



FDNY SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Department's responsibilities include traditional firefighting and providing pre-hospital care, as well as handling all types of public safety emergencies, such as hazardous materials incidents, building collapses, transportation accidents, utility-related emergencies, natural disasters 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 rescues 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—arising from 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.

- **Utility Emergencies Disruption – gas, electric, steam, water, sewer**

Utility emergencies involving gas, electric, steam, water and sewer prompt the Department to interact with many utility agencies, both public and private.

- **Terrorist Acts – chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, incendiary and explosive**

Homeland security issues now necessitate that FDNY members have the ability to respond to and mitigate all acts of terrorism—chemical, biological, incendiary, 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 security**

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 security due to the increase in terrorist threats.

- **Structural Collapse – search, rescue and recovery**

Enhanced training and equipment enables all members to safely operate at building collapses. Specially trained units and units from the Special Operations Command (SOC) perform scene surveys and high-angle and confined space rescues at life-threatening incidents involving structural collapse. Enhanced training of EMS members allows delivery of ALS level care to victims injured in these incidents.



- **Hazardous Materials – incident response and planning**

The FDNY HazMat Group works with all City agencies to provide comprehensive hazardous materials response capability to the City. The Department has combined the highly specialized FDNY Hazardous Materials Company #1, which works with 12 Hazardous Materials Technician Companies, into a comprehensive “HazMat Group,” in order to respond to and mitigate hazardous materials incidents of all levels. EMS units provide medical decontamination, patient management and medical support for HazMat units. A total of 130 other fire and medical units are trained in specific missions for large hazardous materials events, including Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) attacks. These missions include rescue, detection, identification, control, medical intervention, mitigation and decontamination. The threat of biological, chemical and radiological terrorism demands that the FDNY maintain its preparedness role for the protection of New York City.

- **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 (DOT) and the many subway and railroad authorities in New York City, the FDNY responds to emergencies involving all modes of transportation.

- **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 critical role during these events by protecting 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 FY 2006 *

11,346	Uniformed Firefighters and Fire Officers
2626	EMTs, Paramedics and EMS Officers
102	Fire Marshals
241	Fire Inspectors
435	Dispatchers
462	Administrative Personnel (Technologists, Professionals, etc.)
400	Trades Persons (Mechanics, Carpenters, etc.)

Services Provided to New Yorkers and Visitors FY 2006

1,009,789	Fire Apparatus Responses
229,692	Non-Fire and Non-Medical Emergencies
50,586	Extinguished Fires
1,322,206	EMS Unit Responses
1,152,109	Medical Emergencies
6190	Fire Investigated for Potential Arson/Cause and Origin
232,237	Fire Inspections (Fire Code Regulatory and Field Force Inspections)
4027	Fire Safety Events

*** - Source: FDNY Annual Report 2006 (Covering July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006)**