

Dalton Fire Department Annual Report 2017



Vision

To serve our community with integrity and be the standard by which fire service organizations are measured.

Mission

The City of Dalton Fire Department is dedicated to providing our community with the highest standard of service through prevention, public education, training, and emergency response.

Organizational Values

Integrity - firm adherence to honesty and our code of ethics

Accountability – our obligation and willingness to accept responsibility and account for our actions

Discipline – behavior and order maintained by training, self-control, and adherence to our rules of conduct

Responsibility – our obligation to serve with reliability, trustworthiness, and professionalism

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DALTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

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It is my pleasure to present the City of Dalton Fire Department Annual Report for 2017. The information contained in this report is a reflection of the combined efforts of the outstanding men and women who proudly serve our department and our community. We are proud of the service we provide to the citizens and visitors of the City of Dalton and we want to share some of our statistics as well as showcase our accomplishments.

We constantly strive to maintain a high level of service and continue to provide the highest level of safety to our community. We will continue to accomplish this by focusing on the mission and core values of our organization. Our agency will continue to prepare for, not only day-to-day challenges, but the ones on the horizon that we will be faced with in the future.

Todd Pangle
Fire Chief

Department Overview

The City of Dalton Fire Department is an ISO Class 2 emergency service provider consisting of 97 full-time employees. 89 personnel are assigned to the suppression division as firefighters. Additional personnel are assigned to the training division, fire prevention division, and as administrative staff. The department has 39 Emergency Medical Technicians, 4 Paramedics, 54 Emergency Medical Responders, 27 certified Georgia Smoke Divers, and 12 CPR instructors. Training hours accrued during 2017 totaled 35,290.

The department has Special Operations Teams trained in technical rescue and hazardous materials response. These teams are adept at mitigating incidents such as trench rescue, structural collapse, vehicle and machinery entrapment, surface water rescue, high and low angle rope operations, confined space rescue and hazardous materials releases.

Emergency response capabilities are achieved through the use of eight pumping apparatus, one 100-foot tower ladder, one 75-foot straight ladder, one heavy rescue apparatus, one incident command vehicle, and one mobile air & light unit, all of which are fully equipped to comply with NFPA and ISO requirements. Thermal imaging cameras, which allow for enhanced visibility in hostile environments, are carried in all 5 districts so that all the city's inhabitants may benefit from this technology.

The department has 5 stations located to provide rapid response to any part of the city's 22 square miles. Station 2, located on Abutment Road, also serves as a training facility with a water drafting pit, four story drill tower, and a three story, 1,664 sq. ft. burn building designed for the burning of Class A materials in all areas of the structure. This facility is utilized to train new recruits and maintain proficiency among incumbent personnel. All fire stations are equipped with stand-by generators to provide electrical power in the event of an outage. Stations are also equipped with a communications duplication system to ensure that the vital link between fire dispatchers and units operating in the field remains intact should the 911 center be disabled.

The City of Dalton has a total of 1,249 municipal fire hydrants. These hydrants are inspected a minimum of twice annually by suppression personnel. The department works closely with Dalton Utilities in an effort to ensure that hydrants will function properly if needed. In addition, there are over 500 private hydrants located in various parts of our jurisdiction serving a variety of private properties.

The fire prevention division works closely with the building inspector's office and Dalton Utilities in an effort to reduce the loss of life and property by requiring that all construction meets current fire codes.

Retirements

Engineer Scott Thomas	1/17/17
Fire Chief Bruce Satterfield	4/28/17
Lieutenant Claude Allman	9/16/17
Battalion Chief Steve Hollingsworth	9/30/17

Recruit Class 2017-01

Austin Payne
Michael Sams
Austin Williams

Recruit Class 2017-02

Andrew Carlson
Caleb Carlson
Chris Dennis
Cody Manly
Scott Rafferty

Accomplishments

1. The department placed a total of 88 new mobile and portable radios in service on the SPLOST funded digital emergency radio communications system.
2. Several major building maintenance projects were completed during 2017. The entire interior of Station 4, along with all common areas on the second floor of Station 1, received a fresh coat of paint. Additionally, two new apparatus bay doors were installed at Station 2.
3. Significant equipment upgrades were made in the workout areas at all stations. Purchases included dumbbells, free weights, and multi-functional exercise equipment.
4. 21 sets of structural protective clothing were purchased to replace damaged or aging turnout gear.
5. The Training Division conducted spring and fall recruit training programs that graduated a total of 8 new firefighters.
6. All battery powered carpentry toolkits on Squad 1 were replaced to improve serviceability and effectiveness.
7. A Masimo RAD-57 pulse CO-oximeter was purchased to monitor personnel for carbon monoxide concentrations in the bloodstream
8. At total of 4 new Bullard thermal imaging cameras were placed in service to replace outdated equipment or expand capabilities.
9. The Training Division conducted a 40-hour fire officer training program to better prepare senior firefighters and officer candidates for the duties of a company officer.
10. The department purchased 8 DuPont Level A hazardous materials entry suits to replace expired chemical protective clothing
11. The department participated in a joint training exercise with Dalton Police Department on response to active shooter incidents. The drill stressed the importance of multi-agency coordination and unified command.
12. The Training Division, in conjunction with Dalton Utilities Gas Regulatory Compliance Division, conducted scenario-based training on natural gas emergency response to better prepare suppression personnel for joint operations at these incidents.
13. The department updated all Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) as well as all job descriptions during 2017.

2017 Statistical Data

Number of incidents

- The City of Dalton Fire Department responded to a total of 3,719 calls during 2017, an increase from the 3,590 calls answered during 2016.

Response time

- Average response time for emergency calls was 3 minutes 27 seconds.
- Overall response time for all calls (emergency & non-emergency) was 3 minutes 36 seconds compared to 3 minutes 35 seconds in 2016.
- For multi-company responses, the average arrival time for the second due unit was 6 minutes 54 seconds.

Dollar value saved & loss analysis

- Total estimated property value exposed was \$43,201,143
- Total estimated property value lost was \$2,909,668
- Total estimated property value saved was \$40,291,475
- Total percent lost was 6.74%
- Total percent saved was 93.26%

Fires

- There were 165 actual fires reported in 2017 compared to 166 reported in 2016
 - There were 49 residential fires in 2017 compared to 41 in 2016
 - There were 17 commercial fires in 2017 compared to 18 in 2016
 - Total structure fires were 66 compared to 59 in both 2016 and 2015
 - There were 19 vehicle fires in 2017 compared to 25 in 2016
 - There were 18 brush/grass/wild land fires in 2017 compared to 37 in 2016
 - There were 29 rubbish/dumpster fires in 2017 compared to 31 in 2016
 - The Other category accounted for 10 fires in 2017 compared to 14 in 2016
- Fires accounted for 4.43% of the total incidents responded to by the department in 2017 compared to 5.51% in 2016

Property damage (from actual fires)

- Estimated property damage from fire was \$2,819,669 in 2017 compared to \$2,087,925 in 2016
- Damage from residential fires was estimated at \$1,525,175 in 2017 compared to \$1,938,275 in 2016
- Damage from commercial fires was estimated at \$883,142 in 2017 compared to \$23,150 in 2016
- Total property damage from structure fires in 2017 totaled \$2,408,317 compared to \$1,961,425 in 2016
- Vehicle fires resulted in \$58,900 in losses compared to \$120,550 in 2016
- The all other fires category accounted for no losses in 2017 compared to \$5,950 in 2016

Civilian fire deaths

- There have been no civilian fire deaths in the City of Dalton since 2013
- There were 3 civilian fire deaths in the City of Dalton during 2013
- There were no civilian fire deaths in 2010, 2011, or 2012 and 2 each in 2009 and 2008

Civilian fire injuries

- There were four civilian injuries in 2017 compared to one in 2016 and three in 2015
- There was one civilian injury in 2014 and two in 2012 and 2013
- There were six in 2011, one in 2010, eight in 2009, and five in 2008

Firefighter injuries

- There was 1 firefighter injury in 2017 compared to 6 in 2016
- There were two firefighter injuries in 2015, 2014, and 2013 compared to three in 2012 and nine in 2011

Rescue/Medical responses

- There were 2,469 calls for rescue/emergency medical assistance compared to 2,375 in 2016
- Rescue/Medical incidents accounted for 66.38% of incidents versus 66.15% in 2016

False alarm responses

- There were 442 false alarms in 2017 compared to 394 in 2016
- There were 15 malicious/mischievous false calls in 2017, 2016, and 2015
- There were 171 system malfunctions in 2017 compared to 148 in 2016
- There were 246 unintentional false alarms in 2017 compared to 235 in 2016
- There was 1 other false alarm in 2017 compared to 2 in 2016
- The false alarm category accounted for 11.88% of all incidents

Intentionally set fires

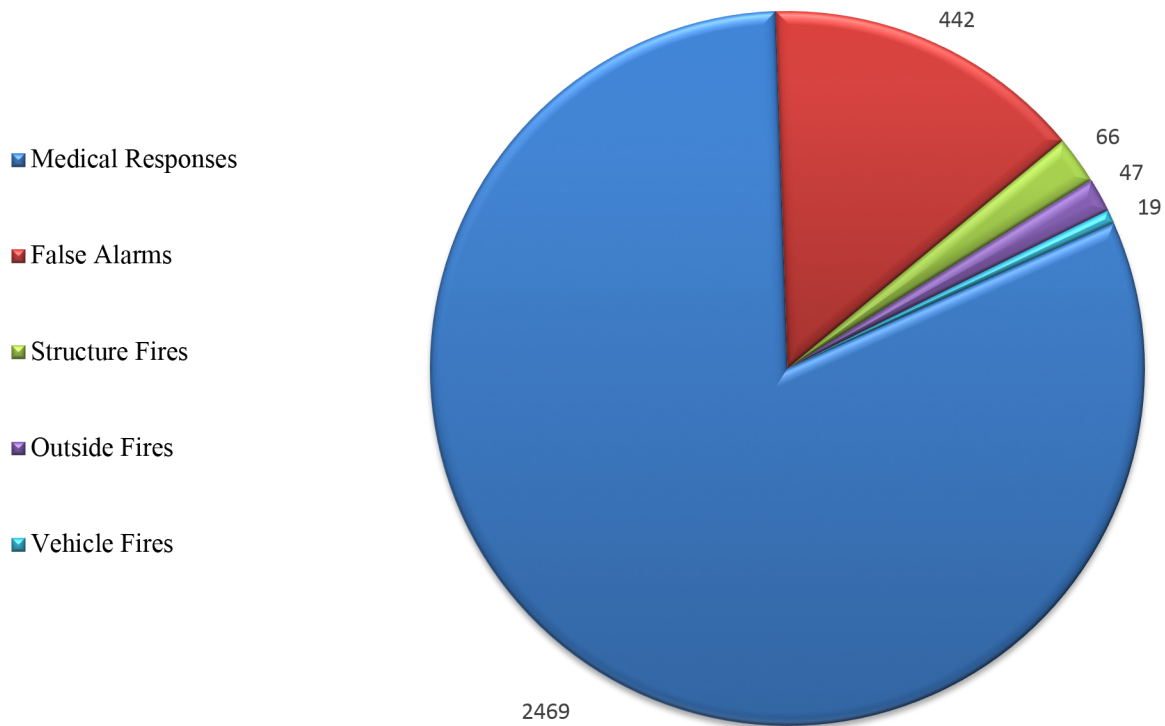
- No structure fires were listed as intentionally set in 2017 or 2016
- No vehicle fires have been listed as intentionally set since 2012

Other statistics for 2017

- 82.29% of all calls occurred between 8:00am and 11:00pm
- The busiest day for calls was Tuesday with 15.16% (564 calls)
- The second busiest day for calls was Thursday with 15.05% (560 calls)
- Wednesday was the slowest day for incidents with 13.17% or 490 calls for service
- December was the busiest month with 357 calls for service
- District 1 accounted for 1,347 calls (36.21%) and accounted for \$374,630 in estimated losses (12.88% of total loss)
- District 2 accounted for 754 calls for service (20.27%) and accounted for \$814,602 in estimated dollar loss (28% of total loss)
- District 3 accounted for 745 calls for service (20.03%) and accounted for \$1,511,916 in estimated dollar loss (51.96% of total loss)

- District 4 accounted for 379 calls for service (10.19%) and accounted for \$42,120 in estimated dollar loss (1.45% of total loss)
- District 5 accounted for 368 calls for service (9.89%) and accounted for \$11,700 in estimated dollar loss (0.4% of total loss)
- Out of district calls accounted for 5.32% or 126 calls for service

2017 Responses by Incident Type



Fire Prevention Division

Restaurants/Bars/Alcohol Inspections – 238

These inspections include all food establishments with and without alcohol service. Numerous locations required multiple visits to obtain code compliance. When required, approval letters were issued to the City Clerk's Office enabling alcohol license to be issued.

Address Issues – 31

Dalton Fire Department handles all addressing issues within its jurisdiction. Upon request, letters confirming address changes were issued to home owners and/or mortgage companies for the purpose of verifying correct address. The county-wide readdressing project is in its fifth year with issues still arising from the initial changes. Some locations were given new street names and numerical identification, while others were only given new numerics. Dalton Fire Department continues to work with Geo-Comm when assigning new addresses.

Code Compliance Inspections – 768

These inspections pertain to all non-food service establishments (e.g., manufacturing, assembly, educational, and mercantile occupancies). Each location received an inspection based on the specific building use. Issues that arose included, but were not limited to, sprinkler service, alarm service, and general building maintenance.

Plans Reviewed – 43

Upon submittal of construction documents, each plan was reviewed for compliance with state and local codes. Areas reviewed consisted of proper sprinkler design and installation, means of egress, fire extinguisher placement, and fire alarm systems. Each occupancy type has its own unique requirements. Plan review can take as little as a couple of hours to a couple of days depending on the detail and complexity of the building and the operation contained in the structure.

Fire Safety Education Programs – 147

These events include public events (e.g., fairs, church functions, career days in public and private schools, Safe Kids seatbelt checks, and station tours). During these events, children were given fire safety education materials while adults were presented with more detailed literature. These events reached 8,602 adults and 15,881 children for a total of 24,483 citizens. Total staff hours for these events were 1,343.

Safe Kids Car Seat Events – 56

These events include public events at central locations (shopping centers, community centers, schools, etc.). During these events, child passenger safety technicians teach families how to transport children correctly. Dalton Fire Department is also an inspection station where citizens can come and request a car seat inspection by a child passenger safety technician. Citizens can receive a new seat through Safe Kids with a donation being suggested but not required. These events reached 102 adults and 89 children for a total of 191 citizens. Total staff hours for these events were 53.

Large Group Events

Class 5 Fire Prevention Program taught at Westwood Elementary, Brookwood Elementary, Roan St. Elementary, Blue Ridge Elementary, and City Park Elementary

Co-Op Day @ North Georgia Fairgrounds

Wild Game Dinner @ North Georgia Fairgrounds

Business Expo @ North Georgia Trade Center

Golden Gator Walk

Wildfire Preparedness Day @ Home Depot

Jeanne Festival

Dalton Middle School 5K Race

Spring Fair @ North Georgia Fairgrounds

Touch a Truck @ Whitfield County Courthouse/Dalton Green

Book Blast @ Mack Gaston Community Center

BBQ Festival @ North Georgia Fairgrounds

MDA Fill the Boot

Dalton Middle School Career Day

Teen Maze

Park Creek Elementary Fire Safety Education

Erwin Mitchell Health Fair

North Georgia Fair

Blue Ridge Elementary Fire Safety Education

Community Fall Festival @ Grace Presbyterian Church

Halloween Fire Safety Education @ DFD

Veteran's Day Parade

Job Fair @ Mack Gaston Community Center

Note: the above statistics do not include time allotted to training, recertification, clerical duties, etc.

Training Division

Training hours accrued during 2017 totaled 35,290, an increase of 2,802 hours from 2016 (32,488).

Hours attributed to maintenance and support activities totaled 13,495, an increase of 286 hours from 2016 (13,209)

Summary of classes delivered by the Training Division to all suppression personnel:

- 1.) Strategy & Tactics for Natural Gas and Electrical Emergencies
- 2.) Engine Company Operations
- 3.) Truck Company Operations
- 4.) Aerial Apparatus Operations
- 5.) Emergency Vehicle Driver/Operator Training
- 6.) Annual Hazardous Materials/Decontamination Refresher Training
- 7.) Underwriter's Laboratories Modern Fire Dynamics and Modeling
- 8.) Rapid Intervention Team Operations
- 9.) Life Force Air Medical Landing Zone Safety
- 10.) Calling the Mayday
- 11.) Company Officer's preference drills (16 weeks)
- 12.) Special Operations Team drills (monthly)
- 13.) Alzheimer's Association Safe Return Training
- 14.) Joint Response to Active Shooter Incidents
- 15.) Motorola APX 6000/7000 Operator Training

OUTSIDE SCHOOLS 2017

Date	Location	Title	# Attending
1/5/17	Dalton, GA	AHA BLS for Healthcare Providers	92
1/11/17	Dalton, GA	Natural Gas/Electrical Emergency Response - Dalton Utilities	83
1/11/17	GPSTC	NIMS 300	1
1/12/17	GPSTC	NIMS 400	1
1/15/17	Chatooga County, GA	Leadership 1, 2, & 3	2
1/15/17	GPSTC	Preparation for Initial Company Operations	3
1/19/17	Dalton, GA	Hazmat Site Tour: Cargill Industrial Specialties	79
1/20/17	Dacula, GA	Electrical Fire/Arson Investigation	2
1/20/17	Chatsworth, GA	Axioms Revisited	1
1/22/17	Chatsworth, GA	Axioms of Leadership	6
1/26/17	Dalton, GA	Introduction to NFIRS and Firehouse	28
1/28/17	Roswell, GA	NPQ Evaluator	1
1/29/17	Chatooga County, GA	Leadership 1, 2, & 3	2
2/2/17	GPSTC	Command & Control of Wildland/Urban Interface Fires	1
2/4/17	Anniston, AL	Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents (ERHM)	1
2/3/17	Dalton, GA	Georgia Smoke Divers	2
2/8/17	GPSTC	Structural Fire Control Instructor	1
2/9/17	Catoosa Co., GA	National Traffic Incident Management Responder Course	7
2/9/17	GPSTC	Acting Officer In Charge for the Fire Service	3
2/12/17	Chatsworth, GA	Tactical Assessment Retrieval & Care	3
2/12/17	GPSTC	Strategy & Tactics for Initial Company Operations	3
2/17/17	GPSTC	Fire Department Administrator	5
2/27/17	Rome, GA	GFSTC Training Records Management System seminar	2
3/3/17	GPSTC	NPQ Fire Instructor 1	1
3/3/17	GPSTC	NIMS 300 & 400	2
3/5/17	Chattooga Co., GA	Incident Safety Officer	5
3/8/17	GPSTC	Practical Fireground Hydraulics	3
3/10/17	GPSTC	Leadership 1, 2, & 3	1
3/12/17	GPSTC	Decision Making for Initial Company Operations	5
3/15/17	Dalton, GA	UL Research for the Fire Service	27
3/17/17	GPSTC	Fire Department Management	3
3/19/17	Chatsworth, GA	Firefighters Laboring and Mastering Essential Skills (FLAMES)	1
3/23/17	Atlanta Fire Academy	Incident Safety Officer	1
3/23/17	GPSTC	Preparation for Initial Company Operations	4
3/25/17	Atlanta Fire Academy	Forcible Entry	4
3/30/17	Cobb County, GA	Barn Boss Leadership	1
3/31/17	GPSTC	Transitional and Interpersonal Leadership Training	3
4/5/17	GPSTC	Strategy & Tactics for Initial Company Operations	3
4/7/17	National Fire Academy	Managing Officer Program: Transitional Safety Leadership	1
4/12/17	GPSTC	Decision Making for Initial Company Operations	3
4/13/17	GPSTC	Structural Fire Control Instructor	1
4/14/17	National Fire Academy	Managing Officer Program: Applications of Community Risk Reduction	1
4/21/17	Helen, GA	GPSFIA Fire Investigation Seminar	2
4/28/17	GPSTC	Fire Department Supervision	5
4/29/17	Indianapolis, IN	Fire Department Instructor's Conference	2
5/4/07	GPSTC	Acting Officer In Charge for the Fire Service	6
5/9/17	Dalton, GA	Firehouse Software Staff Scheduling Module	11
5/10/17	GFSTC	NPQ Fire Officer 1	2
5/12/17	GPSTC	GA Fire & Life Safety Educator 1	1
5/14/17	Cobb County, GA	Metro Atlanta Firefighter's Conference	14
5/16/17	GPSTC	Incident Safety Officer	1
5/18/17	GPSTC	Chief Fire Officer Orientation Days 1-4	4
5/18/17	GPSTC	Health & Safety Officer	4
5/21/17	Chatooga County, GA	Health & Safety Officer	4
6/1/17	Dalton State College	EOC Management & Operations	2
6/8/17	Cobb County, GA	Vehicle & Machinery Rescue 1	2

OUTSIDE SCHOOLS 2017

Date	Location	Title	# Attending
6/8/17	Rome, GA	Coordinated Response Exercise & Excavator Safety Program	2
6/12/17	GPSTC	Pressurized Container Fire Control	1
6/13/17	GPSTC	Incident Safety Officer	1
6/13/17	Dalton, GA	Erlanger Life Force Helicopter Scene Safety Team	90
6/14/17	Dalton, GA	OSHA 10-hour Hazard Recognition for General Industry course	1
6/15/17	Gordon County, GA	GA Power/Midland Communicaitons Tower Rescue course	3
6/18/17	Baltimore, MD	IAFC Hazmat Conference	2
6/23/17	GPSTC	2017 Georgia Fire & Life Safety Symposium	2
6/28/17	Whitfield County, GA	Motorola APX train-the-trainer course	4
6/30/17	GPSTC	Georgia Fire Inspector 1	1
6/30/17	GPSTC	Transitional and Interpersonal Leadership Training	2
6/30/17	Dalton, GA	OSHA 30-hour General Industry Hazard Recognition course	1
7/10/17	GPSTC	Acting Officer In Charge for the Fire Service	1
7/11/17	GPSTC	Handling Flammable & Combustible Liquids Incidents	2
7/13/17	Dalton, GA	Alzheimer's Association Safe Return training	90
7/21/17	Dalton, GA	Motorola APX radio operations course	90
7/21/17	GPSTC	NPQ Fire Instructor 1	1
7/27/17	Gordon County, GA	NPQ Fire Officer 1	2
7/28/17	GPSTC	Fire Department Supervision	1
8/11/17	Myrtle Beach, SC	ICC Plan Review Institute	1
8/18/17	GPSTC	NPQ Fire Instructor 1	1
8/25/17	Atlanta, GA	Dealing with the Challenges of Mid-rise Wood-frame Construction	2
8/26/17	Athens, GA	2017 Georgia Fire Service Joint Conference	4
8/31/17	Dalton, GA	UL Research for the Fire Service / SLICE-RS	45
8/31/17	GPSTC	Acting Officer In Charge for the Fire Service	1
9/1/17	GPSTC	NIMS 300 & 400	1
9/21/17	Douglas Co., GA	Decision Making for Initial Company Operations	1
9/22/17	GPSTC	NPQ Fire Instructor 1	2
9/28/17	GPSTC	Structural Fire Control Instructor	2
10/6/17	GPSTC	Introduction to Technical Rescue	1
10/8/17	Walker Co., GA	Firefighter Survival & RIT	8
10/11/17	GPSTC	Interior Search & Rescue	2
10/21/17	Alpharetta, GA	Metro Atlanta Extrication & Technical Rescue Conference	1
10/21/17	Nashville, TN	Firehouse EXPO	4
10/27/17	GPSTC	Fire Department Supervision	1
11/2/17	Hamilton Medical Center	Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support	4
11/3/17	GPSTC	Technical Rescue Core Qualifications	1
11/6/17	GPSTC	Acting Officer In Charge for the Fire Service	2
11/10/17	GPSTC	Rescue Systems 1: fundamentals of heavy rescue	4
11/12/17	GPSTC	Handling Flammable & Combustible Liquids Incidents	2
11/17/17	GPSTC	Fire Department Management	2
11/17/17	Dalton, GA	Georgia Smoke Divers	3
12/5/17	GPSTC	Commissioning New Occupancies	1
12/6/17	Hamilton Medical Center	12 Lead Interpretation and Airway	2
12/10/17	GPSTC	Structural Fire Control	1
12/13/17	Whitfield County, GA	NIMS 300	12
12/15/17	Whitfield County, GA	NIMS 400	10
12/15/17	Bremen, GA	2017 EMS Instructor Update	2
Total Personnel Attending Classes			609

