



ROBBINSDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



WELCOME BY THE CHIEF

Hello, and welcome to the Robbinsdale Fire Department Annual Report. 2023 picked up right where the previous year left off. While meeting the emergency needs of our community continues to be the primary focus of our department, the specific services and service levels we are asked to provide are ever changing. The department responded to a total of 415 calls for service last year, and while statistically down 9.9% versus the previous year, the volume places 2023 as the second busiest year in the department's history. I am proud to say that our firefighters delivered on each and every challenge.

Training and education continue to remain at the forefront of our department. In 2023, firefighters committed to a total of 1846 hours of training. That represents an increase of 31% versus the previous year. Training tracts range from those specific to firefighters, fire officers, chief officers, and everything in between. The department was fortunate to send four firefighters to the Minnesota State Fire Officer Schools in February and March and an additional three firefighters to the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in April. Each of these opportunities help prepare our firefighters of today for leadership positions of tomorrow.

Firefighter health is an important function of a healthy department, and I am pleased to announce that we continue to make significant strides in offering appropriate work out facilities within the public safety building. The buildout of a new and expanded work out area in an unused portion of the building will give our fighters the opportunity to stay physically fit for the demanding job they love. We look forward to final completion in early 2024.

In closing, I would like to thank our firefighters, and more importantly, the families of our firefighters for the incredible support they provide for each of us. Without your support, it would be much more difficult for our firefighters to continue to deliver the commitment, dedication, and professionalism displayed to our community each time the bell sounds.

Sincerely,

Guy P. Dorholt

Fire Chief

The leadership staff on the Fire Department includes:

- Fire Chief — Guy P. Dorholt
- Assistant Fire Chief — Mike Powell
- Fire Captains — Tom Robertus and Brent Nelson
- Fire Lieutenants — Darren Olson, Karsten Nelson, and Ciaran Murtagh
- Fire Marshal — Greg Bodin

These officers guide the members of the Fire Department during calls for emergency service, weekly training drills, and monthly work details and administrative meetings. In total, the Fire Department is a team of 30 paid on-call members.

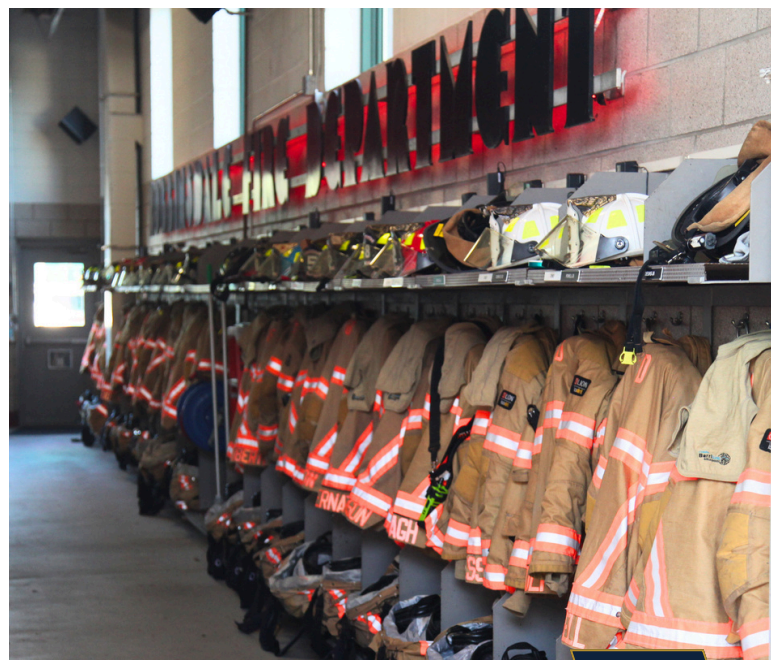
Types of calls received by the Fire Department include:

- Structure Fires
- Grass Fires
- Vehicle Fires
- Crash Extrication
- Hazardous Material Spills
- Fire Alarms
- Carbon Monoxide Alarms
- Emergency Medical Services
- Mutual Aid to other communities
- Natural Gas Smells
- Smoke Smells
- Water Emergencies
- Other Services

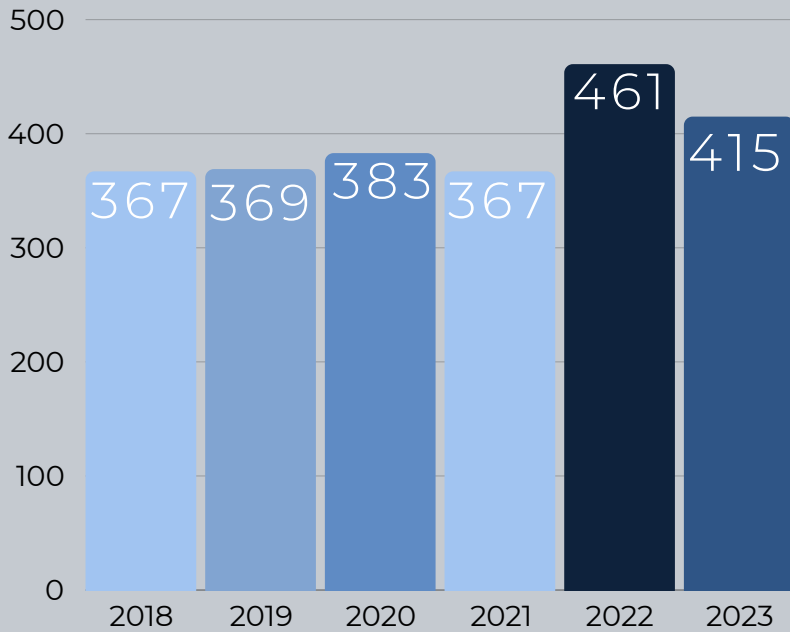
The Fire Department receives these calls for service through the Hennepin County Sheriff's Dispatch Center. The dispatch center receives emergency and non-emergency telephone calls and notifies the fire department's members through a voice paging system. Firefighters who respond to calls for Fire Services in Robbinsdale come from all different walks of life.

City Demographics

Robbinsdale, Minnesota is a city of approximately 14,000 people located next to the northwest corner of Minneapolis. Robbinsdale offers a vibrant, suburban community setting with a small-town atmosphere. Robbinsdale also offers access to natural spaces, with 14 City parks spanning across 110 acres. While fully developed since the late 1970's, the City continues to reinvent and reinvest in itself via development of retail, transit, restaurants, and housing opportunities.



CALLS FOR SERVICE

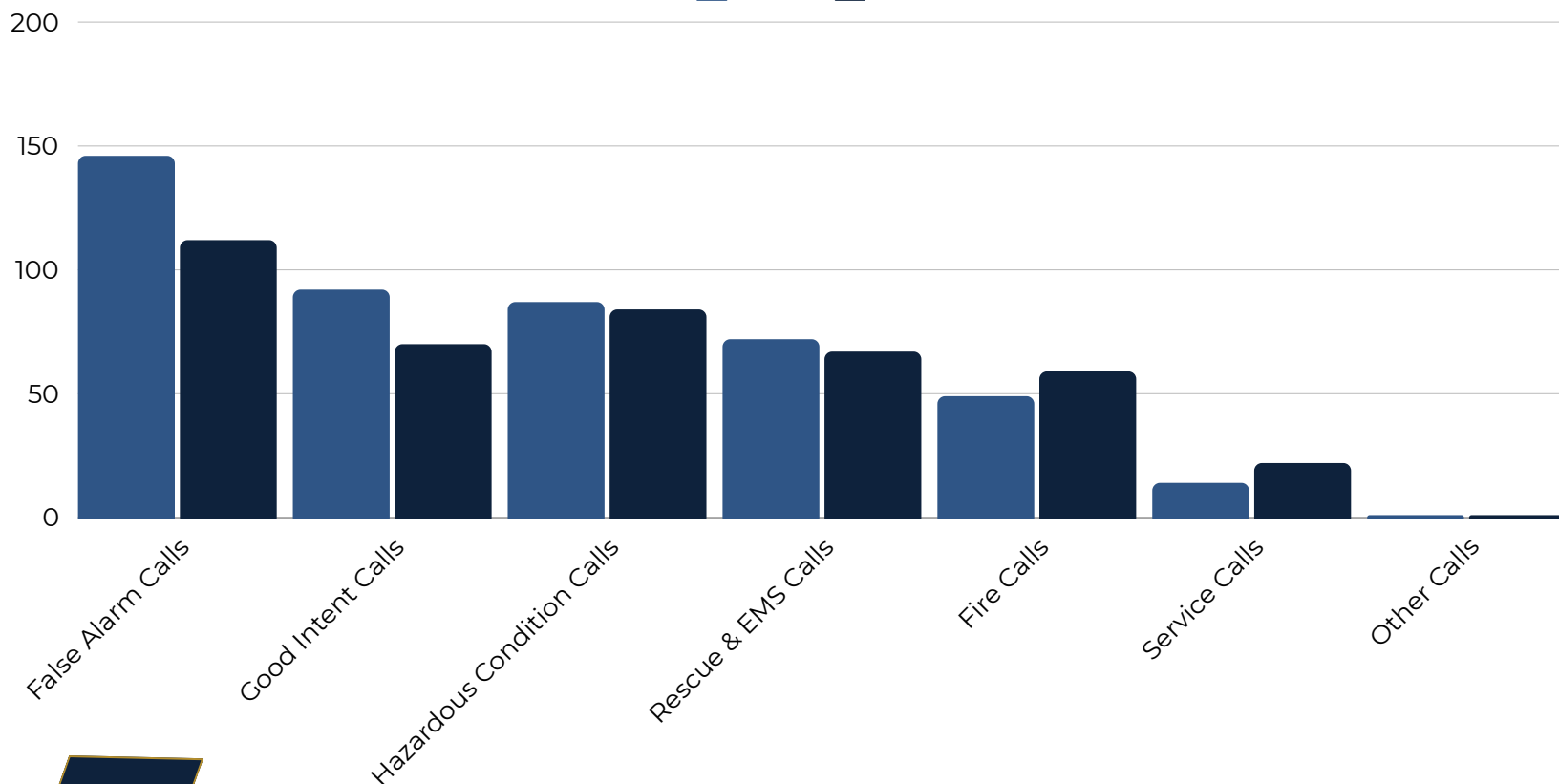


Total Calls for Service
 While 2023 showed a 10% decrease in total calls from 2022, departmental demand is still trending upwards compared to the years of 2019-2021, which averaged 371.5 calls per year across the period.

Call Type Breakdown

For the majority of categories, including False Alarm, Good Intent, Hazardous Condition, and Rescue & EMS calls, calls decreased in number from 2022-2023. Though, the department saw an increase in calls for two categories in 2023 — Fire Calls and Service Calls. Fire Calls increased from 49 to 59 calls, and Service Calls increased from 15 calls to 22 calls.

■ 2022 ■ 2023



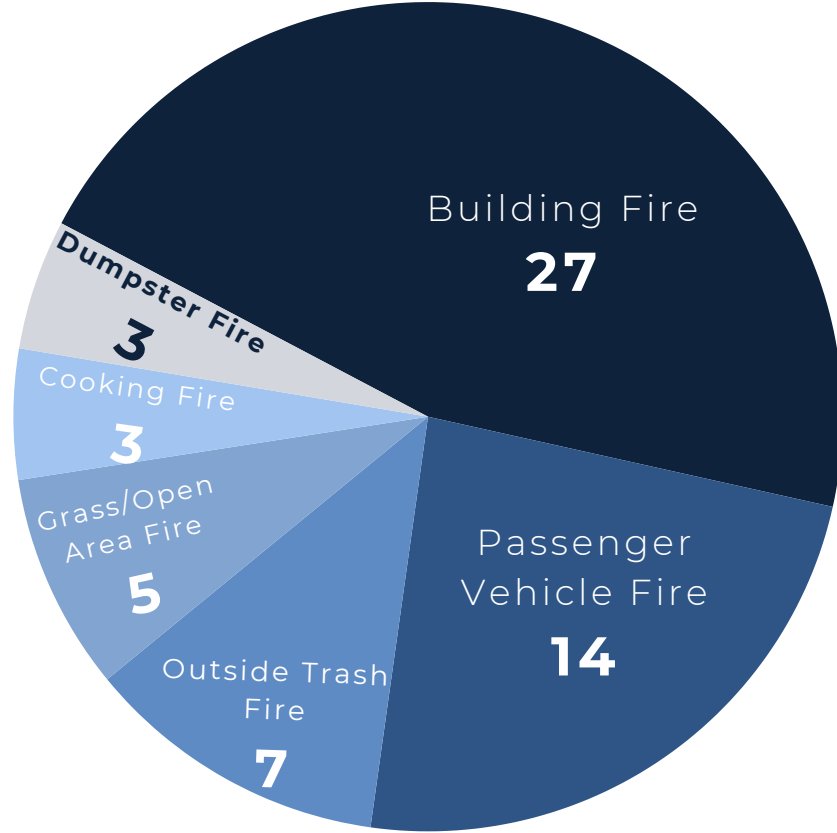
FIRE-RELATED CALLS

2023 Fire-Related Calls By Category

In 2023, there were two more building fires, six more passenger vehicle fires, three more outside trash fires, and four more grass/open area fires than in 2022. There was one less cooking fire in 2023, and the number of dumpster fires remained the same from 2022 to 2023. There were no chimney fires in 2023, while there had been one in 2022.



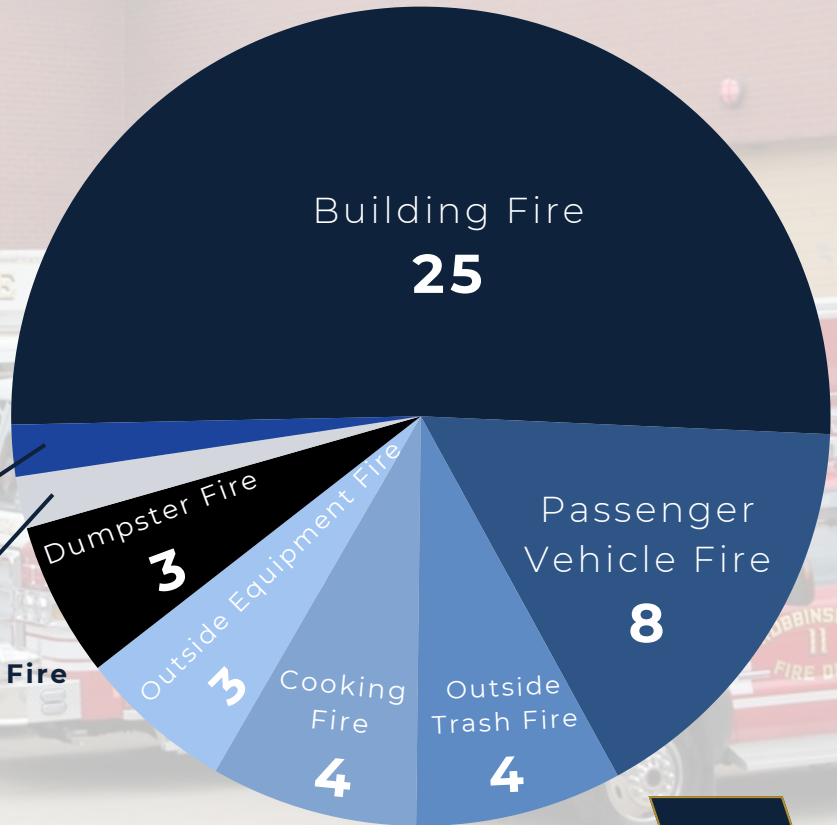
59 Total Calls



In comparison - 2022 Fire-Related Calls By Category

Overall, fire-related calls increased from 49 to 59 calls from 2022 to 2023. Fire-related calls also made up a larger percentage of total department calls, increasing from 10.5% to 14.2% of calls from 2022 to 2023.

49 Total Calls



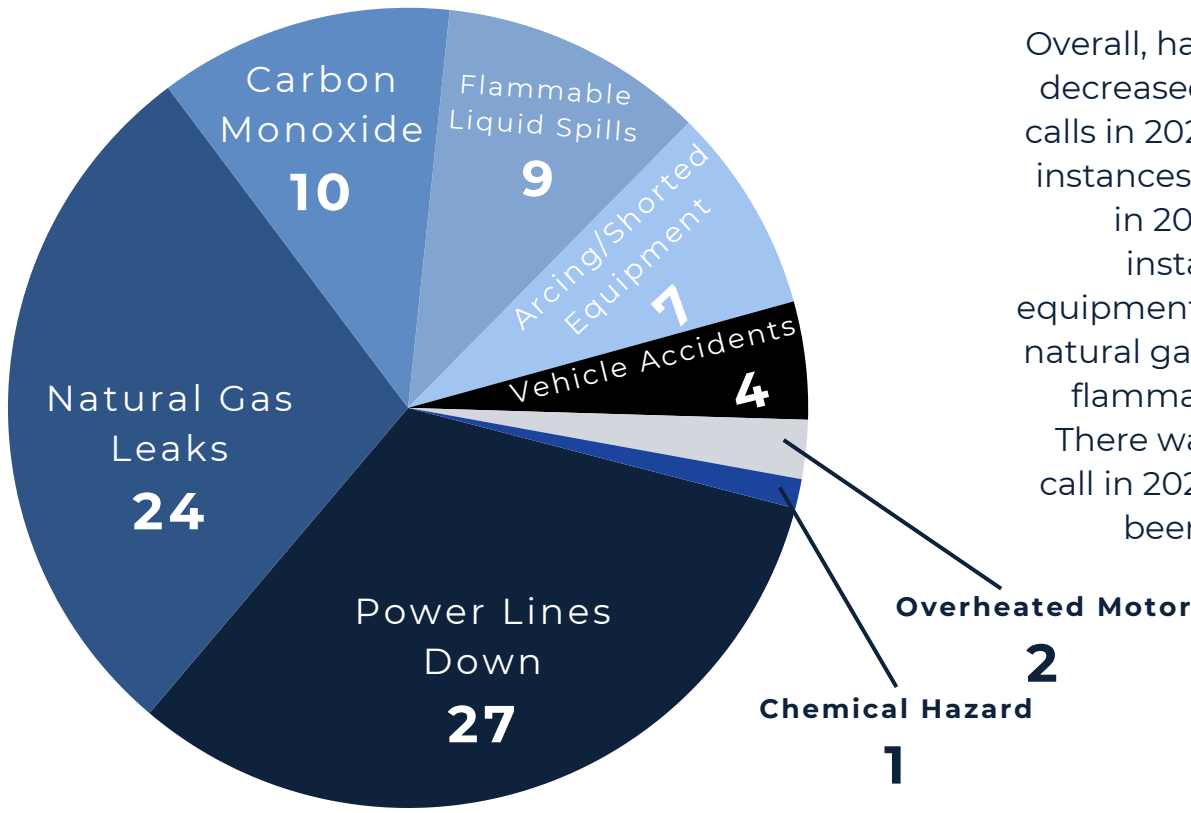
Chimney Fire

Grass/Open Area Fire

HAZARDOUS CONDITION CALLS

84 Total Calls

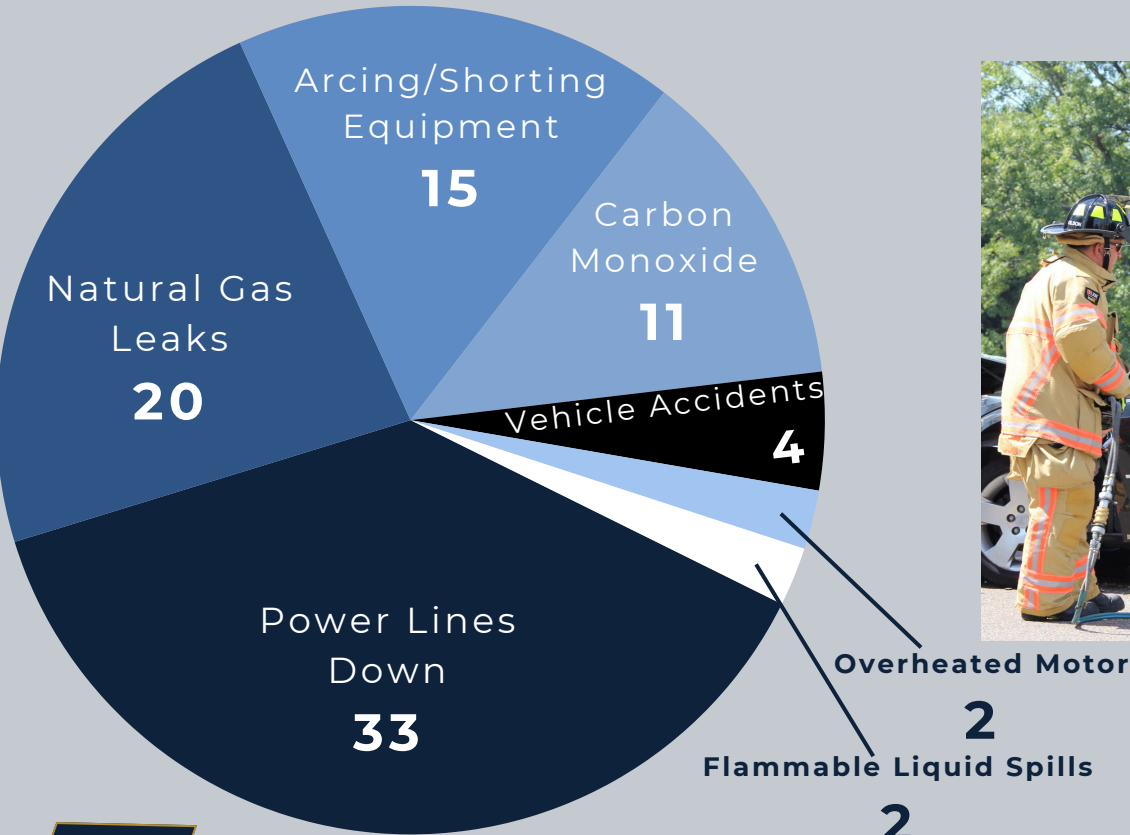
2023 Hazardous Condition Calls By Category



Overall, hazardous condition calls decreased from 87 in 2022, to 84 calls in 2023. There were six fewer instances of downed power lines in 2023, along with six fewer instances of arcing/shorted equipment. There were four more natural gas leaks and seven more flammable liquid spills in 2023. There was one chemical hazard call in 2023, where there had not been any the previous year.

87 Total Calls

In comparison - 2022 Hazardous Condition Calls By Category



Training

A total of 35 Monday night drills, equaling 70 hours per firefighter, were scheduled and held in 2023. In addition to our Monday night drills, the department collectively took over 1,846 hours of continuing education and In-House training throughout the year.

In-House Certification

The apparatus driving and pumping process is still an integral part of our training program. The three year rotating schedule requires all members to renew their skills with designated trainers and testers. The goal of this program is to create a minimum threshold of proficiency for all members in apparatus operation.



Additional Outside Education

Many outside training classes are offered virtually or in a hybrid learning environment. Our firefighters took advantage of these opportunities to build knowledge and understanding of the tools and tactics used in our various responses.

- Two (2) firefighters attended the Duluth Fire Officers conference.
- Three (3) firefighters attended FDIC.
- Seven (7) firefighters took a Building Construction class.



Physical & mental health support

Firefighters face unique health risks while on the job including higher risk of cardiovascular events, lung disease, cancer, musculoskeletal injuries, sleep disorders, behavioral health issues, and more. To give firefighters the opportunity to stay fit in this demanding job, Robbinsdale Fire Department is building out a new and expanded work out area in the Public Safety Building.

Robbinsdale Fire Department also connects our firefighters to beneficial health resources, such as the MnFire Assistance Program (MAP). MAP provides firefighter's and their family members with 24/7 mental health care and peer counseling over the phone.

FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION



Construction Projects

Fire Marshal, Greg Bodin, is involved in all construction projects located within the city and routinely provides plan reviews, on-site construction inspections, and fire alarm and sprinkler testing.

Inspectors Brian Nygard and Matt Olson are continually working on updating the apartment complex pre-plans along with inspecting service stations, secondhand goods stores, gaming licenses, and existing buildings.

Larger construction projects Undertaken in 2023:

- The Reeve Apartments - Finals completed in 2023
- Water Treatment Plant - Finals completed in 2023
- New Water Tower - New Construction
- North Memorial Medical Center - Remodeled floors, surgery, and radiological suites



Public Safety Education Highlights

Our Annual Public Safety Open House in 2023 was a huge success. Members of the community were able to take part in or observe several fire prevention and life safety demonstrations.

During Fire Prevention week, we were a part of several elementary classroom fire safety education discussions and demonstrations. We also held fire safety education events with Scouting programs and senior facilities.



**Save the date for the
2024 Public Safety Open House!
August 10th from 11 AM - 3 PM.**

Robbinsdale Fire Department Leadership Team – 2023

Chief Officers

Guy P. Dorholt - Fire Chief Office: 763.531.1234
Email: gdorholt@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Mike Powell - Assistant Fire Chief Office: 763.531.1233
Email: mpowell@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Fire Marshal

Greg Bodin - Fire Marshal Office: 763.531.1236
Email: gbodin@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Line Officers

Tom Robertus - Captain
Email: trobertus@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Brent Nelson - Captain
Email: bnelson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Darren Olson - Lieutenant
Email: dolson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Karsten Nelson - Lieutenant
Email: knelson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Ciaran Murtagh -Lieutenant
Email: cmurtagh@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

