



# Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department

Fire - EMS - Haz Mat - Rescue - Education - Prevention

*"Commitment to Excellence"*



To: Mayor Shane Blaser, Wisconsin Rapids Police and Fire Commission, Wisconsin Rapids Common Council  
From: Todd Eckes, WRFDFire Chief  
Date: January 2, 2024  
RE: Monthly Summary for December 2023

WRFDFmeetings, events, training, and notable calls for the month of December 2023:

- Police and Fire Commission meeting
- Common Council meeting
- Held a department Officer meeting.
- PD/FD Meeting
- Monthly EMR training
- Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Board Meeting
- Attended North Central Fire Chiefs meeting.
- Attended Insurance Services Office Training
- Attended Citizen Academy Graduation
- Attended Wausau Chief Barteck Retirement ceremony.
- Held Live training at an acquired house all month long.
- 2 members attended the State EMS Board meeting.
- Numerous EMT basic interns through the month of December
- Hired two new Firefighters.
- Girl Scout Tour Station I and First Aid training
- Met with Haferman counseling about Mental Health Checkups.
- Held a Family Christmas Party for Members, Retirees and Families at Station I.
- Car seat Clinic at Station I

December Anniversaries: Rodger Erdman 18 Years

Notable Responses:

Structure Fire: 0 Structure Fires

Motor Vehicle: 4 Motor Vehicle Fires

Carbon Monoxide/Odor Calls: 14 Suspicious odor or C.O. Alarm calls

Motor vehicle Crashes: 3 Motor Vehicle Crashes



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## WRFDNotes:

As we end the year and reflect, we see a year that mimics 2022. Our call volume, although down from last year, is minimal when compared to the previous year. This was projected using statistical modeling of the past 35 years. These last 8- 10 years were a consistent climb in calls with a plateau and minimal decrease as the model completed by Battalion Chief Goodreau had proposed. Even though there was a minimal decrease in calls, we still saw the many periods throughout each day or week where the city was left vulnerable due to the numerous overlapping calls. Many times, the station is left with as few as 1-3 staff for periods of time. The month of November saw 362 calls, with 78 of those being instances that we already had one other apparatus out on a call, 14 of those instances there were three apparatus and 2 instances 4 out at once. That is a one-month snapshot. Each apparatus deployed is a minimal of two personnel, so when three are out that means there are 6 members on a call and only three back at the station.

The 78 overlapping calls compared to the 362 for the month is an average of an overlapping call every 4.6 calls which leaves the city vulnerable. "If it is predictable, it is preventable". We recently had a commercial fire that we started out with only 5 personnel available because the rest of the shift were on call already within the city. We have tried to secure a SAFER grant but were not successful. There were only two departments in the State that were successful with their applications. This cannot be sustained much longer and a path to rectify this problem needs to be identified.

Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> a Department Christmas part was attended by members, Retirees and their families. RO/MPO Agen and his lovely wife Ashley headed up the plans for the event and breakfast was cooked on site by Brennan and the Chief. The children in attendance had many Christmas crafts lined up to pique their interest, as well as a visit from Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus. Every Firefighter relies on their Family as the rock they return home to after long shifts. They are the foundation that keeps us grounded and replenishes us to return and concentrate on helping others. This day was meant for them. We need to show them how important they are to this department and the efficiency of how it runs. Our families sacrifice a lot as the Firefighters are gone for 48 hours at a time. That is why we want them to know how much they mean to all of us. Great job Brennan and Ashley!!

Lastly, from all of us at WRFD we wish each and every one of you happy holidays and we hope that 2024 keeps you safe and healthy.



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## WRFD DECEMBER 2023 MONTHLY RESPONSE REPORT

Type of Emergency	December 2023 Responses	Total # of 2023 Responses	December 2022 Responses	Total # of 2022 Responses
EMS 911	371	4,208	404	4,388
EMS IFT	1	16	2	62
COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE	0	4	0	12
FIRE	4	53	4	40
EXPLOSION (No Fire)	0	0	0	1
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	4	48	1	35
SERVICE CALLS	7	52	2	53
GOOD INTENT	9	60	9	69
FALSE ALARMS/WEATHER	15	98	9	86
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	411	4,539	431	4,746

### Notes:

- Fire 100 Series: Fire (s *structure, vehicle, wildland*)
- Fire 200 Series: Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (*No Fire*)
- Fire 300 Series: Rescue & Emergency Service Incident (*Motor vehicle accident, EMS Calls*)
- Fire 400 Series: *Hazardous Condition (spills, leaks with no fire)*
- Fire 500 Series: Service Calls (water & smoke problems, burning complaints)
- Fire 600 Series: Good Intent (*Dispatched and cancelled, Citizen needs help*)
- Fire 700/800 Series: (700) False Alarms (800) Severe Weather/Natural Disasters

Runs by District	December 2023	2023 Totals	December 2022	2022 Totals
Wisconsin Rapids	292	3,378	313	3,488
Saratoga	19	245	34	314
Village Port Edwards	11	110	12	137
Village Biron	33	222	15	164
Town of Port Edwards	0	90	6	94
Nekoosa	36	289	29	285
Granmoor	0	9	1	8
Mutual Aid Given	4	60	9	85
Mutual Aid Received	16	136	12	171
<b>TOTALS</b>	411	4,539	431	4,746

Confined Space Stand-by	December 2023	Total # 2023	December 2022	Total # 2022
<b>TOTALS</b>	32	425	46	480



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## WRFD TRAINING CENTER FOR DECEMBER 2023

Category	Topic
Fire	Search & Rescue
Officer	Incident Command
Motor Pump Operator	Static Pumping
Technical rescue	None
Hazardous Materials	None
EMS	Updated Field Operating Guidelines
EMR	Ambulance Operations
Cadet	Vent Enter Isolate, & Search, Hose line search and victim removal

<b>Total Training Hours for the Month</b>	<b>254.5</b>
<b>Inspections for the month</b>	<b>102</b>