City of O Fallon Fire Department

O'Fallon Fire Department
Semi-Annual Report
1 May 2007 – 31 October 2007

1. The new Heavy Rescue unit was placed into full service at Fire Station #1, after the department members were trained in operating its functions.

2. The new special operations trailer was placed in service in July. This trailer will supplement the heavy rescue squad housing various items for technical rescues and hazardous materials responses.

3. Fire Department responded to 316 incidents during this time period.
   Incident Highlights:
   a. 17 Structure fires
   b. 8 extrications of entrapped passengers in vehicles (at least 2 of these having multiple patients)

3. The department received 700/800 MHz "Starcom" trunking radios courtesy of a grant to the Fairview Fire Department. Our strategic goal is to convert most OFD operations to the 700/800 MHz in the future.

4. O'Fallon Volunteer Fire Department personnel spent more than 900 hours (outside of scheduled training and emergency responses) supporting community activities. Highlights concerning these events follow:
   a. Fire Prevention activities: Fire Prevention Week included Station Open Houses, OFD participation in school and OPD sponsored "Safety Stops", school visits, business and pre-school fire drills. The training of new hotel employees has kept the FD busy.
   b. Our outreach activities for senior citizens, "Remembering When" continues to grow. OFD members of the "Remembering When" team are in demand as presenters both locally and regionally.
   c. We continue our untiring support of many non profit organizations using donated Fire Station birthday parties, community outreach visits and our ongoing commitment to the Muscular Dystrophy Associations annual fill the boot campaign.

5. Chief Officers were sworn in for the FD: Chief Saunders, Deputy Chief Bailey and Assistant Chief Schmidt.

6. The Fire Department was placed under the umbrella of the Public Safety Department.

7. The fire department is developing a formal emergency dispatch and response protocol utilizing the MABAS template. The MABAS template is a national model for use when multiple departments are responding to an incident. This pre-planning will allow us to better serve our citizens by utilizing a pre-determined response including mutual-aid companies to large incidents avoiding any unnecessary delays.

8. Several department members received training and state certification for dealing with juvenile fire setting.

9. Several department members recently completed training in several technical rescue disciplines including; trench operations, trench technician, confined space technician, structural collapse operations, structural collapse technician, vehicle machinery technician, and rope rescue technician. At a minimum each one of the classes are 48 hours with some totaling more than 80, consisting of classroom instruction and hands on practicals to complete.

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