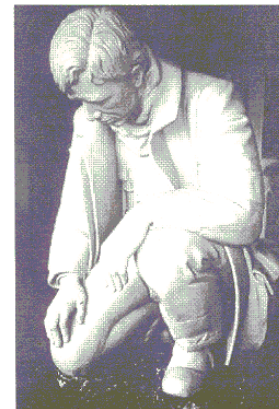


# Roanoke Fire-EMS

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## ANNUAL REPORT



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2001

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## Roanoke Fire-EMS

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### New Employees 2001

Joseph Adkins	Joshua Holmes
Scott Boone	Steven McFaden
Jamey Brads	Jeffrey Peay
Larry Creasy	Antwoine Poindexter
Gregory Duncan	Charles Sharp
Bryan Fichtner	Jerry Thompson
Thomas Gherman	Scott Weaver
James Gish, III	David Wray
Justin Hines	

### Promotions 2001

Captain Mike Armstrong	1st Lieutenant Teddy Adkins
Captain Dale Barker	1st Lieutenant Clayton Martin
Captain James Firebaugh	1st Lieutenant Marlan Morris
Captain Mark Ingvaldsen	1st Lieutenant Robert Perdue
Captain Gary Laprad	1st Lieutenant Chris Trussler
Captain Craig Sellers	1st Lieutenant Werner Van Damme
Captain Todd Stone	1st Lieutenant Anthony Wallace
Captain Willie Wines, Jr.	
Lieutenant Scott Alford	Lieutenant Mark Kesterson
Lieutenant Georgette Asbury	Lieutenant Darren Parker
Lieutenant Mark Brown	Lieutenant Tim Parry
Lieutenant Marci Ingram	Lieutenant Sam Stump
Lieutenant Steve Jordan	Lieutenant Chuck Swecker

### Retirements 2001

Captain David A. Bocock	Lieutenant David O. Rich
Captain Edward T. Carter	Lieutenant Thomas N. Sowers
Captain Richard T. Dews	Lieutenant Billy T. Word
Captain Joseph A. Moses, Jr.	
Captain Gerald R. Sullivan	
Firefighter/EMT Lewis C. Kennett	
Firefighter/EMT Alfred D. Willoughby	



## Message from the Fire-EMS Chief

The Roanoke Fire-EMS Department is an emergency organization that provides a wide range of community services. We are proud of the job we do, which includes fighting fires, responding to and aiding in medical emergencies, teaching children fire safety awareness and preventing fires through fire inspections and code enforcement.

Please take time to browse through our department's annual report and you will sense the pride we have in the services we provide and the people with whom we work.

We are a growing organization and have adopted extremely high standards of excellence. We believe that a diverse, highly trained work force best serves the citizens of Roanoke.

Our stations are always open for visits. Come see us!

In the Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Grigsby". The signature is written in a cursive style.

James Grigsby  
Fire-EMS Chief

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## Mission

This department exists to protect and preserve the lives and property of residents and visitors of the City of Roanoke from damage or loss due to fire, medical emergencies, environmental hazards, and traumatic accidents.

## Vision

The Roanoke Fire-EMS Department will...

- work to prevent emergencies from occurring through fire code enforcement, investigation, and public education.
- strive to be the recognized leader in fire-EMS in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States.
- be the department of choice for our employees to work and achieve professional development.
- develop innovative training techniques and a research and development program for all aspects of emergency service delivery.
- be recognized as a resource of chief officers for other departments through superior officer training and development.
- value constructive changes as positive.

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## COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH INCIDENT TYPES - 2001

INCIDENT TYPE	Total
Bomb Threat	44
Medi-Vac Assist	1
Fire Alarm Activation	1,262
Life Threaten - EMS	10,734
Critical Life Threat - EMS	741
Biological Hazard	24
Non-Life Threat - EMS	1,650
Brush/Grass Fire	275
Car/Vehicle Fire	191
CO Alarm - patients	21
CO Alarm - no patients	23
Aircraft Emergencies	36
Building Collapse	1
Elevator Rescue	46
Structure Fire-Report 911	786
Working Structure Fires	101
Motor Vehicle Accident Serious Injury	628
Motor Vehicle Accident Minor Injury	775
Motor Vehicle Accident Property Damage	15
Public Service - Fire	513
Standby - Fire	12
HazMat Incident	14
Gas/Product Leak	43
Move to Cover	39
Public Service - EMS	171
Standby - EMS	125
Mulch Fire	21
Odor - Unknown	88
Subject Down	576
Quick Dash - CFR Test	5
Spill - Hazardous Prod.	53
Train Incident	1
Trash/Dumpster Fire	73
Tactical Rescue Response	0
Wires Down - Hazard	214
TOTAL	19,302

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In 2001, Roanoke Fire-EMS operated from 14 fire-EMS stations located throughout the city, with administration offices housed in the Jefferson Center. The department employed a total of 274 full-time personnel and a complement of eight full-time equivalent part-time medical and fire inspection staff.

Roanoke Fire-EMS operates 13 fire engines, 4 aerial ladder trucks, 5 ambulances, 3 command vehicles and airport rescue firefighting seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. The department is a full-service fire and emergency medical service agency providing basic and advanced pre-hospital life support, fire prevention and education program, fire suppression services, arson detection, vehicle extrication, and tactical heavy rescue and supports a regional hazardous materials team.

The department's customer base is every citizen and visitor to the City of Roanoke. In 2001, the department responded to a total of 19,302 emergency calls; 5,306 fire/rescue and 13,996 EMS. There were a total of 785 fires (including structures, vehicles, brush, etc.) that resulted in a total fire dollar loss of \$2,834,351, a per capita loss of \$29.86.

The service that receives the most attention is firefighting, or the handling of other major emergencies; for example, a plane crash or hazardous materials incident. Each year the department responds to approximately 2,500 fire calls, resulting in over 100 working fires per year.

In contrast, approximately 14,000 EMS calls are answered each year resulting in an average of 10,000 ambulance transports to local hospitals. From a simple numbers perspective, the EMS function affects the lives of more customers and citizens than the firefighting function.

Fire preventive inspections of every place of business is a critical system service. The department's fire prevention effort targets schools, day care centers, nursing homes and businesses open to the public throughout the community to provide a fire safe environment for places frequented by the public. Upon request, citizens can receive a complimentary residential inspection and free smoke detectors.

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## Core Values

The employees of this department are our most valuable resource. Only through them will our mission be accomplished.

The residents and visitors of Roanoke are our customers. We will constantly strive to provide them with the highest quality of service possible. We will consider every contact with them an opportunity to demonstrate our mission and values.

Employee and customer safety will affect our approach to the services we provide.

A philosophy of participative management involves employees in issues that affect them, encouraging open dialogue, teamwork, trust, and the sharing of ideas among employees and management.

We will maintain department integrity and longevity through fiscally sound and proactive planning and budgeting.

Through research and development, visioning and creativity, we will constantly strive for better ways to fulfill our mission in service to our customers.

We will promote the attributes of leadership, service, pride, and respect in a secure, diverse workplace.

## Leadership Philosophy

We are a team of dedicated, hard-working individuals who want to do a professional job. We trust, train, empower, and hold each other accountable to accomplish our mission.

## Major Accomplishments for 2001

- Seven year Strategic Business Plan adopted by City Council.
- “Get Alarmed, Virginia” smoke detector program implemented, installing more than 2,500 detectors throughout the city.
- *Risk Watch*, injury prevention program, implemented in Roanoke City Schools, giving children the skills and knowledge they need to create safer homes and communities.
- Improved Insurance Service Organization (ISO) rating from a class 3 to a class 2. The ISO is an organization that helps set residential fire insurance premiums for homeowners.
- Reorganization of Fire Prevention Division to increase fire inspections by 300%.
- Four state-of-the-art Thermal Imaging Cameras that look through smoke and darkness, and are a valuable aid in finding victims and for firefighter safety.
- Automatic Aid with City of Salem for fire response began on November 1, 2001.
- Co-staffing of Roanoke County’s Clearbrook Station - Fire and ambulance units respond into the 220 South/Southern Hills area, greatly reducing the response time to those calls.
- Two Roanoke Valley Regional Fire-EMS Recruit Schools held for City of Roanoke, County of Roanoke and City of Salem.
- Hosted Rescue Challenge 2001 , a statewide training event.

### 2001 Department Budget

The total operating budget for Roanoke Fire-EMS in 2001 was \$15,161,969..

Operations.....	\$12,927,117
Administration.....	\$ 651,585
Support.....	\$ 766,051
Airport.....	\$ 716,216

## Fire Prevention

During 2001, the Fire Prevention Division performed 5,236 inspections throughout the city, involving 3,225 staff hours

The Fire Prevention Division is comprised of: one Fire Marshal, one Fire Protection Engineer, and seven code enforcement inspectors.

The total number of inspections included annual prevention inspections, re-inspections and other inspections. This third category of inspections included: safety equipment installation acceptance tests, fuel storage tank removals, home fire safety inspections, building surveys, complaint investigations, and fire extinguisher surveys.

The Fire Protection Engineer reviewed 231 architectural drawings and blueprints for compliance with the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, and other applicable model codes.

