

Mobile Fire Rescue

Community Risk Reduction Division



Annual Fire Report

2017-2018 CRR

The 2018 year brought some exceptional challenges and your CRR team responded with outstanding results. Having played a pivotal role, the team was able to make a significant contribution in getting the ISO rating increase. It was able to reaffirm our endless work in the community. Each and every business in the City of Mobile was inspected. This brought about a host of life safety inspections in that we were able to interject a safety influence to our business community.

Your CRR team is able to inform and impact the community by getting the single most inexpensive, yet most effective piece of equipment in homes across the City of Mobile. Smoke detectors are proven to save lives and remain to be the quintessential measure to reduce loss of life. They are two very basic steps to promote smoke alarm safety. First is by impacting the community as soon as possible after the fire. Neighbors close to the residence of where the fire took place are often found to have the same fire hazards. This is a great time to education the community and get a smoke alarm installed. Secondly, letters have been sent out to churches and community leaders informing individuals of the free smoke alarm program. These measures produce a resounding number of smoke alarm installations.

Let's not become complacent with the risk of fire and we ask you to help us do our work. Fire prevention is everyone's fight, and if we can assist you in any way please contact us 251-208-7484.

Sincerely,

Dwayne M. Penn Sr.

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Meet Your Community Risk Reduction Team



District Chief D. M. Penn Sr.
Ms. Faith Koppersmith Sec. III
Mrs. Mary Jane Price Sec. II



Capt. S. Allen



Capt. J. Odom



Capt. D. Y. Smith



Capt. J. I. May



Inv. J. Hunter



Insp. B. Collins



Capt. M. Campbell



Inv. L. Carey



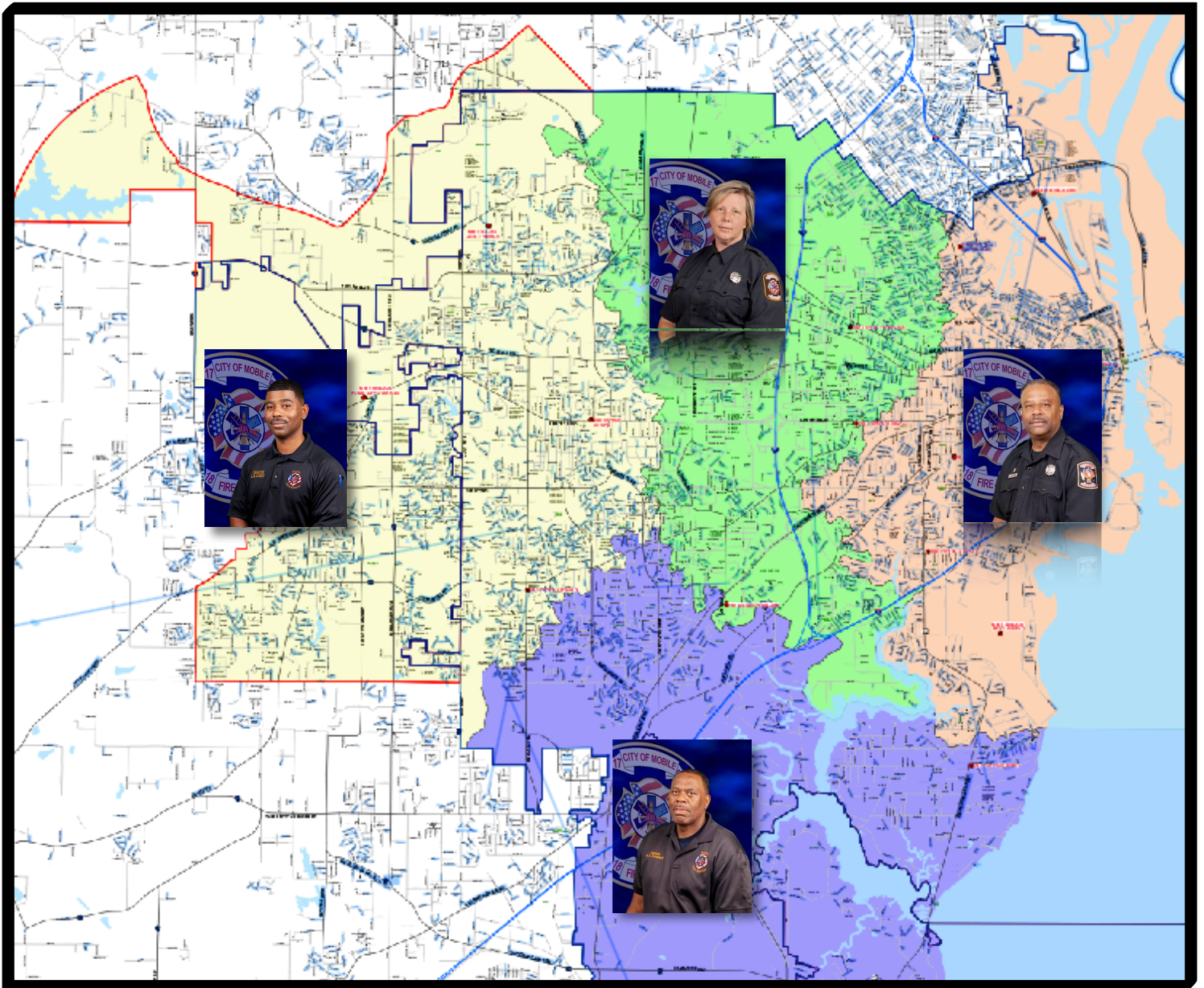
Insp. B. Moses



Inv. C. Hines



Inv. P. Harris



Insp. Sessions District 1

Capt. Campbell District 2

Insp. Moses District 3

Insp. Carey District 4

SWOT analysis: A strategic analysis to insure our CRR measures stay consistence with the overall mission of the fire department. This is very relevant to achieve the department's mission and maximize the value of public safety, sound stewardship of public service and fairness.

The analysis was conducted with the CRR staff and un-sworn staff. This was done to value each individual's input and allow him or her to have influence as it relates to public safety. We did modify the language slightly to promote a positive and creative way of thinking for the team.



Strengths - Internal strengths- Thing we do well

Weaknesses - Internal Limitations- Challenges we face

Opportunities- External Drivers- factors outside the division that could promote our objective and mission.

Threats - External Inhibitors- Challenges that could be difficult to overcome

During the SWOT analysis all input from individuals were valued and participants were encouraged to be creative and speak candidly. The breakout session was to get a perspective and inclusion from each team member.



Internal Strengths
Strength

Internal Limitations
Weakness

Customer Service

Training

Knowledge

Communication

Reputation

Policy Changes

Networking Ability

Apathy

Mutual Aide

Diversity

Inclusion

Eternal Drivers
Opportunity

External Inhibitors
Threat

Teaching/Mentoring

Staff Reductions

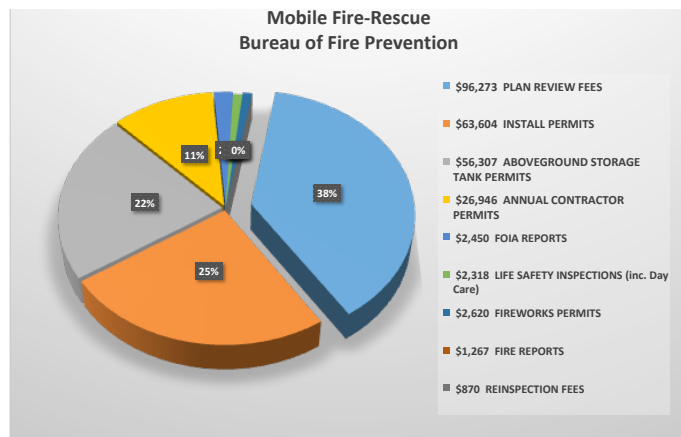
Reputation

Outsourcing

Business Relationships

Our revenue numbers remain consistent from year to year. Plan review plays a vital role in fire prevention and their work is indicative to the growth with the city. Your CRR team is always working on ways to streamline the process.

We create a pleasant experience for the business community while keeping public safety paramount.



2018 Revenue - Bureau of Fire Prevention		
\$96,273	PLAN REVIEW FEES	38%
\$63,604	INSTALL PERMITS	25%
\$56,307	ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANK PERMITS	22%
\$26,946	ANNUAL CONTRACTOR PERMITS	11%
\$2,450	FOIA REPORTS	2%
\$2,318	LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS (inc. Day Care)	1%
\$2,620	FIREWORKS PERMITS	1%
\$1,267	FIRE REPORTS	>1%
\$870	REINSPECTION FEES	>1%
\$252,655	TOTAL FOR 2018	

Our office is constantly and continually evaluating any loss of life. While our fatality rate is within the relative risk per capita, one loss of life is one too many. The key factors reviewed are the area of origin, cause of the fire and if the home was supplied with smoke detectors.

2018 Fatalities

Cause of Fire	Area of Origin	Age	Smoke Alarms	Gender
Incendiary	Vehicle	30	N/A	Male
Undetermined	Shed	47	No	Male
Accidental	Kitchen	69	No	Male
Undetermined	Garage	61	UNK	Male
Undetermined	Bedroom	70	YES	Female

Smoke alarms save lives. These smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing fire death and injuries. If there is a fire in your home, smoke spreads rapidly and you need smoke alarms to give you time to get out. In 2018 your CRR team installed nearly 1000 smoke alarms. Dead batteries were found to cause 25% of the smoke alarm failures. We were able to partner with The Red Cross and get the long life battery smoke alarms that may last up to 10 years.



The fire investigation unit can not be understated for their hard work. It sometimes may be the last contact that is made with some individuals in our community. The countless number of hours that goes into making one case can not truly be measured.

Fire Incident Status	Accidental	Incendiary	Undetermined	Natural	Total
Closed with Arrest	0	13	0	0	13
Inv. Closed	62	10	23	3	99
Inv. Inactive Suspended	1	9	12	0	22
Inv. Open	0	10	3	0	13
TOTAL	62	42	38	3	147

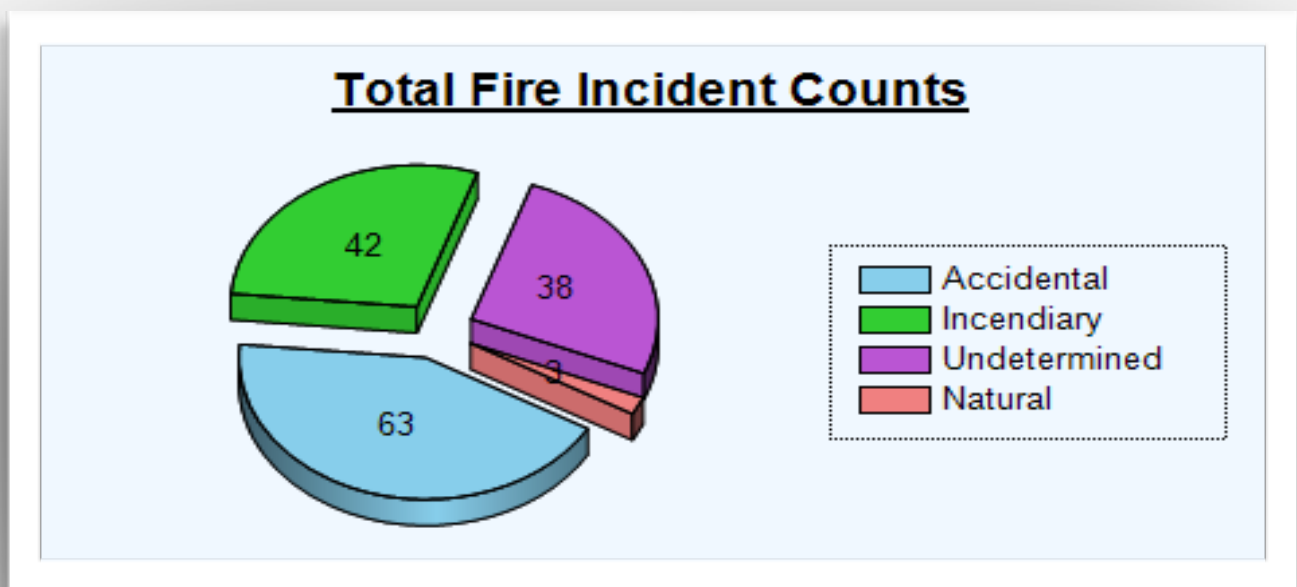
From discovering the origin and cause, the three certified origin and cause personnel are thoroughly versed with NFPA 921 and NFPA 1033. These individual initially start the fire investigation determining if any nefarious activity took place, having evidence being sent for results, taking recordings and written statements as well as interviewing. If found to be accidental, public education is offered to the homeowner. However, if the fire is determined to intentional, the case is referred to one of the follow-up personnel.



In this instance the case is prepared by the follow-up personnel. The two police certified follow-up personnel review the file to be sure all the elements of a crime exist. Any time our office is forced to potentially take away someone's civil liberties it is considered extremely

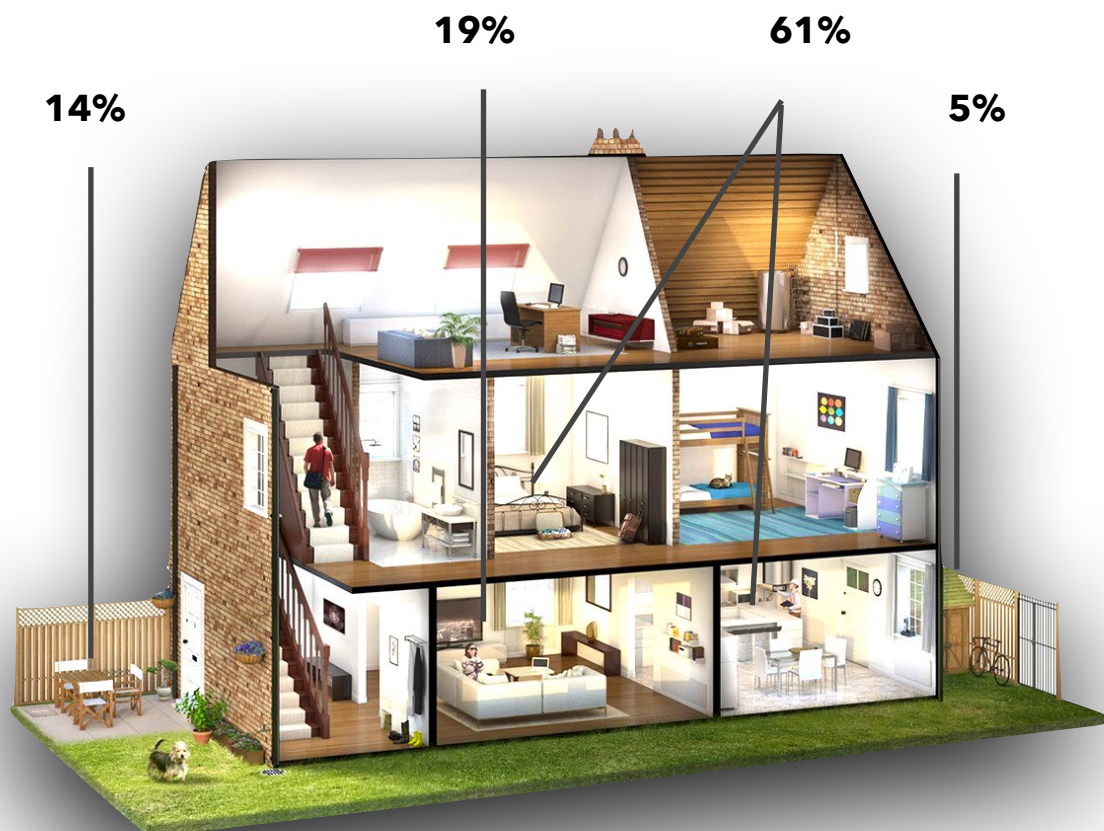


important and the case is reviewed by the District Chief of Fire Prevention. If the case file and all other information is found to be accurate, the case is then sent the District Attorney's Office to be reviewed before an arrest is made.



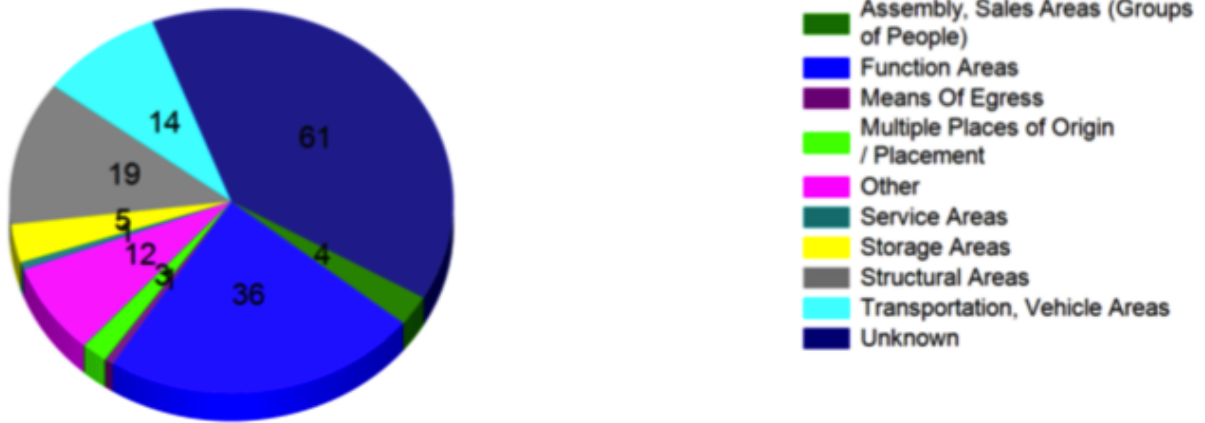
Much like all across the country, the most functional area is the main portion of the home. In most cases the kitchen and bedroom and living area is where the cause of fire is commonly found. To be more specific, the kitchen area in the day time hours and the bedroom in evening and night-time. Half of all house fires start in the kitchen. That's no surprise since it's where you do the most cooking and have many appliances. This is an easy place to prevent fires since they're normally man-made.

Area of Fire Origin Most Often Found

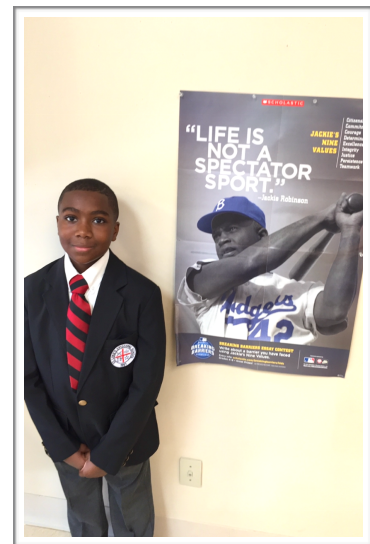


Peak time for House Fires November Through March

Incidents by Area of Origin



Your CRR team recognizes the importance of the tool of mentoring and what it can mean to an organization, as well as the growth of its mission. Mentoring and coaching has become a vital part of developing our community to the importance of fire prevention and safety. This office has taken a leading role in the City of Mobile Youth Empowerment for Success Initiative (Y.E.S. Program). This is just another way we assist our community in navigating the organization, solving problems and advancing their careers. Mentoring is a great way to make sure that talented people are ready to manage, lead, fill the roles and responsibilities and come in to the fire service.





Dwayne Penn Sr.

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District Chief

Community Risk Reduction

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