

# SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2009





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# CHIEF'S MESSAGE



Ray S. Jones  
Fire Chief

**A**s I look back over 2009 I am pleased and proud of the accomplishments of the Sacramento Fire Department. Our challenges were many and time and time again we rose to overcome the challenge. This annual report will give the reader a sense of our triumphs and challenges but it will not provide anywhere near the insight into the incredible men and women who work for this department. Truly, these are the people who deserve to be recognized for their outstanding contributions to this organization.

In this day and age of shrinking budgets and an ever changing political terrain it is not good enough to be “good enough.” Today our fire departments must be innovative and nimble in order to embrace change and then to implement that change. In 2009 we witnessed a maturing of our department in this regard. We began the process of using data, best practices and evidence based outcomes to move our department forward.

For the second year in a row we were hit with significant budget reductions. Though we were required to lower our budget by over 3 million dollars we were able to accomplish this without laying off one firefighter. For this to happen our elected officials, labor and fire management all had to pull together to find mutually acceptable solutions. We had to “walk our talk” when it came to being nimble, using best practices and embracing the use of data. Going through this collaborative process turned out to be a win/win situation for all involved.

For those who have an opportunity to read this report I hope it provides a glimpse into the daily operations of our department. It is always an honor and privilege to open the doors of our organization to you. I remain committed to leading this department with innovation and enthusiasm as we head into 2010.

## MISSION

*COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE  
IN ENHANCING AND  
PROTECTING LIFE, PROPERTY,  
AND THE ENVIRONMENT.*

## VALUES

*INTEGRITY  
CUSTOMER SERVICE  
TEAMWORK*

## VISION

*TO BE THE RECOGNIZED  
LEADER IN PRESERVING AND  
ENRICHING OUR COMMUNITY'S  
QUALITY OF LIFE.*



# HISTORY

The Sacramento Fire Department began as a volunteer department on February 5, 1850 one year after the City of Sacramento was incorporated. It was the first volunteer fire department in the western United States.

On March 30, 1872, after the City formed Engine Companies 1 and 2, the Sacramento Fire Department was established as a paid fire department.

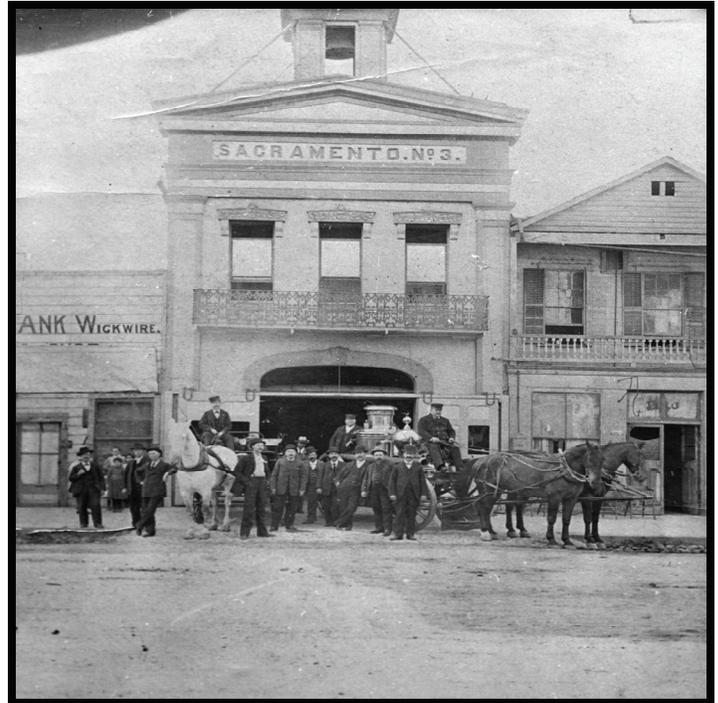
During the late 1800's and early 1900's major improvements in fire equipment began to take place. Copper-riveted leather hose was replaced by rubber hose and longer extension ladders were made. Horse-drawn apparatus were soon replaced with steam-operated pumps, chemical engines, and motorized apparatus. Motorized vehicles were placed into service as early as 1912.

Between the 1920's and 1940's the population of the city continued to grow; however, the geographical area of the city remained the same until the end of World War II when the city began annexing surrounding areas in the county.

Originally, the mission of the fire department was to provide fire suppression. However in the 1940's the department began dedicating personnel to fire prevention activities. With the enforcement of building and life safety codes, public education in fire safety, and weed abatement regulations the loss of life and property from fire began to lessen.

In the 1980's and 1990's the fire department, through contract, began providing fire protection to the citizens living in the areas formerly serviced by the Fruitridge, Natomas, and Pacific Fire Protection Districts.

Today, the Department is responsible for more than just protecting life and property from the ravages of fire through fire suppression. It also provides a broad range of services including emergency medical services, paramedic care, ambulance transportation, hazardous materials response, special and technical rescue, urban search and rescue, fire prevention, and fire code enforcement.



## S.F.D. Today

**TOTAL SERVICE AREA: 146.3 square miles**

City of Sacramento: 99.2 sq. mi.

Contract Areas

Natomas Fire Protection District: 42.5 sq. mi.

Pacific Fruitridge Fire Protection District: 4.6 sq. mi.

**TOTAL SERVICE POPULATION: 530,327**

City of Sacramento: 481,097

Contract Areas

Natomas Fire Protection District: 2,848

Pacific Fruitridge Fire Protection District: 46,382

**ACTIVE FIRE STATIONS: 23**

**FIRE COMPANIES & MEDIC UNITS: 44**

Engine Companies: 23

Truck Companies: 9

Medic Units: 12

**TOTAL BUDGET: \$ 99,138,428**

**TOTAL FTE: 634**



# SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

The Sacramento Fire Department responded to nearly 70,000 incidents and participated in numerous community events in 2009. Following are some notable examples:

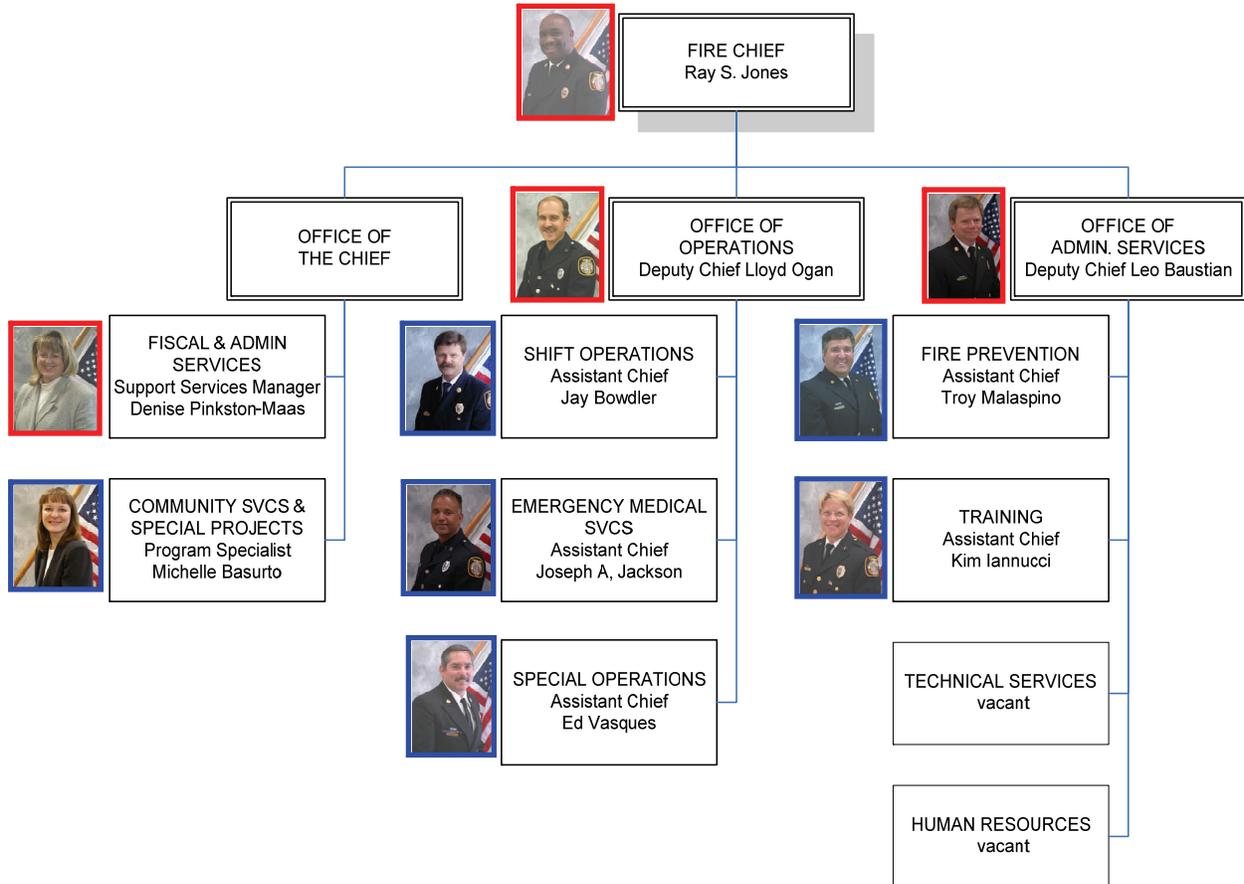
- ◆ March 26 - A Hazardous Materials Incident occurred at the Procter & Gamble facility in South Sacramento. While undergoing routine maintenance, a Hydrogen storage tank valve failed creating a small Hydrogen Gas leak that caught fire. Firefighters and employees of Procter & Gamble quickly controlled the situation.
- ◆ April 24 - A two alarm fire broke out at the Kaiser Hospital in South Sacramento. Firefighters arrived and found a moderate amount of smoke in Medical Office Building #1 and fire on the second floor. A fire sprinkler had controlled the fire but firefighters had to stretch their hose a long distance into the building to completely extinguish the fire.
- ◆ May 13 - Firefighters responded to an accident on South Bound 99 and found a single vehicle that had major damage and had obviously rolled over. There were no victims in or near the car. Firefighters responding to another call on Berna Way found two victims in the backyard. These were the two occupants of the car. The female passenger had been ejected from the car, thrown up and over a 12 foot sound wall, and landed in a tree in the backyard of the Berna Way home. The tree actually cushioned her fall, which enabled her to survive. The male driver was not ejected, but suffered serious injuries. He was able to get himself to the other side of the wall to get to his female passenger.
- ◆ May 23 - While attempting to cross the American River on horse back, a man fell off the horse and is presumed drowned. Firefighters and DART divers attempted to find the man. There were many witnesses to this tragedy and a few even tried to save the man. It appeared to the witnesses that the victim became too exhausted to stay afloat. This is yet another tragic reminder of how strong the rivers currents are.
- ◆ June 11 - A three alarm fire destroyed one home and severely damaged a second home in a Pocket Neighborhood. Firefighters reported heavy fire from a two story home and fire threatening the next door single story home. The fire's intensity forced all firefighters to abandon the two-story home and put up a "defensive" fight.
- ◆ July 3 - A two alarm fire severely destroyed the second floor and attic of a downtown Victorian apartment building. Firefighters made an aggressive attack on the fire, saved the downstairs units, and prevented the fire from spreading to adjoining buildings.
- ◆ July 13 - Firefighters responded to a house fire in on Tattershall Way and found a working fire in the homes kitchen. While conducting the search of the home for occupants, firefighters found a male victim in the back bedroom. The victim was removed by firefighters and transported to a nearby hospital suffering from smoke inhalation.
- ◆ July 15 - A two alarm wildland fire toppled a tall radio tower, damaged a second tower, and threatened a third tower along the American River Parkway near Commerce Circle and Lathrop Way. Firefighters had to use caution around the damaged towers as they shuttled water back and forth from a nearby business park.
- ◆ August 30 - The Sacramento and Sacramento Metro Fire Departments sent two Initial Attack Type 1 Strike Teams to a fire near Highway 49 and Bell Road in the Auburn area. A total of ten Sacramento area Fire Engines responded to the fire.
- ◆ September 11 - 343 Firefighters from throughout the Sacramento Region climbed 110 flights of stairs at the Renaissance Tower located at 801 K Street in Downtown Sacramento. This event was a memorial tribute to the 343 Firefighters from the New York City Fire Department who lost their lives during the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.
- ◆ November 1 - A two alarm house fire severely damaged a two story home on Fifth Avenue near 25<sup>th</sup> Street. Much of the home was severely damaged and the fire displaced the family living there. There were no reported injuries.
- ◆ December 27 - A four alarm fire ripped through an apartment building at 10<sup>th</sup> and E Streets in Downtown Sacramento early in the morning. Firefighters found heavy fire from the two story apartment building and as they prepared to attack the fire, the entire second floor of the building collapsed. A second building also had significant fire damage. There were no reported injuries. Numerous residents were displaced.





# ORGANIZATION CHART

## SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION CHART (Senior Staff and Leadership Team)



**The Sacramento Fire Department is organized into three primary offices as described below:**

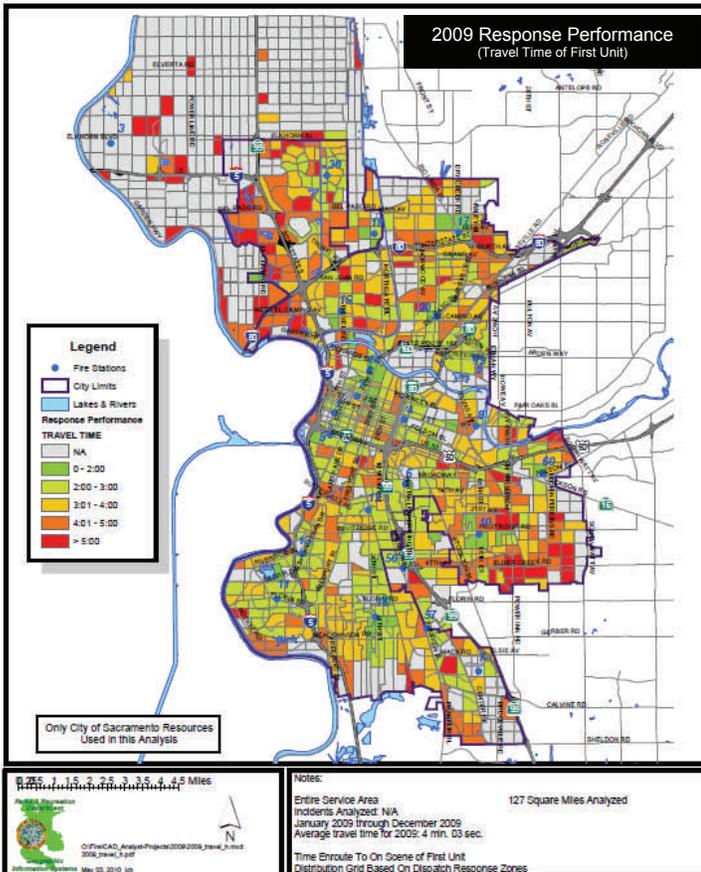
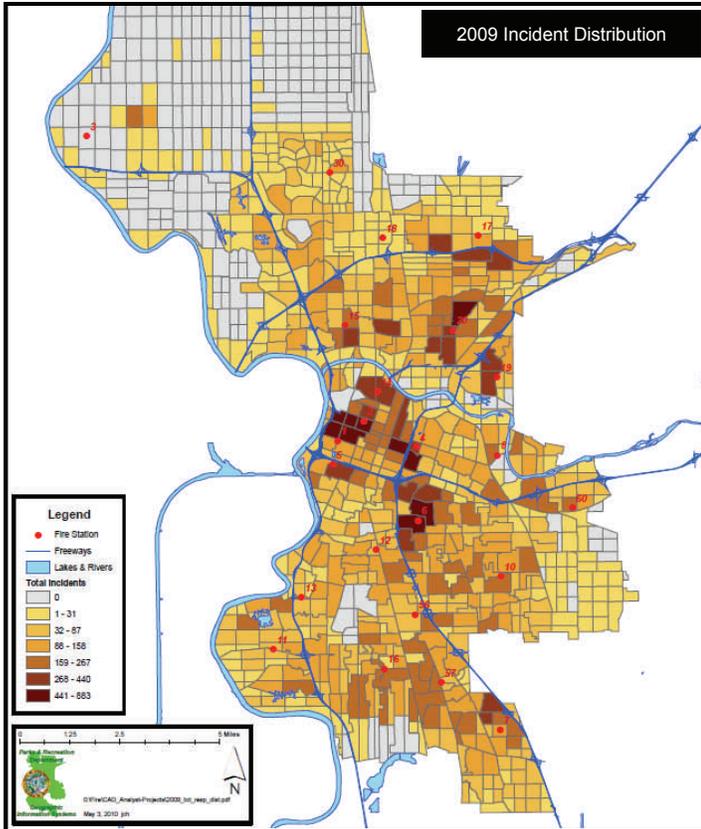
**Office of the Chief** provides overall direction and management of the department. This office plans, organizes and directs overall operations; advocates for resources; promotes the department’s image; and directs citywide emergency services. Media Relations, Fiscal Services, and Community Outreach and Education are functions in this office.

**Office of Operations** provides overall direction and management of the emergency response to the community. Firefighters provide quick and effective response to medical emergencies, fires, vehicle crashes, special rescues, hazardous material incidents, disasters, and many other types of emergencies. This office also administers the Fleet program.

**Office of Administrative Services** provides overall direction and management of the administrative and support functions of the department including Fire Prevention, Training, Technical Services and Human Resources. This office also oversees Facility Planning.



# INCIDENT SUMMARY



INCIDENTS: 2005-2009					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Fire Calls</b>					
Structure Fires	1,027	902	523	517	475
Mobile Property-Structure	5	13	13	7	7
Mobile Property-Vehicle	781	699	573	429	370
Grass, Brush, Trees, Crops	637	697	687	706	506
Dumpster, Refuse Fire	329	479	525	505	440
Other Outside Fires	118	142	157	144	101
Exposures	38	6	0	0	0
Other Fires	376	184	113	97	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,311</b>	<b>3,122</b>	<b>2,591</b>	<b>2,405</b>	<b>1,963</b>
<b>Overpressure Rupture Calls</b>					
Steam Ruptures	1	2	4	3	1
Air/Gas Ruptures	28	23	14	19	13
Excessive Heat	509	604	512	579	384
Other Overpressure Calls	13	10	16	17	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>408</b>
<b>Emergency Medical Services</b>					
EMS	42,788	43,482	42,759	43,908	41,226
EMS-Assist	13	318	266	513	568
EMS-Lock in Medical	4	111	107	73	65
Person Lost	0	12	11	11	7
Person Trapped, Caught	157	99	83	72	62
Drowning	3	22	18	23	23
Electrical Rescue	0	0	3	0	3
Rescue/Standby	0	28	15	23	6
Other EMS	2,054	889	251	163	182
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,019</b>	<b>44,961</b>	<b>43,513</b>	<b>44,786</b>	<b>42,142</b>
<b>Hazardous Condition Calls</b>					
Hazmat - Flammable	133	176	190	222	230
Hazmat - Toxic	123	69	40	41	51
Electrical Problem	158	275	210	358	187
Vehicle Problem	100	62	43	30	11
Explosives Present	0	6	11	1	3
Attempted Burning	11	21	33	28	18
Other Hazard	54	151	152	151	106
<b>Total</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>606</b>
<b>Service Calls</b>					
Person in Distress	1,089	948	589	599	493
Water Problem	172	165	160	116	101
Smoke, Odor Problem	190	168	196	225	187
Animal Problem	185	151	128	144	149
Public Service Assist	1,867	1,483	1,579	1,735	1,691
Unauth Burn	152	88	76	50	54
Cover Assignment	7	10	3	5	2
Code Violation, Complaint	15	69	61	44	24
Other Service Call	191	512	435	336	241
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,868</b>	<b>3,594</b>	<b>3,227</b>	<b>3,254</b>	<b>2,942</b>
<b>Good Intent Calls</b>					
Incident Cleared	1,010	2,752	4,486	4,314	3,549
Wrong Location	160	454	777	733	638
Control Burn	23	13	6	7	6
Vicinity Alarm	21	20	5	5	3
Smoke Scare	117	81	51	55	44
EMS-Gone on Arrival	783	285	47	53	28
Hazmat-No Hazard	255	164	86	102	51
Other	4,670	4,461	4,327	4,033	3,765
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,039</b>	<b>8,230</b>	<b>9,785</b>	<b>9,302</b>	<b>8,084</b>
<b>False Alarms</b>					
Malicious/Mischievous	778	339	278	266	251
Bomb Threats/No Bomb	15	12	6	2	3
Alarm Malfunction	1,452	1,192	850	865	684
Accidental/Unintentional	2,032	1,899	1,455	1,691	1,559
Other False Alarms	134	728	1,067	1,047	833
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,411</b>	<b>4,170</b>	<b>3,656</b>	<b>3,871</b>	<b>3,330</b>
<b>Natural Disaster</b>					
Earthquake	1	0	0	0	0
Flood	0	0	0	1	0
Wind Storm	5	3	0	5	1
Other	3	3	2	11	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Other</b>					
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,726</b>	<b>4,623</b>	<b>5,727</b>	<b>9,468</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>64,787</b>	<b>68,208</b>	<b>68,622</b>	<b>70,811</b>	<b>68,944</b>



# FACILITIES

The Sacramento Fire Department has 23 active fire stations strategically located throughout its service area. Seven stations are located north of the American River, seven stations in the central downtown and eastern sections of the City, and nine stations in the southern portions of the City. Other department facilities include: the Public Safety Center (Fire & Police Department Headquarters), Support Services Complex (Emergency Medical Services and Special Operations), Historic Stations 20 and 11 (Equipment Repair Shops), Station 99 (Fire Reserves HQ), the Training Complex, and the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course.

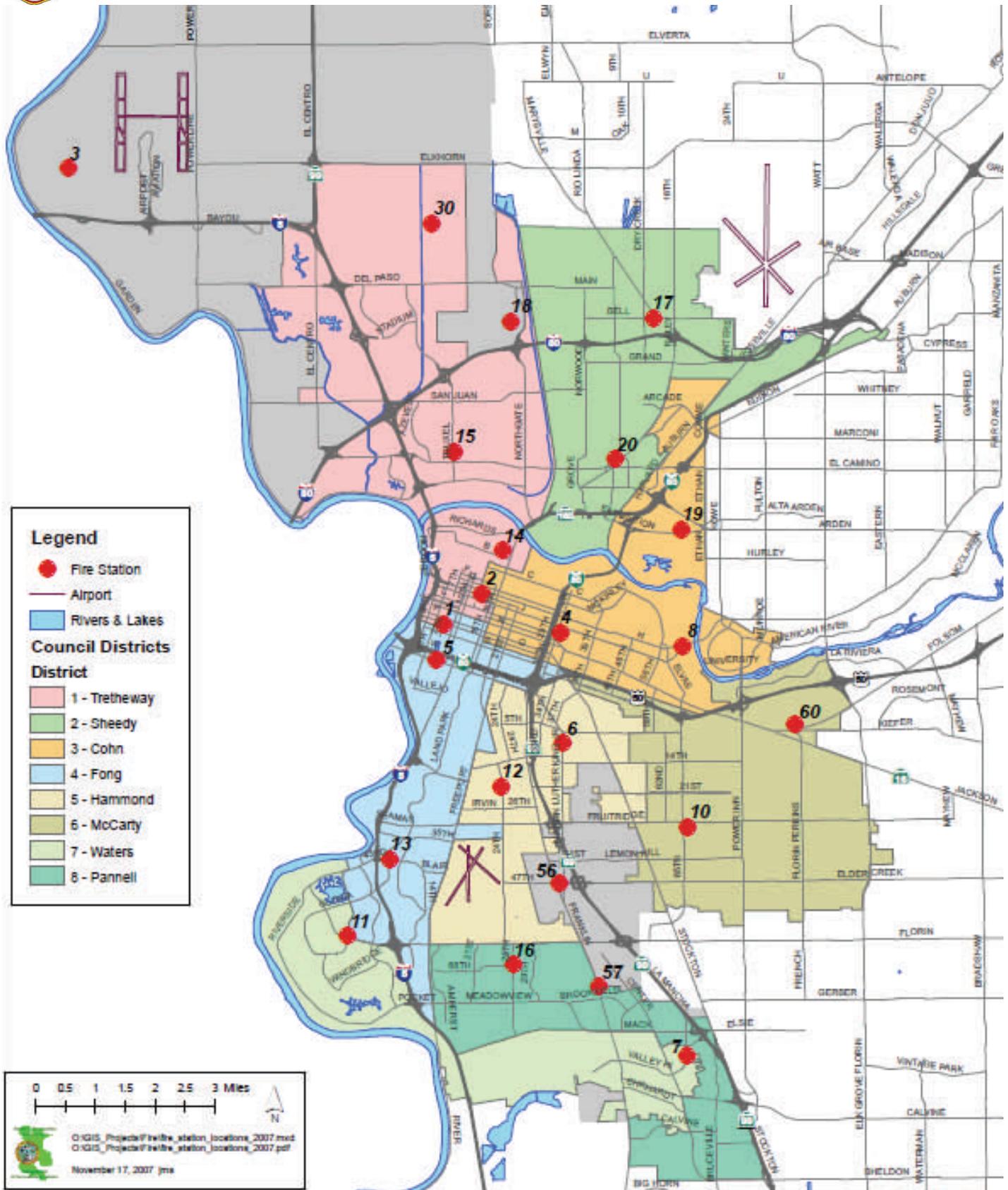
**FIRE STATIONS**

STATION				STATION			
NO	ADDRESS	YEAR BUILT	AGE	NO	ADDRESS	YEAR BUILT	AGE
1	624 Q St	1969	40	14	1341 North C St	1939	70
2	1229 I St	1984	25	15	1591 Newborough Dr	1981	28
3	7208 W. Elkhorn Bl	1964	45	16	7363 24th St	1962	47
4	3145 Granada Wy	1933	76	17	1311 Bell Av	1982	27
5	731 Broadway	2005	4	18	746 North Market Bl	1979	30
6	3301 ML King Jr. Bl	1977	32	19	1700 Challenge Wy	1969	40
7	6500 Wyndham Dr	1972	37	20	2512 Rio Linda Bl	2005	4
8	5990 H St	1959	50	30	1901 Club Center Dr	2005	4
10	5642 66th St	1972	37	56	3730 47th Av	1962	47
11	785 Florin Rd	1986	23	57	7927 East Parkway	1958	51
12	4500 24th St	1977	32	60	3301 Julliard Dr	1962	47
13	1100 43rd Av	1965	44	Average Age: 37			

City of Sacramento  
**PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER**



# FACILITIES





# OPERATIONS



The 456 sworn line employees in the Operations Division are organized into 3 platoons (A, B, and C) working 24 hour shifts that are structured into a 48 hours on duty followed by a 96 hours off (48/96) duty pattern. This is a 56 hour work week. Each day the emergency response resources are organized into 4 battalions each supervised by a Battalion Chief.

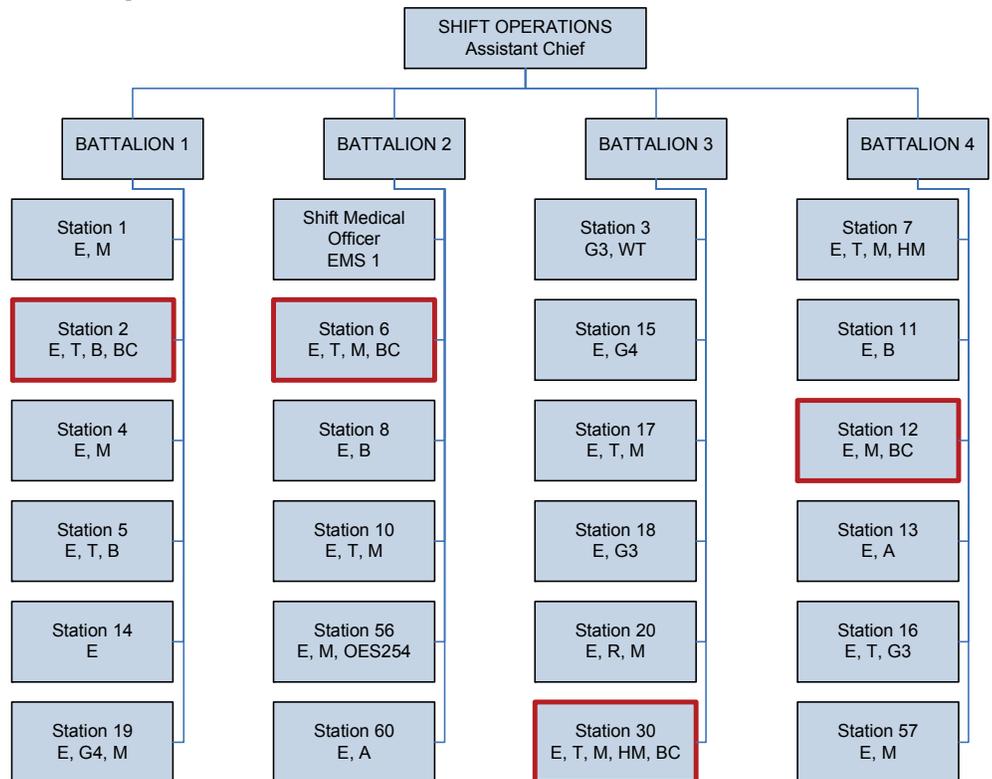
Like other services in the City, the Fire Department is affected by the economic situation impacting the General Fund. One of the cost reduction strategies implemented in March of 2009 was a rolling brown-out of one company. This strategy rotates the impact of the unstaffed company through the nine (9) stations that house both an Engine and a Truck company. The crew of the browned-out company is assigned to other vacancies on the daily Roll Call plan, idling the company. There is an average increase in response time of 1.5 minutes in the affected station district as a result. Property damage has increased at a few fire calls as well.

There is a general 2.7% reduction of total City call volume when comparing 2009 to 2008 incident history. Over the last 2 years fire calls are down 25%, medical calls are down 2% and false alarms calls are down 7%. EMS calls are reducing at a lower rate than non-EMS calls. As a result EMS calls as a percentage of the total are steadily increasing and now approaching 70%.

Our work force and the community at large were impacted by a strong flu season this year that also involved the H1N1 flu strain. The Fire Department participated in the development of a coordinated Incident Action Plan with a number of key departments in the City and other County health and emergency response agencies. While the impact on the community and our work force was less than predicted, it caused a paradigm shift in how we project service.

Crews were sent out on 6 wildland Strike Team deployments during the summer, answering the mutual aid call from the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) for local government resources to support other communities threatened by wildfire. These opportunities are vital to the development of our incident management staff and the growth of our institutional experience in these large complicated incident organizations.

Innovation continued in the Roll Call function. The Telestaff computer program that manages the daily staffing was upgraded with a new cost-saving auction module. The new auction module automated the annual task of seniority based vacation scheduling and filling bid openings and is no longer dependant on dedicated personnel using manual techniques.

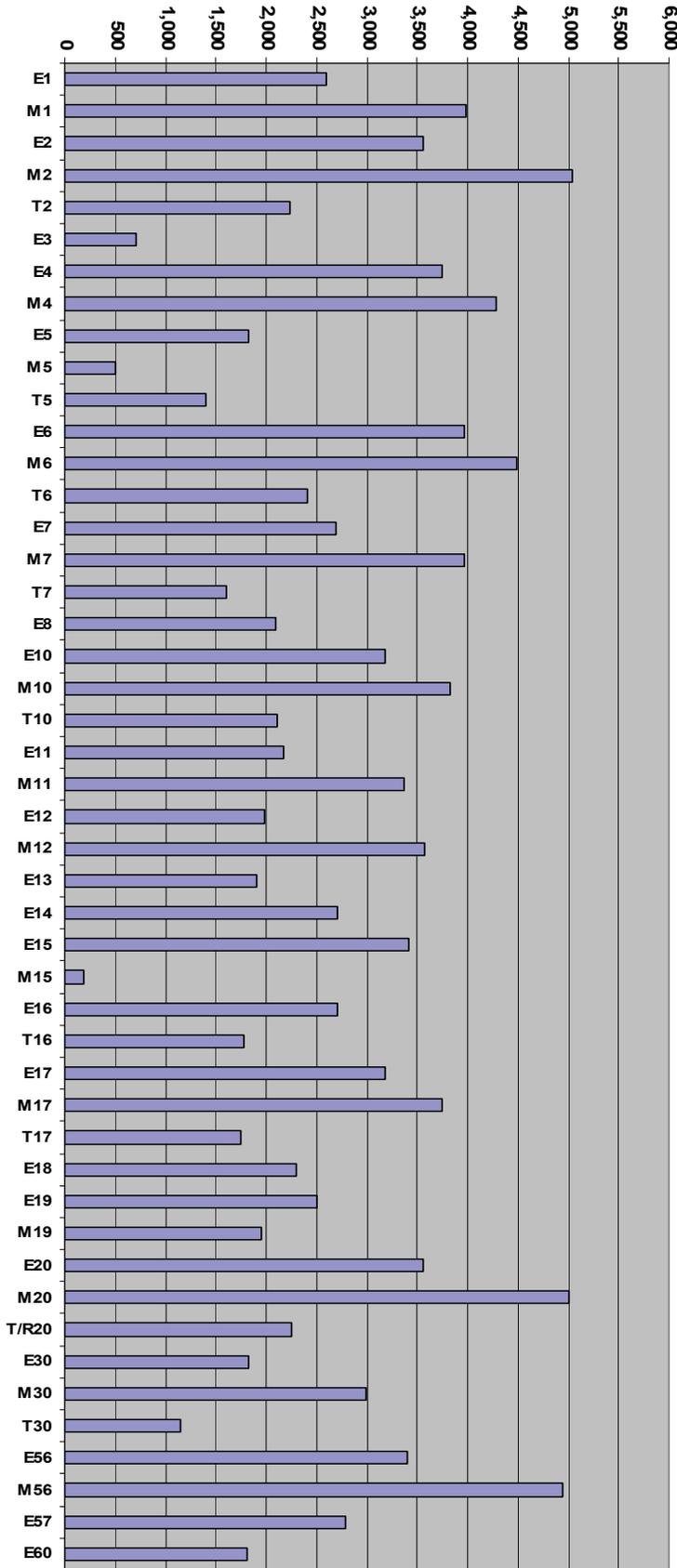


Key: A - Air Compressor; B - Boat; BC - Battalion Chief; E - Type 1 Engine; G3 - Type 3 Engine Grass; G4 - Type 4 Engine Grass; HM - Hazardous Materials; M - Medic; R - Rescue; T - Ladder Truck; WT - Water Tender

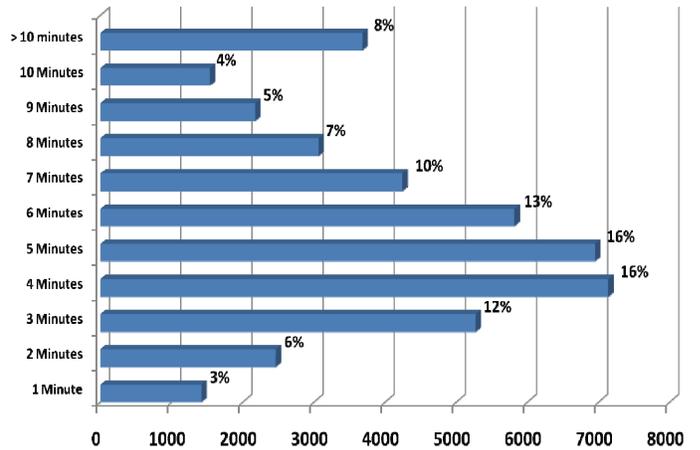


# OPERATIONS

## CALLS DISPATCHED



## Medic Dispatch to Scene Time within Eight Minutes - 83% of All 911 Calls





# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Sacramento Fire Department has provided paramedic transport services in the City of Sacramento since 1994. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division's goal is to provide the highest level public service to the customer. EMS, in concert with other fire departments' EMS divisions, participates in shaping pre-hospital care through collaboration with the Sacramento County EMS authority, local hospitals and community organizations. These partnerships have resulted in the development and implementation of high quality patient care, improved recognition and reporting of infant, child and elder abuse; sexual assaults; and domestic violence. Ongoing educational programs, research projects, and publications are also a result of these affiliations. EMS continues to provide opportunities to paramedic students for preceptorships and sponsors a paramedic student intern program; however, the intern program has been temporarily suspended until further notice.

The Advance Life Support (ALS) and Transportation program has twelve 24-hour ambulances placed in service to ensure timely arrival of advanced care providers to those in need. As the patient call volume is continually evaluated the department is able to also deploy up to two additional flex ambulances during peak hours throughout the City and contracted areas. All engines and trucks are Basic Life Support (BLS) capable with approximately 95% of the units providing paramedic services on a daily basis.

To improve the performance and quality of our patient care, the EMS Division established a Peer Review Committee and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program. Comprised of Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician (FF/EMT-1) and FF/EMT-P, the EMS Peer Review Committee provides a perspective on patient care issues raised by medical authorities. The committee examines new medical equipment, evaluates existing medical equipment and makes recommendations to the EMS Division. In 2009, the committee examined and made recommendations regarding protocol compliance, Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP), and audit criteria. The CPAP was deployed in January 2009 and resulted in improved outcomes for the critical patients. The positive feedback on the efficacy of this device prompted the peer review committee to recommend the continued use by the Department.

The CQI program educates and trains personnel to the highest standards in quality patient care. This program received high marks in the past from the Sacramento County EMS Agency (SCEMS). Patient Care Reports (PCRs) are reviewed for completeness, appropriateness and protocol compliance. The CQI program reviews and analyzes any concern or issue by patient, family member, or medical authority through its established channels. Concerns brought forth in this process are assessed for protocol compliance, and are evaluated to ensure that treatments rendered meet the standard of care.

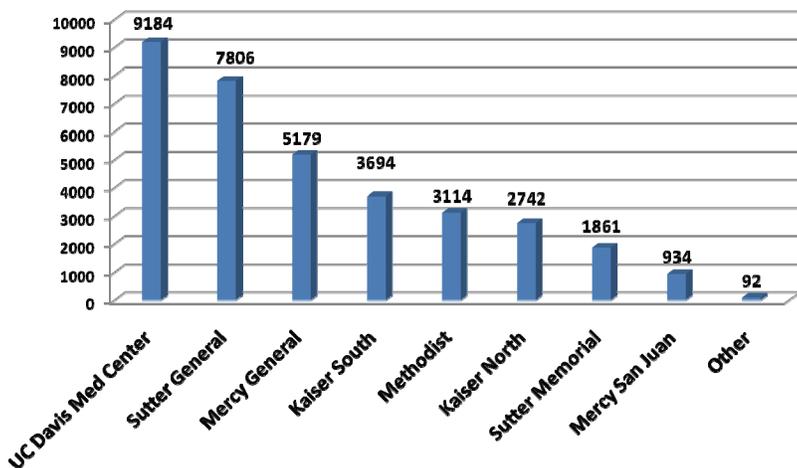
Probationary FF/EMT-P and FF/EMT-I employees continue to undergo the established CQI process of their four, eight, and twelve month to evaluate their EMS knowledge and skills. The sessions included assessment of their knowledge regarding County policies and procedures, rapid patient assessment and interventions, interpretation of cardiac rhythms, and manipulation of required skills, such as intubation. As many of the probationary FF/EMT-P have limited experience as paramedics, the assessments were very beneficial in identifying specific needs for the individual medic.

In 2009, three Multi-Company Training (MCT) drills were conducted. The major focus of the drills was on the anticipated pandemic threat and community's response. The goal was to educate, heighten awareness, and develop a pandemic response plan for the H1N1 virus. Each drill provided an opportunity to update our personnel regarding the status of our H1N1 response. In addition the annual mandatory training and review of patient care documentation, the drills included the first seasonal influenza vaccination ever done by the Department.

Continued infection control training done by the Department Designated Infection Control Officer has been beneficial in reducing the incidence of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) which was identified as a problem for SFD personnel in 2008. SFD personnel have been responsive to using waterless hand hygiene products, and cleaning wipe-cloths that were introduced to inhibit the spread of the bacteria.

## Hospital Destinations 2009

Total Transports - 34606





# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

In 2009 policy drafts were written for pandemic response. These policies were adopted by the California Department of Public Health, Folsom Fire Department, and other agencies who adapted portions of them to their response plans. The plan included: infection control measures adapted from Center for Disease Control guidelines; modified staffing guidelines for increases in call volume, and decreases in personnel due to illness; inventory control measures for supplies, medications, and personal protective equipment; education of staff and the community; transportation modalities based on patient call volume; and inter-agency communication to relay situation/status updates.

The department continues to foster an educational partnership with the University of California at Davis Medical Center (UCDMC). Fourth year medical students ride along with the Medic Units to gain a better understanding of the fire service, field treatment, and SCEMS policies and procedures.

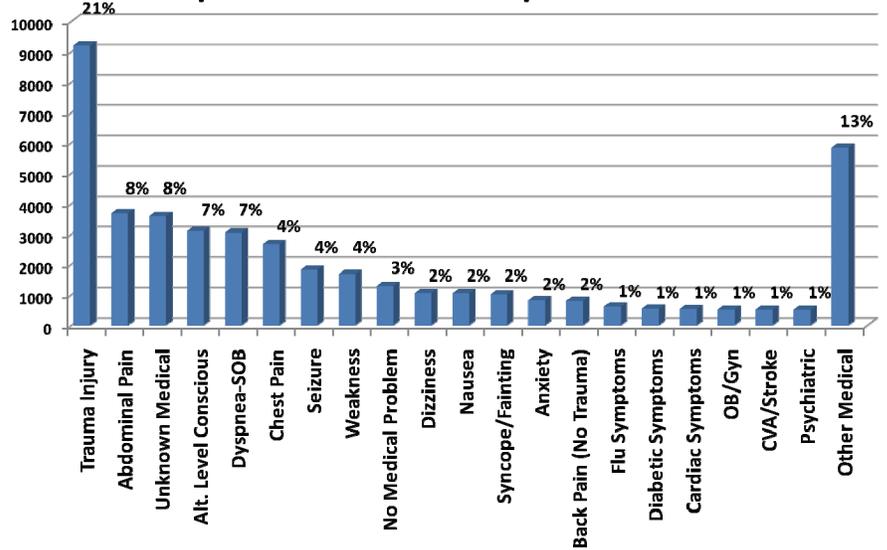
Mobile Intensive Care Nurses (MICN) who receive radio reports from paramedics on patient status are mandated to ride along in a medic unit. This program provides nurses the opportunity to observe FF/EMT-P interacting with patients in the pre-hospital setting. Many nurses from local hospitals have taken advantage of this program. As part of their EMS rotation, the Emergency Residents from the UCDMC also ride along and present medical lectures to the SFD FF/EMT-P to provide them with advanced assessment skills and tools. The UCDMC Emergency Residents are also committed to provide medical lecture on topics which include Hypothermia, Bites and Envenomation, Pediatric Orthopedic Emergencies, Obstetrical Emergencies, and Anaphylaxis. This joint venture has proven to be a great partnership.

The EMS Division provided paramedic field training to numerous outside agencies including ARC, METS, and NCTI. While the minimum field training hours are 480, most of our paramedic preceptors provided 600 to 720 hours of field training to the outside agency paramedic student. Without this important field training, a paramedic student would not be able to complete the requirements to become a paramedic.

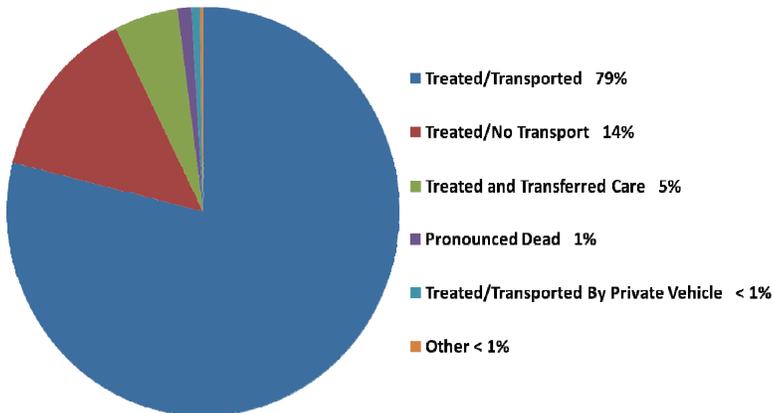
EMS partners with the Sacramento Adult Education, specifically Old Marshall School, in providing EMT-1 and EMT-P training to the community. The goal of the program is to tap into the diversity that Sacramento has to offer. Old Marshall employs SFD personnel as instructors, and SFD provides the equipment and supplies needed for the EMT and EMT-P classes. It is a mutually beneficial program; however, due to fiscal constraints this partnership was ended.

The EMS Division is an active member and participant in community programs. The EMS Division is a member of the Elderly Death Review Team and the Child Death Review Team. Case information is compiled from SFD Records Management System and presented at team meetings. EMS has also been involved with Mercy General Hospital's process for Accreditation as a Cardiac Center by participating in their door-to-balloon program meetings. Door-to-balloon programs are geared toward transporting cardiac patients to definitive Cardiac Care Facilities which provide access to rapid cardiac interventions.

## Top Provider Impressions



## Run Disposition





# SPECIAL OPERATIONS



Special Operations is a multi-faceted division under the Office of Operations. During the year, the division was staffed by an Assistant Chief, two Administrative Captains and an Administrative Technician. In addition, a Battalion Chief, an Administrative Analyst, a Typist Clerk III and two Cache Management Specialists were funded under a grant from the Department of Homeland Security. The Chief of Special Operations has management responsibilities for the following programs: Hazardous Materials, Domestic Preparedness, Technical Rescue and Urban Search and Rescue.

The HAZMAT Program is responsible for emergency hazardous materials response in the Sacramento area. This is accomplished in partnership with the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District and Sacramento County Environmental Division. The program provides 24-hour response for the City and County of Sacramento and the cities of West Sacramento, Elk Grove, Citrus Heights, Rancho Cordova, Folsom, Galt, & Isleton. The entire response area is comprised of a population in excess of 1.4 million people.

In 2009, there were approximately 100 firefighters trained to the *Hazardous Materials Specialist* level. These personnel are available to staff the two Hazardous Materials Response Teams and two Decontamination Teams (Decon) in the Sacramento Fire Department that serve in dual roles as first-responding fire companies. Each team is staffed with eight Specialists. The Teams are located at Station 7 (south) and Station 30 (north).

The HAZMAT Program also provides training. Annual personnel training hours equal in the thousands of hours, all are mandated by Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations §5192 (q). The HAZMAT program also works in coordination with all levels of law enforcement, public health, public works and environmental regulatory agencies.

As a result of the 1996 Nunn-Lugar-Domenici federal legislation, the Domestic Preparedness Program was developed. It was designed to provide specialized equipment and training to operational areas in order to enhance domestic preparedness to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN) and explosive terrorism incidents. Since this program started, Sacramento Fire Department personnel have completed thousands of hours of training that continues even today. Firefighters and

Haz-Mat Incident Summary	2006	2007	2008	2009
City	129	93	90	95
County	19	14	18	12
Other	3	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>107</b>
Level II	150	107	106	106
Level III	1	0	2	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>107</b>
HMRT 7		74	71	68
HMRT 30		33	36	39
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>107</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>108</b>

HMRT-Hazardous Materials Response Team

HAZMAT members have completed one or more of the following Domestic Preparedness Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) courses: Responder Awareness, Responder Operational, Incident Commander, Technician-HazMat, and/or Technician-EMS.

The City of Sacramento is designated as part of the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). Under this initiative the Sacramento Area Office of Homeland Security (SAOHS) has been established. Currently one Captain assists in staffing that office. The primary function of SAOHS is to fulfill the grant requirements of the UASI. These requirements include planning, training and equipment procurement.



# SPECIAL OPERATIONS

The department administers a Type 2 Rescue Company and equipment located at Station 20. The company is staffed with a six person crew daily to maximize rescue efficiency. These are highly qualified individuals who have completed numerous hours of training. The company's specialties include: Confined Space Rescue, Rope Rescue, Structural Collapse, Trench Rescue, and Swiftwater Rescue. The rescue equipment includes an engine and a rescue unit.

The Sacramento Fire Department is the sponsoring agency for California Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 7 (CA TF-7), one of 28 Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Forces in the nation, and one of eight in California. As a sponsoring agency the City of Sacramento is responsible for managing a large cache of search and rescue tools and equipment that is maintained through federal grants. Task Force personnel and equipment can be used locally as well as for state and federal deployments. The scope of US&R response and capability includes disasters and catastrophes, both man-made and natural, incident support functions, and response to preplanned events.

Specialties within California Task Force 7 include: collapse rescue, heavy rigging, logistics, hazardous materials, medical, communications, canine search teams, technical search, and planning. The Task Force is comprised of fire and rescue personnel from Sacramento Fire Department, City of Folsom Fire Department, City of Roseville Fire Department, City of West Sacramento Fire Department, Cosumnes Community Services District, El Dorado County Fire Protection District, Kaiser Permanente, Sacramento County Airports System, and Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District. The Task Force also contracts with civilians for emergency physicians and structural engineers.

The Task Force can be deployed in two configurations to meet the needs of a rescue incident. A Type I, or full deployment, can consist of 70 to 80 members, while a Type III, or light deployment, may roster 28 to 34 members. When requested, Task Force personnel can assist other Task Forces, Incident Management Teams, and other jurisdictions.

Along with conducting monthly drills designed to train and maintain skills for all 210 members, there were several other training events that added to the Task Force's ability to respond to incidents. Select members of the Task Force completed a scenario based mobilization exercise (MobEx). Medical Specialists completed pediatric and advanced life support courses. Class A (tractor-trailor) drivers completed a task force specific driver's training.



Specialized equipment purchased for the task force during 2009 included: a flatbed equipment hauler to transport a forklift, new GPS equipment for upgraded searching capability, and a new logistics and personnel database. The Task Force also purchased equipment to upgrade response capability to weapons of mass destruction incidents.

On September 29, 2009, CA TF-7 was placed on Alert status for possible Type I (80 personnel) deployment to American Samoa, due to destruction from an earthquake and tsunami. CA TF-7 was released, without deployment, from Alert status on October 1, 2009.



# FIRE PREVENTION

The Fire Prevention Division's mission is to improve the lives of the city residents by preventing fires and reducing the impact of fires that occur. To accomplish its mission, the division performs inspections of businesses and occupancies as mandated by state and local ordinances, and investigates all major fires occurring within the Fire Department's jurisdiction.

The division is divided into five units, each of which is responsible for a distinct focus on prevention:

- Fire Development Service Unit (FDSU) – Inspects all new or repaired fire protection systems requiring a fire construction permit.
- Fire Permit Inspection Unit (FPIU) – Inspects all existing occupancies required to have an operational permit and those required by the California Health and Safety Code to be inspected on an annual basis.
- Fire Code Enforcement Unit (FCEU) – Assigned by Battalion, the unit is responsible for follow-up of complaints, school inspections, day care inspections, weed abatement, and administers the administrative penalty and hearing process.
- Company Inspection System (CIS) – Monitors and maintains the inspection workload for company inspections, which are businesses not required to have an operational permit. Also administers the pre-fire plan program.
- Fire Arson Investigation Unit (FAIU) – Investigates all major fires and makes arrests of persons responsible for unlawful actions related to fire.



In 2009, the division accomplished the following:

- Assumed responsibility for plan review of fire protection systems from the Community Development Department
- Tested for and promoted an Investigator I position
- Developed and implemented an alley activation program guideline
- Finalized two high-rise buildings (500 Capitol Mall & 2020 W. El Camino)
- Completed phase I of the pre-fire plan program (schools)





# FIRE PREVENTION

## Revenue

Thousands (\$)	FY 08/09
Permit Fees	395.5
Plans & Inspections	344.0
<b>Gross Permits</b>	<b>\$ 739.5</b>
Special Events	66.5
Licenses	29.8
<b>Gross Fees</b>	<b>\$ 96.3</b>
Code Enforcement	33.1
Weed Abatement	211.0
<b>Gross Enforcement</b>	<b>\$ 244.1</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,079.9</b>

## Employees

Staffing	2009
Budgeted Positions	
FDSU	6
FPIU	15
FCEU	6
FAIU	7
Admin	4
<b>Total Positions</b>	<b>38</b>
Filled FTE	36
Separations	2

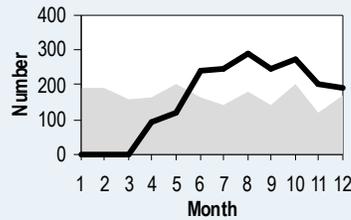
## Factoids

### Did you know?

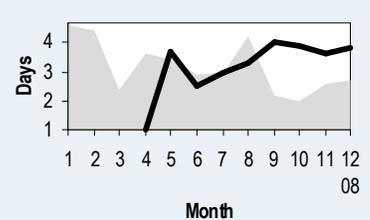
In 2009 for Sacramento,	
% of FDSU Inspections that are sprinkler related	61
Number of Health Care facilities	266
Complaints from Companies followed up	695
Number of Public Assembly facilities	1,480
Number of Multi-Family Buildings	2,573

## Fire Development Services Unit (FDSU)

### Inspections Completed

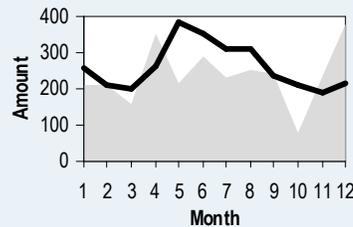


### Inspection Turn-around

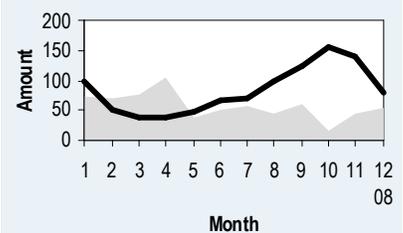


## Fire Permit Inspection Unit (FPIU)

### Inspections Completed

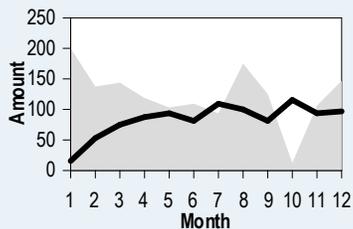


### State Mandated Inspections

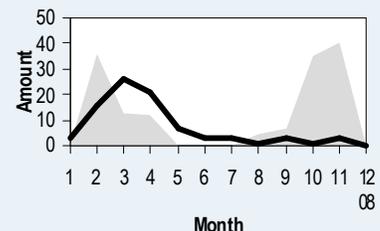


## Fire Code Enforcement Unit (FCEU)

### Inspections (Includes Complaints)

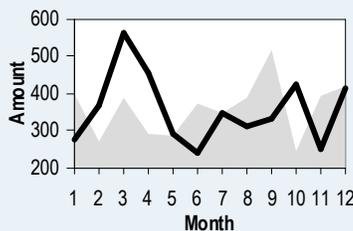


### School Inspections Completed

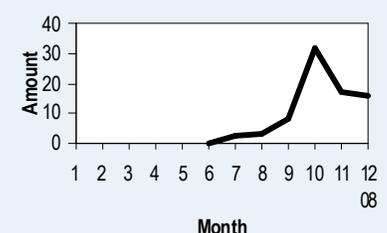


## Company Inspection System

### Business Inspections Completed

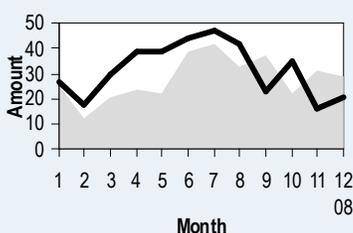


### Pre-Fire Plans Completed

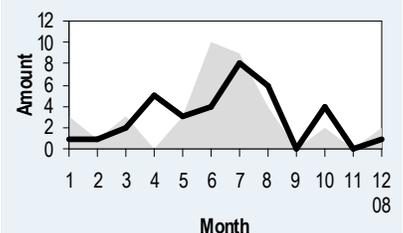


## Fire Arson Investigation Unit (FAIU)

### Investigations



### Arrests



For all Charts - Black Line = 2008 : Gray Fill = 2009



# TRAINING



2009 Training	Hours
Fitness in the Fire House – American River College Training Hours	61,021
Target Safety Training Hours	7,223
FDM Training Hours	45,165
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>113,409.25</b>
<b>Breakdown:</b>	
Airport Drills	250
Emergency Vehicle Operations Course	6,923
Multi-Company Drills	7,613
Boat Drills	661
HazMat Drills	2,385
US&R Training	1,968
Rescue Drills	485
Officers Class	2,186
Company Officer Academy	2,125
Station Drills/Self-Study	88,813

The Division of Training has overall responsibility for the coordination, documentation and delivery of all Sacramento Fire Department training as well as scheduling all community requests for events. Additional responsibilities include promotional exam development, task book development and oversight, recruit and promotional training academies, firefighter health, fitness and wellness, vehicle accident response and major incident or injury response.

Multi-Company Drills (MCD's) play an important roll in keeping fire crews up to date and trained for hazards faced when responding to emergency events in our community. Ten MCD's were delivered in 2009: three Emergency Medical Services (EMS) drills, two Health and Fitness drills, three Special Operations drills for technical rescue responses, one Fire Prevention drill and a Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) drill with various scenarios utilizing TIC's to search for and rescue victims in building fires.

Officer Classes are geared specifically toward supervisor responsibilities during daily and emergency operations. Eight Officer Classes were conducted in 2009: Air Monitoring at building fires, Communications/Safety Equipment updates, Budget Solutions, Emotional 1<sup>st</sup> Aide for Supervisors, Wildland fire overview and response, Fire Ground Operations-Attitude, Behaviors and Culture, Operational and response issues during budget cutbacks and updates dealing with Pandemic staffing, coroner response and electronic documenting on patient care reports (ePCR).

2009 Community Request	Number
Special Events (parades, fairs, etc.)	136
Station Tours	94
School Events	50
Fire Drills	12
Ride-Alongs	2
Funeral Detail	2
Pre Fire Plan	4
<b>Walk Throughs:</b>	
Campbell's Soup	3
Pick-n-Pull	1
Rail yard	5
Golden 1 (high rise)	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>310</b>





# TECHNICAL SERVICES

The Technical Services Division had a very busy year in 2009, with several major ongoing projects from previous years and a few new ones. As telecommunications technologies continue to improve in capability and increase in number, the division provides the department with the latest devices, systems, and applications possible. This was demonstrated in 2009 with:

- Installations of Mobile Data Computers in nearly all remaining front-line vehicles.
- Improvements to the computer hardware of the Mobile Data Computer systems, with new laptop and display models introduced.
- An upgraded mobile Fire Map application which introduced GPS connectivity as well as Fire CAD interaction - so users could now automatically see their own location and the location of any call they were assigned to.
- New and better cell phones and PDAs, including a new BlackBerry server within our own network to increase the usefulness of those devices, including direct remote access to our GroupWise email accounts.
- Continued planning for the 800 MHz Radio Rebanding Project, which will require the reprogramming or replacement of all radios, scheduled for completion by the first quarter of 2011 (hands-on portion begins November of 2010).
- The development and deployment of an improved help-desk trouble reporting system, now with direct user access, making for a faster and more efficient process of submitting requests for service.
- The launching of a study for the development of a new mobile broadband system and IP core network, both of which would be owned, maintained, and used exclusively by public safety agencies in the Sacramento area (to replace aging and limited-capability legacy systems currently in use)
- Increased participation in various UASI-based evaluations and exercises focused on communications and interoperability among various first responders in our region, with notable improvements in our preparedness and effectiveness.

The bulk of the daily work was centered on service calls and assisting users of technology.

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Community Services Division was established within the Office of the Chief in 2008. The division's functions include Community Outreach, Public Education, Public Information and Special Projects. Following are highlights of the activities that occurred in 2009.

In May, a Fire Corps Volunteer Program was established. Volunteers supported fire station open house events offering additional fire safety information to the public, presented fire safety education to children in classrooms, and assisted with many internal functions of the department including those related to the Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) program.



The Public Information Officer (PIO) coordinated and conducted numerous public service announcements and interviews with local media. Topics included Fire Extinguisher Use, Fire Works Safety, Turkey Fryer and General Cooking Safety, Fire Department Operations (i.e. Trucks vs. Engines, What is a 2 Alarm Fire, etc.), EVOG Driver training, Firefighters Memorial Stair Climb for 9/11, Weed Abatement and Wildland Fire Issues, Firefighters Burn Institute Boot Drive, Smoke Detectors, and Carbon Monoxide Detectors. In addition, to address a recent increase in river drownings in the area, the PIO and a department Battalion Chief coordinated with News 10 and KCRA to develop a special program on Water Safety.

As part of the special project function in the division, numerous grant applications were submitted to agencies that sponsor grant programs. Grant applications were submitted to the Federal Department of Homeland Security under the Firefighters Fire Station Construction Program, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Program (SAFER), Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program, and the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Wellness & Fitness Program; the Fireman's Fund Heritage Grant Program; and the State Homeland Security Grant Program.

PUBLIC INFORMATION & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES	
Fire Corps Volunteer Hours	719
Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations	3
Fire Safety Presentations	51
Fire Station Open Houses	22
House Fire Demonstrations	1
Press Releases	137
Public Service Announcements & Media Events	42
Requests for Incident Records & Subpoenas	1286

In October, the Division coordinated a Safety Fair which was held at the Public Safety Center. A number of agencies and departments including C.E.R.T., City Operator, Code Enforcement, Crime Alert, D.A.R.T., Department of Transportation, Fire Reserves, Office of Emergency Services, Police Department, and V.I.P.S. joined fire department personnel to provide information, education, and services to the public.



# VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

## SACRAMENTO CITY FIRE VOLUNTEER RESERVES

The Fire Reserves can trace their history back to 1953 when they began as the Sacramento Fire Auxiliary for Civil Defense. Headquartered at Fire Station 99, the Fire Reserves typically volunteer during the evening and on weekends with a 4-5 person crew for rehab response and community events.



The Fire Reserves supplement the department at emergency incidents and are dispatched to all structure fires, level III HazMat incidents, drowning calls, and US&R activations. The Fire Reserves also provide automatic aide on greater alarm fires and major incidents to the cities of Elk Grove, Galt, and West Sacramento for incident support and other emergencies. In addition, the Reserves operate a squad vehicle to assist with salvage and overhaul, a full service rehab unit, a mass decontamination unit, and a variety of other emergency equipment. They also support the department's logistics unit and supervise the care and inventory of the department's reserve suppression fleet.

Training is very structured and can result in a state Volunteer Firefighter certification within the first six months and a state certified Volunteer Firefighter I certificate after a year of training. Most Reserves are typically hired by a fire department or move on to complete advanced training and/or paramedic school. Those that continue in the program can receive a state certified Volunteer Firefighter II certification.

In 2009 the 42-member unit volunteered 47,721 hours, responded to 603 calls for service, and was activated for standby 1,011 times.

## SACRAMENTO COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

Sacramento CERT volunteers are part of a multi-functional response team that are trained in disaster preparedness for and response to hazards that may impact their community. The training promotes a partnership between emergency services and the people that they serve. Training includes basic fire suppression, light search and rescue, damage assessment, disaster psychology, ICS system, Shelter operations, CPR for the Professional Rescuer and First Responder Emergency First Aid. Once trained, CERT members are then integrated into the emergency response capability for their area. In the event a major emergency or disaster overwhelms or delays first responders, CERT volunteers are available to assist their neighborhood, workplace or community until professional responders arrive. In addition CERT volunteers help the community year-round by assisting with community emergency plans, planning neighborhood exercises, preparedness outreach, and fire safety education. CERT also has 50 licensed Ham radio operators and a mobile command post equipped with computers and radios in addition to radio capabilities in 5 equipment trailers. CERT also added a Chaplain Corps of 10 Chaplains; and an Animal Rescue component to assist those with animals during an evacuation.

In 2009, CERT members contributed 10,192 volunteer hours participating in numerous activities including: setting up a shelter to assist an evacuation of a south Sacramento neighborhood due to a gas leak; assisting the Fire Department during a severe weather event; assisting in the Fire Department River Guardians program at city beaches and educating parents regarding the law requiring life jackets for children under age 13; providing first aid coverage and distribution of life jackets to the public at Discovery Park on major holiday weekends; staffing public awareness booths at various health and safety fairs and other events throughout the city; assisting the County Public Health Department in staffing H1N1 Flu Clinics throughout the city; assisting the Fire Fighters Burn Institute at several fundraising events; and providing first aid and radio coverage for the annual Walk for Autism and the City Parks and Recreation Leisure Access Special Olympics events.



## SACRAMENTO FIRE CORPS



The Sacramento Fire Department established a Fire Corps Volunteer program in May 2009. Volunteers helped the department in various ways including assisting at safety fairs and community events, assisting clerical support, presenting safety information to groups, developing and translating literature, assisting with safety campaigns, writing newsletter articles, and maintaining and inventorying personal protective equipment.

In 2009 there were 10 Fire Corps volunteers who contributed a total of 719 hours, supporting various activities and functions throughout the department.

**For more information about the  
Sacramento Fire Department  
call 916-808-1300 or  
visit [www.sacfire.org](http://www.sacfire.org)**



***AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY &  
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER***



## **SACRAMENTO MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL**

**Kevin Johnson, Mayor**

Ray Tretheway, District 1

Sandy Sheedy, District 2

Steve Cohn, District 3

Robert King Fong, District 4

Lauren Hammond, District 5

Kevin McCarty, District 6

Robbie Waters, District 7

Bonnie Pannell, District 8

### **CITY MANAGER**

Ray Kerridge

### **Assistant City Managers:**

John Dangberg

Cassandra Jennings

Gus Vina

[www.cityofsacramento.org](http://www.cityofsacramento.org)