



**BOROUGH OF CHATHAM  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2014**

**FIRE SAFETY BUREAU  
WALTER NUGENT III – FIRE MARSHAL  
STEPHEN WILLIAMS – DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL**

**Fire Safety Inspections**

There were a total of 244 new inspections conducted, 72 being Life Hazard Use inspection and 172 being Non-Life Hazard Use. There were 248 re-inspections conducted.

**Inspection Summary Comparison 2013 & 2014**

	<b><u>2013</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>	<b><u>Change</u></b>
Life Hazard	70	72	3%
Non-Life Hazard	171	172	1%
Re-Inspections	286	248	-15%
Certificates Issued	236	232	-2%

## Fire Investigations

There were six fire investigations conducted in the borough in 2014. There were five fire investigations conducted in the borough in 2013, they are as follows:

John Abernethy	12 Sussex Ave	02/11/14
Kumar Paul	Main St & Washington Ave	09/04/14
DeFalco's Towing	Commerce Street	11/01/14
Borough of Chatham	54 Fairmount Ave	11/18/14
Borough of Chatham	90 Summit Ave	12/27/14

## Business Registrations

Non-LHU registration fees collected totaled \$ 13,393.00. This process as recommended by the State Division of Fire Safety has enabled us to obtain and maintain current information of all building owners and business owners in the Borough in addition to offset costs of the operation of the Bureau of Fire Safety.

## Fire Safety Bureau Revenue

	2013	2014	Change
Life Hazard Use Registration Fees from State	\$10,667.15	\$ 13,252.00	20% (*)
Local Non-Life Hazard Use Registrations	\$ 9,625.00	\$ 13,393.00	28%
Fire Code Violation Penalties	\$ 500.00	500.00	no change
Permits	\$ 252.00	\$ 168.00	-50%
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$21,044.15</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 27,313.00</u></b>	

(\*) Numbers are actuals, change is due to timing difference 2013, it was under stated by one quarterly payment. That payment was received in 2012. (5 quarterly payments were received in 2012 and 3 were received in 2013)

## **Special Projects**

### **Paperless Fire Inspections**

A new fire inspection program named Mobile Eyes was implemented. This program allows us to conduct fire inspections on a tablet and email the violation reports to the building owner / business owner. This system is much more productive than our former program. Since is this first year utilizing the program, there was additional set up required at each occupancy, including obtaining email addresses from each occupant to issue violations and correspondence to. There was also a learning curve adapting to this new program. Now that the learning curve is over and email addresses have been obtained I anticipate and increase of fire inspections conducted in 2015.

The Mobile Eyes Inspection Program has a component call Responder. This program provides the fire department with immediate access at emergencies to preplan data that the fire safety bureau was able to obtain during fire safety inspections. This information is also accessible at the Morris County Dispatch Center.

### **Knox Boxes**

Inspector Williams had business owners install 14 new Knox boxes – Knox boxes help the fire department provide easy access to conduct investigations without creating damage to the building during entry.

## **Career Development**

### **Deputy Fire Marshal Stephen Williams**

- NJ Division of Criminal Justice – Basic Arson Investigation - 2014-01
- Incident Management Level 3 – NJDFS
- Fusion Liaison Officer – Intermediate Training Course / NJ State Police
- Fire Instructor – Level 1 - NJDFS
- Drill Ground Instructor – NJDFS
- Potential Liabilities as Incident Commander – Sussex Fire Academy

### **CFITrainer.Net Courses – Continuing Education**

- Process of Elimination 3.0 Hours
- How First Responders Impact the Fire Investigation – 2.0 Hours
- Basic Electricity - 4.0 Hours
- Residential Electrical Systems – 4.0 Hours
- Introduction to Evidence – 4.0 Hours

### **Fire Marshal Walter Nugent**

- Attended continuing education classes for my Fire Official / Fire Inspectors Certification.
- Continued fire investigator training with the International Association of Arson Investigators, on CFI Trainer.net.

## Final Comments

The Fire Safety Bureau has been able to implement its new paperless fire inspection program. After extensive research throughout 2013 the program was able to be utilized for a majority of 2014.

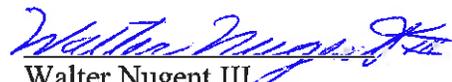
Although there was an anticipated learning curve in 2014, the program has stood up to the promises that I received by their sales department.

This year again, I would like to thank Deputy Fire Marshal Steve Williams for the work he has performed with the Fire Safety Bureau. Steve enforces the NJ Uniform Fire Code with professionalism and while treating business owners with the respect they deserve. Steve is continuing to conduct fire investigations many during harsh weather conditions.

Cathy Baldwin has embraced and learned the new inspection program. She is sending correspondence from the program and utilizes it for non-life hazard registration invoicing.

The continued goal of the Fire Safety Bureau is to have building owners / business owners comply with the fire code as quickly as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Walter Nugent III  
Fire Marshal