

# ARLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

*2019 ANNUAL REPORT*



---

# C O N T E N T S

---

03 CHIEF'S MESSAGE

CURRENT DEPLOYMENT 05

07 UNIT DISPATCHES

CALL DENSITY 09

12 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

SUPPORT 14

15 FIRE PREVENTION

TRAINING 17

18 FIREFIGHTERS GIVE BACK

PERSONNEL 20





# DAVE KRASKI FIRE CHIEF

---

## *CHIEF'S MESSAGE*

### **2019 WAS SUCCESSFUL AND PRODUCTIVE AS I SETTLED INTO MY FIRST FULL YEAR...**

officially serving in the capacity of Fire Chief. Department call volume was very similar to 2018 and we responded to 5033 calls for service. We continue to see a change in call type with fewer fires and more EMS responses. In 2019, 84% of our responses were for call types reflecting Emergency Medical Services. This is similar to most communities in the Pacific Northwest.

Behavioral health and substance abuse struggles, homelessness and the shortage of social services are adding to this increase. This is visible and prevalent in the community. Over the last few years, several new programs were implemented to help combat the problem locally, including the Community Resource Center and the embedded social workers who collaborate with law enforcement and our Community Resource Paramedic. We have noticed a positive change and are hopeful it will continue.

Arlington Fire added many new programs, positions, and faces in 2019.

- A new Assistant Chief of Community Risk Reduction; this is a shared position with North County Fire.
- A new Deputy Chief of Medical Services; this is a shared position with North County Fire.
- A new Community Resource Paramedic; this is also a shared position with North County Fire.
- A new firefighter / paramedic with previous experience from Hanford Fire.
- Three new entry-level firefighter / emergency medical technicians.
- We created a new Captain position to help provide leadership to Snohomish County Fire District #21 at fire station #49.
- In addition to all of the above positions, we welcomed many new part-time members, as many of our former part-time members obtained career positions in the fire service.
- Signed a new 3-year collective bargaining agreement with the International Association of Fire Fighters Local #3728, Arlington Firefighters Organization.

We began working on several projects that will continue in 2020 including:

- A new EMS unit on order to replace Medic #48.
- Replacing Fire Engine #46A.
- New Fire Station #48 to begin construction in the summer of 2020.
- Continued exploration of joining the North County Regional Fire Authority

I am proud of our successes and the service we provide to the community. Our greatest asset continues to be the employees who provide our services and the community whom we serve. This report contains a summary of data and information documenting our service levels.



# P O L I C Y   S T A T E M E N T

*WE HAVE PROUDLY SERVED THE COMMUNITY OF ARLINGTON  
FOR 114 YEARS*

Today the department is a combination of 30 career and approximately 20 part-time members. From three fire stations, we provide coverage to the ten square miles of the City of Arlington. Additionally we provide services to our contract partners including:

- Snohomish County Fire District #19 (Silvana)- Advanced Life Support services.
- Snohomish County Fire District #21 (Arlington Rural)- Advanced Life Support services district wide, Basic Life Support services to the south side of the district and fire suppression to the south side of the district.
- Snohomish County Fire District #24 (Darrington) - Advanced Life Support Services. Note- 2019 was the last year of this contract.
- Snohomish County Fire District #25 (Oso) - Advanced and Basic Life Support Services.

We have a diverse response area encompassing all hazards including residential, commercial, industrial manufacturing, rural wildland areas, the Arlington Airport and the Stillaguamish River. Within the city limits, we provide service to 20,000 residents, an estimated additional 20,000 contract area residents, and a total combined area of approximately 140 square miles.

Services provided by Arlington Fire Department include:

- Fire suppression
- Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency Medical Services and transport
- Advanced Life Support (ALS) Emergency Medical Services and transport
- Hazardous Materials "Operations Level" all staff
- Hazardous Materials "Technician Level" three county team members
- Public education
- Fire prevention, inspections, investigation, and plan review
- Wildland Firefighting and State Mobilization Team capability
- Rescue Swimmer program
- Community Resource Paramedic



# CURRENT DEPLOYMENT

*The Arlington Fire Department responds from three fire station facilities to provide service to our community.*



## STATION 46

Station 46 is located at 137 North MacLeod, Arlington WA 98223

Table: Station 46 Resources

Apparatus Identifier	Number of Personnel Assigned
Aid 46*	2
Brush 46*	2
<b>Engine 46</b>	3
Engine 46A*	3
<b>Medic 46</b>	2
Utility 46*	1

\*Units are staffed when staffing permits



Station 47 is located at  
6231 188th St NE,  
Arlington, WA 98223

*Table : Station 47 Resources*

Apparatus Identifier and Capability	Number of Personnel Assigned
Aid 47	2

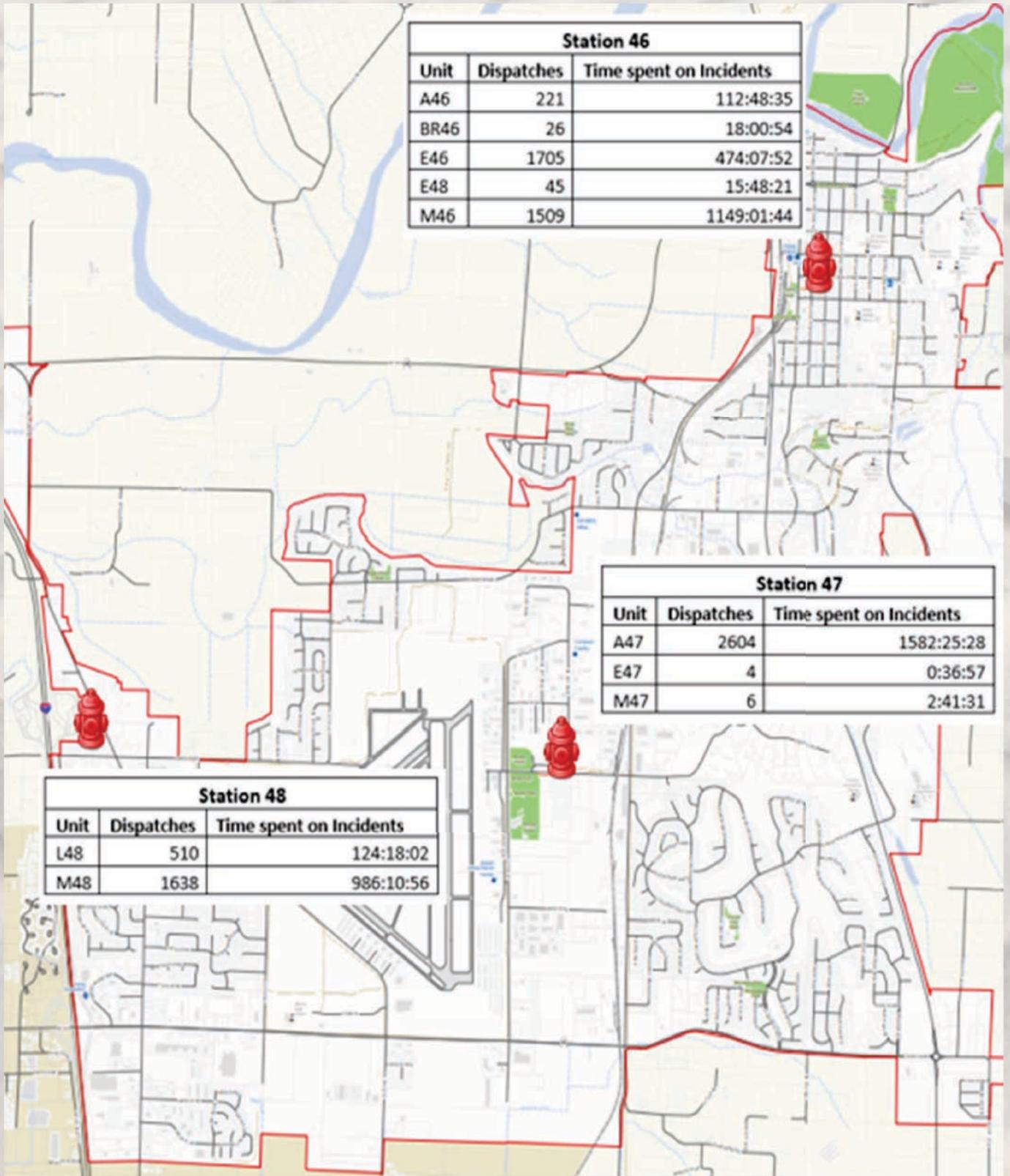


Apparatus Identifier and Capability	Number of Personnel Assigned
Ladder 48	3
Medic 48	Cross Staffed

**STATION 48 IS  
LOCATED AT 18824  
SMOKEY POINT BLVD.  
#104, ARLINGTON, WA  
98223**



# UNIT DISPATCHES





# COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

## MISSION, VISION & PRIORITIES

### A Our Mission:

The mission of the Arlington Fire Department is to provide outstanding fire and emergency medical services to our citizens, businesses and guests with integrity, compassion and professionalism.

### Our Vision:

Our citizens always come first! To continually be recognized by our community as the leader in providing world-class customer service.

### Our Priorities:

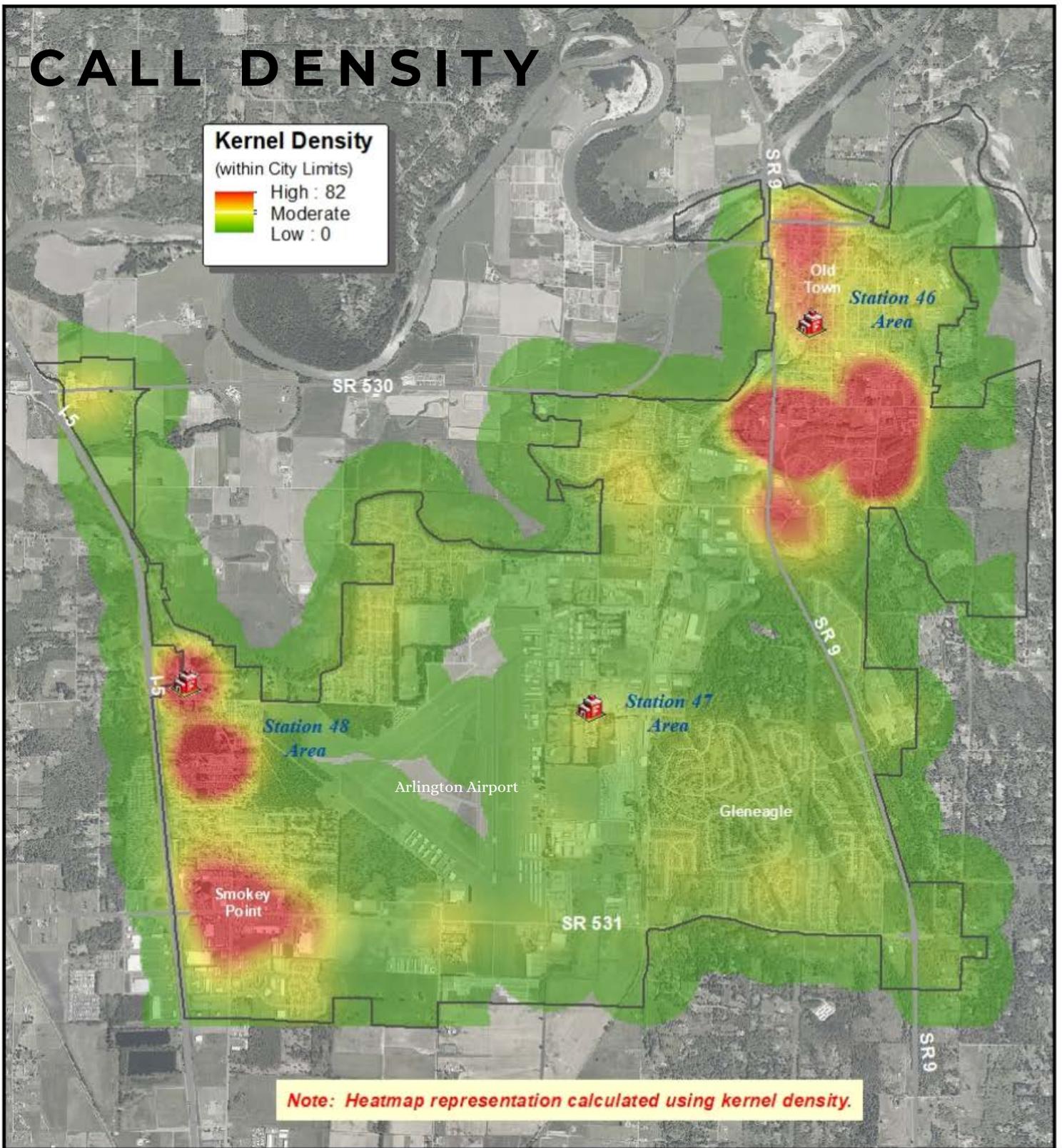
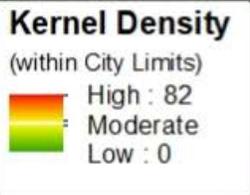
Firefighter safety, incident effectiveness, and to reduce liability.

Emergency Medical Services continues to be our highest percentage of service requests averaging 84%. The remaining 16% of our call volume is comprised of fires, vehicular accidents and other emergencies. The standard for response times as adopted by the Arlington Fire Department is 4-6 minutes for the first arriving crew. We currently meet the standard just over 84% of the time. An additional 16% of our response times fall within 6 to 8 minutes. The 90th percentile shows our times 90% of the times. Response times will continue to rise as the community grows. Additional resources and changes in deployment will be needed in the next few years.

Measure	Average	90th Percentile
Turnout Time	1:38	2:52
Travel Time	4:08	6:53
Response Time	5:32	8:25

Turnout time is measured from when a unit is dispatched until they go enroute. Travel Time is measured from when a unit goes enroute to when they arrive on scene. Response Time is measured from when the first unit goes enroute to when the first unit arrives on scene. The Arlington Fire Department was dispatched to 5033 calls in 2019.

# CALL DENSITY



**Note: Heatmap representation calculated using kernel density.**

**Legend**



-  Fire Stations
-  City Area



City of Arlington  
**EMS Response  
Heat Map 2019**

Scale: 1 inch = 3,364 feet	File: Station_Distr8.5x11portrait_20
Date: 4/28/2020	Cartographer: akc

Maps and GIS data are distributed "AS IS" without warranties of any kind, either express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of suitability for a particular purpose or use. Map data are compiled from a variety of sources which may contain errors and users who rely upon the information do so at their own risk. Users agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City of Arlington for any and all liability of any nature arising out of or resulting from the lack of accuracy or correctness of the data, or the use of the data presented in the maps.



# CALL TYPES

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES CALLS

MEDX - Upgraded Medic Response  
 MEDIC - Medic Response  
 BLS \_Basi Life Support Response  
 BLSN \_ Basic Life Support Non-code Response

**TOTAL INCIDENTS DISPATCHED : 5033**

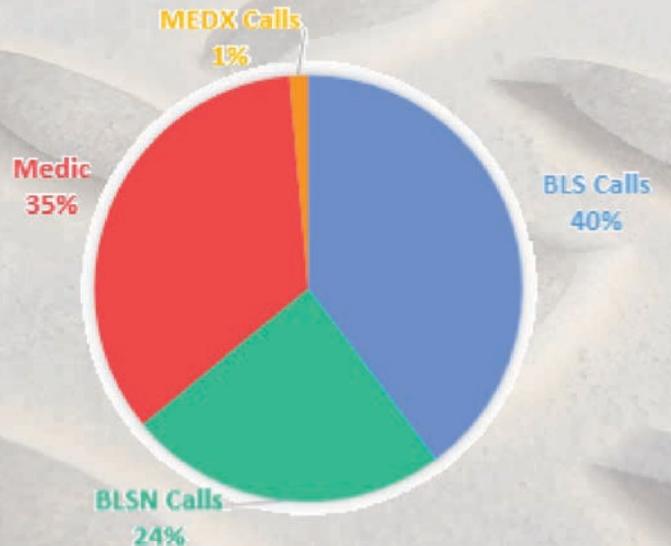
**DAILY AVERAGE: 14**

**TOTAL UNIT DISPATCHES: 8268\***

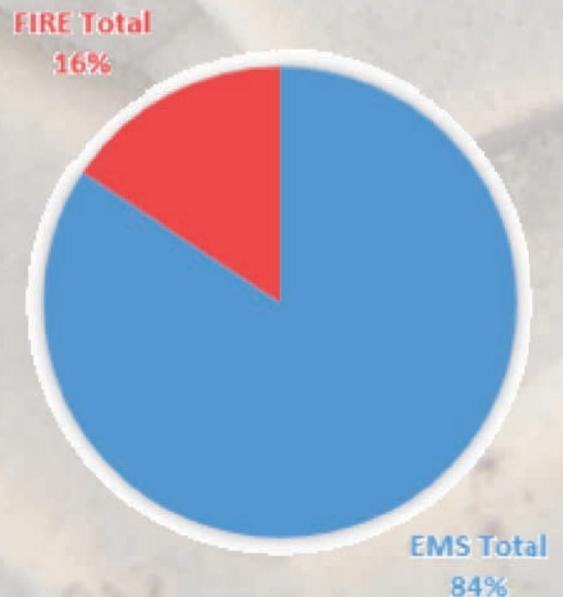
**DAILY UNIT DISPATCH AVERAGE: 23**

**\*Multiple units respond to same call**

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES CALLS



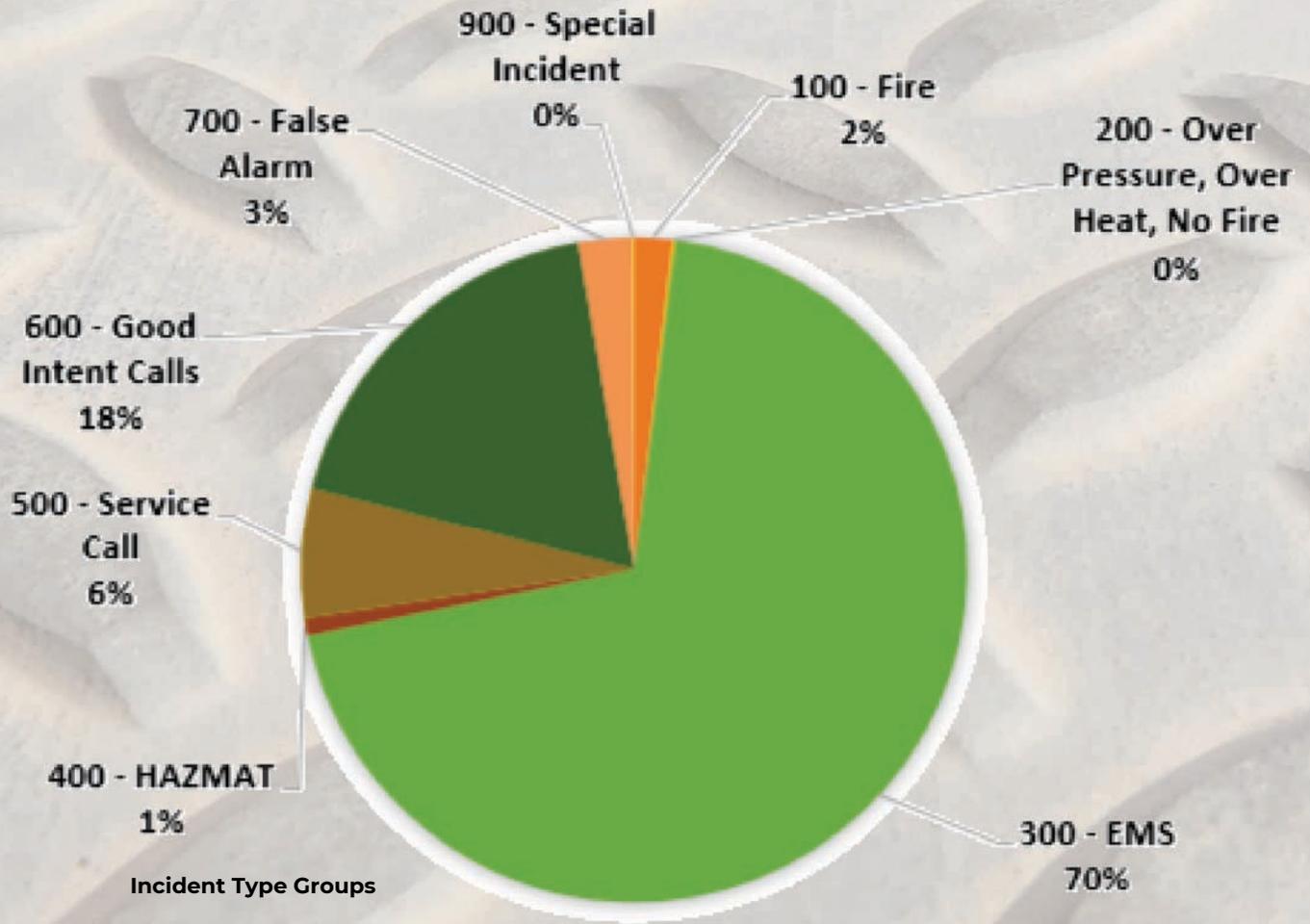
### AFD 2019 FIRE/EMS CALLS





# CALL VOLUME BY NFIRS INCIDENT TYPE

*NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM*



- 100 Fire
- 200 Over Pressure, Overheat, No Fire
- 300 EMS (Medical Calls)
- 400 HAZMAT
- 500 Service Calls
- 600 Good Intent Calls
- 700 False Alarm
- 900 Special Incidents



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

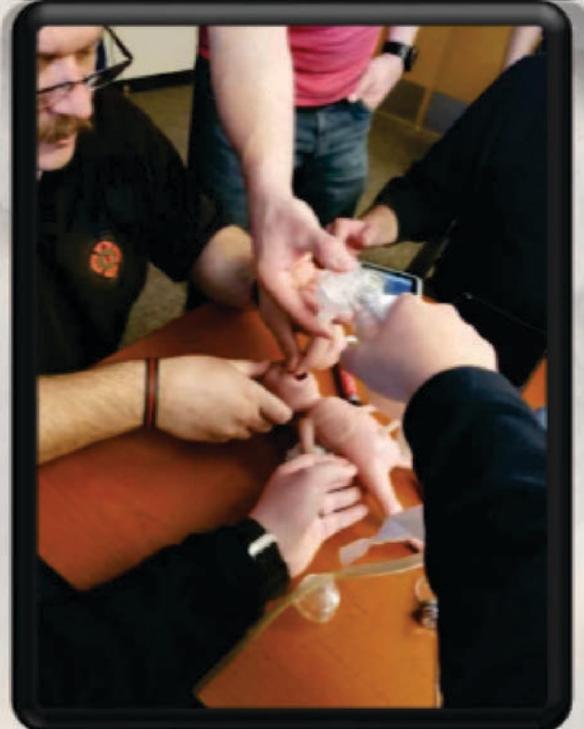
---

*Emergency medical responses are the fire departments most requested service.*

Emergency medical responses account for 84% of all 911 calls. Arlington firefighter/EMT's and paramedics are committed to providing the citizens high quality medical care. This means they regularly train, receive continued education, and meet monthly with our County Medical Program Director. The physician reviews the medical care so that we can provide the latest, best practice medicine and procedures.

## Sudden Cardiac Arrest & High Performance CPR

Each year, approximately 350,000 people experience out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in the United States, or about 960 daily. Arlington Firefighters perform a pit crew approach called High Performance CPR. This method ensures high quality chest compressions at a rate of 110 per minute with ventilation being performed once every 10 compressions. Crews rotate every two minutes while paramedics administer medications and perform skills such as defibrillation, medication administration or intubation. A typical CPR call in Arlington will put an average of 10 firefighters on the scene to provide all these skills. Our cardiac monitor/defibrillators track all this information. This allows our EMTs and paramedics to continuously measure and improve CPR and ventilation fractions for better outcomes. In 2019, the Arlington Fire Department responded on 32 cardiac arrest patients in which they performed 607 interventions. Our Utstein witnessed/bystander cardiac arrest save rate is 55%, which is well above the national level.





## COMMUNITY RESOURCE PARAMEDIC

---

Darin Reid is the Community Resource Paramedic for both Arlington Fire and North County Fire & EMS.

### **THE OPIOID CRISIS**

Opioid overdose and death continues to be a problem in our nation. During 2019, firefighter/EMTs and medics administered the lifesaving antidote known as Narcan 46 times. This drug reverses the narcotic respiratory arrest and returns spontaneous respirations. Moving forward we plan to integrate our shared Community Resource Paramedic for follow-up on these patients in hopes of providing them with the resources necessary to have a successful recovery from this terrible addiction.

### **ACT TRAINING**

Arlington Fire Department has teamed up with North County Regional Fire Authority to send several employees to receive instructor training for a program called ACT. ACT stands for Antidote, CPR, and Tourniquet (hemorrhage control). With this training, they will be able to instruct the public in these critical lifesaving skills. The class teaches signs and symptoms of opioid overdose and the administration of nasal spray Narcan, which reverses the respiratory depression or arrest. CPR is a hands on only approach. In the case of a witnessed cardiac arrest, only performing good chest compressions has shown a significant chance for achieving ROSC (return of spontaneous circulation) after Fire Department arrival. Finally, the class teaches hemorrhage control through application of a simple tourniquet, or direct pressure and compaction techniques. All these skills are critical in the first several minutes prior to fire department arrival.





# SUPPORT 46 - Northwest Incident Support

*Chaplain and support services for EMS, hospitals and police*

## CHAPLAIN SERVICES

Support 46 chaplains serve the city of Arlington and surrounding communities. Alongside first responders, Support 46 maintains 24/7, volunteer coverage.

Chaplains help provide physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual care and resources during critical or traumatic incidents. Volunteers also serve at community events, departmental trainings and in other areas as needed.



**121**  
TOTAL CALLS FOR  
SERVICE

## SUPPORT SERVICES

Our support team volunteers serve alongside the chaplains. They provide assistance and resources at long-term fire and law enforcement scenes. They are trained to use the support apparatus to give much needed rehabilitation and respite for on-scene responders and community members. They also respond to natural disasters and search and rescue incidents.

Support 46 Chaplains and Support Officers are a part of Northwest Incident Support, which serves several first responder agencies in Snohomish, Skagit, and Island Counties..



**Fire crews  
completed 438 annual fire  
and life safety inspections of  
businesses in the City of  
Arlington.**

**FIRE  
PREVENTION**



2019 began a new adventure for the Arlington Fire Department with the addition of an Assistant Chief of Community Risk Reduction to our agency through a shared services agreement with North County Regional Fire Authority. Assistant Chief Mike Makela began employment March 4, 2019 and quickly assimilated with employees working for the City of Arlington. Chief Makela's focus in 2019 for the City of Arlington was to begin improving the annual fire inspection program, providing oversight and educational instruction to the fire crews relating to their inspections of business occupancies, and integrating with the Community and Economic Development department for plan review.

In May 2019, the Fire Department began fire plan review services for the city. Fire plan reviews prior to this point were contracted to a private firm through the City. These plan reviews included new installations of and remodels of fire sprinkler systems, fire alarm systems, kitchen hood suppression systems, spray booth suppression systems. These services provided at a cost savings to the City. Along with fire plans review, the Fire Department began actively assisting the Building Official with witnessing the acceptance testing of new fire suppression and fire alarm systems



The Arlington Fire Department also co-hosted/co-presented two fire prevention classes in 2019. A 40-hour Basic Fire Investigation class was instructed both in April and in September.



# FIRE & EMS TRAINING

*MORE THAN 4400 HOURS OF TRAINING WAS COMPLETED BY THE ARLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT IN 2019*



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH





# F I R E F I G H T E R S G I V E B A C K

*A LOOK AT SOME OF THE GREAT  
WORK BEING DONE BY OUR  
FIREFIGHTERS WHILE OFF DUTY*

## FILL THE BOOT

Firefighters volunteered their time in June to ask citizens of Arlington to make a donation to the Muscular Dystrophy Association by filling their boot with a contribution. They joined over 100,000 fire fighters in the Fill the Boot Campaign. Arlington Firefighters raised over **\$9,371** for the MDA!



## FIREFIGHTER STAIR CLIMB

On March 10, 2019, we were fortunate to participate with over 330 other departments for one mission: to find a cure for leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma. Several of our members participated in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Firefighter Stairclimb, the world's largest on-air stair climb competition at the Columbia Center in downtown Seattle. In 2019, the participants raised over \$2.9 million to help find a cure and improve the lives of patients and their families.



Arlington's annual Santa Run for 2019 ended on December 15 with a record-breaking 11,391 pounds of food collected and \$2,213 in monetary donations for the Arlington Community Food Bank. The Arlington Santa Run is a 30-year-old community tradition that runs for 10 nights in December to bring Santa and a bit of holiday cheer to the Arlington community. The Arlington Fire Department, with the help from dozens of Santa's elves, escorts Santa through the city on a decorated fire engine collecting donations for the Arlington Community Food Bank. The Santa Run truly shows the commitment to community service that the employees of the City of Arlington, as well as the residents and businesses of Arlington possess. This year's event was coordinated and conducted by the Arlington City Firefighters Local No. 3728, with support from the Arlington Police Department, City staff, Arlington Rotary Club, and other service organizations. Santa's candy canes were generously donated by the Arlington Walmart. Stated Arlington Fire Chief Dave Kraski, "From the bottom of our hearts, thank you, citizens of Arlington, for your incredible good will and generosity."

**11,391**

**POUNDS OF FOOD  
COLLECTED**

**\$2213**

**CASH DONATIONS**

# ANNUAL SANTA RUN

---



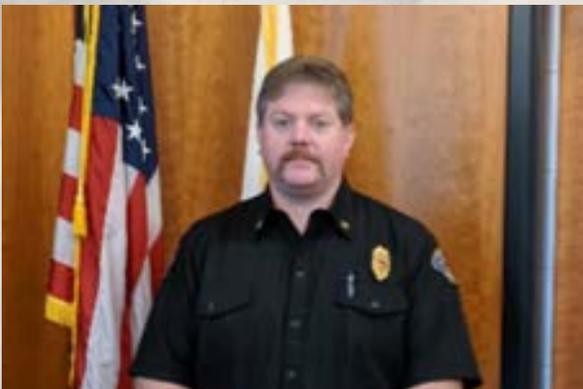


# PERSONNEL & NEW HIRES

*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. - EDWARD F. CROKER*



The Deputy Chief - Medical Services Administrator, supervising the day-to-day emergency medical services programs of both Arlington Fire Department and North County Regional Fire Authority, was filled by Chris Dickison. Deputy Chief Dickison was selected through a competitive process. He is a 20 year employee of the City of Arlington, serving as a paramedic since 2002. Prior to joining Arlington Fire, Deputy Chief Dickison worked as an EMT with Cascade Valley Hospital. Arlington Fire assumed the provision of the EMS services from Cascade Valley Hospital on May 1, 1999. Deputy Chief Dickison's first day in the position was March 18, 2019. He was formally sworn in at the March 18 Arlington City Council meeting.



The Assistant Chief for Community Risk Reduction (Fire Marshal), supervising community risk reduction, fire prevention and investigation activities for both agencies, was filled by Mike Makela. Assistant Chief Makela was selected through a competitive process. He joins North County Fire & EMS after serving three years with the Spokane Valley Fire Department as the Deputy Fire Marshal and eight years with the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office as a Fire Investigator. He was formally sworn in at the March 13, 2019 North County Fire & EMS Commission meeting.



At the Arlington City Council meeting on Monday, November 4, 2019, Greg Koontz was officially sworn in as a Fire Captain. Koontz was promoted to the rank of Captain after ranking within the top five on the Department's promotional test. He fills the Captain position created by the City's recent partnership with Arlington Rural Fire Protection District (Snohomish County Fire District #21) to provide a Captain during daytime hours to the district. Captain Koontz has been a member of the Arlington Fire Department since May 1999.

## A Shift

Captain Scott Hillis  
Captain Kirk Normand

---

Aaron Boede  
Steven Daggett  
Thomas Jackson  
Paul Lizzaraga  
Anna Melillo  
Wayne Mitchell  
Brian Price

### Part Time

Bryson Daggett  
Jason Ewing  
Nick Goubeau  
Joseph Oxos  
Ethan Pedersen  
Alex Bartlett  
Charles Mandella  
Andrew Peters  
Zach Schumann

## B Shift

Captain Cary Stuart  
Captain Jason Brisson

---

Bob Beam  
Zach Hanson  
Paul Hunsaker  
Keith Johnson  
Chris Peterson  
Andrew Shannon  
Matt Urtz  
Joseph Wakefield

### Part Time

Julian Gilman  
Ali Hendricks  
Braydon Nealey  
Adam von Melville  
Parker Boersema  
Joshua Rowe  
Jordan Jackson-Brewer

## C Shift

Captain Phil Knepper  
Captain Jason Nyblod

---

Branden Bates  
Al Chamberlin  
Gregg Haddick  
Willy Harper  
Justin Honsowetz  
Sam Johnston  
Craig Monson  
Nich Sacha

### Part Time

Richard Neumann  
Trisha Sutton  
Thomas Brown  
Blake Smith  
Steve Hutzell  
Samson Nyagah

---

Floating Captain:  
Jason Abrahamson

Station 49 Captain:  
Captain Greg Koontz

## New Part Time Employees in 2019

Blake Smith  
Bryson Daggett,  
Julian Gilman  
Jordan Jackson-Brewer  
Nick Goubeau  
Richard Neuman  
Sam Neunzig  
Thomas Brown  
Braydon Nealey  
Trenton Green

## New Full Time Employees in 2019

Aaron Boede  
Zach Hanson  
Paul Lizzaraga  
Keith Johnson

As part of our partnership with  
Arlington Rural Fire, we welcome  
Brandon Bates to our team as a full  
time employee.

