



## **2020 Annual Report**

**Bloomington Fire Protection District No. 1**

**SERVICE \* SAFETY \* TEAMWORK**



## LETTER FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



It is my honor to present the 2020 Annual Report for the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District. As the new Fire Chief, I quickly learned how dedicated and committed the firefighters, paramedics and staff were to providing excellent service to our community.

Our mission is to assure the safety and well-being of the district we service, by providing prompt and professional services in the event of fire, medical emergencies, disasters, or any other event which may threaten the public welfare.

This past year has been very challenging in many ways and we have been forced to make changes to the way we provide service to protect our personnel as well as the community we serve. The firefighters and paramedics of the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District have made the necessary adjustments to ensure that the needs of the community were met. Our overall call volume decreased slightly to 4,839 calls mostly due to the decreased number of people driving on the roads, attending school and working within the district. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we actually saw an increase in our EMS responses to 3,411 calls.

COVID-19 restrictions also affected our annual training and we were unable to participate in inter-department training exercises within the West Suburban Fire Rescue Alliance. The need for a local training facility was identified so we could provide training to our members without relying on other departments. Station 22 has been used for limited training but has the potential to become an excellent training facility. A training committee was formed to develop a plan to help us meet this goal. As Fire Chief, I support this project to provide our firefighters with a quality training facility to make sure they continue to deliver the level of professional services that our community has come to expect.

I look forward to 2021 with excitement and a new found energy to lead our organization out of this pandemic. We will set attainable goals and expectations as we work to return to normal operations. As always, we will continue deliver service that is efficient and cost-effective. A big thank you goes out to the Board of Trustees and all of our community partners for their continued support. It is a privilege to serve with the men and women of the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District and I am truly honored to be their Fire Chief.

Sincerely,

Matthew E. Beyer

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- \* Purchased a new Sutphen engine
- \* Purchased a new International ambulance
- \* Purchased a new Battalion Chief command vehicle
- \* Upgraded HVAC system
- \* Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award (GFOA)
- \* Upgraded phone system

## GOALS

- \* Hire three firefighter/paramedics
- \* Upgrade Facilities—new roof at both stations, remodel bathrooms at Station 23
- \* Purchase new ambulance
- \* Install new LED lighting in both stations (ongoing)
- \* Training Facility at Station 22

## WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

### SERVICE

The delivery of prompt and professional service to the district is our ultimate commitment.

### SAFETY

Maintaining a work environment where safety is paramount at all times, especially in emergency situations which are inherently dangerous.

### TEAMWORK

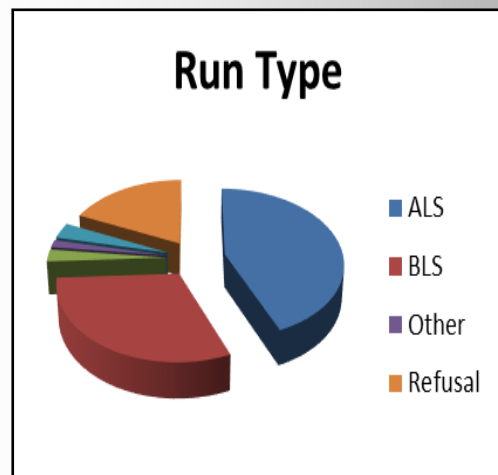
A team oriented approach which fosters excellence in the performance of our duties.

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

As we strive for excellence within the scope of our roles as emergency medical service providers our paramedics obtained over 1,500 hours of continuing education in 2020. We embrace the mission, vision and values of both the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District and Northwest Community Hospital, our regional resource hospital. We have made notable advances in our ability to serve the community with some fairly revolutionary purchases and implementation of practices.

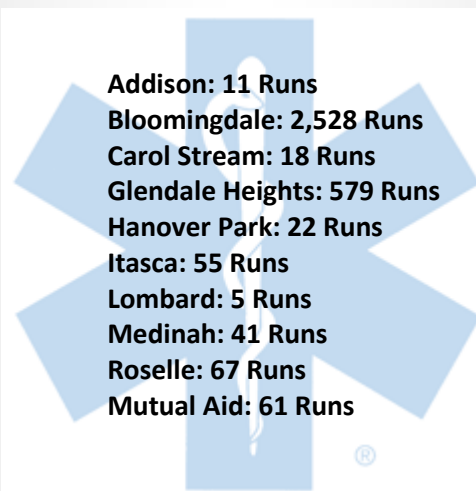
In **2020** we completed **3,387** EMS runs resulting in the following types of calls:

EMS Run Type	Number	Percentage
Advanced Life Support	1,773	52.3%
Basic Life Support	1,117	33%
Multiple Patient Release (MPR)	178	5.3%
DOA	87	2.6%
Refusal of Service	147	4.3%
Other	85	2.5%



With the availability of two medic units and two ALS response fire apparatus we were able to handle these calls and request very little mutual aid from surrounding departments. With almost 65% of our transports going to Glen Oaks Hospital in Glendale Heights, our paramedics were able to respond to second and third ambulance requests from the hospital. In 88% of our responses, units were on scene in less than 5 minutes and spent less than 15 minutes on the scene.

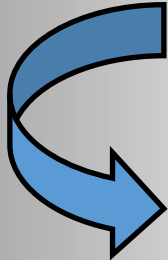
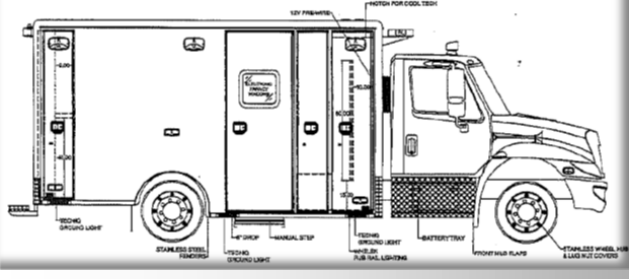
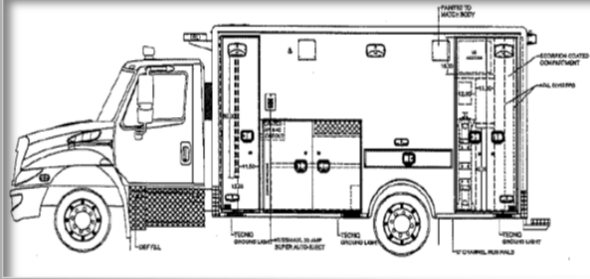
We also cover areas of nine towns. Below is a breakdown of calls for the different towns we



In 2020 the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District was met with one of its greatest challenges, the Covid-19 pandemic. Emergency medical services was placed atop the global stage with its frontline response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District was no exception.

Under the guidance of the CDC, DuPage County Health Department and the Northwestern Community Hospital EMS System we were able to meet the demands of our community while ensuring that our many first responders remained safe.

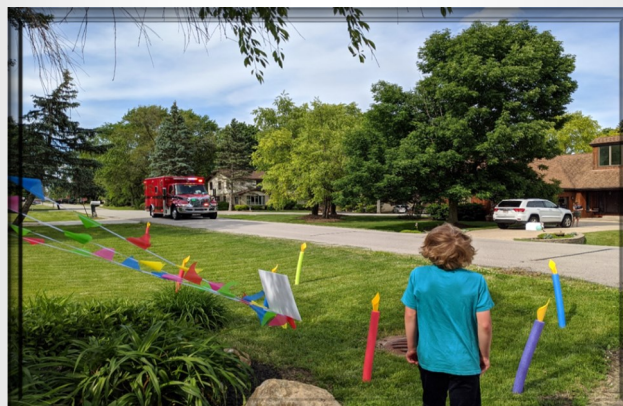
**\*\*OUR NEW AMBULANCE\*\***



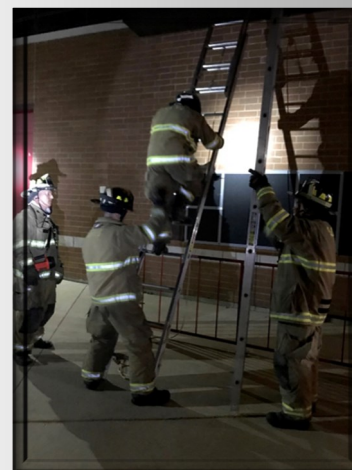
## PUBLIC EDUCATION

It was a tough year for public education for Bloomingdale FPD with Covid putting a damper on our interaction with the public. However, we still found ways to connect through alternate means of communication, including our social media account and the Bloomingdale Almanac.

The highlight of our year was our annual Boo!mingdale Halloween drive-thru. We were able to team up with the Bloomingdale Library, Bloomingdale Police, and Bloomingdale Public Works creating a fun filled outdoor event. We had superheroes and plenty of candy creating some much needed fun and excitement to over 800 families!



- \* 2020 was a successful year for the POC program despite POC's not working during stage 3 of the pandemic. The program currently consists of eight members.
- \* POC's completed 21 hours of training on Wednesday night drills throughout the year.
- \* Ryan Lebreux and Trevor Korinek were both hired on fulltime fire departments.
- \* POC's worked various events throughout the year such as the annual open house, teddy bear clinic, Glendale Heights Fest, party at the park, and the senior safety fair.
- \* Sean Porter completed his ride time and graduated from Northwest Community EMS paramedic program.
- \* A yearly training schedule was developed that follows alliance drills and allows instructors to follow a lesson plan.
- \* Mary Pagnoni, Trevor Korinek, Nicholas Berghaus, and Max Kokoszka all took the BFPD test for a fulltime position and made the eligibility list.
- \* POC interviews were last held in January 2020.



IAFF LOCAL 3272

In 2020, the Local re-elected the following board members: James Ketcham as President and his term runs through December of 2022, Dennis Kuntzman as Vice President and his term runs through December of 2021, as well as Gio Lopez as the Treasurer/Secretary and his term runs through December of 2022.

The Local maintains a Facebook page to interact with the public and help provide information regarding fundraising activities and community involvement. Please take time to connect with us.

The Local is looking forward to continued success in working cooperatively with the district and the administration toward our common goals of serving our citizens and the community.

The Local said goodbye to two members of our fire family and we wish them well in retirement!

***Congrats Lt Lou Lettenmair (22 years) and FFPM John Lowczyk (16 years)***

*"Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together."*

*~James Cash Penney*

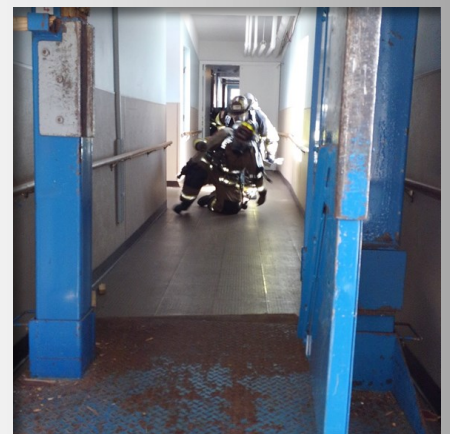
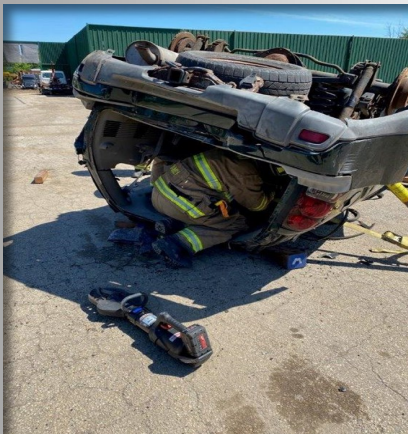
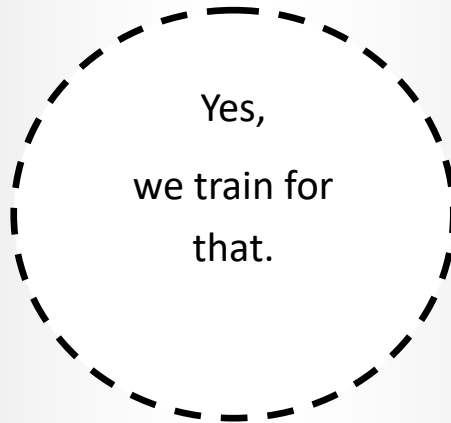
# TRAINING

The Bloomington Fire Protection District No.1 Training Division's Mission is for our firefighters to become: SAFER, FASTER, BETTER AND SMARTER. Our training division prides itself on making all of our training realistic, relevant and referenced.

BLOOMINGDALE FIREFIGHTER TRAINING IN 2020



9,100 hours





The training division is responsible for training all career and paid-on-call members in fire suppression, emergency medical service, special operations rescue, hazardous materials, fire investigations, fire inspections services, officer development and other related topics. We are committed to the safety and welfare of our members. Our goal is to have the best trained firefighters and paramedics so that we can deliver the highest quality service to our residents, visitors and neighbors.

Due to Covid 19 restrictions this year, our training had to take on a little different look. We were unable to meet with our partner agencies within the West Suburban Fire Rescue Alliance due to the safety precautions put in place. We strived to make the trainings and drills relevant and as realistic as possible within the smaller groups we were meeting in.

### **District Training 2020:**

- \* Over 13,162 drills added to approximately 9,100 hours of training received by our firefighters in 2020, averaging 233 hours per firefighter.
- \* Each month's training schedule includes: Officer Development, Firefighter Training (individual and company), EMS (Paramedic and EMT), Special Operations Rescue, Hazardous Materials and other required training topics.
- \* Members participated in over 220 hours of specialized M.A.B.A.S. Team and WSFRA Special Ops training
- \* Company operations and skills focus for the training division in 2020 were: company effectiveness and survival on the fire ground, engine company operations, tower ladder operations, medic company operations, special operations and officer/ leadership development for every level of our organization.
- \* Individual skills areas of focus for the training division in 2020 were: self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) survival skills, fire ground emergency communications, fire hose line tactics, forcible entry skills, ladder placement skills, ropes, knots and rescue system proficiency, fire victim removal and resuscitation
- \* Emergency medical system training focused on: trauma, medical, cardiac, pediatric, geriatric and several sub-specialties of emergent medical care.



# SPECIALTY TEAMS

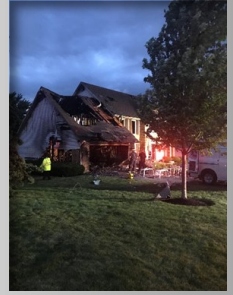
## Fire Investigation Team

Coordinator FF/EMT Sniegowski, and LT Skelley

The Fire Investigation Team is responsible for finding the origin and cause for all fires that occur within the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District #1. The process of fire investigation consists of taking pictures, interviewing witnesses, digging through debris, examining physical evidence, and documentation of the scene.

Both of our investigators are members of the Dupage County Fire Investigation Task Force. The investigator is on call for two weeks every other month. The experience that is gained is beneficial for the fire district. We were involved in 6 investigations with the task force in 2020.

Each of the investigators is required to have continuing education of twenty-five hours a year, over a four year period, to maintain their certification with the State of Illinois Fire Marshall's office. This includes but is not limited to didactic classroom and hands-on training.



## TRT Team

Coordinator FFPM Matt Smith, LT Vinyard, FFPM Dave Miller, FFPM Ketcham



This year again members participated in training throughout WSFRA and Division-12 towns including rope operations, confined space, collapse, and trench scenarios. Bloomingdale organized and hosted several days of training for area departments including a collapse scenario at the West Chicago training facility in June and a trench collapse drill behind Station 23 in October. Members also attended outside training certification classes including Trench Ops and Trench Tech.

New equipment additions this year included updating the E21 rope bags to match T23's which included a CMC-MPD device, new harnesses for both, carabiners for member's bags, Petzl-IDs for E21, T23 and member's bags, helmets and deltas.

## Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

Coordinator FFPM Takoy, LT Skelley, FFPM Miller, FFPM Bzdelik, FFPM Gross



The self-contained breathing apparatus is one of the most important pieces of equipment that a firefighter wears. The SCBA provides breathable air in an environment that is "immediately dangerous to life or health." (IDLH). Today's fires burn hotter and faster due to synthetic furniture and building materials. Some of the deadly gasses released in these fires include carbon monoxide, hydrogen cyanide, and hydrogen chloride to name a few.

Failures of the SCBA in an IDLH environment are unacceptable. It is the mission of the team through constant testing and routine maintenance, to keep the SCBA in excellent operating condition. The SCBA team uses an industry standard flow test. The flow test is done annually and whenever invasive maintenance has been done on an air pack. The flow test consists of a 5 step computerized program and a calibrated breathing machine. Each member of the BFPD#1 must go through annual F.I.T testing to ensure a proper fit of their mask with no air leaks. Our technicians also perform F.I.T testing for the police officers and public works employees for the Village of Bloomingdale. Along with the SCBA (firefighting) mask the SCBA team services and tests the CBRN (gas mask), Auga mask (dive team) and MSA 1/2 mask (investigators).

## Metro SWAT DuPage County

FFPM Spejcher

Bloomingtondale FPD had its very first Tactical EMS Paramedic join MERIT Metro SWAT, a multi-jurisdictional special operations unit comprised of law enforcement agencies in Dupage County. The task force protects approximately 928,000 residents in those jurisdictions. The mission of Metro SWAT is to respond to high risk critical incidents requiring specialized training and equipment and to resolve those incidents while minimizing the potential for injury or loss of life to civilians, officers, or suspects. High-risk situations include, but are not limited to: hostage rescues, barricaded suspects, and the execution of high risk warrants.



Paramedics assigned to the METRO SWAT Team respond as a Tactical Emergency Medical Support provider that operate under dangerous conditions with unconventional hazards. The purpose of a tactical emergency medical support (TEMS) program is to provide preventative medicine with immediate access to medical care, despite hazardous conditions that might otherwise delay treatment. TEMS providers are responsible for providing care within the scope of the Standing Medical Orders (SMO) and current TEMS protocols.

## Haz Mat Team

Coordinator BC Soderstrom, LT Skelley, LT Vinyard, FFPM Manion, FFPM Ketcham

The Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1 maintains response capabilities, equipment and training for minor hazardous materials incidents within the district response area.



The BFPD #1 is also a member of the MABAS Division 12 Hazardous Materials Team which responds to large scale incidents on a local, state, or regional level as needed. Team members must achieve and maintain a technician level certification as well as drill attendance and training standards in accordance with guidelines established by the fire chiefs, coordinators, training committees, local, state and federal agencies as well as the NFPA.

District personnel respond to many hazardous materials incidents throughout the year including carbon monoxide incidents, fuel spills, natural gas leaks and various other minor incidents. The members of the hazardous materials team also will respond to MABAS Division 12 call outs for personnel on larger spills or leaks.



The members of the Division 12 Hazardous Materials Team are required to attend a minimum of 5 team drills a year to remain in good standing.

Due to Covid-19 concerns division training was completed on-line and in-house for most of the year. Members Vinyard and Ketcham completed their Hazardous Materials Technician training through the OSFM.

The Fire Prevention Bureau's main objectives are to prevent injuries and damage caused by fire. This is primarily achieved through ensuring buildings are built to current code requirements, conducting inspections and educating our residents and businesses on fire safe practices. This is commonly referred to as the *Three E's of Fire Prevention*:

**Engineering** - *This is performed during the initial plan review stages of construction for all aspects of a building including site and life safety, fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems are designed and installed properly to ensure our buildings are constructed according to national standard codes to ensure the safety of the occupants.*

**Educate** - *Fire safety is a cognitive process that people learn and need to practice throughout their lives to help ensure their safety from the dangers of fires.*

**Enforcement** - *The Fire Prevention Bureau conducts annual life safety inspections to help ensure buildings are safe for their owners, employees, residents and our fire fighters. Annual inspections help to ensure that all required fire and life safety devices that are installed are operating correctly to ensure people will be able to evacuate without being injured in an emergency.*

In 2020, Bloomingdale Fire Protection District joined over 100 other communities in the State of Illinois by adopting residential fire sprinkler requirements for all new homes built in our unincorporated areas of our fire district. Our new ordinance went into effect January 1, 2021.

### Major Projects for 2020

- \* **Woodman's**, 1 Stratford Drive – *NEW CONSTRUCTION*
- \* **Coda Resources**, 990 E. North Ave—*NEW CONSTRUCTION*
- \* **Bloomingdale Trails Apartment Complex**, 280 – 290 Stonington -*NEW CONSTRUCTION*
- \* **USA Global**, 255 Madsen—*TENANT MOVE-IN*
- \* **Target Marketing**, 270 Madsen—*TENANT MOVE-IN*
- \* **Larson Juhl**, 1539 Hunter—*TENANT MOVE-IN*
- \* **Marriott Residence Inn**, 295 Knollwood—*REMODEL*
- \* **Marriott Courtyard**, 275 Knollwood—*REMODEL*
- \* **Kronos Foods**, 1 Kronos Drive—*MANUFACTURING LINE*
- \* **Darul Quasim**, 550 Regency—*REMODEL*
- \* **Nino's**, 170 Covington—*SOLAR ROOF SYSTEM*
- \* **Walmart**, 314 W. Army Trail—*SOLAR ROOF SYSTEM*
- \* **Target**, 175 W. Army Trail—*SOLAR ROOF SYSTEM*

## Hose and Small Tools

The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District strives to maintain an efficient and supernal response capability. This is accomplished through hard training and the implementation of various applications. In 2020 the district purchased 3,000 feet of new fire hose! This hose was used to replace old and worn out hose, and supply our new engine with the proper amount of hose needed to put it in service.

The District also purchased new thermal imaging cameras. These are utilized on each medic unit, and the firefighter positions on the fire apparatus. These cameras are more compact and have the capability of taking still images for the purposes of training and post-incident reviews. Each firefighter/paramedic will have access to a thermal imaging camera thus providing increased safety and rescue capabilities.

The District purchased a new battery operated PPV fan. We frequently use this fan to vent smoke or odors from buildings. With the new fan being battery operated, we no longer need to worry about having a power source to fit our needs. This was a big upgrade from our previous electric/gas powered fans!

Finally, the District purchased new battery operated Milwaukee cut-off saws and grinders for the engine and truck. This gives us the ability to now cut things indoors without having to worry about the gasoline fumes .It will also cut our fuel cost down by having the batteries to run the saws. We strive to keep our tools and equipment up-to-date and in perfect working order! In 2021 we plan to replace our hose nozzles and hope to replace our gas chainsaws to battery.

## Buildings and Grounds

There are several projects for the district stations in the planning stage. Due to covid-19 restrictions on non-essential visitation to the stations and some contractors choosing not to work in public buildings, projects were delayed. The district has now been receiving bids on some large projects including: roof replacement at both stations, investigating the installation of solar panels to save on electric costs, remodeling of the upstairs bathrooms at Station 23, continued HVAC improvements to Station 21, adding an AC unit in the communications room at Station 21, and improving the drainage in the rear of Station 21. The district is also investigating a grant to upgrade the Nederman exhaust collection system at both stations.

### STATION-21

Dedication plaque hung outside the training room  
Dead willow tree taken down on North side of Station 21  
HVAC work continues to address humidity issue  
Solar attic vent fans installed to improve humidity issue  
Dishwasher replaced  
New deck furniture purchased for Station-21  
New phone system installed  
Fiber optic communication cable run to Station 21.  
LED lighting replacement - apparatus floor and parking lot  
Nederman installed to fit exhaust position for new Medic 21.

### STATION-23

HVAC units replaced for upper and lower levels due to cracked heat exchangers.  
New phone system installed  
Trees removed at Station 23  
Dishwasher replaced  
LED lighting replacement—apparatus floor and parking lot



**Projects Completed**

## The Mission of the Bloomingdale Fire District

The mission of the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District No. 1 is to assure the safety and well-being of the district we serve, by providing prompt and professional services in the event of fire, medical emergencies, disasters, or any other event which may threaten the public welfare.

### Jurisdictional Population

40,000

### Fire Stations

3

### Land Area

14.4 square miles

### Personnel

Fire Sworn -38

Administrative—6

### Total Calls

2019—5,101

2020—4,839

### Operating Budget

FY 2020 \$ 8,176,794

FY 2021 \$ 8,231,303

### Apparatus

ALS Engine—1, ALS Tower—1

BLS Tender —1 , Brush Truck-1,

Utility Truck —1, Ambulances-3

### Civilian Fire Injuries

2019—0

2020—5

### Fire Dollar Loss

2019 \$ 527,040

2020 \$ 1,888,350

CONGRATULATIONS



Rich Vinyard promoted to lieutenant October, 2020

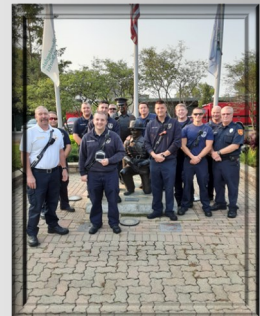
Sabastian Koziel, Zach Gloodt, and Brian Pennington completed their probationary year.



March, 2020



August, 2020



September, 2020

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

We extend our sincere gratitude to Trustee Lydia DiBuono for serving our district for over 21 years.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

As a department, we also thank the community for your outpouring of support and we look forward to serving you in 2021!





**Board of Trustees:** President, Pro-Tem Tim Deutsche  
Secretary, Robert Gaseor

**Commissioners:** Chairman, Marshall Gray, Jr  
Commissioner, Shawn Flood  
Commissioner, Brandt Leischner



**Station 21**

179 S. Bloomington Road



**Station 23**

246 S. Gary Ave-



**Station 22**

6N480 Keeney Road

[bloomingtonfire.com](http://bloomingtonfire.com)

Administration: 630.894.9080