

# ON SCENE

September 2017



## Tradition in the Making

**Sea of Blue is October 10**

# DEAR FELLOW FIREFIGHTERS



You probably don't obsess over the possibility, but we all know it's true. This job can kill you. Visit Fire Station I and the truth is plain to see: 22 names on JFRD's Memorial Wall.

The first name is Henry J. Bradley, a volunteer with the Duval Hose Company. We were not yet a paid fire department when Bradley died the evening of December 16, 1885 in a structure fire off of Bay Street downtown. Four days later, on a Sunday afternoon, hundreds of Jacksonville residents grieved Bradley's death, first during a public viewing from noon to 3 p.m., and then as part of the funeral procession which stretched several city blocks, according to newspaper accounts.

On foot and by horse-drawn wagons, mourners traveled numerous downtown streets – Forsyth, Main (called Pine Street back then), as well as Duval, Hogan and Bay, passing the site of the fire, and eventually reaching Washington Street and the city cemetery. The procession included a strong turnout from other local volunteer firefighting companies.

That Sunday afternoon, the city commemorated Bradley's life and service to Jacksonville. The Times-Union also eulogized him and praised the volunteer firefighters.

"The untimely fate of this gallant fireman is an earnest of the devotion to duty which characterizes the fearless souls who voluntarily band themselves together for the purpose of protecting the property of our citizens from destruction even with their lives, and it behooves our citizens to encourage them in their laudable undertakings and second their worthy efforts by every honorable means," the Times-Union wrote.

Bradley's death was prominently acknowledged because the city respected his commitment and the volunteers' commitment. His death was also a catalyst for Jacksonville to create a paid fire department. What happened to Bradley in the fire and the commemoration that followed is still relevant. So are the names that follow Bradley's on our Memorial Wall.

The passing of each of JFRD's 22 fallen firefighters has caused a family member, or a spouse, or a friend or another firefighter grief. Many of us still grieve the most recent deaths because we knew those firefighters, or because we worked with them, or we remember their habits, good and otherwise, and we miss them. They are worth remembering.

Each of you can ensure that their commemoration continues by participating in JFRD's Sea of Blue and attending our Fallen Firefighter Ceremony on Oct. 10. Each year that we march in the Sea of Blue, we are building upon a tradition that is worthy because it is a massive, public showing that we continue to remember our fallen members' lives and careers in front of the community they served, and in front of their families who still cope directly with the loss.

Sincerely,

Kurt Wilson  
Chief of Department

## On the Cover

Firefighters advance north on Hogan Street during JFRD's inaugural Sea of Blue in 2014.



# Irma's Impact



**Sept. 11, Riverside:** Firefighter Zach Washington (left), Firefighter Brian Neilson (behind boat) and Eng. Justin Smith (right) deliver a swiftwater rescue amidst some of Irma's extraordinary flooding. JFRD performed more than 350 swiftwater rescues due to Irma.

We felt the brunt of Hurricane Irma in Northeast Florida Sept. 10 and 11. Though Jacksonville was spared a direct hit, call volumes and our response levels set departmental records. Once the storm passed, JFRD participated in a variety of relief efforts throughout Jacksonville. These images portray just a portion of JFRD's critical role in protecting our city. An upcoming ON SCENE issue will cover the scope of Irma's impact and the incredible preparation and response our department delivered.

Photos by City of Jacksonville Photographer Wes Lester

**Sept. 12, Downtown:** Recruit Class 3-17's Jonathan Taunton pulls a pallet full of water with help from fellow recruits Ashley Evans and Abubakar Saddique (wearing hat). The recruits assisted with community-wide relief efforts, including the delivery of meals, for several days following Irma.







**(L-R) JFRD retirees Stan Crosby, Wayne Doolittle, former Public Safety Department Director Dale Beerbower and former Director/Fire Chief Miles Bowers played a part in making the Firefighter Memorial Wall a reality at Fire Station I in 1987. Beerbower passed away in October 2016, a few weeks after standing for this photo.**

## Memorial Icon Spans Two Centuries, Multiple Locations

Don't be fooled by how shiny it is. The 3,000 pound bronze bell that is the centerpiece of the Firefighter Memorial Wall at Fire Station I has been around for a long time – just not always at Station I.

Jacksonville was still recovering from the Great Fire of 1901 when city officials ordered the bell in 1902 from the Mc Shane Bell Foundry just outside Baltimore, Md. It was installed atop Jacksonville's new city hall at Ocean and Adams streets and would ring out at specific times for nearly 60 years.

In 1960, Jacksonville Mayor Haydon Burns and numerous city offices relocated to the next new city hall at Bay and Newnan streets. The bell followed, but it was relegated to silence as a display piece in the lobby.

Then at some point it vanished.

Years later, in the early 1980s, JFRD Eng. Wayne Doolittle was making good on a project his father, a volunteer firefighter, had encouraged him to pursue: revive the old Station 3 at Catherine and Bay streets as a fire museum. But that was not the only project that Doolittle's father championed.

"About a year after I was on the job, my father told me how the police have a memorial service every year, but the fire department really didn't have anything," Doolittle said. "He wanted me to work on a firefighter memorial."

Though assigned to Engine 44 in the mid-1980s, part of Doolittle's shift was spent at headquarters working on special projects, such as fire station openings and community events. On occasion, he would contact the city's Parks and Recreation Department for event seating and decorations. Sometime in

*continues*



1986, out of curiosity, Doolittle asked if he could tour the basement of the Parks Department, then located at the Armory Building at Market and State streets. Over in the corner, a large object shrouded in canvas caught his eye.

“When I uncovered it, I said ‘Holy mackerel! That’ll fit for the memorial,’” Doolittle recalled when he first saw the bell. “It was tarnished, so I knew it had been there for a while.”

Exactly when the bell arrived there is a mystery. On Scene contacted two city retirees who worked at the armory in the 1980s, but neither knew exactly when the bell was transferred from city hall on Bay Street to the Armory.

Doolittle’s discovery jump started his work on the memorial. His first task was convincing the Parks Department to transfer the bell to JFRD. They obliged. Next was developing the memorial’s concept. “I made a couple of sketches and then took it to the director,” said Doolittle, referring to the late Dale Beerbower, Public Safety Director.

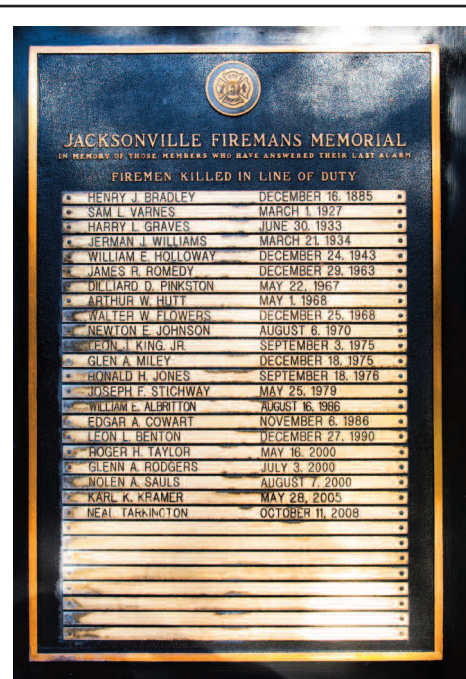
The concept gained popularity, and the administration decided that new Station I, under construction at Liberty and Ashley streets, would be the ideal location. Doolittle then took his concept to Mayor Jake Godbold. The mayor gave him the go, but he also required Doolittle to



**JFRD’s Memorial Wall includes thousands of chocolate-colored bricks and Lt. Harry Kirkpatrick laid each one of them, according to Retiree Wayne Doolittle.**



**The Memorial Wall at Fire Station I blends commemoration and history. JFRD Retired District Chief Larry Osborne authored “The Symbolism of the Bell” (above left). Osborne has held offices in the IAFF at the local, state and national levels.**



find private funding and to have the memorial constructed before Godbold would leave office on June 30, 1987, after two terms. The clock was ticking, but Deputy Director/Fire Chief Miles Bowers had confidence in Doolittle.

“Wayne was always a go getter on anything he started,” Bowers said. “He dedicated his whole life to the fire department and made it better.”

Doolittle launched into fundraising and recruited about three dozen supporters, financial as well as in-kind donations of labor and materials, blueprint drawings, even the irrigation system and landscaping. Doolittle along with JFRD’s Lt. Harry Kirkpatrick, Lt. Stan Crosby and Eng. S.O. Atkins directly handled the construction.

“It was nip and tuck to get that done in time,” Doolittle said.

Doolittle said he recalls installing the memorial’s two flagpoles the week before it and the station were to be dedicated. There were also some challenges in mounting the bell which included reinforcing the brick structure and manufacturing a nut to match the ancient bell’s stem threads. But by late June 1987, both new Fire Station I and JFRD’s Firefighter Memorial Wall were ready for prime time. Bowers and incoming Mayor Tommy Hazouri attended the dedication on June 29. Doolittle had beaten Mayor Godbold’s deadline by one day.

When Bowers walked over to the mounted bell and rung it 14 times for each line of duty death at the time, he began a JFRD tradition. And Doolittle made good on his father’s wishes and closed the gap on a department-wide need.

**The bell mounted in JFRD’s Firefighter Memorial Wall at Station I was cast in 1902. Its first installment was in the belfry at City Hall’s Ocean and Adams streets location in 1903. Over time it was relocated and also became weathered (inside right photo). In 2009, when Charles Moreland was Division Chief of Rescue and Honor Guard Commander, he coordinated a professional cleaning and polishing to restore the bell as close as possible to its original condition (far right photo). “Our Fallen Firefighters represent the best of JFRD,” Moreland said. “They made the ultimate sacrifice and we honor their lives everyday by ensuring the JFRD Memorial wall appearance and surroundings remain dignified, honorable and respects the sacrifices that each of them made on behalf of the City they loved. It is imperative that our JFRD Memorial wall and surroundings look impressive and honorable everyday.”**







**Rescue 62's Capt. Davi Davidson (right) and Eng. Chad Mills (third from right) reunite with Mike McMullin (seated) during a visit to Station 42. Engine 42 and Tanker 42 also responded to McMullin who suffered a stroke this summer. Doctors attributed his recovery to Davidson's quick and accurate patient evaluation. From left: McMullin's daughter Maddie, wife Kelli, and son Grayson.**

# The Power of Proper Patient Evaluation

Though her surprise birthday party in June got interrupted, the 20th anniversary of Kelli and Mike McMullin this month is a lock. The couple will be celebrating their wedding milestone thanks to Rescue 62, Engine 42 and Tanker 42.

On June 25, Kelli McMullin was looking forward to celebrating her birthday with her husband and children by taking a boat ride from Julington Creek Marina to Whitey's Fish Camp on Fleming Island for lunch. On that warm warning, the McMullins arrived a bit late to the marina, but that didn't spoil the fun they had planned, especially when Kelli saw all the surprise guests that Mike had invited.

Suddenly, there was an unpleasant surprise. "I went back to the car to get more towels," Kelli said, "and then I heard everybody screaming 'Call 9-1-1!'"

While fueling the boat, Mike collapsed, and when he fell, his body nudged the throttle and put the boat in motion. Fortunately, the boat was still tied to the dock, but everyone aboard soon realized something was seriously wrong with Mike. "He was disoriented," Kelli said. "His body was limp. We thought it was a heatstroke."

That's how the call came in, said Engine 42's Capt. Matt Pferrer. Rescue 42 was already on a call, so Rescue 62's Capt. Davi Davidson and Eng. Chad Mills joined Engine and Tanker 42 on scene. They determined Mike's condition was more than overheating.

"I noticed he wasn't using his right side," Davidson said.

Baptist South was Davidson's first thought for transport, but then his 17 years of experience and stroke education influenced his decision to take Mike to Baptist Downtown's stroke center.

Davidson said he used the Los Angeles Motor Scale (LAMS) to assess Mike. LAMS helps paramedics identify large vessel occlusions and better determine the need for a comprehensive stroke center. LAMS was added to JFRD's EMS SOG a couple years ago.

Not long after Rescue 62 arrived at Baptist Downtown, doctors told Davidson that Mike had been within a few minutes of suffering severe brain damage.

"Ultimately, Capt. Davidson's decision made the difference in a positive versus a negative outcome for Mr. McMullin," said Rescue Division Chief David Castleman. "It is absolutely critical for our paramedics to accurately identify stroke symptoms and make the right decisions related to primary versus comprehensive stroke centers so that patients like Mr. McMullin receive the invasive treatment that they need in a timely manner. I applaud Capt. Davidson and the other JFRD personnel involved in this great success story."

When the McMullins recently visited Station 42 to reunite with Davidson, Mills and Pferrer, they also discussed timing, first in getting Mike to the hospital and also how fortunate the McMullins were to be late to the marina. "If we had been on time, then we would have already been out on the water, and they wouldn't have been able to get to him in time," Kelli said.

Mike said he was released from Baptist within 48 hours and was back on the boat soon after. He said his immediate focus is "trying to live life, enjoy life and get healthy." His wife Kelli added that their upcoming anniversary will be much more of a celebration than originally planned.

# Behind the Scenes, JFRD Procurement Maintains Department Momentum

JFRD's Mai Quan and Alexis York are two employees in a department of 1,300, but together they are a purchasing and accounts payable powerhouse that keeps JFRD equipped and functioning countywide.

As part of JFRD's procurement team, they handle millions of dollars annually for ordering everything from paper towels to the latest vessel for JFRD's Marine Section. Rarely do Quan or York have direct communication with the field. Their supervisor, Cindy Davis, trains new station captains on JFRD's ordering system, often referred to as entering a "609" form. Otherwise, procurement is a quiet operation carried out from the workspaces Quan and York occupy at JFRD Headquarters.

York handles the majority of ordering and Quan oversees payments to vendors. Neither woman has ridden on an apparatus, but they both understand what the department needs to operate, and they enjoy being part of the process.

"It brings me great satisfaction to provide the fire stations with the necessities," York said.

In the current fiscal year, JFRD's procurement team has processed nearly



**Alexis York and Mai Quan work in JFRD Procurement. They purchase and pay the bills for just about everything JFRD uses every day, from the \$1.69 plastic cups in each station kitchen to the auto loading stretchers which combined cost more than a million dollars.**

2,000 purchase orders for a wide variety of necessities, including bunker gear, uniforms, medical supplies, batteries, those familiar plastic cups (\$1.69 each) found in all station kitchens, propane for stations with gas appliances and much more. Quan said she likes the accounts payable side because she appreciates how eager and happy the vendors are to receive payment.

This year, Quan has paid nearly 2,700 different vendor invoices. They range from \$88,000 in expenditures for bay door repairs, \$1.17 million for bunker gear and uniforms, \$1.37 million for the auto loading stretcher systems, and approximately \$150,000 for station supplies. But that's just a portion of the department's expenditures on equipment, facilities and operations.

Most of the time, JFRD's procurement and accounts payable system runs smoothly. Quan says one hiccup is when station captains don't confirm they have received an order or they don't return

either the packing slip or enclosed invoice.

"Station captains: please let us know your order was received and correct; otherwise, the vendor won't get paid until we know," Quan said as a gentle reminder. Quan also said most vendors work very quickly to correct erroneous orders and overcharges.

Quan has been with the department since 2001, and York joined JFRD about three years ago. Davis has more than 30 years with the city, the majority at JFRD. She also oversees procurement during large-scale events such as hurricanes or complex incidents in which JFRD's response expenditures are eligible for reimbursement. In 2016, the State of Florida's Division of Emergency Management recognized Davis' extensive accounting experience and training and designated her as a deployable Finance/Administration Section Chief statewide and beyond.



# Promotions



**District Chief Gary Collins**



**District Chief Jimmy Snyder**



**District Chief D.D. Williams**



**Capt. Joey Craven**



**Capt. Charles Johnson**



**Capt. Gene Klingbeil**



**Capt. Ryan Nicholas**



**Lt. Eric Barrett**



# Promotions



**Lt. Richard Barrett**



**Lt. Andrew Castleman**



**Lt. Chick DeMedici**



**Lt. Clark Gladden**



**Lt. Derek Golden**



**Lt. Clarence Hodge**



**Lt. Nnaemeka Ibeabuchi**



**Lt. Joe Lesperance**



# Promotions



**Lt. Andrew Sallette**



**Lt. Brandon Shindler**



**Lt. Roderick Spann**



**Lt. William Spicer**



**Lt. Jacob Stores**



**Lt. Christopher Weast**



**Eng. Cecilia Brown**



**Eng. Richard Deegan**



# Promotions



**Eng. Lauren Dempsey**



**Eng. Scott Dorsett**



**Eng. Tyler Duerson**



**Eng. Ian Giddens**



**Eng. James Hardwick**



**Eng. Zachary Hogan**



**Eng. Blaine Hutchens**



**Eng. Jeshua Kavanaugh**



# Promotions



**Eng. Sean Nicholson**



**Eng. Kevin Painter**



**Eng. Gregory Savage**



**Eng. Brittany Schetrompf**



**Eng. Bernard Stewart**



**Eng. Chris Tipton**



**Eng. Kyle Van Sickle**



**Eng. Steven Vandever**



# JULY 2017 CALL VOLUMES

Turnout time follows each unit's call volume total.  
Turnout time is the period between dispatch to time enroute.

## RESCUES

R22	.423	1:06
R1	.387	1:18
R81	.368	1:13
R2	.367	1:08
R18	.357	1:12
R30	.352	1:04
R19	.349	1:10
R87	.348	1:24
R31	.343	1:11
R28	.342	1:09
R34	.335	1:09
R25	.327	1:08
R15	.326	1:04
R24	.317	1:12
R51	.316	1:03
R36	.313	1:06
R72	.311	1:16
R20	.308	0:59
R52	.304	0:59
R32	.297	1:18
R5	.292	1:12
R70	.290	1:01
R27	.287	1:16
R13	.275	1:14
R21	.260	0:59
R7	.249	0:58
R35	.249	1:19
R71	.248	1:03
R26	.234	1:13
R42	.232	1:14
R50	.230	1:08
R55	.225	1:25
R54	.199	1:06
R58	.198	1:12
R59	.191	1:14
R23	.187	1:21
R57	.177	1:15
R33	.164	1:06
R49	.143	1:15
R62	.132	1:21
R53	.80	1:24

R43	.61	1:39
R46	.56	1:27
R45	.31	1:20
R40	.30	1:36

## ENGINES

E22	.399	0:59
E19	.394	0:57
E1	.393	1:01
E44	.392	0:44
E51	.380	0:51
E31	.366	1:04
E9	.361	1:00
E30	.352	0:58
E25	.345	1:01
E36	.339	1:04
E24	.338	1:02
E18	.336	1:04
E20	.331	0:59
E152	.324	1:17
E10	.323	0:54
E32	.323	1:09
E72	.307	0:57
E27	.306	1:11
E28	.306	1:00
E34	.290	1:03
E13	.270	1:04
E42	.269	1:05
E21	.257	0:52
E2	.256	1:00
E5	.246	1:06
E135	.245	1:05
E17	.229	0:54
E59	.226	1:14
E7	.217	0:43
E150	.192	1:03
E154	.176	1:02
E26	.174	1:18
E55	.172	1:04
E11	.161	1:08
E33	.154	1:17
E57	.149	1:09
E29	.144	1:15

E58	.141	1:23
E62	.136	1:11
E23	.130	1:12
E49	.130	1:05

E41	.124	1:20
E53	.77	1:18
E56	.62	1:05
E46	.57	1:24
E48	.53	2:18
E16	.45	1:21

AIR5	.30	1:43
CR56	.27	0:23
HAZ7	.27	0:53
HAZ21	.26	0:54
CAV56	.21	0:22

RHB5	.19	3:08
E143	.34	1:36
E40	.18	1:58
CR16	.18	1:53
E45	.14	1:15
HR4	.14	0:29

## SQUADS

S4	.336	0:51
S12	.208	0:57
S37	.198	1:03
S14	.189	1:00

## LADDERS

L31	.218	1:05
L44	.155	0:50
TL21	.150	0:50
L30	.143	1:05
L28	.131	1:02
L10	.123	0:58
L9	.118	1:15
L4	.117	1:19
L1	.113	0:48
L134	.111	1:05
L26	.97	1:13
L7	.96	0:37

## TANKERS (Top 5)

T31	.85	1:04
T52	.85	1:34

T42	.45	1:19
T54	.41	1:07
T33	.34	2:08
T50	.34	1:38

## BRUSH (Top 5)

B31	.8	0:28
B16	.7	0:49
B35	.7	3:02
B42	.7	1:23
B50	.4	1:50

## MARINE

M39	.9	
M38	.6	
M40	.4	

## FIELD CHIEFS

R107	.141	1:05
R104	.106	1:10
R105	.100	0:44
R106	.92	0:51
R103	.84	0:57
SF2	.81	1:11
SF1	.71	1:06
F3	.63	1:11
F1	.52	1:12
F6	.47	1:06
F5	.44	1:29
F4	.42	1:07
F7	.41	1:13
F9	.35	0:49
F8	.29	1:07
F2	.23	1:17

## FIRE PREVENTION

Plans Review	.437
Inspections	.565

## JULY 2017 TOTALS

EMS	10,717
FIRE	1,503
NON EMR	.514
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,734</b>



# AUGUST 2017 CALL VOLUMES

Turnout time follows each unit's call volume total.  
Turnout time is the period between dispatch to time enroute.

## RESCUES

R22	.428	1:04
R81	.424	1:20
R 2	.412	1:06
R1	.406	1:15
R87	.400	1:23
R19	.388	1:11
R18	.377	1:10
R30	.370	1:08
R20	.364	1:03
R25	.362	1:03
R31	.353	1:09
R72	.353	1:11
R52	.348	0:56
R28	.345	1:04
R34	.323	1:06
R36	.322	1:09
R13	.321	1:04
R24	.317	1:15
R15	.316	1:14
R5	.310	1:13
R51	.294	1:07
R32	.293	1:21
R27	.287	1:11
R 7	.283	0:50
R21	.279	1:00
R70	.279	1:01
R26	.277	1:11
R35	.274	1:14
R50	.237	1:10
R42	.229	1:13
R55	.227	1:18
R58	.225	1:10
R59	.219	1:16
R71	.219	1:03
R33	.191	1:15
R54	.188	1:12
R57	.185	1:19
R23	.168	1:21
R49	.147	1:22
R62	.131	1:27
R53	.91	1:23
R43	.72	1:17

R46	.49	1:16
R45	.36	1:17
R40	.29	1:45

## ENGINES

E1	.429	1:07
E22	.428	0:57
E19	.426	0:52
E28	.389	1:00
E10	.384	0:50
E152	.380	1:13
E31	.377	1:05
E36	.377	0:59
E30	.364	1:00
E44	.363	0:43
E21	.360	0:56
E18	.342	1:05
E20	.340	1:01
E72	.339	0:54
E 9	.337	1:04
E32	.329	1:07
E51	.326	0:55
E25	.321	0:57
E27	.315	1:09
E 2	.309	1:02
E24	.298	1:01
E34	.298	1:05
E13	.294	1:05
E42	.282	1:13
E135	.275	1:10
E 7	.259	0:42
E17	.252	0:56
E150	.237	1:02
E26	.228	1:12
E 5	.221	1:11
E59	.221	1:16
E55	.187	1:07
E11	.166	1:11
E154	.163	1:09
E33	.158	1:17
E58	.154	1:17
E62	.152	1:17
E57	.145	1:01
E29	.138	1:19

E23	.132	1:01
E49	.130	1:03
E41	.127	1:07
CR56	.49	0:23
E16	.48	1:24
E46	.48	1:20
E48	.48	2:13
E143	.40	1:20
HAZ21	.31	0:45
HAZ7	.29	0:37
CAV 56	.28	0:19
HR4	.15	1:21
AIR 5	.14	2:08
RHB 5	.14	3:01
E40	.13	2:03
E45	.10	1:47
CR16	.5	0:38

## SQUADS

S4	.399	0:49
S37	.227	1:01
S12	.222	0:57
S14	.175	1:01

## LADDERS

L30	.198	1:07
L31	.195	1:02
L28	.158	0:59
L10	.154	0:57
L 4	.144	0:57
L44	.144	0:57
L134	.130	1:05
TL21	.127	0:45
L9	.108	1:08
L 1	.105	0:51
L7	.95	0:42
L26	.92	1:08

## TANKERS (Top 5)

T52	.82	1:22
T54	.51	1:33
T42	.48	1:25
T50	.40	1:17
T31	.37	0:57

## MARINE

M38	.11
M39	.10
M40	.6

## FIELD CHIEFS

R105	.121	0:54
R103	.106	1:03
R104	.100	1:15
R106	.95	0:58
SF1	.84	1:07
R107	.69	1:04
SF 2	.59	1:15
F3	.56	1:12
F9	.54	0:52
F1	.40	1:16
F4	.37	1:31
F5	.37	1:08
F6	.36	1:01
F8	.33	1:06
F7	.32	0:52
F2	.30	1:22

## FIRE PREVENTION

Plans Review	.479
Inspections	.510

## AUG. 2017 TOTALS

EMS	.11,403
FIRE	.1,441
NON EMR	.524
<b>Total</b>	<b>...13,368</b>