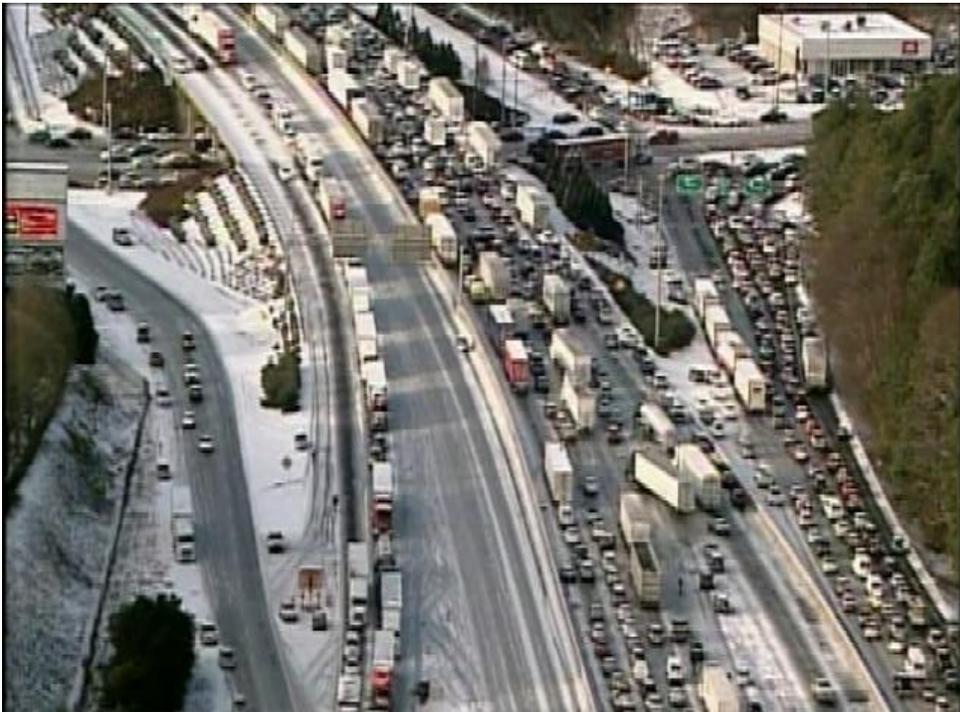


Annual
Report

2014



Cobb
County Fire
&
Emergency
Services

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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF



On behalf of the men and women of Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services (CCFES), I wish to thank you for viewing our annual report. CCFES is a team of over 658 sworn firefighters and 37 civilian employees. Our Department is accredited through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International and certified by the State of Georgia. We strive to provide superior fire, rescue, and emergency services to the citizens and visitors of Cobb County in a proficient, professional, and compassionate manner and we want to continuously promote life safety within the county by practicing prevention, planning, education, and training.

We place tremendous value on the relationships our Fire personnel build in the communities they serve. The success of the Department is due to both the strong commitment of our employees and the support they receive from the entire community. We believe the hard work and professionalism of our firefighters, inspectors, investigators, educators, and civilian staff members contribute to the safe environment enjoyed by those who live, work, and visit our great county.

Please take a few minutes to learn more about CCFES at our website at www.cobbfire.org. You will find that our employees are dedicated, well-trained, and enthusiastic professionals who take pride in their work. They are ready to work with you to make your home, your workplace, and your community an even better place to live.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Crider".

Randy Crider

COBB COUNTY

Cobb County borders Atlanta to the North and West and is home to over 717,000 residents. We are home to Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Lockheed Martin, Six Flags Over Georgia, and Home Depot Corporate Headquarters. Cobb is the third largest county in the State of Georgia. You will find an excellent community of quiet subdivisions and apartment complexes located near excellent schools, shopping, and churches. Recreational facilities are splendid and Cobb County is in a good location for a retreat to the mountains or a drive to the beach.

COBB FIRE HISTORY

Cobb County fire protection had been divided into local fire districts and city departments prior to January 24, 1971. On this date, the Cobb County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution to form a consolidated, all-paid, career county fire department. The department covers 305 square miles of the unincorporated areas of Cobb as well as three of the six incorporated cities within Cobb: Kennesaw, Acworth, and Powder Springs. The cities of Marietta, Smyrna, and Austell provide their own fire protection. CCFES has evolved into a 695 member, full-service agency. Cobb Fire personnel are trained to respond skillfully to fire, medical, and disaster emergencies. We provide a highly proficient, comprehensive level of service incorporating the following divisions: Response which includes Fire Suppression; Emergency Medical Services (EMS); Special Operations which includes Hazardous Materials, Technical Rescue, and Medical Operations; Preparedness which includes Training, Facility Maintenance, Vehicle Maintenance, and Public Fire & Life Safety Education; Fire Prevention which includes Plan Review, Inspections, and Sprinklers; and Administrative and Support Services which includes Fire Investigations, Records Management, and Finance. The department serves approximately 700,000 citizens and daily visitors of the community.

MISSION STATEMENT

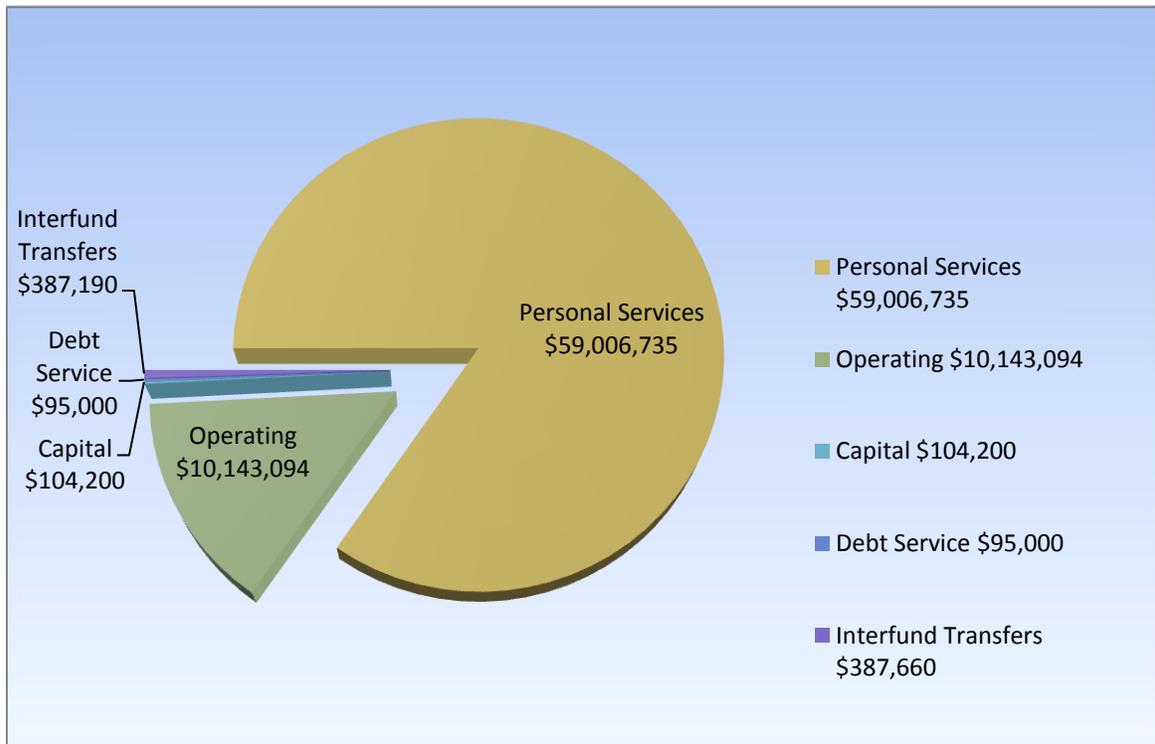
Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services (CCFES) exists to provide superior fire, rescue, and emergency services to the citizens and visitors of Cobb County in a proficient, professional, and compassionate manner. We continuously promote life safety within the county by practicing prevention, planning, education, and training.

BUDGET

CCFES FY2014 adopted budget was \$69,736,689. The total authorized number of fire positions for 2014 was 695, of those, 658 were sworn positions and 37 were civilian positions.

Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services purchased four (4) Ford Taurus vehicles for Command Staff personnel at the cost of \$23,589.46 each.

In June 2014, Cobb Fire purchased eighty (80) Motorola VML Modems for a total of \$120,376.00 to upgrade the data connectivity to 4G and allow for a GPS feed into the Cobb 911 CAD/AVL system. These modems allowed for a much more stable and faster connection and are built to operate in a heavy truck environment.



SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX

Facilities (paving stations 1, 19, 23 and 27) \$252,400.00

The following apparatus were purchased with SPLOST funds.



- Rescue 11- \$125,292.00, in service January 2014.
- Rescue 23- \$125,292.00, in service January 2014.
- Rescue 24- \$125,292.00, in service January 2014.
- Rescue 30- \$125,292.00, in service January 2014.
- Rescue 16- \$125,292.00, in service June 2014.

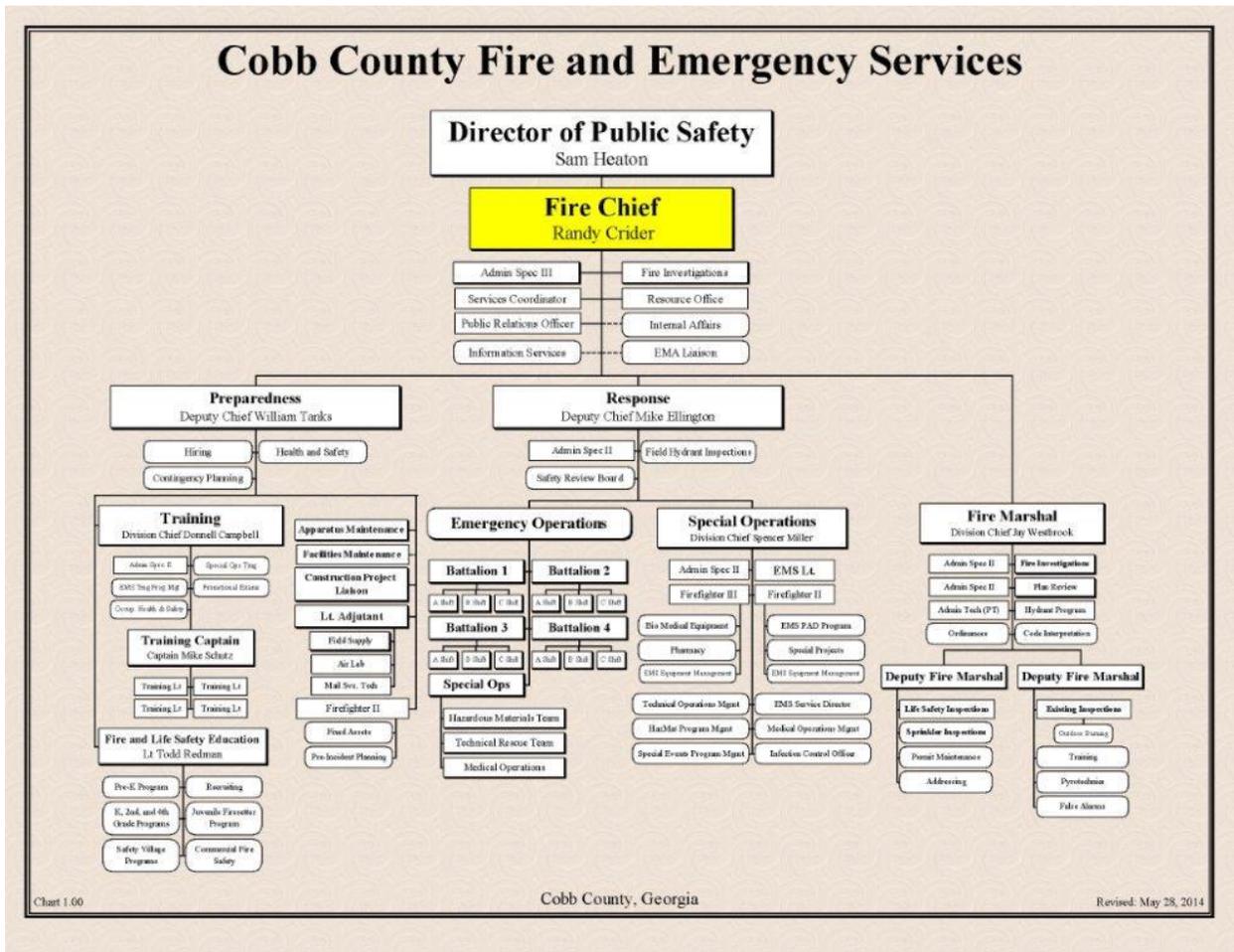
GRANTS & DONATIONS

1. \$19,320 grant awarded in Homeland Security funds passed through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security (GEMA) to continue the enhancement of capabilities of the Cobb County Fire & Emergency Service Georgia Search and Rescue Team & Hazardous Materials Team (FY13). (01-13-14)
2. \$1,000 donation from the Wal-Mart Good Works Program for public education programs. (04-08-14)
3. \$1,000 donation from the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation for support of the Cobb County Public Safety Education Block Party. (04-08-14)
4. \$7,800 sponsorship for two firefighting personnel to attend industrial petroleum fire training from the Colonial Pipeline Company. (04-08-14)
5. \$20,000 grant awarded in Homeland Security funds passed through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security (GEMA) to continue the enhancement of capabilities of the Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services Georgia Search and Rescue Team & Hazardous Materials Team (FY14). (04-08-14)
6. \$5,000 grant awarded from the Cobb-Douglas Board of Health for ongoing expenses related to communications equipment to be used for prevention, planning, and response to acts of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. (02-25-14)
7. \$3,000 donation from Marathon Petroleum for procurement of equipment and supplies to enhance emergency response. (05-13-14)
8. \$1,000 donation from the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation for support of the Cobb County Public Safety Education Block Party. (10-24-14)
9. \$2,000 donation from the Georgia Pacific Corporation to Cobb Fire & Emergency Services for Fire & Life Safety Education programs. (11-25-14)

Total: \$60,120.00

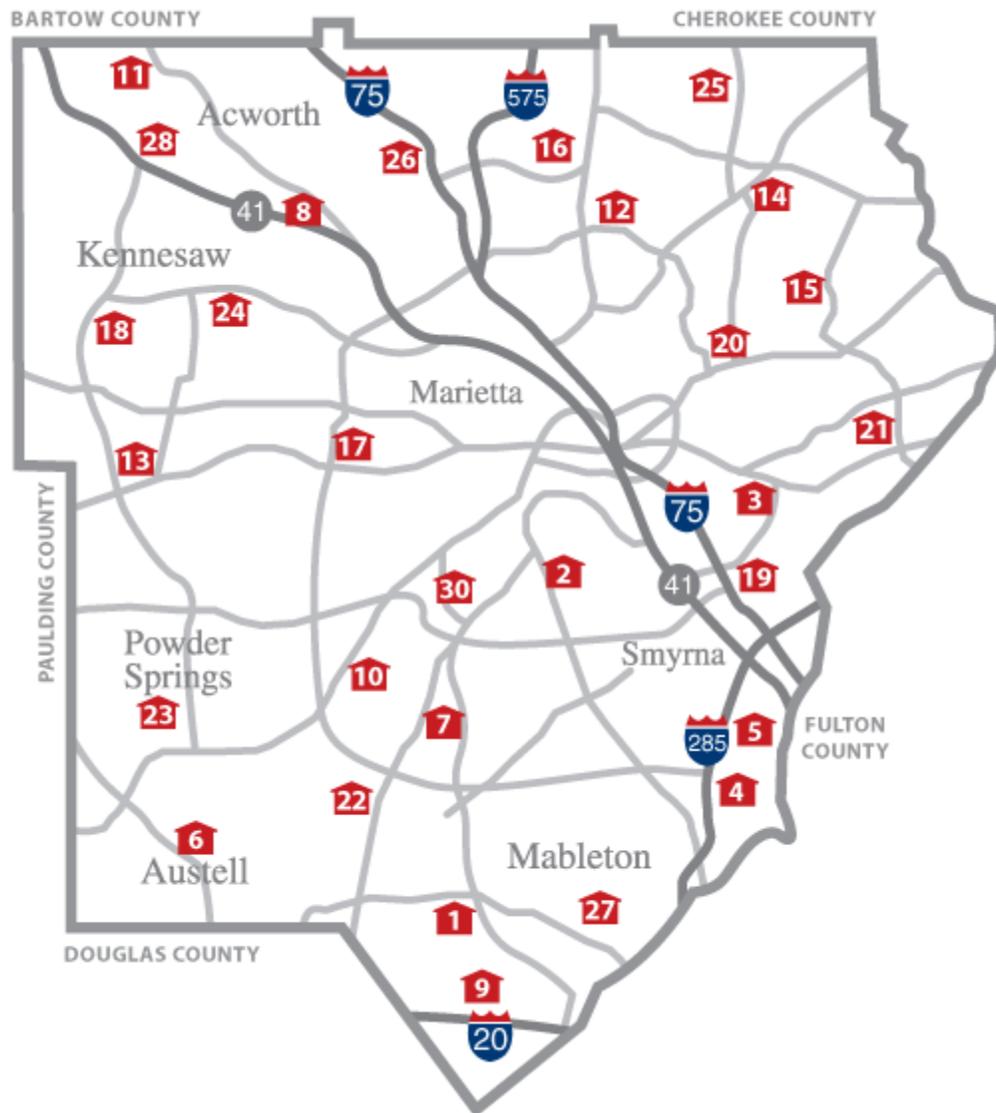
1,421 Open Records Requests in 2014

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



FIRE STATIONS

Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services has 29 fire stations strategically located throughout Cobb County and provides services to rural, urban, and heavily populated high-rise communities covering an area of 305 square miles. In 2014 we responded to over 55,000 calls.



INCIDENTS AND RESPONSE TIMES

Response times are obviously important in Fire/EMS response. As response times increase, fires increase in size and intensity. In 2014, Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services was able to contain fire to the object and room of origin 66% of the time. This number reflects the department's ability to contain structure fires and stop the spread to additional floors, rooms, and other buildings. With emergency medical calls, increased response times translate to increased death rates. This is due to the importance of the "Golden Hour" (the survival rate drops when patients with serious illness or injury do not receive adequate medical intervention).

While CCFES cannot control traffic volume and flow in their response, we have improved our overall response times by decreasing our turnout times. These times represent the amount of time it takes a crew to get dressed in their personal protective gear and leave the station after the call is received.

On the next page are the response times for 2014. The times are broken into average response times and 90th percentile times. This allows the department a more accurate evaluation of our performance measures.



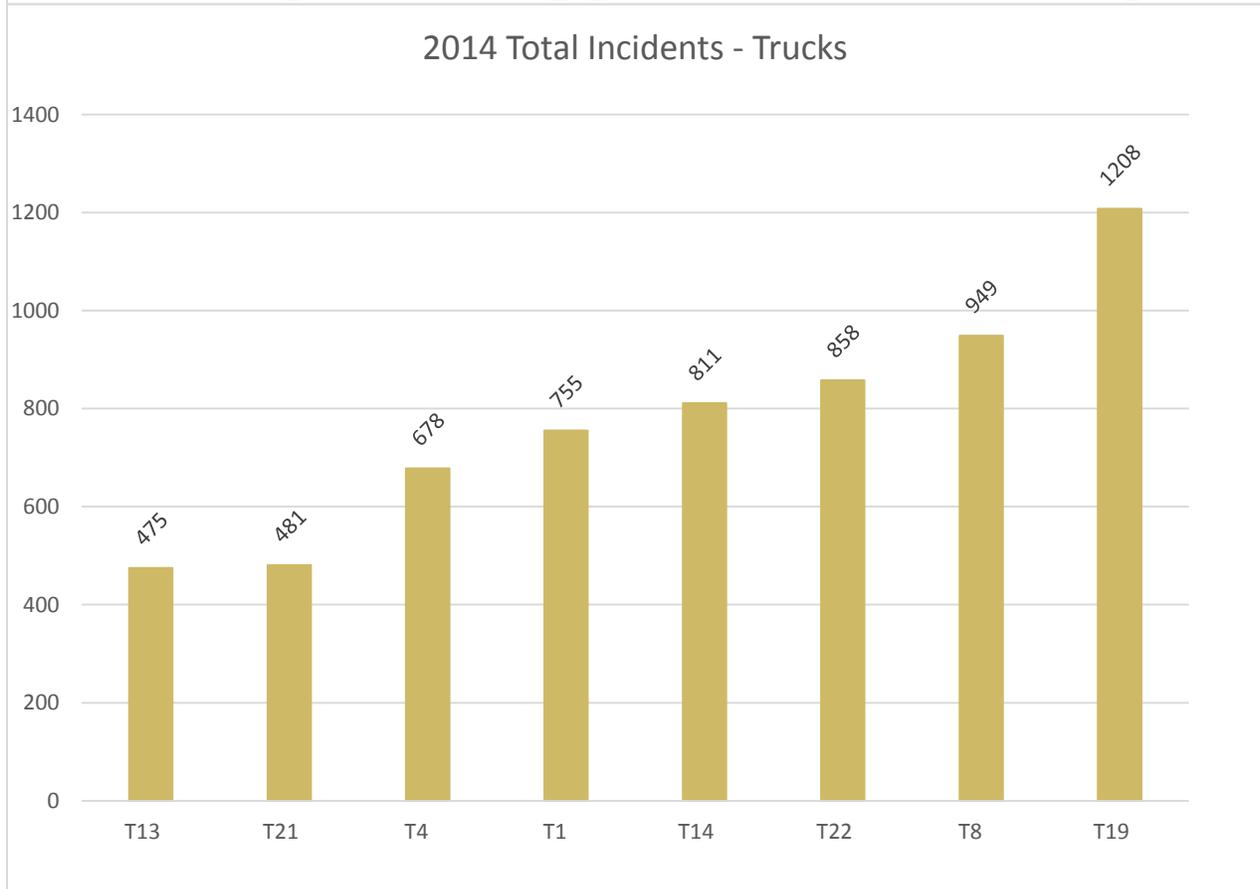
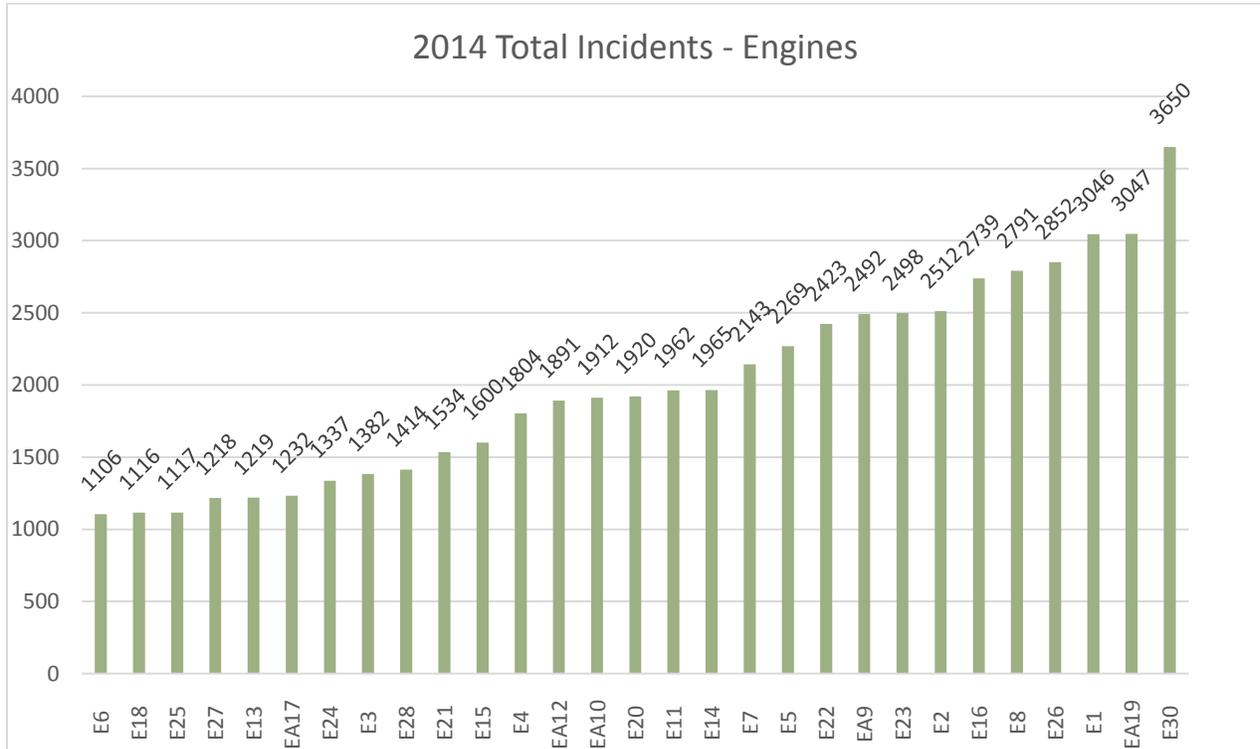
All Incidents, All Units, Emergency Response						
	2010	2011	2012	2013*	2014**	***
Processing						
90th	03:24	03:08	03:06	03:02	Not	02:55
Average	01:52	01:50	01:51	01:42	Reliable	01:14
Turnout						
90th	02:52	02:44	01:53	01:56	01:43	
Average	01:31	01:15	01:03	01:06	01:02	
Travel						
90th	08:16	08:07	08:17	08:07	07:50	
Average	04:59	05:07	05:19	05:14	05:30	
Total Response Time						
90th	11:37	11:25	11:24	11:14	Not	10:22
Average	08:23	08:13	08:14	07:59	Reliable	07:46

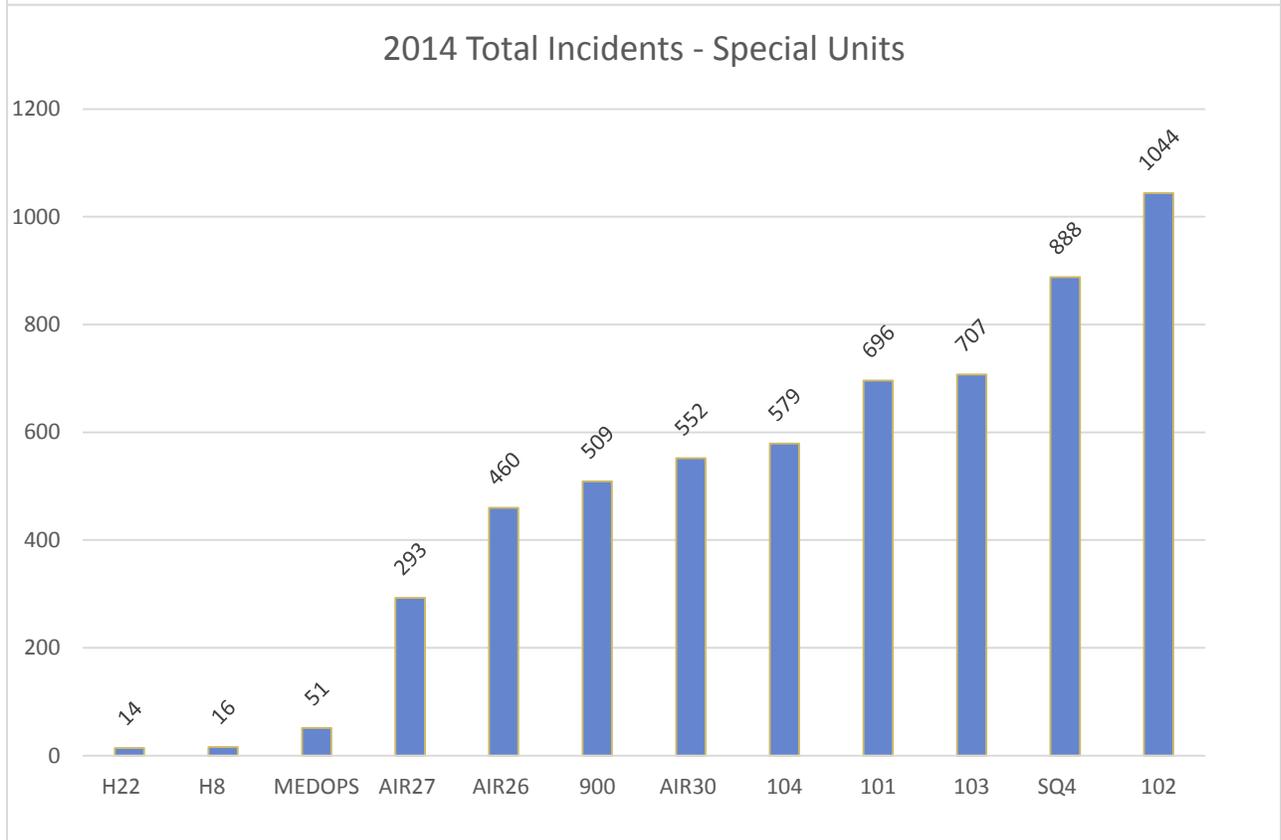
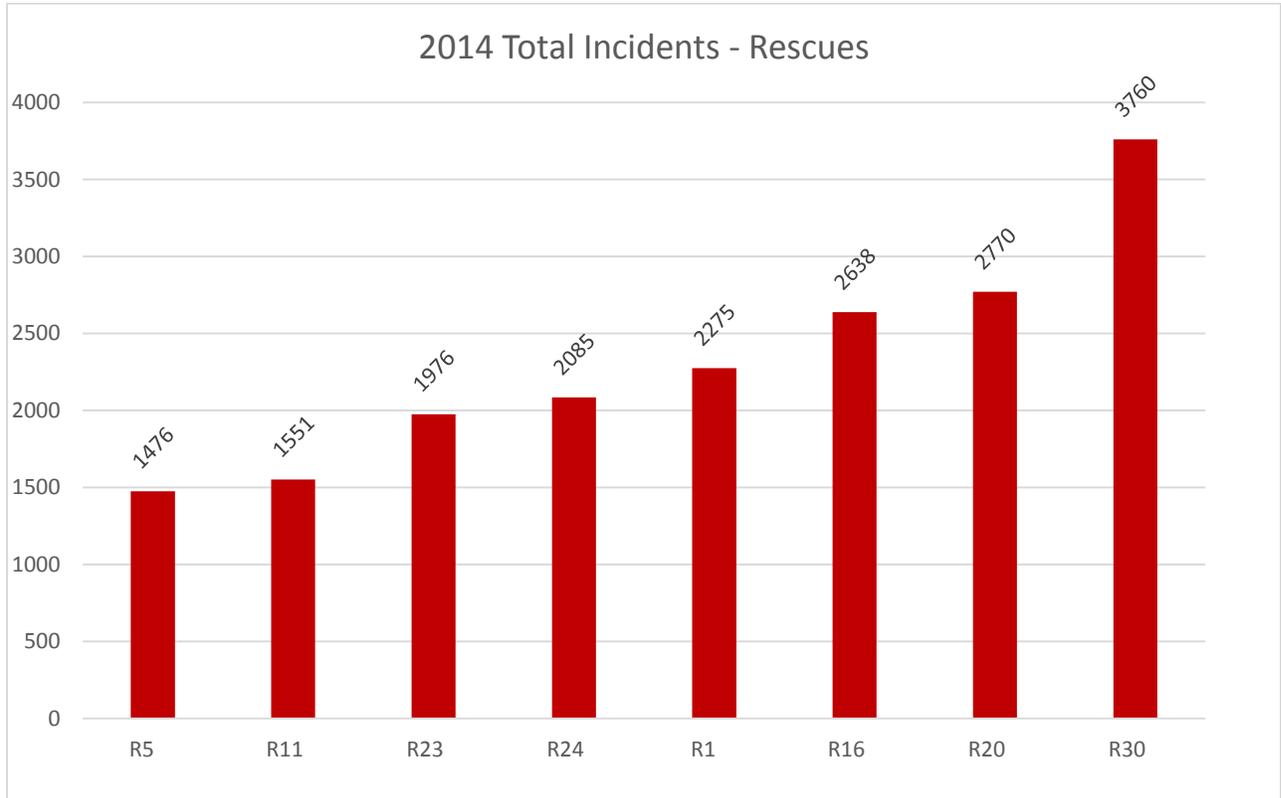
Fire Incidents, First-In Unit, Emergency Response							
		2010	2011	2012	2013*	2014**	***
Processing							
1st Unit	90th	02:42	02:47	02:39	01:59	Not	02:20
	Average	01:23	01:29	01:30	01:37	Reliable	00:58
Turnout							
1st Unit	90th	02:51	02:10	01:45	01:50	01:52	
	Average	01:30	01:25	00:59	01:09	01:00	
Travel							
1st Unit	90th	06:02	07:21	06:07	06:17	07:32	
	Average	03:39	04:33	04:18	04:21	05:09	
Total Response Time							
1st Unit	90th	12:37	12:55	12:46	09:09	Not	09:40
	Average	08:52	08:38	08:31	07:13	Reliable	07:07

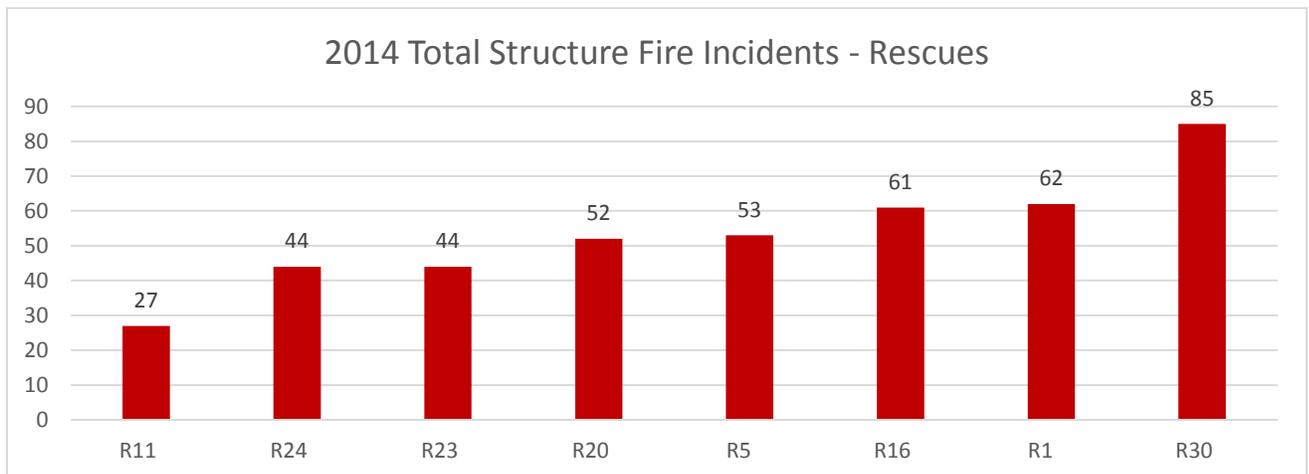
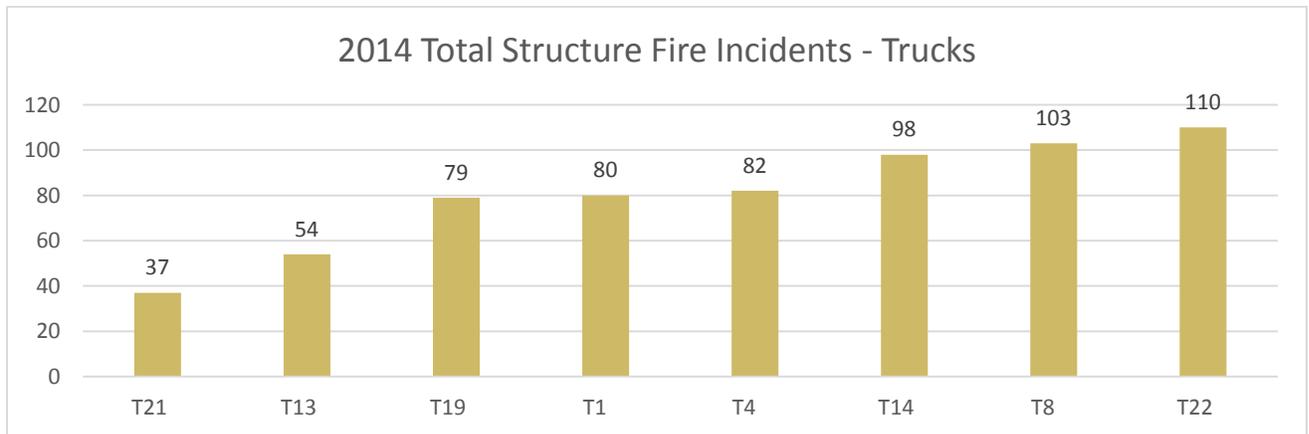
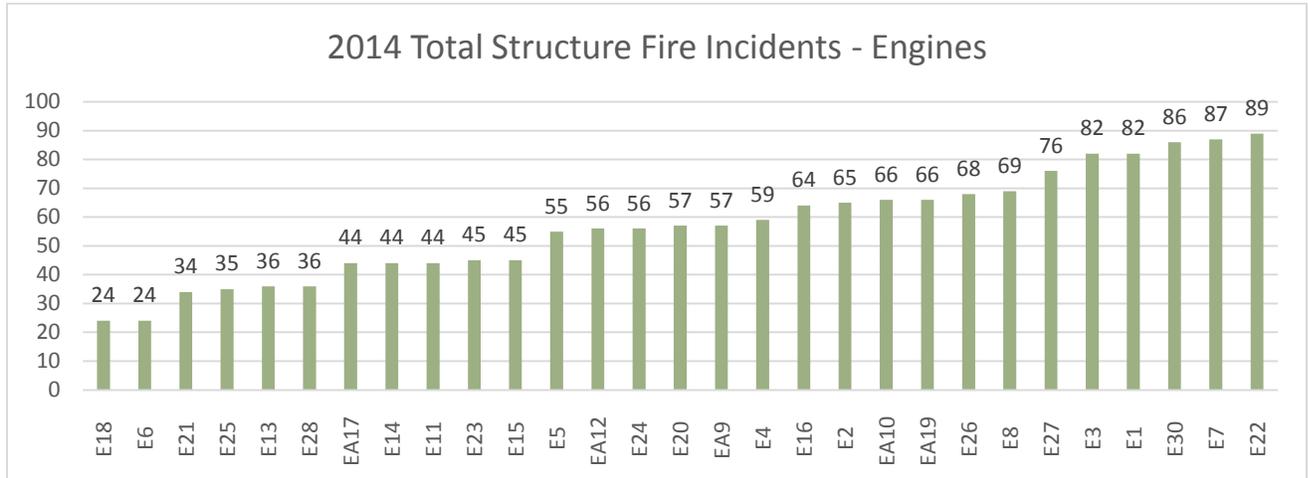
* Data may change as a result of incomplete calls

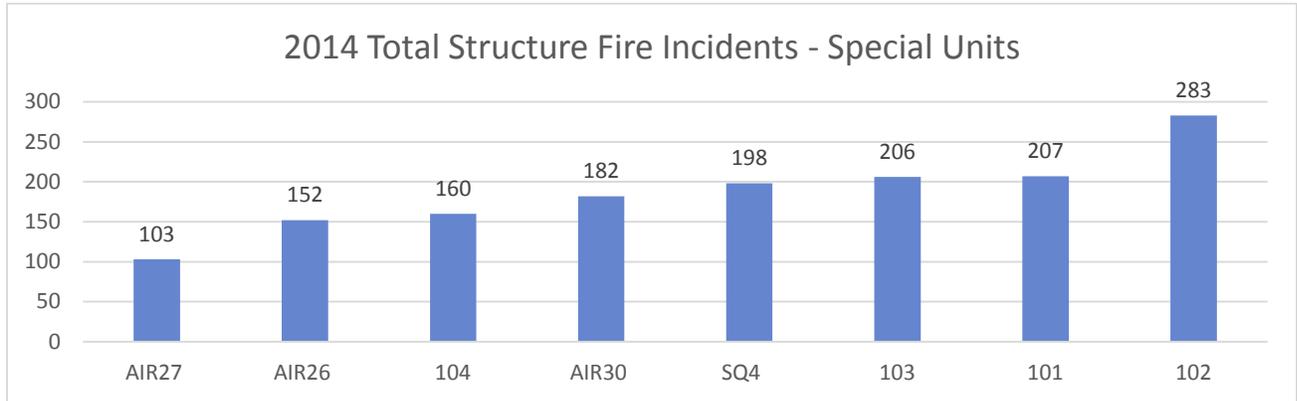
** Due to CAD upgrade, 2014 Data ranges from 1/14/2014 - 12/31/2014

*** Due to CAD upgrade, 2014 processing times are not reliable





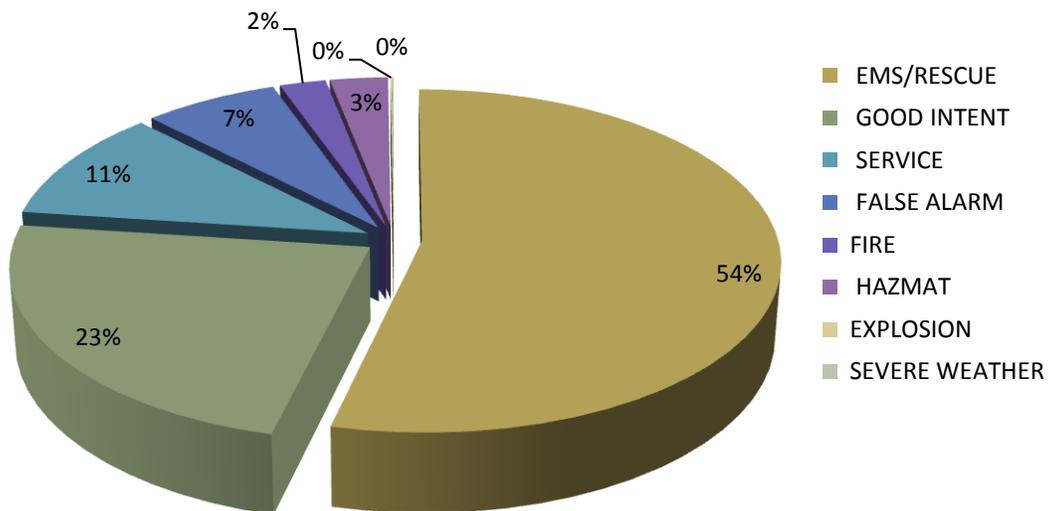




RESPONSE TYPE AND TOTALS

# of Incidents	Incident Type
29810	EMS/RESCUE
12890	GOOD INTENT
5873	SERVICE
3812	FALSE ALARM
1305	FIRE
1637	HAZMAT
38	EXPLOSION
46	SEVERE WEATHER
55457*	

*This number reflects the number of completed call reports at the time of publishing. Multiple records remain incomplete due to certain factors such as ongoing investigations.

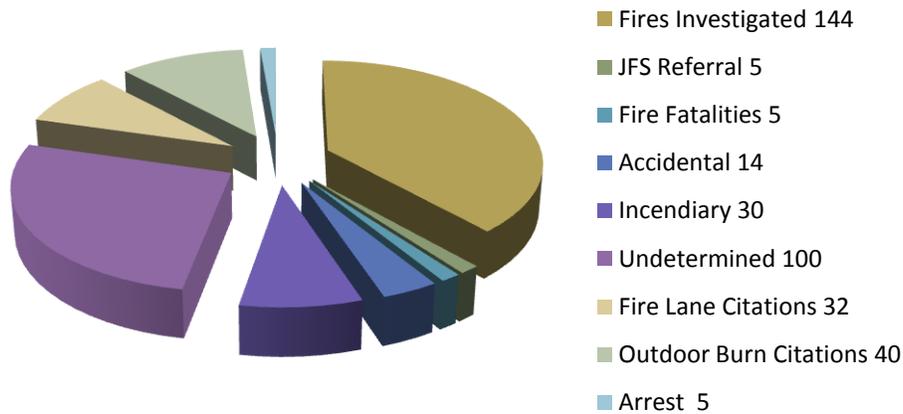




FIRE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Fire Investigations Unit consists of five sworn personnel who are dually sworn and certified in the State of Georgia as both Fire Investigators and Police Officers. These investigators handle fires of suspicious origin, initiate criminal charges when appropriate, execute search and arrest warrants, and prepare cases for criminal prosecution through the courts. They are also responsible for enhancing access to public and commercial establishments by enforcing fire lanes within the mandated unincorporated areas of Cobb County. Additional duties also include the administration of the Juvenile Fire Setters Program and illegal outdoor burning violations in the County.

Fire Investigations



Fire Investigations	2011	2012	2013	2014	%Change
Fires in Cobb	1475	1424	1046	1305	25%
Fires Investigated	178	176	142	144	1%
Arrests	10	2	8	5	-38%
Referral to Juvenile Fire Setters Program	18	22	8	5	-38%
Fire Fatalities	2	1	1	5	400%
Fires Ruled Accidental	47	30	24	14	-42%
Fire Ruled Incendiary	28	38	42	30	-29%
Fire Ruled Undetermined	99	104	76	100	32%
Fire Lane Citations	263	416	121	32	-74%
Outdoor Burning Citations	21	63	42	40	-5%

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE (FMO)

The FMO is tasked with enforcing "Rules and Regulations for the State Minimum Fire Safety Standards" as adopted by the State Fire Commissioner. The FMO is the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in these matters for all of unincorporated Cobb County and the cities of Acworth, Powder Springs, and Kennesaw. The major functions of the office include:

- Conducting fire & life safety inspections of existing buildings and structures;
- Reviewing plans and specifications for proposed buildings and structures;
- Issuing joint Certificates of Occupancy with the Building Departments of Cobb County, Acworth, Kennesaw, and Powder Springs when all appropriate inspections have been approved.

Cobb County is 1 of 54 counties in Georgia that is under the enforcement of the state-issued burning ban from May 1st through October 1st each year. The FMO oversees the daily monitoring of environmental conditions and enforcement of violations from inception through adjudication in the Courts for unincorporated Cobb County and the cities of Acworth, Kennesaw, and Powder Springs.

<i>New Construction Activities</i>	2013 Totals	2014 Totals	% Change
Consultation Meetings	342	230	-33%
Plan Reviews Completed (Fh + filenet/onestop/PLANREVU)	4034	4261	6%
Zoning Case Reviews (PZA)	247	288	17%
Permits Issued (Plans Approved Requiring FS Code Release)	1683	1711	2%
Sprinkler Division Inspections Completed	1789	1750	-2%
Life Safety Releases Requiring Sprinkler Release	943	943	0%
New Construction Life Safety Inspections Completed	4561	4408	-3%
TOTAL New Construction Inspections	6350	6158	-3%
Total REQUESTED New Construction Inspections	5557	4961	-11%
Permits Closed (Life Safety Releases Issued)	1627	1576	-3%
Permit Closure Rate	97%	92%	-5%

<i>Existing Building Activities</i>	2013	2014	%
	Totals	Totals	Change
Existing Building Initial Inspections (Non-Re-Inspection)	1945	1599	-18%
Existing Building Re-Inspections	874	1224	40%
Total Existing Building Inspections Completed	2819	2823	0%
Sprinkler Activation Inspections Completed	86	271	215%
Fire Code Complaints Closed	362	330	-9%
Legal Warnings and Citations (Mainly Burn Related)	1104	1109	0%

<i>Administrative Specialist</i>	2013	2014	%
<i>Activities</i>	Totals	Totals	Change
Phone Calls Total	14427	12406	-14%
Phone Calls Average Per Day	59	51	-15%
Plan Review Appointments Entered	4034	4261	6%
New Const. Inspections Scheduled	6350	6158	-3%
Permits Entered	1683	1711	2%
Code Releases Processed	1627	1576	-3%
On-line Inspection Requests Processed	4053	4961	22%
Open Records Requests	147	223	52%
Fines and Fees Collected	\$455,737.62	\$471,462.54	3%

TRAINING DIVISION

The Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services Training Division have the responsibility of preparing Fire Department personnel to execute the mission and vision of Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services. The Division is staffed with 11 dedicated professionals who serve the training needs of more than 650 sworn firefighters, officers, and chiefs. The Division is augmented with 1 videographer from TV23 and a part-time physical fitness coordinator.

Thirty-two recruits completed the 28-week dual certification academy for fire and emergency medical technicians in April 2014. All 32 recruits successfully completed the program receiving national certifications as Advanced EMTs and state certified firefighters. These firefighters are serving the residents of Cobb County at their newly assigned stations.



The Training Division staff along with several adjunct instructors conducted two major training drills this year which were both attended by sworn field personnel. These drills help to ensure continued hands-on training for sworn personnel throughout the year. Training Division staff also executed the first ever Fire Apparatus Operator class. Cobb Fire Training also hosted the annual Metro Atlanta Fire Fighters Conference for the 5th consecutive year. The Training Division Staff also oversaw three live house burns which provided high quality training that the department benefited from. The Training Division Chief has developed a “Spotlight on Training” Power Point presentation that he sends out quarterly to give the

department a quick overview of the classes and events that were held at Training over the last quarter. Cobb Fire Training hosted several different agencies within the county and other jurisdictions to a 12-Lead EKG Class; Instruction was also provided on transmitting the 12 lead EKG to the hospital via the new Zoll cardiac monitor.

Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services Training hosts the Fire Explorer Post 33, which currently has twenty-two young adults ranging from age 14 – 21. The Fire Explorers assisted with community requests and public relations including the Silver Comet Marathon, Metro Atlanta Firefighter's Conference and multiple Public Safety Block parties throughout the year.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

Grants and Donations

- CCFES HMRT received a donation of ten Level A Encapsulated Hazardous Materials Entry Suits from Airgas, Inc. in Duluth, GA. This donation was valued at \$10,000.
- Donation of \$2,000 from Marathon Petroleum to improve hazardous materials response to their facility.
- GEMA FY14 Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR) Maintenance Grant - \$20,102.
- Colonial Pipeline made a donation for two members of the CCFES Hazardous Materials Response Team to attend the Williams Xtreme Firefighting School in Beaumont, Texas. The total amount of the donation was \$7,800.

- The Cobb County Resource Council made a donation to the Department to cover the expenses for a one day class for the CCFES Hazardous Materials Response Team. The class was called Above the Line/Below the Line by Hazmat IQ. The total amount of the donation was \$5,995.
- The Cobb County Resource Council made a donation to the Department to send three members of the CCFES Hazardous Materials Response Team to the IAFC Hazmat Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. The total amount of the donation was \$2,713.93.

Event Medical Team Coverage

CCFES provided medical coverage to the following events:

- 2/8/14 – Marietta Mardi Gras 5K – CCFES Event Team
- 2/22/14 – North American Soccer Association 5K – CCFES Event Team
- 3/8/14 – Silver Comet ½ Marathon – CCFES Event Team
- 4/19/14 – SOARBA 5K and 9 Mile Trail Run – CCFES Station 18 (B Shift)
- 5/9/14 – Acworth Smoke on the Water Event – CCFES Technical Rescue Team
- 5/16 – 5/26/14 – Shrine Circus – Jim Miller Park – On-duty personnel
- 5/17/14 – Lake Acworth Pro Wake Board Tournament – CCFES Station 28 (C Shift)
- 6/9/14 – Pro Am Golf Tournament – Atlanta County Club – On-duty personnel
- 6/28/14 – Summer Solstice 5K and 6 Hour Trail Bike Race – CCFES Station 28 (C Shift)
- 6/29/14 – PT Solutions Triathlon – Lake Acworth – CCFES Station 28 (A Shift)
- 7/12/14 – Georgia Games Open Water Swimming Championship – Lake Allatoona – Station 28 (B Shift)
- 7/19/14 – Acworth 4th of July Celebration (rain delayed) – CCFES Station 28 (C Shift)
- 8/22 - 8/23/14 – Corky Kell Classic – McEachern High School – CCFES 1st Battalion (A and B Shift)
- 10/4/14 – Make-A-Wish 5K – CCFES Event Team
- 10/13/14 – Cobb Safe Kids Public Safety Charity Golf Tournament – Brookstone Country Club – On-duty personnel
- 10/25/14 – Silver Comet ½ Marathon – CCFES Event Team
- 10/25 - 10/26/14 – Owl-O-Ween – Kennesaw State University – CCFES Event Team

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

All members of CCFES are certified as EMT-Intermediates, Advanced-EMTs, or Paramedics. All twenty-nine stations respond to 911 emergency calls. Thirteen units operate as Advanced Life Support responders.

- 5/15/14 – CCFES Engine 9 (A Shift) participated in a Multi Casualty Incident (MCI) exercise with the Security and First Aid personnel of Six Flags Over Georgia.
- 5/28/14 - At the Region III EMS Awards Banquet at the Gwinnett Medical Center Conference Hall, seventy-three members of Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services received CARES Awards from the American Heart Association. The CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival) Award is presented to crews who successfully resuscitate a cardiac arrest victim. The data from the calls is also analyzed on a national scale to perform studies on cardiac arrest survival rates and how to improve them. The Department was credited with a total of one hundred and three awards with four personnel credited with four successful resuscitations each, four with three successes each, and nine personnel with two resuscitations.

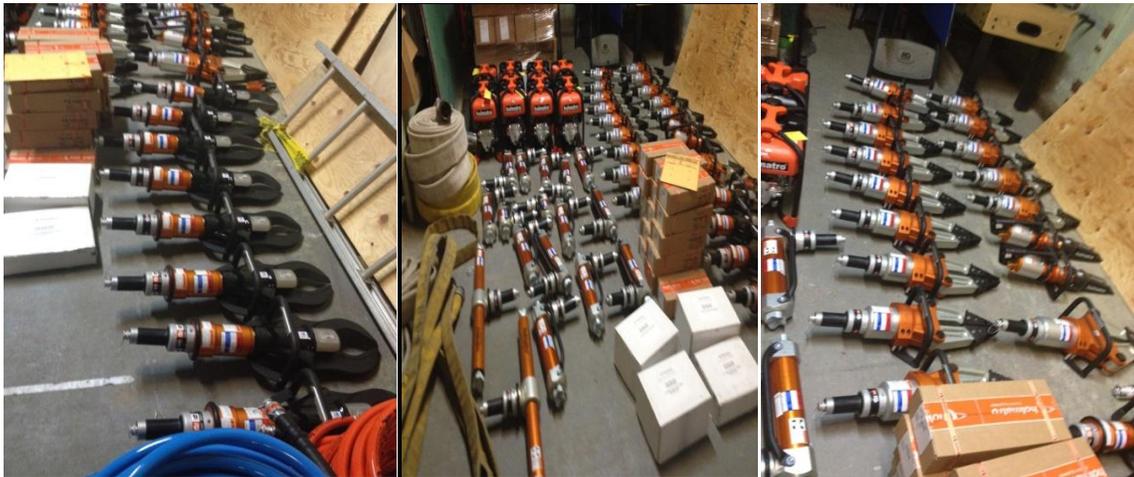


- 5/29/14 and 6/5/14 – Members of CCFES attended a Child Abuse Intervention and Prevention class at the Cobb County Safety Village.
- 7/9/14 – Members of CCFES participated in the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Regional Mass Casualty Table Top Exercise at the Atlanta Regional Commission in Atlanta.
- 7/23/14-7/25/14 – CCFES Paramedics attended classes on 12-Lead EKG Interpretation sponsored by ZOLL Medical® at the Cobb County Safety Village.



- 8/11/14 8/15/14 – Members of CCFES participated in Active Shooter Response training at Lockheed Martin along with officers from the Cobb County Police Department.
- 11/11/14- 11/12/14 – In planning for the upcoming move of the Atlanta Braves to Cobb County, members of CCFES participated in a two day Texas A&M Engineering Extension (TEEX) course entitled “Sports Event Risk Management” at the Cobb County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

- 11/17/14-11/19/14 – CCFES sent one member of the Department to the ALERRT Active Shooter Conference at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX to research methods to improve active shooter response in Cobb County.
- In order to complete the Department's transition to Zoll Medical® cardiac devices, CCFES took delivery of forty Zoll Pro® Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) to replace aging devices on response units. This purchase included defibrillation pads, chargers, batteries, and software to download medical events. These were budgeted capital items and were purchased for \$138,964.75.
- CCFES sent nine firefighter/EMTs to the MetroAtlanta Ambulance Paramedic Academy. This is a one year course and the personnel will become nationally-certified paramedics upon completion.
- Utilizing funds from the 2011 SPLOST, CCFES upgraded the department's vehicle extrication tools to Holmatro USA®. This involved purchasing eight complete sets, upgrading six existing sets, and purchasing vehicle stabilization kits for all extrication units. Total cost of the program was \$360,000.



Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT)

CCFES operates a forty-eight member Hazardous Materials Response Team out of two stations. The Team is designated by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) as a Type I Response Team. This means that the team is capable of responding to incidents anywhere in the State of Georgia. The team operates out of two hazardous materials response units, one mass casualty decontamination vehicle, and one command vehicle.

- 4/17/14 – Members of the CCFES HMRT participated in the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Sustainment Project Functional Exercise at Fort Gillem in Forest Park, GA. This was an exercise to determine command assignments as well as communications on a major hazmat spill.

- 5/4/14- 5/8/14 – Two members of the CCFES HMRT attended the Williams Xtreme Firefighting School in Beaumont, TX. This class covered large surface petroleum storage fires. All expenses including course cost, travel, hotel, meals, and gear rental were covered by a donation by Colonial Pipeline. The total amount of the donation was \$7,800.



- 5/14/14 – Members of the CCFES HMRT attended a class supplied by a donation from the Cobb County Resource Council. The class was a one day class offered by Hazmat IQ called Above the Line/Below the Line. Students taking this course were taught how to size-up (physical state, hazards, initial hot zone, correct meters and Personal Protective Equipment) any chemical in minutes. The system then coached responders through a streamlined chemical research method to verify their initial size-up, preparing responders to immediately go to work when they arrive on a Hazardous Materials/WMD event. The total amount of the donation was \$5,995.
- 5/23/14 – Members of the CCFES HMRT (C Shift) conducted a hazmat decontamination demonstration for the School of Nursing at Kennesaw State University.
- 5/29/14-6/1/14 – Members of the CCFES HMRT attended the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Hazmat Conference in Baltimore, MD. All expenses for this trip were covered by a donation of \$2,713.93 from the Cobb County Resource Council.
- 6/16/14- 6/17/14 – Sixteen members of the CCFES HMRT and three members of the Marietta Fire Hazmat Team participated in a full scale counter-terrorism exercise at the Guardian Center in Perry, GA. This training facility creates realistic scenarios that tests units from law enforcement, the military, fire services, and EMS services. The team performed decontamination on a down range team operating in a subway system where a simulated release of toxic gases had occurred.
- 9/4/14 – Members of the CCFES HMRT participated in the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Hazmat Functional Exercise at the Clayton County International Park.
- 9/20/14 – The CCFES HMRT (C Shift) performed a decontamination demonstration for members of Cobb-Douglas Public Health.
- 10/22/14 – The CCFES HMRT (B Shift) and members of the CCFES Special Operations Division participated in the annual Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Full Scale

Hazardous Materials Exercise at Fort Gillem in Forest Park, GA. This active shooter/hazmat exercise consisted of hazmat teams, EMS, and law enforcement tactical units from all over the Metro Atlanta Area and took a year to plan.



- 12/9/14 – Members of the CCFES HMRT attended the GEMA Biological Threat Response Protocol Train-the-Trainer course at the Cobb County Public Safety Training Center.

Medical Operations Team (MedOps)

The CCFES MedOps Team provides tactical medics for Cobb County Police SWAT, Cobb County Sheriff's SWAT, and the tactical team of the Marietta-Cobb-Smyrna (MCS) Drug Task Force. The team also provides medical support for State and Federal agencies on operations within the County. They also provide medical support to the Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services Department as well as the CCFES Hazmat Team and the Cobb Police Bomb Squad and Dive Team. The team operates out of a large multi-purpose response vehicle or a smaller quick response unit.

- In 2014, the MedOps Team was dispatched to fifty-six incidents.
 - Nineteen were with Cobb County Police SWAT, six were with Cobb County Sheriff's SWAT, three with the Marietta-Cobb-Smyrna (MCS) Drug Task Force, ten with Cobb County Police, two with the Cobb County Police Dive Team, three with the Cobb County Police Bomb Squad, and thirteen with Cobb County Fire and Emergency Services.
 - Federal agencies included one call with the US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and one with the US Marshals Service.
 - Law enforcement incidents included eleven high-risk warrants served, three bomb related incidents, three hostage situations, two barricaded subjects, two meth labs, and one active shooter incident.
 - Fire related incidents included eight responses with the CCFES HMRT Team, three responses with the CCFES TRT, and one search for a missing person.

- 7/7/14- 7/8/14 and 7/11/14 – Members of the CCFES MedOps Team participated in a Tactical Combat Casualty Course (TCCC) at the Cobb Safety Village.

Technical Rescue Team (TRT)

CCFES operates a thirty-six member Technical Rescue Team (TRT) out of two stations. The personnel are trained to technician level for rope rescue, trench collapse, structural collapse, confined space rescue, swiftwater rescue, and vehicle/machinery extrication. The team operates out of one heavy rescue unit, a modified heavy rescue ladder truck, a rescue boat, and a trench collapse truck.

- 3/25/14 – Members of the CCFES TRT developed rescue procedures to remove occupants from the Sky Screamer ride at Six Flags Over Georgia. This is a ride that lifts riders over twenty-four stories above the park. The exercise involved the team removing occupants while the ride was stopped at several different heights.
- 5/12/14- 5/14/14 – Members of the TRT attended the annual swiftwater training exercise in the Thunder River ride at Six Flags Over Georgia.
- 5/19/14- 5/23/14 – Two members of the CCFES TRT were sent to the Michigan Urban Search and Rescue (MUSAR) Trench Technician Instructors course in Kingston, Michigan. They were taught advanced techniques to bring back to the CCFES TRT. The course was funded through the CCFES FY14 operating budget.
- CCFES replaced the department's Zodiac® water rescue craft with a twenty-one foot rigid hull, jet drive boat that was built by SJX Jet Boats in Idaho. This upgrade will greatly enhance the water rescue capabilities of the CCFES TRT. The craft was purchased using fund balance monies and the total cost with delivery was \$61,705.
- 3/17/14- 3/22/14 – The CCFES TRT Academy held an Introduction to Technical Rescue course. This is the beginning course for personnel new to the team.
- 12/8/14- 12/13/14 – The CCFES TRT Academy held a Technical Rescue: Core Competencies course. This is the second phase course for personnel new to the team.

Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR)



CCFES is part of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency's (GEMA) Search and Rescue Program. This program consists of several task forces established all over the state. These task

forces have identically equipped vehicles and participants are trained to various levels. The task force can be a local level response or a state-wide deployment. CCFES is part of Task Force 7 (Metro Atlanta) along with the counties of Fulton, Clayton, Gwinnett, Dekalb, and the City of Atlanta. The task force operates out of six fully equipped response trucks and three tractor trailer supply caches.



CCFES members that attended GSAR job-specific specialized training include:

- 1/20 – 1/24/14 – Four members – GSAR Rope Rescue Technician course in Gilmer County, GA
- 1/20 – 1/24/14 – Two members – GSAR Advanced Shoring course at the Guardian Center in Perry, GA
- 2/24 – 2/28/14 – One member – GSAR Heavy Equipment Rigging Specialist course in Savannah, GA
- 3/10 – 3/14/14 – One member – GSAR Technical Search Specialist course held in Gainesville, GA
- 3/24 – 3/28/14 – Five members – GSAR Technical Large Animal Rescue course in Columbus, GA



- 4/2 – 4/3/14 – One member – GEMA GSAR Workshop at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, GA
- 5/13 – 5/20/14 – Four members – GSAR Structural Collapse Technician course at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, GA

- 6/9 – 6/13/14 – Two members – GSAR Medical Specialist course held at the Guardian Center in Perry, GA
- 10/6 – 10/11/14 – CCFES hosted the annual GSAR Trench Technician course for Task Force 7.

PUBLIC FIRE & LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

Kindergarten- 376 classes	8245 students
2 nd Grade- 537 classes	9968 students
4 th Grade- 385 classes	10767 students
Corporate Cobb- 87 classes	9581 students
Senior Safety- 50 classes	1225 students
Special Events	8 events attended
Smoke Detectors Installed	520
Smoke Alarms Installed (In cooperation with City of Marietta)	184
Safe Kids of Cobb County:	
Car Seats Installed	2,222
Car Seats Distributed	728
Smoke Detectors	24
CO Alarms	28

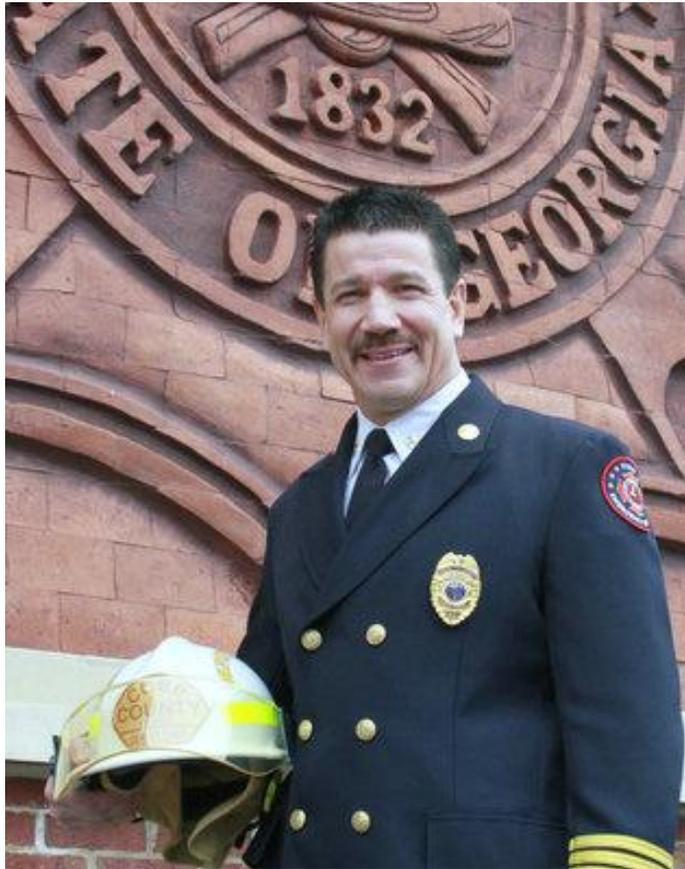
PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR SAM HEATON



Fire Chief Sam Heaton was appointed Public Safety Director in January.

Director Heaton now oversees the overall combined budget of over \$143.5 million, with over 675 Fire employees, 609 in Police, along with E911 and Animal Control. He has served Cobb Fire since 1985, and holds Associates and Bachelor's Degrees from Grand Canyon University. Director Heaton served as Interim Public Safety Director for over two years in 2011-2012.

FIRE CHIEF RANDY CRIDER



Deputy Fire Chief Randy Crider was appointed Fire Chief on February 25. Chief Crider brings 23 years experience with CCFES, and nine years with Douglasville Fire. He has served Cobb Fire for the past eight years as Deputy Chief over both Response and Preparedness. Chief Crider holds an Associate in Fire Science and a Bachelors Degree in Organizational Management and Leadership from Reinhardt University. He is presently pursuing an MBA degree at Reinhardt.

DEPUTY CHIEF MIKE ELLINGTON



Battalion Chief Mike Ellington was appointed to Deputy Chief over Response on April 13, 2014. Chief Ellington has been with Cobb Fire for over 26 years, and has also worked his way through the ranks with a wealth of experience. Mike holds a Bachelors Degree in Occupational Health and Safety from Columbia Southern University.

RECOGNITION FOR DEDICATION TO SAFETY

Engineer Sean Cook (Station 16 C Shift) was recently presented with the Cobb County Risk Management Safety Award for Cobb County. Sean dedicates himself daily to making Cobb County and the Department a safer place to live and work. The award was present to him by County Manager David Hankerson and representatives from Cobb County Risk Management. In 2013, Sean identified the use of chainsaws while wearing turnout gear as a possible risk for injury to crews. After conducting his own research, he drafted a proposal to purchase chainsaw chaps for every CCFES engine. He went further to help draft a policy which is being implemented and training program for familiarization and proper use. Sean is constantly monitoring safety conditions in the workplace, making frequent recommendations to include vehicle placement on scenes, proper use of equipment, and near-miss incidents to prevent recurrence. He also arranges for safety training, with internal and external subject matter experts. Thanks, Sean for your commitment to safety!



Pictured above: Risk Manager Brett LaFoy, Fire Chief Randy Crider, Engineer Sean Cook, County Manager David Hankerson, and Deputy Fire Chief Mike Ellington.

5th ANNUAL MAFFC CONFERENCE

Cobb Fire again played host along with several other metro agencies to the 5th annual Metro Atlanta Firefighters Conference. Approximately 800 attendees and instructors from Georgia and neighboring states had their choices of 78 classroom and hands-on training sessions at 13 different locations, with over 1,800 course completion certificates issued.



2014 BOOT DRIVE RESULTS

Thank you again for the hard work on this year's "Give Burns The Boot" Drive! The \$61,025.83 collected during the boot drive goes to the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation, which supports the M. Still Burn Center in Augusta, the Joseph M. Still Burn Centers, Inc. at Burn Unit WellStar Cobb Hospital and the burn unit at Grady Memorial Hospital. Some of the proceeds are also designated for Camp Oo-U-La, the state's camp for burn-injured children.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY BLOCK PARTIES



Cobb County Department of Public Safety held two Education Block Parties this year. The first was held April 26 at the entrance to Parkview Apartments on Six Flags Drive and the second on October 18, 2014, at St. Philip United Methodist Church. They featured fun, food, and music for members of the community as well as participation from Cobb County Police and Fire Department, 911, Animal Control, Community Emergency Response Team, Austell Community Task Force and the Neighborhood Safety Commission.

WINTER STORM

On January 28, 2014 a large and dangerous winter storm struck metro Atlanta during the early afternoon. The storm brought several inches of snow which quickly turned to ice causing traffic gridlock throughout the region. Employees worked well beyond their normal shifts assisting motorists and handling other storm related emergencies.





On February 12, 2014, another large and dangerous winter storm struck metro Atlanta



2014 CREW/TEAM AWARD

Congratulations to Station 16 A Shift for receiving the 2014 Cobb County Customer Service Crew/Team award! County Manager David Hankerson and Fire Chief Randy Crider visited the crew this past Fall, stopping by the Station to surprise them with the news. This crew of eight was selected over other nominations from all County Departments for their dedication to service in the community, going above and beyond on multiple occasions to provide the highest level of customer service. The Cobb Board of Commissioners formally recognized them at the December 9 meeting. As one of the busier stations in the County, Station 16 operates as an ALS Rescue Company. In addition to their normal duties, 16-A has found time individually and collectively to engage in activities such as the Fire Brigade for the St. Baldrick's Foundation for childhood cancer, CCFES Honor Guard, Stress Management Team, Chaplain Program, and Georgia Safe Kids. They have also shown compassion for citizens in need by giving out of their own pockets to pay for a hotel room for a stranded out of town couple. Again, big thanks to Station 16 A Shift for showing us how to exceed expectations! Pictured with Mr. Hankerson are Mike Bell, James O'Shields, Jodi Gabelmann, Jason Hatten, Julian Daniel, Kimberly Bowie, Justin Belden, Mike Bedenbaugh, and Mark Thurmond.



IN MEMORY



Retired Captain Jack Anderson on June 5, 2014

Retired FF Kenneth Luke Holcomb on May 23, 2014

Retired Division Chief Donald Freeman on April 4, 2014

Retired Eng Herman McCollum on March 3, 2014



Cobb County...Expect the Best!

This is an official publication of the
Cobb County Board of Commissioners.

Tim Lee, *Chairman*

Helen Goreham, *District One*

Bob Ott, *District Two*

JoAnn Birrell, *District Three*

Lisa Cupid, *District Four*

David Hankerson, *County Manager*