

# AMARILLO FIRE DEPARTMENT



# ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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To our Neighbors of the Amarillo Community,

It is my privilege to present the 2025 Amarillo Fire Department Annual Report. Every day, Amarillo firefighters carry out our mission to protect our community by providing the highest quality of compassionate and professional services.

In 2025, Amarillo Fire Department members responded to 23,681 total calls for service, including 983 fires and 15,346 emergency medical responses. Each response reflects our dedication to serving this community with competence and care.

This past year, AFD took important steps to strengthen our ability to serve a growing city. On October 14, 2025, we broke ground on Fire Station 14, expanding response capacity in a critical area of Amarillo – our hospital district. Construction is underway, with completion anticipated in late 2026 or early 2027, representing a long-term investment in reliable response times as our community continues to grow.

Community risk reduction and engagement remained central to our mission. Safety Town, which began in Amarillo in 2019, continued as a community program focused on teaching children essential safety skills through hands-on education with local partner agencies. Throughout the year, AFD also hosted numerous community CPR instruction events and conducted our second Citizens Fire Academy, offering residents a behind-the-scenes look at fire operations, emergency medical services, training, and community safety initiatives.

We are grateful for the continued support of our community, City Management, City Council, and Mayor in strengthening public safety. Approved public safety salary increases in 2025 supported recruitment and retention efforts, while the addition of a firefighter position allowed AFD to increase its authorized strength to 312 uniformed firefighters.

Significant investments were also made to ensure our firefighters have the equipment needed to serve safely and effectively. Approval to order more than 11 new fire trucks marked a major step in modernizing our fleet and keeping the Amarillo Fire Department ready, reliable, and capable of protecting our community.

As we reflect on the past year, I thank the men and women of the Amarillo Fire Department for their dedication and the citizens of Amarillo for your continued trust and support. We remain committed to progress, preparedness, and serving this city with care and consistency.

May God bless you all, and thank you for supporting and allowing us to serve and protect this wonderful community!



**Jason Mays**  
**Fire Chief**  
**Amarillo Fire Department**



# MISSION STATEMENT

The Amarillo Fire Department's mission is to protect our community by providing the highest quality of compassionate and professional services.

## CORE VALUES

**Courage** is acting in the face of our fears but considering the consequences of those actions.

**Honor** is respect for others, the fire service, and everyone who came before us.

**Integrity** exemplifies the strongest of moral character and defines how our community views us, as we always remember that we are stewards of public trust.

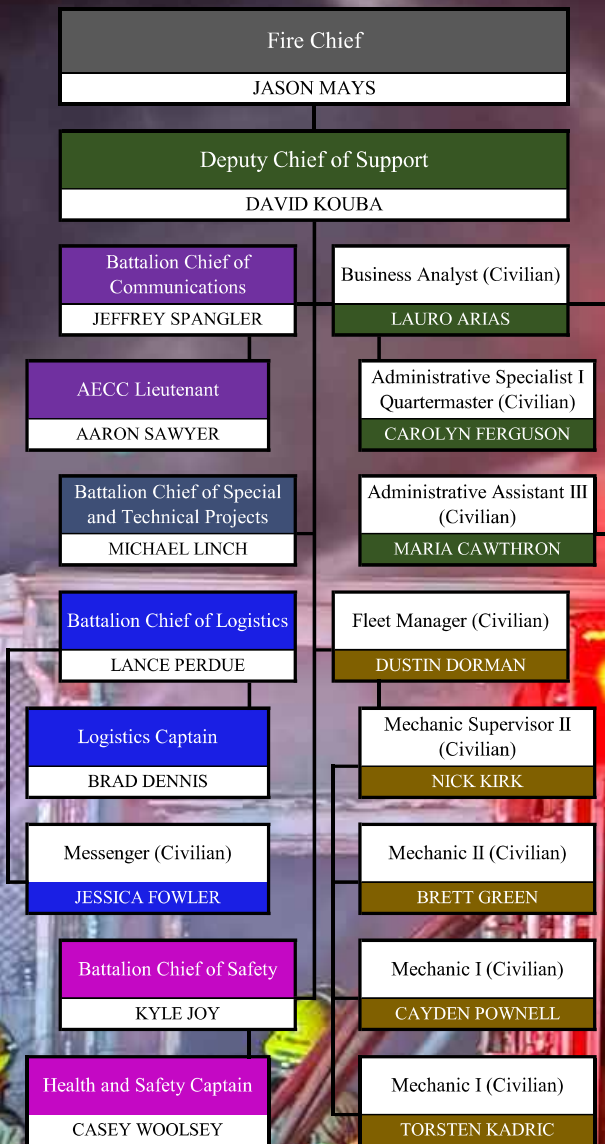
**Dedication** is the commitment towards learning and mastering our craft as we stay ever-ready to protect the community we serve in their time of need.

**Ownership** to be proactive and accountable for the results of our actions.



# AMARILLO FIRE DEPARTMENT

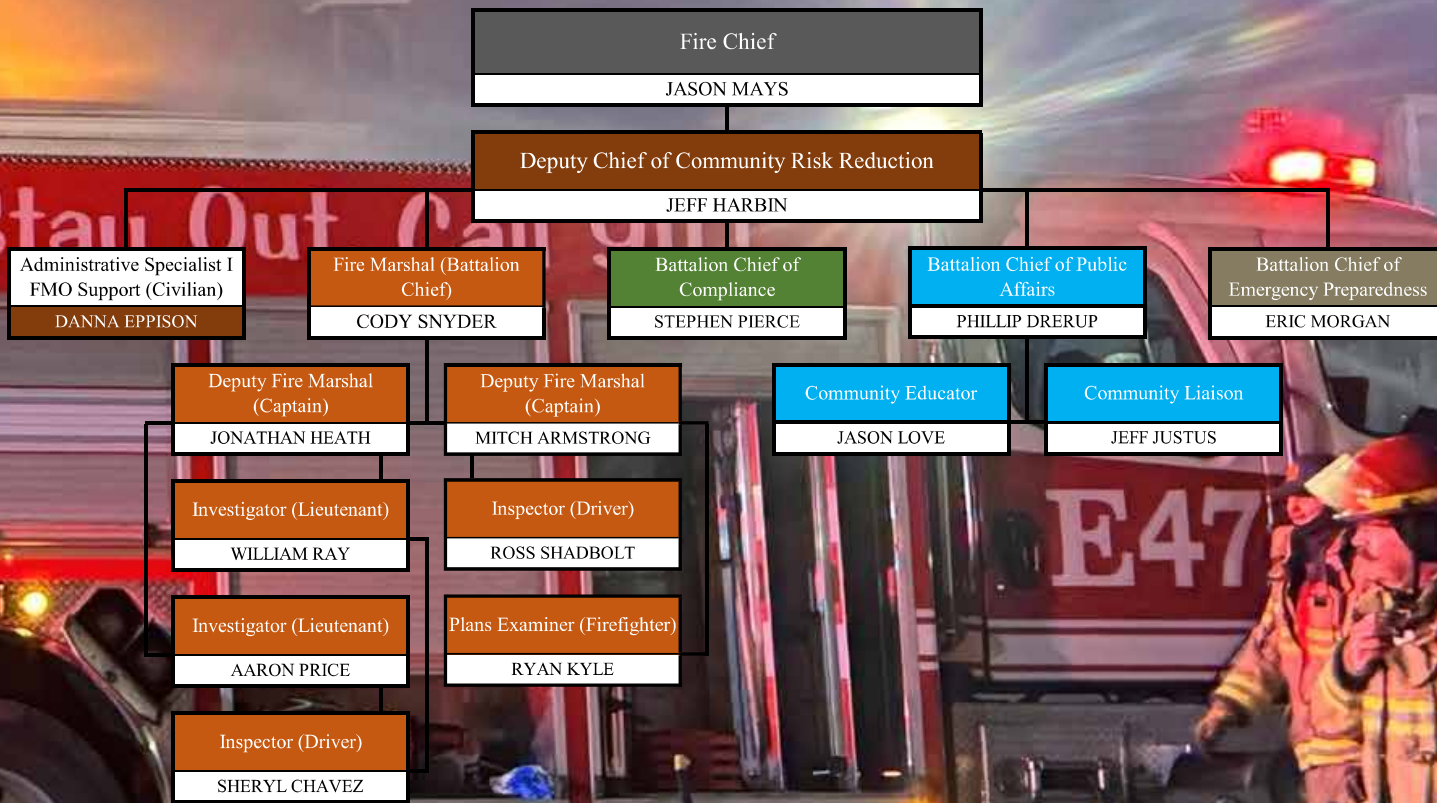
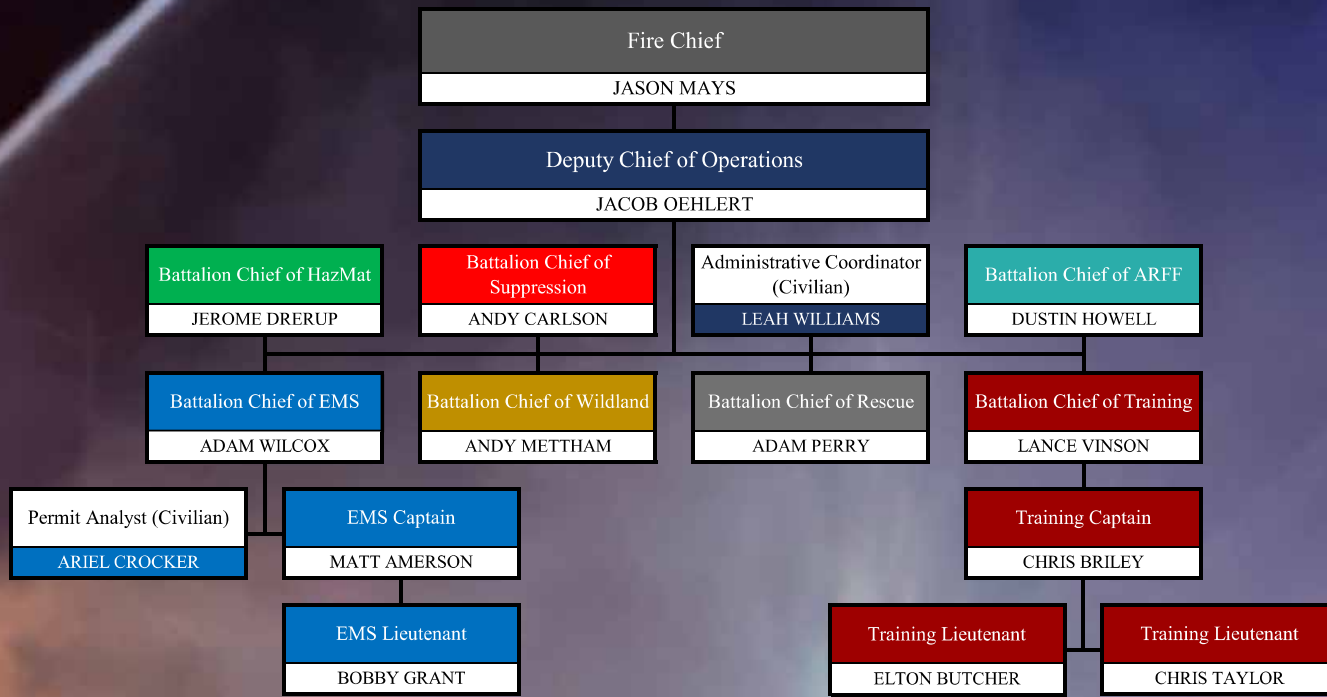
## Organizational Chart



Get Out,

# AMARILLO FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Organizational Chart

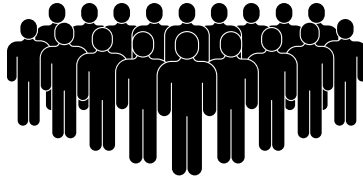


# AFD AT A GLANCE



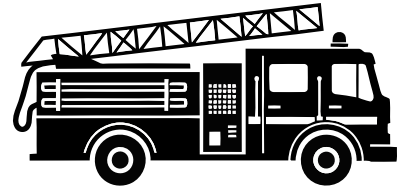
**102**

SQUARE MILES



**203,729**

POPULATION



**35**

FRONTLINE APPARATUS



**13**

FIRE STATIONS



**23,861**

RESPONSES



ESTIMATED

**70 Million**

PROPERTY SAVED



**ISO CLASS 2**



**12**

CIVILIAN STAFF

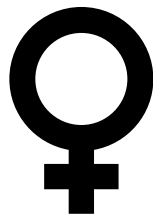


**65**

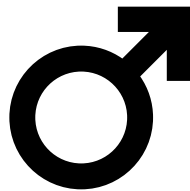
AVERAGE CALLS PER DAY



**299**



**3**



**296**



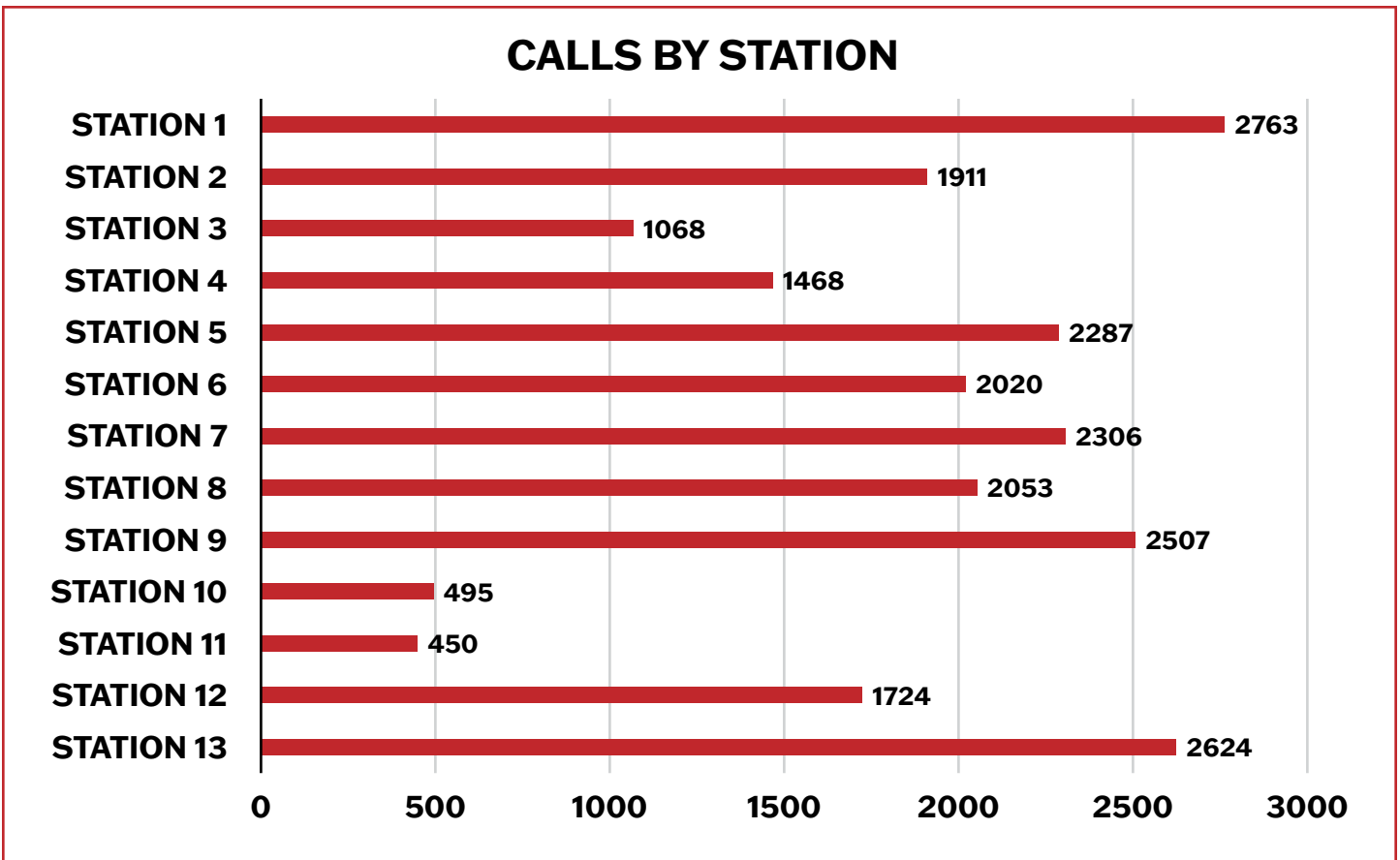
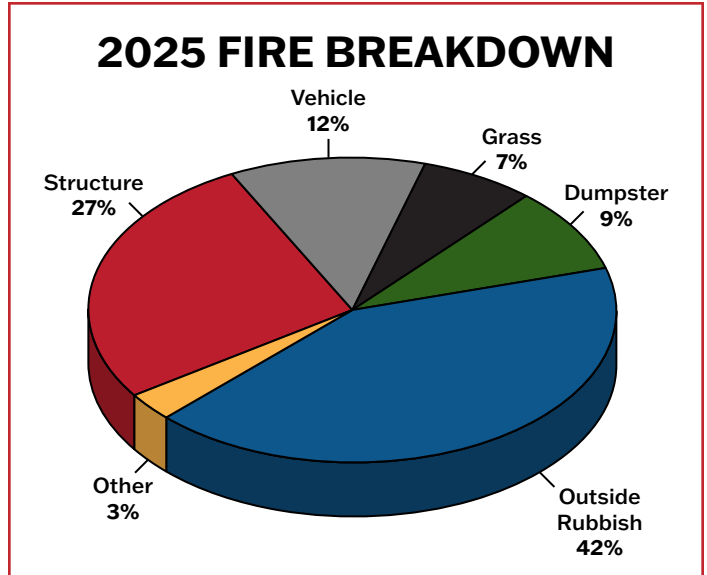
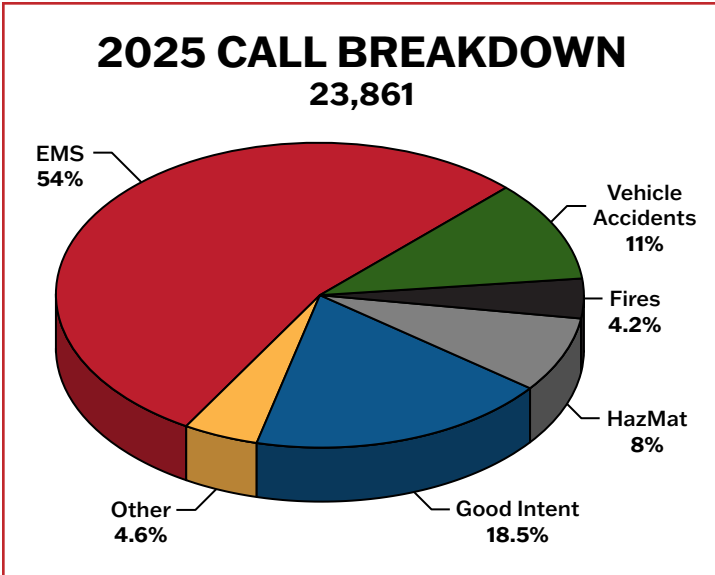
**3,438**

YEARS OF SERVICE

**CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

# 2025 RESPONSE STATS

“Behind every number is a response, a decision, and a commitment to service. These call statistics tell the story of a department in motion—reflecting readiness, accountability, and a continued responsibility to meet the evolving needs of our community.”



# HELMET COLOR HIERARCHY



**Chief Officers**

These helmets are worn by Chief Officers of the fire department. These are the men and women who are responsible for the overall tactical decisions on scene. They direct all activity on the scene and operate primarily as Incident Command and Safety Officer.



**Fire Marshal & Fire Investigators**

These helmets are worn by our Fire Marshal and Fire Investigators. These are the men and women who help determine fire cause and investigate and collect evidence in arson cases. These people answer to the Incident Command Officer directly.



**Company Officers**

These helmets are worn by Officers of the fire department. This can be Captain or a Lieutenant and are responsible for making decisions at the operational level to support the Chief Officer's tactical goals. They can also operate as Incident Commanders on smaller scenes or until the Chief Officer arrives. They answer to the Chief Officer on scene.



**Firefighters & Drivers**

These helmets are worn by Firefighters and Drivers. These are the men and women that carry out the operational tasks of the Chief Officer on scene. These men and women answer to the Company Officer at the operational level.



**Probationary Firefighters**

These helmets are worn by Probationary Firefighters during their first year with the department. The purpose is to quickly identify the least experienced personnel on scene in order to prevent putting them into complex situations without experienced personnel to guide them and keep them safe. These members work under a Company Officer.

# DEPUTY CHIEFS



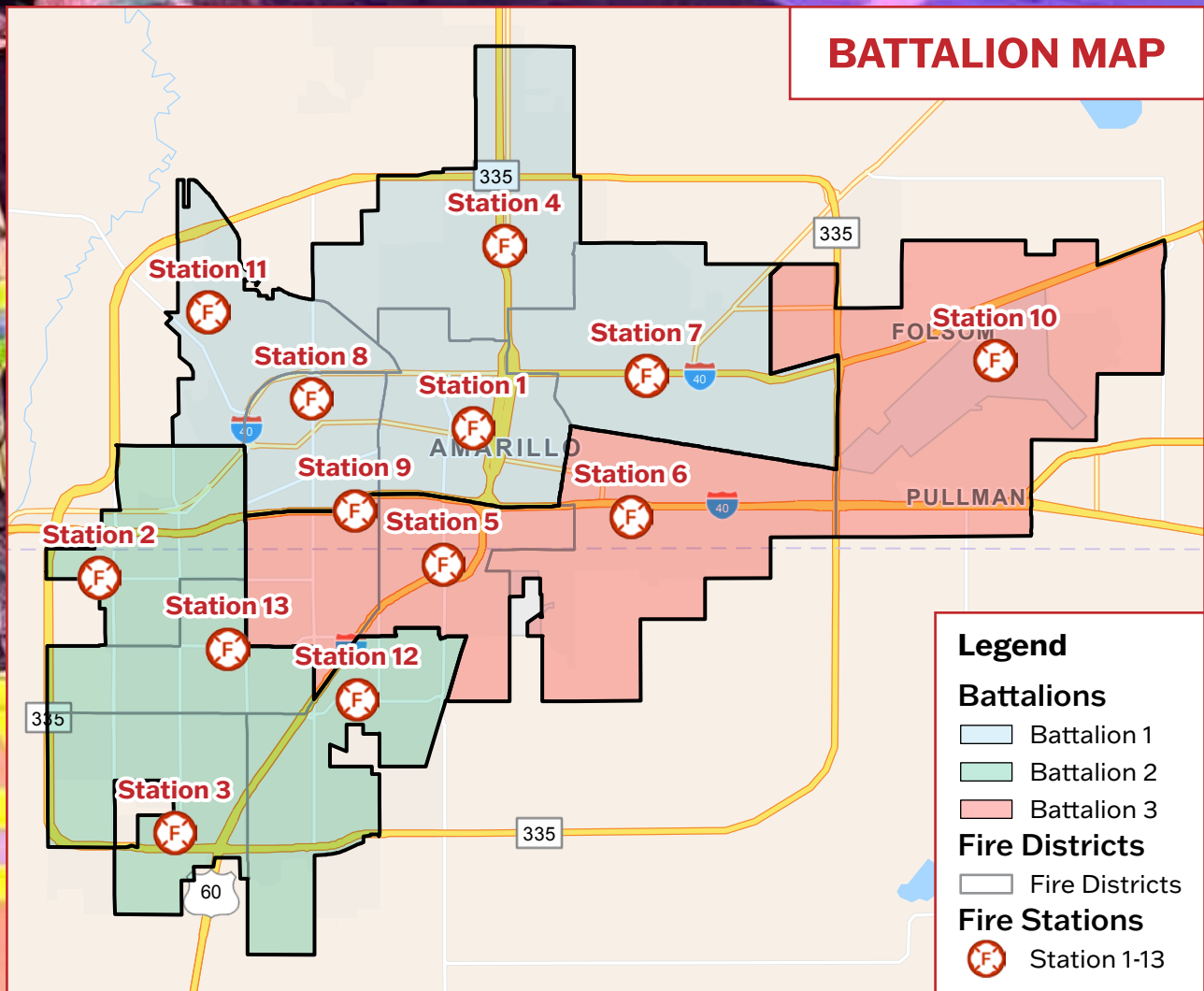
**Deputy Chief of Support**  
David Kouba



**Deputy Chief of Operations**  
Jacob Oehlert



**Deputy Chief of Risk Reduction**  
Jeff Harbin



# AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIREFIGHTING (ARFF) PROGRAM



**Battalion Chief of ARFF**  
*Dustin Howell*

The Amarillo Fire Department, in partnership with the Department of Aviation, provides Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) services at Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport. The program operates in accordance with FAA Part 139, TCFP standards, and the Airport Certification Manual, maintaining an ARFF Index Level B while exceeding requirements through 24-hour staffing of two ARFF vehicles and a command unit at Fire Station 10. In the past year, the program achieved full regulatory compliance with zero deficiencies and successfully restarted the ARFF Academy after more than 15 years. Future priorities include development of a dedicated training facility, continued personnel certification, and execution of annual exercises to sustain operational readiness.

## **Program Officers:**

Capt. Ryan Caperton

Capt. Chris Campbell

Capt. Terrell Gray

Lt. Jay Arnold

Lt. Cody Anderson

Lt. Jay Alejandre



# COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

The Amarillo Fire Department Communications Program manages and supports mission-critical technology systems, including radios, mobile data terminals, and key software platforms such as ESO RMS, Vector Check IT, and Telestaff. The program also oversees Fire and EMS operations within the Amarillo Emergency Communications Center and serves as the department's primary liaison with City IT. In the past year, accomplishments included portable radio upgrades, MDT login improvements, NERIS training, and procurement planning. Current priorities focus on the NERIS transition, data visualization dashboards, and turnout time study. Program leadership also contributed at state and national conferences.

## Program Officers:

Capt. Jose Garcia

Capt. Clay Pittman

Capt. Richard Wellman

Lt. Austin Barker

Lt. Brad Van Valkenburg

Lt. Jordan McAffrey

Lt. Aaron Sawyer



**Battalion Chief of Communications**  
*Jeffrey Spangler*



# COMPLIANCE PROGRAM



**Battalion Chief of Compliance**  
*Stephen Pierce*

The Amarillo Fire Department Compliance Program ensures the department operates in alignment with federal, state, and local standards while supporting accountability and continuous improvement. The program provides oversight of policies, procedures, and performance measures, including adherence to Texas Fire Chiefs Association Best Practices, Lexipol policy management, and Insurance Services Office rating criteria. Through structured review and guidance, the program promotes consistency, risk reduction, and organizational excellence. Ongoing efforts will focus on sustaining best practices compliance and supporting the department's pursuit and maintenance of an ISO Class 1 rating.

## **Program Officers:**

Capt. Manuel Rosales

Lt. Lance Ward

Lt. William Phillips



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) PROGRAM

The Amarillo Fire Department EMS Program delivers advanced life support and first-response medical care to the City of Amarillo through coordinated operational readiness, education, and interagency collaboration. In 2025, the program strengthened certification compliance, expanded CPR, ACLS, and PALS training, and achieved a 100% completion rate for its fourth in-house EMT-B cadet program. EMS leadership advanced paramedic development, enhanced frontline equipment, supported tactical medical operations, and invested in statewide professional development. Looking ahead, the program will focus on continuous quality improvement, expanded instructor capacity, and sustained paramedic graduation success in partnership with Amarillo College.

## Program Officers:

Capt. Matt Amerson

Lt. Bobby Grant



**Battalion Chief of EMS**  
*Adam Wilcox*



# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM



**Battalion Chief of  
Emergency Preparedness**  
*Eric Morgan*

The Amarillo Fire Department Emergency Preparedness Program ensures operational readiness through proactive preplanning, interagency coordination, and efficient execution during large-scale incidents and special events. The program manages Knox KeySecure systems, collaborates with city partners on Opticom traffic preemption, and oversees operational preplans to support emergency response. In the past year, the program strengthened coordination with the Office of Emergency Management for major citywide events and advanced the selection of new preplanning software. Future priorities include implementing the new software platform, maintaining system readiness, and improving efficiency for city event operations.

## **Program Officers:**

Capt. Justin Davis

Capt. Alex Laugesen

Lt. Brad Hanson

Lt. Jason Jackson



# FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

The Amarillo Fire Marshal's Office protects life and property through comprehensive fire prevention, code enforcement, and public safety initiatives. The program conducts building plan reviews and inspections to ensure compliance with fire and life safety codes, investigates fires to determine cause and origin, and supports prosecution of arson cases when applicable. In the past year, the office exceeded national averages for arson case clearance, completed thousands of inspections and plan reviews, and expanded inspector certifications. Moving forward, priorities include improving compliance efficiency through new software, expanding certified inspection staff, and accelerating plan review processes.

## Program Officers:

Capt. Mitch Armstrong – Inspections

Capt. Jon Heath – Investigations

Lt. Aaron Price – Arson Investigator

Lt. William Ray – Inspections

## Program Personnel:

Driver Ross Shadbolt - Inspections

Driver Sheryl Chavez - Inspections

Firefighter Ryan Kyle - Plans Examiner



**Fire Marshal (Battalion Chief)**  
*Cody Snyder*



# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (HAZMAT) RESPONSE TEAM



**Battalion Chief of HazMat**  
*Jerome Drerup*

The Amarillo Fire Department Hazardous Materials Response Team, based at Fire Station 5, serves as a Type II regional response team for the 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle. Staffed by personnel certified at the TCFP HazMat Technician level, the team maintains readiness through ongoing training and exercises. In the past year, members completed multiple program training courses, department-wide refresher courses, and a radiological response drill with DSHS. Key priorities include modernizing aging equipment, sustaining annual training, and conducting department-wide drills. The team also supported a full-scale Community Reception Center exercise and responded to increased lithium-ion battery incidents.

## **Program Officers:**

Capt. Greg Herndon

Capt. Chris Shelburne

Capt. Jeff Loyless

Lt. Jeff Tucker

Lt. Jarrett McAffrey

Lt. Brent Naylor



# HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM

The Health & Safety Program safeguards firefighter readiness through comprehensive oversight of PPE, SCBA, medical evaluations, fitness, and personnel support. In 2025, the program reinforced compliance with NFPA and TCFP standards while expanding advanced PPE cleaning, SCBA maintenance, and firefighter wellness initiatives. AFD became one of the first departments nationwide to fully implement updated NFPA medical and fitness standards, achieving a 90% pass rate. Mental health remained a priority through expanded Peer Support, CISM, Chaplain services, and department-wide training. Together, these efforts promote safety, resilience, and long-term career health.

## Program Officers:

PPE –

Capt. Casey Woolsey  
Quartermaster Carolyn Ferguson

SCBA –

Capt. Cody Rankin  
Lt. Ryan Wellman  
Lt. Brandon Horn

Fitness –

Capt. Kasey Anderson  
Lt. Shane Rankin  
Lt. Joey Clement

Personnel Support –

Eric Clark  
Brady Gabel



**Battalion Chief of Safety**  
*Kyle Joy*



# LOGISTICS PROGRAM



**Battalion Chief of Logistics**  
*Lance Perdue*

The Logistics Program supports daily operations by providing essential supplies, equipment, uniforms, and facility coordination across the department. In the past year, the program managed the procurement of new fire apparatus, completed infrastructure improvements at training facilities, and outfitted all stations with washer and dryer units. Logistics also collaborated closely with City Facilities to finalize plans for Fire Station 14. Moving forward, the program will oversee station construction while continuing to procure high-quality, cost-effective resources that support operational readiness and fiscal responsibility.

## **Program Officers:**

Capt. Brad Dennis

Messenger Jessica Fowler



# PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM

The Public Affairs Program strengthens community trust through transparent communication, education, and media engagement. In 2025, the program expanded public education initiatives, supported school partnerships, and increased the department's digital reach through effective incident communication and safety messaging. Notable accomplishments included Fire and Life Safety Educator certifications, multiple Safety Town events, and significant growth in social media engagement following major incidents. The program continues to enhance outreach, professional development, and proactive storytelling to support firefighters and inform the Amarillo community.

## Program Personnel:

Firefighter Jeff Justus – Community Liaison

Firefighter Jason Love – Community Educator



**Battalion Chief of Public Affairs**  
*Phillip Drerup*



# TECHNICAL RESCUE PROGRAM



**Battalion Chief of Rescue**  
*Adam Perry*

The Technical Rescue Program provides specialized response capabilities across rope rescue, confined space, water rescue, trench collapse, extrication, REMS, and structural collapse. In 2025, the program achieved full TCFP rope rescue certification for all team members and expanded advanced training through TEEX and regional partners. Personnel supported large-scale rescue and recovery operations statewide, reinforcing operational readiness and interagency coordination. Ongoing professional development and certification efforts ensure AFD remains prepared to manage complex, high-risk rescue incidents throughout the region.

## Program Officers:

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Capt. David Michelotti | Lt. Wade Malone       |
| Capt. Jimmy Chavez     | Lt. James Arredondo   |
| Capt. Brad Boman       | Lt. Dustin Rogers     |
| Capt. Randall Keyes    | Lt. Tyson Allen       |
|                        | Lt. Dustin Brassfield |



# SUPPRESSION PROGRAM

The Suppression Program ensures all frontline equipment, including hose, ladders, tools, and thermal imaging cameras, remains operationally ready through testing, maintenance, and training. In the past year, all fire hose and ground ladders were comprehensively tested, and a \$25,000 grant from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation enabled the acquisition of new hose. Future priorities include equipping all apparatus with dedicated VEIS ladders and evaluating emerging tools and technologies to further enhance firefighter safety and effectiveness on emergency scenes.

## Program Officers:

Capt. Johnathan Turney

Lt. Jason Perdue

Lt. Jordan James



**Battalion Chief of Suppression**  
*Andy Carlson*



# TRAINING DIVISION



**Battalion Chief of Training**  
*Lance Vinson*

The Amarillo Fire Department Training Division builds a culture of excellence through passion and professionalism by delivering comprehensive, research-driven firefighting education to all members and recruits. The division oversees all structural firefighting instruction, including a 16-week TCFP Fire Academy, while supporting higher education and professional certification opportunities. Training efforts also guide personnel through ISO-based training requirements using facility-based drills, a mobile classroom, and company-level training. Through this progressive approach, the program prepares AFD personnel for safe, effective, and modern fireground operations.

## **Program Officers:**

Training Captain / Fire Academy Lead:  
Capt. Chris Briley

Support Lieutenant / Training Facility Supervisor:  
Lt. Richard Butcher

Operations Lieutenant / Mobile Classroom:  
Lt. Chris Taylor



# WILDLAND PROGRAM

The Wildland Program enhances AFD's ability to mitigate and respond to wildland and wildland-urban interface fires through specialized training, equipment, and regional deployments. In 2025, the program replaced aging apparatus with a new Type VI Wildland Engine, expanded fuel-reduction partnerships, and completed extensive equipment maintenance. Team members supported statewide wildfire operations through TIFMAS and medical deployments, gaining critical large-incident experience. Future goals include updating the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, conducting prescribed burns, and advancing specialized wildland training.

## Program Officers:

Capt. Josh Whitney

Capt. Pepper Ramon

Capt. Joe Lockwood

Lt. Derek Bailey

Lt. Bryan VanMeter

Lt. Chad Munkres



**Battalion Chief of Wildland**  
*Andy Mettham*



# HONOR GUARD



**Honor Guard Commander**  
*Jose Garcia*

Founded in 1999, the Amarillo Fire Department Honor Guard provides final honors for fallen firefighters across the Texas Panhandle with professionalism, discipline, and respect. The Honor Guard is composed of 22 dedicated volunteers who support Line of Duty Death ceremonies and coordinate closely with regional honor guards and the Texas LODD Task Force. Through these efforts, the program has honored numerous fallen firefighters while providing critical ceremonial support and assistance to departments throughout the region. As the program moves forward, its continued goal is to represent the Amarillo Fire Department, the Amarillo Professional Firefighters Association (APFFA), and its members with the highest levels of honor, respect, professionalism, and dignity.

## **Honor Guard Commander:**

Jose Garcia

## **Sergeant at Arms:**

Mitch Armstrong



# PIPES AND DRUMS

Amarillo Firefighters Pipes and Drums is a volunteer organization that works in close cooperation with the Amarillo Fire Department to provide ceremonial bagpipe and drum services for department members, first responder agencies, the City of Amarillo, and community organizations. The group operates independently without city funding and is dedicated to honoring the fire service through tradition, respect, and public remembrance. In 2025, the organization supported numerous funerals, memorials, and public ceremonies, including the annual 9/11 memorial at the Panhandle War Memorial. Future efforts will focus on member recruitment and succession planning to ensure continued service to the community.

## Band Officer:

Adam Wilcox – Pipe Major & Vice President

## Executive Board Officers:

Lonnie Hollabaugh – President

Randy Johnson – Treasurer



Pipe Major & Vice President  
Adam Wilcox



# ADMINISTRATION – CIVILIAN PERSONNEL PROGRAM



**Business Analyst**  
*Lauro Arias*

The Amarillo Fire Department Administration Civilian Personnel program provides essential support services that enable the department's daily operations and long-term effectiveness. Civilian staff members manage administrative functions, procurement, travel coordination, financial transactions, and specialized invoicing to ensure operational continuity. In the past year, the program supported department-wide operations while assisting with major financial and system transitions. Moving forward, the program will focus on improving operational efficiency, maintaining service excellence, and supporting leadership in meeting mission-critical priorities for the community.

## **Program Personnel:**

Ambulance Permit Analyst – Ariel Crocker

Administrative Coordinator – Leah Williams

Administrative Specialist I (Quartermaster) – Carolyn Ferguson

Administrative Specialist I (FMO) – Danna Eppison

Administrative Assistant III – Maria Cawthron



# FLEET SERVICES

Amarillo Fire Department Fleet Services ensures the readiness and safety of emergency operations through comprehensive maintenance, repair, and lifecycle management of all fire apparatus, support vehicles, and specialized equipment. In the past year, the program expanded the fleet with new pumpers and aerial apparatus while implementing modern fleet management software to improve efficiency and oversight. Fleet Services also achieved key milestones including rapid NFPA pump testing completion and strategic apparatus reassignment to maximize service life. Upcoming priorities focus on reducing downtime, enhancing preventive maintenance, and expanding staffing to support continued operational reliability.

## Program Personnel:

Nick Kirk – Mechanic Supervisor II, EVT Master

Brett Green – Mechanic II, EVT Level 2

Cayden Pownell – Mechanic I, EVT F1 & F2

Torsten Kadric – Mechanic I



**Fleet Manager**  
*Dustin Dorman*



# FRONTLINE APPARATUS



Engines – 13



Ladders – 4



Command Units – 4



Grass Trucks – 9



ARFF – 2



AMBUS – 1

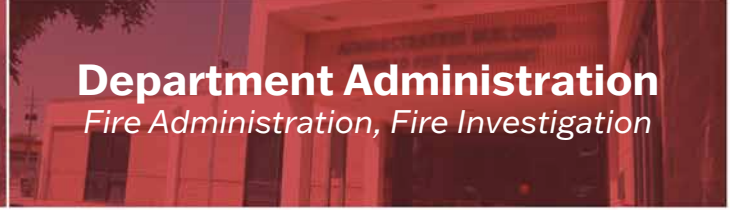
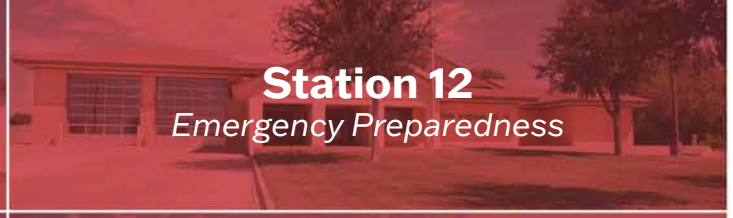


HAZMAT – 1



USAR – 1

# FIRE STATIONS & FACILITIES



# 2025 AFD “REFLECTIONS”

January 22nd – 3 Alarm Fire @ 610 SE 11th

February 13th – Kylor Williams named FF of the Year by Rotary Club

March 14th – Dust Storm

April – EMS drills with AMS

May 7th to May 24th – LIVE FIRE Training

June 7th – AFD Entrance Exam

July 3rd – AFD Academy IV Graduation

July 6th – TIFMAS deployed to Kerrville

August 21st – Firehouse Subs grant ceremony

August 23rd – Boots vs Badges game

September 7th – Mayday Fire

October 14th – Station 14 groundbreaking

October 23rd – Chief Kouba earns International Chief Fire Officer

October 23rd – Palo Duro Basketball team does Combat Challenge

December 19th – AFD Traditions



# 2025 RETIREES

“A career in the fire service is measured not only in years served, but in lives protected, standards upheld, and a legacy of service passed forward.”



Lieutenant Matt Hilderbrand  
23 years



Lieutenant Ryan James  
26 years



Lieutenant Dale Henderson  
28 years



Captain Jim Farrow  
25 years



Captain Greg Herndon  
30 years



Driver Tyson Smith  
24 years



Lieutenant Eric Roberts  
23 years



Captain Justin Davis  
30 years



Lieutenant Jeff Reed  
30 years



Captain Brandon Stennett  
27 years



Firefighter Kerry Kelly  
27 years

# AMARILLO FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FALLEN HEROES



Firefighter Austin Williams  
Deceased May 7, 1936



Assistant Fire Chief  
Robert Schwab  
Deceased February 25, 1973



District Chief David Loar  
Deceased June 12, 1973



Firefighter Kenneth A. Caldwell  
Deceased August 16, 1982



Firefighter  
Christopher Brian Hunton  
Deceased April 25, 2005

# **ACRONYMS USED IN THE 2025 AFD ANNUAL REPORT**

- **ACLS — Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support**
- **AFD — Amarillo Fire Department**
- **APFFA — Amarillo Professional Firefighters Association**
- **ARFF — Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting**
- **CISM — Critical Incident Stress Management**
- **CPR — Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation**
- **DSHS — Texas Department of State Health Services**
- **EMS — Emergency Medical Services**
- **EMT-B — Emergency Medical Technician – Basic**
- **EVT — Emergency Vehicle Technician**
- **FAA — Federal Aviation Administration**
- **HazMat — Hazardous Materials**
- **ISO — Insurance Services Office**
- **IT — Information Technology**
- **MDT — Mobile Data Terminal**
- **NERIS — National Emergency Response Information System**
- **NFPA — National Fire Protection Association**
- **PALS — Pediatric Advanced Life Support**
- **PPE — Personal Protective Equipment**
- **REMS — Rapid Extrication Module Support**
- **RMS — Records Management System**
- **SCBA — Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus**
- **TCFP — Texas Commission on Fire Protection**
- **TIFMAS — Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System**
- **USAR — Urban Search and Rescue**
- **VEIS — Vent, Enter, Isolate, Search**



[facebook.com/AmarilloFire](https://facebook.com/AmarilloFire)

**FIRE ADMINISTRATION**  
806-378-9360  
310 S. Van Buren St.  
Amarillo, TX 79101

**FIRE MARSHAL**  
806-378-4238  
821 S. Johnson St.  
Amarillo, TX 79101