

# TWIN FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT 2017 ANNUAL REPORT



**ATTITUDE - BEHAVIOR - COMMITMENT**

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# CITY OF TWIN FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Mission Statement

As the Professional Fire Fighters of Twin Falls, we are dedicated to the continued excellence of life safety, fire suppression, education and community involvement. We affirm our loyalty to our members, our profession and to the citizens we serve.

## Value Statement

We, the members of the Twin Falls Fire Department, believe in and promote the growth and development of the following values.

### Attitude

By serving with respect and compassion, our attitude reflects our pride, dedication, and enthusiasm to our profession, peers, and those we serve.

- I accept responsibility for my actions.
- I understand my attitude affects others.

### Behavior

Our behavior will be ethical and responsible. We treat all people with dignity, compassion, and without prejudice.

- I accept responsibility for by behavior.
- I strive to behave in a positive and professional manner.

### Commitment

We are committed to each other and to the community we serve, cooperating as a team in the pursuit of excellence.

- I am committed to the improvement of the Twin Falls Fire Department.
- I am a dedicated part of the team.



## Administration Message

The Fire Administration and Command Staff consists of the Fire Chief, three Battalion Chiefs, a Fire Marshal, and an Administrative Assistant. The administration provides leadership, departmental oversight and planning, and policy direction. The Fire Administration and Command Staff is responsible for the overall management of the Fire Department including fiscal management, strategic planning, personnel matters, labor relations, and special projects. Additionally, the division provides support services to the citizens of Twin Falls.



The Fire Administration and Command Staff remain committed to providing superior services, and aims to achieve this through continual evaluation and improvement. We strive to be progressive in our practices and compassionate with our customers and each other.

2017 proved to be yet another productive year full of hard work, development, and accomplishment. The division’s accomplishments for the year included planning and prioritizing critical department functions through the budgetary process to ensure fiscal stability while continuing to support the department’s mission. Additionally, staff continue to participate in the department’s strategic planning process to more effectively evaluate the division’s performance and progress towards maximizing efficiencies.

### PERSONNEL STATISTICS

RANK	NUMBER
Fire Chief	1
Battalion Chief	3
Fire Marshal	1
Fire Captain	9
Driver/Operator	12
Firefighter	15
Administrative Assistant	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>42</b>



## Stations and Apparatus Information

### Fire Station 1

Incidents (512 Fire Related/1,568 Medical and Rescue) (2,080 Total)

Twin Falls Fire Departments Fire Station 1 is located at 345 Second Avenue East, in the City of Twin Falls. It houses one Type 1 engine, one 102-foot aerial apparatus, one 3,000-gallon water tender, one Type 6 brush engine, one command vehicle, and numerous staff and utility vehicles.



Fire Station 1 serves mostly a residential/commercial area in the heart of downtown Twin Falls. In addition to residences, Fire Station 1 protects nostalgic historic buildings, which include the original county courthouse, library, and many heavy timber structures built in the early 20th century.



Fire Station 1 is staffed with one shift Battalion Chief, plus a four-man engine company, which includes one Captain, one Driver/Operator, and two Firefighters. The fire department's administrative staff, including the Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, Training Officer, Administrative Assistant, are also located at this station.

### Fire Station 2

Incidents (720 Fire Related/1,632 Medical and Rescue) (2,352 Total)

Fire Station 2 is located at 635 Falls Avenue, on the CSI campus by Frontier Field. This fire station houses one Type 1 engine, Type 1 reserve engine, one Type 4 brush engine, one rescue rig, and our Firewise trailer. This fire station has one three-man engine company, which includes a Captain, a Driver/Operator, and a Firefighter.

Fire Station 2 protects light commercial/residential and urban interface. Some of the notable structures located in Station 2's area are the Magic Valley Mall, Costco, C3, Etc. They also respond to the canyon and Perrine Bridge for high angle rescues.



### Fire Station 3

Incidents (331 Fire Related/623 Medical and Rescue) (954 Total)

Fire Station 3 is located at 911 Washington Street South. Station 3 houses one Type 1 engine, one 3,000-gallon water tender, one Type 4 brush engine, and one hazmat/special operations trailer.

## Stations and Apparatus Information

Station 3 also has a three-man engine company, which includes a Captain, a Driver/Operator and a Firefighter.

Station 3 serves a diverse area consisting of heavy commercial and residential area as well as the largest portion of our Fire District. Some notable areas in Station 3's area are the commercial structures on South Park Avenue West along with those in the area of Eastland Drive South.

### Fire Station 4

Incidents (21 ARFF Related/6 Medical and Rescue) (27 Total)

Fire Station 4 is located at the Twin Falls Airport. Station 4 houses one 1996 Oshkosh T1500 and one, additional reserve pumper. Station 4, is manned by one Driver/Operator a position mandated by the FAA. The Driver/Operator at this station is specially trained in Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting. Station 4 responds to incidents on the airport grounds and immediate surrounding area.



After the last scheduled commercial flight has safely landed, the Station 4 Driver/Operator then travels to Station 3 to create a four-man engine company at Station 3. The Station 4 Driver/Operator returns to the airport around 6:00 am to standby for the morning flight.

## Retirements and New Hires

### 2017 Twin Falls Fire Department's Retirement

Petruzzelli, Mark      Captain      10/01/1992 - 10/01/2017      25 Years

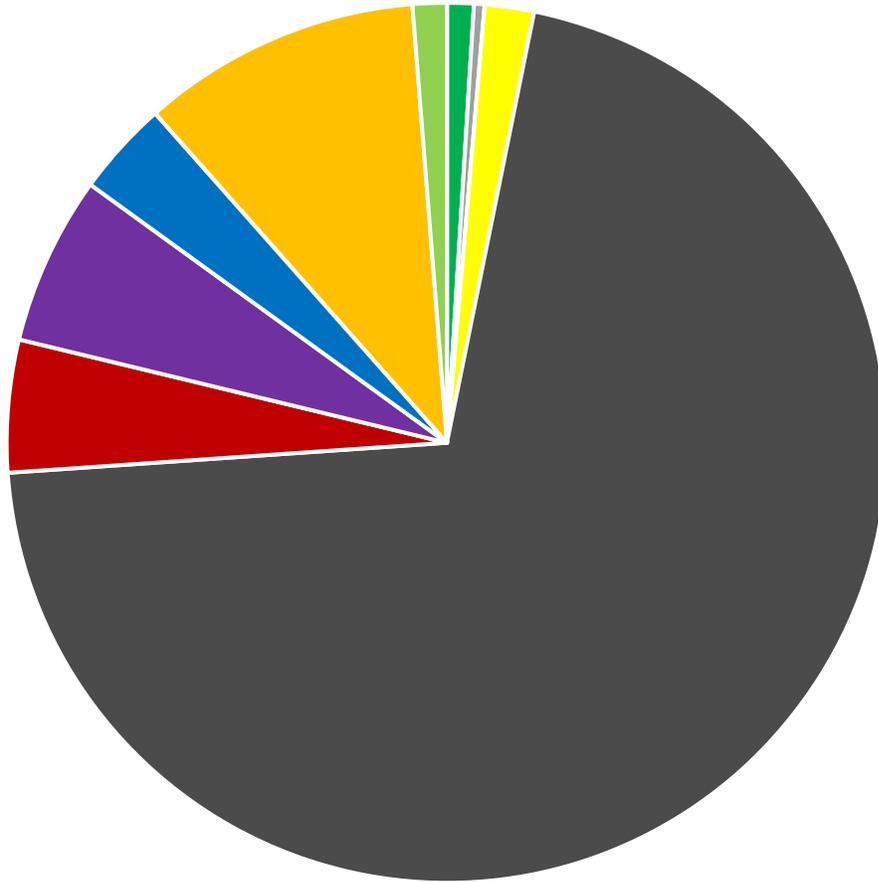


### 2017 Twin Falls Fire Department's New Hire

Lewin, Kody      Firefighter      10/02/2017

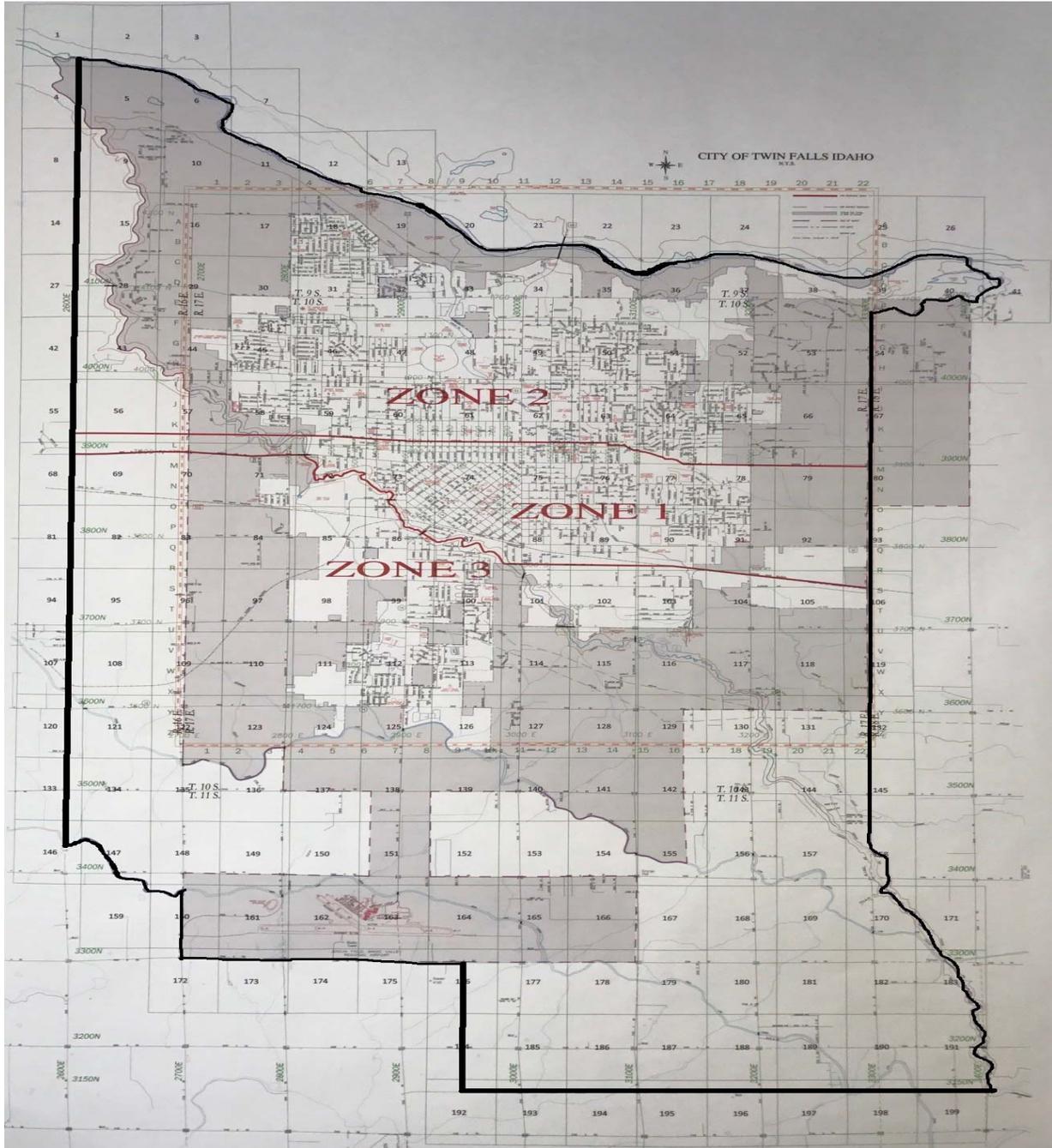
### 2017 TFFD Response Types

# 5,413 INCIDENTS



- Structure Fires - 53
- Vehicle Fires - 21
- All Other Fires - 98
- EMS/Rescue Calls - 3,829
- Service Calls - 263
- False Alarms/False Calls - 336
- Hazardous Conditions - 189
- Good Intent Calls - 556
- All Other Calls - 68

# Response Area



**Twin Falls Fire Department Response Area**  
**Approx. 70 square miles**  
**Boundaries**  
**2600 E – 3300 E**  
**3150 N – Snake River**

## Twin Falls Fire Department Fire Prevention and Fire Investigation Division



In 2017, the Fire Prevention Division continued to support the Twin Falls Fire Department. This is accomplished through plan reviews of all new or remodeled buildings within the Twin Falls Fire District, fire safety inspections of commercial buildings, schools and nursing homes, daycare inspections, fire education programs, and fire investigations.

In 2017, the Engine companies inspected 93 commercial buildings, 21 schools, and 10 nursing homes. The Fire Prevention Division reviewed 960 building plans, and completed 103 final inspections. Along with the building permits, we inspected 16 firework stands, 3 firework display, 25 daycares, 175 fire sprinklers, 115 fire alarms, 22 commercial hoods, and 2 underground fuel storage tanks. We also conducted 29-fire investigation, with one of them leading to the arrest of one individual. We were also able to get a felony conviction on one of the fires from 2016.

This year also bought a few changes in the prevention program. First Officer Simon Rodriguez and Fire Marshal Tim Lauda were able to attend the National Fire Academy for the Juvenile Fire Setter Program, and were able to educate 12 kids that have had troubles with fires. During the month of October, we had our first annual Fire Prevention Open House. We had 375 people attend and learn not only about fire safety, but how an emergency dispatch center works. We also had 18 homes sign up for smoke detectors to be installed. With help from the Red Cross, and the Boys Scouts we installed a total of 74 smoke detectors in a total of 18 homes.

In the coming year, we are looking forward to the Juvenile Fire Setter program teaming up with the prosecutor's office. This will be the first fire intervention and educational program aimed at reducing the number of fires and burn injuries caused by youth experimenting with fire.

As we look forward to 2018, the Fire Prevention Division will continue to look for additional ways to provide excellent customer service and a safer community.

**Tim Lauda**  
**Fire Marshal**  
**Twin Falls Fire Department**



## Public Education

The mission of the Twin Falls Fire Department's public education program is to educate our citizens, of all ages, in the prevention of fires and what to do in the event of a fire related emergency by providing programs and materials to: schools, churches and other organizations. In 2017, we have had the opportunity to reach 25,247 members of our community through four distinct public education categories.

### **Learn Not To Burn (LNTB):**

This program is designed to provide an outreach to second grade students in the Magic Valley where our Public Education Coordinator visits ten, schools four times per year. Dave Owens was the coordinator for the past year and has done an amazing job. Dallas Williamson has recently taken over the coordinator position. Each visit comes with a specific topic ranging from home escape plans, to what to expect when you call 911, and ending the school year with the always-anticipated safety puppet show. The LNTB program reached 1,714 students with 22 events.

### **Station Tours:**

One of the most exciting events we hold in our fire stations are the station tours. The whole department participates in tours on a regular basis. We take this opportunity to educate the community on the internal workings of the Fire Department as well as give the participants a hands on tour with equipment, apparatus, and firefighting drills. Through station tours, we were able to reach 2,166 community members with 77 events.

### **Extinguisher Demonstrations:**

Many of our community members in partnership with local businesses take it upon themselves to provide annual fire extinguisher training for their employees. With some help from a local individual we have designed and manufactured two extinguisher props that have helped in making the demonstrations safer and a more efficient training opportunity for the members we serve. Through our extinguisher demonstration program, we were able to educate 576 members of our community with 23 events on proper use and extinguishment of all 4 classes of fires.

### **Fire Safety Programs and Fairs:**

The Twin Falls Fire Department also attended 70 fairs and programs, such as, the City Park's 911 ceremony, the annual CSI Safety Fair, the Salvation Army's Kettle Bell Standoff (Fire VS. Police) in which together raised a total of \$7,745.23 for our amazing community, and so many more programs that were geared toward educating attendees on subjects such as: stop, drop and roll, fire escape plans, match and lighter safety and, rolls that the TFFD plays in public safety in our response areas. While attending these events the TFFD was able to reach 20,791 members of the community.

## Fire Training Report

The Twin Falls Fire Department has brought another year of training to close. This year, as well as preceding years, contained many important and applicable training sessions. In the following paragraphs we will discuss just what those training sessions were and how they were accomplished.

First we should probably include some background information on the TFFD Training Office. The Training Office typically consists of 1-2 members of the fire department who fill the position of Training Officer on days they are not working their regularly scheduled shifts. The Training Officer coordinates training, certification, and recertification for all 39 line personnel. Included in these duties is the facilitating, grading, and testing of students, who are currently participating in the Firefighter Level I, Firefighter Level II, Fire Officer I, and or Fire Officer II programs.

This year TFFD members logged over 6,100 training hours combined. These training hours consisted of classroom time, practical exercises, company, as well as, individual drill time, and self-study hours. The subjects covered this year included a variety of categories such as; Structural Firefighting, Emergency Medical Care, Hazardous Materials, High Angle and Confined Space Rope Rescue, Incident Command, Driver/Operator Training, and Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting. The training sessions completed this year were provided by both TFFD and outside agencies and were held both here in Twin Falls as well as neighboring cities.

Some of the notable training opportunities that took place this year included;

- TFFD Driver's Academy: a four month long academy that produces safe, knowledgeable, and experienced Driver/Operators.
- Live Fire Aircraft Training: this training is accomplished at a training facility near the Salt Lake City International Airport. The 12 members of the fire department that hold the position of Driver/Operator are required to attend this training yearly.
- Wildland Fire Training: this past spring we had the privilege of conducting some training and drill scenarios with the Twin Falls BLM office. Each shift participated in this training with a few small individual groups being further trained by the BLM Training Division in different aspects of Wildland Firefighting.
- Anniston HAZMAT Training: several members of our Hazardous Materials Response Team traveled to Anniston, Alabama for technical hazardous materials training.
- DOT Radiation Training: the majority of the department participated in a two day radiation properties and transportation emergencies.

The goal of the Training Office is to introduce new ideas and methods while continuing to improve on current skills and knowledge for all 39 members of TFFD. In the coming year, we aim to obtain this goal.

**Tom Bloxham**  
**Training Officer**  
**Twin Falls Fire Department**



## Technical Rescue Annual Report

Technical Rescue is a fire service discipline that requires specialized training and equipment. This training and equipment allows firefighters to respond to and successfully mitigate rescue situations that are less frequent but more challenging than normally encountered. These situations include but are not limited to elevated geographic locations within our response area as well as commercial and industrial confined spaces and the use of rope equipment may be needed at any time. Technical rescue requires high levels of commitment and many hours of training from those involved. The Twin Falls Fire Department has 38 members that are trained to the Operations Level in rope rescue and 13 of those 38 personnel are trained to the Technician level. The latter comprise our technical rescue team and respond as needed to assist on duty engine companies with technical rescue incidents. The Technicians train on a monthly basis and the Operation Level training every other month. In 2017, the Twin Falls Fire Department responded to four confirmed technical rescues.

The Twin Falls Fire Department took possession of our new technical rescue apparatus in April 2017. The truck is a 2017 Dodge Ram 5500 with a custom built rescue box that allows us to better respond with all needed technical rescue equipment. In addition to the apparatus, some new hardware devices were added as well as replacing some of the aging software equipment.

Also in 2017, we received funds to purchase the needed equipment for trench rescue. Once this equipment is purchased, we will provide the required training to bring the department up to the Operation Level.

The Twin Falls Fire Department recognizes that technical rescue capabilities need to be ever expanding as our community continues to grow. Future plans currently involve broadening our "all-hazard" response by budgeting for additional training and equipment on various other potential rescue situations involving heavy rescue, trench collapse, building collapse, ice and swift water rescue incidents.



## Special Operations Hazmat Team

The Twin Falls Fire Department Special Operations Hazmat Team consists of 12 hazmat technicians. Those are Mitchell Brooks, Devin Slagel, Corey Beam, Josh Kliegl, Joell Miller, Andy Stephenson, Jesse Bowman, Tom McCully, Fred McDonald, David Owens, Rick Hatridge and William Blanton.

In February all team members attended an Ammonia class hosted by ConAgra foods. Ammonia is a product that can be very harmful if released into the atmosphere and is used in several applications around the community.

In May, four members attended a course in Anniston Alabama titled **Hazardous Materials Technologies: Sampling, Monitoring and Detection**. This class was a demanding five-day course that challenged the technicians with extensive hands-on training scenarios. They learned new skills to aid in their response to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear or explosive weapons of mass destruction.

Henningsen Cold Storage held their annual hazmat drill that was designed to test their employees as well as our response. The live drill went very well for both sides and allowed us to evaluate some of our training and equipment needs.

The team continues to develop department new training curriculums and SOG's. In order for our team to stay proficient, we train at least quarterly on technician based skills. As always, we are looking for ways to improve our response capabilities and equipment in order to better serve our community.





### Twin Falls Fire Department Community Events 2017



## FAQ's

### How do I get a copy of an Incident Report?

Call the Twin Falls Fire Department Administrative Office at (208) 735-7266, during our regular business hours of 8:00 AM to 12:00/NOON and 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Monday thru Friday, for proper procedures to obtain a report.

### What is a "Knox Box" & where can I obtain one?

A Knox Box is a secured locked box that is placed on the front of a building/house and contains keys to the building or residence. The fire department keeps a key that opens the Knox Box locked and secured on their vehicles. This allows the fire department easy access to a home or business even when the building may be secured, i.e. after hours or when occupants have limited mobility. Information to purchase a "Knox Box" can be obtained by calling the Twin Falls Fire Department at (208) 735-7266 or online at [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com).

### If my Carbon Monoxide detector activates, what should I do?

Carbon Monoxide (ALSO KNOWN AS THE SILENT KILLER) is a colorless/odorless gas that is created by the incomplete combustion of carbon-based fuels. It also connects to blood cells at a rate 200 times faster than oxygen. It is recommended that you install a Carbon Monoxide detector on each level of your home and if a detector activates, call 911 and leave your home. The fire department will come to your home and check the level of Carbon Monoxide (if any).

### Why do firefighters cut holes in the roof and break windows of a building on fire?

This is called "VENTILATION". There are two basic reasons for ventilating a structure. The first is removal of dangerous gases, heat, and dark smoke that accumulate in a burning building reducing visibility and greatly impeding rescue and firefighting efforts. Second, ventilation allows firefighters to relieve the structure of superheated gases and smoke which spread fire and contribute to dangerous situations like flashover and backdraft explosions.

### What should I do with HOT fireplace ash?

DO NOT remove hot ashes from the fireplace immediately. Wait up to 2-3 days and let the ashes cool completely in the fireplace until there are no remaining hot embers before removing them. Place cool ash in a metal container and store outside away from the home and all combustibles.



~ 345 Second Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301 ~  
(208) 735-7266 or Fax (208) 733-3146