

**ASTORIA
FIRE DEPARTMENT**



**2022
ANNUAL REPORT**

City of Astoria
Fire Department

Fire / Rescue / EMS / Prevention



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Astoria, OR 97103

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Thank you for taking some time to review some of the highlights from 2022 in the Astoria Fire Department. I hope that this report adequately shows how the department is busier than ever: providing emergency response, public education and community service that improves the livability of our city and this community.

It is my hope that as this fire department strives to improve our community through quality customer service and professionalism, that we will work together to encourage and strengthen each other. There is always room for improvement, but I am proud of this department and particularly the dedicated men and women that serve our community as firefighters of the Astoria Fire Department.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel C. Crutchfield".

Daniel C. Crutchfield, Fire Chief
Astoria Fire Department



Administrative Assistant



Claudia DeLoff

Claudia began working for AFD in January 2014. She works part-time, 20 hours a week and is responsible for the following duties:

- Answer phones
- Customer service at the front office
- Issue burn permits
- Code the department invoices
- Maintain files for Visa charges; reconcile Visa statements monthly
- Schedule physical examinations; annual exams and new hires
- Schedule Audiology examinations; annual exams and new hires
- Help all staff with anything, i.e. forms to be created and/or maintained, mailing packages, ordering supplies, going to Costco for supplies, etc.

Previous employment:

Claudia had her own medical transcription home business for 14 years, working for local physicians.

For 5 years she worked as the medical transcriptionist for PeaceHealth Clinic in Astoria

For 19 years she was a medical transcriptionist for Providence Seaside Hospital.

Personal:

Claudia is married to her husband Layne. She has two children, a step-daughter, six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.. Her son is a firefighter for Clark 6 so she feels she is in a perfect job!

Deputy Chief of Operations & Training



Terry Corbit

Terry was hired by the City of Astoria as a Firefighter in May of 1990 and took on the role as Deputy Chief in June 2019. Terry is currently the fire department's training officer. Terry supervises the three Lieutenants, represents management on the department safety committee, investigates accident/incidents that occur within the organization. He is also the department's quartermaster and responsible for pump testing.



Deputy Chief, Fire Marshal – Emergency Manager



Brian McCarthy

Brian joined the Astoria Fire Department in October of 2021 and is the department's Fire Marshal and the Emergency Manager for the City of Astoria. Brian oversees all fire prevention efforts for the fire department. As Emergency Manager, Brian ensures that the community is prepared for emergencies through planning and education.

A – Shift

A-Shift is led by Lieutenant Wade Mathews. In addition to emergency response, personnel assigned to A-Shift manage several operational programs. These responsibilities include: Hazardous Materials Team, Wildland Firefighting, Intern Firefighter Program, Communications Equipment, Fire Hose & Testing, Ladders & Testing, Small Engine Maintenance & Personal Protective Equipment.



Wade Mathews
Lieutenant
Start Date: September 2000*

Zach Plant
Engineer
Start Date: July 2016*

Gage Piguet
Engineer
Start Date: September 2019*

**Indicates previous experience as a Astoria Volunteer Firefighter*

B – Shift

B-Shift is led by Lieutenant Tom Jaworski. Some of the project areas that the staff of B-Shift are responsible for include: Fire Boat Program, Confined Space Rescue Program, Life Safety Rope, Physical Fitness Equipment, Fire Extinguisher Program, Equipment Inventory & Maintenance, Building Maintenance & Apparatus Maintenance.



Tom Jaworski
Lieutenant
Start Date: November 2013*

Jake Rummell
Engineer
Start Date: August 2005*

Royce Cone
Firefighter
Start Date: July 2021*

**Indicates previous experience as a Astoria Volunteer Firefighter*

C – Shift

C-Shift is led by Lieutenant Brett Bishop. In addition to emergency response, personnel assigned to C-Shift manage several programs. These responsibilities include: Fire Prevention and Education, Air Monitoring Equipment, Emergency Medical Services, Janitorial Supplies & SDS, Maps, Pre-fire Plans, Elite Reporting System, Logbook, EnRoutePro, & Respiratory Protection Program.



Brett Bishop
Lieutenant
Start Date: July 2007

Carlos Gomez
Engineer
Start Date: August 2017*

Nolan Mathews
Firefighter
Start Date: September 2021*

**Indicates previous experience as a Astoria Volunteer Firefighter*

Volunteers



Cole Anderson
Intern Firefighter
June 2020

Nick Ricci
Intern Firefighter
June 2021

Justice Watson
Intern Firefighter
June 2022

Jordan Gagnon
Intern Firefighter
March 2022



Jason Pollack
Firefighter
February 2018

Noah Zimmer
Firefighter
August 2020

Mike Findley
Firefighter
January 2021

Alex Karns
Firefighter
March 2017

Alex Padgett
Firefighter
October 2022

Natalie Chrisman
Firefighter
October 2022

Ruslan Polienko
Firefighter
May 2021

Resignations

Cole Anderson	April 2022
Nick Ricci	May 2022
Noah Zimmer	May 2022
Jordan Gagnon	May 2022
Mike Findley	November 2022
Natalie Chrisman	December 2022

RETIREMENT:

Administrative Assistant



Claudia DeLoff

Claudia began working for AFD in January 2014, after many years as a medical transcriptionist for local hospitals and physicians. After retiring from that 35+-year career, she found that she wanted more to do, so AFD offered the perfect opportunity. What began as answering phones and issuing burn permits as staff support, eventually lead to becoming the Administrative Assistant.

Claudia's husband, Layne, just retired from Wauna Mill and they are looking forward to traveling in their RV and golfing in warmer climates. They will maintain their home in Svensen where they will be close to her two children, a stepdaughter, six grandchildren, and three great-grandsons, including a set of twin boys born in September 2022

New Hires

Administrative Assistant



Casey Litwin

12/1/2022

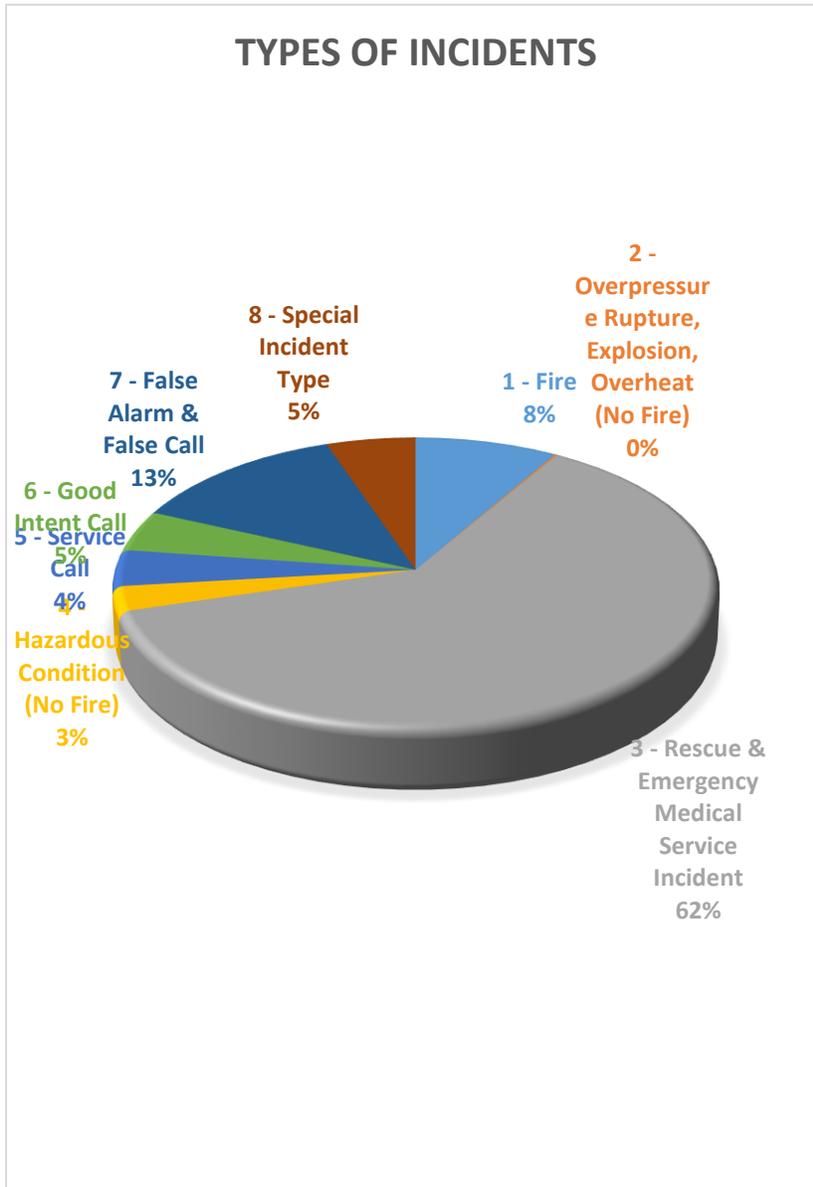
Born in California, Casey moved to Ashland, Oregon when she was 4 years old. She graduated valedictorian from Ashland High School, then went on to Oregon State University. Casey received her Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and her Master's degree in Mathematics Education. At OSU she met her husband, Thomas, and, after graduation, they moved to Astoria.

Casey taught High School mathematics for four years at Clatskanie Middle High School, six years at Astoria High School, and one year at Astoria Middle School. During this time, they had three beautiful children: Abby 11, Jack 9, and Emme 3. In her spare time she enjoys scrapbooking, crafting, and watching her children in their dance and sport activities.

Casey is excited to shift her career into being an administrative assistant. Casey looks forward to taking the skills in organization, communication, and innovation that she honed in teaching to this new position while still working in a field that serves her community.

Operations Division

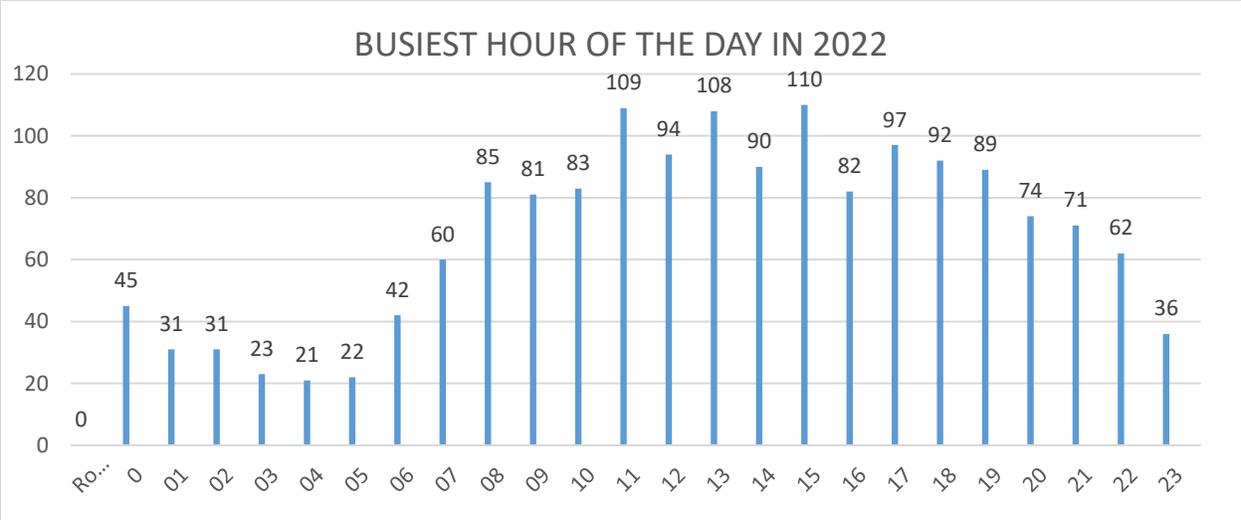
Emergency Response



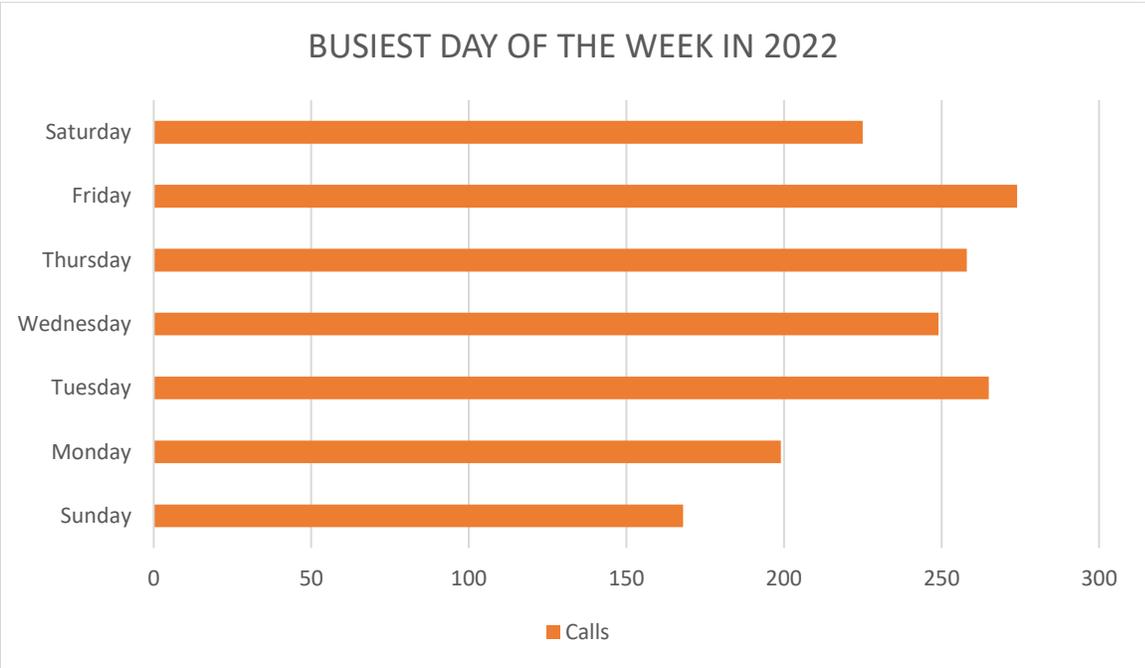
The Astoria Fire Department responded to **1,638** emergencies in 2022. This represents an average of a 4.50 responses each day.

Emergency responses can be grouped into the following categories:

This chart shows the different categories of calls that we respond to. The most common call that we responded to was medical related calls. These incidents totaled 62% of our call volume. The other 38% of calls are broken down in the chart but were fire calls, false alarms, hazmat, and good intent calls.

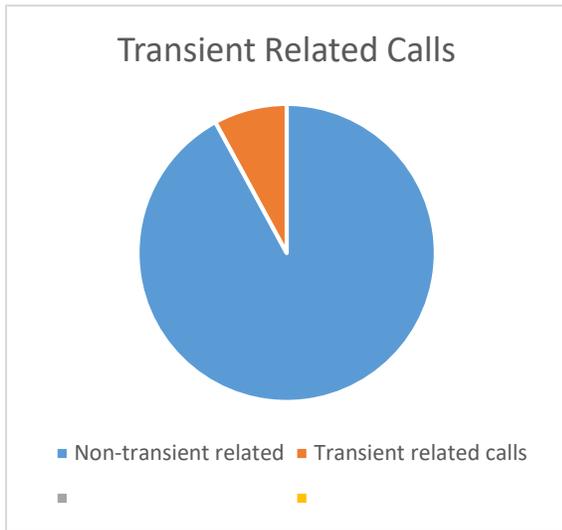


As you can see in this chart the busiest hour of day for calls in 2022 was 1500 or between 3PM – 4PM with 110 emergency responses.



As you can see in this chart the busiest day of the week for calls in 2022 was Friday with 274 emergency responses.

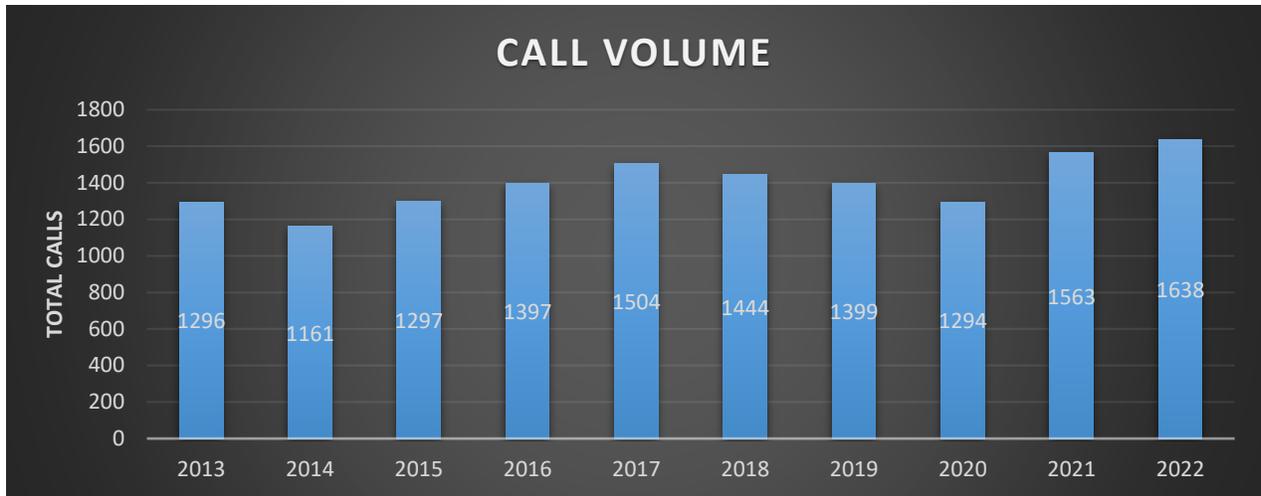
We began tracking transient related calls for service in June 2019. In 2022, a total of 130 transient related calls were documented. This would represent about 8% of our total calls.



We also began tracking when we had multiple calls at the same time in June of 2019. In 2022, a total of 38 times we had more than one call at the same time. This would represent about 2.3% of our calls. In 2021, this represented about 9% of our calls.



This is challenging for us because we only staff one engine with two to four firefighters each day. When multiple calls happen at the same time we rely on administrative staff and volunteer firefighters for assistance.



THIS WAS THE HIGHEST CALL VOLUME IN THE HISTORY OF THE ASTORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT. This also represented a 4.8% increase in calls from last year.

The Equipment

Managing the maintenance of our vehicles has proven to be a challenge again this past year. We spent around \$21,000 maintaining and repairing our fleet. We responded to 1638 emergencies in 2022 and at least one engine was used on each of those calls. The department has two front-line fire engines and one reserve fire engine.

Fire Engines

- 2015 Pierce with 47,135 miles and 5,801 engine hours.
- 2009 HME/Ahrens-Fox with 25,523 miles and 2,674 engine hours.
- 1999 Central States/HME with 119,170 miles and 10,550 engine hours



Ladder Truck

- 2016 Pierce Ladder truck with 7,903 miles and 1,011 hours. Our ladder truck is a fire truck with a water tank, fire pump, fire hose, ground ladders and an aerial device or ladder that is 105 foot long.



Support Vehicles

- 2008 Ford F450 Wildland Vehicle with 54,461 miles
- 2014 Chevrolet Tahoe with 121,548 miles
- 2014 Chevrolet Tahoe with 78,509 miles
- 2015 Ford Explorer with 104,032 miles
- 2020 Ford F350 with 6,888 miles
- 2022 Ford Explorer with 5,228 miles

Regional Haz Mat Team

Astoria Fire Department has been contracting with the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office to provide Hazardous Materials response since the early 1990's. The Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) team is a partnership with the vast majority of the funding coming from specific fees assessed to all vehicles carrying cargo in Oregon. Astoria is one of several teams throughout the state, our designation is Hazmat 11. All of the equipment is based out of Astoria Fire main fire station which is located in Uppertown. In 2022, our team consisted of eight career firefighters from Astoria, one from Knappa Fire District, and one from Lewis & Clark RFPD. It also includes the Astoria Deputy Police Chief.



The general response area for HM 11 is Clatsop County and Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District. Our response area consists of mostly narrow winding roads with waterways nearby and many small communities.



We have the potential for several types of emergencies within our response area. At fixed facilities our most significant threat is large quantities chlorine for water treatment, and anhydrous ammonia for cold storage. As with many other teams our greatest potential for a hazmat incident comes from the transportation industry. US Hwy 30 and US Hwy 26 is a major travel artery for commerce to the northwest coast of Oregon.

The main function of our Hazmat team is to provide emergency response but another function of the team is to provide training for other emergency response agencies. To complete this function our members attempt to travel to all agencies within our response area every two years. Our team members also partner with local training associations to provide instructors for state required training for new firefighters.



We are a part of two LEPC's which include Clatsop County and Columbia County. An LEPC is a community and industry driven group that aids in emergency response when a major release of hazardous materials happens. Planning for this included gathering information on which organizations and groups have potential hazardous materials, and which organizations or groups have resources to help with response if there in an incident.

Due to our limited team size, our team strives to have all of our members trained to be able to perform any function within the team at a hazardous materials incident. The initial training that all members must complete before joining the team consists of a 160 hour course. Members are also required to do continuing training as long as they are on the team. In 2022 team members completed over 200 hours of training. This training consisted of regular drills, as well as several members attending a statewide training.



2022 was a very productive year for the following individuals who completed certifications:

Brett Bishop: NFPA HazMat Incident Commander

Carlos Gomez: NFPA HazMat Incident Commander & NFPA Fire Officer II

Tom Jaworski: NFPA HazMat Incident Commander

Alex Karns: NFPA Driver & Firefighter Type 2

Nolan Mathews: NFPA Aerial Operator, NFPA Fire Officer I, &
NFPA HazMat Technician

Brian McCarthy: NFPA HazMat Incident Commander

Gage Piguet: NFPA HazMat Technician, NFPA HazMat Incident Commander, & NFPA Instructor II

Jason Pollack: NFPA Pump Operator

Justice Watson: NFPA Firefighter I, Firefighter Type 2, & HazMat Awareness & Operations

***Cole Anderson:** NFPA HazMat Awareness & Operations, & NFPA Driver

***Nick Ricci:** NFPA Firefighter I & HazMat Awareness & Operations



Astoria Fire Department hosted the following training events:

MFSA Shipboard Awareness Firefighting
HazMat Incident Commander
Confined Space Operations & Refresher

Astoria Firefighters also attended the following outside training events:

Hazardous Materials Technician part 1 & 2
Ridin' the Right Seat Conference
OSFM Hazardous Materials Conference
TEEX Shipboard Firefighting School

As a department, a total of 1,957 training hours were recorded in 2022.

Nolan Mathews led the pack with 188.5 hours of recorded training in 2022.

Jason Pollack led the volunteers with 136.25 hours of recorded training in 2022.

Awards Banquet

5 years of service: Firefighter Alex Karns

5 years of service: Engineer Carlos Gomez

15 years of service: Lieutenant Brett Bishop

Chief Recognition:

Carlos Gomez

Brett Bishop

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR: Alex Karns

INTERN OF THE YEAR: Justice Watson

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR: Jake Rummell