



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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**Princeton Fire Department**  
CITY OF PRINCETON, WV

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Phone: 304-487-5017

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# Who We Are

Princeton Fire Department (PFD) is a combination fire department: meaning we have both full-time paid personnel and a force of volunteer firefighters.

We maintain a staffing level of 13 full-time paid personnel and approximately 5-10 volunteers.

## Our Mission:

**“Princeton Fire Department exists to prevent harm and make a positive difference in our community.”**

We provide primary emergency coverage for the City of Princeton, WV and additional coverage to the surrounding communities through automatic/mutual aid agreements. This ensures the residents, businesses, and visitors to the City will receive the best service possible for this area.

We operate out of 2 fire stations with 3 engine/pumpers, 1 75-foot ladder truck, and 1 100-foot ladder/tower.

PFD holds a Class 2 Public Protection Classification rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO). Class 2 is the 2<sup>nd</sup> best rating possible which means residents and businesses in the City of Princeton may receive some of the lowest fire insurance premiums in the region. ISO compiles industry best practices and gives every fire department a rating based on how they're doing compared to those industry standards.

**As of 2022, there are only 14 fire departments in West Virginia with a Class 2 rating.**

**HONOR • COURAGE • PRIDE • COMMUNITY**

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# At a Glance

## What Happened in 2022?

2022 saw advancement toward the completion of the Fire Training Center's refurbishment. Funding for this project was made possible by equal contributions from the City of Princeton, the City of Bluefield, the Mercer County Commission, and an anonymous donor.

This facility will benefit all fire departments in Mercer County.



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2022 saw the departure of one firefighter and the addition of two new personnel. PFD is fully staffed with 13 full-time paid firefighters.

## Acquisition of New Equipment

Princeton Fire Department was fortunate to receive a USDA grant to partially fund the purchase of a new heavy duty utility truck to assist transporting PFD's Hazmat and decontamination trailers to all of Mercer County and McDowell County when requested. These trailers contain the necessary equipment to protect against hazardous materials incidents.



**Ram 2500 Crew Cab with a Decked slide-out drawer system installed in the truck bed.**

The City of Princeton and the Mercer County Commission also contributed equal funding for the purchase of 6 breathing apparatus for use on PFD's Regional Hazmat trailer and new hydraulic rescue tools. This equipment will be delivered in early 2023.



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# Calls for Emergency Service

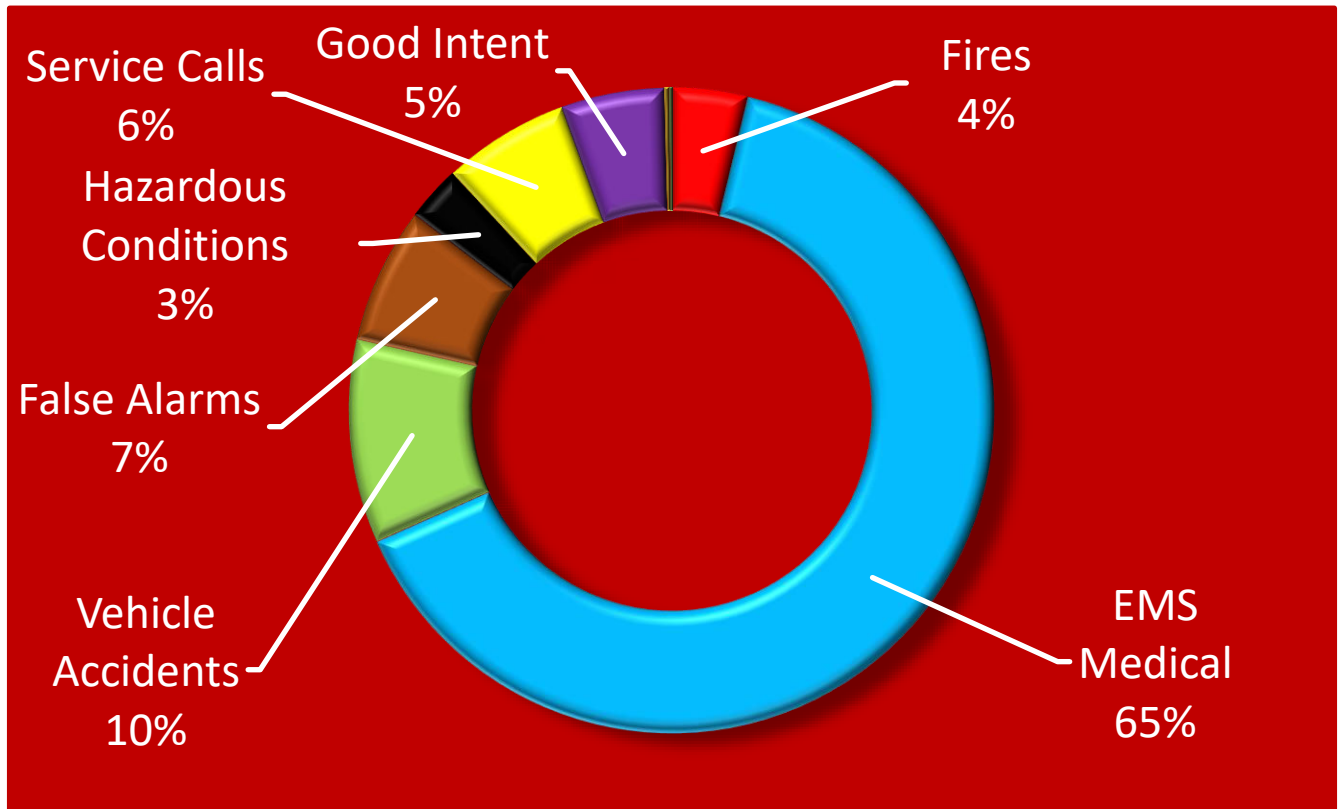
## We Do More Than Just Fight Fires

- **52 Fires**
  - These may include buildings, brush/outdoor, vehicles, and rubbish fires.
- **855 Emergency Medical Calls**
  - Everything from minor scrapes or cuts to full cardiac and respiratory arrest.
- **140 Vehicle Accidents / Rescues**
  - Anything from a minor “fender bender” up to complex technical rescues.
- **93 False Alarms**
  - Alarm system activations with no fire, malfunctions, or mischievous alarms.
- **38 Calls for Hazardous Conditions**
  - Hazardous Material incidents, electrical problems, and downed utility lines.
- **87 Service Calls**
  - Calls for a person in distress or assisting police, EMS, or other agencies.
- **71 Calls of Good Intent**
  - These can be instances when the Fire Dept is cancelled after initial dispatch, smoke scares, or outdoor fires that are legal and controlled.
- **3 Calls for Severe Weather**
- **2 Calls categorized as “Special Type”**

There were 1,373 calls for emergency service in 2022.

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## Here are the Categories of Emergency Calls



### Mutual and Automatic Aid

We provide services beyond the city limits of Princeton, WV through agreements with other local fire departments and agencies. These agreements also bring these other fire departments into the city limits to assist PFD.

**In 2022, Princeton Fire Department received aid on 2 emergencies and provided aid for 15 emergencies.**

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# Community Health and Safety

## Providing Education and Other Services to the Community

Members of PFD provided community education for CPR and First Aid certifications.

Members also received initial certifications for basic Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Rope Rescue Technician.

PFD also provided fire safety presentations throughout the community and station tours for those who wish to visit the firehouse and receive a glimpse of what a day is like for a firefighter.

2022 was the first year since the COVID-19 pandemic that we were able to enter Mercer County Schools during Fire Prevention Week. Members gave safety presentations and educational materials for the 3 schools, grades K-5 within the City.

The theme for 2022's National Fire Prevention Week was "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape."



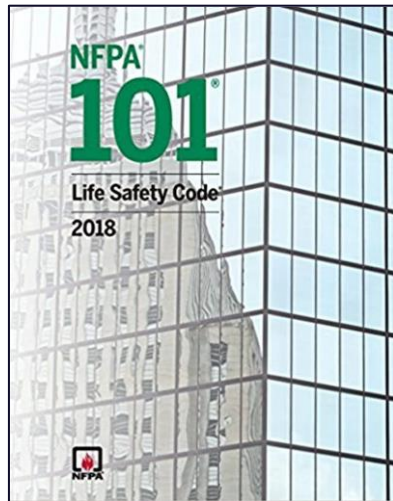
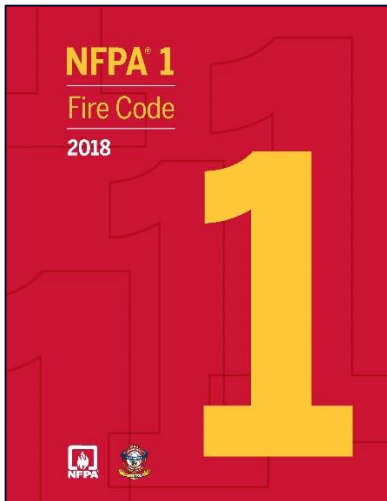
2022's theme encourages everyone to create a home escape plan in the event of an emergency. Additional information can be found at [www.fpw.org](http://www.fpw.org).

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## Fire Code Enforcement

The City of Princeton, WV has adopted the WV State Fire Code as the authority for fire prevention control of buildings and structures within the City of Princeton, WV.

This is accomplished primarily through the application of NFPA 1 – Fire Code and NFPA 101 – Life Safety Code.



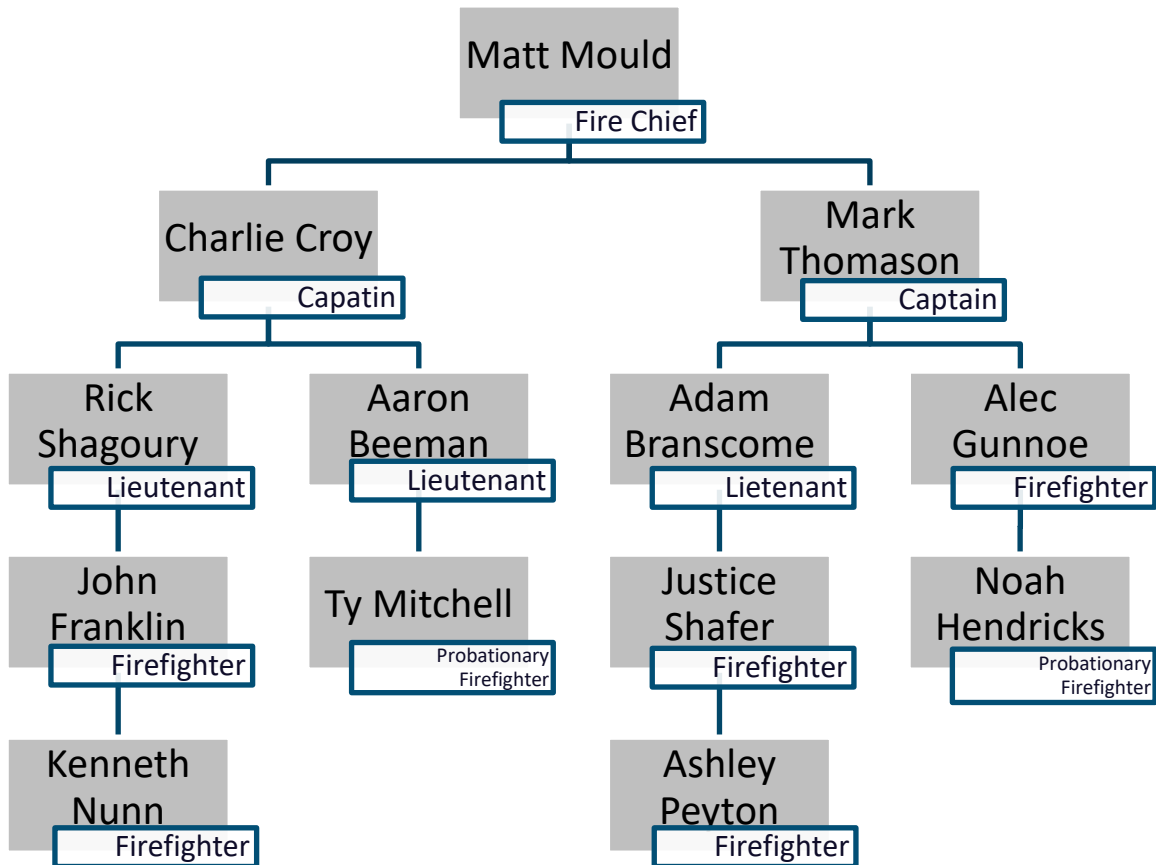
*PFD has 4 NFPA-certified Fire Inspectors*

**81 inspections were conducted by PFD fire inspectors in 2022.**



# Current Roster

## Paid Personnel



## Volunteer Personnel

PFD maintains a volunteer force of approximately 5-10 volunteer firefighters. This force is fluid and changes often.

We are always looking for those interested or willing to become volunteers!

