



La Crosse Fire Department

Chief Ken Gilliam

726 5th Ave South, La Crosse, WI 54601 (608) 789-7260 Fax (608) 789-7276

<http://www.cityoflacrosse.org> Gilliamk@cityoflacrosse.org

Serving La Crosse and Southwestern Wisconsin Quality Emergency Services Since 1896



Fire Department Monthly Report

December 2019

January 21, 2020

Honorable Police & Fire Commission:

In the News:

December 3rd, Police and Fire Chiefs from La Crosse and Onalaska took part in a friendly competition to raise money ringing bells for the Salvation Army. The City of La Crosse raised \$799.93, while the City of Onalaska raised \$560.47.

The City of La Crosse Fire Department will provide service to the town of Medary for 30 years in return for an annual fee based on Medary's property values under an agreement approved by Common Council on December 12nd.

December 20th, an electrical fire caused minor damage to a home on the city's North Side. Firefighters used thermal imaging cameras to pinpoint the source of the fire, and parts of the ceiling and walls were removed so it could be extinguished. The people and pets inside the home were not injured, and the family was able to return to the home that night.

Personnel:

Battalion Chief, Tom Wallerich, retired after serving for over 31 years.

Captain Bee Xiong was promoted to Battalion Chief.

Lieutenant Shane Trussoni was promoted to Captain.

Engineer Matt Miller, Assistant Mechanic Jon Kachie, and EMS Trainer Jordan Shackleton were promoted to Lieutenant.

Firefighters Cody Allen and Joel Schmit were promoted to Engineers.

Firefighter Kevin Bulman has been appointed as an Assistant Mechanic.

Firefighter Brandon Scharmer has been appointed as an EMS Trainer.

Attached are the following reports: Incident Data, Monthly Activities, Division Summaries, and "Thank You's"

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Gilliam, Fire Chief

*We promote safety, reduce risks, and respond to calls for fire suppression, emergency medical services, and all-hazards rescue.
We earn the community's trust through preparedness, professionalism, and dedication to service.*



La Crosse Fire Department

Chief Ken Gilliam

726 5th Ave South, La Crosse, WI 54601 (608) 789-7260 Fax (608) 789-7276

<http://www.cityoflacrosse.org> Gilliamk@cityoflacrosse.org

Serving La Crosse and Southwestern Wisconsin Quality Emergency Services Since 1896



Incident Data

December 2019

LCFD Incident Responses

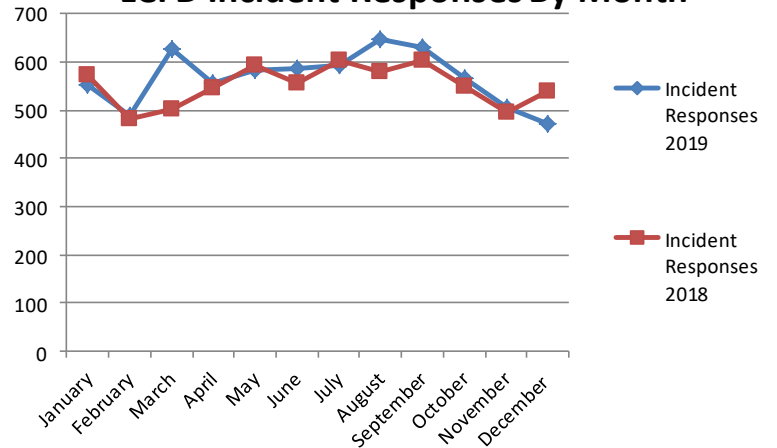
YTD

YTD

Total Incidents **6,818** **6,625**

Percent Change From Previous Year **+ 2.91%**

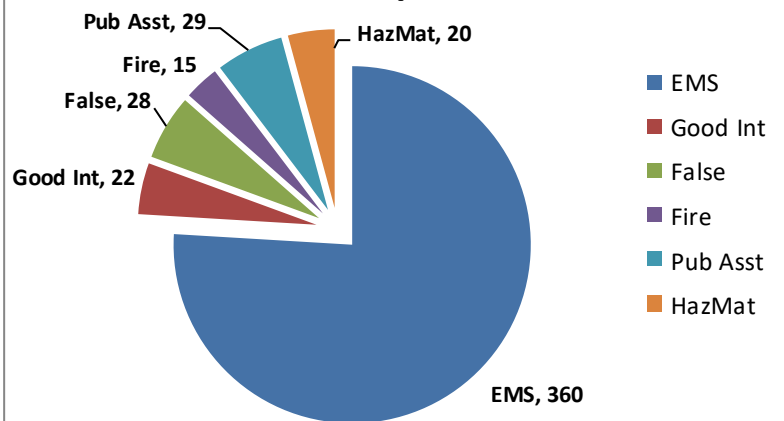
LCFD Incident Responses By Month



2019 November Response By Incident Type

Incident Type	Incident Responses
EMS	360
Good Int	22
False	28
Fire	15
Pub Asst	29
HazMat	20
Other	0
Rupt/Exp	0
Total	474

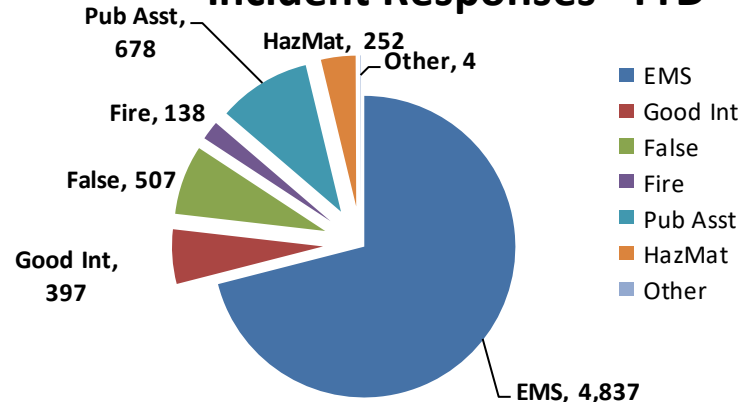
Incident Responses - December



2019 YTD Response By Incident Type

Incident Type	Incident Responses
EMS	4,837
Good Int	397
False	507
Fire	138
Pub Asst	678
HazMat	252
Other	4
Rupt/Exp	5
YTD Total	6,818

Incident Responses - YTD





La Crosse Fire Department

Chief Ken Gilliam

726 5th Ave South, La Crosse, WI 54601 (608) 789-7260 Fax (608) 789-7276

<http://www.cityoflacrosse.org> Gilliamk@cityoflacrosse.org

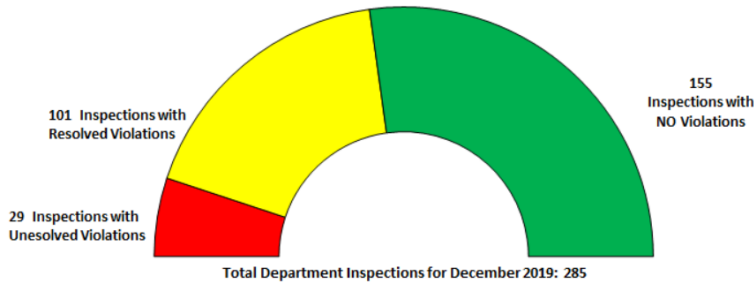
Serving La Crosse and Southwestern Wisconsin Quality Emergency Services Since 1896



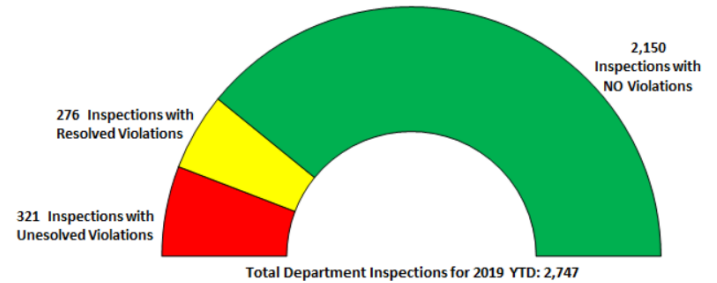
Fire Prevention & Building Safety Summary

December 2019

Inspections for December 2019



Inspections for 2019 YTD



Unresolved Violations

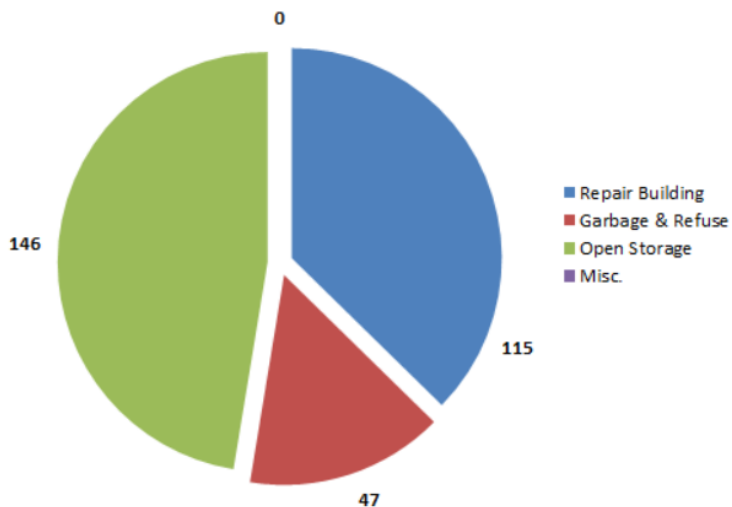


Resolved Violations

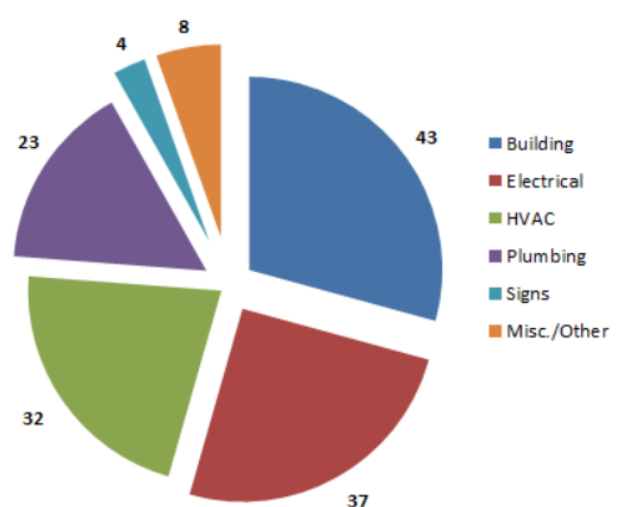


Inspections with
no Violations

Fire Prevention & Building Safety
Orders to Correct
December 2019



Fire Prevention & Building Safety
Permits Issued
December 2019





La Crosse Fire Department

Chief Ken Gilliam

726 5th Ave South, La Crosse, WI 54601 (608) 789-7260 Fax (608) 789-7276

<http://www.cityoflacrosse.org> Gilliamk@cityoflacrosse.org

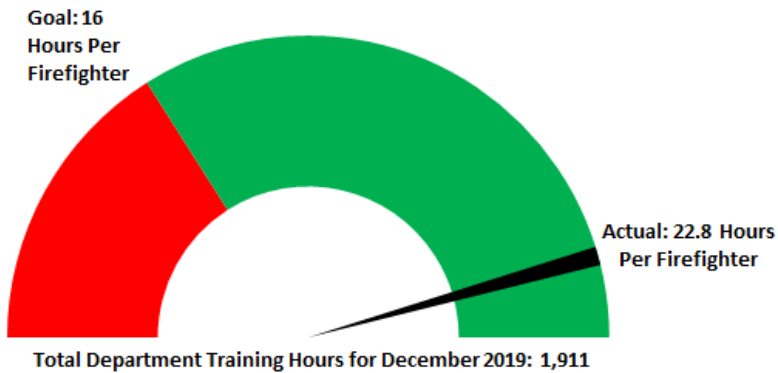
Serving La Crosse and Southwestern Wisconsin Quality Emergency Services Since 1896



Training Summary

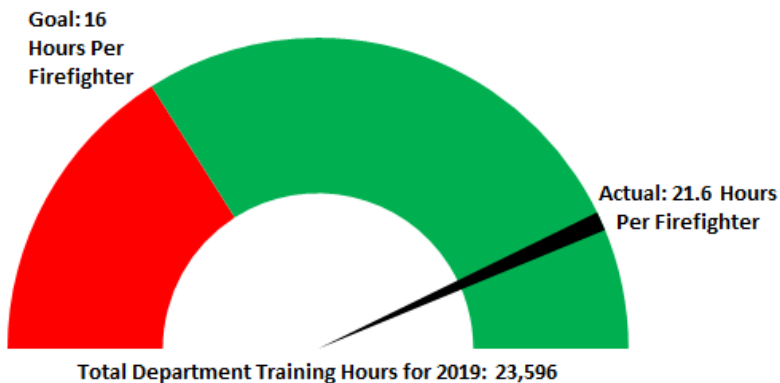
December 2019

Total Training Hours Per Firefighter December 2019



Water/Dive Watermanship Testing
Logan High School Pool

Total Training Hours Per Firefighter 2019



Air Management Training
Drill Tower - Marco Dr

Training Topics Covered in December:

- Fire Ground Operations
- EMS
- Extrication
- Technical Rescue
- Water Rescue
- Haz-Mat
- Apparatus Operations
- Recruit Academy
- Tactical EMS
- Management/Officers
- Fire Prevention/Public Education



Erin Statz, firefighter for the City of La Crosse

It's 7:30 in the morning, and Erin Statz, one of the two full-time female firefighters for the city of La Crosse, arrives at the station. At 8 a.m. she begins her day. For the next 24 hours, it's the job of Statz and her fellow firefighters to prepare and maintain the equipment, the building and themselves to be ready to respond to an emergency call within a minute's notice. It's also a job where, despite the physical demands (which sometimes necessitate that she carry up to 80 pounds of equipment) and a high male-to-female ratio, Statz feels at home. "My male colleagues relate to me the exact same way they relate to their male colleagues," says Statz, who says

her coworkers treat each other like family. "We ride on the same trucks, eat in the same kitchen and make our beds in the same room. There is no reason to relate to me differently because I am a woman. We're here to do the same job."

No better profession

Though firefighting is not a part of her family history, Statz was innately drawn to the physical aspects of fire service. "I grew up on a dairy farm," explains Statz. "And though I loved the farm and appreciated the hard work farming entails, taking it over wasn't

FIRST ON THE SCENE

For Erin Statz, there is no better profession than firefighting.

BY MARTHA KEEFFE
Photo by Diane Raasum

something I saw myself doing. I did see myself staying active and performing physical work with whatever profession I chose, so I thought firefighting would be a good choice."

Trusting her instincts, Statz enrolled at MATC (Madison Area Technical College) in the fire protection program just two weeks following her high school graduation. It was here that she earned an associate's degree, received multiple state fire certifications (such as being able to drive and operate a pump and aerial lift and learning the fundamentals of fire inspection) and obtained her EMT (emergency medical technician) basic license. All this she accomplished while attending school full time and working as a firefighter intern for the Fitchburg Fire Department. And though she found some aspects of her training rigorous and challenging, the real-world experience she gained as an intern affirmed her career choice. "I really didn't know what to expect," she says, noting that once she was in the program, she never doubted that she'd be able to complete her training. "Looking back, I don't think I could have found a better profession for myself."

Teamwork and support

For Statz, her job translates into the perfect combination of teamwork and the satisfaction that comes from having met (and continuing to meet) the same physical requirements and hiring standards of her male counterparts. It's a job, she says, that is earned by working hard and putting in the time and training needed to keep up with your competition. "I like the feeling of going to high-risk calls and performing the skills we train hard on while working together

as a team to make situations better," she says, adding that the whole department is supportive of everyone's efforts. "Being on a fire scene can sometimes be a little chaotic, but overall, it's awesome to be a part of a crew that works well alongside each other."

And whether a crew is tasked to attack the fire or man the pump, knowing that each individual on your team is capable of performing their job (regardless of their size or gender), allows firefighters to focus on managing the situation efficiently and effectively with as little error as possible. "For example, if my crew pulls up to a house fire and gets assigned to fire attack, we need to first work on stretching a hose line to the house as quickly as possible without getting the hose tangled," says Statz, explaining that this involves assessing the area to find the clearest path to the house while avoiding fences, trees or parked cars. "Everything needs to happen fast," she says. "And we have to do it together."

Knowing this, Statz offers a word of advice to women who are considering a career in firefighting. "Part of the fire service culture is joking around and making fun of each other," she says. "These jokes are not meant to tear others down, but instill a sense of camaraderie among the crew." And in this culture built on trust and merit, it's good to grow a thick skin. "If you can learn to laugh at yourself and laugh off your silly mistakes, this might be the job for you. (crw)

Martha Keffe lives and writes in La Crosse. She thanks all firefighters for their dedication and service to their communities.

From: Travis Proksch <tproksch@townofshelby.com>

Sent: Thursday, December 26, 2019 11:15 PM

To: Gilliam, Ken <gilliamk@cityoflacrosse.org>

Cc: Chief Waller <chiefwaller@townofshelby.com>; Tony Holinka <tholinka@townofshelby.com>

Subject: Thank you!

Chief,

I just wanted to drop a quick thank you for the help on Christmas eve. I appreciate the professionalism of Captain Temp and his crew, Captain Temp was willing to help in anyway needed.

Thanks again!

Travis Proksch

Captain

Shelby Fire Department

Hello, my name is Thomas CUISY, French
volunteer Firefighter.

I came with my wife and her sister to visit
your fire station around April-May 2018.

I would never thank you enough for your
kindness and for agreeing to take the time
to show us all your equipment and your
entire barracks.

This is why I am sending you this letter
including some photographs of our
intervention vehicles and our 2020 calendar.

I wish you a merry christmas and
happy new year 2020.

Thomas

Thomas CUISY
13, Résidence Le Bel Event
76890 TOTES
FRANCE

e-mail: thomas.cuisy@orange.fr



From: Wenger, Jon

Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2019 10:45 AM

To: ZZ Police Administration <ZZPoliceAdministration@cityoflacrosse.org>; La Fleur, Mike <lafleurm@cityoflacrosse.org>; Gilliam, Ken <gilliamk@cityoflacrosse.org>; Wegner, Charlene <Wegnerc@cityoflacrosse.org>; Xiong, Bee <Xiongb@cityoflacrosse.org>

Cc: Burg, Alex <burga@cityoflacrosse.org>; Darling, Dustin <darlingd@cityoflacrosse.org>; Mandujano, Daniel

<mandujanod@cityoflacrosse.org>; Christian, Tyler <christiant@cityoflacrosse.org>

Subject: Thank You

All,

A profound Thank You goes to ALL who helped clean the homeless garbage today. Many people took time out of their regular duties to work together. This is a great example of teamwork between departments. Please pass this on to those no on this email, because I did not know all who were there.

