



Avon Fire Department

150 Main Street
Avon, MA 02322



The annual report of the Fire Department for the year ending December 31st 2008 is hereby submitted to the Honorable Board of Selectmen.

The Avon Fire Department continues to deliver excellent emergency service to the residents and businesses in town through dedicated and highly trained members. The department currently has 25 members, 8 are full-time Firefighter /EMT's, 16 Call Firefighters, and the Chief.

The Fire Department responded to 1511 incidents in 2008. The Department handled 887 medical emergency calls, which constituted 59% of the total, and fire and assistance calls were 624 or 41%.

The department's ambulance license is currently issued with a waiver, which allows us to operate with fewer paramedics than the current state standards require. The department must continue to work toward meeting the state standard of two paramedics on each call.

The Fire and Police Department building, as reported in the past, continues to be an issue. Space for administrative, storage, training, appropriate bunk- room, medical supplies, and apparatus are extremely inadequate. The replacement of the Public Safety building should be a priority and planned for in the near future. It should be designed to meet the needs of both fire and police agencies for many years to come. The Building Committee has been very helpful in our efforts to realize this goal.

The department takes firefighter safety very seriously and our training program is key to making sure our personnel are properly trained. During the year the department conducted over 40 in house training classes totaling 125 hours per person, with approximately 3500 firefighter/hours of total training for the year.

The department must continue with its program of replacing old and unsafe equipment. Engine 1 and Combination 1 (brush truck) are both in need of replacement. Engine 1 is a 1981 Mack with an open cab and numerous leaks. Combination 1 is a 1973 International, replacing it has been discussed for the last decade. Both of these trucks are well beyond their expected life. The safety of our personnel depends on safe equipment, and having good dependable equipment allows our firefighters to do their job effectively and efficiently.

As Fire Chief, I am proud of each of the members, they do an excellent job of delivering service to the community. The department thanks all of its members for their time and their service to the town.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Spurr
Chief of Department