

CITY OF *Salem*  
AT YOUR SERVICE



# SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT

## 2010 Annual Report

# Mission Statement

*Protecting lives, property and the environment placing safety and service above all.*

## Vision

### We will:

- *Provide excellent customer service and exceed the expectations of the people we serve, both internally and externally*
- *Be responsive to the changing needs of our customers*
- *Be an organization of highly trained and motivated professionals*
- *Be proactive in planning for our community's future*
- *Be an organization highly respected by our peers*

## Values

*As public servants we hold ourselves and each other accountable for the following:*

### Integrity

We understand the trust placed in us by the public and our colleagues is integral to the performance of our duties. We are committed to honest, ethical behavior and hold ourselves accountable to these values.

### Professional Excellence

We believe the pursuit of excellence and demonstrating high professional standards are both critical to our work. We ensure the best possible service for our community. We support continuous training and encourage professional development. We respect diversity of our community by providing compassionate and quality service to all.

### Community Service and Involvement

We are committed to fulfilling our responsibility and deepening our involvement in the community we serve.

### Teamwork and Shared Leadership

We know well-functioning teams of people are more effective than individuals who are working separately; lives depend on it. We believe individuals have the capacity to lead and our organization values leadership at all levels. Teamwork and shared leadership are integral to our organization. We seek out and value the opinions of our members.

### Health & Safety

We believe health and safety are essential to fulfilling our mission. We are committed to providing quality health and safety programs to ensure operational readiness and personal well-being.

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# Fire Station 1 Seismic Upgrade

The major seismic upgrade and remodel of Fire Station 1, the Headquarters for the Salem Fire Department, was nearing completion at the end of 2010. This remodel and upgrade of the existing structure will provide the duty staff and our administrative personnel a modern functional location from which we will be able to better meet the needs of the citizens of Salem.



## New Apparatus

The year 2010 saw the last of the new fleet purchased with the 2006 Bond. The new fire apparatus, Ladder 4, has a 102 foot elevated platform and was placed in service at Station 4. The new ladder has increased storage capacity for vital equipment used by firefighters on a variety of emergency incidents.



# Emergency Medical Services

Salem Fire Department (SFD) ran 12,850 emergency medical services (EMS) responses for 2010. This was an increase of approximately 1%, compared to the total EMS responses for 2009.

SFD continues to work at raising awareness regarding the placement of Automated External Defibrillators (AED) in public places and businesses. There are currently well over 140 AED's placed throughout the Salem community. Members of the public can learn where these devices are located and self register a new AED by visiting the SFD website at:

<http://www.cityofsalem.net/EMS>

SFD partnered with Marion County Health Department in January 2010 and held a public health vaccination clinic at Lancaster Mall. The clinic was staffed with paramedics and other health care providers that were fluent in Spanish, Russian, and American Sign Language. Over one hundred men, women and children were vaccinated at no cost. All vaccinations and supplies were provided by the Marion County Health Department.



In June of 2010 SFD placed two new tools on our first response vehicles, including Rad-57 pulse Co-oximeters on the ladder trucks, and EZ-IO's on the ambulances. The Rad-57 monitors are used to measure the level of carbon monoxide in the blood of firefighters and members of the public. These monitors will be used when evaluating and treating firefighters or civilians at a fire scene, or when responding to a call involving a carbon monoxide alarm. The EZ-IO is a powered intraosseous infusion system that provides paramedics immediate vascular access to the patients' central circulation within seconds; this allows the delivery of medications and intravenous fluids to adult and pediatric patients alike when an intravenous (IV) line is unavailable or unobtainable.



In July of 2010 SFD and Rural Metro Ambulance (RMA) completed a contract renewal process and signed a five year agreement, extending the public-private partnership through June of 2015.

Also in July, The City of Salem Fire Department contracted with Dr. Brian Clothier to provide physician advisor services in the form of off line medical control, written standing orders, and treatment protocols that are used by the 155 paramedics and EMT's in the Department. Dr. Clothier is a partner in the Salem Emergency Physicians Service; the group that serves

as ER physicians at Salem Hospital.

Throughout 2010 SFD, in cooperation with RMA evaluated and made changes to the EMS deployment plan. These changes included adding additional ambulances to the system during peak times and adjusting the work schedule of ambulances and RMA supervisors from 24 hour shifts to a combination of 12, 10, and 8 hour shifts. This effort will provide the citizens of Salem with ALS care and transport services in the most efficient and timely manner possible.

The EMS Division continues to operate Salem Medical Transport, an ambulance billing service, as well as manage and administer the popular Capital Fire Med membership program. The EMS Division provides ambulance billing to Keizer Fire District, Marion County Fire District #1, Turner Fire District, City of Dallas EMS and Jefferson Fire District.



# SFD Special Teams

## Hazardous Materials (HazMat)

The Salem Fire Department (SFD) continues to serve Oregon's HAZMAT Region #13, which generally includes communities from Lincoln City to Prineville around the transportation corridors of Hwy 18, Hwy 22, and Hwy 20 that connect the Central Oregon Coast to Central Oregon.



In addition to its mission of responding to releases of hazardous materials, SFD readies local fire departments and other public safety agencies to take critical initial steps to protect the public and their communities through teaching events known as "outreach training." During these sessions, firefighters and other responders are taught how to identify the hazardous material, rescue victims, and evacuate those threatened by downwind vapors until the HAZMAT team arrives.

In Summer 2010, SFD participated in an exercise with the Bend Post Office, one of the many U.S. Post Office facilities in Region #13. This drill simulated a dozen postal workers being exposed to Anthrax from a letter carrying the substance. SFD's HAZMAT Team members erected a "mass decontamination shower," a portable showering system that permits a large volume of victims to wash off hazardous materials in private stalls with heated water. In the photo, Firefighter/Paramedic Jennifer Pratt is wearing a chemical-resistant suit and self-contained breathing apparatus while directing victims into the gender-appropriate side of the decontamination shower. Once inside, victims will undress, take a shower, then re-dress in a disposable garment before being examined by a public health nurse.



# SFD Special Teams

## Airport Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF)

Fire station 6, which is located adjacent to the Salem Municipal Airport, is staffed with the Salem Fire Department's Airport Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) specialty team. This station is also the location of the department's two ARFF vehicles; known as Foam 6 and Foam 16. The ARFF specialty team, and backup personnel located at station 10, coordinate multiple training scenarios throughout the year. Several Alert II calls from the Salem Municipal Airport during the year brought both Foam 6 and 16 to the scene. This allowed the ARFF teams to practice with a dual truck system, tactics that are learned in both the classroom and on the training grounds. These tactics are required should an incident escalate beyond a standby situation. "B" shift members were fortunate to participate in a full scale airport disaster drill in September based on a bomb threat incident. The drill went quite well as Fire, EMS and Police worked well together on a unified basis. The ARFF team also attended annual re-certification training in Salt Lake City in April of 2010 where training consists of drills related to truck operations and interior fire scenarios. The ARFF team continues their dual role of providing protection on and around the airport community.



## Technical Rescue

The year 2010 was a very busy year for Salem Fire's Technical Rescue Team. The team has 21 members trained to the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Rescue Technician level. All 21 team members are stationed at Fire Station 4 in South Salem with 7 technicians per shift. The Department also added four more technicians to the State of Oregon's Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR.) These team members get an additional 80 hours of structural collapse training in addition to their confined space, high angle rope, trench and vehicle machinery extrication skills. Four of our USAR technicians also attended a FEMA Medical Specialist Class teaching those advanced medical skills and techniques found in structural collapse type incidents.



# SFD Special Teams

## Water Rescue

Salem Fire Department's Water Rescue Team continued to provide a valuable resource to the community in 2010. The Department has been working closely with other outside agencies to partner up during water rescue type emergencies. The Department is a member of the Marion/Linn County Water Rescue consortium, as well as the Marion/Polk/Yamhill County Water Rescue consortium. These efforts enable faster, more efficient and reliable responses to water rescue type events anywhere in the supported counties. The Water Rescue Team responded on several multi agency calls for service in 2010 including assisting Marion County in searching for a missing fisherman and assisting the Willamette Queen.

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## Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)

The Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team provides "peer" counseling to members of the Salem Fire Department that have been affected emotionally by emergency responses. A majority of the team's activity continues to be "one-on-one" peer counseling sessions with department members. The CISM Team has conducted group crisis interventions as well over the last year. The team's focus in 2011 will be to evaluate their efficiency, continue to obtain regular standardized training, and to ensure that the services that are provided by the team meet the expected standard of care. The CISM Team will accomplish this by continuing to meet quarterly and conducting group training scenarios.

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## Salem Professional Firefighters Pipes & Drums



The Salem Firefighters Pipes and Drums (SFP&D) was established in 2008 and is comprised of 17 members of the Salem Fire Department. The mission of SFP&D is to support the Salem Professional Firefighters by performing at funerals, fire department functions, and other civic and community events. The band pays homage and respect to the fallen brothers and sisters of the Oregon fire service and other public safety agencies through the playing of the great Highland Bagpipes. The organization trains and

performs as a pipe and drum band, and maintains a level of proficiency that brings credit to the men and women of the fire service. The band is completely funded by the IAFF Union. Last year SFP&D played at over 30 events throughout the state.



# Fire and Life Safety Division

## New Construction Plan Review and Inspection

The key components of the Fire and Life Safety Division's work are interrelated to the "Three E's" of risk reduction; Engineering, Education, and Enforcement. As a part of this effort, staff work to ensure that new developments and construction projects are designed and constructed in accordance with nationally recognized codes and standards.

This approval process involves plan review, code research, construction site inspection, and confidence testing and includes the following:

- Fire department access
- Adequate water supply
- Fire hydrant locations
- Life-safety building design
- Fire alarm systems
- Fire suppression systems
- Hazardous materials storage, use, and processing



In 2010 staff reviewed 623 plans for conformance with adopted codes. Major projects this past year included:

- Willamette University Ford Hall
- Home Depot Distribution Center
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- Chemeketa Center for Business & Industry

## Annual Fire Inspections

In addition to new construction activity, Fire & Life Safety staff also perform ongoing inspections in existing commercial buildings to ensure adequate life-safety provisions are maintained. These inspections focus on building occupancy, exiting, fire alarm and fire suppression systems, maintenance of fire-resistive construction, and fire department access. More than 700 inspections and re-inspections were conducted in 2010 that resulted in the abatement of more than 1300 hazards.

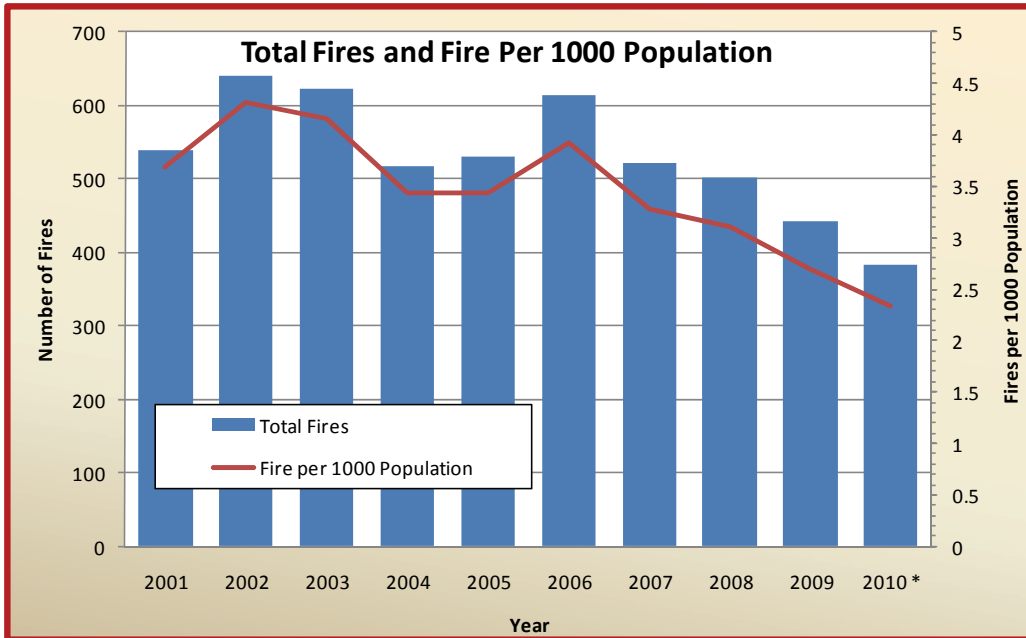
## Fire Investigation and Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention

Our Deputy Fire Marshals investigated 49 significant fires this year to determine the origin and cause and to classify the fires as to accidental, intentional, equipment failure, or natural causes. In the course of these investigations, staff works closely with the Salem Police Department when criminal activity is involved. Staff also conducted 13 juvenile fire setter intervention assessments; working with parents and guardians of children involved in fire setting activity.

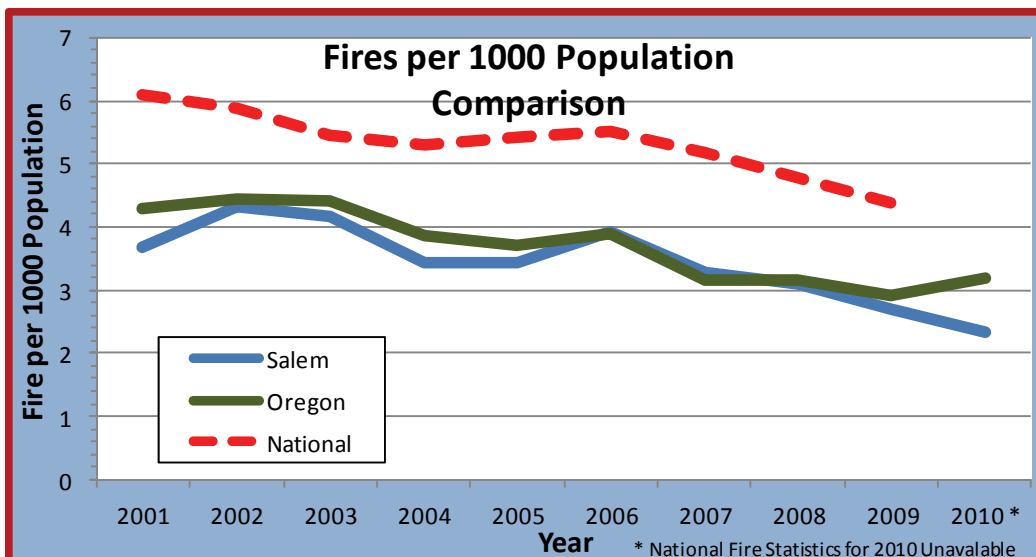
# Fire and Life Safety Division

## Fire Experience

Salem experienced the fewest number of fires during 2010 compared to the previous 23 years. There were 383 fires during 2010 compared to 783 fires in 1987. The number of fires per 1,000 population has decreased considerably during the same time frame dropping from 6.1 fires per 1,000 population to 2.3 fires per 1,000 population in 2010. Though fire is still a considerable threat to Salem's public safety, the change is encouraging as demonstrated by the following chart.



The following chart demonstrates the fires per 1,000 individuals in a population. Salem's fire experience is lower than the national rate and on par with the number of fires per 1,000 persons in Oregon.



# Fire and Life Safety Division

## Emergency Management

January 2010 opened with continuing concerns over the Swine Flu (H1N1). The City Manager's H1N1 task-force monitored actions across the city and avoided major impacts to the safety of our citizens and the productivity of city staff. Basic response protocols were established for any future events.

As the El Niño period continued into the spring and early summer with snow flurries, rain and high winds, we began to wonder if summer was ever going to arrive. Summer finally arrived in July and August with heat advisories, triple digit temperatures and requests of the citizens to ration water during an availability crisis. As August came to an end, forecasters began to discuss the prospect of La Niña conditions for the upcoming winter season. Moving into September, La Niña made itself evident with showers leading to heavy rain, high winds, freezing conditions and early snow into December. The year closed with severe weather involving an historic tornado in Aumsville that produced over one million dollars in damage. Throughout this precarious weather year, Emergency Management worked with allied agencies in Marion and Polk counties.



2010 marks the eight year anniversary of the Salem Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. Through the year over 565 citizen members have been trained to act as a resource to the fire department. One new CERT cache



location was established, one was moved and another received significant improvements. CERT members were instrumental in 19 preparedness presentations and trained two

new classes totaling 46 new members. CERT members have responded to annual snow and ice events, provided support for long term power outages and helped staff amateur radio positions in the local neighborhoods.



Salem Emergency Management completed the three year cycle of planning, training and exercising for all response elements at Salem's McNary Airport. A full scale exercise was held on September 17, 2010, with airport staff, law enforcement, fire, EMS and public works responders. Emergency Management partners such as Red Cross, Salvation Army, Salem Hospital and Salem Transit were also involved. Approximately 250 individuals participated in this exercise from 30 different agencies across Marion and Polk Counties. Additionally, emergency management participated in three other federal, state and local exercises to test all-hazard plans.

Many grants were administered by Emergency Management during 2010. The City of Salem was granted access to the federal Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program which supports our Salem program. Homeland Security grants from 2007 through 2010 assisted the City in providing additional planning, training and equipment for various departments. The Fire Station Seismic Retrofit Grant was completed this year. Additionally, emergency management partners across the city participated in a Continuity of Operations grant, along with beginning a Local Energy Assurance Planning grant from the U.S. Department of Energy. These federal grants have improved the operational environment for the primary response departments in the City of Salem.



Salem's EOC has been enhanced through the use of our Spatial Awareness Framework for Events (SAFE) program. The utilization of this online program allows staff to monitor the impacts of all activities that are occurring across the city on a single GIS map. This, in combination with the newly established Salem EOC Incident Management Teams (IMT), provides a well rounded response program for extreme emergency conditions.

# 2010 Statistics

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Salem Population.....	163,955
Square Mileage.....	80
Fire Stations.....	11

## PERSONNEL

Total Employees.....	174
Emergency Operations.....	156
Fire and Life Safety.....	7
Administration.....	6
EMS.....	5

## APPARATUS

Advanced Life Support (ALS)	
Engine Companies.....	11
HazMat Vehicle.....	1
ALS Ladder Companies.....	2
ALS Medic Units (Reserve).....	4
Battalion Cars.....	2
Grass Rigs.....	3
Water Rescue Boat.....	1
Tender.....	2
Urban Search/ Rescue Veh.....	4
ARFF.....	2
Reserve Engine.....	3
Reserve Ladders.....	1
Reserve Battalion Car.....	1

## ACTIVITY

Total Calls.....	17,099
Fire Calls.....	383
Over Pressure.....	4
EMS Calls.....	12,560
Hazard (No Fire).....	476
Service Call.....	1,302
Good Intent.....	771
False Alarm/ Call.....	1,181
Severe Weather .....	2
Mutual /Automatic Aid.....	420

## TYPES OF FIRE CALLS

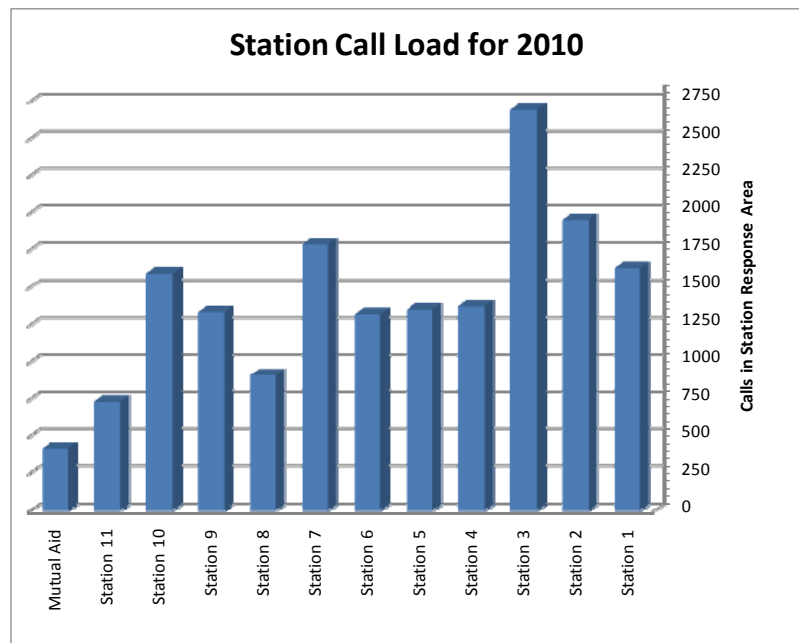
Structure Fires.....	147
Mobile Structure/Vehicle Fires..	67
Natural Vegetation Fires.....	18
Garbage/Rubbish Fires.....	25
Special Outside Fires.....	30
Cultivated Vegetation Fires....	94

## TYPES OF EMS CALLS

Emergency Medical Aid.....	11,031
Medical Facility Transfers.....	18
Non-Emerg. Medical Aid.....	746

## APPARATUS ACTIVITY

Engine 1.....	1,476
Engine 2.....	1,803
Engine 3.....	2,294
Engine 4.....	1,344
Engine 5.....	1,265
Engine 6.....	1,200
Engine 7.....	1,569
Engine 8.....	1,207
Engine 9.....	1,240
Engine 10.....	1,427
Engine 11 .....	607
Reserve Engines.....	39
Medic Units.....	701



# Awards and Recognition



## Oregon Fire Chief's Association (OFCA) Awards

**Unit Citation Award**  
*Captain Chad May*  
*Engineer Pete Gutbrod*  
*FF/Paramedic Adam Hoffman*

**Unit Citation Award**  
*FF/Paramedic Amy Charbonneau, along with members of the Salem Police Department*

## New Hires

Spring Adamo, FF/Medic  
Dru Davis, FF/Medic  
Brent Durschmidt, FF/Medic  
Mike Hoopes, FF/Medic  
Tyler Hordichok, FF/Medic  
Scott Leavell, FF/Medic  
Ben McCready, EMS Management Analyst  
Adam Nuñez, FF/Medic  
Jim Stewart, Deputy Chief Fire & Life Safety  
Ronnie Williams, FF/Medic  
Tod Woodward, FF/Medic

## 2010 Honor Guard

Dave Brown  
Brian Carrara  
Trevor Elmer  
Glen Fitzpatrick  
Trevor Fosmark  
Brad Paris

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## EarthWISE Certified

Commitment to environmentally friendly practices



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## Promotions / Assignments

David Brown, Engineer  
Tom Gakstatter, Captain  
Andrew Grimmer, Engineer  
Brian Hollis, Engineer  
Jeff Nuttman, Engineer  
Brandon Silence, Engineer  
Gary West, Captain

## Retirements

Ron Herren  
Scott Hukari  
Joe Parrott

## Service Awards

**35 Years**  
Bob Davis  
Ron Herren  
Scott Hukari

**30 Years**  
Larry Miletta  
Eric Berning

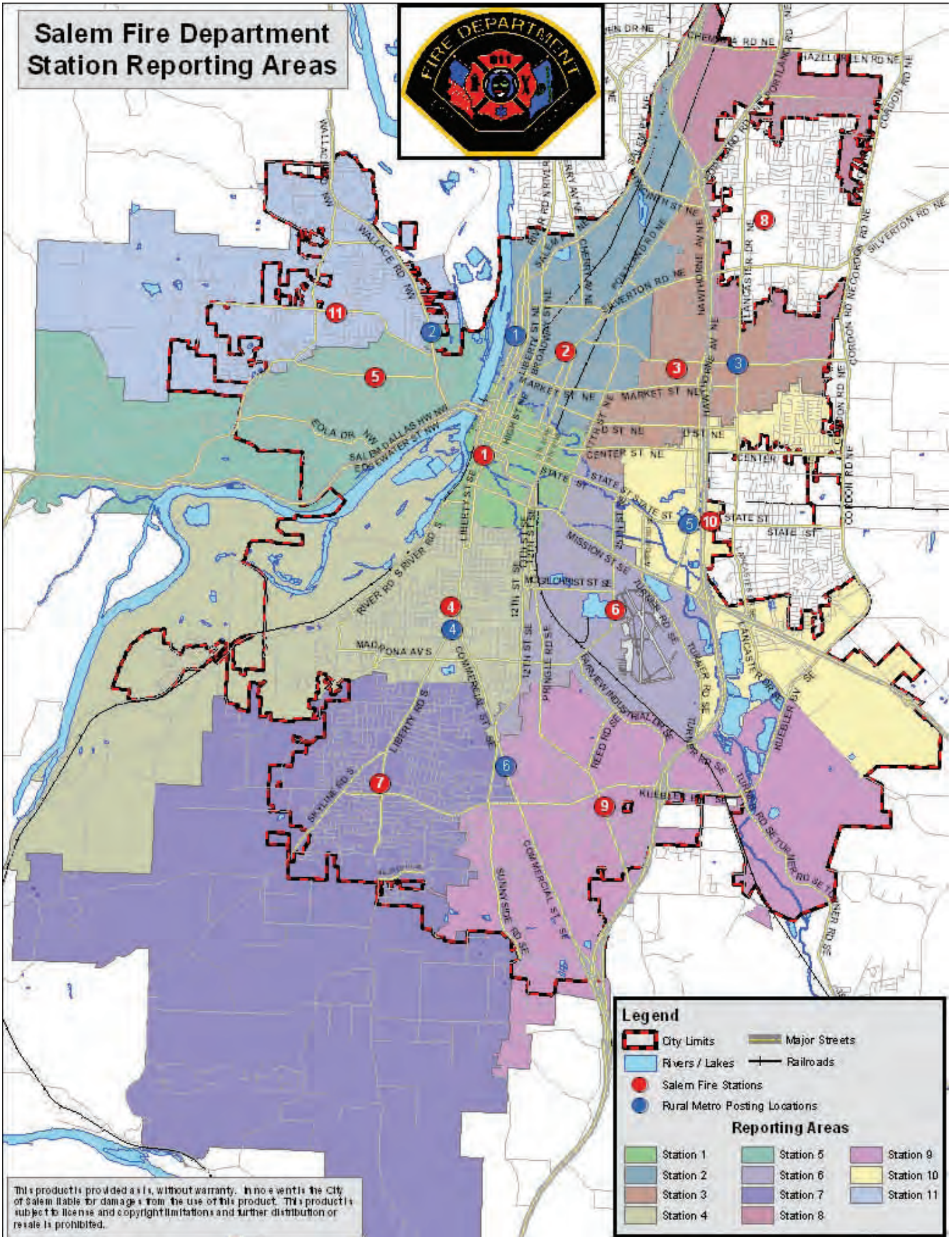
**25 Years**  
Steven Anderson

**20 Years**  
Marissa Farr

**15 Years**  
Wayne Ayars  
Patrick Caprino  
Thomas Gakstatter  
Chris Halleman  
William Holmstrom  
Dennis Jarvis  
John Justice  
Chad May  
Greg Sanberg  
Pat Shaw  
Frank Stephenson  
Cord Von Derahe

**10 Years**  
Sean Breitbach  
Dean Chambers  
Richard Cobb  
Chad Cook  
Trevor Elmer  
Ian Fitzgerald  
Greg Hadley  
Rachael Hostetler  
Rich Lee  
Scott Miller  
Brad Paris  
Lyubov Salov  
Nicholas VanBishler  
Gary West

# Salem Fire Department Station Reporting Areas



**Legend**

- City Limits
- Rivers / Lakes
- Salem Fire Stations
- Rural Metro Posting Locations
- Major Streets
- Railroads

**Reporting Areas**

Station 1	Station 5	Station 9
Station 2	Station 6	Station 10
Station 3	Station 7	Station 11
Station 4	Station 8	

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VISIT US ON THE WEB  
[www.cityofsalem.net/fire](http://www.cityofsalem.net/fire)

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