

# Village of Morton Grove Fire Department

# Annual Report

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Mayor, Village Board, Village Administrator, and residents of Morton Grove,

On behalf of the dedicated employees of the Morton Grove Fire Department, it is a pleasure to present our 2021 Annual Report which summarizes some of the events, activities, and essential services we provide to the community.

2021 was a very challenging year for the residents and businesses in Morton Grove as well as for the personnel that work for the village. All village departments were faced with delivering a level of service expected by the residents and visitors to the village while dealing with a global pandemic that continued to evolve. The village took great strides in not only trying to protect the health and safety of our employees but also the people we serve.

Since coming onboard with the village in November, I am truly impressed by the level of service provided to the community by the fire department, during both emergency and non-emergency events. The emphasis placed on training, being prepared and willing to take on any situation, and finding solutions to achieve a positive outcome is remarkable. This report will highlight some of the successes, provide statistical information that validates what we do and how we prepare, and a snapshot into the future moving forward.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of this department, village leadership, the Mayor and Village Board, and the citizens of Morton Grove for their continued support of our department.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ralph Ensign*

Fire Chief

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# Mission, Values, and Vision Statements

## Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Morton Grove Fire Department is to provide a range of programs designed to educate the business and residential community in the principles of prevention, and to train the people who serve our community, thereby protecting the lives and property of the citizens of our village from the adverse effects of fires, sudden medical emergencies, or exposure to dangerous conditions created either by man or nature.

## Value Statement

To strive to achieve a level of service that consistently surpasses our customer's expectations in the delivery of traditional and non-traditional fire and emergency medical services, with a focus on enhancing the quality of life in the Village of Morton Grove as an unrivaled partner and ultimate resource to the jurisdiction



## General Information

Full-time professional staff consisting of 45 members, including 40 sworn firefighters responding out of two fire stations. Our front line apparatus includes one ALS Engine, one ALS Quint, two ALS Ambulances, and an Incident Command Vehicle that respond to approximately 4,000 incidents annually.

The department participates in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division 3 as well as the Illinois Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force 1. The MGFD is a member of the Regional Emergency Dispatch (RED) Center and the Northern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA).

The department provides fire suppression, emergency medical services, extrication, fire prevention, code enforcement, public education, hazardous material response, technical rescue, fire investigation, water rescue, and ice surface rescue. With auto aid and mutual aid agreements, our department provides outstanding service to our village and neighboring communities.

**Motto:** Protection through Prevention & Preparedness

**Core Values:** Courage - Competence - Adaptability



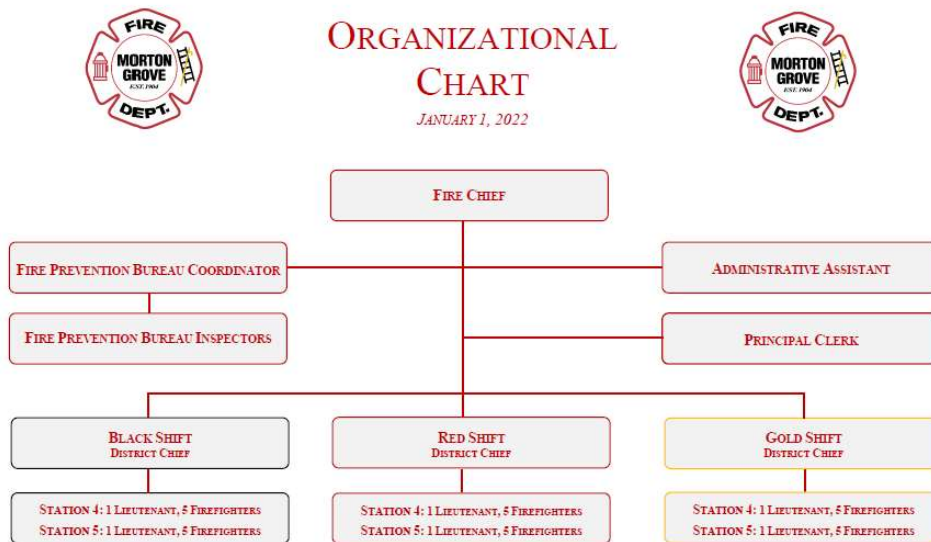
## Fire Administration

The Fire Administration division is responsible for budgeting, planning, logistics, operating guideline implementation, policy development and updates, disaster planning, employee management, performance measures, community outreach, external relations, and human resources.

**\$9,962,380.00**  
**FY – 21**  
**Adopted**  
**Budget**

**1 Sworn**  
**2 Civilian**

**Assigned  
Personnel**



### Fire Administration Accomplishments

Successfully processed and hired 3 new firefighters.

Working with GovHR, successfully filled the position of Fire Chief.

Initiated design work for the remodeling of the kitchen at Fire Station 4.

Completed a Lieutenant's promotional process and established a new list.

Completed negotiations and signed a new contract with the Firefighters Local 2178, IAFF.



## Operations

The Operations Division is responsible for emergency and non-emergency incident response, physical resources, fire suppression, emergency medical system, technical rescue, hazardous materials, fire investigation, training, health and safety, operational guidelines, dispatch resources.

40

Sworn  
Personnel

1804

Fire  
Incidents

2261

Medical  
Incidents

4065

Total  
Incidents



## Training

- Implemented weekly Quick Drills allowing crews various safety topics before formal training sessions occurred.
- Safety training program to include additional back safety and cancer awareness.
- Increased frequency of ISO required facilities training at NIPSTA including operations, firefighter survival, rapid intervention.
- Completed 19,632 hours of fire and emergency medical training.

## Special Teams

**Fire Investigation Team:** Responsible to investigate all fires in the village.

**Hazardous Materials Response Team:** Responsible for initial response to incidents involving hazardous products and chemicals.

**Technical Rescue Team:** Responsible for responding to incidents involving high angle, trench collapse, structural failure, and other entrapment events.

All special teams are participants in the MABAS Division 3 area-wide response program.





## Fire Prevention Bureau



- Completed a comprehensive review of current and future fire codes for 2022 update of building and fire codes.
- Implemented processes to ensure that necessary inspection, testing, and maintenance of fire protection system are being completed.
- Continued to phase in the enforcement of 5-year obstruction test of fire sprinkler piping to insure sprinkler systems work properly.
- Continued to update the Fire Prevention Bureau policy and guideline manuals to reflect current practices and allow for future continuity of operation.
- Hired a second part-time Fire Inspector to enhance efficient and effective periodic fire and life safety inspections.
- Presented 50 sessions of comprehensive fire safety program to all local kindergarten classes.

### Other Department Accomplishments

- Replaced 3 EKG monitors to meet FDA requirements.
- Designed and ordered new engine for fire station 4.
- Replaced 9 mobile radios in fire apparatus.
- Purchased new department pick-up truck utilized for multiple department operations.
- Replaced driveway at fire station 5.
- Updated Emergency Operations Center radios to maintain compatibility with all agencies.
- Replaced extrication equipment on Squad 4 with tools capable of operating on modern vehicles.