

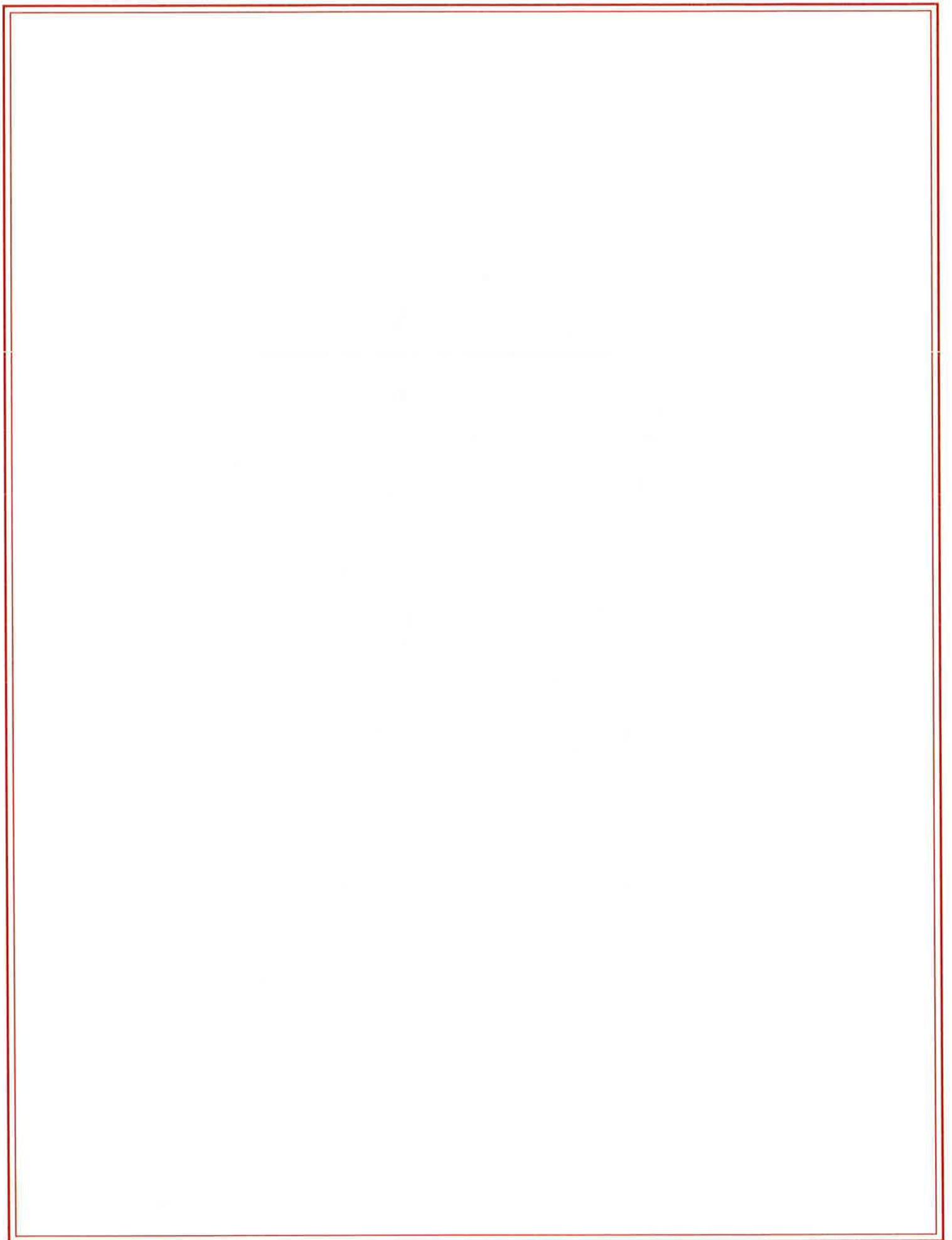
67TH ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2020



Dedicated In Memory Of:

J. Benjamin Roy





STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

GROVER P. INGLE
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

DOVER OFFICE
HEADQUARTERS

August 27, 2020

The Honorable John C. Carney, Governor
State of Delaware
Office of the Governor
Tatnall Building
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Governor Carney,

I am pleased to forward to you the Sixty-Seventh Annual Report for the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

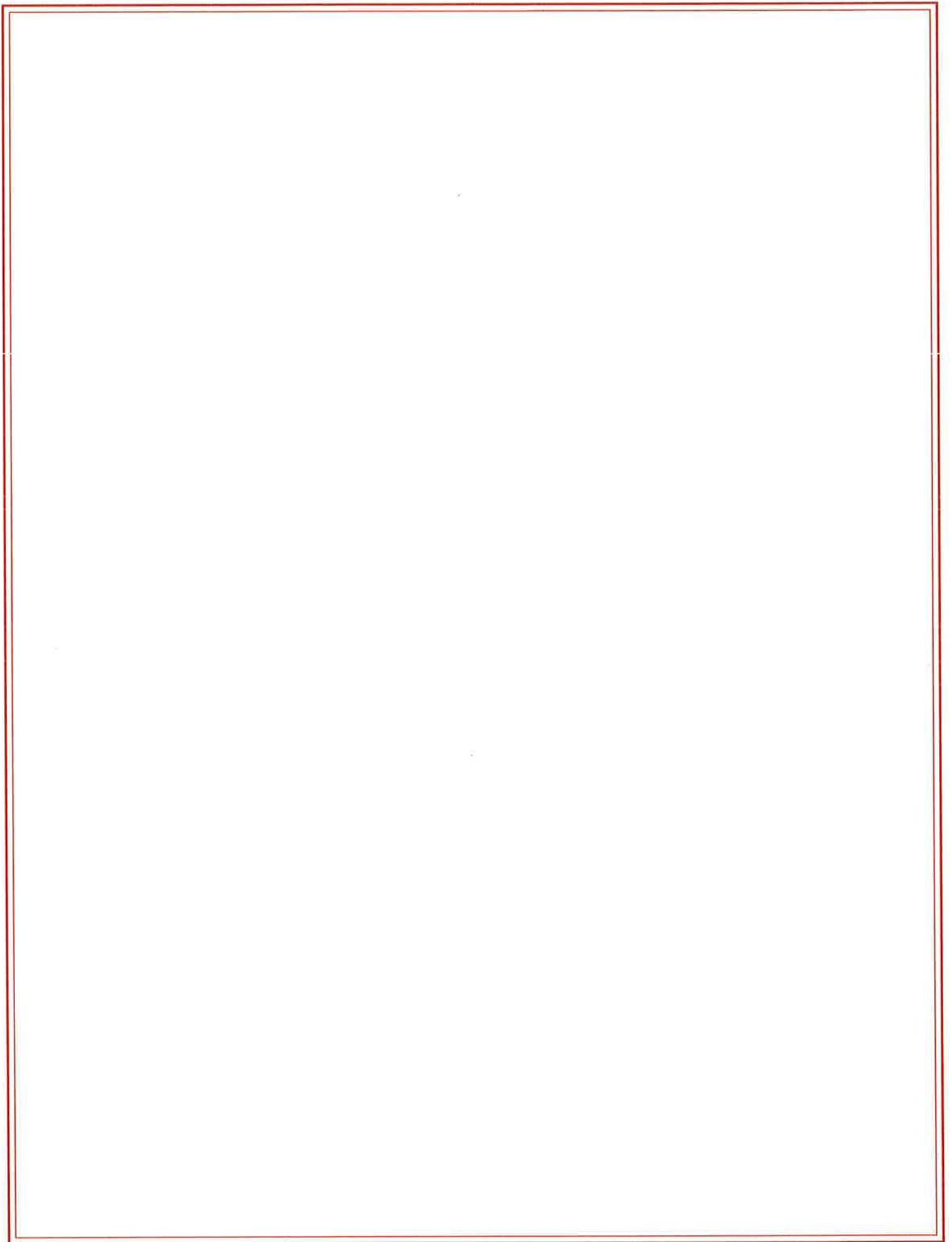
The Sixty-Seventh Annual Report reflects the accomplishments of the agency by our dedicated staff in providing a fire safe environment for the residents and visitors of Delaware during FY 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic presented challenges to all of us and by changing our operations to meet these challenges we were able to successfully complete our mission by delivering timely and quality service to the public by conducting thorough and efficient fire investigations, performing occupancy inspections, various code enforcement activities, plan reviews, fire protection system inspections, juvenile intervention programs, and participating in public displays.

The staff of the Office of the State Fire Marshal will continue to work with other state agencies, when called upon for assistance, work with our partners in law enforcement, our first responders, the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association, Delaware State Fire School and Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission to deliver timely and quality service to the residents and visitors of Delaware..

We appreciate the support you provide to our agency as Governor as well as the support of the General Assembly in providing the funding and the resources needed to accomplish our mission.

Respectfully submitted,

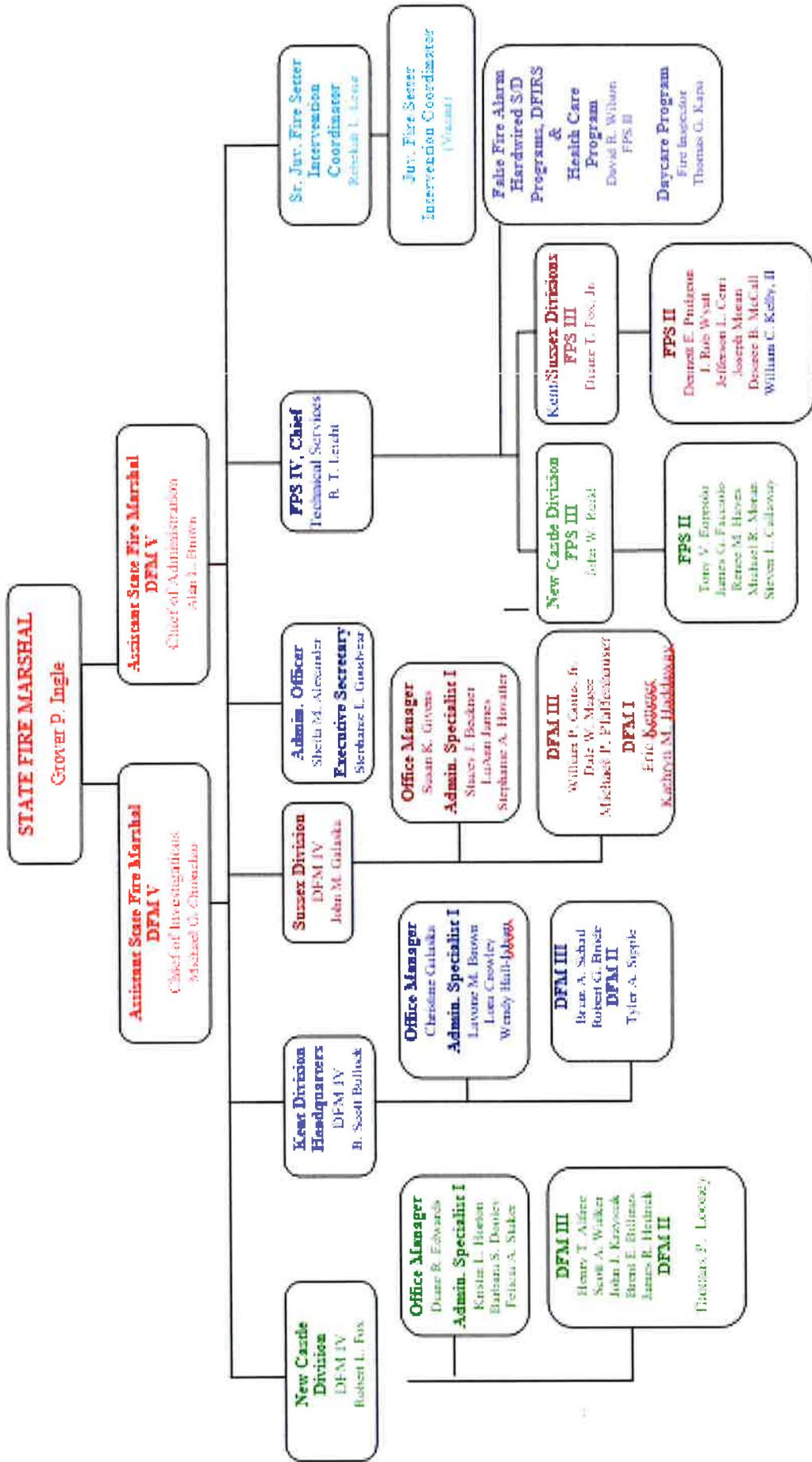
Grover P. Ingle, CFPS, CFI-II
State Fire Marshal



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OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Office of the State Fire Marshal

In 1953, at the urging of the Volunteer Fire Service, the State Legislature created the Office of the State Fire Marshal and directed that regulations, reflecting nationally recognized standards, be promulgated to enhance life safety and property conservation for the citizens of Delaware.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal functions as an independent state agency under the State Fire Prevention Commission, which promulgates the State Fire Prevention Regulations, as enforced by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. As the law enforcement agency charged by State Statute with the suppression and investigation of arson, the Office of the State Fire Marshal provides the lead role in fire and arson investigations, statewide. The agency is charged with assisting the Chief of any fire department on request, inspections and code enforcement in health care facilities, educational occupancies, places of assembly, public accommodations, flammable and combustible liquids, flammable gases, explosives and fireworks.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is funded by revenues from the General Fund Appropriations of the State and by revenues generated by the agency from plan reviews of new construction and licensing fees associated with fire protection systems.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is responsible for the comprehensive compliance with the State Statute for the installation of smoke detection devices in all residential occupancies, which greatly reduce the likelihood of injuries and deaths from fire.

The State Fire Marshal is appointed by the State Fire Prevention Commission and serves a four-year term. Under the direction of the State Fire Marshal, the daily operations of the agency are carried out by a team of dedicated staff members operating out of the headquarters division in Dover, with regional offices in New Castle and Georgetown.

The mission of the Office of the State Fire Marshal is to provide a fire safe environment for the citizens of Delaware and all who visit. This mission of Public Service is carried out through the work of the three divisions; Administration, Field Operations & Technical Services.

Administration Division

The Administration of the Office of the State Fire Marshal is carried out at the headquarters division located in Dover and has the responsibility to ensure the accountability, accuracy and competency of all facets of the agency through the following:

- Program Planning & Evaluation
- Administrative Policies & Procedures
- Maintain Central Records
- Fiscal Management & Budget Preparation
- Personnel Management
- Physical Plant Requirements
- Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System
- Staff Training & Education
- On-going Review of State Fire Prevention Regulations
- Data Management
- Fire Loss/Fire Death Statistics
- Interaction with a variety of State Agencies, General Assembly, Federal, County & Local Government

Field Operations Division

Fire Investigations by Deputy Fire Marshals:

- Conduct fire investigations to determine causal factors and the origin of such incidents
- Identify incendiary fires & other fires of criminal nature
- Investigate arson & other fires of criminal nature
- Pursue & apprehend those responsible for other fires of criminal nature & arson
- Investigate fatal fire incidents
- Assist the Department of Justice by providing expert testimony on arson fires and other fires of criminal or accidental nature
- Identify accidental fire causes to establish proactive preventative measures

Public Service, Life Safety, and Code Enforcement by Deputy Fire Marshals:

- Ensure compliance with the State Statute mandating the installation of smoke detectors in all residential occupancies
- Investigate complaints relative to violations of the State Fire Prevention Regulations
- Conduct on-site Life Safety, Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement Inspections in the following occupancies:

**Educational Occupancies * Places of Assembly * Public Accommodations * Mercantile * Business * Flammable & Combustible Liquids * Flammable Gases * Fireworks * Explosives * Government Buildings **

Technical Services Division

Fire Protection Specialists:

- Review all plans & specifications for construction of new buildings, additions, alterations or modifications to existing buildings to ensure compliance with the State Fire Prevention Regulations
- Provide consultation to prospective developers & builders regarding their plans for projects in the concept phase
- Ensure required fire alarm and fire suppression systems are installed properly
- Coordinate all requests for alternative code requirements and all appeals to the State Fire Prevention Regulations
- Oversee the Licensing & Certification of Fire Alarm Signaling & Fire Suppression System contractors
- Investigate complaints relative to deficiencies in the installation of fire protection systems
- Provide technical support to other state & local jurisdictions

Special Programs

*Juvenile Intervention * K9 Accelerant Detection * Health Care Facility & Day Care Facility Certification * Major Incident Response Team * Assistance to Fire Chiefs * Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System * Quality Assurance * Hard Wired Smoke Detector * False Fire Alarm * Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette **

Promotions

Michael Pfaffenhauser

Deputy Fire Marshal III

Michael Pfaffenhauser began his employment with our office on August 10, 2015, as a Deputy State Fire Marshal I. On January 24, 2020, Mike was promoted to Deputy Fire Marshal III, assigned to the Investigative Division in Sussex County.

John G. Galaska

Deputy Fire Marshal IV

John Galaska began his employment with our office on June 2, 2003 as a Deputy State Fire Marshal I. On February 16, 2020, John was promoted to Deputy Fire Marshal IV, assigned to the Investigative Division in Sussex County.

Retirement

Harry Miller

Deputy Fire Marshal IV

Harry Miller began his employment with our office on June 2, 2003, as a Deputy State Fire Marshal I. On February 10, 2014, Harry was promoted to Deputy Fire Marshal IV, assigned to the Investigative Division in Sussex County. After 16 dedicated years of service, Harry retired on September 24, 2019.

New Employees

Wendy Hall-Isham

Administrative Specialist I

Wendy Hall- Isham began her employment with our office on December 9, 2019 as an Administrative Specialist I, assigned to the Kent County Division.

Eric Ketterer

Deputy Fire Marshal I

Eric Ketterer began his employment with our office on March 16, 2020, as Deputy Fire Marshal I, assigned to the Investigative Division in Sussex County.

Kathryn Megan Haddaway

Deputy Fire Marshal I

Kathryn Megan Haddaway began her employment with our office on June 22, 2020 as Deputy Fire Marshal I, assigned to the Investigative Division in Sussex County.

FY-20 Financial Report (July 1, 2019 thru June 30, 2020)

General Funds

| <u>Appropriations</u> | <u>Available Funds</u> | <u>Encumbrances</u> | <u>Current Year Expenditures</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Personnel (Salaries) | \$2,208,660.02 | \$0.00 | \$2,208,660.02 |
| Contractual | \$263,145.60 | \$23,653.59 | \$239,492.01 |
| Energy | \$37,787.46 | \$2,900.00 | \$34,887.46 |
| Supplies | \$23,315.99 | \$0.00 | \$23,315.99 |
| General Fund Totals | \$2,532,909.07 | \$26,553.59 | \$2,506,355.48 |

Appropriated Special Funds (Revenue Holding Accounts)

| <u>Appropriations</u> | <u>Revenue Received FY19</u> |
|--|------------------------------|
| Amusement-8601 (70002) | \$420.00 |
| Assembly Licensing-8607 (70003) | \$23,475.00 |
| Inspections-8605 (70004) | \$246,590.00 |
| Day Care-8614 (70007) | \$42,177.64 |
| Explosives-8602 (70010) | \$125.00 |
| Fireworks-8603 (70014) | \$2,450.00 |
| In-House License-8616 (70015) | \$300.00 |
| Licensing-8610 (70017) | \$12,775.00 |
| Occup/Permits/License-8606 (70019) | \$1,375.00 |
| Systems License-8609 (70026) | \$18,375.00 |
| Misc. Revenue (70028) | \$55,872.38 |
| Plan Review-8604 (70108) | \$4,008,435.95 |
| ASF Sub Total | \$4,412,370.97 (+) |
| FY 19 Holding Accounts Carry Over | \$7,679,433.12 (+) |
| ASF Grand Total | \$12,091,804.09 (+) |

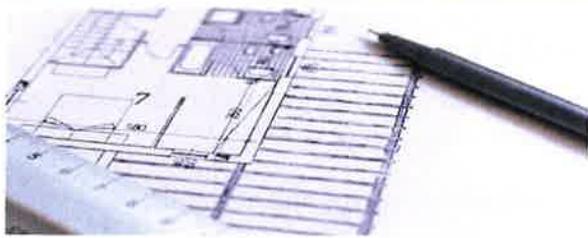
| <u>Appropriations</u> | <u>Available Funds</u> | <u>Encumbrances</u> | <u>Current Year Expenditures</u> |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Personnel (Salaries) | \$1,810,028.24 | \$0.00 | \$1,810,028.24 |
| Travel | \$2,379.30 | \$0.00 | \$2,379.30 |
| Contractual | \$107,923.21 | \$0.00 | \$107,923.21 |
| Supplies | \$16,299.62 | \$177.31 | \$16,122.31 |
| Capital | \$55,364.31 | \$31,971.55 | \$23,392.76 |
| Revenue Refund | \$150.00 | \$0.00 | \$150.00 |
| ASF Spending Totals | \$1,992,144.68 | \$32,148.86 | \$1,959,995.82 |
| FY20 Holding Account Carry Over | | | \$1,992,144.68(-) |
| | | | \$10,099,659.41(+) |

Restricted Non-Appropriated Special Funds

| <u>Appropriation</u> | <u>Available Funds</u> | <u>Revenue Rec'd</u> | <u>Expenditures</u> | <u>Remaining Funds</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Cigarette Certification (21002) | \$214,255.30 | \$79,750.00 | \$0.00 | \$294,005.30 |
| Detector Fund (20345) | \$1,491.76 | \$1,875.74 | \$0.00 | \$3,367.50 |
| Hearing Impaired Detectors (20511) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Juvenile Intervention Program (20566) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| NSF Totals | \$215,747.06 | \$81,625.74 | \$0.00 | \$297,372.80(+) |

Total Cash on Hand June 30, 2020

\$10,397,032.21



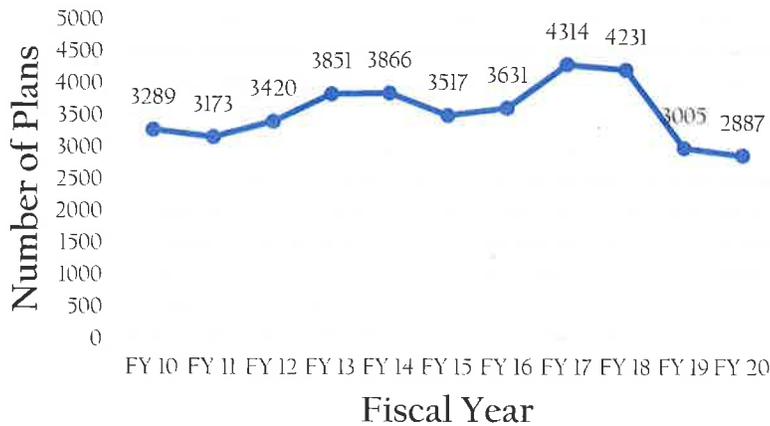
Technical Services

Plan Review

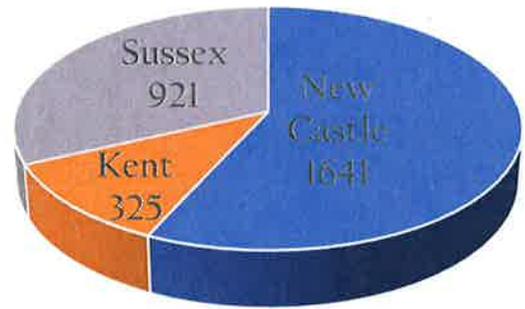
The Office of the State Fire Marshal confirms compliance with the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations on new proposed projects through the Plan Review process completed by the Fire Protection Specialists assigned to the Technical Services Division. After the plans have been approved by the Fire Protection Specialists, inspections are performed to verify compliance with the approved plans. Plan Reviews are performed on:

- Sites
- New construction, including additions, renovations, tenant fit-outs and occupancy changes
- Fire protection systems
- Bulk storage tanks of flammable and combustible liquids

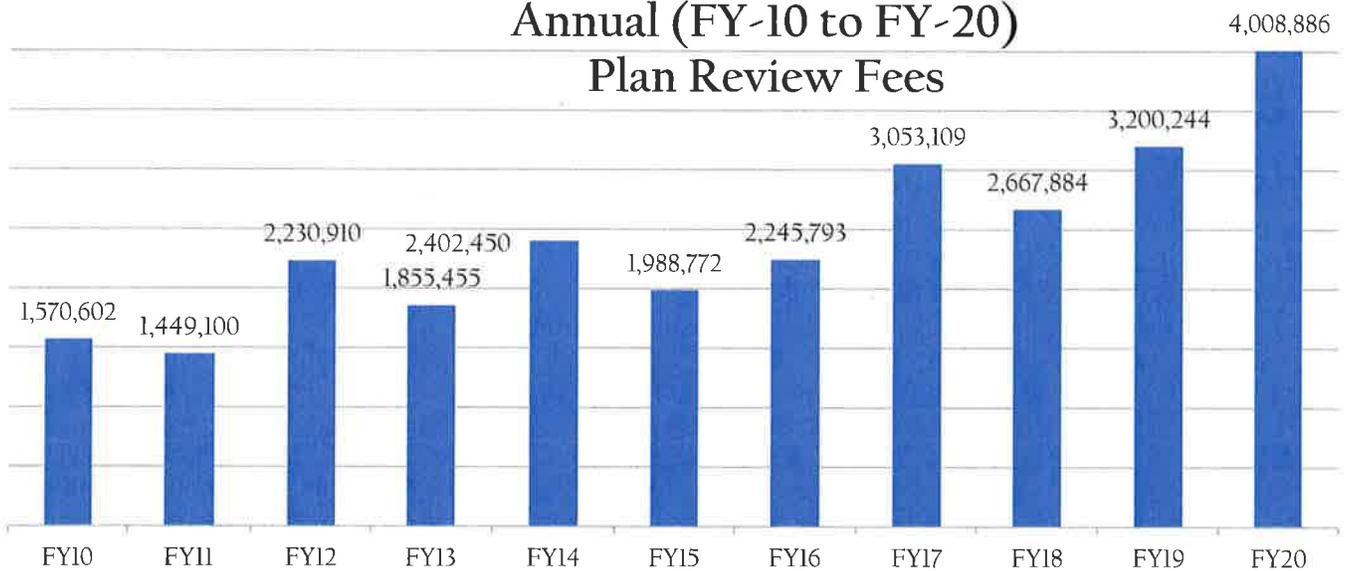
FY 10 - FY 20 Plan Review Projects - Statewide Total



FY 20 - Plan Reviews Conducted by County



Annual (FY-10 to FY-20) Plan Review Fees



Additional Tasks

Due to their technical knowledge and expertise, the supervisory staff of Technical Services provides advisory assistance to other organizations, councils, and committees.

| | |
|---|---|
| State's Water Supply Coordinating Council | Represent the Agency by attending and participating at regularly scheduled Council meetings. |
| DNREC's Tank Management Section | Represent the Agency on their Advisory Committee; no meetings currently scheduled. |
| Office of Child Care Licensing (DSCYF) | Provides technical consultation and advice as needed. |
| National Association of Water Companies | Attend scheduled meetings of the local chapter. |
| City of Wilmington Fire Marshal 's Office | Assist with high level technical plan reviews and provide an advisory role as needed. |
| Office of Healthcare Licensing and Certification (DHSS) | Provides technical consultation and advice as needed. |
| National Fire Protection Association | Two Principal Members and Three Alternative Members appointed to various National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Technical Committees. |
| Office of State Planning Coordination | Represent the Agency; participates at the monthly PLUS meetings with developers and generate detailed reports. Meeting have been "virtual" since March 2020 |
| County Technical Advisory Committees | Participates in the advisory process in New Castle, Kent, Sussex Counties, and several Cities and Towns. |
| American Society of Certified Engineering Technicians | Attends the monthly meetings of the local Chapter. |
| Lower Delaware & Maryland Building Code Officials Association | Represents the Agency; attends regularly scheduled meetings to discuss code enforcement issues in Kent County and Sussex County. |
| Delaware Building Officials Association | Represents the Agency; attends regularly scheduled meetings to discuss local code enforcement issues in New Castle County. |
| Delaware Residential Fire Sprinkler Coalition | Staff members attend and participate in scheduled meetings. Participates in a "live-burn" demonstration as needed. |
| University of Delaware | Assisted with the fire safety training of the University of Delaware Resident Assistance Program. |
| National Association of State Fire Marshals | Assisted Maryland State Fire Marshal with the National Association of State Fire Marshals Conference in Annapolis Maryland; July 21 -26, 2019. |

Fiscal Year 2020 Major Projects

In FY-20 there were over 60 projects submitted for review with estimated construction costs that exceeded \$2,000,000; with approximately 1/3 of them with estimated construction costs exceeding \$10,000,000. Below is a list of some of the more significant projects submitted.

New Castle County

| Project Name | Occupancy Classification | Description |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Logisticcenter at 195 | Storage / Business Offices | 5-story, 3.8 million square foot robotic sorting and picking facility for Amazon with associated office space. Built on the land formerly occupied by the General Motors plant. When the facility is completed, it will be one of the largest of this type in the country |
| Delaware Logistics Park | Storage and Manufacturing | Four buildings, 2 million square foot complex of leasable space for office, manufacturing and storage tenants, located off Delaware Route 1 near Delaware City |
| Blue Diamond Park | Storage / Distribution Warehouse | A large 1.3 million square foot building; proposed Amazon distribution and fulfillment facility |
| Incyte | Business | 8-story office/laboratory building and parking garage in former John Wanamaker site on Augustine Cut-Off |
| Everett Meredith School | Educational | New two-story Middle School building in Appoquinimink School District |
| Brick Mill School | Educational | 40,000 square foot building for Early Childhood near Odessa in Appoquinimink School District |
| Silver Lake School | Educational | Major renovation of 1-story Elementary School building in Appoquinimink School District |
| Meadowcrest at Middletown | Limited Care Facility | An assisted living facility in Odessa/Middletown area |
| DE Army National Guard | Industrial (Special Use) | 69,000 square feet predominantly maintenance facility available for all military branches with associated office and training areas. Located on River Road between Delaware City and New Castle |
| New Castle County Southern Library | Public Assembly/Business | Full service library. Part of County Library system comprises of a single story, 26,000 square feet located in open space on Main Street in Middletown |
| Prices Corner Center | Mercantile | Major renovation of strip shopping center including rebuild of former Sears store to be a Target store |

Kent County

| Project Name | Occupancy Classification | Description |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| Microtel Hotel | Hotel | New 4-story, 35,000 square foot hotel located near Milford Bypass on east side of Milford |
| Milford Movies | Public Assembly | 72,000 square foot movie theatres with 9 individual viewing areas ranging from 40 to 180 seats |
| 10 th Street Medical Office | Business/Office | New 3-story, multi-tenanted medical office building located near Milford Bypass, east side of Milford |

Sussex County

| Project Name | Occupancy Classification | Description |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Howard T. Ennis School | Educational | Large (95,000 square foot) school for Special Need students in Indian River School District |
| Richard A. Shields School | Educational | New 2-story, 95,000 square foot Elementary School building in Cape Henlopen School District |
| Milton Elementary School | Educational | 2-story addition, 97,000 square foot building in Cape Henlopen School District |
| Beebe Surgical Hospital | Health Care | New 4-story, 136,000 square foot Surgical Hospital |
| Spring Arbor | Limited Care Facility | A 30,000 square foot assisted living facility in Lewis area |
| Aloft Hotel | Hotel | New 3-story, 112 room Hotel located off Delaware Route 1 near Rehoboth Beach |
| Hyatt Hotel | Hotel | New 4-story, 105 room Hotel located near Five Points in Lewes |

Preliminary Land Use Service

The Office of the State Fire Marshal continues its support of the “PLUS” program administered through the Office of State Planning Coordination (OSPC). In FY-20, a representative of the State Fire Marshal has attended and participated in the monthly meetings in Dover along with developers of proposed projects and representative of other State agencies. Proposed projects, 54 statewide, were reviewed preliminarily and written reports were generated and transmitted to OSPC for incorporation into their consolidated report back to the developers.

Besides 28 residential developments, which comprised of a total of over 7,400 added apartment and house type dwelling units, some of the more significant projects included:

- **Asbury Square:** 100,000 square foot commercial space in Frederica
- **Fort DuPont Camp & RV Resort:** 400 space RV campground and associated recreational buildings in Delaware City
- **Safstor Chapman:** 105,000 square foot, 4-story, climate controlled interior self-storage building
- **Bridgeville Town Center:** Mixed Use project to include apartments, hotel, retail and office buildings
- **Hockessin Senior Living:** 106,401 square foot assisted living facility
- **Roxana Road Storage** 13,000 square foot office and 94,800 square foot storage facility
- **New Castle Ave. Hotel** 77,544 square foot hotel at approach to the Delaware Memorial Bridge
- **Big Woods Road Warehouse:** 257,000 square foot distribution facility
- **Phoenix Holding:** 81,200 square foot medical center in Milton
- **New Leach School,** 65,000 square foot school in Bear
- **Bayberry Town Center:** Mixed Use site including residential and 278,000 square feet of commercial
- **Edgemoor Port:** 358,600 square foot commercial facility
- **Bush School:** 76,000 square foot elementary school for Brandywine School District

Day Care Inspections

The Office of the State Fire Marshal conducts inspections of child care providers to verify compliance to the State Fire Prevention Regulations. After the inspection, reports are submitted to the Office of Child Care Licensing. In Fiscal Year 2020, The Office of the State Fire Marshal performed 220 day-care inspections. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic annual day care inspections have been temporarily postponed unless a complaint is received from the public or a request is made for assistance by Office of Child Care Licensing for an annual inspection.

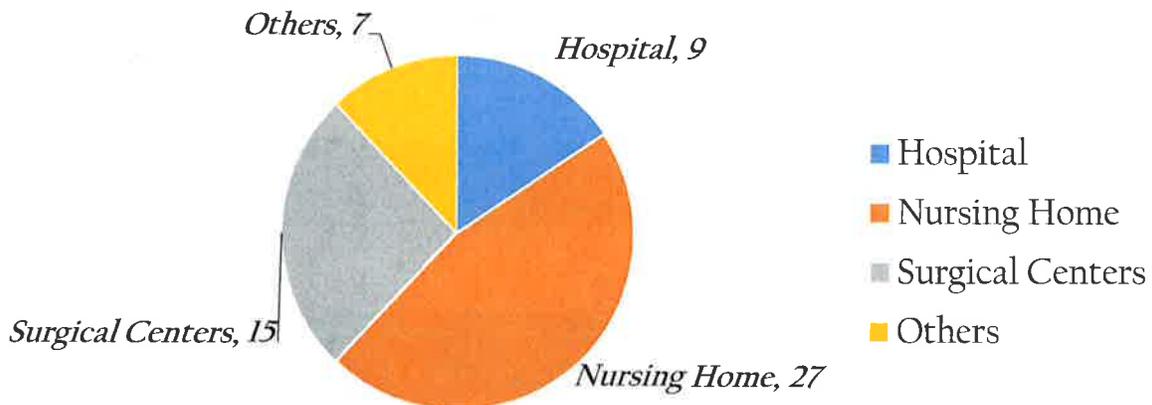
Day Care Inspections FY-2020



Health Care Inspections

The Office of the State Fire Marshal enforces compliance with the State Fire Prevention Regulations of all Ambulatory Surgical Centers and Health Care occupancies by conducting annual inspections. Health Care occupancies include Hospitals, Long Term Care (nursing homes), Assisted Living facilities (limited care), and Ambulatory Surgical Centers. The Office of the State Fire Marshal performs other tasks in Health Care occupancies that include investigating fire incidents, evaluating life safety complaints, answering technical inquiries and responding to consultation requests. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic Health Care Inspections have been temporarily suspended unless a complaint is received by the public or a request for an inspection or assistance is made from DHSS/DPH Health Care Certifications.

Health Care Inspections FY-2020

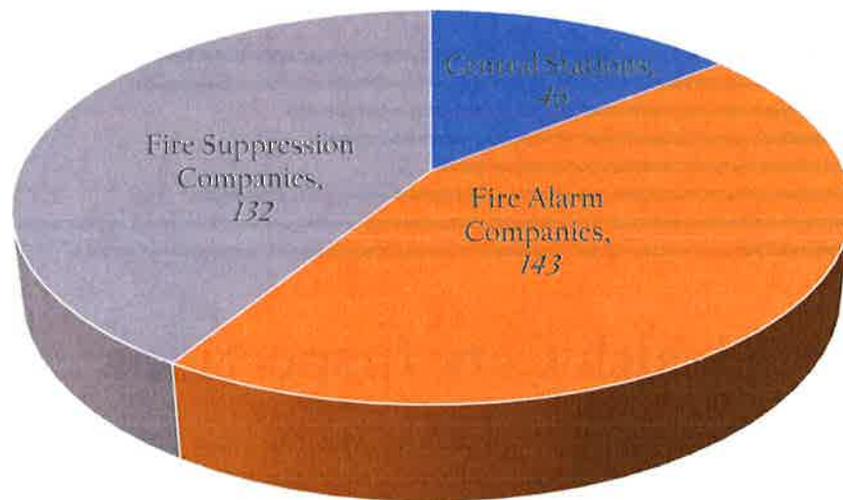


Fire Protection Company Licensing

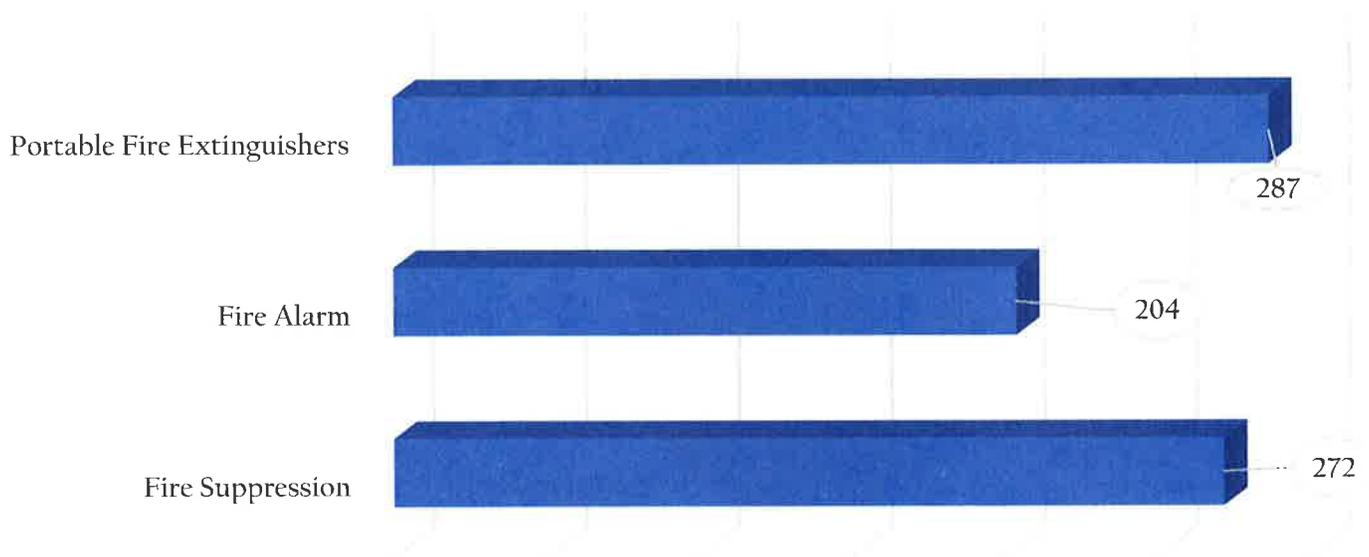
The State Fire Prevention Regulation requires that all companies that design, install and maintain fire protection systems be licensed annually by the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM).

In Fiscal Year 2020, there were 321 Licenses issued to companies providing services to owners of Fire Alarm Signaling systems and/or Fire Suppression Systems. Employed by those companies are 763 Certificate Holders which the OSFM considers to be the licensed company's person(s) of responsible charge.

Fiscal Year 2020 - 321 Total Fire Protection Companies Licensed by the Office of the State Fire Marshal



Fiscal Year 2020 - 763 Total Fire Protection Certificate Holders



Accelerant Detection Canine Unit

*DFM IV John Galaska
& K9 Tanya*



The Office of the State Fire Marshal Accelerant Detection K9 Team has served the state since 1990. The K9 Unit examines fire scenes throughout the state for the presence of accelerants or ignitable liquids, such as gasoline or lighter fluid that may be used to start or spread a fire. In 1997 the agency received a grant from State Farm Insurance Company for an Accelerant Detection K9. This same grant was received and utilized for the current K9. The grant provides the K9 and initial training, lodging and expenses for certification.

The Accelerant Detection K9 Unit has been staffed since 2014 by K9 Tanya, a Black Labrador Retriever and handler Chief Deputy Fire Marshal John M. Galaska. Chief Deputy Galaska has been a handler in the K9 program since 2009, first working with the late K9 Sparks as a secondary handler under Deputy State Fire Marshal Brian Schad and then being partnered with current K9 Tanya as primary handler. The Team of Tanya and handler Chief Deputy Galaska are required to recertify each year. In July 2019 the team successfully recertified at a recertification held in Yarmouth, Maine. This past fiscal year marks Tanya's 6th year of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Delaware. This encompasses K9 response to 428 fire scenes and operational service 208 times. Tanya stands at the ready to serve 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

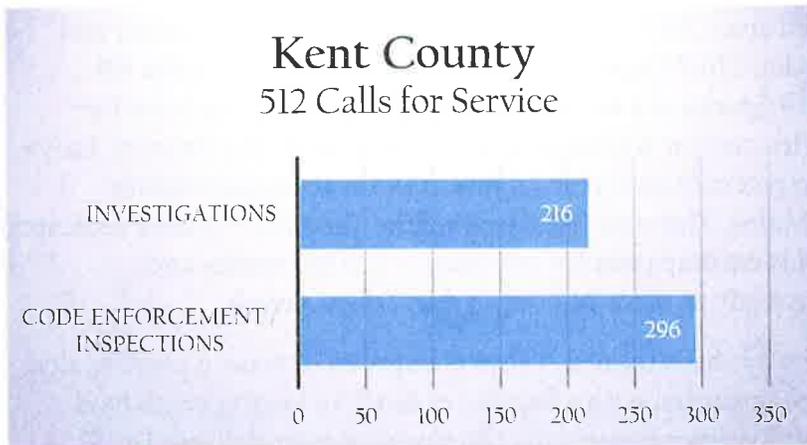
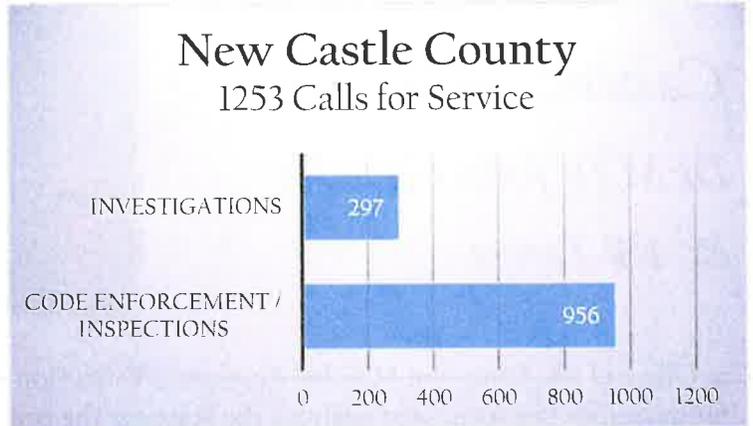
K9 Tanya is a food reward K9 which refers to the way she is trained. Tanya is required to make a positive alert coming to her final response on an accelerant to be rewarded with a handful of food. To keep up with food intake K9 Tanya and Chief Deputy Galaska follow a very intensive daily training processes delivered at different times and for random durations involving actual fire scenes, training scenarios and training aids. This process is repeated until K9 Tanya receives her daily allotment of food which varies from day to day and is regulated by her handler. Tanya is a "companion dog" who lives and travels with Chief Deputy Galaska. A strong team bond is formed between handler and K9 through the intensive training regimen, however, Tanya is a faithful friend and companion to all at the State Fire Marshal's Office.

This past year K9 Tanya and Chief Deputy Galaska trained 1034 separate times. This training represents thousands of trips for K9 Tanya to Galaska's hand for food after a positive final response alert. K9 Tanya responded to 100 fire scenes this fiscal year and was utilized in her operational capacity 33 times. These operational K9 examinations included major loss fire scenes, personal injury fire scenes as well as fatal fire scenes. Successful demonstrations were performed at Cesar Rodney High School, Delaware State Police Academy, New Castle County Police Academy, Sussex County Fire Chiefs meeting all prior to the COVID-19 pandemic which suspended public educational responses. K9 Tanya and Chief Deputy Galaska can provide regional assistance to other agencies when needed and this fiscal year assistance was given to the Wilmington Fire Department as well on call standby for the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office. K9 Tanya and handler Deputy Galaska were featured on a 2014 web series presented by celebrity K9 trainer Victoria Stilwell. This web series is available for viewing at www.arsondog.org

Investigations



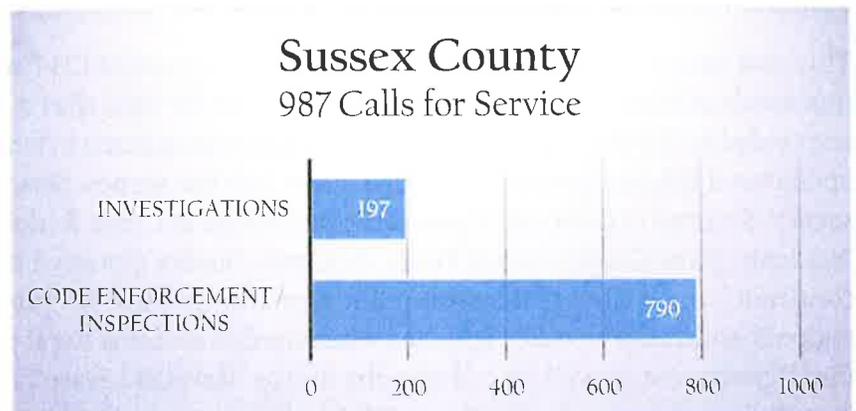
New Castle County, Elsmere, DE
Accidental Building Fire



Kent County, Magnolia, DE
Accidental Camper Fire



Sussex County, Slaughter Beach, DE
Accidental House Fire



Major Incident Response Team

July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Total Fire Deaths: **10**

Total Fatalities **WITH** Working Smoke Detectors: **3**

Total Fatalities **WITHOUT** Smoke Detectors: **7**

Total Fatalities **WITHOUT** Fire Suppression: **10**

July 2019: No Fire Deaths

August 2019: 3 Fire Deaths

Date of Fire: Wed, August 7, 2019
Time of Alarm: 1432 Hours
Victim: W/F-4, W/F-4, B/F-1 yr.
Location: Scarp Street - Millsboro
Fire Department: Indian River Vol. Fire Co.
Type of Incident: House Trailer Fire
Origin: Pending Determination
Cause: Pending Determination
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation
Smoke Detectors: No
Fire Suppression System: No

September 2019: No Fire Deaths

October 2019: No Fire Deaths

November 2019: No Fire Deaths

December 2019: 1 Fire Death

Date of Fire: Thurs, December 19, 2019
Time of Alarm: 1518 Hours
Victim: W/M 58 yrs old
Location: Arthursville Rd - Hartly
Fire Department: Hartly Vol. Fire Co.
Type of Incident: Injured Person
Origin: Victim's Clothing
Cause: Open Flame
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation
Smoke Detectors: No
Fire Suppression System: No

January 2020: No Fire Deaths

February 2020: 3 Fire Deaths

Date of Fire: Tue, February 18, 2020
Time of Alarm: 0012 Hours
Victim: B/M 87 years old
Location: GRM Drive – Frederica
Fire Department: Bowers Fire Company
Type of Incident: House Trailer Fire
Origin: Living Room
Cause: Electrical Malfunction
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation & Thermal Burns
Smoke Detectors: No
Fire Suppression System: No

February 2020:

Date of Fire: Sat, February 29, 2020
Time of Alarm: 2340 Hours
Victim: W/M 78 years old
W/F 74 years old
Location: Barrister Court – Bear
Fire Department: Christiana Fire Company
Type of Incident: House Fire
Origin: Pending Determination
Cause: Pending Determination
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation & Thermal Burns
Smoke Detectors: Yes
Fire Suppression System: No

(Continued)

March 2020:

Date of Fire: Saturday, March 1, 2020
Time of Alarm: 1046 Hours
Victim: B/F 42 years old
Location: Arbutus Avenue - Seaford
Fire Department: Seaford Vol. Fire Company
Type of Incident: Outdoor Fire
Origin: Rear Yard
Cause: Incendiary Fire
Cause of Death: Thermal Burns
Smoke Detectors: No
Fire Suppression System: No

2 Fire Deaths

Date of Fire: Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Time of Alarm: 2359 Hours
Victim: W/M 76 years old
Location: Paul Road – New Castle
Fire Department: Wilmington Manor Fire Co.
Type of Incident: House Fire
Origin: Pending Determination
Cause: Pending Determination
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation
Smoke Detectors: Yes
Fire Suppression System: No

April 2020:

No Fire Deaths

May 2020:

Date of Fire: Wednesday, May 27, 2020
Time of Alarm: 0212 Hours
Victim: B/M 19 years old
Location: Clinton Street – Delaware City
Fire Department: Delaware City Fire Company
Type of Incident: House Fire
Origin: Pending Determination
Cause: Pending Determination
Cause of Death: Smoke Inhalation
Smoke Detectors: No
Fire Suppression System: No

1 Fire Death

June 2020:

No Fire Deaths

Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program



Rebekah L. Legar, MS
Senior Juvenile Fire Setter
Intervention Coordinator

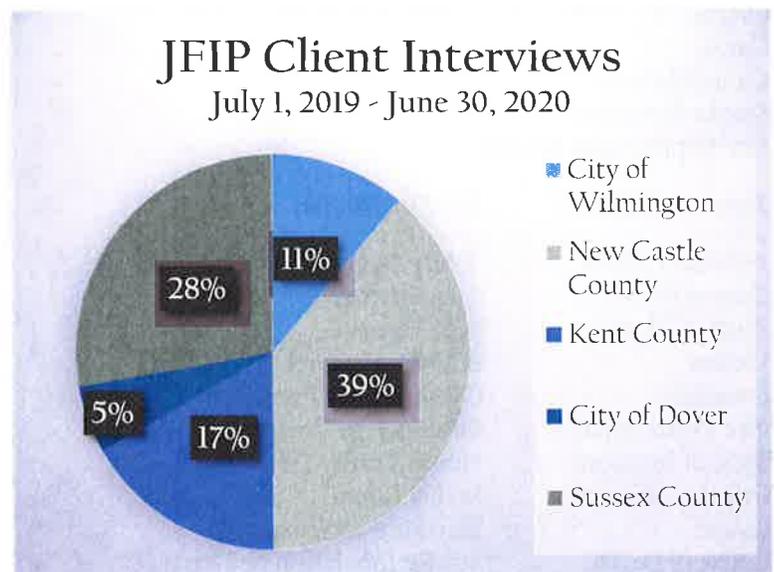
The Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program (JFIP) was initiated in 1981. In those **39** years, **6,129** juveniles have been interviewed and a **3% recidivism rate** has been consistently maintained. In Fiscal Year 2020, referrals were much lower than in recent years, with only 18 referrals. Juveniles are referred to the program through a variety of agencies including, Child Mental Health, Division of Family Services, Youth Rehabilitative Services, Schools, and Fire Departments. A majority of those referrals originated from either parents/guardians or through State or local Fire Marshal's Offices.

The JFIP represents the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) with public relations at community events. This year, the program participated in **20** events throughout the State of Delaware.

Juveniles between the ages of 3-17, may be referred to the JFIP by calling our toll free number at **1-800-432-8500** or by utilizing the referral form which can be accessed on our website <http://statefiremarshal.delaware.gov/juvenile.shtml>

Educational Intervention

- Consequences of Fire Play
- Hurting Themselves and Others
- A High Price to Pay (Legal/Financial)
- Media Influence
- Media Portrayal of Fire vs. Reality
- Good Choices vs. Bad Choices
- Peer Pressure Influence



False Fire Alarms

Effective January 1, 2004, an amendment to the Delaware Code (Title 16 §6637) introduced an initiative intended to reduce the frequency of false fire alarms in the State of Delaware. It is intended to deter excessive number of fire alarms that have been determined to be a result of poor detector maintenance or lack of required fire alarm servicing.

| | New Castle | Kent | Sussex | Statewide |
|---|------------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Total Alarm Activations (# of Warnings Issued) | 92 | 31 | 75 | 198 |
| Fines Issued: | 6 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| Amount Collected | \$1050 | \$200 | \$100 | \$1350 |

In FY20 there were over **198 False Fire Alarms** recorded with 8 of them leading to penalties being issued. These fines resulted in \$1350 being collected. All monies derived from the civil penalties are placed in the Fire Detection Fund used for the purpose of sponsoring hard wired smoke detectors to needy Delaware residents.

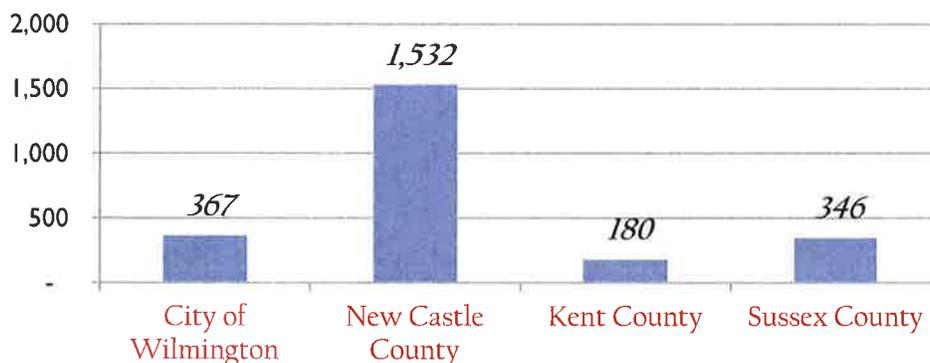
Operation Safety- Hard Wired Smoke Detectors

The State Fire Marshal acknowledges that **Smoke Detectors Save Lives.**

The objective of Operation “Safety” is to ensure the installation of hard wired smoke detectors in every private residence in the State of Delaware by assisting citizens in homes where handicapped children, handicapped adults, infirm residents and residents 62 years of age and older reside.

To date, the program has been responsible for the installation of *2,425 detectors in 906 homes.*

HWSD Program Totals to Date



Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System (DFIRS)

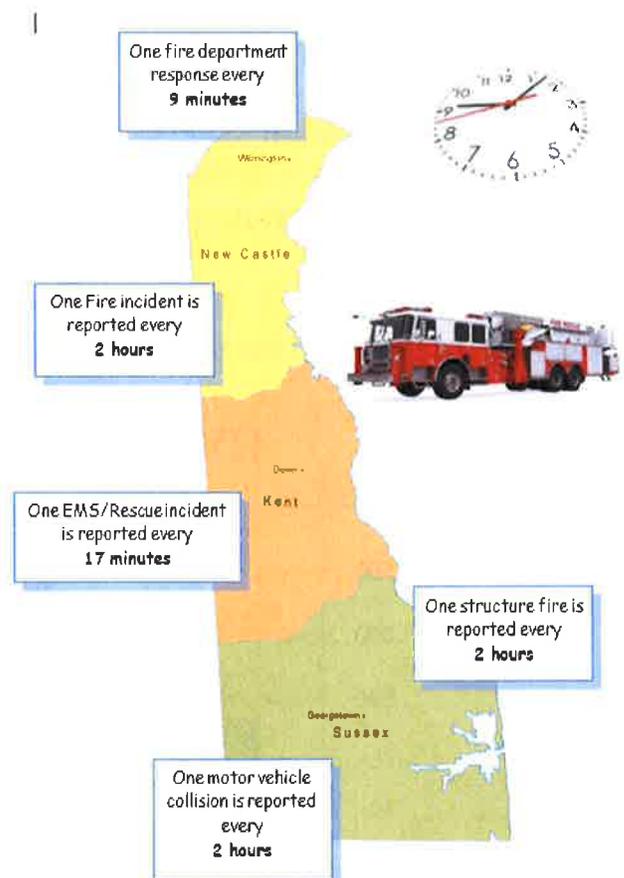
Keeping Delaware Safe - Fighting Fire with Facts

DFIRS is Delaware's segment of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), a reporting system that captures the full range of incident activity. It constitutes the world's largest national collection of fire incident information. The Office of the State Fire Marshal oversees the consolidation and technical review of the collected data from all 61 Delaware fire departments.

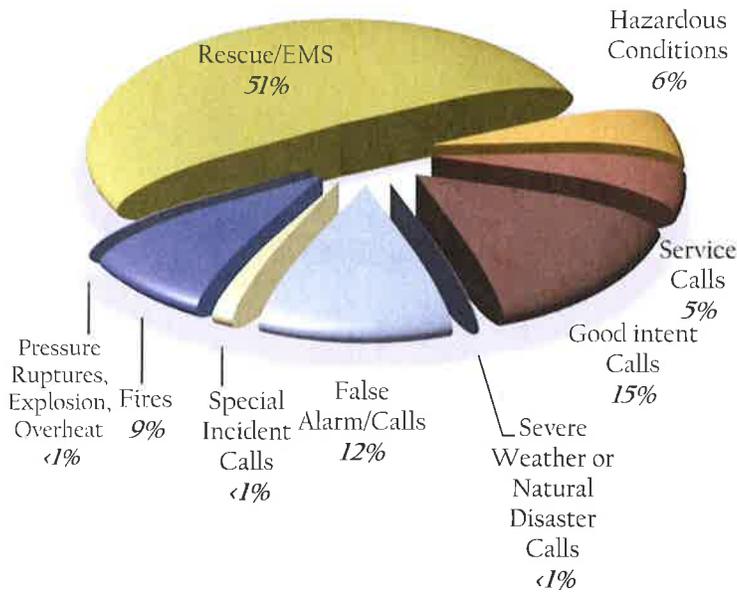
In 2019, **61,821** incidents were reported to the Office of the State Fire Marshal. There were **10,038** incidents in which a fire department provided assistance (mutual or automatic aid given) to another jurisdiction.

The makeup of the types of incidents that fire departments reported in 2019 showed an **increase by 2 percent** from the previous year. The following charts provide an overview of the current characteristics in Delaware:

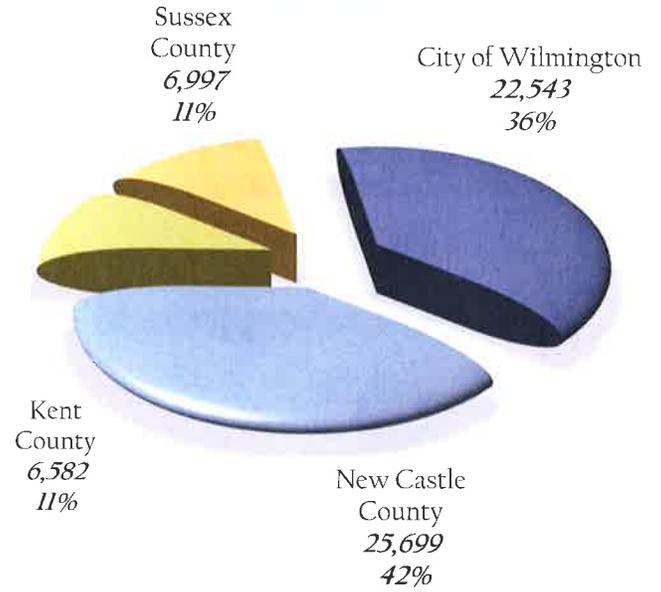
Total Incidents for 2019



Incident Type Summary for 2019

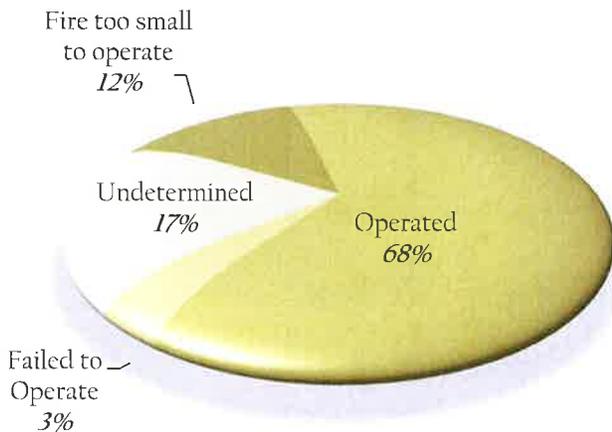


Incidents by County and City of Wilmington for 2019

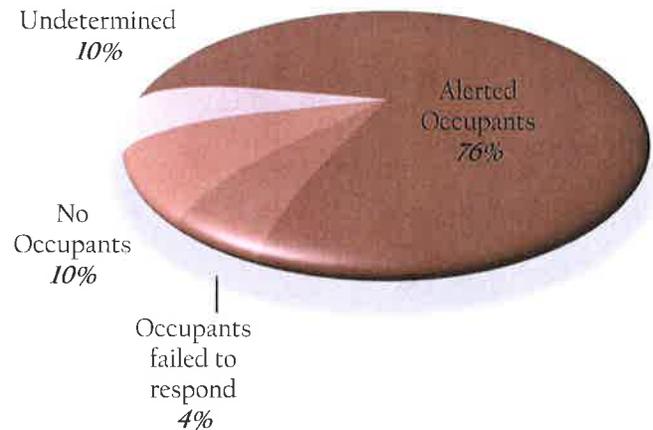


The data in these tables identify the operating principle of detectors present in the area of origin or in near proximity to the area of origin.

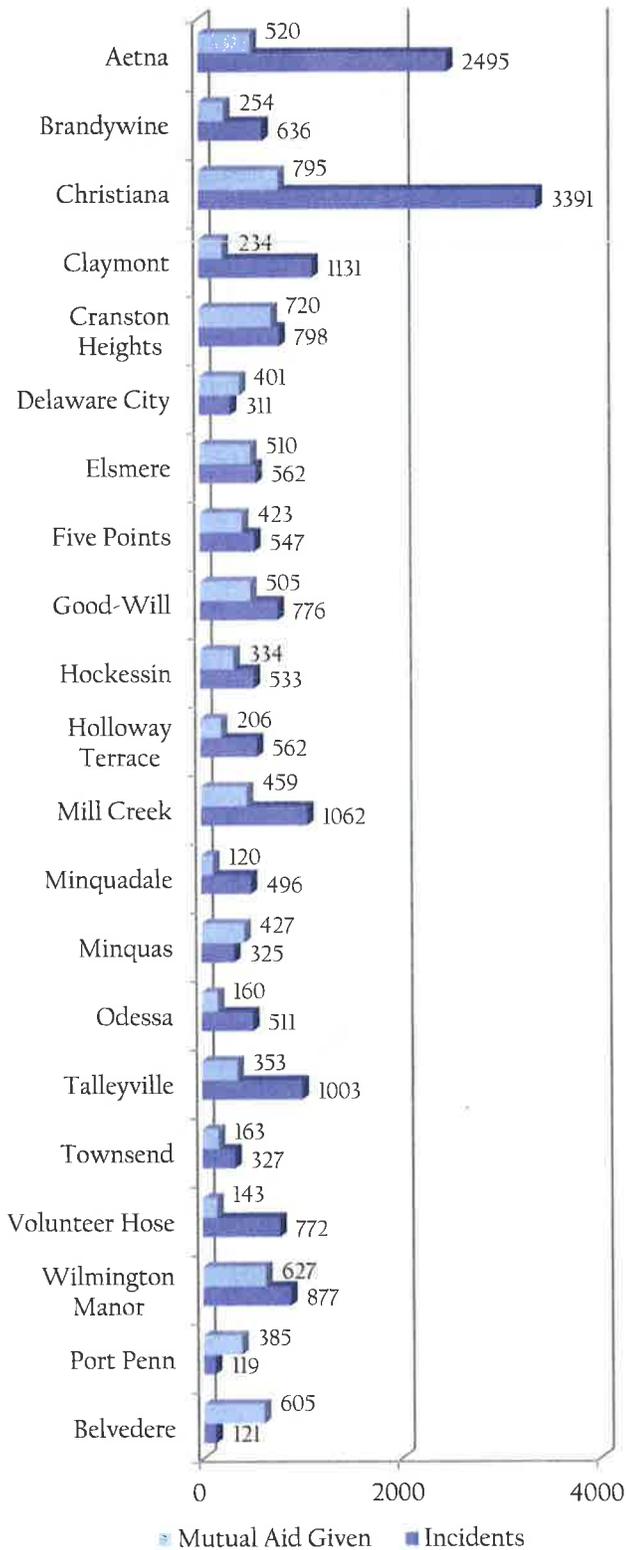
Detector Operation for 2019



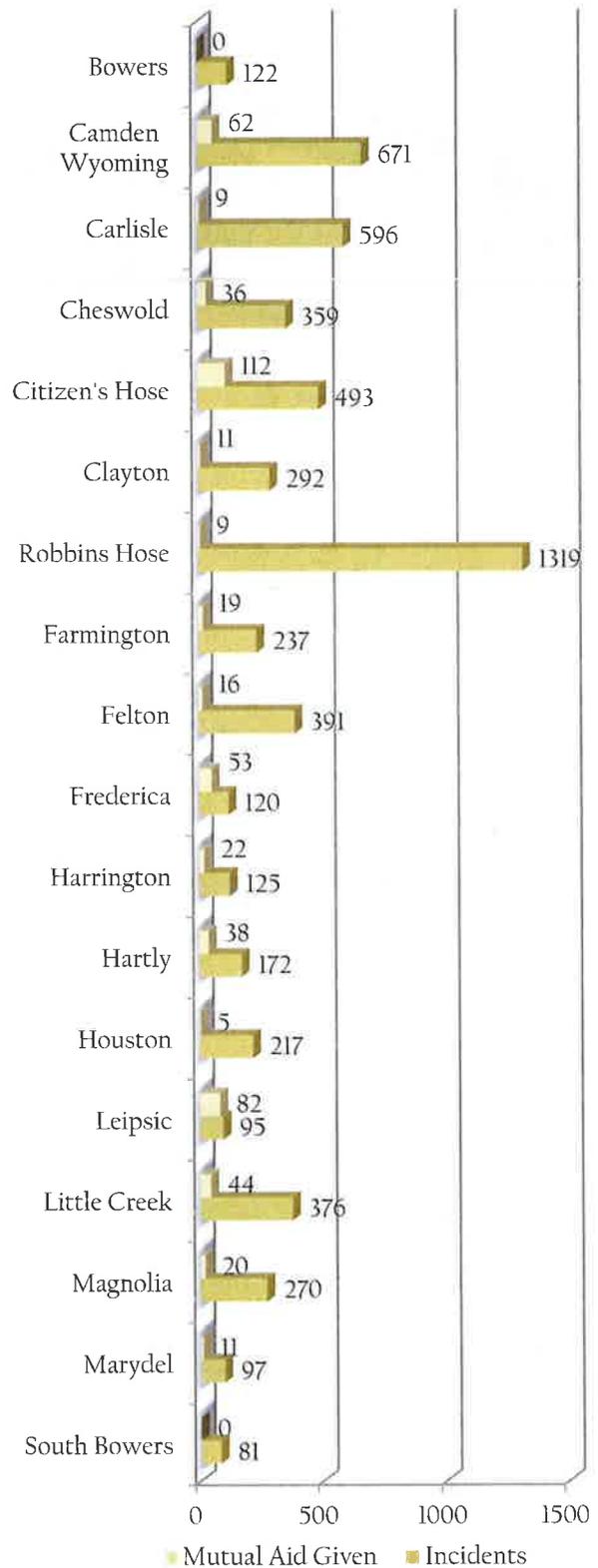
Detector Effectiveness for 2019



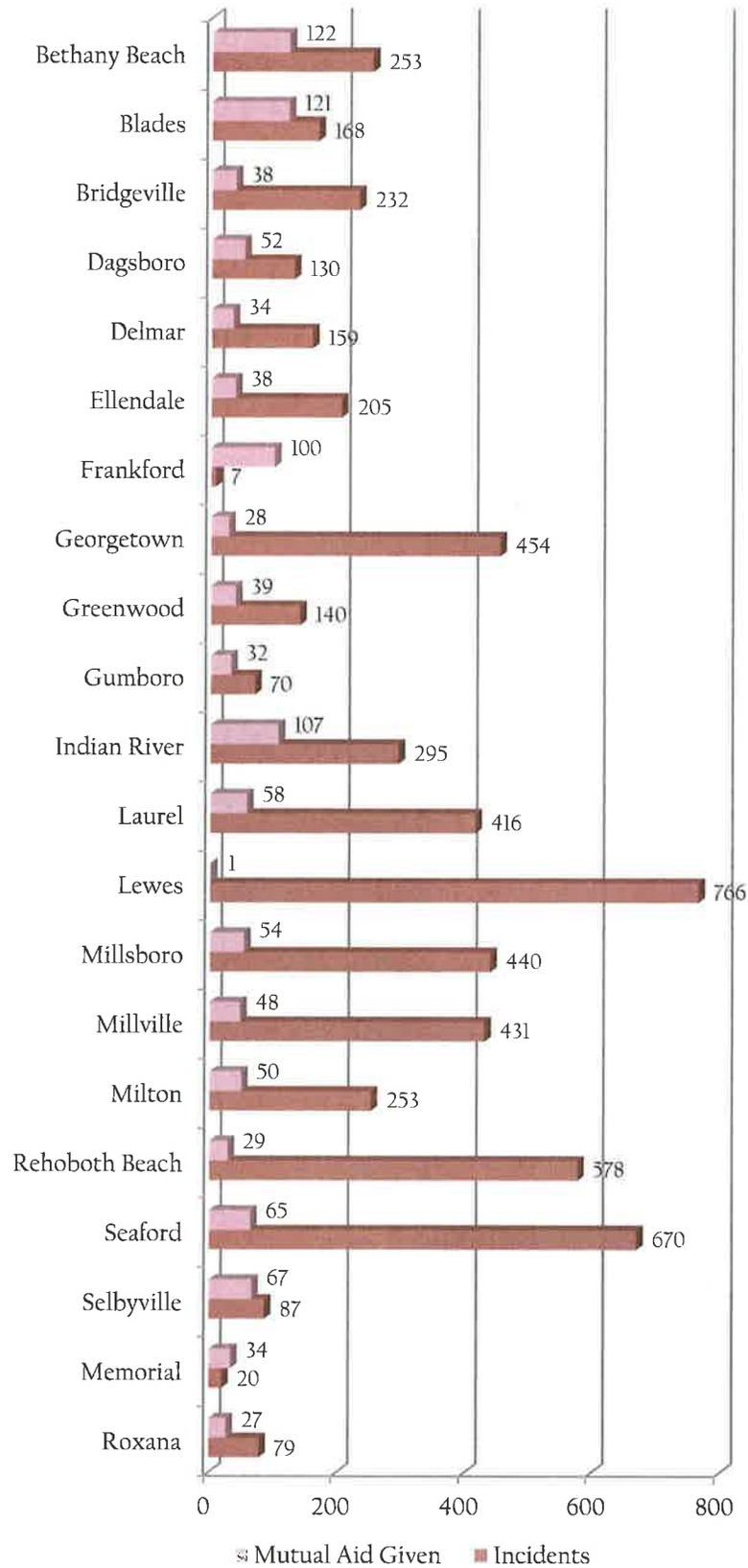
New Castle County Incidents (excl. City of Wilmington) for 2019



Kent County Incidents for 2019



Sussex County Incidents for 2019



Office of the
Delaware State Fire Marshal



Headquarters Division
1537 Chestnut Grove Road
Dover, DE 19904

New Castle Division
2307 MacArthur Road
New Castle, DE 19720



Sussex Division

22705 Park Avenue
Georgetown, DE 19947

