

Denver Fire Department 2021 Annual Report



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A Message from Chief Desmond Fulton

The Denver Fire Department is pleased to present an overview of our emergency response and service to the community during the calendar year of 2021.

The Annual Report reflects efforts and accomplishments of the Denver Fire Department in providing quality, timely, and professional emergency services to those who live in, work in, and visit the City and County of Denver, Englewood, Glendale, Sheridan, and Skyline. This annual report highlights statistics related to call response and will acknowledge the accomplishments and events that shape us as an organization. This report also serves as a tool used for evaluating and supporting decisions that enhance the departments mission of serving our communities and guide us in ways we can better assist with risk reduction.

We are blessed to have the unwavering support of Mayor Hancock and Denver City Council, but make no mistake, our success is because of the hard work and dedication of every one of you that wears the Denver Fire Badge, and those that work behind the scenes throughout numerous divisions and within many capacities.

It is paramount to recognize our success, while always being aware of our need to continually improve and strive towards greatness. As coach Vince Lombardi once said, "Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection, we can catch excellence".

Your professionalism, dedication, and desire to make someone's darkest day a little brighter is what makes us who we are. It is an honor to work with, and for such dedicated individuals, and be a part of this amazing fire family.

Thank you all for making the Denver the absolute best fire department in the nation.

With Appreciation,
Desmond G. Fulton

Mission Statement:

The Denver Fire Department is dedicated to:

Our ***Desire to Serve***; committing to those we serve with integrity, accountability, and inclusivity.

Our ***Courage to Act***; providing quality, timely and professional emergency services to protect life and property.

Our ***Ability to Perform***; working together to maintain the highest standards of mitigation, preparedness, prevention, and community engagement.

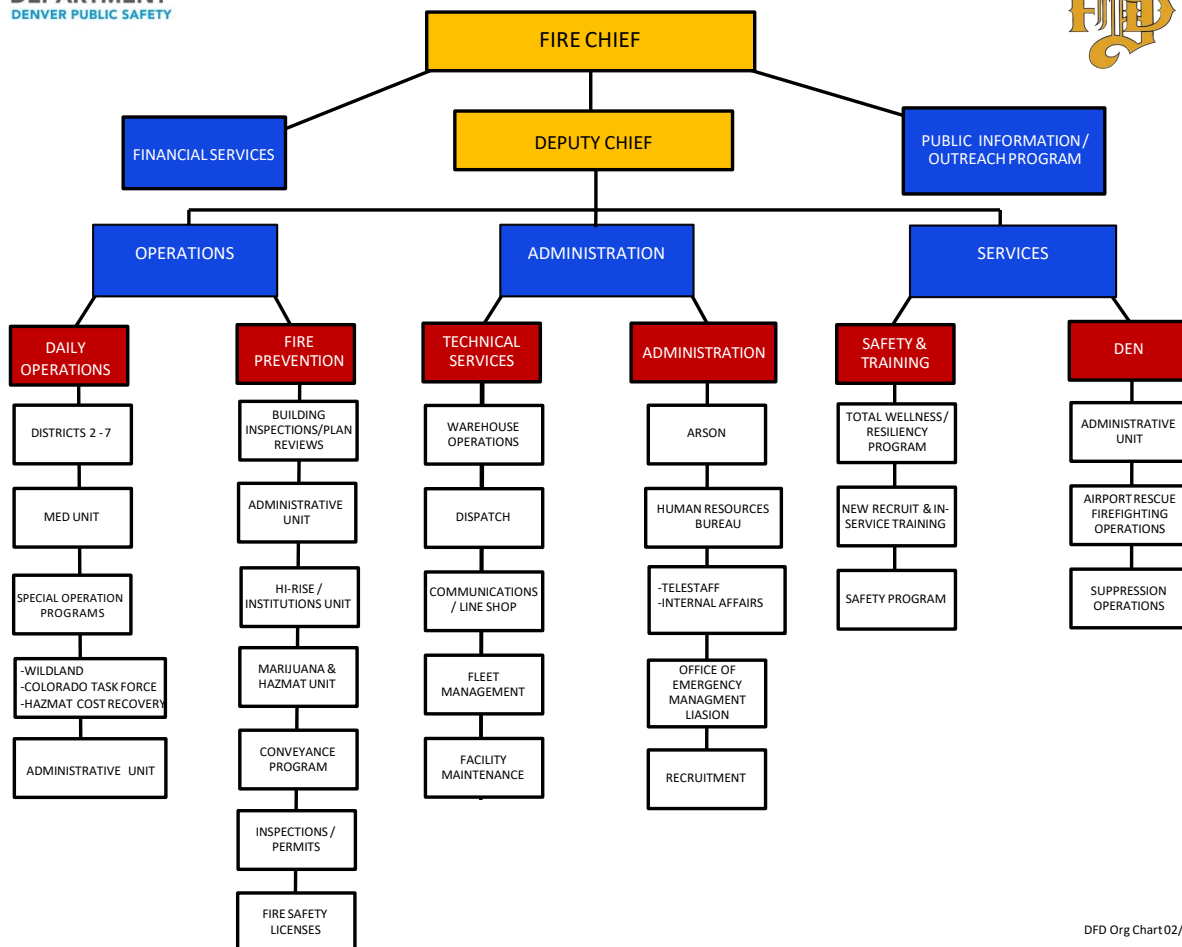
Vision Statement :

The Denver Fire Department is a nationally accredited organization built on a rich history of tradition, continuously leading through emergency response, community engagement and wellness. Embracing a caring culture built on a foundation of respect, inclusion, and trust. Continuously leading the fire service through innovative practices with a focused attention to our family and yours.



About Us

Established in 1866, the Denver Fire Department provides services to the citizens who live in, work in and visit the City and County of Denver. Denver Fire Department provides all hazard responses and emergency medical services, fire suppression, emergency medical services, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, water and high angle rescue. The Department has over 1,000 paid professional firefighters supporting daily fire/rescue and medical operations. The Department also employs 55 civilian staff supporting all Divisions. There are 39 fully staffed firehouses responding to fire and emergency calls within the city. Denver Fire provides fire and emergency calls to the City of Glendale, City of Sheridan, Englewood, and Skyline Fire District through contract agreements. The Department has five staffed firehouses providing services at Denver International Airport.

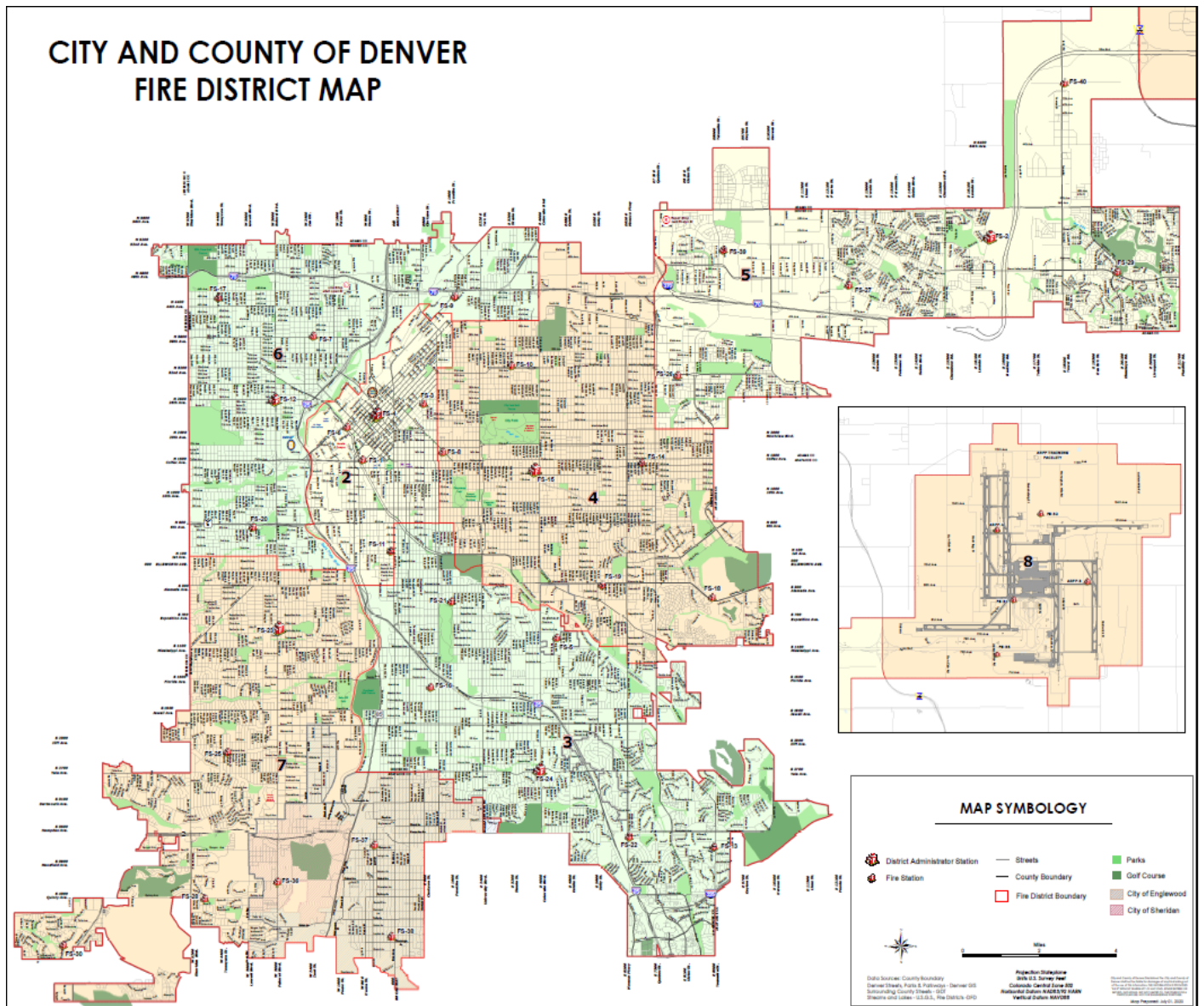


DFD Org Chart 02/10/2020

District Map and Apparatus Profiles

39 Fire Stations	1 Shift Commander
6 District Chiefs	1 Red Chief
32 Engines	9 Ladder Trucks
8 Towers	2 Heavy Rescues
1 HazMat Unit	1 Airlight
3 Med Units (Basic Life Support)	Additional specialized apparatus

The Denver Fire Department provides emergency response through 39 fire stations within 6 Districts. The Denver Fire Department maintains constant staffing of 4 members per apparatus in suppression. There are 199 members on duty each day responding to emergency incidents within the 6 fire districts.





RESPONSE STANDARDS

Call Volume	2019	2020	2021
Total Number of calls	123,394	111,214	125,238
Fires	2,706	3,022	2,446
Medical calls	80,967	70,699	55,593
Accidents	3,220	3,024	2,254
Service calls	5,712	4,613	4,155
Good intent	17,940	19,319	17,172
False alarms	11,289	10,068	8,100
Overpressure rupture	124	113	67
Weather calls	12	21	1
Other calls	91	61	31
Unspecified call types*	1,333	274	35,419

*ESO is in process with these call types

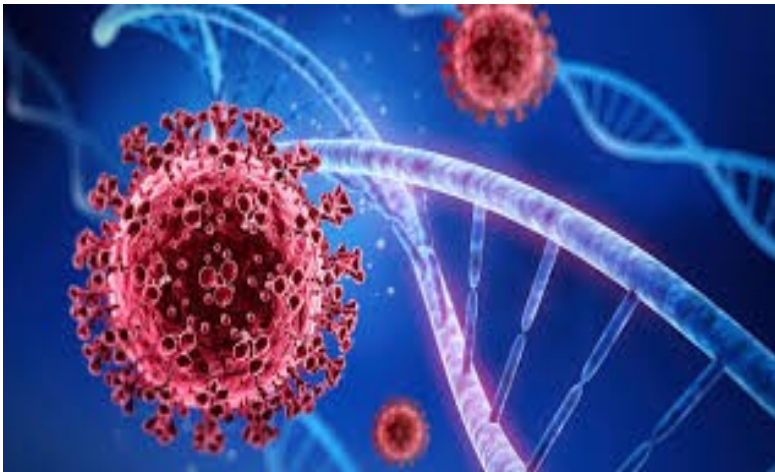
COVID-19

Early in the pandemic, COVID-19 testing was extremely limited. Denver Fire and the City of Denver were proactive in providing first responders such as firefighters and law enforcement access to testing to prevent spread during the pandemic.



In January of 2021 Denver firefighters were honored to partner, train and administer vaccines against COVID-19 with local hospitals.

Partnering with Denver Housing Authority, vaccinations were also distributed to the senior community at Walsh Manor.



DFD Equipment Donation

On August 12th, 2021 the Denver Fire Department donated over \$100,000 worth of extrication and protective equipment to the San Pedro Volunteer Fire Department in Mexico. Denver Chief Desmond Fulton handed over the used equipment to San Pedro Chief Juan Hernandez at the Denver Fire Training Center. The equipment included 21 SCBAs, a Jaws of Life, nozzles, hoses, pike poles and power saws. The equipment was decommissioned in the United States due to NFPA standards but will see new life in Mexico. The small department in Coahulia has 21 volunteers and two SCBAs. San Pedro did not have a Jaws of Life and currently extricates trapped parties with basic hand tools.



Wild Land Program

The Wildland program concluded 2021 with 198 total members including 56 new members having completed all NIMS and NWCG requirements for participation. Though overall deployments were less than previous years due to City staffing needs, there were over 250 deployments to fires in Colorado, 9 western states and 3 in the east. Members were deployed in communications, as fire-line EMTs, helicopter operations, dispatching, airtanker bases, and for suppression assignments including as members of regional and national incident management teams.



EMS QA/QI



The distribution of brand new RAD 57s was completed. All rigs including Engines, Trucks, Towers, and Med Units now can utilize the CO Monitor and SP02 monitor on all medical calls.

After four years, Tech Services and ESO have completed their project which will allow the Denver Fire Department to have access to all Fire and EMS data that ESO stores. This will allow the QA/QI Administrator to collect data, track trends, and do advanced analytics and analysis for the Department properly and efficiently. In addition to this data, a new

Patient Outcome model is now available for all DFD Operations members. This allows all Ops members to receive real time patient follow up from any hospital in the Denver Metro area to which they were transported.

Incident types have also been updated in ESO at the request of the Department to include Encampment Fire, and Community Engagement (which replaced Community Service).

Monthly EMS Updates will continue to be sent out to all members and firehouses. In these updates a CAD Reconciliation report is attached for incomplete reports. Currently the department has a 99% completion rate. Prior to monthly updates, the department was at 88-90% completion

Significant Incidents

January 1-commercial structure fire at E. 17th St. & Pearl St. Crews arrived to heavy fire at an vacant car wash .



January 29 -multi family structure fire in the 3400 block of S Lowell Blvd. at the Loretto Heights Apartment Complex. Callers reported parties possibly trapped inside the unit. One victim was removed.

February 20- around 13:00 a United Airlines 777 reported an engine on fire after takeoff from Denver International Airport. The engines debris fell into a neighborhood over Broomfield, and several callers reported a possible plane was down after hearing a large boom and seeing debris falling from the sky. At 13:11 North Metro Fire Rescue District was alerted to a possible plane down in the area of E. 17th Ave. & Cedar St. in Broomfield. Crews arrived and confirmed that no plane was down and only debris. A large part of the engine was found at E. 13th Ave. & Elmwood St. and debris was also found scattered in several areas in the neighborhood. The plane circled back around the metro area to return back to DIA for an emergency landing on the east runway where Denver Fire Department ARFF was on hand. Crews found fire from the plane's wing and engine, and started fire attack which was quickly extinguished. No injuries were reported. The plane's destination was to Hawaii.



February 23- 3344 Walnut St. reported heavy fire throughout the large abandoned commercial building. Command immediately upgraded the call to a 2nd alarm as the fire continued to grow and collapse zones were established on the Alpha and Delta side.

Companies were ordered and emergency evacuation and defensive operations were set up. Tower 9, Truck 8, Truck 4, and Tower 1 performed aerial attack to the roof. Utilities were secured and gas and electric companies were notified. Firefighters spent about an hour battling the fire with an additional two hours performing primary and secondary searches.



April 8- Commercial structure fire at the Odom Memorial Church, 3301 Williams St. Engine 10 was first on scene reporting heavy smoke and laying in with a fast attack. This was confirmed as an attic fire, a primary search was completed and negative on the second floor. After water was on the fire. Personnel Accountability Report was requested by command after a smoke explosion/flashover and requested a 2nd alarm assignment. The second level of the structure was deemed compromised after a firefighter fell through the floor. Crews controlled the fire and used an aerial drone to locate hotspots. One firefighter was treated for injuries after falling through the second floor and the cause of the fire was determined to be electrical.

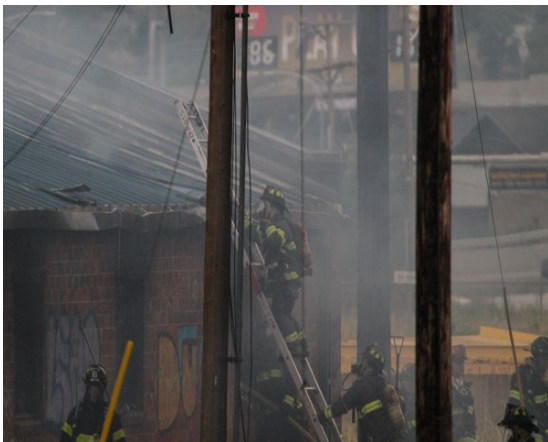


May 3- Denver Fire Department responded to multiple reports of a construction fire in the 1400 block of Xavier St. Engine 20 arrived on scene to observe fire showing, and laid a water supply from Zenobia St. and W. 14th Ave. Engine 20 started a fire attack with a blitz to the Charlie side protecting exposure to the south building and nearby vehicles. Chief 6 assumed command and upgraded to a 2nd alarm response as the fire made it through the 3rd floor. Crews controlled the fire and managed hot spots throughout the morning while also on fire watch for a potential rekindle.



June 6- Denver Fire Department was alerted to a possible fire at 380 N. Quivas St. in Baker. Engine 20 arrived to a large homeless encampment fire involving several vehicles. Crews got the fire out quickly then started overhaul and the investigation. The cause of fire is unknown and no injuries were reported .

June 12- responded to a reported single-family structure fire in the 3400 block of W. 31st Ave. in West Highland. Crews arrived to a detached garage fully involved and started fire attack. Crews worked heavy fire with extension into the home. The fire was quickly under control with no injuries. The fire cause is under investigation.



July 25-Denver Fire Department Engine 20 responded to a fire investigation in the area of W. 6th Ave. & I-25. Engine 20 arrived in the area and found a large warehouse / outbuilding at 800 N. Seminole Rd. with heavy smoke showing and upgraded to a full structure response. Crews battled poor access, water supply issues and fire throughout the building, then switched from offensive to defensive operations, and back-out tones / evac was requested. Engine 11 arrived and pulled an attack line in with multiple attack lines used before going back to an offensive strategy and getting the fire under control.

August 9- Denver Fire Department was dispatched to a reported multi-family residential structure fire at 10700 E. Dartmouth Ave. Multiple callers reported that several units were on fire. Engine 13 observed smoke approaching the scene and found heavy fire on the south side of an interior building. Two additional engines, two trucks and a third district chief were toned out in a second alarm. Units were on scene about an hour and a half fighting the fire, mopping up hot spots, checking for extension and ventilating the building.



August 29- Denver Fire Department responded to a commercial structure fire at 800 N. Seminole Rd. in the Lincoln Park neighborhood. Crews arrived to find a fully involved large abandoned warehouse with flames through the roof, and additional engines were requested. With poor access to the building, water supply issues and heavy fire throughout the full building, the call was upgraded to a 2nd alarm. Firefighters worked heavy fire conditions during defensive operations and several master streams were set-up

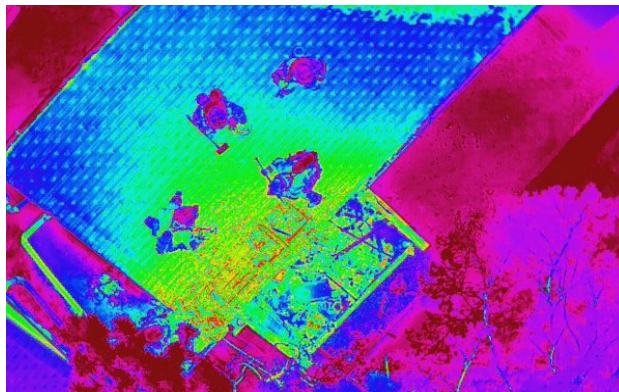


November 1- Denver Fire Department responded to a commercial structure fire in the area of 1035 N. Osage in Lincoln Park. Crews arrived to heavy fire from two abandoned commercial buildings and a 2nd alarm was requested. The fire was under control in about 45 minutes.



November 16- multi-family structure fire in the 4200 block of Josephine St. in the Elyria-Swansea neighborhood. Crews arrived to several fully involved structures and started fire attack. Command requested two additional engines and a tower with defensive strategy. Crews worked an aggressive fire attack. A second alarm was requested with exposure issues and hoarding conditions in addition to a collapse. Several master stream operations were utilized. Two firefighters suffered minor injuries. Crews worked an extended overhaul on hot spots and the cause is under investigation.

December 8- multi-family structure fire in the 1200 block of S. Oneida St. Engine 19 arrived to fire and smoke showing from a large two-story apartment structure and dropped two lines for fire attack and Truck 19 started the primary search. Engine 22 pulled a line in with Engine 5 for fire attack and checked for extension. Tower 22 and Tower 15 went to the roof, and command requested an additional chief, engine and truck to the scene. 4 civilians were evaluated for minor injuries with no transport. (Scene photo as compared to drone heat mapping).



December 30– Marshall Fire—Fire Departments from all over the state responded. Firefighters were able to save many homes with structure protection. The Rocky Mountain Area Type 1 Incident Management Team assumed command of the fire on Saturday, January 1st, 2022. The fire burned around 6,219 acres and 991 structures were lost. On December 31st, 2021 to January 1st, 2021, a heavy snowstorm moved into the area.



ACCREDITATION



The Denver Fire Department became an accredited in 2018.

Accredited agencies are often described as being community-focused, data-driven, outcome-focused, strategic-minded, well organized, properly equipped, and properly staffed and trained.

The Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) provides agencies the accreditation model, various accreditation publications and trainings.

Working towards, achieving, and maintaining accreditation:

- Provides greater community alignment.
- Encourages quality improvement.
- Facilitates input from and builds positive relationships with labor.
- Identifies areas of strengths and weaknesses.
- Allows for the establishment of a plan for improvement.
- Provides data supported decision-making.
- Communicates management and leadership philosophies.
- Ensures your agency has a defined mission and related objectives.
- Encourages the development of organizational procedural documents.

ISO



The Denver Fire Department has an ISO rating of "1".

An ISO Class 1 rating is a true rarity, a fraction of the top 1% of all fire departments nationwide. It has been awarded to only 329 of the nation's roughly 45,000 fire departments. The training and preparation involved in receiving a Class 1 rating are rigorous.

Operations Division

Operation Mountain Shield

Operation Mountain Shield is a program that assesses the readiness of over 80 agencies in the North Central Region (NCR) for a planned, multi-faceted terrorist attack. DFD has sitting members on this committee from Operations and Dispatch who have spent many hours helping to develop a plan for agencies across the metro area to communicate in the event of a coordinated terrorist attack that spans multiple jurisdictions. The program has Federal and State oversight with a final tabletop exercise to test the readiness of all involved.

Turnout and Response Times – Company Metrics

Total compliance response times have improved in 2021 by a full 2%. Although this may not sound like much, it was a huge gain for DFD and for the communities we serve. Much of this increase was attributed to the pandemic and the fact that there were fewer drivers on the road

Major League Baseball

In July, Denver Fire was instrumental in providing for the safety and security of the City of Denver during All-Star Week, including the All-Star Game. During the five-day event, DFD had the following in place from 0900 – 2100 each day:

- One additional MED Unit concentrated in the downtown corridor specifically for MLB participants
- Command Staff members participated in the City of Denver's Unified Command, a joint command operation that encompassed many state and federal agencies
- DFD members staffed Joint Hazard Assessment Teams (JHAT's) in partnership with members from the FBI and Colorado's 8th Civil Support Team (CST) to provide on-site hazard assessments
- Haz-Mat Team Leader on site for the entire event, coordinating the activities and responses of the JHAT Teams
- Event Commanders at Coors Field working in unison with Denver Police, FBI, and Coors Field management
- Increased Special Detail members staffing at both Coors Field and the Convention Center

Med Unit

A third Med Unit was requested for 2022. The proposal included 7-day staffing for both Med 1 and Med 2, and weekend staffing for Med 3. Two locations that are being evaluated for a permanent Med 2 if this request is approved – the Federal Corridor and Capitol Hill/East Downtown areas. Med 1 is currently the second busiest rig in the City with just over 2,100 calls for service in 2021 alone. The Med Unit absorbs an average of 97 calls per week from other downtown companies and has an average turnout time of 97.29% with a total compliance time of 91.21%. This resource continues to outperform all previous expectations and the dedication and hard work by our Denver Fire EMTs has not gone unnoticed.

Denver Fire Co-Responder (MH-32)

The Denver Fire Department was granted a Mental Health of Denver (MHCD) Co-Responder, Kate Pierce (MH32). She has proven to be a valuable resource for the community we serve, as her referrals from firehouses have been increasing steadily since her arrival to DFD. Much of this success can be attributed to her ability and willingness to make firehouse visits a part of her routine. During these visits, she can familiarize our members with the vast array of services that can be provided to the patients we respond to through her network in the City. Kate will personally respond to each referral and keep our members informed of the process along the way.

Response Matrix

With COVID restrictions being lifted, businesses re-opening, and the city returning to a sense of normalcy, the run volume for DFD is increasing compared to the same time last year. This year alone, we have had more than 5,000 assigned incidents compared to the same time last year. Total Turnout Compliance for DFD is at 93.65% - this data is excellent and reflects the hard work and willingness of our members to get out the door in a timely manner when asked to do so. The Total Compliance Rate is 82.01%. This number is more reflective of the many obstacles we face every day as we respond to calls throughout the city. Increased traffic congestion and construction work are the primary culprits in our inability to reach 90% or more in this category.

Securing the Cities Initiative (STC)

In the third Quarter of 2021, the Securing the Cities Initiative (STC) was highly productive. Denver Fire co-chairs both the Equipment and Operations committees. Over the summer, all cooperating agencies worked and performed with due diligence the most adequate instrumentation to meet the needs of the STC program, in direct correlation with the potential hazards, the first responders of Denver will encounter. The first wave of training from the Center for Rad/Nuc Training (CTOS) on Primary and Secondary Screening was delivered at the Denver Fire Academy, consisting of our operational partners. This year, one personal radiation detector (PRD), will be assigned to every officer position with the hopes of providing early and comprehensive radiation detection throughout the city.

Wildland Program

The Wildland program concluded 2021 with 198 total members including 56 new members having completed all NIMS and NWCG requirements for participation. Though overall deployments were less than previous years due to City staffing concerns, there were over 250 deployments to fires in Colorado, 9 western states and 3 in the east. Members were deployed in communications, as fire-line EMTs, helicopter operations, dispatching, airtanker bases, and for suppression assignments including as members of regional and national incident management teams.

Of Note:

- Engines 601 and 602 rotated assignments to the local Pike & San Isabel N.F. as severity support for 2-1/2 months. Engines and crews were also deployed to incidents in 4 states.
- DFD members represented 95% of the JEFFCO Airtanker Base staffing throughout 2021; and accepted extended assignments to other bases in CO, WA, and ID.
- The 11-person Suppression Module was deployed 3 times to CA, OR, and WA.
- A total of 56 Position Task books were initiated in 2021 with 37 of those receiving final certification for new individual qualifications.

For program support, all hard copy member records have been uploaded into IQS to meet compliance requirements contained in the Colorado State IQS Agreement.

CDPHE Takeback Program

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) recently began the firefighting foam buyback program called the "Takeback" program – Colorado fire departments can take unused firefighting foam containing polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) out of service and safely store it until there is a safe disposal method.

The Denver Fire Department is in the process of making the transition as part of the buyback program. It is expected the transition will be complete in the 1st quarter of 2022.

Fire departments will receive \$40 per gallon. The Denver Fire Department will receive \$50,400.00 towards the replacement of PFAS foam.

Enhanced EMS

The staff of the Operations Division have been formulating a proposal for Enhanced EMS Delivery within Denver in partnership with Denver Health and Hospital Authority.

The Denver Fire Department is the State of Colorado's largest and most active fire department. It is the only Fire Department in the state in which fire personnel are restricted from providing EMT/IV and/or Paramedic level care. The proposal includes granting Denver firefighters EMT-B full scope of practice, staffing Paramedic Engine Companies, providing limited Denver Fire Department BLS ambulance transport, and providing in-house Denver Fire Department EMS Education.

Nationally, more than 90% of career fire departments provide emergency medical care. Denver's EMS system is a very outdated model. An enhanced EMS delivery model would maximize the untapped potential of Fire Department staffing and geographic distribution of resources.

EMS QA/QI

The distribution of brand new RAD 57s was completed. All rigs including Engines, Trucks, Towers, and Med Units now can utilize the CO Monitor and SP02 monitor on all medical calls.

After four years, Tech Services and ESO have completed their project of allowing the Denver Fire Department to have access to all Fire and EMS data that ESO stores. This will allow the QA/QI Administrator to collect data, track trends, and do advanced analytics and analysis for the Department properly and efficiently. In addition to this data, a new Patient Outcome model is now available for all DFD Operations members. This allows all Ops members to receive real time patient follow up from any hospital in the Denver Metro area to which they were transported. Incident types have also been updated in ESO at the request of the Department to include Encampment Fire, Community Engagement (which replaced Community Service).

Monthly EMS Updates will continue to be sent out to all members and firehouses. In these updates a CAD Reconciliation report is attached for incomplete reports. Currently the department has a 99% completion rate. Prior to monthly updates, the department was at 88-90% completion.

Special Operations

Special Operations conducted numerous full-scale training exercises, some of which included Special Operations teams from other departments. These comprised tower crane, blind shaft elevators, confined space rescues, and diving. Joint training was conducted with the 10th Special Forces Group and the U.S. Marshalls and the 8th Civil Support Team. The team tested and evaluated many items of technical rescue equipment. The dive team implemented RIT fittings for rescue diver operations. The DFD members of CO-TF1 completed their annual refresher training (ART). Planning for the federal large-scale exercise Operation Mountain Shield continued along with several other city tabletop exercises.

Fire Prevention Division

Contractor/Developer Partnership Improvements

The Fire Prevention Division established partnerships with the Association of General Contractors to facilitate communication, code adherence, and industry best practices. A newly developed group is the Technical Advisory Board. This group of individuals within the City are vested in improving permitting and inspection processes for the developers and general contractors in the Denver metro area. After a collaborative process with Hensel Phelps, the Fire Prevention Division developed a Contractor Guidebook to educate and improve industry relationships. This month our Division received recognition from the Rocky Mountain Association of Builders and Contractors. Our Division's priority is to revise our policies and permits.

The Fire Prevention Division has been working extensively on clarifying and educating the Division's permitting processes while making the webpage more intuitive. Given this collaborative effort, we received positive feedback and streamlined several processes to reduce wait times.

Outdoor Patio Expansion Project

The Division continues to provide permitting and inspecting of participating restaurants. The program aims to practice safe physical distancing and safety for patrons following the state's public health order currently allowing sit-down service at restaurants and bars. 333 businesses have been approved to expand their outdoor capacity, amounting for more than \$1.6 million in waived street occupancy fees to make the program more affordable for applicants.

This temporary program, established in October of 2020, was created to allow restaurants and bars to operate in outdoor settings adjacent to their businesses. Restaurants have requested to continue the program through October of 2022 given the continued changes to COVID-19 protocols.

Individuals Currently Experiencing Homelessness

The Fire Prevention Division continues to provide support to those currently experiencing homelessness. Two areas of priority include providing personnel and resources to the Early Intervention Teams and the newly formed Street Enforcement Team. The Division is providing training to this new program. Continued efforts are being made to stop new encampments before they are well-established and offer alternative resources.

Fire Prevention's Fire Protection Engineers continue to assist with safety system improvements of several buildings to be utilized for shelter. After many months of collaboration, DFD completed a final life safety walk and signed a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy for the new shelter located at 4600 E 48th.

The Large Encampment Team continues to identify encampment hazards by working with occupants to clean and abate the areas. This group within the Division has received multiple accolades from members of the homeless population and the individual groups that support these people. DFD continues to assist with the Safe Outdoor Spaces (SOS) and the managed encampments to assist with sheltering options. In 2020, crews removed a total of 4,839 pounds of propane from Encampments and responded to 147 illegal heating/illegal fires at Encampments. In comparison, to date crews have removed a total of 12,748 pounds of propane and responded to 293 illegal heating/illegal fires at Encampments. Outreach and clean-up assistance continue to be performed twice weekly. A new Group Enforcement Authority has been established and participates alongside multiple agencies within the City to provide input and training to the new members.

2021 Inspections

18,351 inspections were completed for 2021. We appreciated our partnership with the Operations Division. The hard work of Operations companies combined with Fire Prevention Inspectors and CSA Staff has resulted in a completion rate that has surpassed inspections from pre-COVID 2019 figures.

Code Review Cycle for 2021

The Division is prepared 54 Amendments in accordance with City Attorney's Office and Community Planning and Development for final presentation to City Council. It is the Division's goal through various Code changes to improve the customer experience.

Fire Protection Engineers

Through Divisional partnerships with CPD, we continue to develop the Affordable Housing Group. Fire Prevention plays a critical role in three impactful areas: Land Development, Plan Review, Systems Testing, resulting in TCO and CO. There are many priority projects in progress including: Pancratia Hall at Loretto Heights, Convention Center expansion and the Great Hall and concourses at DEN.

Denver International Airport

The Division continues to assist with high expansion foam testing for all the carriers at DEN. Multiple areas of the airport are under renovation. The Main Terminal and Concourse expansions continue to make progress and our Inspectors and Fire Prevention Engineers continue to work toward completion.

Technical Services Division

Facilities Maintenance was able to secure \$585,000.00 in planned upgrades to Stations for the year through various FIT Projects. These upgrades include:

- Removing carpet at Station 29
- Fencing repair projects at Stations 4, 15, 20, and 29
- Station 1/HQ Lobby and Parking Lot supporting ADA compliance standards (in design phase)

Station No.39 was entered in the national Firehouse Station Design Awards. It received a Notable Commendation.

Station upgrades/repairs continue through various FIT and Bond channels. The City's Energy Performance Contract will include adding solar to the roof of Station 2 and two new boilers, also improving lighting at two stations.

Dispatch

We have been working to create a backup CAD System for times of outages. Other backup efforts have been made by collaborating with neighboring communications at JeffCom, of Jefferson County. Dispatch has also been working with the Lineshop to develop a dashboard to share incidents with DEN.

Dispatch continues to find additional redundancies and back up dispatching options by working with neighboring dispatch units and other internal methods. Dispatch is working with the Lineshop and DEN on creating a CAD to CAD sharing dashboard to share calls with DEN. Communication plans have been finalized with the National Guard for times when they are activated. Additional priorities are correcting/replacing LiveMUM and other comm center implementations like adding the program 911Eye to dispatches arsenal of tools.

Dispatch continues to make improvements and updates to dispatching procedures and tools such as the 1 for 1 response programming, building the CAD to CAD DEN links, and testing the new PSAP ASAP portal.

Lineshop

The Drone Unit flew its first incident at a Structure Collapse in Englewood on 2/24/2021. The Division is continuing to develop standard operating guidelines regarding when and how the Drone Unit gets deployed. The Drone Unit will provide a sheltered command post at incidents, provide enhanced communications, and provide live aerial video for commanders and crews. The Drone Unit will also provide unique community outreach opportunities for special events.

The Aerial Support Team (drone) has been proving its value and capabilities. At incidents, the unit can help identify hotspots, provide greater situational awareness, and provide critical information to Incident Commanders. Other safety agencies have been impressed and are exploring similar capabilities and/or additional DFD Drone Unit tie-ins. The Lineshop has also created a Member Transfer Form to assist DFD Admin and Supervisors when transferring members.

The drone unit has been taking photos of the Platte to map the river and its tributaries for swift-water rescue purposes. Updates to DFD Web are coming, including permanent DUO authentication that is scheduled to go live in October. The Lineshop has been adding QR codes to DFD fireboxes for building engineers to find firebox support easier. Have also been working with TS to explore running VocAlarm through the City network instead of transmitting by radio, currently testing new methods that will eventually offer more flexibility.

Warehouse

The Warehouse is exploring alternative methods of allocating gear through channels like grants and the DFD Foundation. Current priorities are helmets, gloves, Tyvec suits, and single-layer turnout gear. Also testing products from the supplier Western Paper through State and City purchasing agreements to save money on toilet paper, paper towels, and hand soaps.

Fleet

The new Truck 2 from the 2020 purchase went into service on 12/1. The New Rescue and Shift Commander Vehicles are currently being fit for service. New vehicle leases for the 2021 budget have not been finalized, thus no new vehicle purchases have been set up with DOTI's normal fleet replacement.

Administration Division

Outreach Program

Mayor Michael B. Hancock presented a Proclamation recognizing the 90th Anniversary of DFD's Station 3. He was joined at the celebration by DFD Command Staff, current and retired members, the Executive Director of Public Safety, elected officials, dignitaries, and the community.

The Denver Public Safety Strategy was launched and DFD will be a supporting entity joining DPD, DEDO, DOTI, DHS, and GRID in targeted community outreach through the City. With the support from the Denver Fire Department Foundation, the department continues to receive multiple food donations and sporting event tickets, with distributions occurring job wide.

Outreach/Events

DFD Promotion Ceremony celebrated the promotion of 40 members who ascended to the ranks of Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain, and Assistant Chief, and those whose celebration was delayed due to COVID. Permanent badge pinning continues for the DFD Class 20-01 by members of the Command Staff. The 2021 DFD Young Adult Career Exploration Camp will occur July 26th-30th, providing 100 youth (50 co-ed/ 50 young ladies) with hands-on firefighter career experience at no cost. The camp is made possible through various fundraising efforts including the Office of Children's Affairs grant. Various virtual firehouse tours, fire safety talks, and other outreach efforts were adapted to accommodate COVID restrictions.

PIO

DFD's innovative firefighting skills with the use of Drone were highlighted through CBS4. DFD Wildland Team received recognition through a Fox 31 news story, as the biggest Fire Department and wildland cooperator in the State of Colorado; the 208 members, with additional DFD resources, have the capability for state and national response. Engine 3's impromptu softball game highlighted the continued support for DFD's community involvement. CSA appreciation was highlighted by sharing stories of our civil personnel and the many ways their work supports DFD. Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Pride, and Juneteenth are being highlighted with DFD participation.

Denver Fire partnered with PSL medical center for the PSA regarding CO poisoning. PIO had reported on many Homeless Encampment Fires with the media requests. PIO continues to share positive stories on our involvement with Covid testing and vaccinations. Both Outreach and PIO jointly worked on featuring stories on Women's and Black History Month, by sharing stories of our uniform employees and their successes both on the job and in the community.

Recruiting

There is a new Recruiting Team in place with one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one Technician. This new team has worked hard to create a vision of a robust program that will be inclusive and look through the lens of equity. They have been planning mentoring sessions, workout sessions, and assisting the candidates through the testing process with Civil Service.

Recruiting has begun a pretest and a post-test model. The pretest program includes back-to-school events in high schools and college programs. The focus will be on having our literature be seen in these locations, as well as a physical presence. Post-test focus will be on fitness preparation with CPAT fitness prep every Friday, soft and hard skills, and scheduled check-ins to clarify questions and give support during the process.

The Recruiting team and Civil Service transitioned to continuous testing; so now a person can apply during an open phase and test with NTN throughout that open cycle. NTN allows testing every three months and CSC will take your most recent score for processing. The cycle will only close when applicants are pulled for the processing of an academy class. Events scheduled in-person are in Ft. Carson. CAP members have attended multiple in-person Firehouse training, this

program is going well and will continue with inviting new CAP members into the program in September. Recruiting with the help of modified duty personnel reaches out to a person within one week of submitting a job interest form which limits duplication of efforts and answers small questions, Recruiters encourage candidates to meet in person if they are interested in moving forward.

Youth Fire Stop (Y.F.S.)

Denver Public Schools is interested in using the YFS class as part of their restorative justice initiative, this will drastically increase the number of YFS contacts and discussing the best way to deliver the program to meet their needs.

Safety & Training Division

Future Recruits

Academy Class 21-01 began September 13, 2021. COVID's budget impact has offered the Division a rare opportunity to collaborate to evaluate Academy practices. Dozens of members across the Training and Operations Divisions are working on process developments to review, revise, and standardize our curriculum, JPRs, and grading criteria. FF Nate Jamison has voluntarily transferred to the Academy as a lead on the project. Probationary members will now graduate with CMCB FF2 Certification, freeing them to focus on Company Standards and a Denver-specific training manual. This project is intended to bridge Operational and Academy practices and expectations.

Firehouse Visits

The in-person firehouse visits have guided Chief Fulton and the Division Staff's decisions and communications efforts. The progress described below is reflective of direct feedback from the membership.

Live fire training

Training will occur throughout the year in coordination with the District PPE cleaning schedule. Live Fire Training Leadership sees this as a cornerstone training activity to be supported indefinitely.

The Performance Evaluation

Performance Evaluations will resume this fall. After collaborative consideration, the PE will be held each September and October. Due to COVID, there will not be an enforced time standard for this year.

Chop Shop

The external Chop Shop extrication course, founded and led by A/C Wells, will continue this year. All additional cost recovery funds will go towards enhancing the Department's extrication abilities. Towing vehicles to and from the Academy costs \$130 per vehicle, and surplus cars will be used for company training. The remaining profits will be utilized to provide a Denver-specific Train the Trainer Chop Shop in late September. We also recognize the high level of extrication expertise is due to the grassroots relationship developed between crews and altruistic salvage yards. Lt. Pomponio has led a project to formally recognize these companies with a Denver helmet and custom shield.

Wellness Screenings

Screenings are voluntary. On-duty fitness and health screenings will be available to all DFD members. The screening includes a body composition scan, digital movement screen, sub max aerobic capacity test (or lactate serum test), and a jump test to determine power output, followed by a meeting with Dr. Koval to review basic occupational health recommendations. The screenings aim to identify a customized path of wellness for each member (exercise prescription, follow-up medical testing with PCP, injury prevention or mitigation, mental health evaluation, or nutritional resources). Also included is a voluntary Stress Injury Checklist that can be filled out anonymously. This will offer insight into the Department global mental health trends. If a member chooses to identify themselves, a follow-up by Tech Kelli Gilchrist will occur. The ultimate goal is to offer these screenings yearly to provide each member with a trending profile over their years of service. The process will hopefully catch underlying health and injury issues and provide the resources to assist that member to maximal wellness over the span of his/her career as a Denver Firefighter. Risk Management has committed \$25k annually to fund the medical doctor review component. Additional support will be sought in budget expansion requests.

Resilience Education and Coordination to Establish a Support System (RECESS)

This is a comprehensive stress management program developed by Tech. Gilchrist. The program currently is in beta-test and allows for a tactical pause from work assignments to realign life priorities, establish whole wellness habits, and connect with resources.

Strategic Development Teams (S.D.T.)

The Academy Teaching Model S.D.T. which has begun clarifying goals and starting work with support from multiple representatives including the community, City Attorney's Office, Denver Civil Service Commission, Local 858, Colorado Black Professional Firefighters Association, Women's Professional Firefighters, Leadership Team, Safety, and Training Division, and the Operations Division. The Acquired Structures S.D.T. has amassed a library of directives and reference material from Departments around the country. . The group's most recent work resulted in a Budget Expansion Request for a Driver Safety Program.

Budget

The COVID and Budget challenges reduced the Public Safety Program staffing. The Department will be lost 25% of our cadet assignments.

Training submitted the following Budget Expansion requests: Department Physician, Resiliency Wellness Coordinator, Safety Supplemental Overtime Budget, Department Chaplaincy Program, Driver Safety Program, Acquired Structures Program, Fire Simulator Maintenance, Target Solutions Coordinator. The Department and City Budget process must prioritize requests to be supported by finite City Budget. The requests memorialize real needs, and unsupported requests will be re-evaluated and revised for future submittal.

In efforts to augment our budget challenges, the Denver Fire Foundation facilitated the donation of four connex boxes; Dennis Hazlett donated two, C.E.O. of Trautman and Shreve and Gary Arnold donated two with the Pipefitters Local 208. One container will be used to store gear, and the other three will be turned into a burn building. The donation is valued at over 25k.

Wellness

Wellness Screenings continue with high participation. Early detection is critical in cancer survival. The Department holds this program among the highest of priorities and is submitting a budget expansion request.

The Resiliency Wellness Coordinator Kelli Tech Gilchrist founded Building Warriors as a non-profit in 2016. Building Warriors provides wellness services to approximately fifty public safety agencies in Colorado.

Airport Division

ARFF Training

Due to Covid 19, many training courses were converted to a virtual classroom model with a presentation, followed by a question and answer session. Topics presented in 2021 include Decontamination Procedures, Damming and Diking Procedures and Grass Fires. Also, ARFF Training is developing an ARFF 101 class for airport leadership, to be available the Summer of 2021. This included additional Strategy and Tactics for recertification burns and the initial 4-hour ARFF Training class.

AR/AFFF

Certain chemical compounds found in some firefighting foams have been linked to health and environmental issues, resulting in changes regarding their use and handling. Colorado House Bill 19-1279 signed into law June 2019 states that foam manufacturers will no longer be permitted to sell firefighting foam in Colorado containing PFAS added chemicals effective August 2, 2021. The DEN DFD Management team is working on the replacement of AR/AFFF on structural apparatus assigned to the airport to follow federal guidelines. Also, the Management team is working closely with the Environmental team to ensure safe transfer, storage, and disposal of the AR/AFFF foam. As part of this effort, the Administrative Captain and other members of the administrative team met with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) on funding options for PFAS foam disposal and resupply.

United Flight 328

On Sunday, February 21, 2021, United 328 (DEN-HNL) returned to the airport due to an uncontained engine failure. Upon arrival on one of the airport's runways, DFD extinguished a fire in the right engine of the Boeing 777. All passengers and flight crew staff remained on board until the plane was taken (tugged) to the apron adjacent to the United Hangar. DFD assisted with the safe evacuation of all passengers and crew members on board. No injuries were reported.

An internal After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted with all involved DEN Divisions and Agencies. During this AAR, the airport identified strengths and areas in performance and readiness that can be improved. The communication and operational readiness of all parties involved was highlighted as this incident's successful outcome was a collaborative effort amongst all parties involved. Additionally, an AAR was conducted with DEN and DFD that involved airports throughout the nation. This opportunity allowed the airport to elaborate on tactics utilized, training preparation, and strategic priorities throughout the incident.

Vice President Standby

On March 16, 2021, Vice President Kamala Harris met with small business owners within the Denver Metro area to promote the massive COVID-19 relief package and the vaccine. DEN DFD Airport Division assisted with oversight of the arrival and departure of Vice President Kamala Harris in Air Force Two. An ARFF rig was assigned to meet the aircraft for arrival and departure. Also, Station 35 was set up to assist and collaborate with Secret Service on parameters during the visit.

ARFF Training Academy

In the spring, recertification burns were completed for all Airport Division members at the ARFF Academy. This included both handline operations, aircraft fire incident operations as well as classroom lessons. All members assigned to the airport are required to obtain the recertification training twice per calendar year. In May, the first in-person ARFF Academy since the pandemic was conducted with 15 attendees. Attendance included members representative of each rank within the Denver Fire Department as well as two representatives from Kansas and an inspector from the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration).

Community Engagement

Structural companies participated in June Safety Month at DEN by assisting with the distribution of safety packets and testing the safety awareness knowledge of concourse airport employees. Various teams walked all three concourses over the course of three days asking employees questions such as:

“Where is the nearest Tornado Shelter?”

“What does the tornado shelter sign look like?”

“What is your evacuation plan?”

This engagement provided Denver Fire the opportunity to further engage with both DEN employees as well as visitors and citizens throughout the concourses. In addition, it allowed different facets within the airport to communicate and ensure that safety knowledge and concepts are readily known by all to increase overall efficiency and awareness.

In addition, members from the airport division attended the services for fallen Boulder Police Officer Eric Talley and Denver Sheriff Deputy James Herrera. Both agencies were extremely appreciative of the support provided by all Denver Fire Department members in attendance at either the procession route or at the services to honor their fallen family member.

DEN Rankings

As of May 2021, DEN ranks as follows:

World: 7th busiest airport by passengers

U.S.: 3rd busiest airport by passengers

Annual economic impact: \$33.5 billion

Dedication Ceremony Held For 9/11 Memorial Installation

The Denver Fire Department and Denver International Airport dedicated a 9/11 memorial on Friday, September 10th. The ceremony, which included placing wreaths at the site, was held at Fire House 35. The permanent installation made of steel from the World Trade Center is dedicated to the victims of 9/11 and first responders. Speakers included DEN CEO Phil Washington and Denver Fire Chief Desmond Fulton.

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