



# SOUTH LYON FIRE DEPARTMENT 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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## Message from the Fire Chief

In 2015, the South Lyon Fire Department continued to make enhancements to its organization, operation, and administration. This success would not have been possible without support and assistance from the city manager, mayor, city council, city staff, and city department managers, along with that of the fire officers and firefighters. The following report outlines many of the accomplishments that occurred during 2015.

2015 significant accomplishments:

- Multiple training evolutions were conducted with the Lyon Twp and Green Oak Twp Fire Departments.
- Worked with private hydrant system owners to ensure operational readiness.
- Awarded Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant for \$23,430.00 for new hose and nozzles.
- Awarded a contract to Pierce Manufacturing for the replacement of Engine 1.

In 2016, we will continue to focus on sustaining a strong, paid-on-call fire department. Over the last five years, our incident volume has stabilized, which has been key to long-term planning efforts. By combining scheduled weekday staffing along with on-call staff for night and week-end coverage, SLFD provides an extremely cost-effective model for fire protection.



*It is an honor to serve as your fire chief, and I look forward to leading the South Lyon Fire Department in further progress - Chief Mike Kennedy*

Clockwise pictures on cover page

Lyon Blvd garage fire, fire academy live fire burn evolutions at Wixom, mutual aid house fire in Northfield Twp, Brighton Area Fire Authority 9/11 5K run, reported fire in Fountain View.

## Incidents

 There were eleven structure fires in the City of South Lyon.

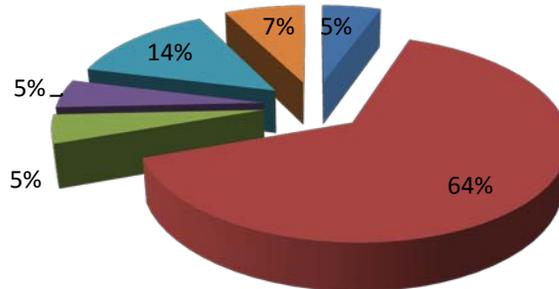
- o \$3,869,040 in pre-fire value
- o \$3,744,520 property saved
- o \$124,520 in property lost

 The below figures include mutual aid incidents.

|                                      |     |            |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------------|
| Structure fires                      | 16  |            |
| Cooking fire                         | 7   |            |
| Vehicle fire                         | 5   |            |
| Grass / wild land fire               | 5   |            |
| Other                                | 2   |            |
| <b>TOTAL - FIRE</b>                  |     | <b>35</b>  |
| Medical Assist                       | 400 |            |
| Vehicle crash with injuries          | 11  |            |
| High angle rescue                    | 1   |            |
| Other                                | 2   |            |
| <b>TOTAL - EMS</b>                   |     | <b>414</b> |
| Natural gas leak                     | 4   |            |
| Carbon Monoxide                      | 2   |            |
| Power line down                      | 3   |            |
| Arcing, shorted electrical equipment | 6   |            |
| Vehicle crash clean-up               | 12  |            |
| Other                                | 3   |            |
| <b>TOTAL - HAZARDOUS CONDITION</b>   |     | <b>30</b>  |
| Animal rescue                        | 2   |            |
| Public service                       | 9   |            |
| Coverage, stand-by                   | 13  |            |
| Other                                | 6   |            |
| <b>TOTAL - SERVICE CALL</b>          |     | <b>30</b>  |
| Cancelled incident                   | 64  |            |
| Smoke scare, odor of smoke           | 12  |            |
| Other                                | 12  |            |
| <b>TOTAL - GOOD INTENT</b>           |     | <b>88</b>  |
| Smoke detector unintentional         | 10  |            |
| Smoke detector malfunction           | 8   |            |
| Unintentional transmission of alarm  | 8   |            |
| Carbon monoxide detector malfunction | 8   |            |
| Other                                | 12  |            |
| <b>TOTAL - AUTOMATIC ALARMS</b>      |     | <b>46</b>  |

## 2015 Incident Distribution

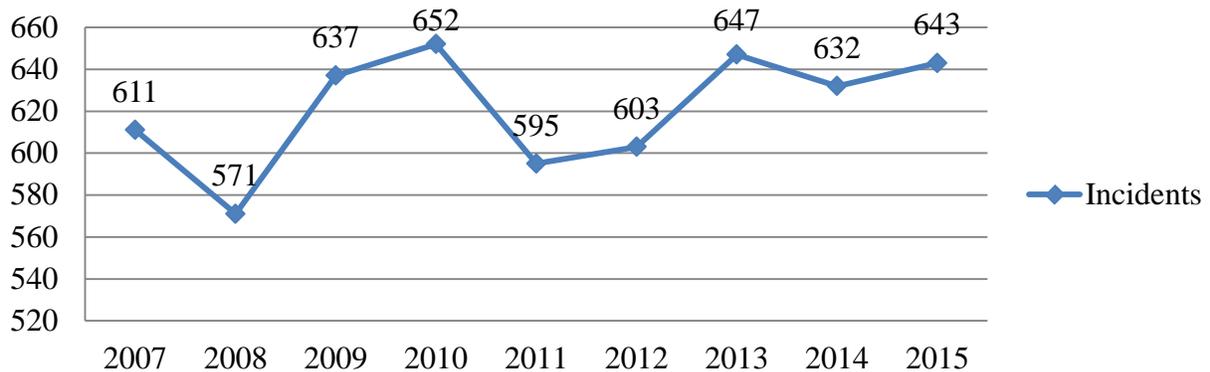
■ Fire ■ EMS ■ Hazardous Condition ■ Service Call ■ Good Intent ■ Automatic Alarms



## Average Emergency Response Time

🚒 7 minutes, 11 seconds  
🚒 56% response rate under 7 minutes

## Annual Incident Comparison



## Mutual Aid

|                       |    |                     |    |                      |   |                        |   |
|-----------------------|----|---------------------|----|----------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| <b>Green Oak Twp.</b> |    | <b>Lyon Twp.</b>    |    | <b>Salem Twp.</b>    |   | <b>Northfield Twp.</b> |   |
| Given                 | 17 | Given               | 15 | Given                | 1 | Given                  | 1 |
| Received              | 5  | Received            | 7  | Received             | 0 | Received               | 0 |
| <b>Hamburg Twp.</b>   |    | <b>Milford Twp.</b> |    | <b>City of Wixom</b> |   |                        |   |
| Given                 | 2  | Given               | 1  | Given                | 1 |                        |   |
| Received              | 0  | Received            | 0  | Received             | 0 |                        |   |



(left) February - Basement fire on Ticonderoga.

(right) February – Basement fire on McMunn.



(left) May – 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm barn fire in Salem Township.

(right) September - 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm commercial structure fire in Milford Twp.



## Human Resources

### Promotions

- Cory Armstrong promoted to captain
- Chris Demeniuk promoted to lieutenant.
- Lauren LaCroix promoted to engineer.

### New Hires

- Justin Fallon
- Brad Ortwine
- Tammy Lemieux
- Rick Bach
- Cody Sherrill
- Bryan Collins
- Dan Laitinen
- Lee Pierson
- Tyler Homrich

### Separations

- David Johnston
- Russell Achatz
- Jeremy Vanpelt
- Brad Ortwine
- Bryan Collins
- Tim Hefferan
- Tammy Lemieux
- Eric Bromley

 Deputy Chief Weir was recognized for excellence in maintaining agency compliance with the Oakland County Medical Control Authority and State of Michigan Department of Community Health.

 Captain Armstrong was recognized for maintaining the department's inventory of self-contained breathing apparatus along with annual flow and fit testing.

 Lieutenant Jim Shekell and Firefighter Ryan Carlington were recognized for top incident response.

 Lieutenant Jeff Noechel was recognized for his dedication to assisting with weekday staffing.

 Firefighter Dean Mitchell was recognized for leading efforts with firefighter fitness.

 Firefighter Mike Olando was recognized as the 2015 Rookie of the Year.

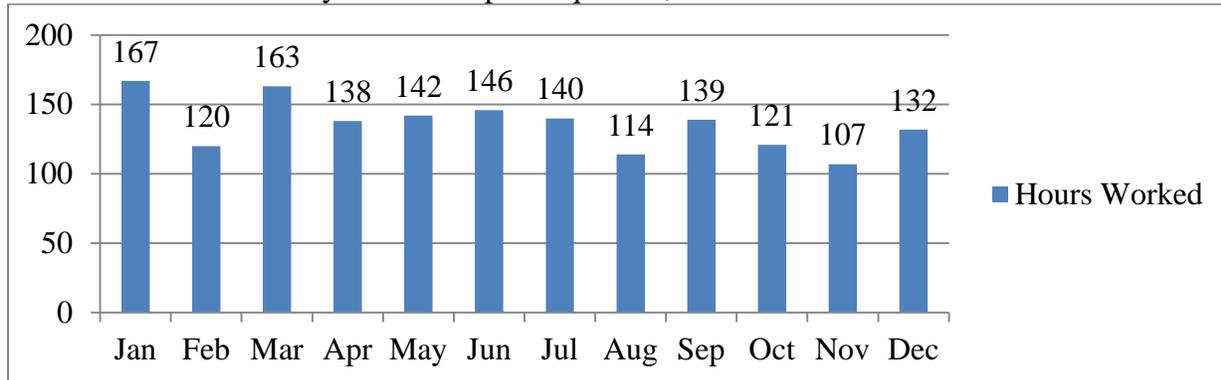
## Firefighter of the Year

(Right) Firefighter Stephanie Shippe (pictured on the left) was recognized as the 2015 Firefighter of the Year. Ms. Shippe is a four year veteran of the South Lyon Fire Department. She is an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and aerial platform operator and has additional training in confined space operations. Ms. Shippe works fulltime as an EMT for Huron Valley Ambulance and is currently taking courses to become a paramedic. Ms. Shippe has served as a mentor with the high school firefighter cadet program along with training of new firefighters. The Firefighter of the Year is selected annually by the South Lyon FD command staff.



## Fire Chief Hours Worked

 Detailed summary available upon request. 1,629 hours worked.



## Day Shift Program

Staffing is at its lightest during weekdays when the majority of on-call personnel commute out of the city to their fulltime jobs. This phenomenon is shared nationally by paid-on-call fire departments. Additionally, the fire department has a regular need for personnel to be available during regular business hours to allow contractors access to perform vehicle and facility maintenance, answer citizen inquiries, accommodate public education requests, inspect hydrants, and conduct fire inspections. In order to address this predicament, two on-call personnel are assigned to work on-duty day shifts Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM. As a cost savings measure, the fire chief normally fills the shift on Friday. Personnel are expected to perform work during this period, and a daily log is recorded. This shift program has ensured consistent and rapid response to weekday emergencies. Additionally, it has significantly improved apparatus, equipment, and facility maintenance.

## Hydrants

This was the fourth year that the fire department has had primary responsibility for municipal fire hydrant inspection and preventative maintenance. Deputy Chief Weir spends a significant amount of time liaising with the representatives from the numerous private hydrant systems to ensure operational readiness of these private systems. In 2015, decals (right) were placed on all private hydrants to prevent confusion between city and private hydrants.



-  526 - city hydrants inspected, flushed, and lubricated (includes re-inspections)
  - 18 referred to DPW for repair.
-  80 - private hydrants inspected.

## Community Relations and Fire Safety Education

- 👤 Participated in forty public education / community activities.
  - 11 school events including sports standbys and fire safety presentations.
  - 22 community events including parades and event static display of apparatus.
  - 7 station tours with fire safety presentations.
- 👤 Functionally checked smoke alarms at 20 residences.
- 👤 Installed 20 new smoke alarms.
- 👤 Installed 23 new batteries.



(left SLFD firefighters allow children to spray a fire hose during a Barlett Elementary PTO event.

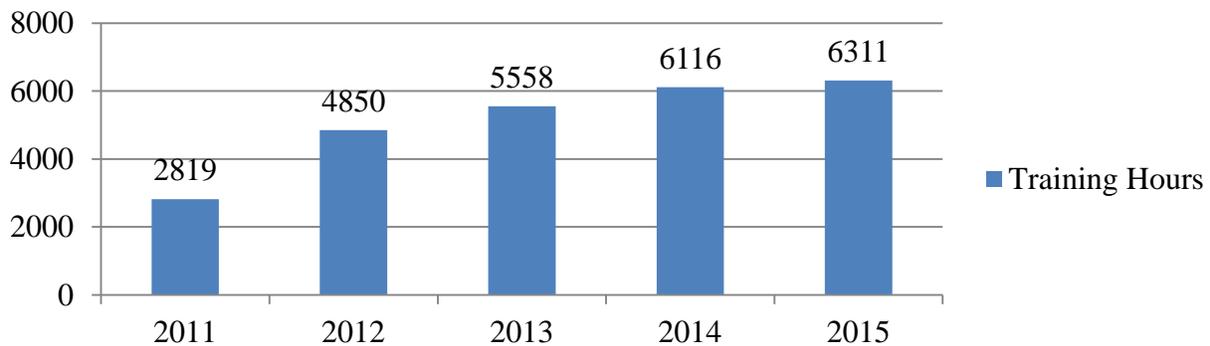
## Fire Prevention Bureau

With local economic improvement, the fire prevention bureau witnessed a steep increase in activity. Lt. Jeff Noechel serves as the fire inspector and coordinates the daily functions of the Fire Prevention Bureau. In 2015, he averaged 27 hours per week, which includes field inspections, application reviews, and special projects.

- 👤 4 community events with occupancy load calculations
- 👤 112 annual fire inspections of commercial occupancies
- 👤 4 sets of architectural print reviews
- 👤 2 sprinkler tests due to new construction or system modification
- 👤 141 key box checks
- 👤 3 change of occupancy classifications
- 👤 4 FOIA requests processed
- 👤 5 new businesses
- 👤 4 construction projects
- 👤 1 business relocation
- 👤 1 new hydrant added in the industrial area due to new construction
- 👤 16 hours of continuing education

## Training

- 👤 In accordance with Oakland County Medical Control Authority protocols, all EMT licensed staff were trained in the delivery of Narcan for opioid overdoses.
- 👤 Captain Armstrong, Lt Noechel, and Lt Demeniuk completed Fire Officer III.
- 👤 Multiple live fire training sessions were conducted at the City of Wixom burn tower.
- 👤 In September, staff completed mandatory competencies for engineer and aerial platform operator.
- 👤 Numerous opportunities were provided for firefighters to attend advanced training courses such as large vehicle extrication, advanced extrication techniques, aerial platform operator, engineer, and officer development.
- 👤 Firefighters Mitchell, Conrad, and Orlando completed the Livingston County Fire Fighter Training academy at the Brighton Area Fire Authority. This course is eight months and over 400 hours of training.
- 👤 Firefighters Rich Bach and Cody Sherrill completed Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training.
- 👤 Chief Kennedy attended and presented at the International Association of Fire Chiefs – Fire Rescue International conference in Atlanta, Georgia.



(left and below) Staff used the city-owned 390 South Lafayette building for multiple training evolutions including: vertical ventilation, search and rescue, ladders, wall breaching, and forcible entry.



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(left) In the spring, SLFD hosted an Aerial Platform Operations and Pump Apparatus Operator course, which was attended by staff from several fire departments.



(Above and left) Over the last several years, SLFD staff have trained and become very proficient at non-traditional methods of forcible entry. These skills are very valuable during medical emergencies when the patient cannot open the door.

(Right) The final design was approved for the new Engine 1, which is set for delivery in May 2016. This was the culmination of several hundred hours of research and development.

