



PALM BEACH GARDENS FIRE RESCUE

2025 FIRST QUARTER REPORT



Congratulations to Recruit Class 01-2024 on completing their one-year probation.

PATIENT CARE SATISFACTION RATING: 95.88%

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION DIVISION SATISFACTION RATING: N/A – NO SURVEYS SUBMITTED

CPR ATTENDEES: 916

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Division Chief Lezza and Driver Engineers McCall and Toler attended the **2025 International Fire Service Cancer Symposium** at the University of Miami, a two-day event focused on reducing cancer risks in the fire service. This symposium brings together experts from the scientific, academic, firefighting, and labor/management sectors to address the firefighter cancer epidemic. Featuring keynote speakers and in-depth discussions, the event explores why firefighters face a higher risk of cancer and identify strategies for prevention. By participating, they gained valuable insights to help implement cancer risk reduction measures within our department, further enhancing firefighter health and safety.

Assistant Chief Lamb, Administrative Chief Markle, and Division Chief Held attended the **Florida Fire & EMS Conference** at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, an event dedicated to advancing fire and EMS education. Chief Lamb completed the Public Information Officer class, strengthening the department's ability to communicate effectively during emergencies. Chiefs Markle and Held attended specialized training, acquiring knowledge on emerging fire service strategies, leadership, and operational advancements. Their participation ensures our department stays at the forefront of firefighting, emergency response, and community safety.



2025 International Fire Service Cancer Symposium



Frenchman's Creek Charities Foundation

The **Frenchman's Creek Charities Foundation** generously donated new equipment to our Technical Rescue Team (TRT), enhancing our capabilities in specialized rescue operations. This donation strengthens our department's ability to respond to complex emergencies, including confined space rescues, high-angle rescues, and structural collapses.

Our **Public Safety Training Complex** has successfully passed its **State of Florida inspection**, bringing it to full certification. This marks a significant milestone for our department, ensuring our facility meets state standards for firefighter training, safety, and operational readiness. Once certified, the tower will provide a controlled, realistic environment for advanced fire suppression, rescue, and emergency response training, further strengthening our department's preparedness and effectiveness.



13th Annual Tequesta Chili Cook-Off

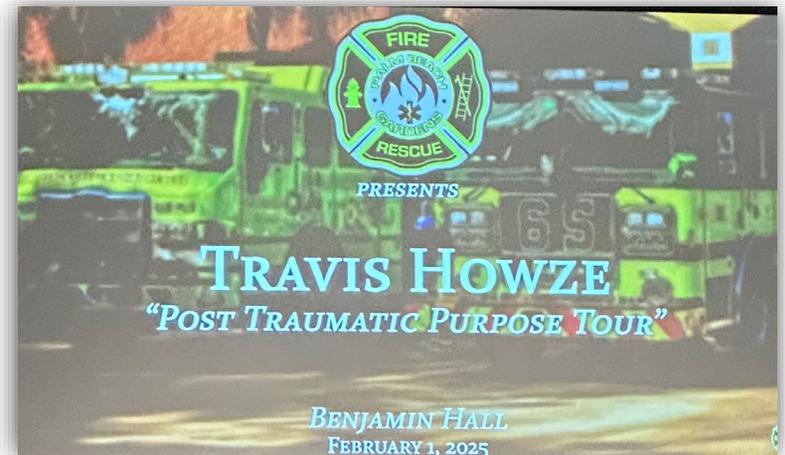
Our team earned **2nd place** in the **13th Annual Tequesta Chili Cook-Off**, a special event honoring Veterans and Gold Star Families. Featuring live music, military flyovers, and performances by pipes and drums, the competition brought together 32 teams from public safety, military, and private sectors. Judged by celebrity judges, the cook-off showcased the community’s support for our heroes while celebrating the best chili recipes.

Fire Chief Bryer presented at **The Landmark Homeowners Association**, highlighting our Technical Rescue Team and the department’s unwavering commitment to emergency response and public safety. He emphasized our 10-year streak receiving the American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline Award, recognizing our dedication to high-quality cardiac care and rapid emergency response. He also shared our Heart Safe Community designation, showcasing our proactive efforts in prevention, education, and life-saving interventions. These accomplishments reflect our department’s leadership in fire and EMS services, reinforcing community trust, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring residents receive the highest level of care.

Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Carsillo was honored by the **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)** for 25+ years of service on its technical committee. His contributions have helped shape fire safety standards, training, and emergency response, reflecting his

dedication to advancing the fire service and reinforcing our department’s commitment to excellence.

On February 1st, we hosted **Travis Howze** at The Benjamin School, where over 250 individuals attended a session focused on leadership and mental wellness. His presentation highlighted the mental health challenges faced by first responders and the significant impact on their families. Through his *Post Traumatic Purpose* program, Howze emphasized the importance of resilience and the need for comprehensive support. The event reinforced our commitment to raising awareness about mental health within both the first responder community and their families.



Travis Howze



Our department proudly participated in **Public Safety Day**, offering hands-on demonstrations and sharing essential fire and life safety information with the community. Crews engaged attendees of all ages through interactive displays and emergency apparatus tours. Residents also had the opportunity to watch our Technical Rescue Team in action, showcasing their specialized skills. The event was a great success—bringing families, first responders, and neighbors together to promote safety, preparedness, and community connection. And of course, Sparky made a special appearance!

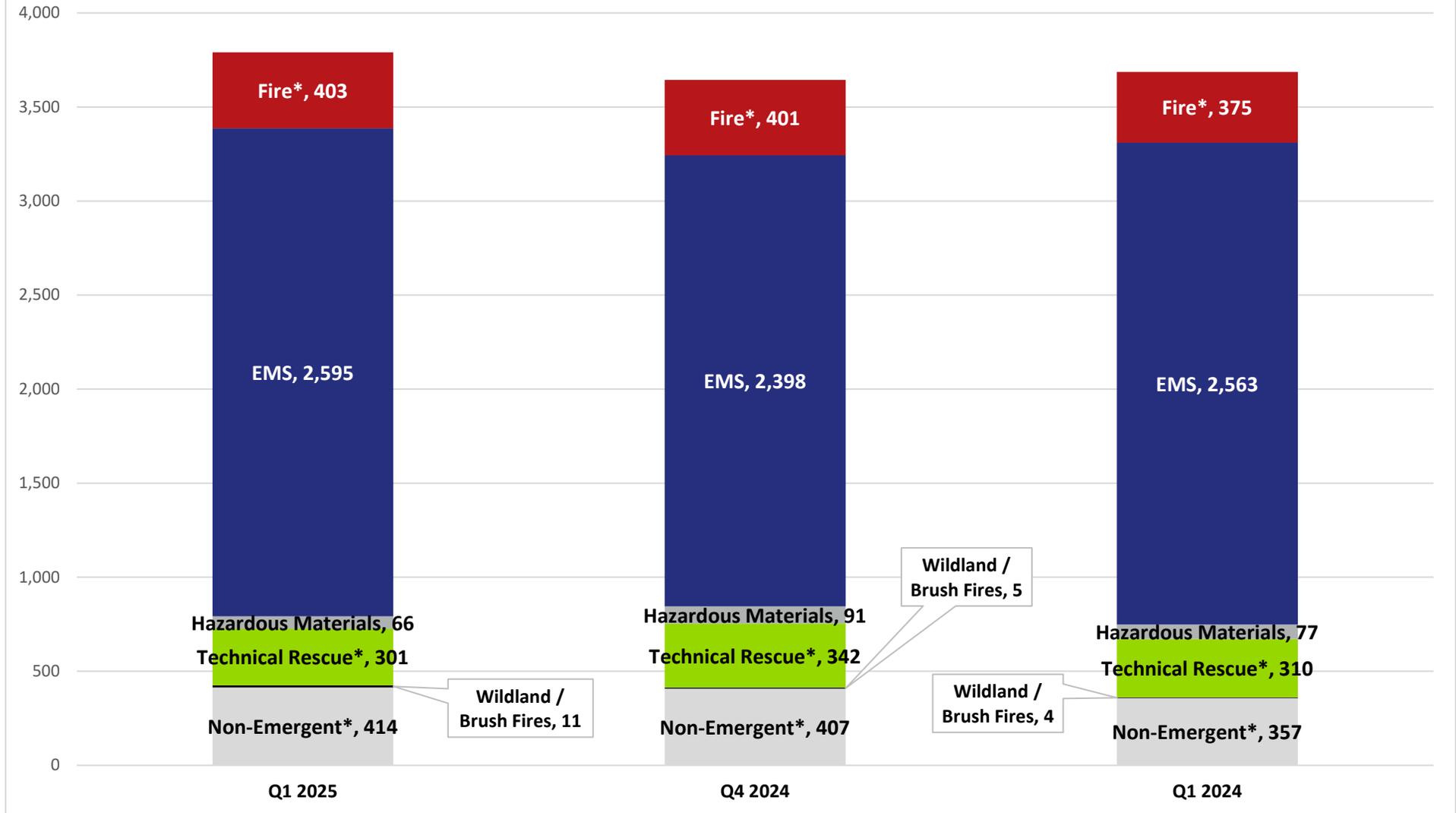


Our department was represented at the **RIT Competition** in Orlando by Rescue Lieutenants Donofrio, Rademacher, Ilarraza, Urquiza, and Firefighter Bracone. Competing against 21 teams, they placed 4th in the preliminaries, advancing to the finals, where they secured **5th place overall**—a historic first for our team.

OPERATIONS DIVISION

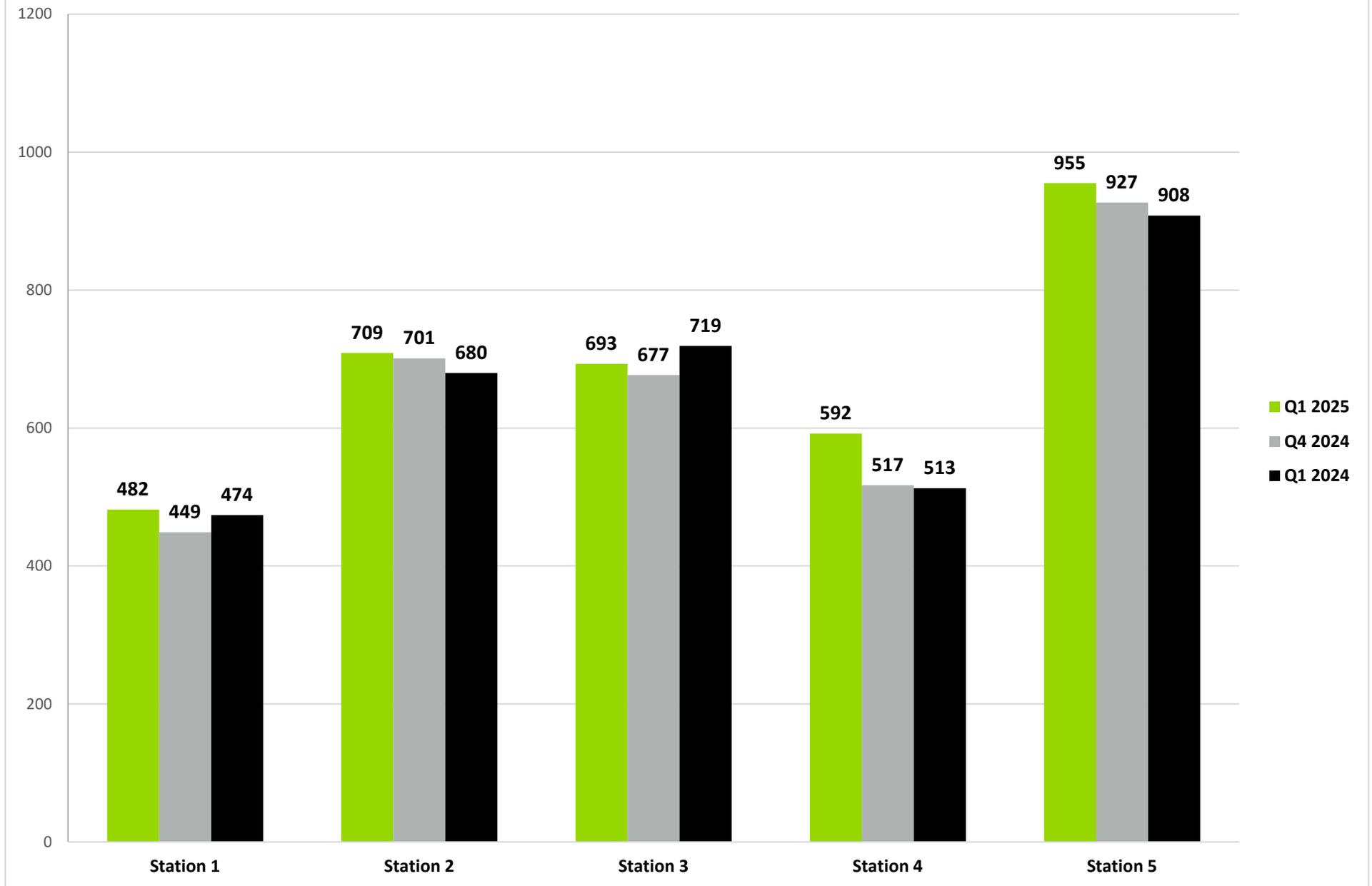
Dispatched Call Types

(may be different than the actual call type found on arrival)



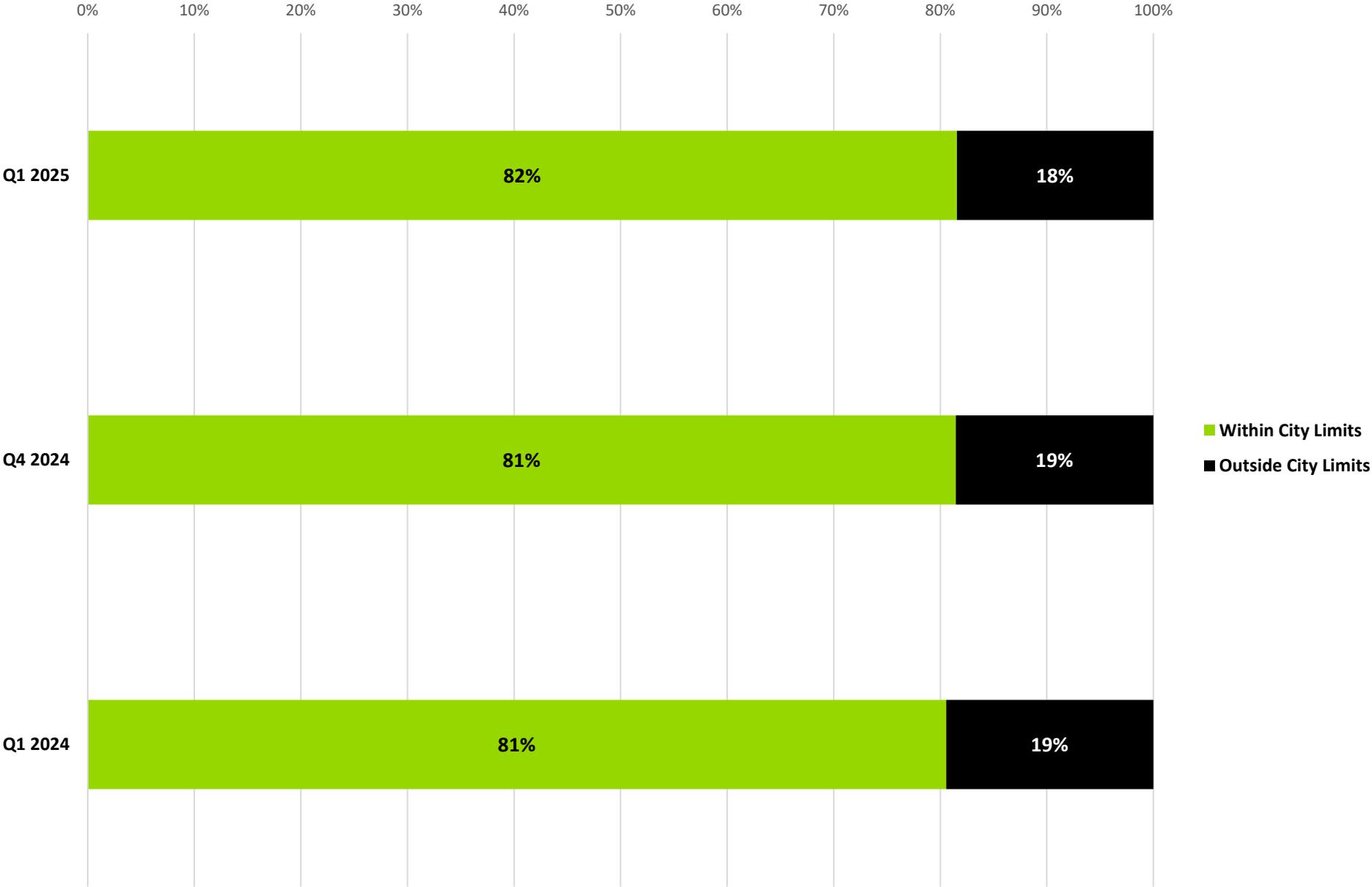
*Fire calls include responses to fire alarms. Technical rescue emergencies include car accidents, construction accidents, open water incidents, high-angle rescue, and industrial accidents. Non-emergent responses include calls such as public assists, investigations, or falls without injuries.

Total Call Volume by Station Zone

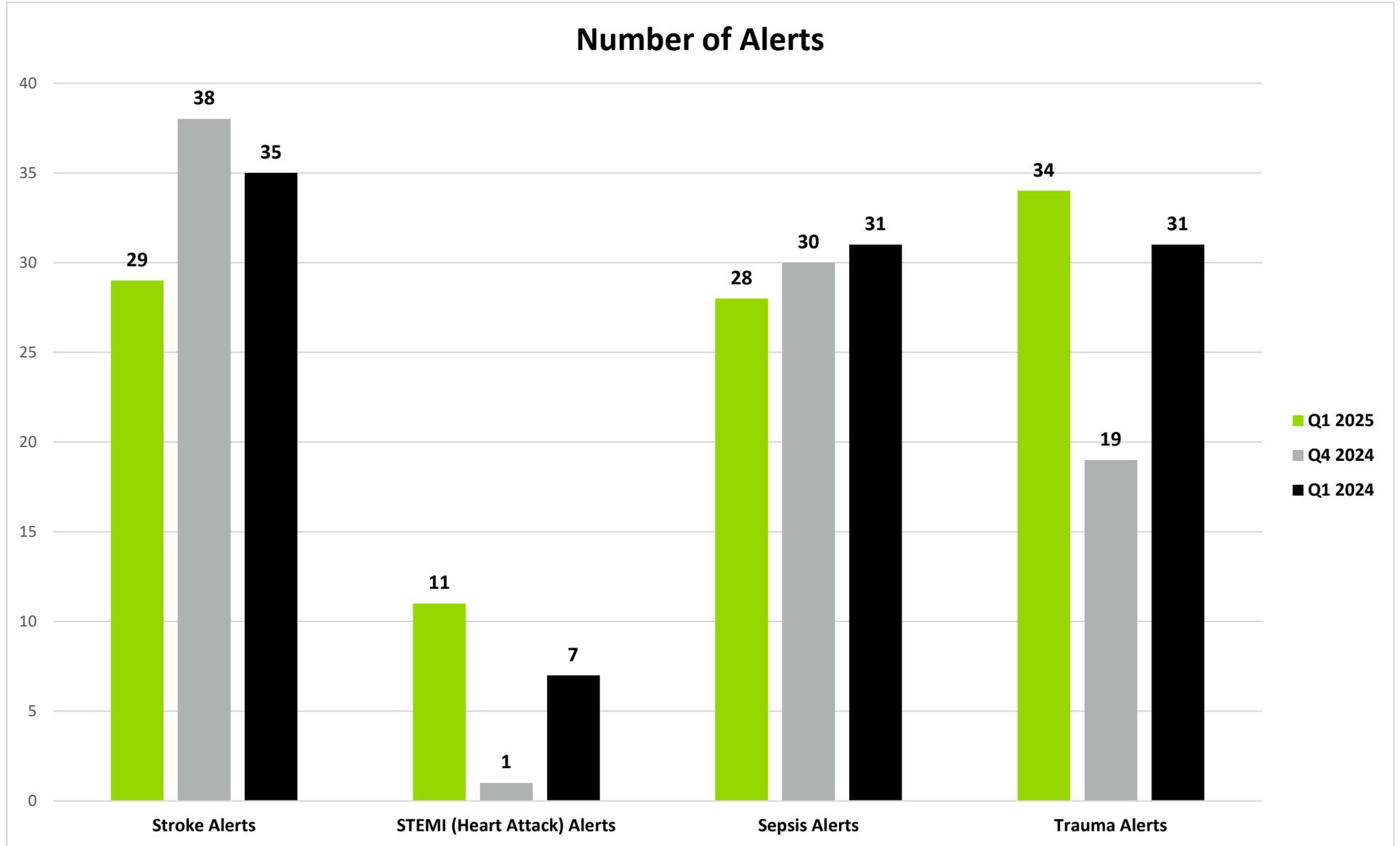


Please refer to Page 16 of our "2023 Annual Report" for a detailed list of fire station locations.

Calls Inside and Outside of City Limits

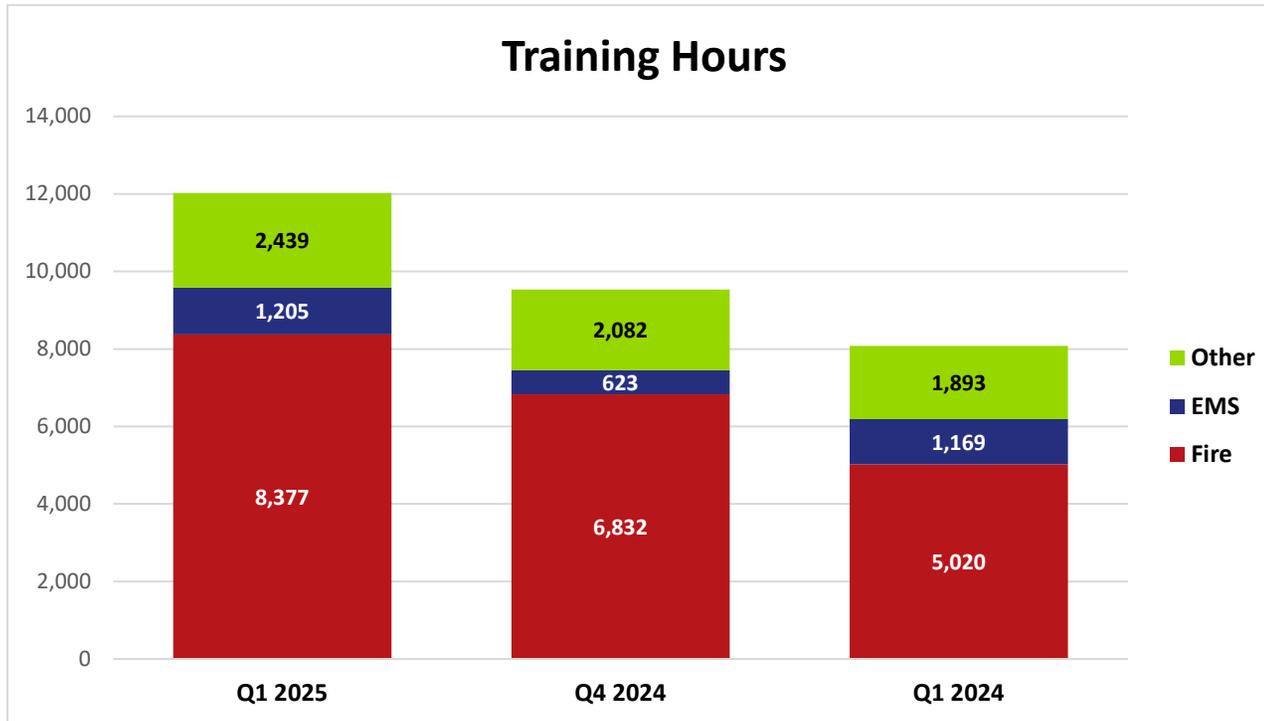


EMS DIVISION

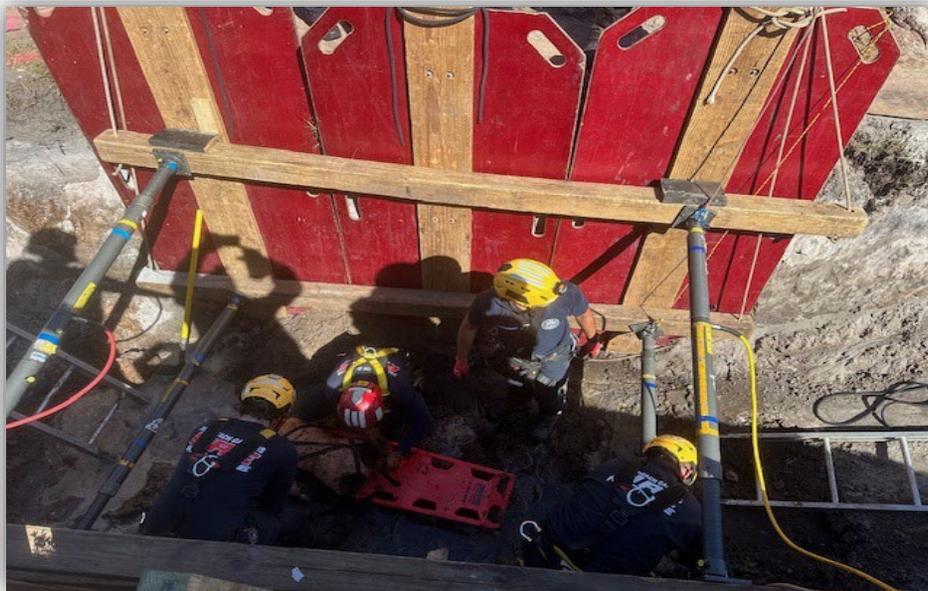
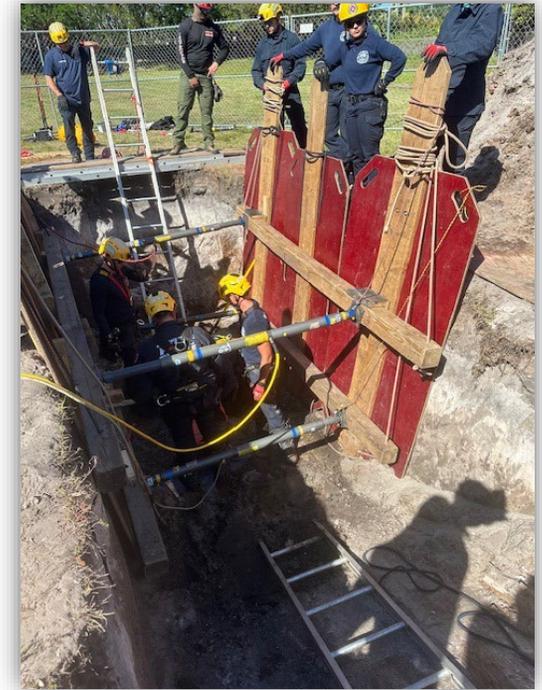


Patients that meet “alert” criteria are critically ill and require rapid transport to specialty hospitals so that they can receive the best possible care to decrease morbidity and mortality. The goal is to provide rapid stabilization and short on-scene times of ≤ 10 minutes. Hospitals are notified early so that they can prepare to receive the patient upon Fire Rescue’s arrival.

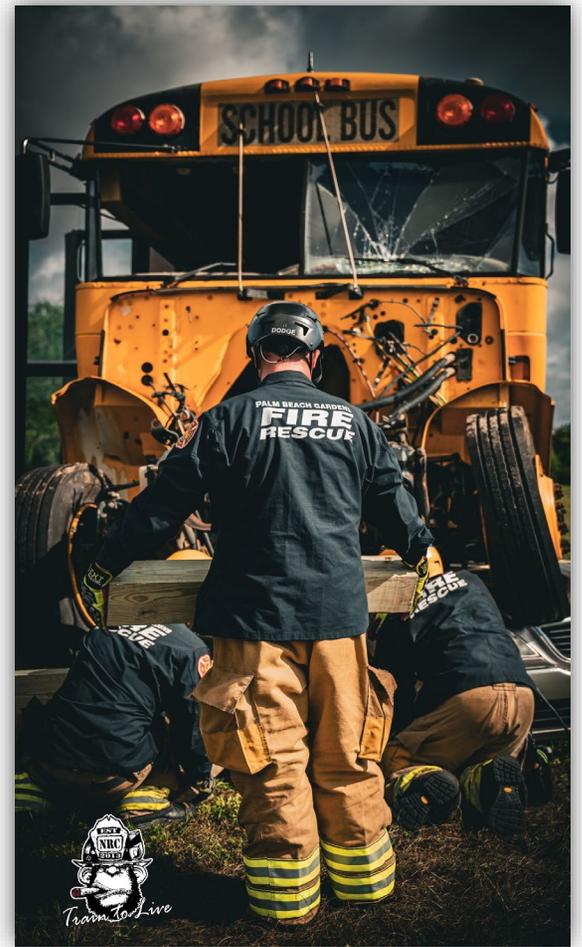
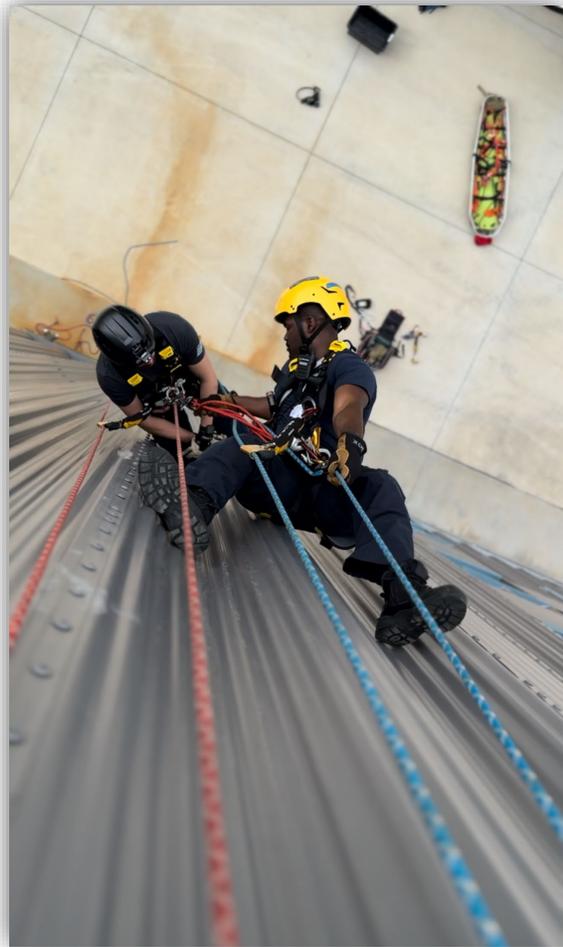
TRAINING DIVISION



- The Department participated in **Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) training** focused on RIT/RIC operations, proper MAYDAY declarations, firefighter packaging, and safe extractions from Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) environments. Composed of two or more firefighters, RIT teams are responsible for locating and rescuing firefighters who are lost, trapped, injured, or unaccounted for during emergency operations. This training prepares firefighters to respond swiftly and effectively in critical rescue situations.
- Department personnel conducted a **Hazmat Training** session to review the Emergency Response Guide (ERG) and gain hands-on experience with hazardous materials and fuel leak equipment. The session provided team members with the necessary skills and confidence to effectively respond to emergencies involving hazardous materials or fuel leaks.
- Stations 61, 63, 64, and 65 conducted **Extrication Training** at Trademark Metals Recycling, focusing on advanced vehicle rescue techniques. The hands-on sessions allowed crews to apply current tools and strategies, with a vehicle behind Station 63 to be used for the next phase: stabilization, lifting, and extrication drills for probationary firefighters.
- Station 65 conducted **brush truck training**, focusing on drafting operations with the new E65 and Brush 561 in preparation for brush fire season.
- Other training hours include activities such as 'hot wash' discussions to review significant calls, officer development academies, and daily physical training.



Our department conducted a **Trench Rescue training**, designed to simulate a real-world trench collapse. The training focused on key aspects such as proper shoring techniques, efficient victim extrication, hazard assessment, and seamless team coordination. Our crews practiced utilizing specialized rescue equipment to ensure both the safety of the victim and the rescuers, reinforcing vital skills necessary for an effective response in these high-risk situations.



Our **Technical Rescue Team** (TRT) officially went into service on January 1st, comprising 45 personnel. The team is trained to perform a variety of specialized rescue operations, including rope rescue, confined space, trench, and technical water rescues. With over 400 hours of documented training, they are equipped to respond to high-risk situations, ensuring a rapid and effective response in emergencies. This new capability strengthens the department's ability to serve the community by providing specialized expertise in complex rescue scenarios and enhancing overall emergency preparedness.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION DIVISION



Public Education at St. Mark's School



Hands-Only CPR at Gardens Branch Library

Our Community Risk Team recently teamed up with **PBGYAA** to provide CPR training for coaches, focusing on recognizing signs of cardiac arrest in young athletes and preparing them to respond effectively in an emergency.

In addition, as part of our ongoing outreach efforts, our CRRD team conducted a quarterly training session at **Arcadia Gardens**, covering essential basic first aid skills such as burn care and bleeding control techniques. These sessions are designed to ensure our community is well-prepared to handle medical emergencies with confidence.



Our team conducted an interactive safety demonstration at St. Mark's School, engaging students with essential fire safety lessons through hands-on activities and informative presentations.



During Public Safety Day, our Community Risk Reduction Team led CPR demonstrations and shared important safety education, engaging attendees of all ages with hands-on learning and life-saving skills.



Timber Trace Elementary



Marsh Point Elementary



Watson B. Duncan Middle School

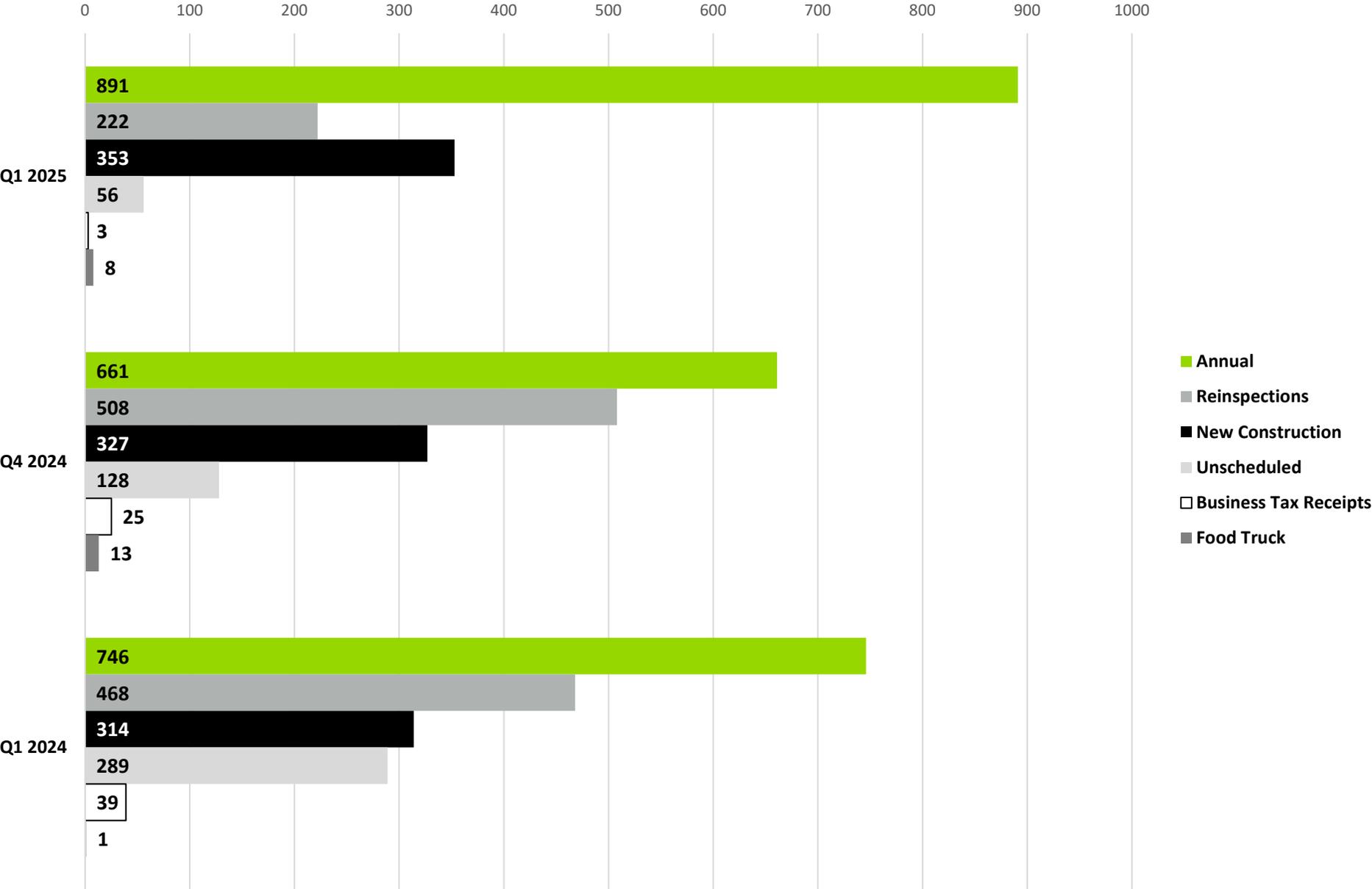
The Fire Department partnered with local schools to support their efforts in achieving the “Heart Safe School” designation through Nicklaus Children’s Hospital and **Project ADAM** (*Automated Defibrillators in Adam’s Memory*)—a national initiative committed to preventing sudden cardiac arrest in children and adolescents. Named in memory of a high school student who tragically lost his life to sudden cardiac arrest, Project ADAM focuses on equipping schools with the tools and training needed to respond quickly and effectively in a cardiac emergency.

This partnership led to several schools becoming the first in the city to receive this important certification. The initiative enhances cardiac emergency preparedness by implementing Emergency Action Plans, certifying staff in CPR, and ensuring that Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) are accessible and properly maintained.

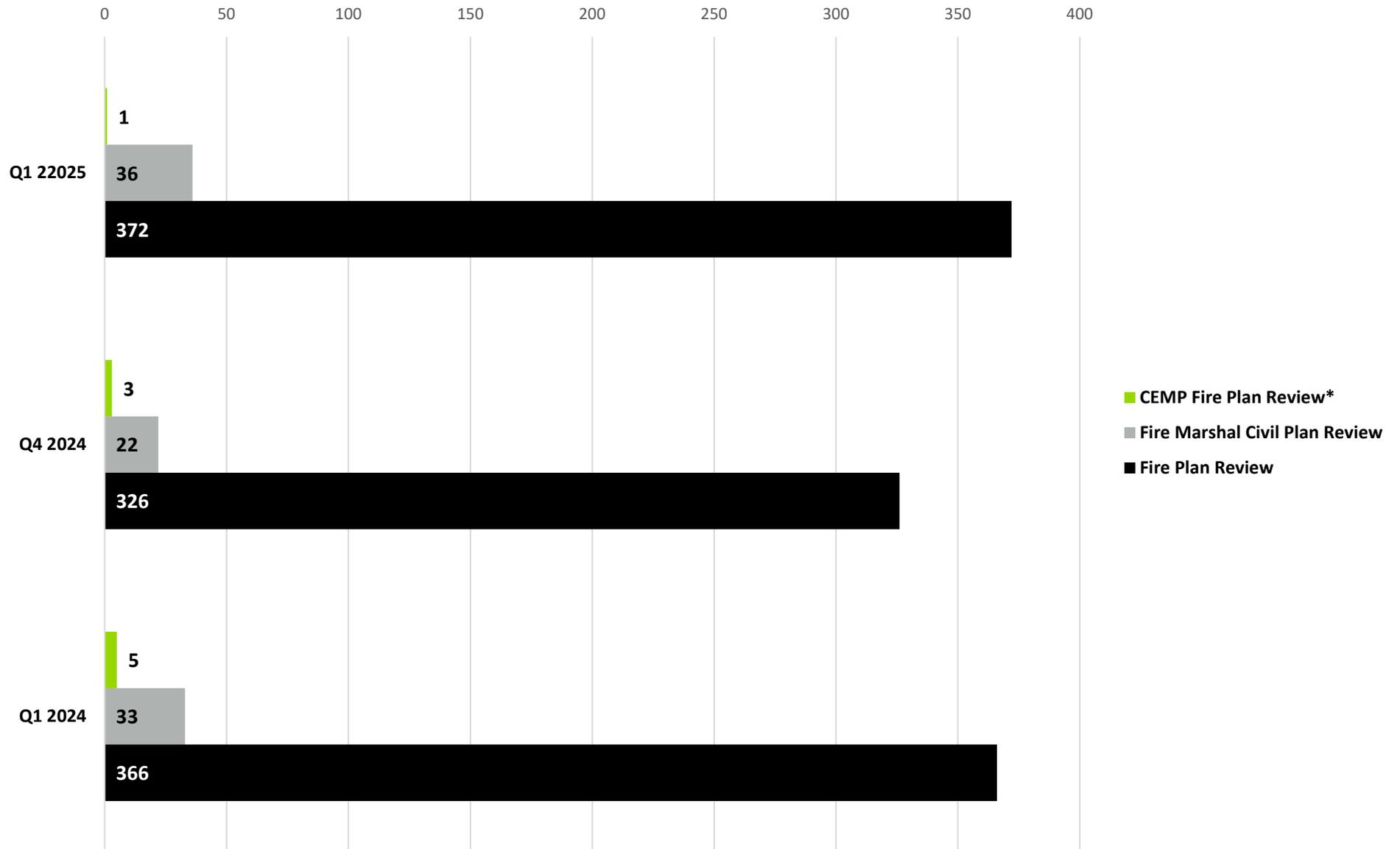
Participating schools include:

- Howell L. Watkins Middle School
- Marsh Point Elementary
- Palm Beach Gardens Elementary
- Palm Beach Gardens High School
- The Benjamin School
- Timber Trace Elementary
- Watson B. Duncan Middle School
- William T. Dwyer High School

Inspection Activities

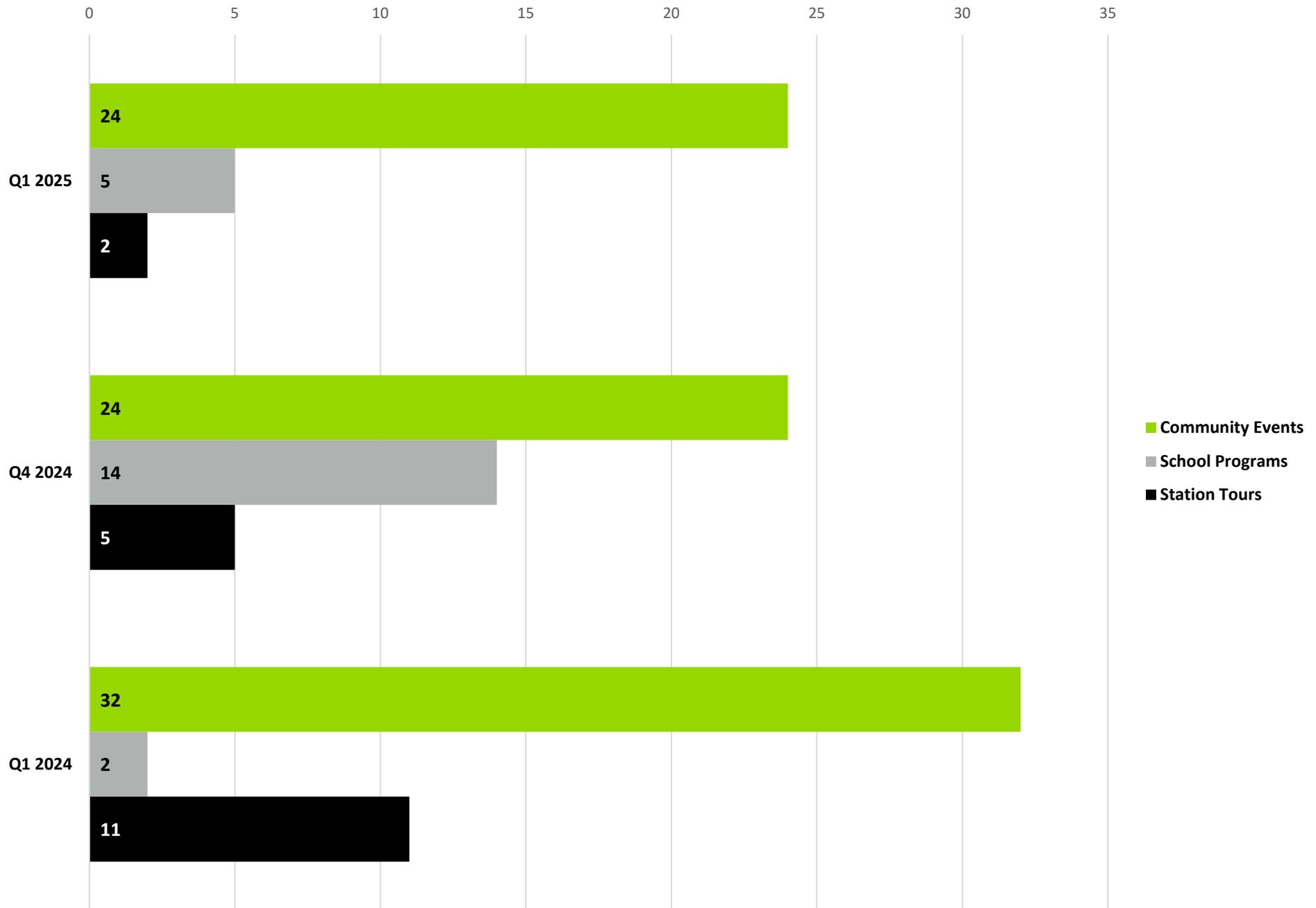


Plan Review

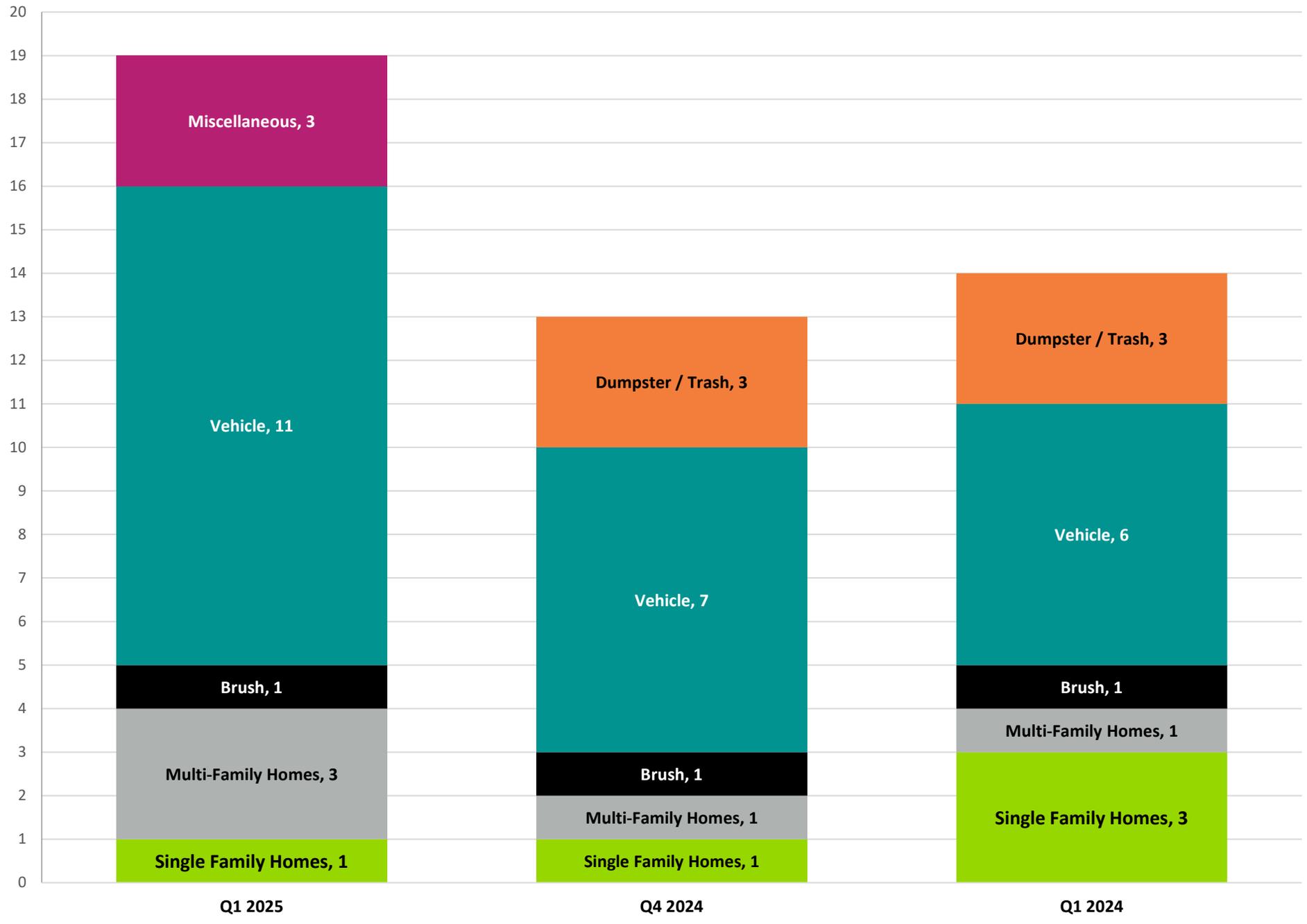


**Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans (“CEMP”) are required by all healthcare occupancies. They are designed to help mitigate any type of threat to their operations.*

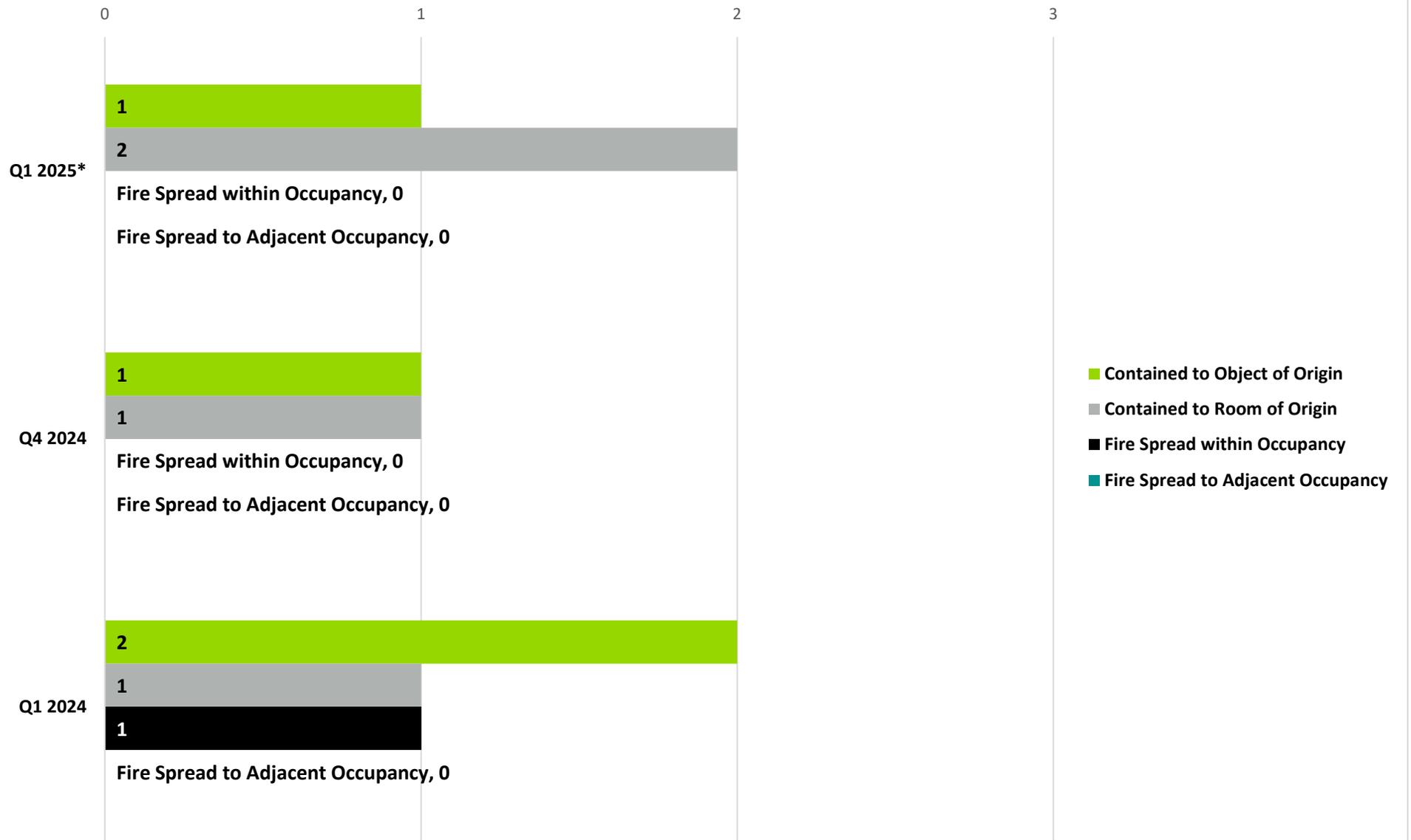
Community Education Events



Fire Activity Within City Limits



Structure Fire Containment



Structure fires occur in single family homes, multi-family homes, high-rise homes, commercial, or high-rise commercial buildings. The object of origin is the item identified that first caught fire. The room of origin is the space identified where the fire started.

* The fire report for one multi-family home fire did not have an area of containment listed.

STRUCTURE FIRE LOSS

1st Quarter 2025

- *Total Dollar Loss: \$26,400*
- *Potential Loss: \$1,741,046*

4th Quarter 2024

- *Total Dollar Loss: \$150,500*
- *Potential Loss: \$500,000*

1st Quarter 2024

- *Total Dollar Loss: \$25,300*
- *Potential Loss: \$787,000*

Total Dollar Loss: *defined as the dollar amount of the property plus contents.*

Potential Dollar Loss: *defined as the dollar amount of the property and contents that was saved.*

DEPARTMENT NEWS: RETIREES, PROMOTIONS, & NEW HIRES

Welcome to: **Richard Martin** and **Richard Bellomy** hired as **Fire Inspectors**



Award Ceremony

Front row, from left to right:

Explorer Jacob Thomas (*Award of Excellence*), Chaplain Chad Lang (*Fire Chief Commendation Award*), F.M. Julie Dudley (*Special Service Award*), Insp. Shyanne Jenkins (*Anthony Boniello Memorial Award*), Asst. F.M. Jacqueline Seay (*Fire Chief Commendation Award*), Insp. Andrea Santa (*CRR Award of Excellence*)

Second row, from left to right:

D.E. Alex McCall (*Fire Chief Commendation Award*), Lt. Brett Orr (*Shawn Thurman Memorial Award*), Admin Chief David Markle (*Meritorious Service Award*), Lt. Carlos Urquiza (*William F. O'Brien Memorial Award*)

Not pictured:

Capt. Alex Caraballo (*Fire Chief Commendation Award*); C.R.R. Educator Casey Cline (*Fire Chief Commendation Award*), Lt. Sloan Grimsley - *Special Service Award*, Lt. Timothy Hewitt - *Special Service Award*

Promotion Ceremony

Front row, from left to right:

Hilary Benbenek (Driver/Engineer), Ernesto Mauri (Captain), and Xavier Rivera (Rescue Lieutenant)

Second row, from left to right:

Robert Mattin (Driver/Engineer), Jake Rademacher (Captain), Charles Moran (Rescue Lieutenant), and Daniel Norton (Captain)

