

## FRESNO FIRE DEPARTMENT















## **FRESNO**



## **DEPARTMENT**

#### **City of Fresno**

Population546,718Land Area115.8Elevation308Population Density4,720.5Population Rank5th in California

Source: World Population Review

#### **Mission**

To protect and put service above all else

#### **Vision:**

Recognized as a standard of excellence in the fire service

#### **Core Values:**

Teamwork - Trust - Committment



### FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE







On behalf of the Fresno Fire Department, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for taking the time to review our 2024 Annual Report. We trust this report will provide valuable insights into the services we offer and the remarkable accomplishments of the men and women of the Fire Department.

Since our establishment in 1877, the Fire Department has proudly served the residents, businesses, and visitors of Fresno. Over the past 148 years, the Fire Department has consistently delivered professional and dedicated service while upholding our core mission of putting service above all else. The commitment our firefighters make to our community—and to one another—is truly remarkable.

This past year has been particularly exciting for the Fire Department, with several significant milestones and achievements. This report highlights some of the outstanding work accomplished by our team, and we are incredibly proud of their tireless dedication and professionalism each and every day.

As we look ahead to 2025, we remain focused on continuing to build upon our vision of being a standard of excellence in the fire service. A critical priority will be to ensure that our operational performance meets the highest standards, providing the best possible service to the City of Fresno, all while maintaining fiscal responsibility. We are also excited to continue strengthening our community partnerships and look forward to expanding upon these opportunities.

Our continued success is fueled by a steadfast commitment to our mission, vision, and core values, which guide our efforts in delivering emergency services to those we serve. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the residents of Fresno, elected officials, City leadership, and our partners. Their unwavering support has been essential in achieving our goals of providing exceptional services and meeting the needs of our diverse community.

Thank you for your ongoing trust and partnership. We look forward to another year of service, excellence, and collaboration.

Respectfully,

Fire Chief

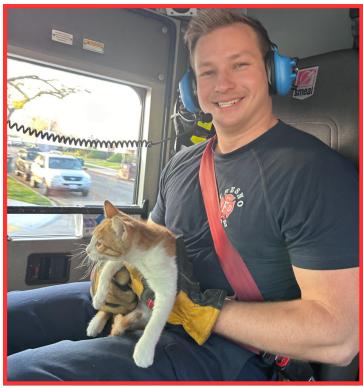
#### **OPERATIONS DIVISION**

The Fresno Fire Department is a dynamic organization dedicated to protecting the community through a comprehensive range of emergency response services. Operating 21 fire stations, the department is equipped with 19 engines, 5 trucks, 4 squads, and 1 Safety Officer, strategically organized into 4 battalions, each led by a battalion chief.

In 2024, the department responded to a total of 52,230 incidents, including 7,429 fire calls and 31,252 medical calls, reflecting its commitment to being an all-hazard response agency. Beyond fires and medical emergencies, the department is trained to handle specialized situations such as aircraft rescue firefighting (ARFF), hazardous materials incidents, water rescues, and urban search and rescue (USAR).







The Operations division plays a critical role, overseeing not only emergency response but also essential support sections like Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Facilities, Fleet, and Communications. Key accomplishments in 2024 included:

- Implementing and tracking Advanced PPE Inspections
- Establishing an in-house PPE repair program
- Evaluating and integrating the High Performance CPR model
- Purchasing and putting into service 6 Automatic Chest Compression devices
- Partnering with the Fresno Police Department Chaplaincy

The members of the Fresno Fire Department are dedicated to serving the community with passion, teamwork, trust, and commitment, ensuring they are always prepared to respond effectively to any emergency.



#### TRAINING DIVISION



In 2024, the Training Division hosted 17 State Fire Training (SFT) courses to enhance the professional development of our members. There were 95 members who attended these courses, which included the following: Fire Apparatus Driver Operator 1A – 1C, Fire and Emergency Services Instructor 1 – 3 series, Certification Examination Evaluator Training (CEET), Registered Instructor Orientation (RIO), Ethical Leadership for Instructors, Statutes and Regulations, Plans Examiner 1B – 1C, Fire Marshal 1A, Fire Control 3, River and Flood Rescue Boat, River and Flood Rescue Technician, and S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior. Additionally, the Training Division conducted Firefighter 1 and 2 certification exams for recent Trainee Academy graduates who had not completed their accredited certification from IFSAC and/or Pro Board during the transition period for the new certification.

Training also conducted its 7th Engineer Academy since 2015. Twenty members participated in the two-week Engineer Academy, and all who attended received their Fire Apparatus Driver Operator certifications.

The Department also hosted a Behavioral Health Workshop titled Suicide Prevention Training for First Responders taught by Dr. Shauna Springer. The health and wellness of our members will continue to remain a priority for the Training Division.









#### FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

The mission of the Fire Prevention Division is to provide fire and life-safety services to the City of Fresno. These services include fire-related plan reviews, field inspections for both residential and commercial new construction projects, ongoing maintenance inspections on existing commercial and multi-family buildings, and participation in public education and community outreach events.

The Plans Review and New Construction Inspection programs handle fire protection system plan reviews, including fire sprinkler/fire alarm systems, new building construction plan reviews, and fire protection system acceptance testing. These processes ensure that fire protection and life safety systems are installed correctly and will operate as designed when needed. The General Inspection Program conducts inspections of existing buildings for compliance with applicable laws, codes, ordinances, and standards. Inspection frequencies for this program are based on state law requirements or are determined using a risk-based approach established from a nationally recognized standard. In 2024, the Prevention Division met its statutory requirement to complete 100% of our state-mandated inspections, which was reported to the City Council under SB1205 requirements.

The division continues to prioritize training for new inspectors and provides continuing education for senior staff members. This has been accomplished by establishing an "in-house" training program and investing in current staff to become certified as State Instructors. This approach has allowed the Prevention Division to build the knowledge and education of our members.

The Prevention Division has been working to transition its digital records to a new platform which will provide additional features available to other divisions in the Department.









#### FIRE INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Fire Investigations Unit (FIU) proudly serves the citizens of Fresno with a commitment to excellence and a proven track record of fire investigation expertise. Comprising of seven full-time members and two reserve members, the FIU dedicates its efforts to the meticulous examination of fire origins and causes, upholding professional standards, and maintaining a high level of professionalism and a strong work ethic in all activities undertaken.

In 2024, the unit successfully handled a range of complex cases involving:

- High-profile Incidents: Fires with significant financial impact and high public interest.
- Serious Casualties: Incidents involving serious burn injuries and/or fatalities.
- Explosions and Hazardous Situations: Including investigations at drug labs and grow houses.
- Arson Cases: Comprehensive probes that led to the identification and prosecution of offenders.

These investigations are crucial for public safety, enabling the identification of fire risks, prevention strategies, and improvements in fire safety protocols.

The FIU places a strong emphasis on maintaining professional standards through rigorous procedures including Professional Background Investigations. These investigations are a vital part of the hiring process. Investigators ensure that all new applicants undergo Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) level background checks. This helps select candidates who embody the highest ethical standards, enhancing the unit's credibility and effectiveness and aligns with the Department's core values.







#### FIRE SHOP/FLEET

The Fire Shop consists of twelve personnel and two supervisors that cover two shifts while providing services and support for the Fire Department. The shop personnel participate in the on-call rotation and respond to after-hour service, repair, and breathing support requests. Our team of highly skilled technicians and staff have continued to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and expertise. We take great pride in the fact that our repair shop remains a trusted partner for the fire department, ensuring the safety and reliability of their equipment. During the last year, the Shop completed 1,718 work orders (repair, maintenance, etc.) for fire apparatus requiring 16,433 mechanic hours to complete.

The shop is responsible for a diverse fleet of vehicles, consisting of

- 81 light duty vehicles
- 63 medium/heavy duty vehicles and equipment
- 11 miscellaneous vehicles
- 9 trailers
- 3 boats
- 2 ATV
- 1 forklift

In addition, the Shop also services and maintains countless small engines and other support equipment.

In 2024, the Equipment Maintenance Team was able to finalize the purchase of a new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The old SCBA units were timed out and were near the end of their life. This purchase required collaboration with the City of Fresno Purchasing Department. Included in this partnership was the Fresno Fire Training Division. They were instrumental in training our members to ensure all Suppression members were proficient using the new SCBA's prior to implementation.

We also completed the annual testing of 380 fire hose nozzles identifying several deficiencies including low water pressure and underperforming gallons per minute. The maintenance team was able to replace the most critical nozzles and will repair or replace the remaining deficient nozzles inside the calendar year.







#### TECHNICAL SUPPORT UNIT

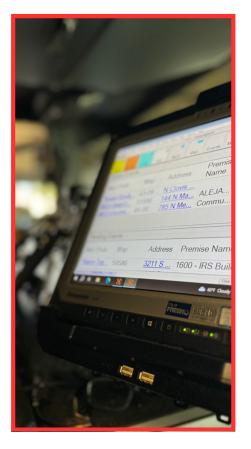
The Technical Support Team is comprised of a highly skilled group that includes two Computer Systems Specialists, one Data Analyst, and one Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Specialist. While now centralized under ISD leadership, the team remains firmly committed to meeting the needs of the Fire Department. Their behind-the-scenes efforts ensure the seamless operation of the Department's technology, robust data analysis, spatial data mapping, and a smooth transition to a new records management system for the prevention, suppression, finance, and training divisions.

Over the past year, the team completed the replacement of eligible computers and initiated the FY25 replacement project, which involves updating approximately 73 workstations and laptops. They also facilitated the setup and distribution of 27 station iPads, 23 prevention iPads, and eight training iPads. Enhancements to connectivity included upgrading all ten access points at Headquarters and replacing 26 older access points across the 21 fire stations, significantly improving Wi-Fi stability, efficiency, and capacity.

Our FireGIS program has delivered numerous impactful advancements, including live hydrant status updates and annual maintenance tracking across multiple platforms, such as Tablet Command, the 4-3 Operational Hazards Sheet, and Field Maps. The Field Maps app now enables annual maintenance tasks to be completed on-site in real time. This feature eliminates the need for handwritten notes and subsequent data entry across multiple mediums.

Additionally, workflows are being piloted to track interagency personnel at special events, process drone imagery for pre-planning, share monthly incident reports with Operations, and compile monthly maps and data presentations to the City Council.

Through innovation and dedication, the Technical Support Team continues to enhance operational efficiency and technological capabilities, supporting the Department's mission and vision.



#### LOGISTICS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The Logistics and Support Services Division has made significant strides in enhancing firefighter safety and wellness. This year, the Division developed a comprehensive Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) inspection program, aligning with the advanced inspection criteria outlined in NFPA 1851.

A new purchase contract has been established to facilitate the replacement of outdated PPE that is nearing its expiration date. This initiative ensures compliance with safety standards and enhances the operational readiness of our personnel. Under this plan, the Department will replace 100 sets of PPE in Fiscal Year 2025 and 150 sets in Fiscal Year 2026.

Additionally, the installation of extractors at every fire station marks a milestone in our commitment to exceeding NFPA 1851 recommendations. These extractors empower our members to conduct advanced cleaning of their PPE following exposure to fires and toxic, cancer-causing gases. This proactive approach significantly reduces carcinogen exposure and underscores our dedication to firefighter safety and wellness.

To further streamline PPE maintenance, the Division has acquired a new sewing machine, enabling in-house repairs. This capability minimizes downtime for PPE, ensuring that equipment remains in service and ready for deployment. Together, these advancements reflect the Department's unwavering commitment to the health, safety, and operational efficiency of its personnel.



#### FRESNO FIRE CHIEF'S FOUNDATION

The Fresno Fire Chief's Foundation (FFCF) is a non-profit organization founded in 2004 by a group of dedicated community leaders and members of the Fresno Fire Department. Its mission is to address gaps in fire prevention, public education, community outreach, and unmet organizational needs. Through the programs supported by the FFCF, the quality of life in our community has been significantly enhanced.

Key initiatives include; "Helmets are Cool," which has distributed over 20,000 helmets to local youth, the "FFD Explorer Program," which gives young men and women the opportunity to explore a career in firefighting and donating to The Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation, which supports burn survivors and their families. These programs are just a few examples of the vital work supported by the foundation. We are deeply grateful for their ongoing contributions.

To learn more about the impact the FFCF has had on our community and the Fresno Fire Department, please visit their website at <a href="https://www.beafirehero.org">www.beafirehero.org</a>.







# COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)

The Fresno Fire CERT program was established 22 years ago, and has offered free 20-hour emergency preparedness academies to 1,327 community members since 2002. Its Firefighter Rehab Team volunteers receive additional specialized training, and have provided 24/7 incident support since deploying its response vehicle in 2009. The volunteers proudly support the health and safety of our firefighters by providing timely and comprehensive rehabilitation support designed to prevent heat illnesses, and to reduce exposure to cancer-causing contaminants. The Rehab Team has been deployed on 224 emergent, multi-alarm incidents making it one of the most experienced teams in California, and a National Best Practice model for CERT programs in the United States. The team prides itself on supporting the foundational principle that Everyone Goes Home Safe. Over the years, the dedicated volunteers have also provided 259 days of scheduled support for training events with first responders and civic partners, participated in 47 emergency exercises, and 101 public service events. CERT has joined with our community partners to offer 166 no-cost preparedness and safety classes to residents in the region. In 2024, the team supported multiple days of probationary firefighter testing and hazmat training in high heat; as well as the annual CTO Firefighters Symposium, Firefighter for a Day, the FCOE and FUSD Student Career Tech Expos.





#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

As we reflect on 2024, we are filled with pride as we share the many successes the Fresno Fire Department has achieved in community outreach. Throughout the year, we facilitated 63 ride-alongs, offering community members a firsthand experience of a firefighting career and inspiring the next generation of heroes. We also participated in over 108 public education events, strengthened our recruitment efforts through presence at career fairs, attended carnivals, visited schools, and organized various community events. Each of these touchpoints allowed us to engage with the public, educate them about fire safety, and demonstrate our unwavering commitment to serving and protecting our community.

Our department was especially engaged with the students of Fresno Unified, providing fire safety presentations, station tours, and hands-on experiences that allowed students to work closely with our dedicated firefighters.

Our efforts to strengthen community bonds were further supported through impactful programs like Firefighters Creating Memories, toy drives, holiday parades, and community carnivals. These events, along with many others, helped bring our community together, fostered lasting relationships, and allowed us to continue serving and protecting the individuals who make Fresno such a special place.















## **FFD ENGAGEMENT**















#### 2024 ANNUAL STATISTICS















Fire Loss	
All FiresAll Other Incident T Total LossFrom ArsonDisplaced Persons	ypes \$371.7 K \$26.4 M \$3 M
<u>Fatalities</u>	
CivilianFirefighter	



Completed Requests ...... 4,877



## **2024 ANNUAL STATISTICS**



#### <u>Incidents</u>

Medical Aids	31,252
Arrivals	. 26,757
Downgrades	
Total Fires	
Structure Fires	
Vegetation Fires	
Vehicle Fires	
Other Types of Fires	
False Alarms	
Hazardous Conditions	
Service Calls	
All Other Incidents	
Total Incidents	
rotal molacino	. 02,200





#### <u>Apparatus Responses - 69,924</u>

Engine Companies	48,951
E01	3,769
E02	1,386
E03	
E04	
E05	
E06	
E07	
E08	3.436
E09	
E10	
E11	
E12	
E13	
E14	
E15	2.703
E16	1.570
E17	
E19	
E20	

Truck Companies T01 T03 T09 T11 T18	1,275 1,311 959 1,009
Squad Companies SQ03 SQ04 SQ05 SQ09	2,860 1,921 2,719
Battalion Chiefs BC01 BC02 BC03 BC04	1,009 761 687

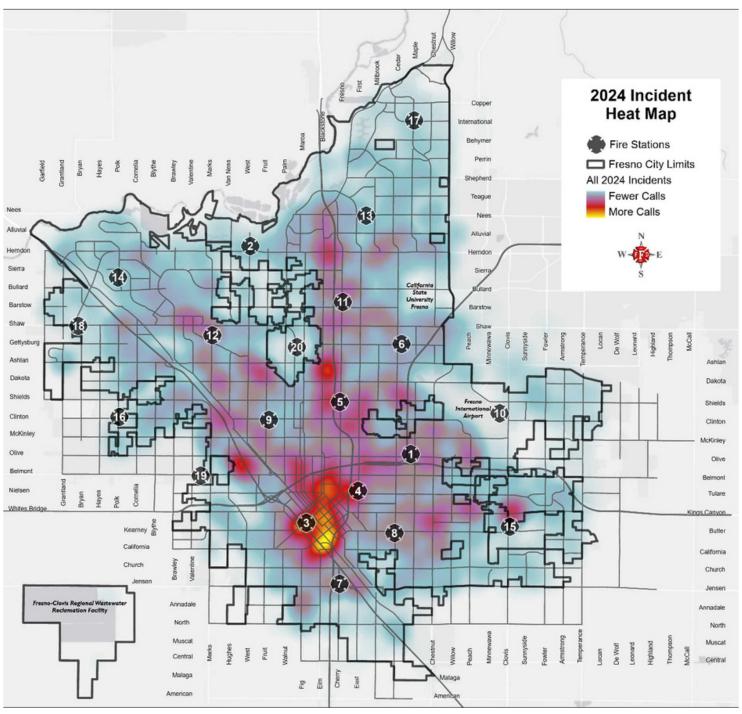
Special Operations	2,582
Airport Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) Vehicles.	244
BRS1 (Breathing Support)	39
CERT1	10
HazMat Units	
Investigations	500
P02 - Patrol	30
P07- Patrol	29
P18 - Patrol	9
BE15 - Brush Engine	9
BE16 - Brush Engine	2
PIO1 - Public Information Officer	5
Heavy Rescue	99
Water Rescue	94
WT07 - Water Tender	6
WT13 - Water Tender	40
SAF1 - Safety Officer	. 1,16
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## **2024 ANNUAL STATISTICS**

#### **Station Heat Map**

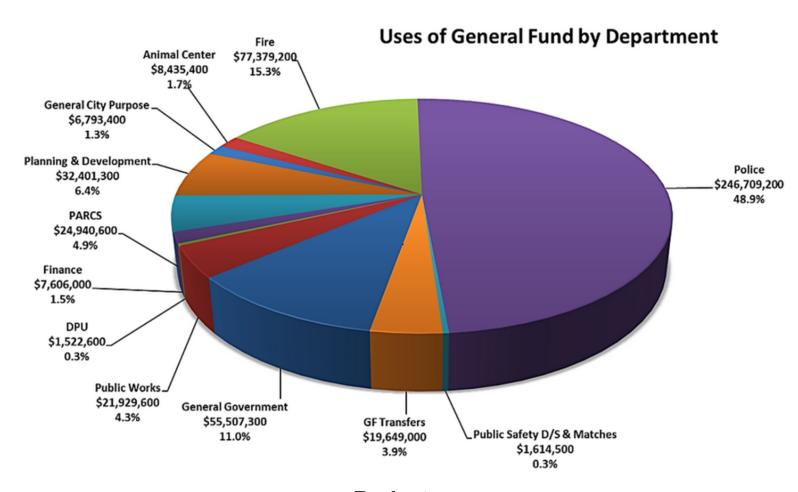






## **2024 BUDGET**

#### FY 2024-2025 Budget



#### **Budget**

General Fund	\$77.3 M
Grants	. \$23.1 M
Licenses & Permits	\$492.4 K
Charges for Service & Contract Fees	\$8.8 M
Capital Pojects & Misc	\$2.8 M

Total Budget ..... \$114 M







































## OUR MISSION: TO PROTECT AND PUT SERVICE ABOVE ALL ELSE

















