

# Mentor on the Lake Fire Department

## Annual Report

### 2020



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Honorable David R. Eva

Mayor and Director of Safety  
City of Mentor-on-the-Lake, Ohio



Dear Sir:

Herein submitted is the annual report of the Fire Division, Department of Public Safety for the year 2020.

This report contains the operations within the Fire Divisions for the reporting period.

Division Chief's Activity  
Fire Suppression and Service Activity  
Fire Prevention and Investigation Activity  
Paramedic Services  
Loss of Life, Injuries and Property Damage by Fire  
Personnel Training Accomplishments  
Maintenance of Building and Equipment  
Special Projects and Public Relations

A heartfelt thank you is in order for all who support the Fire Division on a yearly basis; the Mayor and Administrative Staff, the Legislative Body, the other Operating Departments, the Boards and Commissions, and finally, our Citizens to whom we dedicate our work.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Pechatsko  
Chief, Division of Fire  
Department of Public Safety  
City of Mentor-on-the-Lake, Ohio

## **Administrative Staff - 2020**

<b>James Pechatsko</b>	<b>Fire Chief</b>
<b>Thomas Konitsky</b>	<b>Battalion Chief</b>
<b>Raymond Paduano</b>	<b>Battalion Chief</b>
<b>Anthony Konte</b>	<b>Lieutenant</b>
<b>Timothy Brown</b>	<b>Lieutenant</b>
<b>Paul Cassidy</b>	<b>Lieutenant</b>
<b>Daniel Coughlin</b>	<b>Lieutenant</b>
<b>Dustin Langford</b>	<b>Lieutenant</b>

## ***PERSONNEL ROSTER AND SERVICE RECORD - 2020***

### ***Full Time Staff***

<i>Name</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Date of Hire</i>	<i>Years of Service</i>
Anthony Konte	<b>Lieutenant</b>	3-28-1989	31 Years
James Pechatsko	<b>Fire Chief</b>	7-28-1998	22 Years
Gabriel Ananea	Firefighter	4-26-2005	15 Years
Jeremy Campaign	Firefighter	7-13-2010	10 Years
Justin Corbe	Firefighter	8-19-2015	5 Years

### ***Part Time Staff***

<i>Name</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Date of Hire</i>	<i>Years of Service</i>
Michael Spencer	Firefighter	5-18-1985	35 Years
Daniel Coughlin	<b>Lieutenant</b>	3-28-1989	31 Years
Thomas Konitsky	<b>Battalion Chief</b>	7-28-1991	29 Years
Raymond Paduano	<b>Battalion Chief</b>	4-28-1992	28 Years
Eric Heimberger	Firefighter	1-11-1994	26 Years
Timothy Brown	<b>Lieutenant</b>	3-6-1996	24 Years
Paul Cassidy	<b>Lieutenant</b>	7-28-1998	22 Years
David Huelsman	Firefighter	12-21-2000	20 Years
Dustin Langford	<b>Lieutenant</b>	4-22-2008	12 Years

Brendan Volker	Firefighter	3-11-2014	6 Years
Aaron Husted	Firefighter	10-16-2014	6 Years
Thomas Gallagher	Firefighter	5-26-2015	5 Years
Lee Santos	Firefighter	5-26-2015	5 Years
Michael O'Connell	Firefighter	8-19-2015	5 Years
Brian Sedmak	Firefighter	8-29-2016	4 Years
Daniel Klems	Firefighter	4-7-2017	3 Years
John Padley	Firefighter	4-28-2017	3 Years
Rollin Pachinger	Firefighter	10-9-2018	2 Years
Noah Smith	Firefighter	06-03-2019	1 Year 6 Months
Daniel Wheeler	Firefighter	09-11-2019	1 Year 3 Months
Eric Rosenberger	Firefighter	09-23-2019	1 Year 3 Months
Cody Bendlock	Firefighter	04-03-2020	8 Months
Tyrus Kovach	Firefighter	04-17-2020	8 Months
Josh Sundbom	Firefighter	04-20-2020	8 Months
Chris Fuentes	Firefighter	05-13-2020	7 Months
Michael Brant	Firefighter	07-29-2020	5 Months

## ***PERSONNEL THAT LEFT THE DEPARTMENT - 2020***

<i>Name</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Date of Hire</i>	<i>Years of Service</i>
Randy Rolf	Firefighter	6-14-2011	8 Years 10 Months
Frank Sterle	Firefighter	06-24-2019	10 Months

# **ADMINISTRATION & CHAIN OF COMMAND**

The Fire Department Administration is responsible for all emergency and non-emergency Fire Department activities. These activities involve four major areas of responsibility: 1.) Fiscal Management; 2.) Personnel Management; 3.) Productivity; 4.) Training. These four areas can be further divided into the following:

***Records and Reports***

***Public Information and Community Relations***

***Intergovernmental Relations***

***Budgeting***

***Procurement of Equipment and Supplies***

***Resource and Supplies***

***Recruitment and Hiring***

***Promotional Practices***

***Loss Control***

***Firefighting / Emergency Medical Qualifications***

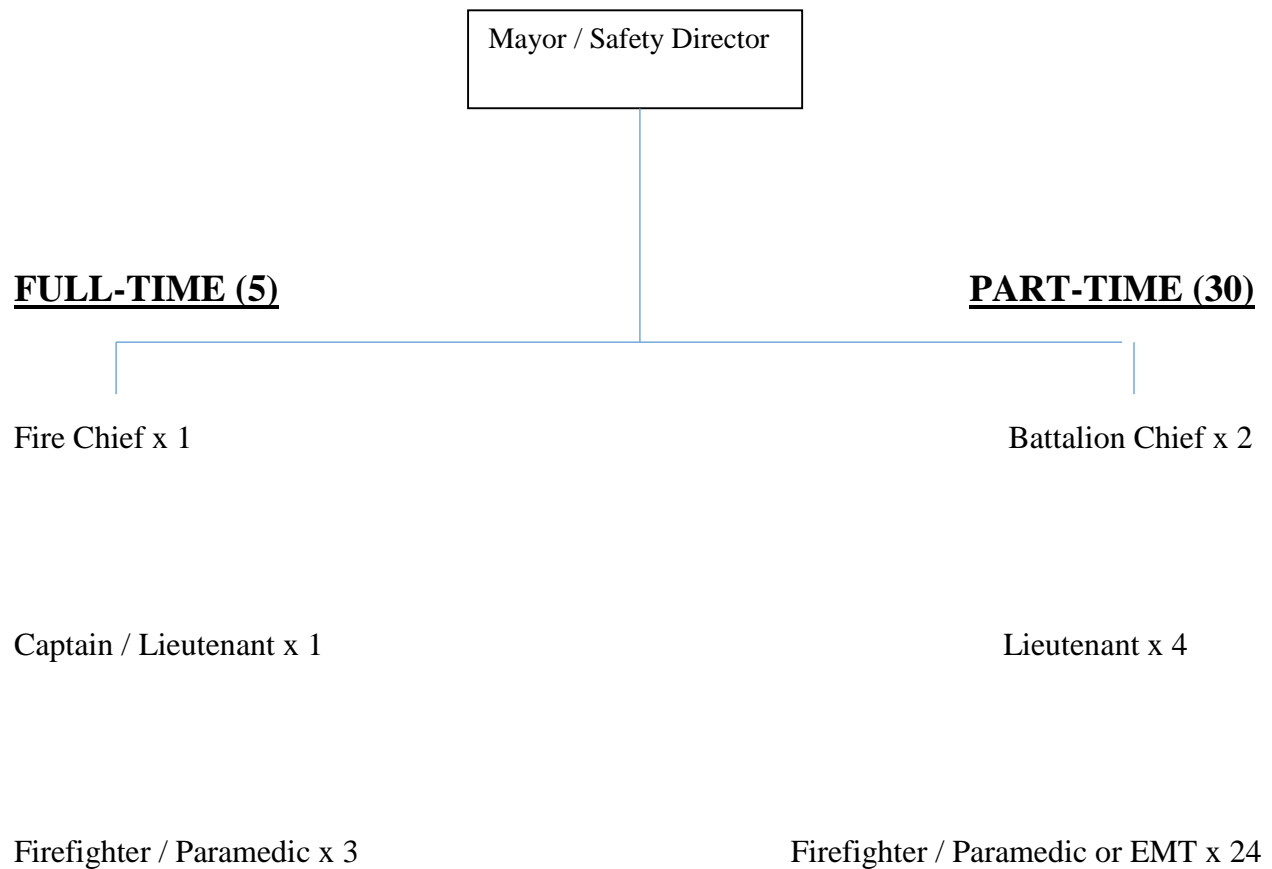
***Personnel Supervision and Performance Evaluations***

***Hazard Control***

***Emergency Incident Management***

# *Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department*

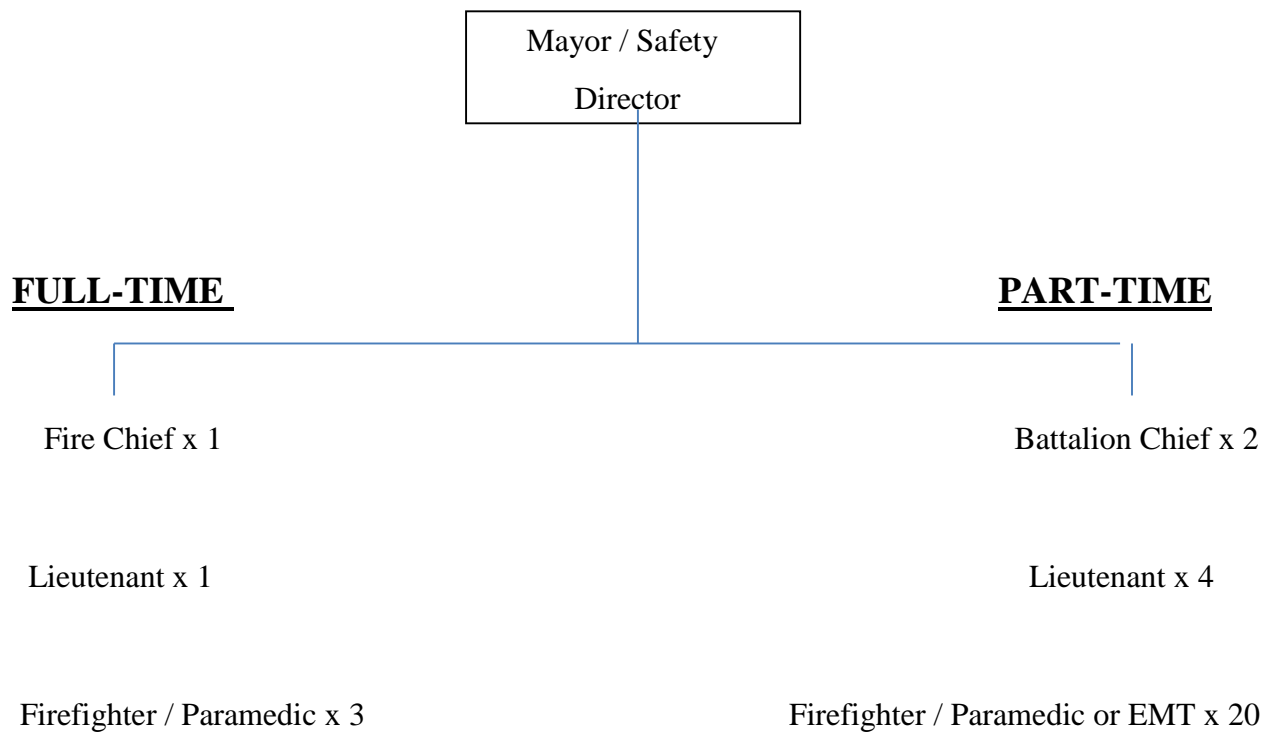
## *Staff Compliment – By Ordinance*





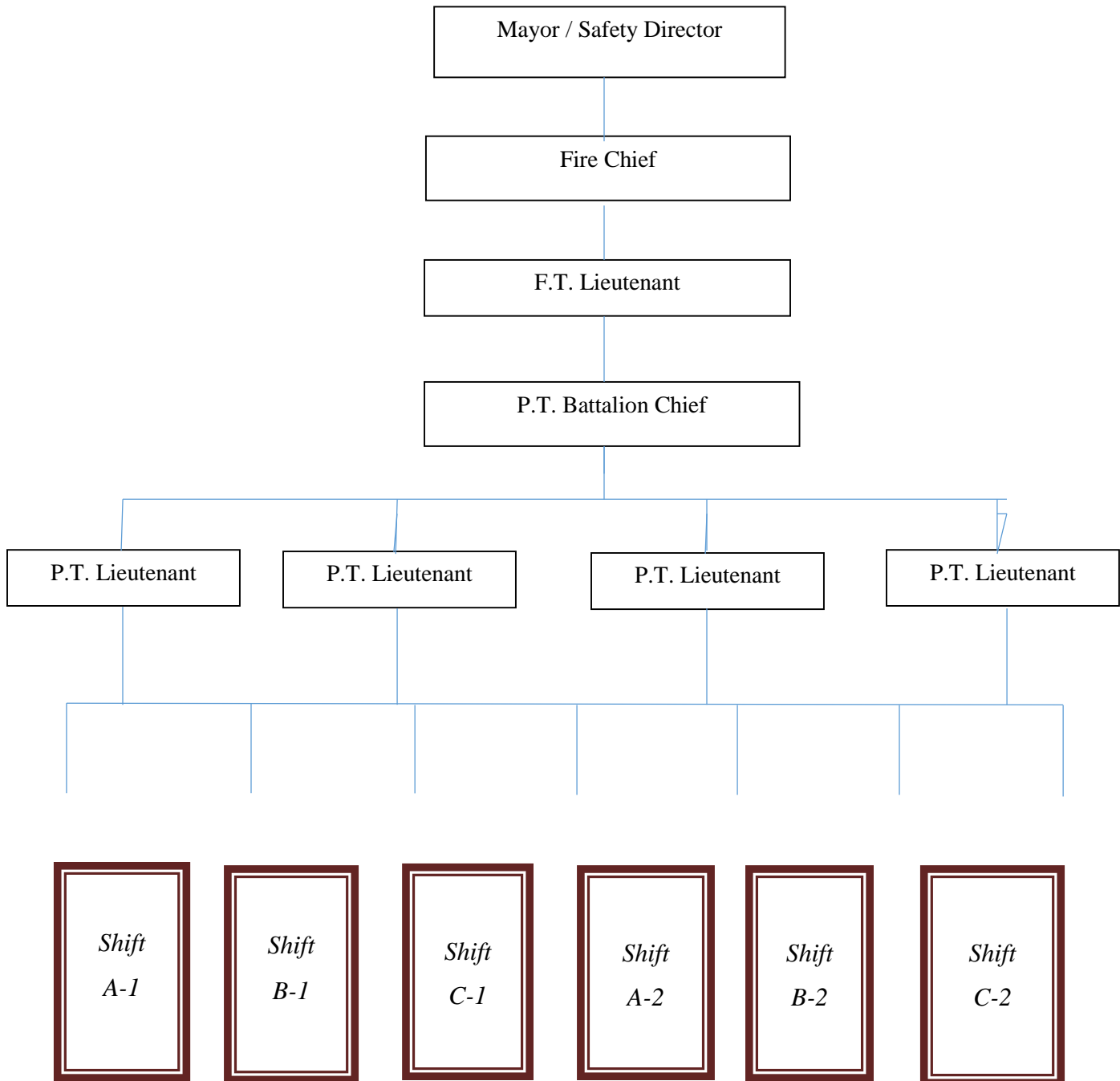
# *Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department*

## *Actual Staff Compliment*



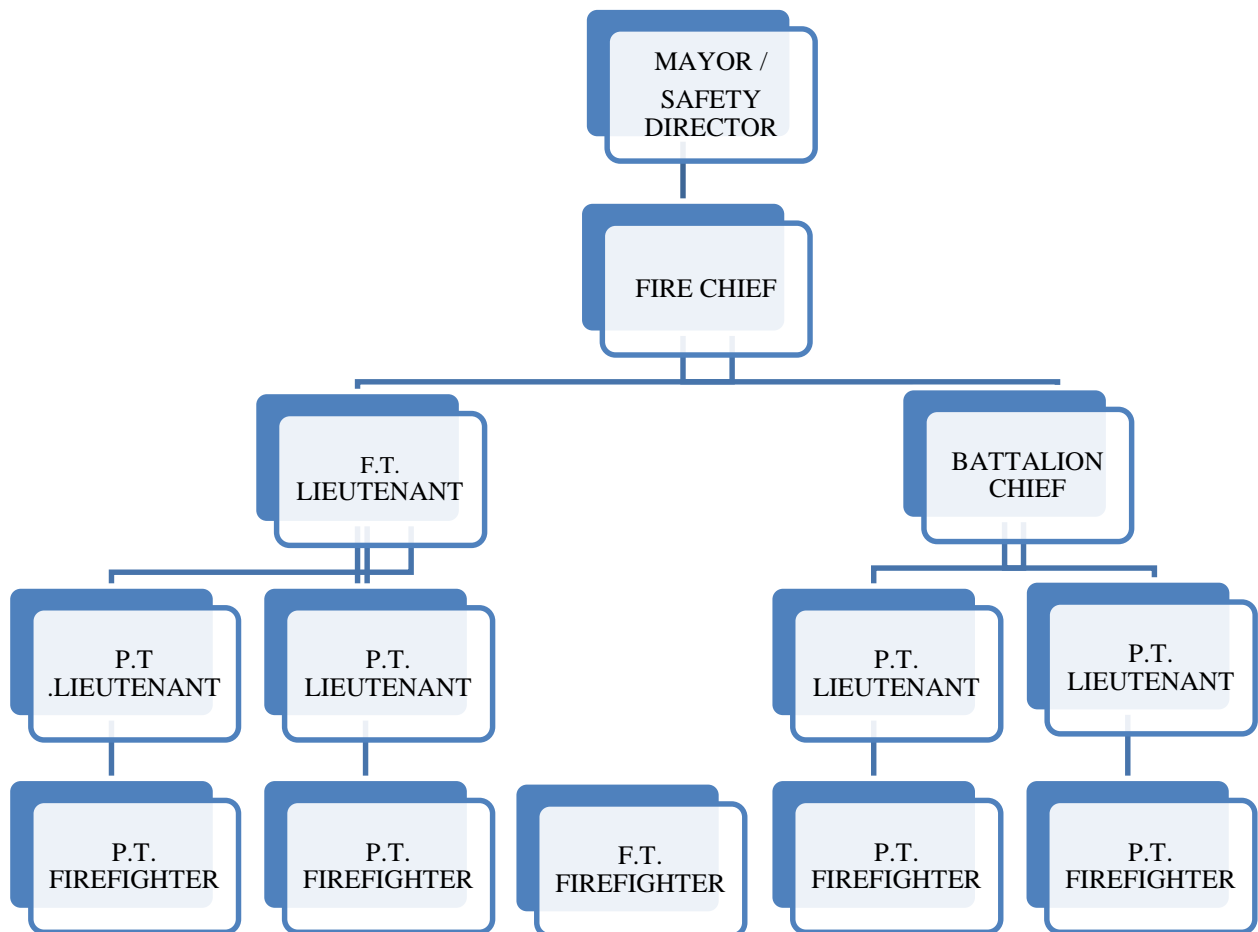
# ***MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT***

## ***CHAIN OF COMMAND – DAILY OPERATIONS***



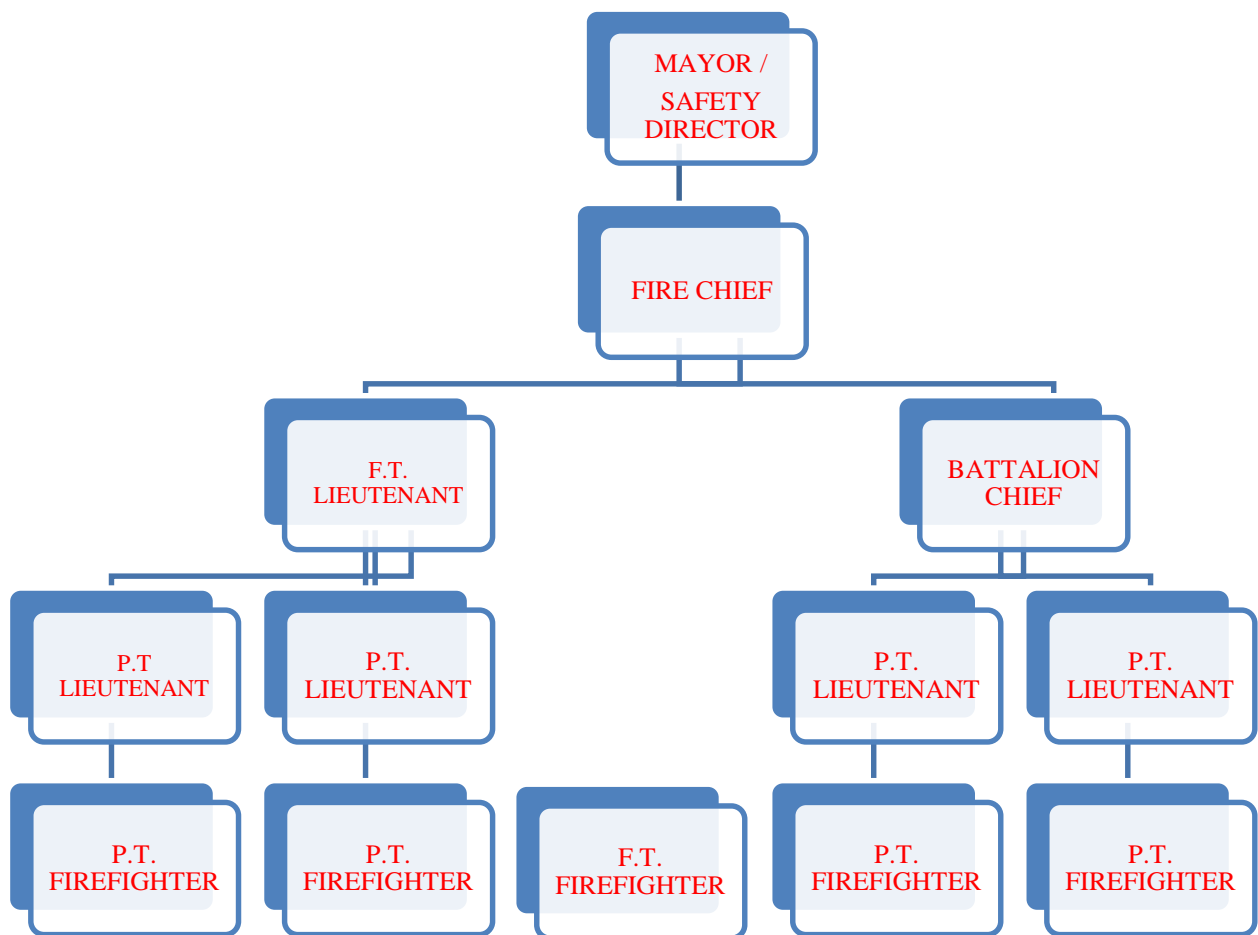
# *MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT*

## *CHAIN OF COMMAND – RESCUE OPERATIONS*



# ***MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT***

## ***CHAIN OF COMMAND – FIRE OPERATIONS***



# GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department maintains fiscal responsibility while operating at the highest level possible. The Fire Department works hard to secure alternative financial resources which include applying for funds through the grant process. In 2020, the department applied for 5 Federal, State, and local grants totaling \$145,692. For the year, the department has received 2 grants totaling \$12,846.00. We have been turned down for 3 grants.

<u>Grant Name</u>	<u>Grant Year</u>	<u>Date Submitted</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>
MARCS Radio Grant	2020	10/30/2019	\$37,710.00
SFM Equipment Grant	2020	2/21/2020	\$15,135.00
EMS Priority One Grant	2020	2/24/2020	\$2,846.00
EMS (Board Priority) Grant	2020	2/24/2020	\$30,000.00
Assistance to Firefighter	2019	3/12/2020	\$60,000.00

<u>Grant Received</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>
SFM Equipment Grant	\$15,135.00	\$10,000.00
EMS Priority One Grant	\$2,846.00	\$2,846.00

# ***EMERGENCY SERVICES***



# 2020

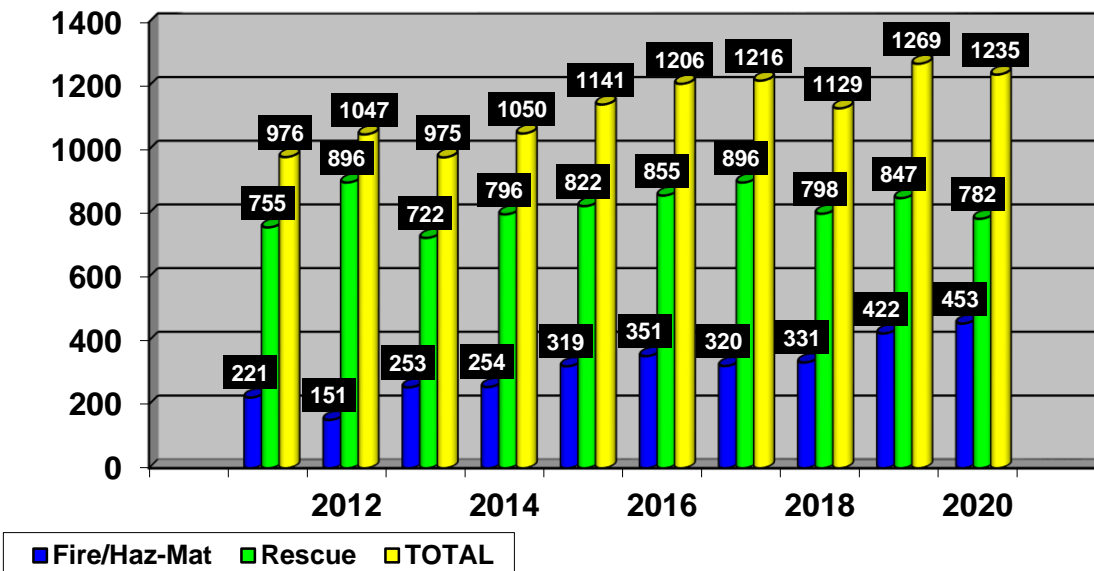
For the purpose of data overview in the total number of calls, emergency responses are entered into a statistical analysis in the following 2 pages.

In 2020, the department responded to a total of 1235 rescue, fire, and service calls. This is a decrease of 34 calls from 2019 due to the COVID pandemic.

## Total Calls for the 10 year period: 2011 – 2020

Service calls are defined as any non-emergent assistance response.

As of 2002, Service Calls were incorporated into the Fire / Haz-Mat category



<b>Transports by Destination</b> <b>January 01, 2020 to December 31, 2020</b>	
<b>Transport Location</b>	<b>2020 Transports</b>
<b>Lake West Hospital</b>	<b>475</b>
<b>Tri-Point Hospital</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Hillcrest Hospital</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Euclid Hospital</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Cleveland Clinic Foundation</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Richmond Heights General Hospital</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>0</b>
<b><i>Total Transports to Medical Facilities - 2020</i></b>	<b><i>574</i></b>

No Transports - 2020	208
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The following information provides a breakdown of the number of calls per age group.

<b>AGE IN YEARS</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CALLS</b>
0 - 18	33
19 – 30	78
31 – 40	68
41 – 50	68
51 – 60	116
61 – 70	128
71 – 80	145
81 – 90	89
91 - 100	28
101 +	0



## *Mutual Aid*

Throughout the year, fire departments at times may need to rely on their neighboring communities to assist them during incidents where additional manpower, equipment and/or station coverage may be needed. There are established systems in place throughout Lake County that allow for the immediate dispatch of neighboring communities directly to the location that the assistance is needed.

The following are descriptions of the systems that are in place to allow for this coordinated effort.

***Mutual Aid:*** A response to or from another community on an as needed basis. This may include a request for a vehicle, a special expertise and/or manpower.

***MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System):*** This is a county wide established system that will allow the immediate dispatch of a pre-designated selection of equipment and manpower to the scene of an emergency when the initial amount of first responders are inadequate due to the scale of the incident. By having this pre-designated system in place, it is available to an incident commander to activate as needed, and will allow for multiple resources to be dispatched to that emergency scene at the same time. This allows for the incident commander to focus more on the strategy and tactics that may be needed at the incident scene while a large amount of resources are responding.

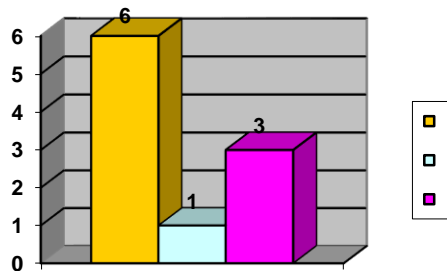
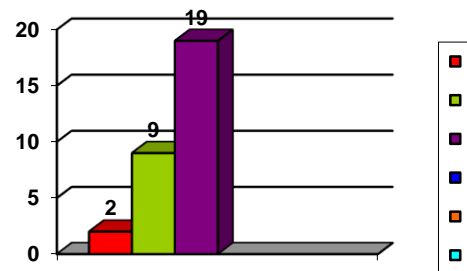
***Automatic Aid – Auto Aid:*** A response system that is pre-designated and incorporates neighboring communities into the emergency cities initial alarm. This system allows for the dispatching of other communities to respond to the initial alarm in an emergent manner until such a time as they arrive at the neighboring scene or are cancelled by the Incident Commander of the emergency. This system is designed to be utilized with “High-Target” occupancy locations such as multi-story apartment units, commercial and/or industrial facilities, schools and large shopping center complexes.

***Selective Expertise Call Outs:*** Selective expertise call outs are generally utilized when a certain level of expertise is required on an emergency scene for a specific purpose. This expertise could include such areas as Fire Investigators and Hazardous Materials Technicians.

The following graphics depict the types and amount of times that the Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department was involved in the mutual aid system in the year 2020.

### 2020 Mutual Aid - *GIVEN*

Mutual Aid To Rescue	2
Mutual Aid to Structure Fire	9
Auto Aid	19



### 2020 Mutual Aid - MABAS - *RECEIVED*

Mutual Aid Received - RESCUE	6
Mutual Aid Received - Fire	1
Auto Aid Received	3

# Fire Suppression



## **IN SERVICE FIRE TRAINING – DEPARTMENTAL**

Total Departmental Fire Training 2020..... 151 Hours

For the year, the Department responded to 453 fire and service calls. This is an increase of 31 calls over last year in those areas. Overall, the Department experienced a decrease of 34 calls over 2019. There was an approximate \$110,900.00 increase in total dollar loss in 2020 as indicated by the call data input into the department's statistical database.

## **Dollar Loss Totals for the year 2020**

Dollar Loss Type	Property Loss Amount	Content Loss Amount	Total Loss Amount
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Structure	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 25,020.00	\$ 115,020.00
Other Structure	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Other	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
<i>Flooding</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$90,000.00</b>	<b>\$25,020.00</b>	<b>\$ 115,020.00</b>

**DOLLAR LOSS FOR TEN (10) YEAR PERIOD**

Year	Dollar Loss Total
2011	\$104,750.00
2012	\$110,000.00
2013	\$18,000.00
2014	\$10,600.00
2015	\$40,900.00
2016	\$120,300.00
2017	\$23,300.00
2018	\$216,671.00
2019	\$4,100.00
2020	\$115,020.00

***Collective Dollar Loss in Thousands of Dollars  
2011 - 2020***

2011 - 2020	\$ 763,641.00
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# **INJURIES AND FATALITIES – 2020**

On September 19, 2020 the MOL fire department responded to a structure fire on Driftwood.

I am happy to report there were no injuries or fatalities at this incident.

**Number of Fire Fatalities (FD).....0**

Number of Fire Fatalities (Public).....0

**Number of Fire Injury's (FD).....0**

Number of Fire Injury's (Public).....0

# RESCUE - EMS

## IN SERVICE EMS TRAINING - DEPARTMENTAL

**Total EMS Training 2020.....122 hours**

The Fire Division responded to 782 emergency medical calls in 2020. This is a decrease of 65 calls over last year in those areas. On 574 occasions we transported to various medical facilities. On 208 occasions we treated victims, but did not transport them. In total we logged 10,719 road miles on our 2 emergency vehicles.

Our current staff of 30 personnel have attained the following levels of certifications by the years end



EMT-P..... 16  
EMT-B..... 14

As I have reported in the past, the most important single factor in offering paramedic service is the out of service time. With runs averaging 1 hour (plus or minus) on a normal paramedic transport call, we generally have 2 or 3 personnel and 1 medic squad out of service for that time frame. On several occasions, depending on the circumstances, this time frame exceeded 1 hour. This can be a burden on the fire service, especially during the daytime of the business week.

# ***FULL TIME 2020***

Full-time operations in the Fire Division is twenty-four (24) hours a day seven (7) days a week. One (1) Full-Time Officer works a twenty-four (24) hour shift on Tuesday and Thursday and three (3) Full-Time Firefighters work a twenty-four (24) hour shift every third (3) day. This type of schedule is known as an A-Shift, B-Shift, and C-Shift which is the traditional firefighter schedule where they are on duty for 24 hours and off duty 48 hours. We currently have one (1) Full-Time firefighter assigned to each shift.

This fluctuation of shifts allowed the Fire Department to have Personnel scheduled for a 24 hour period throughout the entire year. Prior to the implementation of the above mentioned schedule, the Full-Time personnel worked Monday through Friday from 06:00 hours (6 a.m.) until 18:00 hours (6 p.m.).

## **The Full-Time staff has the following areas of responsibility:**

- Administration and Records
- Budgeting and payroll Statistical Analysis
- Arson Investigation and Fire Prevention
- Building Construction, Print Review and Code Study
- Building Maintenance (i.e. Painting, Repairing, Cleaning)
- Graphics (Drawings, Graphs, and Illustrations, etc.)
- Training and Education, Private Sector Included
- Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance
- Fire Hydrant Maintenance Program
- Public Relations/Public Education
- Hose testing and maintenance
- Equipment Maintenance and Testing

***Full-Time staff Wages equated to \$246,967.91 for the year 2020.***

***Full-Time staff overtime equated to \$6,536.76 for the year 2020.***

# *Part Time - 2020*

As of September 1, it will have been 22 years since the Part-Time staff began in house manning of the station which along with the Full-Time coverage previously reported allows the Department full 24 hour coverage throughout the year. There are three (3) different Part-time shifts that the personnel are assigned to.

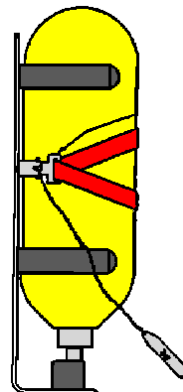
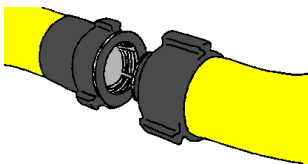
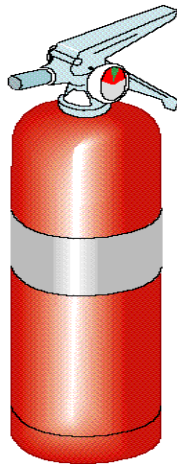
- Dependable shift personnel work a twenty-four (24) hour shift, commencing at 0600 (6am) hours and continuing through to 0600 (6am) hours the following day every sixth day with the exception of Thursdays.
- Days shift personnel work a twelve (12) hour shift, commencing at 0600 (6am) hours and continuing through to 1800 (6pm) hours the same day every sixth day Monday through Friday, they do not work Saturday and Sunday
- Nights and weekends shift personnel work a twelve (12) hour shift, commencing at 1800 (6pm) hours and continuing through to 0600 (6am) hours the following day every sixth day Monday through Friday and a twenty-four (24) hour shift, commencing at 0600 (6am) hours and continuing through to 0600 (6am) hours the following day on Saturday and Sunday.

By the end of 2020, our manpower status was at 26 Part-Time personnel. This will fluctuate as members tend to leave from year to year.

***Part-Time staff Wages equated to \$320,962.62 for the year 2020.***



# SUPPORT SERVICES



# FIRE PREVENTION 2020

## *Fire Inspectors Report*

In 2020, the Fire Prevention Division continued to support the mission of the Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department. This is accomplished through fire safety inspections of commercial buildings throughout the City of Mentor-on-the-Lake and residential fire safety inspections when requested by the resident. The Fire Prevention Division is also required to oversee the annual fireworks show that is presented by the Mentor Harbor Yacht club. In addition to the daily responsibilities, the Fire Prevention Division participates in public relations events as well. This included the annual Santa rounds. 2020 was an extremely difficult year with the COVID pandemic and the stay at home orders preventing us from following our normal inspection routines. We were also not able to attend the various public relations events due to there cancellation.

As we look forward to 2021, the Fire Prevention Division will continue to look for additional ways to provide excellent customer service and a safer community.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Lt. Anthony Konte  
F.F. Jeremy Campaign  
Fire Inspectors

# FIRE PREVENTION 2020

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Total Incident Count</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>
Building Inspection	50	100.0
Code Study / Files	1	2.0
Complaint	4	8.0
Correspondence	2	3.0
Drills Fire / Tornado	3	3.0
Suppression	2	4.0
Fire Alarms	12	15.0
Fire Lanes	0	0.0
Hood Testing	18	36.0
Meetings	3	9.0
Permits / Citations	0	0.0
Pre-Plans	1	1.0
Plan Review	4	8.0
Home Inspections	12	12.0
Lock Box Install	6	3.0
Smoke Detector	12	6.0
<b>2020 Totals:</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>210.0</b>

# Public Education 2020

The Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department strives to educate the community on fire safety and the use of our EMS system. During this past year, our normal schedule of events that help achieve this goal such as the City Fall Fest, our Open House and our Safety Talk in the Senior Living Center had to be cancelled due to the COVID pandemic. This also included our CPR and AED training to our residents and businesses. We did maintain other programs that are aimed towards safety which include our Lock Box and Smoke Detector Programs. Despite the cancellation of our normal community events such as, The Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Lake Elementary, the Larkspur Drive Block Party and Roar by the Shore Annual Cruise, we wanted to show the community that we appreciate them so, we hosted the Santa Rounds in December but were not able to pass out candy canes. It was wonderful to see the joy in the children's faces as the fire trucks drove Santa by.

Please like us on our Facebook page located at [facebook.com/TheMentorontheLakeFireDepartment](https://facebook.com/TheMentorontheLakeFireDepartment) and to keep up-to-date with safety information and events.

## **Mentor-on-the-Lake Lock Box Program**

The fire department offers a lock box you can buy for \$35 dollars that hangs on top of your door to allow us access to your home or apartment in case of an emergency. This year we had 6 new lock box installations.



## **Smoke Detector Installations**

We offer one free smoke detector to any of our residence in the city that cannot afford to buy one on their own. This year we had 12 new smoke detector installations. This does not include service calls to help residents replace smoke detector batteries and helping to install a smoke detector that they have purchased on their own.



## **CPR and AED Training**

CPR and the use of an AED are a critical step in saving lives. That's why we have 2 fulltime CPR instructors that work to provide training to residents.

## **Station Tours**

The fire department always welcomes station tours. It gives a chance for residents to check out the equipment, apparatus and to learn about fire safety and our EMS system. All station tours in 2020 were suspended due to the COVID pandemic. We hope to bring them back soon.

# FIRE INVESTIGATION



The Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department has an integral membership with the Western Lake County Fire Investigation Unit (WLCFIU). The unit has been in existence for over 40 years, but has recently been reorganized to improve inter-city assistance and operations.



The unit consists of members from the cities of Mentor-on-the-Lake, Mentor, Eastlake, Wickliffe, Kirtland, Willoughby Hills, Willoughby and Willowick Fire Departments. Mentor-on-the-Lake currently has two members assigned to the unit. The West Lake County Unit is comprised of a group of specialists who assist with fire scene investigation when the resources of the incident Department request such assistance. Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Investigators responded to 3 calls for specialized assistance in the year 2018. Fortunately, Mentor-on-the-Lake did not need to utilize the services of the WLCFIU in the year 2019.



For a Fire Investigation Unit to be effective, many hours of training are needed. Every other month, the WLCFIU holds meetings and training sessions that keep the members of the unit honed on the latest investigative techniques, equipment and technology. This is very important so that the unit's Investigators can be accurate in conducting investigations and presenting forensic evidence



for courtroom proceedings. The unit also utilizes the services of numerous Insurance Companies, Private Fire Investigation Units, Lake County, and the State of Ohio.

## **MENTOR-ON-THE-LAKE FIRE INVESTIGATORS – (WLCFIU)**

**Battalion Chief Tom Konitsky - Advanced Fire Investigator - 20 Years**  
**Battalion Chief Ray Paduano - Advanced Fire Investigator – 18 Years**

# *TRAINING*

Year to year changes in hours of training are to be expected depending on the amount of participation and enrollment in the State of Ohio paramedic program. In house training is performed on each shift and fluctuates from 2.0 to 3.0 hours. In addition, the Department conducts two monthly drill. The total figure does vary from year to year depending on how many mandated, certification and/or recertification training programs are attended in this time frame.

## **Mandated training and State of Ohio required certifications are as follows:**

1. Paramedic training for certification is 1200 hours.
2. E.M.T. - Basic training for certification is 144 hours
3. Fire training for certification is 260 hours.
4. Fire safety inspector training certification is 84 hours
5. State of Ohio Fire/EMT Instructor certification is 80 hours.
6. C.P.R. Instructor certification is 12 hours. Each certified instructor must teach 2 classes annually in order to maintain American Heart Association certification.

## **Recertifications and Continuing Medical Education Requirements** **Mandated by the State of Ohio**

1. Paramedic training for maintaining certification is 86 hours every 3 years.
2. E.M.T.-B. Recertification is 40 hours every 3 years.
3. Fire recertification training is 54 hours every 3 years. This can be accrued through in-service training.
4. Hazardous Materials training by Federal Law is 24 hours annually.

In-service training means that which is done on duty in quarters, or at selected training sites within the city confines. It may also, from time to time, include bi-lateral training with surrounding communities.

## **TECHNICAL TRAINING**



The Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department has members who are actively involved in other areas of specialty training. These members are a part of a core group of Lake County firefighters that meet numerous times throughout the year to hone and maintain their skills in each respective area. Some of the specialized areas include Hazardous Materials, Confined Space, and Water Rescue.



Mentor on the Lake Fire is a member of the Lake County Hazardous Incident Team or L.C.H.I.T. The team consists of 50 members from all Lake County Fire Departments and includes private companies (Lubrizol) as well. The L.C.H.I.T. is certified as a Type 1 HAZMAT Team. It is thought that there are only 3 Type 1 teams in the state of Ohio. The team will offer their services to all local and neighboring counties in the event of a Hazardous Incident. The team is funded by the L.E.P.C. and fees collected from all the Fire Departments in Lake County.

Chief James Pechatsko Haz. Mat. Tech.

Lieutenant Tony Konte Full-Time Haz.Mat. Tech

Jeremy Campaign Full-Time Haz.Mat. Tech (L.C.H.I.T.)

Justin Corbe Full-Time Haz. Mat Tech (L.C.H.I.T.)

## ***Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance***

A total of 4,162 hours of labor were expended last year in all categories to maintain equipment, vehicles and quarters in an operable and livable condition. Vehicles and equipment consumed 2,914 hours, or 70% of the total time. Aside from the normal weekly check-out, fueling and house running, internal maintenance is performed by Fire Department personnel in areas such as:

**A. Vehicles** - Lubricate and change oil, exhaust systems, tire rotation, body work, touch up and repaint, alternators, lights, horns, wiring, batteries, door repairs, lubrication, change air and oil filters, repair brakes, trim, and seats, tune up and installation of new equipment.

**B. Equipment** - Maintain self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) repair/modify the same where applicable, relocate and remount equipment, mark I.D. on equipment, clean charge material and recharge air compressor, initiate hydrostatic checks of air cylinders, portable pumps and air tools, diesel tank and building where possible.

Building and quarters consumed 1,248 or 30% of the remaining maintenance time. Aside from normal routine house cleaning done weekly, other maintenance includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Bi-monthly or monthly cleaning of windows, repair of interior/exterior doors, repair faucets, commodes and plumbing, maintain clean towels for apparatus, laundry, paint, repair and mount hardware as well as fire bay maintenance.

The total fuel consumption for all Fire Department vehicles amounted to 2,396.4 gallons. Of this total, 1,816.5 gallons of gasoline were used and 579.9 gallons of diesel were used to fuel the vehicles.

### **VEHICLE CONDITION - 2020**



**2500:** 2018 Ford Explorer. Engine excellent, body excellent, general overall condition excellent.



**2511:**  
2012 Ford Taurus. Engine good, body good, overall condition good.



**2522:**  
**ALS Unit (Advanced Life Support)** 2017 Ford E-450 Modular. Engine excellent, body excellent, general overall condition excellent.



**2512:** **ALS Unit (Advanced Life Support)** 2019 Ford E-450 Modular. Engine excellent, body excellent, general overall condition excellent.



**2532: BLS Unit (Basic Life Support)** 2001 Ford E-450 Modular. Engine fair, body poor, general overall condition poor.

**2517-HR (Heavy Rescue):**  
1993 International Rescue Master. Engine good, body fair, general overall condition fair.



**2513 (Engine):** 2009 Sutphen - 1500 gallon per minute pump. Engine good, body good, general overall condition good.

**2519 (Engine):**  
1993 Pierce - 2000 gallon per minute pump with a 50' telescoping ladder. Engine good, body fair, general overall condition good.



## FIRE HYDRANT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM



The Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department in conjunction with Aqua Ohio conducts maintenance and services the fire hydrants within the city most spring and fall seasons. The spring testing typically begins around May and usually consists of flushing each hydrant to remove stagnant rust water from inside the line, lubrication of the flow valve stem and threaded inlets, inspection of any gasket leaks at the base of each hydrant, and repainting with reflective paint as needed. This maintenance and testing is performed to ensure the proper operation of each hydrant within the City. This program can usually be completed over a one week period. Residents may experience slight water discoloration in their home around the time of the year when these procedures should

be conducted and should simply allow their tap water to run for a short period of time until the water is clear to expel any dirty water from their household piping. During the fall months, usually around September, the Mentor-on-the-Lake Fire Department conducts spot monitoring on the hydrants specifically geared at preparing the water system for the cold winter months. Fire hydrants are designed so that when they are shut off, any residual water in the hydrant will drain so that water will not be exposed to the cold winter temperatures. This reduces the potential for the water to freeze inside of the hydrant, rendering it unusable until thawed. Throughout the spring and summer months, if a hydrant has been found to be retaining water, that hydrant should be re-inspected during the fall hydrant program to be sure that no water has been retained in the barrel. If water is found in a hydrant, it should be pumped of the standing water and have a special type of antifreeze added. This will allow for the hydrant to remain functional throughout the winter months. This year, the city had a total of 367 fire hydrants that were available for immediate use within and around the city boundaries, which includes privately owned hydrants. Any problems that are found and considered to be a potential hindrance to firefighting operations are usually reported to Aqua Ohio for further inspection. Aqua Ohio will investigate the problems at hand and correct any that need to be repaired.

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

In 2020 everyone was affected by the COVID pandemic and the fire department was no different. The majority of our usual community events had to be canceled. Despite the difficulties encountered, the fire department continued to serve our community just as we have always done and will continue to do.

May: Hired a new Full-Time firefighter / Paramedic.

July: the department supervised the fireworks show at Mentor Harbor Yacht Club.

December: the department had its annual Santa rounds

# *RECOMMENDATIONS – 2021*

1. Hire two (2) Full-Time Firefighter / Paramedics
2. Install an exhaust system within the fire bay to rid the area of the excessive quantities of harmful carbon monoxide produced when the diesel vehicles are started and running.
3. Improve the storage areas in general (i.e. records and equipment).
4. Installation of a fire hydrant on the South side of City Hall to assist with Fire Department training, and fire protection.
5. Obtain a grant through the State Fire Marshal's office to replace some of the older firefighting equipment.

# *ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS*

My sincere thanks to the Officers and Personnel of the Fire Division in keeping the quality of service rendered at the highest level while working at times under trying conditions. Their ability to adjust and react to difficult circumstances reflects the training and discipline which has gradually been developed in each individual from their first day of assignment.