

# ***WINNETKA FIRE DEPARTMENT***

*Scott T. Smith, Fire Chief*



# 2008 Annual Report



## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Winnetka Fire Department is to provide the community with a quality life safety and property conservation program in a comprehensive and efficient manner implemented through fire prevention, public education, fire suppression, life rescue, and emergency medical services.

# Winnetka Fire Department

## Organizational Chart

**Scott T. Smith**  
Fire Chief

**Steven F. Laureys**  
Deputy Fire Chief

**Lt. John Ripka**  
**Randy Fromm**  
Fire Prevention

**Mary Franke**  
Secretary

**Summer Employees**  
Hydrant Inspector  
Pre-plan Intern

### Operations

#### A Shift

**Thomas Trausch**  
Captain/Medic

**Thomas Hutchison**  
Lieutenant/Medic

FM Lee Fanslow  
FM Steve Pearson  
FM Jon Colpaert  
FM James Gerard  
FM Andy MacArthur

#### B Shift

**Dale Solberg**  
Captain/Medic

**Mark Raupp**  
Lieutenant/Medic

FM Thomas Wellington  
FM Lee Doyle  
FM Chris Kopecky  
FM Erik Thornton  
FM/R Adam Kolka

#### C Shift

**Michael Roeder**  
Captain/Medic

**Rob Bowne**  
Lieutenant/Medic

FM Jim Minogue  
FM Larry Dieterich  
FM Dennis Legan  
FM Ryan Banks  
FM/R Scott Michehl

## Administration Programs

### **Captain Solberg**

Fire Investigations  
Hazmat  
ESDA Coordinator  
Communications  
Facilities Maintenance

### **Captain Trausch**

EMS  
MABAS  
Research & Development

**Captain Roeder**  
Training Development

**Lieutenant Ripka**  
Fire Prevention

### **Lieutenant Bowne**

SCBA/UWRR  
Apparatus Maintenance  
Physical Fitness

### **Lieutenant Hutchison**

Technical Rescue  
Records Management  
CPR  
Water Supply  
Hose, Tools & Appliances

### **Lieutenant Raupp**

Public Education  
Computer IT  
Preplans

## MABAS Division III Special Teams

### **Underwater Rescue & Recovery**

Lieutenant Bowne (Team Leader)  
Lieutenant Hutchison  
Firemedic Doyle  
Firemedic Dieterich  
Firemedic Thornton

### **Fire Investigations**

Captain Solberg (Team Leader)  
Captain Roeder  
Lieutenant Ripka  
Firemedic Wellington  
Firemedic Legan  
Firemedic Colpaert

### **Hazardous Materials**

Captain Solberg (Team Leader)  
Lieutenant Ripka  
Firemedic Legan

### **Technical Rescue**

Lieutenant Hutchison (Team Leader)  
Firemedic Colpaert  
Firemedic Kopecky

## **Fire Department Overview**

The Fire Department provides the following comprehensive programs and services to the residents of the Village: Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire Prevention, Public Education, Fire / EMS training & Certification, and Emergency Management.

### **2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Responded to 2,521 emergency incidents including 737 emergency medical incidents.
- Completed the updating of the Village Emergency Operations Plan and received certification of the plan with the Cook County Emergency Management Agency.
- Continued to use part-time staff to supplement fire prevention and hydrant inspection programs.
- Continued training of all employees to comply with the federal NIMS (National Incident Management System) requirements. Additional training level requirements are added each year.
- Department Captains obtained NIMS 300 & 400 level certification.
- Newest department recruit completed paramedic school and received licensure with the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- One member was certified as a “Fire Arson Investigator”.
- Three members obtained the state certified level of Firefighter III (highest obtainable firefighter level).
- One member obtained Fire Officer I and one Fire Officer II certifications.
- Fire Department employees attended numerous outside training classes and obtained additional state certifications.
- Replaced 1998 fire prevention vehicle.
- Upgraded and replaced out dated computer equipment.
- All five underwater dive team members achieved the PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) Public Safety Diver certification.
- Certified one member as CPR and First Aid Instructor with the American Heart Association.
- Completed the promotional testing process for department members seeking promotion to the ranks of Lieutenant and Captain. This process creates a three year eligibility promotion list.
- Provided additional enhancement to the fire department training tower – training props and building additions.
- Provided 6,930 hours of training for all line personnel.
- Certified one member to Instructor II level.
- Certified department paramedics in “Advanced Cardiac Life Support” (ACLS).

## New Recruit

In 2008, the Winnetka Fire Department welcomed its' newest recruit Adam Kolka. In addition to working on shift, Adam will spend many hours over the next two years attending various schools in order to become a fully trained Firemedic for the Village. Paramedic school is a 9 month program at Highland Park Hospital. Paramedic training consists of classroom lecture and clinical training in various areas of the hospital. Paramedic students receive practical training in the emergency department, labor and delivery, operating room, and respiratory therapy which total more than 850 hours.



Adam taking his oath to faithfully serve the Village at his swearing in ceremony with Village Manager Doug Williams.

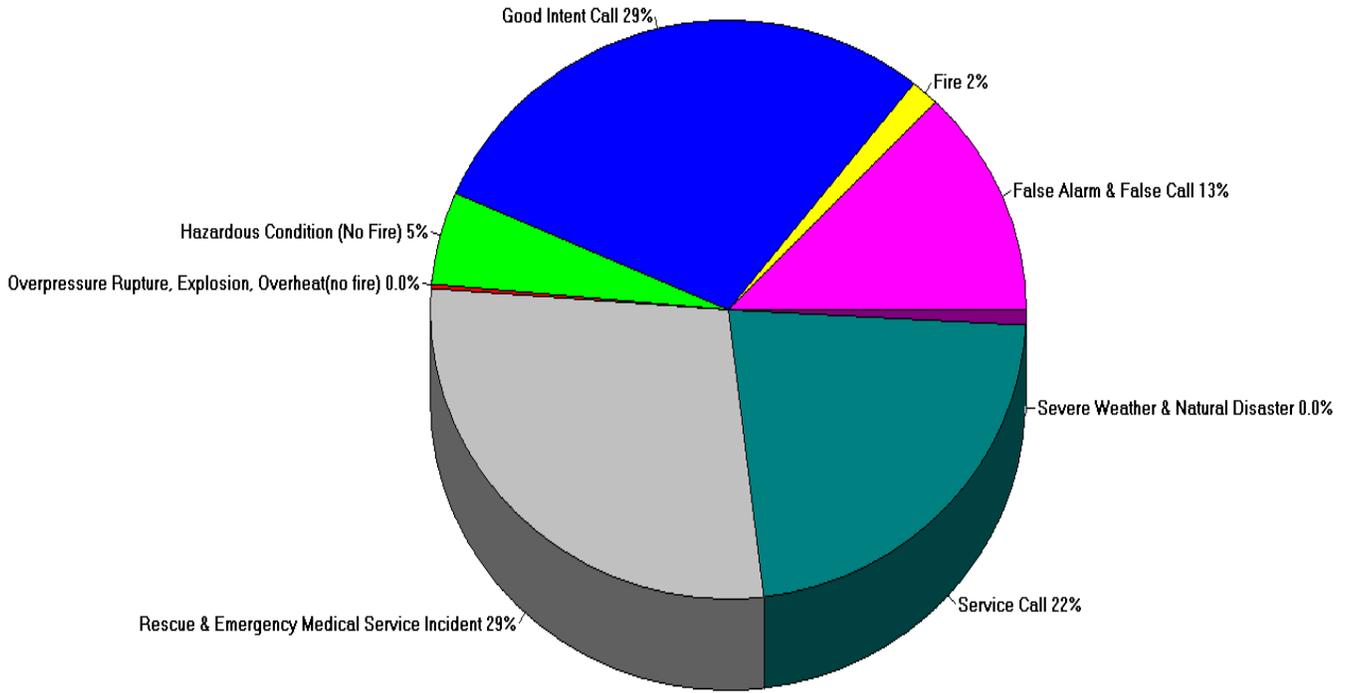
## **Incident response**

During 2008, the Winnetka Fire Department responded to 2,521 calls for service. Approximately 1.5% of the responses (38 incidents) were for various types of fires resulting in an estimated property value saved in the amount of \$14,703,500. The corresponding estimated fire loss was \$615,200 in the Winnetka primary coverage area. Some of the more significant fires are listed below:

| <b>DATE</b> | <b>LOCATION</b>        |
|-------------|------------------------|
| 1/08/08     | 185 Euclid Avenue      |
| 1/25/08     | 3036 Barclay Lane      |
| 2/6/08      | 368 Park Avenue        |
| 2/9/08      | 1500 Sheridan Road     |
| 2/18/08     | 3610 Commercial Avenue |
| 2/21/08     | 824 Sixteenth Street   |
| 2/21/08     | 346 Waukegan Avenue    |
| 2/31/08     | 2630 Old Glenview Road |
| 4/7/08      | 136 Green Bay Road     |
| 4/21/08     | 2115 Wesley Avenue     |
| 4/25/08     | 329 Warwick Road       |
| 4/27/08     | 105 Mary Street        |
| 6/18/08     | 715 Kent Road          |
| 7/24/08     | 333 Springsteen Road   |
| 8/15/08     | 200 Skokie Boulevard   |
| 8/22/08     | 597 Oak Street         |
| 8/24/08     | 1925 Lake Avenue       |
| 9/14/08     | 608 Davis Street       |
| 9/18/08     | 1012 Old Orchard Road  |
| 9/18/08     | 1616 Sheridan Road     |
| 10/20/08    | 2130 Old Willow Road   |
| 10/25/08    | 1819 Oakwood Road      |
| 10/25/08    | 410 Sheridan Road      |
| 11/13/08    | 7 Happ Road            |
| 12/20/08    | 281 Waukegan Road      |
| 12/27/08    | 612 Sheridan Road      |
| 12/27/08    | 716 Laramie Avenue     |

The Winnetka Fire Department's largest fire loss was on 4/25/2008 at 329 Warwick Road in Kenilworth. The loss was estimated at \$575,000.

Incident Type Summary  
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2008} And {12/31/2008}



There was 737 calls for Emergency Medical/Rescues, accounting for 29.23% of the total incidents. 165 calls were for fire and other hazardous conditions. Service and good intent calls accounted for 1,295 incidents, or 51.36% of the total responses.

#### INCIDENT TYPE REPORT

| <u>INCIDENT TYPE</u>   | <u>COUNT</u> | <u>PCT OF INCIDENTS</u> |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1 Fire</b>  |              |                         |
| 111 Building fire  | 27           | 1.07%                   |
| 112 Fires in structure other than in a building              | 1            | 0.03%                   |
| 113 Cooking fire, confined to container                      | 4            | 0.15%                   |
| 114 Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney                | 1            | 0.03%                   |
| 131 Passenger vehicle fire                                   | 1            | 0.03%                   |
| 151 Outside rubbish, trash or waster fire                    | 1            | 0.03%                   |
| 154 Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle               | 2            | 0.07%                   |
| 161 Outside storage fire                                     | <u>1</u>     | <u>0.03%</u>            |
|  | <b>38</b>    | <b>1.50%</b>            |
| <b>2 Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat – no fire</b> |              |                         |
| 251 Excessive heat, scorch burns with no                     | <u>1</u>     | <u>0.03%</u>            |
|  | <b>1</b>     | <b>0.03%</b>            |
| <b>3 Rescue &amp; Emergency Medical Service Incidents</b>    |              |                         |
| 300 Rescue, EMS incident, other                              | 4            | 0.15%                   |
| 311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew                          | 5            | 0.19%                   |
| 321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with                | 638          | 25.30%                  |
| 322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries                     | 45           | 1.78%                   |
| 323 Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)               | 2            | 0.07%                   |
| 324 Motor vehicle accident with no injuries                  | 18           | 0.71%                   |
| 331 Lock-in (if lock out, use 511)                           | 13           | 0.51%                   |
| 352 Extrication of victims from vehicle                      | 6            | 0.23%                   |
| 353 Removal or victims from stalled elevator                 | 3            | 0.11%                   |
| 360 Water & ice-related rescue, other                        | 2            | 0.07%                   |
| 381 Rescue or EMS standby                                    | <u>1</u>     | <u>0.03%</u>            |
|  | <b>737</b>   | <b>29.23%</b>           |
| <b>4 Hazardous conditions (No fire)</b>                      |              |                         |
| 400 Hazardous condition, other                               | 8            | 0.31%                   |
| 411 Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill                 | 5            | 0.19%                   |
| 412 Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)                            | 42           | 1.66%                   |
| 413 Oil or other combustible liquid spill                    | 1            | 0.03%                   |
| 422 Chemical spill or leak                                   | 1            | 0.03%                   |
| 424 Carbon monoxide incident                                 | 13           | 0.51%                   |
| 440 Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other               | 15           | 0.59%                   |
| 441 Heat from short circuit (wiring)                         | 9            | 0.35%                   |
| 442 Overheated motor   | 7            | 0.27%                   |
| 443 Breakdown of light ballast                               | 2            | 0.07%                   |
| 444 Power line down  | 5            | 0.19%                   |
| 445 Arcing, shorted electrical equipment                     | 16           | 0.63%                   |
| 463 Vehicle accident, general cleanup                        | <u>2</u>     | <u>0.07%</u>            |
|  | <b>126</b>   | <b>4.99%</b>            |

| <b>INCIDENT TYPE</b> | <b>COUNT</b> | <b>PCT OF INCIDENTS</b> |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|

**5 Service Call**

|  |            |              |
|--|------------|--------------|
| 500 Service Call, other                | 318        | 12.61%       |
| 510 Person in distress, other          | 3          | 0.11%        |
| 511 Lock-out                           | 35         | 1.38%        |
| 520 Water problem, other               | 34         | 1.34%        |
| 521 Water evacuation                   | 1          | 0.03%        |
| 522 Water or steam leak                | 22         | 0.87%        |
| 531 Smoke or odor removal              | 13         | 0.51%        |
| 541 Animal problem                     | 1          | 0.03%        |
| 542 Animal rescue                      | 1          | 0.03%        |
| 554 Assist invalid                     | 9          | 0.35%        |
| 555 Defective elevator, no occupants   | 4          | 0.15%        |
| 571 Cover assignment, standby, move up | <u>119</u> | <u>4.72%</u> |
|  | 560        | 22.21%       |

**6 Good Intent Call**

|  |            |              |
|--|------------|--------------|
| 600 Good intent call, other                    | 21         | 0.83%        |
| 611 Dispatched & cancelled en route            | 453        | 17.96%       |
| 622 No Incident found on arrival at dispatch   | 1          | 0.03%        |
| 650 Steam, Other gas mistaken for smoke, other | 9          | 0.35%        |
| 651 Smoke scare, odor of smoke                 | 103        | 4.08%        |
| 652 Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be    | <u>148</u> | <u>5.87%</u> |
|  | 735        | 29.15%       |

**7 False Alarm & False Call**

|   |           |               |
|---|-----------|---------------|
| 700 False alarm or false call, other            | 21        | 0.83%         |
| 712 Direct tie to FD, malicious false alarm     | 2         | 0.07%         |
| 730 System malfunction, other                   | 43        | 1.70%         |
| 731 Sprinkler activation due to malfunction     | 1         | 0.03%         |
| 732 Extinguishing system activation due to      | 1         | 0.03%         |
| 733 Smoke detector activation due to            | 39        | 1.54%         |
| 734 Heat detector Activation due to malfunction | 9         | 0.35%         |
| 735 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction     | 32        | 1.26%         |
| 736 CO detector activation due to malfunction   | 24        | 0.95%         |
| 740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, other  | 38        | 1.50%         |
| 743 Smoke detector activation, no fire          | 25        | 0.99%         |
| 744 Detector activation, no fire                | 16        | 0.63%         |
| 745 Alarm system activation, no fire            | 43        | 1.70%         |
| 746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO  | <u>28</u> | <u>01.11%</u> |
|   | 322       | 12.77%        |

**8 Severe Weather & Natural Disaster**

|                                |          |              |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| 814 Lightning strike (no fire) | <u>2</u> | <u>0.07%</u> |
|                                | 2        | 0.07%        |

Total Incident Count: 2521

Total Est Loss: \$615,200



## Training

Department personnel completed 6,930 hours of fire and EMS training in 2008. 2,215 hours were spent on emergency medical services training. Line Personnel averaged 301.5 hours of training for the year, or 25 hours per month. Some of the outside training classes attended by department members in 2008 were:

### Outside Training Classes and Certificates

|  | <u>Name</u>                        |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Tactics & Strategy IFCA  | Raupp                              |
| Officer Development class: Teamwork                              | Ripka & Legan                      |
| EMS Preceptor training class                                     | Legan                              |
| NIMS- ICS 300 - 20 hours   | Trausch                            |
| NIMS- ICS 300 - 20 hours   | Solberg                            |
| Certified Fire Investigator                                      | Legan                              |
| Instructor II- IFCA  | Raupp                              |
| Provisional Fire Officer I Certification                         | Doyle                              |
| Certified Instructor II- OSFM                                    | Raupp                              |
| Provisional Fire Officer II Certification                        | Raupp                              |
| Fire Investigation Report Writing Seminar                        | Solberg                            |
| NIMS- ICS 300 - 20 hours   | Roeder                             |
| NIMS- ICS 400 - 16 hours   | Roeder, Solberg & Trausch          |
| Pediatric Disaster Triage - Train the Trainer                    | Thornton                           |
| Fire Investigation Seminar - 16 hours - Fire Pattern Recognition | Ripka                              |
| Fire Alarm System Training Class - 3 days                        | Laureys                            |
| Firefighter II Academy - Arlington Heights FD                    | Kolka                              |
| Paramedic School   | Michehl                            |
| Firefighter III Certification - OSFM                             | Gerard & MacArthur, Thornton       |
| Hazardous Materials 1 <sup>st</sup> Responder - Operations       | MacArthur                          |
| Understanding Fire Sprinklers - 2 days                           | Ripka                              |
| Understanding 2006 International Fire Code - 3 days              | Ripka                              |
| Understanding NFPA 101 - 2 days                                  | Ripka                              |
| Fire Safety Seminar - 3 days                                     | Ripka                              |
| Developing Volunteer Resources                                   | Smith & Solberg                    |
| AES - alarm radio seminar  | Smith & Ripka                      |
| Apex Fire Pump testing seminar                                   | Ripka                              |
| Legal Aspects of Code Administration                             | Ripka                              |
| Franklin Covey Workshop  | Ripka                              |
| Training Program Manager (OSFM-40 hrs)                           | Roeder                             |
| Summer FDIC in Northbrook (2 days)                               | Solberg & Hutchison                |
| Public Safety Diver  | Doyle, Bowne, Dieterich & Thornton |
| Fire Science Management Classes @ SIU (12 classes/36 Credits)    | Hutchison                          |

## **In House Training**

Monthly Paramedic Continuing Education

Apparatus Drivers training

Emergency Operations Center Training

Reading smoke class

Chemical-Biological-Radiological-Nuclear Mask Training

Annual Right to Know Training

SCBA Training

Practical evolutions conducted at the Winnetka Fire training tower

Practical skills training conducted in homes scheduled for demolition

MABAS Division Special Teams Training

- Hazmat Drills
- Technical Rescue Drills
- UWRR – Dive team Drills
- Fire Investigations Task Force Drills.

Multi-company night drill conducted at the Winnetka Fire training tower

Multi-company Rapid Intervention Crew at NIPSTA

Advance Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Class

Quick-Trach Emergency Tracheotomy Training.



Water Rescue training with Park District Life Guards

## Other Training Activities

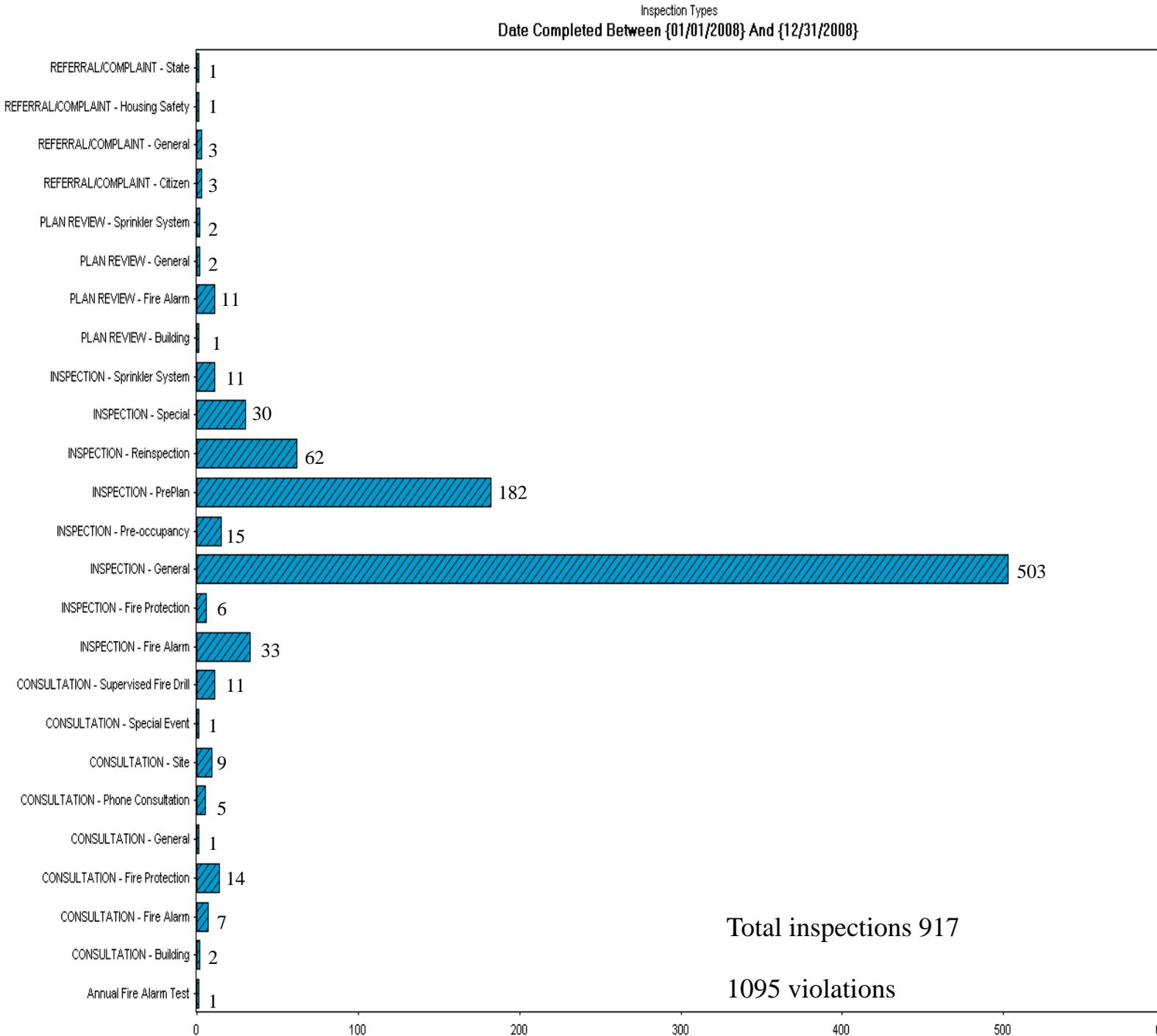
One of our proudest accomplishments in the past few years has been the construction of the addition to the fire department training tower. Its versatility gives the department opportunity to realistically prepare for residential structure fires.



In 2008, shift personnel assisted the Winnetka Park District in training with their Life Guards. Residential homes slated for demolition occasionally are donated for department training. These training opportunities allow the department to reinforce ventilation, rescue, forcible entry, and hose advancement skills.

# Fire Prevention

During 2008, department personnel conducted 917 inspections and documented 1,095 violations. Shift members and the summer intern conducted 182 pre-plan reviews. The graph below lists the types of inspections conducted.



## Public Education

The Winnetka Fire Department provided quality educational training, lectures, tours, civic appearances, and educational materials to the public in order to increase the public's awareness of fire safety and prevention. The department provided information on many safety issues through participation in village sponsored events including the children's fair, local parades, and sidewalk sale. Department members were present at these events to meet with the public and provide them with educational materials. The Department provided speakers and/or instructors to civic organizations including boy scouts, girl scouts, and private businesses requiring annual CPR and first-aid training.

In October, the annual fire department open house was held at the conclusion of fire prevention week. This event showcased apparatus and equipment used in fire-fighting and emergency medical situations. Personnel demonstrated current practices, and provided fire and life safety information to all visitors.



Group tours of the fire station were regularly provided to scout groups, birthday parties, preschools, and other interested groups. Fire safety is discussed during station tours to make the visit educational, as well as enjoyable.

The Juvenile Fire Setter's Program was offered to families when youths have demonstrated inappropriate fire setting behaviors. This program offers individual attention with a certified juvenile fire setter intervention specialists to counsel children who demonstrate this behavior. After interviewing these children, the intervention specialist provides educational material and follow-up sessions for the low risk offender. For higher risk juveniles, the intervention specialist will recommend further counseling within a network of professionals that have been established to provide further assistance.



As you can see, the fire department provides a wide variety of services to the community. We continue to challenge ourselves through extensive training in order to gain the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to provide the highest level of service and response to the community. It is through this dedication that the entire staff is able to provide a modern professional Fire/EMS response.

