



# 2013 Annual Report

On behalf of the dedicated men and women who make up this Department, it is once again an honor to present our tenth Annual Report. This is the first “combined” report under the recently created Department of Public Safety. This past year was another year of ongoing change since separating from the Port Huron Fire Department with the re-organization of the Police and Fire Departments under one administration. I hope that you will find this report to be a positive reflection on the value of the services that we provide to the community and of the dedication and commitment of the members who deliver these services with great pride and professionalism.

Our emergency call volume rose by a combined 9.2% in 2013. With this continued increase in demand for our services, we still maintain a very good response time. Increased call activity can be attributed to a number of factors, including an expanding population, more visitors, and aging residents. We continue to mitigate complex life-safety problems in a highly efficient and cost effective manner.

Customer service continues to be one of the highest priorities in our service delivery. Our employees look for every opportunity to go above and beyond the normal call of duty when interacting with our citizens. It is our continued commitment to be there when you need us, day or night, with compassion, professionalism, dignity and respect. It is our vision to be leaders in delivering the highest quality and cost effective prevention, education and emergency response services.

In late 2013, the City’s fire defense capability was evaluated by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to determine its Public Protection Classification (on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being no credible fire protection). The City improved from a Class 5 to 4. That’s great news for both residential and commercial property owners as the classification serves as the basis for setting property insurance rates by most insurance companies.

The information contained within this report is not only a comprehensive analysis of our performance last year, but also a way for us to share with you some of the Department's capabilities. I would like to thank the many personnel that provided information and research for the development of this report.

I am very proud of the compassion and empathy all of our employees display. They care about our community, our citizens and want to help them in a time of need. It is these characteristics that make me so proud to serve as your chief. We appreciate our City Council and citizens for your continued support. As this annual report is a look back at 2013, your public safety department is already working hard to meet the challenges of 2014.

*Yours in Safety,*

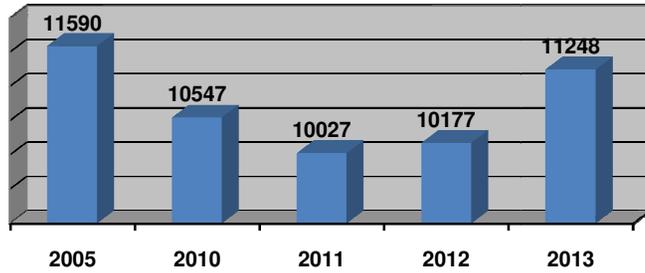
**Tom**

*Chief of Department*

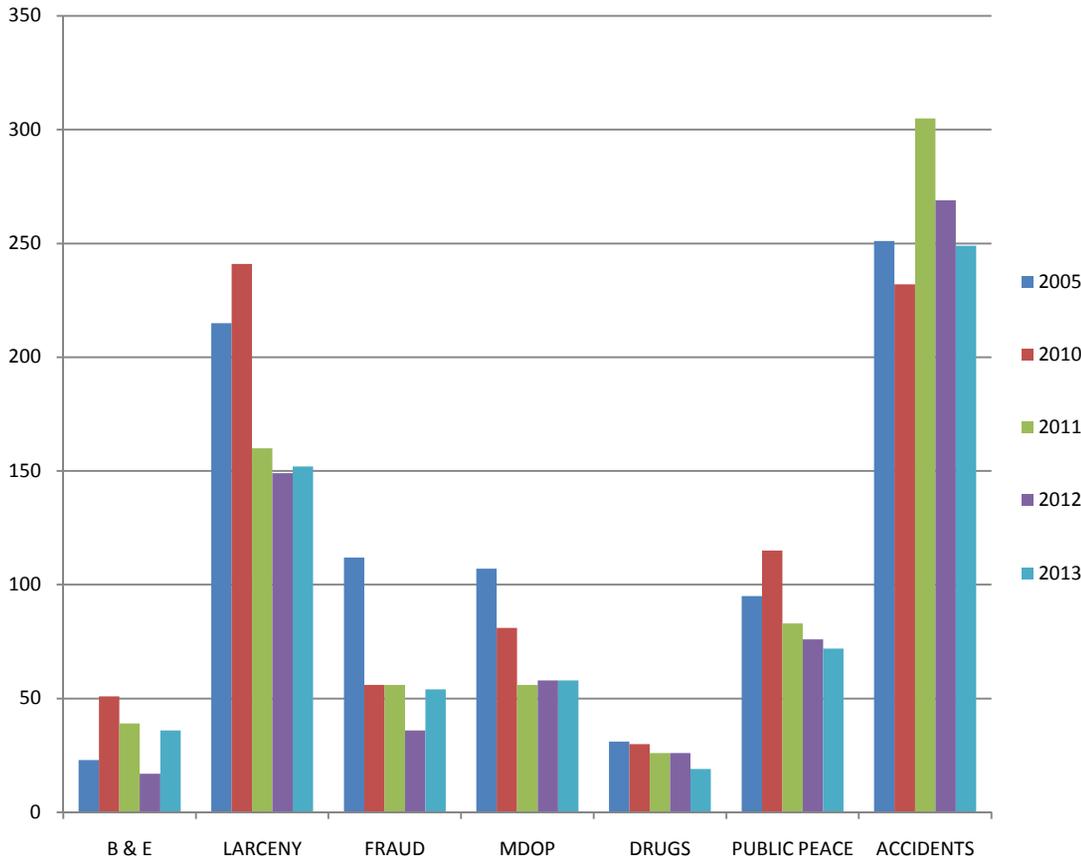
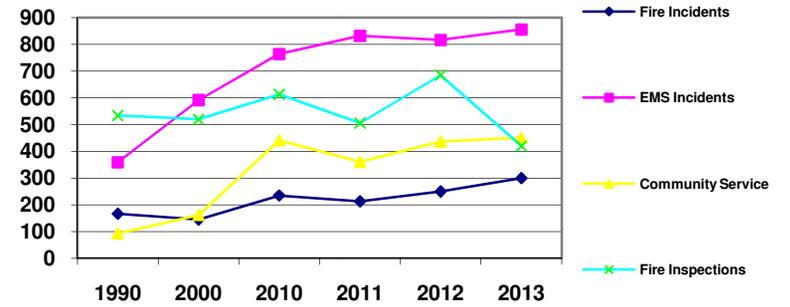


# Emergency Activity

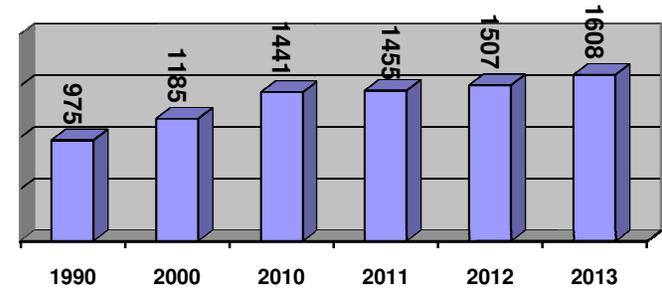
### Police Call Volume



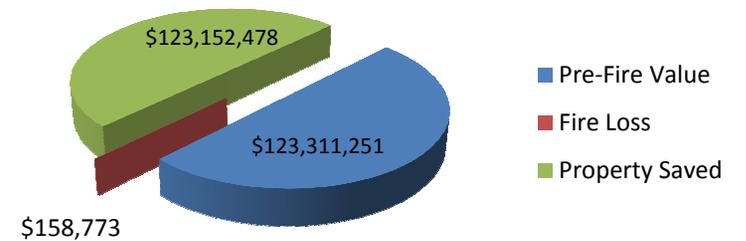
### Fire Department Activity



### Fire/EMS Call Volume



### Fire Loss Analysis



## Public Safety Education

Community education refers to an organization's programs that promote learning and social development. They work with individuals and groups in their community using a range of formal and informal methods. The purpose of community learning and development is to increase the capacity of individuals and groups of all ages to improve their quality of life.

The Marysville Police Department participates in many community-based educational programs that enhance positive contact between police and the public it services. These programs consist of but are not limited to:

- \*Cub Scout/Girl Scout building tours with safety talks
- \*Elementary, middle and high school classroom visits
- \*Business visits on topics such as: drunk driving laws, texting laws and safe driving
- \*Elderly meetings on how to stay safe in public and in the home
- \*Education of our adult business partners through alcohol and tobacco compliance checks



The above educational programs aid in making our community a better place to live. Many of our officers participate in these social meetings which enhance positive contacts between our police and the public we serve.

With record emergency call volume in 2013, the Marysville Fire Department was still able to provide education to the public and our citizens that they have come to expect. This year approximately 250 people were trained or recertified in CPR, AED and First Aid training. We offer monthly classes at the station for a reduced cost and have also started to integrate this training with some local businesses including RESA, Norman Jensen, and the Marysville Children's Center. This year we also began to broaden our offering of Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) training. This class is an in-depth and challenging course covering heart attacks, strokes and cardiac arrest. ACLS is also a required class for paramedics and a majority of registered nurses and doctors. We are able to offer this class at a reduced cost to the healthcare community.



Other lesser known educational opportunities we provide are blood pressure checks, station tours, child seat inspections and safety training. Our school liaison program does in-classroom visits to over 1,250 students multiple times throughout the school year. We are one of the only places in St. Clair County that inspects child safety seats and teaches parents how to properly install them. This year we were able to get our safety/smoke trailer into new community events such as the Salvation Army's summer day camp and Community Mental Health's neighborhood outreach. Recent staff reductions could put a strain on public education, but our staff is always eager to provide this vital service. We strongly believe that Marysville does not see the fires and fatalities of other cities partly due to our emphasis on public education. We will always work to expand and improve that education to better protect our citizens.

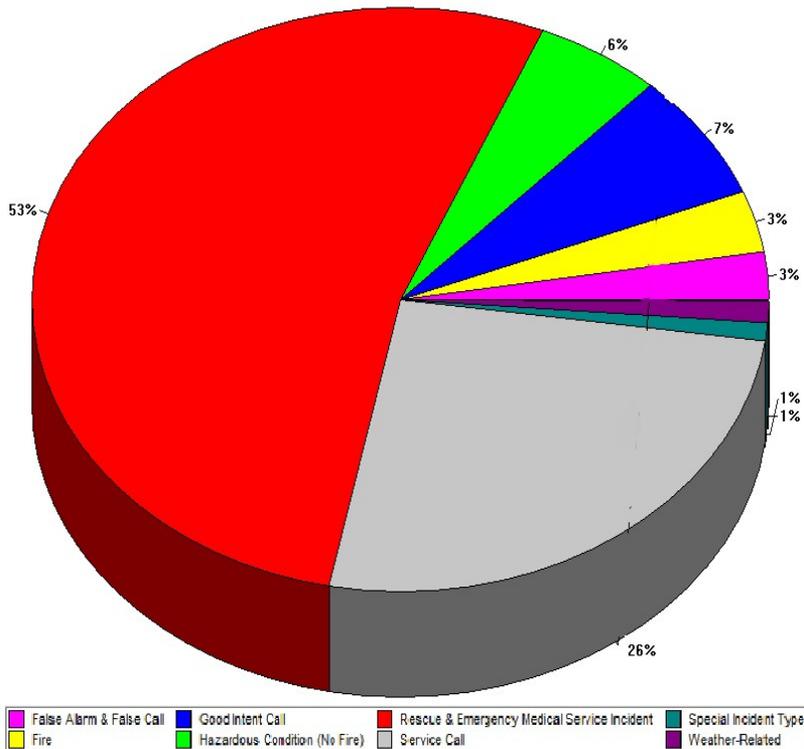
# Fire Operations



Fire operations for 2013 can be summed up in one word: adaptation. Over the course of the economic downturn, the fire department's budget has been reduced to keep pace with the City's financial ability to sustain it. This has required personnel to adapt not only to conducting operations in a different manner but undertaking work that has traditionally not been done by the department.

Historically, this department has always stepped up to challenges it has faced and 2013 was no different. With the elimination of the assistant fire chief's position, we have had to educate other fire officers to fulfill the responsibilities of that position. Additional education such as fire investigation and certified fire inspector needed to be obtained by our personnel to fill the voids in staffing. These extra tasks taken on coupled with the record setting call volume for 2013 (*1,607 calls for service*) challenged the department's resources.

Incident Type Summary  
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}



The department responds to many different types of incidents. Most are handled with on-duty personnel, but some incidents require additional resources to mitigate the emergency. During these times, a call back system that has been in place for many years utilizing off duty career personnel as well as our paid on-call staff, assists with larger incidents and to cover multiple calls for service. Available call back personnel respond either to the scene or to the station depending on their assigned districts. This system ensures that support is on the scene of the current emergency and adequate coverage is at the station for handling additional calls for service.

It has become more important to adapt the past fire service model of reactive response to an all hazards approach of prevention and community risk reduction. Personnel realize that their jobs involve more than just fire and EMS response. They have all been instrumental in adapting and forcing the evolution of a service that not only provides an effective response, but also looks at ways to prevent death and injury no matter what the hazard. Successful efforts that include fire inspections and safety education are evidence of this department's ability and commitment of our personnel to provide economical and value-added services to our community.

# Police Operations

## Michigan Office of Highway Safety Traffic Enforcement Grants

The Marysville Police Department has always taken a proactive stance on aggressive traffic enforcement to save lives and to keep its citizens safe. Since 2000 the department has been involved in a federal program through the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning to enhance drunk driving enforcement, underage drinking violations and seatbelt enforcement.

Our police department, along with other local departments, schedule special details at certain times of the year to deter alcohol-related traffic violations. Several times during the summer months enforcement areas are set up to enforce seatbelt violations. Through the years a need has arose to combat these violations for the safety of those on our highways. In 1999 in Michigan, there were 484 alcohol-related traffic deaths. In the years that followed, due to the extra enforcement. that number has dropped. In the State of Michigan for the year 2012, there were 260 alcohol-related deaths. It was also observed that Michigan was the first state east of the Mississippi to have a seatbelt usage rate above 90% for all drivers.



The Marysville Police Department has always taken pride in providing safe streets for its residents and visitors. In 2013, officers continued to take a proactive stance against alcohol related traffic violations and accidents. Being involved with the Office of Highway Safety Planning and the federal government has made the job easier and more viable.

## Police Bicycle Patrol

The Marysville bicycle patrol unit was started in the summer of 2000 with the purchase of two bikes by the Marysville Lions Club. The unit started with one Sergeant and three officers. Then in 2001 four more officers were added to the unit. Everyone had to pass a week long bike patrol class before being certified to join the unit. Four of the members took advanced bicycle patrol training.

The maneuverability of a bike unit makes them one of the best tools for large outdoor community events. The bike allows the fastest response to any area which results in the bike teams having the most arrests during the event. Bike patrols are utilized at Marysville Days, Devils Night, and Halloween. The bike patrol team also assists other local departments with large community events.



Bicycle patrol is also used to patrol our neighborhoods. Bike patrol gives officers the ability to patrol larger areas faster than on foot. It provides an excellent public relations resource by giving our citizens the opportunity to talk to officers face to face about concerns they have or just getting to know their police officers.

Bicycles are also effective crime-fighting tools. The bikes are nearly silent in operation and many criminals do not realize that an approaching person on a bike is actually a police officer. Furthermore, if the criminal attempts to flee on foot, the riding police officer has a speed advantage while able to quickly dismount if necessary. Finally, the bike itself is a very low maintenance and low cost tool that can provide some of the best service to the City of Marysville.

# Special Operations

In its daily fight against various types of crime, law enforcement agencies must use every advantage they have. One of those advantages is the use of a highly trained Special Weapons and Tactics team to handle special threat incidents. Special threat incidents are generally outside the training scope of the regular patrol personnel. In 2011, the Port Huron Police Department expanded its operation by bringing on a member from the Marysville Police Department. The goal of the Special Response Team is to provide protection and safety to innocent civilians and police personnel, while reducing the possibility of injuries or death at high risk incidents.

The Special Response Team is comprised of 12 officers representing various ranks and positions within both departments and are supported by a Crisis Negotiations Unit and a Tactical Emergency Medical Support program. Assignment to the Special Response Team is voluntary and is an additional responsibility to their normal duties. The team is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week and can respond at a moment's notice to any of the following incidents: barricaded persons, suicidal persons, hostage incidents, searches of armed suspects, narcotic raids, high risk warrant service, dignitary protection or civil disturbance incidents.



Officers selected to the team have to attend and pass SWAT school and will then receive monthly and advanced team training. Each member must maintain their physical fitness and weapon proficiency, which is tested throughout the year.

## What is digital forensics?



Digital forensics is the collection and analysis of evidence found on computers and other forms of digital media. The goal is to locate and interpret data of evidentiary value on a form of digital media. Digital media comes in many different forms such as computers, smart phones, game systems, and GPS units just to name a few.

In today's times technology is a staple in our lives. It gives us fast and accurate communication. It also can help us locate someone we have not talked to or seen in decades. However, many people use technology for illegal reasons. Computer crimes are always on the rise and as technology becomes better and faster so do the criminals. The average loss from computer fraud is \$100,000 not to mention the stress and aggravation for the victim. Drug dealers, sexual predators, and arsonists all use computers in some form whether to communicate, track down a victim, or research flammable liquids. The key is being able to prove it or better yet stop it before it happens. Facebook and Twitter have become huge with all kinds of people including criminals. Criminals have gloated about beating somebody up and others have posted threats about burning down homes or businesses. These are just a fraction of examples as to why digital forensics is important to law enforcement.

The digital forensics lab is a valuable asset to all law enforcement agencies. We have worked computer cases for numerous law enforcement agencies such as Michigan State Police, Port Huron Police Department, Sanilac County Sheriff Department, and the Sandusky Police Department, among others. A constant issue with digital forensics is time. If a computer case is shipped to the state crime lab or another agency it could take months or years to get results. The Marysville Police Department has a track record of turning cases around in days or weeks, not months.

## Emergency Medical Service

As 2014 brings in a new year with new goals, new challenges and some new obstacles to be tackled, it also leaves behind a 2013 that saw a lot of changes, improvements and accomplishments. In a constant effort to provide the best possible medical care to the citizens we serve, we have spent the year honing our skills, updating our equipment and furthering our education.

Traditionally, have gotten busier every year, and 2013 was no exception. We had a total of 1,608 runs with 842 of them being requests for the ambulance. Of these 842 runs, the majority of them (655) were 911 calls for sick or injured people, or what we refer to as a house call. Our ambulances also responded to 60 motor vehicle accidents, five water rescues, and several other miscellaneous calls where an ambulance was needed. Our average response time to all of these 842 EMS runs last year was three minutes, 42 seconds which we take great pride in. In an attempt to grow and expand our department, we have also started responding to EMS calls in a portion of St. Clair Township where we provide medical care until Tri Hospital EMS arrives to transport the patient.

The Fire Department operates two ambulances with ten personnel who are all paramedics. There are three medics on shift per day along with the Public Safety Director, who is also a paramedic. If supplemental staffing is needed, our six off duty paramedics and our paid on call staff are utilized. Our paid on call staff gives us an additional paramedic and six basic EMTs. When we mobilize our off duty staff and our paid on call staff it is referred to as a “Call Out”. We had to “call out” a total of 299 times last year due to our limited on duty staffing and our continually increasing run volume.

In a constant effort to be proactive and provide superior care, we have continued to educate our staff on the latest techniques, procedures and equipment available. All of our medical staff attended a 16 hour Pediatric Emergencies for the Pre-hospital Provider (PEPP) class to be better prepared to handle emergencies involving children and infants. All staff members have also attended a four hour Basic Life Support, or CPR class, an eight hour Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and numerous hours of continuing education classes on various medical topics. Two of our paramedics are now certified instructors. Also, three of our paramedics are in the beginning stages of a Tactical Medic Program. This will train them to function and operate both tactically and medically with the our police department, the Drug Task Force or any other entity that has the risk of being injured performing warrant attempts, raids, etc., in the City of Marysville.



On the horizon, we continue to see our run volume increase. With the implementation of the Affordable Health Care Act, we are starting to see a national trend where more people are calling for an ambulance. However, it seems the new train of thought is to provide as much care for the patient in the home to try to reduce the number of patients actually being transported to the emergency room. This will bring new challenges and certainly more training for our EMS staff. The medical field is an ever evolving entity that continues to produce new techniques and technologies. The fire department looks forward to continuing to grow, learn, and provide our community with the very best emergency medical care.

# Emergency Management

Over the last several years, beginning with the 9/11 attacks and Hurricane Katrina, post disaster recovery has become a critical focus in the emergency management community. With devastating disasters occurring more frequently such as Hurricane Sandy, increased tornado activity, high winds and flooding, there is heightened public interest in government's ability to address recovery needs quickly and effectively.

Key members of city staff participated in the Twisted Fate 2013 Tabletop Exercise that was sponsored by the St. Clair County Homeland Security Emergency Management in collaboration with the Department of Homeland Security.

Twisted Fate provided participating municipalities with a non-attribution and no-fault learning opportunity to examine consequence management, continuity of operations planning, and critical infrastructure resilience and protection strategies. This exercise had objectives that focused on the Mission Essential Function, and reconstitution practices for each department. The formal exercise objectives examined:

1. Alert, notification, and communication.
2. Consequence management, continuity of operations, and critical infrastructure resilience.

The Twisted Fate exercise successfully provided participating departments with the opportunity to openly examine and discuss their continuity of operations plans and resilience of critical infrastructure in a time-controlled and consequence-free environment. In short, all participants demonstrated a clear focus on continuity and resilience when challenged. Significant credit should be extended to the previous planning and disaster preparedness efforts undertaken by all participating organizations. We plan on using this opportunity to review and improve upon our existing continuity and response plans to provide increased resilience and response to our citizens.

Over the Thanksgiving holiday we had the opportunity to test our internal plans when a utility contractor caused a widespread electrical outage in our city. After the immediate hazards were mitigated, staff from Water, DPS and Public Safety worked with City Administration over the holiday weekend to insure essential city services were maintained. The recovery efforts lasted many weeks where city staff worked in cooperation with the responsible private companies coordinating the repairs necessary to address our residents needs.

