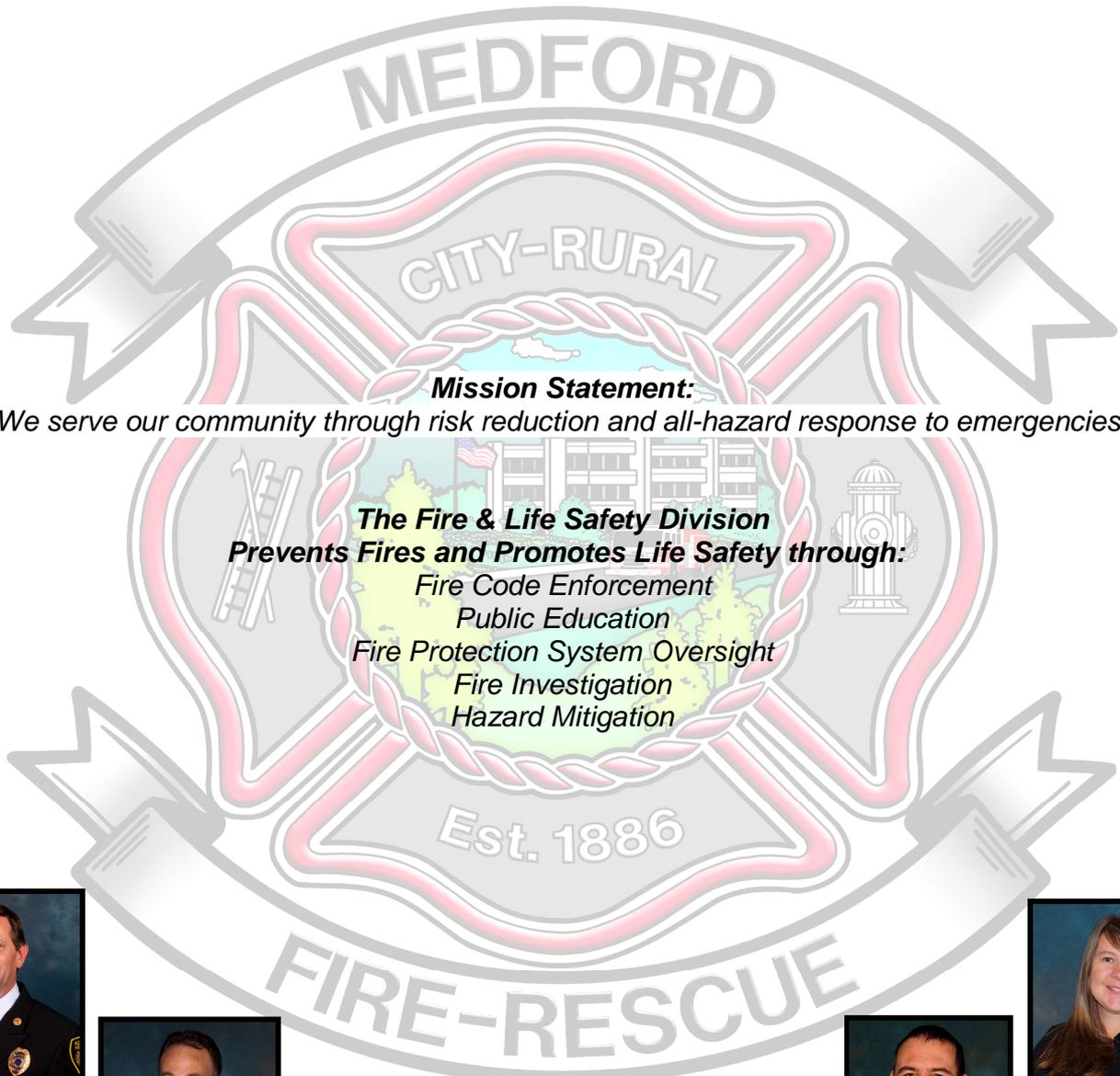


# 2017 Fire Marshal Report

Prepared by Deputy Chief - Fire Marshal Greg Kleinberg



**Mission Statement:**

*We serve our community through risk reduction and all-hazard response to emergencies.*

**The Fire & Life Safety Division  
Prevents Fires and Promotes Life Safety through:**

- Fire Code Enforcement
- Public Education
- Fire Protection System Oversight
- Fire Investigation
- Hazard Mitigation



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Heather Merrihew

## 2017 Members of the Fire & Life Safety Division

*Honor ~ Integrity ~ Service*

## Executive Summary

In 2017, Medford Fire-Rescue's (MFR) Fire & Life Safety Division (FLSD) served the community with the goal of preventing fires and promoting life safety through a variety of strategies including fire code enforcement, public education, fire protection system oversight, fire investigations and hazard mitigation efforts. This proactive involvement helps prevent tragedies, and furthers our vision of making Medford one of the safest communities to reside in.

**Fire code enforcement** is essential for public safety to ensure buildings are maintained safe for occupancy. In 2017, MFR staff conducted 791 compliance inspections in regulated occupancies including both residential and commercial occupancies. These inspections resulted in 1055 fire code violations. Staff worked vigilantly throughout the year to ensure the violations were corrected and public safety was not jeopardized. Ensuring that public events are safe and new buildings are constructed with the required fire and life safety essentials minimizes the chance of tragedy. In 2017, the FLSD was also responsible for oversight of 213 fire code operational and construction permits, of which 143 were fire protection system permits. During the year, the FLSD conducted 310 inspections associated with the permits, noting 418 fire code violations. A total of 340 plan reviews were conducted during this period, including 150 associated with fire code permits and 188 site development reviews. The FLSD utilizes The Compliance Engine to achieve oversight and compliance of inspection/testing/maintenance (ITM) of fire protection systems throughout the jurisdiction. The Division reviewed 1168 ITM service contractor reports and the jurisdiction achieved an 87.1% compliance rating.

**Public education** is an important part of our mission. In 2017, MFR was involved in at least 107 public education events reaching over 5,400 people face-to-face with fire and life safety messages. The Department continues to support a wide variety of events and is involved in programs that make a difference. All 4<sup>th</sup> grade students in this jurisdiction are taught fire safety information through the Survival Skills for the Home Program (Hazard House). MFR continues to be a leader in the CPR Anytime program where all middle school students throughout the Rogue Valley are taught hands-only CPR. MFR helps support wildfire mitigation efforts including mapping and evaluating homeowner's properties in wildfire hazard zones and partnering with Firewise Communities/USA neighborhoods. Firefighters give station tours teaching fire safety to citizens and demonstrating what they do each day. Throughout the year MFR issued a variety of media releases, conducted media interviews, and utilized social media to post incident information and fire and life safety messages to the public.

**Fire investigation** is required by Oregon statutes to determine origin, cause and circumstance of each fire that occurs in the jurisdiction. The investigation of fires helps us to prevent future fires by either holding the person accountable for intentionally set fires or learning the reason unintentional fires are occurring so that we can educating the public. In 2017, the FLSD investigated 91 out of the 265 fires within MFR's jurisdiction (the minor fires were investigated by on-duty firefighters at the Company level). Of the 80 fires involving structures, the overall determination of cause resulted in conclusions that 87.5% were unintentional, 5.0% were intentional and 7.5% were undetermined. In 2017, Medford's structure fires caused 1 civilian fatality, 2 civilian injuries, and \$1.17M in total losses. Through MFR's intervention/suppression efforts, 93.5% of affected structure potential losses (\$16.07M) were saved.

MFR worked diligently in 2017 to keep this community safe. We look forward to serving you in 2018 by providing excellent customer service and working diligently to make this a safer community.

Medford Fire-Rescue serves a population of over 90,000 people that reside within a geographic area covering more than 56 square miles. This area includes the City of Medford and Medford Rural Fire Protection District 2 (MRFPD2). The Fire & Life Safety Division is responsible for:



- ◆ Conducting business fire and life safety compliance inspections
- ◆ Performing origin and cause fire investigations
- ◆ Providing public education encompassing all aspects of fire and life safety issues
- ◆ Issuing fire code permits and conducting related inspections
- ◆ Reviewing land development projects for access and water supply requirements
- ◆ Conducting plan review/inspections for fire protection systems in both new and existing structures.

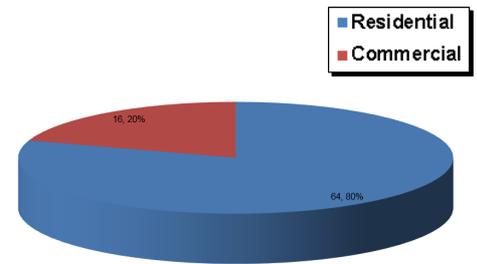


The following highlights fire statistics and summarizes the Division's 2017 activities.

**2017 in Retrospect**

**Fire Incidents**

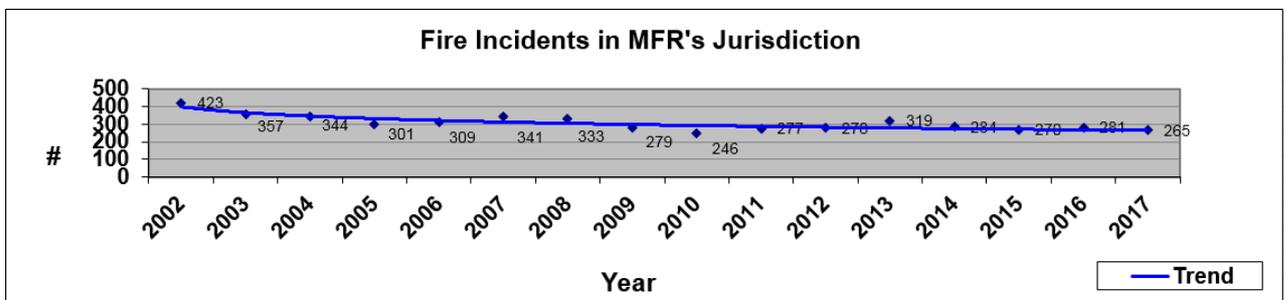
Medford Fire-Rescue (MFR) responded to a total of 360 fire incidents in 2017, with 265 of the fire calls occurring within its jurisdiction (65.3% City, 8.3% MRFPD2, 26.4% other). Fire incidents accounted for 2.93% of the total call volume. MFR responded to 80 fire incidents involving structures in its jurisdiction, causing just over \$1.17 million in total losses\*. Over \$16 million (93.5%) in property was saved (potential losses) through suppression efforts in the structure fire related incidents. There was one civilian fire fatality and two civilian injuries associated with these fires, all occurring in residential occupancies. One firefighter injury resulted from the fire incidents.



**2017 Medford Structure Fires – By Property Type**

Of the 80 structure fires that occurred within MFR's jurisdiction, 64 (80%) occurred in residential occupancies (81% in one/two family dwellings and 19% in multi-family dwellings) and 16 (20%) occurred in commercial occupancies. MFR also responded to 46 vegetation fires within the jurisdiction during the year. The FLSD investigated 91 fires in 2017.

**Trend:**



\*Total losses include property and content losses. The actual cost of fire goes well beyond these recorded losses when other factors are accounted for including fire suppression costs, income losses, medical care expenses, psychological factors, temporary housing costs, etc.



## Residential Structure Fire Statistics

Number of Fires in Jurisdiction: 64

Total \$ Loss: \$ 847,455

### Type\*:

- 62.5% (40) building fire
- 20.3% (13) cooking fire
- 14.1 % (9) chimney or flue fire

### Areas of Fire Origin\*:

- 26.6% (17) cooking area, kitchens
- 10.9% (7) exterior
- 7.8% (5) chimneys

### Initial Ignition Heat Sources\*:

- 15.6% (10) heat from powered equipment
- 15.6% (10) operating equipment
- 12.5% (8) heat from a smoldering object

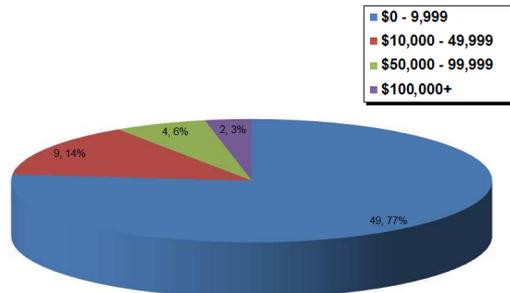
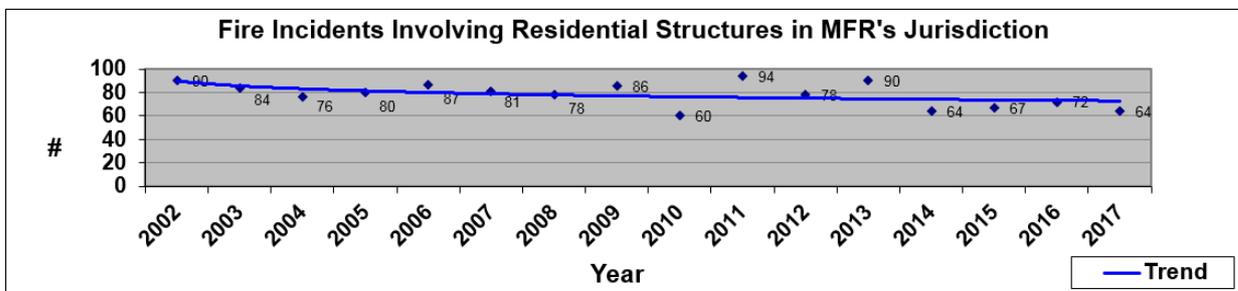
### Causes\*:

- 90.6% (58) unintentional
- 3.1% (2) intentional
- 6.3% (4) undetermined

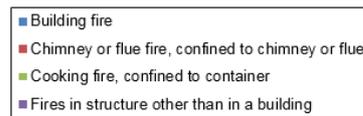
### Time of Alarm:

- 10.9% (7) between 12:00 AM and 3:59 AM
- 4.7% (3) between 4:00 AM and 7:59 AM
- 12.5% (8) between 8:00 AM and 11:59 AM
- 17.2% (11) between 12:00 PM and 3:59 PM
- 42.3% (27) between 4:00 PM and 7:59 PM
- 12.5% (8) between 8:00 PM and 11:59 PM

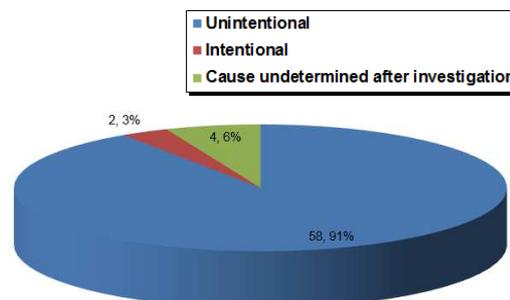
### Trend:



2017 Medford Residential Structure Fires – By Property & Contents Loss



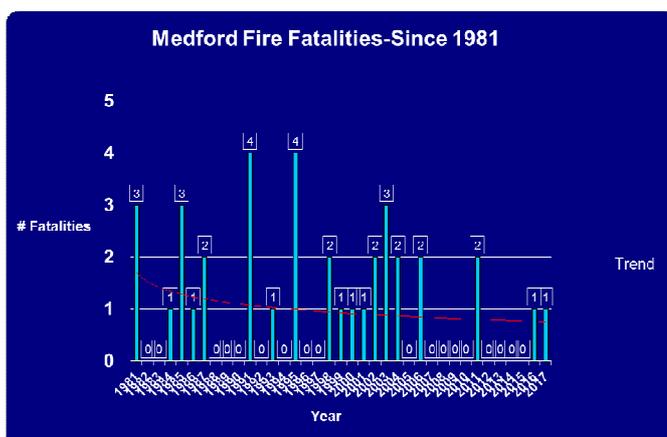
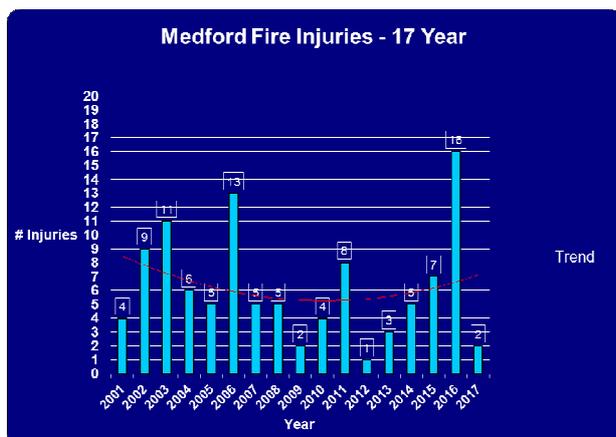
2017 Medford Residential Structure Fires – By Type of Fire



2017 Medford Residential Structure Fires – By Fire Cause

\*Only the top category percentages are shown

## Fire Civilian Casualty Trends:



## Residential Smoke Alarms in Fire Incidents:

Of 39 internal residential fires where smoke alarms could be expected to activate, the following occurred during the incidents:



- 24 (61.5%) had smoke alarms present
  - In 12 of these, the occupants were alerted and the occupants responded
  - In 12 of these, the fires were too small or of a nature that they would not normally activate
- 10 (25.6%) were reported to have missing smoke alarms or they failed to operate
- 5 (12.8%) had unknown smoke alarm presence

National surveys have shown that 96% of all households have at least one smoke alarm. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reported that “Smoke alarms sounded in roughly half (53%) of the home fires reported to U.S. departments” (Smoke Alarms in US Home Fires Fact Sheet, NFPA). The death rate in homes that have at least one smoke alarm is one-third (36%) lower than in homes that had no smoke alarms at all. National statistics also show that smoke alarms are missing or inoperable in three out of five (59%) home fire deaths. Having an early warning in a house fire is essential for effective evacuation; increasing the possibility that someone may make it out alive. Medford Fire-Rescue has a program where smoke alarms are checked during any residential incident (including medicals) if deemed appropriate. We will continue to target this area.



## Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems:

The FLSD is actively involved in promoting home fire sprinkler systems by teaching classes and providing live-fire demonstrations. A side-by-side fire sprinkler/flashover demonstration is a tool that successfully displays the home fire problem and the life-saving value of residential fire sprinkler systems. These demonstrations have consistently shown that



**Sprinklered - Survivable Not Sprinklered - Fatal**  
**2017 Fire Sprinkler/Flashover Demonstration**

without fire sprinklers occupants have a very limited time period to evacuate a home before conditions become life-threatening. The non-protected room experiences full

room involvement (flashover) conditions in 3-5 minutes. Conditions deteriorate rapidly in a house fire and can become fatal in about one-half the time to flashover. In contrast, the fire sprinklered room experiences very little damage after the fire sprinkler controls the fire while it is still small. You can view public education video presentations that were produced from these at the following links:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUEKfJ0HULU>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZM5zO3L76QU>
- <http://youtu.be/AH6J-Szo8dw>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWOa1per7Ws>

An occupant's survival is directly related to the evacuation capability of the occupant while conditions are still tenable in the structure. Young children and the elderly are 2-4 times more at risk of dying in a home fire as they have reduced evacuation capabilities. Fire sprinklers are designed to control the fire while it is still small, thereby giving everyone, regardless of evacuation capability, a chance to survive. Although we support smoke alarms as life-saving devices and know they do save lives, smoke alarms alone are not enough protection for today's fast growing fires. In 40% of home fire deaths, a working smoke alarm was present. Having both smoke alarms and an automatic fire sprinkler system significantly increases the



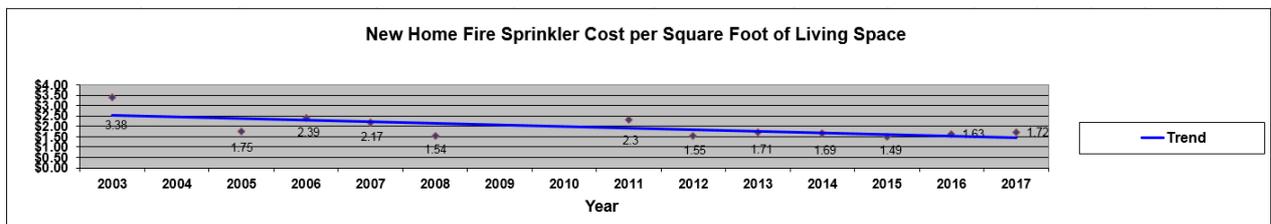
**2017 Fire: Apartment Saved by Activation of Single Fire Sprinkler**

occupant's chance of surviving a home fire. The keys to success in promoting residential fire protection systems are educating the public about their benefit and trying to remove misconceptions and other barriers which exist that hinder their acceptance.



**Concealed Fire Sprinkler Head**

In partnership with the Medford Water Commission and the Medford Building/Safety Department, we have worked to make home fire sprinkler systems more affordable by removing costly barriers. Now  $\frac{3}{4}$ " water meters are available at no additional system development charge and backflow devices are not required for flow-through home fire sprinkler systems. The cost of home fire sprinkler systems has steadily decreased over the last decade. In 2017, the average cost for installing fire sprinklers in a new home in Medford was \$1.72 per square foot of living area.



In the last decade, this jurisdiction added over a thousand residences equipped with residential fire sprinkler systems. These include single family residences, townhomes, and apartment complexes (The codes now require all apartment complexes with three or more units to be equipped with an automatic fire sprinkler system). National building codes have required new single family homes to be equipped with fire sprinklers for over a decade, however, Oregon has no requirement.

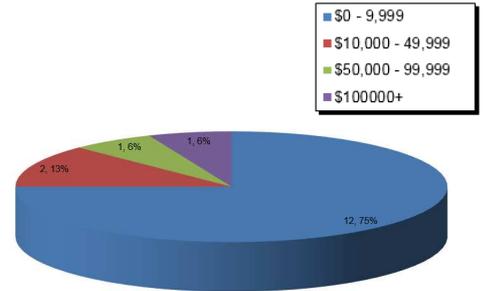
## Commercial Structure Fire Statistics

Number of Fires in Jurisdiction: 16

Total \$ Loss: \$318,795

### Areas of Origin\*:

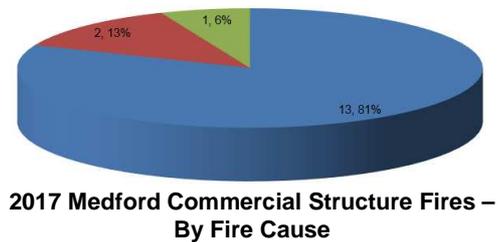
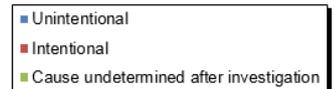
- 25.0% (4) equipment or service area, other
- 18.8% (3) cooking area, kitchen
- 18.8% (3) function area, other



2017 Medford Commercial Structure Fires – By Property & Contents Loss

### Causes\*:

- 81.3% (13) unintentional
- 12.5% (2) intentional
- 6.3% (1) undetermined



2017 Medford Commercial Structure Fires – By Fire Cause

### Property Use\*:

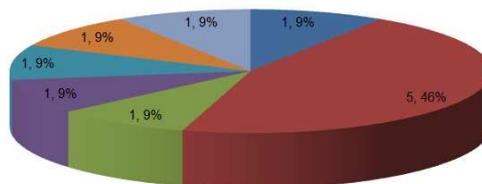
- 18.8% (3) manufacturing, processing
- 12.5% (2) mercantile, business
- 12.5% (2) outside property, other

### Initial Ignition Heat Sources\*:

- 50.0% (8) heat from powered/operating equipment
- 12.5% (2) heat from other open flame or smoking materials

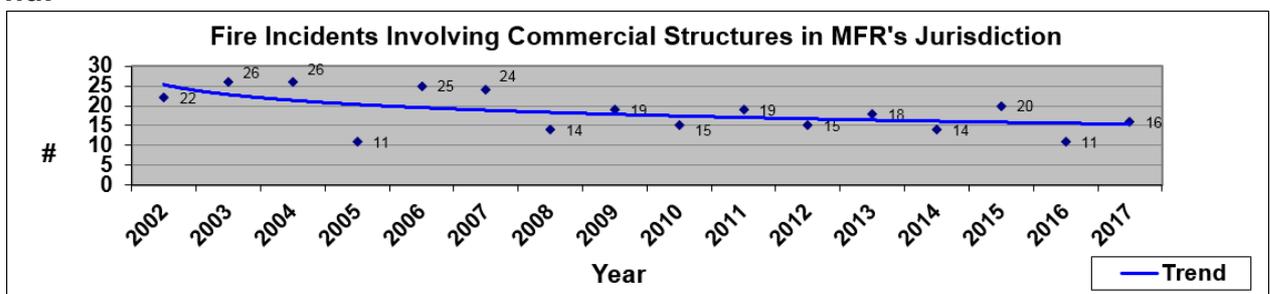
### Time of Alarm:

- 25.0% (4) between 12:00 AM and 3:59 AM
- 12.5% (2) between 4:00 AM and 7:59 AM
- 18.8% (3) between 8:00 AM and 11:59 AM
- 6.3% (1) between 12:00 PM and 3:59 PM
- 18.8% (3) between 4:00 PM and 7:59 PM
- 18.8% (3) between 8:00 PM and 11:59 PM



2017 Medford Commercial Structure Fires – By Property Use

### Trend:



\*Only the top category percentages are shown

**Vegetation Fires (Includes grass, wildland, etc.)**

**Number of Fires in Jurisdiction: 46**

**Total Acres Burned: 10.73**

**Total \$ Loss: \$801**

**Causes\*:**

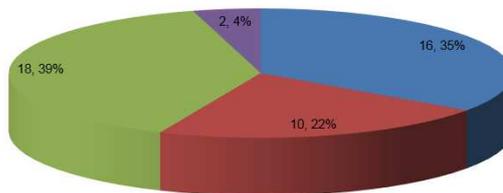
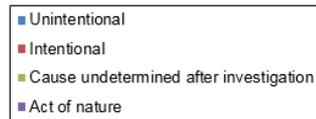
- 34.8% (16) unintentional
- 21.7% (10) intentional
- 4.3% (2) act of nature
- 39.1% (18) undetermined

**Initial Ignition Heat Source\*:**

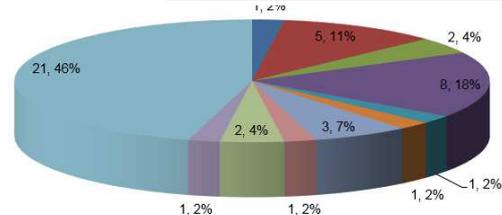
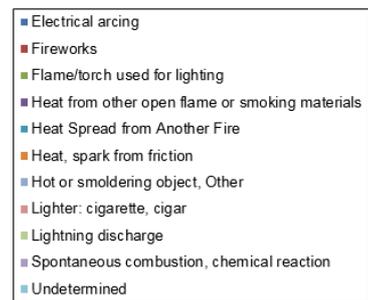
- 10.9% (5) fireworks
- 6.5% (3) hot or smoldering object
- 56.5% (26) undetermined

**Time of Alarm:**

- 10.9% (5) between 12:00 AM and 3:59 AM
- 2.2% (1) between 4:00 AM and 7:59 AM
- 10.9% (5) between 8:00 AM and 11:59 AM
- 17.4% (8) between 12:00 PM and 3:59 PM
- 30.4% (14) between 4:00 PM and 7:59 PM
- 28.3% (13) between 8:00 PM and 11:59 PM

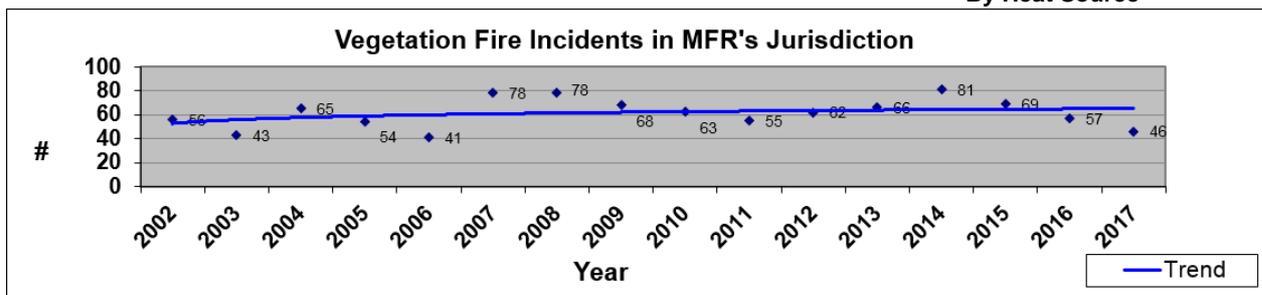


**2017 Medford Vegetation Fires – By Cause of Ignition**



**2017 Medford Vegetation Fires – By Heat Source**

**Trend:**



*\*Only the top category percentages are shown*

**Arson Fires**

Of the 265 fire incidents that occurred within MFR’s jurisdiction in 2017, 35 (11.7%) were determined to be intentionally set fires. The top categories included 15 (42.9%) garbage or dumpster fires, 7 (20.0%) vegetation fires, 4 (11.4%) were passenger vehicle fires, and 3 (8.6%) building fires. These fires caused \$17,700 in total losses. It should be noted that some of the fires declared as undetermined could be intentionally set fires; however, without a positive determination, they were not included in the above statistics. MFR fire investigators work closely with law enforcement agencies to ensure arsonists are held accountable for their actions.

## Fireworks Fires

In 2017, during the date period of June 23 through July 6, there were twelve fireworks-related fires. Seven out of the twelve fires occurred on July 4 including six vegetation fires and two garbage container fires. One structure experienced damage when the contents of a dumpster, ignited by spent smoldering fireworks placed within the dumpster, spread to the combustible exterior walls/ceilings of a carport and to the adjacent apartment building causing approximately \$80,000 in property losses. The largest vegetation fire burned approximately 0.25 acres of dried grass. Total fire losses for the other eleven fires were estimated at \$305. Medford Fire-Rescue responded to two fireworks related injuries during this period. The table below shows current and historical data of fires and injuries attributed to fireworks for the June 23 – July 6 period. On July 4<sup>th</sup>, MPD and MFR had dedicated units assigned to fireworks enforcement. The units issued citations and confiscated Oregon illegal fireworks, which were taken as evidence for each case.



**MFR Responses: Probable Fires and Injuries\* Attributed to Fireworks  
2017 - 2000**

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
June 23 – July 3	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	2	2	3	3	2	5	2	0	6	2
July 4	7	7	3	5	6	3	4	4	2	5	3	3	3	5	2	4	2	4
July 5-6	2	0	3	1	1	3	1	0	1	3	3	1	1	4	5	3	3	0
<b>Total Fires</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>
Fires Igniting Structures	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0
Fires Involving Vegetation	9	5	7	7	7	6	5	5	5	9	9	7	6	12	8	5	9	6
Fires Involving Other	2	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Acres Burned	0.58	0.18	3.13	0.11	0.42	0.05	0.15	0.11	3.61	1.10	2.5	1.3	0.3	2.91	0.9	7	1.2	?
Known Injuries*	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
July 4 <sup>th</sup> high temp. ° F	97	88	103	94	91	84	89	86	99	83	99	91	90	89	91	82	97	64
Total \$ Loss	83,005	900	260	151	2,750	100	15,000	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	8,110	17,000	0	64,800	0

Partial ban

Full ban

\* Includes only injuries MFR responded to

## Juvenile Set Fires

In 2017, MFR responded to three intentionally set juvenile related fires. The fires resulted in combined damages of \$50. The FLSD has personnel trained to screen juveniles after they are involved in a firesetting incident. In 2017, 5 children were screened/counseled by the Deputy Fire Marshals, which included 7 associated adults. In addition, the FLSD works with the Juvenile Department and Victims Assistance/Youth Accountability (VAYA) to ensure juvenile firesetters receive intervention counseling.

## Wildfire Prevention Efforts

Wildfire prevention efforts are multi-faceted. In 2016, the first recognized **Firewise Community** was established in Medford. After several years of working together, MFR helped the Eagle Trace Homeowners Association achieve Firewise Communities/USA status. The HOA represents over 250 homes that are in the wildfire risk area in East Medford. The hope is that other communities will be influenced by these efforts and the overall community wildfire risk will be reduced.



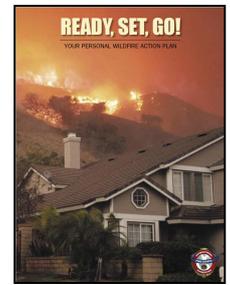


Eagle Trace Subdivision – A Firewise/USA Community

MFR began the **Wildland-Urban Interface Home Evaluation Program** in 2010. This program provides a chance for homeowners living in wildfire risk areas to receive free on-site advice about how they can make their properties more resistant to wildfires. The program’s goal is to ensure safe access into and out of the property, to reduce ignition hazards around the home, and to create effective defensible space. In 2013 MFR became a **Ready, Set, Go (RSG)** Fire Department. The RSG Program works collaboratively with existing defensible space educational programs, such as Firewise Communities. These programs provide the tools for our firefighters to educate individuals on preparedness, situational awareness during a wildfire event, and how to evacuate early to prevent casualties to citizens and responding firefighters. The Program stresses the following:



- **Ready** – Take personal responsibility and prepare long before the threat of a wildfire so your home is ready in case of a fire. Create defensible space by clearing brush away from your home. Use fire-resistant landscaping and harden your home with fire-safe construction measures. Assemble emergency supplies and belongings in a safe spot. Make sure all residents residing within the home are on the same page with planned escape routes.
- **Set – Act immediately.** Pack your vehicle with your emergency items. Stay abreast of the latest news, both reported by media and by your local fire department for updated information on the fire.
- **Go – Leave early!** Following your Action Plan makes you prepared at this step of the process. With citizens safely evacuated, firefighters are now able to best maneuver the wildfire.



MFR also evaluates and maps properties for wildfire threat as it relates to risk management, pre-planning, citizen education, and incident management. In our jurisdiction there are over 2,800 properties located in designated wildfire risk areas. The **Intterra Mapping Program** began in 2014. As part of the **Wildland-Urban Interface Home Evaluation Program**, many of these visits included talking to the homeowner about ways they could make their properties more wildfire ignition-resistant. The public has the ability to view the mapping evaluation results to see the determined assessed risk by visiting <http://oregonrsg.org/> and inputting the appropriate address. The public can also update the home risk profile based on mitigation efforts and submit the updated profile for review.



Dry vegetation ordinances and strategic fire/fuel breaks are important measures to protect properties. Medford Police Department (MPD) **Code Enforcement** played a very active role in 2017 within the City limits to reduce the wildfire threat by enforcing the City’s weeds and grass ordinance. In addition, MFR worked with Jackson County in the Rural District to reduce the threat to developments adjacent to the Bear Creek Greenway, ensuring fuel breaks were cut adjacent to developments. All of these efforts significantly reduced the risk of wildfire to this community in 2017.

## Public Education

Public education programs are an essential element of community risk reduction. In 2017 MFR participated in 107 public education events/sessions, reaching nearly 5,500 people. The FLSD took part in 85 of these public education events/sessions, reaching more than 4,900 individuals. MFR spoke to the Media throughout the year about incidents and provided fire and life safety information to the public through multiple media releases and 470 posts to our Facebook page. The number of followers of the Facebook page increased from 4,732 (1/1/2017) to 6,799 (12/31/2017). MFR takes an active role in several public education programs throughout the year, including:

### **Survival Skills in the Home (Hazard House) Program**

- Target Audience: All Elementary 4th Grade students
- Program Description: Children are taught about smoke alarms, home hazards and exit drills in the home through an interactive presentation. Students are given a homework assignment to create a home escape plan and inspect their home for hazards.
- Goal: Teach skills to promote fire and injury prevention



### **CPR Anytime Middle School Program**

- Target Audience: All Middle School Students
- Program Description: "CPR Anytime" is an all-in-one kit that has everything an individual would need to learn and practice hands-only CPR. This is a one hour class designed to educate people in effective, continuous CPR, but is not considered a certifying course.
- Goal: Promote hands-only CPR skills



### **CPR Adult Classes**

- Target Audience: Adults
- Program Description: Basic CPR instruction
- Goal: Promote CPR skills

### **Juvenile Firesetter Intervention/Screening Program**

- Target Audience: Children exhibiting fire setting behaviors
- Program Description: Screening and educational sessions provided for children/parents needing help in this area.
- Goal: Intervene to help stop dangerous fire setting behavior



### **Child Safety Seat Check Program**

- Target Audience: Parents of infants/children in car seats
- Program Description: Car seat safety checks are performed once a month to ensure proper installation child safety seats.
- Goal: Educate parents in proper child safety seat installation



### **Fire & Life Safety Presentations Program**

- Target Audience: Adults
- Program Description: Workplace and residential facility fire & life safety workshops/presentations
- Goal: Community risk reduction through education

### **Wildfire Education/Preparation/Mitigation Program**

- Target Audience: Property owners living in wildfire risk areas
- Program Description: Resident survival education through Ready, Set Go! Program and free property risk evaluations to mitigate wildfire risks.
- Goal: Community wildfire risk reduction



### **Fire Extinguisher Training Program**

- Target Audience: Adults
- Program Description: Education about fire behavior and proper fire extinguisher usage (Live fire prop fire extinguisher training).
- Goal: Promote appropriate decision making and skills in fire extinguisher usage



### **Smoke Alarm Program**

- Target Audience: All residential occupancies where occupants need assistance with smoke alarms
- Program Description: Department policy to check smoke alarms at all residential incident responses. Smoke alarms installed or batteries replaced in existing alarms where people need assistance.
- Goal: Community risk reduction



### **Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class Fire Science Day**

- Target Audience: Community Leaders
- Program Description: Demonstrate through participation what MFR does on a daily basis and involve participants in fire and life safety education.
- Goal: Promote fire & life safety and educate community leaders about their Fire Department

### **Annual Fire Station Open House**

- Target Audience: Medford Community
- Program Description: Demonstrate through participation what MFR does on a daily basis and involve participants in fire and life safety education.
- Goal: Promote fire & life safety and educate the community about their Fire Department



### **Fire Prevention Week Program**

- Target Audience: Medford Community
- Program Description: Promote annual Fire Prevention Week theme.
- Goal: Community risk reduction through education

### **Fireworks Program**

- Target Audience: Medford Community
- Program Description: Partnership with Medford Police Department for education and enforcement of Medford and Oregon fireworks statutes
- Goal: Community fire and injury risk reduction in July

### **Website/Social Media Programs**

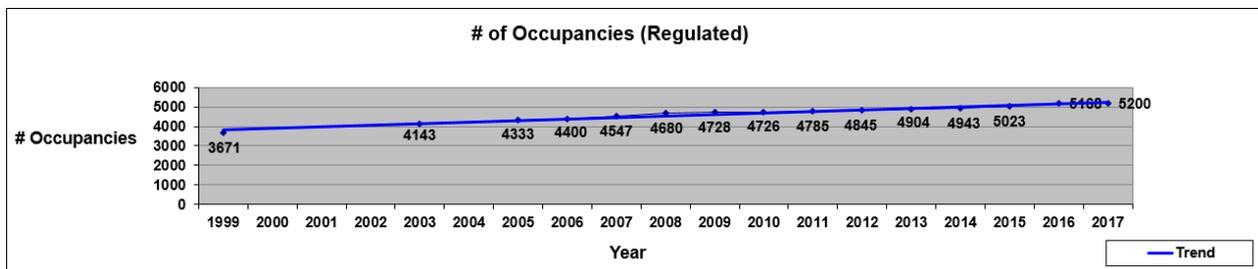
- Target Audience: General Public
- Program Description: Provide situational and seasonal proactive fire and life safety information to the community. Discuss take-home lessons learned from fire incidents.
- Goal: Community risk reduction



## Commercial Inspections and Enforcement

The approximate total number of regulated commercial occupancies in Medford Fire-Rescue's jurisdiction grew by 32 in 2017 to 5,200 (5,029 City/171 MRFPD2).

### Trend:



Our Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) exemption (OAR 837-039) status requires specific occupancies to be inspected at set intervals. For all occupancies regulated by the Oregon Fire Code, we are required to inspect on a frequency deemed necessary to provide a reasonable level of fire and life safety. MFR's occupancies are prioritized into three categories, High Risk, Moderate Risk, and Low Risk. Inspection goal intervals are based upon the risk category.

During 2017, MFR conducted 793 compliance inspections and 315 permitted inspections. These inspections resulted in 1,065 fire code violations noted during the regular business fire inspections and 417 violations noted during the permitted inspections.

The FLSD continues to manage a Self-fire Inspection Program. Businesses conducted 17 self-fire inspections. The intent of this program is to educate low hazard businesses about fire code requirements, have them physically check their premises, and provide a safety check during the interim between longer inspection intervals.

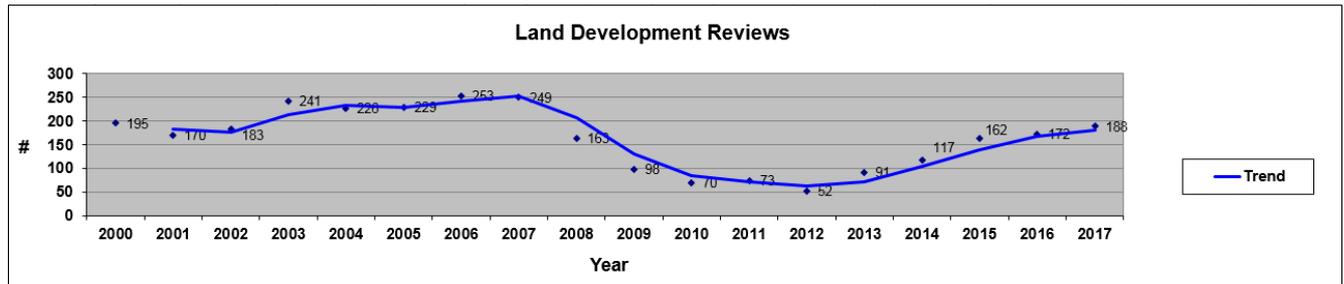
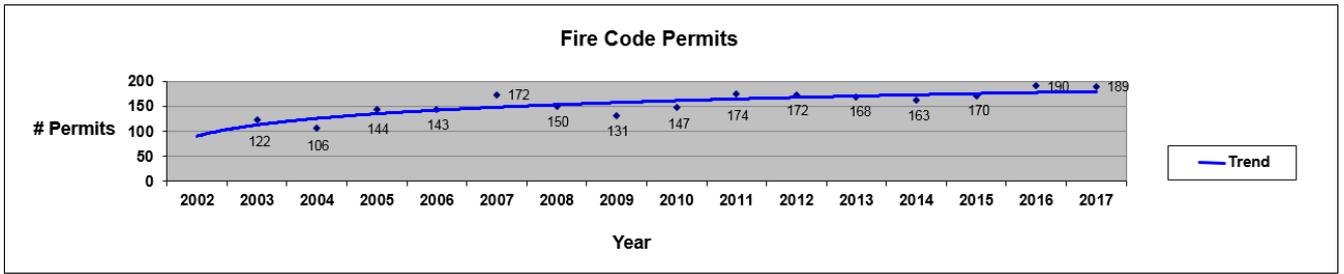
The Compliance Engine was utilized in 2017, a 3<sup>rd</sup> party tool/reporting system that helps fire officials to be more efficient in oversight of building fire protection systems while gaining greater compliance in the inspection, testing, and maintenance of these systems. To ensure fire protection systems are functional, it is essential that they are tested and maintained according to national standards. The FLSD reviewed 1168 fire protection system testing reports in 2017, revealing an overall 87.1% compliance rating.



## Permits and Development

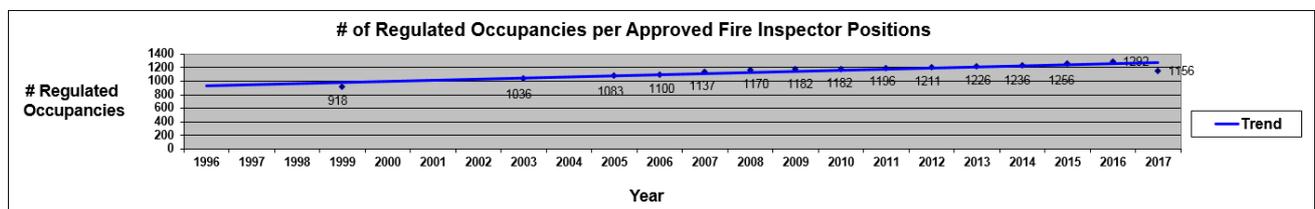
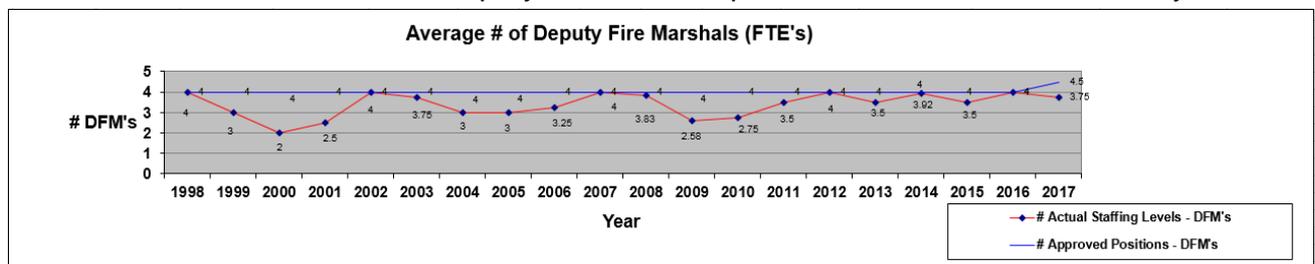
The FLSD was responsible for overseeing 189 Fire Code operational and construction permits in 2017, of which 143 were fire protection system permits. A total of 338 total plan reviews were conducted during this period, including 91 fire suppression systems, 52 fire alarm systems, and 175 site development reviews. An important element of fire prevention is ensuring public events are safe and buildings are constructed with the required fire and life safety essentials. Permits associated with these FLSD activities brought \$25,712 in revenue to the City.





**Staffing and Personnel**

In 2017, a much needed 5<sup>th</sup> Deputy Fire Marshal position was approved with funding split by the City of Medford and Medford Rural Fire Protection District 2. The current staffing level for the Fire & Life Safety Division is one Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal, five Deputy Fire Marshals, and a part-time Administrative Assistant. The challenge over the years has been keeping up with increased responsibility (growth in population, growth in number of regulated occupancies, etc.) while maintaining adequate staffing levels. In 2017, the 4<sup>th</sup> Deputy Fire Marshal position was vacant from September until a hiring process was completed and it was filled in mid-December. The 5<sup>th</sup> Deputy Fire Marshal position was filled in late January 2018.



Members of the FLSD hold leadership roles in the following regional groups:

- Southern Oregon Fire Code Officials (SOFCO)
- Rogue Valley Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators (RVIAAI)

FLSD personnel received nearly 450 hours of training in 2017. Training is vital for personnel to keep up-to-date in their fields of expertise. The professional achievements and qualifications that FLSD personnel have obtained continues to be impressive. In 2017, FLSD qualifications included:

- All personnel are Oregon Fire Code (Fire Inspector) certified
- Four personnel possessed Oregon State Fire Marshal competency recognition
- All personnel certified as NFPA Fire Investigators
- Four personnel certified as NFPA Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I
- Two personnel certified as IAAI Certified Fire Investigators (CFI)
- Four personnel certified as ICC Fire Plans Examiners
- Three personnel certified as NFPA Fire Instructors
- Three personnel certified as ICC Building Plans Examiners
- One person certified as NFPA Public Fire and Life Safety Educator I
- One person certified as NFPA Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist II
- One person certified as ICC Commercial Building Inspector
- One person is a Professional Engineer

## **2018**

In 2018 we will continue to work diligently to protect people by being proactively involved in preventing tragedies, with the goal of making Medford one of the safest communities to reside in. It is an honor to serve you!

***For more information about the Fire & Life Safety Division, visit our website at:***

<http://www.ci.medford.or.us/SectionIndex.asp?SectionID=21>

*and follow Medford Fire-Rescue on Facebook!*



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*Honor ~ Integrity ~ Service*

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## Supplemental Information 2017 Annual Activity Report

<b>Enforcement Programs</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Hazards Noted</b>
Regular Inspections		
Inspectors	286	902
Company	493 (757C/22R)*	121
Permitted Inspections	315	417
Self-Fire Inspections	17	1
Contractor Testing – Fire Protection	1168	151
Wildland Urban Interface Home Evaluations	1	5
Code Referrals/Complaints	14	42
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2294</b>	<b>1639</b>

\* City/Rural District 2

<b>Fire Code Permits</b>	<b>Number</b>
Fire Alarm Systems	52
Fire Sprinkler Systems	72
Kitchen Hood Fire Suppression Systems	17
Clean Agent or Other Fire Suppression Systems	0
Paint Spray Booth Suppression Systems	2
Standpipe	0
Firefighting On-Site Water Supplies	0
Fireworks-Retail Sales	5
Fireworks-Display	2
Flammable & Combustible Storage Tanks	7
Hazardous Materials	1
Places of Assembly	19
Tents	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>189</b>

<b>Other Permits Issued</b>	<b>Number</b>
Agricultural Burning	9
Recreational Burning	0
Special Burning	6
Blight Burning	9
Residential Burns FD#2 (Approximate)	3,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,024</b>

<b>Plan Reviews</b>	<b>Number</b>
Fire Alarm Systems	52
Fire Suppression Systems	91
Site Development	175 (147C/28R)*
Site Development for Ashland	13
Other	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>338</b>

\* City/Rural District 2

<b>Fire Code - Other</b>	<b>Number</b>
-	
Business Licenses	355
Consultations	50
Liquor License Signoff	18
Record Requests	9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>432</b>

<b>FLSD Conducted Fire Investigations</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Civilian Injuries</b>	<b>Civilian Fatalities</b>	<b>Firefighter Injuries</b>	<b>Firefighter Fatalities</b>
Unintentional	53	1	1	0	0
Intentional	17	0	0	0	0
Act of Nature	0	0	0	0	0
Undetermined	21	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Public Education</b>	<b>Number of Activities/Events</b>	<b>Adults</b>	<b>Children</b>
Public Education ( <i>Totals - FLSD Personnel</i> )	85	1,263	3,616
Elementary School Fire Safety			
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Fire Safety - Hazard House/Aerial Ladder	11	34	742
Middle School			
CPR Anytime	17	36	1177
Adult CPR Classes	6	123	0
Fire Safety Presentations	0	0	0
Chamber Leadership Fire Science Day	1	50	0
Fire Station Open House	2	232	225
Emergency Preparedness	1	75	0
Juvenile Firesetter Intervention	5	7	5
Child Safety Seat Checks/Installs	17	30	17
Fire Extinguisher Training	7	202	0
Careers in Gear		10	1350
RCC Ride-Alongs	5	5	0
Residential Fire Sprinkler Presentations	7	305	0
Firewise Community Wildfire Assessments	0	0	0
Citizen Recognitions	0	0	0
Other Fire & Life Safety Instruction	6	154	100
Public Education ( <i>Line Personnel</i> )	22	139	393
<b>Totals</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>1,402</b>	<b>4,009</b>

<b>FLSD Media Events and Media Interviews</b>	<b>Number</b>
Media Releases	5
Media Interviews	16
Facebook Posts	470
<b>Totals</b>	<b>491</b>

(Facebook: 1/1/2017 4,732 subscribers; 12/31/2017 6,799 subscribers)

<b>FLSD Personnel</b>	<b>FTE's</b>
Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal	1
Deputy Fire Marshals	4
Administrative Assistant	0.5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5.5</b>

<b>FLSD Training</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Administration	36.00
Fire Investigation	186.00
Plan Review	16.00
Fire Inspection	193.00
Fire & Life Safety Public Education	5.50
<b>Totals</b>	<b>436.50</b>

<b>Regulated Occupancies</b>
1/1/2017: 5,168 (4988C/180R)*
12/31/17: 5,200 (5029C/171R)*

\* City/Rural District 2