



2007 ANNUAL REPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT



Palmer Fire District No.1 &
Palmer Water District No.1
Fire Department Annual Report

**PALMER FIRE DISTRICT NUMBER ONE
REPRESENTATIVES**

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Charles F. Abbate, Sr.
James L. St.Amand
W. Brian Donovan

FIRE DISTRICT CLERK

Charles M. Callahan, III

FIRE DISTRICT TREASURER

William K. Cole

FIRE DISTRICT AUDITOR

Charles M. Callahan, III

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Robert M. Laviolette
David P. Russo
Thomas S. Skowyra
John F. Swiatlowski
James Thompson

MODERATOR

Stephen L. Marhelewicz

DISTRICT COUNSEL

Joseph R. White

FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 2007, the Palmer Fire Department responded to 845 calls for service. Of these calls, 472 fire, non-fire, and rescue responses, 373 permits, occupancy and regulatory inspections with numerous fire prevention education activities and pre-plan inspections. The busiest fire and service responses during the weekday was Friday and the busiest time was at 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM. The total property loss of \$53,100.00. is an increase from 2006 totals. There were no civilian fire injuries or fatalities reported in 2007. A complete statistical report of the years fire/rescue response activities are included in this report.

The department is currently comprised of 3 full-time, 22 on-call firefighters, and 2 fire dispatchers. The following activities occurred during the year:

- There are 2 Recruit Firefighters enrolled in the 2008 Massachusetts Call/Volunteer Firefighting Academy.

The Palmer Fire Department secured the following grants in 2007:

- Commonwealth of Massachusetts – Bioterrorism – Mass Decontamination Unit Grant - \$3,500.00
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts – Student Awareness of Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) - \$2,438.91

Fire Prevention/Education Activities

The Palmer Fire Department maintains awareness of fire prevention and safety procedures to residents of the Town of Palmer. We focus on pre-school children, school children, youth organizations, civic groups, and senior citizens. The Palmer Fire Department maintains a comprehensive fire education program that is interesting and fun for all audiences.

The Palmer Fire Department maintains our relationship with the media to insure that the importance of fire prevention is heard by the public we serve. In

conjunction with the "Fire Safety Trailer" and the Fire Safety House" we have added a live "Fire Prevention Magic Show" which has received excellent reviews. All these tools and instructions reduce the number of "children playing with matches and lighters" We would also report that there have been no fire fatalities in 2007.

The Palmer Fire Department and S.A.F.E. partnership has maintained a positive impact on the Town of Palmer. We hope, for the safety of our citizens, that the S.A.F.E. Program will continue to be funded. It is a proven program. I sincerely thank Fire Prevention Officer James Haley and Three Rivers Fire Department Fire Prevention Officer Richard Pobligeo for their dedication and commitment to a successful program.

Training and Education

The Palmer Fire Department continues our efforts to increase training and education for command and firefighter staff. This years training and education activities:

- Lieutenant Gerald Senecal is enrolled in the Fire Science program at Springfield Technical Community College.
- Officers and Firefighters attend training courses offered by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.
- Officers and Firefighters attend monthly, bi-monthly, and mandated training programs.
- Officers and Firefighters attend scheduled training and live drills on the deployment and operations the mass decontamination unit in partnership with local, state agencies and the UMass Wing Memorial Hospital staff.

Fire Apparatus and Vehicles

The following is a list of the department's fire apparatus:

Engine 1	2007 Smeal Pumper – August 2007
Engine 2	1989 Maxim Pumper – 18 years of service.
Tower 1	1995 Sutphen Aerial Tower – 12 years of service.
Rescue 1	1999 Freightliner Rescue Truck – 8 years of service.
Tanker 1	1992 Mack Tanker – 15 years of service.

Car 1	2004 Chevrolet Tahoe – Chief’s Vehicle – 3 year of service.
Car 2	1996 Ford F150- Utility Vehicle – 11 years of service.
MDU	2002 Mass Decontamination Unit – 5 years of service.
TTU	2001 Technical Rescue Trailer – 6 years of service.
UTL	1967 Utility Trailer (Federal Excess Property Program)
ATV	2006 ATV Bombardier 4X4 (Loaner Program from Bombardier and Flamingo Motorsports of Palmer)

FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF

Officers:

Chief Alan J. Roy
*Captain David Pranaitis
*Lieutenant William Bernat
*Lieutenant Gerald Senecal
*Lieutenant Todd Warren
*Lieutenant Brian Hagge
Fire Prevention Officer James Haley

Driver/Operators:

Firefighter Brian Sizer	Engine 2
Firefighter Mark Baldyga	Tower 1
Firefighter Bruce Haley	Tanker 1
*Firefighter Sean Snyder	Engine 1
Firefighter David Hebert	Rescue 1

Firefighters:

Firefighter Shawn Doran
Firefighter David Doyle
Firefighter David Majka
*Firefighter Sean Reynolds
Firefighter Alan Papesh
*Firefighter Jason Dimotropolis
*Firefighter Eric Giordano
*Firefighter Randy Russis
*Firefighter James Mitchell
*Firefighter Roger Woods
*Firefighter Laurie Rocco

Auxiliary Firefighter Jonathan Backus

Recruit Kyle Peck
Recruit Matthew Tarsa
Recruit John-Michael Dean

Dispatcher Chester Bedard
Dispatcher Samuel Adams
Fire Photographer Bruce French

** Denotes Commonwealth of Massachusetts Firefighter I/II Certified.*

In closing, the department would like to thank our Officers, Firefighters, and Dispatchers for their dedication and professionalism in providing essential services to the community.

I also thank the Prudential Committee, Treasurer William Cole, Finance Committee, the Central Emergency Dispatchers, Police Department, District Fire Departments, Emergency Management, and all town/district departments for their assistance in 2007.

The department thanks the citizens of the fire district for their support in providing the funds and resources necessary to maintain a safe and effective fire/rescue department for today and the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan J. Roy', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Alan J. Roy
Chief of Department

Property Use

<u>Property Use</u>	<u>Occurences</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Assembly, other	3	0.6
Church, mosque, synagogue, temple, chapel	1	0.2
Restaurant or cafeteria	6	1.3
Bar or nightclub	1	0.2
Elementary school, including kindergarten	12	2.5
High school/junior high school/middle school	9	1.9
24-hour care Nursing homes, 4 or more persons	3	0.6
Hospital - medical or psychiatric	16	3.4
Doctor, dentist or oral surgeon's office	1	0.2
1 or 2 family dwelling	68	14.4
Multifamily dwellings	15	3.2
Boarding/rooming house, residential hotels	5	1.1
Dormitory type residence, other	1	0.2
Mercantile, business, other	1	0.2
Food and beverage sales, grocery store	4	0.8
Personal service, including barber & beauty shops	1	0.2
Service station, gas station	6	1.3
Motor vehicle or boat sales, services, repair	2	0.4
General retail, other	2	0.4
Bank	1	0.2
Business office	6	1.3
Utility or Distribution system, other	2	0.4
Gas distribution, pipeline, gas distribution	2	0.4
Forest, timberland, woodland	11	2.3
Manufacturing, processing	12	2.5
Storage, other	1	0.2
Outbuilding or shed	1	0.2
Vehicle storage, other	1	0.2
Fire station	68	14.4
Warehouse	15	3.2
Open land or field	6	1.3
Graded and cared-for plots of land	64	13.6
Lake, river, stream	1	0.2
Railroad right of way	5	1.1
Railroad yard	1	0.2
Highway or divided highway	13	2.8
Residential street, road or residential driveway	88	18.6
Vehicle parking area	12	2.5
Construction site	3	0.6
Industrial plant yard - area	2	0.4
TOTAL	472	100

For Districts: All
 For Situations: All
 For Jursidictions: All
 For Street(s): All
 For Location: All

Incident Type Category Breakdown

<u>Incident Type Category</u>	<u>Occurences</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
[100-199] Fire/Explosion	58	12.3
[200-299] Overpressure Rupture	3	0.6
[300-399] Rescue Call	8	1.7
[400-499] Hazardous Condition	88	18.6
[500-599] Service Call	108	22.9
[600-699] Good Intent Call	64	13.6
[700-799] False Call	140	29.7
[800-899] Severe Weather/Natural Disaster	2	0.4
[900-999] Special Type/Complaint	1	0.2
Undetermined	0	0.0
TOTAL	472	100

For Districts: All
For Situations: All
For Jursidictions: All
For Street(s): All
For Location: All

Aid Given or Recieved

<u>Aid Given or Recieved</u>	<u>Occurences</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Mutual aid received	10	2.1
Mutual aid given	11	2.3
None	451	95.6
TOTAL	472	100

For Districts: All
For Situations: All
For Jursidictions: All
For Street(s): All
For Location: All

Fire District Breakdown

<u>Fire District</u>	<u>Occurences</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
BELCHERTOWN	1	0.2
BRIMFIELD	2	0.4
LUDLOW	1	0.2
montague	1	0.2
MONSON	3	0.6
MASS. TURNPIKE	11	2.3
PALMER	359	76.1
THORNDIKE	87	18.4
THREE RIVERS	2	0.4
WARE	3	0.6
WILBRAHAM	1	0.2
West Springfield	1	0.2
TOTAL	472	100

For Districts: All

For Situations: All

For Jursidictions: All

For Street(s): All

For Location: All

\$ Loss by Incident Type/Fire District

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Fire District</u>	<u>\$ Loss</u>
Passenger vehicle fire	MASS. TURNPIKE	\$5,500
Passenger vehicle fire	PALMER	\$1,000
Passenger vehicle fire	THORNDIKE	\$2,500
Passenger vehicle fire	PALMER	\$1,000
	THORNDIKE	\$3,500
Passenger vehicle fire Total Dollar Loss: \$13,500		
Building fire	THORNDIKE	\$1,700
	PALMER	\$100
Building fire Total Dollar Loss: \$1,800		
Passenger vehicle fire	MASS. TURNPIKE	\$18,000
Passenger vehicle fire Total Dollar Loss: \$18,000		
Building fire	PALMER	\$100
Building fire Total Dollar Loss: \$100		
Passenger vehicle fire	PALMER	\$1,500
Passenger vehicle fire Total Dollar Loss: \$1,500		
Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	PALMER	\$1,000
Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other Total Dollar Loss: \$1,000		
Building fire	PALMER	\$500
Building fire Total Dollar Loss: \$500		
Passenger vehicle fire	MASS. TURNPIKE	\$3,000
Passenger vehicle fire Total Dollar Loss: \$3,000		
Outside equipment fire	PALMER	\$4,000
Outside equipment fire Total Dollar Loss: \$4,000		
Passenger vehicle fire	MASS. TURNPIKE	\$5,000
Passenger vehicle fire Total Dollar Loss: \$5,000		
Outside equipment fire	PALMER	\$100
Outside equipment fire Total Dollar Loss: \$100		
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	PALMER	\$400
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire Total Dollar Loss: \$400		
Passenger vehicle fire	THORNDIKE	\$200
Passenger vehicle fire Total Dollar Loss: \$200		
Fire in mobile home used as fixed residence	THORNDIKE	\$500
Fire in mobile home used as fixed residence Total Dollar Loss: \$500		
Passenger vehicle fire	MASS. TURNPIKE	\$3,500
Passenger vehicle fire Total Dollar Loss: \$3,500		

Grand Total Dollar Loss: \$53,100

For Districts: All
For Situations: All
For Jursidictions: All
For Street(s): All
For Location: All

Cause of Ignition

<u>Cause of Ignition</u>	<u>Occurences</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Intentional	1	2.4
Unintentional	2	4.8
Cause under investigation	34	81.0
Cause undetermined after investigation	5	11.9
TOTAL	42	100

For Districts: All
For Situations: All
For Jursidictions: All
For Street(s): All
For Location: All

Heat Source - Fire

<u>Heat Source - Fire</u>	<u>Occurences</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Heat from powered equipment, other	1	2.4
Hot or smoldering object, other	2	4.8
Hot ember or ash	1	2.4
Heat from other open flame or smoking materials	2	4.8
Cigarette	1	2.4
Lightning	1	2.4
Undetermined	34	81.0
TOTAL	42	100

For Districts: All
For Situations: All
For Jursidictions: All
For Street(s): All
For Location: All

**PALMER FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
PALMER FIRE – RESCUE
2007 INSPECTION & PERMITS REPORT**

GENERAL PERMITS & INSPECTIONS	
Underground Storage Tank Program Permits and Closures	1
Fire Suppression Systems	2
Sprinkler Systems	2
Fire Alarm Systems	4
Black Powder Storage	1
Ammunitions Storage	1
Liquified Propane Storage	57
Blasting	1
Health Care Facilities	20
Public Schools/Fire Drills	12
Oil Burning Equipment	68
Underground Storage Tank Removal	27
Smoke Detector & Carbon Monoxide Inspections	143
Senior Citizens Smoke Detector Program	25
Non-Criminal Fire Code Violation Notices	9
Total	373