



Centennial Issue



2003-2004 Biannual Report

Message from the Chief



To our Elected Officials, City Manager and Dothan Citizenry:

I proudly present to you the Dothan Fire Department's 2003/2004 Bi-Annual Report. This year's report reflects some very significant milestones as we continue to "Build a Tradition of Service, One Century at a Time." This is our centennial issue and it is dedicated to those Dothan Firefighters, Ralph Culpepper and Willis Glass who gave their all in service to our great city. To their families, we salute you, and acknowledge that our people are truly the key to the success of our organization.

Each year the fire service experiences approximately 100 line of duty deaths. We recognize that no call is routine, and we will never respond to an emergency call without the utmost concern for personal safety. For over 100 years, your Fire Department has demonstrated its ability to protect its own, to accept change, and remain on the cutting edge of the dynamics of emergency services. Our commitment to "Standards" and the welfare of our membership is directly responsible for injury reduction and the absence of any recent line of duty death.

We extend a tip of the helmet to this elected body for their unwavering support of the Dothan Fire Department. Many challenges lie ahead as we continue to expand our service area and step up to the federal directives of Homeland Security. We are a progressive organization, and we are moving ahead with a series of ambitious initiatives which includes the deployment of special operations teams for regional responses to our neighboring communities, partnerships with assistance agencies, implementation of the Citizens Corp concept, a renewed investment in the development of our workforce, and a steadfast resolve to maintain our ISO rating.

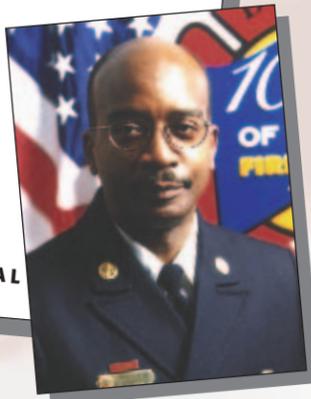
We anticipate a favorable reception from you, our very special customers, and that you learn a little more about these community servants dedicated to stand in the "gap" during your time of need.

Thank you for your prayers, and thank you for helping us build the tradition.

Seeking Opportunities for Success,

Samuel P. Crawford
Samuel P. Crawford
Fire Chief

DOTHAN FIRE-RESCUE • 600 Columbia Highway • Dothan, AL



Special Thanks to Chief Eddie Munn for providing historical information and photographs.

City of Dothan Government

The City of Dothan is organized under a Mayor-Commissioner-City Manager form of government and employs a full-time professional City Manager who serves as the chief administrative officer under the direction of the Mayor and Commission, as governing body. The Mayor is elected at large and each Commissioner is elected from one of six districts.



Mayor
Chester L. Sowell, III



City Commissioner District 1
James H. Reading



City Commissioner District 2
Amos M. Newsome, Jr.



City Commissioner District 3
Don Clements



City Commissioner District 4
Jason Rudd



City Commissioner District 5
Pat Thomas



City Commissioner District 6
Phillip Tidwell



City Manager
Michael K. West

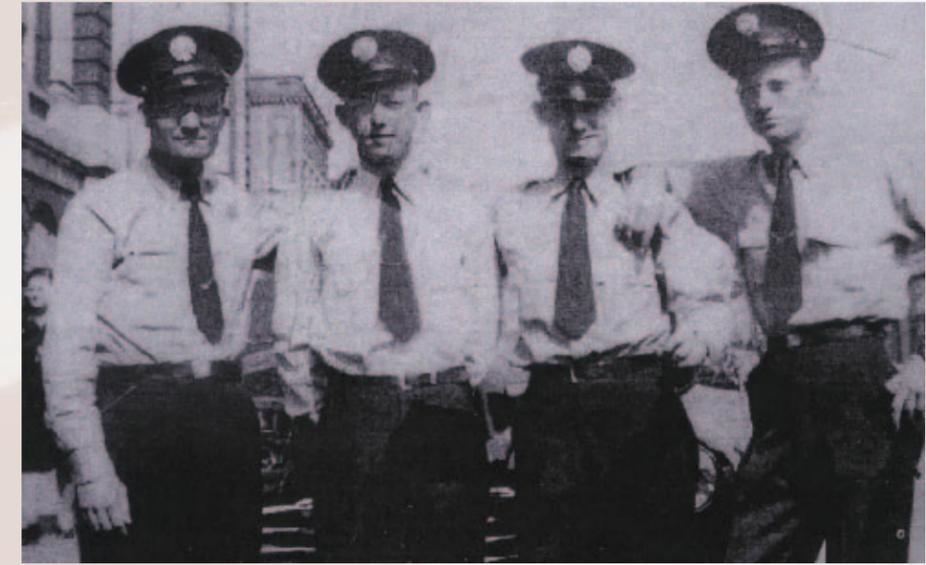
Dothan Fire Department Photo Gallery



In Memory of Our Lost Firefighters

November 13, 1944, an alarm came in for a house fire next to a storage tank of liquefied petroleum. The tank exploded, showering firefighters with burning fuel. Two firemen died of burns.

Ralph Culpepper and Willis Glass are the only firefighters killed in the line of duty in Dothan.



Willis Glass is pictured above on far left with three unidentified fire officers. At this time, no picture is available for Ralph Culpepper.

Recognition of First Female Fire Captain

Captain Shan Ash *Training Officer*

Captain Shan Ash joined the Dothan Fire Department in 1994, shortly after graduating from high school. In July 2003, she became the first female Fire Captain in the 100 year history of the Dothan Fire Department.

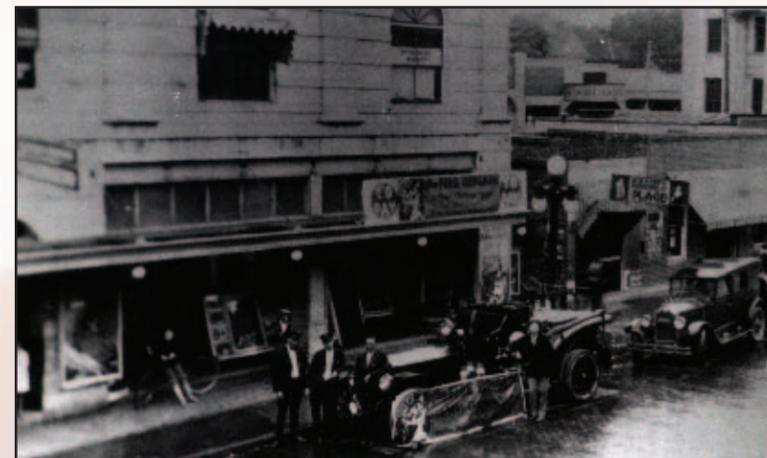
Captain Ash's achievement, in a field traditionally dominated by men, demonstrates that individual success is attainable when City leadership supports a commitment to diversity and the removal of barriers.



1903-2003 100 Years of Service

Fire defense in Dothan has come a long way since an official fire department was organized in 1903. Firefighters prevented fires for many years with just the bucket brigade. These dedicated men built the foundation for the men and women serving today.

Today, the department has 8 stations, 174 personnel and some of the most sophisticated rescue equipment available. Dothan also enjoys a Class 2 ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating. The Dothan Fire Department has grown to include a dive team, as well as Regional TRT and HazMat Teams that operate as part of the Alabama Mutual Aid System.



Fire Stations and Fire Administration



Central Fire Station #1



Lakewood Fire Station #2



Westgate Fire Station #3



Southside Fire Station #4



Fire Administration



Eastside Fire Station #5



Northside Fire Station #6



Westside Fire Station #8

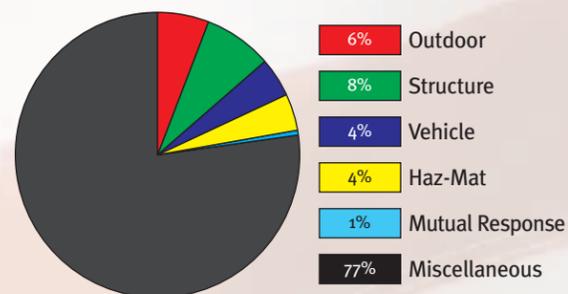


Technology Fire Station #9

Fire-Rescue Response Analysis

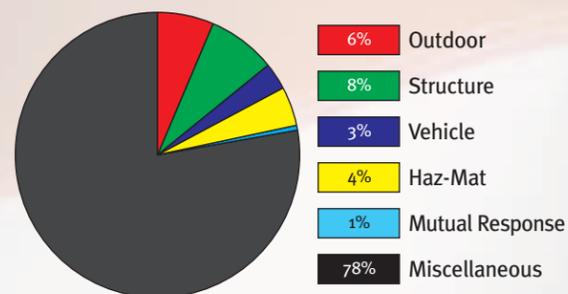
2003 FIRE CALLS

Outdoor (Fire Present)	138
Structure (Fire Present)	186
Vehicle (Fire Present)	103
Haz-Mat	99
Mutual Aid	16
Miscellaneous	1,815
TOTAL FIRE CALLS	2,360



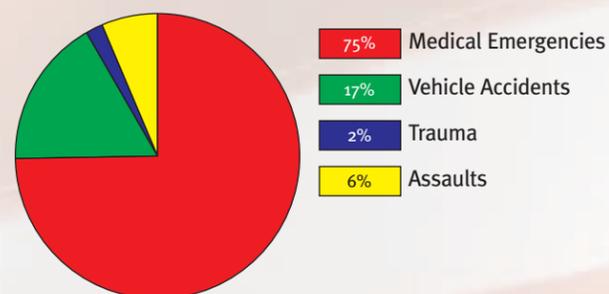
2004 FIRE CALLS

Outdoor (Fire Present)	168
Structure (Fire Present)	200
Vehicle (Fire Present)	86
Haz-Mat	111
Mutual Aid	17
Miscellaneous	2,013
TOTAL FIRE CALLS	2,595



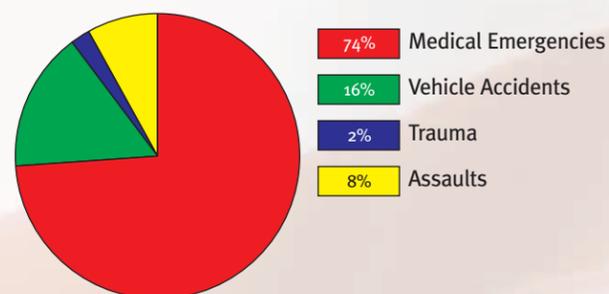
2003 EMS RESPONSES

Medical Emergencies	4,151
Vehicle Accidents	953
Trauma	103
Assaults	345
TOTAL EMS CALLS	5,552



2004 EMS RESPONSES

Medical Emergencies	4,377
Vehicle Accidents	935
Trauma	132
Assaults	468
TOTAL EMS CALLS	5,912



2003 MUTUAL AID RESPONSES **16**

2004 MUTUAL AID RESPONSES **17**

Fire Chiefs - Past and Present

Dothan's First Fire Chief

Mr. E.R. Porter headed the original department of eight members, all of whom served without pay. The group included Assistant Chief F.E. Call, C.J. Faulk, J.E. McCants, J.J. Crary, H.L. Helms, Jessie Carroll, Coley Baker and Oscar Clark.



Chiefs Past and Present

E.R. Porter	J.E. Zigler	Buford C. Fortson
C.J. Barbour	Jay Johnson	Gerald McDaniel
Dewey Helms	R.H. Ryon	Dennis L. Rubin
J.S. Demsey	Floyd Harris	Samuel P. Crawford
Otis Harrison	B. Ray Barnes	





Dothan Fire Department



2002-2003

Coverage Area, Personnel & Locations

SQUARE MILES

TOTAL 85

CITIZENS PROTECTED

TOTAL 60,000+

FULL TIME PERSONNEL

TOTAL 174

FIRE STATION LOCATIONS

TOTAL 8

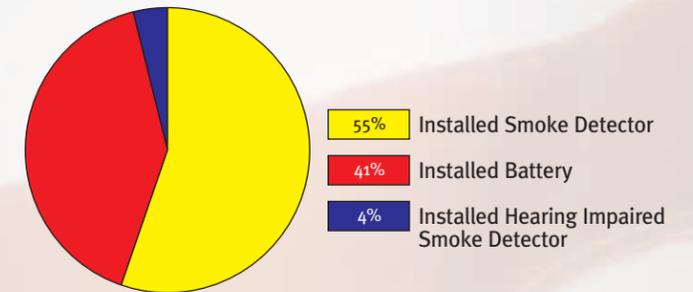
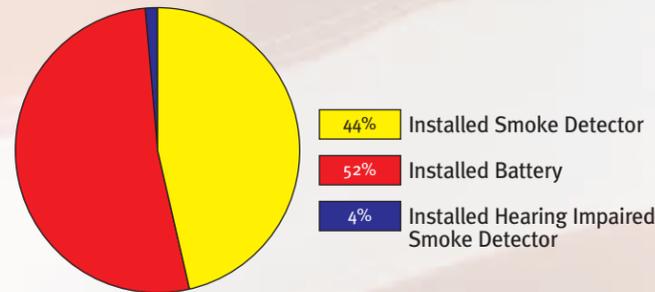
Smoke Detector Activity

2003 SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVITY

Installed Smoke Detector 190
 Installed Battery 214
 Installed Hearing Impaired Smoke Detector 5
TOTAL SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVITY 409

2004 SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVITY

Installed Smoke Detector 92
 Installed Battery 68
 Installed Hearing Impaired Smoke Detector 6
TOTAL SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVITY 166



Hours Worked & Related Injury Totals

2003 HOURS WORKED 384,557.8

2003 WORK RELATED INJURIES 44

2004 HOURS WORKED 394,838.6

2004 WORK RELATED INJURIES 49



2003 - 2004 Awardees



2003 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR
Chris Reeder



2004 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR
Mark Metcalfe



2003 FIRE SERGEANT OF THE YEAR
Scott Deese



2004 FIRE SERGEANT OF THE YEAR
Kyle Hovey



2003 FIRE OFFICER OF THE YEAR
Kenny Juneau



2004 FIRE OFFICER OF THE YEAR
Shan Ash



2001 ROOKIE FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR
Stacey A. McAllister
(Picture unavailable last issue)



2002 ROOKIE FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR
Timothy E. Driscoll
(Picture unavailable last issue)



2003 PARAMEDIC OF THE YEAR
Kevin Knight



2004 PARAMEDIC OF THE YEAR
Stacy McCardle



2003 JOHN T. INGRAM EMT OF THE YEAR
Horace Jackson



2004 JOHN T. INGRAM EMT OF THE YEAR
Jerry McClenny



Samuel P. Crawford
Fire Chief

Essie Ashley
Administrative Assistant

Glenda K. Shepard
Secretary / Payroll Clerk

2004
FIRE-RESCUE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
DOTHAN, AL



Mission Statement

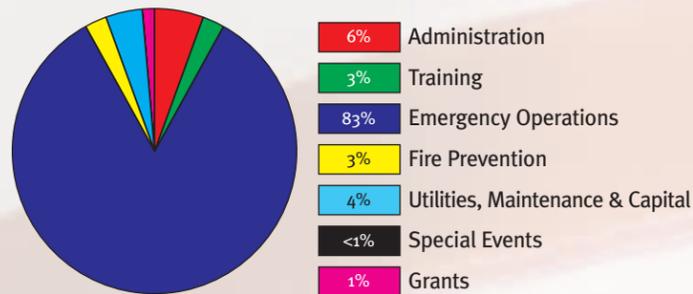
To provide for the protection and safety of our citizens and visitors by preparing and promoting fire prevention and education and preserving life, property and the environment through fire suppression, emergency medical services and hazardous material mitigation, while recognizing our people are the key to our successful Service, Excellence and Commitment.



Budget Overview

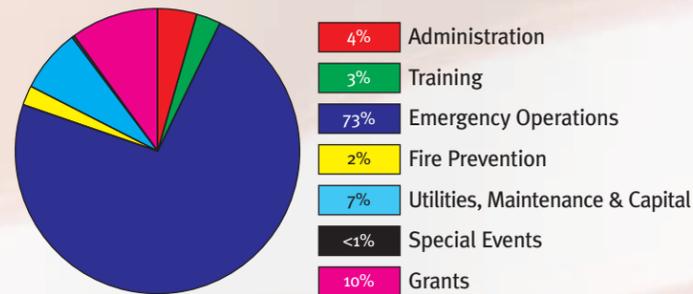
2003 BUDGET

Administration	\$ 533,413.67
Training	\$ 244,420.50
Emergency Operations	\$ 7,998,942.78
Fire Prevention	\$ 259,708.22
Utilities, Maintenance & Capital	\$ 382,094.68
Special Events	\$ 13,475.39
Grants	\$ 110,738.16
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 9,542,793.10



2004 BUDGET

Administration	\$ 499,206.10
Training	\$ 316,316.29
Emergency Operations	\$ 8,142,243.93
Fire Prevention	\$ 258,539.50
Utilities, Maintenance & Capital	\$ 813,594.37
Special Events	\$ 15,165.48
Grants	\$ 1,108,262.11
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 11,153,327.78



Accomplishments

- PALS/PEPP (16 hours)16 students
- EMT-Basic (160 hours)25 students
- CPR (4 hours)169 students
- Conducted 10 certification schools (284 hours of training) in 2004 with 351 individuals attending. Courses include:
 - Fire Inspector 1 (40 hours) 19 students
 - Hazmat Technician (48 hours)..... 24 students
 - Apparatus Operator - Aerial (40 hours) 14 students
 - Apparatus Operator - Pumper (40 hours) . . . 18 students
 - Fire Officer 2 (40 hours) 12 students
 - Building Construction (24 hours) 29 students
 - ACLS (16 hours)..... 32 students
 - BTLS (16 hours)..... 20 students
 - PALS/PEPP (16 hours)..... 16 students
 - CPR (4 hours) 167 students
- Conducted 528 hours of Multi-Company Drills (Fire, Medical, Rescue, Administrative in 2003 and 480 hours in 2004.
- Developed and delivered Officer and Sergeant Development Classes to members during 2004.
- Three members trained and certified in the U.S. Forestry (Red Card) Firefighting Certification Program.
- Conducted Emergency Vehicle Operations Course to apparatus drivers in 2004.
- Purchased new traffic safety vests.



EMS

- Purchased medical "Gator" and trailer to support mass gathering events.
- Completed Controlled Substance (Morphine) plan/guideline and received plan approval from the State of Alabama Department.
- Began joint venture with the Dothan Police Department to provide Tactical Medics for SWAT Team activities and deployment.
- Completed all credentialing education requirements for all members.
- Partnered with cardiologists in the area to develop a citywide



- Public Access Defibrillation Program.
- Initiated improvements to the annual Paramedic evaluation process.
- Completed specifications and bids for Alabama Mutual Aid Technical Rescue Team equipment and vehicle.



Fire Prevention

- The National Council for Marketing and Public Relations awarded our John T. Ingram Hearing Impaired Smoke Detector Program with 1st place as the Nation's Leading Community Relations Project.
- Launched Night Club Inspection Program
- Implemented a night shift schedule for the Fire Prevention division.
- Redesigned Pre-Plan Program
- Redesigned records system
- Increased inspections by 10%
- Replaced needed equipment for investigations (car cameras, hand tools, digital cameras)
- Replaced 3 fire prevention vehicles
- Redesigned inspection program by target properties



HazMat

- Received \$400,000 in grant monies for the purchase of a new HazMat truck and \$200,000 to equip the truck.
- Became the Region 8 response team for AMAS (Alabama Mutual Aid System).
- Through Southern Power Company, Farley Nuclear Plant, and Weapons of Mass Destruction/Department of Justice grants, purchased a decontamination trailer creating a new HazMat 6 with mass decontamination capabilities.



Accomplishments

Fire Administration

- Balanced Budget.
- Submitted proposal to Alabama Department of Homeland Security to develop two Regional Response Teams for HazMat and Technical Rescue. Proposal awarded \$1.1 million in federal funding.
- Received \$50,000 of Weapons of Mass Destruction funding from the Alabama Department of Homeland Security for monitors and encapsulated suits.
- Developed a partnership with Farley Nuclear Plant and received \$50,000 for a mass decontamination unit and trailer.
- Received ADEM (Alabama Department of Emergency Management) funding in the amount of \$50,000 for encapsulated suits/training for Tri-State Plant Food.
- Designed, specified and purchased two special operations vehicles for Homeland Security Agreement.
- Reorganized department to build and develop two special operations teams for primary and support response.
- Developed new policies for organizational consistency.
- Requested and received funding to rebuild fire station #2.
- Renewed partnership with state and local EMA.
- Upgraded Emergency Operations Facility with technological equipment
- Sponsored Ms. Heather Gross, Ms. Greater Dothan, as a candidate for Ms. Alabama on a fire prevention platform.
- Developed partnership with Unicell Wireless Communications to distribute free cell phones to community with access to E-911 during emergencies.
- Developed partnership with the Service League to deliver "Meals on Wheels" to the elderly and promote home safety and wellness campaign.
- Joined Chamber of Commerce "Continuum of Care" Committee to provide shelter to the homeless and victims of disaster.
- Partnered with Chamber of Commerce Retiree Committee to promote the



quality of emergency services available to retirees in the Dothan Community.

- Developed Community Advisory Committee with Tri-State Plant Food to rebuild community trust in the aftermath of Tri-State Plant ammonia leak.
- Fire Department served as benchmark organization for City-wide customer service campaign, "Service, Excellence, Commitment".
- Raised funds for March of Dimes as participants in City Basketball Tournament. Fire Department placed second.
- Accepted position on E-911 Advisory Board.
- Established the City's first Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).
- Department moved towards National Incident Management System (NIMS) training for all members.



Training/Safety

- Made improvements to the Westgate Training Facility (Classrooms, Drill Field, Training Trailer).
- Upgraded Westgate Training Facility audio/visual instructional equipment.
- Received approval to transfer one sergeant to the Training Division.
- Upgraded Westgate Training Facility Technical Library.
- Conducted 6 Candidate Physical Ability Tests (CPAT).
- Conducted 12 certifications schools (684 hours of training) in 2003 with 383 individuals attending. Courses include:

Instructor 1 (40 hours)16 students
Fire Officer 1 (40 hours)15 students
Fire Officer 2 (40 hours)10 students
Hazmat Technician (48 hours)22 students
Incident Safety Officer (24 hours)26 students
Apparatus/Operator - Pumper (40 hours)	...12 students
Firefighter 1 (240 hours)14 students
BTLS (16 hours)20 students
ACLS (16 hours)38 students
PALS/PEPP (16 hours)16 students



In Honor of Our Activated Military

With deepest gratitude, we honor our military activated members who have served this great country during Operation Freedom. We thank God for those he has returned safely to us and we continue to pray for those serving at home and abroad.



*Firefighter
Johnny Anderson*



*Firefighter
Don Ballard*



*Fire Sergeant
Bert Daum*



*Fire Sergeant
Greg Dunning*



*Fire Sergeant
Duane Godwin*



*Fire Sergeant
David Hasty*



*Firefighter
Cleveland Lilly*



*Captain
Stephen Messer*



*Firefighter
Willie Pennywell*



*Captain
Pete Webb*



Chief Samuel P. Crawford

Samuel P. Crawford
Fire Chief

Chief Crawford is a 27 year veteran of the fire service. He has spent his entire career with the Dothan Fire Department, where he rose through the ranks from Firefighter to Chief of the department. He is the incoming President of the Alabama Fire Chiefs' Association, and he is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

Chief Crawford brings to the Fire Chief's Office a philosophy of employee empowerment, community outreach and a commitment to organizational diversity.



Chief Crawford serves on many boards as part of his community outreach commitment. He is Vice-President on the C.I.T.Y. (Community Intensive Treatment for Youth) Advisory Board, Vice-President on the R.S.V.P. (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) Advisory Board, and participates in American Cancer Society educational outreach programs.

Essie M. Ashley

Essie M. Ashley
Administrative Assistant

Ms. Ashley has served the Fire Department as Administrative Assistant since February 1996. She is responsible for general office management, covering a variety of administrative and secretarial duties. These duties include written and verbal office communications with internal departments as well as outside agencies.

Ms. Ashley serves as a representative or point of contact for the Fire Chief and is an essential component in our administrative system.



Chief Johnny Givens

Chief Johnny Givens
Battalion 2, "C" Shift

Chief Givens has served with the Dothan Fire Department since June 1988. He is currently responsible for SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) operations for the City of Dothan.

He is associated with the Wiregrass Critical Incident Stress Management Team and serves as a member of the State Incident Command Response Team. Chief Givens has served as an escort for the Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Foundation for the past eight years. He also serves as an Alabama coordinator for the National Fire Academy Alumni Association.



Glenda K. Shepard

Glenda K. Shepard
Secretary/Payroll Clerk

Glenda K. has been with the City of Dothan since 1993 and with the Dothan Fire Department since 2002. In addition to being the payroll clerk for a busy department of 174 members, she also acts in a clerical capacity and is the first point of contact for most calls and visitors to the department. Glenda K. often takes on special projects at the pleasure of the Chief, such as design and implementation of the "Nuts About Safety" peanut, and she is editor of the Dothan Fire Department's BiAnnual Report.





Chief Randall W. Helms

Chief Randall W. Helms
Battalion Chief of Administrative Services

Chief Helms began his career with the Dothan Fire Department in November 1984, rising through the ranks to Battalion Chief in February 1999.

Much of his time is spent analyzing and forecasting budget considerations and payroll. Being a part of the Senior Staff Management Team, field operations, emergency operations and facility participation are a primary focus of his duties. He also serves as manager of building and grounds, uniform and safety equipment purchase and issuance, hydrant and hose testing and repair, grants and alternative funding sources and purchasing procedures.



Chief Philip C. Prince

Chief Philip C. Prince
Battalion 1, "B" Shift

Chief Prince began his career with the Dothan Fire Department in August 1981. He was one of the original members of the Hazardous Materials Response Team, serving this team throughout the ranks, including the responsibility of directing the Hazardous Materials Response Team for approximately two years as Battalion Chief. Along with these assignments, he has also held the offices of Fire Marshal and Captain of Training in the Dothan Fire Department.

Chief Prince is currently a member of the International Association of Firefighters, Alabama Fire Chiefs' Association, and International Association of Fire Chiefs.



Chief Larry H. Williams, Jr.

Chief Larry H. Williams, Jr.
EMS/Training/Public Education

Larry Williams is the Training and Emergency Medical Services Chief of the Dothan, Alabama Fire Department. His responsibilities include the management and oversight of the Department's Training Division and the City's comprehensive EMS system, as well as Public Education.

Chief Williams has completed 22 years of emergency service and has served on various committees of the Alabama Fire Chiefs' Association. Chief Williams served two terms as President of the Southeast Division of the Alabama Fire Chiefs and is currently a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs' Health and Safety Committee.



Chief Keith Gaster

Chief Keith Gaster
Battalion 1, "C" Shift

Chief Gaster has served the Dothan Fire Department since June 1985. He worked through the ranks from Firefighter to Battalion Chief in the department.

Chief Gaster is responsible for the development and implementation of CISM within the Dothan Fire Department. He is a member of the Wiregrass Critical Stress Management (CISM) Team. Wiregrass CISM, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides comprehensive services to public safety personnel toward the goals of wellness, prevention, education, early recognition with intervention and minimizing the impact of stressful events.

He is currently a member of the International Association of Firefighters and the Alabama Fire Chiefs' Association.





Chief H. B. Knight

Chief H.B. (Benny) Knight
Battalion 2, "A" Shift

Chief Knight has been with the Dothan Fire Department since 1978. He handles communications for the department to include cell phone, radio and pager distribution and maintenance. Chief Knight conducts the Fire Department Sergeant's Development Training Program.

Chief Knight is a longstanding member of the Alabama Fire Chiefs' Association.



Chief Robert M. Helms

Chief Robert M. Helms
Battalion 1, "A" Shift

Chief Helms began his career with the Dothan Fire Department in September 1984. He was instrumental in developing the Department's Haz-Mat Response Team and is the Haz-Mat Coordinator for the City.

Chief Helms is the Dothan Fire Department's representative for the State of Alabama Homeland Security. He serves on the Alabama Fire College Haz-Mat Curriculum Board and represents the department in the Tri-State (Georgia, Florida, Alabama) Mutual Aid Workgroup.



Chief Mose T. Saliba

Chief Mose T. Saliba
Battalion 2, "B" Shift

Chief Saliba began his career with the Dothan Fire Department in 1982. His grandfather, whose name he shares, was one of Dothan's first volunteer firefighters.

Chief Saliba was one of the first members of the Hazardous Materials Response Team and served in that capacity until 1993. During his tenure as Chief of Training, he assumed a leading role in the state by providing educational opportunities to firefighters throughout the southeast region.

Chief Saliba has served as coordinator for the department's promotional Assessment Centers which began in 1996. He serves as alternate member of the E-911 advisory Board.



Chief Robert E. Munn

Chief Robert E. (Eddie) Munn
Fire Marshal

Chief Eddie Munn began his career with the Dothan Fire Department on October 8, 1980. As Fire Marshal his responsibilities include planning and implementing programs for the fire prevention division, providing inspections and code enforcement and fire safety education. He is a member of the Alabama Fire Marshals' Association and the Alabama Fire Chiefs' Association. Chief Munn has coordinated the City's Joint Arson Task Force since its inception.

