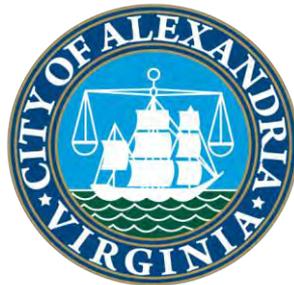


Alexandria City Academy

Session 4

October 3, 2013



Fire and EMS Department

Adam K. Thiel, Fire Chief

Dedicated to Our Community,
Our Profession, and Each Other





Alexandria Fire – EMS Department

- Founded in 1774
- Employ over 300 personnel
- Divisions include Suppression, EMS, Communications, Fire Prevention and Life Safety, Professional Development, Fleet Maintenance, and Administration
- 9 Stations protect 15 square miles

Proud History





Continued Dedication...





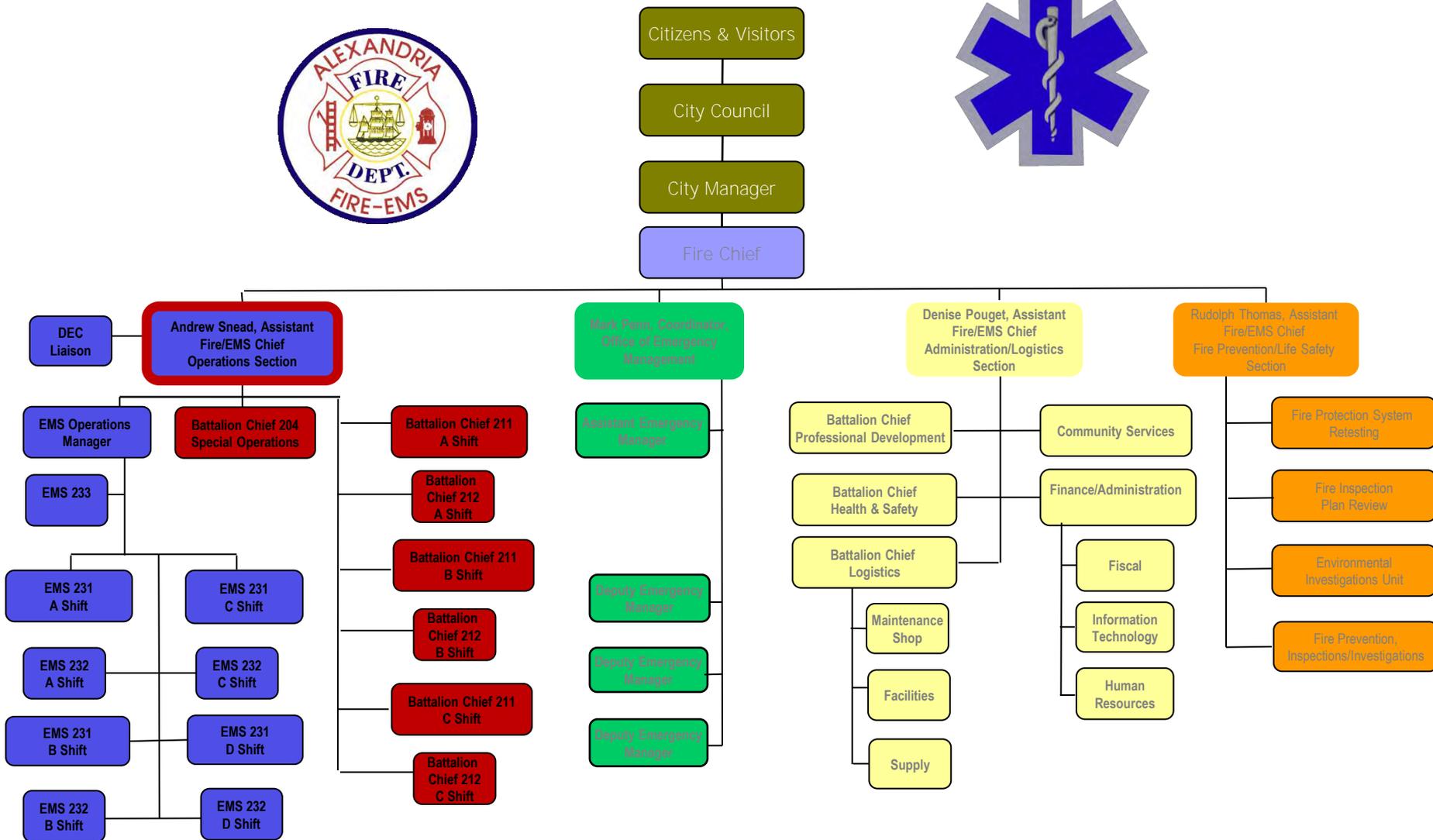


Mutual Aid

- National Capitol Region employs a system of Mutual Aid
- Members include: Washington, D.C., Arlington County, Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority, Fairfax City, Fairfax County, Prince Georges County, Prince William County, Montgomery County
- Units respond on a first available basis regardless of jurisdiction



The Alexandria Fire Department Organizational Structure



Administrative Support Staff

- Budget and Finance
- Information Technology
- Facilities and Supplies
- Human Resources



Alexandria Stations



Station Locations



Suppression

- 24/7 Service Delivery
- 141 personnel, including Assistant Chief, 9 Battalion Chiefs, 25 Captains, 16 Lieutenants
- 8 Engine Companies
- 3 Ladder Trucks
- Rescue Engine
- Fire Boat – *“The Vigilant”*
- Specialty Teams: Hazardous Materials, Technical Rescue, and Marine Operations





Hazardous Materials Team

- State Response Team of over 40 trained Specialists & Technicians
- Respond to Incidents involving Weapons of Mass Destruction and all other hazards, including fuel spills
- Engine Company 209
- Haz-Mat Unit 209
- Support Unit 209



Marine Operations Team



- Established in 1997
- 24 Member Team
- Boats 204 & 214: 13 foot, Inflatable Zodiac Boats
- Fireboat 201: 30 foot Metal Craft, "The Vigilant"

Technical Rescue

- 24 member team specializing in trench collapse, confined space, and high angle rescues
- Trained for advanced auto extrication and building collapses





Honor Guard





Emergency Medical Services

- 24 hour Advanced Life Support Care
- 44 Full Time Paramedics staff 5 units and 2 Peak Time Medic Units
- Assistant Chief, EMS Manager, and 9 EMS Supervisors
- Answer more than 12,000 calls annually





Special Event Medical Support

- Reduce the arrival time to treat patients in areas of limited accessibility
- Deployed for City Events, including Parades, Charity Walks/Runs, and Festivals
- Fire Department Mobile GATOR
- ALS Bicycle Medics





Special Event Medical Support



EMS Bike Medic Team



Health and Safety Unit

- 1 Battalion Chief and 3 Captain Shift Safety Officers
- Acts as Incident Safety Officer
- Provide care for injured/ill employees throughout the City
- Infection Control
- Survey worksites for safety hazards



Health and Safety Unit



Maintenance Shop

- Shop employs 1 Supervisor and 3 Mechanics
- The entire AFD fleet, including engines, ladder trucks, medic units, Fire Chief/Assistant Chief/Battalion Chief/EMS Supervisor/Battalion Aide trucks, and supply and code enforcement vehicles, is maintained internally



Professional Development

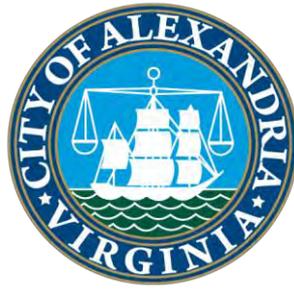


- On site training, classroom facility, and recruit academy
- Staff includes Battalion Chief, Lieutenant, EMS Supervisor and Training Assistant
- Burn Building on site
- Full Gym and CrossFit facility









Emergency Management

Mark Penn, Director

Emergency Management

- Coordinates, mitigates, prepares, and responds to all disasters within the City
- Maintains the Emergency Operations Center
- Liaison with VDEM and FEMA



Emergency Management



- Coordinates response to local emergencies such as Hurricanes Isabel and Hanna
- EOC is composed of City Staff from all departments as well as local and regional aid groups such as the American Red Cross

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



- Trains members of the community to assist the AFD during disaster responses
- Members assess damages, organize volunteers, triage and perform first aid to victims of local disasters
- Call 703.746.5259 for information

Community Services Unit



- Public Information Office
- Youth and Senior Education Programs
- Smoke Alarm Program
- Juvenile Fire Starter Intervention Program
- To Schedule, call 703-746-5260





Community Services Unit

- Maintain Smoke Alarms
- Plan and Practice an Escape Plan
- Give Space Heaters Space
- Be Alert While Cooking
- Use Electricity Safely
- Call 911
- STOP, DROP, AND ROLL
- NEVER Re-enter a Burning Building





Fire Prevention and Life Safety

The Fire Prevention and Life Safety Section is comprised of several units:

- Fire Code Inspections
- Fire Protection Systems Retesting
- Environmental Investigations
- Fire / Explosion Investigations



The section administers the provisions of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, applicable sections of the Virginia Construction Code and related Codes of the City of Alexandria.

Fire Prevention and Life Safety



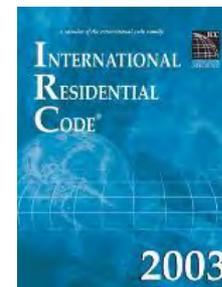
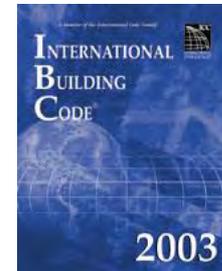
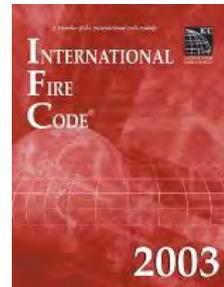
- Fire Marshals conduct the fire code inspections and all investigations for fire, explosive, hazardous materials and environmental offenses. Fire Marshals provide round the clock staffing. Fire Marshals are sworn law enforcement officers.
- Fire Protection Retesting Inspectors handle fire protection system retesting and complaints and work Monday-Friday.

Uniform Statewide Building Codes: A Family of Codes for the Life of the Building



- **Continued Compliance**

- **New Construction Code** (How we build them)
- **Virginia Maintenance Code Maintenance Inspections** (How we maintain them)
- **Fire Prevention Code** (How we use them)





Fire Code Inspections

- Fire Marshals conduct proactive inspections and respond to complaints of fire code violations.
- Proactive inspections include day and evening inspections of assembly use buildings (restaurants, nightclubs, bars and theaters) at peak times of occupancy to ensure proper crowd management, occupancy and code compliance.



Fire Code Inspections

- Fire Marshals conduct proactive inspections of target areas and industrial areas to monitor for illegal occupancy and violations of fire code.
- Fire Marshals respond to complaints for violations of the fire code, fire lane violations, and other related issues.
- Fire Marshals respond to emergency complaints involving violations of the Virginia Maintenance Code and Uniform Statewide Building Code after normal business hours



Fire Code Inspections

- Fire Prevention Permit Program – Permits are required for certain occupancies that are classified as assembly or educational use such as restaurants and schools; or to store and use hazardous materials or operate hazardous use processes. Fire Marshals conduct inspections of these facilities annually.
- Violations of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code and City of Alexandria Fire Prevention Code are classified as a Class 1 Misdemeanor carrying a possible penalty of up to 1 year in jail and/or up to a fine of \$2,500.

Fire Protection Systems Retesting

- This section witnesses the required maintenance testing and inspections of all existing fire protection systems to ensure proper testing in accordance with fire code and referenced NFPA standards.
- Inspectors respond to specific complaints involving issues with fire protection systems and ensure that property owners make the necessary repairs to systems for proper function.





Environmental Investigations Unit (EIU)



- Fire Marshals assigned to this unit respond to complaints and investigations involving the illegal storage or release of hazardous materials.
- EIU Fire Marshals conduct focused inspections on facilities that store or use hazardous materials or conduct hazardous processes under the Fire Prevention Permit program.
- EIU Fire Marshals work closely with State and City agencies to monitor and address environmental issues and violations.

Fire Investigations

- Fire Marshals investigate the origin and cause of all fires in the City and any incidents of bombings or explosive devices.
- Criminal investigations are conducted on fires that are determined to be deliberately set. Cases are submitted to the Commonwealth Attorney for prosecution.



Fire Investigations

- Fire Investigations are complex investigations and involve significant time and resources.
- Fire Investigators are highly trained in advanced investigation techniques and continually attend training to maintain certifications.
- Properly conducted fire investigations identify fire causes and trends, and help to focus prevention efforts and education.



Volunteer Organization



Provides adjunct services to:

- Suppression
- Emergency Medical Services
- Canteen
- Air & Light Unit



Questions?

Fire and EMS Department

900 Second Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
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www.alexandriava.gov/Fire