



CATHEDRAL CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



PUBLIC SAFETY AND PEACE OFFICERS
AWARD CEREMONY
October 4, 2018

Compassion Honesty Integrity Professionalism



THE CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY

Population:	54,261
Land Area:	23 sq miles
Households:	17,888
Median Income:	\$44,637
Licensed Businesses	1,763

Source: <http://www.cathedralcity.gov/business/demographics>
and CCFD Occupancy Records

PALM SPRINGS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Elementary	5
Middle	2
High	2

PRIVATE SCHOOL:

Elementary	1
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OUR MISSION

The Cathedral City Fire Department is Committed to Preserving Life, Environment, and Property Through Quality Emergency Response and Service.

CHIEF'S CORNER

Paul S. Wilson, Fire Chief

In 2018 the Cathedral City Fire Department (F.D.) attained the following accomplishments and personal achievements;



The F. D. celebrated 30 years of service to the community in 2018, as we were officially organized as a municipal agency January 1, 1988.



Thank you for demonstrating the F.D. core values of **Compassion, Honesty, Integrity and Professionalism.**

You effectively delivered life safety education, emergency management, fire prevention, emergency medical services, ambulance transportation and fire protection to the residents of and visitors to Cathedral City.

- F.D. daily staffing increased to fourteen on-duty
- The F.D. was awarded \$25,000 from the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians to outfit six new SAFER firefighters with structural and wildland personal protective equipment.
- F.D. replaced Gas Detection monitors and added Check It software for EMS and Apparatus tracking
- The F.D. prepared a Fiscal Analysis and Annexation Study for the unincorporated area north of Interstate 10 (Thousand Palms to Palm Desert) for the F.D. to provide ambulance services, emergency medical services, emergency preparedness, fire prevention and fire protection.
- F.D. Members supported the MDA Fill the Boot and United Way
- F.D. Honor Guard members participated in the Forest Lawn Memorial Day Observance and two F.F. Graduations & Promotional Ceremonies.
- In 2018 F.D. Members participated in the Boys & Girls Club Meatball Festival, Holiday Extravaganza, Healing Field, CV Link Grand Opening, Senior Center Meatball Festival, Easter Kidapalooza, Elks Club Car Show, Memorial Day, Tejano Music Fest, 9/11 ceremonies, San Diego Stair Climb, Spooktacular, Taste of Jalisco, "Cub Swanson" and "Tim Bradley" Mural Dedication, Dia de los Muertos, Date Palm C.C. C.O.P. Event, Hot Air Balloon Festival, Snow Fest, Special Olympics Bowling Tournament, Police Memorial Dedication and Toys for Tots.










The F.D. members deserve the credit for the success of the agency. Thank you for your contributions.

Best regards,

Paul S. Wilson, Fire Chief

City Council Goals and FD Strategic Plan 2018 Accomplishments

The following Council Goals and F.D. plans were completed in 2018:

-  Implemented the Fire Department Strategic Plan and staffing recommendations, as financially feasible, and developed an over-hire policy so replacements are trained and ready to go when a vacancy occurs.
-  Developed a plan, including an aggressive fine structure, to address illegal fireworks.
-  Joined the Sister City International organization, formed a local taskforce and considered additional Sister City opportunities.
-  Worked with the Palm Springs Unified School District to identify options and the costs of operating the CCHS pool for public use in the summer months.
-  Coordinated the City Urban Revitalization project to replace the Fire Station 411 at 36-913 Date Palm Dr. through the Architectural Review Committee, Planning Commission, CURC Board and City Council. – Completed.
-  Hired six new SAFER Grant funded and four replacement firefighter / paramedics.
-  Developed and managed balanced fire department budgets in FY17-18 and FY18-19.
-  F.D. members participated in and provided direction for the 2019-2023 F.D. Strategic Planning.
-  Prepared specifications and costs for a replacement fire engine and command vehicle.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2019?

- Recruit and retain qualified and diverse personnel with a focus on females and individuals who reflect the community members we serve, including bilingual speakers, consistent with the City Council goals.
- Review training and response capabilities for F.D. special teams consistent with the City Council goals.
- Complete the relocation of Fire Station 411 - 36913 Date Palm Dr. consistent with the City Council goals
- Add designated EMS / Fire dispatchers to the Police / Fire Dispatch Center who are trained as Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) personnel (Police budget)
- Replace Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system (Police budget)
- Identify opportunities to apply for grants and other alternate funding sources.

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

A priority of the Cathedral City Fire Dept. is to support the community and community groups as we jointly take measures to assist those in need and improve the overall quality of life and general health of the community. FD personnel provided safety education and training to schools, businesses, and community groups. Education topics included:

- Safety and recovery during weather related incidents
- Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.)
- Teen C.E.R.T.
- Disaster Preparedness
- Juvenile Arson Intervention
- C.P.R. and First Aid



TOYS 4 TOTS: Cathedral City Fire Stations were collection points for Toys 4 Tots, supporting the Marines, that support kids in our community.



Ladies from the Outdoors Resorts community quilted child-sized blankets and donated twelve blankets to the F.D.

F.D. members hosted “Caleb Pestano” a 3-year-old boy with severe medical needs as a “F.F. for the Day”



Chad Smith, Jim Taylor, Britt Williams, J.D. Weaver, Scott Keeran and Bob Allison instructed 75 students at CCHS in Teen CERT training.



F.D. Honor Guard participated in the Memorial Day Observance at Forest Lawn.

Three-peat! Members of the FD entered the LGBTQ Days Bed Race and for the 3rd time, took home the first place trophy (but by a very narrow margin, as the CCPD team was a formidable challenge). This event provides an opportunity to connect with our LGBTQ community members. Team members in 2018 were Sandy Ramsey-Woods, Jeff Welsh, Craig Sanborn, Nathan Kidd and Olen Main.



EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION



The dept. was awarded a federal grant that allowed the hiring of six new full-time firefighter paramedics. The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant staffs a third person on the fire engines and truck, bringing us closer to NFPA Standard 1710. SAFER Firefighter / Paramedics Kenneth Skinner, Dustin Emter, Taylor Burchartz, Joseph Richardson, Riley Fehser-Wey, and Dylan McCrum joined the F.D. in February, 2018.

FIRE CAPTAIN PROMOTIONS



JOSH
HESS



JAMES
TAYLOR



RICK
WEST

FIRE ENGINEER PROMOTIONS



COREY
GODDARD



JEREMY
KEENAN



JUSTIN
VONDRISKA



RICHARD
VALENTI



NATHAN
KIDD



OLEN
MAIN

In addition to the "SAFER" new-hires, we welcomed replacement Firefighter / Paramedics Kael Eaves, Josiah Maier, Brodie Trayer and Derek Wochholz in August, 2018.



2018 RETIREMENTS

Three retirements were recognized in 2018. These members served the City of Cathedral City through most of their fire careers. Rich with knowledge of the fire service and history of the area, their absence is noticed. We wish each of them the long, healthy and relaxing retirement they've earned.



Jeff Welsh
Fire Captain /
Paramedic



John "JD" Weaver
Fire Engineer



Terry Martin
Fire Engineer



CATHEDRAL CITY PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS AWARD

THOMAS LAWRIE

Firefighter Paramedic
Thomas Lawrie was recognized as the 2018 Firefighter of the Year for his mentorship of new employees and contributions to training. FFPM Lawrie joined the Cathedral City Fire Dept.



in 2016. During that time, he has proven to be supportive of his fellow firefighters, helping ensure their success and safety.

Congratulations, FFPM Lawrie on recognition well deserved!

PEACE OFFICER AND PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS



BC Robert Allison, Captain Craig Sanborn, Engineers Josh Hess and Terry Martin, and FFPM's Jeremy Keenan and Mason Hinz were honored at the 2018 Peace Officer and Public Safety Awards for saving a 3-year-old from a near-drowning. The child has made a full recovery.

FIRE PREVENTION

The F.D.'s life safety / fire inspector and on-duty engine / truck firefighters conducted 2,706 inspections of businesses, care facilities, new construction, schools, smoke alarms and short-term vacation rentals.

- The F.D. processed 67 conditions of approval and 188 plan reviews
- Inspected homes sold in Cathedral City for working smoke alarms
- Performed inspections at businesses for compliance with fire and municipal codes
- Ensured new construction projects were compliant with fire and municipal codes
- Conducted inspections of short-term vacation rentals registered with the City
- Performed inspections of residential care and child care facilities
- Completed inspections of public and private schools
- Provided plan review, conditions of approval and inspections of new cannabis related businesses
- The City Council passed an Ordinance to address illegal fireworks with administrative citations and increased fines for possession, discharge and allowing the discharge of illegal fireworks on your property
- F.F. Vince Salazar served as the F.D. spokesperson for an education campaign on prohibited fireworks and the associated citations/fines

INSPECTION TYPE	
Smoke Alarm	1,208
Annual Business	463
Short-Term Rentals	454
Construction	335
Business License	221
Residential Care Facility	13
Schools	12

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Cathedral City Fire Department provides disaster preparation training to community groups throughout the city.

2018 accomplishments included:

- Eric Hauser and Ronda Guillaume obtained grant funding for new audio equip. in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- 118 City employees attended Emergency Management training
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted by City Council
- Prepared Special Event Incident Action Plans
- F.D. members instructed twelve classes of the CCHS Digital Arts students on disaster preparedness.
- The F.D. participated in a Cathedral City High School Disaster Drill - 2,000 students
- Chief Hauser presented 2018 Emergency Operations Center training to the EOC Command Staff, Planning and Logistics teams.
- Annually City employees “duck, cover and hold” for The Great ShakeOut, California’s statewide earthquake drill. For more information about the exercise, visit the www.shakeout.org

Emergency Response

Total number of responses by station:

TOTAL 9-1-1 RESPONSES:						
INCIDENT TYPE & TOTAL NUMBER		BATTALION CHIEF	STATION 411	STATION 412	STATION 413	TOTALS
Fire	169	126	164	108	212	610
EMS	4388	303	3,595	1,910	3,017	8,825
Hazard	52	20	40	29	25	114
PSR	969	101	554	344	496	1,495
False Alarm	241	25	190	84	155	454
Weather	2	2	0	0	0	2
Other	5	3	5	1	4	13
TOTALS	5,826	580	4,548	2,476	3,909	11,513

There were a total of 3,314 ambulance transports provided in 2018.

Total number of incidents each unit responded to, in a specific fire district:

RESPONSES BY UNIT / DISTRICT:					
UNIT #	DISTRICT 411	DISTRICT 412	DISTRICT 413	OUTSIDE CITY	TOTALS
E411	1757	168	42	6	1973
M411	1370	977	208	20	2575
T412	163	2082	135	9	2452
M412	9	11	4	0	24
E413	68	167	1219	16	1470
M413	344	1099	945	51	2439
B410/COC	149	233	178	17	577



MUTUAL AID WILDLAND RESPONSES OUTSIDE CATHEDRAL CITY	
Response	Duration
JANUARY STORMS, Santa Barbara	5 Days
HOLY, Orange County	4 Days
MENDOCINO COMPLEX, Mendocino	11 Days
CRANSTON, Idyllwild	5 Days
SKYLINE, Corona	1 Day
PRE-POSITION, Escondido	1 Day
WOOSLEY, Ventura County	6 Days





Firefighter Training

In Partnership With the California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee

Your Cathedral City Firefighters spend extensive hours training in subjects related to fire suppression, apparatus maintenance, emergency medical services, extrication and fire prevention. The chart below reflects the combined number of hours spent training in each discipline in 2018:

DESCRIPTION OF TRAINING	
Administrative	1,082
Apparatus Ops	1,406
Clerical & Budget	131.5
Construction	81
EMS	987
Fire Investigation	37.5
ICS	89
Instructor Training	53.5
Portable & Small Equipment	2,131.5
Fire Prevention	470.5
Rescue	418
Suppression	4,102.5
TOTAL HOURS	10,992.5



Wildland Fire Training



Active Shooter Training



Roof Ventilation Training

Administrative Assistant II Sandy Ramsey-Woods, Fire Captain/Paramedic Jim Taylor and Engineer/Paramedic Justin Vondriska attended Electronic Patient Care Reporting training at the ImageTrend Connect Symposium.



OUR MISSION

The Cathedral City Fire Department is Committed to Preserving Life, Environment, and Property Through Quality Emergency Response and Service.



Thank You For Your Support



View our Strategic Plan Online at www.cathedralcityfire.org

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