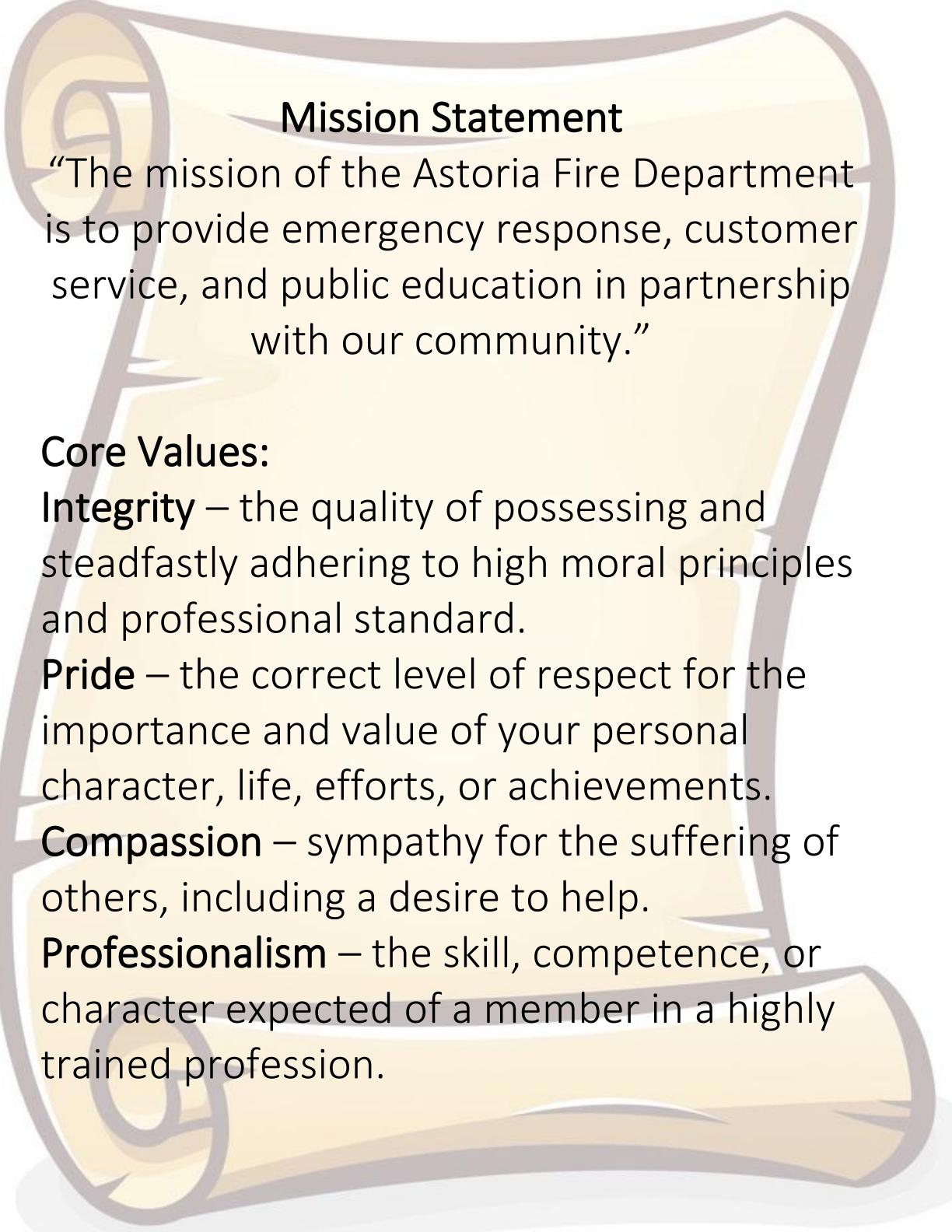


ASTORIA FIRE DEPARTMENT



2025
ANNUAL REPORT



Mission Statement

“The mission of the Astoria Fire Department is to provide emergency response, customer service, and public education in partnership with our community.”

Core Values:

Integrity – the quality of possessing and steadfastly adhering to high moral principles and professional standard.

Pride – the correct level of respect for the importance and value of your personal character, life, efforts, or achievements.

Compassion – sympathy for the suffering of others, including a desire to help.

Professionalism – the skill, competence, or character expected of a member in a highly trained profession.



CITY OF ASTORIA
Founded 1811 • Incorporated 1856

555 30th Street
Astoria, OR 97103

City of Astoria
Fire Department
Fire / Rescue / EMS / Prevention



Phone: (503) 325-2345
Fax: (503) 325-2346

2025 was a busy year for AFD and we are excited to share a few of the highlights. We responded to 1,776 calls for service, which is a 4.5% decrease from 2024. Our call volume has increased by 60% over the last ten years and this is the first decrease in call volume in the last several years. Our team of well trained and hard-working firefighters deployed on four wildland conflagrations across Oregon and one in California. We coordinated a paving project at the public safety building to replace the failing blacktop around the fire department. We purchased a new LUCAS 3 CPR device and a refurbished Zoll X Series Cardiac Monitor. We also wrote a grant request for a new trailered generator that can power city facilities during a power outage and were notified by Oregon Emergency Management that we will receive the generator in 2026. Carlos Gomez was promoted from Engineer to Lieutenant after the resignation of Tom Jaworski. Wade Mathews retired, and Justin Whitney was hired as a firefighter.

Astoria Firefighters installed 47 free smoke alarms in residences throughout Astoria in 2025 and a total of 319 since this program began in 2019 making our residents safer. Our team also visited 20 classrooms during fire prevention week and educated over 400 children in fire safety. We held our annual open house , inviting the public into the fire department to see the fire trucks, play games, eat some food and of course get some safety information. We purchased 50 cots, 50 blankets and a food supply for 50 people for seven days and stored them at the Astor Elementary School in case of an emergency. We also Conducted Emergency Operation Center training exercises for the city's management team.

These are just a few examples of how your firefighters are providing emergency response, public education, and community service that improves the livability of our city and this community. Our fire department members enjoy serving our community and its visitors. We assisted with hanging holiday lights downtown for Christmas and delivered Santa Claus to the lighting event. We support our Astoria athletes and stand-by at sporting events and have escorted teams out of the city for state championship competition. We strive to be part of community events and deliver high quality customer service and demonstrate professionalism through our work. Our dedicated professional firefighters look forward to serving our community in the coming year. I am truly honored to serve as the fire chief of this organization, and I'm blessed to work with some amazing and skilled firefighters.

Daniel C. Crutchfield, Fire Chief
Astoria Fire Department

Administration



Chief of Astoria Fire Department

Dan Crutchfield

Chief Crutchfield joined Astoria Fire Department in March 2019 after working for the Coos Bay Fire Department for 26 years and oversees the overall operations of the Astoria Fire Department. He sets policy and works with other city officials to develop a budget that he administers. Chief Crutchfield directly supervises Deputy Chief Terry Corbit, Deputy Chief Brian McCarthy, and Administrative Assistant Casey Litwin. Dan holds a Bachelor of Science in Fire Science Administration. Chief Crutchfield is a member of the Office of State Fire Marshal Hazmat Team 11, is the chairperson of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), chairperson of Fire Protection Agencies Advisory Council (FPAAC) and also served as the Clatsop County Fire Defense Board Chief for three years (2022-2024).



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 of 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, and investigates accidents/incidents that occur within the organization. He is also the department's quartermaster and is 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.



Administrative Assistant

Casey Litwin

Casey joined the Astoria Fire Department in December of 2022. She is the community liaison completing records requests, tracking burn permits, and answering general questions from the public. Casey codes and tracks all billing/budget information, and purchases operational supplies. She completes any other tasks asked of her, such as scheduling physicals, note-taking, or organizing/creating forms and reports, to help with the day-to-day running of the department.

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 and Testing, Ladders and Testing, Equipment Inventory and Maintenance, and the Fire Extinguisher Program.



Wade Mathews

Lieutenant
Start Date: September 2000*

Zach Plant

Engineer
Start Date: July 2016*

Royce Cone

Engineer
Start Date: July 2021*

* Indicates previous experience as an Astoria Volunteer Firefighter

A-shift Highlights from 2025:

Astoria Fire Department A-Shift marked a meaningful year highlighted by the retirement of our Lieutenant Wade Mathews after 25 years of dedicated service. His career exemplified leadership, commitment, and service to both the department and the Astoria community. A-Shift is proud to honor his legacy and the lasting impact he has made on generations of firefighters, while continuing to uphold the high standards Lieutenant Wade Mathews helped set.



B – Shift

B-Shift is led by Lieutenant Carlos Gomez. In addition to emergency response, personnel assigned to B-Shift manage several operational programs. These responsibilities include: Emergency Medical Services, Confined Space Rescue Program, Physical Fitness Equipment, Janitorial Supplies and SDS, Maps, Building Maintenance, and Apparatus Maintenance.



Carlos Gomez

Lieutenant

Start Date: August 2017*

Jake Rummell

Engineer

Start Date: August 2005*

Nolan Mathews

Engineer

Start Date: September 2021*

* Indicates previous experience as an Astoria Volunteer Firefighter

B-shift Highlights from 2025:

B-Shift Lieutenant Tom Jaworski pursued other career opportunities leaving a hole in the team. Jake and Nolan had to adjust to the loss of Tom, but were excited to welcome their new Lieutenant, Carlos.

It was a big year for B-Shift's projects. They helped get 2521 ready for service and decommissioned 2522. They were able to put both a new Zoll monitor and LUCAS CPR machine into service. They trained city hall on using the new Zoll AEDs. All lights in the training room were swapped for new LEDs. Lastly, Lt. Gomez helped lead an Active shooter joint training with AFD and Medix.

On a personal note, In September Jake's wife, Katie, gave birth to Kaia and Nolan birthed a kidney stone (not pictured)!



C – Shift

C-Shift is led by Lieutenant Brett Bishop. In addition to emergency response, personnel assigned to C-Shift manage several operational programs. These responsibilities include: Fire Prevention and Education, Air Monitoring Equipment, Pre-fire Plans, Elite Reporting System, Logbook, EnRoute Pro, Respiratory Protection Program, Small Engine, Life Safety Rope, and Personal Protective Equipment.



Brett Bishop

Lieutenant

Start Date: July 2007

Gage Piguet

Engineer

Start Date: September 2019*

Justin Whitney

Firefighter

Start Date: August 2025

* Indicates previous experience as an Astoria Volunteer Firefighter

C-shift Highlights from 2025:

Both of C-shift's Driver/Engineers were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant this year! Lieutenant Jaworski left us and in May Chief Crutchfield opened up the application for a promotional process for the position of Lieutenant. Prior to this promotional process Carlos (formerly C-shift) and Gage had been taking higher level classes and setting themselves up for success. Once the process was open, they both started to prepare themselves for the testing process by doing mock panel interviews, practice tactical scenarios and presenting their emergency preparedness classes assigned for the promotional process. They worked hard as a team and they each supported one another during the preparation phase. After a written test, interview, assessment center, and finally a Chief's interview Carlos was offered the Lieutenant Position on B-Shift effective July 1st. Around the end of November, we learned that Wade was planning on retiring from 25 years of serving our department. This meant that there would be another vacant Lieutenant's position to fill. Early December Chief Crutchfield made the announcement that he offered, and Gage accepted the Lieutenant's position on C-Shift. They both worked extremely hard to prepare themselves for this process. I have no doubts that they will each make their shifts and this department better as they lead their teams to be mission focused.

Volunteers

Intern Firefighters



Trent Stephens

Intern Firefighter
July 2023 – March 2025



Joseph Greenan

Intern Firefighter
March 2024



Andrew Gaerlan

Intern Firefighter
July 2024



Aidan Moses

Intern Firefighter
July 2025



Steven Johnson

Intern Firefighter
July 2025

Volunteer Firefighters



Alex Karns
Volunteer Firefighter
March 2017



Jason Pollack
Volunteer Firefighter
February 2018



Kiara Breckenridge
Intern Firefighter
June 2024- April 2025



Emilia Herman
Volunteer Firefighter
July 2024



Timothy Ryan
Volunteer Firefighter
September 2024



Jovianca Diaz-Howard
Volunteer Firefighter
April 2025 - December 2025



Neil Christensen
Volunteer Firefighter
April 2025



Andrew Pedersen
Volunteer Firefighter
June 2025



Justin Warling
Volunteer Firefighter
October 2025

Volunteer Chaplain



Bruce Holt
Volunteer Chaplain
November 2022

Our Chaplain serves multiple agencies, both fire and police, throughout Clatsop County. He is available for counseling, both religious and secular, for any member feeling the need to discuss difficult calls, work issues, home issues, etc. Our chaplain is also a resource for community members. He can be called to sit with or speak with family members whose loved ones were involved in an emergency call. In order to be most effective in his counseling, a big part of the Chaplain's time is spent building relationships with agency members.

Change in Staffing

Significant Anniversaries:

Terry Corbit	35 years of service
Wade Mathews	25 years of service
Jake Rummell	20 years of service

New Hires:

Jovianca Diaz-Howard	Volunteer	April, 2025
Neil Christensen	Volunteer	April, 2025
Andrew Pedersen	Volunteer	June, 2025
Aidan Moses	Intern	July, 2025
Steven Johnson	Intern	July, 2025
Justin Whitney	Firefighter	August, 2025
Justin Warling	Volunteer	October, 2025

Pictured below:



Resignations and Retirements:

Trent Stephens	Intern	resigned March, 2025
Kiera Breckenridge	Volunteer	resigned April, 2025
Tom Jaworski	Lieutenant	resigned April, 2025
Wade Mathews	Lieutenant	retired December, 2025
Jovianca Diaz-Howard	Volunteer	resigned December, 2025

Pictured below:



Promotions:

Carlos Gomez	Engineer to Lieutenant	July, 2025
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Pictured below:

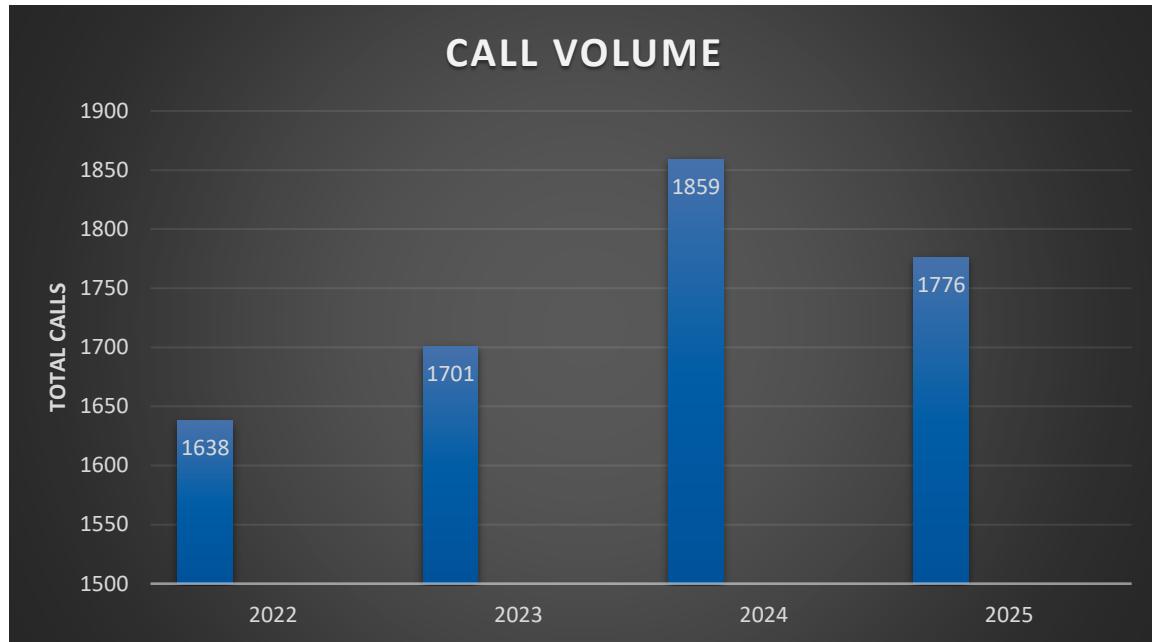


Operations Division

Emergency Response

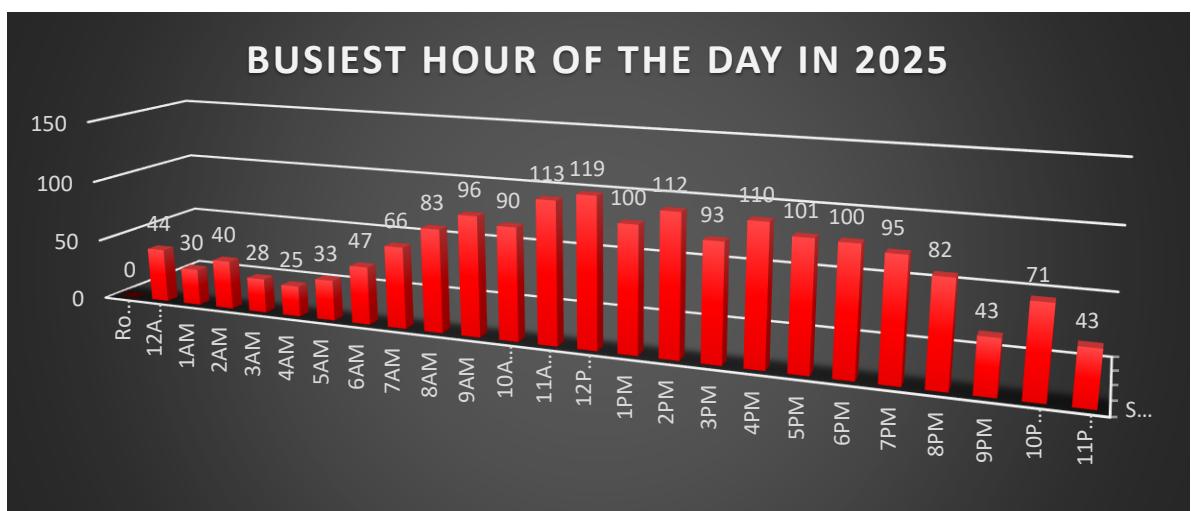
Astoria Fire Department finished 2025 with a total of **1,776** emergencies. This is an average of **4.87** calls per day.

Over the last four years (2021-2024), we have experienced a **40%** increase in call volume. This year shows a **4.5%** decrease in call volume for the year from 2024. This is the first decrease in call volume in several years.

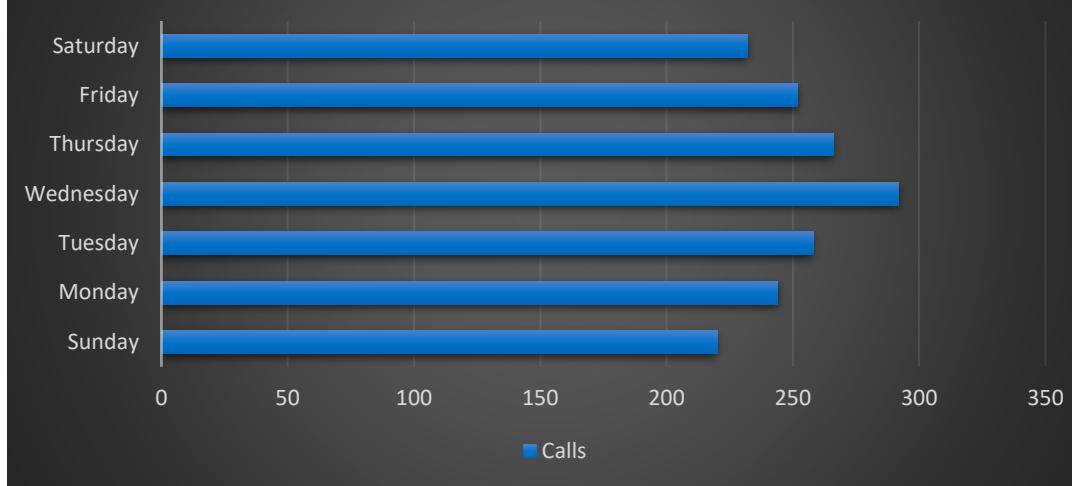


These calls are tracked by hour of the day, day of the week, and month of the year. The calls' distributions are represented in the charts below.

The busiest hour of day for calls in 2025 was between **12 pm and 1 pm** with **119** emergency responses



BUSIEST DAY OF THE WEEK IN 2025



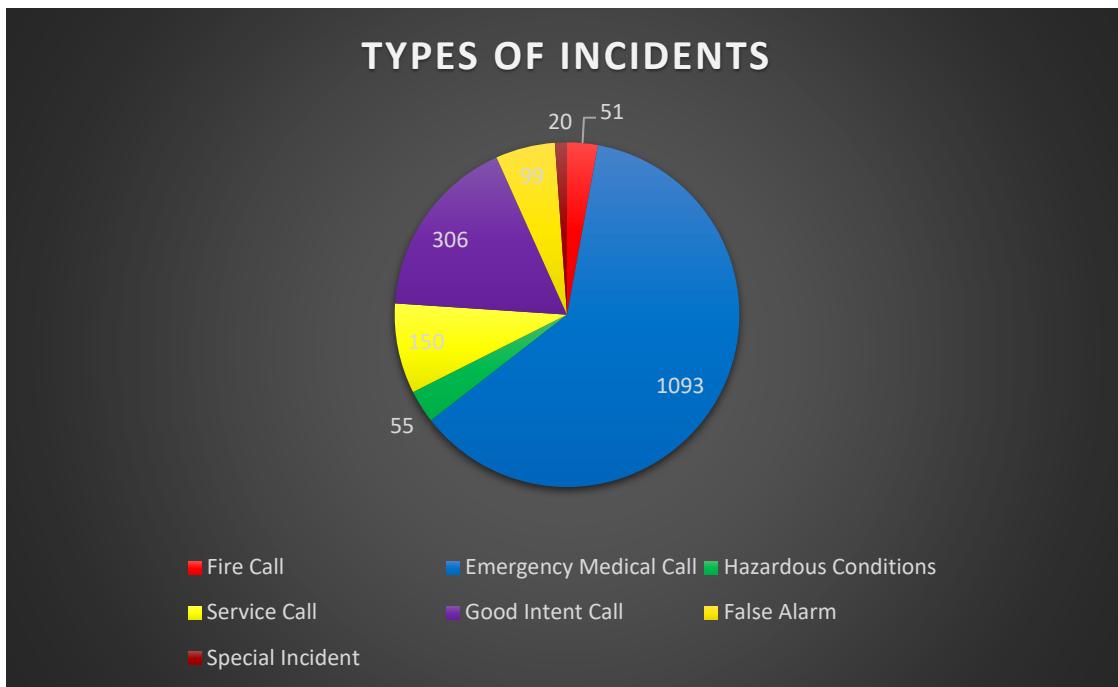
The busiest day of the week for calls in 2025 has been **Wednesday** with **292** emergency responses.

2025

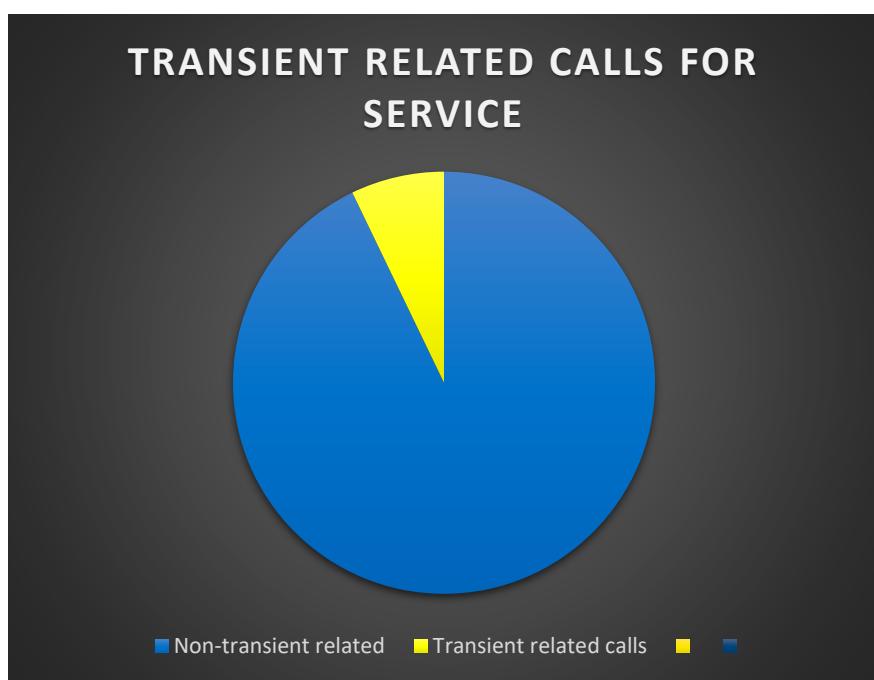
MONTH	NUMBER OF RESPONSES
January	132
February	160
March	141
April	145
May	148
June	118
July	161
August	168
September	170
October	141
November	131
December	161

The busiest month for calls in 2025 was **September** with **170** emergency responses.

The Astoria Fire Department also tracks its calls by Types of Responses, Transient related calls, how many calls occurred at the same time, and how many overdoses. This data is represented in the charts below.

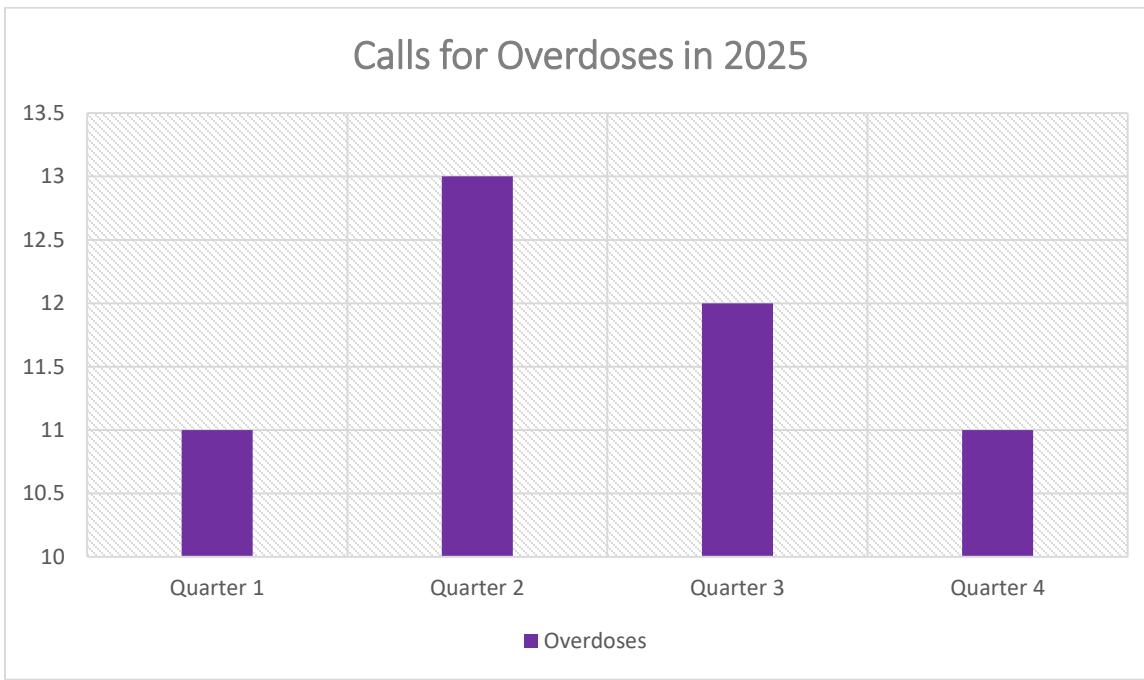


This chart shows the different categories of calls that we respond to. The most common call that we responded to was medical related calls. These incidents totaled **62%** of our call volume. The other **38%** of calls are broken down in the chart but were fire calls, false alarms, hazardous conditions, service calls and good intent calls. Generally, in most fire departments medical emergencies represent about **70-75%** of the call volume.



A total of **127** transient related calls were documented for the year. This would represent about **7%** of our total calls in 2025. We finished 2024 with transient related responses at **8.50%** of our call volume.

In 2025, a total of **184** times, we had more than one call at the same time. This would represent about **10.4%** 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. In 2024, this number was at **11%** of the time.



In 2025, a total of **47** overdoses occurred in Astoria. This represents about **2.7%** of our calls.

Significant Responses of the Year

1/8/2025 Highway 202 and Milepost 16 MVA - Extricate
Dispatched Mutual Aid to highway 202 MP 16 for a vehicle rollover with entrapment. 3501 is on scene prior to our arrival. 3501 assigns us to patient extrication. 2526 removes the passenger door to access the patient and extricate the patient out the rear hatch back door. Medix ambulance has all patient care.



2/1/2025 159 West Bond Fire - Extinguish
Received a call for a cardboard recycling dumpster that is on fire and is up against the building of the Atomic Motel in the back on W. Bond. Someone driving by took the dumpster and pushed it across the street to the parking lot of the scene address. They used a fire extinguisher and a garden hose to knock it down. The Atomic Motel has video of a subject setting the dumpster on fire maliciously. We extinguished the remaining fire and overhauled the dumpster with water and foam. 2501 drove around and found the subject and called APD.



3/11/2025 Mutual Aid – 340 SW Juniper, Warrenton Structure Fire - Overhaul
Dispatched to a structure fire at 340 SW Juniper. 2526 and 2501 went en route. 2526 arrived on scene as the 2nd due. The residence is a one story wood framed house with a small fire in the kitchen area. Warrenton Fire had a hoseline in service and extinguished the fire. 2526 was assigned to pull a secondary line and check for extension. No extension was found in the kitchen area by AFD personnel.

3/28/2025 Mutual Aid – 92305 Hwy 202 Structure Fire - Extinguished
2521 and 2502 Responded to 92305 Hwy 202 for a structure fire. 3501 On scene prior to our arrival and stated that it is a fully involved structure fire with 2 patients. 2521 Arrived on scene, pulled a line to protect exposures and searched the property for a second patient. First patient was immediately transported to CMH via APD officer for serious burns and second patient was later transported via Medix for smoke inhalation. Fire personnel remained on scene to protect exposures until fire was able to be controlled.

5/5/2025	Mutual Aid – 92398 G Road	Structure Fire - Overhaul
	2521 dispatched to mutual aid for a shed on fire. 2521 arrived on scene with Lewis Clark. 2521 aided in suppression and overhaul of the fire.	
5/16/2025	Mutual Aid – 1935 Warrenton Dr.	Building Fire – Roof Ops
	Dispatched to Bio Oregon for a fire on the roof. 2711 is command and has a fire inside of a dryer exhaust located on the roof. 2545 laddered the roof and set up for water tower operations. 2545s crew investigated the cause of the smoke on the roof. 2545 found a cowling that the exhaust exited the roof that was burnt. It appeared that the deluge cooling system failed to operate causing the exhaust and cowling to overheat and catch fire. 2545 cooled the exhaust and cowling with water and monitored the area for heat with a TIC.	
7/16/2025	Mutual Aid – 35628 Tucker Creek Ln.	Brush Fire – Mop Up
	Dispatched to Lewis and Clark Automatic Aid for a structure fire. While enroute we learn that this is a grass fire in a hay field that has been upgraded to a 2 alarm Wildland Urban Interface box. 2526 arrives and is instructed to supply L&CFD's type 6 with our water. 2521 ties in with L&C and uses hand tools and a bladder bag to start mopping up hot spots. The fire is under control upon our arrival. We just assist with overhauling the area.	
		
9/22/2025	200 Nehalem	Structure Fire – Extinguish
	Dispatched to a structure fire at 200 Nehalem Ave Apt 15. 2521 arrived on scene to a two story multi family dwelling with smoke coming from the second story apt 15. 2521 made entry through the front door and found a kitchen fire with flame on the floor Infront of the oven. 2521 extinguished the fire and checked for extension in the attic. No sign of fire in the attic. Apartments 14 & 16 were checked for extension and only 16 had water damage from apt 15 above it. No one was home at the time. The renter had left to work. Equipment was picked up and scene was turned over to Renter and management company of the building. Bruce Spencer lives in apartment 15 and has Renters insurance. Bruce stated he got up for work this morning and made himself coffee. Bruce stated he put a pan on the stove and got a phone call. Bruce explained he forgot about the pan and walked out to leave to work.	
	Property and Contents Loss: \$110,000	Pre-Incident Value: \$1,207,810
		

9/22/2025	Mutual Aid – 88590 Highway 202	RV Fire - Extinguished
	Received a call for automatic aid to an RV park for an RV that is on fire. 2503 arrived and took command of the incident. We arrived and the RV was totally involved and burned to the frame. Pulled an 1.25" line and the 1.75" bumper line and extinguished the fire. We then overhauled the fire.	

9/22/2025	65 Whitebush Way	Structure Fire – Extinguished
	Received a call for an electrical fire. On scene met by USCG maintenance who state it was a bathroom fan that was on fire and the occupant used an extinguisher to put it out and they have secured the power to the duplex. Occupant states she heard something and then the power dimmed and she went in to the bathroom and saw smoke and the the bathroom ceiling fan was melting on to the floor so she hit it with an extinguisher and called maintenance and then us.	Property and Contents Loss: \$1,100 Pre-Incident Value: \$800,000



9/23/2025	705 1 st Street	Structure Fire – Extinguished
		Dispatched to a structure fire at 705 1st St. 2500 units arrived on scene to a two-story house with smoke coming out of the second story. Residents were applying water from the exterior into the room with a garden hose. 2521 made access into the structure and found a mattress in the second story smoldering. The residence was filled with smoke on both stories. Water was applied to the Mattress, and the Mattress was removed from the residents via second story bedroom window. Room was checked for extension, and Fire crews began salvage operations. Homeowner stated she was downstairs when Joel came to her and said the house was on fire. Homeowner did not know what caused the upstairs fire. Homeowner explained that Joel applied a fire extinguisher to the fire and then used a garden hose to spray it. Joel stated they sleep upstairs and got up this morning and went downstairs. Joel explained he was outside and noticed light smoke coming through the bedroom window and ran up to look. Astoria Police Department got a statement from someone at the residence that they were smoking drugs in the bedroom upstairs. They came down and later that morning noticed smoke in the upstairs bedroom.

Property and Contents Loss: \$120,000 Pre-Incident Value: \$498,443



11/26/2025 305 West Marine Dr.

Code 99 – Medix Transport

Dispatched to a 40 y/o male having a seizure. 2521 arrived to find patient conscious in the driver's seat of vehicle. Patient went unresponsive, no pulse or breathing. Patient was placed on the ground and CPR was initiated. The Zoll cardiac monitor was applied and delivered a shock to the patient. The LUCAS CPR device was applied and took over chest compressions. Firefigthers continued to breathe for the patient utilizing a bag valve mask and high flow oxygen. An IO was established in the patients tibia. A king airway was inserted ad 1 mg Epinephrine 1:10,000 was administered. Medix arrived on scene. Patient was transported to CMH and later to Portland.

If not for their quick and skilled actions, the patient would not be alive today. It is for these reasons that Engineer Piguet, and Firefighters Whitney, Greenan, and Pedersen were presented with the "Life Saver Award" coin at a December Counsil meeting. The patient was able to attend and speak at the meeting.



12/14/2025 2816 Irving Ave.

Structure Fire – Extinguished

Dispatched to smoke coming out of vents of a house, no one is answering. 2521 is currently on Medical call in the Alderbrook area. 2521 responds and due to the volume of smoke in the area elects to call for a 2nd alarm. While enroute APD notifies that there is a possible person or pet that is still in the residence that needs rescued. 2521 arrives to find a 1 story, wood framed, single family dwelling with a basement. Fire is showing from the alpha-bravo corner out of two windows. 2521 stretches a 200' 1 3/4" pre-connect handline and initiates fire attack in the offensive mode. 2521 make an initial knock down with tank water and begins primary search of the residence. 2521 finds two dogs that are unconscious and barely breathing. 2521 extricates both dogs to fresh air and hands them off to APD for care. APD prior to our arrival had already extricated one dog. 2521 went back and searched the rest of the rooms completing our primary search of the structure and found two cats that were unconscious and not breathing. They were removed as well. 2521 established a positive water supply and began to overhaul effected area. 2501 assigned other companies to complete a secondary search of the structure that was all clear. 2521 used positive pressure ventilation to clear smoke from the structure. Extension was checked for and it was noted that the attic space was still hot. 2521 cut a 2' x 4' hole in the roof to ventilate the space. Chief McCarthy, Chief Golightly and Deputy Fire Marshal Dugan completed an investigation of the fire.

Property and Contents Loss: \$400,000

Pre-Incident Value: \$700,000



Conflagrations for the Year

Palisades Fire
23,448 acres



Deployed:
Engine 2523
Engineer Plant
Firefighter Stephens
Dates:
1/8/2025 – 1/25/2025

Reimbursed Cost:
\$83,374.99
Deployed:
Firefighter Greenan
Dates:
6/17/2025 – 6/19/2025
Reimbursed Cost:
\$1,329.32

Alder Springs Fire
3,278 acres



Elk Fire
5,240 acres



Deployed:
Engine 2523
Engine Boss Pedersen
Engineer Piguet
Firefighter Gaerlan
Dates:

7/9/2025 – 7/14/2025
Reimbursed Cost:
\$21,940.73

Bullard Fire
0.1 acres



Deployed:
Engine 2523
Engine Boss Pedersen
Engineer Piguet
Firefighter Gaerlan
Dates:
7/14/2025 – 7/15/2025
Reimbursed Cost:
\$6,583.88

Cram Fire
95,736 acres



Deployed:
Engine 2523
Engine Boss Pedersen
Engineer Piguet
Firefighter Gaerlan
Dates:
7/15/2025 – 7/20/2025
Reimbursed Cost:
\$29,762.21

Grants

Wildfire Season Staffing

Astoria Fire Department was awarded \$35,000 from the 2025 Wildfire Season Staffing Grant from the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal. This allowed us to hire extra staff over the summer.

Operations Division

Capital Improvement

Cardiac monitor

Refurbished Zoll X Series Monitor/Defibrillator
\$27,536.40



LUCAS 3, v3.1 Chest Compression System (CPR)
\$28,860.09



Pavement project

Saw cut, remove existing asphalt and install new asphalt at the Public Safety Building
\$26,834.00



Apparatus/Equipment

Fire Engines

2521



2526



2024 Pierce Enforcer
9,263 miles
847 engine hours

2015 Pierce Arrow XT
64,482 miles
7,841 engine hours

Ladder Truck

2523



2545



2009 HME/Ahrens-Fox
39,157 miles
3,510 engine hours

2016 Pierce
10,045 miles
1,352 engine hours

Our ladder truck is a fire truck with a water tank, fire pump, fire hose, ground ladders, and an aerial device (ladder) that is 105 feet long.

Push in Ceremony



Although we purchased new Engine 2521 in 2022, we took delivery in January 2025 and in March of 2025 we got to "push" the new Engine into service. A push in ceremony is a fire service tradition where firefighters and the community ceremoniously push a new fire engine or apparatus into the fire station bay. This comes from the historical roots of manually pushing horse-drawn equipment. It marks a new piece of equipment officially joining the fleet, and concluded with a radio announcement that 2521 was officially in-service.



Support Vehicles

2551



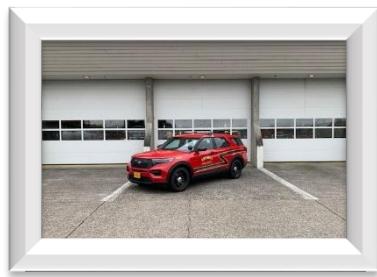
2020 Ford F350
Utility Vehicle
14,953 miles

2552



2005 Ford F450
Rescue Vehicle
158,867 miles

2561



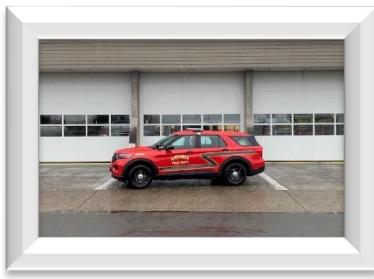
2022 Ford Explorer
Command Vehicle
29,616 miles

2562



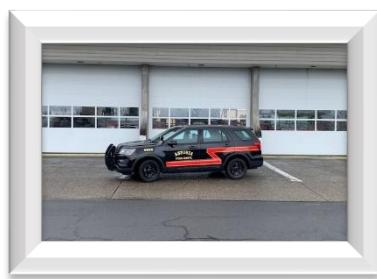
2014 Chevrolet Tahoe
Utility Vehicle
99,594 Miles

2565



2023 Ford Explorer
Command Vehicle
14,593 miles

2566



2015 Ford Explorer
Utility Vehicle
111,099 miles

2567



2024 Ford F150
Command Vehicle
7512 miles

2571



2008 Ford F450
Wildland Vehicle
59,131 miles

2591



2018 Polaris
Side by Side
805 miles

Regional Hazardous Materials 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 Department's main fire station which is located in Uppertown. In 2025, our team consisted of seven career firefighters from Astoria, one from Knappa Fire District, one from Cannon Beach Fire, and two 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 of 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 are major travel arteries 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. A 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 potentially hazardous materials, and which organizations or groups have resources to help with response if there is 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 2025 team members completed over 150 hours of training. This training consisted of regular drills, as well as several members attending a statewide training.

Training Division

The State of Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) has adopted the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) standards for Fire Service certifications. The following page is a breakdown of the certification levels of our firefighters

DPSST Certifications										EMS				
	Firefighter		Driver			Officer				Medical				
	FF I	FF II	Driver	PO	AO	FO 1	FO 2	FO 3	FO 4	EMR	EMT	A EMT	EMT I	EMT P
Career Staff														
Crutchfield	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	
Corbit	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x	
McCarthy	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x			
A-Shift														
Mathews W.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x	
Plant	x	x	x	x	x	x					x			
Cone	x	x	x	x	x	x							x	
B-Shift														
Gomez	x	x	x	x	x	x	x						x	
Rummell	x	x	x	x	x	x							x	
Mathews N.	x	x	x	x	x	x							x	
C-Shift														
Bishop	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x			
Piguet	x	x	x	x	x	x							x	
Whitney	x	x	x	x	x					x				
Volunteers														
Christensen	x		x	x							x			
Diaz-Howard											x			
Herman	x													x
Karns	x		x											x
Pedersen	x	x	x	x	x						x			
Pollack	x	x	x	x		x					x			
Ryan														
Warling														
Interns														
Greenan	x										x			
Gaerlan	x	x									x			
Johnson														
Moses											x			

In 2025 the following individuals completed training and received certifications for:

Joe Greenan – NREMT, Oregon EMT, NFPA Firefighter I

Andrew Gaerlan – NREMT, Oregon EMT

Royce Cone – NFPA Hazardous Materials Technician

Jason Pollack – NFPA Firefighter II, NFPA Instructor I, NFPA Fire Officer I.

Gage Piguet – Firing Boss, Single Resource

Neil Christensen – Engine Boss, Single Resource

Emilia Herman – IFSAC Firefighter I

Andrew Pedersen – NFPA Hazardous Material Awareness & Operations,

NFPA Wildland Fire Apparatus, NFPA Mobile Water Supply Apparatus,

NFPA Apparatus Equipped with Aerial, NFPA Firefighter II, NFPA Instructor I

Justin Whitney – NFPA Apparatus Equipped with Aerial, NFPA Mobile Water Supply Apparatus,

Firefighter Type 2, Firefighter Type 1, Engine Boss, Single Resource.



Astoria Firefighters also attended the following outside training events:

- Frank Viscuso's Step Up & Lead
- Clatsop County Firefighter Academy
- OSFM HazMat Technician
- NWCG S-130/190, S-131, S-219
- Northwest Oregon Wildland School (NOWS)
- Confined Space Rescue (with Public Works)
- Risk Based Response to Battery Emergencies (OSFM)
- MFSA/FPAAC Quarterly Shipboard firefighter drill
- Active Threat Training with Medix Ambulance
- Skid Avoidance Training (DPSST)
- Pacific Northwest Fire Conference
- Jarrod Sergi's No-Nonsense Leadership
- Education is Key (Interior & Exterior Attack, Hose Management & Standpipe Operations)
- NIMS ICS 300
- Echelon Front Leadership Conference
- Live Fire Burn to Learn with Lewis & Clark Fire & Rescue

As a department, a total of 3,102.75 training hours were recorded in 2025.

The department member with the most training hours is Terry Corbit with 295 hours.

The Intern with the most training hour and second in the department is Andrew Gaerlan with 237 hours.

The volunteer member with the most training hours is Jason Pollack with 168.5 hours.

Fire Prevention

Inspection Program

Business Inspections Completed: 98 inspections, re-inspections, or construction inspections.

This number is a combination of inspections completed by shift personnel and the Fire Marshal. The business inspection program is a vital component of the department's fire prevention efforts. Ensuring fire and life safety compliance in local businesses will help keep our citizens and their customers safe.

Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal McCarthy participated in the following activities in relations to Fire inspections and prevention throughout the city.

- Attended multiple construction meetings for various projects throughout the city.
- Accompanied the EPA on inspections of Bornstein Seafood properties
- Attended Oregon Fire Marshal's Annual Conference
- Attended Fire Investigation Team meetings
- Attended lunch & learn trainings with OFMA
- Attended S191

Smoke Alarm Program

Astoria Fire Department participates in the Oregon State Fire Marshal's smoke alarm installation program. This program provides fire agencies with smoke alarms to install in residences without them. Residences must be single-family homes that lie within the city limits of Astoria. Astoria Fire Department installed 47 smoke alarms in 2025 and 319 smoke alarms since the inception of the program in 2019.



Public Education

Educating the public on issues of fire safety is an important role of Astoria Fire Department. This year we were able to participate in, or put on, several events in order to disseminate information:

- Hosted FFA group for station tour.
- Hosted Bumble preschool for station tour.
- Delivered Emergency Preparedness/Tsunami training for Lewis & Clark Bank staff.
- Hosted a group of graduate students from OSU. Spoke with them about emergency response and preparedness
- Put on Annual Open House and served lunch to the community
- Celebrated Fire Prevention Week at Astoria School. Held educational sessions at Astor Elementary, Harbor Christian Academy, and Bumble Day Care for over 400 students.



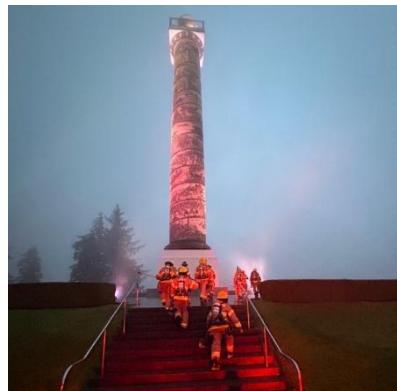


- Disseminated training information and participated in the Great Shake Out.
- Conducted Shift Tours of new Coastal Health Building
- Assisted in Fire Drill 800-820 Exchange
- Firefighters conducted AED training for other city departments

Community Outreach

Sometimes our contact with the public is educational, sometimes it is just to be a positive and helpful presence in the community. Here are some of the ways AFD participated in the Astoria Community in 2025:

- Helped in coordinating several Emergency Overflow Shelters during cold weather events
- Helped put up and take down flags for the Scandinavian Festival
- Facilitated space for Astoria Library Reading Program on Fridays
- Acted as Grand Marshals for the Regatta Parade
- Participated in the National Night Out event hosted by APD
- Attended the AHS Homecoming Bonfire
- Astoria Firefighters walked from the Public Safety Building to the Column and climbed to the top in full gear in remembrance of those lost on 9/11
- Attended Halloween trick-or-treating downtown at the Liberty Theatre, passed out 1000 frisbees
- Passed out candy and Glow Sticks for Halloween trick-or-treating at Emerald Heights, Alderbrook, and Coastguard housing
- Put up the downtown Holiday decorations as well as decorations at the firefighter's museum
- Participated in Holiday Lighting Ceremony (gave Santa a ride)
- Hosted the Holiday Food Drive which collected 4,390 pounds of food and \$764.
- Joined Deflection Program group with Sheriff's Office



Emergency Management

Activity

- Attended CBRN update on Threats with Homeland Security.
- Attended the Clatsop County Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop.
- Attended the Pacific Power Wildfire Forum
- Attended Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan committee meeting
- Attended Tsunami Warning After Action Meeting with regional Emergency manager
- Participated in Clatsop Alerts campaign/ User's Group
- Tsunami Alert Debrief with County EM and local Police
- Established MOU's for emergency transportation w/Astoria School Dist. & Sunset Empire Transportation
- Attended the Emergency Managers Association Conference
- Attended meeting with new Joint Operations Group w/ Pacific County
- Met with U of O regarding Energy Resilience Plans
- Attended ODOT Winter Ops Planning Meeting
- Work has begun on All Hazards Mitigation Plan with Clatsop County.

Ongoing Projects

Emergency Operations plan:

After attending several meetings related to the update of EOP/COOP/COG, a request for proposal went out for a consultant. IEM International was hired. We met with Clatsop County, participated in workshops and began working with the contractor for our new EOP.

NIMS/ICS trainings:

Chief Crutchfield met with key city departments to identify required NIMS/ICS trainings for city employees. A master list was developed and a plan for implementation was laid out. Many employees completed their first required course, ICS 100. Furthermore, Deputy Chief McCarthy conducted two table top exercises with the City Management team and Public Works. This will be a regular occurrence.

Emergency Sheltering Sites:

Last year, two sites were set up with cots, blankets, and emergency food supplies. This year, we added a third site at Astor Elementary School. All sites are equipped to house and feed 50 people for 7 days without the need of being resupplied. We also researched and plan to purchase all necessary accessories (folding table, plates, utensils etc.) for four cache sites.

