

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Kettering Fire Department





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## Kettering Fire Department Phone Numbers

Emergency .....	911
Non-emergency .....	937.293.2151
Headquarters .....	937.296.2489
Fire Marshal .....	937.296.3384
Fire Hydrants .....	937.296.2489
Open Burning .....	937.296.3384
Fax .....	937.296.3265

Kettering Fire Department  
Fire Headquarters  
4745 Hempstead Station Drive  
Kettering, OH 45429



# Kettering Fire Department

## Message from the Chief

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I am pleased to present the 2023 Annual Report of the Kettering Fire Department. The report will include a reflection of the many accomplishments of the men and women of the Kettering Fire Department (KFD) during the year 2023. It is with great pride and dedication by the members of our department that we have been so successful and are able to provide such exceptional service to the citizens of Kettering.

The Kettering Fire Department is dedicated to serving our community with the following core values: Integrity, Professionalism, Compassion, Unity and Honor. The department strives to provide unparalleled service to our community. We could not provide our excellent service without the support of Mayor Lehner, City Council members and the citizens of Kettering. Thank you for supporting our brave firefighter/paramedics as they respond to the many emergencies they face.

Last year, KFD crews responded to more than 9372 incidents, in addition to continuing our commitment to emergency preparedness. We focused on fire prevention and education through our Fire Prevention Division and supported our emergency services through our Training and Administration Divisions.

As we look ahead to 2024, the Kettering Fire Department remains committed to serving our community with the highest level of professionalism. With the continued support of our community, we are prepared to meet any challenges that may arise. Our personnel are highly trained and well equipped to make the City of Kettering a safer community.



Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitch Robbins". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Fire Chief Mitch Robbins, OFE, OFC





## Vision

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The vision of the Kettering Fire Department is to serve the public with the following core values: Integrity, Professionalism, Compassion, Unity and Honor.

## Mission

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Our mission is to meet community needs by delivering an effective system of services; thereby minimizing the impact of fire, hazardous conditions, illness and injury with a caring and efficient response.



# Kettering Fire Department

## Core Values

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**INTEGRITY** – The Kettering Fire Department demonstrates integrity by:

- Being loyal to the department's vision and mission
- Conducting ourselves with a high level of morality
- Conducting ourselves with the utmost honesty at all times
- Showing self-respect and respect for others
- Taking responsibility for our actions

**PROFESSIONALISM** – The Kettering Fire Department is professional in all its actions related to:

- Appearance and behavior
- Respectful attitude
- Concern and compassion for people
- Training, preparedness, readiness and response

**COMPASSION** – The Kettering Fire Department demonstrates compassion to its members and the community it serves by:

- Reconciling differences with an open mind
- Showing kindness and concern to our employees and citizens
- Being sympathetic and displaying empathy for others
- Giving consideration to all facts surrounding issues

**UNITY** – The Kettering Fire Department recognizes that every employee is a valued member and partner in the Fire Department family by:

- Supporting a team-oriented approach to issues
- Valuing input from all members of the department
- Communicating openly and honestly, at all levels, without fear of reprisals
- Creating a consistent, trusting, pro-active work environment that promotes feelings of security in all members of the department

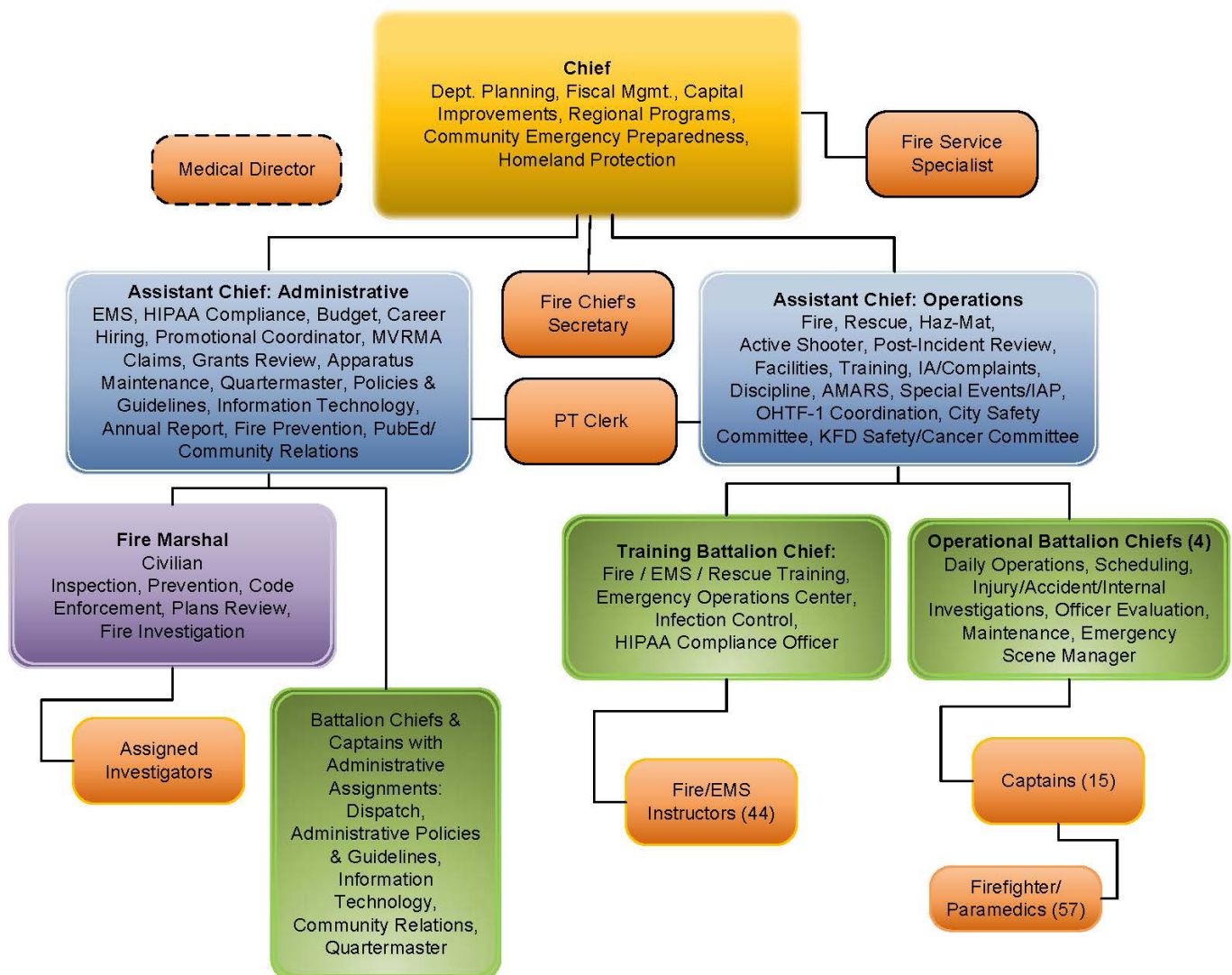
**HONOR** – The Kettering Fire Department demonstrates honor by:

- Being respectful of others at all times
- Ensuring actions are done with the goal of the department having the highest level of reputation
- Conducting ourselves so that we are admired by the community
- Acting with honesty, integrity and fairness at all times





# Organization Chart



Rev. 10/22



# Kettering Fire Department

## 2023 Firefighter of the Year

*The Kettering Fire Department's Firefighter of the Year is awarded to the Kettering firefighter who exemplifies the true meaning of commitment and pride in the organization.*



**FF/P Bryce Kuhn**

Firefighter/Paramedic (FF/P) Bryce Kuhn was nominated and awarded the 2023 Firefighter of the Year as he has distinguished himself by maintaining excellence within the fire service profession.

FF/P Bryce Kuhn is involved with multiple activities at the Kettering Fire Department. He is a member of the Ohio Region 3 Rescue Team; he is a member of the Department's Fire Investigation Team, he is a Fireworks Specialist, Peer Support Team Member, and Rescue Specialist in Trench Rescue, Building Collapse Rescue, and Ice Rescue. Bryce is a fire instructor and the Vice President for the Kettering Professional Firefighters Local 2150. Bryce is a vital member of the Honor Guard and through his military background has developed a deeper understanding of the importance behind honoring fallen firefighters. FF/P Kuhn is a vital part of his crew where he mentors new firefighters, provides excellent fire and EMS services to our community, and always maintains a positive attitude.



## Chief's Award



**Captain Duane Cobb**



**FF/P Jeremy O'Brien**

*The Chief's Award may be presented to fire service individuals, groups, or companies, who, in the opinion of the Chief, have performed in a manner in which the Fire Chief has determined are actions which go above and beyond what's normally expected of them.*







## Life Saving Award

*The Kettering Fire Department's Life Saving Award is a prestigious and incredible honor awarded to active duty personnel whose direct actions save the life of a person whose heart has stopped beating and shows no signs of life. This award is only achieved when the patient who was clinically deceased is not only resuscitated and regains life sustaining functions, but ultimately is able to make a full recovery and resume normal life activities. It is one of the most rewarding accomplishments any member of this organization can make in the course of their career; knowing that their actions contributed to saving the life of another. To understand the significance of that last statement, the individual that is saved must be discharged from the hospital and resume normal life activities.*



**Captain Glenn Schlub, Bryce Kuhn, Jon Kaney**  
*Not Pictured: AJ Bacon, Juston Wilson*



**Michael Terrian, Joel Sagasser, Chris DeLange,  
Captain Nate Hall, Dustin McGhghy**

## EMS Provider of the Year

**Greater Montgomery County  
Fire Chief's Association**

**FF/P Chris Delange**



**Asst. Chief Miller, Chief Robbins,  
Chris Delange, Asst. Chief Beaver**



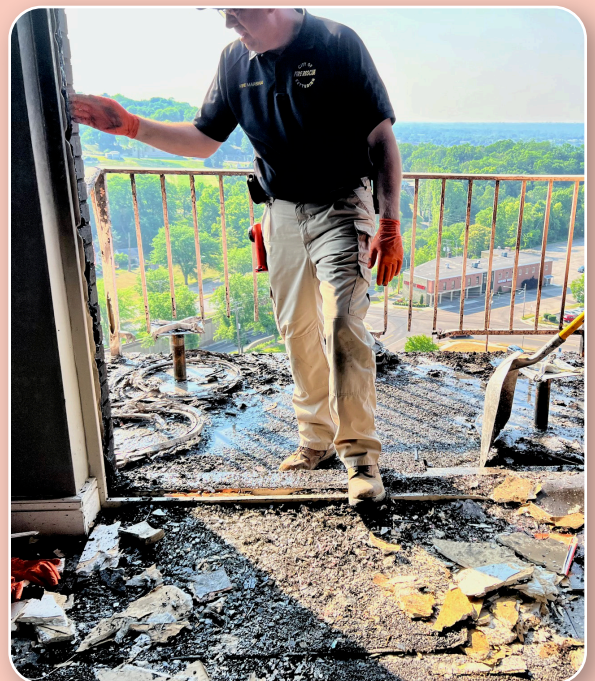
# Kettering Fire Department

## Incident Data



Emergency Response Call Type	Number of Incidents	Percentage
EMS	7,363	78.56%
Personal Assist	730	7.79%
Alarm Investigation	387	4.13%
Dispatched/Cancelled En Route	181	1.93%
No Incident Found	134	1.43%
Wires Arc/Down	82	0.87%
Recreational Fire	65	0.69%
Hazardous Materials	63	0.67%
Smoke/Odor Investigation	59	0.63%
Inside/Outside Gas Leak	53	0.57%
Electrical/Wiring/Equipment Problem	40	0.43%
Standby	40	0.43%
Mutual Aid Given – Structure Fire	24	0.26%
Mulch/Grass Fire	24	0.26%
Water Problem	23	0.25%
Cooking Fire, Contained	19	0.20%
Trash/Rubbish Fire	18	0.19%
Residential Fire	18	0.19%
Fire – Other	14	0.15%
Rescue	10	0.11%
Vehicle Fire	7	0.07%
Lock In/Lock Out	6	0.06%
Apartment Fire	3	0.03%
Elevator Problem	3	0.03%
Commercial Fire	3	0.03%
Animal Problem	2	0.02%
Fire Near Structure	1	0.01%
<b>FIRE TOTAL</b>	<b>9,372</b>	<b>100.00%</b>







# Kettering Fire Department

## Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) comprises of nearly 80 percent of the annual incidents to which the Kettering Fire Department (KFD) responds. KFD answered nearly 7,400 calls for medical emergencies in 2023. Our paramedics handled each of these calls with pride, professionalism, and compassion. 2023 marked the 9th year in a row for Kettering Paramedics to be awarded the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline – EMS – Gold with Target: Heart Attack Honor Roll.

The Kettering Fire Department has continued to shape the future of Emergency Medical Services regionally in the Miami Valley. KFD actively participates in the Greater Miami Valley EMS Council, the Regional QA/QI Committee, and the Regional Physicians Advisory Board (RPAB). KFD also partners with Sinclair Community College, Miami Valley Career Tech Center, and Clark State Community College as a preceptor location where EMS students will "ride-along" and gain valuable experience under the watchful eyes of the professional Kettering Fire Department paramedics.



EMS Call Type	2023 Totals	Percentage
Illness	1,234	16.76%
Injury from Fall	975	13.24%
Difficulty Breathing	875	11.88%
Psychiatric Problem	364	4.94%
Chest Pain	363	4.93%
Injury	348	4.73%
Heart Problem	333	4.52%
Unconscious/Fainting	272	3.69%
Abdominal Pain	269	3.65%
Mutual Aid Given - EMS	235	3.19%
Convulsions/Seizure	218	2.96%
Accident with Injury	217	2.95%
Stroke	195	2.65%
Medical Alarm	187	2.54%
Lift Assist	174	2.36%
Diabetic Problem	170	2.31%
Bleeding/Hemorrhage	165	2.24%
Cardiac Arrest	161	2.19%
Back Pain	155	2.11%
Overdose	136	1.85%
Unknown Problem	134	1.82%
Allergic Reaction	38	0.52%
Pregnancy/Childbirth	31	0.42%
Headache	30	0.41%
Choking	18	0.24%
Animal Bite	15	0.20%
Assault	12	0.16%
Stab/Gunshot Wound	11	0.15%
Standby	10	0.14%
Well Person Check	7	0.10%
Heat/Cold Exposure	6	0.08%
Burns	5	0.07%
<b>EMS TOTAL</b>	<b>7,572</b>	<b>100.00%</b>





## Mission: Lifeline®

*Kettering Fire Department nationally recognized for its commitment to quality care for severe heart attacks in the region*

Kettering Fire Department has received its ninth American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline® achievement award for demonstrating commitment to following up-to-date research-based guidelines for the treatment of heart attack and stroke, ultimately leading to more lives saved, shorter recovery times and fewer re-admissions to the hospital.

Every 40 seconds, someone in the U.S. has a stroke or heart attack. Emergency medical services staff can begin treatment immediately upon arrival—up to an hour sooner than if someone goes to the hospital by car. EMS staff are also trained to provide resuscitation efforts to someone whose heart has stopped. People who arrive by ambulance may also receive faster treatment at the hospital.

Mission: Lifeline EMS® is the American Heart Association's national initiative to advance the system of care for patients with high-risk, time-sensitive disease states, such as severe heart attacks and strokes. The program helps reduce barriers to prompt treatment—starting from when 911 is called, to EMS transport and continuing through hospital treatment and discharge. Optimal care for heart attack and stroke patients takes coordination between the individual prehospital providers and health care systems.



The Mission: Lifeline EMS achievement award focuses on agencies' on-scene care, bringing to the forefront the collaboration and contributions to patient care for prehospital providers.

"The Kettering Fire Department is honored to be recognized by the American Heart Association for our dedication to providing optimal care for heart attack patients," said Chief Mitch Robbins. "The Mission: Lifeline program puts proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis so patients have the best possible chance of survival."

The Mission: Lifeline achievement award is earned by agencies that demonstrate a commitment to treating patients according to the most up-to-date research-based practices as outlined by the American Heart Association.

The Kettering Fire Department is also recognized on the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline System of Care Target: Heart Attack Honor Roll, focused on the system of care for patients. This award highlights the collaboration and contributions of both prehospital and hospital providers. This time-critical award level is limited to those agencies that provide patient transport to STEMI-receiving and STEMI-referring centers.

# Kettering Fire Department

## Training Division

Kettering Fire Department (KFD) personnel train regularly to ensure that they are fully prepared to respond and mitigate any emergency that may arise. These trainings include practicing basic fire/EMS skills, learning new techniques, and meeting all of the State of Ohio firefighter/paramedic continuing education requirements. KFD paramedics are also trained/certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS). KFD members also obtained additional training in Lithium Ion Battery Fires/Hazards and High Rise Fire Tactics in 2023. The Kettering Fire Department has 44 fire instructors and 10 EMS instructors. These instructors are required to deliver 24 hours of fire/EMS instruction and obtain 6 hours of continuing education in instructional methodology.

In 2023, the KFD Training Division held a new fire recruit class for two newly hired fire department members. Each new firefighter averaged 6 weeks of training to learn how the Kettering Fire Department operates along with getting familiar with KFD apparatus, tools/equipment, protocols, policies, tactics and personnel. After successful completion of their initial training, the new recruits are assigned to a crew where they will continue to learn and function as a member of the team.

Training Type	Hours
<b>EMS Training</b>	<b>4,766</b>
Cardiac	787
Geriatric	437
Pediatric	394
Trauma	464
General EMS	2684
<b>Fire Training</b>	<b>4,892</b>
Haz-Mat	117
Inspector	545
Officer Development	877
Technical Rescue	924
General Fire	2,429
<b>TOTAL TRAINING HOURS</b>	<b>9,658</b>







*Cold water rescue training*



*Ice rescue training*



*Rope training with Ladder 32*



*Trench training*



*Pack Tracker RIT*



# Kettering Fire Department

## Rescue Task Force, Ohio Task Force 1 and Ohio Region 3

The Kettering Fire Department has multiple members on the region's Rescue Task Force (RTF) who respond to "active threat" emergencies such as an active shooter situation. Should an incident of this type occur, RTF members are outfitted in ballistic gear and are trained to work in conjunction with local area police agencies to provide rapid EMS care to the victims.

The City of Kettering Fire Department currently has one member participating on the FEMA sanctioned Ohio Task Force 1 Urban Search and Rescue Team. This member attends bi-monthly trainings in regards to his specialties for the team. These trainings may include training in conditions similar to that of which Region 3 trains.

The Ohio Region 3 (R3) Rescue Team is comprised of personnel from multiple agencies within an eight county region in the Miami Valley. R3 team members have specialized training in areas such as lost person search, high angle rope rescue, structural collapse, trench rescue and confined space rescue. The Region 3 Rescue Team currently has 13 members from the Kettering Fire Department on the team. Having trench and confined space rescue training simulators, Kettering's Fire Station 34 is one of the primary training locations for R3 Rescue. In 2023, the Kettering Fire Department hosted, with assistance from the Kettering Streets Department, a live R3 Team trench training at the Leaf Farm on Spaulding Road.







## Fire Prevention Bureau

Kettering's Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB) had another successful and productive year in 2023. The continued progress of our dedicated fire safety inspectors stayed on course with providing critical fire safety inspections and education to our community. Most of our work is behind the scenes but saves lives and property every year.

Our Fire Inspectors are responsible for conducting fire safety inspections in our existing buildings. They provide guidance and code requirements to insure that the safety regulations are maintained within every building in the City of Kettering. This includes ensuring that all fire protection systems are maintained per National Fire Protection Association standards.

The Fire Marshal is responsible for ensuring all newly built and remodeled buildings comply with all Ohio Fire Code and National Fire Prevention Association standards for fire protection systems. The Fire Prevention Bureau also works closely with the City's Planning and Development Department to ensure that all fire codes are maintained during construction.

### Public Education

One of the primary goals in fire safety education is emphasizing fire safety practices to people of all ages, with a special emphasis on young children. In addition to reaching out to the school-aged children, our staff also teaches fire safety education to numerous businesses throughout the City. This past year we re-implemented the coloring book contest for kindergarten through 5th grade classes in the Kettering School system. This is a great way to get our fire safety message out to the school age children.



The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) message for the 2023 Fire Prevention Week was ***Cooking safety starts with YOU.***

This message emphasized how Fire Safety in the kitchen starts with YOU. Disastrous fires are started in kitchens because we forget about Cooking Safety. It is one of the leading causes of residential fires. A goal of the Kettering Fire Department's Fire Prevention team is to raise fire safety awareness and to help ensure homes and families are protected within our community.

### Fire Safety Inspections

Once again this past year, the FPB continued to provide fire safety inspections for Multi-Family Dwellings (apartments). This program has been a major success and is very well accepted by our community. Our main goal for this program is to see that smoke detectors are installed and working in all residential apartments. Per the National Fire Protection Association, multi-family buildings have a higher risk for unwanted fires. Due to this program, approximately 1,500 smoke detectors have been installed by the owners or occupants of multi-family dwelling units. We will continue with this task into 2024.

Fire Prevention	2023 Totals
Initial Inspections	775
Re-Inspections	582
Complaint Inspections	16
State Mandated Inspections	6
Fire Permits	16
Violations Issued	1,721
Violations Resolved	4,454
Plans Reviewed	4,130

# Kettering Fire Department

## Community Relations

The Kettering Fire Department participated in several community events and gatherings in 2023. Kettering firefighters enjoy getting to know the people who live and work in Kettering. When available, our crews have attended neighborhood block parties and ribbon cuttings for new businesses setting their roots in Kettering, as well as many other special events. Attending these types of community events is an important opportunity for the fire department to be one with the community and demonstrate our support for community goals and initiatives.

Public Education Events	2023 Totals
Special Events	42
Block Parties	26
Station Tours	14
Ribbon Cuttings	4



The Kettering Fire Department continually strives to make our community a safe place to live, work, and visit. Participating in educational and community events helps provide us with the opportunity to reinforce our fire safety message.









# Kettering Fire Department

## IAFF Local 2150

In 2023, the Kettering Firefighters were able to raise funds through our members and our 501 (c) (3) non-profit: Kettering Professional Firefighters Foundation. The charitable foundation has allowed L2150 to expand our mission and have a greater impact on those in need throughout our region.

2023 marked the 35th year for the firefighters to host their annual Adopt-a-Family program, and we were able to host our present wrapping event at fire headquarters with help from off duty personnel and co-workers from around the city. Counselors from Kettering City Schools, Meijer, Kroger and other local businesses, continued to assist the firefighters with their goal of providing a brighter Christmas with presents and groceries to a few local families in need.

Local 2150 continued as a partner with Firefighters for Operation Warm, a national program to provide winter coats to Kettering City School children in need. 2023 saw the firefighters fulfill another record setting coat request in the history of their partnership with Kettering City Schools. 144 coats were purchased and delivered to the school counselors to distribute to those kids that needed a coat. L2150 also stepped in this year to assist the Kettering Parks Foundation with their Giving Tree project, donating funds to help clear the tree of items that didn't get purchased during their campaign.

The firefighters continued their silver sponsorship of the Dor-Wood Optimist annual Golf For Kids outing. The Optimists use this outing to raise funds to support programs for kids in and around Kettering. They also



continued to support Kettering Fairmont students with their post prom event to provide a safe and fun place for the students to gather after their annual spring dance.

In addition to all of the tasks they complete on a day-to-day basis at the firehouse and in the community, the Kettering Professional Firefighters also took every opportunity to assist our members as well as other area firefighters and their families during times of need due to illness or injury. This was an especially big effort this year as some of our own members faced significant losses in their own families and L2150 provided them with any items and funding that they needed to get them through the challenges they were facing.

As we begin 2024, we are working to create new fundraising streams to keep our charity outreach at the highest level possible. After last year's absence on the MDA leaderboard, look for a Fill-the Boot campaign this fall to help the IAFF and MDA raise funds to fight neuromuscular disease. The partnership between firefighters and MDA started 70 years ago in a Boston firehouse, and we hope to raise a significant amount of funds for research for a cure and to improve the quality of life for those that struggle with neuromuscular disease.

The Kettering Professional Firefighters, in conjunction with our charitable foundation, are continuing to explore new charity avenues and ideas while strengthening our longstanding events that have allowed us to further our mission in and around our community. We look forward to assisting the citizens of Kettering and our partner organizations through charitable efforts in 2024.







## 2023 Retirees

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**FF/P Jim Koller**  
24 Years of Service



**FF/P Bob Knedler**  
30 Years of Service



**Asst. Chief David Roth**  
21 Years of Service



**Capt. Jeff Greenup**  
23 Years of Service



**Capt. Jim McGrath**  
25 Years of Service



**FF/P David Parker**  
26 Years of Service

## Promotions

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**Assistant Chief  
Brian Beaver**



**Captain  
Kent Denlinger**



**Captain  
A.J. Bacon**

## New Employees

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**FF/P  
Josh Mumpower**

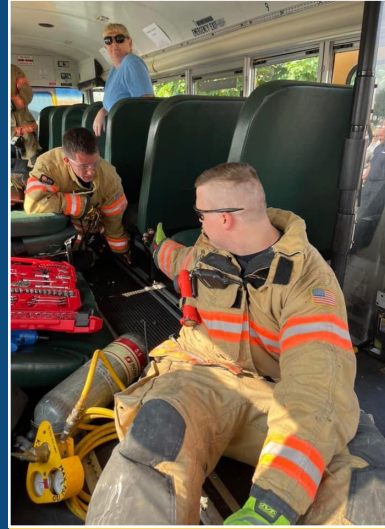


**FF/P  
Matthew Ray**



# Kettering Fire Department

**KFD Honor Guard at Bengals** – December 10, 2023, Kettering Honor Guard members had the opportunity to present the flag during the National Anthem at the Cincinnati Bengals vs. Indianapolis Colts game. Bengals won 34 – 14.



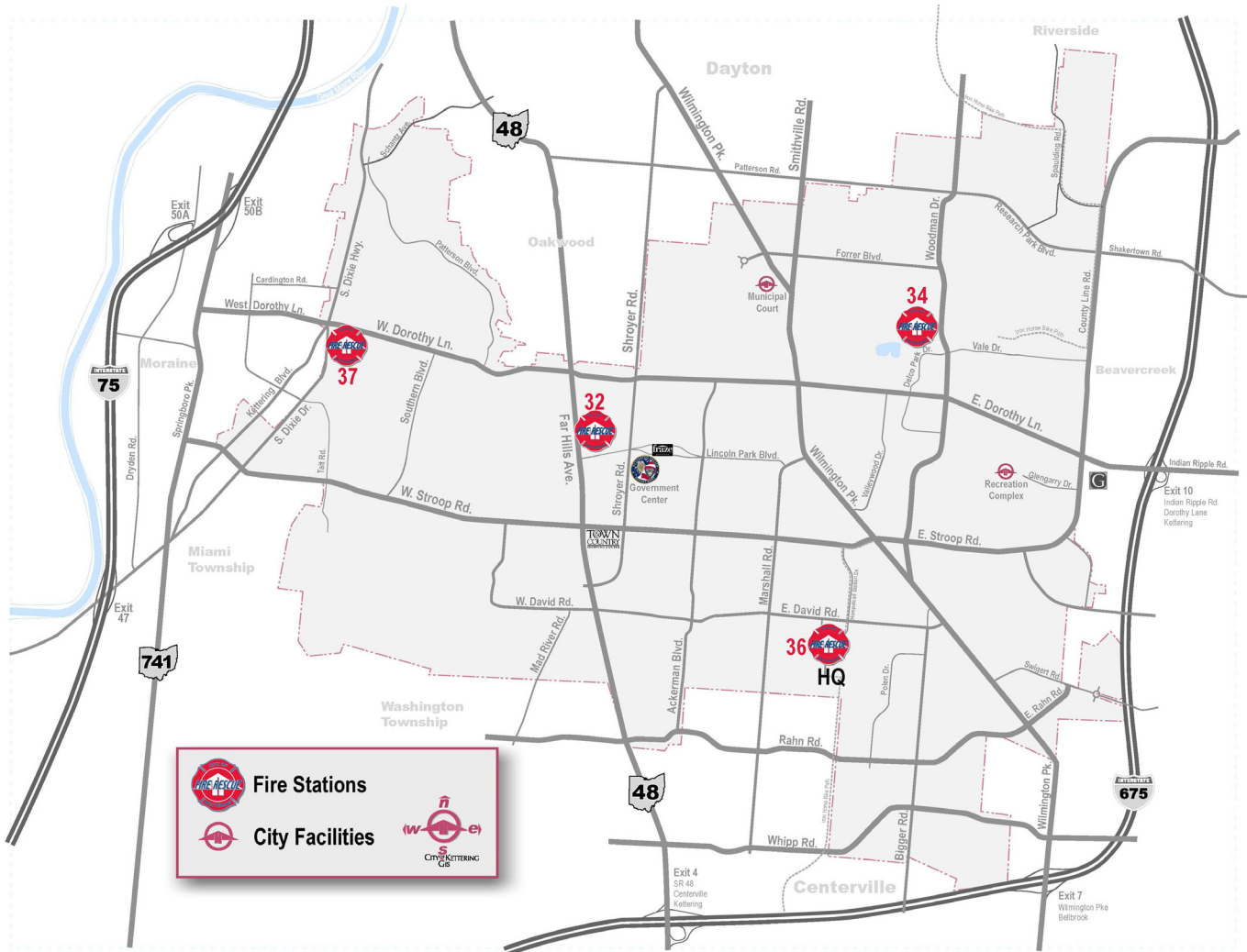
*School bus training*



**Tracy Leach Memorial Inductions** – On December 24, 2022, FF/P Tracy Leach (KFD badge 92) lost her hard-fought battle with occupational cancer after 19 years of service. In 2023 FF/P Leach was honored multiple times throughout the year as her death was determined to be an Active Duty death. FF/P Leach was laid to rest with appropriate honors on January 4, 2023. On May 6, 2023, she was inducted into the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland. On September 16, 2023, FF/P Leach was inducted in the International Association of Firefighter's (IAFF) Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Colorado Springs, Colorado. And on October 15, 2023, FF/P Leach was inducted in the Miami Valley Firefighter/EMS Memorial in Centerville, Ohio.

FF/P Tracy Leach will always be remembered for her laughter and bright smile. Rest easy, sister, we'll take it from here.





Fire Station 32

3484 Far Hills Avenue (45429)

Fire Station 34

2575 Woodman Drive (45420)

Fire Station 36 / Fire HQ

4745 Hempstead Station Drive (45429)

Fire Station 37

1300 W. Dorothy Lane (45409)



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



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/ketteringfire