

Cincinnati Fire Department Law & Public Safety Comm.

**CFD Fiscal Condition
01/11/2022**

**Michael A. Washington
Fire Chief**

Unit Types



Operations Division 95% of staffing

- CFD operates out of 26 firehouses over 4 Districts
- 26 Paramedic Engine Companies: 26/52 neighborhoods
- 12 Paramedic Ladder Companies: $12/52 = 4.3$ per NH
- 12 Paramedic Medic Units: $12/52 = 4.3$ per NH
- 3 Advance Life Support Supervisors (ALS) Units
- 2 Heavy Rescue Companies: $2/52 = 26$ per NH
- 1 Aircraft Fire & Rescue Unit

Fire Company Staffing Model

- Staff each fire company with 4 firefighters 841 FF (793)
- 1 Fire Officer either Lieutenant or Captain
- 1 Fire Apparatus Operator (FAO)
- 2 Firefighters (one must be a certified paramedic)

Authorized Strength 01/11/2022

- Staff each fire company with 4 firefighters 841 FF (793)
- Recruit Class 118 graduated 11/21 brought strength to 798
- 2004 staffing increased to 801
- 2006 staffing increased to 841

Daily Staffing 193 Firefighters

- Since 1998 each fire company is staffed with a minimum of 4 firefighters by contractual agreement with Cincinnati Firefighters Local Union 48
- 4 Firefighter minimum is now the NFPA standard
- Based on the authorized strength of 841 the CFD is understaffed by 59 firefighters
- Typically, the CFD is 24 - 30 firefighters short daily requiring members to work overtime
- Based on current daily operations of CFD's daily staffing the minimum should be 207 for growth, i.e., training staff

Additional Medic Units added in 2011

- In 2011 the council authorized the addition of two additional medic units to reduce the workload on the other 10 medic units. Medics 35 (Westwood) and 51 (College Hill) were created, neither unit's staffing was supported by increase in staffing.
- The 4 firefighters utilized to staff these two new units came from daily staffing. **These two units are staffed by overtime.**

Additional Advanced Life Support Supervisors

- In 2013 the CFD created 2 additional Advanced Support Supervisor (ALS) units to support the all-ALS Platform in the CFD. The CFD provides ALS (Paramedic) staffed fire companies throughout the city to provide ALS to increase cardiac arrest, stroke and trauma (shootings) related incidents.
- The CFD operates 55 ALS staffed assets daily
- This two addition units are staffed by two firefighters each day.
- **No increase in staffing!**

Safety Officer SO2

- Due to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1561 and a 2003 Line of Duty Death, the CFD created the Safety Officer position (SO2) to respond to all fires and other types of incidents that are dangerous to firefighters.
- SO2's role is to conduct a risk vs. benefit assessment of the ongoing emergency operation, and to intervene to stop unsafe work by firefighters. This position is staffed by one firefighter each day.
- **No increase in staffing** = staffed with overtime

Mask Service Unit (MSU)

- The MSU was created to inspect, certify and to repair respiratory equipment for firefighters Self-contained breathing Air Apparatus (SCBAs).
- Fit testing for respiratory equipment for all sworn members of the CFD, as well as providing such services to other city services that use similar equipment.
- Repair and certify various meters for Chemical, Biological, Nuclear, Radiological and Explosive (CBRNE) devices.
- One firefighter placed on a 40-hour work week to cover

Adding new units without funding FTE's

- Adding the Medics 35, 51, ALS 32, 35, SO2 and MSU creates a daily firefighter deficit of **7.33** firefighters per day against the 193 daily staffing requirement, since they were not funded properly.

CFD Year Attrition Rate 2019 through 2022

- 2019 = 25 firefighters
- 2020 = 48 firefighters
- 2021 = 39 firefighters
- 2022 = 18 before May, this does not include members who are long term leaves that are not expected to return to duty, e.g., upcoming retirements.
- By July 1, 2022, the CFD will be down to **780**

Average Age of a Cincinnati Firefighter

43

- In 2013 the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Board raised the minimum retirement age from 25 years service and minimum age 48 years old to a minimum of 25 years service to a minimum of 52 years old.
- 183 Firefighters have greater than 25 years of service or (24%) could retire today, including the entire command staff of the CFD.

Estimated Cost of a Fire Recruit Class of 40

- Year 1 = \$3.4 million
- Year 2 = \$4.2 million

The CFD annually request Assistance to Firefighter Grant funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) we have been successful in the past being awarded over 35 million dollars over the past 11 years.

The SAFER grants are supposed to be utilized to fund newly created positions not to sustained positions

Estimated Cost of a Fire Recruit Class of 60

- Year 1 = \$5.1 million
- Year 2 = \$6.3 million

The CFD annually request Assistance to Firefighter Grant funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) we have been successful in the past being awarded over 35 million dollars over the past 11 years.

- We currently do not have the infrastructure or training staff to accommodate the additional fire recruits.
- We utilize one of the Heavy Rescue Companies to assist

Question and Answers

- ???
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