

# Bolivar Fire Department 2022



## Annual Report





## Message from the Fire Chief

Growth! For 2023, everywhere we look in our community we see growth.

For the past three years we have been living week by week, sometimes even day by day. We were doing our best every day, but not growing.

2023 brings a new dawn as we have emerged from the days of Covid and we look to grow personally, professionally, as a department, and as a community.

Due to the hard work of our board of alderman, and with the vote and support of Bolivar citizens, in February 2022 Bolivar sold its water/sewer system to Liberty. While no situation is perfect, one blessing of the sale is funds were made available to purchase much needed equipment. We used these funds to grow our capabilities with new tools, a new rescue pumper, and facility improvements.

We started growing in 2022. In April we dedicated our new garage bays attached to the Public Safety Center. Per the data in this report, since April we have consistently met our response time goals to our communities' emergencies -growth!

In October of 2022, seven of our staff took a Driver/operator class to drive our vehicles safely and effectively, giving us a majority of our staff with this training. We look to grow our training capabilities through a grant that was applied for with new training grounds and live fire props. You can read more about this in Capt. Archers training report below. Growth!

In 2023 we look to again engage in training not only locally, but regionally as well.

We look to grow our staff this year through three new firefighter positions which are budgeted to help keep pace with 2022 record breaking call volume. Growth!

We will continue to grow our community education as we train our cadets and reach out to the community for numerous training and education events. Capt. Mchaffie gives his report below how we work to educate to keep everyone safe. Growth!

We will increase our capabilities by working with CMH as they expand to their new medical tower bringing further growth to our community.

We will grow as a dynamic fire department through preparing, planning and responding to meet the needs of Bolivar as we add new businesses and new neighbors.

Everywhere around is growth, and 2023 looks to be a great year for BCFD and Bolivar!

*Chief Brent M. Watkins*

## ***Bolivar City Fire Department Mission:***

Our family helping to serve and protect the lives and property of your family!

### **VISION:**

*BCFD IS a dynamic fire department preparing, planning, and responding to meet the everchanging needs of the Citizens of Bolivar and our community by lifting up and serving others before ourselves.*

### **Values:**

S elfless

E xcellence

R espectful

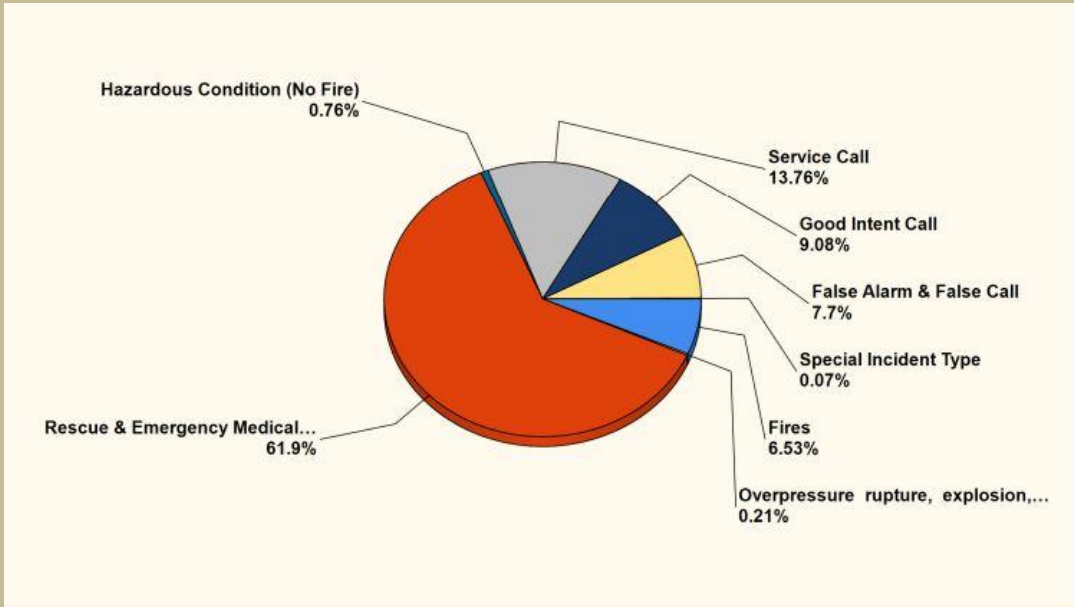
V isionary

I ntegrity

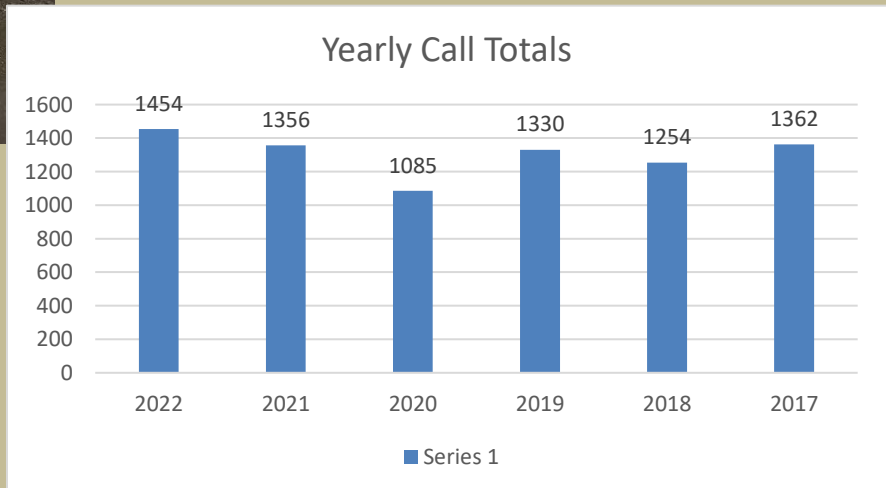
C ommunity Focused

E ncouraging

# What type & how many calls for service is our community experiencing?



2022	1454
2021	1356
2020	1085
2019	1330
2018	1254
2017	1362
2016	1202



## Public Education



2022 was a busy public relations year for our BCFD family. Our BCFD crews attended more than 70 events that had huge public interactions reaching thousands of Polk County residents. From school fire safety to Beef days, extinguisher trainings, parades, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, country days, Halloween and even shop with a cop. All these events were even bigger than last years record numbers.

With the majority of covid restrictions being lifted our crews could get back to somewhat normal for citizen interaction. BCFD was able to get back into the schools and discuss fire safety with children of all ages. Fire pup was even able to come out of his doghouse and hug little children again. Donations for the National Fire Safety Council were up as well so we could purchase a larger line of materials of fire safety information for ALL age groups.

Our extinguisher training program has taken off in the last year with a 100% increase in the number of trainings being given to local businesses and citizens. All of this is in part to new training prop water extinguishers and spreading the word of the importance of stopping fires early in our community.

BCFD is finding fewer homes without working smoke detectors but continue to install when we find a home without them. Battery replacements and detector follow ups have become the norm as we are seeing so many homes already having installed detectors. This small life saving device has been and will continue to be a primary push for our community's safety.

As always, the BCFD family of firefighters continue to show an unmatched dedication to the citizens of Bolivar. Without the work and dedication of your city firefighters none of the events or programs listed above would have any success.

Here's to looking forward to an even more productive 2023.

Captain Dustin McHaffie, PR/Community Educ.



Through a grant from the Polk County Community Foundation, we are able to provide free smoke detectors to Bolivar and Polk County. If you need a smoke alarm, call our admin. number and we will come to your house, within city limits, and install smoke detectors for you!

# Where are we?

Public Safety Center



211 West Walnut

Station 1 (not staffed 24/7)



312 South Springfield

Station 2 (Not staffed 24/7)

826 South Killingsworth



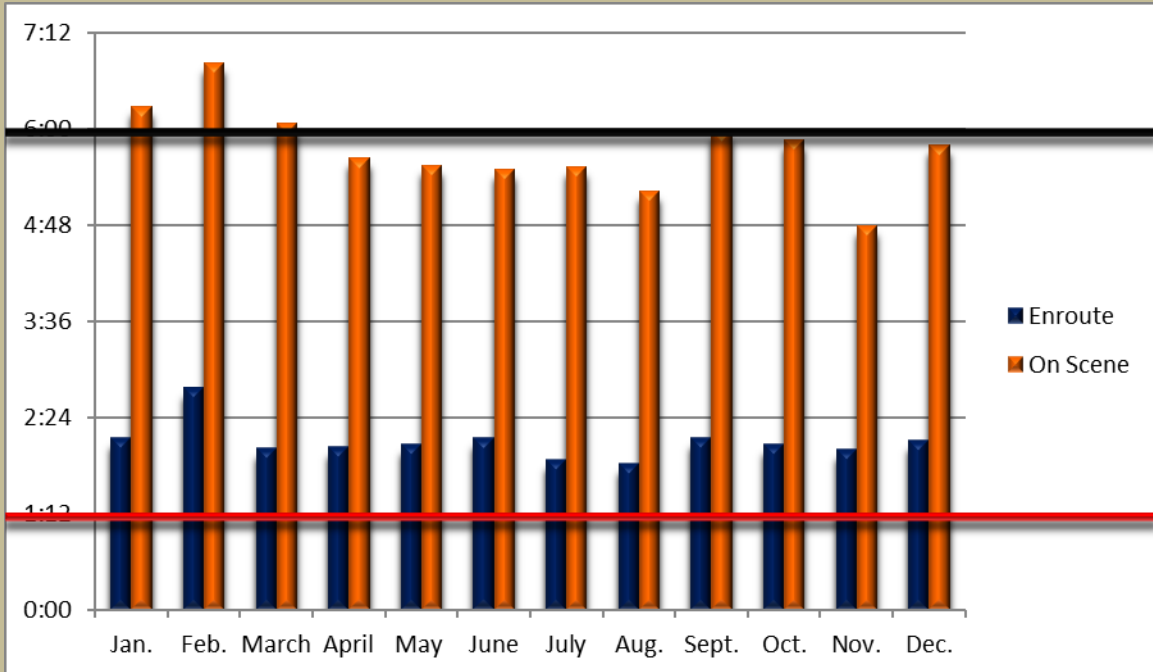
Contact Numbers:

Administrative offices: 417.328.5853

Emergency: 911



## How long does it take for us to respond to your call?



**Our average response time for 2022 is 5 minutes, 43 seconds!**



# Our Fleet

Year	Make	ID	Descript.	Years old
2022	Fouts Four	Rescue 14	1500 GPM Rescue	0
2022	Ford	Chief 1	Command Vehicle	0
2015	Ferrara	Engine 11	First out Engine	8
2015	Ferrara	Ladder 12	First out Aerial	8
2011	Ford	Brush 16	Light Duty Rescue/Brush Truck	12
2005	Ford	Chief 2	EMS Rescue/Aux	18
1999	Precision	Engine 13	Mutual Aid Engine	23
1993	Precision	Engine 21	First Out Engine Station 2	29



WE ARE THANKFUL FOR THE CITY OF BOLIVAR MECHANICS THAT CONTINUALLY WORK TO ENSURE OUR APPARATUS STAY IN SERVICE, READY TO RESPOND WHEN YOU CALL!



# Training

In 2022 BCFD completed a variety of training throughout the year including hosting a vehicle extrication technician course, sending 7 full time members to equipment operator certification training, and conducting a several month training circuit on an acquired structure that ended with several rounds of live fire training. BCFD also promoted several firefighters who demonstrated proficiency with the required job-related skills. Our full-time members averaged 200 training hours each, while the part time/ reserve members averaged 53 training hours each over the course of 2022. BCFD also applied for a grant to develop a dedicated training facility. If granted this facility would include a flashover chamber, an initial attack house, and the infrastructure for 4 smaller live fire props. These facilities would help BCFD with meeting the required live fire training hours while providing firefighters crucial live fire scenarios to



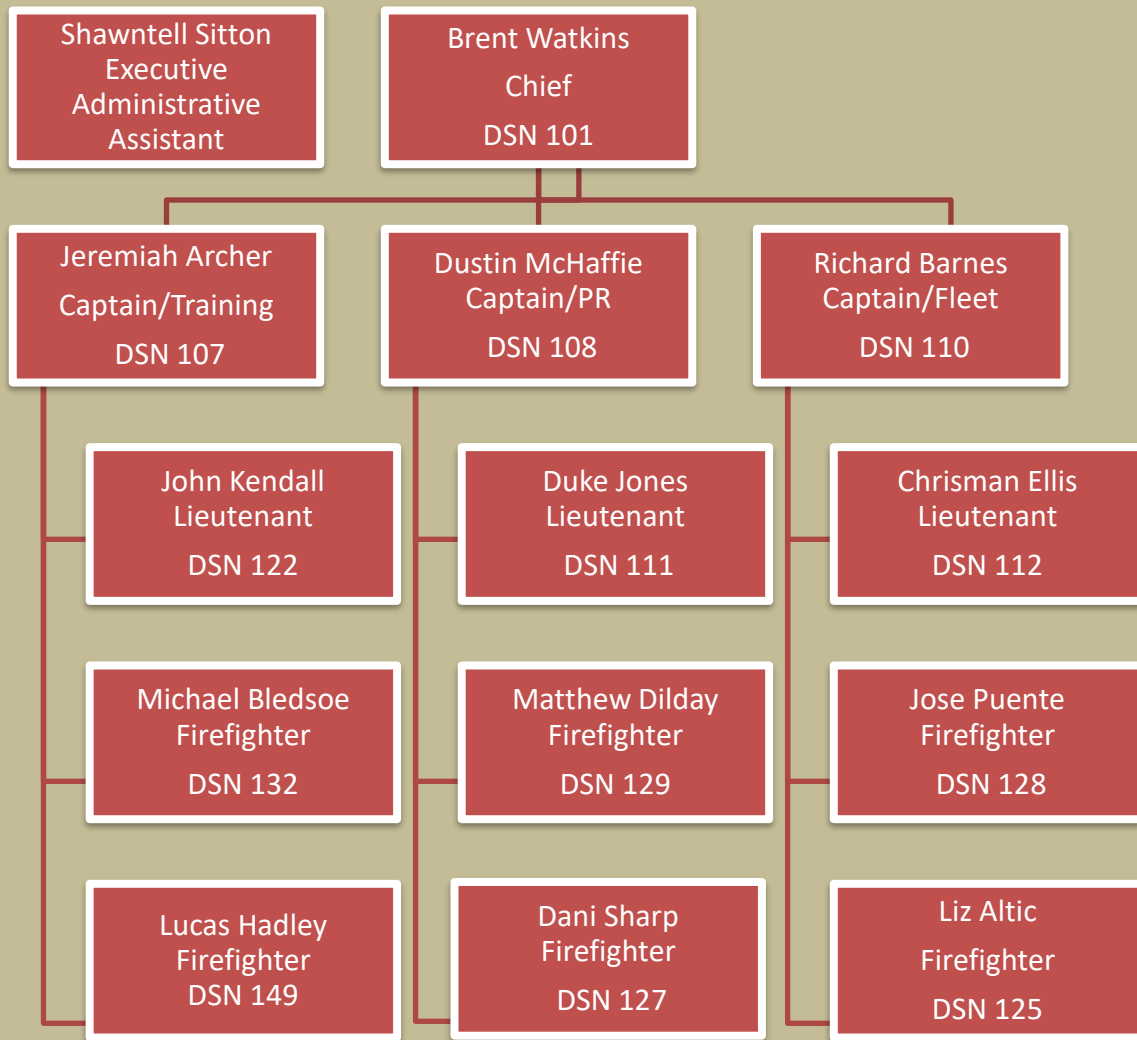
assist them in honing their skillset in a controlled environment. In 2023 we will continue to develop our driver/ equipment operator program, focus on multi-jurisdictional training, and look to develop our officer core further.

Captain Jeremiah Archer



Bolivar City Fire Department has a cadet program for individuals from 14-21 years old. Upon completion of level one the cadet is then allowed to do ride-alongs. Each level allows the cadet then to perform more skills on a fire incident while still keeping them out of any dangerous environment. The intent of the program is that upon turning 18 the cadet is then prepared to become a reserve firefighter at BCFD. For more information on the cadet program, contact BCFD.

# Our Family!



## Part time Staff:

Samantha Lawson

Scott Jones

Caleb Cullins

TJ Elkins

Theron Becker

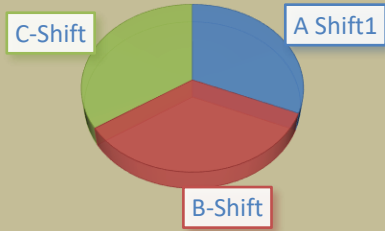
Owen Howard

Samuel Henning

Caleb Dunaway

Thomas Gerean

## WHICH SHIFT RESPONDED?



## Calls Per Shift:

A Shift: 455

B Shift: 500

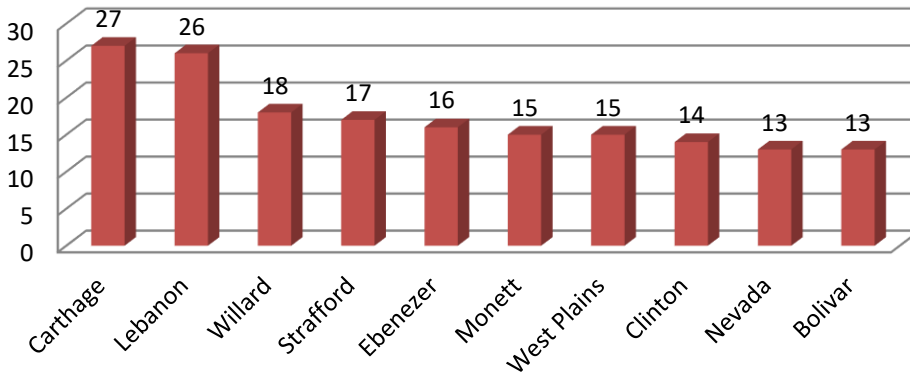
C Shift: 498

Thursday was our busiest day of the week! Sunday was the least busy.

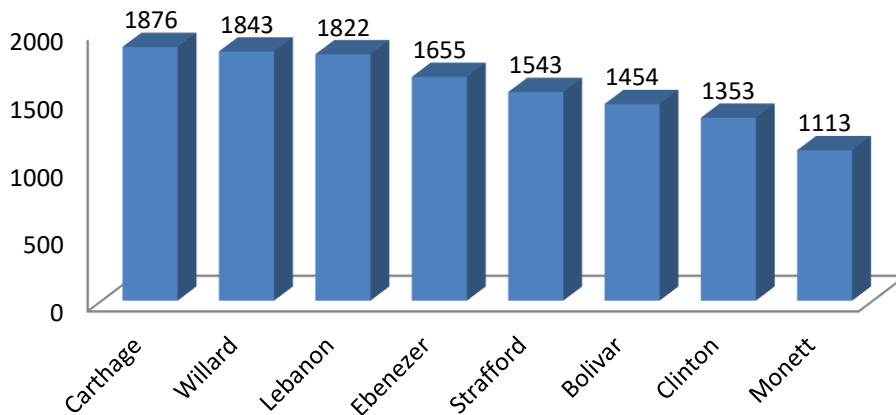
## How we compare to similar regional departments.

### 2022 Total Calls for Service:

### 2022 Fire Department Career Staffing Levels



### 2022 Regional Departments Calls for Service





For further information about BCFD or to apply to serve, please visit us at:  
211 West Walnut, Public Safety Center, Bolivar, MO 65613

Like us on Facebook @ Bolivar City Fire Department

[www.bolivar.mo.us](http://www.bolivar.mo.us)

Bolivar City Fire Department Annual Report for 2022