

# 2023

## ANNUAL REPORT

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MATLACHA/PINE ISLAND  
FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

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2023

# MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



It is my honor to provide the residents and visitors within the Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District our 2023 Annual Report. This report will provide a peek into what your fire department has accomplished, provide emergency response data, operational data, and highlight community involvement.

The year 2023 has been one for the books with an enormous accomplishment for the fire district. Your fire department has been working on becoming an Advanced Life Support agency (ALS) for several years. This has included getting ALS equipment (heart monitors, medications, equipment, etc.), local and State licenses, a medical director, and Florida State certified paramedics. This long-planned goal was accomplished on September 22, 2023 when the department officially went ALS and started to provide the additional service to the community.

We are a community fire department. Our motto is "Our Family Serving Yours." Also in 2023, district hosted and participated in numerous community events. Those district events included our annual Easter egg hunt, fire department open house and of course, our annual tree lighting. We also participated in community events such as the Holiday House, Mango Mania, Pine Island Elementary School functions, and so on. In addition, community education plays a vital role in our mission. The district provided several CPR classes to the community. We firmly believe that the more citizens that are proficient in CPR, the safer our community becomes as a whole.

Alongside the various certification courses and community events crews participated in, we were busy running calls. In a snapshot, crews responded to 1,729 calls in 2023. Those include 104 fires (structure, brush, vehicle, other), 1546 medical calls, and 79 vehicle accidents. We also responded to marine incidents, natural disasters, and provided mutual aid assistance.

On a final note, I would like to thank the Board of Fire commissioners for the dedication, commitment, and devotion to the community and Fire District. Also, thank you to all our staff for all their work and risking their lives to save others. Finally, thank you, for allowing me to serve as your Fire Chief for the Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District.

Sincerely,

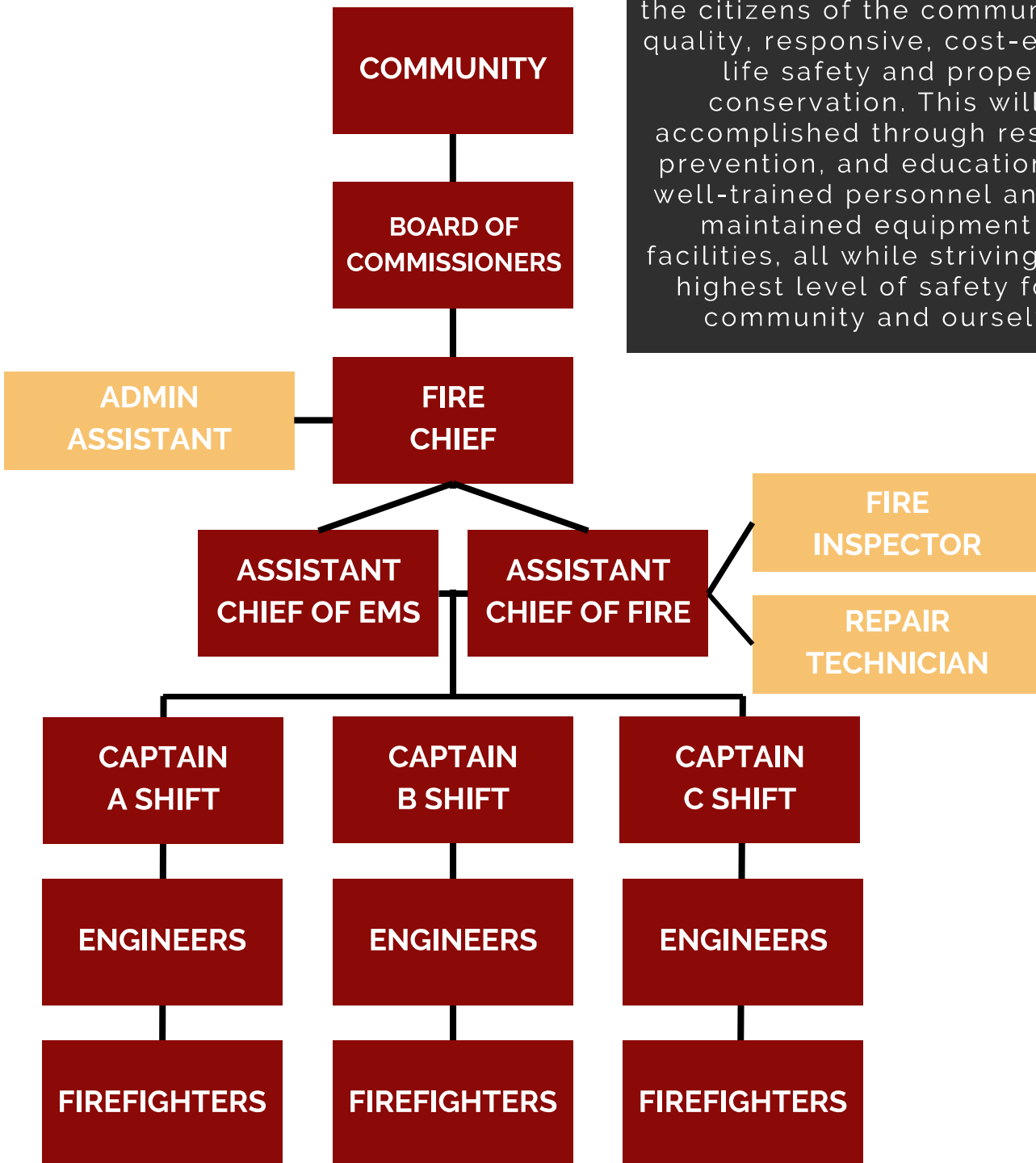
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "B. Mickuleit".



Chief Benjamin Mickuleit

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

The Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District is dedicated to providing a strong, community oriented Fire and Rescue Service. The District will strive to provide the citizens of the community with quality, responsive, cost-effective life safety and property conservation. This will be accomplished through response, prevention, and education using well-trained personnel and well-maintained equipment and facilities, all while striving for the highest level of safety for our community and ourselves.



# BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

The Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Board of Commissioners is dedicated to represent the interests of all the citizens of the community and to provide these citizens with optimum service in a responsible, financially prudent manner. By working in cooperation with the District's Chief and citizens, the Fire Board will serve professionally without bias or favor.



**Chairperson Tonya Player**



**Vice-Chair Jamie DeLacey**



**Treasurer John Cammick**



**Secretary Neil Price**



**Vice-Secretary Joe Hernandez**

# DEPARTMENT STAFF

## ADMINISTRATION

Chief Mickuleit

Assistant Chief of Fire Davis

Assistant Chief of EMS Allen

Administrative Assistant Miles

Fire Inspector Urich

Repair Technician Rossman

## A-SHIFT

**Captain Simer**

Engineer Darna  
Engineer Greer  
Engineer Kerr  
Engineer O'Leary

Firefighter Agnew  
Firefighter Bemis  
Firefighter D'Ambrosio  
Firefighter Robertson  
Firefighter Saunders  
Firefighter Vilchez

## B-SHIFT

**Captain Barr**

Engineer Busscher  
Engineer Knight  
Engineer McQuade  
Engineer Oake

Firefighter Arias  
Firefighter Childers  
Firefighter Cole  
Firefighter Giffin  
Firefighter Hill  
Firefighter Johnson  
Firefighter Richardson

## C-SHIFT

**Captain Adema**

Engineer Guerin  
Engineer Peer  
Engineer Rogowski  
Engineer Russ

Firefighter Angrisani  
Firefighter Baluja  
Firefighter Bernard  
Firefighter Busbee  
Firefighter Stanley  
Firefighter Young

# RECOGNITION AND SERVICE

The following members have reached important milestones in their careers:

## YEARS OF SERVICE

Gerry Rossman 33

Cliff Simer 31

Neil Kerr 24

Keith Guerin 23

Scott Adema 22

## 2023 RETIREMENTS

Engineer: J. Cook  
31 Years

## PROMOTIONS

Engineer: H. O'Leary

Engineer: T. Peer

## PARAMEDIC CLASS OF 2023

Bo Busbee

John Busscher

Jacob D'Ambrosio

Tanner Peer

Alexander Richardson

# OPERATIONS

The District operates with a minimum of nine firefighters per shift, working a 24 hour shift. We have 3 shifts A, B, and C. Each shift is managed by a shift captain. The shifts are responsible for responding to all 911 calls and providing the highest level of service. In 2023, the District responded to 1,729 incidents. In addition, the District utilized Lee Flight 26 times. The District protects approximately 45 square miles.

**1,729**  
**INCIDENTS**  
**IN 2023**





# APPARATUS

Fire Engines



Marine Fire Units



Command Units



Wild Land Fire



Fire Water Tender



Fire Prevention



Each  equals one apparatus

# DEPARTMENT STATIONS

All stations are strategically placed to provide the best service for our community

## Station 1

5700 Pine Island Rd.  
Bokeelia, FL 33922  
(239) 283-0030



## Station 2

5015 Stringfellow Rd.  
St. James City, FL 33956  
(239) 283-8231



## Station 3

14861 Stringfellow Rd.  
Bokeelia, FL 33922  
(239) 283-3836



## Station 4

3500 SW Pine Island Rd.  
Cape Coral, FL 33991  
(239) 283-3311



# STATION RESPONSE BREAKDOWN

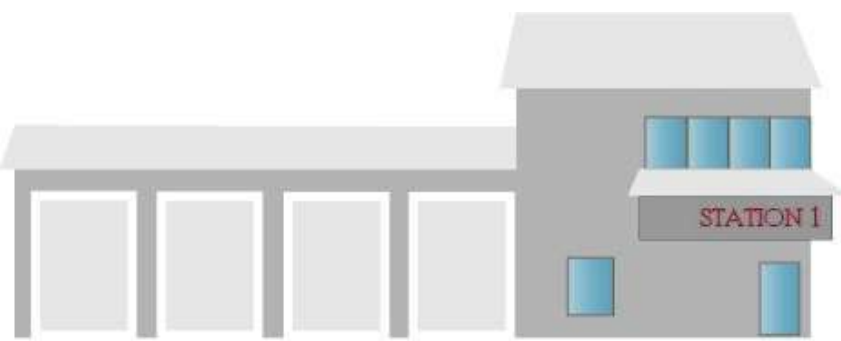
In 2023, each station had the following number of emergency calls in their zone. The numbers do not reflect any standbys. Our engines moved up for standby 145 times to provide enhanced coverage within our District.

Station 1 - 555

Station 2 - 472

Station 3 - 373

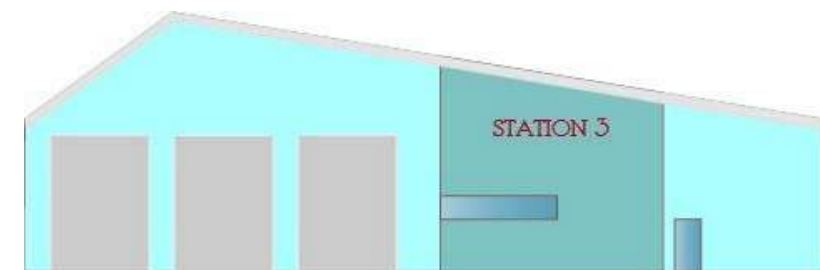
Station 4 - 329



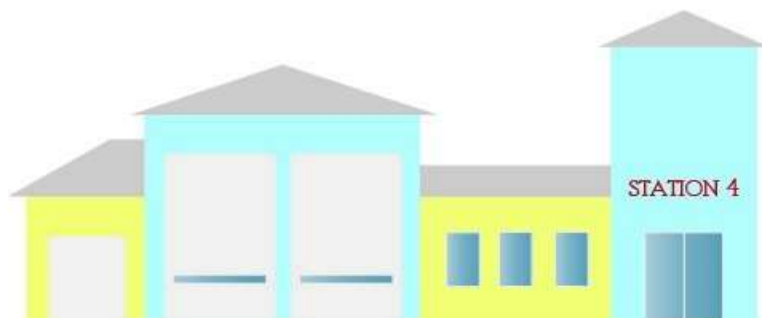
**32%**



**27%**



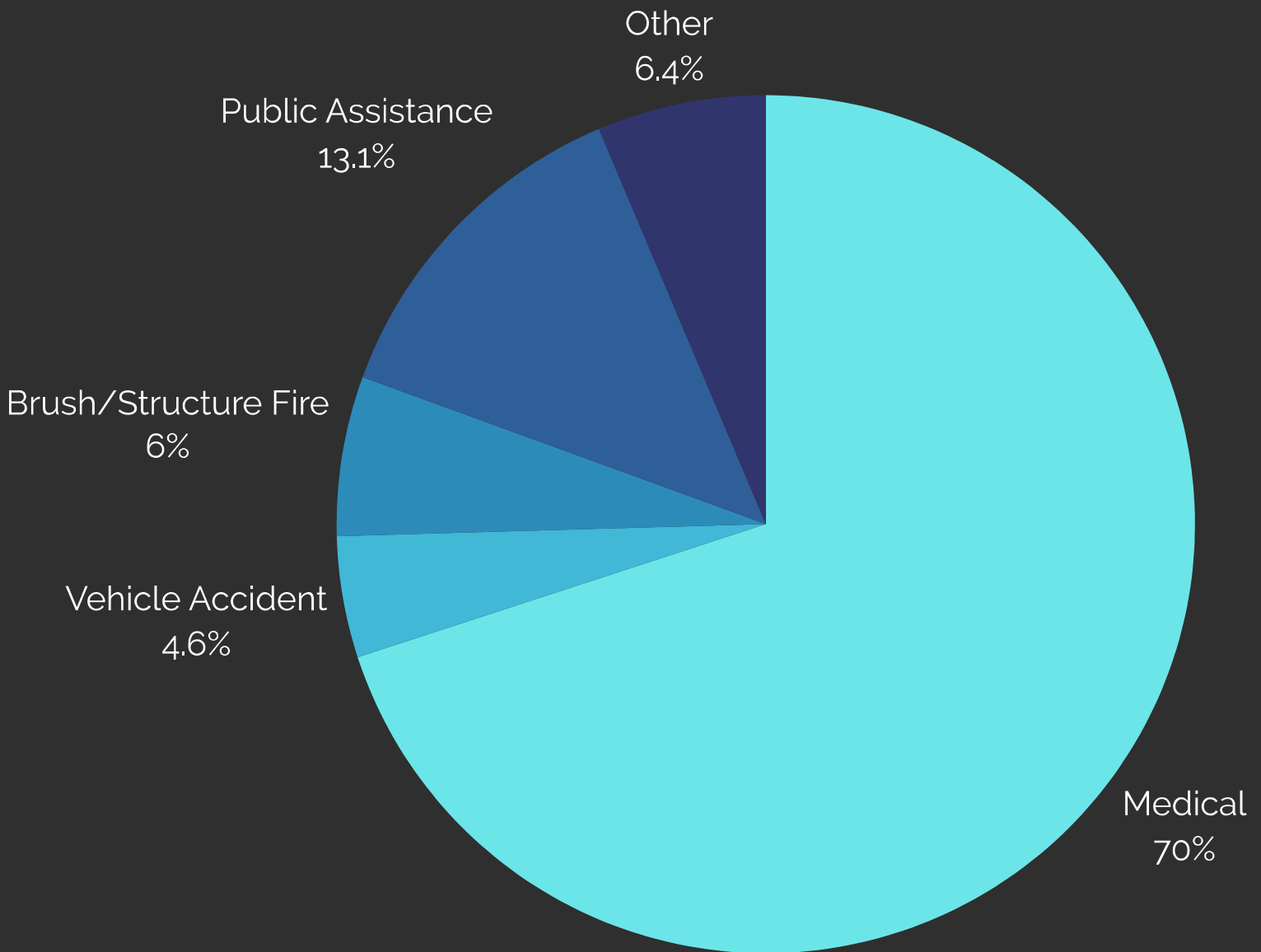
**22%**



**19%**

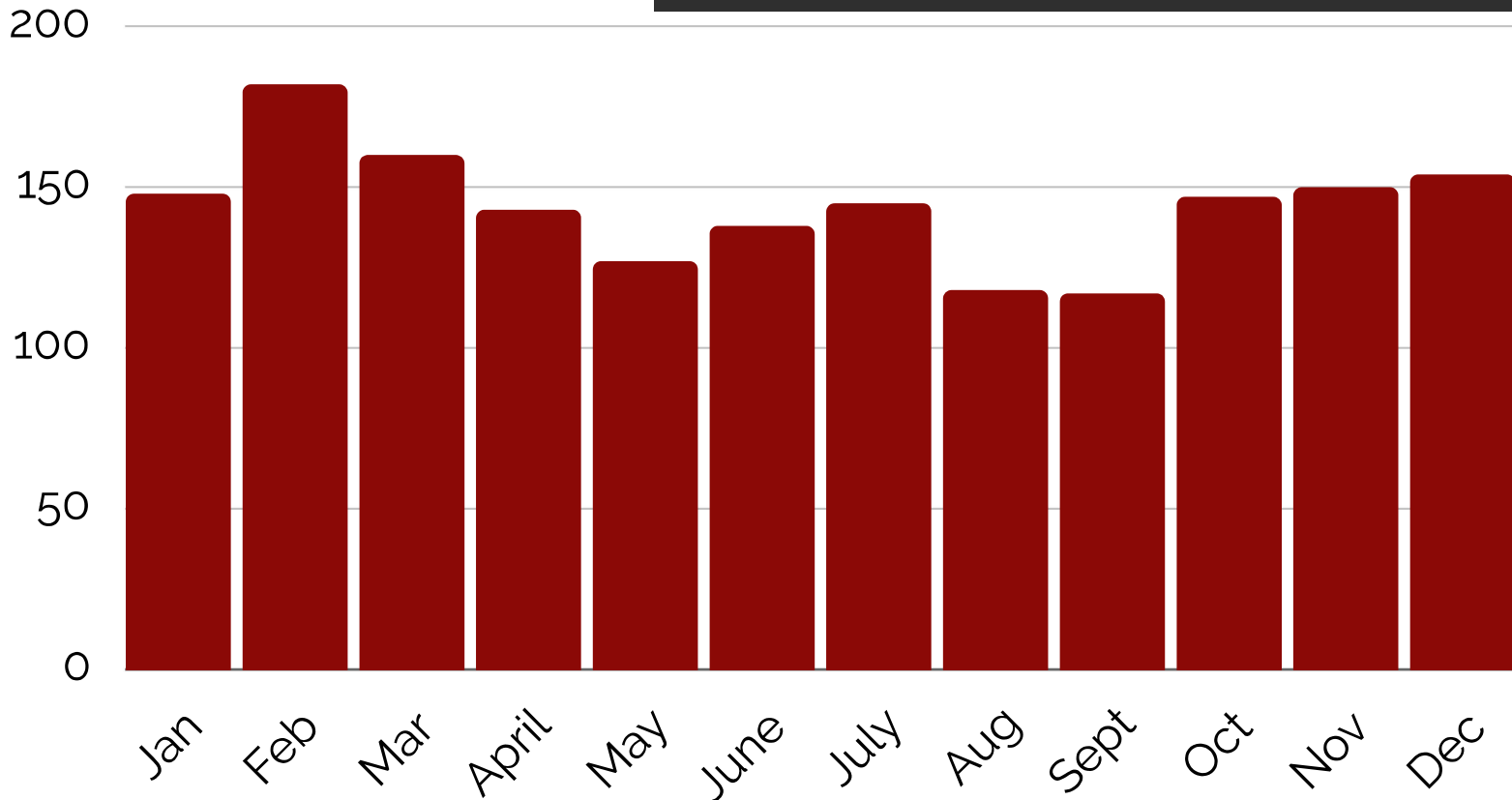
# INCIDENTS BY CALL TYPE

This graph displays the major call types the District responded to in 2023.



# CALL VOLUME BY MONTH

- 145 calls average a month
- 4.7 calls average a day
- 87% on scene in under 7 minutes



Data provided gives an insight on the monthly call volume the department responds to. On average, the District responds to 145 calls a month, or close to 5 calls a day. In addition, the District is involved with community and District events, trainings, checking out equipment, performing station maintenance, etc., when not responding to emergency calls. Furthermore, 87% of the time, our crews are on scene in under 7 minutes after being dispatched.

# 3 FUN FACTS

Statistics include standbys

## Call totals by shift

A Shift - 698

B Shift - 708

**C Shift - 744**

## Call totals by day of week

Sunday 263

Monday 276

Tuesday 265

Wednesday 278

Thursday 260

Friday 246

**Saturday 287**

## Call totals by top time of day

**12:00-12:59pm 134**

1:00-1:59pm 132

4:00-4:59pm 121

5:00-5:59pm 121



# MARINE RESPONSE

In 2023, our marine units responded to 36 calls. Those calls ranged from search and rescue, fire operations, assisting barrier operations, medical calls, etc. Having a boat is imperative to operations as an island fire district.

M-156 is our specialized marine unit equipped with a pump and fire equipment for firefighting at the shoreline and for marine fires. In addition, M-156 is outfitted with an FLR system for nighttime search and rescue operations.

M-151 is our shallow water boat and is capable for shallow water rescue operations.

# 36

## MARINE CALLS IN 2022



# ALS NON-TRANSPORT PROGRAM

2023 was a monumental year for the Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District. After years of dedication and hard work from the crews, administration, and the fire commissioners, our department achieved the designation of becoming an ALS non-transport agency. While this advancement in our capabilities carries with it a large responsibility, our staff is committed to providing the highest level of care to the residents and visitors to our community.



The ALS non-transport certification allows us to provide a variety of treatments on scene during an emergency. This includes, but is not limited to, cardiac rhythm monitoring, IVs, medication administration, basic/advanced airway maneuvers, management of traumatic injuries, and more. We are educated, trained, and equipped to provide treatment to those in need during the worst days of their lives.

Throughout the year, we were able to credential all our employees under our medical director as EMTs, with eleven of our providers credentialing at the level of Paramedic under the Lee County Common Treatment Guidelines. We also saw the graduation of another five staff members from Paramedic school, becoming licensed through the state and are currently working towards credentialing as Paramedics under our local guidelines.

In 2024, we will continue to increase our training, both the quality and quantity. We also anticipate the credentialing of our five recently certified Paramedics to our local guidelines while also placing in service a rescue truck to allow for better response times. We could not have accomplished this without the continued support from the community!





# TRAINING

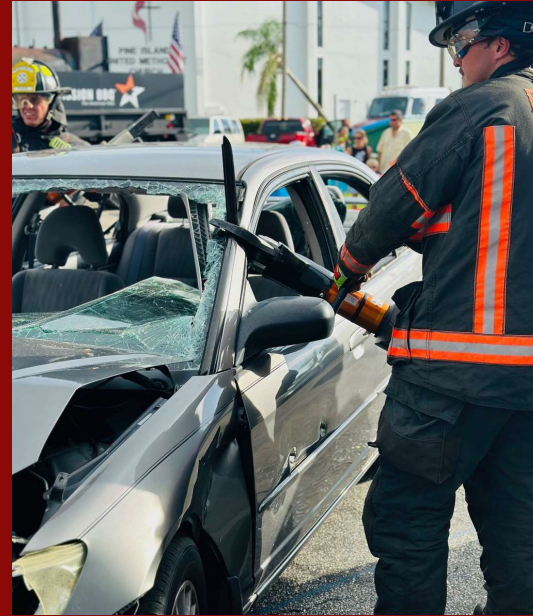
On average, each member of the department spends at least 20 hours a month training. Training encompasses classroom and practical settings. Training ranges from extrication, driving operations, structure/brush fire tactics, water supply, leadership, public relations, injury prevention, etc. In 2023, we accumulated 10,088 hours of training. That equals to more than 272 hours a year for each firefighter.

**10,088  
HOURS OF  
TRAINING**

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Active Shooter Training
- Live Fire Co-Op Training
- Vehicle Extraction
- Search and Rescue
- Fire Suppression Sprinkler Training
  - (Standpipe/Sprinkler System)
- Firefighter Water Survival

# TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS



# FIRE PREVENTION

The Prevention Division of the Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District is committed to providing superior quality preventative fire service to those who live, work, and invest in the District. Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District protects lives and property from fire and injury through continuous effort and integrity of service in every section within this division. We energetically contribute to our community, serve as positive examples, and make every effort to efficiently and practically make the most of all the essential resources available in order to provide a safe environment for the citizens and emergency responders. It is our goal to provide timely, comprehensive, and accurate inspections for the District.

**245**  
**INSPECTIONS**  
**IN 2023**



# PUBLIC EVENTS & PREVENTION

Public events & prevention are an immense part of our commitment to the community,



# PUBLIC EVENTS

In 2023, the District hosted several public events to educate our community and promote public safety. Those events included an Easter Egg Hunt, Open House, and Christmas Tree Lighting. Each event reaches well over 300 participants each year.

Those events include demonstrating skills our first responder possess. Over the last few years, crews demonstrated a live vehicle extrication during our Open House event. Other events that the District participated in are 4th of July Parade, Garden Gala, Breast Fest, Mullet Toss, Summer Camps, Christmas Boat parades, Santa deliveries, and many more.



# COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

CERT plays a crucial role within the fire department. CERT assists in large scale events when needed. Our team meets monthly to train and fine tune CERT skills. Those skills include light search and rescue, first aid, rehabilitation trailer deployment, teamwork, etc. All of those are vital skills to provide the highest level of service to our community.

## Our CERT team:

Karen Titolo  
Mary Reich  
Steve Petersen  
Joni Stewart  
Paula Bruckner  
Fran Haas  
Narrie Magturo  
Donna Ray  
Nancy Buthma



CERT participation at all District functions and is a huge help to the District.

# Data Overview



**10,088**  
Training  
Hours

**1,729**  
Emergency  
Calls

**400+**  
Community  
Outreach  
Hours

# THANK YOU!



Scan the QR code download our app.  
For more information: [www.pineislandfire.org](http://www.pineislandfire.org)  
Call us: 239-283-0030  
Follow us on Facebook: Matlacha/Pine Island  
Fire Control District