

# 2021 Annual Report



# St. Lucie County Just the Facts

POPULATION  
**343,579**



The population of St. Lucie County in 2021 was up from the **278,290** who lived here in **2010**. For comparison, the US population grew 7.3% and Florida's population grew 15.6% during that same period.

## County Demographics

- ◆ Persons under 5 years 4.9%
- ◆ Persons under 18 years 19.7%
- ◆ Persons 65 years and older 24.4%
- ◆ 572 square miles of total land area and 21 miles of coastline.
- ◆ Florida's 21st most populous county with 1.5% of Florida's population.

## Fire District Demographics

- ◆ Firefighters 408
- ◆ Telecommunicators 21
- ◆ Civilian Personnel 42
- ◆ 17 fire stations strategically located throughout the county.
- ◆ SLC firefighters are dual certified as emergency medical technicians (EMT) or paramedics (PM).





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**ST. LUCIE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

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and/or Instagram.



“Our Family Serving Yours”

## MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF NATE SPERA



On behalf of the members of the St. Lucie County Fire District, I am pleased to present our annual report for 2021. This report illustrates our commitment to the residents, visitors, and businesses within our community; it also reflects our dedication to each other as a progressive fire service organization. The work of our fire district personnel continues to exemplify our motto of “our family serving yours”.

We are thankful for the tremendous support we receive from our community. Our focus continues to be the safety of our first responders while fulfilling the expectations of our community. Our value to the community is measured directly by the services we provide.

We pride ourselves on delivering the highest quality services to those who live, work and visit St. Lucie County.

In this report, you will find some of the performance related data for the fire district as well as some milestones. The data contained in this report serves as a testament to the professionalism and dedication of our firefighters and staff.

Finally, I would like to thank our Fire District personnel for their hard work and tireless efforts. I would also like to thank our Fire Board Commissioners for their continued leadership and support.



“Our Family Serving Yours”

## WHO WE ARE



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## OUR MISSION

It is the mission of the St. Lucie County Fire District to preserve life and property by providing safe, efficient, and professional emergency services, community risk reduction, and public education; together with community services for our residents and visitors now and into the future.

## OUR VALUES

- ⇒ Safety
- ⇒ Strategic
- ⇒ Integrity
- ⇒ Transparent
- ⇒ Community-Driven
- ⇒ Professional
- ⇒ Compassionate, Comprehensive Service
- ⇒ Inclusivity
- ⇒ Pride, Passion, Purpose
- ⇒ Teamwork
- ⇒ Family

**ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND:** St. Lucie County Florida was created in 1905 with Fort Pierce serving as the county seat. Established in 1906, the Fort Pierce Fire Department formed with the intent of lowering the rates of fire insurance in the area. As time moved forward, the department continued to grow based on need and demand within the county. In 1959 by an act of the Florida Legislature, the St. Lucie County / Fort Pierce Fire District was created. The district continued to grow and provide a broader expanse of services within its coverage area. In 1996, the organizational name change to the St. Lucie County Fire District (SLCFD) was formalized.

# FIRE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



## 2021 FIRE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### *Representing St. Lucie County*

Linda Bartz - Chair  
Chris Dzadovsky

### *Representing the City of Fort Pierce*

Linda Hudson - Vice Chair  
Curtis Johnson

### *Representing the City of Port St. Lucie*

Shannon Martin  
Stephanie Morgan

### *Governor's Appointee*

TBA



In 2021, the Fire District welcomed Commissioner Johnson

The St. Lucie County Fire District is an independent special district of the State of Florida and is separate from St. Lucie County, the City of Fort Pierce and the City of Port St. Lucie. The fire district is governed by elected and appointed officials who function as the policy-making body and serve as the fire board of commissioners. The fire board employs the fire chief, clerk-treasurer and the district attorney to manage the operations, finances and legal affairs of the fire district.



In 2022, the Fire District welcomed Commissioner Leonard

In 2021, the Fire District welcomed Commissioner Mayor Hudson



The fire board is comprised of seven members: two from the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners; two from the City Commission of the City of Fort Pierce; two from the City Council of the City of Port St. Lucie; and one member appointed by Florida's Governor.



## 2022 FIRE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### *Representing the City of Fort Pierce*

Linda Hudson - Chair  
Curtis Johnson

### *Representing the City of Port St. Lucie*

Shannon Martin  
Stephanie Morgan

### *Representing St. Lucie County*

Linda Bartz  
Chris Dzadovsky

### *Governor's Appointee*

Travis Leonard

# ADMINISTRATIVE



**NATE SPERA**  
Fire Chief



**KIM SABOL**  
Fire District Attorney



**PATTY MARSTON-DUVA**  
Clerk Treasurer



**KENNETH PALESTRANT**  
Medical Director



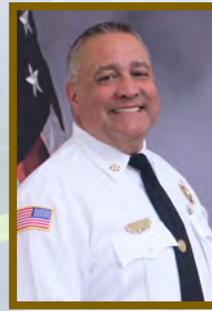
**JEFF LEE**  
Assistant  
Fire Chief



**MIKE MERRITT**  
Deputy Chief



**PAUL LANGEL**  
Deputy Chief



**BRIAN GONZALEZ**  
Deputy Chief



**MARK CRISTALDI**  
Deputy Chief



**FIRE MARSHAL**  
**WAYNE BOYER**  
Captain



**KYLE STIRRAT**  
Division Chief



**AARON SHAW**  
Division Chief



**DAN MIKELS**  
Division Chief



**WILLIAM FRENCH**  
Division Chief



**CHAPLAIN**  
**TOMMY NEIMAN**  
Retired  
Lieutenant



## RECOGNITIONS

### FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR



#### MATT CONEY

Matt is currently in his 21st year with the fire district. He is an Engineer at fire station 9 on North Hutchinson Island. Matt is also co-Captain of the FF Challenge Team. He is our 2021 Firefighter of the Year.

### SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR



#### VICKI ECHAZABAL

Vicki is currently in her 8th year with the fire district. She is the Executive Aide to the Fire Chief and the Assistant Fire Chief. She is our 2021 Support Staff of the Year.

## PROMOTIONS

### January

Jeremy Rouse to PM/Engineer

### February

Robert Hoffman to PM/Engineer  
Dennis Trefelner III to Paramedic

### March

Mistral Joseph to Paramedic  
Teresa Toto to Management Analyst

### April

Joseph Eassa to Lieutenant  
Alexia French to Lieutenant  
Shane Kozac to Lieutenant  
Scott Miller to Lieutenant  
Jeff Logan to Paramedic  
Ryan Tang to Paramedic

### June

Luke Stewart to Paramedic

### July

Doug Boudrias to Paramedic  
Serge Greene to Paramedic

### September

Ryan Salomon to Battalion Chief  
Jesus Bayona to Captain  
David Eskew to Lieutenant  
Roman Garcia to Lieutenant  
Ryan Miller to Lieutenant  
Briana Ramos to Paramedic  
Chase Trefelner to Paramedic

### October

Mark Cristaldi to Deputy Chief  
Brian Gonzalez to Deputy Chief  
Paul Langel to Deputy Chief  
Kevin Key to Paramedic  
Vince Randolph to Paramedic

### November

Austin Halle to Paramedic  
Drew Sweeney to Paramedic

### December

Jonas Gonzalez to Paramedic

## RETIREMENTS

Compliance Manager April Maya (January 4)  
Assistant Fire Chief Brian Blizzard (January 29)  
FF/Paramedic Will Stephens (February 15)  
Lieutenant Ricky Williams (February 24)  
FF/Engineer David Green (March 20)  
Lieutenant Paul Smith (April 27)  
FF/Paramedic Denny Peterson (May 15)

Engineer Chuck McElheny (May 31)  
Assistant Chief Marti Newport (June 9)  
Deputy Chief Jen Chambers (July 14)  
Payroll RoseAnn Bolasny (August 18)  
Engineer Gary Hollett (August 31)  
Engineer Kim Lobsinger (December 2)  
Engineer Tim Sessoms (December 16)



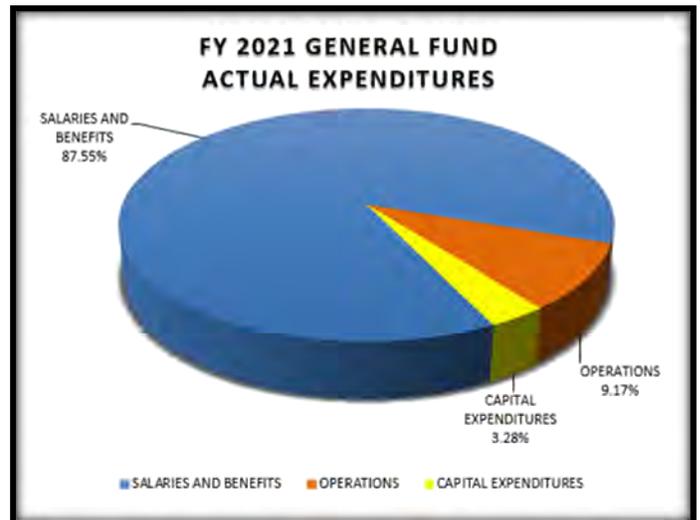
## FY 2021 – Year End

The following charts reflect the fire district's revenue and expenditures for the 2021 fiscal year. Actual revenues do not include reserve fund balances, cash on hand or transfers in. Actual expenditures do not include transfers out. Due to prior accounting changes, ambulance fees now include a reduction in unallowable amounts charged to Medicaid and Medicare. They are no longer classified as an expenditure, as was the prior practice. These numbers are unaudited and subject to change during the fiscal year audit.



	<u>REVENUE</u>		
	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Actual</u>
Ad Valorem	\$ 68,656,608	\$ 68,733,484	79.52%
Ambulance Fees	\$ 11,800,000	\$ 13,945,115	16.13%
Other	\$ <u>7,548,823</u>	\$ <u>3,757,850</u>	<u>4.35%</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 88,005,431</b>	<b>\$ 86,436,448</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>% of Actual</u>
Salaries/Benefits	\$ 75,044,079	\$ 72,893,324	87.55%
Operations	\$ 9,472,808	\$ 7,631,647	9.17%
Capital	\$ <u>3,080,068</u>	\$ <u>2,731,591</u>	<u>3.28%</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 87,596,955</b>	<b>\$ 83,256,562</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



*Note: these numbers are unaudited*

*\*Reduced due to ambulance fee write-offs / reductions*

# BY THE NUMBERS

## DEMAND FOR SERVICE

**Total Calls for Service**  
60,912

**Emergency Medical Calls**  
50,835

**Fire Calls**  
9,035

**Not Dispatched**  
1,042

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTS

**by Ground**  
36,787

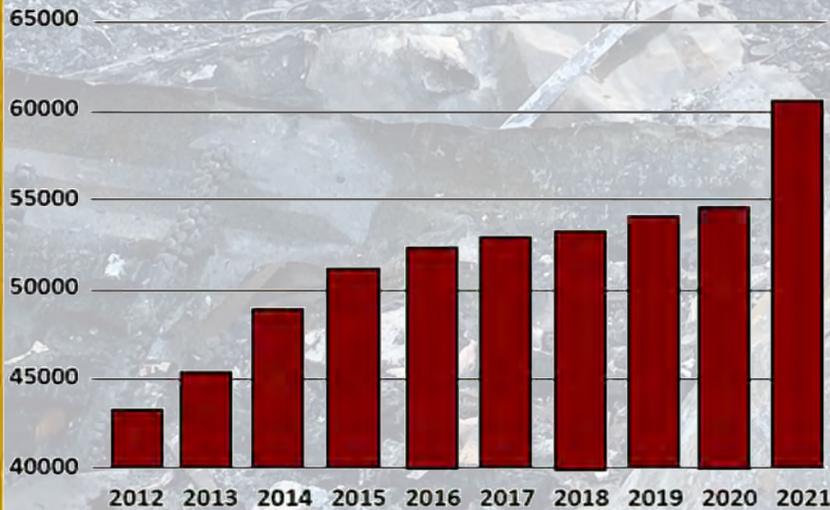
**By Air**  
89

## TRANSPORTS TO FACILITIES BY GROUND

Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospital	834
Cleveland Clinic Martin Health SLW—ED	287
Cleveland Clinic Martin North Hospital	608
Cleveland Clinic Martin South Hospital	1
Cleveland Clinic Tradition Hospital	9,184
Darwin Medical Center	168
Lawnwood Regional Medical Center	17,211
Lawnwood Regional Medical Center—Vero Beach	24
Raulerson Hospital	0
St. Lucie Medical Center	8,470



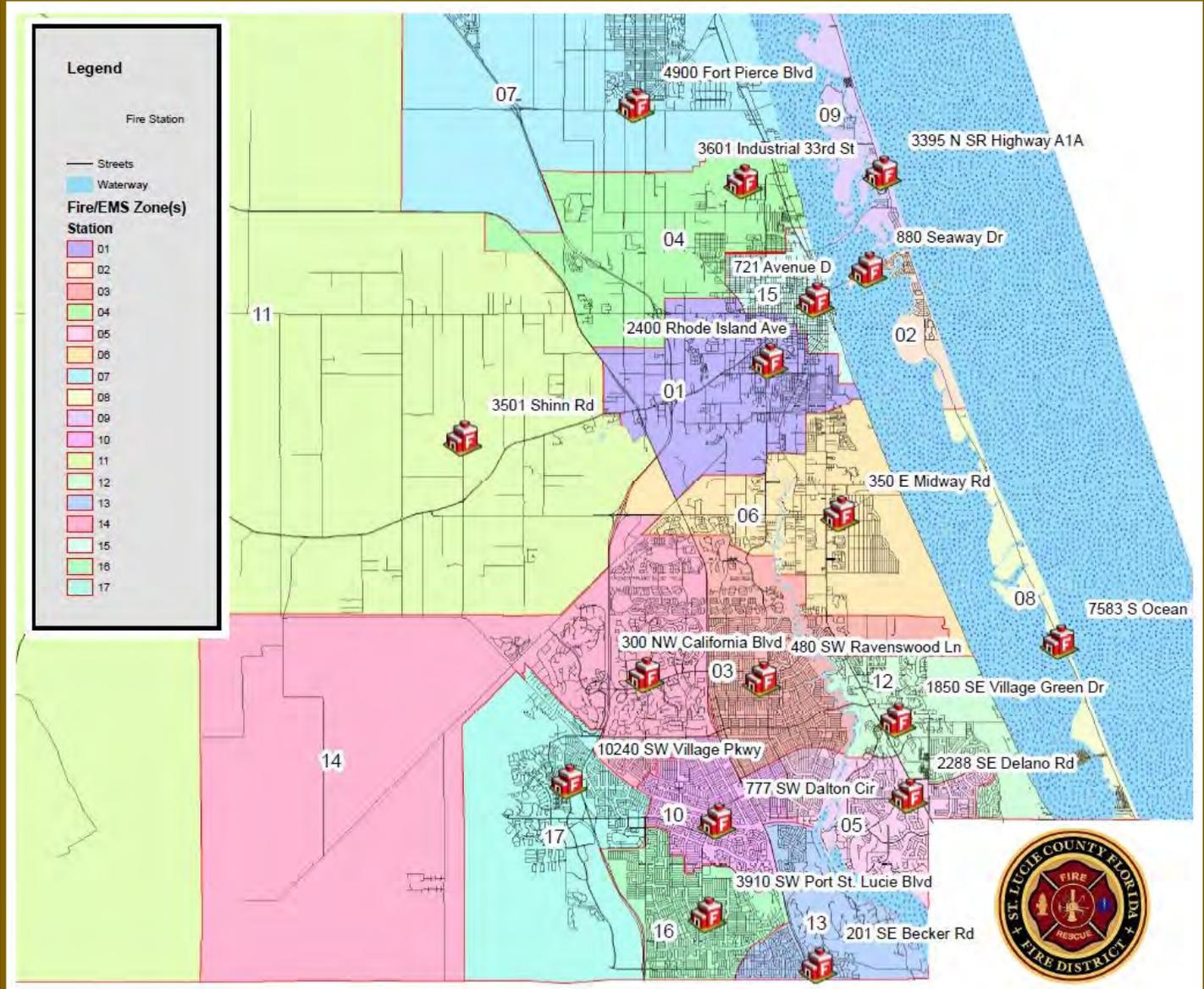
COUNT OF CALLS BY YEAR



ANNUAL CALLS FOR SERVICE

YEAR	CALL TOTAL
2012	40,744
2013	43,414
2014	45,749
2015	48,022
2016	51,935
2017	52,996
2018	53,046
2019	54,478
2020	54,618
2021	60,912

# STATION MAP & APPARATUS PROFILE



**17 Fire Stations**  
**14 Engines**  
**3 Quints/ 75' Aerial**  
**1 Ladder / 100' Aerial**  
**2 Special Op Squads**  
**13 Brush Trucks**

**22 Rescue Trucks**  
**4 Tankers**  
**1 ARFF**  
**1 Marine Unit**  
**2 Beach Rescue Mules**  
**2 Detail Mules**

All fire stations are manned 24 hours, 7 days a week by (3) 24-hour shifts. All St. Lucie County Fire District firefighters are dual certified as paramedics or emergency medical technicians.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 1

2400 Rhode Island Ave  
Fort Pierce

1 Fire Engine  
2 Rescue Trucks  
1 Brush Truck

Calls for Service: 11,486  
Manpower: 7



Constructed in 1983, station 1 (Central) is the only two-story fire station in the county and has a slide pole for rapid response to the 1st floor. The “old” central fire station was originally located at the intersection of US Hwy 1 and Ave A, which is now serviced by station 15. Station 1’s immediate response area consists of a 25 square mile first due zone. In addition, coverage includes a 35 mile stretch of the Florida Turnpike and a 6 mile stretch of I-95. While many of the calls are to single family homes, there is a heavy volume of commercial facilities in station 1’s zone.

### Fire Station 2

855 Seaway Drive  
Fort Pierce

1 Quint  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Marine Unit– Boat

Calls for Service: 2,443  
Manpower: 5



Original fire station 2 was built in 1967. In 2007 the current station was built approximately 1/4 mile southeast of the original site. The primary response area is residential and commercial that encompasses: Port of Ft. Pierce, Intracoastal Waterway including the Inlet, Atlantic Ocean, high/mid-rise residential buildings from 2 to 21 stories, Ocean Village, Harbour Isle, Pelican Yacht Club & an array of small apartment complexes, hotels, motels & restaurants.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 3

480 SW Ravenswood Lane  
Port St Lucie

1 Fire Engine  
2 Rescue Trucks  
1 Brush Truck

Calls for Service: 6,854  
Manpower: 7



Original fire station 3 was built in 1964. In 2010, the current station was built just a few blocks southwest of the original site. Station 3's primary response area is residential with commercial corridors. The types of businesses in this area include building supply, landscaping supplies, restaurants, and auto body repair. Included in the response zone is the Priineville Water Treatment Facility for PSL, four elementary schools and one middle school. The area also includes several multifamily apartment complexes, and several assisted living care facilities.

### Fire Station 4

3601 Industrial 33rd Street  
Fort Pierce

1 Engine  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Brush Truck  
1 ARFF

Calls for Service: 3,321  
Manpower: 7



Fire station 4 was built in March 2008 in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The new station was built because the original station was over 40 years old and could no longer house the personnel and the newer equipment needed to serve the community. Fire Station 4's response area includes residential, commercial, industrial and the Treasure Coast International Airport. The station is located at the airport and is equipped with an Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) apparatus, specifically designed to respond to aviation emergencies. The immediate response area consists of about 40 square miles.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 5

2288 Delano Road  
Port St Lucie

1 Fire Engine  
1 Rescue Truck

Calls for Service: 5,377  
Manpower: 5



Original fire station 5 on Port St Lucie Blvd was built in 1975. The current station, just built in 2020, is only a few miles northeast of busy Port St Lucie Blvd. However, the call volume of fire station 5 has increased steadily over the years and is now amongst the busiest stations within the St. Lucie County Fire District. Response area is predominantly single family residences, with commercial occupancies along US1 and Port St. Lucie Blvd.

### Fire Station 6

350 East Midway Road  
Fort Pierce

1 Engine  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Tanker  
1 Brush Truck  
1 Special Ops Squad

Calls for Service: 5,653  
Manpower: 7



Original fire station 6 was built in 1975. In 2008, a more modern fire station was built to house more personnel and equipment to handle the increased call volume and responsibilities. Response area is a mix of residential and commercial as well as an abundance of high hazard facilities. Station 6 responds to both North and South US-1, Indian River Drive, the Florida's Turnpike and Interstate 95. It is also part of a dual response special operations team that responds to any and all special operations calls in the county.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 7

4900 Fort Pierce Blvd  
Fort Pierce

- 1 Fire Engine
- 1 Rescue Truck
- 1 Tanker
- 1 Brush Truck

Calls for Service: 2,749



Built in 1977, station 7 was built to serve the growing northern edge of the county. The response area includes residential, mixed commercial and wild land. The boundaries of station 7 include the county line to the north, Old Dixie Highway to the east (including some portions of St. Lucie Village area); the St. Lucie County International Airport lies in the southern portion of the zone, and I-95 to the west. The station area also covers I-95 from the county line to mile marker 133.

### Fire Station 8

7583 South Ocean Drive  
Jensen Beach

- 1 Engine
- 1 Rescue Truck
- 1 Beach Rescue Mule

Calls for Service: 930  
Manpower: 5



Fire Station 8 was built in 1983. Prior to that, this area of the county was covered either by Martin County Fire Rescue or by station 2 on Seaway Drive. Fire station 8 covers 14 miles of South Hutchinson Island including the St. Lucie Nuclear Power Plant. The northern end of the zone starts at Blue Heron Boulevard in Ft Pierce and continues south all the way to the county line in Jensen Beach. Within zone 8, there are 40 residential high-rise condominiums ranging from 3 to 22 floors high and two large manufactured home communities.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 9

3595 North A1A  
Fort Pierce

1 Engine  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Beach Rescue Mule

Calls for Service: 1,066  
Manpower: 5



Fire Station 9 was built in 1984. Though many of its residents are seasonal, there are approximately 5,000 year-round residents. Zone 9 is primarily a barrier island with one roadway to Fort Pierce and Indian River County. It is unique in that the railroad tracks and the drawbridge offers complete isolation from additional St. Lucie County Fire District resources. With well-established landing zones and communication with Indian River County's stations 2 and 6, mutual aid can be rendered if needed.



### Fire Station 10

777 SW Dalton Circle  
Port St Lucie

1 Quint  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Tanker  
1 Brush Truck

Calls for Service: 5,539  
Manpower: 6

Fire Station 10 was built in 1985 and is surrounded by several homes. Zone 10 is economically and culturally diverse. The response area is mostly residential with an emerging mixture of commercial and industrial properties as well as several shopping plazas. Station 10 responds to the Florida's Turnpike and provides back-up for incidents that occur on I-95.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 11

3501 Shinn Road  
Fort Pierce

- 1 Engine
- 1 Rescue Truck
- 1 Tanker
- 1 Brush Truck
- 1 Mule

Calls for Service: 1,356  
Manpower: 5



Fire station 11 was constructed in 1986 to meet the growing demand for emergency services in the western portion of St. Lucie County. It's response area is mostly rural and agricultural and is the largest in the county encompassing hundreds of square miles west of Glades Cut-Off and the Florida Turnpike, from the Martin County line all the way north to the Indian River County line. Though not in their zone, Station 11 is a backup station for many incidents on I-95 and the Florida Turnpike.



### Fire Station 12

1850 Se Village Green Drive  
Port St Lucie

- 1 Quint
- 2 Rescue Trucks
- 1 Brush Truck

Calls for Service: 7,498  
Manpower: 7

Fire Station 12 was built in 1988. This area was in the growing stages and had not yet developed the population density it has today. The emergency call volume of station 12 has increased steadily throughout the years and is currently the second busiest fire station in the county. It has a very large and diverse response area that is residential, commercial and industrial.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 13

201 SE Becker Road  
Port St Lucie

1 Engine  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Brush Truck

Calls for Service: 1,821  
Manpower: 5



Originally housed in a prefabricated building, the current station 13 was built in 2003. It is the only station in the county with a lighted helicopter landing pad for aero-medical transports. Strategically located next to Florida's Turnpike, station 13 covers a large area of approximately 25 square miles of Southeast St. Lucie County. It includes a combination of residential dwellings, assisted living facilities, limited commercial areas and a recreational city park.

### Fire Station 14

300 NW California Blvd  
Port St Lucie

1 Engine  
1 Ladder Truck  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Bariatric Truck  
1 Brush Truck  
1 Mule

Calls for Service: 9,947  
Manpower: 6



Fire station 14 was built in 1999 and services one of the fire district's largest geographic response areas. It is divided by Interstate I-95 and is diversely interspersed with undeveloped land. The zone is filled with residential areas and brimming with commercial retail and business complexes. In 2000, the fire district organized a technical rescue team that was housed at station 14.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 15

721 Avenue D  
Fort Pierce

1 Engine  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Brush Truck

Calls for Service: 7,011  
Manpower: 5



Fire station 15 opened in 1997. It serves the fire district's oldest response zone that was established in 1924 and serviced by the "old" Central Fire Station (now station 1). Fire Station 15's response area includes residential and commercial properties. It serves the majority of the northwest residential section of Fort Pierce and covers the entire commercial historic downtown district, four marinas with both dry and wet storage, the cargo ship terminal, and several fruit packing warehouses.

### Fire Station 16

3910 SW Port St Lucie Blvd  
Port St Lucie

1 Engine  
2 Rescue Trucks  
1 Brush Truck

Calls for Service: 3,954  
Manpower: 5



Fire Station 16 is one of the latest stations to be constructed in St. Lucie County. It was completed in December 2008 to keep up with the rapid growth of single family residential dwellings in the area.. The response area is composed predominantly of single family homes with light commercial use as well. Station 16 covers the southernmost part of Interstate I-95.

## FIRE STATIONS

### Fire Station 17

10240 SW Village Pkwy  
Port St Lucie

1 Engine  
1 Rescue Truck  
1 Tanker  
1 Brush Truck  
1 Special Ops Squad

Calls for Service: 4,754  
Manpower: 5



Built in 2008 and placed into service on December 4, 2008, fire station 17 is located in the Town of Tradition, a master-planned community. The area is a mix of residential and commercial, but also serves a large agricultural area including farms and groves. Station 17 is part of a dual response special operations team that responds to any and all special operations calls in the county.

### Air Rescue

3105 Airmans Drive  
Fort Pierce

1 Eurocopter EC135

Calls for Service: 1948  
Manpower: 3



Air Rescue is stationed at the Treasure Coast International Airport. This Air Rescue Program joint partnership with the St. Lucie County Fire District and Air Methods, Inc. was established in 2008. Under this partnership, known as St. Lucie County Air Rescue, expeditious air transport of emergent patients is provided by a highly skilled crew of three: A Pilot, a dual certified critical care flight-nurse/paramedic provided through Air Methods Corporation, along with a flight-paramedic provided through the St. Lucie County Fire District.

## DIVISIONS & DEPARTMENTS

### Communications

15305 W. Midway Road  
Fort Pierce

The communications division is manned 24 hours, 7 days a week by (4) 12-hour shifts. All Tele-Communicators are required to maintain the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) certification. Furthermore, all Tele-Communicators have a minimum of nine certifications and are also CPR and NIMS certified.

**Calls for Service: 60,912**

**Manpower: 5**

The Communications Division plays an important role in the fire district, accomplishing its mission by providing the most effective emergency communications as possible. It is the nerve center of the fire district's operations and is the first point of contact for the public. It is where calls for service are received, information is obtained and transmitted to the appropriate units or stations, and where pre-arrival instructions are given through the Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD) process making the telecommunicators the first of the first responders.



### Administrative Complex

5160 NW Milner Drive  
Port St Lucie

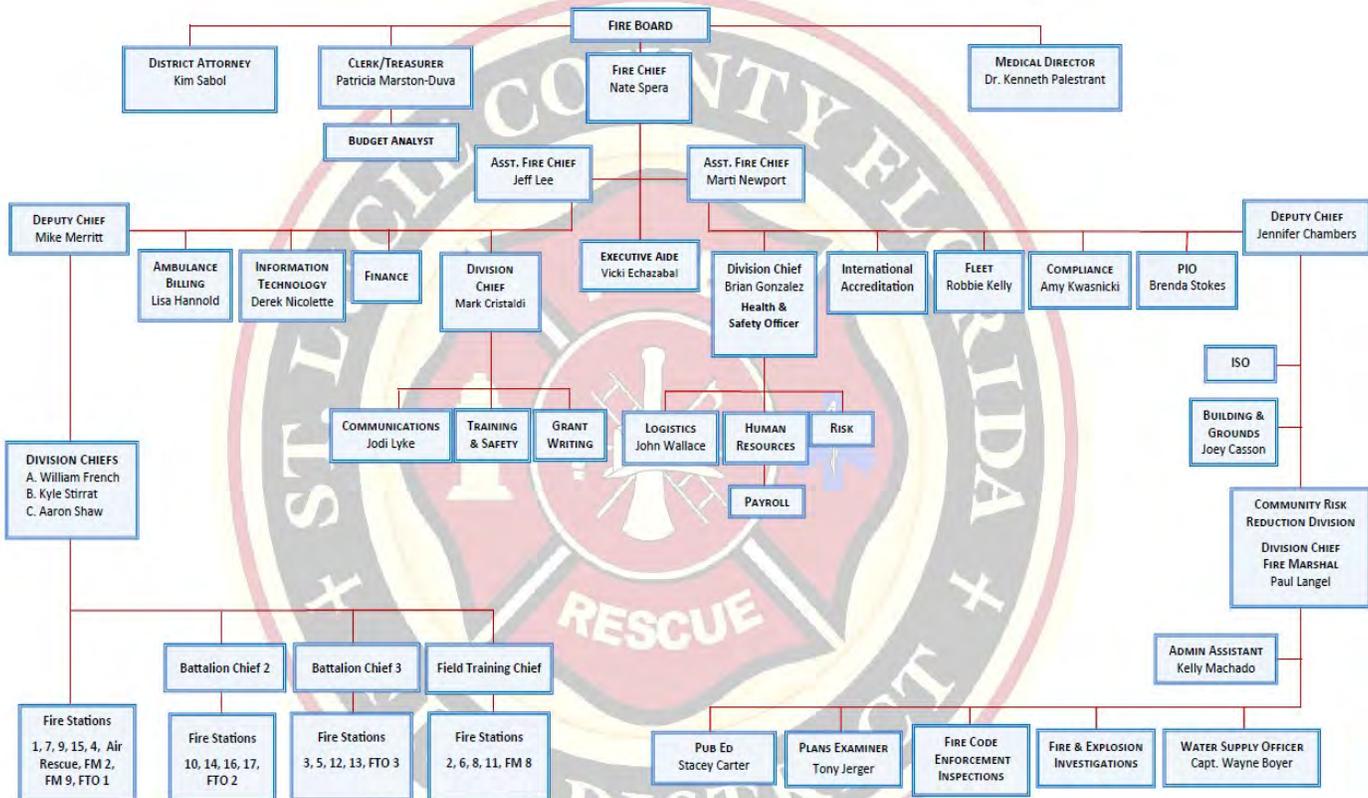
All administrative and support functions are housed at this location.



With the growth of the county and call volume increasing every year, it was obvious that support functions were outgrowing the current location adjacent to fire station 1 on Rhode Island Avenue. So in 2006, upon completion of construction, all admin and support functions were moved to the Milner Administrative Complex. The Fleet Maintenance and Logistics divisions are housed in separate buildings in the back. The administration, ambulance billing and all other support functions are located inside the main building. Also inside is the Community Risk Reduction division that is responsible for fire inspections and investigations throughout the county, plans review, and fire safety education.

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

## St. Lucie County Fire District



## DEPARTMENTS & DIVISIONS

### Administration

Administration provides overall direction, leadership and vision for the fire district. Divisional responsibilities include: providing administrative support in budget preparation, policies, public information, payroll, logistics, human resources, information technology and fleet maintenance.

### Ambulance Billing

The ambulance billing department processes the billing for emergency ambulance transports in St. Lucie County.

- ◆ Charges Billed Out: \$22,392,771
- ◆ Cash Collected: \$11,879,005
- ◆ Billable Transports: 35,925
- ◆ Each Billing Clerk inputs an average of 7185 calls per year.

### Building & Grounds

Buildings & Grounds is responsible for repairs and maintenance of all fire district buildings. It is also responsible for inspection and maintenance on all self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for over 400 personnel, all air conditioning systems, fuel tanks, and landscaping. They also participate in budget preparations for capital improvements at all fire stations.

Facilitated the development of large projects, which include:

- ◆ Removed carpet and replaced with tile at stations 1, 2, 4, 6, 13 & 16.
- ◆ Remodeled new training office at Central and moved training from administration.
- ◆ Remodeled station 3 added a bathroom & office for Battalion 3.
- ◆ Remodeled station 14. Removed radius bay windows squared off with block and installed new windows. Replaced all flooring throughout station.
- ◆ Installed new drainage/aprons/driveways at stations 10 & 15.
- ◆ Resurfaced bay floors at stations 15 & 16.
- ◆ Installed new wash down area for fleet maintenance.
- ◆ Replaced old generator at station 1 with a new Onan 150 KW whole station generator.
- ◆ Replaced kitchen cabinets at station 1.
- ◆ Replaced bay doors at stations 11 and 16.
- ◆ Installed chain link security fence at the Administration complex around shop area with gate operators.

### Community Risk Reduction

The Community Risk Reduction (CRR) division is responsible for the development and delivery of the following public safety programs: plan review, fire code enforcement, fire & explosion investigations, public education, and water supply.

- ◆ Completed 6,256 fire inspections, 57 fire investigations, and 1,502 site and building plan reviews.
- ◆ Site plan review, building plan review, and permitting accumulated \$2,504,253 of revenue.
- ◆ The Compliance Engine web based software generated over \$66,565 in revenue.
- ◆ False alarm fees program accumulated \$125,429 in revenue.
- ◆ Continued with the development and implementation of the pre-incident survey process.
- ◆ In collaboration with PSL and FPUA Utilities, the CRR Division performed two-hydrant flow test within these areas of the county.
- ◆ Participated in Ft. Pierce, Pt. St. Lucie and St. Lucie County development review committees to facilitate all commercial development countywide, with some of the larger projects listed below:
  - ◇ Derecktor Shipyard & Maverick Boat Expansion
  - ◇ Warehouses including: 1.1 million sq. ft. Amazon Fulfillment Center, 150,000 sq. ft. Accel International, 250,000 sq. ft. Fed Ex facility
  - ◇ Restaurants including; Chipotle, La Granga, Blaze Pizza
  - ◇ Developments including: America Walks, Toscana, Blue Sky Apartments, AHS Apartments in Tradition

## DEPARTMENTS & DIVISIONS

### Finance / Records

The Finance Department is responsible for: accounting and investing of all district funds; monitoring and approving all expenditures; issuing checks; revenue monitoring; grant tracking; developing personnel, operating, debt, and capital budgets; compiling annual financial statements; maintaining fixed asset records; Truth-In-Millage (TRIM) statutes compliance; performs reconciliations / special analysis / management studies; and maintains official records of the Fire District.

- ◆ Cross-trained staff for management analyst functions.
- ◆ Managed a total budget of \$111,676,519 for FY 2020-2021.
- ◆ Received revenues for 11 grants: 8 federal grants totaling \$1,348,050.81 from 8 federal grants, and 129,994 from 3 state grants.
- ◆ Managed the expenditures of 11 federal and state grants along with the fire district's match contribution to 4 federal grants.
- ◆ Records request responded to for the fiscal year: 1,809
- ◆ For Fiscal Year End 2021, Accounts Payables processed a total of 3,219 checks, 15 wires, and 35 ACH/TFRs, resulting in a total A/P balance of \$20,737,003.44.

### Fleet Maintenance

Fleet maintenance is responsible for spec'ing & outfitting, preventive maintenance, and repair of 131 fire district vehicles and apparatus that, as a fleet, exceed 1-million miles annually. In addition, fleet maintenance is responsible for maintaining all station generators, "jaws of life" extrication tools, and the small engines that are used in day to day operations.

- ◆ Maintained a fleet of 141 vehicles that accumulate over 1.5 million miles per year
- ◆ Placed new Sutphen pumpers in service at Stations 1 & 14
- ◆ At Operations direction, we were able to relocate apparatus to better meet demand and added a Bravo Rescue to Station 14
- ◆ Working closely with the Apparatus Committee, we were able to order 4 Replacement Rescues, 1 Bravo Rescue, 3 Replacement Pumpers as well as a Squad Pumper, which will replace two trucks with one
- ◆ Installed carousels on all fire apparatus to properly stow the new Hurst electric extrication tools
- ◆ With grants obtained by Chief Cristaldi, we were able to up fit five rescues with Stryker Power load Stretcher Systems
- ◆ Worked with the Building Maintenance Division to replace Station 15's backup generator and upgrade the electrical system.

### Human Resources

Human Resources is responsible for multiple HR functions in support of positive employee and labor relations. Responsibilities of HR include: performance management, benefit administration and leave management, workplace health and safety, recruitment, promotional process oversight and payroll.

# DEPARTMENTS & DIVISIONS

## Information Technology

The IT department provides the fire district data and voice communications services. This includes, but is not limited to, software and hardware support, installations, tower climbing, 24/7 support, administering email and phones, maintaining the microwave infrastructure which supports CAD alerting, AVL, and data links to EOC, and researching new techniques and devices.

- ◆ Upgraded the Laserfiche system, which is used to archive internal documents, such as employee files, and contracts.
- ◆ Purchased and started work on the new Motorola CAD (computer aided dispatch) system. The CAD system is a joint effort between public safety, fire and law agencies to operate 911 dispatching. This system provides reports on 911 activity, and interfaces with various fire district systems to meet service needs.
- ◆ Purchased and setup new security software and hardware equipment to protect against malicious activity.
- ◆ Purchased and setup the First Arriving system, which takes performance data and displays it on TV screens in all the stations. Stations can track turnout times, in addition to news and announcements.

## Logistics

Logistics is responsible for the complete procurement of the fire district; including the research, purchases, warehousing, and distributing of medical, office and janitorial supplies, uniforms and bunker gear for all active firefighters.

## Operations

The operations division is responsible for emergency service delivery to the community; including emergency medical response, fire suppression, aeromedical responses, special operation response, and overall personnel and safety management for all shifts.

## Public Education

Public education is provided to the community by the Fire & Life Safety Educator (FLSE) and operates under the supervision of the community risk reduction division. The FLSE is responsible for developing and presenting fire and life safety education programs to residents of St. Lucie County.

- ◆ Created and developed virtual Fire Safety Classrooms with lesson plans for grades K-5. These classrooms were implemented by the St. Lucie County School Board reaching over 15,102 students.
- ◆ Partnered with WPSL radio to advertise our virtual Fire Safety Classrooms. Reaching over 74,000 listeners and YouTube viewers.
- ◆ Created and designed virtual Natural Disaster Classrooms covering Hurricanes, Floods, Lightning, Wildfires and Extreme Heat. The classrooms provide preparedness tips and information from local community resources. Reaching over 6,983 viewers.
- ◆ Partnered with San Juan Diego a local church to provide Winter Safety Tips in Spanish to 502 members.
- ◆ Created and developed Summer Safety for Kids virtual classrooms. Swimming, Beach, Boating, Bicycle, Pedestrian and Playground safety topics were covered. Shared also by the St. Lucie County School Board. Reaching over 41,917 viewers.
- ◆ Through our partnerships, networking with different community organizations and virtual classrooms, we reached a total of 317,990 people.
- ◆ Added an animatronics puppet as a teaching tool for fire safety.
- ◆ Revamped the Youth Fire Setter program methodology and delivery methods to better serve and educate the community.
- ◆ Added two members to become Youth Fire Setter Intervention Specialist and Youth Fire Setter Program Managers.

# DEPARTMENTS & DIVISIONS

## Public Information

The Public Information Office is responsible for disseminating information to the public on departmental programs and services, facilitating media relations, and coordinating community outreach. The Public Information Officer (PIO) is also the spokesperson for the fire district during emergency incidents and acts as the liaison between the incident commander and the media.

- ◆ Managed and assisted in scheduling more than 100 Public Education/Public Relations requests from June-December. *The Fire District did not resume public interactions following the pandemic until June.*
- ◆ Worked with the Firefighter charities (Surfers for Autism, Lil Feet, Big Heart Brigade, Christmas4Kids) to assist in marketing and management of events.
- ◆ Worked with members from the Play Treasure Coast Sports Commission and FF Challenge Teams to promote and advocate for local events.
- ◆ Assisted the SLCFD Honor Guard with bookkeeping and treasurer duties.
- ◆ Designed and marketed 20th year 9/11 commemorative shirts that raised over \$7000 for the Hundred Club.

## Risk Management

The focus of risk management is to protect the fire district's assets from loss and minimize employee injuries on the job.

- ◆ 58 new claims last year: 57 pandemic related and 101 other
- ◆ Conducted ergonomics review of the administrative and Communications work areas.
- ◆ Participated in Safety committee and health and wellness initiatives
- ◆ Front line for all COVID questions and issues

## Training & Safety

The training & safety division is responsible for fire and EMS training of all St. Lucie County Fire District firefighters. This division is also directly involved with health, safety and exposure risk management for the fire district.



# PHOTO GALLERY



"Our Family Serving Yours"



St. Lucie County Fire District

**2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

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