

2013 Casper Fire-EMS

Annual Report



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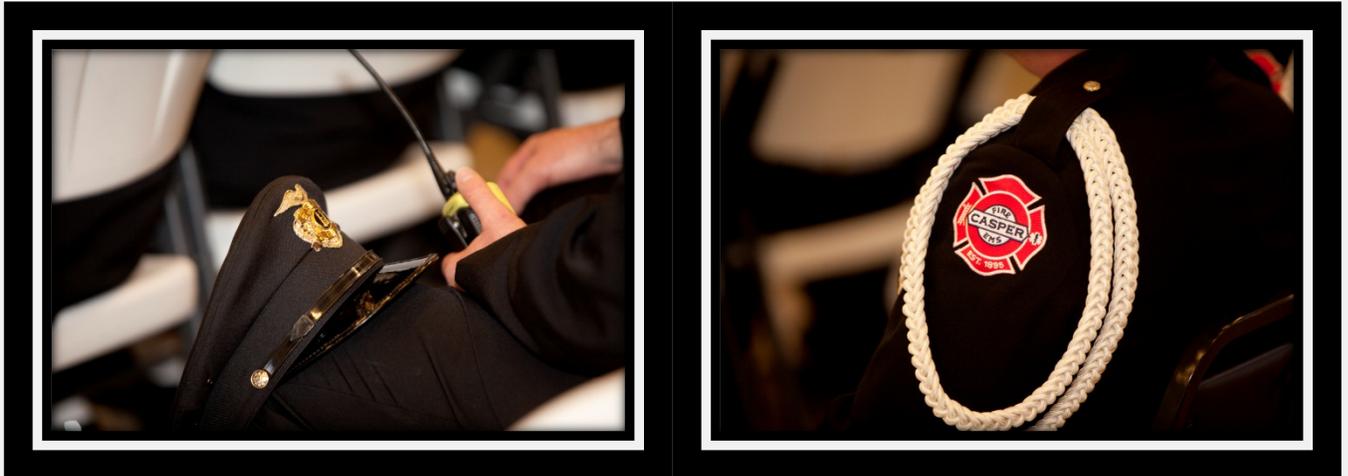
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*City of Casper Fire-EMS
Annual Report 2013*

Our Mission:

We serve to consistently improve the health and safety of our community with skill and compassion.



Trust

-Us to be there

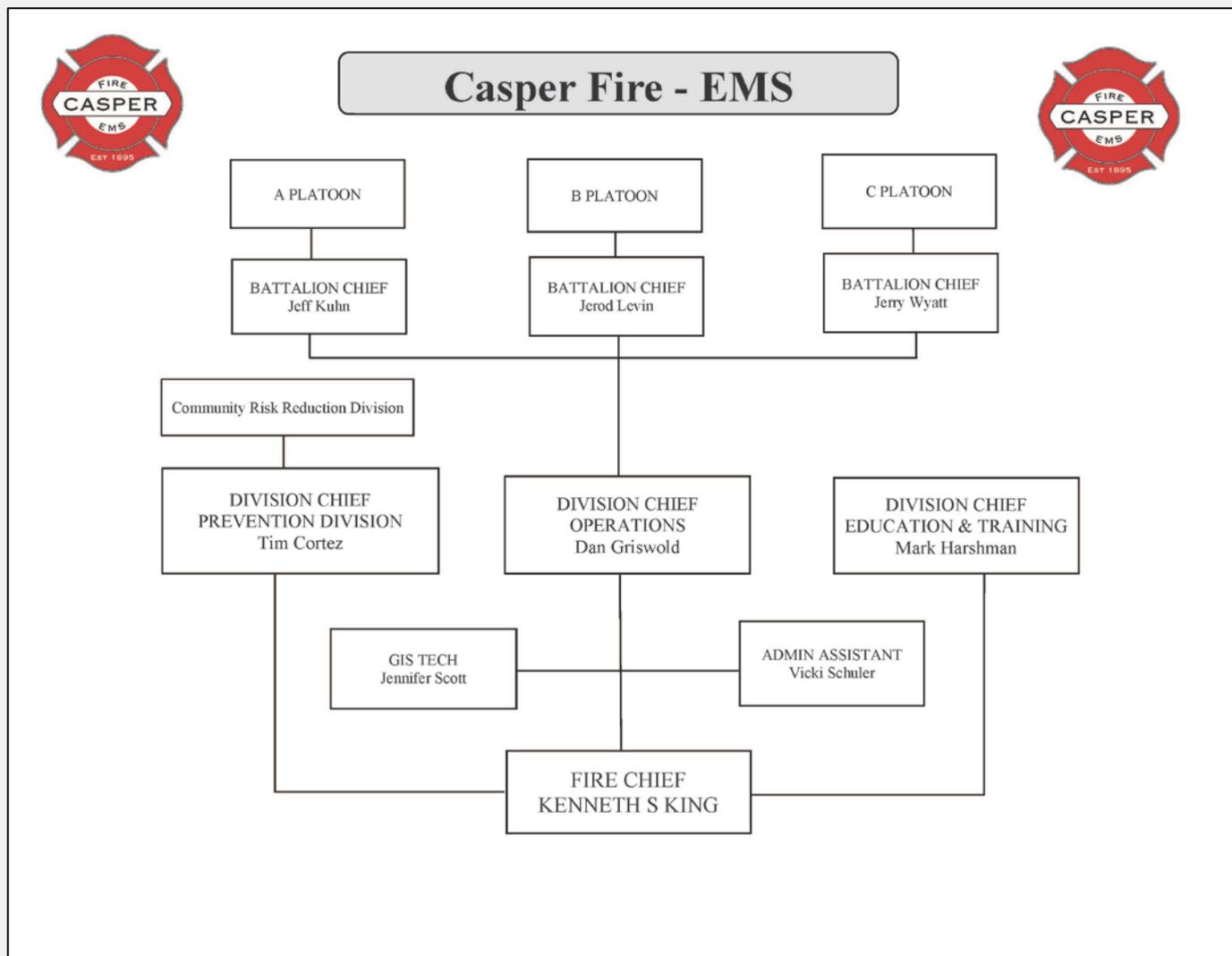
Pride

-For Serving the Public

Effective

-Toward Reducing Loss

Organizational Chart:



A Message from the Chief:

Significant changes occurred within the Casper Fire-EMS Department (CFD) during 2013. The most significant of those changes was the announcement in June of the retirement of Fire Chief Mark Young after 34 years of service. The announcement came as a shock to all of us. Chief Young accepted the position of Assistant State Fire Marshal for the Wyoming State Fire Marshal's Office. Chief Young was appointed to Fire Chief in 1999. During Chief Young's tenure, the Department's philosophy on customer service and its relationship to the Departments mission, vision and long-range goals became the Department's expectations and standards of performance. Individual firefighters were empowered to act in the best interest of the customer. Before Chief Young the term "customer" was not widely used in the public sector. Our success can now be measured by the community support we receive, where the level of customer satisfaction is second to none! Chief Young also replaced Fire Station No. 3 in 2011, and further broadened the scope of services provided to the citizens by implementing the Community Risk Reduction Division and Paramedic Program.

Filling Chief Young's position was a daunting task, and ultimately the City Manager's Commission hired me to fill the role. I would like to say thank you to that group. The confidence and trust the group has invested in me is very humbling. A Fire Chief is part business class, part firefighter, a unique combination of academics mixed with business intelligences, a people person with a whole lot of ideas. The Casper Fire-EMS Department is often compared to a family, and the future is to keep the family together and strong. We are much more than just a fire department. We are here for impact. People don't buy what we do; they buy why we do it. We are going to be "others-focused" instead of "self-focused". My management philosophy stresses employee participation in all aspects of department decision making. I look forward to leading the members within this great organization and serving our citizens for many years to come.

Our firefighters will always be there to respond to your emergencies, but you should know that even when it's not an emergency, our department is working to improve public safety. Our job is to keep Casper safe.



Operations:

The Casper Fire-EMS Department currently operates out of 5 Fire Stations spread throughout the City with a staffing of 18 personnel on duty each day. A minimum of 18 personnel are distributed over 5 Engines companies, 1 Truck, 1 Rescue and 1 Command Vehicle in service all day, every day to the citizens and visitors of the City of Casper. The Operations division provides numerous public services to the community. In addition to structure fire responses, Casper Fire-EMS fire engines respond to medical emergencies and non-emergencies, various rescue incidents, as well as hazardous material incidents. Operations Division firefighters are also involved with teaching fire safety in Casper's schools, inspections of numerous Casper area businesses, as well as many other calls for public service.

Operation's goal is to be aggressive, disciplined division when responding to the public safety needs of our community. We achieve this goal through trust in each other, pride in our mission, and effectiveness in leadership, training, and command.

Significant events affecting the Operations Division in 2013 include:

- The retirement of Fire Chief Mark Young on May 28, 2013.
- Operations Chief Kenneth King was promoted to Fire Chief on July 1, 2013.
- Battalion Chief Daniel Griswold was promoted to Operations Chief on October 21, 2013.
- Captain Jerod Levin was promoted to Battalion Chief on October 21, 2013.
- Operations had no civilian fire deaths.
- Operations had no firefighter fire injuries or deaths.
- New cardiac monitors were put into service on every engine and the rescue. The new monitors give our EMTs the ability to transmit ECG rhythm strips to the hospital from the emergency scene.
- Secured funding for new thermal imagers, hydraulic extrication tools, and ordered airpaks.

Community Risk Reduction:

The Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Division concentrates the majority of its efforts in three main categories. The first is plan review for new buildings and those undertaking an extensive remodel. With so much at stake, the work is meticulous and involves the interpretation and application of a number of fire code references. The goal is safer structures that help ensure no loss of life due to fire or smoke.

The second category is inspection. This is the task of fire inspectors and engine companies going out in the community to ensure that existing buildings are properly maintained and fire mitigation devices are in place and functional. The goal is to keep fires small or extinguishing them all together while allowing citizens a safe path to exit the building. In addition, our members learn the buildings which is paramount should they have to respond to an emergency.

The third category is public education. We teach fire safety to all ages but we focus mostly on the younger children. We go into almost all schools in the City of Casper to spread our message. In addition, our division runs the DARE program for the city. This puts three of our inspectors in various schools during the regular school year. The goal of public education is to minimize youth fire setting, inform citizens of what to do in the case of an emergency and most of all, to educate citizens on how to prevent an emergency all together.

Community Risk Reduction cont.:

The last category is fire investigation. This is the only category that we cannot plan for and must react to. Fire investigation is a meticulous process that occurs during and after a fire. Through scene reconstruction, interviews, and evidence analysis we try to determine the nature and cause of every fire. If this information can be obtained, we can contribute to the prevention of future occurrences. This can be in the form of educating citizens on the use of certain products, informing citizens of certain practices that lead to emergencies or in some cases, prosecuting arsonists who deliberately set fires.

Significant events affecting the Community Risk Reduction Division in 2013 include:

- First Residential Sprinkler (13D) Install
- Conducted Several Youth Fire Setter Interventions; there have been no known repeat offenders
- CRR Arson Investigators along with Casper Police Officers successfully arrested one arsonist; for the fire at 224 N Jefferson. Another individual will be persecuted for the fire at 1715 South Jackson.
- Assumed the D.A.R.E program from Casper Police Department with the start date to be in January 2014; trained one part-time and two full time officers from within the CRR division to carry out the program's mission.
- 110 building plan reviews were conducted (building, sprinkler, or remodel). 27 plan reviews were conducted for Community Development
- 47 permits were issued.
- 10 stove installs were conducted.

Training:

The training and personnel division is a critical division in Casper Fire-EMS as it provides for the education and wellness of all firefighters within our organization. This division is responsible for hiring, promotional testing, and disciplinary action. Furthermore, this division ensures our members are healthy through programs and exams.

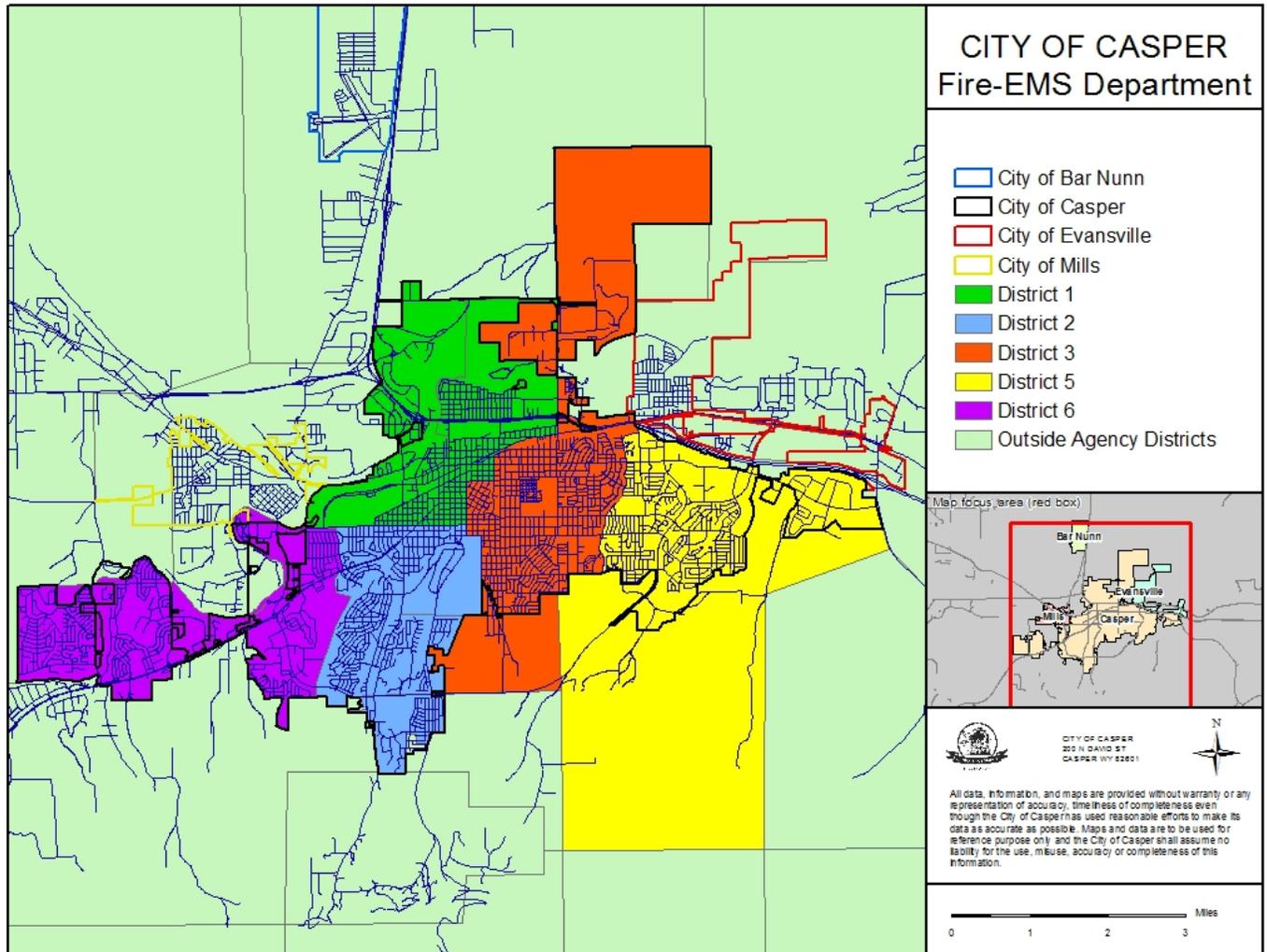
The training aspect of the division is the vehicle which allows our organization to reach its vision of providing service with skill. The skills firefighters possess are learned and must be constantly honed and updated. As our world evolves, so must the fire service. For every additional service our community asks of us, we must obtain new skill sets.

The goals of this division are to see our members:

- Get all the knowledge they can in order to better serve the public.
- Are educated and empowered to make the best decisions.
- Have a long and healthy career.
- Go home after every shift.

This division strives to ask the difficult questions and make the impossible solutions, possible. Although the division is the responsibility of Division Mark Harshman, the real work is done by the firefighters who dedicate themselves to teaching so, "Everyone Goes Home".

Response Zones:



Count of Incidents by Type

Total Calls for Service 6614

Fire:

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	6
Building fire	34
Camper or recreational vehicle (RV) fire	1
Cooking fire, confined to container	19
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	7
Fire in mobile home used as fixed residence	3
Fire, Other	6
Fires in structure other than in a building	1
Forest, woods or wildland fire	1
Garbage dump or sanitary landfill fire	1
Grass fire	12
Mobile property (vehicle) fire, Other	1
Outside equipment fire	1
Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	13
Passenger vehicle fire	27
Road freight or transport vehicle fire	2
Special outside fire, Other	5
Trash or rubbish fire, contained	3
Grand Total	143

- 10 fires were involved or Arson level investigation
- 55 fires were investigated by the Community Risk Reduction Division
- 78 fires were considered minor fire investigations



EMS/Rescue:

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Emergency medical service, other	36
EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	3589
EMS; Cancelled upon arrival	300
Extrication of victim(s) from machinery	1
Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	10
Extrication, rescue, Other	1
False Lifeline Alarm	83
High-angle rescue	2
Lock-in (if lock out , use 511)	14
Medical assist, assist EMS crew	107
Motor vehicle accident with injuries	217
Motor Vehicle Accident with no injuries	188
Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	27
Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	9
Rescue or EMS standby	6
Rescue, EMS incident, other	11
Search for lost person, other	4
Search for person in water	21
Search for person on land	3
Swift water rescue	5
Swimming/recreational water areas rescue	1
Water & ice-related rescue, other	1
Watercraft rescue	1
Grand Total	4637

Hazardous Condition:

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Accident, potential accident, Other	1
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	49
Breakdown of light ballast	2
Carbon monoxide incident	10
Chemical hazard (no spill or leak)	3
Chemical spill or leak	4
Electrical wiring/equipment problem, Other	24
Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	29
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	19
Hazardous condition, Other	3
Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	7
Non-electrical Wiring/Equipment Problem	10
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	14
Overheated motor	6
Power line down	74
Regional Response (RR2 Team)	1
Vehicle accident, general cleanup	7
Grand Total	263

Service Calls:

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Animal rescue	2
Assist invalid	231
Assist police or other governmental agency	66
Cover assignment, standby, moveup	6
Defective elevator, no occupants	3
Lock-out	17
Person in distress, Other	58
Police matter	16
Public service	21
Public service assistance, Other	8
Ring or jewelry removal	2
Service Call, other	84
Smoke Detecotrs; Install or battery install	22
Smoke or odor removal	16
Unauthorized burning	11
Unusual Odor; Nothing Found	33
Water or steam leak	3
Water problem, Other	3
Grand Total	602

False Alarms:

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	74
Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	36
Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	14
Central station, malicious false alarm	5
CO detector activation due to malfunction	10
Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	43
Direct tie to FD, malicious false alarm	1
Extinguishing system activation due to malfunction	1
False alarm or false call, Other	58
Heat detector activation due to malfunction	2
Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	2
Malicious, mischievous false call, Other	4
Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	29
Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	86
Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	5
Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional	9
System malfunction, Other	14
Telephone, malicious false alarm	1
Unintentional transmission of alarm, Other	23
Grand Total	417

Other:

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Authorized controlled burning	6
Biological hazard investigation	1
Citizen complaint	1
Dispatched & cancelled en route	55
Dispatched & cancelled en route - EMS	239
Dispatched & cancelled en route - FIRE	60
Dispatched & cancelled en route - HAZMAT	1
Dispatched & cancelled en route - SERVICE CALL	6
Dispatched & cancelled en route - Wildland FIRE	3
EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	5
Fire Code Citation	1
Fireworks explosion (no fire)	3
Good intent call, Other	86
HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	13
Lightning strike (no fire)	1
Overpressure rupture of steam pipe or pipeline	1
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat other	1
Smoke from barbecue, tar kettle	5
Smoke scare, odor of smoke	35
Steam, Other gas mistaken for smoke, Other	3
Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	15
Wrong location	11
Grand Total	552

Additional Demographics of Incidents

Total Calls by District

- District 1 – 1790
- District 2 – 917
- District 3 – 1536
- District 5 – 932
- District 6 – 922
- Districts Outside The City Limits – 75
 - There are areas outside the city limits that are CFDs first in area.
 - Calls cancelled en route not included
 - CFD Engine Company Responses

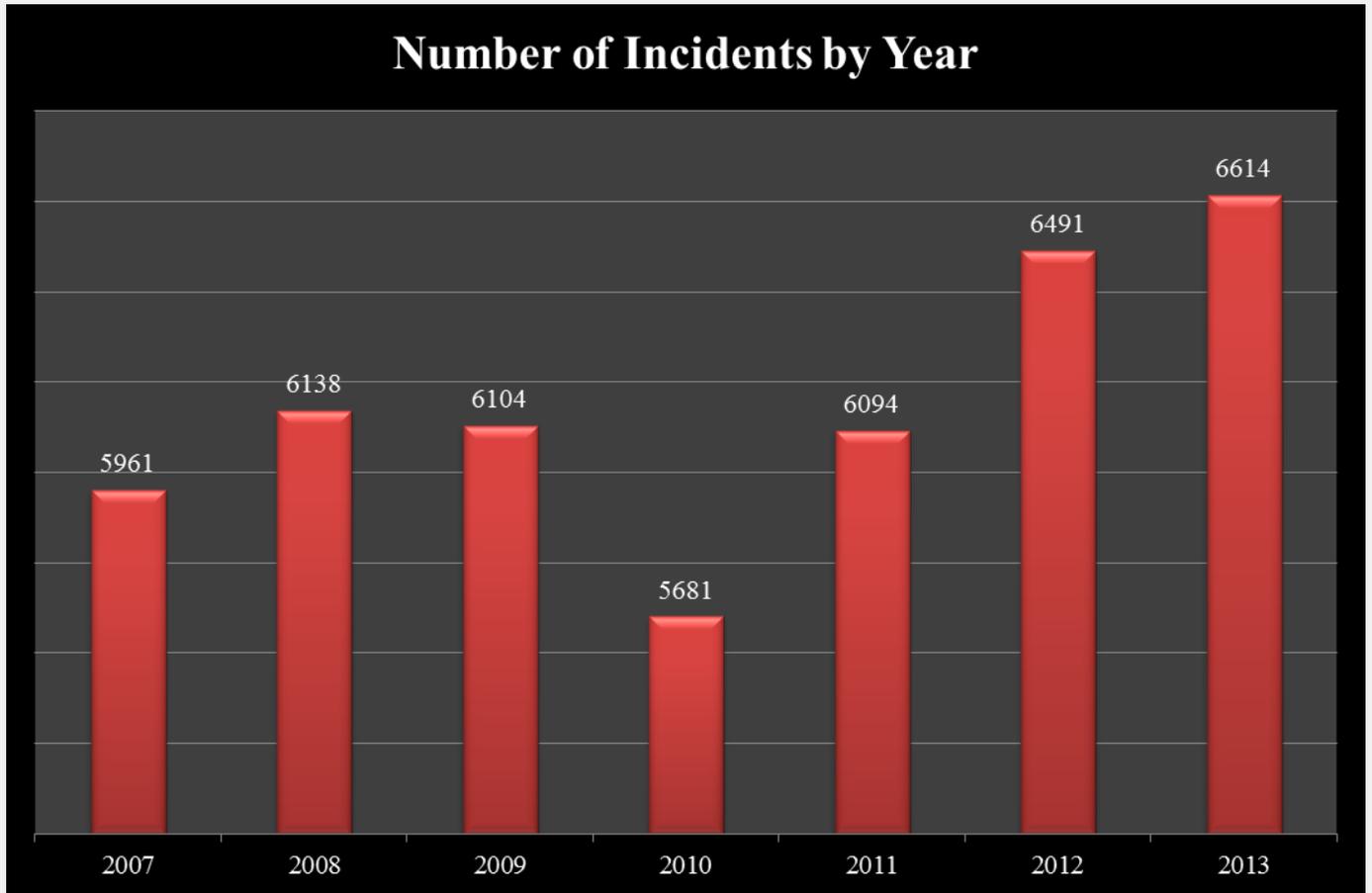
Mutual Aid Given/Received:

Aid Rendered	Number of Incidents
Mutual Aid Given	135
Mutual Aid Received	11
None	6468

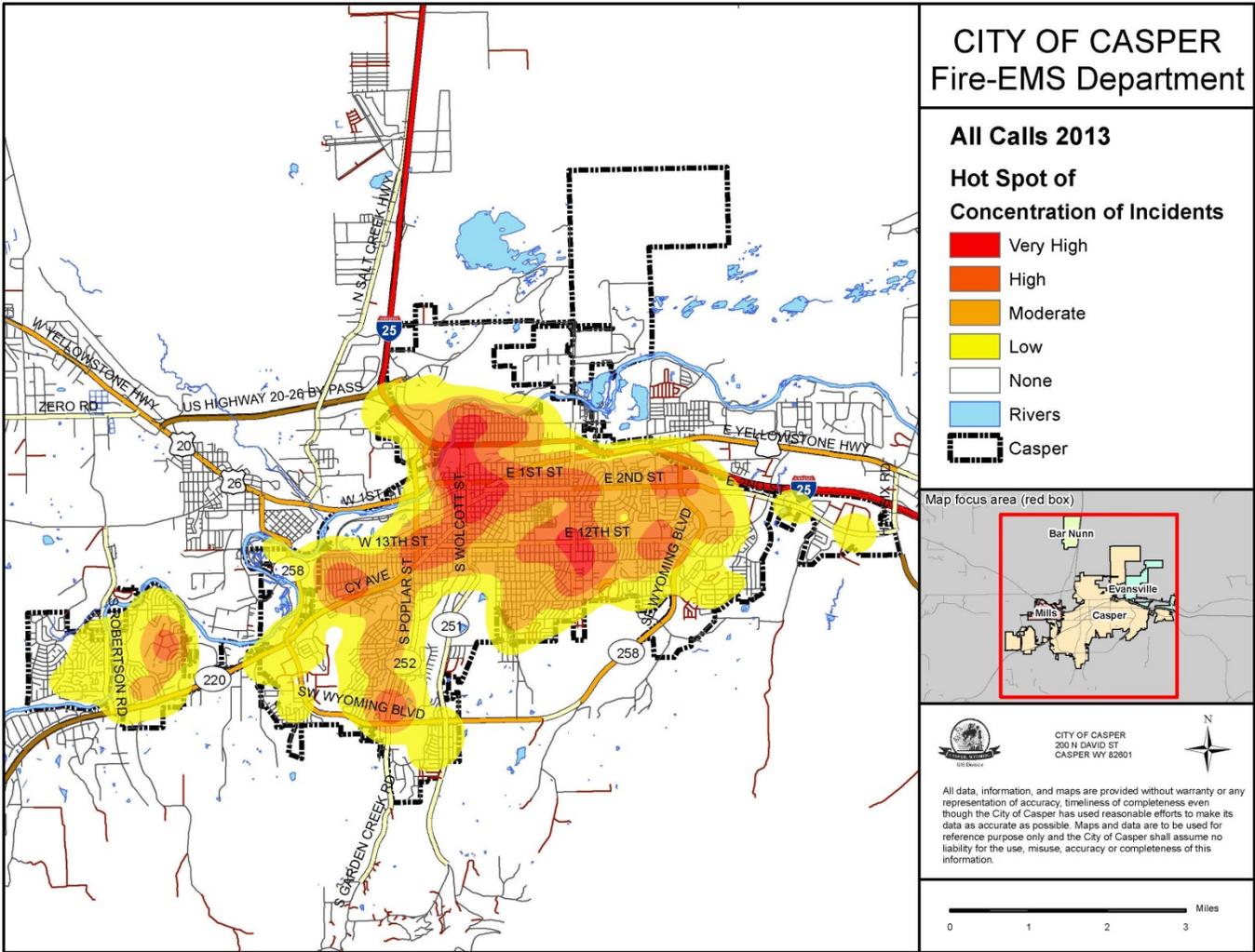
****Calls cancelled en route not included**

CFD was requested 322 times to assist law agencies for a service or medical call (this is in addition to being dispatched to assist a law agency for non-medical or service calls as reported above)

Incident Chart 2007 -2013

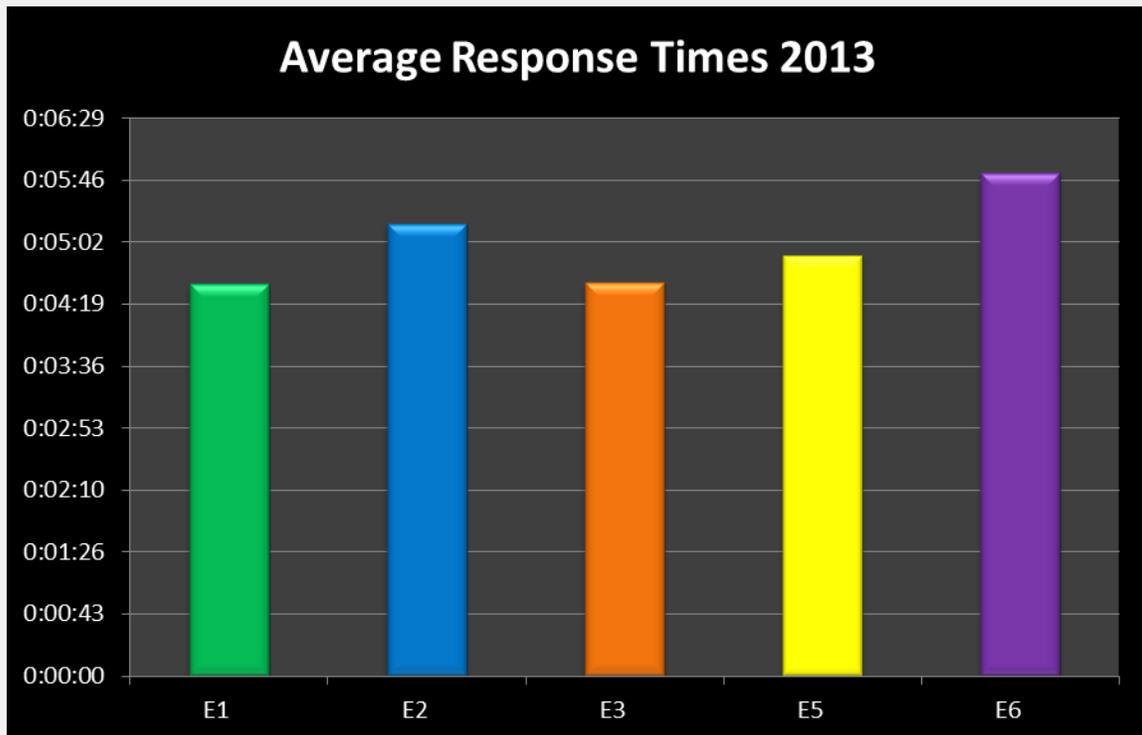


Hot Spot Map/All Calls:



Average Response Times

CFD Unit	Average Total Response
E1	0:04:33
E2	0:05:15
E3	0:04:34
E5	0:04:53
E6	0:05:51
Grand Total	0:04:53



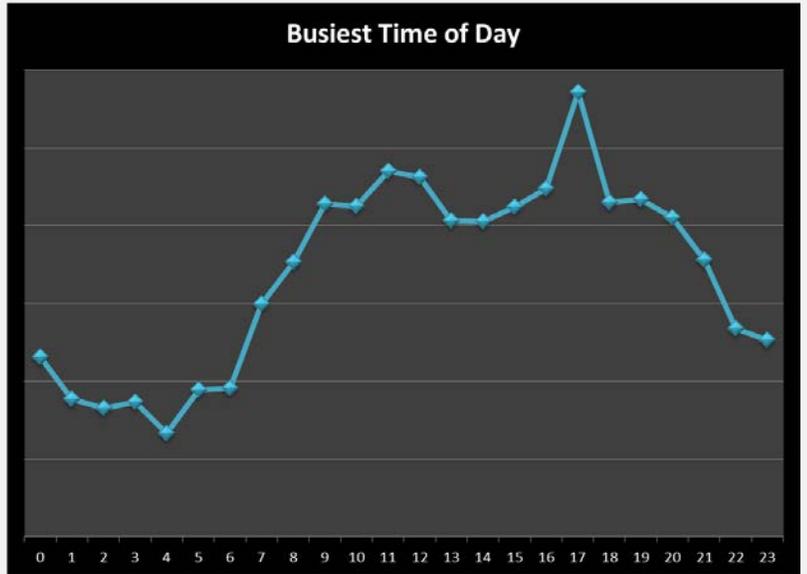
Times based on the following criteria:

- Emergent calls
- CFD Engines
- Did not include calls cancelled prior to arrival on scene
- First Arriving Engine Only

Total Response is defined as the time the reporting party calls to the time the unit arrives at scene.

Number of Incidents by Hour of Day

Hour of Day	Number of Incidents
0	231
1	177
2	165
3	173
4	133
5	189
6	191
7	299
8	353
9	428
10	425
11	470
12	462
13	406
14	405
15	424
16	448
17	571
18	430
19	434
20	410
21	356
22	268
23	253



Five O'Clock Hour

Top Three Incident Types/Busiest Time of Day:

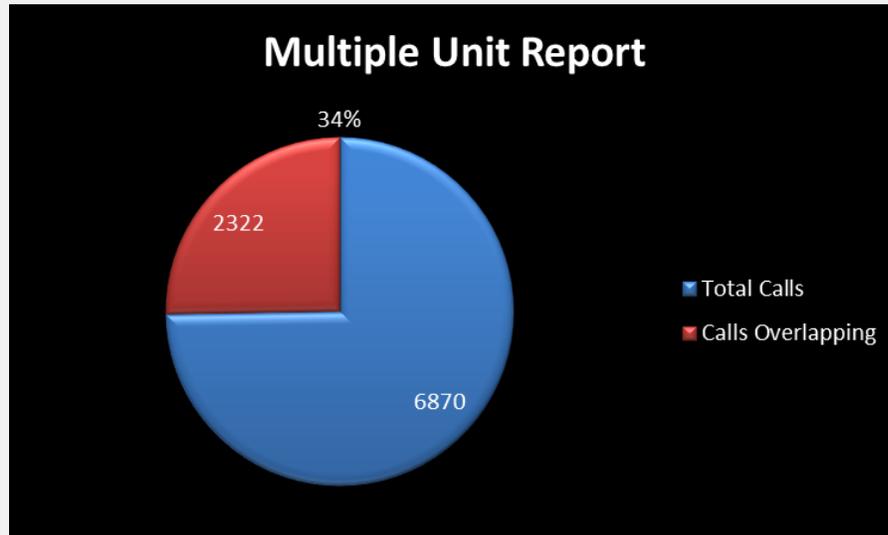
<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Number of Calls</u>	<u>% of Calls/5 O'Clock Hour</u>
EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	265	46%
Motor vehicle accident with injuries	49	9%
Motor Vehicle Accident with no injuries	48	8%

This report includes all calls for service regardless of type of response, unit that responded, or incident type

More than one unit can respond to an incident.

Hour of day is a number that represents a portion of the day. 0 would be between 12:00 am and 1:00 am, 1 would equal 1:00 am to 2:00 am and so on.

Overlapping Calls

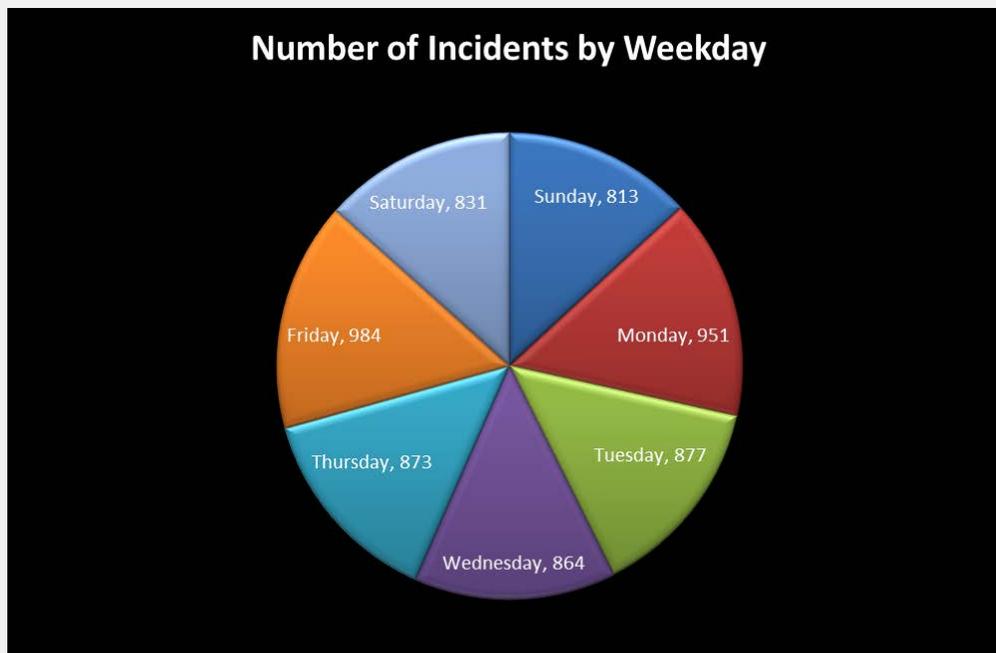


Overlapping calls is defined as; when more than one unit is on a call or responding to a call at the same time.

More than one unit can respond to the same incident.

This report includes all CFD responses regardless of response type or incident type. It does not include any cancelled responses.

Calls by Day



Does not include calls cancelled enroute and only considers first arriving unit.

Inspections Completed

<u>Inspection Type</u>	<u>Count</u>
Acceptance Test	34
Assembly-Restaurant, Bar, etc.	98
Business Occupancy Inspections	24
Code Research Associated with Consult or Inspection	9
Consultation	74
Daycare Inspections	119
Elevator Inspections	2
Engine Company Inspections	279
Factory, Storage or Hazard Occupancy Inspections	3
Final Certificate of Occupancy	34
Fire Alarm/Fire Protection/Sprinkler Inspections	181
General Inspections	55
Grey Slip Inspection	26
Hotel/Motel Inspections	3
Hydrant Flow Testing	4
Institutional Occupancy Inspections	6
Investigations	5
Knox Box Installs	21
Legal Notices	8
Occupant Load Survey	3
Permit Inspections	3
Plan Review	46
Referral/Complaint	10
Residential Inspection	12
Respite Care Inspection	42
Retail and Big-Box Store Inspections	7
School-Educational Inspections	31
Temporary Certificate of Occupancy	6
Vacant Building Audit	1
Total	1130

Total number of inspections completed does not include re-inspections of occupancies.

Citations

Casper Fire-EMS Community Risk Reduction Division issued one fire code citation in February of 2013.

Public Education Activities

Public Education	Number of Incidents
Child Safety Seat Check	13
Pub-Ed; Assisted Living	5
Pub-Ed; Business	5
Pub-Ed; College	2
Pub-Ed; Daycare/Preschool	3
Pub-Ed; Elementary School	19
Pub-Ed; High School	7
Pub-Ed; Impromptu/Unplanned	3
Public Appearance, etc.	10
Public Education	8
Public Informaiton Officer Activities	3
Youth Firesetter Activities	2
Grand Total	76



Staffing

Total Staff:

Fire Chief	1
Division Chief	3
Battalion Chief	3
Fire Captain	15
Fire Engineer	21
Firefighter	22
Firefighter Trainee	3
CRR Officer I	2
CRR Officer II	5
GIS Technician	1
Administrative Assist.	1
Total	77



Promotions:

Name	Promotional Date	Title
Leinonen, Justin	1/1/2013	Captain
Black, Jacob	1/14/2013	CRR Officer II
Sundell, Andrew	3/4/2013	Firefighter
Burgess, Ausin	6/6/2013	Engineer
Neff, Ryan	6/10/2013	CRR Officer I
King, Kenneth	7/1/2013	Fire Chief
Crotty, Garrett	9/10/2013	Firefighter
Andersen, Dane	10/16/2013	Firefighter
Nielsen, Isaac	10/16/2013	Firefighter
Maddox, James	10/16/2013	Engineer
Levin, Jerod	10/16/2013	Battalion Chief
Speiser, Jason	10/16/2013	Captain
Griswold, Daniel	10/16/2013	Division Chief
Elliott, Josh	10/16/2013	Firefighter
Garvin, Devin	1/13/2014	CRR Officer II

Retirements:

Name	Retirement Date	Title
Buck, Roy	January 2, 2013	Fire Captain
Young, Mark	May 28, 2013	Fire Chief

In 2013 awards were given to crew and firefighter fo the year:

Crew of the Year – Casper Fire-EMS Honor/Color Guard

Firefighter of the Year – Patrick Stafford

New Fire Station 2 Progression

- \$2.3 million
- 9000 sq. ft.
- 4500 sq. ft. living quarters
- 4500 sq. ft. apparatus bays
- Hopefully opening toward the beginning of May
- Replacing current Station 2



New Apparatus:

Engine 1 and Engine 5

- Purchased with 1% sales tax
- 2013 Spartan ERV trucks
- Cummins Engines
- Allison transmissions
- 750 gallons of water
- 30 gallons of foam
- Waterous 1500 gpm pumps

These trucks should be in service by the 1st of February. Current Engine 1 and Engine 5 are 1999 American LaFrance Engines that will become reserve engines.



Community Risk Reduction Vehicles:

- Three Ford F-250 ¾ ton 4 Wheel Drive Trucks
- Purchased with 1% sales tax
- Outfitted with emergency lighting and equipment for investigation of fires and completion of inspection duties on a daily basis.
- The radio systems in the trucks were purchased by grant funding

The CRR division vehicles have been used in support roles throughout time, operations support at emergency scenes, emergency delivery of services and medication when 2 wheel drive vehicles were unable to deliver to our customers and various situations where front line fire equipment would not be able to complete the task.



New ice rescue boat-RDC (rapid deployment craft)



Special Interest Programs:

Car Seat Installations

The Casper Fire-EMS Department has numerous members who are certified car seat technicians. Members are certified through Safe Kids and are available to properly install car seats for the safety of the children of Casper. The program is an asset to the community in that firefighters are available at all hours of the day to assist with car seat installs.

Smoke Detector Installations

Member of the Fire Department routinely install smoke detectors on citizen request and if a need is apparent. Each CFD Unit carries a supply of smoke detectors so the crews are prepared when the need presents itself. Crews are regularly in citizen's homes for many different reasons and installing smoke detectors during these unrelated visits adds to the citizen's safety.

Life Jacket Program

Casper Fire-EMS's Life Jacket Program was formalized in 2001. Every fire station has a stock of life jacket's available to the community to use free of charge. Every fire station also has a drop box where citizens can return the jackets after use. The goal of the program is to increase the safety of our citizens by making life jackets available and making it convenient for the citizens of Casper.

Community Relations

The Casper Fire-EMS Department is heavily involved in the fire and life safety of our citizens, especially children. Fire personnel are consistently teaching throughout the year at the various locations and venues. Crews also give numerous station and apparatus tours throughout the year to citizens of all ages.

Occupancy Inspections

Engine companies and the Community Risk Reduction Division conduct fire safety surveys for numerous businesses in the City of Casper. These fire safety surveys benefit the citizens and business owners by identify and educating on safety concern but they also add to the safety of our personnel by helping them become more familiar with the occupancies in their districts.

Regional Response Team II

Wyoming Department of Homeland Security's Regional Response Team II (RRT2) is made up of Casper Fire-EMS personnel and personnel from other first responding agencies within the regional response area. RRT2 is an "all hazards" scope for initial response and mitigation of incidents in Natrona, Converse, and Niobrara Counties. The team is funded through a Wyoming Department of Homeland Security Grant.

CFD Affiliated Groups/Clubs:

Casper Firefighter Combat Challenge Team:



Casper Professional Firefighters Pipes and Drums



Casper Fire-EMS Department Honor Guard



Most Significant Event:



ALAN ROGERS | STAR-TRIBUNE

The charred interior of a garage is shown Wednesday at the scene of an overnight house fire on Ridgcrest Drive in Casper. Firefighters rescued a young girl and her sleeping parents from the fire during the early morning hours. A boy was also able to escape on his own through a basement window.

FIREFIGHTERS SAVE FAMILY

No one injured Wednesday in Casper house fire

By JOSHUA WOLFSON
Star-Tribune staff writer

Capt. Travis Garretson arrived to find fire chewing on a single-story home on Ridgcrest Drive.

Flames were consuming the garage and had burned about half of a pickup and a recreational vehicle parked in the driveway. Neighbors saw fire climbing into the trees.

Garretson went to work, using a radio to give instructions to firefighters traveling to the scene. Then a bystander emerged from the night with concerning news.

A family lives here. They are still inside.

Garretson, a 14-year firefighting veteran, knew most families evacuate before the engines even arrive. The attack would have to wait. The priority now was search and rescue.

He grabbed a second firefighter and went inside.

Flames hadn't penetrated into the living spaces yet, but there was heat and heavy smoke. It was 2:30 a.m. If people were inside this home - a modest structure with a brick facade - they would most likely be found in their bedrooms.

The darkness made it hard to see, but they could hear a little girl's screams. That surprised Garretson. With so much smoke, he

didn't expect anyone would still be conscious.

The firefighters found the girl in the bedroom, standing next to a bed. She looked to be about age 8 or 9, and seemed OK.

After they brought the girl outside, the firefighters went back into the home, searching for others. In another bedroom, they discovered the girl's parents, who'd started to awaken. The firefighters took them to safety as flames emerged into the house.

The whole thing took less than three minutes. There was time even to go back in and rescue the family dog.

"I was just very relieved, because of the fire and smoke," Garretson said. "I didn't know if we would have a successful rescue."

A boy in the basement escaped the fire on his own after a police officer broke out windows and yelled warnings to the family.

Firefighters gained control over the Wednesday morning fire within 10 minutes, but the house was nevertheless left uninhabitable. The blaze charred parts of the roof and consumed what appeared to be an SUV parked in the garage. The family is temporarily living with relatives, according to a fire official.

No one was injured in the fire. Its cause remains undetermined.

■ Contact Joshua Wolfson at 307-266-0582 or at josh.wolfson@trib.com. Visit <http://trib.com/news/opinion/blogs/wolfjammies> to read his blog. Follow him on Twitter @joshwolfson.