response to hazardous materials leaks or spills. These may include transportation incidents that occur on the roadways or railroads and fixed facility incidents at businesses or industries.

### **Risk Reduction**

The department provides risk reduction through the administration and provision of fire and life safety public education to our citizens. The following graphs depicts the number of visits that we participated in during the past year along with the number of hours for each year. This past fiscal year WFFD contacted 503 adults and 2229 children during our apparatus and station visits. Covid-19 had a drastic impact on our activities, but it didn't stop us. For us, we learned new ways of reaching out to the community to make sure they receive the fire and life safety information that is needed.



## Management Team

### Strategic Plan

Organizational strategic focus is important to the success of any planning process. Strategic planning, in its simplest form, is about identifying a limited number of key strategic goals to be achieved by the organization to move successfully into the future. In 2009, the Wake Forest Fire Department initiated a strategic planning process to develop its first formal strategic plan. Plan development was facilitated by a Strategic Planning Team, which consisted of both career and volunteer staff of varying ranks and tenure. The plan's goals and objectives were all derived from staff input, solicited during the planning process. Procedures utilized in the development of the plan included staff surveys, numerous staff focus groups, and a facilitated retreat of department chief officers and staff feedback on the draft plan. Through the strategic planning process, the department identified its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. It also clarified the department's mission, vision, core values and expectations.

The plan established nine strategic goals for the department:

1. Community Relations
2. Promote Employee Health and Safety
3. Volunteer Program
4. Facility Management
5. Apparatus and Equipment Management
6. Communications
7. Develop our Leaders and Employees
8. Fiscal Responsibility
9. Effective and Efficient Use of Our Resources

The strategic plan is designed to guide the department over a five-year period; however, this document should be viewed as merely a first step toward effecting change through implementation. The strategic plan should be reviewed and updated annually to ensure accuracy and allow for adaptation to changing circumstances. Furthermore, a department operational plan, which outlines the specific action steps, costs, timelines, and implementation priorities of the objectives stated in this plan, needs to be developed. The Wake Forest Fire Department has a proud history of exceptional community focused service delivered by a highly trained and professional staff of career and volunteer Firefighters. The department membership looks forward to an even greater future because of this planning effort.

Sincerely,

Wake Forest Fire Department  
Management Team



## Administration

### Battalion Chief Chris Wilson

#### Volunteer and Part-time

As the Battalion Chief responsible for the volunteer program, it is my responsibility to make sure all our volunteer members are valued members of the organization and believe and execute the Core Values.

Our mission, vision, and goals continued to provide a roadmap for our direction throughout the last year. As we continue to grow with personnel and responsibilities, we must assess and adapt our direction to maintain a focus of our destination of saving lives.

The Wake Forest Fire Department truly operates as a combination department. We utilize our volunteer personnel to staff an engine company during weeknights and weekends. The men and women that serve our organization are dedicated and continue to prove their worthiness daily. Although volunteerism across many departments is declining as compared to years past, we continue to strengthen our personnel each year. We have revised our selection process to include a group interview setting to get to know the people that desire to serve. Our probationary training program has progressed and continues to produce quality members that serve our community with pride. Our volunteers supplement staffing on career staffed apparatus as well as a volunteer staffed engine company. Our volunteer opportunities are designated currently into six areas: Explorer, Chaplain, Volunteer, Duty Crew, Part-Time, and Ladies Auxiliary. We consistently strive to find a place for someone to serve while balancing the strain of family life and work.

This upcoming year we would like to focus on the development and growth of our current and new personnel. We would also like to place a strong emphasis on recruitment and retention. This will be accomplished by constantly evaluating our current practices against the desired and achievable results. We will closely monitor the requirements to be a firefighter and the affects it has on a members family life. We will strive to find new avenues to meet established standards for each member, preventing volunteer burnout. We have decided to tier our training into smaller segments followed up by a designated company drill night to provide application and perspective. We will continue to serve our community through assisting with numerous special events and our annual shop with a firefighter.





## **Battalion Chief Jeremey Blake**

### **Fire Investigation Team**

The Wake Forest Fire Department implemented a Fire Investigation Team in July 2011 to conduct fire origin and cause investigations within the Town of Wake Forest and the Wakette Fire District. Our team has expanded in size and in capabilities since its inception. Our team consists of five North Carolina Certified Fire Investigators (CFI), One North Carolina Fire Investigator Technician, and our Ignitable Liquid Detecting Canine (ILDC) “Marshal.”



This year, our team would like to congratulate Captain Kyle Mangum, Captain Jonathan Whitley, and Captain Bryan Wright for completing all of the pre-requisites and passing the state exams to become Certified Fire Investigators (CFI). The process to become a CFI takes approximately four to five years to complete. Our team welcomed Firefighter First Class Hunter Fuller as a new member to our Fire Investigation Team. Hunter has begun his journey to become a CFI.

The Wake Forest Fire Investigation Team consists of the following members: Battalion Chief Jeremey Blake (CFI), Captain Justin Brown (CFI), Captain Kyle Mangum (CFI), Captain Jonathan Whitley (CFI), Captain Bryan Wright (CFI), Firefighter First Class Hunter Fuller, and Marshall (ILDC).

The Wake Forest Fire Department members and The Wake Forest Fire Investigators investigated approximately 160 fire related incidents in fiscal year 2023. These incidents included building fires, car fires, woods fires, and brush fires. ILDC Marshall conducted 10 investigations across five different counties since July 1, 2022. Marshall has become a huge asset in our area and surrounding areas. Historically, fire departments would normally have to wait 3 to 4 hours for an ILDC to arrive, but Marshall has reduced that response significantly.

Each year, our team has had the privilege to work alongside some of the best in the business. Those agencies include Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF), The Office of State Fire Marshall Investigation Division (OSFM), Wake County Fire Marshalls Office, Vance County Fire Marshalls Office, Durham County Fire Marshalls Office, Franklin County Fire Marshalls Office, and Granville County Fire Marshalls Office.

### **Training Division**

Over the past year, the Training Division has undergone a few changes. Captain Justin Brown joined the Training Division staff and has been a huge asset. Captain Brown has done a phenomenal job in developing and managing our new training software, Vector Solutions. His expertise with this software has improved our division’s capabilities to accurately track and document trainings and certifications. Our Training Division provides monthly and quarterly updates for our members to review ISO and departmental goals for training. In addition to managing Vector Solutions, Captain Brown is the



training officer for all our suppression staff. His logistical support and instruction allows our members to focus on the topic and objectives of each training session.

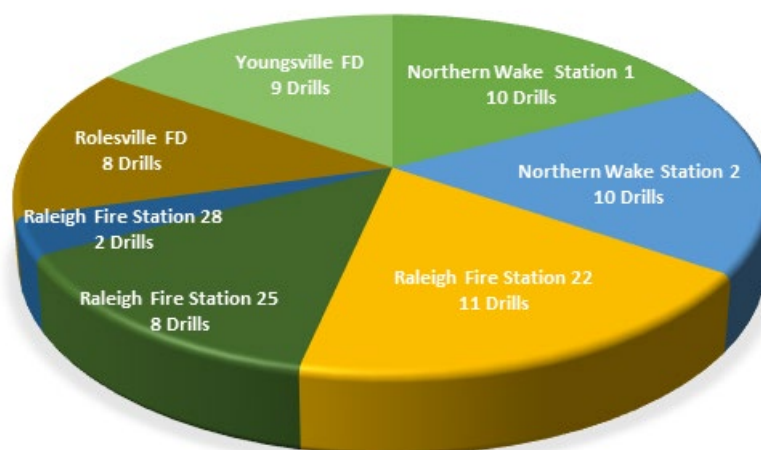
Our Training Division supports and provides many opportunities where our members can learn. We schedule and provide continuing education classes for the following subjects:

- Bloodborne Pathogens- 3 hours annually
- Facilities Training- 18 hours annually
- In-House Leadership Academy Training- 6 Hours Annually
- Emergency Vehicle Driver- 6 Hours Annually
- Hazardous Materials- 9 Hours Annually

In addition to continuing educational classes, our members conduct Monthly Multi-Company Training Drills. These drills are conducted on a rotating monthly schedule where all companies shall provide a 3-hour training drill on their scheduled month. We have noticed a significant increase in meeting our mutual aid training expectations through these Monthly Multi-Company Drills.

In addition to these multi-Company drills, the Training Division hosts a quarterly drill in March, June, September and December for all shifts and companies. We utilize this time to conduct drills the Training Division or suppression members have found worthy of delivering to all members. Our members participate in Live Fire Facility Training each Spring and Fall. This provides a realistic platform for our members to teach and/or use the skills they have learned throughout the year. It is exciting to note that most of our Multi-Company Drills, Mutual Aid Drills, Facility Trainings, and Company Trainings originated from the knowledge our members gained while attending outside training opportunities.

Our members have done a fantastic job this year meeting ISO requirements and minimum drill requirements involving recognized mutual aid agencies. The graph below illustrates the number of documented mutual aid trainings since January 1, 2023.



This past year, our members have performed remarkably well obtaining their required training hours. Each member is required, by our department, to obtain 240 hours of training (in various subjects). Since





January 1, 2023, our members recorded over 24,000 hours of training. The following is a list of some of the courses that make up that astonishing number of training hours.

These above training classes are only a small portion of the instruction attended by our members. Our members travel across the country to attend the best training possible. Upon returning from class, our members will likely teach the valuable information to the rest of the membership.

## **Captain Ian Moffatte**

### **Accreditation Manager and Data Analyst**

#### Accreditations/Data Analysis

In the modern fire service, data-driven decision making has become paramount in enhancing response effectiveness, firefighter safety, and resource allocation. With that in mind, over the past year we evaluated several new record management systems as our old and outdated FireHouse Software was being sunset and pulled from the market. Our team's goal was aimed at streamlining operations while enhancing data accuracy. After much consideration, we chose ESO as the new backbone of our data management for the fire department. This pivotal software encompasses modules such as incident reporting, assets and resource tracking, personnel management, shift scheduling, data analytics, and more. Harnessing the power of the new module, data analytics, allowed us to identify trends, optimize resource deployment, and ultimately improve public safety. The successful implementation of ESO software not only ensures efficient data management but will also facilitate information sharing with other public safety agencies, leading to better planning, and coordinated responses in emergencies.



During the previous year, we continued our efforts to anticipate the town's future growth and expansion by undertaking preparations for a prospective Station 6. Through a comprehensive examination of road miles and projected response times from various locations in the eastern part of our district, we have identified an optimal site for a future Station 6 that will cater to the needs of that area. The subsequent phase of this project involves procuring the property and collaborating with engineers and construction experts to create a cutting-edge fire station, complete with a training facility.

Fire accreditation is another vital project for fire departments seeking to demonstrate their commitment to excellence and professionalism. Achieving accreditation through organizations like the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) is an extensive undertaking. It involves a meticulous self-assessment, a rigorous evaluation by peer assessors, and the adoption of best practices in areas such as training, response times, and community outreach. A project that we worked on last year to get us more aligned for accreditation was a sweeping overhaul of our policies and procedures. This endeavor involved consolidating existing policies, meticulously scrutinizing and discarding outdated ones, and moving all policies once complete into Target Solutions a training software that we utilize. Target Solutions allows us to manage, share, and track crucial policy and procedure documents while ensuring improved



accountability and transparency with our personnel. Furthermore, Target Solutions enables us to demonstrate the strict adherence to our accreditation standards.

As we look ahead to the coming year, our focus remains on achieving our goals. We are eager to witness the continued benefits of our policy and procedure overhaul, as well as the utilization of our advanced software, ensuring both improved operational efficiency and adherence to the CPSE accreditation standards.

## **Captain Davis Sandling**

### **Services Administrator**

#### **Apparatus Committee**

Over the next few years, the apparatus committee will look at our specifications and find ways for a replacement engine to fit into Station 5 and still keep the same standard. Also, the committee will start working on a replacement for our Ladder 2 platform.

In closing I would like to say a special thanks to the apparatus committee for all their hard work and dedication that each member puts into the specifications and engineering of our apparatus. Members must attend meetings and travel out of town away from their family looking out for the best interest for the citizens of Wake Forest. A lot of people do not understand that you cannot go out and just buy the fire truck, there is no fire truck lot to pick from. Fire Department apparatus is custom built for each fire district and or protection area. A lot of detail and time goes into specification and design of an apparatus.



Ladder 2 - Committee members put in a lot of time and hard work to complete the spec for this truck. The truck is a 95' mid mount platform. The aerial device is constructed of aluminum and is lighter weight, but the tip load is greater than steel. This is our first time building a new ladder truck that doesn't have a pump or tank. The decision was made to go with a mid-mount due to our setbacks and newer row home building construction. Also, the streets in the neighborhoods and development played a factor in making this decision. With going with a mid-mount, we lost some compartment space. So, with that being said, we removed the pump and tank. The committee traveled to South Carolina to look at an E-one ladder truck similar to the one we built. The group loved the way the truck operated and the way it was built. The committee then traveled to Ocala, Florida to tour the facility in which the trucks were built. The committee was able to see the build process from start to finish. Once we made the decision to go with E-one, we signed the contract and began the build process. The committee traveled to Ocala, Florida to conduct the pre-con of the truck. We are currently waiting for the truck to be built.

Engine 2 – Committee members traveled to South Dakota in October to conduct a midterm inspection on Engine 2. While the committee was there, we spent two days inspecting the truck to make sure it was being built to the spec. In January, the committee traveled back to South Dakota to conduct the final



inspection on Engine 2. The committee found minor issues in the building process and was told by Rosenbauer that the issues would be resolved. The truck turned out nice. It is a twin to Engine 1 with a few changes. The changes include a different pump, crosslay design, and a few minor details. We are expecting the truck to be in service in the next couple of months. Over the years we have developed a standard specification for our Engines, which we will continue using with minor adjustments each time. The new Engine 2 is a 2021 Rosenbauer Commander just like our Engine 1 that we purchased a few years ago. The committee has put in a lot of time in trying to standardize our apparatus. The engine arrived August 2023. The old Engine 2 will become a reserve engine.

## David Davis

### Logistics

Another year has passed, and many things have been accomplished. We are continually working on our short-term goals. Here is a list of completed short term goals for each station. Long term goals are being worked on to comply with the strategic plan for the dept. short term goals for next year are listed below with some of the long-term goals.



### Short Term Goals

**Station 1** - Install space ray heaters in bays

**Station 2** - Update outside grill

**Station 3** - Update outside grill, Build Warehouse on adjoining property

**Station 4** - Outside storage building

**Station 5** - Fix Septic System and Upgrade office area

### Long Term Goals

**Station 1** - Get workout area and turnout gear out of bay and into a control environment, Renovate station to accommodate growth

**Station 5** - Remodel side bay to include control environment for turnout gear and workout room

**Station 6** - Purchase land for Station 6



## Suppression

### Battalion Chief Waylon Holbrook

#### A - Shift

There are still many changes taking place to our department since its inception. In 2022 the town continues to grow exponentially and with that growth our services must adapt to the changes within our coverage area. A-shift continually trains on all aspects of emergency response to ensure we are providing the best possible service to our town and its citizens. Since the incident at Glenn Royal Apartments, A-shift has identified a significant organizational need to improve our standpipe operations. Due to the growth and construction throughout the town we are facing multi-story challenges that we have never faced before.



A-shift staff has been extremely aggressive with the research and testing of hose and equipment that will drastically improve our standpipe operations. Once this equipment and operation is implemented it will allow us to adapt and overcome these challenges to ensure that we are always providing the best quality service to our customers. This will also aid our fire crews to be more successful and safer when operating at these multi-story challenges.

#### Personal Protective Equipment

The PPE committee continues to provide the best available turnout gear for all suppression personnel. During 2022 we have continued to evaluate the effectiveness of our current gear and testing new gear to ensure that we exceed the standards available. The PPE committee has strived to keep up with the ever-changing growth seen within the Town of Wake Forest. Building construction within the town has driven a need to equip our firefighters with a bail out system utilized for self-survival. The PPE committee had our turn out pants redesigned to accommodate life safety rope, for the future advancement of all staff having bail out systems. Just as we always strive to ensure our firefighters have the most updated gear available, there is also a growing concern around cancer in firefighters. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently undertook two large studies focused on firefighter cancer and concluded that firefighters face a 9 percent increase in cancer diagnoses, and a 14 percent increase in cancer-related deaths, compared to the general population in the U.S. Due to the increased cancer risk associated with firefighting we have taken precautions to keep the risk to a minimum. These include updating air packs and providing spare sets of gear that would be available if someone's gear is contaminated. The purpose of the spare sets is that if one set is "contaminated" the other set can be placed into service until the soiled set is properly cleaned.

After evaluating air packs to ensure that our personnel have the best available gear not only for our safety but for the safety of the community, we are patiently awaiting delivery of 50 new Scott X3 Pro air packs and 7 new Scott RIT-Pak Fast Attack rapid intervention packs. The purchasing of this equipment is a huge milestone for our PPE as we are currently operating with 6 different editions of air packs.



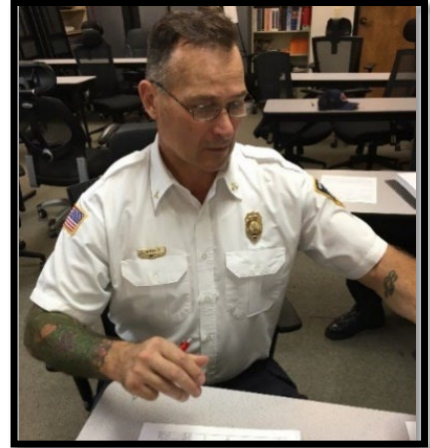
## **Battalion Chief Ed Barrett**

### **B - Shift and Emergency Management**

Each member of the Emergency Management Team fills a vital role in the Emergency Management Teams three branches, which are Fire Department Survivability, Event Planning, and Incident Response.

The Event Planning Branch led by Battalion Chief Wells, Captain Moffatte, Firefighter First Class Neal, and team assistants Battalion Chief Connelly, Battalion Chief Barrett, and Captain Schmidt are dedicated to providing safety on large-scale public events in the fire district in the form of Incident Command System structure and fire/medical response.

Management Team members Battalion Chief Barrett and Captain Ian Moffatte also serve on the Town of Wake Forest Emergency Operations Planning Committee. The committee is currently working to finalize the towns Emergency Operations Plan.



### **Emergency Operations Plan**

The Emergency Management Team performed an audit and revised the Wake Forest Fire Department Emergency Operations Plan. The Emergency Management Team is working to merge the Town of Wake Forest and The Wake Forest Fire Department Emergency Operations Plans into one document to support ongoing emergency management for The Town of Wake Forest.

The Fire Department Survivability Branch led by Captain Moffatte is focused on assuring the fire department has the necessary resources to continuously serve the citizens during logistically trying times created by large-scale manmade or natural disasters. The Survivability Branch has stockpiled food, water, rehabilitation, and other resources that will allow the department to function for three to five days without any outside assistance.



## **Battalion Chief Matt Strawbridge**

### **C- Shift**

The Wake Forest Fire Department first identified the need for Swift/Flood Water Rescue around 2018. This type of emergency is a low frequency/high risk incident, which requires knowledgeable responders and specialized equipment to perform risk adverse rescues. Swift/Flood water response teams are a pertinent asset to any public safety organization and can be utilized for numerous types of water-related emergencies. Such water related emergencies can include surface water rescues, flood water rescues, swift water rescues, and search/recovery operations on or near various waterways. Due to our Town's geographical location to various bodies of water and the increased frequencies of large-scale disasters caused by hurricanes and other major flooding in our region, the techniques utilized by our Water Rescue Team are paramount to our emergency management efforts.



This past year members of the Water Rescue Team have continued to improve their skills and resources. Two team members went to the Indiana River Rescue School. This Rescue School is nationally recognized for their ability to provide first responder professionals with the skills and knowledge for real-world swift water rescues. Things included in class were boat operations, rope rescue systems, reaching rescue, swimming "go" rescues, search techniques and other important life-saving practices. These skills and experiences were brought back to our team and the tactics learned at this prestigious school can be seen in our emergency water response strategies. Other members have continued attending the 40-hr. Swift Flood Water Boat Rescue Operations (SFRBO) in the mountains of North Carolina on the Catawba River. Increasing our number of certified boat operators on our team. While some continue to focus on developing their skills, other team members have been attending a new series of classes offered by North Carolina Emergency Management. Such classes are Team Leader, Communications, Single Rope Rescuer, and the Emergency Management Academy.



## Special Teams and Programs

### Water Rescue Team

The blueprints of WFFD's Water Rescue Team began to take shape in early 2018. During this year countless man hours were conducted in research, planning, and implementation of specialized resources. A rigorous selection process was formulated, and additional training classes were offered to department members interested in establishing this specialized team. In 2019, thirty members of the WFFD were chosen to be a part of the Water Rescue Team. As additional training was offered in conjunction with additional resources, WFFD's Water Rescue Team was recognized as a level II state resource in 2020.



As a state level II resource, WFFD is tasked with not only responding to local water related emergencies, but they are also a part of a larger state-wide emergency response system. At the state level, swift/flood water rescue teams are incorporated into task forces and can be deployed to various regions within the state of North Carolina or across the United States. Teams are typically deployed to



assist other public agencies and communities who are suffering the effects of hurricanes or other large-scale flooding incidents. Our team is highly trained in navigating waterways like these that consist of debris and other items. During local emergency responses, team members are ideal to have on scene due to their ability to perform various high-risk rescues and their ability to effectively mitigate water rescue emergencies.

Currently WFFD's water rescue team is comprised of 30 members who are fully certified in Swift/Flood Water Rescue and outfitted with proper gear. The team currently has one flat bottom boat, two inflatable rescue boats, five outboard motors, one raft, two boat trailers, one enclosed rescue trailer, one remote operated vehicle (ROV) and three transportation vehicles. The Wake Forest Fire House #4 is fully comprised of water rescue team members, while all other remaining team members are strategically placed around numerous fire houses. One thing that does set our water rescue team apart from others is our underwater drone, properly referred to as a ROV. This engineering marvel allows us to safely search bodies of water without having to put divers at risk. This option is also a more cost-effective approach versus establishing a certified dive team.

### Fire Investigations Team

The Wake Forest Fire Department implemented a Fire Investigation Team in July 2011 to provide Origin and Cause Determination for the Town of Wake Forest and Wakette Fire District. We began our journey with only four members. This year we have improved the program utilizing a six-member team, investigator truck with compliment of equipment, and an Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine.



This year, long time Fire Investigator Captain Justin Brown obtained his Certified Fire Investigator Certification, with four other members awaiting the testing process to receive theirs. The Fire Investigative Team members are as follows: Captain Justin Brown CFI, Battalion Chief Jeremy Blake CFI, Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Marshall, Captain Bryan Wright, Captain Kyle Mangum, Lieutenant Jonathan Whitley, and new member Captain Stephen Driver. All members have dedicated much of their time, on and off duty, to provide origin and cause determination for WFFD and the training required to do so.



Over the course of this year our entire team has had the privilege to work beside some of the industry's best. Those agencies include Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives ATF, Office of State Fire Marshall Investigation Division OSFM, Wake County Fire Marshalls Office, Vance County Fire Marshalls Office, Durham City Fire Marshalls Office. Through this extensive networking, it has allowed us to attend some of the best training and work alongside some of the best agencies for one common goal. Our Company Officers and Fire Investigator Team has conducted 91 Cause and Origin Investigations since January 1, 2022.

The Fire Investigation Team was fortunate enough this year to add the first four-legged member our agency has ever had, Ignitable liquid detection Canine "Marshall". Marshall is a 3-year-old Labrador Retriever from Bogota Colombia. His function within our team and to teams across the state is to provide us with a resource of detecting ignitable liquids during fire cause and origin determination. He is also a unique and affective tool for fire prevention and public education. ILDC Marshall has conducted 5 ignitable liquid detection searches since becoming certified in July.



Marshall's handler is Battalion Chief Jeremy Blake CFI. Marshall is trained to the Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosive ATF standards. Both canine and handler have received over 400 hours of training and education in ILDC work. Marshall is trained on 12 different ignitable liquids that include 50% evaporated gas, 75% evaporated diesel, 75% evaporated kerosene, Light Petroleum Distillates, Medium Petroleum Distillates, Heavy Petroleum Distillates, Naphthenic/Paraffinic Products, Isoparaffinic Products, and Gasoline at 100% The basis for his training is in compliance with NFPA 921 and the ATF National Standard for Accelerant Detecting Dogs. Marshall has been certified as an Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine by Orchard Knoll Kennels, INC.





## Chaplain Program

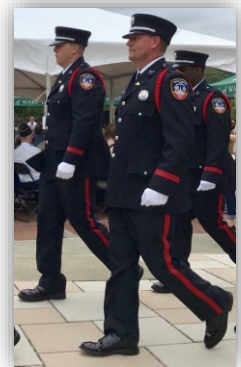
The Wake Forest Fire Department’s Chaplaincy Program is designed to provide access to Volunteer Fire Chaplains on a 24-hour basis and will offer spiritual guidance and assistance to meet the life needs of all personnel, volunteers, retirees, and members of the community, regardless of their religious affiliation. This allows the department to provide assistance utilizing a non-judgmental approach, while offering a healing or edifying word of counsel or encouragement when needed. The Fire Chaplains bring genuine compassion, flexibility, and sensitivity to the services provided.

The Fire Chaplains may be called upon to attend various employee functions, including funerals and weddings, and at times, they may be called upon to care for community victims and/or families impacted by fire or other emergencies. The Fire Chaplains may provide assistance in the personal matters of department employees, such as handling critical incident situations.

Fire Chaplains: Paul Eitel, Tommy Brown, Phil Cashwell

## Honor Guard

The Wake Forest Fire Department Honor Guard has continued to grow and improve since its creation. Each and every member past and present has worked to mold and shape the Honor Guard into what it is today. The member’s professionalism and dedication to the mission and purpose is unmatched by any other. Each member’s commitment to teamwork and attention to detail makes the team possible. Currently we have nine members on our team; some have joined the elite ranks of the National Honor Guard Academy Graduates. They can be spotted wearing their NHGA pins on their uniforms. We also are hoping to possibly put together a team to compete on a national level at FDIC. The Honor Guard is always looking to expand our capabilities through new membership. If anyone is interested in joining, please contact a member and let them know.



Honor Guard Members - Chris Kimley, John-Caleb Sadler, Robert Weatherford, Justin Alderman, Edward Eason, Chad Page, Stefan Hale, Taylor Cornelius, and Justin Mitchell, Scott Knowles, Dalmon Bailey, Ryan Lynn and Korey Floyd.

### Wake Forest Fire Department Honor Guard Mission Statement

*The mission of the Wake Forest Fire Department Honor Guard is to represent with honor our country, our community, our fire department, and all members of the brother hood past present and future, through a constant commitment to excellence, dedication, and service. The Honor Guard achieves this through constant training to better our craft through routine practices; commitment to our cause, our team, and to the families and members of those we honor; as we serve with discipline, pride, and integrity.*





## Explorer Program

Our Explorer program provides an opportunity to encourage, educate, and guide youth between the ages of 14-21 towards success in the fire service. The Explorers gain knowledge by participating and assisting staff both on and off the emergency scene. Our program has sent multiple youths to academies that have resulted in both full time and part time jobs.

The leaders of the Explorer group, with help from others within the department, have developed a training program and check off procedure that helps to ensure a more seamless transition from Explorer to Firefighter. If the participants in the program attend training and study, they should only have to pass a written exam and a practical skills evaluation to make the move to Firefighter once they have completed their Explorer training.

We have set a goal of 20 Explorers in the program; the current number of members is 10. We are working to prepare literature that explains what the department and the Explorer program has to offer. Once the literature is completed and approved, it will be distributed to the local schools and counselors.



Program coordinators are Lieutenant Tommy Brown, Firefighter Mark Rosetti, and Lieutenant Dennis Phipps.

## Aviation Program

The Wake Forest Fire Department Aviation Team continued to conduct training and operations. The coronavirus pandemic did create a challenging environment due to the close confines in the aircraft cabin. Flight operations were limited at times during the year. We flew a total of 37.4 hours in the airplane FIRE DEMON 1 conducting training and operations. Some of these flights were to assist NC DOT with aerial photography and assessments after storms.



We also conducted missing person on water training flights on Jordan Lake and had members of the Charlotte Fire Department on board and participating in the exercise. We also conducted orientation flights with local fire departments to introduce them to aviation and drone operations. Drone outreach efforts continue to public safety pilots around the world through articles, webinars, and educational classes. We continue to be a leader in educating public safety UAS pilots on how to fly safely and conduct safe operations.



Chief Cash, Captain Moffatte, and Volunteer Andrew Albert continue their role as Tactical Flight Officers to assist in aviation operations.

## Bike Team Program

On April 24, 2018, the Board of Directors approved the concept idea for the Wake Forest Bike Team, which was presented to them by Captain Timberlake and approved more research to be done on the project. Captain Timberlake, Captain Sadler, Lieutenant Hale, and FFFC Page began working on this project. After a month of research and speaking with departments that have existing bicycle programs, the information was brought back to the Board of Directors, on May 29, 2018, where the Board approved the bike team program.

The bike team members began ordering supplies and equipment to outfit the bicycles to provide the same level of care as any fire apparatus in the department. The bike team acquired two bicycles from the Wake Forest Police Department. On August 8, 2018, the bike team members attended an International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA) course in Wilmington, NC. The IPMBA course is a 32-hour course that requires members to navigate through rough terrain and through crowded public areas while carrying 50 lbs. of added weight to the bicycle.



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On March 2, 2019, the bicycle team attended its first event at Mardi Gras on White Street. We have had great interaction with the public events and have had many great interactions while out riding throughout the community as part of our conditioning and public relations. The fiscal year has been difficult for everyone because of the Covid-19 ordeal. The bike team has not been able to attend or participate in any public events. We have purchased two more bikes to help expand or coverage during events.



## Major Milestones in the Past Year

### July 1, 2022

Firefighters Ross Kingery and Justin Rimmer has been reclassified as Firefighter First Class.

### July 3, 2022

The Town of Wake Forest had its 51st Independence Day Celebration at Heritage High School's campus. WFFD participated in making sure the celebration was a success and the citizens were safe during the show.

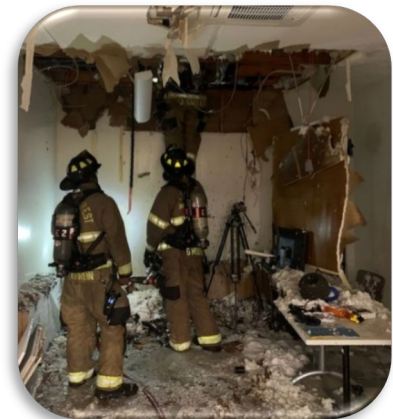
### July 4, 2022

Thanks to Food Lion for donating buns for our hotdog roast on July 4. The Wake Forest Fire Department will offer fun family activities at Art in the Park. In addition to the arts and crafts projects offered inside the Community House, we will be onsite grilling and serving free hotdogs, interacting with children and their families, and providing information on fire prevention and safety. Fire officials will also hand out a variety of giveaways, including plastic fire helmets, stickers, and more!



### July 6, 2022

Lightning strike at 8:43 p.m. the Wake Forest Fire Department was dispatched to a fire at the Northern Wake Senior Center, 235 E. Holding Ave. According to Wake Forest Fire officials, the fire was caused by a lightning strike. The facility was unoccupied at the time. Although several rooms and the ceiling were impacted by the fire and smoke, officials say the activation of the building's sprinkler suppression system limited the spread of the fire and prevented more extensive damage. Due to the damage, the center will be closed for the foreseeable future. There is no timetable for when it will reopen.



### July 8, 2022

This afternoon crews were dispatched to a structure fire in the 1600 block of Dodford Court with Rolesville Fire Department. Battalion 1 arrived on scene marking it a working fire with Rolesville Engine 152 having fire attack. Ladder 1 arrived and performed a primary search and Engine





1 stretched a line backing up 152's line. The fire is under investigation and there were no injuries reported.

**July 21, 2022**

WFFD participated in the Town's Citizen's Academy. The Wake Forest Citizen's Academy is a seven-week course designed to offer participants an educational and interactive experience on the workings of Town government.

The curriculum covers current Town programs, services, and procedures, and offers an inside look at several departments, including Public Works, Police, Fire, Communications, Finance, Planning, Engineering, Wake Forest Power, IT, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources, the Renaissance Centre, and Downtown Development.



The curriculum covers current Town programs, services, and procedures, and offers an inside look at several departments, including Public Works, Police, Fire, Communications, Finance, Planning, Engineering, Wake Forest Power, IT, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources, the Renaissance Centre, and Downtown Development.

**July 22, 2022**

WFFD received a certification letter stating that Chief Blake and "Marshall" are certified to begin working in fire scenes. To provide for an unbiased assessment of both Black and Marshall and validate our training, Jerry Webster was used to conduct the final test. The test given mirrors ATF and Connecticut State Police tests given to ensure that the team is ready for work! Blake and Marshall passed the test with flying colors!

**July 26, 2022**

Lieutenant Daniel Gregory was promoted to Captain and Master Firefighter Christopher Blackwell was promoted to Lieutenant.

**August 3, 2022**

Today marks the day that WFFD ended its centennial celebration.

**August 22, 2022**

This past Wednesday Chief Rodney Privette, the chief of Rolesville Fire Department, passed away at his home. Chief Privette served the Rolesville Fire Department since 1975 and was their Chief from 1992.

We as well as other departments from Wake County have provided coverage for Rolesville Fire this past week allowing for their members to have time to grieve. Our honor guard also assisted in Chief Privette's funeral and visitation over the weekend.





### August 27, 2022

This morning Engine 2, Ladder 2, and Battalion 1 were dispatched to a traffic accident with entrapment on Capital Boulevard at South Main Street. Crews arrived on scene to a 4-vehicle collision with one car pushed under a tractor trailer. One person was trapped in the car and crews removed the doors of the car to free the patient. The patient was transferred to EMS for transport to the hospital.



### August 30, 2022

Check out this great slideshow highlighting our Centennial Celebration! Thank you to everyone who celebrated with us over the past year!

### September 2, 2022

Our explorers received their new class flag on Wednesday, August 31st. Our explorers have designed the flag themselves and it will be a representation of the program for years to come. Our Explorer program provides an opportunity to encourage, educate, and guide youth between the ages of 14-21 towards success in the fire service.



### September 8, 2022

Firefighter First Class Melvin Wilsey has been promoted to Lieutenant.

### September 9, 2022

Effective Monday September 12, 2022, Captain Davis Sandling will be the fulltime Services Administrator. This is a position held previously by a Battalion Chief. Captain Sandling will keep his current rank as a Captain but will work in a B/C's position. For WFFD, this is a change in class not rank. This is done so that if he ever wants to go back out into suppression, he could do so without issues.

### September 11, 2022

Today we fly the Freedom Flag in remembrance of all those who perished 21 years ago on 9/11/01. Let us never forget. The Wake Forest Fire Department is partnering with The Freedom Flag Foundation hosting a 9/11 Anniversary Remembrance.

Open to the public, the ceremony will include the raising of the Freedom Flag, a display of steel from the World Trade Center, and a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. – the time the attacks began on September 11, 2001 - to remember those killed on that fateful day.

The Freedom Flag Foundation is a non-profit organization formed to establish the Freedom Flag as a national symbol of remembrance for September 11, 2001, and to support educational efforts of teaching



future generations about the tragic events and many lives lost on that date. It all started with a drawing on a napkin by a local Richmond, VA business owner in November 2001 and now is a national movement to educate our kids and to Never Forget.

### September 22, 2022

Today, the County Lines Whiskey Club donated a whiskey barrel to the Wake Forest Firefighters Association to be displayed in our fire museum. This barrel is to commemorate our 100-year anniversary from the past year. We are very thankful for their donation and support!

### September 24, 2022

Early Friday morning Engines 2 and 3 responded to a vehicle fire in the area of Burlington Mills Road and Deer Chase Trail. Engine 2 arrived on scene to a single vehicle heavily involved in fire from crashing into the trees. The driver was no longer on scene and there were no other occupants. Crews were able to quickly control the fire and there were no injuries at the scene of the crash.



### September 27, 2022

We will be putting in service tonight a Ladder truck that we have rented. It will go in service as Ladder 2.

### October 1, 2022

October is Fire Safety Month, so throughout the month we strive to raise fire safety awareness and ensure that everyone's home and family are protected. The Wake Forest Fire Department is proud to support this mission every year. Through our efforts in October 2021, we reached 867 citizens. These pictures capture several of our firefighters sharing fire safety messages at Franklin Academy.

### October 2, 2022

Starting Sunday October 2, we will have a new position in WFFD. Captain Justin Brown will be moving to the training Captain position. Since this is a new position, we will be developing new standards over the next couple of months. Please be patient and give Captain Brown your best effort into making this position work for all of us.



**October 3, 2022**

WFFD Engine 4 and Ladder 1 along with the WFFD Explorers participated in this year's National Night Out activities on Monday night.

**October 5, 2022**

This was the start of fire prevention week in the United States. Even though we may be busy with school visits during this time of year, we stay proactive throughout the year on fire prevention. This includes our puppet show, church visits, and even daily interactions with the public. Always remember to have a fire escape plan and to practice that with your family!

**October 6, 2022**

Engine 5's crew worked with the Explorers training them how to conduct a water supply operation.



**Oct 7, 2022**

Engine 5 went to Falls Lake to conduct some water training. The brought Boat 5 with them to get some additional training in.



**October 7-9, 2022**

We were invited to participate in the 2022 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, which will be held on the campus of the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland, on October 7-9, 2022. This special weekend will honor the service and sacrifice of 147 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2021 and in previous years. National Fallen Firefighters Foundation recognized Firefighter Lewis B. Nuckles passing as a line of duty death. He is the only member that has been considered LODD.

**October 10, 2022**

This past weekend the Tunnel to Towers Foundation run took place in Wake Forest. This run honors Stephen Siller, a New York City firefighter who lost his life on 9/11. On September 11, 2001, Stephen, who was assigned to Brooklyn's Squad 1, had just finished his shift and was on his way to play golf with his brothers when he got word over his scanner of a plane hitting the North Tower of the World Trade Center. He returned to Squad 1 to get his gear.

Stephen drove his truck to the entrance of the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, but it had already been closed for security purposes. Determined to carry out his duty, he strapped 60 lbs. of gear to his back, and raced on foot through the tunnel to the Twin Towers, where he gave up his life while saving others.







We had several members participate in the run as well as having our honor guard present the colors.

**October 12, 2022**

Engine Co. #1 arrived to find a working fire involving a tow truck next to a residential structure. Engine #1 quickly extinguished the fire that started in the engine compartment and spread to the cab of the vehicle. No nearby structures were damaged.



**October 18, 2022**

Last week we had several members complete Breathing School in Gaston County. The school teaches firefighters how to save themselves and their fellow firefighters in "maydays," a situation when a firefighter is in imminent danger and in need of immediate rescue. This is a very physically demanding course that pushes firefighters during the training. This training is so valuable that we send members twice a year to complete this course.



Congrats to these firefighters for completing the course!

**November 1-30, 2022**

The Wake Forest Fire Department (WFFD) is celebrating Veterans Day and honoring local veterans by selling custom "Wake Forest Fire Supports our Veterans & Troops" T-shirts with camouflage lettering for \$25 each. All proceeds from T-shirt sales will be donated to VFW Post 8466.

Designed by veterans in the WFFD, the tan-colored T-shirts display the American flag on the left sleeve, the WFFD motto "Saving Lives Our Prime Goal" on the right sleeve, and the logo of each service branch on the back. All Wake Forest fire personnel and staff will wear these special T-shirts throughout November.



**November 3, 2022**

Members of our apparatus committee as well as the Lieutenants of Engine 2 have completed the midterm of Engine 2 at Rosenbauer. This engine is very similar to how Engine 1 is designed with some minor changes. We look





forward to having this truck delivered to us in the near future.

**November 7, 2022**

Congratulations to those that completed FFFC School: Glenn Ebron, Korey Floyd, Zackary Helms, Robert Mitchell, Alex Murray, Daylon Pinkus, Casey Shoe, Matthew Smith

**November 10, 2022**

The Wake Forest Fire Department once again participated in the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program during the holiday season.

**November 11, 2022**

WFFD participated in the Veterans Day service held at the WF veteran's memorial and displayed the large flag during the ceremony.

**November 15, 2022**



Today, Engines 1 and 2, Ladder 2, and Battalion 1 were dispatched to a vehicle fire on Amherst Creek Drive. Ladder 2 arrived on scene to a working vehicle fire and started fire attack with a water can. Engine 1 arrived on scene and finished extinguishing the fire with a hand line. There were no injuries and crews were able to quickly return to service.

**November 20, 2022**

It is that time of the year again for us to do the Cook at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. This year will be back to the normal with all kids eating in the cafeteria. They are almost full capacity. We need some help with this good cause. We will meet at Station 1 and leave around 1:15. We will start serving at P.M. and should be finished around P.M. and headed back.

**November 26, 2022**

Anthony (Tony) Bryant Mauldin, 60, Town of Fuquay-Varina Fire Chief, passed away peacefully at his home. Tony's passion for the fire department started at an early age, spending many hours at the station with his daddy. His service to the community began when he joined the Fuquay-Varina Rural Fire Department in 1990 as a volunteer firefighter. Falling in love with serving his hometown community, he became the first career Fire Captain hired by the Rural Department in 1993. He was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief after merging with the Town of Fuquay-Varina in 1999 and appointed Fire Chief for the Town of Fuquay-Varina Fire Department in 2002, serving faithfully in that role until his death.



Tony was very active in the Wake County Fire Service throughout his career, serving on many committees, including the Wake County Fire Commission. He served as a model of hard work, integrity, and dedication to the fire service.

**December 2, 2022**

Congratulations to: Robert Mitchell, Daylon Pinkus, Sam Scales, Korey Floyd, Zachary Helms, Casey Shoe, Matthew Smith. These guys have successfully completed Wake Forest Fire Department TDA School.



**December 6, 2022**

This afternoon the crew on Ladder 1 were called to help a cat that was stuck in a tree. Crews utilized a ground ladder to rescue the cat from the tree. We focus on Saving Lives, Our Prime Goal and that also includes pets which we know are members of your family.

**December 14, 2022**

All new Scott Air-Pak's and RIT Pak's have been purchased to allow all companies to be using the same packs as well as be under the same standard of Air-Pak. A RIT Pak is a piece of equipment used to deliver a downed firefighter air if they are trapped or have run out of air in a structure fire. In total 50 Air-Pak's and 7 RIT Pak's were ordered by the department. Crews will train on the new pieces of equipment over the next several weeks before they are placed into service.



**December 15, 2022**

The Wake Forest Fire Department Honor Guard had the privilege of presenting the colors at the Carolina Hurricanes game before they took on the Seattle Krackens. The Honor Guard is used in events across the state and county to present the colors as well as funeral details.

**December 17, 18, 19, 2022**

Once again, this year, WFFD hosted the "Shop with a Firefighter" event at the Walmart in Wake Forest. Twelve children in need, all from Wake Forest, were given \$250 each to spend on gifts for themselves and family members. This is a great event that our department looks forward to each year. Due to the Covid concerns still being around, we had worked closely with the police department to try and mimic their plans for still holding their tradition as well. This year encompassed variations to our great shop



with a firefighter. It required each of us to have patience, understanding, and a strong focus on making a child's day during the Christmas season.

**January 1, 2023**

Effective today, the following personnel have been reclassified; Master Fighter: Sam Coleman, Justin Michell, and Jonathan Mestas. Firefighter First Class: Casey Shoe, Glen Ebron, Daylon Pinkus, Zack Helms, Korey Floyd, Alex Murray, Matt Smith, and Robert Mitchell.

**January 13, 2023**

Yesterday afternoon Engine 4 was dispatched to an outside fire in the 800 block of Stackhurst Way. While enroute to the call Raleigh Dispatch were receiving multiple calls stating that the outside fire spread to a home and was catching the siding on fire. This upgraded the assignment bringing a full structure fire response of 4 engines, 1 ladder, and the battalion chief. Engine 4 arrived at a house involved in fire and was able to quickly control the fire with minimum extension into the attic of the home.



**January 15, 2023**

WFFD acquired a new 2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 that will be used by Battalion 1.

**January 22, 2023**

Effective today, the following have been promoted:

Lieutenants Martin Barrett and Jonathan Whitley have been promoted to Captains. Firefighter First Class Paul Bauer and Master Firefighter Jonathan Mestas have been promoted to Lieutenants.

**January 28, 2023**

Our 2022 end of year video was published. This video highlights some of our major events and calls throughout last year.

**February 2, 2023**

The 50 new air packs have been put in service.

**February 6, 2023**

Part-time Captain Rich Moore has been hired as a fulltime Captain.





### February 6, 2023

This morning Engine 2, Ladder 2 and Battalion 1 were dispatched to a vehicle fire across from Wegmans on Dr. Calvin Jones Highway. Crews arrived to find a working vehicle fire. Engine 2 attacked the fire and Ladder 2 cut the hood open to gain access to the fire. Crews were able to quickly control the fire and there were no injuries.

### February 7, 2023

The Wake Forest Fire Department did not hold a 2022 Awards and Promotion Ceremony this year. The Awards committee were able to put together information on what our members accomplished. For the year 2022, we had 2 educational awards (1 Associates, 1 Bachelors), several Service Awards that recognized their service to WFFD. Congrats to this year's 2022 awards; Jimmy B Keith – Ben Davis and the Citizen Commendation Award went to Jesse Kurtz, Brotherhood award went to Jeff Putnam, Tony Lamberti, and Steven Haag.

### February 15, 2023

WFFD acquired a new 2022 Dodge Ram 1500 that will be used by our accreditation officer.



### March 2, 2023

The Wake Forest Fire Department hosted a Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) Drill that included our surrounding agencies. This day was our A-Shift drill day and the first of three total days. It was a good day of training, and the Wake Forest Fire Department

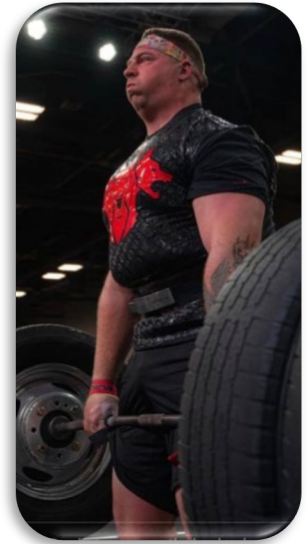


would like to thank all agencies for their involvement so far and we look forward to the next two training days. For those of you that do not know a RIT is a designated crew that will serve as a stand-by rescue team for personnel and be available for the immediate search and rescue of any missing, trapped, injured or unaccounted for firefighter(s). Thanks to Jim Schwenk for all his hard work and to Wake Technical Community College Fire Services for their support.



### March 7, 2023

This past weekend one of our own Firefighter First Class Casey Shoe participated in the 2023 World’s Strongest Firefighter competition at the Arnold Sports Festival. Shoe competed in eight different events over 2 days earning him the spot of 8th strongest firefighter in world.



### March 9, 2023

Day 2 of 3 of our mutual aid RIT training. C-Shift personnel from Wake Forest, Raleigh, Northern Wake, Rolesville and Youngsville came together for a multi-agency RIT training yesterday. We appreciate everyone’s hard work and participation.

### March 23, 2023

Today, members from Wake Forest Fire Department, Raleigh Fire Department and Rolesville Fire Department participated in our final RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) Drill Scenario. This was the final day of a three-day series that included all three shifts (A, B & C). Over the three days of training, over 180 firefighters went through a vigorous training exercise that simulated a structural collapse with firefighters trapped inside. These crews entered the building as Rapid Intervention Teams and rescued the firefighters that were in need. The Wake Forest Fire Department Training Division would like to thank all the organizations that participated in the three days of specialty training.



### March 24, 2023

1st Day of our Brotherhood Seminar is in the books. This is a great opportunity to firefighters from both Wake Forest and other departments to come and learn about the job. This is the 5th Annual Brotherhood Seminar.

2023 5th ANNUAL  
**Brotherhood Seminar**  
 FEATURING CHIEF CLYDE GORDON, HOUSTON (TX) FD  
 FRIDAY MARCH 24TH 1 pm - 4 pm  
 SATURDAY MARCH 25TH 9 am - 4 pm  
 WAKE FOREST FIRE DEPARTMENT

### April 1, 2023

April is Autism Awareness/Acceptance Month, and the Fire Department was doing our part to help educate the public. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) refers to a group of developmental disabilities that



are typically associated with challenges of varying severity in the areas of social interaction, communication, and repetitive/restricted behaviors. Autism is a brain disorder that typically appears during the first three years of life. 1 in 44 children may be diagnosed with Autism nationally and 40,000+ individuals and their families receive direct services annually in NC. If you have any questions about ASD or just wish to speak to someone with firsthand knowledge, feel free to stop by Station 1 (420 Elm Ave) or call 919-761-4009 to speak with Fire Chief Ron Early during business hours. Saturday April 2nd was Wear Blue for Autism Day. You also seen our Fire Chief, Ron Early, driving around with a special decal of awareness on his vehicle.



April is World Autism Month and throughout it we will be educating and highlighting organizations that offer assistance and awareness. Stop by our Fire Station 1 (420 Elm Ave) and see our specially painted hydrant and keep a lookout for our various posts and messages.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex, lifelong developmental condition that typically appears during early childhood and can impact a person’s social skills, communication, relationships, and self-regulation. The Autism experience is different for everyone. It is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is often referred to as a “spectrum condition” that affects people differently and to varying degrees.

### April 3, 2023

Recruit Class 1023 begins this morning. This will be a 4 Week Recruit School in which the 3 new hires will be tested on their physical and mental capabilities as well as on their job knowledge and skill set. The recruits will be training with various companies during their school in order to learn the WFFD standard.



### April 7, 2023

Ladder 1 A shift attended the live fire forcible entry class hosted by truck company ops on Wednesday. Crews



performed conventional forcible entry under fire conditions, thru the lock, and saw work as well.

### April 10, 2023

On Saturday evening Engine 3 and Ladder 2 were requested by Rolesville Fire Department to a vehicle accident on Rogers Road with two patients trapped in two separate vehicles. Crews assisted Rolesville Fire in a door pop and a roof removal to free the patients.



Early Monday morning Engine 1, Ladder 1, and Battalion 1 were dispatched to a vehicle accident at South Main Street and Dr Calvin Jones. Crews arrived to find one patient entrapped in the car. Firefighters from Ladder 1 performed a door pop to free the patient.

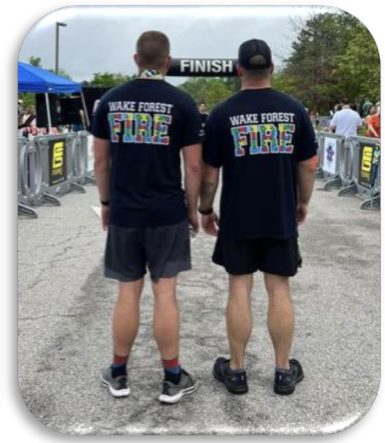
**April 14, 2023**

On Wednesday afternoon Engine 3 and Ladder 2 were dispatched to a traffic accident on Rogers Road. Engine 3 arrived to find a vehicle that went through a fence dangling over a retention pond. Ladder 2 stabilized the vehicle to prevent it from tipping into the pond.



**April 15, 2023**

This morning two of our firefighters completed the first ever Wake Forest Historical Half Marathon. Firefighters Scott Knowles and Will Florence both ran the race in just over 2 hours and 8 minutes. They also represented Autism Awareness month by wearing our Autism support shirts.



**April 28, 2023**

We fight fires in the rain, and we certainly fry fish in the rain. The fish will be frying from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. – or until all the plates are sold. You can eat in or get drive thru takeout at Fire Station #1, 420 Elm Ave.



Each fish plate will include generous portions of fried flounder, boiled potatoes, coleslaw, and hush puppies. Plates are

\$10 each and available while supplies last. Cash, check, and credit card accepted.

A special part of this year's Fish Fry will be a food drive to benefit the Tri-Area Ministry Food Pantry. Throughout the day, the WFFD will collect non-perishable food items to help feed hungry people in our community. Fish fry proceeds benefited the Wake Forest Firefighters Foundation. Formed in 2020 following the merger of the WFFD and the Town of Wake Forest, the foundation endeavors to support the needs of WFFD firefighters and their families while also contributing to the community.







Local programs/initiatives supported by the foundation include:

- Camp Celebrate which hosts and celebrates pediatric burn victim survivors and their families. The camp is organized by the NC Jaycee Burn Center.
- Annual cookout for children at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford, NC.
- Annual "Shop with a Firefighter" event at Christmas for less fortunate children.
- Hosting a child to attend camp at the YMCA.
- On-scene support and rehab by the Ladies Auxiliary
- Providing funds to members facing financial hardships.



**May 1, 2023**

Wow! Thank you to everyone who came out to our Fish Fry and participated in the food drive for [Tri-Area Ministry Food Pantry](#). We collected approximately 750 pounds of food! May 6, 2023

**May 3, 2023**



WFFD sent out surveys to all the members asking for suggestions on a new graphics design on all of our vehicles. On this date it was approved and sent out to the members.

**May 3, 2023**

On Monday evening Engine 5, Ladder 2, and

Battalion 2 were dispatched to a fire alarm on River Hill Dr. While enroute the call was upgraded to an explosion with the homeowner stating there was an explosion under the house which added multiple more units to the call. Engine 5 arrived on scene with smoke showing from a home marking a working fire. Engine 5 and Northern Wake had fire attack in the crawl space of the home and Ladder 2 conducted a search. The explosion was caused by a gas leak and the cause is under further investigation. Fortunately, there were no injuries.





**May 5, 2023**

Today marks the end of Recruit Class 1023's 1st week at WFFD. The class has had to endure vigorous PT and job knowledge training in their journey to graduation. They will continue to learn the WFFD way during their Recruit School.



**May 6, 2023**

Yesterday morning Ladder 2 responded with Raleigh Fire to a traffic accident on Capital Boulevard near Caveness Farm Avenue. Raleigh Engine 25 arrived on scene to a two-vehicle crash with one vehicle on its side with three patients still inside. Ladder 2 arrived and stabilized the vehicle and performed a roof flap to free the patients from the vehicle. The patients were handed off to EMS for treatment and transported to the hospital.



**May 6, 2023**



We enjoyed seeing everyone out at Meet in the Street today! Fire crews showed off Engine 2, had our fire prevention slide, as well as handed out fire prevention handouts that were given out yesterday during the event.



**May 7, 2023**

This afternoon Ladder 2 Engine 3 and Battalion 1 were dispatched to a traffic accident at the intersection of Burlington Mills Road and Urial Drive. Ladder 2 arrived at a two-vehicle accident with one patient still trapped in the vehicle. Ladder 2 quickly performed a door pop to free the patient and Engine 3 handled patient care.





**May 8, 2023**

Please help us welcome three new Firefighters to our team: Garrett Joyner, Jack Lilienthal, Jacob Sessoms.

**May 9-10, 2023**

This year, the Training Division is bringing a Company Officer Level training opportunity to our own doorstep. The Brave Fire Leader Conference will provide a great opportunity for our Company Officers and Chief Officers to learn more about critical leadership skills like communications, ethics, setting expectations, dealing with generational differences, legal issues, meeting skills, etc. These topics include some skills needed in Fire Service leadership and are seldom taught. This course will provide practical applications and tools for supervisors and leaders, not just theory that so many classes focus on.

**May 12, 2023**

Recently Station 2 received a custom made whiskey barrel with Station 2's logo on it made by The Whiskey Workshop to be displayed at Station 2. The barrel was acquired from the County Lines Whiskey Club - CLWC by the Wake Forest Firefighters Foundation.



**May 18, 2023**

WFFD seeking donations of money, labor & materials to restore fire safety trailer.

The Wake Forest Fire Department (WFFD) is asking for the community's help renovating and restoring a "Smoke Trailer" used to teach children important lessons about the dangers of fires, how to prevent them, and ways to escape a burning home.

Donations of money, labor, and materials are needed to renovate and upfit the trailer, so it functions as a mobile classroom.

Once the renovations are completed, the Smoke Trailer will be used at schools, camps, and community events to teach kids what to do if a fire breaks out at home. The unit will be specially equipped with appliances, smoke machines, and heaters that can create conditions mimicking the signs of danger.



"Fire education and prevention are cornerstones of our operations," said Firefighter Glenn Ebron. "We're excited to partner with our community to renovate the Smoke Trailer and make our mobile classroom a reality."

All contributors will be recognized on the exterior of the trailer and on the WFFD website.

**May 28, 2023**

Alton Medlin, Glenn Ebron, Alex Murray, and Steven Haag are TDA School Graduates. Congrats guys.



### June 6, 2023

We were honored to attend the Rolesville Fire Department 65th Anniversary Celebration this past Saturday, June 3!

During the celebration, we showcased our commitment to community engagement and safety, while also offering children the opportunity to play in our bounce house. We were honored to participate and demonstrate our deep admiration for the Rolesville Fire Department and what they have accomplished over the past 65 years. The event provided a great opportunity to engage with the community and strengthen the bonds between our departments.

Congratulations Rolesville Fire Department!

### June 8, 2023

Wake Forest Fire Department and Wake Forest Police Department Training staff hosted an Active Shooter Round Table discussion. Many instances have occurred over the past few years in which this very thing has happened in or around North Carolina. We need to be prepared for this type of incident; it is not if but when this will happen in our back yard.

### June 19, 2023

On Saturday Engine 2 and our Fire Life Safety Committee participated in Wake Forest Police's Touch a Truck event which proceeds benefiting Special Olympics of NC. Crews established a landing zone for UNC Air Care as well as set up a truck and other fire prevention activities.



### June 26, 2023

Wake Forest Public Safety camp is off to a great start!! This week, the Wake Forest Fire Department along with the Wake Forest Police Department hosted the 2nd Annual Public Safety Camp. During the three-day camp, participants were introduced to basic CPR, fire extinguisher training, the jaws of life rescue tool, the ladder truck, which was raised to 100 feet, our under-water rover, fire hose techniques, and a firefighter agility test.





## **June 30, 2023**

Below are a few brief stats for fiscal year 2023.

### Incident Counts

Total incidents were 5,477, This is a 7% jump from last years (FY 22) total and a 27% jump from two years ago (FY 21).

### Training

Last fiscal year (FY 22) we had a total of 28,249 hours of training, and this year (FY 23) we hit 42,412 hours of training. That's a difference of 14,163 hours and a 50.1% increase in training hours.

### Station Totals

Station 1 - 2018

Station 2 - 1195

Station 3 - 891

Station 4 - 972

Station 5 - 401

### Unit Totals

Bat 1 – 1224

Bat 2 - 266

E1 – 1741

L1 – 983

E2 – 1176

L2 – 877

E3 – 1019

E4 – 1070

E5 – 423

### Shift Totals

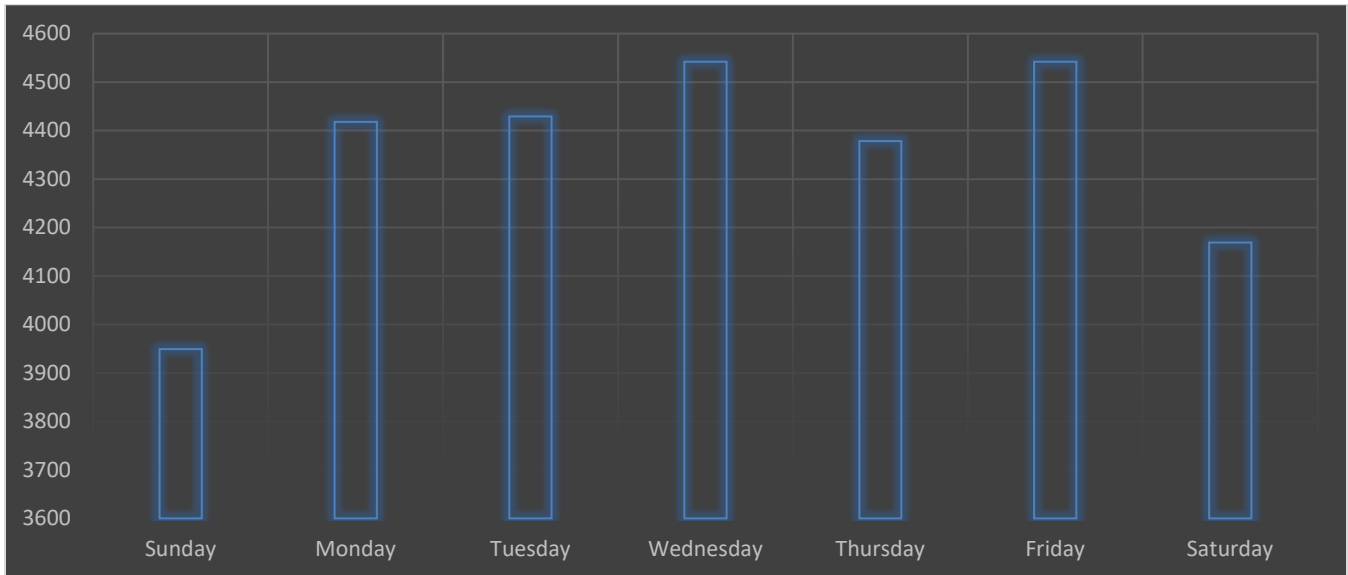
A – Shift = 1784

B – Shift = 1880

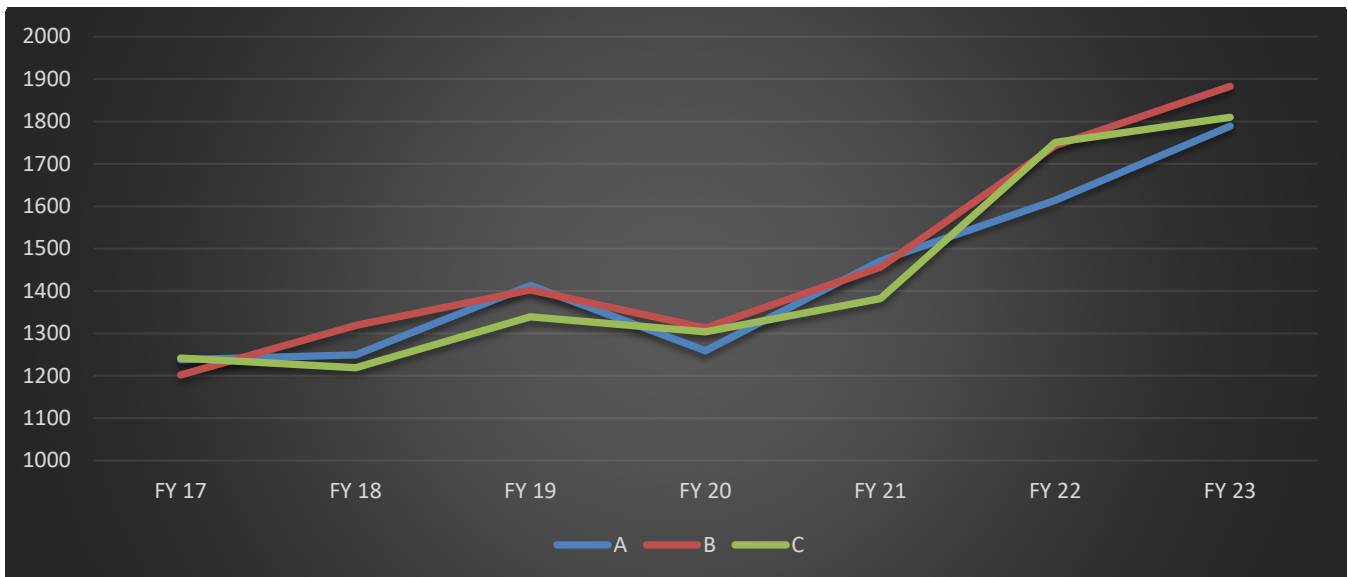
C – Shift = 1813



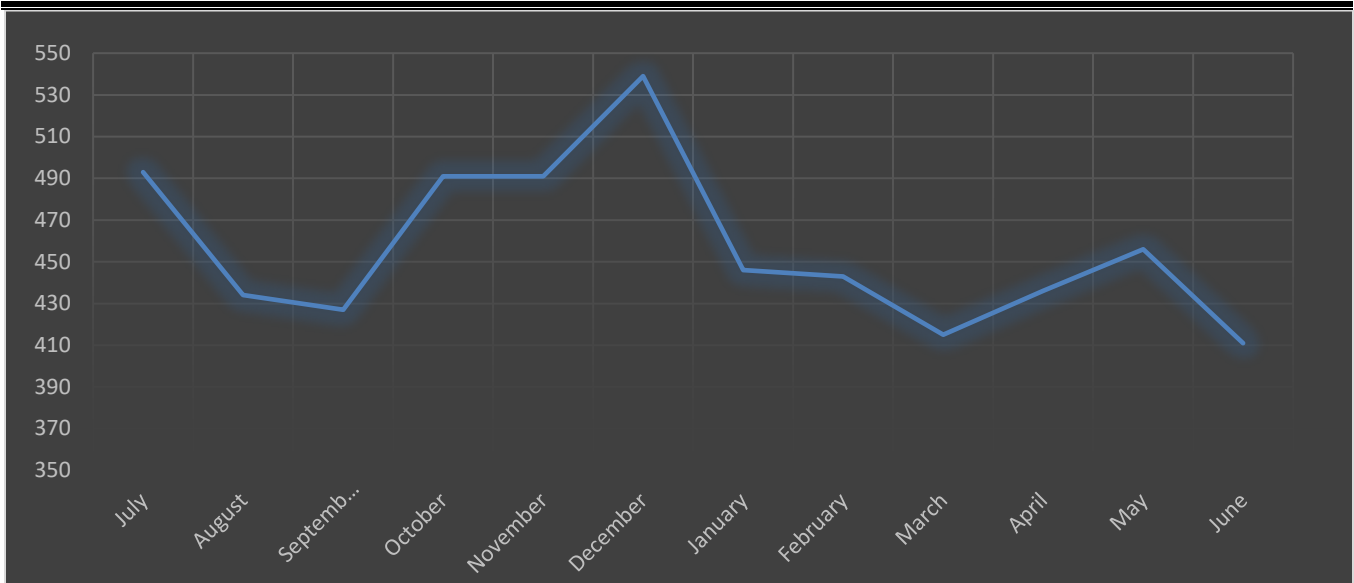
## Fiscal Year 2023 Stats



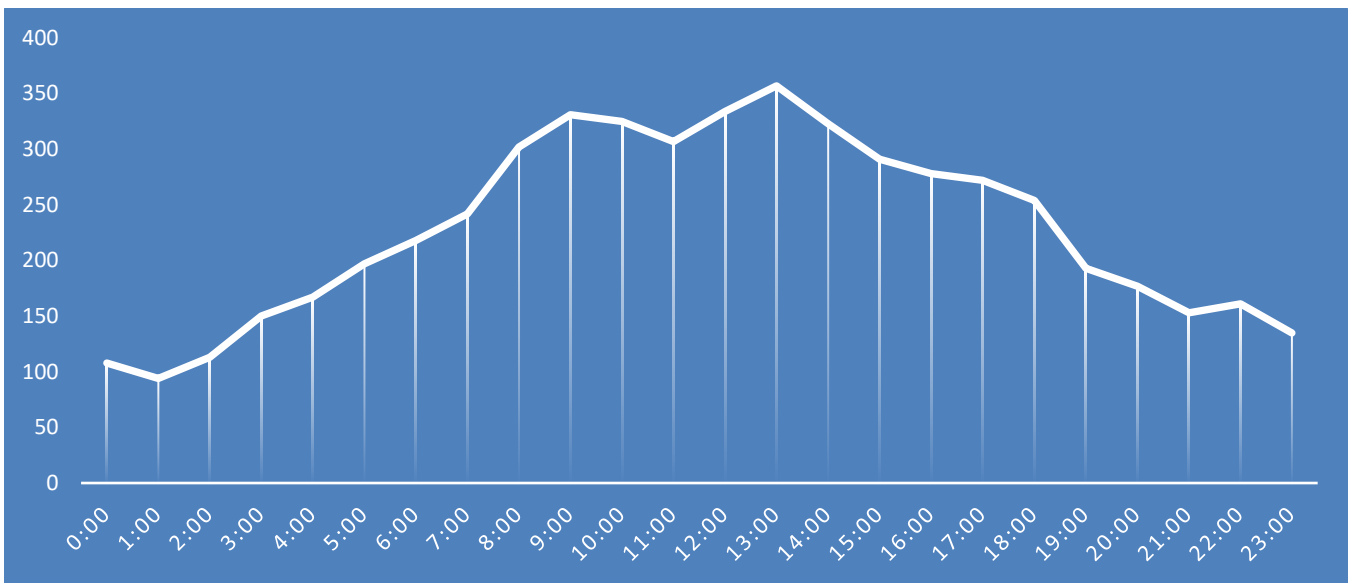
*The above graph reflects total calls for each day of the week over the last seven fiscal years.*



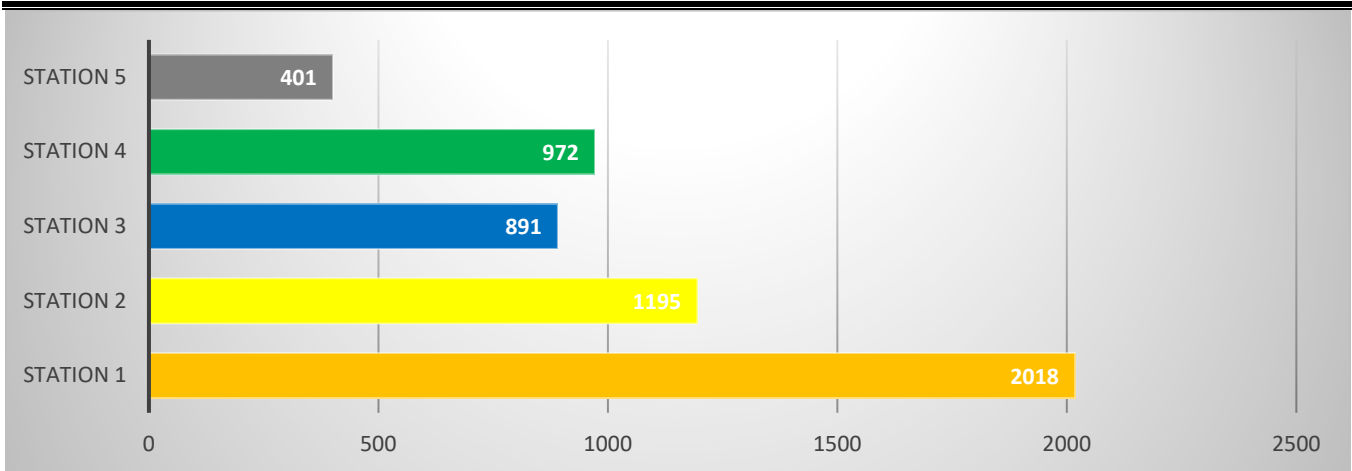
*The above graph reflects total calls for each shift over the last 7 fiscal years.*



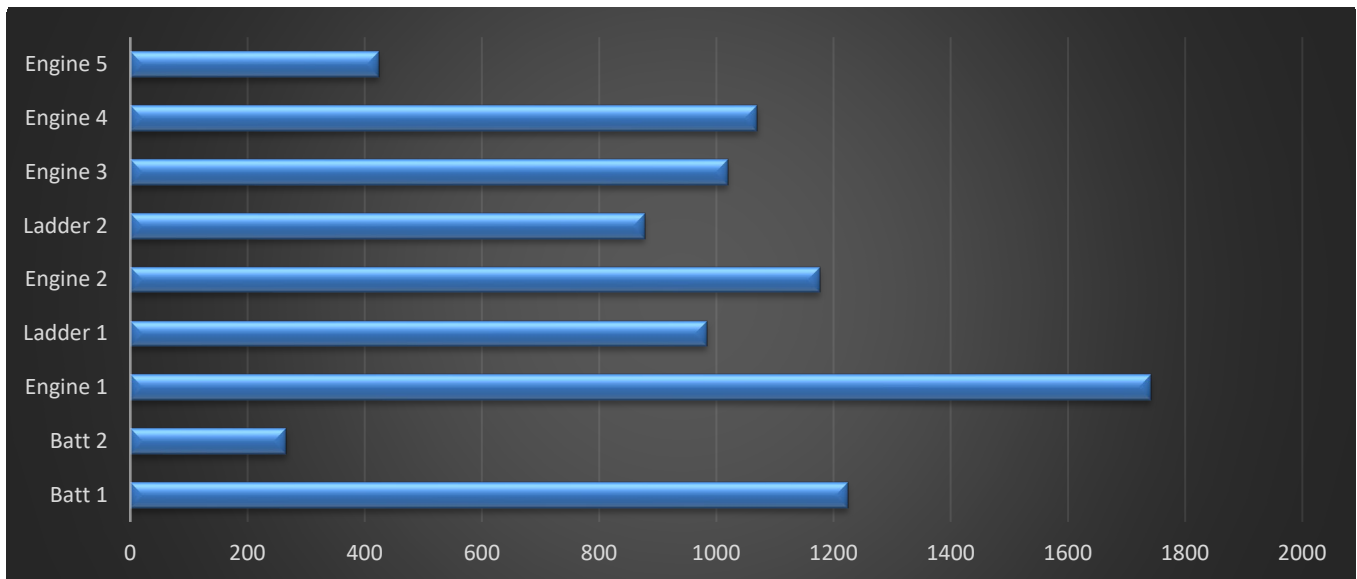
*The above graphs reflects how many incidents occurred per month for fiscal year 2023.*



*The above graph reflects incidents by time of the day for fiscal year 2023.*

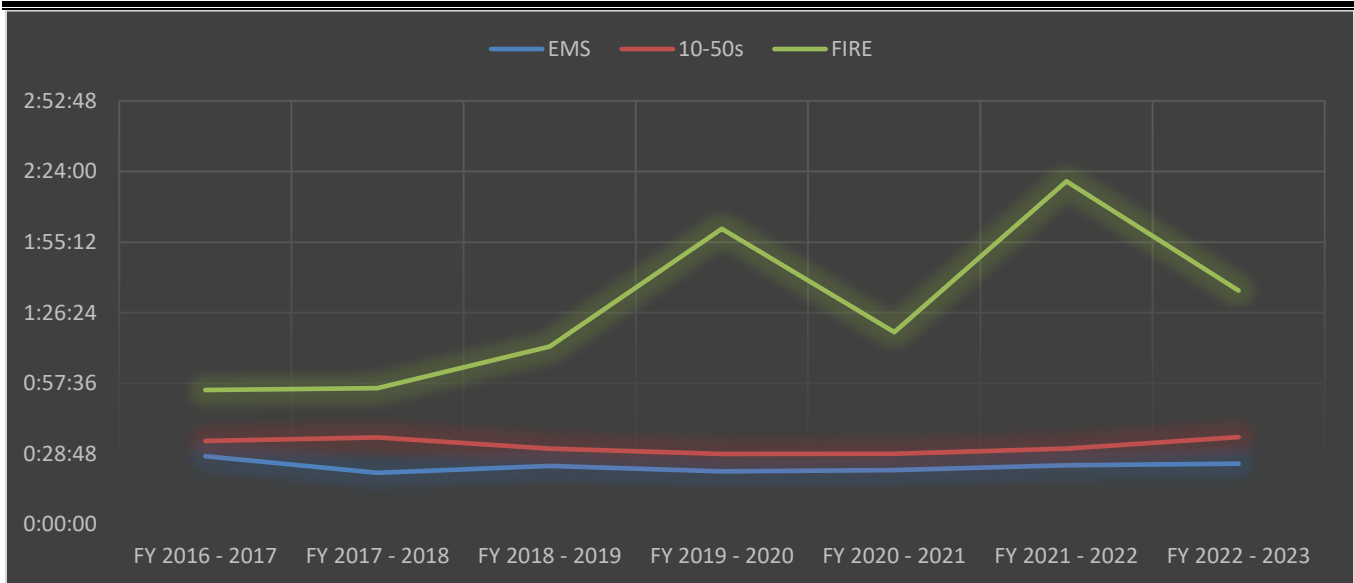


*The above graph reflects how many incidents per station for fiscal year 2023.*

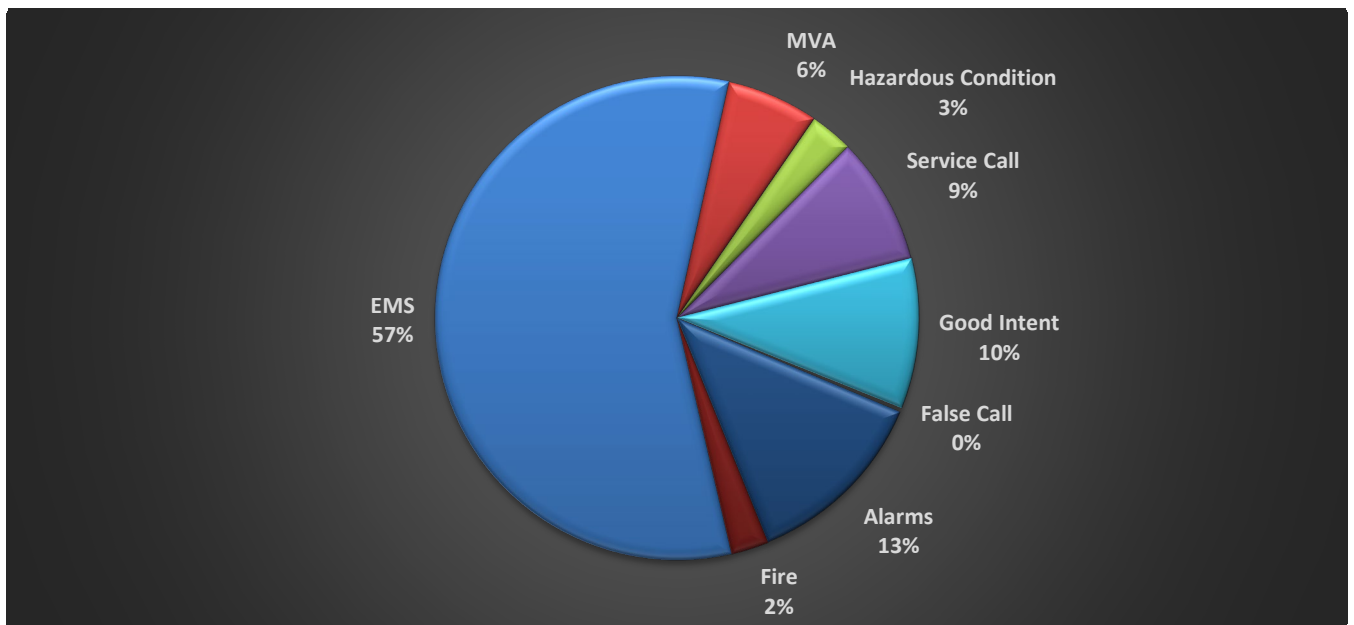


*The above graph reflects calls per first out apparatus for fiscal year 2023.*





The above graph reflects the average on scene time for each response category for fiscal year 2023.



The above graph reflects incidents by call type for fiscal year 2023.



**July 15, 2023**

WFFD acquired two used black Tahoe's that were used by the police. They will be utilized by the training cadre for the upcoming recruit academy.



**July 16, 2023**

This morning Engine 4 and Ladder 1 responded along with Raleigh USAR to assist Brassfield Volunteer Fire Department in Granville County for a donkey stuck in a sink hole. Crews from all agencies worked together to create a lifting system to pull the donkey out of the hole.

We are happy to report that crews were able to save "Dora" the donkey who suffered no injuries.

**August 1, 2023**

WFFD acquired a new 2023 Ford F350 dually to pull some of our heavier trailers and equipment.



**August 7, 2023**

Our new Engine 2 is getting closer to be placed in service. We have installed mounts for equipment and had the graphics installed as well. This is also a new graphics design that we will be phasing into our fleet. Members of the department were able to have input in selecting the design of the graphics to give the truck this new look. The engine will be on display at SAFRE this week and will soon be placed in service.



**August 18, 2023**

Over the past few days our crews have ran two serious crashes.

On Wednesday evening Engine and Ladder 2 and Battalion 1 responded to the intersection of Capital



Boulevard and South Main Street for a crash. Crews found a two-car crash with heavy damage causing northbound Capital and Falls of Neuse to be closed for a time.



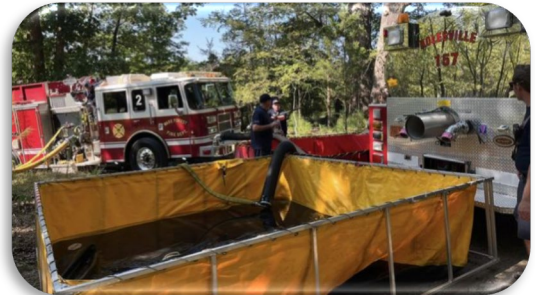
Thursday evening Engine, Ladder, and Battalion 1 responded to 98 and South Main Street for a crash. Crews found a multiple vehicle crash with heavy damage. EMS transported several patients from both crashes to local hospitals for treatment.

**August 20, 2023**

Yesterday afternoon crews from Station 2 conducted a rural water supply drill for homes off of Old Crawford Road. This is an area with large homes, no hydrants, and only one way in and out. This makes operations more difficult for supplying water, however, we are committed to having a plan and being prepared for the worst-case scenario.

Crews supplied Ladder 2 with water which flowed 500 gallons per minute for over 30 minutes.

We would like to Wake New Hope Fire Department, Northern Wake Fire Department, and Rolesville Fire Department for supplying tankers and crews to assist us in the drill.



**August 23, 2023**

Yesterday afternoon crews were alerted to a residential structure fire called in by Wake Forest Police on E Jones Avenue. Engine 1 arrived on scene with fire showing from the rear of the home and made an aggressive interior attack and Ladder 1 searched the home. Additional crews arrived and put a second line in operation and assisted in fire attack and searches. Crews were able to quickly control the fire with no injuries. This was a vacant home, and the cause is still under investigation.

**August 23, 2023**



Yesterday evening Engine 1, Ladder 2, and Battalion 1 were dispatched to the 1500 block of South Main Street for a traffic accident. Engine 1 arrived on scene to a two-car crash with one vehicle on its side with the driver still inside. Crews removed the windshield to gain access and to free the patient. After patient care was transferred to Wake



County EMS crews used our Hurst equipment to separate the cars from each other. This allowed for the vehicles to be cleared out from S Main, allowing it to be opened sooner.



### August 27, 2023

Late last night crews were dispatched to a possible structure fire in the 1000 block of Blykeford Lane. Engine 4 arrived on scene with smoke showing from the residence marking it a working fire. Crews were able to quickly control the fire with one line and searches were negative.

### September 2, 2023

Last night crews from Station 1 assisted Youngsville Fire with two separate structure fires. As Engine 1 was clearing the first fire they responded to an apartment fire and arrived with smoke showing on the second floor marking it a working fire. Engine 1 stretched a 1 3/4 quarter line and also completed a primary search. The fire was quickly controlled in the kitchen and there were no injuries.



### September 4, 2023

Last week we sent two of our swift water rescue personnel to Charlotte for their 2023 Annual Disaster Communications School. During this school they completed the Communications Technician (COMT) course

and were able to train with professionals from all over the state.

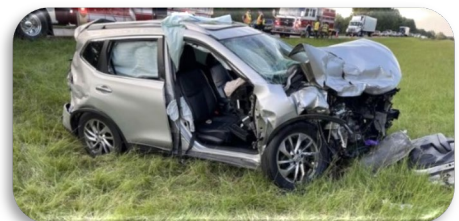


### September 5, 2023

Late Sunday night Engine and Ladder 2 and battalion 1 were dispatched to a traffic accident at Burlington Mills Road and Trophy Trail. Crews arrived on scene to find a single vehicle on its side with a patient still inside. Ladder 2 stabilized the vehicle and cut the windshield out to free the patient. The patient was handed over to EMS for treatment and transport to the hospital.

### September 6, 2023

Yesterday afternoon Engine 4, Ladder 1, and Battalion 1 were dispatched to Capital Boulevard at Durham Road for a traffic accident. Engine 4 arrived on scene to a three-car crash with one on its side and two patients trapped in a separate vehicle. Ladder 1 arrived and removed the driver's and passenger's door to free the patients. Patient care was transferred to Wake County EMS who transported the patients to the hospital.





**September 8, 2023**

Yesterday morning Engine, Ladder, and Battalion 1 were dispatched to 98 and Jones Dairy Road for a traffic accident. Crews arrived on scene to a single trash truck on its side with the driver out of the vehicle. The driver was transported to the hospital with minor injuries.



**September 8, 2023**

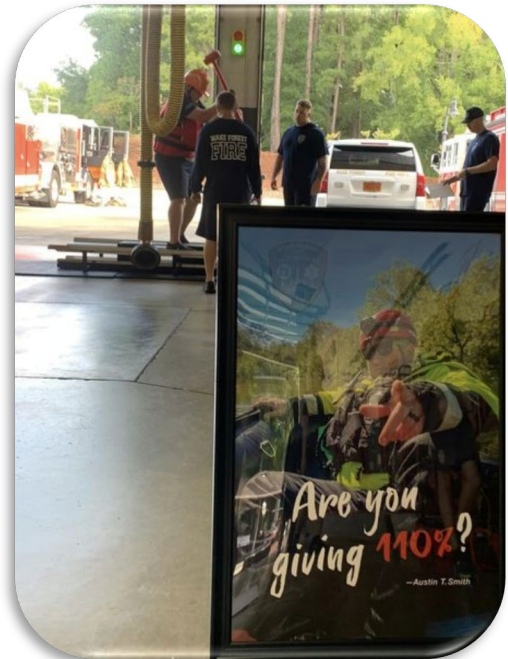
Last night Engines 3 and 2 and Ladder 2 responded with Rolesville Fire Department to a structure fire on Trommel Court. Engine 3 arrived on scene to a shed on fire and started fire attack and was assisted in fire attack by Rolesville Fire. Engine and Ladder 2 assisted in overhaul and the fire was quickly placed under control.

**September 13, 2023**

Today started our annual fire ground endurance assessment that is completed by all suppression personnel from the Fire Chief down. This test is done to ensure our firefighters are healthy and are prepared physically for the fire ground. One of the benefits as well of being a Wake Forest Firefighter is the opportunity to earn extra money based on the time the test is completed.

Firefighters this year have some extra motivation to complete the test in a good time. A poster of Firefighter First Class Austin Smith with the saying “Are You Giving 110%?” is in view as members are taking the test. Found in Austin’s locker was a list of his company’s expectations and on the top of the page Austin wrote “Give 110%”. This is something that Austin truly lived by including when he did his fire ground assessment. Austin was consistently one of the top times of the department each year.

This poster is also hanging up in every Wake Forest Fire Station to motivate us each day to give 110%.



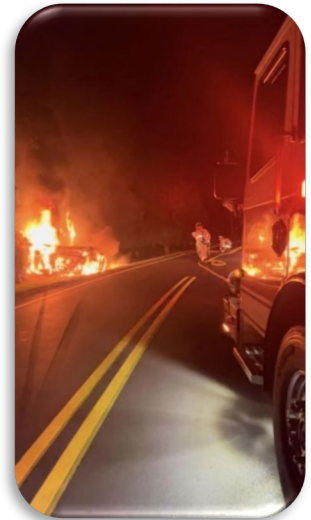
**September 14, 2023**

Thank you to Chick-fil-A Wake Forest & Chick-fil-A Heritage Village for helping distribute our Wake Forest Fire Department Trading Cards! Stop by to get your card today featuring various Fire Department trucks and safety tips!



**October 5, 2023**

Yesterday in the early morning hours Engine 4 was dispatched to assist Brassfield Fire to a traffic accident on Jonah Davis Road in Granville County. Engine 4 arrived on scene to a single car MVC with the vehicle on fire. Crews initiated fire attack with the assistance from Brassfield Fire and quickly controlled the fire. Fortunately, there were no occupants of the vehicle found in the car or surrounding area.



**October 6, 2023**

Yesterday afternoon Engine 3, Ladder 2, and Battalion 1 were dispatched to the intersection of South Franklin Street and Old Dairy Drive for a traffic accident. Engine 3 arrived on scene to a two car T-Bone style crash with one person trapped. Crews from Ladder 2 performed a door removal to free the patient while Engine 3 provided patient care. Once the door was removed patient care was transferred to EMS.

**October 30, 2023**

Congratulation to Captain Ben Davis and FF Brice Strickland for successfully completing TDA School and all their Drive Hours. They are both TDA Certified. This is a huge accomplishment for these Engine Guys!



**November 7, 2023**

Last week we had two firefighters attend the single rescuer movements during the North Carolina Technical Rope School at Charlotte Motor Speedway. The two firefighters did pick offs, ascending and descending the rope, and many other rope rescue skills.



**November 12, 2023**

Five members of our Honor Guard graduated from the National Honor Guard Academy this past week. Lieutenant Page and Firefighter First Class Floyd won the last man standing award for drill performance. Floyd was also selected to be on the color guard for the academy graduation and





received the commanders coin for outstanding performance. All five members graduated with honors.



**November 12, 2023**

On Friday evening Engine 3, Ladder 1, and Battalion 1 were dispatched to the 3600 block of Rogers Road for a traffic accident. Engine 3 arrived on scene of a two-car crash with one person trapped in one of the vehicles. Ladder 1 removed the door to free the patient. Two patients were handed off to EMS for evaluation and transport.

**November 13, 2023**

On November 6th through the 10th, a team from the Wake Forest Fire Department, along with a team from Morrisville Fire Department and Wake County Emergency Management responded to assist with the wild Poplar Road



Fire. The team worked in the Delta/ Division 1 division the

entire time, protecting 37 homes, and attacking hot spots. Working hard with NC. Forestry and Morrisville, Wake Forest team members assisted with preparation for the back burn and continued structure protection. Ultimately assisting with increasing the fire's containment.



**November 14, 2023**

WFFD acquired a new 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 to be used by the Training Officer.

**November 15, 2023**

We would like to thank American Arborists for providing our Ladder 1 B-shift crew with a unique training opportunity this past Sunday. Crews were able to train on rescuing a tree climber down in case of a medical emergency and the climber is unable to climb down on their own. The arborists were able to show their equipment used to climb trees and ways to easily be rescued if needed.





### November 19, 2023

WFFD held its annual cook at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford. We started this event several years ago and the children that live at the Home always look forward to it. Approximately 48 children and counselors were served steaks, french fries, and Krispy Kreme doughnuts this year.

### December 4, 2023



This morning crews were alerted to a structure fire in the 200 block of Stone Park Drive. Engine 1 arrived on scene to a working garage fire. Crews were able to quickly control the fire and held the fire to station one units clearing all other units. The fire impacted the contents in the garage with no fire extension into the home. The fire is under investigation and no injuries were reported.

### December 16, 2023

Apparatus utilized: Engine 5, Squad 5, Engine 2, Ladder 2, Engine 1, Rescue 4, Car 3, Van

### December 31, 2023

In 2023 we ran a total of 5,563 calls for the calendar year.

Calls broken down per unit:

#### **Unit Totals**

Bat 1 – 1,235

Bat 2 - 217

E1 – 1,740

L1 – 1,018

E2 – 1,150

L2 – 825

E3 – 1,044

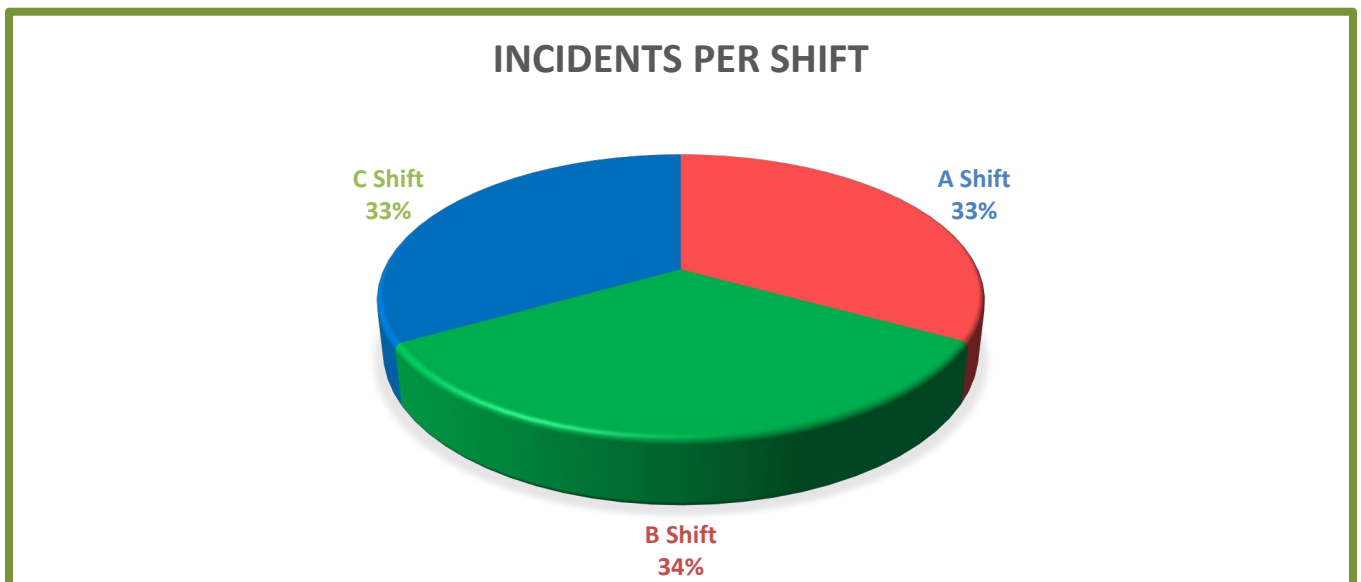
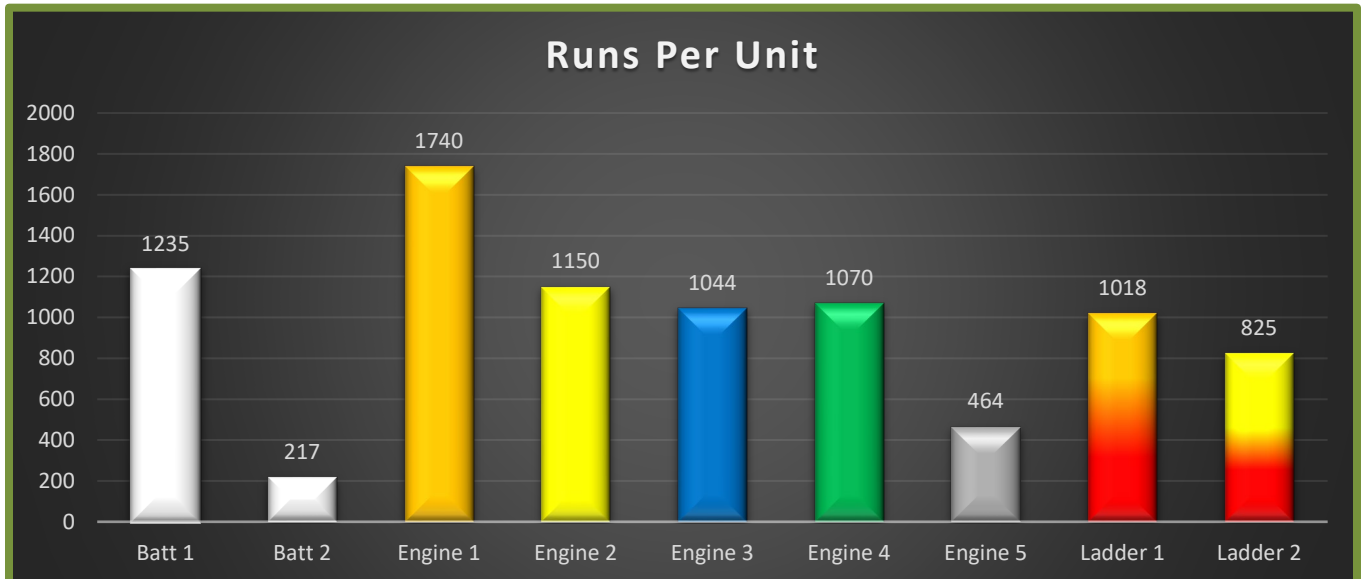
E4 – 1,070

E5 – 464





## Incidents



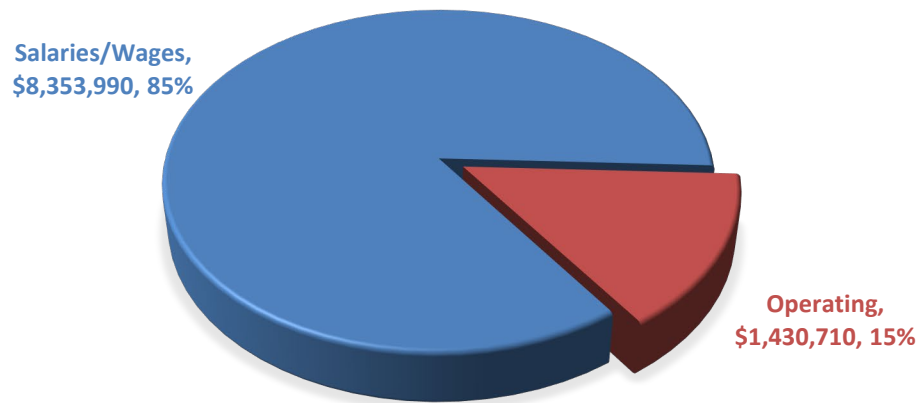


## Budget

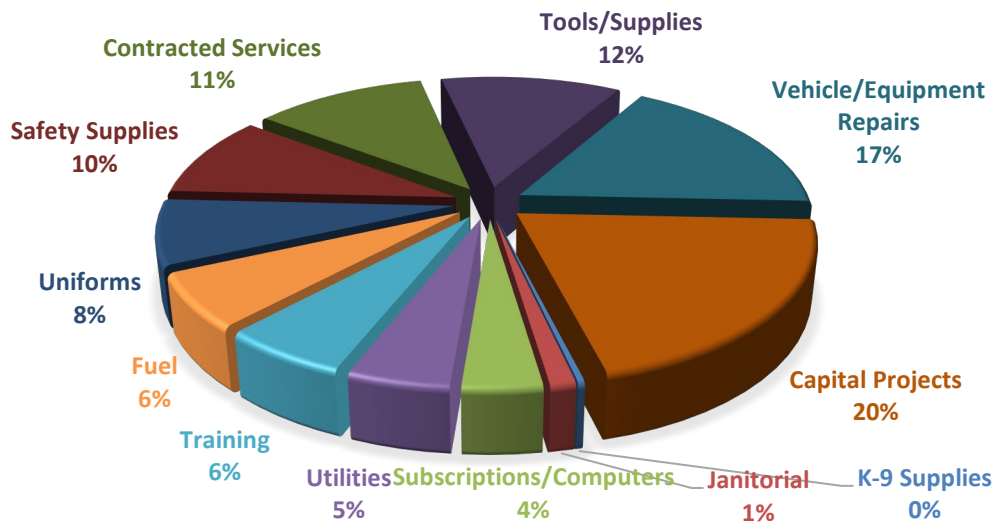
The Wake Forest Fire Department's budget is put together by the management team and presented to the Town Manager each year. The department operates on a July 1 through June 30 fiscal year. The budget includes all aspects necessary for the fire departments operation including personnel, operating, and capital costs. WFFD budget for FY 2023 was \$9,784,700.

### Expenses for Fiscal Year 2023

#### TOTAL BUDGET



#### OPERATING BUDGET



*The above graphs illustrates our entire budget, the first graph separates salaries and benefits from operating expenses. The second graph illustrates what consists of the operating budget in percentage.*





