



message

from the Fire Chief



2005 proved to be another exciting and rewarding year for the Peoria Fire Department.

The department found itself presented with unique opportunities to make a difference beyond our day-to-day activities within our own City and region. We feel fortunate to have been in a position to provide this assistance.

For instance, with the impact of Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, a call went out from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to our Nation's fire service for help. In response, Peoria sent eight personnel to the Gulf Coast: one of our Engineers, a search dog handler, accompanied Phoenix's Urban Search and Rescue Team on two 10-day deployments; one of our Paramedics was activated as part of a regional Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT); and four Captains and two Firefighters, trained in technical rescue, took part in a six-county community relations response in Mississippi.

As part of the State of Arizona's effort to shelter Gulf Coast evacuees at the Phoenix Coliseum, the Peoria Fire Department contributed medical staff, supplies, and equipment for several weeks to assist in the care and rehabilitation of hundreds of evacuees.

Further, under the leadership of the Mayor and City Council, the Department coordinated a project to provide relief to Long Beach, Mississippi, one of the Gulf cities most severely impacted by Hurricane Katrina. Through this project Long Beach received 25 surplus vehicles and heavy equipment, along with tools, books, furniture, equipment and other supplies. The citizens, businesses and civic groups of Peoria also partnered in this effort by donating approximately \$10,000 in gift cards and other donations.

In 2005, the Peoria Fire Department's wildland teams were also deployed to 14 wildland fires throughout the State of Arizona and

in Southern California. The deployments were assigned through the Central Arizona Wildland Response Team (CAWRT), a multi-jurisdictional partnership formed to assist the State Land Department with firefighting efforts.

The department also partnered with the Arizona Department of Homeland Security to expand our mass casualty medical response capabilities and establish a decontamination program, so that we may be in the position to provide these specialized services in the event of a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive (CBRNE) incident anywhere in the State of Arizona.

These are just a few good examples of how the men and women of the Peoria Fire Department take pride in all aspects of the services they provide, no matter where or to whom they respond. Whether firefighting, responding to medical emergencies, addressing homeland security issues, or just doing what they can to be good neighbors, our members are glad to be able to provide service to the citizens of Peoria, surrounding jurisdictions, and, when necessary, beyond our regional boundaries.

Our ability to respond to calls for service across the State of Arizona, and in the case of 2005, across the nation, is also testament to the support provided to us by our Mayor and City Council, and our City's executive management. For that confidence and continued support, we are grateful. We look forward to another exciting year in 2006 and to proudly serving our community whenever and wherever we are called upon.

Robert McKibben
Peoria Fire Chief





awards



services

2005 Award Recipients

Chief's Award

Kyle Layne, Chaplain
John Lawrence, Fire Inspector

Firefighter of the Year

Jim Lucas

Command Officer of the Year

Jim Bratcher

Engineer of the Year

Dave Rehnke

Officer of the Year

Danny Comella

Paramedic of the Year

Mike Moore

John Valentine Award

Billy Morris

Labor Management Coins

Tony Neely
Justin Gorospe

Unit Citations

LT191C

Dale Fore
Tim Pyle
Maureen Shannon
Troy Bauer

E192C

Pat Kaus
Justin Gorospe
Steve Decker
Matt Rich

E195

Steve Brandell
Terry Wagner
Kevin Moore
Jackie Kushnick

E194

Bill Walp
Chris Blundon
Jim Lucas
Mandy Garner

BC191C

Neil Ashton
Mike Munoz

E193

Roger Russell
Mike Santa Cruz
Rich Rooney
Doug Corrie

2005 Services

The following describes the breadth of programs and services provided by each of the four divisions of the Peoria Fire Department:

The Fire Administration Division provides leadership, long-range planning, budget development, financial management, personnel, payroll, and contracts administration, interdepartmental coordination, grants and project management, information technology coordination, and general customer service, in order to ensure the efficient daily operations of the Fire Department.

The Fire Community Services Division provides inspection services, plan review, issuance of permits, fire code enforcement, fire cause investigations, internal safety investigations, citizen safety awareness programs, public fire education, public information services, and fire department community relations events.

The Fire Support Services Division is responsible for computer aided dispatch coordination and database maintenance; capital construction; facility and equipment maintenance and repair, including fleet; EMS administration including supply acquisition, EMS training and certification, ambulance transportation coordination, and emergency preparedness/homeland security programming.

The Fire Operations Division provides fire protection, emergency medical services, and technical rescue; as well as the delivery of continuing education in fire suppression and rescue, and supervisory and managerial development. The Operations Division currently staffs six pumper trucks with paramedic capabilities and one ladder truck with fire support and technical rescue capabilities (i.e. swift water, trench, confined space and high angle rescue).



2005 statistics

City Information

Land Area - 185 square miles
Population - 139,000
Firefighters
Per 1000 Population - .83
Sworn Personnel - 108
Civilian Personnel - 26

Fire Operations

Total Calls - 12,445
Fire Calls - 1,117
EMS Calls - 10,349
Service and Other Calls - 979
Average Response Time - 4:34

Budget

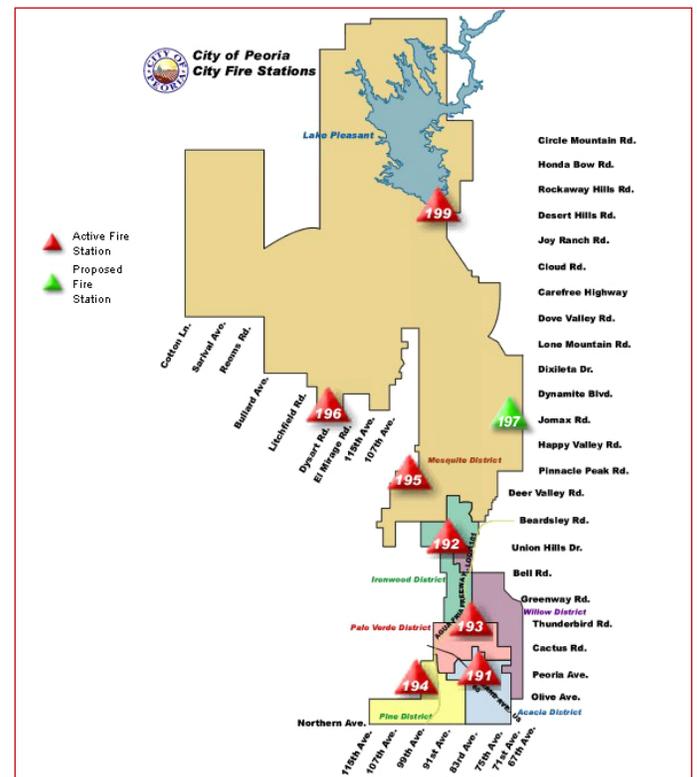
2005-2006 Operating - \$14.1 million
2005-2006 Capital - \$4.6 million

Fire Community Services

Community Events Held - 230
Elementary Students Instructed on Fire and Life Safety Related Topics - 10,964
Car Seats Installed/Inspected - 390
Occupancies Inspected - 1,643
Permits Issued - 285
Fire Investigations Conducted - 62
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Trained - 20

Equipment & Facilities

Stations - 6 Full-time
1 Part-time
1 Fire Administration Building
6 Fire Engines (front-line)
2 Fire Engines (reserve)
1 Ladder Truck
1 Ladder Tender
1 Technical Rescue Support Truck
2 Brush Trucks
1 Fire Boat
1 Battalion Command Vehicle





2005 accomplishments



■ On April 11, 2005, a Ground-breaking ceremony was held to celebrate the development of our newest 10,700 sq foot facility at Vistancia, Fire Station 196, with the grand opening taking place in December 2005. This 3.4 million dollar station project will house Peoria Fire Department personnel 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week, and includes private office space for police patrol officers.



■ Using federal and state grant funds, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division has trained 18 toxicology paramedics and is building three 100-patient modules which will enable us to treat multiple patients in the event of a mass casualty incident. The Peoria Fire Department received \$146,400 for mass casualty medical response and \$184,600 for decontamination services through the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP). Peoria deployed a 100-patient module to assist in the evacuee relief for Hurricane Katrina at the Phoenix Memorial Coliseum.

■ Fire Chief Robert McKibben and Deputy Fire Chief Larry Rooney have both been recognized as Chief Fire Officers (CFO) by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. This designation is bestowed on those professionals in the fire industry who have proven themselves as moral and ethical leaders. There are currently only about 400 (CFO's) worldwide.

■ Graduated one new firefighter recruit from the Phoenix Regional Fire Academy on 4/8/05.

■ Put into service a new American LaFrance pumper at Fire Station 196.



■ In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the Peoria Fire Department sent eight personnel to the Gulf Coast: one of our Engineers, a search dog handler and her dog accompanied Phoenix's Urban Search and Rescue Team on two 10-day deployments. One of our Paramedics was activated as part of a regional Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT); and four Captains and two Firefighters, trained in technical rescue, took part in a six-county community relations response in Mississippi.



■ Under the leadership of the Mayor and City Council, the Peoria Fire Department was responsible for coordinating a special Sister City Project with Long Beach, MS, a city left devastated in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. The City donated supplies, computers, books, vehicles, and heavy equipment to the City of Long Beach, as well as gift card donations from employees and the Peoria community.

■ Promoted five new Fire Captains, six new Fire Engineers, hired a 40-hour Fire Training Captain and an EMS Coordinator.



■ Wilhelm Automotive of Peoria, completed the rebuild of the engine on the department's historic 1929 Chevrolet Pumper. The Peoria Fire Department will pursue refurbishment of the vehicle body as funding permits.



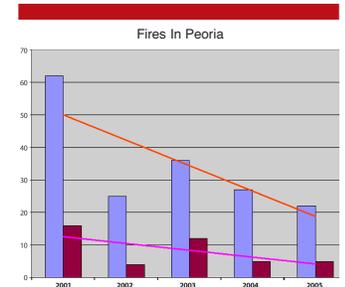
■ The Peoria Fire Department and the Firefighter's Charities co-hosted a series of pancake breakfasts to get to know our community neighbors. Firefighters also provided educational materials and courtesy blood pressure checks at these events.



■ Hosted a Holiday party for children and their families with toys for 340 children donated through the Holiday Toy Drive. Provided gifts and a hot meal to 27 low income seniors at the Park View Estates during the Holiday season.

■ Hosted the 2nd Annual Lake Pleasant Regional Wildland Jamboree. Fire departments and agencies from around the state attend this event to further develop skills for protecting the State's communities and natural resources.

■ Sent a Battalion Chief to Los Angeles, CA for a week to participate in a ride along program with the Los Angeles Fire Department in November 2005.



■ Since 2001, there has been a 68% decrease in commercial fires and a 64% decrease in residential fires. The City is now taking a more proactive role in fire prevention.

■ Completed implementation of the upgraded version of the Telestaff automated staffing software in December.



■ Sent firefighters and apparatus to 14 wildland fires throughout the State and into California. These deployments were assigned through the Central Arizona Wildland Response Team (CAWRT), a multi-jurisdictional partnership formed to assist the State Land Department with firefighting efforts.



■ Completed Fourth Annual Peoria Regional Battalion Chief Academy. Forty participants from across the state attended the ten-day program, which focused on grooming future leaders.

We are committed to protecting and caring for our neighbors, our guests and each other while maintaining the community's trust and respect through superior life safety services.

Serving With: Strength – Honor – Compassion