ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIGHTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

I, Christopher J. Maguy, respectfully submit my eighth annual report of the Fire Department as required by Section 42 of Chapter 48 of the Massachusetts General Laws. I want to thank the taxpayers for your continued support of this department. We continue to need either a new Fire Station or a renovation/addition to the current station 1. We have long out grown the station we are in and are busting at the seams, making the apparatus bay and living quarters an unsafe working environment. We look forward to continue to work with Fire Station Building Committee to move forward with the Feasibility Study of the fire stations that was approved by the taxpayers. The Board of Selectmen have signed and executed a contract with LiRo Hill Corporation who is currently working on the study.

As our Town continues to grow so do the calls for service for both the Ambulance and on the Fire side of the Department. Ambulance Calls have increased by 7% from 2023 going from 898 runs in 2023 to 957 runs in 2024. The Fire Calls have also increased by 59% from 2023 to 2024 going from 322 call in 2023 to 512 calls in 2024. Total calls for service have increased 20% from 2023 to 2024 with 1,220 total calls in 2023 and 1,469 total calls in 2024. This increase shows the need for additional staffing and results in wear and tear on apparatus. This department desperately needs to increase its fulltime staffing level to add an additional fourth group to the current three group rotation to assist with this increase of calls for service. We are always looking for Call Firefighters so if anyone is 18 and older and willing to dedicate time to your community, please stop by Station 1 or Station 2 and talk with any personnel in the stations or I.

This department continues to train vigorously so we can be proficient in our skills in both Emergency Medical Services and Firefighting. This is an always changing job so we must stand ready for any call we may receive. We train, both in the classroom and with practical skills two to three times a month. Sometimes this training is done locally and other times it is done with our mutual aid partners or with the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. We train annually with Dighton Police, Taunton Police and Fire, Rehoboth Police and Fire, Seekonk Police and Fire and Norton Police and Fire to hone our skills should an active shooter event happen in any one of our communities.

I would like to thank Captain Eric Gagnon who works diligently in his role as the Fire Prevention Officer. His organization and efficiency allowed the department to process several hundred permits and inspections. I continue to look to my entire command staff frequently for their knowledge and support. I would also like to thank Fulltime Firefighter/Paramedic Sarah Guilmette who has taken on the role of SAFE/Senior SAFE officer for this department. This role is vital in the education of our youth and senior citizens on fire safety in the community.

The department would like to recognize our newest Probationary Firefighter Andrew Spellman who will be enrolled in the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, Call/Volunteer Academy this

summer. Congratulations to Call Firefighter Logan Pimentel on successfully completing the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, Call/Volunteer Academy Program and receiving his ProBoard Firefighter I/II certification. Thank you to all of you and I look forward to working with you in the future.

Thank you to the departments Executive Assistant/Ambulance Billing Clerk Rebeca Moss. Rebeca continues to work tirelessly on processing all ambulance bills. Without the speedy processing and billing of runs, the Ambulance Revenues would not be what they are to help support this department. Rebeca is an asset to me in assisting with the day-to-day paperwork of the department and is always willing to go above and beyond what is asked of her.

Thank you, as always to retired Lieutenant Thomas Medeiros, Captain Samuel Pine, Kyle Medeiros, Justin Daigneault, Christopher Caron, Lieutenant Zachary Smus, Alex Clifford and Joshua Desmond for their dedication to the Dighton Junior Firefighter program. Without their commitment to training the young members of this organization, it would not be a success. Membership has stayed consistent over the past year, that is a true testament to the time and effort put into the program. This program is integral in laying the foundation of knowledge and enthusiasm for the fire service. It has produced several firefighters for this department and surrounding communities in years past. Recruiting new members to our department is vital to maintain and improve the level of support we provide to the community. The Junior Firefighter program is a great avenue for recruitment.

This year we continued to proudly host, participate and volunteer in various events in town: the MDA Fill the Boot, the Annual Santa Run, the Pan Mass Challenge, Lions Club Cow Chip Festival, Veteran's Day Services, 9/11 Ceremony, Annual Touch-a-truck event and the Annual Police/Fire Toy Drive are just to name a few. The men and women of our department enjoy being able to give back and we are excited that we have been provided with opportunities to do so.

Thank you to Chief George Nichols, Deputy Chief Ryan Richard and all the members of the Police Department, Highway Superintendent Thomas Ferry and the all members of the Highway Department for their support throughout the year. Thank you to all the hardworking personnel in the Dighton Communications Center for the difficult jobs they do in receiving and dispatching calls in a timely and professional manner. Having the support and cooperation of the dedicated men and women of these departments makes the job of this department much easier.

I would also like to say a sincere thank you to, the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator Ralph Vitacco, all elected and appointed town officials, all the Town Hall employees and the townspeople for their continued support.

Most of all, thanks to all the members of the Fire Department for your time and dedication. Without your commitment to this department, the services and responses provided to the townspeople in their time of need would not be possible. As always it has been a pleasure working with the men and women of this department. A heartfelt THANK YOU to you all.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Maguy

Chief of the Fire Department

Dighton Fire Department

Official Roster as of December 31, 2024

Christopher J. Maguy, Chief of the Fire Department

Andrade, Noah +
Campanella, Kevin #*
Caron, Christopher +
Carr, Matthew +***
Clifford, Alex +
Daigneault, Justin #*
Desmond, Joshua +***
Desmond, Sarah #*
Finney, Samuel +*
Fournier, Colbey +
Gauthier, John (Lieutenant) #*
Gagnon, Eric (Captain) #*
Greene, Alexander (Lieutenant) #*
Guilmette, Sarah #*
Grassie, Nicholas +
Hathaway, John (Lieutenant) +
Jacob, Ruben ***
Jacob, Ruben +*** (probationary)
Maguy, Christopher (Chief) #***
Medeiros, Kyle +
Medeiros, Michael +***
Medeiros, Thomas (Jr. FF Director)
Moss, Rebeca (Amb. Billing Clerk)
Pine Jr., Samuel (Captain) +
Santos, Jerry #*
Silva, Matthew +*
Silveira, Sarah ***
Silvia, David +*
Smus, Zachary (Lieutenant) +**
Spellman, Andrew + (probationary)
StLaurent, Melissa ***
Tanis, Matthew +**
Urban, Shawn +

Full Time Firefighter
* Paramedic
*** EMT-B
+ Call Firefighter
** AEMT

Permits for Year Ending 2024

Open Air Burning Permits	268
Blasting Permits	1
Fire Alarm System Commercial & Repairs	0
Fire Protection Commercial Sprinkler	4
Fire Protection Residential Sprinkler	1
Fire Warning Residential (all permits)	76
Flammable Combustible Material Storage	1
Flammable Storage Above Ground Commercial	3
Flammable Storage Underground Commercial	6
Flammable Storage Above Ground Residential	27
Flammable Storage Underground Residential	7
Fireworks/Pyrotechnic Display	1
Battery Energy Storage Systems	2
Hazardous Material Processing	0
Oil Burner Installs / Alterations	38
Oil Tank Replacement/Installs Residential	0
LP Gas Equipment	3
Torches and Heating Devices	0
Fuel Tank Vehicle	3
Transfer Tank	0
Fire Safety Inspections	8
Above Ground Tank Removal	0
Underground Tank Removal	0
Waste Oil Storage	0
Total Permits:	**449**

Miscellaneous for Year Ending 2024

Car Seat Installations	**20**

Fire Department Call Information for 2024

Fire	**17**
Building Fire	2
Outside Trash/Waste Fire	6
Brush Fire	3
Vehicle Fire	1
Fuel Burner Malfunction	1
Fire, Other	4
Rescue and EMS	**251**
Assist EMS Call	196
Motor Vehicle Collision	52
Search for Person	0
Extrication of Victim from a Structure/Building	1
Removal of Victim form Stalled Elevator	1
Swimming Water Area Rescue	1
Hazardous Conditions	**23**
Gas Leak	0
Carbon Monoxide Incident	14
Electrical Wiring/Equipment	2
Structure Weakened or Collapsed	0
Power Line Down	7
Service Call	**221**
Service Call, Other	10
Lock-out	2
Water Leak/Removal	6
Animal Problem	1
Smoke or Odor Removal	13
HazMat Release Investigation w/no HazMat	2
Public Assist	7
Assist Police	1
Public Service	6
Unauthorized Burning	15
Cover Assignment, Standby, Move up	14
Odor of Smoke	13
Alarm Activation	113
Good Intent Call/No Incident Found	7
Dispatched & Cancelled Enroute	4
No Incident Found on Arrival at Dispatch Address	1
Authorized Controlled Burning	1
Lightning Strike (no fire)	0
Severe Weather or Natural Disaster, Other	1
Wind Storm, Tornado/Hurricane Assessment	1
Special Type of Incident	1
Citizen Complaint	2

Ambulance Calls	**957**
Total Call for Assistance 2024:	**1,469**