



Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center

2023 Annual Report



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Mission Statement

Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center (ADC) strives to provide safe, efficient, and cost-effective mobilization and demobilization of emergency resources. Operational goals include:

- To promote efficient operations through interagency cooperation and standardized procedures.
- To be equally responsive to all the agencies that we serve.
- WE WILL:
 - Identify incident priorities according to Zone priority criteria regardless of agency.
 - Define the "closest" resource regardless of boundary or ownership and utilize as appropriate through cooperative agreements.
 - Recognize agency specific requirements, i.e. pre-suppression orders, special equipment requests, etc.
 - Recognize sensitive, political, or special issues and follow through to minimize their impact on current operations.
 - Provide timely communications on information and decisions which affect the interagency community.
 - Give all agencies and dispatch centers equal consideration in filling resource requests.

Summary

This report summarizes the 2023 fire season within the Pecos Zone (PEZ) and Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center (ADC) Initial Attack area.

ADC's initial attack area consists of federal, state, and private lands protected by the Lincoln National Forest, Pecos District BLM, Las Cruces District BLM, Mescalero Agency BIA, New Mexico State Forestry Capitan District, Bitter Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, San Andreas National Wildlife Refuge, White Sands National Park, Guadalupe Mountains National Park and Carlsbad Caverns National Park.

The 2023 fire season ended with a total of 299 fires consuming 13,335.87 acres. Alamogordo Dispatch continued to be very busy assisting with a total of 860 WildCAD incidents.

Alamogordo Dispatch Center

The dispatch center started off in January supporting a moderate level of initial attack activity and multiple prescribed fire operations conducted on BLM and USFS lands.

The center remained busy through the summer and hosted multiple resources including a local fuels specialist an engine crewmember and an apprentice from the Lincoln NF as well as the Fire Management Officer for Pecos District BLM. Out of area support resources were difficult to obtain but the center was able to receive two IADP (initial attach dispatcher) trainees, three qualified IADPs and one ACDP (aircraft dispatcher) trainee from Oregon, Idaho, Texas and Utah by a name requested order. The dispatch center shopped eight dispatch orders throughout the season with all of them being sent back from the NICC as unable to fill.

Alamogordo Dispatch's local ADs provided a significant level of support to the center when staffing was needed during increasing activity levels as well as provided opportunities for the primary staff to attend meetings, training and take personal time off. There were 15 IADP assignments and 3 ACDP assignments completed between the three primary AD resources.

Multiple training assignments were accomplished between the primary staff and visiting resources with one EDRC (expanded dispatch recorder), three IADP , one ACDP and one EDSD (expanded dispatch support dispatcher) position task books getting signed off. Additionally, the managers at the center initiated two EDRC (expanded dispatch recorder), 2 IADP, 1 ACDP and 1 EDSP (expanded dispatch supervisory dispatcher) position task books.

The primary staff took nine in region and out of area fire assignments to support other 3-tier dispatch centers in Colorado, Arizona (for support after a helicopter crash on an incident), Oregon, Washington, a 4-tier dispatch center for Navajo Agency and 2-tier dispatch centers including the Southwest Area Coordination Center and the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center.

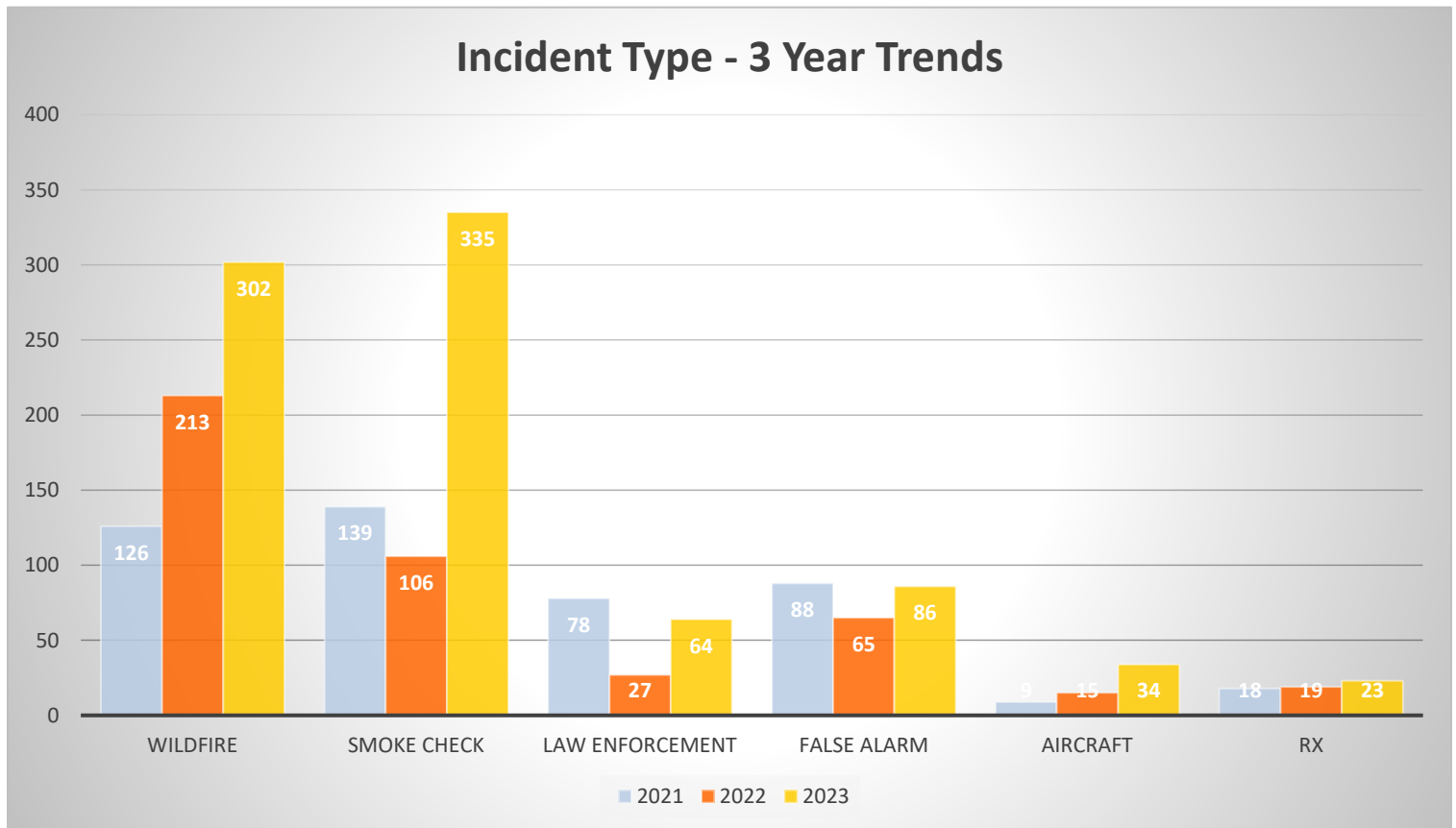
The dispatch center successfully completed the BLM National Review and received very positive feedback from

the review team and individuals that observed and evaluated the center’s operations, procedures, facilities and staff.

The Dispatch center supported local incidents during 17 night-shift operations throughout the summer. Due to the lack of staffing the dispatch center implemented a swing shift to provide coverage for late night staffing when needed to mitigate employee burnout and fatigue.

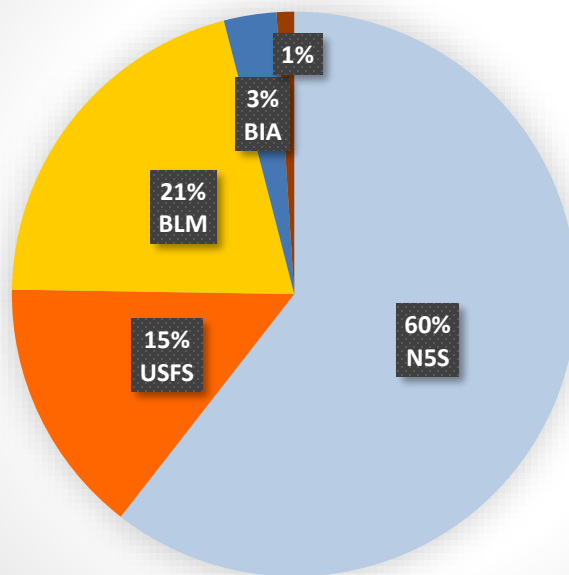
Pecos Zone WildCAD Incidents

In 2023, ADC supported 860 local incidents with 302 of those being Wildfires (1/1 thru 12/31). Aside from Wildfires, the incident type with the highest numbers were Smoke Checks (majority being abandoned campfires discovered on the Lincoln NF).



2023	FIRES	ACRES
USFS –LNF Lightning	21	1,038.46
USFS – LNF Human	23	105.40
N5S Lightning	41	7,662.04
N5S Human	140	2,389.73
BLM Lightning	12	473.10
BLM Human	50	1,235.44
NPS Lightning	2	430.10
NPS Human	1	0.20
FWS Lightning	0	0.00
FWS Human	0	0.00
BIA Lightning	1	0.25
BIA Human	8	1.15

2023 Fires By Agency



10-Year Fire Summary

The tables below summarize the total number of fires and acres for the last 10 years for each land-based agency within the Pecos Zone. The significant increase in reported annual fires for N5S is representative of the transition in 2023 to Alamogordo Dispatch creating incidents for all fire occurrences including those managed by local VFDs and county resources.

USFS	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2014	28	109
2015	24	121
2016	35	802
2017	23	690.14
2018	57	12,942.67
2019	100	29,134.40
2020	152	3,154.97
2021	33	5,936.58
2022	32	40.37
2023	44	1,143.86

N5S	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2014	81	7,214
2015	125	2,457
2016	197	47,668
2017	120	9,283.87
2018	122	91,614.323
2019	128	6,717.35
2020	66	2,199.88
2021	29	674.84
2022	102	32,081.24
2023	299	13,335.87

BLM	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2014	44	211
2015	58	2,341
2016	46	1,501
2017	29	478.625
2018	43	2,268.45
2019	37	39.25
2020	38	3,117.76
2021	15	205.50
2022	47	6,805.40
2023	62	1,708.54

NPS	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2014	3	8
2015	8	92
2016	14	15,465
2017	10	1,236.86
2018	8	1,363.80
2019	8	1,132.50
2020	12	678.25
2021	8	3,306.40
2022	2	0.20
2023	3	430.30

BIA	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2014	30	56
2015	14	209
2016	33	909
2017	22	24.47
2018	32	1,316.25
2019	20	10.68
2020	27	52.08
2021	40	44.15
2022	26	71.06
2023	9	1.40

FWS	Annual Fires	Annual Acres
2014	3	24
2015	1	1
2016	3	13
2017	1	0.2
2018	2	19
2019	2	1.36
2020	1	0.25
2021	1	0.25
2022	1	0.01
2023	0	0.0

Prescribed Fire Accomplishments

The Lincoln National Forest treated **1,811** acres with management-ignited burns during 2023.

Pecos District BLM completed **8,497** acres.

Mescalero Agency BIA completed **850.76** acres.

Las Cruces BLM completed **2,200** acres.

Bitter Lakes FWS completed **287** acres.

Holloman AFB in conjunction with multiple BLM district employees burned **2,800** acres on the White Sands Missile Range.



Pecos District BLM



Sacramento RD Lincoln NF



Crews

Regular Agency Type 1 Crew Assignments

Smokey Bear IHC

The crew reported for duty on March 12th and went available nationally on March 26th. The crew spent 96 days assigned to incidents, in travel status or staging.

Once available, Smokey Bear IHC performed on fire suppression assignments in Colorado, New Mexico and Louisiana completing four 14-day assignments. Smokey Bear IHC ended their season on September 9th.



Sacramento IHC

The crew reported for duty on March 13th. The crew spent 98 days assigned to incidents, in travel status or staging.

Once available, Sacramento IHC performed on fire suppression assignments in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Canada completing five 14-day assignments. Sacramento IHC ended their season on September 15th.

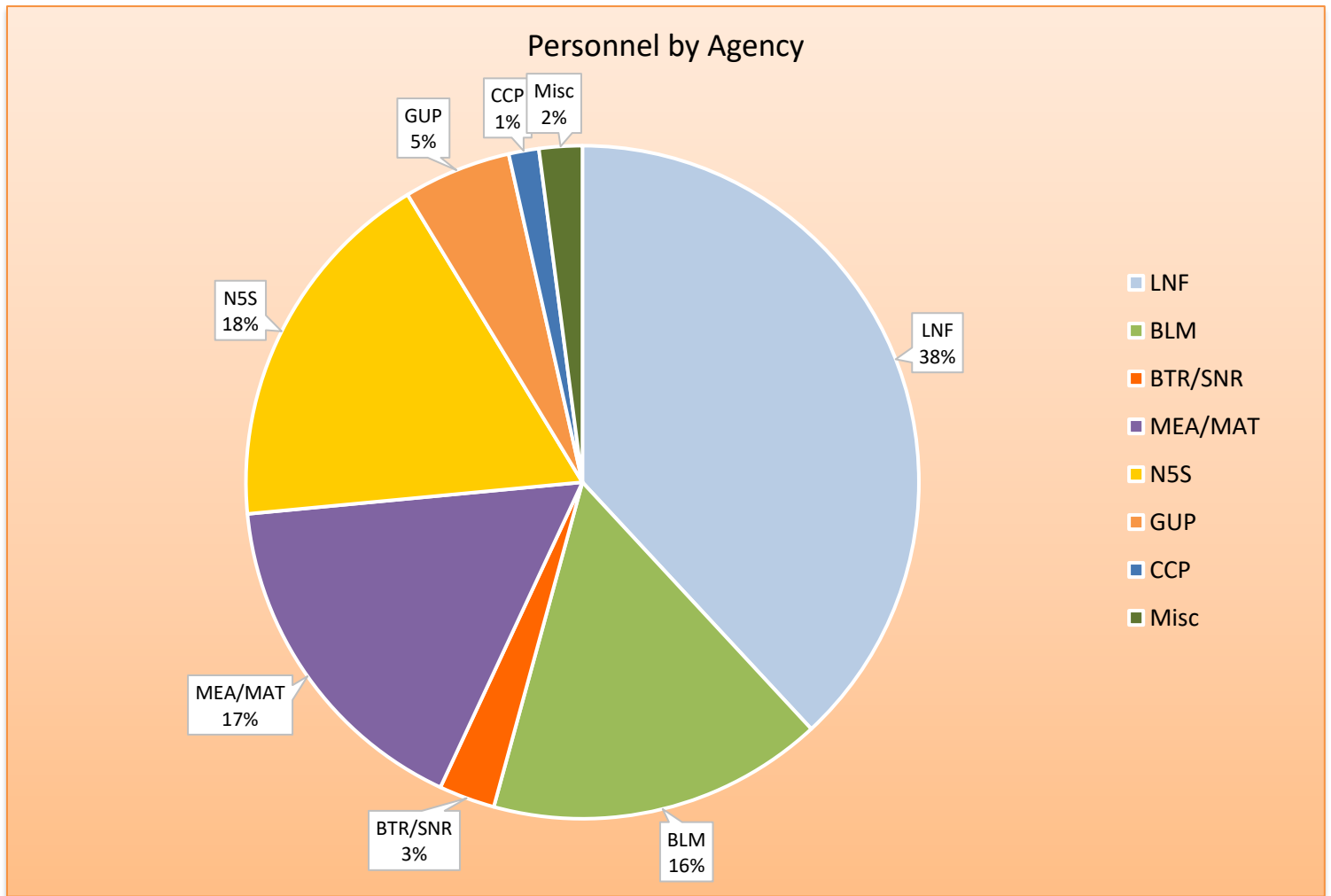


Regular Agency Type 2IA/Type 2 and Camp Crew Assignments

Mescalero Agency BIA Type 2/Type 2 IA and camp crews did not have any assignments in 2023.

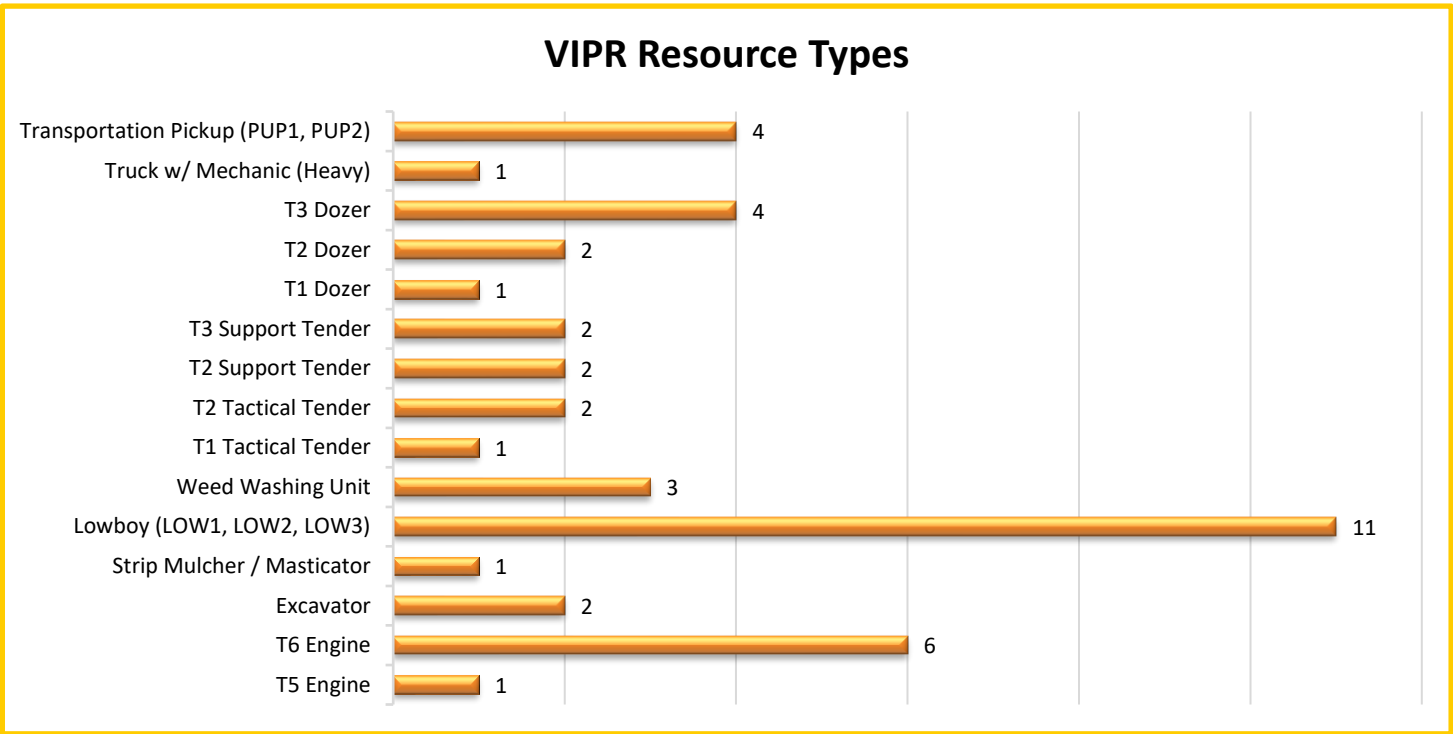
Logistical Activity

Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center supported 483 individual overhead personnel representing the following agencies:



AGENCY	LNF	BLM	BTR/SNR	ME/MAT	N5S	GUP	CCP	MISC
TOTAL # OF PERSONNEL	184	78	13	80	86	25	7	10

Alamogordo Dispatch hosted a total of 48 Contract Resources in 2023. The chart below provides a breakdown of resources by type.



Resource Orders

A large portion of Alamogordo Interagency Dispatch Center’s workload was processing Resource orders for in Zone and out of Area incidents. In 2023 the center processed 2,168 resource orders including Pecos Zone incident requests and out of area requests placed to ADC as well as Overhead Team subordinate requests.

	# of Requests
AIRCRAFT	150
CREW	613
EQUIPMENT	378
OVERHEAD	437
SUPPLY	590
TOTAL	2,168

Training

Southwest Area Priority Trainee Program

The SWA Priority Trainee Program supports individuals with obtaining quality training assignments for position task book completion of predetermined NWCG positions. In 2023, the Pecos Zone submitted 4 nominations for the SWA Priority Trainee Program. The positions included Aircraft Dispatcher, Incident Commander Type 3 and Task Force Leader. Two participants were able to successfully complete two assignments each with one individual completing their task book to become a qualified Aircraft Dispatcher.

Aircraft

Alamogordo Air Tanker Base

The Alamogordo Air Tanker Base (ALM-ATB) opened the second week of March hosting lead planes and large airtankers for the region after the base in Abilene, TX closed. Alamogordo tanker base sent out 62 loads of retardant for a total of 153,000 gallons of MVP-FX in 2023. The Lincoln NF hosted Air Attack 616 from LaGrande, OR for three months during the fire season as well as Bravo platforms and Lead planes from around the country. The base hosted every type of aircraft on government contract with one exception being the DC-10 that was placed at the Roswell ATB. Alamogordo Tanker Base sent its last load on August 10th and did a soft close for two weeks after the season ended.



Roswell Air Tanker Base

The Roswell Air Tanker Base was open from April 1st through August 4th. They sent out 59 loads of retardant totaling 165,763 gallons for the year. The tanker base supported multiple aircraft types to include 2- VLATS , 1- RJ-85, 2-BAE-146's, and 4- SEATS. Toward the end of the year the City of Roswell approved funding for the construction of a new taxi way for the tanker base at the Roswell Airport, additionally the base has received funding to add a second pit. Engineering has been completed and the tanker base manager is currently waiting for a construction start date for both projects to begin in 2024.



Safety

SAFECOMs

SAFECOMs are used to report any condition, observation, act, maintenance problem, or circumstance with personnel or the aircraft that has the potential to cause an aviation-related mishap. SAFECOMs are a tool used to identify, document, track, and correct safety related issues.

Three SAFECOMs were reported within the Pecos Zone in 2023:

SAFECOM # 23-0467 – Rotor – Preflight Inspection discovered loose tail rotor expansion bolt (Mescalero Apache Summit)

SAFECOM# 23-0293 – Pilot Action – Landing Gear malfunction (Lincoln National Forest – ALM ATB)

SAFECOM# 23-0176 – Airframe – Cracks discovered in fuselage (Lincoln National Forest – ALM ATB)

SAFENETS

The SAFENET system is a way for front line firefighters and support staff to report unsafe or unhealthy situations and near-misses. It is also a way for fire managers to hear about and correct hazardous conditions, collect and track important safety data and identify trends that could be developing.

There were no SAFENETS reported within the Pecos Zone in 2023.

Conclusion

Alamogordo Dispatch was successful in upholding our mission to support the Pecos Zone during wildland fire suppression and prescribed fire operations. Through multiple changes within our dispatch center organization, we were able to maintain our high level of service and continue to build and develop our staff and train visiting resources. As we enter a new year, we are eager to welcome additional staff members and to continue supporting our resources while providing professional and efficient dispatching throughout our daily center operations and as each incident develops. The level of success of the dispatch center is attributed to the dedicated individuals that are staffing the radio consoles, working the extra hours and showing up daily to serve our resources.