



## O'Fallon Fire Protection District

111 Laura K Drive  
O'Fallon, MO 63366  
www.ofallonfire.org • 636.272.3493

 OfallonFire

## Issue Highlights

- Meet our newest firefighter/paramedics
- Learn about the next generation of emergency service

## PROUDLY SERVING:

## Upcoming Events



### Station #5 Open House

7140 South Outer Rd. 364  
Saturday, May 19 • 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.



### CPR Classes

Complimentary CPR/AED classes are available for District residents on the third Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. Non-residents may attend for \$25. Visit [ofallonfire.org](http://ofallonfire.org) for registration details.



*Pictured from left to right. Back row: Jim Frain, Chief Scott Avery, Tony Graceffa, Joe Donahue. Front row: Jamie Cronk, Dave Buck, Kelly Rector, Dr. Jim Ottomeyer, Sr. Michaleen Vomund. Not pictured: Laraine Proctor and Teri Reiter*

## The Community's Perspective

Every quarter the OFPD Citizen Planning Committee (CPC) comes together to give the leadership of the fire district insight and direction about the emergency service needs of the community and to provide feedback about long-term plans and future programs.

"These volunteers are an invaluable resource for our district. They come to us with ideas and observations from the community that we can't get anywhere else. This information drives the planning for the future of our fire district," says Chief Tom Vineyard.

This board-appointed, volunteer committee of residents and business leaders has been meeting for more than two decades. In addition to providing the district with information, committee members also receive updates on the District's financial status, short-term and long-term goals, such as fire equipment and apparatus purchases, hiring, and station renovations. This team was instrumental in developing the plan that resulted in Proposition Safety, which recently enhanced the level of service provided by the OFPD.



# O'FALLON

## FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

*Committed to protecting our community*

### ***Additional Experienced Firefighter/Paramedics Join The Team***

The O'Fallon Fire Protection District (OFPD) recently welcomed seven experienced firefighter/paramedics to its team as part of ongoing efforts to enhance emergency response services.

Proposition Safety, approved by voters in 2016, provided funding to hire an additional 12 firefighter/paramedics and implement an Advanced Life Support emergency medical response program. The additional six emergency responders are scheduled to be hired in 2019.

"We're excited to have such a great group of highly trained and incredibly capable individuals join the District," OFPD Chief Tom Vineyard says. "These new hires bring us even closer to meeting national staffing standards, and are a huge step forward to our District goal of having paramedics on every firetruck, and in turn better provide for the changing emergency service needs of our O'Fallon community."

OFPD has been hard at work developing and launching its plan to provide Advanced Life Support, which includes enhanced training, updated equipment and new medical protocols.

When the plan is fully implemented each crew will have a minimum of four firefighters per shift, which is recommended by national safety standards.

New OFPD hires include (from left to right in the photo above) Heather Gump, Cody Willis, Scott Wichern, Justin Tichy, Levi Ammons, Trey Thomure, and Jeff Woodson. All are experienced emergency responders, and many are longtime O'Fallon residents who are excited to join the team and start serving their hometown.

"O'Fallon is where I live and it has always been my goal to serve the community I live in," says Thomure, a former computer programmer. "O'Fallon

is a very progressive department, on the cutting edge of modern fire and rescue, and I'm excited to be part of a district that encourages its crew members to never be complacent and instead always be challenging ourselves to further our training and education in a field that's constantly changing."

Adds Willis: "I've wanted to be a firefighter since I was a little kid. I never even thought about an alternate job because I always knew I wanted to be a firefighter. I started with OFPD as a junior firefighter in 2011 and quickly realized I wanted to spend my career here. I live in O'Fallon and can't wait to serve my hometown community!"

**See photos from the firefighters' first few weeks with OFPD:**  
[Facebook.com/ofallonfire](https://www.facebook.com/ofallonfire)

## Meet The Board

### What does the community support of Proposition Safety mean for the District?

#### Matt Gober

Nearly 50 years ago our community made a commitment to quality fire protection services by organizing our district. This commitment



was reiterated with the support of Proposition Safety, which is taking emergency response to the next level here in O'Fallon. The plan that is now in place allows for enhanced training, the implementation of new medical programs that will save lives and facilities and equipment that will serve our community for years to come.

#### Matt Simmons

The long-range plan funded by Proposition Safety included providing an increased level of emergency medical care and additional firefighter/paramedics to serve our community. Since the community's approval we have been able to start providing advanced life support emergency medical care and staff many of our shifts with the nationally recommended four firefighters ahead of schedule. We look forward to continuing our commitment to best meet the needs of our residents and community.



#### William "Bill" Laughlin

It is an exciting time for our fire district. Our community continues to grow and change, and so does the need for quality emergency services. The support of Proposition Safety is allowing our District to meet the emergency response needs of the community now, and strategically plan for a strong future as a leading fire protection district.



The O'Fallon Fire Protection District is led by a three-member Board of Directors that is elected by the community. Board members serve six-year terms.

# The Next Generation Of Emergency

## The Foundation

When the community approved Proposition Safety in November 2016 the next generation of emergency response began in the O'Fallon Fire Protection District.

The proposal provided funding for the District to begin providing paramedic-level emergency medical care and to meet national staffing standards by hiring more firefighter/paramedics.

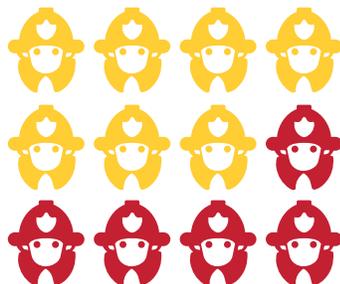
Funding from Proposition Safety and the bond issue that was approved in 2011 have provided the community with a strong fire district that:

- Is financially stable
- Has up-to-date equipment and facilities
- Is actively working toward national staffing standards to have the appropriate number of firefighter/paramedics to most effectively respond to an emergency
- Provides its first responders with the training to handle countless different fire, rescue and medical emergency situations while administering the highest level of service.

## O'Fallon Fire Protection District History



## Adequate Staffing



**7 new firefighter/paramedics hired, 6 more scheduled to be hired in 2019**

Every new firefighter/paramedic came to the District with previous experience



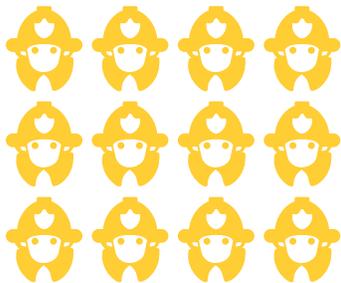
Actively working toward staffing all fire trucks with a minimum of four firefighter/paramedics to meet national standards

2018

2020

# Response 2019

## Advanced Emergency Medical Care



OFPD Paramedics have completed over **1,000 hours** of training to provide life-saving medical procedures

State-of-the-art heart monitors work with equipment at the hospital to provide instant information to doctors in the emergency room



**12** paramedics now providing care  
All **new** firefighters will also be trained paramedics

All trucks now carry advanced life support equipment and medications



## Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives

Every smoke alarm needs to be replaced every ten-years, and the batteries need to be changed every six-months.

If you need any smoke alarm assistance call us for help at 636.272.3493 before it is too late.



the District

**2011**

Community approves bond issue to update equipment and facilities



**2018**

OFPD begins providing paramedic-level emergency medical care, seven additional firefighter/paramedics hired

**1997**

All existing fire stations completed with ability to house full-time firefighters

**2016**

Community approves Proposition Safety



## Updated Equipment and Facilities



**Station #4** updates in progress  
1306 Sunview Dr.



1200 North Main St.

**Station #1 and #5** updated to accommodate minimum staffing levels



7140 South Outer Rd. 364



## District Details

From Jan. 1, 2017 until Jan. 1, 2018 OFPD provided emergency and rescue services to:

**4,811** Total Calls

**233** Fires Estimated value of buildings and equipment involved in fires \$20.3 million, estimated value of building and equipment lost in fires \$1.7 million.

**2,716** Emergency Medical Service incidents

**170** Hazardous condition situations

**221** Citizen assist occurrences

**455** Fire alarms

**15** Weather related incidents

Firefighters assisted with  
**2,662** Smoke alarms  
**130** Car safety seats

OFPD hosted at a variety of fire safety and community events for  
**6,302** Adults  
**14,522** Children

**179** Residents Received heartsaver and CPR certification through OFPD