



# NEWTON FIRE/EMS

Dedicated to a Constant Pursuit of Excellence

**2025**

**Annual Report**

## Year in Review

The past year was one of growth, investment, and continued commitment to service for the members of our Fire/EMS Department. In 2025, our personnel responded to 4,372 total incidents, with the majority of calls—84 percent—being emergency medical services, while 16 percent were fire and rescue-related responses. These numbers reflect both the evolving needs of our community and the critical role our EMS providers play every day.

### Personnel & Training

Investing in our people remained a top priority. In April, the department established a Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Specialist position, focused on public education and code enforcement efforts aimed at preventing emergencies before they occur. Additionally, a new Administrative Assistant was hired and trained, improving internal efficiency and support for frontline personnel.

The department welcomed three new hires who completed their rookie training academy in September, strengthening response capabilities. Professional development continued as two firefighter/EMTs completed paramedic school, while two other firefighter/EMTs begin paramedic school in January 2025, ensuring a strong pipeline of advanced life support providers for the future. In total, 26 members completed EMS renewal requirements during the year, underscoring the department's commitment to maintaining high clinical standards.

Training remained a cornerstone of operational readiness throughout the year. Department members completed 8,902.25 total training hours in 2025, averaging 24.38 training hours per day or 1.52 hours per firefighter per day. This included 2,321.25 hours of EMS-specific training, covering airway management, cardiovascular care, trauma, pediatrics, medical emergencies, and EMS operations. In addition, personnel completed 6,581 hours of fire training aligned with ISO standards, encompassing company-level training, leadership development, driver-operator certification, fire investigation and inspection, and extensive hands-on training at the training grounds.



Together, these efforts ensured personnel remained prepared to safely and effectively respond to a wide range of emergencies.

### Health & Wellness

In a major milestone, all department members participated in Life Scan physicals for the first time. This comprehensive program included fit for duty assessments that include fire service physicals, laboratory testing, cancer screenings, and exercise physiology exams. This initiative represents a significant step forward in protecting the long-term health and safety of our fire/EMS providers.



### Fleet, Equipment & Systems

Several major investments were made to enhance operational readiness. Tender 2 was fully specified, built, and placed into service, with multiple Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) updated to reflect its capabilities. This fire apparatus was largely funded through a federal *Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)* and was the largest AFG award received in the state. The tender replaces an aging and inadequate repurposed military truck and represents a significant enhancement to water delivery for fires in the department's rural response districts, while also serving as a backup fire engine for city responses.

The department also purchased two ambulances, including one new unit and one remount, ensuring reliable and modern EMS transport resources.

On the technology side, the department completed The National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) training and implementation, improving data accuracy and national reporting capabilities. The OneDose SOG App was also introduced, providing personnel with quick, mobile access to critical protocols and operational guidelines in the field.

### Looking Ahead

As we move forward, the department remains focused on proactive risk reduction, workforce development, and maintaining the highest standards of emergency response. The progress made in 2025 reflects the dedication of our personnel and the continued support of our community.

We are proud to serve and look forward to another year of protecting lives, property, and the well-being of those who call our community home.

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## Life Scan Wellness Provides Specialized Evaluations

For many years, Newton Fire/EMS has had a goal of providing annual firefighter physicals for all personnel. Firefighters face a wide range of health risks including cancer, cardiovascular disease, respiratory conditions, and mental health challenges. These often result from the exposure to hazardous materials, smoke, and the physical and psychological demands of the job. Additional concerns such as heat stress, hearing loss, and other job related injuries further underscore the need for specialized medical evaluations. However, because the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) physical standards differ significantly from a typical medical exam, the department was unable to find a provider capable of meeting the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) requirements.

In the summer of 2024, we discovered Life Scan Wellness, a vendor specializing in providing first responder comprehensive health and wellness physicals and fit for duty assessments. Newton Fire/EMS conducted an in depth review of Life Scan Wellness to determine how its services could support the health needs of our members.

We found that Life Scan Wellness is dedicated to early detection and prevention of health issues among public safety professionals, with a strong emphasis on both physical and mental well-being. Their services meet NFPA standards as well as the guidelines established by the Fire Service Joint Labor Management Wellness Fitness Initiative, two leading authorities on health and wellness in the fire service.



With the support of Chief Roberson and City Manager Daniela Rivas, Newton Fire/EMS contracted with Life Scan Wellness to provide comprehensive physicals and fit for duty assessments for all

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## Fire Prevention Week 2025

During Fire Prevention Week 2025, Newton Fire/EMS proudly supported the NFPA's Charge into Fire Safety education, with a strong emphasis on the safe use, charging, and storage of lithium-ion batteries. As part of this initiative, the Fire Prevention Team delivered an interactive school-based program designed as a game show to actively engage students while reinforcing critical safety messages. A total of 10 presentations were conducted, reaching 1,485 students, and covering topics such as home fire prevention, emergency preparedness, and the growing risks associated with damaged or improperly used lithium-ion batteries. This innovative approach helped make fire safety education both memorable and effective for our community's youth.



## NFD 15th Annual Retiree Lunch



Newton Fire/EMS hosted the 15th annual Retiree Luncheon at station 3 on October 10th. It was a tough year for our retirees with the passing of Captain Bob Hiebert, Battalion Chief Stephen Brackeen, and Captain Wayne Porter. Given the heartache, this was an opportunity for retirees to share memories from the past. Current Newton Fire/EMS members also had an opportunity to meet retirees and listen to stories from the past. This year's meal was prepared and served by current members and included fried tacos, Mexican rice, refried beans, chips, and salsa.

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## Tender 2 Push Ceremony

Newton Fire/EMS members held a ceremony to place new Tender 2 into service by pushing it into the station. This apparatus has a 2000 gallon water tank and a 1250 gpm pump allowing its use for both structural firefighting and water tender operations.



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echocardiogram and ultrasound imaging of all major organs to identify potential abnormalities. The fit for duty portion of the assessment included a cardiac treadmill stress test with EKG, pulmonary function testing, and additional strength and fitness evaluations.

“Having Life Scan Wellness provide such a thorough health and wellness assessment is a tremendous benefit to our members,” said Deputy Chief Lehman. Early detection plays a critical role in reducing the serious health risks associated with firefighting. “Hopefully our members gained valuable insight into their own health and wellness,” he added. Newton Fire/EMS members are already scheduled for annual physicals in January of 2026.

## New Hires for 2025



Firefighter/EMT Dalton Beckett is a new member of Newton Fire/EMS, joining in September. He has completed his rookie training academy and has been assigned to A-shift.



Firefighter/EMT Mason Pfannenstiel joined the Newton Fire/EMS in September. He has completed his rookie training academy and has been assigned to B-shift.



Firefighter/EMT Will Rogers became part of the Newton Fire/EMS family in September. He has completed his rookie training academy and has been assigned to C-shift.



Administrative assistant Ashley Zahn recently joined the Newton Fire/EMS family. Ashley brings a strong work ethic and a positive attitude every day.

## Promotion for 2025

Acting Officer, Jacob Lindenmeyer, received his new helmet shield on 12.2.25. Acting officers are the first promotion in the departments chain of leadership. AO Lindenmeyer has been with the Newton Fire/EMS Dept. for 7 years. He is a fire investigator, member of ERT, and part of the public education team. Congratulations Jake on your promotion.



4,372	Calls for Service
3,696	EMS Calls
676	Fire/Rescue Calls
22,399	People attending PR events
8,946	Training Hours
81	Community Service Events
17	Building Projects in Construction
35	Building Projects Completed
518	Fire Code Inspections
436	Fire Code Violations
33	Fire Investigations

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