2018 Annual Report

Serving with pride since 1848
May 21, 2019

Douglas Adkins, City Manager  
City of Middletown  
One Donham Plaza  
Middletown, Ohio 45042  

Dear Mr. Adkins,

It is an honor to submit to you the 2018 Annual Report for the Middletown Division of Fire. This report will show the activities performed by the personnel of the Division of Fire during the year of 2018. In addition to an explanation of the services that we provide, you will find statistical data related to the delivery of these services to the citizens of Middletown and the actions taken to support the response activities.

The Division of Fire began to implement goals established by the Strategic Planning Process conducted in 2018. A staffing and deployment analysis was conducted to examine the number and types of response equipment and staffing requirements that meets the needs of the community; we have identified and began to implement funding sources and possible sources of revenue; the Division conducted a fire location analysis and evaluated current facilities to improve efficiency, safety and well-being. All of these goals have presented challenges to every member of the Division of Fire, and our personnel are responding to these challenges and implementing positive results for the department and the city.

I invite you to explore this annual report and review the exceptional commitment of all the members of the Division of Fire. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Deputy Chief David Adams who coordinated the development of this annual report. I also thank each and every member of the City of Middletown Division of Fire for their dedication, bravery, and excellent service delivery to the City of Middletown and all who use our services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Lolli, Fire Chief

"Serving with pride since 1848"
MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Middletown Division of Fire is to protect life and property from fire and other emergencies.

This Mission is accomplished through Fire Suppression, Fire prevention, Public Education, Fire Cause Determination, Hazardous Material response and Emergency Medical Services, including Advanced Live Support skills, Vehicle Extrication as well as Confined Space, High Angle and Water Rescue.

OUR VALUES

The members of the Middletown Division of Fire are dedicated to operating a professional, ethical, service-minded organization.

We value honesty and integrity in all matters, leading to the highest level of trustworthiness;

We value respect for each person as an individual, recognizing the worth of our subordinates, peers, supervisors and customers;

We value teamwork, as each person's capabilities enhance our performance as a whole;

We value responsibility, taking ownership of our actions and committing to our assigned objectives;

We value professional pride, adhering to a strong code of moral and ethical conduct;

We value compassion, fostering a genuine concern for those we serve;

We value safety, ensuring our own health as well as the safety of our team and those we serve;

We value diversity of the people in our department and our community;

We value training and education as the foundation of superior service;

We value commitment, working through any adversity to meet the community's needs.
2018 PERSONNEL

FIRE Chief
Paul J. Lolli

Assistant Chief
Thomas Snively

Day Staff
EMS Capt. David VonBargen / Capt. Steve Ludwig / Lt. Brian Wright
Fire Capt. Steve Ludwig / Capt. Jon Harvey
Lt. Frank Baughman / Lt. Jamison Verdin

Vanessa Whitaker, Administrative Assistant

1st Platoon
Deputy Chief
Brent Dominy

Captain
Jon Harvey / David VonBargen

Lieutenants
Jess Chaille
Doug Bronnenberg
Steve Riley

2nd Platoon
Deputy Chief
Jeff Spaulding

Captain
David Hoerst

Lieutenants
Brian Oliver
Todd Steinbrunner
John Scranton

3rd Platoon
Deputy Chief
David Adams

Captain
Robert Curry
George Blake

Lieutenants
Tate Cobb
Gary Myers

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Calvin Woodrey
Bob Hess
Tony Fink
Tim Kinsworthy
Steve Soellner
Felipe Capetillo
John Kuehnle
Andrew Turner
Andy Lightner
Christopher Klug
Ryan Pennekamp
Jeffrey Kren
Omer Hurlburt
Michael Mieczykowski
Jeff Hobbs
Ethan Clark
David Kaiser
Aaron Cox
Antonio Pittman

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Greg Evans
Brian Fultz
Tim Payne
Matthew Hall
Tim Scott
Todd Myers
Jason Venters
Shane Owens
Jason Meischke
James Malin
Jessika Tanner
Joshua Myers
Chris Butler
Amadeo Marchetti
Nick Banks
Seth Adams
Jacob Smith
John Laswell
Ross Green
Brandon Cottrell

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Bob Nichols
Brian Sebald
Brian Patton
David Pittman
Brent Hughes
Michael Vultaggio
Brett Schindler
John Fadden
Pawel Mieczykowski
David Shaw
Ben Bultman
Jeff Kren
Shawn McIntosh
Mike Jones
Alex Wargo
Adam Stitsinger
Bryce Nartker
Joey Robertson
2018
PERSONNEL CHANGES

Promoted
Jeff Kren, Firefighter to Apparatus Operator 4/20/2018

New Employees
Ethan Cox 2/26/2018

Retirements
Tom Korb 1/16/2018
Bob Nichols 8/23/2018

Resignations
Chris Butler 7/5/2018
Brandon Cottrell 8/10/2018
Kendall Venters 10/9/2018
2018 City budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Works &amp; utilities</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic development</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community revitalization</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Manager / Council</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law department</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Departmental</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total budget: $32,163,082
### 2018 Fire Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Administration</td>
<td>$411,813.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Operations</td>
<td>$8,731,696.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Training &amp; Prevention</td>
<td>$596,167.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual Services, commodities, EMS fund</td>
<td>$11,366.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,751,042.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incident Type</td>
<td>Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fires</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overheat, no fire</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue &amp; EMS assists</td>
<td>733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous conditions</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service calls</td>
<td>809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good intent calls</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False alarm calls</td>
<td>487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe weather / Special incident</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,734</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(total incidents includes Engine Companies assisting Medic units)
Incident Type

Abdominal 370
Behavioral/Psychiatric 431
Cardiac 784
Diabetic 203
General Medical 3293
No Apparent Illness/Injury 463
Obstetrics 48
Obvious Death 111
Pain 988
Respiratory 749
Seizure 206
Stroke 75
Substance/ETOH Abuse/Drug Ingestion/Poisoning 536
Trauma 1011
no information 252

total 9520
5 year FIRE /EMS totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>FIRE</th>
<th>EMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>8484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>8683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>9268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>9832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2127</td>
<td>9520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5 year FIRE /EMS totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2014</td>
<td>10,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2015</td>
<td>10,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2016</td>
<td>11,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2017</td>
<td>11,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2018</td>
<td>11,647</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Engine 81 729

Engine 82 200

Engine 83 756

Engine 85 205

Tower 86 65
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medic</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medic 81</td>
<td>2,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 82</td>
<td>1,559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 83</td>
<td>2,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 85</td>
<td>2,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 86</td>
<td>533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Incoming</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire incoming</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS incoming</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total incoming</strong></td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outgoing</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire outgoing</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS outgoing</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total outgoing</strong></td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Response Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2014</td>
<td>5:41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2015</td>
<td>6:01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2016</td>
<td>5:59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2017</td>
<td>5:33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE / EMS 2018</td>
<td>5:34</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**FIRE STATIONS AND APPARATUS**

**STATION 83**

Headquarters  
2300 Roosevelt Blvd.  
Middletown, Ohio 45044  
513-425-7996  
513-425-1820 (Fax)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Model</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engine 83</td>
<td>2694</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Sutph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tower 86</td>
<td>802383</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Sutph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 83</td>
<td>816690</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Medix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 86</td>
<td>812298</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battalion 80</td>
<td>817730</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Ford Expedition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP81</td>
<td>813330</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Chev Tahoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 87</td>
<td>812295</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine 86</td>
<td>2399</td>
<td></td>
<td>American LaFrance 1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine 84</td>
<td>98-P2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Luverne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH81</td>
<td>815506</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Chev Caprice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT80</td>
<td>2230</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Chev C2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT82</td>
<td>810021</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Ford Van</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT83</td>
<td>2826</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>F250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT84</td>
<td>2526</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ford F350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STATION 81**

307 N. Clinton St.  
Middletown, Ohio 45042  
513-423-4572

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Model</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engine 81</td>
<td>2399</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>American LaFrance (temporary use)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 81</td>
<td>816691</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Medix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAZMAT 81</td>
<td>32203865</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Utilimaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decon 81</td>
<td>FD-201</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Ford F750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medic 84</td>
<td>811197</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>International</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## FIRE STATIONS AND APPARATUS

### Station 82
3765 Dixie Hwy.
Middletown, Ohio 45044
513-422-8368

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Engine 82</th>
<th>Medic 82</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Model</td>
<td>2893</td>
<td>2990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>2009 Sutphen</td>
<td>2009 Chevy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Station 85
4310 Central Ave.
Middletown, Ohio 45044
513-424-1532

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Engine 85</th>
<th>Medic 85</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Model</td>
<td>813181</td>
<td>817790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>2013 Sutphen</td>
<td>2017 Medix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Middletown Fire Department is one of (3) three departments in Butler County that comprise the response units for the Butler County Haz-Mat co-op. The department is responsible for responding to any community in Butler County requesting assistance with a Haz-Mat incident. The (3) three teams completed their typing by the State of Ohio in 2018 and are considered a Type II by themselves and collectively make a Type I team by the State of Ohio.

The region has a lot of potential for hazardous materials incidents. These include passenger vehicles and commercial trucks carrying a variety of hazardous materials along with 121 miles of rail. There is also underground pipeline which transports bulk material. Butler County has around 300 reporting SARA Tier 2 Chemical Reporting Facilities which ship and receive chemicals on a regular basis.

In 2018 the Middletown Division of Fire held a department wide 8 hour Hazardous Materials refresher through Cincinnati State. We also participated in a large multi-jurisdictional LEPC drill. The exercise simulated a pipeline spill of hazardous materials, with a release into the Great Miami River.

In 2018 Middletown responded to 36 hazardous materials incidents. The most notable was an incident at our water treatment plant. 2 personnel from the plant were treated and transported for chemical burns. Butler County EMA, Hamilton Haz-Mat team, Monroe Fire Department, and several other resources were called for assistance.

These incidents illustrate the potential hazards within the city. It also reinforces the need for a well trained and equipped Hazardous Materials response team.

2018 Haz-Mat Tech level personnel

Capt. Jon Harvey      Jim Malin
Capt. David Von       Jessika Tanner
Bargen               AJ Marchetti
Capt. Steve Ludwig    Nick Banks
Lt. Brian Oliver     Jacob Smith
Lt. Tate Cobb         John (Nick) Laswell
Lt. John Scranton     Ross Green
Lt. Frank Baughman    Shawn McIntosh
Lt. Jamie Verdin      Mike Jones
Lt. Brian Wright      Brian Sebaald
Andy Lightner        Michael Vultaggio
Andy Turner          Brett Schindler
Omer Hurlburt        Pawel Mieczykowski
Michael Mieczykowski  Ethan Clark
Ethan Clark          David Kaiser
David Kaiser         Aaron Cox
Aaron Cox            Jeff Hobbs
Jeff Hobbs           Greg Evans
Greg Evans           Shane Owens
Shane Owens         
TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM (BCTR)

The Butler County Technical Rescue Team is an effort of the Butler County Emergency Management Agency and Butler County Technical Rescue Governing Board and operates under the tenants the Technical Rescue Governing Board and the Butler County Technical Rescue Administrative & Operational Polices.

Team members are comprised of trained personnel from qualified first responder agencies, including fire, police and other departments that will be an asset to the mission of the Technical Rescue Team.

Currently, Butler County Technical Rescue Team has over 65 technicians specially trained in:

- Confined Space
- Trench Rescue
- High Angle Rescue
- Search & Rescue
- Structure Collapse
- Swift Water Rescue
- Flood Rescue

The team had six trainings through 2018 and members (Ludwig, VonBargen, and Riley) attended the required 50% of the trainings to remain in good standing with the team.

- **2018 Middletown Fire - Team members:**
  - Dave VonBargen, Cpt.
  - Steve Riley, Lt.
  - Steve Ludwig, Cpt. (Advisory Board Rep)
Emergency Medical Services

Middletown Division of Fire responded to 9520 EMS runs in 2018. This represents a decrease of 3.1% from the year 2017. We received EMS Mutual Aid from our neighboring communities 45 times while returning the favor 29 times.

It should be noted that changes in the computer aided dispatch (CAD) and the EMS/Fire reporting system has created new challenges to properly track and report mutual aid given and received. Staffing in 2018 allowed for Medic 83, operating from our headquarters station, to be staffed with a dedicated two person crew for the entire year. Medic 81, operating from the station on N. Clinton, was staffed with a dedicated crew the majority of the year. Medic's 85 and 82 continue to be staffed by a three personnel combination fire/EMS crew.

The City of Middletown continued to feel the impact of the Opiate epidemic although the number of EMS calls related to substance abuse did decrease in 2018. In 2017 the MFD responded to 925 calls for service that were related to some type of substance abuse. In 2018 that number was reduced to 536, a 42% decrease. Much of this can be attributed to the work of the Heroin response team.

As previously mentioned 2018 saw the upgrade of the patient reporting software from Image Trend 2.0 to Image Trend Elite. While this created some reporting and documentation challenges it also allowed MFD to begin reporting EMS calls to the State of Ohio EMS reporting system. By once again being in compliance with State reporting it will allow the MFD to apply for EMS grants through the State.

Captain Dave VonBargen returned to shift working resulting in Capt. Steve Ludwig taking over the role of EMS Operations Captain. Lt. Brian Wright and Cpt. Ludwig continue to represent the MFD on the Trauma and Cardiac committees at the Atrium Hospital. They also represent the department on the Butler County EMS board.

Additional highlights of 2018 for the EMS division included:
- The opening of the Kettering ER.
- Members of the Division of Fire were recognized by the Miami Valley Hospital for their exemplary care of a trauma patient following a skydiving incident.
2018 EMS Training

15 Monthly EMS trainings were conducted in 2018 totaling almost 1000 man hours of continuing education.
An additional 600 hours of on-line continuing education were completed by members.
Multiple members attended symposiums hosted by Kettering, Premier and University Hospitals accounting for additional hours of continuing education.
In all members accounted for 112 hours of continuing education accounting for over 12,000 man hours. The combination of in person and on-line training are conducted annually to assure all members have the required hours to maintain their level of EMS certification.

*2018 Training Topics:
*• Unconscious Bias
**• Falls
***• Image Trend Elite PCR
**• 12 Leads
***• CPAP
***• Mock Trial/Documentation
*• Medicount Documentation
*• HEAL Program, Pediatrics, Medical Trivia
*• Surgical Crich and Pig Trach
*• LVAD Cardiac
*• Transport Policies
*• OB & Child Birth
*• Sepsis and 12 Lead Review
*• Diabetes
*• Trauma Case Review
*
*
Fire personnel completed over 2,200 hours of training during 2017. Approximately half of these hours were completed during in-services and company-level trainings. Topics included:

- Entanglement/RIC operations 24
- Fire Attack and Hose Deployment 165
- Fire Reports 7
- Fireground Safety - RIC operations 80
- Flashover Simulator 183
- FSI Continuing Education 16
- Ice Rescue 106
- Fire Inspection Continuing Education 24
- Inspection input procedures 40
- Ladder Operations 10
- Mayday Operations 80
- Pump Operations 3
- Response area familiarization 4
- Response operations 47
- Rope Systems 3:1 and 4:1 29
- Aerial Tower Operations 8
- Fire Ground Rescue Operations 228

TOTAL Man hours 1054

The nine (9) probationary firefighters hired during 2017 completed a combined 400 hours of recruit training to prepare them to be integrated in the Operations Division.

In addition to the in-service trainings and recruit trainings, nineteen (19) firefighters completed a Confined Space Rescue Technician course and several firefighters completed courses related to professional development via on-line training courses provided by the National Fire Academy.
The Fire Prevention Bureau manages several important functions which include: fire inspections, plan reviews, public and private education, data collection and analysis.

**OBJECTIVE:**
The main objective of the Fire Prevention Bureau is to promote prevention and awareness through a proactive approach to fire safety.

**SPECIFIC DUTIES:**
- Provide public education and fire safety awareness programs.
- Enforce fire, building, and life-safety codes and ordinances.
- Conduct fire and life-safety inspections.
- Review plans for fire protection systems and life safety concerns.
- Witness the testing of fire protection and life safety equipment.
- Maintain public relations and respond to citizens’ concerns regarding fire-safety.
- Evaluate and update codes to stay current with city needs.

**NEW CONSTRUCTION AND SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW:**
Plans for fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems, and hood and duct suppression systems, are reviewed for compliance in relation to adopted codes and regulations.

**PUBLIC EDUCATION:**
The most effective method of fire prevention is public education. Middletown Firefighters visit the local schools in October (National Fire prevention month) to teach fire safety. The Fire Safety House, a mobile classroom, regularly visits parks and other community events such as the National Night out.

**2018 Inspection stats:**
As a department, we conducted **522** fire safety inspections of commercial properties.
The Middletown Arson Task Force (Task Force) is a multi-discipline unit comprised of detectives and investigators from the Divisions of Police and Fire. All personnel assigned to the Task Force have completed a minimum of fifty (50) hours of training specific to fire and explosion investigations.

During 2018, the Task Force conducted or assisted with over seventy (70) origin and cause investigations with the following determined to be incendiary (arson) in nature:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Fire Type</th>
<th>Disposition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/8/2018</td>
<td>3010 Seneca St.</td>
<td>Passenger vehicle fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/30/2018</td>
<td>3107 Morgan St.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Arrest made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/2/2018</td>
<td>300 S Verity Pkwy.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Conviction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/13/2018</td>
<td>3008 Court Louise</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/17/2018</td>
<td>1 Donham Plaza</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Conviction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/3/2018</td>
<td>2810 Inland Dr.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/23/2018</td>
<td>218 North Sutphin St.</td>
<td>Passenger vehicle fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/30/2018</td>
<td>2237 Carolina St.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Conviction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/8/2018</td>
<td>2323 Hill Ave.</td>
<td>Outside storage fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/14/2018</td>
<td>3189 Barbara Dr.</td>
<td>Passenger vehicle fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/15/2018</td>
<td>721 Auburn St.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/22/2018</td>
<td>206 North Sutphin St.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/10/2018</td>
<td>533 Elm Grove Terrace</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Arrest made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/10/2018</td>
<td>1001 Grove St.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/21/2018</td>
<td>401 N. University Blvd.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/6/2018</td>
<td>1913 Wayne Ave.</td>
<td>Building fire</td>
<td>Arrest made</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This represents an arrest rate of thirty-eight percent (38%) of all identified arson fires and a conviction rate (to date) of thirteen percent (13%) during 2018. The arrest rate for the Task Force is sixteen percent (16%) above data indicating a national arrest rate of twenty-

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1 A warrant for arrest is still pending for one (1) individual to be charged for this incident.
two percent (22%) for 2017\(^2\).\(^3\). Additionally, several open investigations from previous years resulted in arrests and convictions during 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Investigations</th>
<th>Arson</th>
<th>Arrest</th>
<th>Conviction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>15 (21%)</td>
<td>4 (27%)</td>
<td>3 (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>22 (33%)</td>
<td>15 (68%)</td>
<td>15 (68%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>16 (23%)</td>
<td>6 (38%)</td>
<td>2 (13%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>53 (26%)</td>
<td>25 (44%)</td>
<td>20 (34%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 2: Three (3) year comparison.

A Mr. Channing Allen and Ms. Georgia Osborn were charged with F-4 Arson for the fire at 2237 Carolina St. Both Mr. Allen and Ms. Osborn had trespassed into the vacant structure which was being renovated and stole building supplies within. After the theft, they staged items to give the appearance of drug manufacturing and then applied gasoline to various areas inside the structure before setting it on fire. They eventually were the individuals who called 911 to report the fire as they lived at a neighboring property.

Officer Jason Deaton had previously investigated a break-in at their residence and was suspicious of the two and reported this to investigators. The follow-up investigation by Det. Brandon Highley resulted in confessions from both Mr. Allen and Ms. Osborn with additional charges made related to the staged break-in at their residence as well as a break-in at an elderly neighbor’s residence.

Twelve (12) hours of in-service, continuing education training specific to Origin and Cause investigations was provided to investigators assigned to the Task Force. This training was conducted through a cooperative effort with the evidence technicians from the Division of Police. Additionally, one (1) investigator attended the IAAI International Training Conference in Frisco, TX which provided thirty-two (32) hours of tested training specific to the field of fire investigation.

Two (2) investigators obtained an endorsement as a Evidence Collection Technician (ECT) through the international association of Arson Investigators (IAAI).

Accelerant canine (K9) “Scottie” was utilized for several investigations within the City of Middletown as well as assisting other agencies in both Butler and Hamilton counties. Scottie’s abilities to identify the presence of ignitable liquids has proven invaluable in identifying potential incendiary fires as well as locations where ignitable liquids were located, preserved and submitted for testing.


2018 Hydrant Maintenance

A percentage of city hydrants were flush tested in 2018 by fire crews. Totals are not available due to a change in the data collection program, mid-year. 2019 totals will be available.

2018 SCBA

In 2018 we had 4 members complete training to become MSA Repair Technicians for the new MSA G1 SCBA. We received and put in place the new SCBA, which we purchased in 2017 with the grant. Before placing them in service, we performed bench tests on all of the SCBA, RIC packs, and face pieces.

50 SCBA tests (required annually).
8 SCBA tests on the RIC packs (required annually).
127 Face piece tests (required annually).
4 SAR SCBA test (required annually).
2 SAR base unit tests (required annually).
We also performed 78 Fit tests to ensure members are wearing the appropriate size face piece. This is also required annual test.

Rob Curry, Captain
2018 Hose testing

The following report is a summary of the firehose-testing process completed in 2018. Testing was completed to meet the revised standards in NFPA 1962 - Standard for the care, use, inspection, service testing, and replacement of fire hose. Fire personnel tested **20,050** feet of fire hose with 7,350 feet being 1 ¾” hose, 7,650 feet of 2 ½” hose, and 5,300 feet of 4” hose. We had 350 feet of hose that failed either due to holes or leaking jackets.

To accomplish this task, Chief Lolli has continued to allow off-duty personnel to be used and in return, comp time being issued. In 2018, personnel accomplished this task in 167-man hours. This system has allowed us to be precise in the testing, inventory and hose reloading processes, while eliminating the possibility of interruption by emergency calls. To help reduce the wear and tear we have been seeing in our hose, we started rotating hose from one engine to another. This should help reduce possible damage from the hose continually being folded in the same spots.

In November of 2018 firefighter Hobbs and myself attended nozzle repair training at Task Force Tips facility in Valparaiso, Indiana. Service personnel tailored the training around the equipment we use in Middletown. Training also included the proper testing procedures to meet the standards in NFPA 1962 for our nozzles and appliances. By the end of 2019, we will have all fire-attack nozzles tested per the standard. To date, all hose, nozzles and major appliances have been identified and inventoried. This process will help with developing a plan for long-term budgeting for replacement due to service life.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamison Verdin
Fire Lieutenant
2018 Heroin Response Team (HRT)/Quick Response Team (QRT)

The City of Middletown continues to fight the impact the opiate epidemic has had on its community. EMS showed a decrease of 49% in opiate related responses versus 2017, responding to 493 opiated related incidents in 2018. A decrease in deaths has also been recognized going from 77 in 2017 to 53 in 2018.

Meth, Cocaine and prescription drug abuse continue to be a factor in the overall substance abuse response.

City Manager Doug Adkins started a Heroin Summit in the spring of 2015. One of the programs created from that is the Heroin Response Team (HRT) in June of 2016. This is a nationally recognized program commonly referred to as Quick Response Team (QRT).

The team consist of a police officer, a paramedic and an alcohol/substance abuse counselor known as a care coordinator. The team connects those in need with the care coordinator who in turn connects them to treatment. This helps patients to navigate the complicated process involved in recovery.

The availability of care coordinators continues to increase. In 2018 4 care coordinators helped to expand their work throughout Butler County and into Warren County. QRT’s were started in several communities in Butler County allowing us to connect with those outside Middletown easier.

Relationships with the hospitals and the courts continue to expand resulting in more referrals and connections to treatment. In 2018, 682 referrals to the team resulted in 267 people being connected to a treatment provider. The key to this program has been identifying an individual and making the connection to the care coordinator.

Constant engagement allowing easy recognizable access to treatment has proven very valuable. Our team stays involved with individuals and when an individual is ready, access to treatment is easily accessed and navigated.
In Memoriam

Firefighter Leo Bertram
served 1/1/1953 – 12/31/1980
Died 3/15/2018

Lieutenant Daniel W. O’Neil
served 1/1/1953 - 3/15/1980
Died 5/23/2018