



Prince William County
 Department of Fire & Rescue
 1 County Complex Court
 Prince William, Virginia 22192-9201
 703-792-6800 (Main)
 703-792-7691 (Fax)
www.pwcgov.org/fire



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Prince William County Department of Fire & Rescue



About Us

Prince William County, Virginia is a blend of city and country, the best of both. It consists of 348 square miles and is located in Northern Virginia, 35 miles southwest of Washington, D.C. The population of Prince William, as of December 2008, is now over 390,000, and is on the verge of an economic and population explosion.

Fire and emergency medical services (EMS) are provided in Prince William County, Virginia, utilizing a combination career and volunteer system. In 2007, fire and rescue responded to over 32,000 calls for service. At present, eleven volunteer departments and the career department provide emergency response from 20 stations strategically located throughout the County. As the population of the County continues to grow, additional fire and EMS stations are planned.

Policies for coordination of the career and volunteer system are developed by the Fire and Rescue Association, which is comprised of representatives from each of the volunteer and career departments (Chapter 9 of its county code).

The Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue employs women and men in career positions who in partnership with the various volunteer fire and rescue departments' efforts protect its citizens. The Department of Fire and Rescue (career members) is organized into three sections and the Office of the Chief. The largest section is Operations, which is responsible for ensuring staffing for emergency response, firefighting, emergency medical, hazardous materials, and tactical rescues in addition to coordinating the wellness and safety program for the Department. The Community Safety section consists of the Fire Marshal's Office, which provides fire safety plan review, code compliance inspections, and fire investigation. Three other major programs housed in this section are Community Relations (public information and education), Emergency Management and Hazardous Materials. The Systems Support section consists of a Logistics and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) program, Fire & EMS training, Planning and Information Technology, Communications, and Personnel. This section ensures that the Department and its personnel have all of the resources necessary to fulfill our mission.

As of July 2008, for Fiscal Year 2009, the Department of Fire and Rescue's authorized report staffing is 415 uniform and 37 civilian members supporting our 20 fire and EMS stations, three administrative work sites, a supply warehouse, an SCBA shop, an Employment and Candidate Physical Abilities Training and Testing Center (CPAT), and a state-of-the-art training facility.



Message from the Chief

The Prince William County Department of Fire & Rescue strives to improve the quality of life in Prince William County, one of the fastest growing counties in the U.S. By promoting safety through our various programs and services, we can provide the highest quality of fire prevention, fire protection, emergency medical services and community outreach.

Our Department's actions are guided by knowing and understanding the needs of our community, thereby providing us the opportunity to be proactive in providing better service and protection to communities and their residents. By focusing on educational programs and information designed to assist in the prevention of fire and the reduction of fire-related injuries and deaths, the public will have the necessary tools to:

- Protect their families and make their homes safer from the dangers of fire with the use of home protection devices and the maintenance of those devices.
- Properly plan for disasters, manmade and natural.
- Safeguard against injury or worse, through lifestyle changes and the use of safety technology and equipment.

Our strong alliance with the 11 Fire & Rescue agencies enables us to provide additional support in protecting residents and communities on a 24-hour basis. In an effort to provide the highest level of quality services in fire, EMS and life safety, we continue to place focus on recruitment and retention. Today, with a department strength of over 500 members, our organizational structure has allowed us to increasingly support the department functioning and service delivery. As the county continues to grow and commercial and residential areas develop, incidents involving fire and rescue will escalate, thereby offering us new challenges and demands.

Thank you for your interest in the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. As an elite department located in the national region, we're committed to continuous quality improvement of a complete range of fire, EMS and emergency management services. Our rich history of excellence goes back to the pride displayed in the department's patch presented to you through this brochure.

Chief Kevin J. McGee

Our Commitment to the Community

Our Vision

Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue is a high performance department with a reputation for excellence, continuous improvement.



Our Mission

To protect lives, property and the environment through timely, professional, humanitarian services essential to the health, safety and well-being of the community.

Our Values
Unity
Ultimate Performance
Personalized Delivery



Our History

- 1966 -First Fire & Rescue Chief
-First Fire Marshal
-First Paid Firefighter
- 1967 -911 System (first on the East Coast and one of the first in the U.S.)
-Physical Agility Exam (first to use in the state and the Washington Metropolitan Area)
- 1968 -One Paid Firefighter at all stations
-Reorganization and upgrade of Communications
-Two ladder trucks purchased
- 1969 -Reorganization of entire fire service
-First Fire Administrator
- 1973 -First African-American Firefighter
-First Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)
- 1974 -First Fire Investigator in Fire Marshal's Office
- 1976 -Medivac Program established with the U.S. Park Police
- 1977 -First Medic Unit purchased
-Firefighter Union organized (affiliated with I.A.F.F.)
- 1980 -Formal Rank Structure established
- 1982 -First Female Firefighters
- 1985 -Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team established
- 1987 -Public Education Division established
- 1988 -First Hazardous Materials Officer
- 1989 -Department of Fire & Rescue established
-Director of Fire & Rescue named "Chief"
-First Deputy Fire Chief
-Fire and Rescue Association established
-Two 24-hour Medic units in service
-Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) established
- 1991 -1st and 2nd Battalion areas established
- 1994 -3rd Battalion area established
- 1997 -Office of Public Safety Communications created
- 2006 -40th Anniversary of the Department of Fire & Rescue
-4th Battalion area established

Former Prince William County Department of Fire & Rescue Chiefs



**Chief Selby Jacobs
1966 — 1994**



**Chief Mary Beth Michos
1994 — 2007**