

WHEELING FIRE DEPARTMENT

QUARTERLY REPORT

1ST QUARTER 2020



1st QUARTER CALLS FOR SERVICE

Fire – 20
Explosion/Overheat (no fire)– 23
Medical/EMS – 1,169
Hazardous Condition – 33
False Alarm – 177

Service Calls – 198
Good Intent Calls – 137
Severe Weather – n/a
Special Type/Other – 15

TOTALS:

Quarterly Calls - 1,772

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Days after a National Emergency was declared March 13, WFD along with several city and county public safety agencies discussed plans on dealing with the novel coronavirus. Chief Helms immediately implemented a no-visitor policy at all fire stations and canceled all public events.

WFD continues to work daily with Wheeling Hospital, the county health department, EMA and police to ensure all employees and citizens stay safe.



WARWOOD FIRE



No one was injured in a second alarm fire that started around 11 p.m., Friday March 6 along Warwood Avenue. Two homes sustained heavy fire damage and a third with exterior damage. WFD was successful in preventing the fire from spreading to a neighboring multi-story apartment building. After several hours of an aggressive exterior attack, firefighters were able to get the blaze under control around 2 a.m. WFD's Bureau of Fire Investigations ruled the fire accidental. The fire started in the basement from an electrical issue.

MARCH FLOODING

Amid a global pandemic, mother nature did not spare Wheeling firefighters a new challenge. On Saturday, March 28, several city neighborhoods flooded, prompting rescue calls and roads being closed.

B platoon personnel worked throughout the evening to ensure the public was safe and monitored streams and Big Wheeling Creek. After the flood waters receded, WFD helped pump water out of several basements and assist with cleanup.



ONE YEAR LATER...



Employees with The Ziegenfelder Company surprised WFD with several Thank You baskets as they marked the one-year anniversary of the Jan. 31, 2019 fire that ripped through their production line. No one was hurt during the fire and WFD appreciated the thoughtfulness one year later!

EXPO HALL FIRE UPDATE

New Year's Eve 2019 into New Year's Day 2020 was quite memorable for WFD. Wheeling's skyline lit up as the former State Fair Expo Hall caught fire on Wheeling Island - prompting a second alarm response. WFD's Bureau of Fire Investigations determined the following week that the fire was accidental and electrical in nature.



SOUND THE ALARM!



The City of Wheeling was named a signature city to Sound the Alarm by the American Red Cross in February. WFD's Bureau of Fire Prevention will work alongside the Red Cross to install 500 smoke alarms in the greater Wheeling area at a future date. Wheeling is one of 133 cities in the United States to be chosen as a 'Sound the Alarm' city for 2020.

9 NEW RECRUITS JOIN WFD

WFD welcomed several new recruits to the department in March. Pictured are Trevor Adkins, Conner Pollack, Abraham Winter, James Waugh, Harry Myers, Andrew Yahn, Ryan Loveland, Cody Melsop and Matthew Earnest.

