

# Sharonville Fire Department Annual Report 2022





## New SFD Full-Time Personnel



### Lia Thomas

Lia Thomas is a born and raised Cincinnati, fresh to the fire service. Lia followed in her parent's footsteps by graduating from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor's in Public and Community Health in 2021. While in school and then during the application process for fire academies, she worked as a full-time nanny. Lia graduated from the Great Oaks Fire academy as class president in August of 2022 followed by the start of her first part-time job with the City of Sharonville as a firefighter and EMT. She is on track to continue her EMS certifications with the Cincinnati Fire Department Paramedic program in 2023. Some of Lia's passions include traveling to new places, spending time outdoors, participating in youth educational programs with her department, and anything involving her family, friends, and Pitbull, Josie Roo.

### Stuart Holliday

Stuart and his wife are originally from Illinois. He joined the Air Force in 2012 and was stationed at Wright Patterson AFB, which is what brought his family to Ohio. While enlisted, he completed the Fire Academy and Paramedic school at Sinclair Community College. Once his enlistment ended in 2018, Stuart transferred to the Air National Guard, where he continues to serve, and started his career in the fire service as a Firefighter/Paramedic with the Piqua Fire Department. In January of this year, he was offered the opportunity to lateral to the Sharonville Fire Department. Stuart and his wife reside near Arcanum, OH with their three children Colton, Carver, and Shelby. They spend as much time outdoors as possible, swimming, being on the lake, and taking care of their chickens and sheep.



### Jacob Schoch

Jacob Schoch is a resident of Liberty Twp, OH, and a graduate of Lakota East High School. He comes from a long line of firefighters including his mom, grandpa, dad, and stepdad. Jacob grew up feeling like his second home was a firehouse. While in fire school at Scarlet Oaks, he began working part-time at the City of Sharonville and Deerfield Township Fire Departments. He is currently enrolled in paramedic school at Cincinnati State and is expected to finish in August of 2023. In his free time, Jacob enjoys traveling and hiking with his girlfriend, Sydney. So far, his favorite trip has been to Mexico, mainly because of the food. Jacob is passionate about his career and looks forward to continuing to serve the citizens of Sharonville.





### **Madison Tamm**

Madison is a November 2022 graduate of the Cincinnati Fire Department (CFD) Paramedic Program. Within a month of graduating, she obtained her paramedic certification. Prior to this, Madison attended the Butler Tech Fire Academy in Hamilton, OH where she acquired her Firefighter I & II and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training. In addition, Madison is a graduate of the Ohio Dominican University located in Columbus, OH where she played collegiate soccer and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science. She is the oldest child of Scott and Lisa Tamm and has two younger sisters, Mackenzie and Emerson. She currently resides in West Chester, OH with her significant other, Brandon, and their two cats, Toby and Charlie. In her free time, Madison enjoys traveling, taking pictures, and hanging out with her friends. Madison is a lifelong resident of Ohio and is following in her father's footsteps as a civil servant for the City of Sharonville, OH; hired in as a Part-Time Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in April of 2021, and then to a Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedic in January of 2023.

### **Jeremy Smith**

Jeremy was born and raised in Cincinnati. He graduated from La Salle High School before attending fire training at Cincinnati State. He then graduated from paramedic school at Colerain Township Fire Department through Cincinnati State. Jeremy began his career in the fire service as a part-time employee at both the City of Fairfield and The City of Oxford, where he remained until hired at the City of Sharonville. Jeremy and his wife Molly live in Harrison, Ohio, and have two sons, Oliver and Easton.



## Ohio Fire Executive (OFE) Graduates



The Ohio Fire Executive (OFE) Program through the Ohio Fire and Emergency Services Foundation is an executive development program. This program is a 2.5-year program for officers with a high potential of moving into positions with greater responsibilities. During this program, students spend over 500 hours completing assignments and attending classes. Some topics covered throughout the program are Budgeting and Finance, Community Leadership, Conflict Management, HR Practices, Leadership Communication, Leading and Managing Change, Organizational Evaluation, Policy Development Research Utilization, and Strategic Planning. The knowledge, skills, and networking that are gained through this program has proved to be invaluable.

### **Lt. Amy Nutley**

Lt. Nutley began OFE on Nov. 11<sup>TH</sup> 2020, and graduated in November 2023. Lt. Nutley completed her applied research paper on The Reduction of Firefighter Injuries within the City of Sharonville Fire Department.

### **BC. Jayson Robertson**

BC. Robertson began OFE on Nov. 11<sup>TH</sup> 2020, and graduated in November 2023. BC. Robertson completed her applied research paper on Preparing Our Future: An Evaluation of Our Orientation Process for Full-Time Employees at the City of Sharonville Fire Department.

## Hamilton County USAR (Urban Search & Rescue) & Ohio Task Force One



**Hamilton County USAR members: Lieutenant Chris Thomas, Lieutenant Scott Holland, Lieutenant Ben Berg, Lieutenant Dan Runyan, and Firefighter/Paramedic Dan Steed**

Hamilton County Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) members continued to train bi-monthly and responded to a (fatal) Trench Collapse in Crosby Twp in June. They also assisted the City of Cincinnati for several days in September, attempting to locate an elderly gentleman in Evanston.



**Ohio Task Force One members: Lieutenant Chris Thomas and Lieutenant Scott Holland**

Sharonville Fire Department also has two employees that are members of Ohio Task Force One. Both members deployed to Eastern Kentucky for the flood in 2022. In addition to bi-monthly training, both members passed their annual water qualifications (Swim test and Boat Operations on the New River) in West Virginia in April. Passage of this test allows both members to retain their secondary specialties of Water Specialists. Both members also participated in the Bi-annual 24-hour MOBEX training in June.



## Greater Cincinnati Hazardous Materials Unit

Battalion Chief Robertson has been a Greater Cincinnati Hazmat Team member since 2012. In 2016, he was placed in charge of all foam-related responses and training for the team. He also teaches Class B foam application throughout the tri-state area. The GCHMU covers 16 counties throughout southern Ohio, northern Kentucky, and eastern Indiana. Its members responded to various incidents involving hazardous materials, including Industrial spills, Simi tanker rollovers, Railcar Leaks, Large scale Class B fires, and many more.



### HAZMAT Response Vehicles:

Hazmat 300-Primary Response Unit

Hazmat 301 – Analytical Response Unit

Hazmat 302 – Secondary Response Unit

Hazmat 305 – Absorbent Trailer

Foam 301 – AR-AFFF Foam

Command 400 – Incident

Command/Communications Van

Hazmat 300-02, 300-03 – Duty Officer Trucks



## Special Weapons and Tactics Team



Sharonville Fire Department's Lieutenant Dan Runyan is a medic on the Hamilton County Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT). Dan spent over 150 hours training with the team throughout 2022. In August, the SWAT team responded to a barricaded subject who shot a family member and shot at police. Dan, along with others from the medical team who are firefighters, placed a ladder to a second-story window, successfully evacuating the shooter's father from an adjacent room. There was a tragic ending to the incident. However, the level of training and professionalism resulted in a life saved.

May of 2022 was Dan's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a member of the Hamilton County Police Association SWAT team.



## Hamilton County Investigations Team (HCFIU)

Sharonville Fire Department's Battalion Chief Chris Ellis is a current member of the Hamilton County Fire Investigation Unit (HCFIU), serving as Team Captain. Chris holds the IAAI credentials of CFI, CI, ECT, FIT, and the Vehicle Fire Endorsement, as well as an ATF ADC handler. Chris also has the CFEI and CVFI through NAFI. He is a current board member of the Ohio IAAI and serves as 1st Vice-President and the training Co-Chair of the International Association of Fire Investigators.

The HCFIU responds to agencies throughout Hamilton County to assist with determining the origin and cause of fires within these jurisdictions and assisting the Sharonville Fire Department with fires within our jurisdiction. Additional Sharonville Fire Department members currently with the HCFIU are Lieutenant Tony Smith and Lieutenant Dan Runyan.



### **Sonnet 2022 Deployments:**

32 with evidence collected at 16 scenes

21 – Hamilton County

4 – Warren County

5 – Butler County

1 – Clermont County

1 – Cincinnati FD

5 – Public demonstrations

Special Recognition goes to 1-800-Board-up for the continued support of purchasing Sonnet's food and supplements and Monroe Family Pet Hospital for donating her annual health check and vaccines.

## Community Risk Reduction Division (CRR)

The overall objective of the Community Risk Reduction Division is to ensure that the residents, local businesses, and those who visit the City of Sharonville are safe. This is accomplished through fire life safety inspections, plan reviews, safety systems testing, education, and training. We aim to build and maintain relationships with our citizens and local businesses.

In 2022, our life safety inspections and the Knox Box Program continue to grow. Moving forward into 2023, we want to use a more hands-on approach with our local businesses by providing more education to assist them in developing strategic Emergency Action Plans. These plans are a comprehensive approach for our business and their employees to understand what to do during all types of emergencies. We will use this opportunity to promote life safety presentations, and fire extinguisher training and show them what an action plan should consist of. Cultivating and sustaining relationships with our residents and businesses is something the CRR Division is passionate about.

The fire department offers a Knox Box Program for our residents for various circumstances. As a result of low inventory in past years, some residents have had to go on a waitlist. In response to the shortage, Sharonville's local VFW #4369 and its members met with Chief Sunderman to discuss the Knox Box program and how it operates. They purchased 25 residential Knox Boxes for our department to distribute to our residents in their time of need. Big Thank You to our local VFW #4369.

The next step for the CRR Division is to evaluate our community risk reduction plan and continue to provide solutions for our residents and businesses. Our organization strives to not only meet the standard but exceed it related to fire prevention and life safety issues.

The CRR Division consists of our Fire Marshal (Keith Becker), EMS Coordinator (Wendy Walters), and 2 Part-time life safety inspectors (Jason Henn and Dennis Mays). This year we have overseen over 1400 life safety inspections for businesses.

### **Fire Prevention 2022 Statistics:**

<b>Annual Inspections</b>	1420	Businesses, hotels, nursing/retirement centers, schools, office complexes
<b>Re-Inspections</b>	588	
<b>Plan Review</b>	72	Life Safety Systems
<b>Knox Box Program</b>	600 Check and Updated	Business/Residential
<b>Fireworks Permits</b>	6	
<b>Total Interactions</b>	2720	This includes code consults, inspections, re-inspections, Knox Box additions, smoke detectors, plan reviews, Public Relations education/training, and life safety systems tests.

## EMS Coordinator



Within the Community, Risk Reduction Division is Sharonville Fire Department's newly appointed EMS Coordinator, Wendy Walters. She accepted the role in September 2022. This new position oversees EMS training, mandatory education, and compliance for the staff. Wendy also worked with local nursing facilities to ensure a smooth transfer of care for their residents when they call 911. She has trained several crew members to become instructors in basic life support, advanced cardiac life support, and advanced pediatric life support. Starting in January of 2023, this training will allow the new SFD instructors to train their fellow crew members "in-house" as opposed to by an outside source. Wendy also initiated the Stop the Bleed program within the department. This will allow fire department members to bring the program to Sharonville residents and businesses. Along with Stop the Bleed, the department has continued to be

able to provide CPR and First Aid to the community. Moving into 2023, we have 19 CPR classes scheduled and will be working with Princeton Schools to bring AED and Stop the Bleed training to their faculty improvement days.

As part of the nursing role of the EMS Coordinator, Wendy has worked with the seniors of Sharonville. She has regularly attended the senior meetings each Monday, providing blood pressure checks and any needed resources. She also brought Smart911 to the attention of the residents and assisted the Fire Marshal with the Knox Box Program. Another responsibility of the nurse is to provide follow-up with any patients the crews encounter that may need assistance. This could include working cooperatively with resources such as Meals on Wheels, Coalition on Aging, Hamilton County Health Department, etc.

## Can you Take the Heat (CYTH) 2022



CYTH is an annual program for young women who want to see what it's like to be a firefighter. This is a one-day class taught by all female firefighters. During the day, the participants get to interact with female firefighters, wear firefighting gear including Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), climb ground and aerial ladders, spray water from a fire hose, search for victims, learn about technical rescue, ride in a fire truck and learn first aid and CPR.

October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, marked our 4<sup>th</sup> year for this event. We had 41 participants, 31 instructors, and representation from 19 other tristate departments. Sharonville Fire Department provided four instructors this year, Lieutenant Suzanne Casteel, Erica Marion, Angela Plozay, and Lia Thomas. Our youngest participant this year was 12 years old, and the oldest participant was 21 years old. CYTH also received a letter from FEMA in 2022 acknowledging our program (pictured below). Over the four years that we have been teaching the program, several attendees have become firefighters, and many have come back to assist with teaching the program. With the support of our departments, this program is possible.



## Fight for Air Stair Climb 2022

In April of 2022, members of the Sharonville Fire Department participated in the annual Fight for Air Stair Climb at Great American Ball Park. They have participated in this event for over 10 years. The “Great American Firefighter Climb” has 1,200 steps. The climb also requires all members to wear 65+ pounds of equipment, including an air pack. This past year the climb took approximately 30 minutes to complete. 90% of the proceeds for the climb go directly to the American Lung Association to promote education, research, and advocacy.

Donations can always be made on behalf of the Sharonville Fire Department’s team by visiting the [action.lung.org](https://www.action.lung.org) website and searching “Sharonville Fire Department”.



## Run Volume 2022



EMS Volume **increased** by 3%

Fire Volume **increased** by .3%

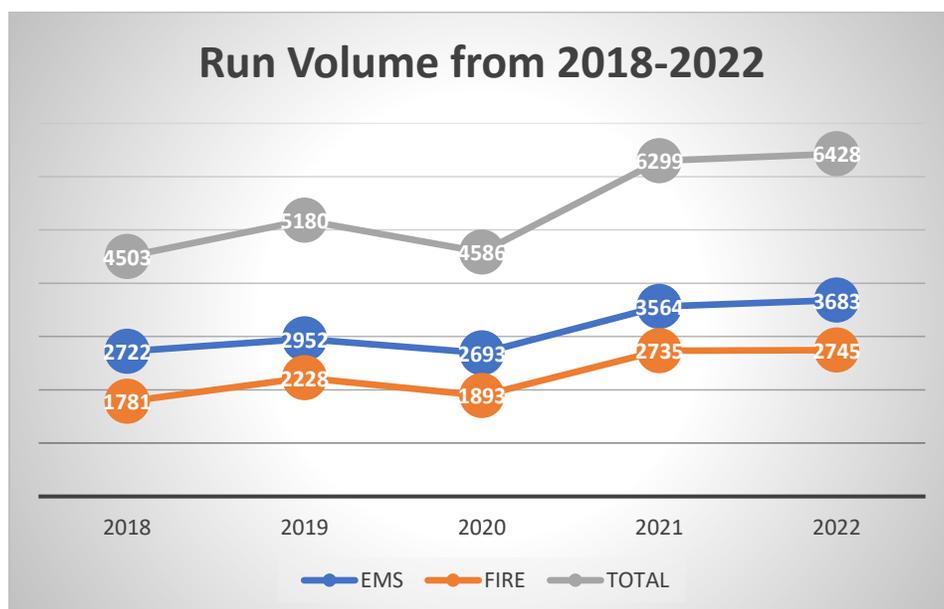
Total Volume **increased** by 2%

EMS assists account for 54% of all fire dispatches.

Other Fire calls (false alarms, flooding, wires down, rescue, auto accidents) account for 45.5% of all fire dispatches.

This was our third year in contract with The Village of Glendale to provide EMS. We made 224 runs into their territory.

**\*\*\* The totals above do not include runs onto Interstate 75, Interstate 275, or mutual aid responses. Across all 3 Stations, we made 18 runs onto Interstate 75, 33 runs onto Interstate 275, and 360 mutual aid runs. \*\*\***



# Message from the Chief

