



Guam Fire Department

A Report to Our Citizens 2012-2013

Mission Statement

The Guam Fire Department will respond to and mitigate all threats to life, property, and the environment in the Territory of Guam and its surrounding waters. This will be accomplished through education, prevention, and an effective response to fire, medical, and environmental emergencies.

Goal

The Guam Fire Department will be a fire service nationally recognized and accredited in fire suppression, fire prevention, Emergency Medical Services, search and rescue, hazardous materials response and emergency medical dispatch. At a minimum, every fire station will house a fire engine, ambulance, and some type of specialty response apparatus such as a water tanker, ladder truck, rescue unit, or Advanced Life Support unit. Firefighters will be fully equipped and trained, both technically and physically, to respond to all emergencies that pose a threat to the safety of life and property.

Statutory Basis

Upon the enactment of Public Law 1-88 in 1952, the Fire Division was created within the Department of Public Safety (DPS). On March 13, 1985, Public Law 17-78 separated the Fire Division from DPS and established the Guam Fire Department, a line agency of the Government of Guam. On March 6, 1996 Public Law 23-77 tasked the Guam Fire Department with the responsibility to administer and operate the Emergency 911 telephone communications system; regulated by the EMS Commission.

The Guam Fire Department is mandated to protect life and property from the perils of fire and other disasters. This could only be achieved through an accomplished fire prevention, suppression, and extinguishment plan. Furthermore, the formulation of a comprehensive Emergency Medical Services (EMS/Ambulance) Program, inclusive of an Advanced Life Support Intercept Program for the Territory of Guam, was required. An extensive Fire Prevention bureau overseeing fire inspections, new and existing building plan review and approval, investigations, code enforcement, and public education, was also established. Also entrusted to the Guam Fire Department were the responsibilities of land and sea search and rescue, operation and management of an enhanced Emergency 911 communications system, and more recently the addition of a dedicated hazardous materials response team. We are able to perform these missions by: "Promoting safety and maintaining a well equipped, highly trained, and motivated force of professional Firefighters/EMTs, EMDs, and Rescue personnel; while promoting fire prevention and education programs".

CORE VALUES

"HONOR IS GAINED THROUGH PRIDE"

- ◆ **Professionalism**– To respond with high technical and performance standards.
- ◆ **Respect**– To place high regard upon each other, to earn high regard from those we serve.
- ◆ **Integrity**– To sustain good moral and ethical codes.
- ◆ **Dedication**– To always be ready, trained and fit to answer the call.
- ◆ **Empathy**– To be courteous, conscientious and compassionate.

How We Have Progressed

Fiscal Year 2013



GFD Performance Measures

2013

Staffing Pattern

Assistant Chief	1
Battalion Chief	1
Fire Captain	33
Fire Lieutenant	69
Firefighter II	67
Firefighter I	85
Fire Recruit	4

Statistics (Medical)

Sick/ Ill Person	8635
Sick with ALS Transport	1762
Injured Person	2267
Injured Person with ALS Transport	94
Cardiac Arrest	194
Other Medical Alarms	2245

Statistics (Fire Suppression)

Fire Hydrant Maintenance	166
In Service Training	243
Structure Fire	51
Unauthorized Controlled Burn	1237
Vegetation Fire /Grass Fire	587

Statistics (Rescue Services /Motor Vehicle Collisions/Fire Inspections)

Rescue Service	135
Motor Vehicle Collisions	857
Mutual Aid (Fire/EMS)	22
Fire Inspections	2291
Hazardous Material Incidents	21
TOTAL ALARMS FY '13	24,425

The measures reported on this page were included based on the data collected from our E-911center. What would you like to see reported on in this page? Please let us know by leaving a message on our website, gfd.guam.gov.

gfd.guam.gov

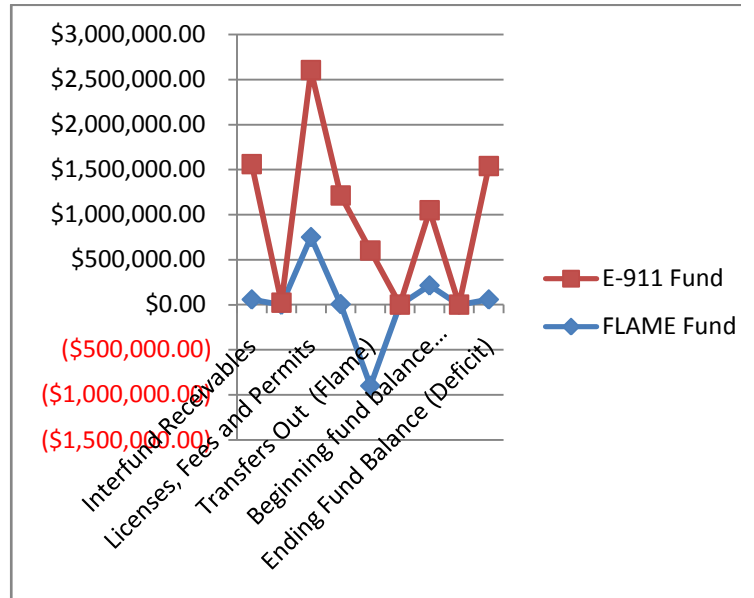
Our Finances

Revenues and Expenses

The main operating fund of the agency is the General Fund. As noted in the Deloitte's Government of Guam Independent Auditors' Report. Alternate funding sources that the agency uses are classified as Special Funds (revenues that are restricted for specific purposes.)

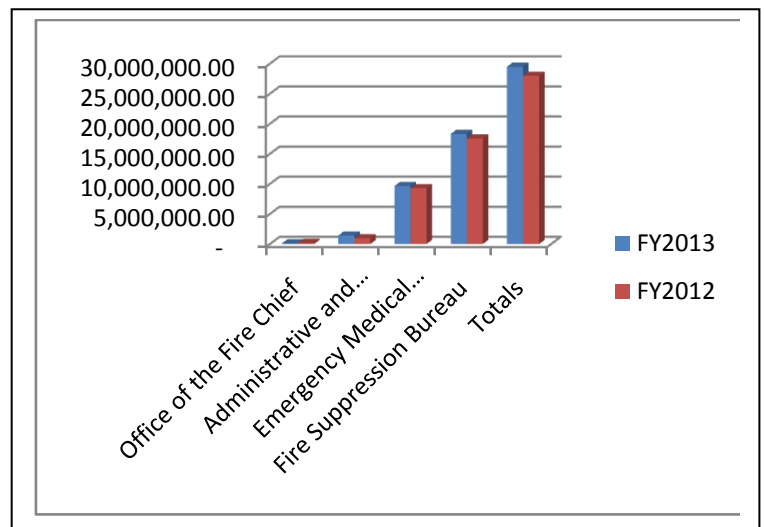
Revenue by Source

	FLAME Fund	E-911 Fund
Interfund Receivables	\$58,773.00	\$1,500,025.00
Accrued Payroll		21,725.00
Licenses, Fees and Permits	751,272	1,850,775.00
Expenditures (Protection of Life & Property)	6,866.00	1,204,582.00
Transfers Out (Flame)	(900,000.00)	1,500,025.00
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity (E-911)		
Beginning fund balance (Deficit)	214,367	832,107
Ending Fund Balance (Deficit)	\$58,773.00	\$1,478,300.00



Expenditure Comparison

	2013	2012
Office of the Fire Chief	\$106,053.00	\$186,461.00
Administrative and Logistical Support	1,415,930.00	961,429.00
EMS/Rescue Operations Bureau	9,652,379.00	9,285,217.00
Fire Suppression Bureau	18,305,465.00	17,542,227.00
Total	\$29,479,827.00	\$27,975,334.00



What's Next

Key Initiatives/Progress Made

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For more information on our services, visit our website at gfd.guam.gov

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Message from the Fire Chief

It is with great pride that I provide the following information to you. We have made huge strides and achieved quite a few milestones in the Guam Fire Department. In line with the Guam Fire Department Blue Print 2020, we have improved our capabilities to serve and save our island and its people:

Headquarters: We moved to a more appropriate and capable office space that has allowed us to consolidate our staff and improve customer service out of our office. GFD has also established a Command Center for Fire Operations which has proven successful during recent storms. However, we still need to establish a permanent headquarters that will further promote efficiency and reduce costs.

Fire Suppression: In the past three years, we have been able to increase our capability to respond to Fire Service incidents. Through building military, federal, government and private partnerships we have received Structural and Wild Land fire apparatuses to add to our fleet and will receive three new Structural Fire Trucks and new Urban Interface Fire Trucks September. By October 2014, we will have a fully operational fire truck at every station.

Hiring: We have brought on-board an additional 30 Firefighters to assist in our manning efforts however retirements and resignations has lessened the gains. GFD needs an additional 60 recruits over the next two years to reach minimum staffing standards as set forth in National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1901.

Community Relations: The community relationships we have built and continue to foster has resulted in the adoption of many Fire Houses by local businesses and organizations. As a result, we are seeing our Fire Houses with a fresh coat of paint, new office and station furniture, exercise equipment and general renovations or upgrades, saving the government over \$100,000 dollars.

Emergency Medical Services: Fulfilling a promise of our Administration, we have an ambulance near every neighborhood. Since 2011, we have brought in ten ambulances after only having one to two ambulances working on a daily basis. We now have eight ready to respond on a daily basis with five on standby. Our level of service has increased over 400% in three years, despite the recent increase in services previously provided by private medical transport companies due to scrutiny in Medicare billing practices. This administration has truly made saving lives a priority and we look forward to that continued commitment.

Our Medical Billing Program implemented in 2011 and certified by Medicare in October 2012 continues to bring in needed revenue to support costs to provide services. In Fiscal Year 2014, it has collected thus far over \$770,000 thousand in revenue for a total of \$1.6 million to date. The next step is to adjust these fees to the annual prevailing federal rate.

Search and Rescue: We have procured specialized equipment to support the vital mission of search and rescue. GFD has recently received two boats which will go through complete refurbishment and added to our rescue boat fleet. Soon, we will break ground on a new Rescue Base located on Hagatna Marina and upgrade the current facilities at Agat Marina in partnership with Port Authority Guam and utilizing federal funds.

Advanced Life Support: This life saving program is going strong but will need replacement response vehicles and new personnel. Planning includes identifying personnel to train at this higher level of Emergency Medical Care and to procure replacement vehicles and equipment.

Hazmat Response: This milestone was achieved on January 1, 2013 We now have a Tier I/II response team that has been engaged on over 10 incidents to provide hazardous materials response and technical decontamination reducing our dependence on military or federal response. We continue to train and add to our capabilities to enhance our Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive response.

Fire Prevention: GFD Fire Inspectors are now 100% nationally accredited and certified. As a result we have seen an increase in efficiency and continuity with regard to customer service. A major program on the cusp of initiating is the Self-Assessment Program that will allow us to reach the existing 20,000 plus businesses that we are not able to physically inspect.

E-911: GFD has recently replaced personnel to address shortages in man power but still remains challenged in replacing the system itself. We are now at the final packaging of the specifications and certification of funding source to send out for procurement of a Next Gen 911 system that will carry us into the future. Phase I consists of replacement of the current system located at the Office of Civil Defense with Phase II resulting in a complete, stand-alone Communications and Telecommunications Center that will house the primary 911 System and Land Mobile Radio System.

Maintenance Section: The GFD Fleet Maintenance and Repair section has been moved into an existing building designed for that purpose at the Department of Public Works (DPW). DPW continues to provide adequate workspace for our mechanics to keep our emergency fleet up and running.

Training: We are well on our way to becoming fully accredited by way of training and certification standards. We have adopted the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians Certification and are above 80% in completion. In our Fire and Rescue Service mission, we have adopted the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications or Pro-Board Certification and are currently in a full roll-out funded entirely by the Assistance to Firefighters Grant. By December 2014, all Firefighters will be nationally certified and accredited Fire Service Professionals.

Our physical fitness standard is still in pilot basis and will be implemented in the near future. We are working with the Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission to mandate it for the Guam Fire Department in lieu of the proposed Law Enforcement physical assessment test. Health and wellness remains a priority and has become the culture of our personnel.

Moving Forward: The Guam Fire Department remains on track with existing projects and continuous collaboration with Government and Private Stake holders to enhance our ability to serve and save our island and its people. A major undertaking we seek to initiate is the construction of a permanent Guam Fire Department Headquarters, co-built with a new Tamuning Fire Station that will house our Administrative and Training Bureau and Fire Prevention Bureau. Finally, along with a continuous commitment to equipment and training, we need to fill the 60 plus vacancies in personnel and promotions.

It continues to be an honor to serve as your Fire Chief and I look forward to this continued opportunity. I am always available for any issues or concerns at: joey.sannicolas@gfd.guam.gov.