

Griffin

Fire Department



2024 Annual Report

Griffin Fire Department

February 10, 2025

Dear Board of Fire Commissioners,

I am pleased to present the annual report for 2024, a year that has presented significant challenges to our department. As you are aware, we have faced extraordinary adversity, particularly due to long-term injury and illness leaves among our personnel. These challenges severely impacted our staffing levels, which in turn affected our operational capacity. Our ability to perform at full capacity was stifled, and we were forced to prioritize mission-critical elements in order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our community.

Despite these challenges, I am incredibly proud of the resilience shown by our department. Through adversity, our team came together and demonstrated exceptional teamwork, commitment, and a steadfast dedication to service. Each member rose to the occasion, filling gaps wherever necessary and supporting one another through difficult times. We worked collaboratively, utilizing available resources as effectively as possible to continue delivering critical services.

Although our mission objectives were narrowed by these circumstances, our commitment to the community and to each other remained strong. Our spirit of service, which is the cornerstone of our culture, was not only maintained but strengthened through these hardships. The grit and determination displayed by our staff are a testament to the core values that define us.

While 2024 was a year of difficulty, it was also a year of reflection, growth, and innovation. We learned a great deal about our capacity to adapt under pressure, and I am confident that we have emerged stronger as a department. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the entire team for their unwavering dedication, and I look forward to a more balanced and prosperous year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate these challenges and work to further strengthen the department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Corey A. Rux
Fire Chief

I. **Mission:**

Griffin Fire Department

To Make a Difference

II. Department Overview:

The Griffin Fire Department is a combination fire department that is made up of volunteer and career firefighters. We are involved with numerous activities including, fire control and prevention, hazardous materials response, emergency medical services, public education and general response to a variety of “all risk” emergencies. These activities are coordinated through the departments four major functional programs: Administration, Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services and Community Outreach

III. 2024 Highlighted Achievements:

Administrative:

- Provide daily operational and administrative oversight
- Develop, implement and monitor department budget through responsible fiscal management
- Manage department systems and processes to include, but not limited to, fire, EMS, training, communications, equipment, community, safety, and personnel
- Network with other county and state entities to establish working relationships and maximize our service delivery
- Continue cost containment practices, through in-house maintenance and management programs to reduce operating costs and the time equipment is out of service
- Navigated a staffing model to maximize dedicated response during staffing crisis
- Hired Assistant Chief Smith to oversee Training and Operations (July 1st, 2025)
- Conducted an in-house testing process for Firefighter/EMT and hired James Tuck
- Maintained our Washington State Ambulance Transport Verification License.

Fire Prevention Suppression:

- Provide fire protection and suppression for wild land and structural firefighting
- Provide Hazardous Materials operations level response coverage
- Graduated eight (8) recruits from the Thurston County Fire Training Academy
- Conduct daily and monthly in-house fireground drills for department personnel
- Identify and implement new training development standards
- Completed Pre - Fire Plans for major commercial occupancies in our jurisdiction

Griffin Fire Department

- ☐ Procured a Brush Unit Chassis and established a spec committee for the build out
- ☐ Certified all career staff as Blue Card Incident Commanders

Emergency Medical Services:

- ☐ Respond to and mitigate emergency and non-emergency EMS incidents
- ☐ Maintain agency Basic Life Support certification levels
- ☐ Graduated five (5) recruits from the Thurston County EMT Course
- ☐ Maintain DOH certification for ALL volunteers and career staff through the ongoing county EMS training program
- ☐ Maintained an operational deployment plan for transport services
- ☐ Procured a new electric stair chair utilizing donated funds

Community Outreach

- ☐ Provide fire prevention tours and classes to the Griffin School District
- ☐ Partnered with the Neighborhood Associations for community events including but not limited to:
 - GNA Annual Meeting
 - Steamboat Community Preschool Fund-Raiser
 - GNA Annual Picnic
 - Carlyon Beach 4th of July Parade
 - Blueberry Bash
 - GNA Trunk or Treat
 - Griffin School Fall Festival
 - Companion Cove Christmas Tree Lighting
 - Carlyon Beach Santa Sleigh
- ☐ Provide a smoke detector replacement program
- ☐ Provide a free address sign program
- ☐ Provide Notary Service
- ☐ Provide facilities for community events/meetings
- ☐ Blood pressure and blood sugar checks
- ☐ Host community CPR classes for Thurston County Medic One

Griffin Fire Department

IV. Incident Statistics:

We responded to and mitigated 629 Incidents in 2024 which is a moderate decrease from the previous years. However, incident readiness, efficient response and safe mitigation remain our first and highest priority. The tables below highlight the response patterns and incident types with a comparison to the previous two years.

INCIDENT COUNT 2024	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	384
FIRE	245
TOTAL	629
MUTUAL AID	
Aid Type	Total
Aid Given	76
Aid Received	25
OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
	17.65

The tables below compare the previous three years incident types

2024

MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	36	5.72%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	384	61.05%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	31	4.93%
Service Call	53	8.43%
Good Intent Call	96	15.26%
False Alarm & False Call	25	3.97%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1	0.16%
Special Incident Type	3	0.48%
TOTAL	629	100%

2023

MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	59	7.87%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	467	62.27%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	15	2%
Service Call	74	9.87%
Good Intent Call	97	12.93%
False Alarm & False Call	34	4.53%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	3	0.4%
Special Incident Type	1	0.13%
TOTAL	750	100%

Griffin Fire Department

2022

MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	53	7.49%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	2	0.28%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	403	56.92%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	16	2.26%
Service Call	71	10.03%
Good Intent Call	95	13.42%
False Alarm & False Call	52	7.34%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	14	1.98%
Special Incident Type	2	0.28%
TOTAL	708	100%

The table below further breaks down emergency incidents into sub categories, or minor incident types, which allows us to further define the incident by month for 2024.

INCIDENT TYPE	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	SUM
Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition			1										1
Combustible/flammable spills & leaks	1		1				1		1	1			5
Controlled burning	1	1	1			1		1		1			6
Cover assignment, standby at fire station,			1				1	2	1				5
Dispatched and canceled en route	12	4	5	8	4	4	5	4	4	6	14	4	74
Electrical wiring/equipment problem	1	8				2		1	1		3	4	20
Emergency medical service (EMS) Incident	36	27	33	20	32	22	40	36	38	37	26	29	376
Extrication, rescue						1		1	1				3
False alarm and false call, other	1			2	1		1				2		7
Fire in mobile property	2			1									3
Flammable gas or liquid condition, other	3	1								1			5
Good intent call, other	1							1	1				3
Medical assist			1						1				2
Mobile property (vehicle) fire				1			1		1				3
Natural vegetation fire		1		1	2		4	1					9
Other incident type											1		1
Outside rubbish fire					1								1
Person in distress		1	1	1		1	1						5
Public service assistance	3	1	6	5						2	1	1	19
Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS), other			1					1					2
Service call, other	4	4	2	1		2	2	2	1		1	1	20
Special type of incident, other	1							1			1		3
Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke	1						1		1			2	5

Griffin Fire Department

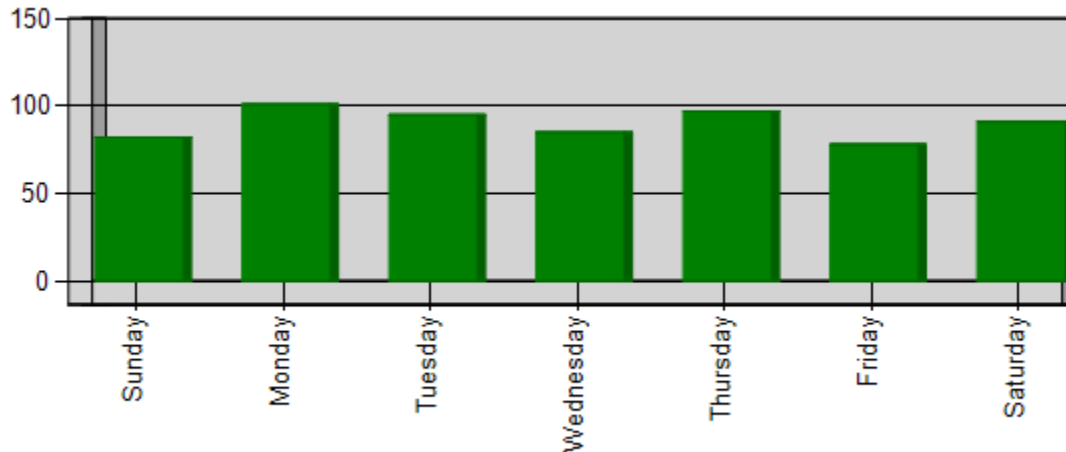
Structure Fire	3		2	1	2		2	3			2	5	20
System or detector malfunction	1			2						1			4
Unauthorized burning				1			1						2
Unintentional system/detector operation	3	2		2	1				2	1	1	2	14
Water or ice-related rescue					1								1
Water problem			1					1					2
Wrong location, no emergency found		2				1	3	1			1		8
Total	74	52	56	46	44	34	63	56	53	50	53	48	629

The table below identifies our transport statistics and billing status for the year 2024

Transport Statistics		
Total Patient Contacts: 349	Non-Transport: 148	Transportable Pts: 201
GFD Transports: 107	Transport by another agency: 94	Capture Rate: 53%
Resident: 95	Non-Resident: 12	

Incidents	Charges	Payments	Waiver	Disallowed	Pending
95	103,693.90	-34,499.80	-10,544.27	-40,123.27	18,517.00

The table below displays the incidents by day of the week for 2024



DAY OF THE WEEK	# INCIDENTS
Sunday	82
Monday	101
Tuesday	95
Wednesday	85
Thursday	97
Friday	78
Saturday	91

Griffin Fire Department

TOTAL

629

V. Response Times:

The response time highlights the amount of time elapsed from the time of dispatch to the arrival of the first unit on scene. The Griffin Fire Department covers a 26 square mile jurisdiction with one fully staffed station and one resident station. We have remained consistent with our overall response time and turnout times while maintaining an emphasis on an immediate and urgent response and dedicated staffing levels.

The Griffin fire department is utilizing NFPA 1720 which is the Standard for Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations and Special Operations to the public by Volunteer Fire Departments. Based on NFPA 1720 the standard for fire suppression response (low hazard occupancy) is a minimum staffing of 6 personnel within 14 minutes 80% of the time. Factors that affect this benchmark are location of incident and staffing levels at the time of incident. With a rapid response and reliance on our mutual partners we can maintain the standards set by NFPA.

AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME (Dispatch to Arrival)		
Year	EMS	FIRE
2024	0:08:16	0:08:32
2023	0:08:08	0:08:15
2022	0:08:15	0:09:07
AVERAGE TURNOUT TIME (Dispatch to Enroute)		
Year	EMS	FIRE
2024	0:01:08	0:02:03
2023	0:01:14	0:01:51
2022	0:01:25	0:02:22

VI. Apparatus

Overall our apparatus is in good operable condition. I credit our crews for ensuring that maintenance and repairs are performed on a routine schedule. We have thirteen pieces of rolling stock and it takes a considerable amount of time to properly maintain these vehicles for optimal performance. Everyday our crews conduct a thorough apparatus check to ensure the apparatus and equipment on that apparatus is in good working and operable condition. Deficiencies in the apparatus or equipment are immediately flagged for repair or mitigation.

The apparatus description and replacement schedules are shown below:

Griffin Fire Department

Fire Apparatus:

E13-1 - 2017 Pierce Saber -Class A 1250 GPM Pumper

This apparatus is our first due apparatus for all fire and hazardous materials responses. **This apparatus is in good working order and due for replacement in 2037.**

E13-2- 2010 Pierce Contender- 1250 GPM Pumper

This apparatus is our second due for all fire responses, Motor Vehicle Collisions, and Hazardous Materials responses. **It is in good working order and is due for replacement in 2030**

E13-3- 1992 H&W 1250 GPM Pumper

This apparatus has met its service life and will be retired in the coming years. **Replacement is not necessary for this apparatus.**

T13-1 2003 H&W 2850 Gallon Tender

This apparatus is our first due water supply tender. **This Apparatus had extensive repairs made to the water tank in 2022 and is now in good working condition and is due for replacement in 2028.**

T13-2 1999 H&W 2850 Gallon Tender

This apparatus is our second due water supply tender. **This Apparatus is in fair working condition and is due for replacement.**

B13-1 2022 Ford F550 Brush Unit

This apparatus is our first due fire suppression unit for wildland fires. **This apparatus is in the process of being built out. We will see it placed into service in 2025.**

**Our Fire apparatus must be maintained and tested on an annual basis to meet NFPA requirements. This includes annual maintenance, pump testing, ladder testing, and UL testing.*

EMS Apparatus:

A13-1- 2015 Ford F350-Braun Ambulance

This apparatus is utilized as a primary response vehicle for Emergency Medical and Motor Vehicle Collisions. **This apparatus is in good working order and due for replacement in 2027.**

A13-2 - 2012 Ford F350-Braun Ambulance

This apparatus is utilized as a secondary response vehicle for Emergency Medical and Motor Vehicle Collisions. **This apparatus is in good working order and due for replacement in 2030.**

Light Vehicles:

U13-1 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe Utility Vehicle

This apparatus is utilized in a variety of ways, however, its primary role is commuting to and from training academies and classes. **This apparatus is in fair working order and due for replacement in 2028.**

Utility 13-2 2010 Chevrolet Tahoe Utility Vehicle

This apparatus is utilized in a variety of ways, however, its primary role is commuting to and from training academies and classes. **This apparatus is in fair working order and due for replacement in 2030.**

Griffin Fire Department

CH13-2 2018 Ford Explorer Command Unit

This apparatus is utilized as the primary response vehicle for the Assistant Fire Chief. It is set up to be utilized as a command post on all fires and major incidents. **This apparatus is in good working order and is due for replacement in 2033.**

CH13-1 2011 Ford F250 Modified Command Unit This apparatus is utilized as the primary response vehicle for the Fire Chief. It is set up to be utilized as a command post on all fires and major incidents. **This apparatus is in good working order and is due for replacement in 2031.**

Apparatus replacement schedule summary:

Apparatus	Condition	Year to be Replaced
Engine 13-1	Good	2037
Engine 13-2	Good	2030
Engine 13-3	Fair-Met Service Life	No Replacement
Tender 13-1	Good	2028
Tender 13-2	Fair	Immediately
Brush 13-1	Good	Current Build
Aid 13-1	Good	2030
Aid 13-2	Good	2027
Utility 13-1	Good	2028
Utility 13-2	Good	2030
Chief 13-2	Good	2033
Chief 13-1	Good	2031

VII. Training Summary 2024

Training is a priority in our department and it truly displays our commitment to excellence. As a department we continually look for opportunities to enhance the service we provide to our community by investing in ourselves to ensure that we train to state and federal standards.

Class Category	Total Class Hours
----------------	-------------------

Griffin Fire Department

Fire Suppression	722.5
Officer Development	279.5
Emergency Medical Services	277.5
Driver/Operator Training	183.5
Total Training Hours for all categories	1,463

The table above shows the amount of class hours dedicated to our development and training per training class category.

Fire suppression is a discipline that is a high risk/low frequency occurrence, therefore, it takes a considerable amount of dedication and training to achieve a level of proficiency and safety. This is the area that we spend a majority of our training time preparing to mitigate. In addition to our in-house department wide fire training (3rd Thursday of Every Month), we send recruits to the Thurston County Fire Training Academy to obtain their Firefighter 1 and Hazardous Materials operations level certification. The academy provides the essential fundamental knowledge and skills for Firefighters. This program follows the national curriculum standards as established by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Moreover, our personnel are required to complete the EMT course and maintain their certification through the Ongoing Training and Evaluation Program (OTEP). This is a program of education for EMS personnel, approved by the county Medical Program Director and the Washington State Department of Health to meet the education requirements and core topic content for recertification as an EMT. OTEP includes cognitive, affective and psychomotor evaluations following completion of each topic presentation to determine EMT competence of topic content. Our EMTs recertify with the state every three years and utilize the OTEP tracking to ensure the training requirements have been met for recertification.

Other notable training courses completed in 2024 are listed below:

- Blue Card Incident Command Certification training for all FTEs
- Blue Card Train the Trainer Instructor Certification for Chiefs
- Advanced Pump Academy for all FTEs
- Leadership Academy (9-month progressive training) for all FTEs
- Variety of conferences attended by personnel and administration including:
 - NW Leadership Conference
 - WA State Fire Chiefs Conference
 - WA Fire Commissioners Conference (Summer/Fall)
 - WA State Risk Management Annual Meeting
 - SHRM National Conference

VIII. Specific Objectives for 2025:

The organizational objectives identify a vision for the Griffin Fire Department to enhance our service delivery for the citizens of our Community. Coordinating fiscal responsibly with specific objectives takes a considerable amount of planning and forecasting.

Griffin Fire Department

Basic Operational Specific Objectives:

Administrative:

- ☐ Hire a part-time Communications and Community Outreach Coordinator
- ☐ Develop the District Strategic Plan by the end of 2025
- ☐ Enhance the department safety program and have zero reported accidents in 2025
- ☐ Increase and maintain volunteer staffing level to 35 members
- ☐ Submit grant application for an exhaust source point capture system for station 13-1 & 13-2
- ☐ Procure and install a new alerting system for station 13-1 and Station 13-2
- ☐ Exterior paint for all stations
- ☐ Interior remodel for Station 13-1
- ☐ Continue to conduct fire officer and leadership development courses to align with our mission, vision and values
- ☐ Continue to enhance culture through transparency, collaboration, positive communication and servant leadership

Fire Suppression

- ☐ Reduce agency turnout & response time (dispatch to arrival) to under 8 minutes for all fire incidents
- ☐ Training development plan to include certification credentials for all positions within the department (Firefighter I for all volunteer Firefighters, Firefighter II for all career Firefighters, and Fire Officer II for all career Lieutenants)
- ☐ Conduct/update Pre-Fire Plans on ALL primary commercial occupancies
- ☐ Continue working with the spec committee to build out the new Brush Unit

Emergency Medical Services

- ☐ Reduce agency turnout & response time (dispatch to arrival) to under 7 minutes for all EMS incidents
- ☐ Maintain all BLS certifications through the ongoing training program
- ☐ Capture 75% of all BLS transport in 2025
- ☐ Procure new battery powered stair chair

Community Outreach

Griffin Fire Department

- Develop and Implement a communications plan to enhance integration within our community
 - Website Update/Design
 - Social Media Presence
 - Annual Newsletter to coincide with annual report (Early Spring)
 - Town Hall Meetings
 - Open Houses
 - Community Events
- Partnering with other non-profit organizations in Thurston County to help enhance our community service presence
- Maintain Community Resource Program for “after the call” follow -up

IX. Key Considerations:

Coordinating fiscal responsibly with specific objectives takes a considerable amount of planning and forecasting. As we progress into 2025 and beyond, we will continually take inventory of our stakeholder’s interest and deliberately craft a service delivery model that prioritizes the Steamboat Island community and its citizens. The following factors are key considerations as we budget and strategically plan for our future.

- Sustainable funding
 - ✓ Everything hinges on the ability to fund the projects
 - ✓ Property tax collection
 - ✓ Ambulance Transport Revenue
- Administrative support
 - ✓ Cost/ benefit
 - ✓ Service delivery benchmarks
 - ✓ Political climate
- Department support
 - ✓ Culture/Attitude
 - ✓ Implementation and follow through
- Public support
 - ✓ Cost/Benefit
 - ✓ Service delivery benchmarks
 - ✓ Political climate

Griffin Fire Department

Thank you for the opportunity to present the 2024 Annual Report. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

END OF REPORT