

2010



Winchester Ct. House Fire

Strongsville



Fire *and* Emergency Services

Annual Report

March 1, 2011

Mayor Thomas P. Perciak, Safety Director
&
Members of Strongsville City Council



I am pleased to submit the 2010 Annual Report of Strongsville Fire & Emergency Services. This report provides information on many outstanding activities and projects accomplished by our department.

In 2010, our department responded to 4,397 emergency or 911 calls. 78% of calls were emergency medical services related. An additional 22% of calls involved fires, hazardous materials and other emergencies.

Notable accomplishments in 2010 included completion of a project to place mobile data terminals (MDT's) and automatic vehicle locaters (AVL's) in front-line trucks and ambulances. Real-time dispatch information, mapping and preplan information is now instantly available to responding crews. In addition, state-of-the-art Lifepak 15 cardiac monitors/defibrillators were purchased and placed into service on all rescue squads and front-line fire vehicles. The units replaced older cardiac monitors that had been in service for 12 years. Also in 2010, a contract was awarded to Medtec Ambulance Corporation for purchase of a new ambulance to replace a 10 year-old unit currently still in service. Delivery is expected in spring 2011.

Strongsville Fire & Emergency Services involvement and leadership in the Southwest Emergency Response Team (SERT) continued in 2010. SERT is a 19-community regional team providing coordinated hazardous materials response, water and dive rescue, confined space and trench rescue, and fire investigation to member communities. HazMat 1, the SERT hazardous materials response vehicle, is based at Strongsville's Fire Station #4. In addition, we participate in a five-county Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) light strike team and house both a USAR medium-duty tow vehicle and strike team equipment trailer.

The state of the economy continued to provide operational challenges in 2010. We are grateful for the unparalleled support we receive from both our residents and city administration and are mindful of the need to be conservative with funding. We continue to strive to deliver the greatest level of public safety and value possible within our budgetary framework. Thank you for your exceptional support.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Robert Moody

STRONGSVILLE'S 4 WARD FIRE STATIONS



SFD Station 1
11297 Webster Road
Dedicated 2001



SFD Station 2
15939 Drake Road
Dedicated 1997



SFD Station 3
22000 Albion Road
Dedicated 1980



**SFD Station 4
& Headquarters**
17000 Prospect Road
Dedicated 2008

Strongsville Fire Department 2010



Thomas P. Perciak
Mayor
Safety Director

Robert Moody
Fire Chief

Jeff Branic
Assistant Chief

Greg Brown
Assistant Chief

Erin Sutak
Secretary

Alan Finkelstein
Lt./Inspector

Randy French
FireMedic/Inspector

A

B

C

Kevin Bakley
Captain
Commander "A-Shift"

Murphy
Arson Dog

Jack Draves
Captain
Commander "B-Shift"

Mario D'Amico
Captain
Commander "C-Shift"

Harry Drennan
Lieutenant
Station 1

- G. Benedict
FireMedic
- B. Tomcany
FireMedic
- D. Marconi
FireMedic
- D. Boyle
FireMedic

Matt Tilbert
Lieutenant
Station 2

- L. Wenz
FireFighter/EMT
- A. Miller
FireMedic
- JC Petrick
FireMedic
- J. Loparo
FireMedic

Paul Filon
Lieutenant
Station 3

- T. Fetzer
FireMedic
- J. Douglas
FireMedic
- C. Flaherty
FireMedic
- M. Kasza
FireMedic

AJ Aljabi
Lieutenant
Station 4

- M. Pace
FireMedic
- R. Kuhn
FireMedic
- C. Balka
FireMedic
- P. Noel
FireMedic

Neil Rozman
Lieutenant
Station 1

- T. Hunt
FireMedic
- J. Agresta
FireMedic
- M. Macejko
FireMedic
- J. Cameron
FireMedic

Ken Barrett
Lieutenant
Station 2

- M. Biley
FireMedic
- S. Fridley
FireMedic
- T. Zinn
FireMedic
- A. Smeader
FireMedic

Pat Greco
Lieutenant
Station 3

- T. Gruzca
FireMedic
- J. Cerovac
FireMedic
- S. Siudowski
FireMedic
- M. Schenek
FireMedic

Dave Haffner
Lieutenant
Station 4

- T. Brophy
FireMedic
- J. Martin
FireMedic
- C. Ramey
FireMedic
- C. Bowman
FireMedic

Gregg Samoly
Lieutenant
Station 1

- R. Bement III
FireMedic
- M. Fabec
FireMedic
- M. Ditlevson
FireMedic
- C. Walters
FireMedic

Mike Dorocak
Lieutenant
Station 2

- C. Nieberding
FireMedic
- J. Bouts
FireMedic
- J. Grimm
FireMedic
- T. Sullivan
FireMedic

Chuck Zerman
Lieutenant
Station 3

- T. Branigan
FireMedic
- B. Polasko
FireMedic
- JL Petrick
FireMedic

Dave Yeager
Lieutenant
Station 4

- P. Kinyon
FireMedic
- JP Martin
FireMedic
- A. Green
FireMedic

ADMINISTRATION

Assistant Chief Greg Brown

Strongsville Fire has the constant objective of providing our city with excellent emergency and non-emergency services as our community has come to expect. The major challenge of last year was that the difficult economic environment of 2009 continued through 2010 requiring more cost cutting while maintaining quality services.



In February of 2010 Captain John Higginbotham who worked in administration and was the training officer and Firefighter Dan Decheek retired. Dan and John started their careers in the fire service with Parma Fire. Both hired on in Strongsville in August of 1980. Typically over 85% of the cost of running a fire department is related to personnel. In 2010 as in 2009 we again reduced the department's budget by downsizing the number of personnel. The 2011 budget does not include funding for any new personnel though Chief Moody and Firefighter Larry Wenz will retire in early April.

Other continuing areas of cost containment include on duty members maintaining the buildings and grounds of their station throughout the year while handling 4,397 emergency calls. One visible example is Fire Station 3 which was opened in 1980 and is our oldest fire station. The men assigned to Station 3 replaced the overgrown and unsightly landscaping over several weeks last spring.

Fire station and equipment improvements and repairs are assessed to determine if they can be effectively done by on duty personnel before a repairman is called in. Further savings were achieved by cutting back in off duty training and by scheduling changes that at times reduced the number of officers on duty. Dollars are saved by the prevention of illness and injury to our employees. Their wellness has been enhanced by the four fire stations' physical fitness areas and by the classroom and training tower at Fire Station 4.

Strongsville Fire remained a leader in assisting federal, state, county and neighboring fire departments in training and education. On a regular basis firefighters from 18 communities use the classroom and training tower at Station 4 to strengthen their skills and improve team dynamics. We have been very fortunate to be in position to continue our direction and positive impact of SERT. This multi-discipline, inter-departmental cooperation is how doing more with less is accomplished in the public emergency services sector.

As Strongsville residents and businesses face economic challenges, their fire department has in fact continued its past efforts of doing more with less and working smarter.

OPERATIONS

Assistant Chief Jeff Branic



Fire suppression and emergency medical response are services normally identified by the Strongsville community as those provided by their fire department. In addition, hazardous materials intervention and technical rescue services are also provided locally and augmented by active participation with regional emergency response teams. Although not considered true fire department emergencies, requests from residents to remedy *their* emergencies, i.e. occupants locked out of their house, water leaks, requests for physical assistance, etc. are also a value added response service provided by Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services (SFES). Non-emergency response services provided by SFES include a local fire investigation unit (F.I.U.) that is the foundation of the regional fire investigation unit, a fire prevention bureau, and an active public education program. Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services also works closely with Strongsville Emergency Dispatch to insure that calls for service are received and dispatched as efficiently and effectively as possible. We completed the installation of mobile data terminals (MDT) in 4 of 5 rescue squads, the Command Car, and 4 out of 5 fire apparatus. The reliability of the MDT's is improving but remains a work in progress. Problems that reduced the effectiveness on the fire side of our CAD system have improved, but some software issues remain and are currently being corrected.

Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services is heavily committed to the Southwest Emergency Response Team (S.E.R.T.) in supplying manpower as well as providing physical space for equipment storage and resources for organizing and maintaining the vehicles and equipment. Currently we have 2 members assigned to Water Rescue, 2 members to Technical Rescue (Rope rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Trench Collapse Rescue, and Structural Collapse Rescue), 4 members to the Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) and 8 members to the Hazardous Material Team. Two of our officers function in leadership positions in regional disciplines. Captain Kevin Bakley is Director of SERT-FIU and Assistant Chief Jeff Branic is the SERT-Hazardous Materials Director. The department also houses HazMat 1 (one of two SERT-HazMat vehicles), which is a regional asset. HazMat 1 was delivered in early 2009 and carries state of the art detection and monitoring equipment. Additional SERT-Haz-mat equipment is also stored at Station 4. The Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) is comprised of members of SERT-Technical Rescue as well as members from technical rescue teams from a seven-county region. Two Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services members are USAR members. We house one of three USAR vehicles and trailers.



The primary mission of Strongsville Fire and Emergency Service is to provide intervention and mitigation service in the face of varied emergencies. A large portion of time and resources are targeted at accomplishing activities which are necessary to successfully prepare for and support emergency response activities. Some example activities include; servicing 3580 public and private fire hydrants, and pressure testing 17,725 feet or 3.35 miles of fire

hose annually. We engage in pre-planning emergency response for target buildings and occupancies utilizing computer aided drawing programs. The tools and specialized equipment that firefighters utilize when called to intervene in an emergency must be inspected and maintained on a regular basis. Everything from hydraulic rescue tools (“The Jaws of Life”) to battery powered drill motors and saws must be ready to function in extreme conditions. Paramedic equipment such as cardiac monitors, AED’S, ventilators, pulse oximeters and cots must be scheduled for inspection and maintained by specially trained technicians. Drug licenses must be renewed annually. The fleets of 5 rescue squads, each featuring fire suppression capabilities, addresses the primary duty of supplying vehicles to provide for the support of delivering advanced life support to our community yet are also capable of providing a measured fire suppression capability. Additionally, all of our fire apparatus (Engines and Aerial trucks) are Advanced Life Support (ALS) capable. They carry the needed equipment and pharmacological supplies to provide advanced medical care until transportation to a hospital can be provided. One of the rescue vehicles is assigned to each of the four ward stations and the fifth unit serves as a replacement unit. Each vehicle is checked daily to insure their safety and ability to function in the emergency service environment. We have also engaged in active efforts to coordinate protocols with area fire departments to aid in the efficiency of providing and receiving mutual aid. One of the most recent projects is addressing the efficiency of dispatching for a large scale emergency event.

Non-emergent services provided by Strongsville Fire and Emergency Service include participating with City Administration, the Service Department, and Strongsville Police to coordinate resources and services to provide for public safety at various community events. Examples would include Fourth of July fireworks display, soccer tournaments, high school football games, hockey tournaments, figure skating competitions, the Strongsville Homecoming, City Club Rib Burn Off, church gatherings, and other events where large numbers of people may gather. Additional non-emergent value added services provided by Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services include a very active Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training program and related first aid instruction courses. We gladly provide many tours of our facilities and equipment demonstrations.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Chief Robert Moody

Strongsville Fire & Emergency Services has developed an area-wide reputation as a premier provider of emergency medical services. Our staff of 66 Paramedics and EMT's continues to deliver exceptional emergency medical services to our community.

<u>EMERGENCY MEDICAL RUN TOTAL: 3410</u>	
<u>Nature of Call</u>	<u>Number of Responses</u>
Burns	7
Cardiac Related	354
Deceased on Arrival	25
Cardiac Arrest	26
Diabetic Problem	64
Respiratory Distress	371
Drug/Alcohol Intoxication	51
Falls	387
Abdominal Pain	134
Personal Injury	234
Syncope	164
Medical Illness	724
Mental Disorder	61
Obstetrics/Gynecology	11
Motor Vehicle Crash	158
Assistance/Welfare Check	219
Gun Shot Wound	2
Suicide Attempt	29
Seizure	93
Stroke	61
Assault	25
Back Pain	68
Altered Mental Status	140
Stab Wound	2

Advanced Life Support is defined as pre-hospital intervention provided by Paramedic personnel, including, but not limited to, 12-Lead cardiac monitoring and interpretation, external cardiac pacing, cardioversion, intubation, intravenous cannulation, drug administration, intraosseous infusion, needle decompression of the chest, and airway cricothyrotomy. Strongsville's first Paramedics utilized four cardiac drugs and followed a single page of standing medical orders. Today, the expanded drug list includes 36 different life-saving medications, with medical standing orders contained in a comprehensive 250-page document.



Basic Life Support is defined as pre-hospital intervention provided by EMT-Basic personnel, including, but not limited to, non-invasive methods of airway maintenance, oxygen administration, bleeding control, treatment of shock, splinting of fractures, and patient assessment, including taking and recording of patient vital signs

EMS CALL ANALYSIS

<u>CALLS PER TIME OF DAY:</u>	
0001 - 0759 Hours:	551 or 16%
0800 - 1600 Hours:	1694 or 50%
1601 - 2400 Hours:	1165 or 34%

<u>CALLS PER DAY OF WEEK:</u>	
Sunday:	429
Monday	506
Tuesday:	471
Wednesday:	492
Thursday:	517
Friday:	524
Saturday:	471

<u>CALLS PER MONTH:</u>			
January:	239	July:	296
February:	267	August:	332
March:	254	September:	266
April:	273	October:	288
May:	281	November:	289
June:	295	December:	330

EMS TRAINING AND CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

All personnel are required to participate in continuing medical education. Training sessions consist of both clinical and didactic sessions held at our fire stations and nearby medical facilities. All department personnel are required to maintain at least EMT-Basic certification while employed by the City of Strongsville. Currently, 3 Firefighters are certified as EMT-Basics, and 63 Firefighters hold Paramedic certification. EMT-Basic personnel must complete 40 hours of continuing medical education during a three-year period to maintain State of Ohio certification, while Paramedics are required to complete 86 hours of continuing medical education in the same three-year period. Mandatory topics include pediatrics, geriatrics, trauma, advanced cardiac life support and clinical rotations.

Strongsville Fire & Emergency Services serves as a clinical education site for Southwest General Health Center, Cuyahoga Community College, The University of Akron, Parma Community Health Center, EHOVE Adult Career Center, and Hocking Technical College. In 2010, over 75 students trained with our FireMedics and logged 500 clinical hours, providing invaluable training experience. We also partner with Strongsville City Schools as well as Polaris Career Center to offer real world experience as students investigate the possibility of fire service careers.

2010 EMT-BASIC CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Winter Session:	Respiratory Emergencies
Spring Session:	Pediatrics
Fall Session:	Firefighter Safety and Rehab

2010 PARAMEDIC CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

January:	Trauma Rounds
February:	Pediatric Medical
March:	Stroke Update
April:	Pediatric Trauma
May:	12-Lead EKG Interpretation
June:	Newborn Resuscitation
September:	Blast Injuries
October:	Emergency Preparedness
November:	Head Trauma

FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

Assistant Chief Greg Brown

Overview

The mission of the Strongsville Fire Prevention Office is to prevent personal injury and property loss caused by accidents, fire, explosion or hazardous materials. This task is managed through public education, preplanning, code enforcement and fire investigation.

Our desire is to raise the level of awareness and responsibility of each person's role in protecting themselves and those around them. The Fire Marshal's Office uses established programs and evaluates new methods that may not traditionally be considered fire prevention activities in an effort to reduce the harm that occurs to our residents and community. Many such occurrences are historically referred to as accidents. Most of these accidents are entirely preventable.

Public Education



Fire Inspector Randy French is in charge of the Public Education program and instructed 317 Safety Town children and 160 helpers on basic fire safety lessons. Randy also attended the Safety Town Graduations to assist in passing out certificates to each child. A fire engine was available at the conclusion of each ceremony to allow families photo opportunities.

For the eighth consecutive year the fire department utilized the Firefighter Phil Fire Safety Program in our grade schools. 67 Strongsville businesses and organizations underwrite the cost of the program. All Kindergarten thru 2nd graders were paid a visit at school by Randy and learned about fire safety in a lively and entertaining format. All students received an age-specific fire safety activity book. We continued to target safety in the home for preventing loss of life caused by fire as 70% of fire deaths occur in the home.

All third graders participated in fire safety presentations and hands on training using the fire safety trailer. We also instructed babysitters, homeowners, scouts, and business people in areas of safety and preparedness. Fire extinguisher training classes were conducted for many Strongsville businesses free of charge. Smoke detectors were given away and installed in homes free of charge by on duty firemedics whenever the need arose.

CPR and First Aid



Making Strongsville a safer place to live and work in or to travel through is partially accomplished through the CPR and First Aid classes offered to residents and the business community.

Class participants ranged in all ages from as young as thirteen years old and in occupations from student to physician. Strongsville businesses can have classes tailored to accommodate their needs and taught at their place of business during or after normal business hours. Fifteen Strongsville Firemedics hold instructor level certification and teach in the program. Participants who complete the class and perform the skills in accordance with the American Heart Association guidelines are issued a certification card.

Interested residents or businesses can obtain more information or schedule a class by contacting Lieutenant AJ Aljabi, program director at 440-580-3210 or at aj.aljabi@strongsville.org

Preplanning

Preplanning starts with our review of the plans of projects that are seeking to locate in Strongsville.

Inspector French attended commission meetings advising Planning Commission on what impacts 28 new projects might have on Strongsville's fire safety and how to minimize those effects. In 2010, another 21,500 square feet of new tenant space was completed at The Plaza at South Park bringing the total area of new construction at that site that is protected by a fire suppression system to 280,000 square feet.

Preplanning also involves having the firemedics of our department visit Strongsville businesses and review the information that has been entered into our computer data system. Our CAD drawings are rechecked for the information they contain that will assist our emergency personnel during a fire. New commercial construction projects are required to submit the information we need in a computer based format that allows us to more efficiently complete drawing assignments.

Code Enforcement

Lieutenant Alan Finkelstein maintains MSDS data on all required chemical sites and handles the tracking of 49 sites that file annual chemical inventories with the Strongsville Fire Department. These facilities list 411 chemicals that are onsite at any given time during the year. Maintaining these records enables the fire department to plan for any

releases of materials that may cause any life safety issues or cause damage to the environment.

727 fire prevention inspections and system tests were conducted in 2010. These include regularly scheduled fire detection, fire alarm and fire suppression system tests as well as annual site inspections of commercial, industrial, educational and assembly occupancies.

Emergency Management

In the state of Ohio the fire chief has responsibility for managing all local emergencies and disasters whether natural or man made. Therefore the fire department has a major role in emergency planning and response for the city. Lt. Alan Finkelstein is a member and vice chair of Cuyahoga County's (LEPC) Local Emergency Planning Committee representing the county's four Haz-mat teams. Maintenance and updating of the city's emergency plan are coordinated Lt. Finkelstein

As part of the emergency management resources for the City the Strongsville a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) was created in 2004. CERT is trained to assist the fire and police departments during any emergency when the city's resources may be stretched thin. Strongsville CERT members have assisted with many of the city's special events, including a visit to Strongsville by President Obama, Fourth of July fireworks, Strongsville Homecoming, soccer tournaments and fire prevention public relations events.



Fire Investigation

Fire Chief Robert Moody and Captain Kevin Bakley have attained the professional designation of Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) through a rigorous program that includes continuing education, investigative experience and courtroom testimony. They conduct origin and cause investigations in Strongsville as well as 18 additional Southwest Emergency Response Team (SERT) communities.

Fire investigations provide information that is used at the local, state and national levels to develop future fire loss prevention and educational programs. The information gathered at a fire scene may also be used to prosecute arsonists as necessary. Captain Bakley serves as regional director of SERT FIU and is the handler of Murphy, a trained accelerant detecting K-9 provided by State Farm Insurance through a competitive grant program.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Assistant Chief Jeff Branich

SERT-Haz Mat Director

Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services has prepared to handle hazardous material emergencies ranging from a residential release of mercury to railroad accidents involving tank cars holding thousands of gallons of liquid product. The potential exposure to a significant hazardous materials incident in Strongsville is elevated due to a number of factors. I-71 and I-80 are designated intra and interstate hazardous material transportation corridors by the DOT. The CSX railroad provides area service to industries that either manufacture or use hazardous materials in their manufacturing processes. State routes 42 and 82 see hazardous materials transported on a daily basis. Domestic and international terrorism involving the use of toxic industrial chemicals, chemical warfare agents and bio-terrorism agents has also influenced our efforts to prepare for the challenges of hazardous material mitigation. Homeland Security plays a vital role in funding and shaping the preparedness of our hazardous materials emergency response. In 2010 Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services responded to 100 hazardous material incidents in our city. All were handled utilizing local resources.

To meet the challenges of a hazardous material release, Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services has trained all of its members to the Operational level of hazardous materials response. It is a nationally recognized level of training that permits first responders to engage in hazardous materials incident mitigation in a primarily defensive mode of operations. Their mission would normally be to identify, isolate, and contain the incident.

In the event that more technical and aggressive intervention is required, Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services can call up the resources of Southwest Emergency Response Team-Hazardous Materials Team (SERT-HM), the regional hazmat response unit. Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services currently has eight members assigned to SERT-HM. All members are trained to the nationally recognized level of Technician enabling them to function in an offensive mode and take aggressive actions to bring an incident to a safe conclusion. Several of our members are trained to Hazmat Specialist levels which identify them as subject matter experts and one of our members is a Weapons of Mass Destruction - Hazmat Specialist/Paramedic assigned to the regional bomb team. Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services houses the regional hazmat team's response vehicle, HazMat 1, as well as providing storage for equipment and supplies.

The leadership role of Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services in SERT-HazMat operations has become even more beneficial to our city as we have acquired a strong voice on the local, county, and state levels with regard to acquiring state and federal funding as well as policy issues impacting hazardous material response. Additionally, since we serve as a repository for the SERT-HazMat vehicles and equipment, access to specialized instruments and apparatus in the event of an incident in Strongsville is rapid.

FIRE SUPPRESSION and INVESTIGATION

Captain Kevin N. Bakley

Director, SERT-Fire Investigation Unit

FIRE SUPPRESSION

For the year 2010, Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services responded to 92 fire calls. Building fires resulted in 31 responses. Cooking or chimney fires were the cause of 8 departmental responses.

There were 21 fires involving vehicles, 12 fires involving field or grass fires and 12 responses for rubbish, dumpster or outside fires.

Hazardous conditions from arcing, shorted or overheated electrical equipment necessitated 48 responses.

Heat related overpressure/explosions or ruptures resulted in 10 emergency calls.

Strongsville Fire & Emergency Services responded to 322 false/good intent alarms plus 57 mutual aid responses to surrounding communities.



INVESTIGATION

The Strongsville Fire Investigation Unit investigated 12 fires in 2010. The loss from these fires totaled \$767,500.

A candle left unattended caused \$40,000 of damage to an apartment. Three arson fires resulted in \$7,500 in damages.



The failure of a wood-burning fireplace and a fire where ashes were improperly disposed of resulted in losses of over \$350,000 dollars. Smoking or the improper disposal of smoking materials/embers resulted in a fire that caused \$5,000 in damage.

A light bulb positioned too close to combustibles resulted in \$5,000 damage to a condominium.

An electrical panel fire caused a \$10,000 loss. Electrical failure in a bathroom fan/wiring, and a fire in an air hockey table caused damage in two homes totaling approximately \$300,000.

FIRE TRAINING

Chief Robert Moody

Strongsville Fire & Emergency Services has developed a comprehensive training program which utilizes the “Blended Learning” approach to adult education. Staff development is routinely delivered using the following techniques:

Lectures presented by our certified instructors in the classroom setting;

Computer-based on-line learning programs and;

Skill demonstration and competency-based testing scenarios.



Station #4, Strongsville Fire Department Headquarters is home to a state-of-the art, 48-person classroom and integrated 4-story training tower featuring three above-ground and one below-ground (basement) training levels. In addition to regular fire department training sessions, our facilities were utilized by the Southwest Emergency Response Team (SERT), Southwest Enforcement Bureau (SEB), Region 2 Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), and Cuyahoga County Emergency Management. In addition, Louisiana State University’s Center for Biomedical Research and Training conducted numerous CAMEO (Computer Aided Management of Emergency Operations) classes for area emergency services personnel.

The unique design and construction of the training tower has facilitated construction of an entanglement and confined space drill prop in the basement for simulated technical rescue operations. On the second floor, a mock-up of a typical two-bedroom apartment with hallway corridor has been constructed by firefighters. Movable walls and knock-out panels are used to create different firefighting, forcible entry and search and rescue drills. The training tower can be filled with smoke and includes a standpipe system for hose line drills. Exterior balconies facilitate aerial ladder firefighting and rescue scenarios.



Strongsville firefighters completed over 10,000 training hours in 2010. The table below is a summary of training and major categories.

<u>Training Category</u>	<u>Number of Educational Hours</u>
Administrative Procedures	209
Daily Apparatus & Equipment Checks	2536
Building Construction	224
Communications	100
Driver's Training	102
Engine Company and Fire Attack	382
Equipment Operations	228
Fire Investigation Techniques	230
Fire Protection and Preplan Development	279
Hazmat, WMD and Radiological	410
Health, Safety and Rapid Intervention	166
Fire Control	155
Officer Development	125
Physical Fitness	2847
Technical Rescue	360
Truck Company Operations	304
Emergency Medical Services	2262
<u>Total Training Hours:</u>	<u>10,919</u>
Average Training Hours per Firefighter	165.43



Our Vision

The vision of Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services is to become the finest fire service organization possible by utilizing and developing our members to their fullest potential, maximizing our use of available resources and being responsive to the growth and changing needs of our community.

Our Mission

Our mission is to protect the lives, property and environment of the people who live, work or travel in Strongsville.

Our Values

The values of Strongsville Fire and Emergency Services are to provide its members with a framework for making management decisions and guiding individual behavior. Our value system describes those attributes that make the organization and our members an asset to the community.

The values of Strongsville and Emergency Services are:

HUMAN LIFE	Our top priority
SERVICE	Our reason for existence
EXCELLENCE	Our goal
INTEGRITY	The basis for trust
ACCOUNTABILITY	Personal and professional
INNOVATION	For creative problem solving
EDUCATION	For growth

September 11, 2001



The memorial located in the lobby of Fire Station 4 contains an American flag imprinted with the names of the emergency services personnel who sacrificed their lives while trying to save others on 9/11. At the bottom of the display is a 230 pound beam from the World Trade Center donated by the City of New York .

