

## FIRE CHIEF REPORT

**Report Date:** 1/13/2026

**Call Volume:** December had 239 requests for service: 911 EMS 139, Transfers 72, Dive 0, and Fire 28  
November had 216 requests for service: 911 EMS 100, Transfers 84, Dive 0, and Fire 32  
2025: Had 2556 requests for service  
2024: Had 2392 requests for service

### District Staffing

District Staffing Level: 99 members

Command Staff: 4 (1 Career Fire Chief & 3 POC Deputy Chief)

Administrative Assistant: 1

Chaplains: 2

St 1 has 38 members: 32 POC, 1 PT, & 3 Career (11 fire, 24 fire/EMS, 2 EMS, 1 Fire Investigator)

St 3 has 34 members: 32 POC & 2 Career (15 fire, 10 fire/EMS/dive, 1 EMS, & 8 dive)

St 6 has 20 members: 17 POC, 1 PT, & 2 Career (12 fire, 7 fire/EMS, & 2 EMS)

EMS Training: 51 members trained as EMS Responders

Ambulance Staffing: 28-member training/approved to work on ambulance

Dive Team: 20 members (12 Divers & 8 support staff)

### Department Interview(s)

5 District members that have interview on 12/22/2025 for eligibility list for career and part-time  
FF/EMT, FF/AEMT, and FF/EMT-P

3 new applicants have applied for an interview for paid on call positions in February 2026

### New Members that have started orientation

None at this time

### Members that have completed orientation

None at this time

### Members that have started First Responder Field Training

ELFF/EMT Elijah Anderson 12/2025

FF/EMT Evelyn Richards 12/2025

### Members that have started Ambulance Field Training

FF/EMT-P Andre Fliehr 12/19/2025

FF/EMT Evelyn Richards 1/13/2026

### Members that have Completed First Responder Field Training

ELFF/EMT Elijah Anderson 12/2025

FF/EMT Evelyn Richards 12/2025

### Members that have completed Ambulance Field Training

None at this time

### Members that have completed EMS Training

Andre Fliehr – Paramedic effective 12/15/2025

### Members that have completed Fire Training

Cory Jeffers – Fire Officer II effective 12/2025

Mike Nowak – Fire Officer II effective 12/2025

### Members that have completed probation

FF/EMT Austin Landowski effective 11/2025

FF CC EMT-P Blake Biller effective 11/2025

FF Matt Faulkner effective 11/2025

FF Carson Gunderson effective 11/2025

## FIRE CHIEF REPORT

### Member service anniversary this month

DC Mike Nowak (AEMT) – 34 years of service  
FF/CC EMT-P Peter Arriola - 5 years of service  
FF Jim Campbell - 34 years of service  
FF Randy Dienger - 45 years of service  
FF/EMT-P Jeff Dykes - 30 years of service  
Ff/AEMT Tony Schlueter – 4 years of service  
Capt. Shane Larson (FF) – 7 years of service  
Diver Dan Janicki – 20 years of service

### Members that have completed probation

FF/EMT Austin Landowski effective 11/2025  
FF CC EMT-P Blake Biller effective 11/2025  
FF Matt Faulkner effective 11/2025  
FF Carson Gunderson effective 11/2025

### Members that have left

Nothing to Report

### SOPs & MOGs of the Month

SOP 902 MA RIT Operations  
SOP 1010 First Responder Ambulances  
MOG 3251 Frame Private Residence

**Note:** SOP 104 Qualification and Minimum Requirement (Fire) - Effective 1/1/2026  
SOP 1014 Minimum EMS Training – Effective 1/1/2026  
SOP 1005 Interfacility Transfers - Effective 1/1/2026  
SOP 110 EMS Shift Comp - Effective 1/1/2026  
SOP 111 Paid on Call Comp - Effective 1/1/2026

### Vehicle/Equipment Updates

Tender 3 shoreline check valve replace on 12/03/2025  
Medic 4 door latch serviced on 12/04/2025  
Medic 2 in for service on 12/9/2025  
Medic 2 secondary alternator was replaced on 12/9/2025  
Squad 3 door handle repaired on 12/16/2025  
Dive Van roof vent serviced on 12/16/2025  
Medic M2548 in for service on 12/18/2025  
Car 10 service on 12/19/2025  
Medic 4 Power Load Cot serviced on 12/30/2025  
Tender 1 tire repaired on 1/6/2026

### District Meetings

#### Station Meetings

Station 1 meeting was held on 1/7/2025 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Nowak, Officers, and members.  
Station 3 meeting was held on 12/18/2025 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Jeffers, Officers, and members.  
Station 6 meeting was held on 12/18/2025 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Schiedler, Officers, and members.

#### Fire Board Meeting

Meeting was held on 12/16/2025 attended by Chief Bernette and several employees.

#### Fire Commission Meeting

Meeting was held on 10/28/2025 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Scheidler, DC Jeffers, Station Officers, Station members, and several from the public.  
Next regular scheduled meeting is scheduled for 1/27/2026

## FIRE CHIEF REPORT

### Officer's Meetings

District Officers Meeting held on 1/8/2026 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Nowak, DC Jeffers, and Station Officers.

Next Meeting: 3/5/2026

### Employee Meetings

Career and Part-time Employee Meeting held on 12/15/2025 at Station 1 at 7:30am

Next Meeting: 1/22/2025

### District Trainings

#### Fire Training

Dec: Ice Rescue

#### EMS Training

Dec: Skill Check off Training

### Other Meetings/Activities

NCFCA Meeting online attended by Chief Bernette on 12/18/2025

City of Altoona & Fire District Meeting on 12/19/2025

City of Altoona & Fire District Meeting on 1/9/2025

### District Safety Message

January safety messages focus on winter hazards like cold stress (frostbite, hypothermia), slip/fall risks from ice, safe winter driving, carbon monoxide poisoning from heating sources, and fire safety with space heaters/fireplaces, urging layers for warmth, cautious shoveling, checking on vulnerable people, and preparing homes/vehicles for severe weather.

#### Cold & Exposure

- Dress in layers: Wear multiple layers, a hat, gloves, and waterproof boots; cover extremities.
- Limit time outside: Take breaks indoors and avoid overexertion when shoveling or walking in deep snow to prevent heart attacks.
- Watch for signs: Know symptoms of frostbite (numbness, pale skin) and hypothermia (shivering, confusion).

**Note:** If you see something, say something!