



OLYMPIC VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

A quick summary of our accomplishments and activities during 2022:

- We responded to 583 emergency calls, 64 calls more than 2021.
- OVFD staff responded to 353 medical emergency calls, 61% of our overall call volume.
 - ❖ OVFD received Automatic Aid or Mutual Aid 513 times from our neighboring departments, OVFD provided Automatic Aid or Mutual Aid to our neighboring departments 101 times in 2022.
 - ❖ OVFD Firefighter-Paramedics spent a total of 21 days as a Fireline Medic on 2 large campaign fires (Mosquito and SRF Complex Fires) here in Northern California as part of the Master Mutual Aid Program.
- OVFD has a few members on the Truckee Tahoe Regional Technical Rescue Team that has proven to be a very valuable resource for our entire region. Our highly skilled members have been involved in some very unusual, often complicated technical rescues.

Olympic Valley Fire Department had another challenging year in 2022 dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic (both administratively and operationally) and additional staffing challenges. I credit the great team of firefighters and administrative staff for getting us through the year with minimal difficulties.

The seasonal firefighter program has been working well to offset the staffing challenges related to the pandemic. The seasonal firefighters are not full-time benefited employees, they work full time during a 4-month time frame during our busy seasons. The main goal of the program is to have 5 people scheduled on shift with a minimum on 4 people on duty (5/4 staffing). 5/4 staffing means even if one person is out (class, sick, vacation, etc.) we strive to have 4 people on duty to comply with federal staffing standards and the ability to split the crew for running multiple calls at the same time. The concern is that our “busy seasons” never really end and we are not seeing much of a drop in demand during the “shoulder seasons”. The pandemic has had a significant impact on staffing issues, from quarantine requirements, ability to get childcare as well as firefighters out with injuries.

Recruitment and retention are a challenge in the fire industry as a whole and we are very aware of the problem here at OVFD. Succession planning is an ongoing process for every agency that strives to meet and exceed the expectations of its constituents and it is our goal to be prepared to meet the needs of our community. The local housing problem is significant to our retention concerns as our members are living further away from the district and may seek employment closer to where they live. The seasonal program has been working well and gives our crews the opportunity to get to know the employee’s knowledge, skills, and abilities as well as their overall fit with the organization. We are looking forward to training and mentoring these seasonal firefighters for potential future full-time positions.

OVFD is aware and shares the Board’s and community’s desire to expand our Fuels Management Program and fuels project work. OVFD’s Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan was completed in 2022. OVPSD staff and our contracted Registered Professional Forester, Danielle Bradfield, have taken information from the

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CWPP and have applied for additional grants. We look forward to getting some of these fuels management projects started this summer of 2023.

The three shifts share a lot of the department administrative duties on top of their first responder operational duties.

- Captain Josh Rytter (A-Shift) is OVFD's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Director, making sure all personnel are up to date and compliant with all regulatory agencies with policy, protocols, and EMS trainings. Captain Rytter is also the Fleet and Facilities Manager, keeping our buildings and equipment in service and maintained.
- Captain Chris DeDeo (B-Shift) is OVFD's Prevention Officer overseeing much of the prevention work of the department. Captain DeDeo assists the Chief in Plan Review, Fireworks, Special Events, Tents, LPG, sprinkler, short-term rental inspections and building finals for residential homes. Captain DeDeo also schedules and inspects (with assistance from the other 2 shifts) over 100 commercial business as well as defensible space inspections (approximately 900 single family residences, 23 residential hotel/timeshare/condominium complexes, all vacant parcels and open spaces) in the Valley and Truckee River Corridor, all of which often take multiple inspections before meeting compliance.
- Captain Chisholm (C-Shift) is OVFD's Training Officer and makes sure we are complying and up to date with a wide variety of state and federally mandated trainings and coordinates with outside agencies to implement mutually beneficial trainings. Captain Chisholm updates all monthly and yearly trainings, task books and career track and specialty training guidance for all OVFD staff members.

See their reports on the following pages. The crews work 48 hour shifts followed by 4 days off (48/96 work schedule), the shifts first priority is to train for and respond to emergencies. Much of their day is planned for training (average 2 hours per day to meet minimum standards), routine station and equipment maintenance and cleaning, engine company inspections, shift specific projects, individual collateral duties, community trainings and classes, running calls and writing reports (every fire and/or medical call requires a written report to be submitted to oversight agencies). OVFD crews stay very busy during their 48 hours shifts and make the most of the available time getting the department's needs met.

I am very proud of how the organization has developed and grown since joining in 1993 and that you have trusted me to lead since 2017. We have a great group of people, and our skills and capabilities are better than ever and make a real difference in the life of the community we serve. I am grateful to the Fire Department staff for their professionalism and enthusiasm, my talented and hard-working colleagues at the District, General Manager Mike Geary and your Board, which has shown tremendous support and confidence in the Fire Department. We love our jobs and appreciate your support and trust!

Thank you for another great year!



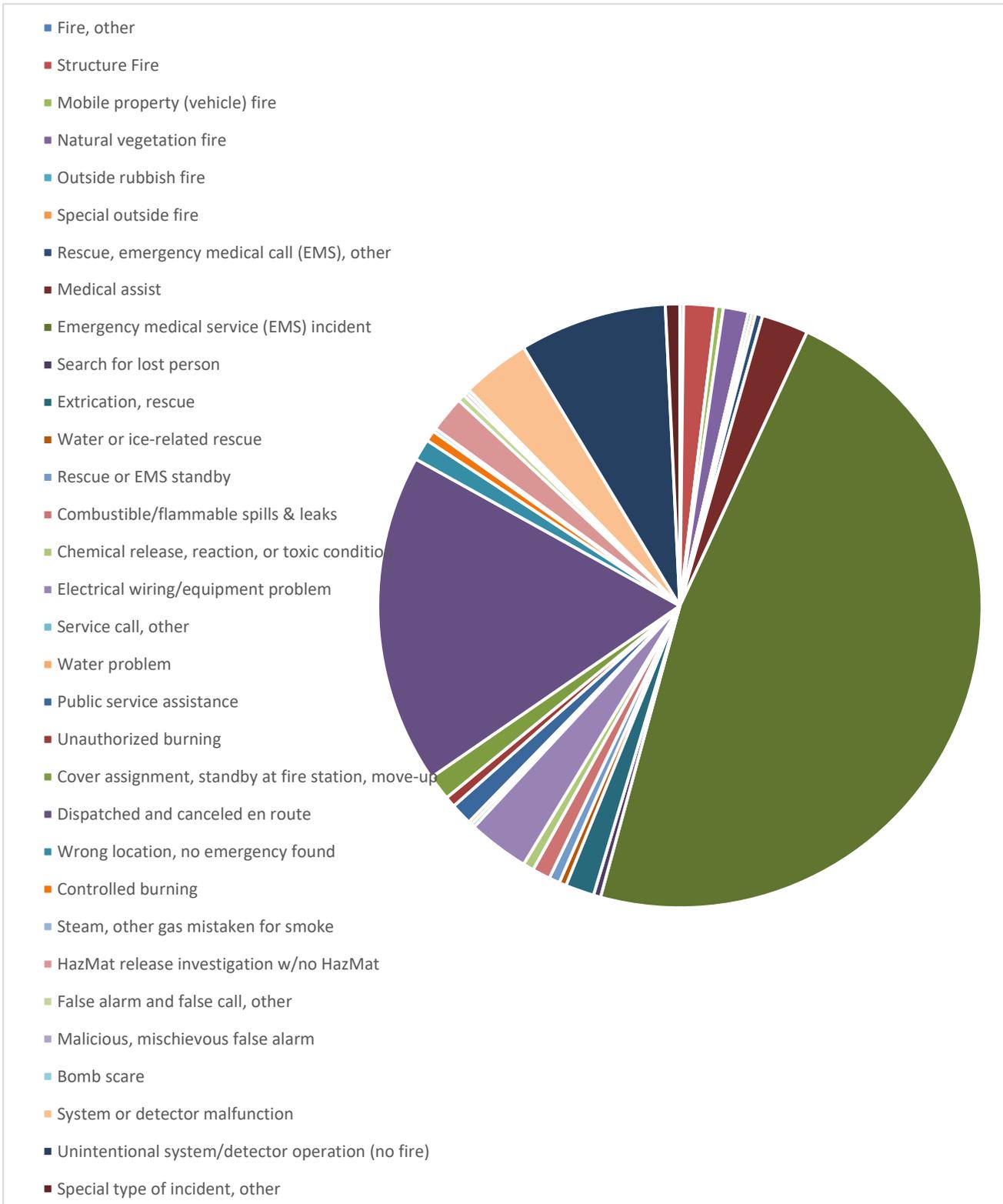
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Emergency Calls by Type – 2022

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Fire, other								1				1	2
Structure Fire			1										1
Mobile property (vehicle) fire								1					1
Natural vegetation fire							1						1
Outside rubbish fire	1												1
Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS), other		1											1
Medical assist	3	5	2		1	3	3	2	1	1			21
Emergency medical service (EMS) incident	63	58	50	31	13	14	15	15	13	12	13	43	340
Extrication, rescue		1				1		3			1	1	7
Flammable gas or liquid condition, other	1												1
Combustible/flammable spills & leaks		1						1		1		1	4
Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition						1						1	2
Electrical wiring/equipment problem		1	1		1		1					4	8
Service call, other								1					1
Person in distress							1					2	3
Water problem	2						1		2				5
Public service assistance		5	6	2			1				1		15
Unauthorized burning								1					1
Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up	1		1				1					1	4
Dispatched and canceled en route	9	6	6	3	4	13	15	2	5	4	7	7	81
Wrong location, no emergency found								1				1	2
Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke									1				1
HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	2	1	2		1					2	1	2	11
False alarm and false call, other						1	1				1		3
Malicious, mischievous false alarm	1												1
System or detector malfunction	1			1	3	1	1		5		1	2	15
Unintentional system/detector operation (no fire)	6	3	2	4	4	5	5	2	2	5	5	6	49
Special type of incident, other						2			1				3
Citizen complaint						1							1
Total	90	82	71	41	27	42	46	30	30	25	30	72	585

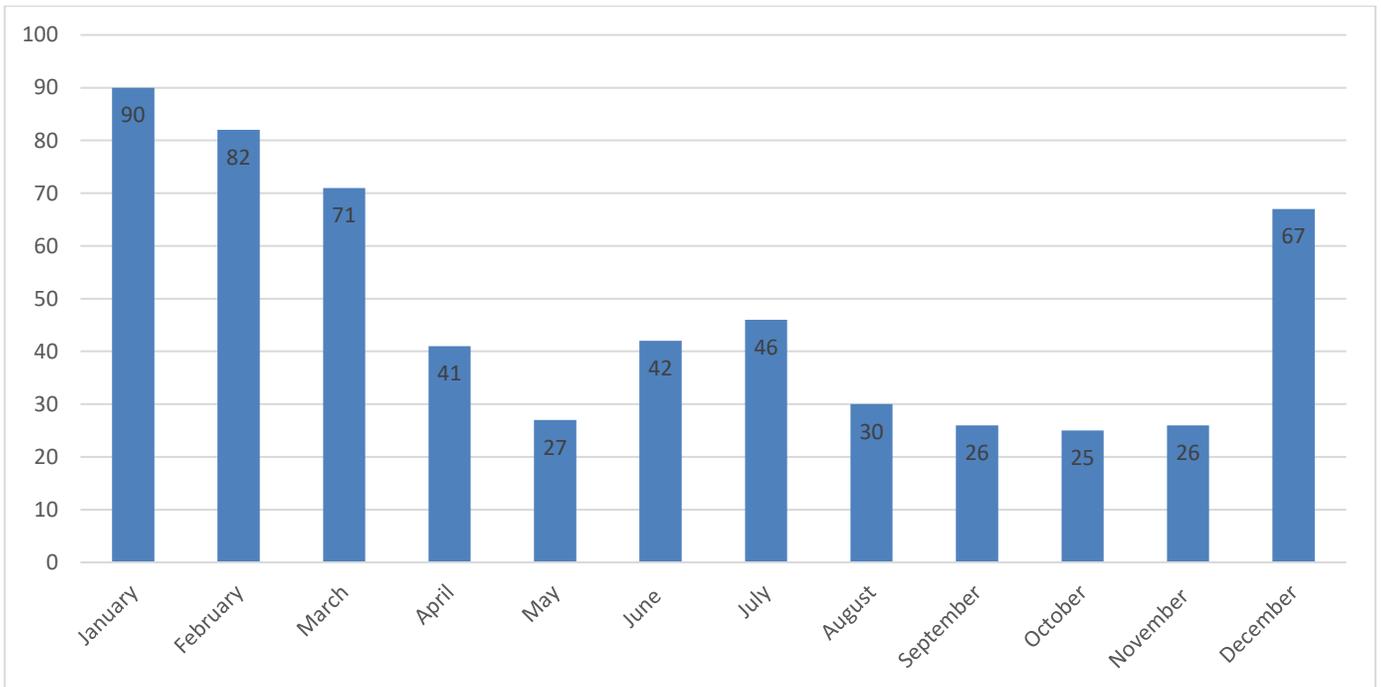
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Emergency Calls by Type – 2022

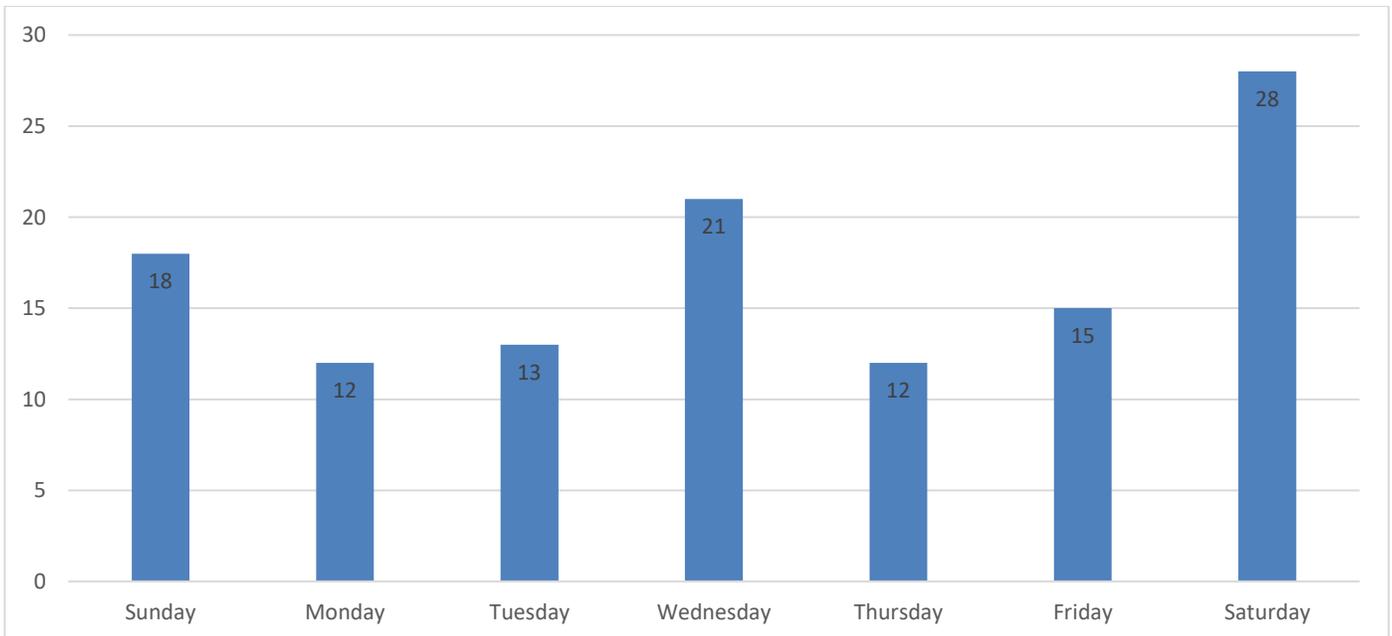


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Emergency Calls by Month – 2022

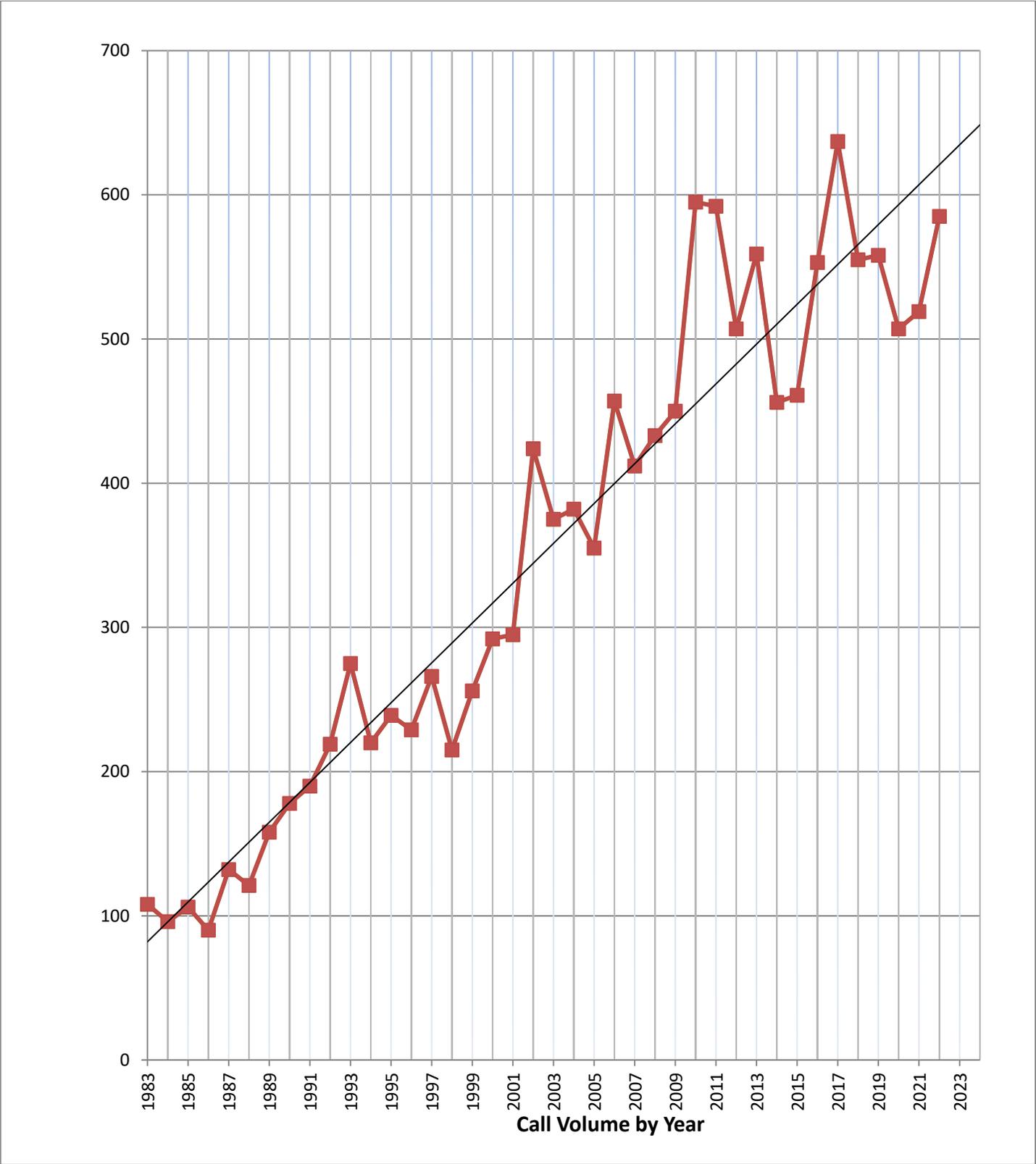


Emergency Calls by Day of Week – 2022



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Historic Call Volume 1983 – 2022



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Fire Department Staff - 2022

Name	Years of Service
Chief Allen Riley	29
Captain Chris DeDeo	27
Captain Brad Chisholm	25
Firefighter-Paramedic Travis Smith	22
Firefighter-Paramedic John Rogers	19
Firefighter-Paramedic Kurt Gooding	19
Engineer-Paramedic Hans Walde	17
Engineer-Paramedic Josh Rytter	16
Engineer-Paramedic Jeff Geigle	15
Firefighter-Paramedic Mike Wright	5
Firefighter-Paramedic Keith Erickson	5
Firefighter-Paramedic Scott Halterman	5
Firefighter-Paramedic Leroy Valadez	6
Seasonal Firefighter Cody Borreson	.5
Seasonal Firefighter Kyle Herrera	.5
Seasonal Firefighter Rachel Speirer	.5
Part-time Firefighter Jordan Hunt	.5

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2022 EMS, Fleet, and Facilities Report

Olympic Valley Fire Department responded to 353 emergency medical services (EMS) incidents last calendar year – up 29.8% from the previous year. Personnel provided timely and professional emergency care to the community and its constituents.

The health and well-being of staff, while providing exceptional service to the community is of upmost importance. We were challenged with staffing shortages due to two personnel out for an extended period from injury. Supplies and medications were in high demand and shortages are still common from the rebound of manufacturing from the pandemic. We were able to maintain our high level of service and most of the shortages did not have an impact on the fire department.

The fire department finalized a regional ambulance transport study by a third-party consultant. The study evaluates the impacts, feasibility, and fiscal liability of providing ambulance service. The recommendation was to stay with our current level of service – ALS non-transport. Olympic Valley Fire Department works under Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS agency (SSV) for medical direction. SSV updates the region with current policies, protocols, and practices. The fire department EMS Coordinator distributes and provides training to personnel on the constantly changing material. Our paramedics need 24 hours of continuing education (CE's) and EMT's need 12 hours annually. These mandatory trainings are incorporated in our daily schedule and are required for our license renewal. We will be purchasing new EMS training mannequins to replace broken and outdated mannequins. OVFD created a Fireline EMT/Paramedic position to our personnel for a broader level of service during wildland fire season. We were able to go out on two deployments during the wildland season. The fire department was able to stay updated and current during dynamic times and stay within budget for our EMS/Paramedic program.

Fleet and Facility maintenance ensure the highest quality of service, efficiency, and reliability of vehicles and equipment. Most of the repairs and preventative maintenance occur in-house by fire department personnel. Frank Jones Diesel Repair is contracted to provide annual inspections and maintenance on our apparatus. His report includes trends and a detailed list of items that need to be addressed prior to failure. This program is cost effective in catching items for repair prior to catastrophic failure. The on-duty crew does not have the time to perform detailed repairs and complete mandatory Fire and EMS training and education. Neighboring departments have full-time mechanics that lend a hand when it is above our capability and Frank Jones is busy. We maintain nine apparatus and numerous tools to remain in a state of readiness. Continue to monitor asset replacement funds and research the most economical replacement options. Brush 22 and E221 are currently being researched for replacement and/or refurbishment. Water Tender 21 was replaced with a new tender from Midwest Fire that we took delivery of in February.

General maintenance of the facility is continually ongoing. Like fleet maintenance, most of the repairs occur by shift personnel while working around their daily routine and in between emergency incidents. Portions of the interior lighting is slowly being upgraded to LED. Researching options for flooring/carpet replacement and appliance replacement. Continue to monitor fleet and facility maintenance and/or repairs prior to catastrophic failure and maintain our high level of professionalism and readiness for the community.

Respectfully,
Josh Rytter

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Fire Department Fleet - 2022

Designator	Year	Description	Mileage
Engine 21	2016	All-wheel drive Type 1 structure engine	21,509
Engine 221	2001	Two-wheel drive Type 1 structure engine	36,766
Brush 21	2017	Type III wildland/urban interface engine	17,246
Brush 22	1998	Type III wildland/urban interface engine	35,716
Water Tender 22	1988	2100 gallon water tender/pumper	161,507
Rescue 21	2006	Medium rescue with vehicle extrication	15,198
Utility 21	2011	Ford F150 Crew Cab pickup truck	52,702
Command 21	2016	Ford Interceptor	56,354
Ranger 21	2014	Polaris Ranger Crew 900 UTV	953

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2022 Fire Prevention Report

Defensible Space Inspections

Olympic Valley Fire Department (OVFD) – working at the engine company level – completed our first round of defensible space inspections on 100% of our district's single family and condominium residences in Olympic Valley and the river corridor in July. After the first round of inspections and mailed notices, approximately 70% of the homes were in compliance. However, due to the lack of manpower, second inspections were not 100% completed and were instead followed up selectively. Our defensible space program continues to be one of the most thorough and comprehensive programs of any fire department in the region.

OVFD supported residents by writing letters to help property owners maintain their homeowner's insurance. Additionally, OVFD reached out to the community residents by posting wildland fire information on the district website, in local newspapers and on social media. The fire danger rating sign was staged in front of the station to inform the public of the day's fire danger. The district green waste dumpster rebate program was continued in 2022 and was 100% reimbursed to homeowners with 22 requests for reimbursement. Defensible space cleanup days were coordinated with Olympic Valley Public Service District (OVPSD), Friends of Olympic Valley, Firewise and Palisades Tahoe. Over the seven separate clean up days throughout the summer, Olympic Valley homeowners removed 660 cubic yards of green waste! Thank you to all the homeowners that participated and OVPSD, Friends of Olympic Valley, Firewise, and Palisades Tahoe for supporting the communities green waste days.

The Firewise program gets the community involved in taking action and establishing ownership for protecting their homes and community against the threat of wildfire, with a focus on defensible space and home hardening. OVFD worked with members of the Firewise community on their recertification through the 2022 calendar year. We also worked with several condominium associations to meet the Firewise recommendations on vegetation management and fire resistive construction. OVFD's Fire Prevention and Defensible Space Program educated the community regarding open fire pits, barbecues, and general fire safe practices and as a result, did not experience any property loss due to wildland fires last year.

Commercial and Residential Occupancy Inspections

The Olympic Valley Fire Department – working at the engine company level – is responsible for: inspecting ALL buildings used for commercial purposes, places of assembly, apartments, condominiums, schools, and hotels within the OVFD service area. We are also responsible for: inspecting temporary tent structures, firework displays, underground and above ground propane tank installations, residential and commercial sprinkler installations, and standpipe systems. General plan checks relating to the fire department are done by Chief Riley.

The goal of our inspection program is to identify and abate any unsafe conditions and promote a safer environment within the establishments. Additionally, it also allows OVFD line personnel to familiarize themselves with the layout of the buildings in the event of an incident and to update Pre-Fire Plans.

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Effective January 1, 2022, a new California Fire Code was adopted by OVFD. Adopting and revising a Uniform Fire Code is a long and tedious process. We spent many hours with our neighboring departments amending and aligning our ordinances to better serve all the communities.

In addition to our Prevention Program duties, OVFD conducted fire alarm evacuation drills with Lake Tahoe Preparatory School and Creekside Charter School. We teach classes to the public and have five certified instructors that teach CPR, Heart Saver, Heart Saver BLS, First Aid and AED. OVFD is also the only fire department in the Tahoe-Truckee area certified for car seat installations. We continue to remain a reliable resource for the community while maintaining positive and cooperative working relationships with business owners and property management companies in the district.

2023 Objectives

OVFD will be working with a new digital platform, FireAside, for defensible space inspection. FireAside will allow us to better inform homeowners on defensible space violations and home hardening recommendations. FireAside also allows homeowners to interact with the inspection program by allowing them to fix violations with pictures and text, saving us time on reinspection's. The focus will remain on dead trees, vacant lots, home hardening and maintaining properties once in defensible space compliance. OVFD has secured 6 chipping days throughout the summer months with Placer County. All commercial occupancies will be scheduled for inspections this year and updated on our pre-fire plans. OVFD will continue to support the Firewise committee in their goal to better prepare our community against wildfire threats.

Prevention Officer workload

With the continuing increase and demand on Prevention it is evident that more labor hours and training are necessary to provide our community with the current level of service. OVFD Prevention Program often falls behind our expected goals due to the lack of a dedicated Prevention / Risk Reduction Officer (RRO) and supporting staff.

Chief Riley approves the allocation of overtime for line staff to come in off-duty to complete prevention related work. However, family and personal commitments have proven this difficult for the line staff to accomplish.

A full-time Fire Prevention / RRO and seasonal supporting staff could be tasked with the majority of the larger commercial inspections, STR's, defensible space, and help Chief Riley with the many types of residential inspections listed above. A Prevention / RRO would also be the department coordinator for all on-going long-term projects relating to grants, Firewise, USFS and Cal Fire, to name a few. Additionally, the Prevention / RRO position would benefit the line staff by freeing up time for their ongoing station projects, vehicle and equipment maintenance, education as well as the continuous addition of company trainings that contribute to our Insurance Services Office (ISO) 2 rating.

Sincerely,
Chris De Deo

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2022 Annual Training Report

Training for Olympic Valley Fire Department in 2022 was performed under the direction of the Fire Chief, with the support of the General Manager and Board of Directors, and the with participation of all OVFD members.

2022 saw significant and meaningful evolutions, classes, and courses. These were employed in a collaborative approach to promote the advancement of our members, to better serve our community and continue to work towards compliance with mandates, best practices, and industry standards.

Classes:

Nearly all Covid precautions that stifled classes in the previous 24 months have been lifted, yet many classes continue to be offered remotely. This is a convenient option, however we recognize in person classes offer a far more rewarding experience and encourage our members to attend classes whenever possible.

OVFD continues to offer very generous class incentives. In 2022, OVFD personnel attended 22 fire/rescue related classes. While this is a slight increase from 2021 (20 classes), we are still well shy of pre-pandemic numbers.

The following shows the Fire/Rescue related classes and hours of OVFD members in 2022. EMS classes/hours are not included.

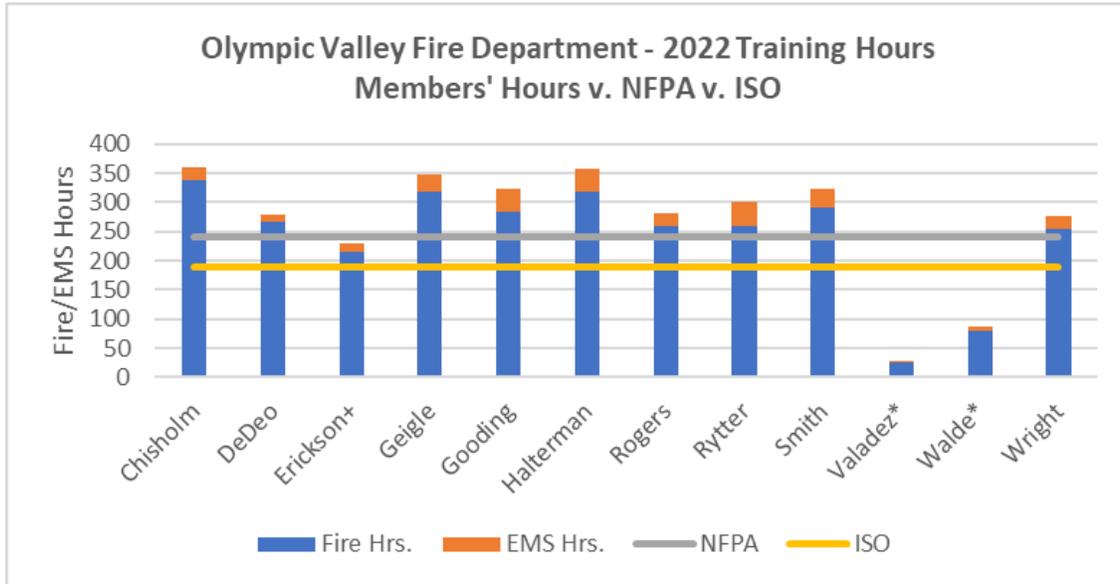
Member Name	Classes Attended	Total Hours
Chisholm	4	97
DeDeo	0	0
Erickson	0	0
Geigle	0	0
Gooding	9	82
Halterman	6	99
Rogers	1	16.5
Rytter	0	0
Valadez	0	0
Walde	1	24
Wright	1	39
TOTAL	22	357.5

It is vitally important that *all* OVFD members diversify training in order to build and maintain KSA, prepare for promotional opportunities and succession planning, understand and meet industry standards and best practices, and to simply stay engaged. While we do this well collectively, individually there is room for improvement.

OVFD strives to meet NFPA standards of 240 hours per person, per year. NFPA recognizes all training hours for a year - fire, rescue, and EMS. ISO however, is not interested in EMS, and therefore requires only 192 annual hours specific to fire/rescue related training.

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The following graph illustrates the Fire/Rescue and EMS training hours of OVFD members in 2022. Note, for members out for an extended period of time: * = injury; # = family leave



Annual Training Calendar:

Our Annual Training Calendar outlines topics on a per tour basis. This averages between three and four topics a month, with the last week of each month left for shift choice. Each topic includes a Training Outline as well as numerous resources the shift may use both in class and for drills. The intent of the training calendar is to promote uniformity and consistency among our members.

The chart below shows the total number of Topics and total Hours for each member. Again, members out for an extended period of time: * = injury; # = family leave

Member Name	Topics	Hours
Chisholm	225	338
DeDeo	203	267
Erickson#	174	214
Geigle	290	318
Gooding	209	284
Halterman	207	317
Rogers	194	260
Rytter	195	258
Smith	235	292
Valadez*	25	34
Walde*	74	81
Wright	217	254

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Personnel:

Seasonal Firefighters: We continue to staff Seasonal Firefighters. However, in our most recent recruitment we not only brought on three Seasonal Firefighters, but a Part-Time Firefighter as well. The logic here was we have experienced attrition of our Seasonal FFs and wanted a buffer.

We again conducted an orientation/mini academy for these recruits to get them familiar with our operation and lessen the burden during the shifts. With the addition of Seasonal Firefighters, we can typically provide two staffed apparatus. This allows us flexibility to respond to simultaneous incidents in our district, as well as mutual aid incidents, while still maintaining coverage of our district.

Our Seasonal Firefighters are assigned a task-book that they are expected to complete in their first four-month assignment. This task-book augments both the orientation/mini-academy and company training. Once they complete their task book, we simply default to company training. We have been very pleased with our recruits and are hopeful that they will choose to return for the summer.

Firefighters: Our Firefighters are progressing with their Career Track. Of our six Firefighters, four are Acting Engineer qualified, two have their Company Officer certification and one is pursuing his Instructor certification. A diverse and qualified group of Firefighters greatly helps with our ability to meet our Mission.

Engineers: All of our Engineers are qualified and very capable of Acting Captain. This too adds to our flexibility to respond to calls locally and Statewide. Among many other routine and extra responsibilities, one oversees our Information Technology and Incident/Response platforms, and another oversees our Radios/Communications. We are very fortunate to have such capable and willing Engineers.

Captains: While Captains do lean heavily on their crews, it is ultimately the Captains that ensure shift training is completed in a timely and purposeful manner. While the Training Calendar provides an outline and resources for each topic, the Captain is responsible for appropriate classroom presentation and manipulative scenarios.

California State Fire Marshall (CSFM) / State Fire Training (SFT):

CSFM classes continue to be a very valuable resource for the education of OVFD members. SFT continues to align with IFSAC and Pro Board to meet national standard. This also includes aligning with NWCG and FEMA-NIMS courses.

North Tahoe Training Officers' Association:

NTTOA has been active, and as of January 1, 2023, Captain Erik Jitloff has assumed the role of NTTOA President from Captain Ryan Trainor. The Rapid Intervention Crew and High-Rise cadres are still being coordinated. Detailed drills at the former Tahoe Biltmore, live fire training and multi-company evolutions at the Carson City training facility, and a spring wildland drill are all in the works.

Target Solutions (TS):

We continue to use TS to manage all our training assignments, as well as their distribution, logging and tracking. We also track mandated certifications on TS in which individuals are notified at intervals well ahead of their expiration dates. This allows our users to easily monitor their entire training profile and provide for their own accountability.

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As a result of language in our Lexipol policy manual that stipulates all certification and license records must be made available to both the agency and the members, we began an extensive effort to house our members'

credentials and licenses on the TS platform. In the past we have maintained such records via Microsoft Office/SharePoint. It worked well, but having them available on the TS platform will allow for an easier upload and, more importantly, retrieval process.

Training Facility:

Local:

Training facilities are critical! An appropriate place where firefighters can train without concern of damaging surroundings is a must to build and maintain proficiency. With our lack of a training ground, we more often simply theorize rather than truly train. While land is a premium, options do exist for a reasonable training site on our existing property. A motto in the fire service is "train like it's the real thing." We make every effort to do this but without a facility, we are challenged to achieve this.

Regional:

A Regional Training Facility continues to be in the talking and planning stages. Most recently, talk was that Truckee-Tahoe Airport had earmarked a parcel of land at the northwest end of their hangars off Joerger Drive. That parcel, however, is no longer available. Land further down Joerger Drive near the TTUSD Bus Barn/Transportation building is now being considered. A lot of support still exists for this project, with local agencies earmarking funds and grants being identified, as well as, buildout timeframe, sight layout, training delivery methods, and regional approaches/cooperation being all continuing to be discussed.

The vision of build-out would be a three-story tower that accommodates Class A and B fuels, and props that include high angle rescue, roof/celling, and FDC/standpipe. Ground level props including aircraft, railroad, trench, confined space, drafting, and LPG/LNG. We also envision a fully functional classroom, lockers, storage and dedicated apparatus, equipment, and props.

While this facility would certainly be a game changer for local fire departments - allowing for routine multi-company/agency trainings and drills, local fire academies and to host SFT classes - it should only serve to compliment a training facility in our district.

Insurance Services Office (ISO):

A significant part of an ISO audit involves training, and we continue to work to meet these standards. We are successful in most of their requirements, but because we lack a facility that ISO deems appropriate, we come up short on some of their requirements; Facility Training, most notably. Target Solutions continues to be a very valuable tool to coordinate and meet ISO requirements.

2023:

In the year ahead we will continue to use Target Solutions as our training platform to build, assign, track, and log training. We will work to build KSA in everyone from our seasonal firefighters to our senior members. We anticipate, encourage, and support our members taking classes, peruse career advancement opportunities and remain engaged and updated. We will be diligent and creative in our approach to training and remain hopeful that both a local and regional training facility are prioritized.

While Olympic Valley Fire Department does have challenges with training, we also have many successes. We train and work hard to meet the needs of our both our immediate community and the State of California and appreciate the support we receive in this effort from the Fire Chief, the General Manager, the Board of Directors and from the community.

Respectfully,
Brad Chisholm