

**OLYMPIC VALLEY
PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD REPORT**



SUBJECT: Fire Department Annual Report

EXHIBIT: F-2, 18 Pages

AUTHOR: Brad Chisholm, Fire Chief

MEETING DATE: Feb. 24, 2026

RECOMMENDED ACTION: This report is informational only; no action is requested from the Board.

DISCUSSION: This report is a summary of the Fire Department's activities during the 2024 calendar year. The report covers a general overview of the department's call volume, operations, training, and prevention.

FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACTS: None

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2025 Fire Department Annual Report from Chief Chisholm.
- 2025 Incident Data Graphs/Charts.
- 2025 Fire Prevention Report from Captain De Deo (A-Shift).
- 2025 EMS, Fleet, and Facilities Report from Captain Rytter (C-Shift).
- 2025 Fire Department Training Report from Captain Walde (B-Shift).

DATE PREPARED: February 19, 2026



OLYMPIC VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

2025 Annual Report | Chief Brad Chisholm

2025 Fire Department Annual Report

The Olympic Valley Fire Department (OVFD) experienced a 2025 that saw challenges and rewards. We continue to work through staffing and recruitment challenges to meeting industry standards, best practices and mandates, while ensuring a "response ready" crew and fleet among ever-increasing budget demands. Despite these hurdles, we had a successful year of serving the community by engaging with stakeholders and residents, continuing to support and grow our personnel, and collaborating with our neighboring fire agencies.

In 2025, OVFD responded to **568 emergency calls**, a significant drop from 2024 (676) and 2023 (679), primarily due to the very late winter. Of these, **311 (54%) were EMS-related**. Mutual aid remained a critical component of our operations, with **341 responses received** - 321 from North Tahoe Fire and 20 Truckee Fire, while **OVFD provided 119 responses** – 89 to North Tahoe and 30 to Truckee FPDs. While it might seem like North Tahoe provides mutual aid to OVFD a disproportional amount, if EMS incidents (for which they charge for transport) are removed, we are close to parity.

While our staffing for the year was an improvement over 2024, **we were down two members for a significant time due to injuries**. This creates a burden on others and impacts the ability to take vacations and attend classes/trainings. Unfortunately, as of mid-December we found ourselves again down a member as Firefighter Hoover took another job. Although we have aggressively advertised the position and will continue with the "rapid hire" approach we employed previously, we are seeing very little interest. One individual tested and was made an offer, but he declined. I continue to work closely with the General Manager, Administrative staff and the Labor Union to identify areas of dissatisfaction and to understand where we can make change.

Regional fire service reorganization continues to be a dominant conversation. **Phase I** of the Placer LAFCO's Eastern Placer County Fire Service Review, which is intended to focus on findings and current levels of services, was expected to conclude in fall 2025, but is still pending and now expected in spring 2026. If it is decided to continue, **Phase II** will then present recommendations for potential restructuring alternatives.

This topic and process is gaining more urgency. Members of OVFD line staff continue to maintain their collective position that regionalization needs to happen and are becoming more impatient with the process. A retention concern that continues to mount is that OVFD members, like FF Hoover, who can't afford to live in Tahoe, will seek employment where housing and the cost of living is more affordable and they can work in a community in which they live. This scenario also translates to recruitment. Despite aggressive recruitment efforts, for over a year (June 2023 to June 2024) OVFD was down two fulltime Firefighters. As I write this, we again find ourselves down a fulltime Firefighter. These experiences with recruitment and retention,

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compounded by rumors that other OVFD members are looking elsewhere and coupled with the inherent complexities and delay with the current study involving four agencies, the GM and I have begun meeting with members from North Tahoe FPD's management team to discuss an annexation of OVFD by NTFPD. The logic is to narrow the focus from four fire agencies to two. NTFPD and OVFD are well situated to move through the LAFCO process with much more ease. We intend to continue to work towards both (regional reorganization and NTF annex) but see the value and need in a more timely annexation with NTFPD.

In today's world of complex fire and building codes, ordinances and standards, coupled with a litigious society, **fire prevention is a necessity for any fire department**. OVFD and the community have greatly benefited from our Fire Prevention Officer (FPO), Brandon Olk, even if only in a part-time capacity. His understanding of fire code creates a level of expertise and efficiency that was not only lacking previously but created a level of exposure and liability for me as the Fire Chief as well as the Department and District. Brandon performs plans reviews and performs inspections for construction projects and events. He works with contractors and community members to work through the complexities of codes and ordinances, greatly reducing the time commitment by the community and on OVFD members who would otherwise have to research unfamiliar codes. The FPO assists line staff with inspections including defensible space, fire/life safety, short term rentals, and real estate, as well as mandated inspections on educational and certain commercial occupancies. Brandon meets and collaborates frequently with line staff and has built very useful iPad forms for Fire Watch and Red Tag incidences. Every three years, updated fire codes are published and that cycle fell in 2025. Brandon and I spent many hours reviewing ordinances and codes, considering our needs, collaborating with regional FPOs and OVPSD Administrative staff to provide recommendations to the OVPSD Board of Directors, which adopted the updates and ordinances specific to our District.

Assistance from the Administration staff continued to keep the wheels turning and the lights on at the Fire Department. Their expertise, competency, patience and demeanor make them a vital asset and a pleasure to work with.

July 1, 2026, will mark two years into a four-year MOU between the District and Local 39, the bargaining unit for OVFD Firefighters. I have a good working relationship with our Shop Stewards and involve them in many decision-making processes to get valuable feedback, provide buy-in and ensure understanding. A recent topic of conversation with the labor union has been what prompted Firefighter Hoover to leave and what similar attractions might present themselves to other OVFD members. The GM and I have been focused on this. In an effort to better understand the issue, we have had meetings with our CFO and HR managers, line staff, labor representatives, legal counsel and neighboring Fire Chiefs to **understand what concerns exist and what options might be available to address them**.

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The 2025 fire season in California was interesting. While we didn't see an unusual number of acres burned, it did result in an extraordinary **loss of property**, immense **financial losses** and most tragically, a significant **loss of life**. Final data shows 8,036 wildfires, 525,223 acres burned, 16,512 structures destroyed and 31 related fatalities. The total costs of the 2025 California wildland fire season, including suppression and property damage is estimated to be upwards of \$250 billion. A significant contributor to these numbers were the Palisades and Eaton fires in Los Angeles in December, 2025. OVFD Brush 21 responded to the Eaton Fire as part of the Cal OES Master Mutual Aid system. We were fortunate to have not experienced any significant wildland fires locally in 2025.

Fire Prevention & Community Engagement

- Continued our goal of **100% commercial and residential defensible space inspections**, while educating homeowners and improving compliance.
- **Strengthened partnerships** with allied agencies, stakeholders, the local business community and non-profit agencies.
- Engaged in public **outreach and education with a meeting** hosted by OVPOA to allow OVPSD/FD to share information on all things fire, fuels, evacuation, prevention and water infrastructure.
- Hosted **Santa's arrival and pancake breakfast in support of OVPOA's annual clean-up day and** reinforcing community ties.
- Participated in Placer County's **annual Wildland/Evacuation Unified Command and Control exercise**.

Wildfire Preparedness & Fuels Reduction

- Continuation of the **Cabin Creek fuels reduction project**. (1,900 of 6,000 acres proposed between Olympic Valley and Truckee).
- NFF was awarded funding for the **Alpine Meadows/Olympic Valley fuels reduction project**, currently designed as a 700-acre project and targeting implementation in 2026.
- Continued to make **significant progress on the Olympic Valley Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)**. In 2025 we completed OV-3, 100% OV-4 Phase 1, 95% of OV-4 Phase 2, contracted for OV-2 with implementation to begin summer 2026. We continue to pursue potential funding for OV-5 and updating our CWPP.
- Received a **\$650,000 grant from Truckee-Tahoe Airport District (TTAD)**, bringing a total contribution to date from TTAD to **\$1,050,000**.

Infrastructure & Equipment Upgrades

- After an unsuccessful attempt the previous year, in 2025 FEMA approved a regional grant request to purchase **116 SCBA units, totaling \$982,572. Olympic Valley FD is the lead agency and authored the grant request. Olympic Valley FD will receive 18 units, equating to over \$147,000** with a required 5% match of \$7,261. Agencies involved include Northstar FD, Fallen Leaf Lake FD, Truckee FPD and Olympic Valley FD.
- Purchased three **HEN Force smoothbore nozzles** to replace ones we have had in service since the late 1990s.
- Continue to purchase items such as **radios and turnouts** on a rotating basis.

Personnel & Staffing Updates

Our staffing model requires the shift Captain, who the industry typically identifies as working at the engine company level, to also assume the role of incident commander. This is a testament to their adaptability and leadership, as they balance multiple responsibilities while ensuring effective incident management. While we have practiced this for many years, it does present challenges in maintaining proper command and control of an incident. On a significant incident, the Fire Chief will respond from the station, or from home when available, but there is an inherent delay in on-scene time. In addition to numerous other mutual-aid resources at such an incident, a Chief Officer from a neighboring agency may be requested, which highlights the strong cooperative relationships we maintain with our neighboring departments, but also reveals our dependence on neighboring agencies goodwill.

The shifts do an impressive job balancing necessary shift work with ancillary jobs. Although the ancillary roles assigned to the captains get most of the attention, there are many others that are carried out by members at all ranks. A few examples include all things related to radio communications, uniforms and apparel, hose and ladder maintenance, tools and equipment, protective gear, mapping and data generation, SCBA, EMS equipment, and much more. Examples of key administrative duties assigned to each captain are as follows:

- **Captain Chris DeDeo** coordinates our commercial and defensible space inspection program. His prevention work also includes frequent communication with Placer County and close collaboration with our Fire Prevention Officer and Office District Office manager.
- **Captain Josh Rytter** is OVFD's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) coordinator and fleet and facilities manager. He ensures all personnel are up to date and compliant with EMS requirements. As fleet and facilities manager, he keeps OVFD rolling stock and firehouse in good order, interfacing with Operations as necessary. We are fortunate that Captain Rytter is a knowledgeable mechanic and handyman, often performing repairs in-house when appropriate.

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- **Captain Hans Walde** oversees all of our training responsibilities, that includes tracking licenses and certifications. He also manages our platforms for shift scheduling/payroll, incident response, and inspections. Engineers Gooding and Halterman contribute significantly to this effort.
- **Staff:** Many ancillary roles and responsibilities also extend to FD staff. They who also pick up extra projects to allow the Captain to run the shift and accomplish their ancillary tasks.
- OVFD Members by Age: 25-30: 0 | 31-35: 3 | 36-40: 1 | 41-45: 1 | 46-50: 1 | 51-55: 2 | 55+: 4

I continue to meet regularly with the Lake Tahoe Regional Fire Chiefs and the Eastern Placer County Fire Chiefs as well as local and regional stakeholders to stay informed of relevant issues and to represent OVFD in those conversations.

OVFD is experiencing challenges, many that are not uncommon in the industry, and we are addressing them head on. Despite these challenges, OVFD remains committed to delivering exceptional service to the community. Our members balance emergency response, training, prevention efforts, and outreach to ensure response readiness and community service. We appreciate the support of District staff, the OVPSD Board of Directors, allied agencies, and the Olympic Valley community as we continue working for a safe and resilient future.

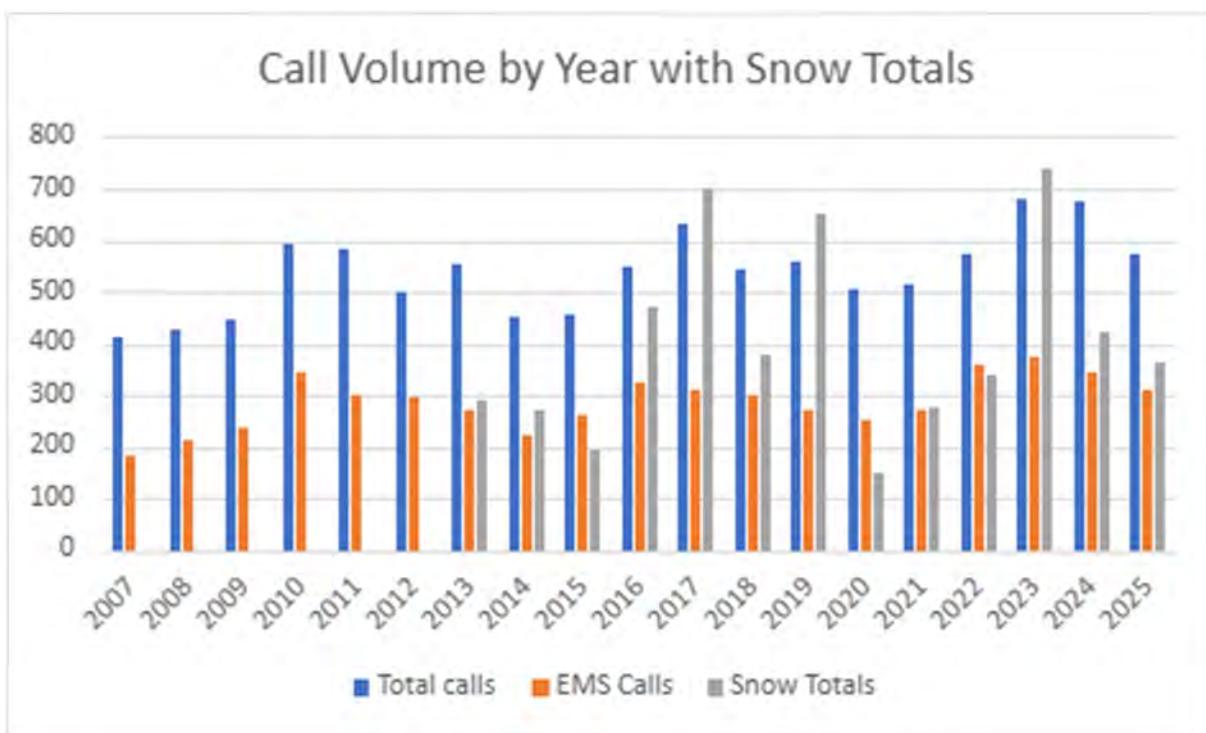
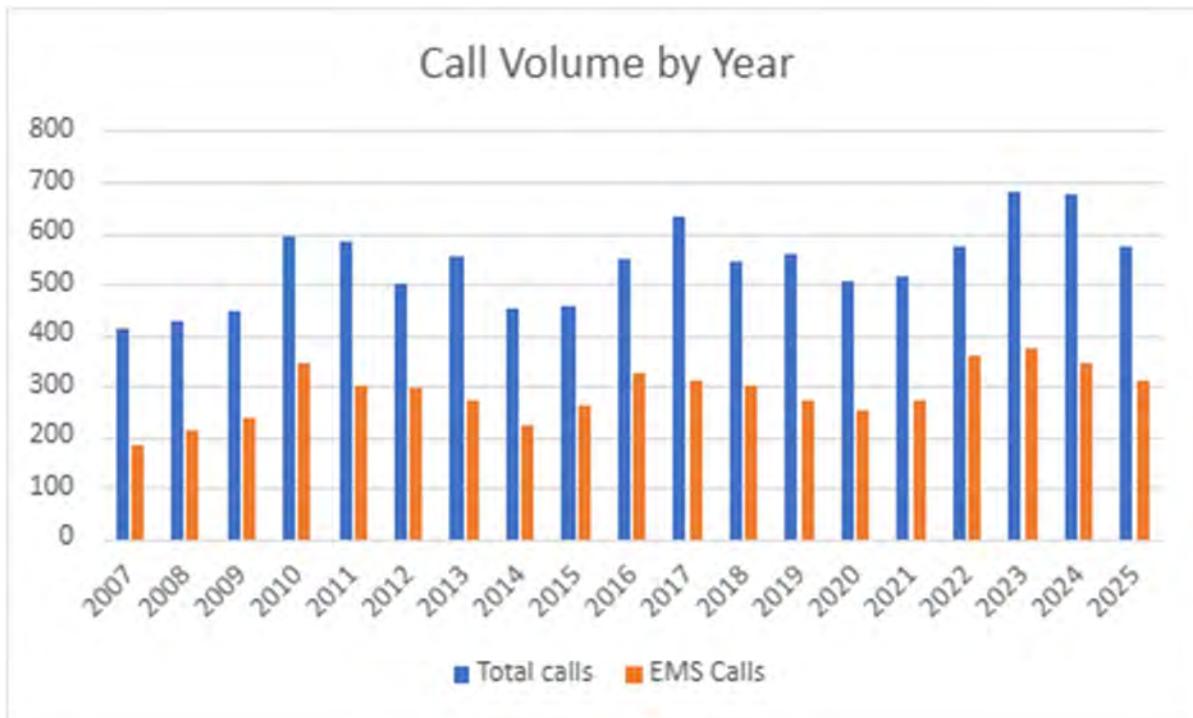
Onward!



Brad Chisholm
Fire Chief

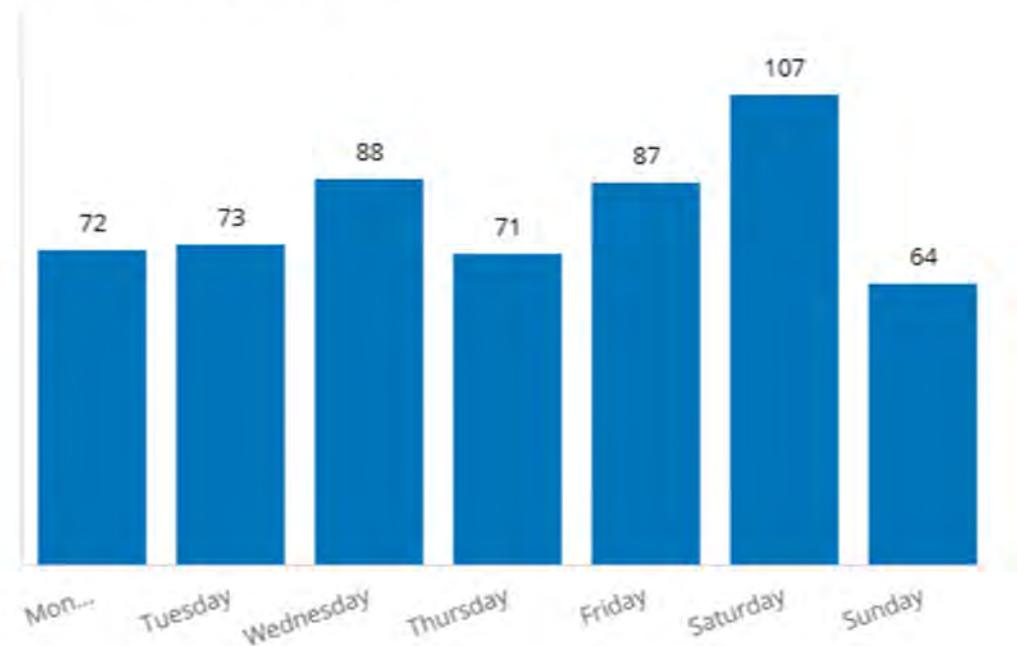
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The graphs below illustrate call volume in a variety of models.

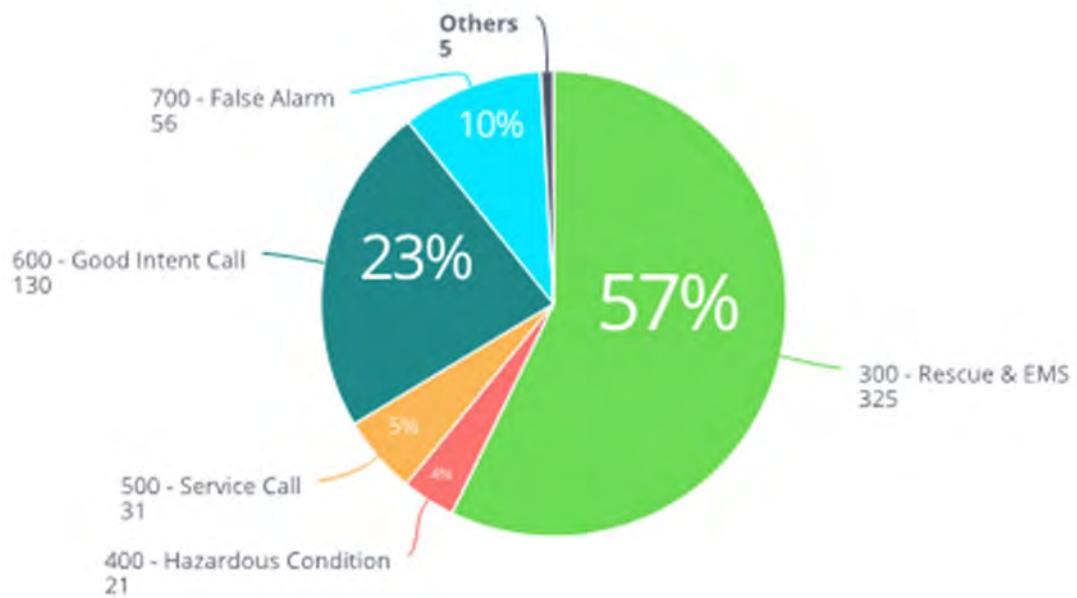


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Incident Count by Day of Week



Call volume by incident type group





OLYMPIC VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

2025 Annual Prevention Report | Captain Chris De Deo (A-Shift)

2025 Fire Prevention Report

Defensible Space Inspections:

The Olympic Valley Fire Department (OVFD) continues our proactive approach to Defensible Space inspections, aiming to inspect 100% of our single-family residences, lots, and condominium associations annually. In 2025, a total of 765 defensible space inspections were conducted, resulting in 710 violations. Of these, 292 (41%) were resolved. A total of 331 acres were inspected.

OVFD supported residents by providing letters to help maintain their homeowners insurance, posting wildland fire information on the District website, in local newspapers, on social media, and sending mailings. A fire danger rating sign was throughout the summer and updated daily to inform the community of fire risk levels. Additionally, OVFD coordinated five green waste cleanup days in collaboration with OVPSD, Friends of Olympic Valley, Olympic Valley Firewise Community and Palisades Tahoe. Over these five days, Olympic Valley homeowners removed an impressive 480 cubic yards of greenwaste! We also continued our Dumpster Rebate program. Sixteen homeowners participated in this program, removing an additional 96 cubic yards of debris. Thank you to all the participating homeowners and organizations for supporting the community with our green waste days. Special thanks go to our Office Supervisor, Nicole Whiteman for all her work supporting our prevention programs.

OVFD's Fire Prevention and Defensible Space Program educated the community regarding open fire pits, barbeques, and general fire-safe practices.

Fire Prevention Officer (FPO), Brandon Olk, and I attend Eastern Placer County Prevention meetings quarterly and California Code Update classes. The purpose of these meetings is to share ideas, collaborate on fire codes and ordinances, and adopt a more standardized approach to prevention across our jurisdictions.

The Olympic Valley Firewise Community educates and promotes individual actions to improve community resiliency against wildfire threats through defensible space and home hardening. OVFD actively supports and promotes the Firewise Community at every opportunity, including their 2025 recertification.

Commercial and Residential Occupancy Inspections:

OVFD is responsible for annual inspections of all buildings used for commercial purposes, places of assembly, apartments, condominiums, schools, and hotels within our service area. Results of mandated Group R and Group E occupancies - 25 inspected/passed. These inspections are performed by OVFD line staff and FPO Brandon Olk. Brandon also conducts plan checks, special-

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2025 Annual Prevention Report | Captain Chris De Deo (A-Shift) | Page 2

event permits, and inspections for remodels and new construction. FPO Olk also avails himself to homeowners and contractors to help them through what can be a challenging permit and inspection process.

Our inspection program aims to identify and mitigate unsafe conditions, ensuring a safer environment within and around these establishments. Additionally, these inspections enable personnel to update Pre-Fire Plans and become familiar with the building's layout, thereby enhancing situational awareness in the event of an emergency.

In addition to our Prevention Program duties, OVFD conducted fire alarm evacuation drills with Lake Tahoe Preparatory School and Creekside Charter School. We also offer public safety training with three certified instructors who teach CPR, First Aid, and AED courses. OVFD is the only fire department in the Tahoe-Truckee area certified to install infant/child car seats. Our team remains a reliable resource for the community while maintaining positive, cooperative working relationships with community business owners and property management companies.

2026 Objectives:

OVFD will continue to use FireAside as our digital platform for defensible space inspections. FireAside allowed us to virtually inform homeowners about violations and required mitigations through online participation, mailings, and door hangers. To enhance communication, all inspections will be mailed to homeowners and will be received within seven days. This program allows homeowners to address violations by virtually submitting questions and pictures, saving OVFD time on physical reinspection.

Zone 0 is a critical component of the overall defensible space of a home and for it to stand on its own in the event of a wildfire. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) has announced that Zone 0 requirements for new construction took effect on January 1, 2026, with existing structures expected to comply in 2029. Given its importance, Eastern Placer County Fire Prevention Officers are considering an ordinance requiring Zone 0 language for existing structures at an earlier date.

In 2026, defensible space inspections will continue to focus on dead trees, vacant lots, and maintaining properties, including after initial defensible space compliance. All commercial occupancies will be scheduled for defensible inspections, and we will continue to update our Pre-Fire Plans as new information is made available. OVFD remains committed to supporting the Olympic Valley Firewise Community in enhancing wildfire preparedness.

Prevention Officer Workload:

OVFD Fire Prevention is performed on a part-time basis by our FPO, Prevention Captain, fire department line staff, administration staff and Fire Chief. While this model is similar to what we have employed over the years, Prevention duties continue to challenge our personnel and limit our ability to provide our community with the safest possible outcome in the face of wildfire

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2025 Annual Prevention Report | Captain Chris De Deo (A-Shift) | Page 3

threats. For instance, as mentioned above, only 41% of the defensible space violations were corrected. Other Fire Prevention Divisions in our JPA enjoy numerous full-time and seasonal employees to meet the many demands of prevention.

Should Olympic Valley experiences the proposed growth, a full-time Fire Prevention staff member will be necessary. Such a role could be tasked with our more extensive commercial, STRs, and defensible space inspections, as well as address the many short- and long-term prevention demands that would arise. As a part-time FPO, Brandon Olk performs many inspections, plan reviews, and a portion of defensible space inspections throughout the year. A full-time prevention staff would benefit line staff by freeing up time for their operational roles and responsibilities, which would help to maintain our Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of 2/2Y.

Fire Prevention looks forward to another collaborative and productive year servicing our community.

Respectfully,

Chris De Deo



OLYMPIC VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

2025 Annual EMS, Fleet, and Facilities Report | Captain Josh Rytter (C-Shift)

2025 Fire Department EMS, Fleet, and Facilities Report

EMS:

Olympic Valley Fire Department responded to 342 emergency medical services (EMS) incidents last calendar year, providing timely and professional emergency care to the community.

Firefighters Timothy Hoover and Ryan Scott completed their probationary period and brought each shift to four personnel. Both have completed their Paramedic Orientation Program and can work as solo paramedics if necessary (though this remains a rare occurrence).

Olympic Valley Fire Department operates under Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS agency (SSV) for medical direction, ensuring compliance with current policies, protocols, and practices. The latest update included numerous treatment changes and added medications that require additional training. 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 training courses are incorporated in our daily schedule and are required for our license renewal.

Despite evolving requirements and staffing challenges, the fire department was able to maintain its EMS/Paramedic program within budget while ensuring continued readiness and professional service.

Fleet:

Fleet maintenance ensures 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, with annual inspections and emergency repairs handled by Blondina Diesel. Their reports provide trends and a detailed list of items that need to be addressed prior to failure.

We currently have a two-year contract with Blondina Diesel for service, maintenance, and repair. This contract is cost-effective in catching items prior to catastrophic failure. Given the demands of EMS and fire training, the on-duty crew does not have the capacity to perform detailed repairs. The department maintains eight apparatus and numerous tools to ensure operational readiness.

Utility 221 was added to the fleet and the build-up (install radios, logos, emergency lighting, etc.) was complete early 2025.

We will continue to monitor fleet maintenance and/or repairs prior to catastrophic failure and maintain our high level of professionalism and readiness for the community.

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2025 Annual EMS, Fleet and Facilities Report | Captain Josh Rytter (C-Shift) | Page 2

Facilities:

General maintenance of the fire station is an ongoing effort, primarily handled by shift personnel around their daily duties and emergency incidents. Additionally, portions of the interior lighting were upgraded to LED for improved efficiency. Research is ongoing for future flooring/carpet replacement and appliance replacement, as needed.

Olympic Valley Fire Department personnel continue to pride themselves on providing timely and professional emergency care to the community while maintaining EMS training and updates, ensuring response readiness for our fleet, and maintaining facilities as necessary.

Fire Department Fleet – 2025:

Designator	Year	Description	Mileage
Engine 21	2016	Four-wheel drive Type 1 structure engine	30,229
Engine 221	2001	Two-wheel drive Type 1 structure engine	23,833
Brush 21	2017	Type III Wildland/Urban Interface engine	18,824
Rescue 21	2006	Medium rescue with vehicle extrication	19,651
Water Tender 21	2023	2,000-gallon water tender/pumper	2,425
Utility 21	2011	Ford F-150 Crew Cab pickup truck	58,558
Utility 221	2024	Ford F-250 Crew Cab pickup truck	2,702
Command 21	2023	Chevrolet Tahoe	13,863

Respectfully,

Josh Rytter



OLYMPIC VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

2025 Annual Training Report | Captain Hans Walde (B-Shift)

2025 Fire Department Training Report

Training for Olympic Valley Fire Department in 2025 was coordinated by the Training Officer and performed under the direction of the Fire Chief, with the participation of OVFD members.

2025 saw hands on evolutions, online classes and in person courses. Training was conducted with an approach that promotes the advancement of our members, to better serve our community, and work towards compliance with mandates and industry standards.

Classes

OVFD continues to offer a generous training program. In 2025, OVFD personnel attended 29 fire/rescue/EMS related classes. With the department fully staffed it has been easier for employees to take time off to attend classes outside of our fire district. In addition to the classes listed below, OVFD personnel participated in a regional training, a Mid-Rise drill that Northstar Fire and Truckee Fire hosted at the Ritz Carlton.

The following shows the Fire/Rescue/EMS related classes and hours of OVFD members in 2025.

Member	Classes Attended	Total Hours
DeDeo	2	14
Erickson	2	16
Geigle	2	16
Gooding	2	7
Halterman	5	71
Hoover	4	137
Rogers	0	0
Rytter	0	0
Scott	2	56
Smith	2	16
Valadez	6	134
Walde	2	54

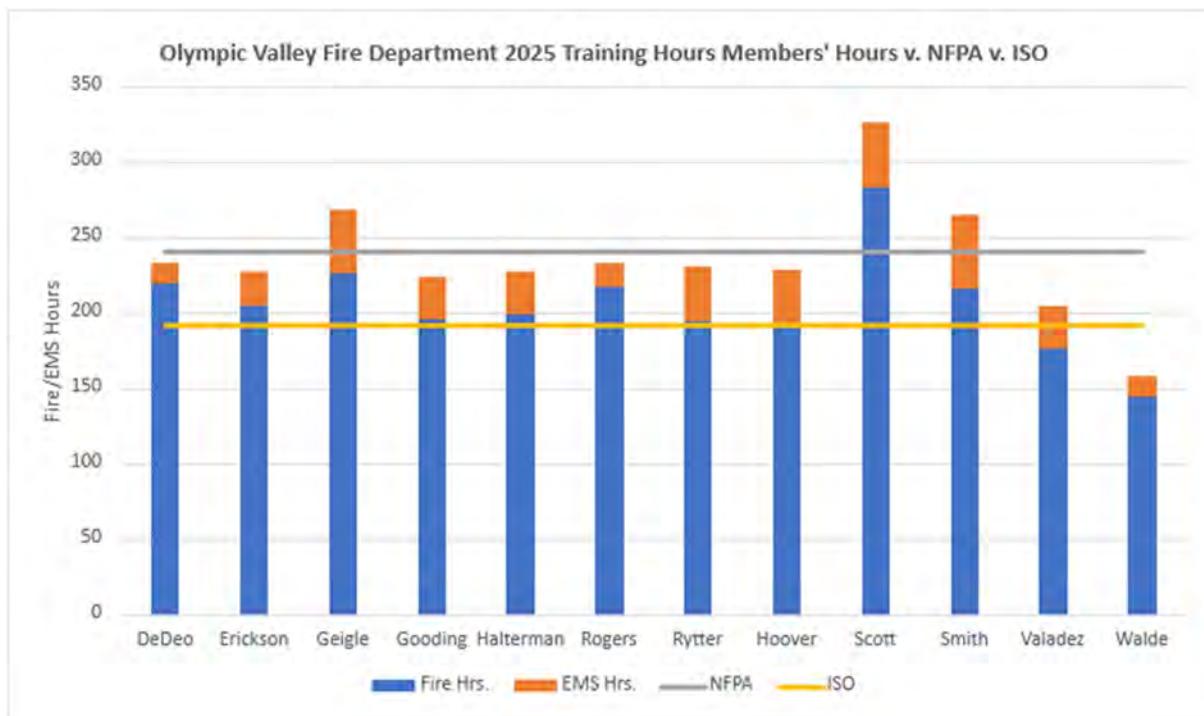
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2025 Annual Training Report | Captain Hans Walde (B-Shift) | Page 2

It is important that all OVFD members diversify training to build and maintain their skills, prepare for promotional opportunities, succession planning, and meet industry standards.

OVFD strives to meet the NFPA standard of 240 hours per person, per year. NFPA recognizes all training hours for a year - fire, rescue, and EMS. ISO does not include EMS hours and therefore requires only 192 annual hours specific to fire/rescue related training.

The following graph illustrates the Fire/Rescue and EMS training hours of OVFD members in 2025. Walde and Valadez were off work for extended periods due to injury and therefore have a lower number of hours this calendar year.



Annual Training Calendar

Our annual training calendar outlines each week's training topics, averaging three to five fire-related topics and eight to twelve EMS topics per month. The last week of each month is reserved for shift choice or makeup of missed training. Each topic includes a training outline and resources the shift may use in class and manipulative drills. The intent of the training calendar is to promote uniformity and consistency among our members. Staff train on more than 200 topics during the year, averaging more than two hours of training per workday.

Since taking over the position of training officer in 2023, I have introduced new training topics, updated older fire training materials with current information and videos, and revised key training resources.

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2025 Annual Training Report | Captain Hans Walde (B-Shift) | Page 3

Personnel:

Firefighters: Our two new firefighters (2024) completed their probationary year; one has since resigned from OVFD for employment at another department. Another firefighter has completed the classes and intra-department training required to act as an engineer and drive and pump the fire apparatus. This provides at least one firefighter on each shift that can work out of class to help prevent forced overtime.

Engineers: All three engineers are qualified to act as captains, which provides increased flexibility in staffing the station and responding to calls locally and statewide. In addition to their regular duties, engineers are assigned extra responsibilities. Examples include radio communications, ladder and hose testing, CPR programs, and maintaining fire and EMS reporting programs.

Captains: While Captains do lean heavily on their crews, it is 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 ultimately responsible for appropriate classroom presentation and conducting manipulative scenarios.

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

CSFM classes remain a valuable resource for the education of OVFD members. SFT continues to align with IFSAC and Pro Board to meet national standards. This also includes aligning with NWCG and FEMA-NIMS courses. Due to changes in class design and curriculum at CA State Fire Training, many firefighters are holding off on taking additional classes until the new requirements and classes are released in late 2026.

North Tahoe Training Officers' Association:

NTTOA has been working on establishing consistent operational policies between the area departments in addition to organizing local training. Northstar Fire recently hosted a two-day class taught by Sacramento City firefighters on Mid-Rise firefighting.

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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2025 Annual Training Report | Captain Hans Walde (B-Shift) | Page 4

Facility:

Local:

Olympic Valley is a community that faces real and evolving challenges in emergency preparedness. A training ground within Olympic Valley would allow OVFD personnel to train without the need for extensive travel, saving time and resources. Moreover, it would offer an opportunity for community engagement by allowing residents to witness and learn about fire safety and the skills needed to protect their homes and businesses.

A dedicated fire training ground within Olympic Valley would enhance the capabilities of your fire department, ensuring that we are fully prepared to meet the ever-changing demands of the job and protect lives, property, and the natural environment. It would provide the opportunity to practice essential skills, learn new techniques, and train in a coordinated manner with our mutual aid providers, who we depend on so heavily. Because mutual aid is frequently delayed for many reasons, our crews are faced with limited resources and must perform as effectively and efficiently as possible. Such a facility would result in increased safety, cost efficiency, and community engagement.

Identifying a suitable location remains a challenge, but continued dialogue and creative problem-solving will be key to making an in-district training site a reality.

Regional:

A Regional Training Facility continues to be a goal for our local fire departments. Despite previous attempts, securing land for this initiative has been unsuccessful. A Regional Training Facility would enable routine multi-agency training and drills, provide familiarity and consistency in operations, support local fire academies and provide a financially viable training center. A regional training facility should only serve to complement, not replace, a training facility within 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 training facility that ISO deems appropriate, we lose important points for some of their requirements, most notably, Facility Training.

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2025 Annual Training Report | Captain Hans Walde (B-Shift) | Page 5

2026:

In the year ahead, we will continue to utilize Target Solutions as our training platform to build, assign, and track training. We continue to train our firefighters to help them become more proficient in their skills and knowledgeable of our community and mutual aid response areas. We hope to fill our vacant position and quickly train them to be a competent member of our department and asset to our community. Although we encourage our members to seek additional training outside of our department, it has become more difficult in recent years for our members to take time away from their families. We will be diligent and creative in our approach to training and remain hopeful that an in-district training facility is prioritized.

While the Olympic Valley Fire Department does have challenges with training, we work hard to meet the needs of 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 the community.

Respectfully,

Hans Walde