

CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT FIRE DEPARTMENT



2022 Annual Report



**City of Mount Pleasant Fire Department
728 East Ferguson Road
Mount Pleasant, Texas 75455
903-575-4144**

Message from the Fire Chief

I am pleased to present the Mount Pleasant Fire Department's 2022 Annual Report for your review. It provides a summary of the activities and achievements of our members, as well as some statistical comparisons from years past.



We are fortunate to serve under the leadership of the Mayor, City Council and City Manager that want the best possible fire/rescue services for our citizens.

2022 was the year to renegotiate the Fire Protection Agreement between the City of Mount Pleasant and Titus County for the Mount Pleasant Fire Department to provide fire and rescue services in the unincorporated areas of Titus County. We appreciate the time and effort put forth by the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, County Judge and Commissioners to execute an agreement that is in the best interest of the Citizens of Mount Pleasant and Titus County.

Our professionally trained members possess a multitude of skills and are committed to serving the citizens of Mount Pleasant and Titus as well as those who choose to visit or pass through our community.

I am honored to be a part of this department and work with our command staff to make this a department our citizens can depend on in their time of need.

On behalf of the members of the Mount Pleasant Fire Department, I would like to thank you, the citizens we serve, for your support as we move into the future, seeking ways to continue to strive to meet the needs of our growing community.

Respectfully,



MPFD Vision

The Mount Pleasant Fire Department is committed to providing trained and knowledgeable personnel prepared to respond to our growing community's needs. We strive to improve our organization, allowing us to provide the highest level of service possible to those in need.



MPFD Mission Statement

The Mount Pleasant Fire Department is dedicated to protecting lives, property and community resources through prevention, preparation, response, and mitigation.

MPFD Core Values



We will be guided by the following set of values:

Commitment-Dedication to our personal convictions for service to each other and the community.

Accountability-Holding ourselves and others accountable to a code of ethics derived from our own core values.

Innovation-Adapting to changing needs and technology, while respecting tradition.

Service-A calling to provide thoughtful customer care that exceeds expectations.

Accomplishments

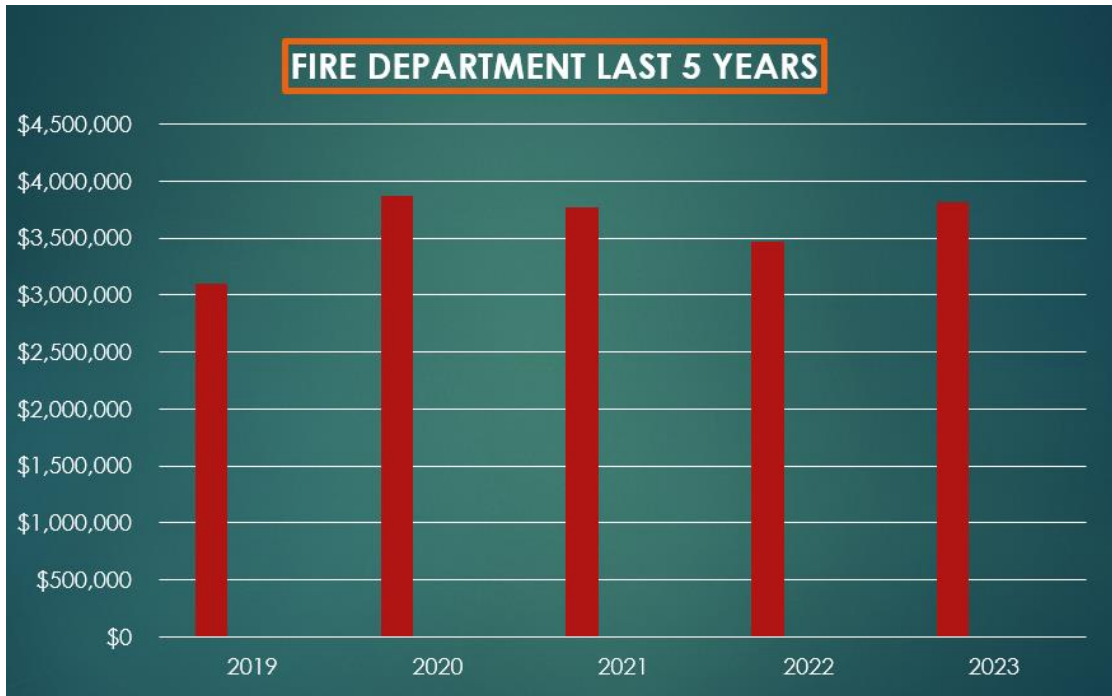
- Hired two additional firefighters.
- Renegotiated the Fire Protection Agreement between the City of Mount Pleasant and Titus County.
- Began remodeling Station #2.
- Replaced living quarters furniture at both fire stations.
- Replaced HVAC unit at Central Station.
- Replaced motor on rescue boat.
- Began replacement of self-contained breathing apparatus cylinders that are coming to their end of service life.
- Continued working toward providing firefighters with a second set of structural firefighting protective equipment so they can replace gear used at a fire that is contaminated with cancer causing contaminants with clean gear for the next call and wash the dirty gear. The goal is to reduce the chance of our firefighters getting cancer.
- Began migration to 700-meg radio system by purchasing 4 dual band portable radios.



- Purchased Supplied Air Rescue System (SARS) for use in confined space rescues. Purchased battery powered ventilation fan for Engine 1.
- Completed equipping all brush trucks with radio/intercom systems.
- Continued the testing/maintenance program of approximately 1,000 fire hydrants in the city and county.

Budget

The FY 22-23 Fire Department budget is \$3,817,330 which includes the \$1.3 million Titus County will contribute as part of the County Fire Protection Agreement with the City.

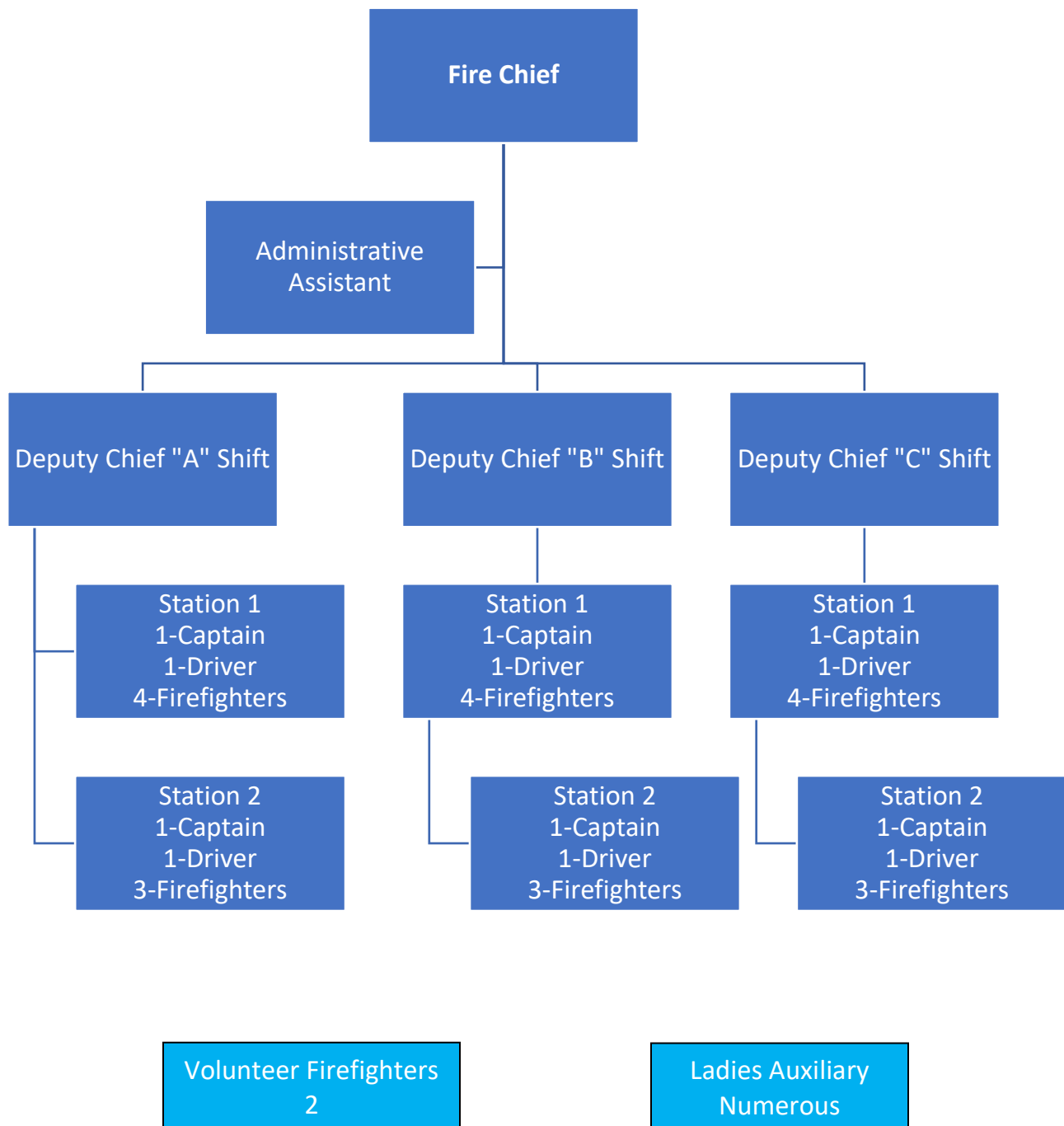


Personnel Years of Service

The Mount Pleasant Fire Department is fortunate to have Officers and Firefighters with many years of experience and training to provide fire/rescue for our residents as well as those who choose to travel through and/or stop and visit our community.

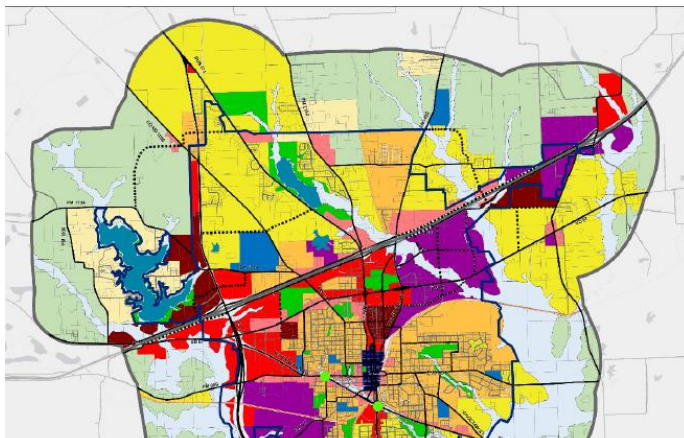
Command Staff	Years of Service	Firefighters	Years of Service
McRae, Larry	48	Sanders, Casey	26
Beard, Danny	35	Rosewell, Kenny	24
Eubanks, Brad	28	Riley, James	22
Decker, Adam	27	Cook, Adam	20
Singletary, Brandon	26	Hughes, Shannon	20
Hart, Eric	24	Craig, Cody	12
Rodriguez Aristeo	24	Williams, Aaron	11
Clark, Otis	23	Brown, Kirk	8
Fry, Phil	20	Nugent, Aaron	8
Dunn, Nick	11	Sitzes, Adrian	7
Total	266	Pipes, Ranson	6
Average	6.6	Daniels, Caleb	5
COMBINED YEARS OF SERVICE 460 YEARS AVERAGE COMBINED YEARS OF SERVICE 13.9 YEARS		Hall, Lance	5
		Parkerson, JP	5
		Russell, Riley	3
		Baker, Zachary	2
		Jackson, Jakob	2
		Collins, Jace	2
		Jessee, Trevor	2
		Hickey, Adam	1
		Brown, Jacob	1
		Noll, Brandon	1
		Sessums, Connor	1
		Total	194
		Average	8.4

Org Chart

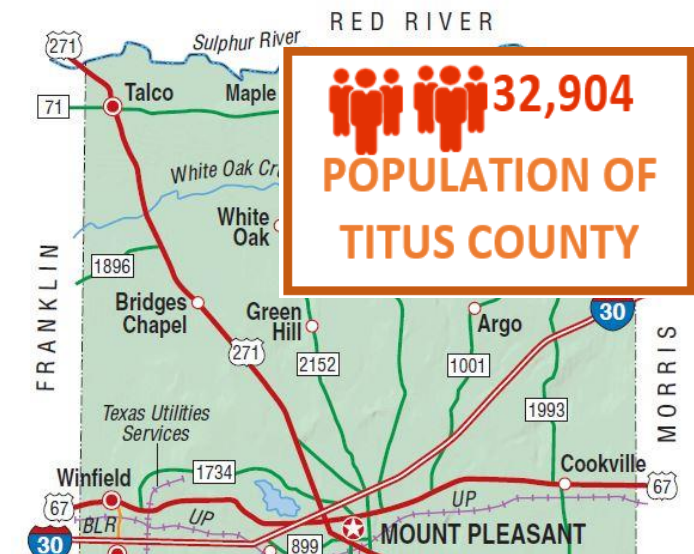
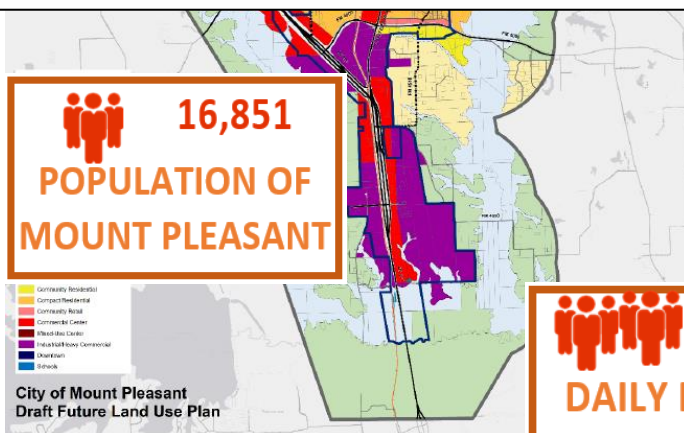


Population/Areas Served

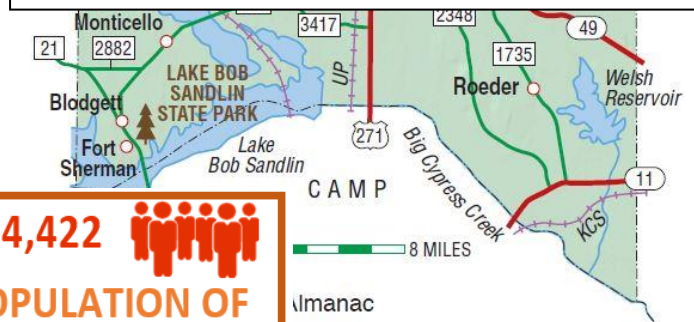
The City of Mount Pleasant and Titus County continues to attract new residents and businesses. Our proximity to mid-size cities such as Longview, Tyler and Texarkana as well as the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex provides easy access to what those locations have to offer, without having to live there. The access to transportation routes like I-30, Highways 271 and 49 are attractive to businesses. Mount Pleasant and Titus also have many things that draw people in daily. Mount Pleasant is a Hub for Northeast Texas with a retail trade area population of 106,000. MPFD must be ready and able to meet the needs of our community.



City of Mount Pleasant-16 square miles



Titus County-426 square miles



City/County Fire Protection Agreement

The City of Mount Pleasant and Titus County executed a Fire Protection Service agreement in October of 1997 setting forth the terms for the City Fire Department to provide fire and rescue services to the unincorporated areas of Titus County. The agreement expired in September of 2010 at which time the agreement was renewed for an additional 10 years with it set to expire at the end of September 2020. During this time the agreement was amended a number of times. For several reasons, the agreement was extended to September of 2022. Around April 2022 negotiations began on an agreement to go into effect October 2022. After numerous meetings a new 10-year agreement was reached which is set to expire at the end of September 2032.



Some of the highlights of the agreement:

- The responsibilities of the Mount Pleasant and County Volunteer Fire Departments remain the same.
- The number of resources sent to a call in the County will be at the discretion of the City Fire Chief or his designee.
- The County will pay the City \$1.3 million in FY 22-23 & FY 23-24
- The City and County will split the cost of new fire apparatus 50/50 and the City will provide 24 months written notice to the County prior to the purchase.
- The City will be responsible for the total cost of building a new fire station when it is needed.
- Either party may terminate the agreement without cause by providing written notice at least 12 months prior to the start of the next Fiscal Year.

Map with County Fire Districts

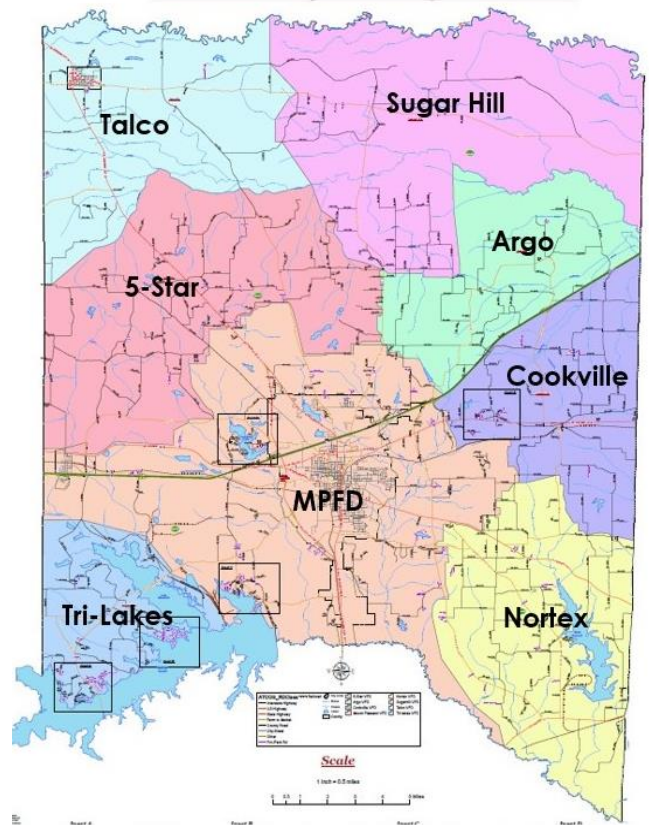
The County is divided into 8 fire districts, as shown on the map. MPFD is responsible for all incidents that occur in its district. MPFD is also responsible for the structure fires, vehicle accidents and any other incidents, other than grass and vehicle fires, in all the county fire districts, except for the Talco Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) district.

In 2014 the Winfield VFD disbanded due to lack of members. In 2021 the Sugar Hill VFD almost met the same fate. In 2018 the Argo VFD was formed in the area north of Interstate 30 that was once covered by the Cookville VFD. The VFDs are responsible for the vehicle and grass fires that occur in their districts. If the VFDs are not able to respond to the call or need assistance, MPFD will respond.

Just like VFDs across the State and nation, our county VFDs struggle to get members that will dedicate the time and effort required to be an active and productive member of the department. MPFD appreciates the members of the county VFDs that do dedicate their time and effort to providing fire and rescue services to the citizens.

For more information on the county volunteer fire departments go to this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/bbfk87vmr48ogcdhw7ypk/h?dl=0&rlkey=xlm3y0mmupnikqwugma46x4fs>



Response to Incidents

These are only incidents where MPFD responded.

Response to Incidents City/County Combined

Incident Type	2021	2022	% up or down
Structure Fire	37	48	29.7%+
Vehicle Fire	37	34	8.8%-
Grass Fire	73	159	117.8%+
MVA	223	208	6.7%-
EMS 1 st Responder	108	94	12.9%+
Vehicle Extrication	25	21	16.0%-
False Alarms	132	157	18.9%+
Misc.	292	368	26.0%+
TOTAL	927	1089	17.5%+

Response to City Incidents Only

Incident Type	2021	2022	% up or down
Structure Fire	10	23	130.0%+
Vehicle Fire	19	14	26.3%-
Grass Fire	15	23	53.3+
MVA	116	116	0.0%
EMS 1 st Responder	80	83	3.7%+
Vehicle Extrication	15	7	53.3%-
False Alarms	104	123	24.6+
Misc.	211	263	24.6%+
TOTAL	570	652	14.3%+

Response to **County Incidents Only**

Incident Type	2021	2022	% up or down
Structure Fire	27	25	8.0%-
Vehicle Fire	18	20	11.1%+
Grass Fire	58	136	134.4%+
MVA	107	92	14.0%-
EMS 1 st Responder	28	11	60.7%-
Vehicle Extrication	10	14	40.0%+
False Alarms	28	34	21.4%+
Misc.	81	105	29.6%+
TOTAL	357	437	22.4%+

INCIDENTS RESPONDED TO BY EACH MPFD STATION

CENTRAL STATION	STATION 2
526	563

OVERLAPPING INCIDENTS

Overlapping Incidents are those that occur at the same time as another incident. When this occurs, it could result in a delayed response, or no response to the overlapping call(s), if resources are already committed to the first incident and are unable to be released to respond to the overlapping incident(s).

In 2022 177 (16.25%) of 1089 calls overlapped.

In 2021 112 (12.08% of 927 calls overlapped.

Response to Significant Incidents-City

Type of Incident	Number of Incidents	Avg. Time per Incident	Total Avg. Time Spent on Incidents
Structure Fire	23	2 hours	46
Vehicle Fire	14		
Grass Fire	23	.75 hours	18
MVA	116	.75 hours	87
EMS	83		
Extrication	7	1 hour	7
False Alarms	123		
Misc.	263		
TOTAL	652 (59.8%) 169 (38.7%)		158 (31.9%)

This is the amount/% of the 1,089 total incidents in the city & county.

This is the amount/% of the 436 total significant incidents in the city & county.

This is the amount/% of the 495 total hours spent on significant incidents in the city & county.

Response to Significant Incidents-County

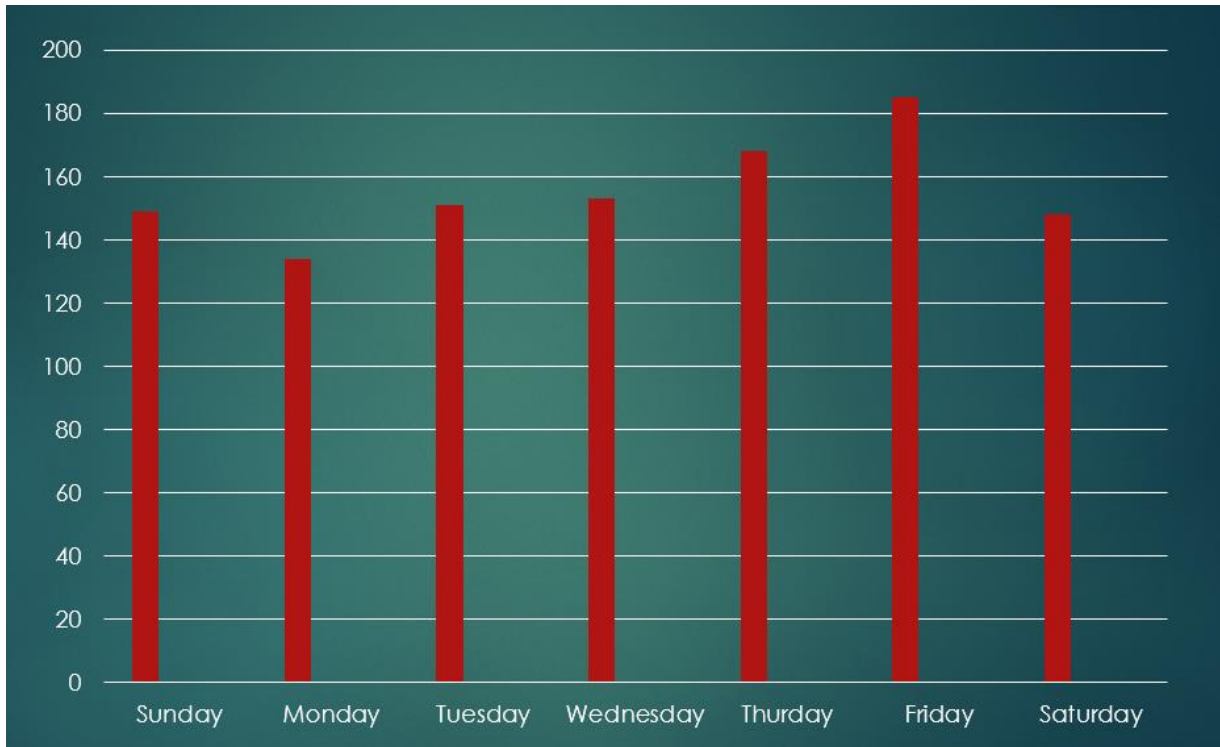
Type of Incident	Number of Incidents	Avg. Time per Incident	Total Avg. Time Spent on Incidents
Structure Fire	25	2 hours	50
Vehicle Fire	20		
Grass Fire	136	1.5 hours	204
MVA	92	.75 hours	69
EMS	11		
Extrication	14	1 hour	99
False Alarms	34		
Misc.	105		
TOTAL	437 (40.1%) 267 (61.2%)		337 (68.0%)

This is the amount/% of the 1,089 total incidents in the city & county.

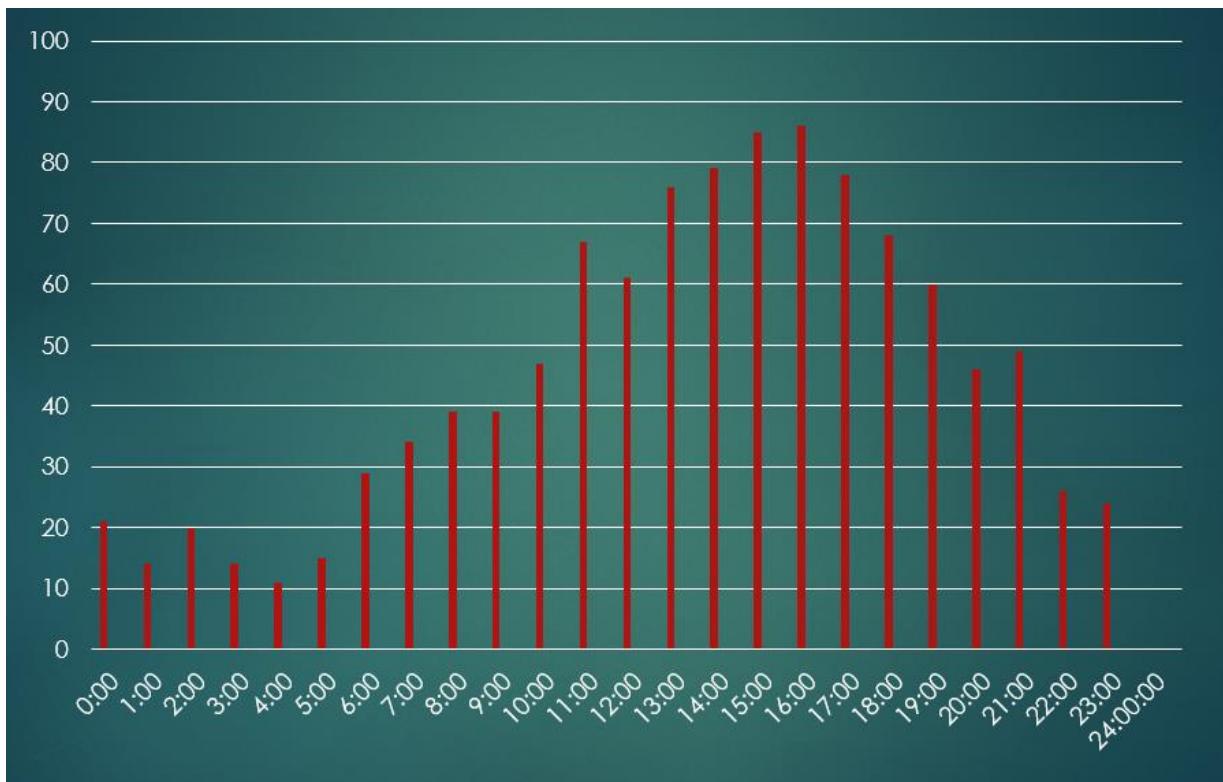
This is the amount/% of the 436 significant total incidents in the city & county.

This is the amount/% of the 495 total hours spent on significant incidents in the city & county.

Busiest Day of the Week



Busiest Time of Day



National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Response Times Standard for Structure Fires

NFPA response times standards for structure fires in cities are different from those for structure fires in rural areas.



**NATIONAL
FIRE CODES®**

City-Standard is for the first arriving unit to arrive within 4 minutes of being dispatched 90% of the time. MPFD met the standard 90.0% of the time in 2022. The average response time was 2 minutes 55 seconds.

Rural-Standard is for the first arriving unit to arrive within 14 minutes 80% of the time. MPFD met the standard 88.0% of the time in 2022. The average response time was 10 minutes 45 seconds.

Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS)



The Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) is coordinated by the Texas A&M Forest Service. TIFMAS is the framework through which fire & rescue agencies work together to provide support for incidents as diverse as hurricanes and wildfires. Local resources, including personnel and apparatus, are deployed at the request of the State to provide assistance. As a partner agency, the Mount Pleasant Fire Department has

deployed personnel and equipment as State assets since the beginning of TIFMAS and have played critical roles in major fires across Texas.

The State of Texas reimburses local governments for the cost of providing the resources and pays the costs of overtime to backfill those deployed so there is no expense to the City, in fact the City comes out on the positive side of the ledger. Additionally, the State has provided the Mount Pleasant Fire Department, at no cost, with a Type 6 Brush Truck to use during deployments. It can also be used to respond to fires locally when needed.

The Mount Pleasant Fire Department deployed more in 2022 than any previous year. Below are the deployments we made:

- **Amarillo-Jan 4 thru 7** (*Staged for Initial Attack, demobed prematurely due to members contracting COVID*)
- **Childress-March 3 thru 11** (*Backfill local fire station for Initial Attack*)
- **Multiple Locations-March 16 thru April 18** (*Walling Fire, Kidd Fire, Big L Fire, Borrega Fire [King Ranch], Crittensburg Fire [Fort Hood], Charlotte Fire, Medina Duo Fire*)
- **Abilene-May 18 thru 25** (*Mesquite Heat Fire*)
- **Weatherford -June 24 thru July 1** (*Dempsey Fire*)
- **Clarksville July 18 thru August 8** (*Increased manpower for Texas A&M Forest Service in Northeast Texas Area*)
- **Big Spring-August 8 thru 23** (*Barber Fire, Pine Pond Fire*)

Fire Stations

Central Fire Station

Central Fire Station is located at 728 East Ferguson Road. It was



built in March 2001. It has administrative offices, living quarters, workout area, training room, male and female locker rooms, and apparatus bay.

Fire Station 2

Station 2 is located at 1900 North Jefferson. It was originally built as the National Guard Armory in the 40's or 50's. However, in 2004 it was remodeled as a fire station. It has living quarters, training room, male and female locker rooms, workout area, Captains office and apparatus bay. It also houses the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Mount Pleasant and Titus County.



The living area of the station was remodeled in 2022, which included new kitchen cabinets, flooring and painting.

Apparatus/Equipment

CENTRAL STATION		
Apparatus/Equipment	Year	Assignment
Ford F-150	2016	900 (Fire Chief)
Ford F-150	2021	C-1 (Deputy Chief)
Pierce Contender	2015	Engine 1
Pierce Saber	2008	Rescue 1
Spartan Gladiator	1996	Quint 1
Ford F-550	2013	Brush-13
Ford F-350	2015	Brush-17
Pierce Saber	2003	Reserve Engine
Ford F-350	2022	Support 11(tow vehicle)
Forest River	2009	Air Trailer
John Deere	1992	Plow
International	1990	Plow Transport
Continental Cargo	2009	Dive Trailer
Chevy Tahoe	2021	C-2

STATION 2		
Apparatus/Equipment	Year	Assignment
Pierce Saber	2020	Engine 2
Ford F-350	2020	Brush 15
Ford F-350	2017	Brush 18
Pierce	2002	Blocker 1
Chevy Silverado 1500	2021	C-3
Ford F-350	2010	C-4 (tow vehicle for ICP)
Southfork	2020	Rescue Boat
WLCR	2005	Fire Prevention/rehab
Forest River	2009	Mobile ICP
Ford/Boyer	1936	'36 Antique fire truck

Public Fire Education

MPFD conducts fire prevention/safety programs in the 8 elementary schools in Mt. Pleasant and Titus County which includes approximately 1,800 students. Numerous stations tours are provided for school groups throughout the year.



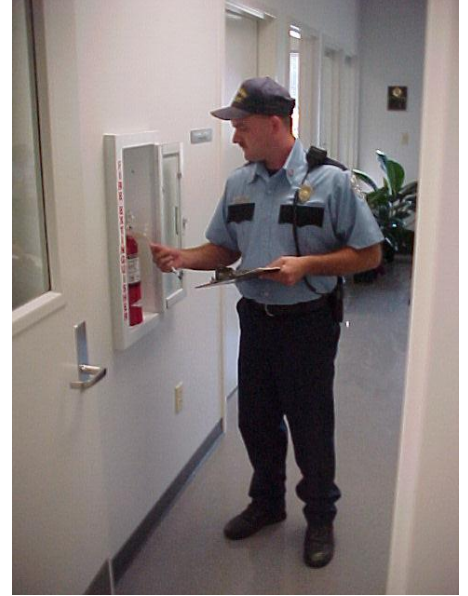
Fire extinguisher training is provided to local businesses, schools, etc., numerous times each year so they can put out a small fire before it gets out of control.



Inspections/Pre-Fire Planning

Each year the Mount Pleasant Fire Department conducts inspections to ensure buildings are safe, find and eliminate fire hazards to hopefully prevent fires from occurring. Inspection includes multi-family residential units, commercial/business and mixed-use occupancies. There are 12 Texas Commission on Fire Protection certified fire inspectors in the department.

417 inspections were conducted in 2022.



In conjunction with the fire inspections, pre-fire planning is also conducted. A quality pre-fire plan offers advance knowledge of important issues such as building construction, building layout, hazardous materials storage, fire alarm or fire suppression system capabilities and special occupancy concerns.

The information is placed in a computer software program that can be accessed from the mobile devices in the Command vehicles and engines in the event of a fire at the location.

Building and Plan Review

MPFD is part of the Development Review Committee (DRC). It is made up of representatives of the Planning, Building, Code Enforcement, Streets, Utilities, Engineering, and Inspections departments. The DRC meets with developers to make sure the needs of departments are met and allows the developer to ask questions, so they are clear on what is expected from the City for the project. This allows any issues there might be to be addressed at the beginning and not after it is underway, which could delay the project.

Technical Rescue

Vehicle Extrication

Of the significant incidents MPFD responds to, the number of vehicle accidents is at the top of the list. We have state-of-the-art rescue tools and equipment and personnel trained and experienced in vehicle extrication. Fighting a structure fire is dangerous but conducting vehicle extrication on the Interstate or other major highways is more dangerous. At structure fires, based on the size-up, we will decide if placing our personnel in harm's way is justified or not. On a vehicle accident with people trapped, we have no choice but to go to work to rescue them. We attempt to make the scene as safe as possible, but we have had numerous close calls while operating at vehicle accidents due to driver inattention.



Water Rescue

Mt. Pleasant Fire Department provides the citizens of Mt. Pleasant and Titus County with a water rescue and recovery dive team. We currently have 16 certified divers equipped with a rescue boat, and water rescue/dive trailer loaded with a wide array of equipment used for dive operations. In our jurisdiction, we cover various creeks, rivers, ponds, lakes, and water ways and also provide mutual aid to surrounding counties. The dive team has mandatory annual open water training in local swimming pools and lakes in Titus County. In 2022 MPFD responded to a total of six water search and rescue related calls that occurred both day and night. The dive team completed five training sessions during 2022. The dive team is subject to be called out at any time of the year for water rescue incidents.



High Angle

High angle rescue is a specialized skill that we have trained on for years. Although the number of incidents is small, the complexity of these calls requires ongoing training to keep our personnel proficient in the skills needed for the task. We have a number of areas in our county such as water towers, multi-story buildings and industrial complexes where there is potential for our services.



Training

The Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) regulates career fire departments and firefighters in Texas. Most of the other States do not have any regulatory authority over fire departments and firefighters. For a person to become a career firefighter in Texas they must complete a Basic Structural Firefighter training academy consisting of approximately 478 hours of classroom and



hands on training. In addition to the initial training, firefighters must have a minimum of 20 hours of continuing education training annually to maintain their certifications and employment. Our department believes every day is a training day. Training may be as little as discussing an article from a fire service periodical around the kitchen table to multi hour training sessions with all on duty personnel participating in live fire evolutions. **3,411 hours of training were obtained by members this year.** TCFP offers numerous other certifications, and our members routinely take advantage of obtaining them. Listed below are certifications that were obtained this year by members:

- 1-Instructor I
- 1-Instructor II
- 2-Driver/Operators
- 2-Intermediate Firefighters
- 1-Incident Safety Officer
- 2-Basic Wildland Firefighter

- 1-Aircraft fire/rescue
- 2-Fire Officer II
- 1-Intermediate Inspector
- 2-Advance Inspectors
- 2-Incident Commanders

NOTE: There is no State regulatory agency in Texas for volunteer firefighters and departments. Volunteer firefighters are not required to have any training however, the county fire chiefs agree that volunteer firefighters need to be trained. MPFD provides training opportunities to all the county volunteer firefighters through on-line, classroom and hands-on training.

Insurance Service Office (ISO)

ISO collects information on fire protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. ISO analyzes the relevant data using their Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). They then assign a Public Protection Classification (PPC) from 1 to 10. Class 1 generally speaking represents superior property fire protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire suppression program doesn't meet the ISO's minimum criteria.



The program provides a countrywide standard that helps fire departments in planning and budgeting facilities, equipment, personnel, and training. The PPC provides incentives and rewards by securing lower fire insurance premiums for communities that choose to improve their firefighting services. The FSRS considers four areas of a community's fire suppression system:

Fire Department

- Training
- Number of personnel
- Response to Emergencies
- Maintenance and Testing of Equipment

Water Supply

- Sufficient Water Supply
- Fire Hydrant Inspection and Testing
- Number and Location of Hydrants

Emergency Communications

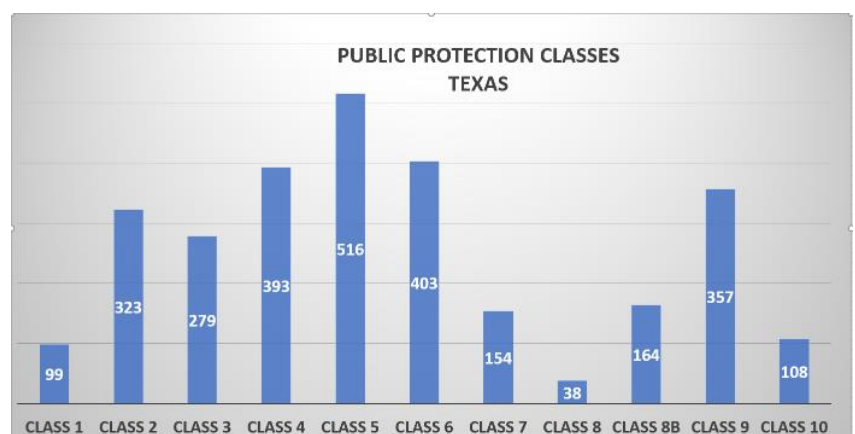
- Emergency Reporting
- Communications Center
- Number of Telecommunicators
- Computer Aided Dispatch
- Dispatch Circuits

Community Risk Reduction

- Fire Prevention
- Fire Safety Education
- Fire Investigation

The residents inside the City of Mount Pleasant enjoy a Class 3 rating. As shown on the graph below, only 279 locations in the State have achieved a Class 3 rating.

The County Fire District outside the City that MPFD is responsible for has a split classification of 3/9. The 3 applies to property within 1000 feet of a fire hydrant and 5 miles of one of our fire stations. The 9 would apply for the rest.



Emergency Management

By Texas Law the County Judge of a County and the Mayor of a City are designated as the Emergency Management Director. They usually appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) to take care of the day-to-day operations and to serve as an adviser to them during a major disaster. Except for the counties/cities with large populations, the counties/cities the County Judge and Mayors agree to appoint one person to serve as the EMC for whole county and they operate under one Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).



In Titus County the Mount Pleasant Fire Chief serves as the EMC for Titus County and the cities of Mount Pleasant, Winfield, Talco, and Millers Cove. One EOP is developed that covers the entire county. Having one EMC for the whole county has been in place since 2005.



The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is in MPFD Fire Station #2. In the event of a disaster this is where leaders would come to support the units operating in the field.

One of the responsibilities of the EMC is to prepare the community to respond to disasters such as tornados, ice storms, school shootings, etc. This is accomplished by working together and developing relationships prior to a disaster occurring by conducting exercise.

Every year since 2004 we have conducted annual exercises to prepare our community. In 2014, 2015, and 2021 the exercise scenario was based on an active shooter in a school.

In the month after the incident in Uvalde a meeting was held that was attended by 1st Responders, school districts, college, hospital, and elected officials to discuss what impact an incident like this would have on our community and how to prevent/respond to it.

A full-scale exercise based on an active shooter in a school will be conducted in the Spring of 2023 on a local campus.

