

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

KAYSVILLE CITY  
FIRE DEPARTMENT



Kaysville Fire Chief Paul Erickson has approved this annual report for public distribution. The information and statistics given throughout the report reflect the calendar year January 1-December 31, 2022.



Fire Chief Paul Erickson

"It has been my pleasure to serve as the fire chief of Kaysville City since October of 2017. During my time with Kaysville Fire we have increased our full-time staffing, acquired new equipment, implemented a fire department-based paramedic program, and reduced risk in the community through education and prevention. Please review this report to see what your fire department accomplished in 2022 and what we have planned for the future!"

*Stay connected with us!*

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Kaysville Fire Department



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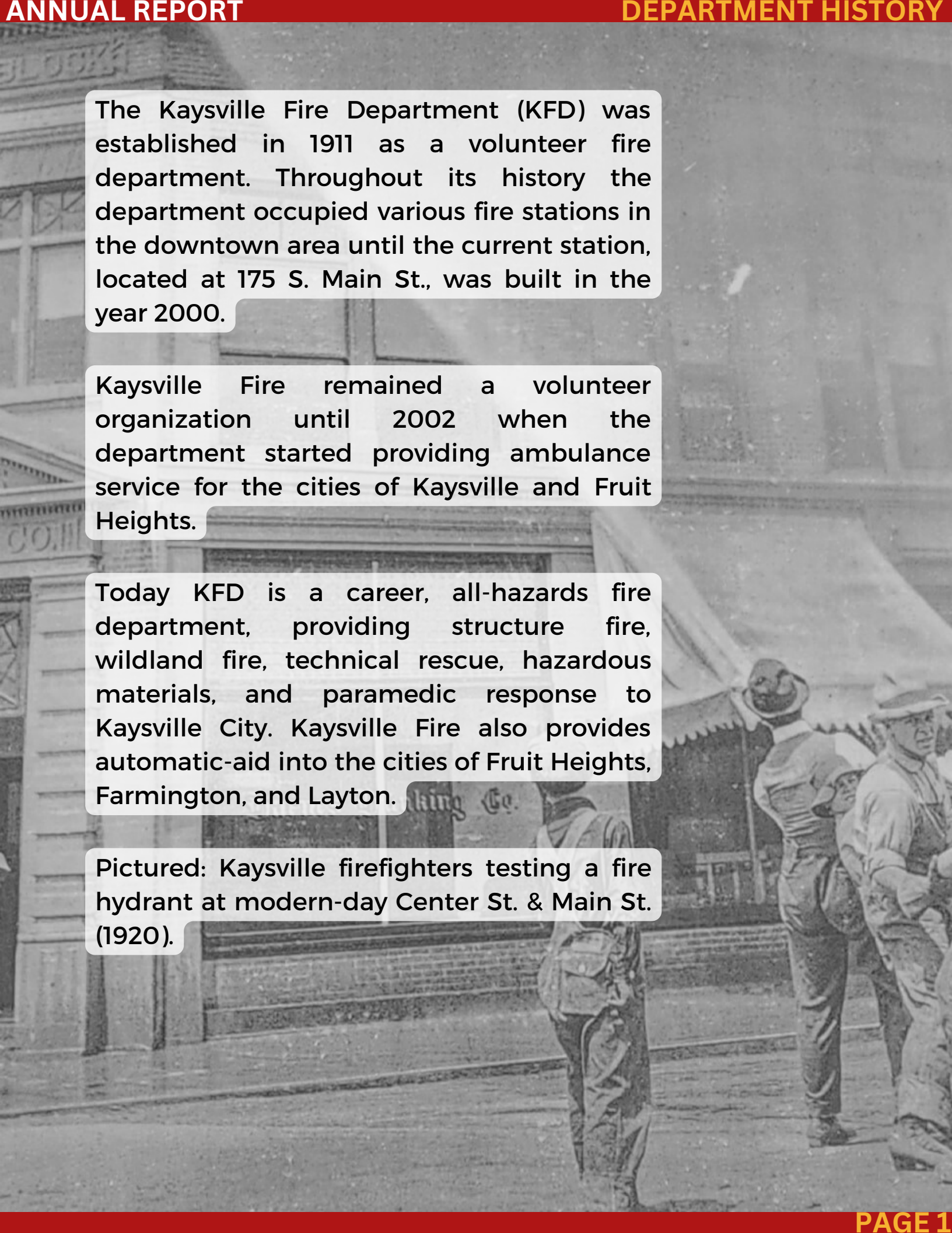
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Thank You!





The Kaysville Fire Department (KFD) was established in 1911 as a volunteer fire department. Throughout its history the department occupied various fire stations in the downtown area until the current station, located at 175 S. Main St., was built in the year 2000.

Kaysville Fire remained a volunteer organization until 2002 when the department started providing ambulance service for the cities of Kaysville and Fruit Heights.

Today KFD is a career, all-hazards fire department, providing structure fire, wildland fire, technical rescue, hazardous materials, and paramedic response to Kaysville City. Kaysville Fire also provides automatic-aid into the cities of Fruit Heights, Farmington, and Layton.

Pictured: Kaysville firefighters testing a fire hydrant at modern-day Center St. & Main St. (1920).





**The Kaysville Fire Department (KFD)** provides fire, rescue, hazardous materials, and emergency medical response to the City of Kaysville, Utah and parts of Unincorporated Davis County.

**Our response area** encompasses more than 10 square miles and has a live-in population of 35,000 residents.

**KFD operates out of a single, centrally-located fire station** that is staffed with 8 firefighters 24/7. All of our firefighters are cross-trained as Advanced-EMTs or Paramedics.

**KFD has 23 full-time employees:** The Fire Chief, an Administrative Assistant, 3 Captains (shift supervisors), 3 Engineers (drivers), and 15 Firefighters. KFD also employs 14 part-time Firefighters.

**KFD responded to 2,032 incidents in 2022.** Of those incidents, 62% were medical responses and 38% were fire, rescue, or hazardous materials responses.

**Each day KFD primarily staffs** (1) ambulance, (1) paramedic squad and (1) fire engine. KFD also cross-staffs (1) second-out ambulance, (1) ladder truck, and (1) brush truck.



L to R: Fire Chief Paul Erickson, "A" Shift Captain/Paramedic Ryan Eckardt, "B" Shift Captain/Paramedic Jason Taylor, and "C" Shift Captain Aaron Shupe

**Fire Chief Paul Erickson** started his career in May of 1984 as a firefighter with the United States Air Force. During his time with the USAF he held the ranks of firefighter, engineer, captain, assistant fire chief, and fire chief. He served as a chief officer over the following bases: Ramstein AFB (Germany), Menwith Hill AFB (United Kingdom), all bases in Afghanistan (on deployment), and finally Hill AFB in Layton, Utah. Chief Erickson retired from Hill in October of 2017 when he accepted the position of Fire Chief with the Kaysville City Fire Department.

**"A" Shift Captain Ryan Eckardt** began his career in 1986 as a volunteer with the Kaysville Fire Department. He continued on to work for Logan Fire, the Davis County Sheriff's Office, Orem Fire, Layton Fire, and then finally Roy Fire, before he returned back to Kaysville City. Captain Eckardt has held the ranks of firefighter, captain, battalion chief, and assistant fire chief. He holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Brigham Young University. He has been a paramedic since 1992; in addition to working in EMS, Captain Eckardt has been a flight paramedic for both AirMed and LifeFlight. He also worked in the cardiac cath lab at Davis Hospital in Layton.

**"B" Shift Captain Jason Taylor** began his career in 2004. He has held the ranks of firefighter, paramedic, and captain. He has worked for Ogden Fire, Roy Fire, and Kaysville Fire. He earned his paramedic license from Weber State University in 2007. He served on the Public Education Team at Roy Fire for 8 years. Captain Taylor serves as our medical training officer and he is an instructor for CPR, Pediatric Life Support, and Advanced Cardiac Life Support.

**"C" Shift Captain Aaron Shupe** began his career in 1997. Before coming to Kaysville in 2016, he worked for the South Ogden and Syracuse Fire Departments. He has held the ranks of firefighter, engineer, lieutenant, and captain. Captain Shupe is a hazardous materials technician and a technical rescue technician. He also served on the Weber County Search and Rescue Team as a rescue and recovery diver. Captain Shupe manages equipment and apparatus at KFD. He is also a drone pilot for the department.





Fire Station 61 was constructed in 2000. It was built as a central location for emergency response in Kaysville. The fire station has administrative offices, a large training room, eight bedrooms for on-duty firefighters, and five pull-through bays that house fire and ambulance apparatus. This station was designed to serve Kaysville City for fifty years.

As our call-volume and city population have almost doubled in size since the build of Station 61, KFD continues to recognize the need for a second fire station. A second fire station would reduce response times, increase firefighter and public safety, and would double emergency medical and fire response coverage in the city.

In 2022, Kaysville City leaders approved land already owned by the city as the future home of Fire Station 62. The property is located near Deseret Dr. & Country Mill Dr. on the westside of Kaysville. Design & build plans are still pending City Council approval.

Kaysville Fire's emergency response is built to get you the help you need as fast as possible.

The goal is to get the right resources of firefighters and equipment to your emergency in time to make a lifesaving difference.

A number of factors enter into this equation including:

- Station location and design
- Traffic and travel times
- Staffing levels
- Dispatch time
- How quickly the emergency is reported

Guided by national standards, Kaysville Fire has established benchmarks reported annually.

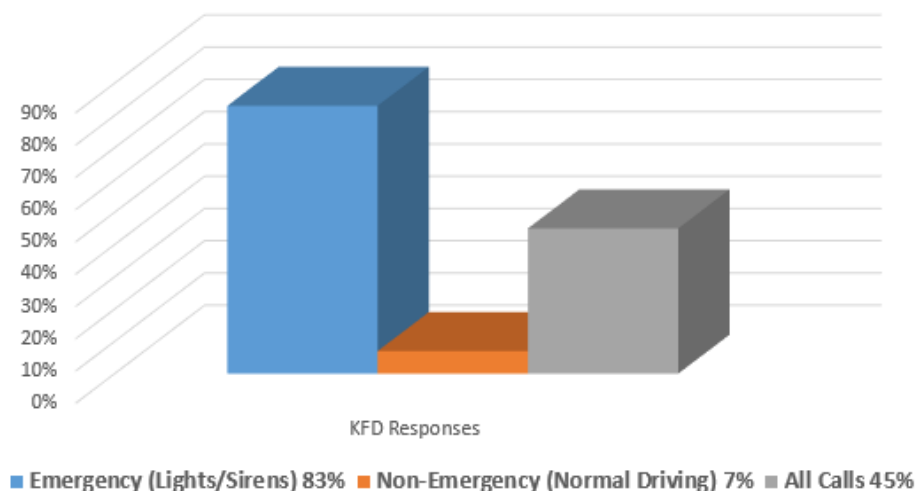
## 6 minutes and 20 seconds on 90% of emergency calls

Kaysville Fire's Response Time Standard, as guided by the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA), is 6 minutes and 20 seconds from 911 dispatch to fire department arrival. The goal is to meet this standard on 90% of all emergency calls. The chart to the right shows the percentage of 911 calls that Kaysville Fire responded to within the standard.

### Why Seconds Count

- **House Fires:** Fire can more than quadruple in size in seconds. Today's house fires burn faster than ever. Modern furnishings, open space and lightweight construction all contribute to the rate at which home fires burn.
- **Cardiac Arrest:** When someone is not breathing brain tissue starts to die in as little as 4 minutes due to a lack of oxygen going to the brain. A patient's chances of survivability greatly diminishes around 9 minutes of not receiving oxygen.
- **Traumatic Injuries:** Our goal is to deliver patients with severe bleeding or damage to vital organs to an operating room within the "golden hour" of the event. The golden hour is the period of time immediately after a traumatic injury during which there is the highest likelihood that prompt medical and surgical treatment will prevent death.

% Of Calls That KFD Arrived in 6 Min 20 Sec or Less







# 2,032

## Total Responses

# 55

Fires

# 3

Explosions

# 1,263

Medical Calls

# 89

Hazardous Condition

# 94

Service Calls

# 185

Citizen Assists

# 342

False Alarm/Cancel

# 1

Misc. Call Type

An entry-level firefighter completes 660 hours of firefighting and emergency medical technician training to meet the baseline requirements to join our team.

After being hired-on they receive training in wildland firefighting, Pediatric Advanced Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support - which provides 56 hours of additional training during their probationary period with the department.



After their probationary year, firefighters continue on to receive technical and leadership training, backed by nationally-recognized certifications, in areas such as hazardous materials and technical rescue. Each of these courses is between 40 and 120 hours long; there are nearly two dozen of these technical courses available to our firefighters.

Firefighters who choose to go to paramedic school will complete 2 semesters of pre-requisite college courses followed by 1,200 to 1,800 hours of classroom instruction and clinical rotations.

Every fire and emergency medical certification requires continuing education to maintain the certification. In 2022, our average full-time employee logged 240 hours of continuing education, for a total of 5,100 hours of training completed by our employees for the year.





Whether working inside of a home that is on fire or cutting a patient out of a car, firefighters are regularly exposed to strenuous conditions on the job.

During a structure fire, firefighters put on 60 lbs of safety gear and then move 40 lbs of tools and charged hose lines while working in temperatures that exceed 500 degrees F. In addition to moving this weight, it is expected that they can drag an unconscious adult out of a home by themselves when necessary.

To ensure our personnel are physically fit for the job, each firefighter sees a physician annually to receive a check-up and blood screening. Additionally, they are put through two separate physical agility tests every year that mimic the physical tasks of wildland and structural firefighting:

- The wildland firefighter test is called a "pack test." Firefighters wear a 45 lb. vest and walk 3 miles in 45 minutes or less.
- The structural firefighter test is referred to as the Physical Agility Test (PAT Test). Firefighters don their full turnout gear, put on breathing air, and move through a eight-station course that makes them pull, lift, flip, & strike up to 200 lbs of weight in 6 minutes or less.

In addition to experiencing high physical demands, our firefighters are often exposed to taxing mental and emotional events. On average, firefighters will experience three traumatic events (TE) every working year on the job. This includes exposure to severe trauma or death in the patients that they treat or experiencing "close call" events themselves, such as being hurt or nearly killed while working at an emergency scene.

Kaysville City has an employee assistance program (EAP) that allows our firefighters to receive free, anonymous mental health counseling to help process traumatic events. Additionally, the Kaysville Police Department was awarded a grant that allows them to keep a mental health counselor on staff that is available to our firefighters. Finally, our department participates in both a city and county peer support group that any first responder can reach out to for help.



KFD participates in a variety of fire and risk prevention activities to include:

### **Public education**


- 150 fire station tours and education activities.
- Public education presentations at kindergartens, elementary schools and boy scout meetings.
- Fire department presence at public events such as the Kaysville City Fourth of July celebration.
- Annual Fire Prevention open house in October.
- Social media presence on Facebook and Instagram.

### **Fire code enforcement**

- KFD performed over 650 business and school inspections in 2022.
- Home-based businesses in the city now do an annual self-inspection that is mailed out to the business owner and returned to the fire department.

### **Building plan review**





Kaysville Fire crews responded to a variety of significant medical and fire incidents in 2022. The actions of our firefighters at these incidents resulted in lives or property being saved:

- February: KFD firefighters rescued a dog that fell through the ice at Pond's Park.
- February: A baby was delivered by KFD paramedics at home and then transported to an area hospital.
- March: A cardiac arrest victim was resuscitated by KFD paramedics and transported to a local hospital.
- April: KFD firefighters extricated a patient from a vehicle following a serious traffic accident and then provided life-saving care until the patient was transferred to a medical helicopter.
- June: KFD paramedics provided airway management and life-saving medication to a patient in anaphylactic shock. The patient made a full recovery after nearly dying.
- June: KFD paramedics provided life-saving care to a pediatric patient with a brain bleed following a traumatic injury.
- July: KFD paramedics provided airway management and life-saving medication to a patient having persistent seizures.
- August: KFD firefighters responded to a structure fire and mitigated the fire, preventing further property loss.
- August: KFD paramedics responded to a choking victim with a full airway obstruction. They cleared the object from the patient's airway and then transported to a local hospital.
- August: A cardiac arrest victim was resuscitated by KFD paramedics and transported to a local hospital.
- September: A cardiac arrest victim was resuscitated by KFD paramedics and transported to a local hospital.
- November: KFD paramedics provided life-saving care to a patient involved in a motorcycle accident until the patient was transferred to a medical helicopter.
- November: KFD firefighters responded to a structure fire and mitigated the fire, preventing further property loss.
- December: KFD firefighters responded to a structure fire and mitigated the fire, preventing further property loss.

2022 was a year full of goals accomplished, milestones met, and the results of thousands of hours of hard work coming to fruition for our firefighters and our department:

- KFD took delivery of a brand new Horton ambulance with state-of-the-art technology and equipment that will contribute to the successful outcomes of critically ill and injured patients.
- Four KFD firefighters (Engineer Kelton Vine, Firefighter Shannon Nelson, Firefighter Colton Bascom, and Firefighter Michael Hays) completed a 1,200 hour paramedic program, allowing them to practice advanced life support in the pre-hospital setting. Three more KFD firefighters started paramedic school in the fall (Firefighter Tyler Reece, Firefighter Cameron Cessna, and Firefighter Tyson Hatch); they are set to complete school in June of '23.
- An order was placed for a new Pierce fire engine that will replace a 22-year-old unit.
- KFD took over paramedic service for the city of Kaysville. Kaysville and other area communities had been serviced by the Davis County Sheriff's Office for more than 40 years prior to KFD's takeover. County leaders determined that paramedic service could be better delivered by a fire department-based model, which led to the transition in May of '22.
- KFD welcomed several lateral and new-hire members to our full-time staff: Firefighter Cameron Bledsoe, Firefighter Dallin Peck, Firefighter Mitch Probert, Firefighter Colton Alvey, Firefighter Brandon Holt, and Firefighter Garrett Matthews.
- KFD had its busiest year ever, breaking 2,000 calls for the first time. We have experienced a 59% increase in call volume in the last decade.
- KFD's social media campaigns continued to go viral throughout the year, leading us to gather the largest social media following of any fire department in the state! KFD now has over 17,000 followers on Facebook! Our most-viewed post was seen by nearly one million people.





We thank Kaysville Mayor Tami Tran, the Kaysville City Council, and the Kaysville City Management staff for their continued support. Most importantly, we thank you, our citizens, for allowing us to serve you in the capacity that we do! We consider ourselves very fortunate to work in and serve Kaysville City!

Reviewed/Approved by:



FIRE CHIEF PAUL J. ERICKSON

