



GREENSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

— CITY OF —  
**GREENSBURG**  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

Prepared by Fire Chief  
Nathan Stoermer



# Executive Summary

The state of the Greensburg Fire Department is positive, progressing, and unyielding. Fiscal Year 2020 has been like nothing we have ever seen. A new fire chief, new mission statement and new badges were a few of the changes 2020 brought. However, the department faced many challenges brought on by Covid-19, professionally and personally, economically and most importantly emotionally. At the height of the pandemic Greensburg firefighters continued to answer the call, serving at the highest level. We responded to 971 emergencies in Greensburg and Decatur County during these trying times.

We are here, here to serve with compassion, dedication, and honorable service. Our tenacity to prepare for the worst while delivering the best is certain. The future of the Greensburg Fire Department is promising and bright. Greensburg Firefighters “Working Hard to Keep Greensburg Safe.”







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# From the Fire Chief

We have been performing as a fire department since 1874. The brave firefighters on the Greensburg Fire Department have been diligently working to provide emergency care to all kinds of situations to citizens and visitors alike. Even though a lot has changed, the commitment and dedication to help others has not.

On behalf of the dedicated and hardworking members of the of the Greensburg fire department, it is my pleasure to present the 2020 annual report to the honorable Mayor Joshua March, members of the Board of Works and City Council, and the most importantly, the citizens of Greensburg IN. The information included will give you a look into all facets of fire department operations. It is through the tireless work of all employees that we can keep Greensburg safe.

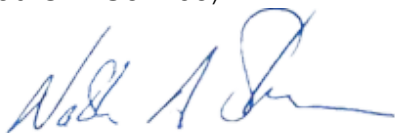
For all, the year 2020 was challenging. I begin the duties of fire chief in late January and approximately three weeks later we stumbled into the pandemic. Covid-19 posed some challenges for us that we handed well with teamwork, creativity, and flexibility. Despite the setbacks we were able to celebrate the retirement of four of our officers, hiring of five new firefighters and said goodbye to two firefighters who resigned their positions.

Despite the nation-wide pandemic, the citizens and elected officials remained dedicated to the needs of public safety. With their approval and support, GFD made the investment in replacing all our self-contained breathing apparatus, upgraded to a new and much more reliable radio system with the purchase of new radios.

Another major milestone with the department was the creation of a health and wellness program. Each member's physical fitness was evaluated, medical exams and cancer screenings were completed along with meeting a dietician/nutritionist and mental health clinician assuring that our members are in the best mental and physical shape they can be in.

With city council support, the commitment to the Greensburg Fire department continues. With this empowerment, we will be able to elevate our training and response to emergencies.

Yours in Service,



Nathan A. Stoermer, EFO, CFO





# 2020 Initiatives and Achievements

A new Fire Chief, Nathan Stoermer, was selected from outside of the organization by Mayor Josh Marsh. Chief Stoermer started on January 21, 2020.

Fire department Instructors completed two recruit academies for the new hires. Numerous state-level fire certification classes were also instructed and hosted by our department.

An upgrade of the mobile communication devices used by the Fire Department were purchased and placed into service, allowing firefighters to have better communications with the county's dispatch center.

## Promotions

Assistant Chief Andy Whitkemper  
Captain Dave Eckstein  
Captain Curtis Lewis  
Captain Trevor Cook  
Lieutenant Kyle Wilson  
Lieutenant Troy Harmon  
Lieutenant Chuck Gunter

## Retirements

Assistant Chief Andy Whitkemper  
Assistant Chief Randy Hoeing  
Captain Mark Baldwin  
Captain Ronald Clark  
Firefighter Gary Bedel

## New Hires

Donathan Buckley  
Chad Jones  
Andrew Murphy  
Donald Nicholson  
Roger Volk

## Resignations

Brian Fry  
Neil Ploeger

# THE ORGANIZATION



As of January 2021, the department is authorized for 32 employees: 30 full time sworn and two civilian employees. Command Staff includes the Fire Chief, three Assistant Chiefs, three Fire Captains, and three Fire Lieutenants.

The Fire Chief handles executive and administrative duties for the department, which includes budgeting, finance, planning, monitoring performance data, writing policy and procedures, and communications. In addition, the Fire Chief supports department operations by participating on several boards and groups, such as the Local Emergency Planning Committee, City County Joint Dispatch Board, Decatur County Emergency Management Agency Advisory Board, Greensburg School Safety Board, and the Decatur County Fire Chief's Association. The Fire Chief's office is located at Fire Station One.

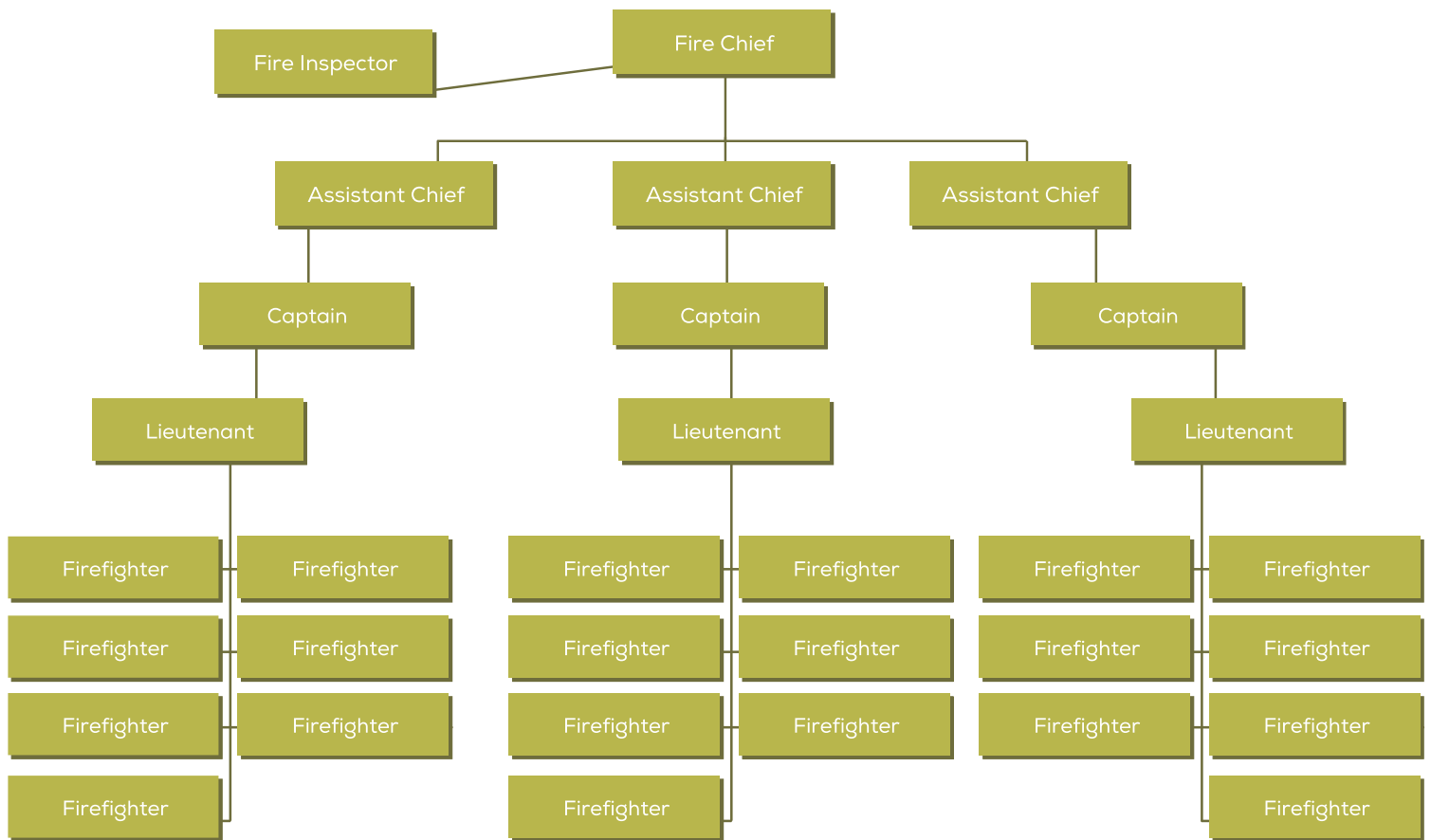


The other civilian position, Fire Inspector, conducts all fire safety related code enforcement (life safety inspections) and building plans review. The Fire Inspector supports prevention activities by participating in several groups and boards in Greensburg and Decatur County. The Fire inspector's office is in with the City of Greensburg Building, Codes, and Permit Office at City Hall.

Assistant Fire Chiefs, also known as shift commanders, have overall responsibility for their respective shift and emergency operations. Each Assistant Chief has a Captain and Lieutenant to support them on shift. Shifts are composed of a compliment of officers and seven firefighters. Some, if not all firefighters, are cross trained in emergency medical response. All officers serve on various committees that are responsible for, operations, apparatus maintenance, training, health, safety, and wellness, technology, member recognition, and uniform program.



# Organizational Chart





# Fire Department Members

Asst. Chief  
Captain  
Lieutenant  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Probationary FF

Captain  
Lieutenant  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Probationary FF

Brian Wenning  
Dave Eckstein  
Kyle Wilson  
Chris Springmeyer  
Brad Tressler  
Wade Farr  
Matt Shorten  
Nick Gauck  
Chad Jones  
Cory Fischer

Curtis Lewis  
Troy Harmon  
Ron Reynolds  
Jock Ralston  
Kevin Wenning  
Tyler Brown  
Anthony Bruce  
Eric Brown  
Roger Volk  
Daniel Bautista

Asst. Chief  
Captain  
Lieutenant  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Firefighter  
Probationary FF

David Roszell  
Trevor Cook  
Chuck Gunter  
Andy Allen  
Kyle Munson  
Jarrod Prentice  
Randall Koors  
Donald Nicholson  
Donathon Buckley  
Alex Martienz



# Apparatus

The Greensburg Fire Department maintains multiple pieces of apparatus that are utilized for fire suppression, vehicle rescue, and aerial device. Two pieces of apparatus are owned by Washington Township, Decatur County and are utilized under a contract of service with the City and Township.



Ladder 1



Rescue 1



Tanker 1



Brush 1



Car 2



Ladder 11



# Mission, Vision and Values

An organization's mission, vision, and values statements serve as the foundation of behavior and decision making in our department. A mission statement explains its reason for existence, the why. A vision statement describes what an organization strives to be. Vision statements should inspire action in the organization and within individuals, and values serve as the guiding principles that assist the department in decision making. Throughout this process, input was sought from all levels of the Department.

## MISSION

The Greensburg Fire Department is dedicated to preserving life and property through the promotion of public safety to the citizens and visitors of Greensburg, IN through compassion, dedication, and honorable service.

## VISION

"Working Hard to Keep Greensburg Safe."

## VALUES

Compassion

Dedication

Honorable Service



# GFD Leadership Plan

## General Strategies

- Empower employees through a variety of methods to take a prideful ownership within the department.
- Utilize appreciation sentences.
- Recognize and celebrate the victories of our members including those that successfully complete their probationary period.
- Ensure transparency of the organization. (top to bottom, bottom to top)
- Continuously communicate with those who expect a high-level of service from our department.

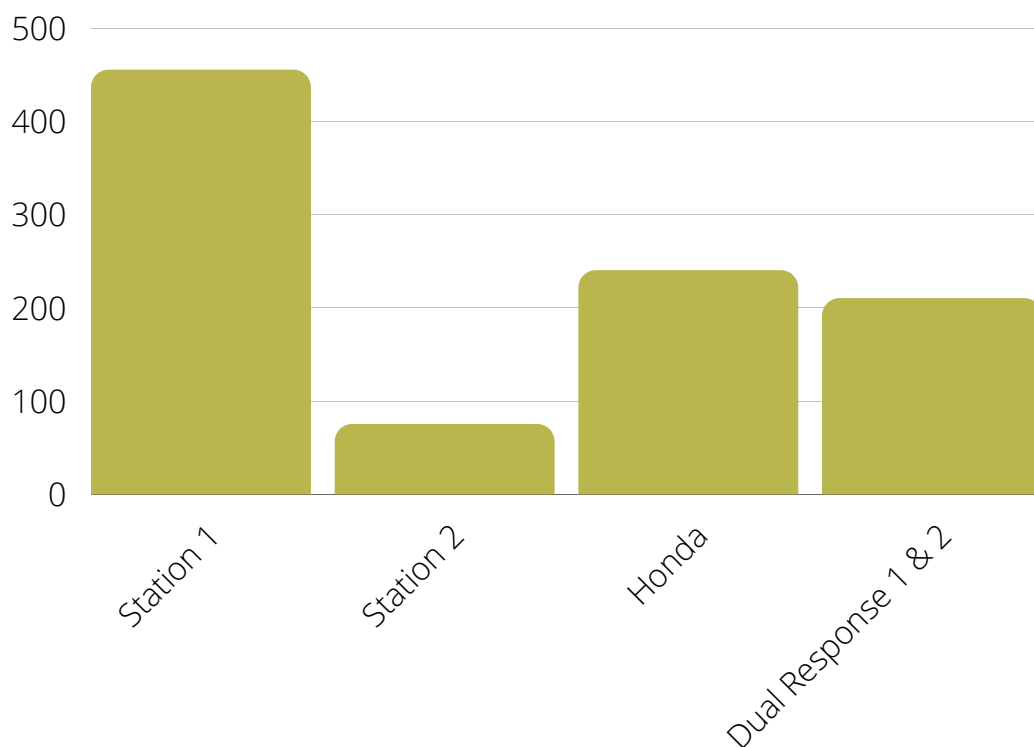
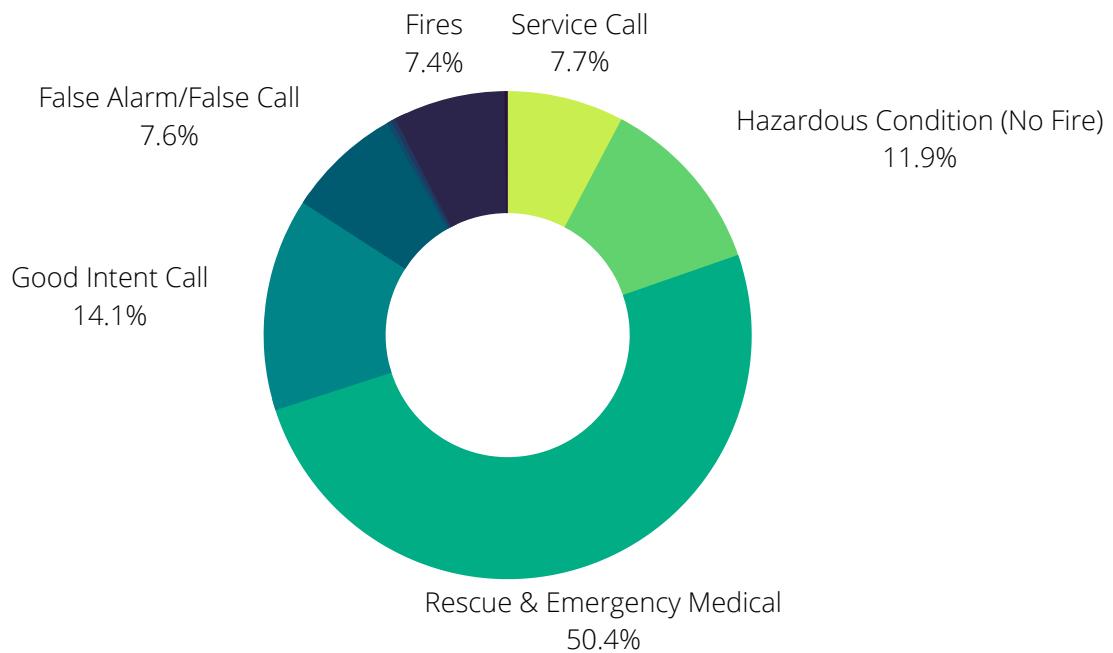
## Short-term Goals & Objectives (One Year & Less)

- Review and update policy and /or guidelines as needed making sure to train to the SOP/SOGs.
- Provide officer development training at a minimum of one time per month.
- Engage the community in a chat with the Chief program quarterly at a local coffee shop. – Post COVID-19
- Ensure that CPSE credentialing (FO/CFO) benchmarks are being met so members can obtain the correct designation.
- Introduce strategic community risk reduction into the Greensburg Fire Department
- Begin the strategic planning process for the next five years.

## Long-term Goals & Objectives (More than One Year)

- Increase the City of Greensburg Fire Departments response capabilities. – Haz-Mat & Squad Company
- Educate the city's' and county's appointed and elected leaders on the roles and functions of the fire department by hosting a hands-on educational informative learning session.
- Improve the cities Insurance Service Offices Public Protection Class rating from a four to a three.
- Create a CRR program within the City of Greensburg, IN

# A Year in Review



**\$779,775 in Property Saved**

**971 Responses**

**8,605 Total Training Hours**



# Training Committee

In 2020 the Training Committee was formed. Consisting of seven members of all ranks, multiple meetings were held, and a training plan was drafted. In the training plan, several disciplines were covered to continue to improve everyone's skill level, as well to get continuing education hours to recertify.

Also, other training props and specialty trainings were discussed, and are in the process of being acquired or reserving a spot. These include, forcible entry door, hose deployment prop, FDIC HOT passes and props from the State. In all over 9000 hours of training were documented for the Greensburg Fire Department

Greensburg Fire made the investment of new equipment to train on in 2020. Consisting of extensive Man V. Machine kits, Milwaukee M18 K12 saws, rope rescue equipment, and 1 of 2 new apparatuses were delivered (purchased by Washington Township). The Training committee wrote and ensured that all members were trained on how to operate before putting this apparatus into service

Our 2021 vision includes, more specialized technical rescue training as well as EMS. Tech rescue will be focused on, rope rescue, haz-mat, and confine space rescue. While EMS will focus on honing the skills and knowledge everyone possess, and applying that on high-priority calls.

## Health & Fitness Committee

The Health and Fitness Committee has addressed the overall fitness of The Greensburg Fire Department members and has come up with a program that will promote the health and fitness of the Greensburg Fire Dept. This program will be issued to each member on a biannual basis.

The program will consist of Stretching, Sit Ups, Pushups, and a timed Walk/Run on the treadmill. Each of these stations will be assessed a point value according to how the candidate preforms. Along with this there will be a body fat density test that is also scored. The candidates must have a high enough score to meet the department's level three. Any candidates failing to meet level three will be expected pass an agility course to remain active on the department. Any candidate that fails to meet either of these assessments will be subject to further training and further assessment.

Along with fitness standards, this the committee has addressed the mental health of the members and has had a dietitian come in to talk to members in order to help further a positive healthy environment that each member can take advantage of.

# Uniform Committee

The uniform committee has partnered with Galls (a uniform company) to create our own “store” on their website. This allows us to make sure our attire is consistent throughout the department. Our online store gives firefighters options in regards to clothing for station wear but also strives to keep these items alike in style. This gives our firefighters choices for apparel while still looking similar.

We’ve also limited our options on Class B and Class A attire which gives us a professional look while keeping with our traditional uniforms.

This committee has also created a uniform policy for the department, spelling out guidelines for apparel. Working with the Chief and receiving feedback from department members, this policy will assure that all firefighters are dressed in a professional manner and wearing the appropriate clothing for all department situations.

# Technology Committee

## Communications

Due to a forced hand of all entities in Decatur County transferring radio communications from VHF to 800 MHz radios, Greensburg Fire had a tight deadline to research, purchase, and train with upgraded radio equipment. The technology team did just that superbly. We had the option of settling for what the rest of the county was purchasing, or we could research for what best fit Greensburg Fire. Multiple manufactures were contacted for quotes and demos of their products. Hands on demoing was performed in gear and conditions that we could be in, to find the right radio for our department. After considering the product and the price, it was decided that we cannot put a price on safety and functionality for what we may be faced with.

The committee and Chief moved forward with a proposal to purchase 36 Motorola APX 8000XE radios along with 30 APX XE500 noise cancelling microphones. With the approval from City Council we were allowed to make this purchase for \$231,788.16.

Since the purchase of these radios, we have the ability to communicate not only with the other Decatur County fire departments and EMS, but with our city and county police departments, and our surrounding counties fire departments. We are now moving towards becoming trained in IPSEC so we have the capabilities of programming our own equipment.

## Website

In a joint effort with City Hall, our committee has been working towards updating and upgrading our fire department website. Our previous website was operated by a third party, making it difficult to update information, and displaying nonrelevant information of our department. Committee members put together the layout along with all the content for our new website. This information was sent to City Hall to be initially input in our new site developed by Simpleview. Members are now currently being trained to operate and maintain our new website in house. This will allow for our content to be always up to date, providing an inviting and professional outlook for the Greensburg Fire Department and the City of Greensburg. Please check out our new website at [www.greensburg.in.gov/fire](http://www.greensburg.in.gov/fire).