



# West Pierce Fire & Rescue

*Proudly serving the citizens of Lakewood and University Place*

## 2015 Annual Report

3631 Drexler Drive West | University Place, WA 98466 | 253.564.1623 | [www.westpierce.org](http://www.westpierce.org)

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## Letter From the Chief

2015 was a very busy year, filled with several unique challenges. The first major challenge we faced was the U.S. Open. As the host fire and EMS agency for the event, West Pierce Fire & Rescue was involved in the planning process for several years. During the first six months of 2015, the U.S. Open became all-consuming for our department, as we put the final pieces of the operational plans in place. In the end, all of the planning paid off, as the U.S. Open was a huge success. Even with exceptionally warm weather and a high patient count, all the medical patients were treated rapidly without any impact to the event. More importantly, fire and EMS services throughout West Pierce were never affected or reduced due to the U.S. Open.

As soon as the U.S. Open was completed, we shifted gears to begin working on our maintenance and operations levy. The M & O Levy is a vital part of our fire department funding. The department has used this levy to help fund our operations for over 40 years. However, the levy does not provide dedicated funding. It must be renewed by the voters on a regular basis. This year we received a 70% approval rating on our levy request. We feel we have built a very strong partnership with the community and we greatly value the support we receive.

Things didn't slow down after the election; they merely heated up. In 2015, Washington experienced its worst fire season on record. During a one month stretch this summer, fire calls in West Pierce were up over 700%, when compared to the same time in 2014. Additionally, West Pierce deployed several staff members to Eastern Washington to assist during another record-breaking wildfire season.

In the end, it was a very challenging but rewarding year. Now it's time to look to the future. With a maintenance and operations levy in place for four years and the Great Recession behind us, we are ready to start planning for the future of our organization. The fire service is changing rapidly and the communities we serve are always evolving. In 2016, West Pierce will be developing a strategic plan to help us adapt to these changes. With effective planning, we are confident we will continue to meet the needs and expectations of the community, not only today, but for many years to come.



Jim Sharp, Fire Chief



## About the District

### ***Vision Statement***

*West Pierce Fire & Rescue is a premier fire and life safety organization, dedicated to providing modern, community focused service.*

### ***Mission Statement***

*West Pierce Fire & Rescue, in partnership with the community, protects lives and property through a well-trained, cost effective, pro-active fire department, serving and educating citizens.*

### ***District Motto***

***Respond Efficiently • Execute Flawlessly • BE NICE!***



## 2015 Fire Commissioners

The public elects a Board of Fire Commissioners to represent their fire district to set budgets, establish policy and provide administrative oversight. Meetings are held twice monthly, on the first and third Tuesday, at 5:30 p.m. at West Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 31, located at 3631 Drexler Drive West in University Place. The public is encouraged to attend.



Bart Dalton  
Position 1, Board Chair  
2014-2019



John Clancy  
Position 2, Vice Chair  
2010-2015



Daniel Rankin  
Position 3  
2012-2017

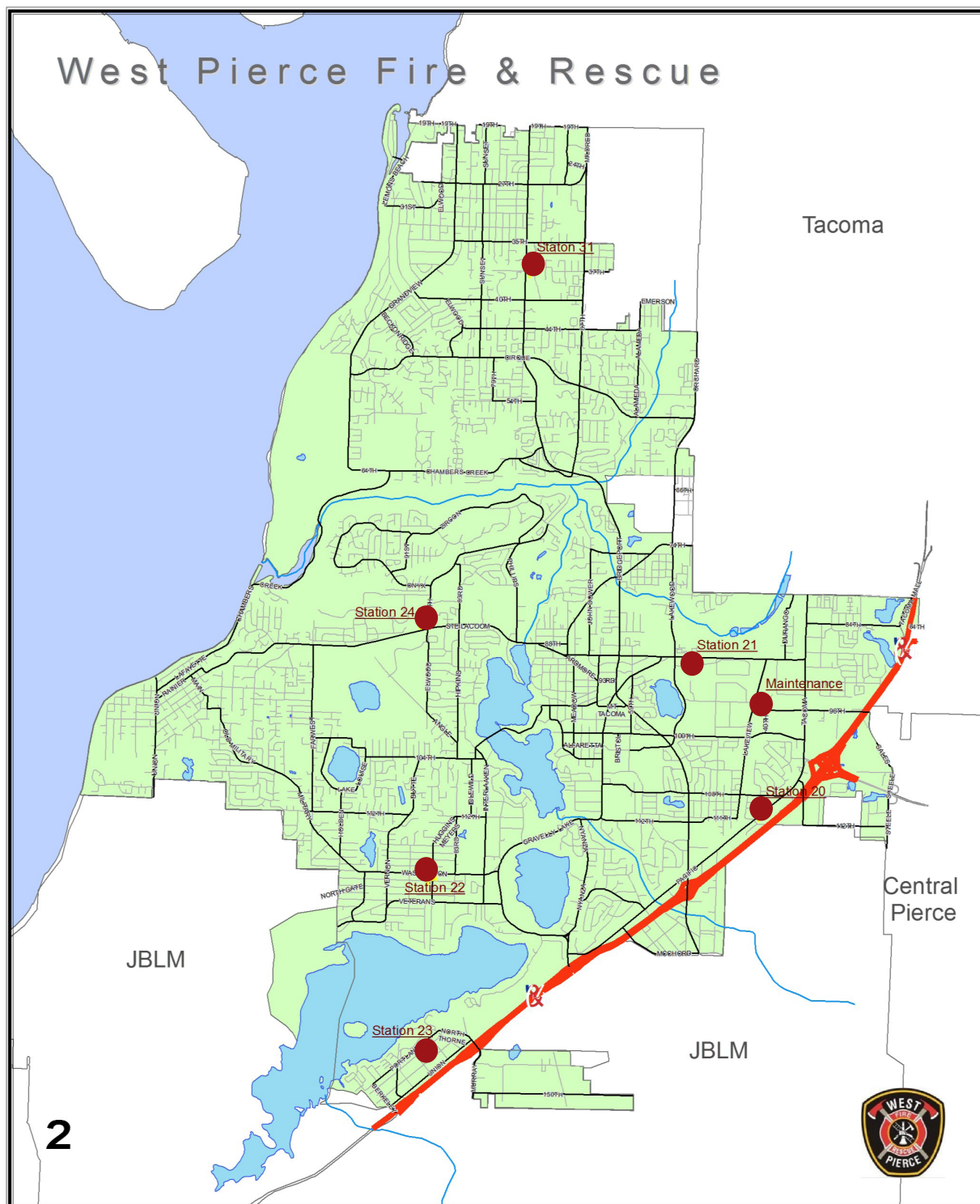


Grant Erb  
Position 4  
2010-2015



John Sheeran  
Position 5  
2014-2019

## Jurisdiction Map



## Stations



**Station 31 - Headquarters**  
3631 Drexler Drive W | University Place 98466



**Station 20**  
10928 Pacific Highway SW | Lakewood 98498



**Station 21**  
5000 Steilacoom Blvd SW | Lakewood 98499



**Station 22**  
8517 Washington Blvd SW | Lakewood 98498

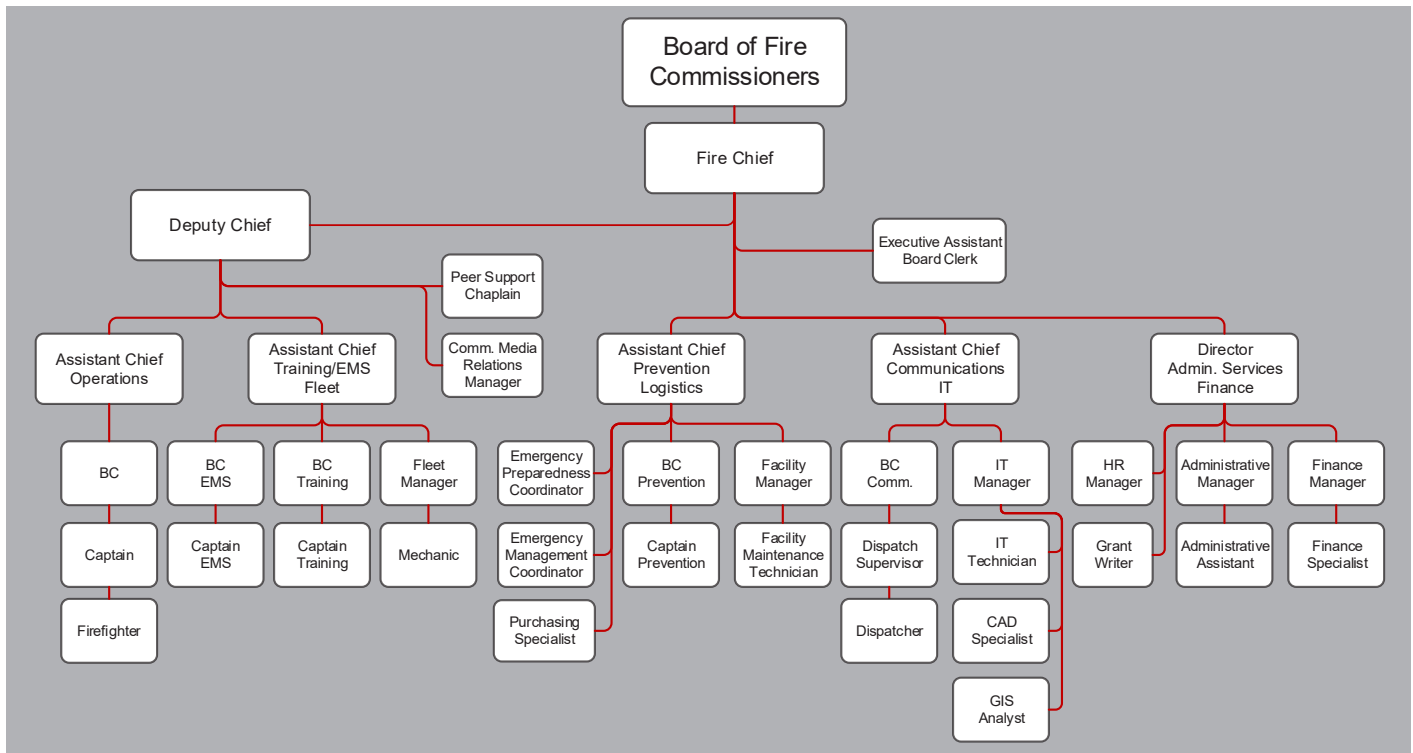


**Station 23**  
14505 Grant Avenue SW | Lakewood 98498



**Station 24**  
8310 87th Avenue SW | Lakewood 98498

## Organizational Chart



## West Pierce Fire & Rescue Executive Staff



Jim Sharp  
Fire Chief



Mitchell Sagers  
Deputy Chief



Lloyd Christianson  
Assistant Chief of  
Training, EMS & Fleet



Eric Norton  
Assistant Chief of  
Communications & IT



Karl Roth  
Assistant Chief of  
Prevention & Logistics



Paul Tinsley  
Assistant Chief of  
Operations



Koree Wick  
Director of Administrative  
Services & Finance



Jenny Weekes  
Community & Media  
Relations Manager

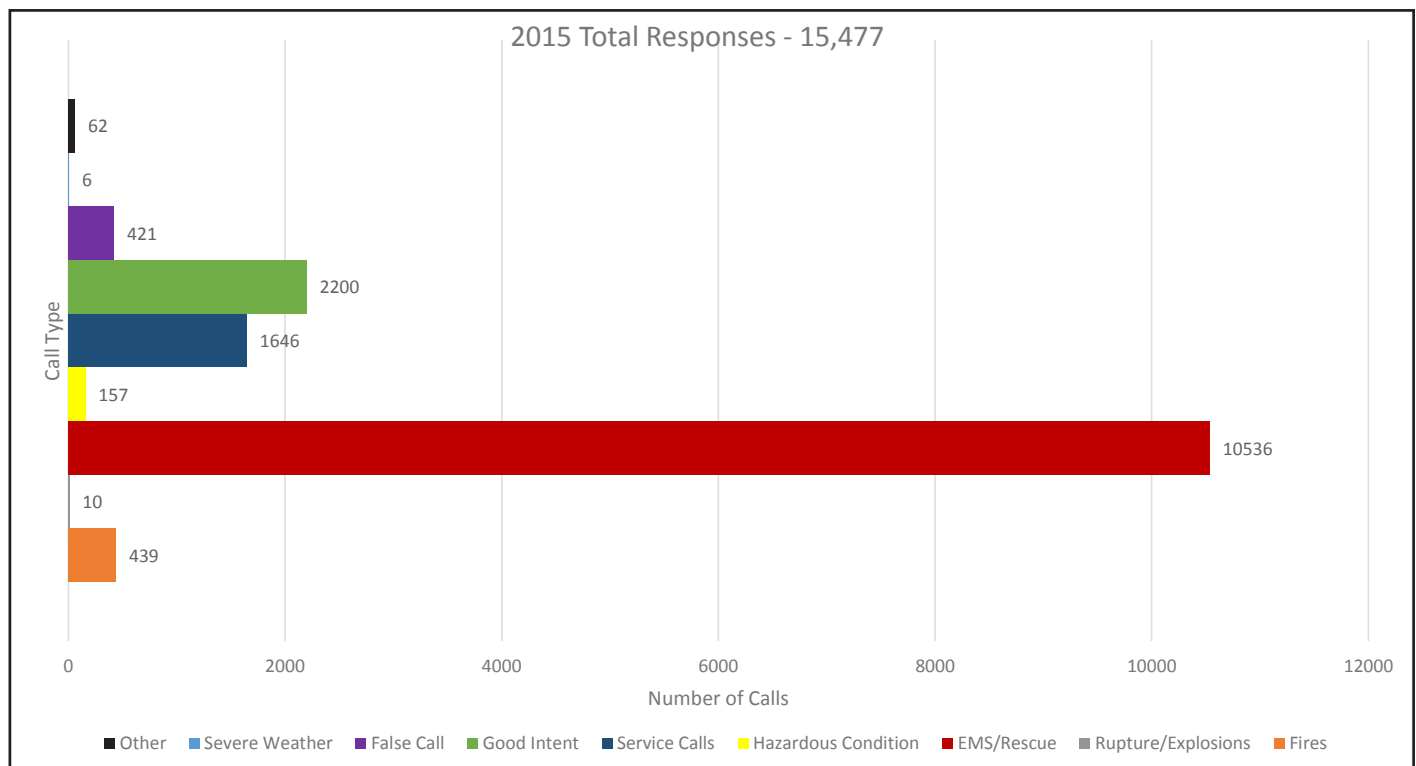


Tammy Lamb  
Executive Assistant

## Operations

Operations encompasses all emergency response programs. The Operations Division is made up of Battalion Chiefs, Captains, Engineers and Firefighters who are trained to respond to and mitigate a multitude of emergent situations. All Operations personnel are trained as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or to the level of Paramedic.

Calls for service include, but are not limited to, fires, motor vehicle crashes, medical aid calls, technical and water rescues, hazardous materials incidents, service calls, severe weather responses and ruptures or explosions.



## Operations

The Operations Division is divided into three shifts who work 24 hours at a time. Six fire stations are staffed 24/7 and house the following vehicles:

1 Battalion Chief	1 ladder company
6 engine companies	5 medic units
	(4 full-time and 1 part-time)

The following units are cross-staffed when the need arises:

1 brush vehicle	3 marine vessels
1 HazMat response vehicle	1 dive unit
1 Technical Rescue vehicle	

### Operations Division personnel:

Assistant Chief of Operations

Battalion Chiefs: 3

Captains: 25

Engineers / Firefighters: 103

### Of these employees:

Emergency Medical Technicians: 83

Paramedics: 48

### Specialty Training:

HazMat Technicians: 15

Marine Pilots: 19

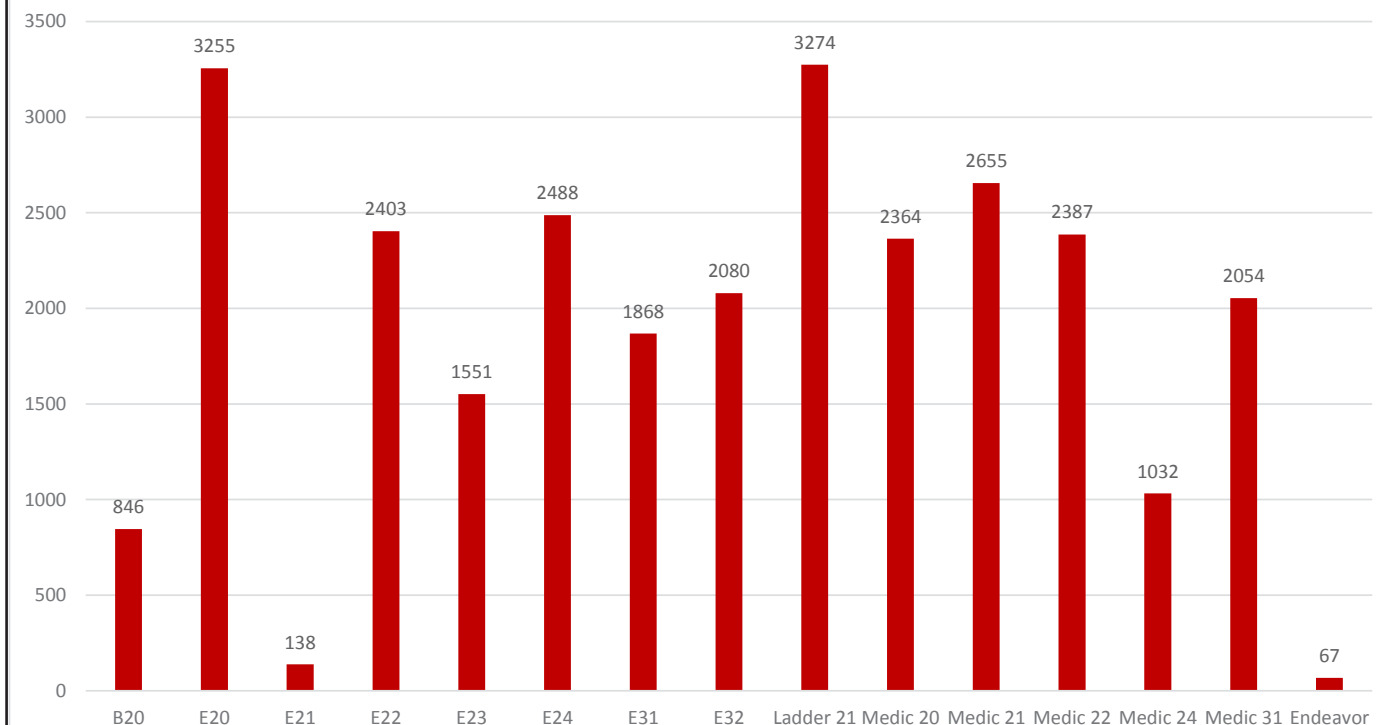
Rescue Technicians: 30

Rescue Divers: 20

Rescue Swimmers: 26



2015 Responses by Apparatus



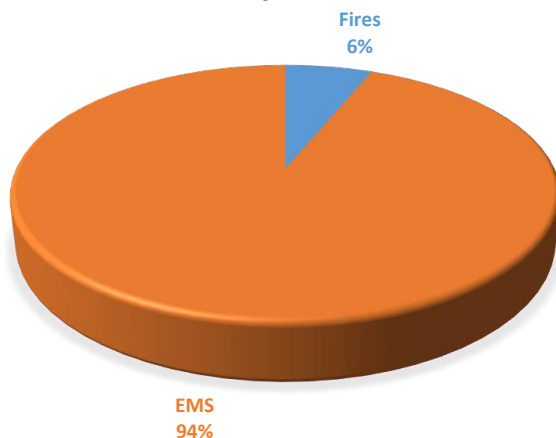
## Peer Support Advocate / Chaplain Program

Each day, citizens in our community experience an unplanned crisis. Whether a car crash, medical emergency, fire in their home or business, or worse yet, the death of a loved one. Well-trained firefighters and Paramedics respond and work efficiently to handle each emergency. When the immediate event is over, there are many questions and needs. West Pierce Fire & Rescue is fortunate to have a dedicated team of Peer Support Advocate/Chaplains who meet those in crisis and help ease their distress and work to restore a sense of normalcy.

In 2015, the Peer Support Advocate/Chaplains responded to 76 EMS-related and five fire calls, in addition to various events, such as:

- 2015 Partners in Service banquet
- Red Knight Recruit Academy graduation
- Duck Daze Open House
- 9/11 Remembrance Ceremonies
- Provide support at the Puyallup Fair

### 2015 PEER SUPPORT/CHAPLAIN RESPONSES



### Services Provided by Peer Support Advocate/Chaplains

#### Community Support

- Grief counseling
- Connecting with local clergy
- Connecting with funeral homes
- Liaison between hospital staff and families

#### District Support

- Training District personnel on emotional care
- Firefighter counseling and support
- Emergency Room support
- Transport family of patients
- Transition to hospital Chaplains
- Stress management
- Assist District with special events
- Support for District retirees



## Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Most calls received by the fire department are for emergency medical responses. District-wide, the EMS Division supports 52 paramedics and 94 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) by providing continuing medical education in a variety of ways. These include classroom and hands-on training, the use of online programs and focused EMS conferences, which provide ongoing medical education in order to deliver high caliber service and maintain EMS certifications.



EMS and Training Division staff

### Major Events and Projects

- In conjunction with the Training Division, developed and delivered EMS bike training program to 12 Paramedics and 12 Firefighters in preparation for the U.S. Open Golf Championship at Chambers Bay
- Provided fire and EMS services for the U.S. Open Golf Championship
- Prepared four WPFR firefighters to attend Paramedic school at Tacoma Community College
- Prepared two new medic units to be placed in service
- Collaborated with other local fire departments and the Northwest Physicians Network to connect citizens with appropriate healthcare services
- Hosted various county-wide EMS trainings for EMTs and Paramedics
- Participated in local data collection and evaluation program for outcomes of patients receiving CPR

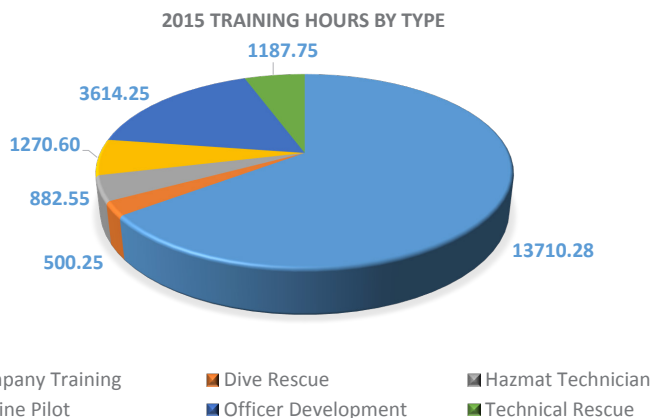


## Training

The Training Division is responsible for scheduling, tracking and coordinating training for all employees. The goal is to provide knowledge, skills and abilities needed to perform all required duties. These include, but are not limited to, firefighting fundamentals, safety, emergency vehicle operations, fire officer and command functions, specialized rescue operations, hazardous materials responses, dive and marine operations, customer service, and leadership development.

### Major Events and Projects

- Conducted eight-week recruit training academy for three new firefighters
- Participated in quarterly HazMat and Pierce County Special Operations Rescue Team (PCSORT) drills with partnering agencies
- Participated in multi-company operational drills with JBLM, Tacoma Fire and other county agencies at multi-story building located on JBLM
- In conjunction with the EMS Division, developed and delivered EMS bike training program to 12 Paramedics and 12 Firefighters in preparation for the U.S. Open Golf Championship at Chambers Bay
- Provided logistical and staffing support for 2015 U.S. Open
- Conducted Fireboat Endeavor training exercises with USCG helicopter, Pierce County ferry and WPFR dive team
- Conducted "Mayday May", a month-long training performed for trapped/endangered firefighter scenarios ("Maydays") and rescue procedures



## Fire Prevention

The Prevention Division has two branches; public education and code enforcement. Various programs, events, training, fire investigations and code enforcement efforts are handled on a daily basis. West Pierce Fire & Rescue serves the Clover Park and University Place School Districts, daycares and preschools within the cities of Lakewood and University Place, as well as partners with various organizations throughout the District for community events and public education efforts.

### Public Education Programs

- 40 engine appearances were made to local preschools and daycares to teach basic fire safety lessons and that firefighters are their friends.
- Hosted one Safe Sitter course that teaches children ages 11-13 basic tips for babysitting, CPR, basic first aid and choking rescue.
- 316 elementary school classrooms were visited this year in 19 elementary schools. A variety of safety presentations were delivered to the different grade levels:
  - Kindergarten - fire safety: 67
  - 1st grade - booster seat safety: 61
  - 2nd grade - fire safety: 55
  - 3rd grade - disaster preparedness / water safety: 54
  - 4th grade - wheeled sports safety: 47
  - 5th grade - First Aid: 32
- 550 students at Lakes and Curtis High Schools were taught CPR this past year.
- Nearly 1,100 students were visited and read to by firefighter during Read Across America
- Fire Prevention Week activities—Each elementary school student received a Fire Prevention Checklist to take home, complete it and return it to the school. 22 classrooms with 100% participation received an ice cream party with firefighters and six students from the hundreds of entries won rides to school on the fire engine.
- Three juvenile fire setter interventions were conducted about the dangers of playing with fire.



## Fire Prevention

### Highlights and Additional Services Provided

- 35 car seat checks were conducted by appointment and 25 additional car seats were checked at the Fall Safety Day event.
- 47 custom-fit life jackets were sold at community events.
- 430 bike and multi-sport helmets were fit at community events and schools.
- 28 presentations were conducted on various safety topics to local groups, such as civic groups, scout troops, schools, adult family homes, block parties and Homeowners Associations.
- Nine presentations were conducted to junior high and high school students interested in careers in the fire service.
- 23 First Aid and CPR classes were taught this year and are offered monthly to the community. Additional trainings were conducted for Head Start and Early Learning families, as well as city Parks Department and Senior Activity Centers.
- Two Crime Free Multi-Housing courses were taught to apartment managers in conjunction with the Lakewood and University Place Police Departments.
- 28 station tours were hosted by firefighters for various community groups.
- Five students from Curtis and Lakes High Schools took part in the Senior Project program.
- Approximately 1,200 smoke alarms in over 350 homes in Lakewood and University Place were installed thanks to a grant that allows the continuation of the Smoke Alarm Program.

### 2015 Events

*This year, West Pierce Fire & Rescue partnered with the City of Lakewood, City of University Place and other local organizations to participate in 55 community events. Some highlights include:*

- **Disaster Preparedness Day**
- **Mock DUI Crash**
- **Duck Daze Open House**
- **Lakewood Senior Center Open House**
- **Lakewood SummerFEST**
- **Lakewood Towne Center Farmer's Market**
- **National Night Out**
- **University Place Sun Fest**
- **Caring for Kids Ready to Learn Fair**
- **9/11 remembrance ceremonies**
- **Fall Safety Day**



## Fire Prevention

In addition to public education, the Prevention Division also handles code enforcement in conjunction with the City of Lakewood. These efforts ensure the safety of buildings while under construction, remodeled or conducting day-to-day business. Meetings with other City officials and contractors, plan review and inspections are all a part of this process. Fire investigations are also conducted by the Prevention Division to determine cause and origin.



Prevention Division staff

### Fire Inspections

International Fire Code Permits	159
Annual Inspections (other)	105
Construction/Other Inspections	163
Prevention Division Re-inspections	102
Fire Protection Systems	153
School Inspections	16
Daycare Inspections	20
Engine Company Inspections	324
<b>Total Inspections</b>	<b>1,042</b>

### Fire Prevention & Code Enforcement Activities

**Code Meetings**—21 meetings were attended by Prevention personnel. These meetings are between members of the City's Building Department, Police Department and Code Enforcement to discuss problem properties.

**Building Meetings**—45 meetings were conducted with personnel from the building department to discuss development within the City of Lakewood.

**Pre-Application Meetings**—52 meetings were attended in Lakewood to educate future business owners on the City requirements they will need to fulfill in order to open their business. Members of the Building Department, Water District, Planning Division and Public Works participate in these meetings.

**Plan Reviews**—282 total plan reviews were conducted. The plans reviewed include 94 fire protection systems, 162 construction plans and 26 pre-application reviews.

**Fire Investigations**—37 fires occurred in 2015 which required an investigation by the Fire Prevention Division.

## Emergency Management

Emergency Management is an important part of the District, as it involves preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a disaster or extreme emergency. During 2015, training of the District's Emergency Operations Center staff was a major focus. This training came in extremely helpful as multiple WPFR employees assisted in this summer's wildfires in the Okanogan County Emergency Operations Center.

### Major Events and Projects

- Engaged District staff in five workshops related to the Incident Command System, an effective organizational element used during extreme emergencies and disasters
- Updated Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA for five years and adopted by WPFR Board of Fire Commissioners in June
- Hosted monthly meetings, in conjunction with the City of Lakewood, with local schools, colleges, hospitals, public health, transportation, and utilities to discuss emergency management planning as a community
- Sent letters out to local businesses and organizations requesting the coordination of resources to be used during a disaster
- Supported the training of over 100 community volunteers on how to set up and manage a shelter during a local emergency or disaster
- Assisted with the development of the County Family Reunification and Assistance Center plan as another component to sheltering
- Assisted, in partnership with the State of Washington, with the planning, writing and implementation of a large Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Expo with over 180 participants
- Coordinated a large exercise for participants from WPFR staff, the City of Lakewood, rail transit partners and St. Clare Hospital. This involved over 200 hours of coordination, planning, writing and implementing the exercise for 68 participants
- Updated the District's Emergency Operations Plan notebooks and the center logistically stocked for rapid activation when needed



## Emergency Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness is not only important for the District, but for the citizens it serves. The largest and most prominent program West Pierce Fire & Rescue offers is the Community Emergency Response Team training. These classes are offered throughout the year and are free of charge.

The purpose of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is to prepare groups of citizens who work or live in Lakewood and University Place for disasters. The classes follow a model developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and are offered in cities across the United States. The idea behind this model is to teach people in neighborhoods how to help each other in the first few minutes or hours following a disaster – before emergency responders arrive to render professional help. In the classes, students gain hands-on skills such as how to put out small fires, render first aid in a disaster situation, and perform light search and rescue.

### CERT Volunteer Tracking 2015 Cumulative Totals

<b>Volunteers Recruited</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>Training Hours</b> Includes all events where CERTs participated in training. This includes the basic CERT class or advanced training opportunities.	<b>1,975</b>
<b>Public Event Hours</b> Includes all events where CERTs promoted the program at public events by staffing the CERT booth, handed out fliers or brochures, or spoke publicly about the event.	<b>97</b>
<b>Victim Hours</b> Includes hours when CERT members or non-CERT members play a victim in any CERT drill.	<b>168</b>
<b>Meeting Hours</b> Includes CERT Advisor meetings and any meeting to share ideas and direction.	<b>23</b>
<b>TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>	<b>2,357</b>



## Emergency Preparedness



### 2015 Events

- **Disaster Preparedness Day**—12 other organizations helped WPFR promote disaster preparedness
- **Duck Daze Open House**—Talked to citizens about their experience and recruit new members
- **SummerFEST**—Event in which CERT could recruit and share information
- **Fall Safety Day**—Signed up 25 citizens and made first aid kits for over 200 children
- **CERT Annual Potluck**—30 members attended with family members to mingle and receive preparedness prizes as a thank you to volunteers

### CERT Highlights

- Conducted four basic CERT classes throughout the year
- Quarterly supplemental training and other training opportunities
- Presented to 14 service clubs, neighborhood associations, businesses, schools and churches
- Received a grant to hire a new AmeriCorps volunteer for a one-year term
- Purchased supplies for the Family Assistance Center
- Maintained regular inventory of the District's disaster supplies
- Maintained and supplied the Department Operations Center (DOC)
- Sent preparedness information was sent to WPFR employees and CERT members during Disaster Preparedness Month
- Participated in the Great Shakeout 2015 earthquake drill
- Published three *CERT Alert!* newsletters



## Fleet Maintenance

The Fleet Maintenance Division is a proactive division that consists of a Fleet Manager and three Mechanics who operate out of a facility located in Lakewood. All of these individuals are EVT/ ASE Certified Journeymen Mechanics. They keep the WPFR fleet (over 70 vehicles and equipment) in top shape throughout the year, as well as maintain facility generators, compressors, power tools and much more.

### Major Events and Projects

- Performed 157 services and inspections
- Performed 36 pump tests on WPFR and Tacoma Fire Department apparatus
- Performed annual maintenance on all marine vessels including service, cleaning and painting
- Repaired clutch, pump, and piping in Fireboat Endeavor
- Completed U.L. Ladder testing of three WPFR aerial ladder trucks
- Added additional reservoir air tanks to new medic units
- Updated all mobile data computers (vehicle computers)
- Assisted with developing the specifications for a new engine company



Fleet Maintenance Division staff



### Fleet Maintenance Facts

- The shop has equipment which can lift over 200,000 pounds
- All fleet vehicles receive a 75-point safety inspection annually
- More than 70 fire service vehicles and equipment are maintained throughout the year
- The machine shop is fully equipped with welding capability, parts room, office space, day room and a fully furnished kitchen

## Facilities Maintenance

The Facilities Maintenance Division consists of a Facilities Manager and three Facilities Maintenance Technicians. These dedicated personnel are responsible for custodial work, repair, and general maintenance of all district facilities, grounds and related equipment. The division's work load is broad and varied. All work is performed by division technicians, with the exception of some contract services and maintenance requiring special license, certification, or skill set.

### Major Events and Projects

- Replaced generators at Station 22 and 24
- Upgraded HVAC control system at Station 20
- Conducted weekly custodial service for Stations 31 and 20
- Provided ground maintenance at all District facilities
- Provided prompt response to over 400 facility maintenance work orders
- Worked jointly with the Lakewood Water District to service 1,982 fire hydrants



Facilities Maintenance Division staff

### Facilities Maintenance Facts

- The Division works out of a 4,000 square foot shop in Lakewood
- The shop has two offices and sufficient space for storage of supplies, parts, tools and maintenance equipment
- The Division is outfitted with two flatbed dump trucks, a yard maintenance trailer, two tool-equipped service trucks, a scissor-lift with trailer and a staff car
- All District facilities' square footage equals approximately 101,675 square feet.
- The District facilities have more than 8.75 acres of exterior space that are regularly maintained



## Fire Communications

Fire Communications (Fire Comm) has been in existence since 1983. It serves as a dedicated fire and EMS dispatch center for 18 fire departments, along with Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and the Pierce County Fire Marshal's Office. In addition to the Dispatch Center, Fire Comm staff handle computer aided dispatch (CAD) system maintenance and upgrades and evaluation and management of Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) protocols. The Center operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### Major Events and Projects

- Answered 150,707 calls; an increase of 28.7% from 2014
- Added additional schedules to handle increased call volume
- South Sound 911 transition planning and development
- Performed new CAD development and training
- Incorporated of Central Pierce Fire & Rescue and Fife Dispatch into Fire Comm
- Hired six dispatchers to achieve full staffing
- Managed regional station alerting grant for base infrastructure equipment within WPFR Fire Comm and Tacoma Fire Dispatch
- Coordinated with other fire districts for implementation of station alerting equipment
- Established a plan for the U.S. Open at Chambers Bay, including an on-site dispatch center
- Successfully dispatched all fire and EMS incidents during the U.S. Open and Washington State Fair
- Performed ongoing training for new employees with classroom, phone and radio qualifications
- Transitioned Gig Harbor, Key Peninsula, Graham, South Pierce, Orting Valley and East Pierce over to new 700 MHz system
- Windstorms put Fire Comm into a High Incident Response Load (HIRL) three times during the fourth quarter alone



A Shift dispatchers



B Shift dispatchers



C Shift dispatchers



D Shift dispatchers

## Information Technology

The IT Division is responsible for enterprise technologies, including administrative information, communication, cellular and broadband, geographic information, wireless access, computer aided dispatch (CAD) and help desk.

General technology services provided include internal and external network connections for seven WPFR buildings and eight external user agencies within Pierce County; 911 communication access for more than 50 mobile data computers (MDCs) throughout Pierce County's fire agencies, secure user authentication for information system access, distributed file access, email, accounting, fire records, electronic patient care records, video security, Voice Over IP (VOIP) telephone system, and a wide variety of software. The Division is also responsible for all technology related hardware and peripheral equipment ranging from network connected mass storage arrays to desktop computers.



IT Division staff



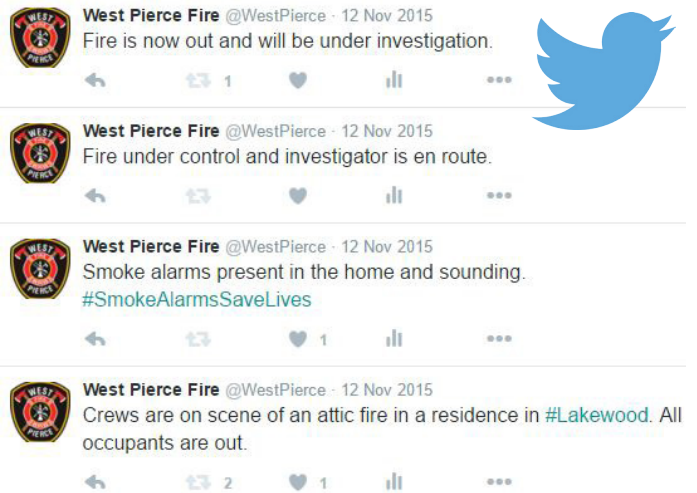
### Major Events and Projects

- Updated Tiburon CAD system
- Assisted with planning and technology related to the South Sound 911 transition
- Implemented equipment within Fire Comm for deployment of regional station alerting equipment
- Continual updating of MDCs for WPFR apparatus
- Moved all Microsoft email and SharePoint resources to a cloud-based service
- Implemented 700\800 MHz radio project
- Migrated Exchange Server to Office 365
- New Intergraph MPS testing
- Upgraded Collective Fleet (vehicle maintenance program)
- Updated Dynamics (finance program) software to include: new server, software, and reporting tools
- Upgraded Telestaff (leave accruals program) system software
- Implemented One Step (inspection and permitting computer program for Prevention)
- Implemented Blue Beam program (plan review computer program for Prevention and City of Lakewood)
- Installed new MDC and IN Motion gateways for WPFR apparatus

## Community & Media Relations

Community and media relations are an extremely important part of what West Pierce Fire & Rescue does on a daily basis, as it is necessary to keep citizens informed. With the ever growing use of modern technology, how media is dispersed is has and will continue to change rapidly.

The Community and Media Relations Manager is responsible for maintaining WPFR's official website, reader board and social media accounts, as the public and the media follow WPFR on those platforms regularly. The Community & Media Relations Manager also interacts with the media on incident response information, while conducting and coordinating interviews, updating social media and sending press releases.



### Media Relations Statistics

Information pertaining to the District is sent in various forms, including press releases, website and social media posts. On average, 27% of this information is covered by the media, whether in the form of print, television, radio and/or social media. A combination of incident response, informational and public relations topics are included.

**Press releases: 48**

**Website posts: 52**

**Facebook posts: 116** (increase of 60% from 2014)

**Twitter posts: 379** (increase of 394% from 2014)

[www.westpierce.org](http://www.westpierce.org)  
[facebook.com/westpierce](https://facebook.com/westpierce)  
[twitter.com/westpierce](https://twitter.com/westpierce)



Firefighters were dispatched to a medical alarm (luckily it was a false activation) yesterday. When they arrived, the elderly patient was outside working in her yard. Seeing she was ok, they decided to grab some tools and help her finish the work!



Share

## Finance & Administrative Services

Finance and Administrative Services are joined under one division. In Finance, the responsibilities include, but are not limited to, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, budget development, assets management and grant administration and writing. More information on finance at West Pierce & Rescue can be found in the latest budget report, located on our website.

Administrative Services provides staff and program support to all divisions of West Pierce Fire & Rescue. Some responsibilities include human resources, risk management, benefits coordination, records retention, public records requests, emergency medical reports reviews and contracts management.



Finance & Administrative Services Division staff

### Finance Facts

- The District undergoes an audit annually by the State Auditor's office
- As a taxpayer of West Pierce Fire & Rescue, any transport balance not paid by insurance is covered by EMS Levy funding.
- The Assessed Value, which is determined by a county tax assessor, of a home is used to calculate the taxes paid to the District. Taxes are calculated by multiplying the local tax rate by each \$1,000 of Assessed Value
- WPFR is a Class 3 Fire Department, as determined by the Washington State Survey and Ratings Bureau

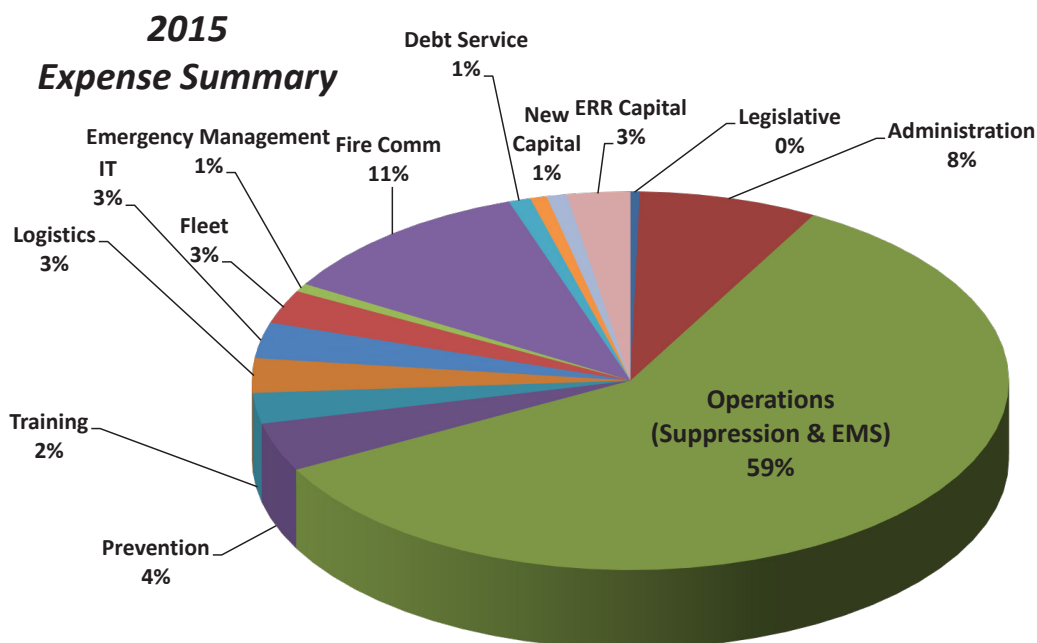
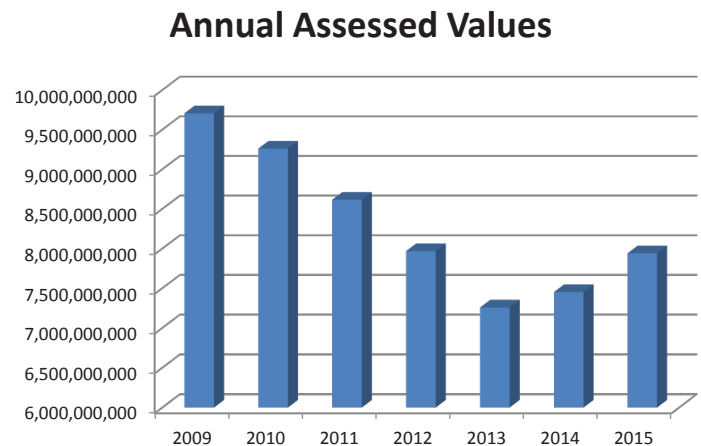
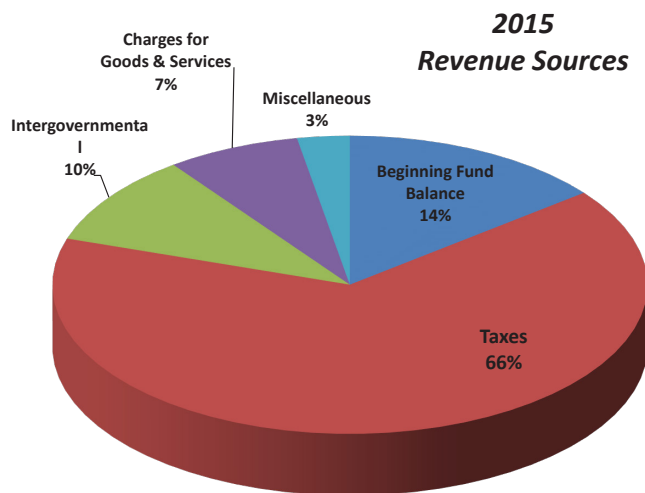
### Major Events and Projects

- Assisted with successful adoption of the 2016 budget
- Fulfilled 218 Public Records Requests
- On August 4th, 2015, the citizens approved a four-year Maintenance & Operations Levy in the amount of \$10,975,000 annually. This budget includes salaries, benefits, supplies, services and debt service
- Established several hiring and promotional lists
- Processed 367 operational and construction permits
- Processed 1,042 fire inspections
- Scheduled 163 construction inspections
- Collected and archived all 2014 records for retention
- Published the 2014 Annual Report
- Hired three new Administrative Assistants
- Transitioned all District personnel to a new Disability Insurance provider
- Assisted LEOFF1 retirees and employees in finding a new prescription drug plan
- Submitted 5,603 medical reports for billing
- Reviewed more than 15,000 incident reports
- Developed and began implementation of a new assets tracking methodology
- Underwent a successful annual audit and a single-year audit of federal grants by the State Auditor's office
- Underwent the District's first audit by the Department of Revenue

## Finance & Administrative Services

West Pierce's revenue comes from a number of sources:

- **Taxes**—Prior year taxes, regular levy, EMS levy, Maintenance & Operations levy, new construction and improvements, uncollected taxes
- **Intergovernmental**—This budget area accounts for grant fund revenue from all outside sources (including fire protection contracts)
- **Charges for Goods & Services**—Sales of merchandise, emergency services, transport fees, repair charges, sale of parts, general governmental services, other public safety
- **Miscellaneous**—Interest income, space and facility leases, surplus, boathouse expenses



## Retirements, Promotions and New Hires

In 2015, ten members of West Pierce Fire & Rescue turned the page to a new chapter in their life - retirement. Collectively, their 171 years of combine service and valuable experience will be leaving, but making room for new faces and promotions. Thank you to all for their dedicated years of service and congratulations to those stepping into new roles within the organization.

### Retirements

Kevin Kroenert, Captain  
Bernice Hodge, Finance Specialist  
Brian Crutcher, Firefighter  
Eileen Creveling, Administrative Manager  
Rob Richardson, Firefighter  
Stephen Murphy, Battalion Chief  
Gina Moberg, Dispatcher  
Maria Lautt, Administrative Assistant

### Promotions

Michael Hamilton, Captain  
Norm Fiacchi, Captain  
Jeff Pratt, Captain  
Kimberly Cacciaguidi, Administrative Manager  
Ryan McGrady, Captain  
Elizabeth Frolich, Finance Specialist

### New Hires

John Burg, Firefighter  
John Craig, Firefighter  
Justin Tinsley, Firefighter  
Carlea Dill, Dispatcher  
Cori Crofts, Dispatcher  
Rachel Adler, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator  
Karyn Hubbell, Administrative Assistant  
Andee Lugo, Administrative Assistant  
Amy Doyle, Administrative Assistant  
Kristina Denison, Dispatcher  
Ami Ward, Dispatcher  
Emily Currie, Dispatcher  
Randi Temple, Dispatcher



## Community Support & Professional Associations

West Pierce Fire & Rescue personnel are involved in many community groups, service clubs and professional associations to not only enhance training opportunities, but for networking and working in conjunction with others with similar missions and goals.

### Community Support

- Caring for Kids
- Clover Park Kiwanis Club
- Clover Park Rotary
- Communities in Schools
- Habitat for Humanity
- Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
- Lakewood First Lions Club
- Lakewood Knight Lions Club
- Lakewood Neighborhood Associations
- Partners for Parks
- Pierce County Chaplaincy
- Red Cross
- Rotary Club of Lakewood
- Safe Kids Pierce County
- Steilacoom Kiwanis Club
- Tacoma Narrows Rotary
- YWCA Pierce County

### Professional Associations

- International Association of Fire Chiefs
- International Association of Fire Fighters
- International Code Council
- Lakewood Public Safety Advisory Commission
- Lakewood United
- National Fire Protection Agency
- Pierce County Department of Emergency Management Regional Coordinating Council
- Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association
- University Place Joint Agency Committee
- University Place Public Safety Commission
- Washington Association of Building Officials
- Washington Emergency Public Information Network
- Washington Fire Chiefs
- Washington Public Fire Educators
- Washington State Council of Fire Fighters

