Mission
The Yuma Fire Department exists to instill a sense of safety, security and pride in those we serve through professional emergency interventions, education and prevention services.

Vision
The City of Yuma Fire Department is a dynamic, professional organization that anticipates and meets the needs of our customers. We are guided by the values of loyalty, mutual respect and compassion. We provide exceptional customer service through community interaction and teamwork.
I am pleased to present the City of Yuma Fire Department 2014 Annual Report. This year brought many changes as retirements caused a change in many key leadership positions including the Fire Chief, along with three other Chief-level Officers. Although these leaders will be missed, your Fire Department prides itself on preparing its personnel for advancement so that the service to our community is not affected. I can assure you the level of service has continued in the same professional and efficient manner you have come to expect.

Despite the change in leadership, the Department has continued to focus on a safe, effective and efficient service. In 2014, an Incident Safety Officer Program was implemented to provide added oversight and control to large and/or complex emergency incidents. The addition of a Safety Officer has allowed our crews to maintain focus on their assigned tasks while knowing that we are providing a safe working environment.

Alternative funding sources was another key focus last year and we are happy to announce that over $650,000 in grants were awarded to the Department. Grants were received to replace an aged breathing air system for Firefighters allowing them to make entry into burning and smoke-filled structures to search for victims and extinguish fires. Funding was also received to allow us to further protect our community by placing smoke detectors in homes that did not have them and provide secure key boxes for citizens that live alone and may be in need of medical assistance. Finally, Firehouse Subs provided funding for the Hazardous Materials Response Team to purchase protective suits, radios and technical computer software to better serve the community.

As we moved into 2015 we have focused on three areas. First, we continue to prepare our men and women to be the future of the Department. Second, Fire Prevention efforts will be enhanced to meet the needs of the community. Finally, we will seek alternative funding to keep your Department’s equipment up-to-date so that you will receive the most effective and efficient services possible.

It is an honor to serve this community and I am grateful for the support that the community has shown to me and the entire organization.
EMERGENCY ACTIVITY

- Overall, call volume was up in 2014 by 1,042 calls or 8.6% over 2013. The largest growth in call type was in Emergency Medical Responses with an increase of 572 calls.

- Fire Station 2 had the largest response percentage increase at 16%. Station 2 is located near the golf course on Avenue A and serves the south side of town.

- The busiest station was Fire Station 1 which is on Giss Parkway at 3rd Avenue and serves the north end of town.

- EMS responses consist of medical issues such as heart attacks, shortness of breath, seizures, and diabetic emergencies, along with falls, motor vehicle accidents, and other traumas.

- Fires include structures, vehicles, vegetation and trash.

- Other events include responses to hazardous materials, power wires arcing, animal rescues and false alarms.
The Yuma Fire Department arrives to an emergency medical call in 4 minutes 10 seconds on average.

The Yuma Fire Department staffs four Advanced Life Support ambulances year-round and staffs an additional ALS ambulance from October 15 through March 15. Rural Metro Ambulance supports the City of Yuma with ambulances for Basic Life Support responses and transports.

Responses to medical calls account for 82% of the Department’s total responses. Calls for EMS consist of medical and trauma related emergencies including motor vehicle accidents.

The Yuma Fire Department transported 6,590 patients in 2014.
Economic times have given us no other choice but to reduce the personnel in the Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Division. This has limited the Division’s efforts to meet the needs of the community. The goal of CRR is to bring resources back to the Division so that all occupancies can be inspected on a routine basis.

The City of Yuma has 4,120 inspectable commercial occupancies. Inspections have been limited to the highest hazard occupancies including required state licensed facilities and any areas that are determined to be high risk such as where people eat, sleep, and gather.
PROPERTY LOSS

In 2014, there was $2.4 million in fire loss; $1.2 million came from the Castle Park fire while the other $1.2 million came from residential and commercial structures. Only $4,351 was lost in buildings that were protected by fire sprinklers.

**Fire sprinklers save lives and property.**

In 2014, 97% of the structural fire loss was from residential property. Most commercial occupancies are required to have fire suppression and alarm systems. They also must maintain their structures to be fire code compliant. There are no requirements for fire sprinklers in single-family homes.

*Commercial Fire Loss excludes the Castle Park fire.*
COMMUNITY PRIDE