

2009 REPORT OF THE RANDOLPH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Please accept the following Annual Report of your Fire Department for the year ending 2009:

Following a year of fiscal restraint, this past year called for even greater restraint as we continued to provide the delivery of excellent services while responding to a growing number of service calls. During the fiscal year 2010, the Department budget has been trimmed whenever and where ever possible, an effort that shall be continued throughout this coming year. As in previous years, staffing changes occurred, equipment was put into service and maintained, and capital improvements continue to remain a priority. During 2009, the Department had 4176 ambulance responses and total Department responses exceeded 8943. Ambulance services and inspection fees will continue to accrue annually to the benefit of our revenue funds.

Next year, 2010 brings changes to our government in the form of a Town Manager/Town Council model as outlined in the new Charter which was approved by Town residents this past year. We in the Department look forward to it establishing a good working relationship with municipal officials who now serve in Town government. With the new changes in the governance of the community, the Department expects improved interdepartmental communication which hopefully will result in a more team like approach to business decisions and shall encourage and promote cost efficiency in many of our municipal operations.

We have received two new pieces of equipment this past year. Engine 3 a 2009 E-One Rescue/Pumper, which was approved in Article 37 at the Annual Town Meeting May 27, 2008 and was placed into service on September 8, 2009 responding from Headquarters. This Engine replaces Engine 2 which has been operating since 1993, which frequently required costly repairs. We also placed in service an attack Foam Trailer which we received with U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant funds by the Southeast Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC) on November 4, 2009. Everyone in our community can be proud of these new and up to date pieces of equipment and we can expect many years of effective and continuous service from them.

I am also pleased to point to improvements and upgrades in the quality of patient care in 2009. As noted, ambulance transports are continuing to rise each year and the number of residents calling upon the Department for assistance has risen. We are attending to more patient needs of greater variety than ever before which also requires ongoing and quality improvement training for Members of the Department.

The Department recognizes Deputy Fire Chief Richard D. Lyons Jr. and Deputy Fire Chief Michael Webber who retired this past year after 36+ and 32+ years, respectively, of honorable and dedicated service to this Department and our Community. Their loyalty, friendship, and professionalism will be missed. However, manning has remained at a consistent 11 man per shift since the override, for which funds the Department is appreciative. Two new Firefighters are expected to fill these retirement vacancies beginning in March 2010. The Department is hopeful that this will continue during the remainder of this fiscal year as well as 2011.

Replacement of Station 2 for area residents remains a priority. As in past several years, I raise concerns regarding the safe housing for Members and apparatus assigned to Station 2. We are experiencing a steady rise in the number of responses from Station 2, located at Route 28, 920 North Main Street, to the residents of North Randolph. In order to address this ever growing need, the replacement of Station 2 must be resolved soon. Station 2 has and continues to deteriorate; the community needs to locate one of our existing ambulances in this area as well as a ladder truck, all of which requires a new facility.

The Department actively participates in community activities and always tries to provide any and all resources, support and/or guidance whenever needed. We participate in hazardous waste day, fire prevention safety programs in the schools and community as well as first aid and safety programs in the schools and health fairs. Fire Prevention Week is a community outreach effort by the Department to provide fire prevention safety education and information. The Department also provides Student Awareness of fire education (SAFE) in schools. As always, the Department is pleased to provide representation, expertise and/or guidance to all Town boards, committees, or departments when called upon or requested.

The Department seeks out and applies for alternate sources of revenue to enhance the delivery of services. Federal and state grants are applied for as well as joining cooperative ventures with other communities, such as **MEIROFIRE**, in order to share costs and obtain additional resources and personnel when needed.

I want to acknowledge and thank all of the men and women of this Department. They work hard, constantly train and prepare to ensure the safety of the residents of the community, its buildings and resources.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles D. Foley Jr.

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Chief of Department