

# 2006 Annual Report

## Message from the Chief:

During the year of 2006 the department, as usual, remained very active locally and nationally. The predicted severe hurricane season did not materialize as expected, but once again our community was represented well by our US&R Task Force's, CA-6 activation and response to Hurricane Ernesto. Locally, we provided mutual assistance to the deadly Esperanza wildland fire and shared in the grief over the loss of the five United States Firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice in a burn over while battling the wildland fire.

In my 33-plus years as a member of the RFD I can't recall a busier time in regards to growth. Construction was started on replacement stations for the Northside and Box Springs stations along with the new Sycamore Canyon station and the new EOC/Training Center.

In our commitment to provide the highest level of service to the Riverside community we have replaced an engine and purchased three more, including one new engine for the Sycamore Canyon Station. In addition, we replaced a Battalion command vehicle and a rescue squad. In a joint Fire/Police venture a new mobile command vehicle was also ordered. Staffing was increased with the addition of three firefighter/paramedics and an additional emergency operations coordinator.

more Canyon station and the new EOC/Training Center.



**Fire Chief Tedd Laycock**



- Mission Statement:** *The mission of the Fire Department is to protect life, property and the environment within the City through proactive life safety, community education and emergency service programs utilizing responsible fiscal management, a highly trained workforce, progressive technology and modern equipment. We do this in order to provide a safe and enhanced quality of life for our citizens.*

### Contact Information:

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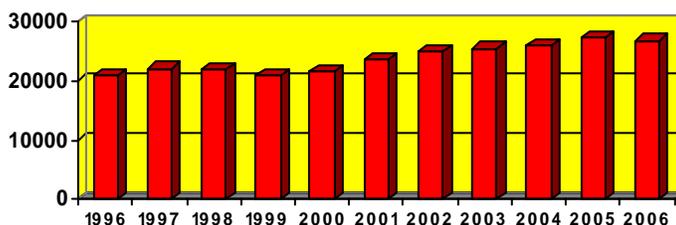
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## Significant Events in 2006

-Deployment of CATF 6 to Hurricane Ernesto in August

**Total Responses 1996-2006**



**Prevention  
Education  
Protection**

## Operations Division Deputy Chief Dave Austin

**Mission:** For our 202 uniformed men and women to maintain a state of readiness in order to respond to and mitigate fires, traffic accidents, medical aids, and other types of emergencies so that the citizens and visitors of Riverside may be able to survive these unexpected tragedies. In addition, to provide the public with timely basic and advanced life support when necessary in order to provide the best available care to the injured and ill.

### 2006 Accomplishments:

- Purchased two new fire engines for University and Magnolia Center Fire Stations
- Replaced the fire engine at the Orangecrest Fire Station
- Purchased a new fire engine for the Box Springs Fire Station
- Replaced a rescue squad and the Battalion One command vehicle

### 2007 Goals:

- Hire staff for the Box Springs and Sycamore Canyon Fire Stations
- Increase staffing at Downtown, Arlington, Magnolia Center, and Airport Stations for 4-person staffing on trucks and engines
- Open new Box Springs and Sycamore Canyon Fire Stations



**Total # of Responses in 2006: 26,701**

## Dispatch/Measure G/Building Projects Deputy Chief Steve Earley

### 2006 Accomplishments:

- Remained on schedule with construction of Fire Stations 6,13, and 14
- Began construction of \$7.2 million Emergency Operations Center and Training Facility
- Approval by City Manager's Office for Emergency Medical Dispatching in the Public Safety Communications Division
- Ordered a new joint Fire/Police mobile command vehicle with back-up dispatch capabilities
- Redesigned Emergency Operations Center organizational structure and added two personnel

### 2007 Goals:

- Complete construction of Fire Stations 6,13, and 14 by contract deadline dates in April/May 2007
- Continue construction of new EOC/Training Facility to meet February 2008 completion date
- Complete gender improvement/remodeling of Arlington Fire Station as part of the Van Buren widening and realignment of Andrew Street
- Complete feasibility analysis of Downtown Fire Station for seismic upgrade/remodel versus replacement
- Receive and put in service joint Fire/Police command vehicle by June 2007
- Complete revision of City's Emergency Operation Plan



## Emergency Medical Services EMS Coordinator—Marc Andrews

### 2006 Accomplishments:

- Implemented an "in-house" Skills Competency Verification (SCV) program for recertifying all department EMT personnel. Utilized department evaluators which eliminated the need to contract with outside training agencies
- Implemented online EMS continuing education training to create more opportunities for hands-on drills and other operational training programs
- Provided software training for a county-mandated patient care data collection program
- Collaborated with other EMS providers in the county to develop a template for quality improvement programs

### 2007 Goals:

- Implement the Toughbook program
- Begin ACLS, PHTLS, and PALS training for paramedics in house
- Provide more in-house continuing education opportunities
- Complete Skills Competency Verification for EMT program



**Administrative Division**  
**Administrative Services Manager Larry Crilly**

**Mission:** To provide policy direction, leadership, vision, administration, and fiscal management to enable the department to achieve program outcomes while complying with federal, state, local, and other requirements.

**2006 Accomplishments:**

- Managed a \$36.7 million budget while returning \$730,000 in managed savings to the General Fund
- Increased the number of staff through the addition of 28 public safety positions, one Emergency Operations Coordinator position, and one Fire Safety Inspector II position
- Implemented a new 5-year agreement with American Medical Response, Inc (AMR) for advance life support services
- Completed the reimbursement process for \$3.06 million in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds for USAR CA Task Force 6 deployment to the Gulf States in response to Hurricanes Ophelia, Katrina, and Rita

**2007 Goals:**

- Manage eight grants totaling \$2.83 million including USAR, Assistance to Firefighters, and State Homeland Security grants
- Coordinate with Building Services to ensure continuous progress in completing Capital and Betterment & Improvement Projects
- Obtain funding for the replacement and/or addition of two engines and ten motor pool vehicles
- Obtain funding to furnish the Emergency Operations Center/Training facility scheduled to open in January 2008
- Complete reimbursement process for \$346,000 in FEMA funds for USAR CA Task Force 6 deployment to the Gulf States in response to Hurricane Ernesto

**2006-07 Total Budget:**  
**\$39,775,139**

Type of Grant	Amount
2005 Fire Prev & Safety Grant	\$51,072.00
2005 HSGP/CERT	\$177,068.00
2004/05 USAR	\$973,035.00
2005/06 USAR	\$892,000.00
2006/07 USAR	\$592,915.
2005 EMPG	\$24,641.14
2005 Assistance to FF Grant	\$32,096.00
2005/06 CDBG	\$88,000.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$2,830,827.14</b>

**Special Services Division (IT, EMS, EOC, Haz Mat)**  
**Division Chief-Oran Pentz**

**2006 Accomplishments:**

- Provided Desktop/Laptop Service to the entire Department
- Brought new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) project online May 18, 2006
- Initiated new response districts and ability to update daily
- Implemented new language for MDC's to communicate with CAD
- Created a new interface (UDT) from VisionAir RMS to CAD
- Taught multi-company drills to introduce new programs
- Established/maintained various fire department data tables within CAD
- Programmed/Modified MDC files
- Installed new mapping software
- Purchased/Installed new CAD printers in each station
- ACS (IT) hired Rosalinda Acosta in June to support our desktop/MDC service
- Electronically reported all incident reports from VisionAir to CFM
- Maintained, validated, and assigned fire prevention inspection program
- Officially started internet accessible CUPA program on Ecompliance software
- Taught 50 business operators to use the Ecompliance interface from their place of business with the assistance of Fire Prevention personnel
- Created/maintained databases in Access to record and report public education events and administrative documents such as memos, policies/procedures, and directives
- Electronically reported JAC to Sacramento
- Maintained VisionAir software; updated system to run on Vision Fire 3.4; and taught classes on using VisionAir software
- Installed/initiated Healthware Solutions to begin using Tablet-PC's to record Patient Care Reports (PCR) for EMS services
- Introduced and taught MS Outlook throughout the department
- Entered all new employees into VisionAir System Administration, VisionFire Personnel, City network, and Outlook

**2007 Goals:**

- Find a solid solution for our MDC problems
- Program for the Daylight Savings changes
- Install VisionFire 3.5
- Implement Healthcare Solutions for PCR's
- Activate FireView
- Provide Canyon Crest Station with adequate computers to conduct Fit-testing
- Reconfigure response districts-to divide each map cell into quarters and thus be able to accurately assign response districts

**Key:**

**HSGP**-Homeland Security Grant Program; **CDBG**-Community Development Block Grant; **EMPG**-Emergency Management Performance Grant; **USAR**-Urban Search&

## Urban Search and Rescue Program

### Division Chief Dave Lesh

**Mission:** To provide prompt, skillful, and effective life saving emergency response and support to incidents requiring specialized search and rescue operation.

As one of eight CA Task Force Teams, CA Task Force 6 is comprised of the following fire departments: City of Riverside (sponsoring agency), Corona, Norco, Hemet, Murrieta, and Riverside County California Department of Forestry. The team also has civilian components of local emergency room doctors, structural engineers, and canine handlers.

#### 2006 Accomplishments:

- Started construction on our new warehouse facility
- Ordered a new box truck and flatbed trailer
- Responded Type 3 US&R Task Force to Hurricane Ernesto
- Took possession of new forklift



#### 2007 Goals:

- Complete construction to the new US&R warehouse
- Complete courses to bring the rescue and search component up to NFPA 1670 standards for Technical Rescue
- Continue recruitment of new team members

## Emergency Management

### EOC Coordinator Anthony Coletta

#### 2006 Accomplishments:

- Developed Emergency Management Strategic Plan
- Added Emergency Services Coordinator position
- Managed seven grants totaling over \$400,000
- Installed nine satellite telephones to enhance City emergency communications program
- Installed eight new computers into Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to enhance City emergency information management system
- Purchased two disaster cache containers
- Purchased two emergency response trailers
- Conducted four Basic Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) academies
- Conducted one CERT Train-the-Trainer academy



#### 2007 Goals:

- Rewrite City Base Emergency Operations Plan
- Develop City Hazard Mitigation Strategy
- Develop National Incident Management System (NIMS) implementation and maintenance strategy
- Develop and implement City Emergency Operations Training and Exercise Plan
- Conduct eight Basic CERT academies
- Conduct one CERT Train-the-Trainer academy
- Enhance City emergency operations training program in partnership with State and Federal training partners
- Enhance City emergency management capabilities through State and Federal grant opportunities

## Training Division

### Division Chief Mike Fisher

**Mission:** To maintain a highly trained work force by utilizing the latest progressive training technology in order to enhance the ability of Fire Department personnel to handle any type of emergency incident in the safest and most efficient manner possible for the citizens of the City of Riverside.

### 2006 Accomplishments:

- Implemented 18 month probationary firefighter standards
- Assisted with development of new Training/EOC building
- Scanned training files to reduce paper storage
- Facilitated annual physical fitness program for the department
- Implemented department-wide ventilation training program
- Updated probation and engine certification programs
- Conducted 24 driver certification exams
- Conducted nine probationary firefighter written/practical exams
- Produced over 50 programs on DVD's for firefighter and Public Education
- Implemented an internet-based training program
- 1,800 classes completed online by department members
- Conducted two multi-agency response exercises
- Improved engineer probation requirement standards
- Updated CAL/OSHA required respiratory programs
- Established a training division intranet drive
- Conducted mini-academy for new firefighters



### 2007 Goals:

- Conduct mini-academy for new firefighters
- Implement an officer development program
- Provide comprehensive train-the-trainer RIC team training
- Provide department-wide RIC team training for all personnel
- Facilitate annual physical fitness program for the department
- Provide internet training on sexual harassment for supervisors
- Incorporate practical testing into engineer and captain exams
- Introduce the National Firefighter Near-Miss Reporting System to all employees
- Launch "Everyone Goes Home" program department-wide



**Total Training Hours in 2006:**

**36,800**

**Fire Investigation/Arson Taskforce**  
**Arson Investigator Captain Terry Miller**

**Mission:** To actively investigate fires to determine the origin and cause, apprehend perpetrators, save lives, prevent future fires and reduce property damage.



**2006 Accomplishments:**

- Conducted 164 investigations (77 of which were arsons)
- Assisted other departments throughout Southern CA on 15 occasions
- Conducted Operation Firecracker II, a program which targets the illegal use of fireworks in the City during the 4th of July holiday
- Established professional relationship with the new area Special Agent of the National Insurance Crime Bureau
- Entered into a memorandum of understanding with the FBI Joint Terrorism Taskforce placing one member of the Fire Arson Taskforce on the Joint Terrorism Taskforce
- Detective Jeffrey Joseph and Investigator Edward Cark received their Fire Investigator II Certification from the CA State Fire Marshal
- Renovated Arson Taskforce office

**2007 Goals:**

- Implement new records management software by March 2007
- Scan all existing documents into an online digital image system
- Overhaul the evidence storage locker and improve its management
- Implement Operation Fire Starter, a program whereby the Fire Arson Taskforce will conduct in-person visits to all registered arsonists in the City of Riverside for purposes of verifying all personal data of the registrant
- Conduct Operation Fire Cracker III. In 2007, Taskforce members will visit markets and small stores within the City to assure that illegal fireworks are not being sold. The Unit will also increase its enforcement efforts and patrols during the period leading up to and on the 4th of July

- Qualify all investigators as Fire Investigator II through the CSFM
- Qualify all investigators as Certified Fire Investigators through the CA Conference of Arson Investigators
- Pending the approval of Dept of Homeland Security Grant, purchase a Command and Control Trailer to improve the Unit's first response vehicle



**Prevention Division**  
**Fire Marshal Perry Halterman**

**Mission:** To ensure compliance with Fire and Life Safety codes through fire inspections, plan reviews, special use permits, and public education for the community in order that the incidence of fire will be reduced. In addition, to ensure compliance with State law by permitting, inspection, and enforcement for hazardous materials use facilities in order to prevent hazardous materials incidents in the City.

Prevention Activity	# Completed
<b>New Construction Plan Reviews</b>	3,169
<b>New Construction Site Inspections</b>	7,793
<b>Annual Inspections</b>	8,916
<b>Special Use Permits</b>	186
<b>Total</b>	20,064

**Public Education**  
**Public Education Specialist Gale Schulte**

**Mission:** To provide injury prevention programs to the public, governmental agencies, business sectors, and educational systems in the City of Riverside. Safety Education is a high priority. Each year our programs are assessed by the Department to enhance the effectiveness and initiate new programs in response to increased injury occurrences or mortality.

**2006 Accomplishments:**

- Obtained all new public education equipment and supplies requested from the FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant (\$72,000)
- Placed new lithium smoke alarms and replacement batteries on all emergency vehicles for public distribution
- Provided 40 homes with lithium battery smoke alarms through the Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce "Rebuilding Together" program (provides seniors and low income homeowners with safety improvements for their homes)
- Instituted a joint program with the CA School for the Deaf Riverside to identify hearing impaired families to receive strobe light smoke alarms for their homes.
- Provided over 7,700 children with a Christmas toy from the "Spark of Love" toy drive
- Provided 35 juveniles with firesetter intervention education through F.R.I.E.N.D.S. program

**2007 Goals:**

- Acquire additional funding to sponsor new educational programs and purchase publications for distribution in the community
- Institute NFPA "Risk Watch" Injury Prevention program into the after school programs and day care facilities

Type of Event	Events/ Programs	Attendance
Community Events	32	22,499
Community Presentations	18	4,747
Special Presentations	37	6,960
Engine Company Visits	84	74,398
Station Tours	74	5,488
Rolling Out for Safety	5	6,000
Birthday Party	2	30
Fire Station Fun Day	1	2
Holiday Events	14	22,570
Parade	4	3,850
Learn Not to Burn Visit	3	500
Crime Free Multi-Housing Program	11	240
Career Presentations	3	3,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>150,284</b>





**Promotions to Engineer**

Tyler Reynolds  
Milton Caceres

**FF New Hires**

Cory Bruce  
Denise Delgado  
  
Andrea Ferchaw  
  
Kristen Johnson  
  
Joseph Reed  
  
Frank Robles  
  
John Wymore  
  
David Revollo  
  
Ryan Hicks



**Promotions to Captain**

Shawn Plaxco



**Prevention/Administration New Hires**

Anthony Coletta-EOC  
Steven Payne-Fire Prev  
Karen McCoy-Sr Adm Asst  
Dana Roa-Acct Clerk

**Promotions to Battalion Chief**

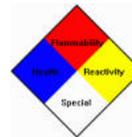
John Martinez  
Oran Pentz



**2006 Retirements/Resignations:**

*Battalion Chief Glenn Cash  
Engineer Greg Feinberg  
Engineer Walt Bieszczad  
Sr Adm Asst. Barbara Mitchell  
Inspector Rob Ball*

Structure Fires	248	Hazardous Conditions	782
Vehicle Fires	257	Service Calls	1,894
Vegetation Fires	183	Good Intent Calls	6457
Refuse/Rubbish Fires	299	Malicious False	453
Other Fires	65	Other False	834
<b>Total Fires</b>	<b>1,052</b>		



Rescue & EMS Incidents	15,009
Number of Patients	13,591

**2006 Incident Totals**

Mutual Aid Received	151	Incidents with Exposures	24
Mutual Aid Given	423	Total Exposures	30

Fire Service Injuries	4	Fire Dollar Loss	
Non-Fire Service Injuries	2	Property	\$7,550,355.00
Fire Service Deaths	0	Contents	\$2,175,225.00
Non-Fire Service Deaths	0		
Fire Civilian Injuries	20	Non-Fire Dollar Loss	\$3,270,651.00
Non-Fire Civilian Injuries	1		
Fire Civilian Deaths	0		
Non-Fire Civilian Deaths	2		

