



2022 Annual Report

Fire Division

Chief Dean Ortlieb

The Urbana Fire Division is a 24-hour organization that responds to EMS, fire, and rescue emergencies. It is led by a fire chief and staffed by one captain and six firefighters. The captain is in charge of the crew's daily operations. The Fire Division serves the city of Urbana and surrounding areas, including all of Urbana Township and parts of Concord and Salem Townships. It is responsible for protecting a population of approximately 16,000 people and covering 91 square miles. At minimum manpower, the division maintains a staff of five people per day.

Mission

The mission of the Urbana Fire Division is to establish a scalable framework that encourages excellence in fighting fires and saving lives, promotes the cultivation of intellectual and organizational profitability, maximizes individual and organizational performance, and supports continual individual and organizational growth to meet the needs of the community. The division aims to fulfill its mission through five dimensions of risk reduction, including economic impact, public education, emergency operations, safe engineering practices, and code enforcement. These efforts have resulted in an Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating of 3 out of 9, with 1 being the highest rating. ISO uses data and analytics to evaluate fire agencies, with lower scores indicating a higher ability to manage property and casualty risks. Insurance companies may use these scores to determine insurance premiums for residential and commercial properties. One of the main obstacles to further improving the Division's ISO rating is the limited availability of personnel to respond to calls within 10 minutes.

Personnel

The division is in the process of replacing two personnel who have left recently. An entry-level test was given in January 2023 and it is expected that the selection process will be finished by April. Training remains a high priority for the division, with 14,251 logged training hours in 2022. In addition, the following person has obtained individual certifications to help improve the division:

- Firefighter De Cola: Live Fire Instructor
- Firefighter Chris Jones: Fire Safety Inspector
- Firefighter Schrader: Fire Safety Inspector
- Firefighter Stevens: Rope Rescue Technician
- Firefighter Wagner: Fire Officer I

Firefighter Kyle Schrader was named the Division's Firefighter of the Year for 2022. Captain Croker and Firefighters DeCola, Flora, Nitchman, & Wolf were awarded the State Star of Life for their role in saving a young person from a drowning incident. Additionally, Firefighters Drake, Flora, Logan, and Stevens received recognition from Mercy Health for highlighting their successful management of cardiac patients.



Equipment

In January of 2022, the division put a new Sutphen pumper into service. The division has also ordered a new medic from Life Line, which is expected to be received in late 2023. The division received grants from the State of Ohio to update radio equipment in the tanker and provide video intubation tools for airway management in EMS. The Division also replaced rope and water rescue tools that were more than 20 years old.

Operations

The division divides its operations into three main categories and assigns each shift officer to oversee one of these areas. Captain Croker is responsible for EMS, Captain Beverly is responsible for the rescue, and Captain Countryman is responsible for fire operations. On average, all three operational sectors take over 30 minutes per incident. However, some incidents may take several hours, while others may last a few minutes. To manage these incidents effectively, the division maintains minimum staffing levels of one shift officer in a command vehicle, two firefighters on EMS, and three firefighters on a fire apparatus.

In 2022, the Division responded to 9% more incidents than in 2021 and 78% more incidents than in 1992, the last time the division increased its manpower. Table 1 shows a summary of the division’s operations since 1992. The population of the community served by the division remained relatively constant over this period. In 2022, the fire division requested and received mutual aid 95 times and provided mutual aid 165 times.

Table 1 Historic Operational Summary for the Urbana Fire Division

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
EMS	1431	1564	1885	2408	2554	2703
Rescue	N/A	145	148	130	190	231
Fire	396	418	515	357	240	325
Total Incidents	1827	2127	2548	2895	2984	3259

Table 2 compares division EMS, rescue, and fire incidents from 2021 to 2022. In 2022, of the 2,703 EMS incidents, 1,944 were transports, representing over a 71% transport rate.

Table 2 2021 to 2022 Division Incident Summary

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>		<u>Percent of Total</u>		<u>Daily Average</u>	
<u>Year Comparison</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>
EMS	2554	2703	86%	83%	7.00	7.41
Rescue	190	231	6%	7%	.52	.63
Fire	240	325	8%	10%	.66	.89
Total Incidents	2984	3259			8.18	8.93
Multiple Incidents in Progress	596	667	20%	20%	1.63	1.83



Townships

The division has contracts with several township agencies to provide services to these communities. It uses a service fee calculator (SFC) to calculate fees fairly and consistently. If a township only requests one of the services offered, the SFC is reduced by half. These contracts with the township agencies roughly increase the population served by the division by approximately 5,000 people and account for about 23% of all division incidents. Table 3 compares the number of incidents in the townships from 2021 to 2022.

Table 3 2021 to 2022 Township Incident Summary

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Urbana Township</u>		<u>Salem Township</u>		<u>Concord Township</u>		<u>Total Townships</u>	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
Year Comparison								
EMS	385	487	52	73	22	38	459	598
Rescue	40	61	17	10	2	0	59	71
Fire	45	63	10	13	N/A	N/A	55	76
Total Incidents	470	611	79	96	24	38	573	745

Risk Reduction

The division employs various EMS and fire risk reduction measures to ensure the safety of our community. Some of these measures can be quantified and are listed in Table 4.

Table 4 2022 Summary of EMS and Fire Risk Reduction Activities

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>
CPR Cards Issues	EMS	86
Car Seats Installed	EMS	7
Community Paramedic Referrals	EMS	31
Safety Inspection	Fire	419

Sharing Our Vision for 2023 and Beyond

In 2023, the division plans to promote three personnel to fire lieutenant as part of our succession plan and to improve the management span of control during incidents. Further, the division plans to work on a federal grant to replace our 25-year-old ladder truck.

Our vision for our personnel is to create a positive work environment where they can be proud of their work and strive to exceed community expectations in their efforts to fight fires and save lives. Additionally, we aim to always have the capacity to respond to a second emergency, regardless of the type of incident. We will continue to work toward these goals in the coming months and years.