

City of Kettering
Fire Department



2022 Annual Report

Kettering Mayor and Council



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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

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Front cover description:
Kettering E-31, a 1988 Sutphen on display at the 100 Year Anniversary





Message from the Chief

I am pleased to share our 2022 Kettering Fire Department Annual Report. Inside, you will find not only statistics about our responses but also some of our accomplishments during the last calendar year. You will also be provided updates in reference to our personnel and the divisions of responsibility within the department.

2022 marked 100 years of the Kettering Fire Department's (KFD) continued dedication to serving our community with the following core values: Integrity, Professionalism, Compassion, Unity and Honor. The department strives to deliver exemplary customer service to the 57,000 plus residents who call Kettering home and the numerous visitors to our wonderful city. We continue to be a full service fire department comprised of 80 uniformed personnel with a support staff of six providing service out of Fire Headquarters and four strategically located fire stations.

Last year, KFD crews responded to more than 9,600 incidents in addition to remaining resolute on emergency preparedness. We focused on fire prevention and education through our Fire Prevention Division, and we supported our emergency services delivery through our Training and Administrative Divisions.

The City of Kettering continues to progress which allows us to seek new opportunities and leads us to strengthen our relationships with regional agencies. Our dedicated personnel are highly trained professionals who proudly serve this community with conviction and honor, which is why I am so proud of each member of this great organization.

We hope you enjoy the 2022 Kettering Fire Department Annual Report as it highlights our accomplishments over the past year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fire Chief Mitch Robbins, OFE, OFC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Robbins".



Kettering Fire Department

Vision

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

Mission

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.



Core Values

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:

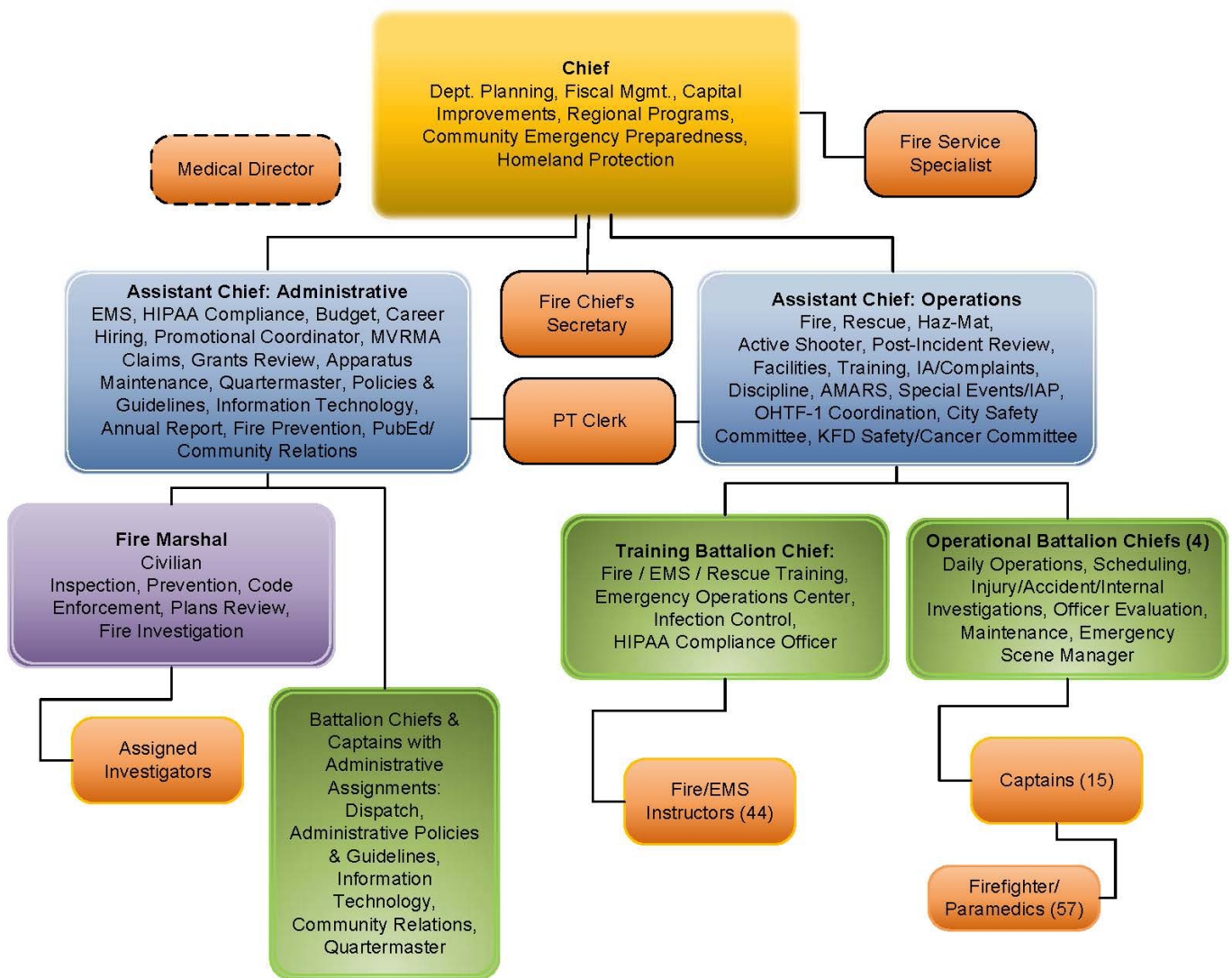
- Supporting a team-oriented approach to issues
- Valuing input from all members of the department
- Communicating openly and honestly, at all levels, without fear of reprisals
- Creating a consistent, trusting, pro-active work environment that promotes feelings of security in all members of the department

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

Kettering Fire Department

Organization Chart



Rev. 10/22



Department Overview

2022: 100 Years and Counting

Initially formed in 1922 as the Van Buren Twp. Fire Dept., 2022 marked a century of existence for the Kettering Fire Department (KFD). Now, 100 years later, the brave men and women of the Kettering Fire Dept. continue to be dedicated to minimizing the impact of fire, hazardous conditions, illness and injury with a caring and efficient response. These highly trained firefighters are part of a proud history of providing quality service to this great community for 100 years now and counting.

KFD took delivery of a new ladder truck in 2022. Ladder 32, a 2022 E-One with

a 100' aerial ladder, was delivered in September of 2022 and is housed at Station 32 on Far Hills Ave. In addition to the new ladder truck, KFD also took delivery of a Utility Task Vehicle (UTV). This vehicle is used for special events such as Kettering's 40th Independence Day Celebration and the Holiday at Home Labor Day events. It is designed to safely and efficiently navigate through large crowds to render first aid in the event of a medical emergency. The UTV is also used for attending to medical emergencies in remote locations such as a bike path or one of the golf courses located in Kettering.

Like most people, KFD personnel were glad to see the COVID-19 restrictions begin to relax in 2022. Although crews were still required to wear surgical masks on medic alarms to help protect against the spread of germs and disease, it was clear that life in the fire house was starting to get back to normal. Crews were more than happy to be able to eat and train together again. In fact, our personnel completed over 9,900 hours of fire and EMS training and proudly responded to 9,638 calls for emergency services in 2022; an increase of approximately 500 alarms over the previous year.



Kettering Fire Department

For 100 years, the Kettering Fire Department has continually assessed the risks in our community. Today, KFD still strives to shape our emergency response model to meet the community's needs in the most efficient and fiscally responsible manner possible. All of the men and women of Kettering Fire Department are dedicated to this community and proud to serve the people who make Kettering home. For more information about the Kettering Fire Department, please visit us on our website at www.ketteringoh.org/departments/kettering-fire-department.



Emergency Response Call Type	Number of Incidents	Percentage
Emergency Medical Services	7,572	78.56%
Personal Assist	729	7.56%
Alarm Investigation	392	4.07%
Dispatched/Cancelled En Route	189	1.96%
No Incident Found	138	1.43%
Recreational Fire	69	0.72%
Smoke/Odor Investigation	66	0.68%
Inside/Outside Gas Leak	66	0.68%
Electrical/Wiring	62	0.64%
Hazardous Materials	60	0.62%
Wires Arc/Down	57	0.59%
Water in Structure	51	0.53%
Trash/Rubbish Fire	29	0.30%
Standby	26	0.27%
Mutual Aid Given - Fire	23	0.24%
Residential Fire	19	0.20%
Mulch/Grass Fire	18	0.19%
Rescue	13	0.13%
Cooking Fire, Contained	12	0.12%
Fire - Other	12	0.12%
Apartment Fire	12	0.12%
Vehicle Fire	10	0.10%
Elevator Problem	7	0.07%
Commercial Fire	2	0.02%
Fire Near Structure	2	0.02%
Bomb Scare/No Bomb	1	0.01%
Explosion	1	0.01%
Total Incidents	9,638	100%



Emergency Medical Services

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) encompasses nearly 80 percent of the annual incidents that are handled by the Kettering Fire Department (KFD). In 2022, KFD responded to over 7,500 medical emergencies, which is an increase of 5 percent from 2021. Our paramedics handled each of these call with pride, professionalism, and compassion.

To ensure that our community receives excellent emergency medical services and outstanding patient care, our paramedics actively engaged in 4,106 hours of EMS training. These comprehensive trainings were designed to enhance patient survivability through rapid assessment and treatment in the areas of cardiac events, stroke emergencies, trauma assessment, pediatric care, and geriatric emergencies. These dynamic trainings were provided through regional partnerships with Kettering Health Network, Premier Health, Dayton Children’s Hospital and other outside agencies as well as KFD paramedics who are certified EMS Instructors.

In order to ensure high quality medical care, the Kettering Fire Department enhanced our Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement (QA/QI) program for our EMS operations in 2022. The program was revamped in conjunction with the ImageTrend Records Management System implemented in 2020. The QA/QI findings are reported within

the organization and regionally to ensure our customers receive optimal EMS delivery. KFD utilizes the QA/QI findings to develop additional training opportunities to continue to improve our EMS operations. The QA/QI program is a vital component to ensure our members are delivering EMS to the customers we proudly serve.

KFD continues to provide emergency medical support for many of the city’s annual events. In 2022, KFD added a medical Utility Task Vehicle (UTV) to our fleet to assist our paramedics in providing emergency medical support at many of the city’s annual events. The medical UTV is equipped with emergency medical equipment and allows KFD personnel to quickly navigate large crowds where traditional vehicles are less accessible.

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	2022 Totals
Illness	1420
Injury from Fall	1095
Difficulty Breathing	949
Chest Pain	353
Heart Problem	339
Psychiatric Problem	326
Abdominal Pain	294
Injury	274
Unconscious/Fainting	273
Convulsions/Seizure	237
Mutual Aid Given - EMS	226
Medical Alarm	207
Accident with Injury	198
Bleeding/Hemorrhage	192
Stroke	186
Cardiac Arrest	156
Back Pain	152
Diabetic Problem	140
Overdose	134
Lift Assist	105
Unknown Problem	101
Allergic Reaction	41
Standby	33
Choking	30
Headache	30
Pregnancy/Childbirth	25
Assault	20
Heat/Cold Exposure	13
Animal Bite	12
Burns	3
Stab/Gunshot Wound	3
Water Rescue	3
Well Person Check	2
TOTAL	7572

Kettering Fire Department

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 the American Heart Association's Mission Lifeline® EMS Gold Plus achievement award for its commitment to offering rapid, research-based care to people experiencing the most severe form of heart attack, ultimately saving lives.

Each year, more than 250,000 people experience a type of heart attack known as an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it is critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible by either mechanically opening the blocked vessel or using clot-busting medication.

Mission: Lifeline® 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. The program helps reduce barriers to prompt treatment for heart attacks – starting from when 911 is called, to EMS transport and continuing through hospital treatment and discharge. Optimal care for heart attack patients takes coordination between the individual hospital, EMS and health care system.



“The healthcare professionals who interact with a patient even before he or she enters the hospital or emergency room play a vital part in the system of care for those who have heart attacks,” said James G. Jollis, M.D., volunteer chair for the GWTG-CAD Systems of Care Advisory Work Group and professor of medicine at Duke University School of Medicine. “Since they are the first medical point of contact, they can save precious minutes of treatment time by activating the emergency response system that alerts hospitals to an incoming heart attack patient.”

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 honored to be recognized by the American Heart Association for our dedication to providing optimal care for heart attack patients,” said Battalion Chief Kyle Denlinger. “The Mission: Lifeline® program puts proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis so patients have the best possible chance of survival.”



FF/P David Walker with Chief Mitch Robbins



Training Division

In 2022, the Kettering Fire Department Training Division revolved around new people, new apparatus, and new techniques. The department held two new recruit classes for 5 new firefighters hired in 2022. Each of these firefighters averaged 6 weeks of training to learn how the Kettering Fire Department operates along with getting familiar with KFD apparatus, tools/equipment, protocols, policies, and tactics. 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.

The Kettering Fire Department received the long awaited new E-One 100' Ladder Truck that was placed in-service at Fire Station 32. Prior to placing this new apparatus in-service, all KFD Ladder Drivers/Operators attended an 8

hour training session to learn the intricacies of the new ladder which included safety procedures, emergency operations, and hands on practice. Following the training session, members trained diligently to become proficient in driving and operating the new Ladder Truck.

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. Each member of the department is required by the State of Ohio to obtain a minimum number of continuing education hours to maintain their fire and EMS certifications. Paramedics are required to obtain 86 hours



Kettering Fire Department



of continuing education every three years which includes: 12 hours of pediatrics, 4 hours of geriatric, 6 hours of cardiac, and 8 hours of trauma including an Ohio Trauma Triage course. KFD paramedics are also trained/certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) every two years. Firefighters are required to obtain 54 hours of continuing education every three years, in addition to 24 hours of continuing education for Fire Safety Inspector certification. 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 instructional methodology continuing education.



Training Type	Hours
EMS Training	4,106
General	2,401
Cardiac	572
Trauma	355
Pediatric	542
Geriatric	237
Fire Training	5,797
General Fire	3,230
Technical Rescue	913
Inspector	572
Officer Development	612
Haz-Mat	470
TOTAL	9,903



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

The Kettering Fire Department currently sponsors 37 members to the region’s Rescue Task Force (RTF). This task force is trained to respond to “active threat” emergencies such as an active shooter situation. When activated, two RTF paramedics will team up with two armed police officers in order to be a force multiplier in these types of events. RTF members are trained to efficiently triage victims then provide appropriate EMS care as quickly as possible in order to increase their chance for survival. Once complete, victims can be removed to a safer location and transported to an emergency room.

The department sponsors 13 members on the Ohio Region 3 Rescue Strike Team as well. These members have special

training in areas such as high angle rope, structure collapse, trench, and confined space rescue as well as lost person search. In 2022 we hosted multiple trainings at our Station 34 trench rescue training site. We also had several members activated to search for missing persons throughout the year.

The City of Kettering Fire Department currently has two members participating on the FEMA sanctioned Urban Search and Rescue; Ohio Task Force 1 team. Both members attend bi-monthly trainings in regards to their specialties for the team. These trainings may include training in conditions similar to that of which Region 3 trains. One of the members was deployed to Kentucky to assist residents during the flooding that took place in 2022.

Community Relations

In 2022, the Kettering Fire Department was back in full swing with fire safety public education. While fire/EMS crews covered over 9,600 incident responses they were still able to conduct almost 100 community public education events. We promoted the National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) 2022 Campaign of *Fire won’t wait. Plan your escape.* This message worked to educate everyone on the importance of home fire safety issues. Shout out to Firefighter Chris Caudill and the crews at Station 34 for their production of the annual fire safety video.

As always, we distribute our fire safety information through our social media platforms and during public education events.

Public Education Events	2022 Totals
Special Events	31
Block Parties	23
Station Tours	18
Ribbon Cuttings	13



Kettering Fire Department

Fire Prevention Bureau

Kettering's Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB) is managed by Fire Marshal Duane Stitzel and consists of two part-time fire safety inspectors and five firefighter/paramedics who are certified fire/arson investigators.

FPB responsibilities include:

- Fire Safety Inspections
- Fire Safety Plan Reviews
- Public Education
- Fire and Arson Investigations

In 2022, the Fire Prevention Bureau made record-breaking strides by providing over 1,500 inspections at Kettering's schools, businesses and construction sites. These included initial fire safety inspections, fire safety re-inspections and permit inspections. Our Fire Safety Inspectors corrected over 4,500 fire code violations in 2022. FPB personnel assisted hundreds of business owners in updating their fire safety plans and assuring that their fire protection systems were functioning properly. This makes the community safer for students, residents, businesses, customers and firefighters.

Also in 2022, the FPB started a year-long project to create a Multi-Family Dwelling fire safety inspection program set to initiate in 2023. We began by creating a database for our apartment buildings and locations in the City of Kettering that would benefit from this program. The plan is to work with our partners in the Planning and Development Department, along with building owners, to make these

Fire Prevention	2022 Totals
Initial Inspections	775
Re-Inspections	554
Construction Inspections	7
Fire Permits	76
Violations Issued	2684
Violations Resolved	3658

complexes a safe "little community" within our City.

Often times, city planners and developers make requests for the Fire Marshal to review new plans and proposals for both commercial and residential properties. The fire marshal will identify potential fire hazards and ensure that the building has adequate fire safety in its design. Each year the FPB receives approximately 100 sets of plans to review.

Our fire investigators conducted over 20 fire investigations for cause and origin of each fire. After a fire has occurred, a fire investigator is requested to respond to the scene and analyze the damage. He/she will interview witnesses and victims, collect and analyze any evidence and process the collected evidence. The scene may be reconstructed if the fire investigator needs to test a possible scenario. From there, the investigator will determine the cause of the fire – arson or accidental – and may testify in court as needed. As a continued effort to keep our fire investigators on the

top of their game, each investigator attended a week long Advance Fire Investigation class in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Overall, the FPB's goal is to promote fire and life safety initiatives through inspections, education, and investigations. In 2022, our inspectors and investigators invested approximately 5,000 collective hours to accomplish this goal.



Cooking fires continue to be a major cause of home fires.



100 Year Anniversary

We had the honor of celebrating 100 years of dedicated service at our open house on October 2, 2022. It was very well attended by our community and past fire department personnel. We provided lunch, educational materials, and tours of our Station 36. Many of our past members and retirees were able to look back on the history of the Kettering Fire Department and reflect on their experiences serving this community.

We will continue to strive and make our community a safe place to live, work, and visit. Our educational events provide us with the opportunity to pass on that fire safety related information.



Kettering Fire Department

History

The Kettering Fire Department finds itself deeply rooted in the Miami Valley. First formed before 1919 to provide fire protection to the township's three major population areas of Belmont, Beavertown, and Carramonte, seven inspired individuals sold 60 "hand type fire extinguishers" to raise the funds to purchase one hand-drawn fire cart with a 30 gallon barrel of soda ash. This team provided fire protection until a formal volunteer fire department was created in late 1922. Using funds from prohibition fines, the township established three companies: Company 1 in Carramonte, Company 2 in Belmont, and Company 3 at Wilmington Pike and Beavertown Road. The township ordered three open cab REO Speedwagons equipped with 500 gallon per minute pumps and formally began calling themselves the Van Buren Township Fire Department. During this time, each company was allotted 10 regular volunteer roster spots, and 3-4 substitutes. There were many challenges faced by these early firefighters, but they met them head on and persevered until the incorporation of the Village of Kettering in 1953, thus ending the Van Buren Township Fire Department.

Van Buren Township became the Village of Kettering, and the Van Buren Township Fire Department officially became known as the Kettering Fire Department (KFD). However, other than a name change not many other things changed. The department continued to operate as it had since its formation 30 plus years earlier. In June of 1955, the Village of Kettering



became the City of Kettering and with the official name change came several changes in the department. First, manpower spots increased to 20; a full-time fire inspector was hired; and the city provided for a full-time dispatching staff operating through the village's police department. However, this situation only lasted a year when volunteer firefighters began handling all the calls for the city. In 1959, the city reorganized the Fire Department and created the first full-time non-fire inspection related position, Chief of the department. Robert Myers, the city's first full-time fire inspector also became the city's first full-time fire chief.

The City of Kettering has undertaken many changes since incorporation in 1955 and continues to change. 2010 saw a change in the way the City of Kettering staffed its fire houses. With the decline in volunteerism and an ever increasing demand for

continual training on the volunteer firefighter, it was determined that a full-time staff of firefighter/paramedics supplemented by part-time firefighter/EMTs would provide a better service to the community, thus ending a 91-year history of volunteer firefighting in the area we now call home.

Today, the Kettering Fire Department consists of 80 uniformed personnel, all paramedics, including 57 Firefighters, 15 Fire Captains, 5 Battalion Chiefs, 2 Assistant Chiefs, and the Fire Chief plus a support staff of three. The Fire Prevention Bureau consists of the Fire Marshal and two Part-Time Fire Safety Inspectors. Fire crews run out of four modern, state-of-the-art Fire Stations designed to protect the health and safety of our personnel.

The Kettering Fire Department has a proud history with humble beginnings. As we continue to progress, we will never forget where we came from.



IAFF Local 2150

2022 was a welcome return to “normal” as the Kettering Professional Firefighters were able to resume all of our normal activities. Firefighters were able to raise funds through their 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.

2022 marked the 34th 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. Our success fundraising last year gave us a head start with our outreach in 2022. 2022 saw the firefighter fulfill the largest coat request in the history of their partnership with Kettering City Schools. 120 coats were purchased and delivered to the school counselors to distribute to those kids that needed a coat.

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 were also able 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.

One notable highlight for 2022 was the day-long fundraising event organized by L2150 members for the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation (MDA). The IAFF and MDA have been partners in raising funds to find treatments and a cure for neuromuscular diseases since 1954. This past year L2150 partnered with Bushrod Brew Works in Eaton to raise money with a day-long event that included a silent auction, food trucks and live music. The event was very successful, and the money donated landed L2150 on the MDA Honor Roll for the OAPFF 4th District in 2022, raising and donating the 6th highest dollar amount for the IAFF locals across western and southwest Ohio. The firefighters are working to plan another event to exceed last year’s donation total.

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.

The Kettering Professional Firefighters, in conjunction with our charitable foundation, are continuing to explore

new partnerships 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 2023.



Kettering Fire Department

Personnel Updates

2022 RETIREES



Nick Andrews
25 Years of Service



John Pfeifer
24 Years of Service

2022 HIRES



Chief Robbins and Mayor Lehner with
**Trent Phipps, Craig Schulze, Chad Beekman,
Collin Mellendorf and Nate Silver**

In Memoriam – Tracy L. Leach, Career FF/P

Tracy Lynn Leach of Xenia, Ohio, was born on May 5, 1970, and left this world on December 24, 2022, after a courageous, hard-fought battle with cancer.

Tracy's life was one of service and dedication to her passion, caring for others for the last 25 years. This dedication took on many forms. She instructed future firefighters, EMTs, and paramedics at Sinclair Community College, Greene County Career Center, and Clark State Community College. She worked as a registered nurse in the urgent care at Children's Hospital. She obtained numerous degrees, including associate degrees in computer science, fire science, EMS, nursing, and a bachelor's degree in nursing. Her favorite job, however, was working as a career firefighter/paramedic. Tracy's tenure at the Kettering Fire Department took on many forms before her retirement after 19 years of service

in 2021. She obtained numerous service awards during that time.

Tracy wholeheartedly committed herself to her craft, whether working as a line firefighter on an engine, a paramedic on the ambulance, dispatching police and fire units part-time for the Communication Center, teaching CPR, ACLS, PALS, or instructing the department's paramedics for continuing education. She was a proud member of Kettering's IAFF Local 2150.

Although she would not brag about this fact, she was proud to be the first full-time female firefighter/paramedic for the City of Kettering. She was an inspiration for countless females she encountered in the profession.

Tracy selflessly gave her all to those she served and to those who served alongside her. Unfortunately, it was her life's passion that led to her untimely

death due to occupational cancer.

Though Tracy's different jobs took up a lot of her time, one of her greatest loves was her family and pets. Tracy was an amazing mom to her furry kids. She leaves behind Jasper and Jasmine, her two pups that already miss her dearly. Tracy also loved traveling with her beloved husband, Jay, as much as possible. Tracy was truly one of a kind and will be sorely missed by those who loved her.

Tracy departed this earth way too soon but left a mark on all of us who knew her. Although you're gone, you will never be forgotten!





Firefighter of the Year

The Firefighter of the Year is awarded to the firefighter that exemplifies the true meaning of commitment and pride in the organization for the current year. This award process begins in the fall, and nominations for the award may be submitted from any rank within the organization. At the end of each year, the nominations are evaluated for merit by the department's Award Committee which is made up of 4-5 individuals of varying rank and organizational responsibilities. The committee reviews each candidate and makes recommendations to the Fire Chief for final approval.



FF/P Chris Caudill

Firefighter/Paramedic Chris Caudill came to the Kettering Fire Department from the Dayton Fire Department in 2019. Chris Caudill was nominated for the Firefighter of the Year by two captains and their nomination reads:

Chris was appointed PIO and has professionally excelled with creating and posting educational content for the City of Kettering Community. He attended a PIO class for his new position, as well as posting many Fire Department events.

Chris spent hours creating the public education video for Fire Prevention week. He recognized the need for community relations between the Fire Department and the community. Chris has taken on the task of hose testing and researched ways to improve the system after recognizing the need for improvements. He implemented training with a Power Point presentation to all members. He implemented a new hose log for tracking purposes, as well as ordered new hose based on the testing. He spent countless hours reviewing and researching ISO ratings and ways the department can improve. Chris is on the City's Health and Wellness Committee and attends meetings regularly. He works effectively in passing the information on to the members. He also patiently answers and addresses members concerns or questions as it relates to the Wellness Program.

Chris is consistently early to work, dedicated, knowledgeable and has a great attitude. He is passionate about the fire service and is always ready to have conversations concerning improving the fire service. On emergency scenes Chris treats all residents professionally and respectfully. He has assisted residents with safety hazards numerous times. He stays current on training and is engaged at all departmental trainings. His supervisors and peers recognize his knowledge and skills on EMS incidents. Chris is also on the EMS advisory board for Premier Health.

Chris received the Chief's Award earlier in the Year (2022) for going above and beyond on a flood in the structure alarm.



Kettering Fire Department

Fire Chief's Award



The Fire Chief's Award is 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 feels is beyond that which is normally expected of them.

FF/P Chris Caudill

FF/P Chris Caudill was awarded the Chief's Award for exemplary customer service on a flood in a building call. The recently widowed homeowner was not aware of the location of the water shut-off valve. FF/P Caudill took steps to locate the valve, including crawling under the house to search the

crawlspace and searching in the flower beds where it was ultimately located. FF/P Caudill then took the time with the homeowner to explain what repairs were necessary when she contacted a plumber, including recommendations for the most economical way to correct the issue. The homeowner

was very appreciative of the care and professionalism displayed during her stressful situation. Great job, FF/P Chris Caudill.





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 is also 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 — to know that their actions contributed to saving the life of another human being. To understand the significance of the last statement, the individual that is saved must be discharged from the hospital and resume normal life activities.



October 12, 2022

At the Kettering Recreation Complex

E-36 – Capt. Mike Holbert, Greg Chadwell, Craig Schulze

M-36 – Jeremy O'Brien, Kyle Lupton

B-30 – Battalion Chief Jim Lokai

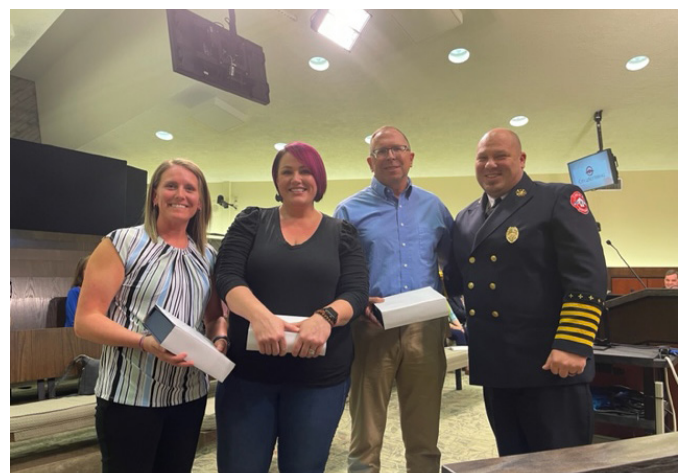
Citizenship Award

The Citizenship Award is awarded to people not associated with the Kettering Fire Department who distinguish themselves apart from others in actions that go above and beyond what would normally be expected or required from the average citizen at the scene of an emergency.

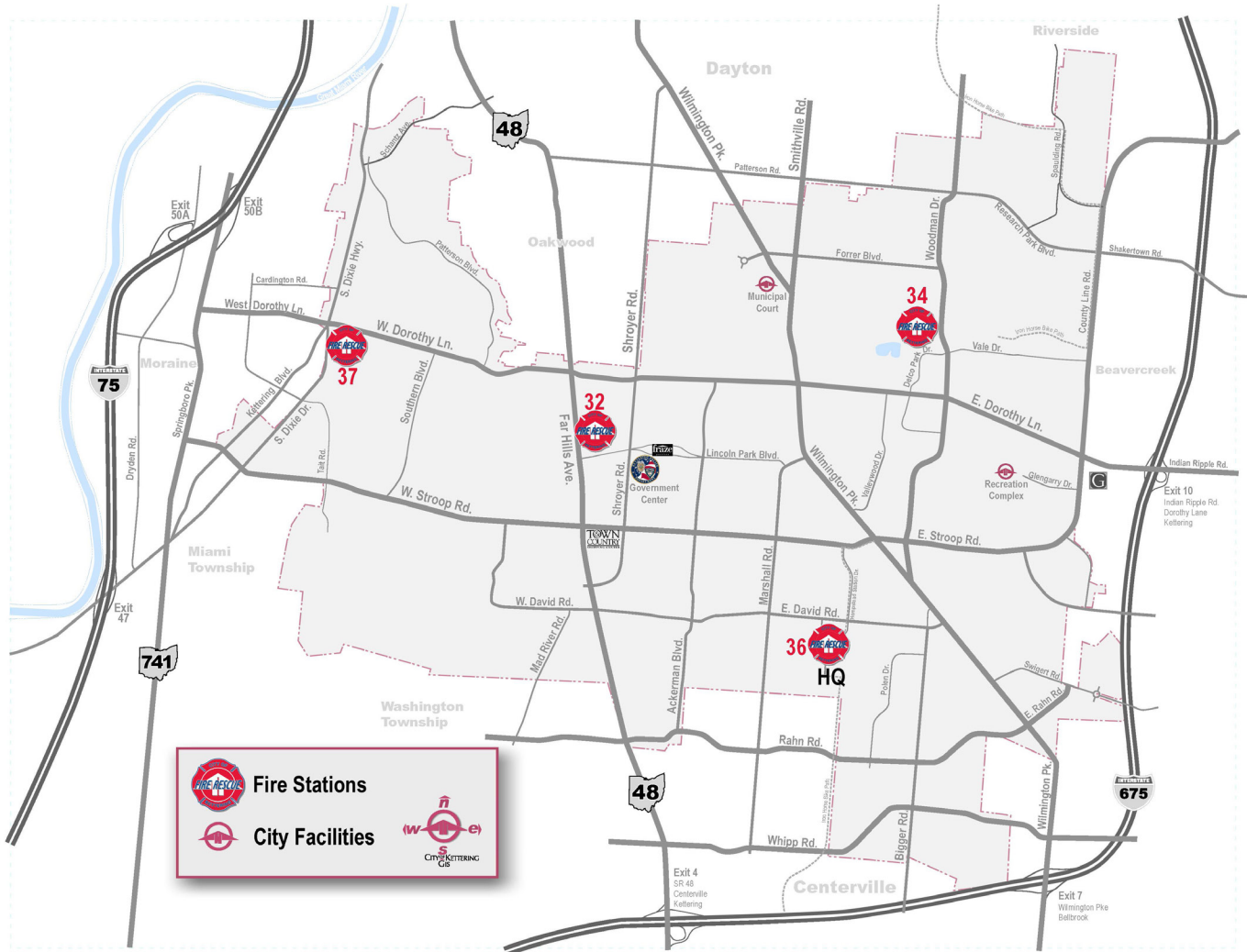
October 12, 2022

Presented to Kettering Recreation Complex employees for performing bystander CPR and using the AED prior to KFD arrival.

Lindsey Curry | Tiffany Williams | Scott Sehman



Kettering Fire Department



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)

"Because there's no greater good than to serve others."



www.ketteringoh.org

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