LOS ALAMOS
FIRE DEPARTMENT
“WE WALK WITH P.R.I.D.E.”

2019 ANNUAL REPORT
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The Los Alamos Fire Department (LAFD) provides emergency medical, fire suppression, wildland fire, technical rescue, hazardous materials mitigation, domestic preparedness planning and response, community risk reduction, public fire and life safety education, fire investigation, and aviation rescue firefighting services to the residents, businesses, and visitors of Los Alamos County, New Mexico. LAFD is consistently working to achieve and/or maintain the highest level of professionalism and efficiency on behalf of those it serves.
MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

It is my honor to present you with the 2019 Los Alamos Fire Department Annual Report. Throughout this report you will certainly see and appreciate the excellent service provided by the women and men of Los Alamos Fire Department.

This year’s report was delayed a little due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Never in my 35-year fire service history has there ever been a worldwide pandemic that has influenced our service more or over a longer period of time. Initially, there were many uncertainties as this pandemic was not something anyone had experienced in the past. Many individuals stepped up and led the efforts to insure LAFD responders were safe and well supplied. When this situation stabilizes, we will recognize these efforts.

The upcoming year will be highly influenced by the current pandemic. We may need to change many processes and practices to insure we are safe and ready for the next pandemic or other disaster. We are currently reviewing our plans to insure they fit into the new normal.

In spite of all of the uncertainty, LAFD responders showed up for work everyday and insured the citizens and Los Alamos National Laboratory was fully protected. It is extraordinary displays of courage, showing up in the face of danger, that earn our responders the label as heroes. I am proud to work along side these brave men and women who wear the LAFD uniform.

If you have any questions or comments on this report, please don’t hesitate to contact me directly.

Troy Hughes

Fire Chief
Los Alamos Fire Department
troy.hughes@lacmn.us
505-662-8301 office
Troy Hughes
Fire Chief

Steve Dawald
Deputy Fire Chief

Kelly Sterna
Division Chief – Wildland

Wendy Servey
Fire Marshal

Joseph Baca
Division Chief – Safety

Chris Bartlett
Acting Division Chief – EMS

James Thwaits
Division Chief – Training

Todd Forsythe
Division Chief – LANL Training

Ben Stone
Battalion Chief – A-Shift
COMMAND STAFF

Steve Saiz
Battalion Chief - B-Shift

Jeff Wetteland
Battalion Chief - B-Shift

Micah Brittelle
Battalion Chief – C-Shift

Sharyl Hofer
Safeguards/ Security Relations Manager

Norma Valdez
Senior Management Analyst/ Accreditation Manager

Beverly Purtymun
Management Analyst
Business Operations

Xavier Anderson
Management Analyst
Finance and Budget
WE ARE LAFD
We walk with P.R.I.D.E.

PROFESSIONALISM ◆ READINESS ◆ INTEGRITY ◆ DEDICATION ◆ EXCELLENCE

MISSION
Los Alamos Fire Department is honored to be entrusted with the safety and welfare of our community. We are dedicated and proud to provide exceptional services for the preservation of life, the environment, and property.

VISION
The 2024 Vision is to continue to be widely known as an internationally accredited fire service agency that serves with PRIDE, while meeting our mission for our community.

Looking toward the futurity we seek, we will continue to strive for excellence with all of our pursuits. Our enhanced communications, both internal and external, will help us further connect with the people of Los Alamos, as well as become a more effective and efficient organization.

Acknowledging that we value professionalism, we will invest in our greatest asset, our members, through our initiative that focuses on improved leadership. This, along with comprehensive succession planning, will help move the department forward, sustaining and growing the quality that is the Los Alamos County Fire Department.

For us to demonstrate our readiness, our training initiative will bolster our ability to safely serve those who entrust us with the responsibility of their safety and welfare.

Education to those we serve and ourselves will be the mainstay in all that we do, while always personifying our traditions and calling by holding each other accountable for fulfilling our mission, living our values, accomplishing our goals, and bringing this vision to fruition.

STRATEGIC GOALS
GOAL 1—Enhance internal communication to foster information sharing among all levels of the department to increase effective service delivery. (Includes 6 identified objectives).

GOAL 2—Increase communication with community stakeholders to improve positive relations. (Includes 5 identified objectives).

GOAL 3—Maximize effectiveness of the department’s training program to better engage the employees while encouraging growth and enhancing customer service. (Includes 5 identified objectives).

GOAL 4—Create consistency in leadership through training, trust, and accountability for an effective, productive, and unified workforce. (Includes 5 identified objectives).

GOAL 5—Create and implement a process of knowledge sharing for position coverage to ensure that employees are recruited and developed to fill key roles. (Includes 8 identified objectives).

CORE VALUES
Professionalism is the foundation of our general culture and guided by our commitment to public relations and external communications initiative ensuring an enhanced interaction with the community we are honored to serve.

Readiness is demonstrated by our training, technology, physical resources, and our commitment to continuous improvement.

Integrity is demonstrated by doing the right thing on and off duty for the benefit of our department and the community.

Dedication to the improvement of the community and the safety and well-being of our fellow team members.

Excellence is at the heart of our individual and department goals, recognizing that we are entrusted with the safety and welfare of our community.
IAFF LOCAL 3279

Bert Quintana
President

Mike Montoya
Vice - President

Kevin Kamplain
Treasurer

Allen Quintana
Secretary

Robert Sanchez
A - Shift Steward

William Lundquist
B - Shift Steward

Daniel Archuleta
C - Shift Steward

Keith Garcia
Trustee

Jeff Saiz
Trustee
Ray Gandara
Trustee

Andres Madueno
Sergeant of Arms
The Los Alamos Firefighters’ Association IAFF Local 3279 participated in multiple events over the year. Our members, alongside other in-state local Union officers, were instrumental in passing two important pieces of legislation. On April 5, 2019, Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham signed into law the Firefighter PTSD Presumption Act. In February 2020, Governor Lujan-Grisham also signed legislation protecting and making the Public Employees Retirement solvent. These pieces of legislation will help protect firefighter safety and retirement for years to come.

At the New Mexico Professional Firefighter Association bi-annual convention, IAFF Local 3279 Union President Bert Quintana was elected the state’s third congressional district’s Northern Vice President. IAFF Local 3279 Vice President Mike Montoya was re-elected as a State Trustee. Many IAFF local 3279 members also attended classes during the conference to assist LAFD in a positive way.

In June 2019, at the New Mexico Fire Muster, Firefighters John Bailey, David Apodaca, and Aron Williams took first place in the New Mexico Firefighter combat challenges. This annual event raises money for New Mexico’s Firefighter Survivor Fund.

In October, Firefighters raised money for breast cancer research and wore pink shirts to raise awareness across the county.

In September, the Union and County started the collective bargaining contract negotiations. Over the course of a few months they negotiated a multi-year contract with benefit enhancements for all bargaining IAFF Local 3279 members.

In December, LAFD and Local 3279 sponsored three families for the Christmas holidays.

We look forward in 2020 to continuing our partnership with Los Alamos County!
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The LAFD Administrative Services Team provides a high level of customer service and administrative support to divisions and programs in numerous administrative service areas – procurement, finance, budget, travel payroll, mapping, staffing, compliance monitoring, accreditation, etc. 2019 was a busy year for administrative services with an academy recruitment, community risk assessment, accreditation self-assessment, mock site visit and various projects and program enhancements. In addition, there were changes in staffing following Bernadine Martinez’s retirement and the hiring of LeeAnn Salazar.

In July 2019, with the conversion to Munis Enterprise Resource Planning and changes in timekeeping and payroll, Marisol Padilla, Senior Office Specialist assumed a payroll specialist function working closely with the Payroll division of the Finance Department to streamline and audit the department’s complex payroll considerations. Marisol spent many hours at the stations and at Fire Administration training personnel on the Executime entry requirements. Los Alamos County Finance Department and Payroll Division recorded a substantial reduction in payroll errors due to Marisol’s understanding of the department’s complex payroll (i.e. shift scheduling, Fair Labor Standards Act, CBA, etc.). Marisol was recognized by the LAC Chief Financial Officer as an expert in Executime and has become a subject matter resource to other departments.

Members of the administrative team played a significant role in numerous committees and functions outside of LAFD. Team members participated and provided administrative support to the Occupational Health and Wellness committee, Employee Recognition committee, several Request For Proposal committees, and several others.
Administrative Services Team worked with shift personnel and coordinated various community events such as Wildfire Day, Trick-or-Treat on Main Street, and others. An additional aspect of administrative services is event planning for celebrations such as retirements and promotions, assisting with recruit testing, scheduling trainings and coordinating with external partners such as the NM Firefighters’ Training Academy for live burns and other professional development.

Much of the year, the administrative services focused efforts on document control in the development of the fire and emergency service self-assessment in the accreditation process. This involved working with program teams and other internal and external partners to write responses to specific performance indicators and collect appropriate references to verify and validate program compliance.

Above, our very own Management Analyst Beverly Purtymun got to experience being a firefighter for a day.
ACCREDITATION

The LAFD is extremely proud to be among the 285 fire service organizations throughout the world who are committed to continuous improvement through a process of standards, compliance, evaluation, and self-assessment. Much of 2019 was spent preparing for the department’s fifth appearance before the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

Staff was busy conducting a community risk assessment and establishing a standard of cover. The process included determining a risk assessment methodology, performing critical tasking at all levels of response for all service types, developing performance benchmarks, analyzing baseline performance and identifying service gaps. A thorough self-assessment of each area of the organization (service areas, programs, divisions, teams) and through description, appraisal and plan considerations, identified areas where the department is high performing and also opportunities for improvement. Responses were provided in ten categories, ten program areas, 87 core competencies and 240 performance indicators.

In 2019, the department participated in two major elements of the accreditation process which are essential to promoting a culture of evidence-based decision-making for continuous improvement: 1) The Community Risk Assessment-Standards of Cover, a comprehensive process where the department will analyze the distinct characteristics of the service area and outline strategies for addressing fire and non-fire risks; and, 2) Fire & Emergency Services Self-Assessment, a systematic approach to truly assessing what is going on within the agency, even if the assessment reveals that the agency is not doing things as well as once thought.
Also in July 2019, the department submitted the required Annual Compliance Report (ACR) and after going through a technical reviewer, received a unanimous acceptance with an affirmative nod to retain accredited agency status, citing “the information is superbly presented, well prepared and complete”. The purpose of the ACR is to ensure the agency has maintained compliance with all core competencies and document any changes that have occurred in the previous year and to evaluate the agency’s performance data and strategic recommendations for improvements in accordance with the 8th Edition of the Fire and Emergency Service Self-Assessment Manual (FESSAM).

The LAFD was among the first five original departments to be accredited on August 25, 1997. Others include departments from Lincoln, NE; Greensboro, NC; Tempe, AZ; and Naperville, IL. Of the over 35,000 fire departments in the country, Los Alamos was one of only 68 accredited departments in 2002; 148 in 2010; and 285 in 2018. We are currently the only Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) accredited fire department in the state of New Mexico; however, in 2019, staff worked with Chief Greg Perez of Bernalillo County, Chief Paul Dow of Albuquerque Fire Department, their teams and a team from Y-12 to assist them as they begin their accreditation candidate journey.

The department also continues to pursue achievement of strategic goals identified in the 2019-2024 Community Driven Strategic Plan where five key strategic initiatives were identified: 1) Enhanced internal communications; 2) Increased communications and positive relations with the community; 3) Maximize effectiveness of the training program; 4) Create consistency in leadership; and 5) Implement process of knowledge sharing to fill key roles.

The value of fire service accreditation is not in achieving accredited agency status, but rather, it is the process of evaluating, assessing, verifying, validating, knowing the risks and service capabilities in each service area, and creating opportunities to address service gaps.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quick Facts</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number of Commission on Fire Accreditation International</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US population protected by accredited agencies</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Los Alamos Fire Department Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provides 911 emergency response. Emergency medical care is available to anyone who calls Los Alamos County 911 regardless of their ability to pay. In 2019, LAFD emergency medical technicians (EMTs) responded to 1,709 medical patients. Strong, capable, data-driven medicine is the hallmark of the LAFD EMS System.

This report provides an in-depth look at the full range of day to day activities that allow the EMS program to deliver high-quality emergency medical care. While it is difficult to choose just a few to mention, the following milestones are significant and worthy of highlighting.

The EMS division made efforts to support the local and state medical community by partnering with the Los Alamos Medical Center (LAMC), Christus St. Vincent Hospital in Santa Fe, the Los Alamos Community Health Council, the Los Alamos Family Council, the Los Alamos Heart Council, Classic Air Medical, Santa Fe Community College, University of New Mexico- Los Alamos and numerous other organizations to provide better community health through prevention and excellent medicine. The EMS division is continuously offering American Heart Association classes, high-quality CPR and hands-only CPR to the community. Additionally, with the help of LAMC, the Los Alamos Public Schools, the Los Alamos Heart Council, and LAFD was able to help provide two community AEDs which were installed at Ashley Pond and the High School football stadium.

**Outputs**
- LAFD responded to 1,709 EMS patients and maintained a satisfaction rating in the 90th percentile.
- LAFD providers met all the NM EMS Bureau requirements for re-licensure.
- Over 400 Los Alamos providers and community members received CPR training. The EMS Division provides hands-only CPR training free to the public through community education events and upon request. American Heart Association classes are also offered to outside agencies and providers.
- EMS Division Chief Ben Stone held a training with the Barranca and East Park lifeguards on interfacing with EMS on 911 calls to the pools.
38 people completed the American Heart Association (AHA) Instructor course.

In 2019, Chaplains responded to call outs to community members and provided support to emergency responders.

The EMS Division also participated in many community and public education events throughout 2019, including the Los Alamos County Health fair where approximately 3,000 people attended.

Patient satisfaction surveys are conducted by a third-party vendor through mail in and online response. The survey measures the effectiveness of the Consolidated Dispatch Center, response times, provider competency, vehicle cleanliness, ride comfort, and billing. In 2019 LAFD received a greater than 90% overall rating by our customers.

**Next Steps**

- Work with the training division to improve the Shift Training Team (STT) participation in EMS training and education.
- Utilize UNM’s CE package as a renewal option for our providers.
- Utilize monthly Continuing Education (CE’s) for the New Mexico EMS renewal blueprint and provide additional training as necessary.
EMS AED Dedication

Captain Ernest Agnew and the Station 6 B-Shift responded to a critical patient that was transported to the Los Alamos Medical Center. Captain Agnew’s crew stayed on scene to help the medical staff stabilize the patient, resulting in her life being saved. As a result of their life-saving actions, the Los Alamos Medical Center, along with the Los Alamos Heart Council, donated two AEDs in the names of this crew. Captain Agnew and his crew of Robert Fuselier, Zane Frentheway and Ryan Wolf were recognized on Friday, June 21, 2019 at the Summer Concert Series. The first of the two AEDs was installed at Ashley Pond Park. This project would not have been possible without assistance from Los Alamos County departments, including Information Management, Facilities, and Parks & Recreation, Los Alamos Heart Council and LAMC.
On Tuesday, November 26th, LAFD celebrated the graduation of four firefighters from the Santa Fe Community College Paramedic Program. Paramedic students were in the program for 14 months and received training in the assessment, understanding and management of medical, trauma, cardiac, pediatric and many other types of emergencies. Congratulations to Firefighters Brett Henry, Daniel Sanchez, Tayler Garcia-Anaya and Chad Drummond on this accomplishment.

Pictured (left to right) Battalion Chief Ben Stone, Firefighter Brett Henry, Firefighter Chad Drummond, Firefighter Tayler Garcia-Anaya, Firefighter Daniel Sanchez, and Deputy Fire Chief Steve Dawald. (Photo courtesy of Sean Henry.)
### EMS VOLUME REPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019 (YTD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christus St. Vincent</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Espanola Hospital</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Alamos Medical Center</td>
<td>832</td>
<td>961</td>
<td>1,025</td>
<td>985</td>
<td>1,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lovelace Medical Center</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterian</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Heart Hospital of NM</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNM</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CALLS</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,093</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,201</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,282</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,190</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,273</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EMS Transport Customer Satisfaction Data – provided by Feedback Innovations

Of the surveys sent to patients between January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, 187 responses to the customer satisfaction survey.

- The highest rated section was *Overall* with a total score of 97.
- The lowest rated section was *Billing* with a total score of 90.13.

The survey yielded 97% “confidence in skill of ambulance staff” and satisfaction with the 98% “degree to which the ambulance staff worked together to care for you”. The level of satisfaction with “cleanliness of the ambulance” was of a 97.6% score.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Prior Period</th>
<th>January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019</th>
<th>National Avg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dispatch</td>
<td>94.9</td>
<td>95.6</td>
<td>96.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td>96.95</td>
<td>96.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Care</td>
<td>95.12</td>
<td>95.68</td>
<td>94.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billing</td>
<td>89.07</td>
<td>90.13</td>
<td>90.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Quality</td>
<td>94.15</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>94.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>95.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Fire Department operates with a budget which is developed in accordance with the 10-year Cooperative Agreement (CA) with the Department of Energy (DOE)/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). This agreement began on October 1, 2013 and expires on September 30, 2023. October 1, 2018 was the 2nd year of the Year-5 agreement. DOE/NNSA funds 77% of labor and benefits, and overhead costs while the Los Alamos County general fund covers the remaining 23%. The CA budget for FY 2020 is $26,726,782.10, with 76% coming from labor and benefit expenses, and 16% coming from indirect overheads.

In addition to the CA, LAFD participates in the New Mexico Fire Protection Fund Distribution Act. The Department receives funding based on the number of stations protecting the jurisdiction which averages approximately $780,000 annually. In FY 2019, LAFD received a total of $782,208 from the distribution fund. These funds are used to purchase fire supplies and equipment ranging from fire hoses to firefighter training. LAFD also receives funding from the EMS Fund Act annually through the New Mexico Department of Health. The awarded amount for FY 2020 is $9,894. This grant is used to pay for paramedic students’ tuition costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAFD Funding Source</th>
<th>FY2020</th>
<th>FY2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wildfire Mitigation Grant</td>
<td>$ 455,000.00</td>
<td>$ 455,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Grant</td>
<td>$ 9,894.00</td>
<td>$ 9,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Protection Fund Distribution</td>
<td>$ 782,208.00</td>
<td>$ 782,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Protection Grant</td>
<td>$ 90,000.00</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOE-NNSA CA &amp; LAC General fund</td>
<td>$ 26,726,782.10</td>
<td>$ 27,739,192.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CA Expenditures FY 20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials &amp; Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Wages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FINANCIAL RESOURCES

LAFCD Cooperative Agreement Expenditures FY2020
- Indirect 17%
- Services 4%
- Materials & Supplies 6%
- Benefits 24%
- Salaries & Wages 49%

LAFCD Cooperative Agreement Expenditures FY2021
- Indirect 17%
- Services 5%
- Materials & Supplies 6%
- Benefits 24%
- Salaries & Wages 48%
The Fire Marshal’s Office (FMO) aids the mission of the Los Alamos County Fire Department (LAFD) by providing enhanced services for fire and life safety inspections and fire investigations within the jurisdiction. LAFD-FMO is accountable for education, enforcement and administration of the County of Los Alamos’ Fire Prevention code (Section 22-31) which incorporates the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA, 2015 ed.), NFPA 101 Life Safety Code (2015 ed.) along with local amendments. Designated by the Fire Chief, the Fire Marshal manages a Fire & Life Safety Inspections Program which comprises of thirteen certified Fire Inspectors and Investigators who are uniformed, and a certified civilian employee with extensive inspection and investigator experience and one civilian support staff.

LAFD-FMO has the authority to perform fire and life safety inspections of all businesses, commercial occupancies, new construction, large special events, and fire protection system installations and modifications within the County of Los Alamos. The Fire Marshal can issue citations to enforce the provisions of the code, the objective is to educate and promote positive working relationships with business and property owners.

Additionally, LAFD-FMO completes all fire investigations within the County to include Los Alamos National Laboratory facilities and wildlands as per the Cooperative Agreement (CA). This agreement is to provide this enhanced service as part of fire protection for Los Alamos County (LAC) and the Department of Energy/ National Nuclear Security Administration. (DOE/NNSA)
Plans Review
The Fire Marshal, Senior Fire & Life Safety Coordinator and two uniformed firefighters are certified to examine fire plans. This review process checks submissions for code compliance for existing and new construction on fire protection systems. A permit is issued for work to begin upon plan approval.

Special Events
LAFD-FMO inspects large special events, such as the Ashley Pond Summer Concert Series, held within the county to ensure public fire and life safety per fire code is upheld during large gatherings of either indoor or outdoor events. Items reviewed could be crowd control, fire department access, tents or other membrane structures, food trucks and cooking operations. In 2019, the summer concert series experienced pre-event inspections of operations.

Apartment Alarm Initiative
The Fire Marshal’s Office worked with local apartment owners who were not in compliance with the fire code to provide a minimum level of safety for their residents. In 2019, work began that involved the retrofit of heat, smoke and fire alarm systems for early notification. Overall, 7 apartment complexes are in the queue for upgrades and an estimated 300 lives now living with increased fire and life safety protection.

Accomplishments on the fly in 2019:
The Fire Marshal’s Office continues to strive to promote service to businesses, citizens and interdepartmental relations:
- 108 business licenses were reviewed.
- 27 operational permits were issued by the Fire Marshal’s Office.
- 3 additional personnel were trained to certify for NFPA fire plans examiner.
- 10 of the 13 inspectors/investigators either became or maintained national recognized certifications from agencies such as ICC, NFPA, IAAI, NAFI or IFSAC to hold qualifications to work as a fire inspector/investigator.
- In 2019, the Senior Fire & Life Safety Coordinator was selected to sit on the NFPA 921 technical committee for its revision process.
By the numbers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certified Inspectors &amp; Investigators</th>
<th>13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Inspections and Re-inspections, (New and Existing Construction)</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plans Review Conducted</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Investigations Conducted</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fire Investigations & Deployment

When the fire has been put out or the hazardous situation is mitigated, the Los Alamos Fire Investigators are quietly beginning their work. A systematic approach using the scientific method is used to determine the origin and the cause of the fire or explosion.

LAFD Fire Investigators are Fire Inspectors by design to utilize building construction knowledge in both disciplines. Fire investigators learn elements of fire science & dynamics, electrical current and chemistry. To keep current, members accomplished over 1,000 hours of training collectively for fire investigation.

LAFD and Albuquerque Fire Rescue entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on October 4, 2019 to assist Albuquerque’s Arson Unit which resulted in two deployments on major incidents in 2019; a fire in Rio Rancho and an apartment fire within the city limits that resulted in a fatality. The benefit of this program is that the on-the-job training enhances the overall ability and field experience of team members which ultimately will benefit the County of Los Alamos.
LANL TRAINING & PRE INCIDENT PLANNING

In June of 2019 Division Chief Todd Forsythe was officially promoted into the LANL Training Division where he was acting as Division Chief in the LANL Training and PIP Division since September 2018.

Training Exercises at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)

2019 was a busy and productive year for the LANL Training Division. LAFD participated in 22 LANL Exercises. These included various tabletop, functional, and field play exercises throughout LANL. These exercises encompass numerous components including Incident Command, EMS, Fire, CBRNE, HazMat, Technical Rescue, etc. Prior to each exercise, LAFD participates in numerous planning meetings to assist in exercise development and scheduling. After each exercise, LAFD also participates in “Hot Washes” and exercise critiques to reinforce positive performance and identify and implement ways to improve customer service.
LANL Facility Tours

In addition to exercise participation, LAFD continues to participate in various LANL facility tours and other LANL related training. LAFD attended five facility tours at various LANL facilities. The benchmark for the attendance of each tour is set at 65% where the goal is to have at least 65% of all LAFD sworn personnel attending each tour. LAFD exceeded that benchmark for all 2019 tours.

![2019 LANL Facility Tour Completion Rate by Percentage](image)

Pre-Incident Planning

Pre-Incident Planning (PIP) continues to play a strong role in operations. LAFD is responsible for 1600 PIPs. These PIP assignments are distributed monthly to the crews per shift and station to help educate them during a potential emergency response. Currently, LAFD is working with LANL on developing quick access plans for PIPs. These quick access plans will have the most critical, recent, and most commonly needed information such as floorplans and site maps that officers need in the first few minutes of an incident. These PIPs will be offered through an iPad making access quick and user friendly. Beta testing on the new devices will begin Spring of 2020 and full activation in Fall of 2020.

Hydrant Testing

The Hydrant testing program also resides within this division. LAFD currently tests on an annual basis approximately 1900 fire hydrants located throughout the county and LANL. Field crews finished hydrant testing in December and the results of these tests are being entered into the LAFD database. LAFD has purchased new hydrant testing equipment and software. The new hydrant testing system will automatically capture data and run all calculations, which can then be wirelessly uploaded into the database. This will reduce overtime costs as personnel will no longer be needed to manually enter hydrant testing data into the database. In addition, hydrant testing data including the gallons per minute that is available from each hydrant will be readily available once the crews return to the station and upload the data into the database. LAFD is working through some software issues with the vendor so that the new equipment will fully meet LAFD’s needs.
FIRE SUPPRESSION & SPECIAL OPERATIONS

LAFD has maintained the Insurance Services Office (ISO) Class 2 Public Protection classification once again for 2019. LAFD continues to pursue a Class 1 classification by completing further assessments and evaluations. LAFD operates a response fleet of 10 structural suppression vehicles, 14 wildland/urban interface suppression vehicles, 2 rescue vehicles, 6 ambulances, 1 Battalion Chief unit, 1 Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) vehicle, 1 Haz-Mat response vehicle, 1 mobile command vehicle, and miscellaneous support vehicles that protect the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and the County of Los Alamos.

Authorized shift staffing is currently set at 139 combat personnel that are trained to NFPA standards for fire suppression, wildland firefighting, technical rescue, hazardous materials, and radiological emergency response.

LAFD’s combat personnel respond out of five fire stations that are strategically located throughout the county. A sixth station, which is currently not staffed, serves as the department’s training station. Features at the training station include a training tower, burn building, confined space and technical rescue props, a burn car, a roof ventilation prop, a classroom, and a fire pump test pit.

LAFD saw an increase of 1% in its total call volume when compared to 2018 statistics. Calls for emergency medical services increased more than 3% while Fire calls decreased by almost 1%. 68% of LAFD’s responses were medical in nature.

Highlights from 2019 included the addition of nine firefighters, the acquisition of six type V brush engines, progress towards the design and eventual construction of three fire stations, a handful of promotions, and multiple fire and rescue responses.

LAFD members that retired in 2019 include Battalion Chief Jeff Wetteland and Captain Wayne Sanchez. LAFD thanks them for their service and wishes them a happy retirement.

LAFD is honored to provide services for the safety and welfare of the citizens and visitors of the county, LANL, and surrounding areas. The proud and dedicated members of LAFD are prepared and equipped to respond to all calls for service, day or night, 24/7/365.
We want to congratulate Chief Micah Brittelle, Captain Adam Martinez, Captain Evan Pulliam, Captain Tony Garcia, Driver Engineer Brandon Torrey, Driver Engineer John Bialy for their recent promotions. We would also like to congratulate Firefighter Chad Drummond on obtaining his paramedic certification. Additionally, the shift saw some leadership changes late in the year, with Chief Ben Stone reporting to the shift after six years in EMS and, being joined by Captain Michael Cayton as the Support Officer. The shift would like to thank Chief Steve Saiz and Captain Michael Lewis for their ongoing dedication and support as they integrate into B-Shift.

A-shift responded to a massive snowstorm that was coined as snowmageddon. This event taxed our local resources, driving each of our responders to provide every ounce of energy they had to preserve the safety of our community. A-Shift also responded to a high acuity fire at UbiQD on East Gate Drive. This fire presented with bright yellow smoke and involved half a dozen manufacturing chemicals. Station 6, 3, and 1 crews achieved knockdown very quickly and then transitioned into a hazardous materials response. LAFD Haz-Mat led the entry for this incident and was able to make the scene stable with ease. Additionally, the A-shift Technical Rescue Team was able to assist in several technical rescues to include responding to locations in White Rock and the Coyote/Gallina wilderness. Although these incidents required an above-average response, each time A-Shift responded this year, they brought the highest level of courage and knowledge.

We look forward to yet another great year in 2020!
Several members this year were honored and received awards for providing exceptional patient care that resulted in positive outcomes.

Station 4 crew was presented with the Phoenix Award. This award goes to personnel who have been involved in calls where a patient suffered a cardiac arrest, was resuscitated and returned home from the hospital. Recipients were Captain Gerard Coriz, Driver Engineer Van Leimer, Firefighter Dylan Mahoney, Firefighter Dustin Rogers, Firefighter Randall Robles, Firefighter Joshua Urban and Firefighter Shannon Evans.

Station 6 personnel were honored for their concern, dedication and actions, in cooperation with the medical providers at LAMC, ultimately resulting in a life being saved. LAMC donated two automated external defibrillators (AED) to the community in the name of these responders who went above and beyond to save a life. Those honored are Captain Ernest Agnew, Driver Engineer Scott Hofmann, Firefighter Robert Fuselier, Firefighter Zane Frentheway and Firefighter Ryan Wolf.

We would also like to congratulate those that received promotions or retirement. Joseph Defranco promoted to Captain. Allen Quintana and Zach Shriver both promoted to Driver Engineer. Battalion Chief Jeff Wetteland achieved the career long goal of reaching retirement. Congratulations! We wish them the best in their new positions and retirement.

Brett Henry and Daniel Sanchez returned to shift after a year-long Paramedic program at Santa Fe Community College. They were part of a group of 4 firefighters that participated in the rigorous program from LAFD. They showed dedication and professionalism while representing our department. They will be excellent Paramedics and provide exceptional service to the community.

There were many calls that B-shift responded to throughout the year. However, there are a few that stand out. Two incidents were just about identical. There were two wildland fires in Omega Canyon that were close to each other in proximity and time. They were quickly extinguished and brought under control by the fast response. There was also a structure fire in the Timber Ridge neighborhood. These incidents demonstrate the knowledge, expertise and professionalism of all our responders.
2019 was an eventful year that brought changes to C-Shift. Captain Wayne Sanchez retired after spending nearly 21 years with LAFD. New opportunities for advancement came with his retirement. Driver Engineer Adrian Carabajal was promoted to Captain, and Firefighter Raymond Barela was promoted to Driver Engineer. Captain Micah Brittelle was transferred from A-Shift as the acting Battalion Chief and officially promoted in June.

C-Shift responded to 793 calls in 2019. March was the first test of our abilities when Los Alamos had an extreme weather event referred to as a “Bomb Cyclone”, or as the crews called it “Tree Mageddon”. It resulted in 46 emergency calls in one day, 35 of which were in a six-hour period due to fallen trees, many onto homes. In April, Station 1 and 5 crews responded to a trail rescue that resulted in the landing of a helicopter in the upper crossing area of Frijoles Canyon. Crews were later notified of complications that could have caused the patient to lose their foot had they not been flown out. May brought the TRT team out to search for a man that was lost and in need of rescue while hunting for treasure in the area of Ancho Canyon. In June, Captain Daniel Garcia deployed to the Pine Lodge fire as part of a rapid intervention team, which was a department first. July brought hotter weather and local wildland responses. The annual firework display started a small brush fire in Canada de Buey area north of Overlook Park. Station 4 was called out for a smoke check that resulted in a wildland response to a 4-acre fire located in Guaje Canyon. Station 5 responded to Bandelier in August for a report of smoke south and east of the visitor center. The Alamo fire was reported by Classic Air Medical while they were returning to Los Alamos. The Hazardous Materials team was called to Taos in November for a response to the Post Office for an unknown odor that was causing concerning symptoms. These calls are just an example of the professional response we are capable of at LAFD.

Throughout the year, C-Shift also spent endless hours training and maintaining their skills to include live fire training, active shooter response, LANL response exercises, technical rescue, hazardous materials, EMS, and helping with the instruction of recruit class 28.
## SERVICE DELIVERY

### Total Incidents for 2015-2019 (Emergency and Non-Emergency)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Suppression</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMS</td>
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<td>1,447</td>
<td>1,413</td>
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<td>Hazmat</td>
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<td>107</td>
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<td>Rescue</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildland</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>96</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>411</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>664</td>
<td>2,604</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,833</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,036</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,187</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,336</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,375</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,767</strong></td>
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</table>

### Total Number of Units Dispatched for 2015-2019 (Emergency and Non-Emergency)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Suppression</td>
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<td>138</td>
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<td>EMS</td>
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<td>Hazmat</td>
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<td>Rescue</td>
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<td>Wildland</td>
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<td>135</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>2,277</td>
<td>9,030</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5,679</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,120</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,193</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,848</strong></td>
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### Travel Time

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<tr>
<th><strong>Responding to Arrival</strong></th>
<th><strong>Total Response Time</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Travel Time</strong></td>
<td><strong>Benchmark</strong></td>
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<td>Responding to Arrival</td>
<td>6 minutes or less</td>
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<td>90% of the time</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Response Time</strong></td>
<td>12 minutes 20 seconds or less</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pickup to Arrival</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>90%</td>
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SERVICE DELIVERY

Incident Volume by Day of the Week
2015 -2019

Number of Incidents by Population Density for 2019

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pop Density</th>
<th>Emergency</th>
<th>Non-Emergency</th>
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<tr>
<td>Urban Cluster</td>
<td>771</td>
<td>420</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>814</td>
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<td>OUT</td>
<td>49</td>
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<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>1,634</td>
<td>783</td>
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## SERVICE DELIVERY

**Call Volume "Hot Spots" for 2015 - 2019, by hour of day**

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<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
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<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>159</td>
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| Total           | 856 | 1078| 1170| 1190| 1129| 1072| 926| 7421 |

## Incident Volume by Time of Day 2015-2019

![Graph showing incident volume by time of day from 2015 to 2019](image-url)
## SERVICE DELIVERY

**Call Types Categorized as “Other” by National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) Code (2015-2019), Includes Emergency and Non-Emergency**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NFIRS Code</th>
<th>Incident Type Description</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Overpressure rupture from steam (no ensuing fire)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Overpressure rupture from air or gas (no fire)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Electrical wiring/equipment problem</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>46</td>
<td>Accident, potential accident</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>Attempted burning, illegal action</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>Person in distress</td>
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<td>Animal problem or rescue</td>
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<td>Unauthorized burning</td>
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<td>Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up</td>
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<td>62</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>Dispatched and cancelled en route</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>Wrong location, no emergency found</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>63</td>
<td>Controlled burning</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>64</td>
<td>Vicinity alarm</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>Steam, other grass mistaken for smoke</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>EMS call where party has been transported</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>67</td>
<td>HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>False Alarm, False Call</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>Malicious, mischievous false alarm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>73</td>
<td>System or detector malfunction</td>
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<td>Unintentional system/detector operation (no fire)</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>Severe weather &amp; natural disaster - other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>81</td>
<td>Severe weather &amp; natural disaster - Specified</td>
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<td>Special type of incident, other</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>91</td>
<td>Citizen complaint</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>433</strong></td>
<td><strong>425</strong></td>
<td><strong>471</strong></td>
<td><strong>679</strong></td>
<td><strong>698</strong></td>
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In accordance with the Vehicle Replacement Plan, six brush engines were purchased to replace the five 2003 mini-tenders. Four brush engines were received in 2019 and another two brush engines received in early 2020.

The brush engine design provides enhanced firefighting capability.
- 250-gallon water capacity on mini-tenders to a 400 gallon water tank on new brush trucks.
- Pumping capacity of MTs was 125 gpm, new brush trucks are upwards of 500 gpm.
- Increase in pumping capability due to elevation of LAC and the commonly used progressive hose lays that may have to go up hillsides.
- Higher clearance vehicle due to terrain in and around Los Alamos County. A 6 inch lift which provides additional ground clearance.
- Super single rear axle eliminates the possibility of rocks getting stuck between tires and reduces maintenance costs.

**Equipment enhancements:**
- New brush trucks are outfitted with 150 feet of hose that enable crews for quick deployment for suppression. Additionally, in the queue for these apparatus is a FLIR (forward looking infrared) camera on the bumper turrets which will enable visibility in heavy smoke conditions – promoting crew safety and recognizing hot spots along roadways.
- Additional safety feature is the backup camera which allows the driver to get a better view of the backer and obstacles behind the apparatus.
- Ground sweep nozzles enables the operator to remotely spray water beneath the apparatus which serves to put out hot spots but allows for dust suppression.
- Brush protection is an exoskeleton which protects the chassis from brush.
Changes in Stations:
There were no changes in the number or locations of fire stations in 2019; however, there are several conversations being had regarding replacement of Fire Stations 1 and 5, both built in 1952 and owned by the Department of Energy.

Station 5 is expected to be replaced within the next three to five years and Station 1 will follow. The cost estimate is currently being developed by the LANL Triad Engineering Group. The hope is to break ground in federal FY21.

Enhancements made to county-owned stations in 2019 include:

**Fire Station 2- Training (owned by LAC):** Needed repairs were made to the burn simulator and tower of the Practical Learning Center as identified in the NFPA 1403 inspection. The final inspection report stated that the tower was “in good structural condition with no significant structure deficiencies”.

**Fire Station 3 (owned by LAC):** The heating and cooling in the bunkrooms were an ongoing issue, as the floors contained radiant heat that overpowered the cooling system causing the sleeping quarters to be too warm and uncomfortable. A contractor was hired to replace the HVAC system, improve the roofing structure, replace windows and doors, patch cracks in and around walls, doors and windows, and apply insulation and waterproofing to outside walls. The construction project was complete March 31, 2019.

**Fire Station 4 (owned by LAC):** After numerous attempts to repair the bay doors, a Rytec high speed bay door was ordered in June 2019 to install in bay one. This door is capable of opening in 6 feet per second. The evaluation has yielded positive results and the department is considering replacing doors at the other county stations.
PHYSICAL RESOURCES

Fire Station 6 (owned by LAC):
In August 2019, a project began to remodel two of the bathrooms and shower areas at Fire Station 6. The project included removal and replacement of all fixtures and tile, as well as patching and painting.

Changes in Apparatus:
In accordance with the revised Vehicle Replacement Plan four ambulances were received in late 2019.

A 2019 Suburban staff utility vehicle was also purchased and received in June 2019 to replace Chief 6 (assigned to the EMS Division Chief).

In November 2019, the department was awarded funding through the NM Fire Protection Grant Council to purchase Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment in the amount of $90,000.
SAFETY

LAFD takes the health and safety of its members very seriously. To ensure members have a safe, long and healthy career, the Safety Division works through many hands ensuring a mission of personal safety. The Occupational Health and Safety Committee (OH&S), Peer Fitness Team (PFT), Clothing Team, SCBA Team, and Peer Support Team consist of rank and file members who all work collectively to remain proactive in many different aspects of the department to promote new and safer fire trends, equipment, and procedures with the priority of safety in a hazardous profession.

In 2019 the Safety Division continued to make changes and improvements to the digitized annual service testing inspection forms. Although the annual service testing information has been entered electronically for a couple of years, as anticipated, we continue to make changes as we utilized and learned this new system to better accommodate our needs.

LAFD often leads in measuring firefighter fitness compared to other fire departments nationwide. LAFD’s Peer Fitness (PFT) works with the Los Alamos National Laboratory’s (LANL) Occupational Wellness and Health to integrate fitness and health education resonating from the individual and crew based lifestyle levels, rather than driven by policy. PFT members also made recommendations to the Safety Division Chief as to the needs of repairs and/or replacement of fire station exercise equipment. Peloton bikes were implemented by our members and have been the approved piece of exercise equipment that was used by most. In mid-2019, our two LANL fire stations were outfitted with two Peloton bikes each, making them available at all of our fire stations.
LAFD’s Peer Support Team consists of firefighter peers to listen and guide others to support individuals, specialists and/or agencies as needed in a confidential manner. These dedicated members not only serve LAFD internally, but also serve as a resource regionally through the Metro Peer Support Team.

LAFD’s Clothing Team continues to be involved in the selection and field testing of the finest safety clothing and equipment offered in the industry. In 2019 the clothing team tested and approved a new, NFPA approved, style of station pants, structural bunker boots, and wildland helmet light.

LAFD’s respiratory protection began to research and secure funds for a new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) in 2019. Due to our current fleet of SCBAs reaching its end of service life in 2020, the SCBA Team has entrusted Wildland Division Chief Sterna to lead the efforts of this task. Chief Sterna, along with our SCBA team lead Captain Johnson, has spent countless hours on research and narrowed the decision to the new 3M Scott Air-Pak. They are currently working on securing funds for the purchase and replacement of the entire fleet, along with its service equipment to maintain the new SCBAs.

**2019 by the numbers:** Injuries – 15 occupational and 3 non-occupational, Exposures – 3 reported.

Safety Division Chief Joseph Baca is looking forward to working with all of the groups that make up LAFD’s safety division. We will constantly be striving to improve health, fitness, and safety in our everyday jobs.
SECURITY & SAFEGUARDS

To provide consistency throughout LAFD, the current Cooperative Agreement (CA) identified security and safeguard requirements that are to be met by the department. The responsibility of overseeing these requirements was assigned to the Labor Relations Manager. This program is in the eighth year of implementation with the major focus being:

- Identification of annual security training opportunities for department personnel;
- Facilitation of the annual security trainings and badge renewals for department personnel;
- Facilitation of the Q Clearance process, including initial investigation and five-year reinvestigations;
- Address any security infractions identified by the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL);
- Facilitation of technology needs and/or improvements for the department;
- Management of Asset Management program of Federal property; and,
- Serve as the Business Official for the CA with NNSA/DOE.

The New Hire LANL Trainings are required of all LAFD personnel. There were 18 new hires during 2019 (1 civilian, 17 firefighters). All completed the six required trainings as outlined in the LAFD Training Plan.

The Annual Security Refresher and Annual Information Security Refresher are courses that are an annual mandatory requirement. If these are not completed, LANL access may be denied. In order to address this department-wide, LAFD sponsors a “Security Blitz” prior to the expiration of all LANL Badges. Changes were made to the process in 2019. In August all LAFD personnel were required to complete the two mandatory annual LANL courses and then in September all personnel reported to the LANL Badge Office to renew their LANL badge for the next year.

The communication of Security Tidbits are disseminated on a monthly basis, or as appropriate. These are disseminated through e-mails to all LAFD personnel regarding various security topics. The topics are determined by either recent incidents and/or points from the trainings.

A Discrimination/Harassment Training for all Management/Supervisors was conducted in September with 100% participation. This training also covered various security/safeguard information including drug testing and application for a clearance, reinvestigations, and reporting requirements.

Additional Security and Safeguards Data, Including Staffing Changes:

- 17 new LANL badges were requested;
- 6 LANL badges were turned in due to retirements and terminations;
- 16 Q clearance applications were initiated for the new hires with no pending applications from the previous year;
- 9 Q clearances were granted which included the close-out from the previous year and 6 new ones for cadets in Recruit Academy #28;
- 2 pending applications were carried over to 2020;
- 16 Q clearance reinvestigations were initiated;
- 0 security incident/ notification occurred;
- The FY 19 Federal Inventory was completed in November of 2019;
- 14 personnel exited employment (3 retirements, 5 resignations, 6 separations during new hire probation) with LAC;
- 20 promotions occurred – all being uniformed personnel – to include 2 to Battalion Chief, 4 to Captain, 5 to Driver Engineer, 9 to Firefighter II.
Labor Relations Services

The Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) requires quarterly Labor Management Committee (LMC) meetings. The purpose of the LMC is not to alter the CBA, but to provide for clarification and implementation and address issues that arise outside of the CBA. The LMC discusses and develops solutions to any items that are discussed. With the intent of building and strengthening strong labor management relations, the committee attempts to meet alternating months with additional meetings as necessary. During 2019, 6 regular meetings were held along with 2 special meetings.

The LMC has developed promotional plans and reviewed Fire Chief’s Directives (FCD) as well as clarified numerous questions from the field. During 2019, 24 FCDs were discussed at LMC with 19 revised, 5 rescinded, and no new FCDs.

Five grievances were filed by Labor which went through the steps for resolution. One grievance was resolved at Step 1, two grievance were resolved at Step 2, one grievance was resolved at Step 3 and one grievance was not resolved; however it was never taken to Arbitration. There are no pending labor related legal issues at this time.

The current CBA covers the period of February 5, 2016 through June 30, 2020. Both labor and management have the opportunity to request a reopener on one non-economic item, allowed per the CBA. Labor did request a reopener; however, the determination was that this was an economic item. Negotiations for the successor contract started in October 2019 using the Interest Based Bargaining/Affinity Model.

Service/Action Plan for 2019

In addition to the Annual Security Blitz and continued Security Tidbits, additional trainings will be conducted in the following areas:

- Online trainings to include:
  - Workplace Violence Awareness Briefing “Last Angry Word,”
  - Preventing Sexual Abuse”; and,
  - New topics as they become available through LANL Training.
- Instructor-led trainings to include:
  - Discrimination/Harassment/Security Training for all Employees; and,
  - Training on the new CBA for all Chief Officers and Administrative Services Staff
- The FY 20 Federal Inventory will be conducted during September and October.
The Training Division provides oversight and management for the development, delivery, evaluation, and improvement of all education and certification to ensure the safety, preparedness, effectiveness and career development of LAFD personnel.

Division Chief James Thwaits and Captain Aaron McNiff have shared the responsibilities of the Training Division since September 2018. We have continued to strengthen our interagency relationship with the New Mexico State Fire Academy.

We strive to identify instructional programs needed at LAFD to support the Cooperative Agreement with LANL and our mission. In addition to identifying programs, the division is currently looking for instructors to support each discipline. Our ultimate goal is to establish clear oversight and program management for all fire-specific training.

- In 2019 we continued to work on our Quality Matters evaluation programs which are designed to improve courses taught here at LAFD. The program keeps both the course and instructor accountable for what we say we are teaching and what the students are learning.

- We trained 6 instructors to the NFPA 1403 Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions compliance, which met our goal to have a minimum of two live fire training instructors per shift. This has allowed for better utilization of the training tower for live fire training evolutions. FCD 700.3 Practical learning center/ Burn Building Live Burn Exercises & Use of Live Burn Training Props was developed and implemented throughout the department.

- The Shift Training Team (STT) has 12 members that are responsible for facilitating all department trainings that occur on their designated shift. Such trainings will include all disciplines – including but not limited to – suppression, EMS, technical rescue, hazardous materials, fire investigation, and administrative. All members are adjunct instructors through the New Mexico State Firefighters Training Academy, and some hold EMS Instructor Level and AHA Instructor Levels in HeartSaver, Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Life Support (ALS), Paramedic Advanced Life Support (PALS), and Pediatrics Emergency Assessment Recognition and Stabilization (PEARS).
• Maintain Blue Card training at 100% completed for the ranks of Driver Engineer and above. Based on newly promoted personnel, required Blue Card training will be assigned and completed per Fire Chief Directive (FCD) 400.15 *Incident Command and Blue Card Command Manual*.

• Target Solutions has continued to be a key training resource for delivery of training, records management, ISO training compliance and special program training management. We were able to use this system to track real time training data and minimize the use of paper rosters as our tracking system. We’re able to send out up to date Training Progress Reports monthly. Almost all required annual training is now tracked through Target Solutions.

**Continuing Education/Professional Development**

LAFD has partnered with multiple New Mexico Universities to offer degree programs to LAFD personnel. Degrees included are in Emergency Management, Fire Science, Wildland Fire Science and Emergency Medical Services.

LAFD continues to strive to improve in all respects. Not only has LAFD assumed the responsibility to certify all EMS responders to the national level, steps have also been taken to provide other certifications to the national level.

**Additional 2019 Training Highlights**

May 2019 – Blue Card May Day Procedures Training and Blue Card SIM Lab
January – December 2019 Live Fire Training at Fire Station #2 Practical Learning Center
January – December 2019 Forcible Entry Training at Fire Station #2 Practical Learning Center
January – March 2019 – ERRT Ventilation & Unique Materials Training Completed
February 2018 – IAAI Fire Investigation Training
February – August 2019 – Blast Mitigation Foam Training
February – March 2019 Wildland Refresher
March 2019 – Wildland Pack Test
March 2019 – Alexis Fire Engine Training – All LAFD Personnel
March – April 2019 – SCOTT Technician Training
June 2019 – IFSAC Fire Officer I
June 2019 – Technical Rescue Refresher – All LAFD Personnel
September/ October 2019 – LAFD Promotional Process for Driver Engineer, Fire Captain, and Battalion Chief
October 2019 – Fire Extinguisher Training – All LAFD Personnel
October – December 2019- IFSAC HAZMAT Technician Training
October – November 2019 – Blue Card SIM Lab – newly promoted staff
November – December 2019- Annual Extrication Training
In 2019, wildland fire deployments were down in large part to minimal acres burned across the U.S. LAFD sent crews and apparatus to two incident team managed large fires in New Mexico. LAFD continued to provide mutual aid to multiple agencies across Northern New Mexico. 2019 also marked the first time that LAFD personnel were deployed as part of a Rapid Extrication Module (REM). LAFD crews also assisted federal agencies to complete prescribed fires at Bandelier National Park, Santa Fe National Forest, and Rio Arriba County.
This past year, in partnership with LANL, proposals to build new Type 5 wildland engines and Type 1 water tenders were awarded to Weis Fire & Safety and Skeeter brush trucks respectively. LAFD took delivery of 4 of the 6 wildland engines in November and December of 2019 with the final 2 to be delivered early in 2020. The LAFD wildland division also created a small, unmanned aerial system (sUAS) program in 2019. LAFD acquired 4 sUAS platforms to aid in missions such as search & rescue and wildland fire scouting/size up.

LAFD Wildland Division was active in securing additional grant funding in 2019. The first was a $90,000 grant awarded through New Mexico State Fire Marshal’s Office. This grant will be used to purchase SCBA that are compliant to the latest NFPA Standard. The LAFD Wildland Division is awaiting an award decision for a New Mexico State Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance grant. If awarded, the proceeds will go towards the purchase of wildland personal protective equipment.

Los Alamos County (LAC) was honored in 2019 to become the first municipality in New Mexico ever to move to phase II of a New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). LAFD, with the assistance of Santa Fe County Fire Department, will be mitigating 114 acres over the next two years. This will prompt a significant update to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) in 2021. LAFD also continued its home assessment program, outlined in the public outreach component of this grant, which will help guide homeowners in protecting property in wildfire prone neighborhoods adjacent to mitigation efforts. CWPP’s are designed to mitigate and prepare for wildfire risks and recommend actions ranging from fuels treatments, road improvements, evacuation planning, and prescribed fire to reduce risks.

The LAFD acknowledges that the wildland urban interface and intermix is a part of the landscape of LAC and LANL. We are surrounded by forest and it is not possible to exclude fire in the future. However, with the proper preparation, mitigation, training, personnel, equipment and collaborative partnerships, LAC will be better prepared for that future.
SPECIALTY TEAMS

HAZMAT TEAM

2019 was a productive year for the LAFD Hazardous Materials Team (HMT). Our decontamination trailer is complete and all equipment is ready to go. We have an inflatable decontamination tent with climate control capabilities (i.e. heated showers, etc.) ready when needed. We have recently revamped our fuel spill mitigation trailer and organized it for greater efficiencies and capabilities including stinger operations. The LAFD HMT continues to move towards a FEMA Type 1 Hazmat Entry Team ready for deployments to hazardous materials emergencies in our own community as well as regional responses. In 2019 we responded to Taos twice for FEMA events, in addition to motor vehicle accidents, fuel spills, gas leaks, and identification of unmarked containers in the public. The LAFD HMT responded to a chemical release at Ashley Pond, which allowed our members to utilize their skills to identify the released chemical and determine if it was hazardous. The LAFD HMT also assisted in the response of a chemical fire at a LANL contractor lab site. Chemical identification was used on this incident as well. Our team and our sophisticated monitoring equipment proved to be a valuable resource during these responses. The LAFD HMT assisted the LANL Hazmat team at several responses on LANL property and continues to work effectively with the LANL Hazmat team. In late July the LAFD HMT competed in the 23rd Annual LANL Hazmat Challenge. The Challenge scenarios included a drug laboratory or chemical hazard identification, a complex valve tree, confined space rescue, compressed gas leaks, a leaking rail car dome, pressurized drum opening, a stinger operation, a damming/diking exercise from an overturned tanker, and radiological incidents. The challenge is a five day event. It was a great opportunity to compete with eight other teams from around the country and gain knowledge and comradery.
CONTINUATION OF HAZMAT

Training and Education Team members prepared the team’s quarterly training which consisted of TA-49 field training involving all of the props on site, confined space responses, advanced air monitor operation and interpretation, radiation responses, scenarios, and Level A suit proficiencies. In May, four personnel attended the IAFC International Hazardous Materials Teams Conference in Baltimore, Maryland which provided an excellent opportunity for team members to network with hazmat professionals from all over the world and attend numerous training sessions.

The LAFD HMT is committed to protecting the public from hazardous materials incidents. We will continue to hone our skills and take advantage of training opportunities to ensure the team is ready to respond to incidents at LANL, in our community and all of New Mexico. We will continue to upgrade equipment and educate the members of the department on Hazmat response.
HONOR GUARD

It is the responsibility of the LAFD Honor Guard to represent the department as a highly disciplined team serving with honor at ceremonial functions. Our members function with respect and dignity at funeral services for active and retired personnel as needed. We provide comfort and compassion for the survivors. The Honor Guard projects a positive image of the department and its members by performing as a well trained professional team at local, state, and national events. The LAFD Honor Guard is dedicated to honoring fallen firefighters, their families, and department members, past and present. The Honor Guard plans, organizes, and performs at funeral and memorial services for department members. The team also assists other agencies with funeral and memorial services when requested. Members of the Honor Guard have participated in state and national events, such as the Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg, Maryland and the IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Colorado Springs. The Honor Guard uses department equipment in the performance of its duties. Chromed axes and pike poles are used as ceremonial guard weapons. The Guard also cares for and utilizes the flags of our country, state, department and IAFF Local during various events. LAFD Honor Guard utilizes the NM State pipes and drums for any pipes that are needed or requested. The pipes are played at funerals of fallen firefighters and may be accompanied by a core of drummers. Those who know little about the instrument’s history are always overwhelmed with the emotional sound it echoes; those who are informed of its tradition are taken back with emotion even more.
BIKE TEAM

The LAFD Bike Team was utilized for the pilgrimage to El Santuario de Chimayo, Wildfire Day, Fourth of July ride from Santa Fe to White Rock, and all Los Alamos parades. The International Police Mountain Bike Association instructed an EMS cyclist course training to team members. The Bike Team is merely four years old and was commissioned to provide fire department services at events with large crowds where maneuvering through the crowd by bicycle is more efficient.
AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIREFIGHTING

2019 saw several improvements to the Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) program here at LAFD. First and foremost, the shops took the time to send a tech to Florida to be trained on the Crash Truck. This included courses in plumbing, engine mechanics, and agent delivery systems. The truck was then brought up to standard and put back in service. With the unit now fully functional, E-One sent out a representative to give eight LAFD members first hand training on every function of the truck. This training is being developed into a curriculum that will be delivered to the field crews in early 2020.

2019 also saw improvements to the service at KLAM Los Alamos Airport with regard to their infrastructure and equipment. With a federal grant, the airport was able to make improvements to their perimeter fencing and added new security gates. This will make it easier for LAFD to respond as the new gates work off of proximity radio sensors so we will no longer need to use the mechanical “Crash” gate. Other improvements on site include new 125lb. dry chemical fire extinguishers. These replaced several legacy extinguishers that were beyond being serviceable in the field. LAFD personnel will be trained to use the new units, adding another tool to our response capability at LAM.

Finally, Captain Agnew has been working directly with KLAM Manager Cameron Humphreys to analyze and test the emergency reporting and response system at the airport. This includes everything from the time an emergency is declared by an aircraft to the time the incident is mitigated. The intention is to test everything from the air traffic control response, to the regional/local dispatch, to the response of our members. With the momentum we’ve gained in 2019, we’re looking forward to a very productive 2020 and beyond.
PUBLIC EDUCATION

LAFD has provided outreach and education to the Community of Los Alamos as well as communities throughout Northern New Mexico including Pojoaque, Espanola, Taos, Velarde and Chama. LAFD participated in over 200 events throughout the year. Through these various events the LAFD reached 10,910 adults and 13,645 children. The department continues to utilize the LAFD Facebook page for community outreach and education. Facebook posts with a specific fire or risk reduction messaging reached over 46,683 people.

Some of LAFD’s community awareness and outreach efforts for the year included Wildfire Day 2019, Fire Prevention Month, 2019 Los Alamos County Safety Town, Los Alamos Medical Center’s 2019 Teddy Bear Clinic, and Los Alamos Public Schools “Unity Day”. In addition to these events LAFD continued to provide public education in our mobile classroom, along with car seat installations, fire extinguisher trainings, and station tours. LAFD held its 2nd Annual “Firefighter for a Day” event along with assistance from the IAFF Local 3279. There was a total of 24 participants in this year’s event, which was an increase of 9 participants from last year. LAFD is already taking steps to plan for the upcoming year and looking at ways to improve this event for future participants.

LAFD is looking forward to the coming year, knowing it brings tremendous challenges and wonderful opportunities to improve our educational programs and outreach.
Technical Rescue Team

In 2019, the department was called out to 124 technical rescue calls. The department responded to 59 motor vehicle accidents with no injuries, 37 motor vehicle accidents with injuries (4 of which required extrication), 10 elevator emergency calls, 7 high angle rescue/recovery, and a variety of other rescue related calls, including mutual aid responses out of county.

Our team continues to grow as a whole as new changes in our equipment are slowly improving our technical rescue response. We have received new equipment that has replaced old outdated equipment. One of our main priorities is to continue to bring our equipment up to date. The team is working diligently on prioritizing the essential equipment that is needed and has developed a replacement plan that is being executed in phases over several fiscal years.

Throughout the year, the team trained on confined space emergencies, elevator emergencies, rope rescue to include artificial high directional, vehicle extrication to include advanced techniques for multiple vehicle stabilization, and structural collapse training to include advanced breaking and breaching techniques. The team sent members to the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Services (TEEX) Disaster City training facility for 14 days to learn techniques and tactics used during large scale structural collapse incidents. These members had the opportunity to learn techniques and skills from the instructors that were deployed with Texas Task Force Teams to assist at the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center. Our training program continues to grow as we are expanding our technical rescue skills and experiences.
Due to TRT the increasing number of rope rescue incidents in the county, the Technical Rescue Team sponsored a department wide refresher for rope rescue in 2019. Basic skills such as knot tying, building main and belay systems, wrapping anchors, and rappelling were just some of the skills that were practiced during the department wide refresher. The team received great feedback from the non-members in the department as these skills were not completed by certain members since their initial training in their respective academies. The TRT is planning to continue this training as an annual department wide refresher to help non-members build on these technical skills.

The Technical Rescue Team has had an increasing amount of high angle rescue/recovery incidents in a well-known area in White Rock known as Hell’s Hole over the last few years. There have been so many incidents that the County Manager decided to take action to prevent similar incidents. Hell’s Hole is an outcropping of rocks that naturally created caves and tunnels and has become a popular spot for climbers and spelunkers. The issue is that these caves and tunnels lead down to an area that is a high risk for a 400 plus foot fall. The county decided to close off an opening with rebar and concrete to minimize the potential of adventurers falling from the opening. The Technical Rescue Team helped in this endeavor to support these efforts. An artificial high directional setup with a trolley system was used to transport the materials down the rock face. Furthermore, this project did not eliminate the hazard for the area, but it did reduce the risk for injuries and/or death. Our team is enthusiastic and willing to help out with similar projects to do our part in minimizing public risk for the County of Los Alamos and surrounding areas.
OMEGA FIRE

On March 29, 2019 Los Alamos Fire Department responded to a 4 acre fire down in Los Alamos Canyon now known as the Omega Fire. The fire burned near the Canyon Rim Trailhead on the eastern edge of Los Alamos, south of NM 4 and east of NM 502. Investigators determined the cause to be due to dropped power lines.
AGGIE FIRE

April 10, 2019 Los Alamos Fire Department B Shift responded to a fire in LA Canyon that burned three acres.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY
In February 2019, members of Los Alamos Fire Department wore red in support of National Wear Red Day to bring awareness to Heart Health and Stroke Prevention Awareness. #LAFDWearsRed
MEGA CONCERT SERIES

In 2019, members from Los Alamos Fire Department and Los Alamos County gathered for a picture and quick visit with Chevel Shepherd before the MEGA Series Concert. New Mexico’s native was the 2019 winner of NBC’s The Voice. Chevel headlined at the Summer Concert Series.
Trick or Treat on Main Street

On October 2019, members of Los Alamos Fire Department participated in the 2019 Trick or Treat on Main Street, and tied for 1st place in the Employee Appreciation Costume Contest. Thanks to Deputy Fire Chief Steve Dawald, Sharyl Hofer and Ana Martinez for representing.
CHRISTMAS FAMILIES
In 2019, staff from Los Alamos Fire Department adopted three families for the holidays from surrounding communities.
PROJECT HEART START

LAFD held a Heartsaver First Aid/CPR training for Senior Center staff on June 20th and 26th where 16 staff members were certified in CPR.
SENIOR APPRECIATION NIGHT

LAFD participated in Los Alamos County’s Annual Senior Appreciation Night on June 1, 2019. This is the third year that LAFD has participated and is proud to be a part of this event to celebrate and congratulate the Los Alamos High School graduating class.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

LAMC TEDDY BEAR CLINIC

In 2019, members from LAFD participated in Los Alamos Medical Center’s Teddy Bear Clinic. This community event is to make children familiar with healthcare facilities and emergency services personnel.
PUBLIC SAFETY MOVIE IN THE PARK
On July 31st, LAFD co-hosted the annual public safety sponsored Movie in the Park. This year’s movie was Incredibles 2. LAFD works with Los Alamos Police Department, Los Alamos Emergency Consolidated Dispatch, and Classic Air to coordinate activities for this fun family event.
SAFETY TOWN

On June 11th, LAFD participated in Los Alamos County’s Annual Child Safety Program. Safety Town is a week-long program for children entering kindergarten to learn strategies to keep themselves safe and have opportunities to practice basic safety procedures in new situations. LAFD teaches students about basic fire safety utilizing our mobile classroom and fire prevention trailer. Children also meet with firefighters wearing full personal protective equipment. This teaches the children that firefighters are there to help and they shouldn’t be afraid.
BATTLE OF THE BADGES BLOOD DRIVE

LAFD won the Battle of the Badges Blood Drive again this year. Final count Fire - 71, Police - 33. P.R.I.D.E. Demonstrated! Once again, public safety partners provided life-saving care with over 100 pints of blood donated.
COMMUNITY CAR SEAT CLINIC

LAFD held its first car clinic at LAFD Fire Station 6. The fitting station was held on Friday, May 24, 2019. This event was sponsored by Safer NM and was staffed with LAFD certified technicians. LAFD currently has five technicians certified through Safer NM. They are Driver Engineer Allen Quintana, Driver Engineer Daniel Gandara, Driver Engineer Jaden Eads, Driver Engineer Colorado Cordova, and Firefighter Shane Grano. LAFD has one technician certified through Safer NM as a Senior Technician, Firefighter David Baca. All technicians assisted with coordinating this event and staffing. LAFD provides this valuable service to the community by inspecting and educating parents on how to properly install a child safety seat. LAFD also had child safety seats available for families that were in dire need of a replacement, at no charge to the family.
FUN RUN
MOUNTAIN ELEMENTARY

On September 25, 2019 members of LAFD participated in The Mountain Elementary Fun Run. This was a fundraiser for Mountain Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

NATIONAL RED NOSE DAY

Some of the staff from LAFD and LAMC took some time out of their day to acknowledge Red Nose Day 2019! The Red Nose campaign brings awareness to fighting child poverty. #NationalRedNoseDay
NATIONAL SUNGLASSES DAY

Members from LAFD made ultraviolet (UV) protection a family affair. UV damage is cumulative, occurring over a lifetime of exposure. Children are extra vulnerable so get them in the habit of wearing sunglasses early!
UNITY DAY

On October 23, LAFD partnered with the Los Alamos Public Schools (LAPS) to promote “Unity Day” in recognition of October being National Bully Prevention Month. Unity Day is geared to encourage “coming together in kindness, acceptance and inclusion.” LAFD crews and Chief Officers were in attendance at Los Alamos High School Los Alamos Middle School, Barranca, Aspen, Mountain, Pinon and Chamisa Elementary Schools in the morning to greet students as they arrived and handed out orange ribbons promoting Unity Day.
9/11 PARADE & MEMORIAL CEREMONY
LAFD/ IAFF Local #3279 Union President Bert Quintana, Captain Gerard Coriz, Driver Engineer Van Leimer and Randal Robles participated in the 2019 9/11 Memorial Parade in downtown Santa Fe, NM.
NEW MEXICO FIRE MUSTER
On June 29th, members from LAFD’s Combat Challenge Team took first place at the 3rd Annual New Mexico Fire Muster. Way to represent LAFD! The combat challenge is a fire skill related physical agility course.
BATAAN MEMORIAL DEATH MARCH

On March 17th, LAFD participated in the Annual Bataan Memorial Death March where approximately 8,600 people participated. The Bataan Memorial Death March course is located on the White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico and consists of 26.2 miles carrying a 35lb pack. The team from LAFD included Captain Gerard Coriz, Captain Tim Johnson, Firefighter Rick Acedo, Firefighter Michael Crockett and Firefighter Aaron Ortega. LAFD participated in this year’s event in honor of veteran US Marine and LAFD Captain John Snyder, as well as veteran US Marine and LAFD Firefighter Manfred Hermann.
4th of July Softball Game

LAFD vs. LAPD

SCORE 27-9

LAPD with the win
9/11 MEMORIAL HILL CLIMB
The LAFD Honor Guard held their 5th Annual 9/11 Memorial Hill Climb. LAFD Honor Guard holds this event to reflect on the heroism displayed and the tragic loss our country suffered on September 11, 2001. We will never forget all the lives past and present that were impacted by these events.
(Photo courtesy of Sadie Acedo)
LAFD held its 2nd Annual “Firefighter for a Day” event on Saturday, September 28. There were 24 participants in this year’s event. Participants took part in six different scenarios including hazmat, EMS, wildland, high-angle technical rescue, vehicle extrication and a smoke and rescue scenario. Scenarios were in a controlled situation and safe environment. This event provided participants an opportunity to see and feel what firefighters deal with daily, and the extensive training and knowledge required for their positions as firefighters.

LAFD received some great feedback and suggestions on how to improve this event in coming years.
Lorenzo Chavez
Fire Fighter II

Michael Crockett
Fire Fighter II

Ruben Martinez
Fire Fighter II

Aaron Ortega
Fire Fighter II

Randall Robles
Fire Fighter II

Joshua Urban
Fire Fighter II

Dwight Williams
Fire Fighter II

Ryan Wolf
Fire Fighter II

August Young
Fire Fighter II
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Driver Engineer

John Bialy  
Driver Engineer

Allen Quintana  
Driver Engineer

Zachary Shriver  
Driver Engineer

Brandon Torrey  
Driver Engineer

Adrian Carabajal  
Captain

Joseph DeFranco  
Captain

Tony Garcia  
Captain

Adam Martinez  
Captain
Joseph Candelaria
Battalion Chief

Michael Gill
Battalion Chief

Jeff Wetteland
Battalion Chief

Joseph Wayne Sanchez
Captain

Donna McHenry
EMS Training Coordinator

Bernadine Martinez
Senior Office Specialist
Isiah Chavez
Fire Cadet

Donovan Aguilar
Fire Cadet

Manuel Fierro
Fire Cadet

Gary Martinez
Fire Cadet

Terry Martinez
Fire Cadet

Cory Miller
Fire Cadet

Dennis Padilla
Fire Cadet

Christopher Salinas
Fire Cadet

Rudy Trujillo
Fire Cadet

LeeAnn Salazar
Senior Office Specialist
On April 9th, LAFD was proud to present Station 4-B Shift with a Phoenix award. The Phoenix Award, which began in January of 2017, is awarded to personnel that have been involved in calls where the patient suffered cardiac arrest, was resuscitated, and not only survived, but was able to return home from the hospital.

LAFD responders dedicate themselves to the community of Los Alamos and train for cardiac events nearly ten times as often as an average fire department. Due to their efforts, a member of our community is alive and well and home with their family, “a phoenix rising from the ashes.” It takes a team approach to save a life, and there is no doubt that Station 4 provides just that.

LAFD would like to thank the following responders:
From Left to Right: Captain Gerard Coriz, Driver Paramedic Van Leimer, Firefighter Dylan Mahoney, Firefighter Randall Robles, Firefighter Joshua Urban, Firefighter Shannon Evans and Firefighter Dustin Rogers
The 11th Annual Community Asset Awards took place on January 11th. The annual event strives to highlight the good work done by many individuals throughout the community. Battalion Chief Ben Stone, Captain Tim Johnson and EMS Coordinator Donna McHenry were three of the individuals who were presented with awards in 2019.
Los Alamos Fire Department Annual Report

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