

Aurora

FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



ISO Class 2



Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide fire suppression, quality medical service, environmental protection, community preparedness, fire prevention and public education. The Aurora Fire Department is committed to ensuring the safety of all the people that live, work and visit our community.



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Message from the Chief

Back in 1856, a petition was circulated to ascertain the number of citizens willing to act as members of a volunteer fire company. A meeting was held on July 1, 1856, at which time the name "Young America Fire Engine Company No. 1" was chosen and committees were named to nominate a slate of officers, to write a constitution and to select a uniform.

In 1906 the City began the process of making the Aurora Fire Department fully paid. By 1906, Aurora had a thriving metropolitan fire department, consisting of almost 40 men, (five hose companies, a hook and ladder truck, and the chief), who worked 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Aurora Fire Department celebrates 163 years of fire protection to the 200,000 residents of the City of Aurora through the service of 206 highly trained men and women from nine fire stations that house nine engines, three trucks, a heavy rescue, and seven ALS ambulances.

The Aurora Fire Department is a Class II rating from the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO).

The Aurora Fire Department is a member of MABAS Division 13, a partnership of 17 west suburban Illinois fire departments organized to provide mutual aid, specialized response, unique resources and combined training. This collaboration provides cost-effective specialized teams for fire investigations, hazardous material incidents, dive and water rescue, technical rescue involving high-angle, trench and collapse incidents.

The Aurora Fire Department strives for excellence in customer care with professionalism and dedication to the community. In 2018, the Fire Department responded to a total of 19,205 calls for service. Responses for emergency medical services represented 80 % or 15,502 responses of our incident activity in 2018. Our mission is to provide fire suppression, quality medical service, environmental protection, community preparedness, fire prevention and public education. The Aurora Fire Department is committed to ensuring the safety of all the people that live, work and visit our community.

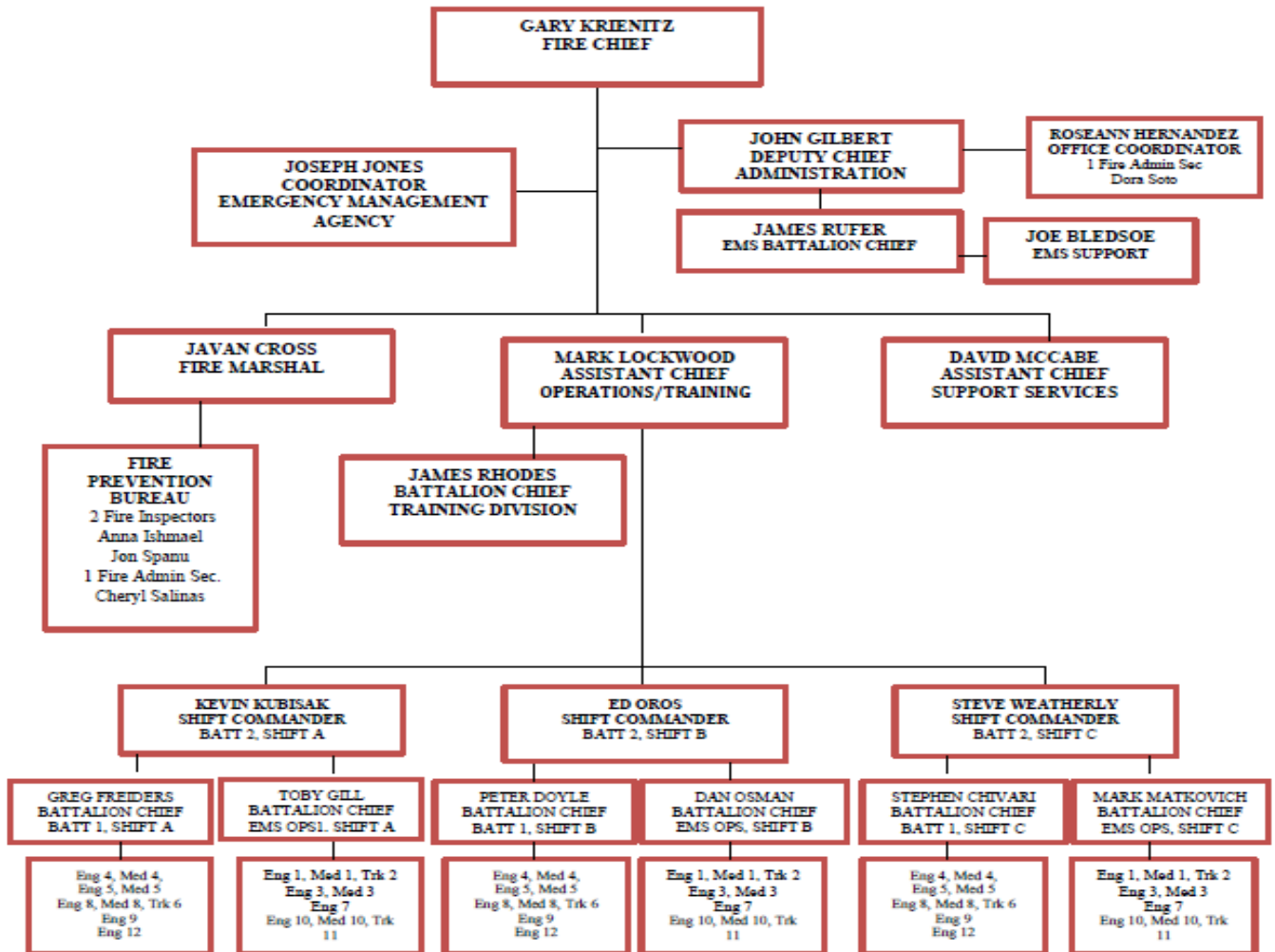
I want to express my gratitude to Mayor Richard C. Irvin, the City of Aurora Council Members and the residents of Aurora for their continued support of the Aurora Fire Department in our effort to deliver the highest level of services.

Thank you,

Gary Krienitz

Fire Chief

Organizational Chart



206 SWORN MEMBERS

47 Firefighter 98 Firefighter/Paramedic
 32 Lieutenants 13 Captains 11 Battalion Chief
 1 Fire Marshal 2 Assistant Chiefs
 1 Deputy Chief 1 Fire Chief

12 Civilian Members

1 EMA Coordinator 1 Office Coordinator
 2 Full-Time & 1 Part-Time Admin Secretarial 2 Full-Time Fire Inspectors 5 Fire Cadets

Personnel

The proficient staff of the Aurora Fire Department are at all times ready to meet the challenge of the varied tasks associated with this profession. With an average of just under 14.50 years of service associated with an average age of 41, our diversity in experience ensures a balance of appropriate performance now and continuity of performance in the future.

Years of Service	Number of Members	Age	Number of Members
1-5 Years	45	21-25 Years	7
6-10 Years	28	26-30 Years	31
11-15 Years	33	31-35 Years	32
16-20 Years	33	36-40 Years	21
21-25 Years	50	41-45 Years	32
26-30 Years	14	46-50 Years	45
Over 31 Years	2	Over 51 Years	37
Average	14.50	Average	41

Personnel Modifications 2018

Promotions

Captain James Rhodes promoted to Battalion Chief on 4/28/18

Lieutenant Scott Keierleber promoted to Captain on 4/21/18

Firefighter Robert Chance promoted to Lieutenant on 4/21/18

New Hires

FF Daniel Nelson # 638

FF Jameison Jamnik # 639

FF Nick Cadena # 640

FF Brett McKillip # 641

FF Tyler Riemenschneider # 642

FF Riley Coomes #643

FF Andrew Pauley # 644

FF Andrew Pauley # 644

Retirements

Asst. Chief – Support Service, Don Davids April 21, 2018

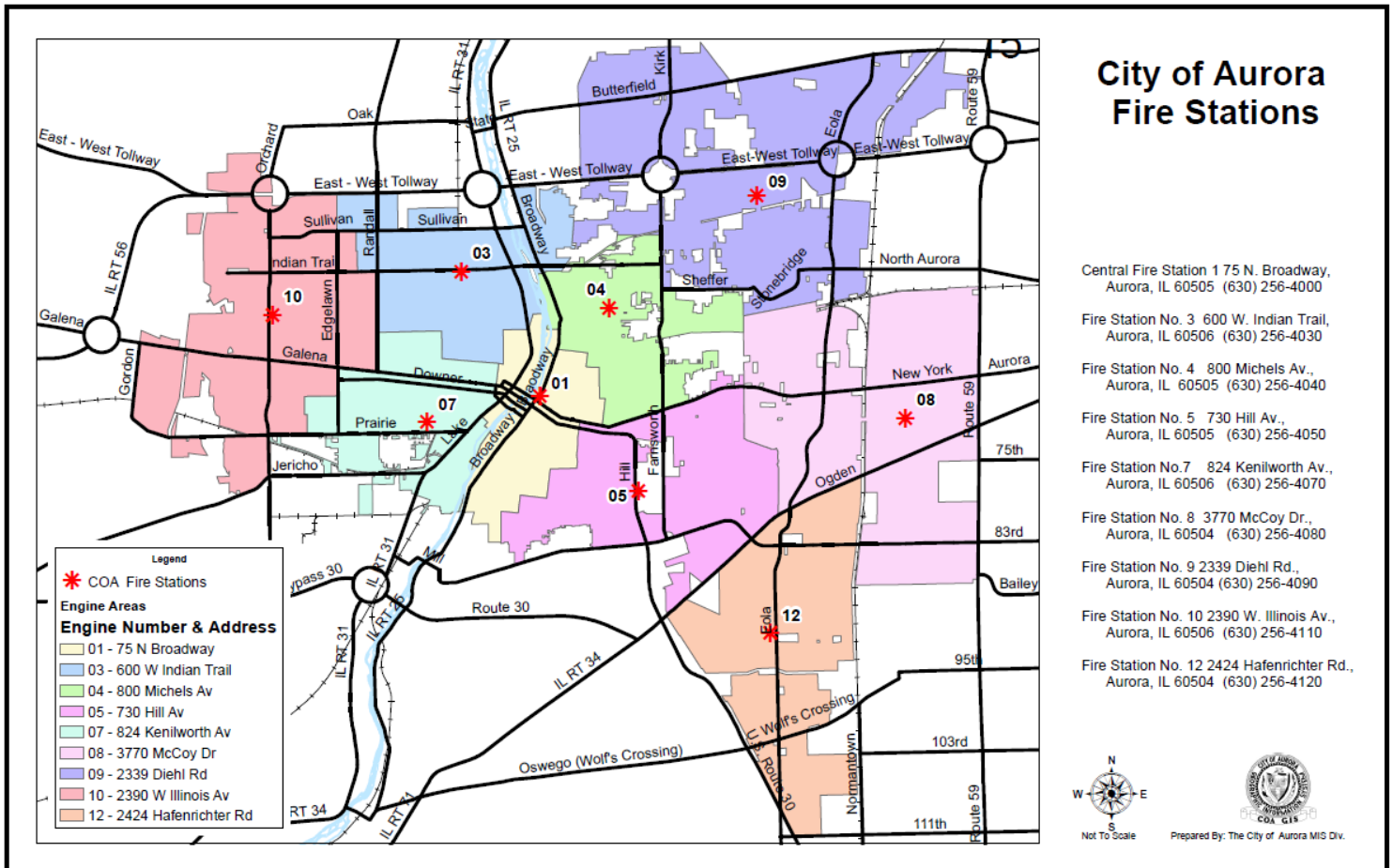
Sr. Paramedic Steve Matthias May 8, 2018

EMA Coordinator Joseph Jones Dec. 28, 2018

Fire Stations by District

The Aurora Fire Department provides services to the City through its nine fire stations. The stations provide needed services, first to their assigned district and then throughout the remaining portions of the community.

The role of a fire station has changed significantly over the past years, putting increased demand on facilities, mechanical systems and space.



Another year has passed and we are continuing to have a record number of calls. In 2018 there was 5.70% increase in EMS responses over 2017. The Fire related incidents responses have remained the same.

	2017	2018	Difference	%
Medic	14,666	15,502	836	5.70%
Fire	3,706	3,703	-3	0%
Totals	18,372	19,205	833	4.50%

Operations Division

We are considered an all hazard Fire Department and the Operations Division has overall responsibility for providing the highest level of quality emergency services to City of Aurora residents and visitors. This is accomplished by coordinating the efforts of multiple aspects of the department to ensure seamless operations in emergency activity. The Operations Division is responsible for overseeing training and evaluation of personnel, tools and equipment, apparatus, buildings and grounds, fire prevention and public education.

The Operations Division is charged with the responsibility of providing prompt and efficient emergency response to fires, hazardous conditions, rescues, illnesses or any other conditions where the health, safety and welfare of the public is in peril. Proficient and appropriate results require interaction with other City departments, local businesses and cooperation with regional public safety agencies. This type of interface necessitates ongoing pre-incident coordination, which is part of the day-to-day activity of the Operations Division.

The Department also provides six specialty team, with specific training, and equipment, which are qualified to respond to a variety of unique situations or events. They consists of the following Child Passenger Safety Technicians, Water Rescue Team, Fire Investigators, Hazardous Material Team, Juvenile Firesetters Intervention, and Technical Rescue Team.

Our **Emergency Management Agency** is under our Operations Division. The agency is part of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and is available to provide mutual aid to county agencies and the state itself. Our agency participates on several county and state teams and committees; The Kane County Hazard Mitigations Planning Committee, Kane County Local Emergency Planning Committee, Illinois Terrorism Task Force, ITTF Emergency Management Committee, ITTF Critical Infrastructure Evacuation Committee, Illinois Incident Management Team, National Fire Protection Technical Committee 1616 on Mass Evacuation, National Fire Protection Technical Committee 1600 on Disaster/Emergency Management and business Continuity Programs and the Illinois Emergency Management Service Associations.

The agency has six volunteer division that perform functions at various incidents and other events. These responders provide incident scene lighting, traffic control and severe weather monitoring. Ground Search and Rescue and a deployable Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

In addition, the City of Aurora's Emergency Management Agency provides Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training for Aurora and surrounding communities. The agency is host to a vehicle and equipment fleet that supports its mission.



Support Services

The Support Services Division of the Fire Department is charged with oversight for all vehicles, facilities, equipment and supplies.

Activities include:

- The procurement of equipment, materials and supplies to support department operations.
- Coordination of maintenance and repair at Fire Department facilities and apparatus.
- Research and testing of equipment, concepts and practices to support our efficient and safe operation.
- Maintenance of records, reports and inventories to support Operations.

Systematic preventative maintenance along with continual research and evaluation supports our operational readiness while balancing the challenges of contemporary technology, the special needs of the fire service and the fiscal obligations of our organization.

Ambulances



MEDIC 1	2010 FORD
MEDIC 3	2015 FORD
MEDIC 4	2016 FORD
MEDIC 5	2017 FORD
MEDIC 7	2016 FORD
MEDIC 8	2016 FORD
MEDIC 10	2012 FORD

Aerial Apparatus



TRUCK 2	2000 E-ONE
TRUCK 6	2012 E-ONE
TRUCK 11	2017 E-ONE

Pumper Engines



Special Team/Reserve Apparatus

R1 (HAZMAT)	2003 FORD
R20 (ARSON)	2008 GMC
R22 (HAZMAT)	2001 DODGE
R23 (WATER RESCUE)	1997 E-ONE
RESERVE MEDIC 2	2010 FORD
RESERVE MEDIC 4	2013 FORD
RESERVE MEDIC 8	2010 FORD
RESERVE MEDIC 10	2010 FORD
ENGINE 33	2000 E-ONE
ENGINE 55	2003 E-ONE
ENGINE 77	2000 E-ONE

ENGINE 1	2012 E-ONE
ENGINE 3	2014 E-ONE
ENGINE 4	2014 E-ONE
ENGINE 5	2016 E-ONE
ENGINE 7	2005 E-ONE
ENGINE 8	2004 E-ONE
ENGINE 9	2013 E-ONE
ENGINE 10	2012 E-ONE
ENGINE 12	2016 E-ONE

The Aurora Fire Department saw major changes to many areas of the way data is tracked and technology utilized. The department, along with the Aurora Police Department, began using a new computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system, which replaced a decades-old system. The Department also began using Firehouse software, which when implementation is complete, will replace a number of separate programs that were used for inventory, equipment testing, call reporting, business inspections, and scheduling. The Firehouse software will allow for easier and more accurate data retrieval in the future. This data retrieval is critical to determining future needs of the department. A new aerial apparatus was delivered in early 2018. This truck was put in service as the new Truck 11. The new truck replaced a 1998 vehicle, which was moved to reserve vehicle status. In June, the Department took delivery of a 2018 Wheeled Coach ambulance, which became the new Medic 10.

The new ambulance includes a power load cot and loading system. This system is designed to help prevent injuries to personnel. The ambulance being replaced became Reserve Medic 8, to be used when a front-line ambulance is being serviced.

Fire Stations 4 and 10 both had emergency back-up generators go on-line. These generators will ensure that in the event of a power failure, communications equipment will still function to alert personnel of calls for service, computers will still function to provide valuable data to personnel, and the garage doors openers will still operate to allow timely response to emergencies.

The Department continued to buy long-lasting lithium batteries for portable radios that all members carry while on-duty out of the station. The batteries have a longer life than the older batteries, increasing reliability in the radios at emergency scenes, and decreasing the number of times crews need to charge their radios during a shift.

Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB) annually conducts a commercial inspection program. Through inspection, plan review and code enforcement, the goals of the program are to maintain a safe living, shopping and work environment for the residents, employees and patrons of the City. The program also provides for the collection of current building and property information to support efficient and safe emergency response and timely interaction with building occupants and/or owners during emergency operations.

The expertise necessary to support these goals are maintained with membership in the National Fire Protection Association, National Fire Sprinkler Association, Illinois Fire Safety Alliance and Illinois Fire Inspectors Association. Fire Prevention Inspectors participate in continuing education classes and seminars in order to maintain their knowledge of the codes and trends in fire protection, public fire and life safety education.

The Fire Prevention Bureau works with various City Departments to ensure that proper construction practices are enforced in all residential and commercial structures. The Bureau also investigates fire and building code violations along with the City's Building, and Property Standards inspectors.

Activity	2017	2018
Inspections	1648	794
Re-Inspections	216	78
Plan Reviews	31	19
Permits	244	92
Fire Drills	92	61
Hydrant Flow Test	2447	2181



The inspection and code enforcement process identifies fire and life safety hazards.



Public Education

The Aurora Fire Department provides a full spectrum of Public Education programs tailored to meet the needs of the City.

Public Education and interaction with our citizens provides an opportunity to stress the importance of fire and life safety. These contacts allow personnel an opportunity to explain the many programs offered by the Department and to provide familiarity with our Emergency Operations.

The Aurora Fire Department works with community groups, schools, businesses and other City agencies. By offering quality programs, we will provide increased knowledge of fire prevention and life safety issues in an effort to reduce the loss of life, injury and the destruction of property.

Programs	2017	2018
School Programs, Station Tours	484	396
Fire Drills	92	57
Total Number of Contacts	6,628	3,783



Public education comes in many forms and is provided in many ways to meet the needs of the community.

2018 National Fire Prevention Association Fire Prevention Week campaign:

“Look, Listen, Learn”

Be aware. Fire Can Happen Anywhere. That’s why the 2018 Fire Prevention Week theme: **“Look, Listen, Learn”**: **Look** for places fire could start. **Listen** for the sound of the smoke alarm. **Learn** two ways out of every room. Every second counts, be aware.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

In 2018, the Aurora Fire Department responded to 15,502 Emergency Medical Service (EMS) and Rescue incidents. During these incidents, 1,672 patients were attended to with 13,830 of them being transported to area hospitals. Additionally, service was provided for invalid or occupant assists.



All firefighters are licensed by the Illinois Department of Public Health as either an EMT-Basic or EMT-Paramedic providing emergency medical care to the citizens and visitors of the Aurora. The department is part of the Southern Fox Valley Hospital Emergency Medical Services System. The system ensures that paramedics are properly trained, and that victims of injury or illness are assessed, treated and transported to local Emergency Room Departments in a timely manner.

The focus of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is to provide and promote the continued development of an optimal system of emergency medical and trauma care, which provides the best possible patient outcome and to continually improve public health in our community.

EMS Activity

- ✚ CPR Recertification for Aurora Fire, Police & City Departments
- ✚ Blood Borne Pathogen Training of City Street & Garage employees
- ✚ Fire personnel received training on Zoll Auto Pulse & EZ-IO equipment.
- ✚ Started City's AED replacement program. 27 units were purchased in 2018.
- ✚ Pulmonary Function (*all*) & T.B. Skin (*those interested*) test administered to Fire Personnel.
- ✚ Aurora Fire & Police Department continued to work with Hased House and other local community organizations to improve the FUSE (frequent user services enhancement) Program.
- ✚ Fire Cadet Brice Mack started Paramedic last in the fall at St. Joes' Hospital in Elgin, IL.
- ✚ Firefighter Brandon Warren completed the Southern Fox Valley EMS/Waubonsee Community College paramedic program.
- ✚ Aurora Fire Engine # 10 was upgraded to ALS (*Advance Life Support*) Status.
- ✚ Aurora Fire Ambulance Medic # 10 was replaced, and old Medic # 10 was sent to Fire Station #8, Becoming Reserve Medic # 8. Also in 2018, both EMS Operations & Support vehicle were replaced.



Our Emergency Medical Services System is a comprehensive network of personnel, equipment and resources with a purpose of delivering aid and emergency medical care to the community.

Training

Aurora Fire Department's training mission is to ensure all personnel are able to safely and effectively perform the critical tasks required of their position and rank. With this vision, the annual training program is designed to meet professional standards, satisfy state mandates, federal mandates and provide a broad range of education and skill development. Based upon essential job functions, each employee achieves specific training objectives and obtains required levels of certification through the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). Aurora Fire Department achieved planned training objectives for the year and members significantly enhanced their firefighting, rescue, and emergency medical service capabilities.

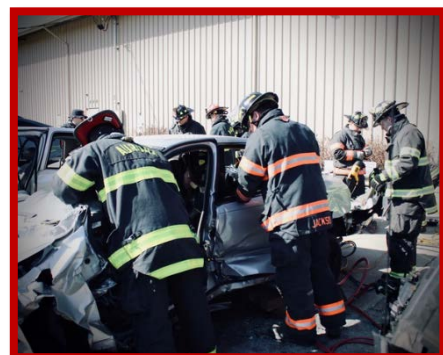
The Aurora Fire Department continues to meet the challenges of an evolving workforce with about one-third of our members retiring and being replaced with new recruits over the past several years. After graduating from our Fire Academy, the probationary firefighters completed post-academy training with the department and have been assigned to fire companies to commence their careers. Through the first years they must pass written and practical exams demonstrating successful achievement of department standards. During this phase of their career, they will also become certified paramedics and fire apparatus engineers. As their careers progress, they will develop knowledge, teamwork, continuity and mastery of individual skills.

In 2018, the Illinois OSFM awarded 56 certifications to Aurora Department personnel with completion of various firefighter and fire officer courses. Employees averaged 400 hours of training, which is well beyond the required 240 hours of training for the year.

Training Hours By Activity	2018
Number of Sworn Members	206
Avg. Annual Hrs. of Training	400
Special Teams	3,500
Rescue Task Force	2,487
Officer Development	1,320
Combined Hours	75,000
Department wide training Included: Water Rescue, BNSF Train Incident and Live Fire Behavior	



Vehicle & Machinery Extrication Training



2018 Fire Academy Tower Training



When a man becomes a fireman, his greatest act of bravery has been accomplished. What he does after that, is all in the line of work.

Chief Edward F. Croker

2018 Fire Academy

In the spring, the Aurora Fire Department held the Fire Academy for 7 new recruits. The Academy is a ten-week education program.

The mission of the Fire Academy Program is to create well-informed individuals hired with hands on knowledge of Fire Department operations. The Academy provided an overview of several areas of the fire service including CPR, emergency medical services, auto extrication, rappelling and exposure to firefighting operations in the SKTA drill tower.

Through education, demonstration and participation, Academy students will gain an understanding of why the Fire Department operates the way it does.



Honor Guard

The Aurora Fire Department Honor Guard has been established to provide dignified funeral and memorial honors for fallen Fire Department Members as a Line of Duty Death benefit and to assist and support surviving family members, union brothers and sisters during their time of need. The Honor Guard also promotes a positive image of the Fire Service, the Aurora Fire Department and its members by serving as a well trained professional team at formal occasions, civic functions and memorials.

Administration



Fire Chief
Gary Krienitz
22 Years of Service



Deputy Chief
John Gilbert
30 Years of Service



Assistant Chief
Mark Lockwood
30 Years of Service



Assistant Chief
Dave McCabe
22 Years of Service



Fire Marshal
Javan Cross
22 Years of Service



Battalion Chief
EMS Division
James Rufer
29 Years of Service



Battalion Chief
Training Division
James Rhodes
19 Years of Service



We Are Our Accomplishments

The Aurora Fire Department is a “full service agency” and holds an ISO Class 2 rating. The department provides a full spectrum of contemporary services for City residents:

- Fire suppression
- Paramedic services
- Code enforcement
- Plan review
- Rescue services
- Hazardous materials response
- Life safety education
- Fire investigation
- Disaster management

The department strives to deliver the highest level of emergency response with the greatest margin of safety for the firefighters in the most fiscally responsible manner. The 198 shift firefighters, paramedics and officers operate from nine stations with 9 engines, 3 trucks, 7 ambulances and special team vehicles.

2018 Accomplishments

- Rebuild of Station # 7 completed and Open House held in Feb 2018
- Replaced aging automated external defibrillators on fire engines
- Upgrade Engine 10 to provide Advance Life Support
- Installed a new Emergency generator at Station 10

2019 Goals

- Install a new emergency generator at Station # 5
- Replace aging automated external defibrillators in all City owned buildings
- Upgrade Engine 1 to provide Advance Life Support.



www.aurora-il.org

Mayor

Richard C. Irvin

Clerk

Wendy McCambridge

Alderman

<i>Ward 1</i>	<i>Kristina "Tina" Bohman</i>
<i>Ward 2</i>	<i>Juany Garza</i>
<i>Ward 3</i>	<i>Ted Mesiacos</i>
<i>Ward 4</i>	<i>Bill Donnell</i>
<i>Ward 5</i>	<i>Carl Franco</i>
<i>Ward 6</i>	<i>Michael B. Saville</i>
<i>Ward 7</i>	<i>Scheketa Hart- Burns</i>
<i>Ward 8</i>	<i>Richard B. Mervine</i>
<i>Ward 9</i>	<i>Edward Bugg</i>
<i>Ward 10</i>	<i>Judd Lofchie</i>
<i>Alderman-at-Large</i>	<i>Robert O'Connor</i>
<i>Alderman-at-Large</i>	<i>Sherman L. Jenkins</i>