



FDNY SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Department's responsibilities have evolved from a heavy emphasis on fighting traditional structural fires and providing pre-hospital care, to an expanded role in handling all types of emergencies, such as hazardous materials incidents, building collapses, transportation accidents, utility-related emergencies and acts of terrorism in New York City.

Our critical responsibilities include:

- **Fires – structural and non-structural**
Traditional structural firefighting, car fires, brush fires and rescue related to these fires.
- **Medical Emergencies – natural or terrorist-induced**
With the merger of EMS into the fire service in 1996, the Department increased its response to medical emergencies, whether natural or deliberate acts, and now provides a complete package of pre-hospital care, mass-casualty trauma care, decontamination and hospital transport. The Department is also responsible for the provision and coordination of emergency medical services throughout the City.
- **Terrorist Acts – chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE)**
Homeland security issues now necessitate that FDNY members have the ability to respond to, and mitigate, all acts of terrorism--chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive. The FDNY has focused on “consequence management” through continuous training and simulation exercises.
- **Fire Prevention – inspection, education, enforcement, evacuation**
Fire Prevention activities have continued to emphasize the inspection/enforcement role, but now will include a more proactive fire safety education program for the City.
- **Fire Investigation – arson, cause/origin, intelligence, law enforcement, site safety**
The fire investigation arm of the FDNY traditionally dealt with arson investigation and the cause and origin of fires. These duties have been expanded to include law enforcement agency interaction, intelligence sharing and site safety due to the increase in terrorist threats.
- **Structural Collapse – rescue and recovery**
Enhanced training and equipment enable members to perform scene surveys, searches, high-angle and confined space rescues at life-threatening incidents involving structural collapse.
- **Transportation Incidents – land, air, rail, water**
Working in partnership with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the New York City Department of Transportation and the many subway and railroad authorities in New York City, the FDNY responds to emergencies involving all modes of transportation.



- **Utility Disruption – gas, electric, steam, water, sewer**
Utility disruptions involving gas, electric, steam, water and sewer prompt the Department to interact with many utility agencies, both public and private.
- **Hazardous Materials – incident management**
The FDNY is New York City’s lead agency at hazardous materials (haz-mat) incidents throughout the City. The Department continues to expand its hazardous materials capabilities by combining the Hazardous Materials Unit with the “Haz-Mat Group” and first responding units in a comprehensive tiered response to mitigate hazardous materials incidents of all levels. EMS provides medical decontamination, patient management and medical support for haz-mat teams. The threat of biological, chemical and radiological terrorism demands that the FDNY further expand this role for the protection of New York City.
- **Catastrophic Weather Events – hurricanes, storms, earthquakes, snow, heat**
The Department assists the community in all weather emergencies and natural disasters, including storms, floods, blizzards and heat waves. Both Fire and EMS Operations play a crucial role in these events as members protect life and property.
- **Special Event and Dignitary Protection – planning and response**
Special event protection now includes planning for and response to events, including the World Series, New Year’s Eve and United Nations functions. With the added threat of terrorism, these events take on a whole new dimension and no longer are routine.

AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

Personnel Fiscal Year 2004

- 11,098 Uniformed Firefighters and Fire Officers
- 2,756 EMTs, Paramedics and EMS Officers
- 100 Fire Marshals
- 253 Fire Inspectors
- 182 Dispatchers
- 989 Administrative Personnel (mechanics/trades, technologists, professionals, etc.)

Services Provided to New Yorkers and Visitors Fiscal Year 2003

- 892,017 Fire Apparatus Responses
- 432,969 Fires, Emergencies, Medical Incidents
- 51,145 Extinguished Fires
- 1,267,340 EMS Unit Responses (runs)
- 1,088,378 Medical Emergencies
- 6,292 Fires Investigated for Potential Arson/Cause and Origin
- 183,403 Fire Code Regulatory Inspections
- 1,834 Fire Safety Events