

**REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR**

The Wellesley Fire Rescue Department as a public safety organization is charged with the responsibility of protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Wellesley. The Fire Rescue Department has a present complement of 57 full-time employees, allocated and performing in the following positions: Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief of Fire Prevention, 1 Captain Fire Prevention Inspector, 4 Shift Captains, 12 Lieutenants, 36 Firefighters, 1 Administrative Assistant and 1 Mechanic. Additionally, the Fire Rescue Department supervises the AMR Paramedics under contract with the Town of Wellesley.

The department operates out of two stations, one at Central Street and Weston Road (Station # 1) and one on Worcester Street in Wellesley Hills (Station # 2). Front line apparatus consists of three pumping engines and one tower ladder unit. We operate a Special Operations Emergency Response Vehicle combined with our boats and specialized equipment for water and ice rescues operations. We maintain in reserve two pumping engines.

**Emergency Medical Service**

Emergency Medical Services under the direction of Fire Chief Richard A. DeLorie are provided by Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technicians for the 189<sup>th</sup> year. American Medical Response Paramedics together with the fire department's forty-eight Emergency Medical Technicians, operating from Fire Department Headquarters located on Route 9, provide advanced medical care and emergency transport. Wellesley Police EMT's and First Responders carry first aid equipment and defibrillators to provide instant access to emergency care from wherever the police units are patrolling. Wellesley Public Safety personnel are very proud of our professional relationships that provide seamless care to our residents and visitors.

All engines, ladders and command vehicles are equipped with defibrillators, epi-pens, trauma and specialized medical equipment. Each member's emergency medical certifications are kept current as required by law. As in the past, the Fire Department is looking forward to continued success in providing the highest quality medical services to our community.

Fire personnel provided CPR training to citizens in both the public and private sector to accomplish the spread of this life saving technology. The Department is continuing to provide CPR/ Defibrillator certification to other town employees and to the general public. The Fire Rescue Department under the Direction of the Board of Selectmen distributed defibrillators into many town operated buildings and vehicles

**Wellesley Emergency Management**

The Wellesley Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan is a program for planning and responding to potential emergency or disaster situations. It assigns responsibilities

and functions to various personnel, which will provide for the safety and welfare of our citizens against the threat of natural disasters, hazardous material incidents and national security emergencies.

Under the direction of the Fire Chief / Emergency Management Director Richard A. DeLorie, a Local Emergency Planning Committee maintained the Provisional Certification from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. The purpose of this committee is to make recommendations to the Emergency Management Director in the coordination of the town's emergency response by planning and operating exercises to test the plans. The LEPC is currently working toward full Certification to ensure the greatest coordination among first responders during an emergency. This committee has representation from Fire, Police, Health, Public Works, Selectman's Office, School Department, American Medical Response, Wellesley College, Babson College, Mass Bay Community College and citizens. Many LEPC organizations received training in the National Incident Management System and Incident Command Training Programs.

Wellesley Fire Rescue has maintained and strengthened our Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) working with Chief DeLorie and Deputy Chief Peterson and local residents that train to support many Fire Rescue activities, such as operating the local emergency shelter (Middle or High School) should that be necessary. The CERT provides support to the fire department at Open Houses and during the marathon providing first aid, staffing the state rehabilitation bus as a cooling station and water for the runners.

### **Training/Equipment**

All fire/rescue personnel participate in daily drills and classroom programs, which consist of all phases of fire fighting, rescue operations and emergency medical training. In addition to these daily drills, members are assigned or volunteer to attend various courses and seminars held at other fire departments, at the State Fire Academy in Stow, MA. and the National Fire Academy in Maryland. These training programs enable the personnel to maintain licenses, certifications and maintain professional proficiency.

Hazardous Materials have always been handled by the fire department, but now the department has been preparing our personnel for more complex incidents. Captain James Dennehy serves on the State Hazardous Material Response Team for his 20th year.

~~Fire Mechanic Frank Cadillac retired after 31 years of dedicated service. The new Mechanic, William Miller was recruited from Stoughton Fire Department and has all the necessary certifications for fire apparatus maintenance. Deputy Peterson and Mechanic Bill Miller have implemented a computerized fleet maintenance system to track required fleet maintenance that provides a mechanism to evaluate the status of each vehicle and associated maintenance expenses. The fire officers can input repair requests from either station or check on the status of the request. This new system enhances our ability to~~

~~improve firefighter safety, maintain a preventative maintenance program and maximize the operational ability of the apparatus.~~

### **Fire Prevention**

The Fire Chief, the Board of Fire Engineers and the Municipal Light Plant Director have determined that the hard wired fire alarm system was no longer economically feasible or a safety necessity. The residential boxes were removed by Wellesley MLP personnel and the Deputy Fire Chief Fitzpatrick working with MLP personnel, the town's electrician and various other departments personnel have started the process of converting the municipal buildings and commercial buildings to a wireless radio master box system. This process will eliminate 60 miles of wire and the associated maintenance. The Town of Wellesley will still have the benefits of the direct radio based alarm notification to the fire department and will continue to provide this service for a fee to various commercial buildings and the college campuses. The conversion process as of June 30, 2011 had installed the main receiving units and converted the departmental computerized dispatching system. To date 9 municipal buildings have been updated and 3 buildings will be updated during construction. The installation of the remaining 20 municipal radio boxes is underway or being scheduled, Both Wellesley and Babson College are in the process of converting their buildings to interface with the Wellesley Fire Department system. The last step in this process is the conversion or disconnection of commercial buildings. Each commercial unit fire alarm options will be reviewed by the Deputy on a case by case review of the building occupancies. This radio master box conversion project should be completed by the end of 2012.

Captain / Fire Inspector Kevin Donahue~~Donald Fitzpatrick~~ coordinates all inspectional services related to fire prevention and inspection. The inspectional process requires plan review and onsite inspection and testing by the fire inspector. The Fire Inspector works with Wellesley PBC, state and local building department and the Fire Marshalls Office to coordinate project and inspectional reviews.

*The following inspections and permits were issued in accordance with Chapter 148 of the Massachusetts General Laws:*

Smoke Detector Inspections/Permits	461
<del>526</del>	
Blasting Permits	<del>11</del>
Fuel Oil Tank Removal Permits	<del>59</del>
<del>60</del>	
Fuel Oil Tank Installation	<del>6494</del>
Welding Permits	<del>2536</del>
Liquid Propane Permits	<del>2624</del>
Fireworks Permits	<del>12</del>

Sprinkler Installation Permits	5335	
Chapter 304 Liquor License	1717	
Fire Alarm Installation Permit	<u>9482</u>	
<i>Total Inspectional Permits/Projects</i>		<i>801873</i>

**In-Service inspections:**

Lieutenants and the engine company personnel are assigned to conduct basement to roof inspections to identify potential hazards and maintain familiarity with the layout of the structures in our community. There are twelve inspectional routes and each Lieutenant is assigned a different route each period, taking 6 years for an officer to complete the entire commercial inspectional process. The following inspections are conducted to meet the above inspectional objectives:

Commercial Property Inspections (540532)*	Twice yearly		<u>1080</u>
1076			
Healthcare Facilities	Quarterly	16	16
Schools Inspections	Quarterly	48	48

**Public Educational Programs**

Public education programs are conducted under the direction of Lt. Paul Delaney. The 8th year of our Teen Rescuer Program for local teenagers was very successful. The Teen Rescuer program covers fire department operations and topics such as first aid, CPR and general safety during one week in the summer for 22 local children.

The department for the 145<sup>th</sup> year participated in the Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) program. This state grant program enables the Fire Prevention Officer to develop and implement fire safety programs. The Wellesley Fire Department received a state grant to support fire education for school age children. The educational programs delivered by Lieutenant Paul Delaney and Firefighter Matt Corda reached over 2800 children in our local public and private schools during Fire Prevention week.

The High School Senior Class was provided with a presentation on recent college fires that resulted in fatalities and how to stay safe in the dorm environment. A teenage alcohol awareness program in partnership with American Medical Response and Wellesley Police Department was conducted for the Sophomore Class.

Every September 11th, there is a ceremony at fire headquarters to remember that tragic day and the Wellesley residents lost. We honor their memory and all who were forever impacted. We are proud to host this service and will continue this tradition.

Lastly, our annual open house was a great success working with AMR, Mass Forestry, Mass Dept of Fire Services and the Citizens Emergency Response Team. We are pleased to receive the volume of daily visitors for tours, directions or general information.

**Incident Responses**

**July 1, 2009~~10~~ to June 30, 2010~~1~~, Wellesley Fire Rescue Department responded to:  
3894 ~~4022~~ responses**

**Fires**

Residential Fires	21	
		<del>39</del>
Commercial & misc. fires (storage, brush, vehicles)	<del>19</del>	36

**Emergency Medical**

Emergency medical	1359	
		<del>1570</del>
Patient /public assist in home	211	<del>195</del>
Motor vehicle with injuries	101	<del>111</del>

**Rescue & Hazardous Conditions**

Motor vehicle accident no injury	106	
		<del>128</del>
Sprinkler, CO/ Smoke detector activation	378	<del>323</del>
Smoke or odor condition	105	
		<del>362</del>
Person locked in home, car or elevator	113	
		<del>105</del>
Hazardous material release	122	
		<del>107</del>
Electrical problem	<del>40</del>	
Power lines down	-39	
		<del>43</del>
Weather related (lightning strikes, wind damage)	53	<del>20</del>
Bomb squad support	01	
		<del>0</del>
Animal rescue	06	<del>3</del>

**Service Calls**

False Alarm System malfunction (reset only)	566	
		<del>513</del>
Malicious false alarm	09	<del>16</del>
Cancelled en route	<del>34</del>	16
Water problem (flooding issue)	41	<del>225</del>

**Mutual Aid** (Newton, Needham, Natick and Weston) 392~~469~~

**Significant Events in the Department:**

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- Ian McMakin appointed as a Firefighter on August 18, 2010
- Gerard Sullivan appointed as Firefighter on August 18, 2010
- Firefighter Larry Quinn transferred to Newton Fire on October 1, 2010.
- Captain Donald Fitzpatrick promoted to Deputy Fire Chief on October 6, 2010.
- Lieutenant Kevin Donahue promoted to Captain on October 6, 2010
- Firefighter Mike Gigante promoted to Lieutenant on October 6, 2010
- Ben Hampton appointed as a Firefighter on March 8, 2010
- Trevor O'Leary appointed as a Firefighter on March 16, 2010
- Chief Richard DeLorie was awarded accreditation as a Fire Chief by the Mass. Fire Service Commission on June 21, 2011
- Chief Richard DeLorie completed the Senior Executive Program at Harvard's Kennedy School on June 24, 2011

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- ~~Chief Kevin Rooney retired on September 29, 2009 after 36 years of service~~
- ~~Deputy Chief Richard DeLorie appointed to Fire Chief February 24, 2009~~
- ~~Jean Cullinan appointed as a Firefighter on March 25, 2009~~
- ~~Lt. Greg Meloni retired on June 30, 2009 after 16 years of service.~~
- ~~Captain Jeffrey Peterson promoted to Deputy Fire Chief on July 15, 2009~~
- ~~Lt. Nathaniel Brady promoted to Captain on July 23, 2009~~
- ~~Firefighter Charles DiGiandomenico promoted to Lieutenant on July 23, 2009~~
- ~~Firefighter Mathew Donahue promoted to Lieutenant on August 26, 2009~~
- ~~Fire Mechanic Frank Cadillac retired on September 30, 2009 after 31 years.~~
- ~~William Miller selected as Fire Mechanic on November 23, 2009~~
- ~~Firefighter Richard Juliani resigned on February 4, 2010 after 10 years of service.~~

~~• Danielle Fitzpatrick appointed as a Firefighter on February 17, 2009~~

~~• Firefighter Richard Potter resigned on May 7, 2010 after 9 years of service.~~

I would like to thank the Board of Fire Engineers, Deputy Chief Peterson, our Administrative Assistant, Captains, Lieutenants, Firefighters, Mechanic, AMR Medics, CERT Volunteers and the other town departments for their cooperation and support during this past year. Lastly, I wish to express our appreciation to the citizens of Wellesley for the concern, understanding and support of our mission.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard A. DeLorie  
Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director**