

2016 Annual Report



FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief: David L. Frizzell (EMT)

Assistant Chief: Edward Angus Davison (EMT)

Fire Prevention Bereu: Captain John A. Pizzi (EMT)

Assistant Fire Prevention/ Training Officer: Lieutenant Robert Wollner (EMT)

Administrative Assistant: Kimberly A. Kaufman

Part Time Administrative Secretary: Wendy McDonald

Again, I wish to express my appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator David Kale, my fellow Department Managers, and the dedicated Officers and Firefighters of the Belmont Fire Department for their continued support, cooperation and assistance during 2016. The Fire Department continues to provide top notch service to the residents of Belmont. The Department continues to expand its Advanced Life Support (ALS) service to the Town's residents. The effort and support to bring this service forward is greatly appreciated.

ROSTER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE SUPPRESSION

CAPTAINS

David J. DeMarco (EMT), Kenneth Gardiner, Jr. (EMT), Wayne L. Haley (EMT), John J. Mooney (EMT)

LIEUTENANTS

David Alesse (EMT), Agostino D. Azzone (EMT), Gerard M. Benoit (EMT), Edward R. Corsino, Jr. (EMT), Geoffrey Harvey (EMT), Richard Nohl (EMT), Daniel Scannell (EMT), Scott Spuria (EMT), Andrew Tobio (EMT), David Toomey (EMT), Steven Whalen (EMT), Stephen Wilcinski (EMT)

FIREFIIGHTERS

Joseph Baptista (EMT), James A. Bing (EMT), Thomas Biondo (EMT), Andrew Butler (EMT), Brian Campana (EMT), Shaun Campana (EMT), Brian Corsino (EMT), Jason P. Corsino (EMT), Michael Dayton (EMT), Scott D'Entremont, Thomas Deneen (EMT), Christopher Drinan (EMT), Ace Elefteriadis (EMT), Charles Gerrard (EMT), Andrew Goneau (EMT), Christopher Hadge (EMT), Dana Harrington (EMT), William A. Kaufman, Jr. (EMT), Ryan Keane (EMT), James Kelly (EMT), Elizabeth Kinch (EMT), Anthony D. Lynch (EMT), John D. MacDonald (EMT), Michael MacNeil (EMT), Michael J. Madruga (EMT), Dennis Maher (EMT), James T. McNeilly (EMT), Tracy Mullen (EMT), Richard J. O'Brien, Brian O'Neill (EMT), Dustin O'Neill (EMT), James J. Papadinis (EMT), Steven Reilly (EMT), Sean Ryan (EMT), Christian Tocci (EMT), Ross Vona (EMT)

Appointments

No appointments in 2016

Retirements

On September 10, 2016 Firefighter Richard O'Brien, of Engine Company 2 retired after 20 years of service to the residents of the Town. We Wish Firefighter O'Brien a long healthy retirement.

Apparatus Presently Operated by the Fire Department

		Location
Engine 1	2014 Emergency One 1250 GPM Class A Pumper	Headquarters
Engine 2	2005 Emergency One 1250 GPM Class A Pumper	Station 2
Engine 3 (Reserve)	2007 International/Emergency One 1000 GPM Custom Pumper	Station 2
Engine 4 (Reserve)	2003 Emergency One 1250 GPM Class A Pumper	Headquarters
Ladder 1	2014 Emergency One 110' Aerial Ladder	Station 2
Ladder 2	1999 Emergency One 110' Aerial Ladder	Station 2
Rescue 1	2012 Ford F450 Horton Rescue Type 1 Ambulance	Headquarters



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Rescue 2	2007 Horton Rescue 555C Type 1 Ambulance	Headquarters
Boat with Trailer	Inflatable Rescue Boat and trailer	Station 2
Light Tower	Trailer light tower (Town resource)	Headquarters
Tech Rescue	18' Cargo Trailer for Technical Rescue)	Headquarters
Squad 1	1999 Ford F450 (transfer from DPW)	Headquarters
Car 1	2013 Ford Utility– Chief's Vehicle	Headquarters
Car 2	2007 Ford Explorer – Assistant Chief's Vehicle	Headquarters
Car 3	2015 Ford Expedition– Shift Commander's Vehicle	Headquarters
Car 4	2007 Ford Expedition – Fire Prevention Vehicle	Headquarters
Car 5	2015 Ford F-150 – Fire Prevention/Training Vehicle	Headquarters

Note: Reserve apparatus not staffed

Fire Alarm Record

2008 – 3140 Calls	2012 – 3047 Calls
2009 – 3026 Calls	2013 – 3163 Calls
2010 – 3484 Calls	2014 – 2764 Calls
2011 – 3076 Calls	2015 – 2872 Calls

The Fire Department responded to **2814** calls during 2016.

These calls are divided as follows;

A sample of fires and incidents responded to in 2015 are as follows;

Structure Fires	15	Hazardous Conditions – Other	6
Working Fires	6	Smoke Scare	26
Second Alarm	1	Good Intent Calls	145
Third Alarm	0	Dispatched & Cancelled Enroute	77
Outside Fires	51	System Malfunction	258
Refuse Fires	6	Unintentional Alarms	199
Vehicles Fires	3	Malicious False	11
Fire/Explosion/Other	70	Water Calls	38
Motor Vehicle Extrication	2	Assist Police Department or other agency	29
Carbon Monoxide Activation	65	Mutual Aid Given Out of Town	109
Spill, Leak, No Ignition	46	Mutual Aid Received into the Town	63
Hazardous Electrical Equipment	43	Service Calls	226
Over Pressure or Rupture	2		
Bomb Scare-	1		

Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Prevention Bureau, located at Fire Headquarters, has been under the direction of Captain John A. Pizzi since 2005. He has been supported by Lieutenant Robert Wollner since July of 2014, who serves the work of the Bureau in addition to being in charge of the Fire Department's Training Division. Wendy McDonald has served as the Bureau's part-time Administrative Secretary since 2006. The Fire Prevention Bureau provides a systematic inspection program of commercial establishments, schools, and institutions, as well as residential occupancies. They are inspected for the purpose of removing hazards, correcting conditions, and ensuring compliance with all Massachusetts General Laws, the Code of Massachusetts Regulations, and By-Laws of the Town of Belmont that are under the authority of the Belmont Fire Department. Pursuant to this effort, the Bureau reviews applications and issues permits requiring that all applicable work done in Town is in accordance with Massachusetts fire prevention laws and regulations.

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As part of this effort, the Bureau provides planning consultations for permit applicants (architects, contractors, lessees, business owners, property owners, and legal representatives) and conducts substantive conversations with residents who have general questions or specific concerns regarding fire and life safety.

The Fire Officers assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau are members of the Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts (FPAM). Captain Pizzi currently serves as its past president. Both Bureau officers attend the monthly meetings and seminars presented by the Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts and the Department of Fire Services. In addition, the Fire Prevention Bureau works in conjunction with the Department of Fire Services, Division of Fire Safety, to obtain the latest information for compliance with and enforcement of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 148, Massachusetts Fire Prevention Regulations 527 CMR, and Fire Protection sections of the State Building Code 780 CMR.

In the interest of life safety and property protection, all citizens of the Town are encouraged to contact the Fire Prevention Bureau with any concerns pertaining to fire protection and safety. As a part of its public education agenda, the Bureau schedules children's group and school class visits to Belmont fire stations.

Dollar Value Saved & Loss Analysis:	
Total value of Property involved in incidents	\$ 14,378,950
Total of Property Losses in incidents	\$ 5,693,750
Total of Property Saved in Incidents	\$ 8,685,200
Total Value of Passenger Vehicles involved in incidents	18,000
Total of Passenger Vehicle Losses in incidents	7,000
Total of Passenger Vehicles Saved in incidents	11,000

588 Permits were issued in the following categories:

- General
- Blasting
- Building Permit Plan Review
- Propane Use/Storage
- Smoke Detector/CO Alarm Inspections (26F & 26F1/2)
- Oil Burner/Tank Installation
- Tank Truck (FP44)
- Tank Removal (AST & UST)
- Cutting and Welding
- Fire Alarm Contractors Permit
- Flammable/Combustible Storage
- Hazardous Material Process

Total Revenue - \$48,925.00



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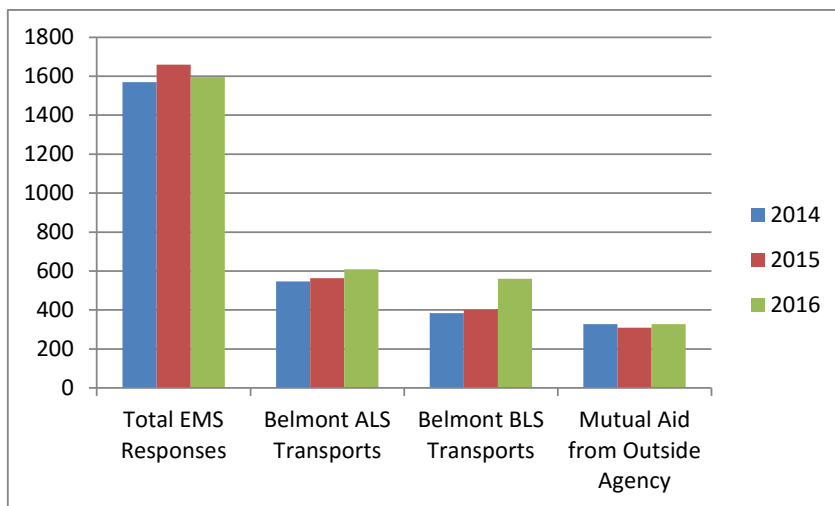
998 Inspections and Fire Drills reflect the following categories:

- Restaurant Alcohol License Inspections
- Above/Underground Tank Removal
- Tank Truck (FP44)
- McLean Hospital
- Public and Private Schools
- Schools, Pre-Schools, Day Care Centers
- Assembly
- Homes)
- “Red Tag” Service Notices
- General Permits Inspections
- Blasting
- Smoke Detector/CO Alarm Inspections
- Building Permit Plan Review
- Propane Use/Storage
- Cutting and Welding
- Flammable/Combustible Storage
- Other (Nursing Home, Lodging Houses, Group
- Respectfully submitted,
- Captain John A. Pizzi, Fire Prevention Bureau

Belmont Fire Department EMS Report:

It is our pleasure to present the 2016 Annual Report of the Belmont Fire Department’s Emergency Medical Services Program. The EMT’s and Paramedics that staff our fire apparatus are a remarkable team of highly trained, proficient and dedicated professionals. These dedicated pre-hospital providers take their roles and responsibilities very seriously and are truly committed to serving our community.

During calendar year 2016, the Department responded to 1,596 calls for emergency medical services and transported 1,355 patients to the hospital. This equated to roughly 84.8% of these calls resulting in a patient transport to a medical facility. Our Rescue transported 1,170 of these sick and injured individuals, the remainder or 185, were transported by an outside agency. Of the calls that were transported by Belmont Fire Department resources, Advanced Life Support (ALS) (Paramedic Level) care to 609 of these individuals or 52% while the remaining patients were transported at the Basic Life Support (BLS) level which accounted for 561 or 48%.



Although, it is impossible to include every aspect of our EMS program in this report, we hope to provide you with a snapshot of its structure, functions, contributions, and value. The continued support of the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen and last, but not least, the citizens of Belmont have made and will continue to make both the Belmont Fire Department’s Advanced Life Support Program and Basic Life Support systems successful and beneficial to both Belmont citizens and visitors. The Fire Department provides first response Basic Life Support (BLS)

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and Advanced Life Support (ALS) transporting service for the community. This equates to faster access to basic care from EMTs as well as advanced care from Paramedics including advanced airway control, intravenous (IV) access, medication administration, cardiac monitoring, interpretation, and treatment/defibrillation. These highly trained Paramedics work together with our Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) to transport patients to area hospitals.

The Belmont Fire Department continues to be a leader and innovator in out-of-hospital care. All of our in-service companies operate and are equipped at the BLS level; this includes: oxygen, basic first aid supplies, Epi-Pens,



Albuterol, Narcan, glucose, glucometers, pulse oximetry as well as Lucas 2 CPR devices. The Rescue (transporting ambulance) operates at the ALS level and carries: Cardiac Monitor, a large compliment of emergency medications, CPAP (an advanced airway care procedure), capnography monitoring, and the like 24 hours a day / 7 days a week / 365 days a year. In addition to Rescue 1, Engine 1 is also staffed at the ALS level for the majority of the time.

All of our EMTs and Paramedics are licensed through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Office of

Emergency Medical Services and also hold certifications in Basic Life Support (BLS). These EMTs are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of continuing education every two years. The Paramedics are also required to maintain a certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) as well as Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), Tactical Combat Casualty Care Course (TCCC); in addition to these certifications they must attend a minimum of 60 hours of continuing education every two years.

The Belmont Fire Department not only meets, but continually exceeds the minimum training standards - such as providing quarterly HALO – High Acuity, Low Occurrence Training to our staff utilizing our in-house simulation lab. In the event of the most critical and life threatening emergency, a cardiac arrest, all the members of the Belmont Fire



Department use the latest approach and equipment (the LUCAS CPR Compression Device). This is coupled with quarterly training on “pit crew” CPR, which has been proven to be successful if delivered by highly trained practitioners.

Mount Auburn Hospital’s Medical Directors: Dr. Gary Setnik and Dr. William Porcaro, who are continually pro-active in striving to deliver the best pre-hospital care possible, use the latest science and technology to oversee all EMS activity in conjunction with the EMS Coordinator and ALS Coordinator.

With the continued support of the community, it is our hope that the Belmont Fire Department will be able to continue to train our EMTs and Paramedics to the highest level of care and remain on the cutting edge of prehospital emergency medical care. As additional Paramedics join the ranks of the Belmont Fire Department, we look forward to further increasing the number of fire department companies able to provide advanced life support care.

Respectfully submitted,

Captain David J. DeMarco, EMT-Basic, I/C, EMS Coordinator
Firefighter James T. McNeilly, Paramedic, I/C, Advanced Life Support Coordinator



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Training Division

The Training Division has been under the direction of Lieutenant Robert K. Wollner since July 2014, and reports to the Chief of Department. The Training Officer works in conjunction with the Department of Fire Services/Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (DFS/MFA) and other public and private organizations, to provide training to the members of the Belmont Fire Department. Training activities are conducted in accordance with professional standards set forth by the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA). Additionally, the Training Officer works with the EMS and ALS Coordinators to schedule appropriate EMS continuing education training.

The Training Officer's responsibilities include; selection and implementation of up-to-date continuing education in the areas of fire, rescue, safety and related public safety topics; organization of fire department training materials, and the production and maintenance of training records for members of the Belmont Fire Department. Additional duties include equipment maintenance and inventory, providing support to the Fire Prevention Bureau as the Assistant Fire Prevention Officer, and manpower support to fire suppression activities. The Training Officer is also a member of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors and the Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts and attends monthly educational and training seminars.

During 2016, members of the Belmont Fire Department received training in the following areas:

Massachusetts Firefighting Academy -

Flashover Recognition	Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)
Dräger Maze	Chemical Suicide Awareness
Strategy and Tactics	Photovoltaics for the Fire Service

Cross Training -

The Training Division continued the initiative started in 2015, where we conduct joint training exercises with the Belmont Police Department. The joint training includes a department orientation for new police officers and firefighters to learn what the other department's needs and expectations are during a response. Additionally the fire Department received training from the Traffic Division on accident reconstruction and how members of the fire Department can assist investigators without compromising crime scenes.

External Training -

Training was provided by Judith Kaye Training and Consulting on Sexual Harassment Prevention. The US Department of Veteran Affairs provided training on Veteran Post Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD). Orientation and training was conducted at Hanscom Field. Belmont Fire now provides assistance, along with other communities, through a mutual aid agreement with MassPort to the flight line in the event of a larger incident. Incident Command System (ICS) training was provided by the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team based out of Beverly.

Internal Training -

The Training Division offered training on motor vehicle extrication, ladder pipe and master stream operations. Training was provided to all members of the department on radio operations for the new portable radios. Training was provided on industrial accidents to new members of the department using evolutions and tactics from 2015's Man vs. Machine class.

The Belmont Fire Department participated in joint training exercises with the Arlington Fire Department. The two departments participated in Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) drills, and our newer members also had the opportunity to work on ventilation techniques using the saws to open up a roof of a house that was scheduled to be demolished.

Annual Evolutions -

In the spring, annual testing was completed on the Department's 10,000+ feet of firefighting hose.

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During the fall, the Department continued a multi-year project of marking the location of fire hydrants by placing bands on telephone poles to more easily identify the hydrant locations during a fire or after a snow storm. This program has been possible by the generous support of the Belmont Lions Club. The Club has donated the banding materials to the Town.

Over the winter months, snow was removed from around fire hydrants throughout the Town following snow storms.

Respectfully submitted,

Lieutenant Robert K. Wollner, Training Officer/Assistant Fire Prevention Officer

Metro Fire

The Fire Departments of 34 greater Boston communities and Massport, with the support and approval of their local governments comprise the Metro Fire District 13 Association.

Formed in 1980, the Association was enacted under provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws. Its service area encompasses the urban area within the Route 128 perimeter, serving an area of 351 square miles and a population of approximately 1,883,000. The premise for Metro-Fire is the realization that no urban community can completely self-protect. This is the basis for mutual aid among the communities. A very natural extension of this concept is the mutual sharing of a single or limited number of specialized resources. In the fire service, there are many instances requiring specialized equipment that are vital to a given situation, but only occasionally used. Metro-Fire is providing the mechanism for these types of resources to be available on a cooperation-shared basis.

The robustness of the Metro Fire Mutual Aid system was clearly demonstrated when our neighbor, the City of Cambridge, had a 10 alarm fire at Berkshire Street and Vandine Street on December 3, 2016. Belmont Engine 1 and Car 1 responded along with almost every available resource from District 13. Although the fire was large in scope, the resources kept the fire from consuming more homes.

Additional resources include District 2 Hazardous Material Response Team. The Team is available on a 24-hour basis to respond to hazardous material incidents that are beyond the capabilities of any one individual community to control. All members of the Team have attended an extensive 160-hour training course and participate in monthly training sessions throughout the year. The Belmont Fire Department is extremely proud in having two members from the Department, Lieutenant Edward R. Corsino, Jr., and Lieutenant Scott Spuria on the District 2 HazMat Team. Their knowledge, interest and dedication to the program are a credit to the Department.

In addition to the HazMat Team and trucks, there is the Field Communications 20 vehicle with a communications center on board. In addition, a heavy rescue for all transit accidents, a confined space/collapse/tunnel rescue unit, an air supply unit, foam bank and the extensive training film library. We also have access to the S.A.F.E. House trailer for training young people in fire safety at home. In an emergency situation, the vehicles can be delivered to the community in need. That community must then supply the personnel to operate it.



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Recommendations from the Chief

- That the Town continues to support Department in its Capital and Operational needs to protect the citizens of the Town. By:
 - The Town restoring the two vacant firefighter positions to the suppression forces.
 - The Town establishing a fulltime ALS Coordinator Position.
 - The Town increasing Information Technology(IT) support to maintain the Department's IT needs.
 - The Town increase Human Resource Management to develop sustaining programs for employee selection and promotion.

Goals for 2017

- Promote a new Assistant Chief and Fire Prevention Officer.
- Finalize the Fire Records Management Software transition.
- With financial support from the Town, continue the upgrade and migration of the Department's IT.
- Procure a replacement ambulance as authorized in the FY2017 Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Frizzell
Chief of Department