



1712 Main Street
Coventry, Connecticut 06238
(860) 742-1606 Ext 6007 desk



Town of Coventry

OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF
FIRE-EMS DEPARTMENT

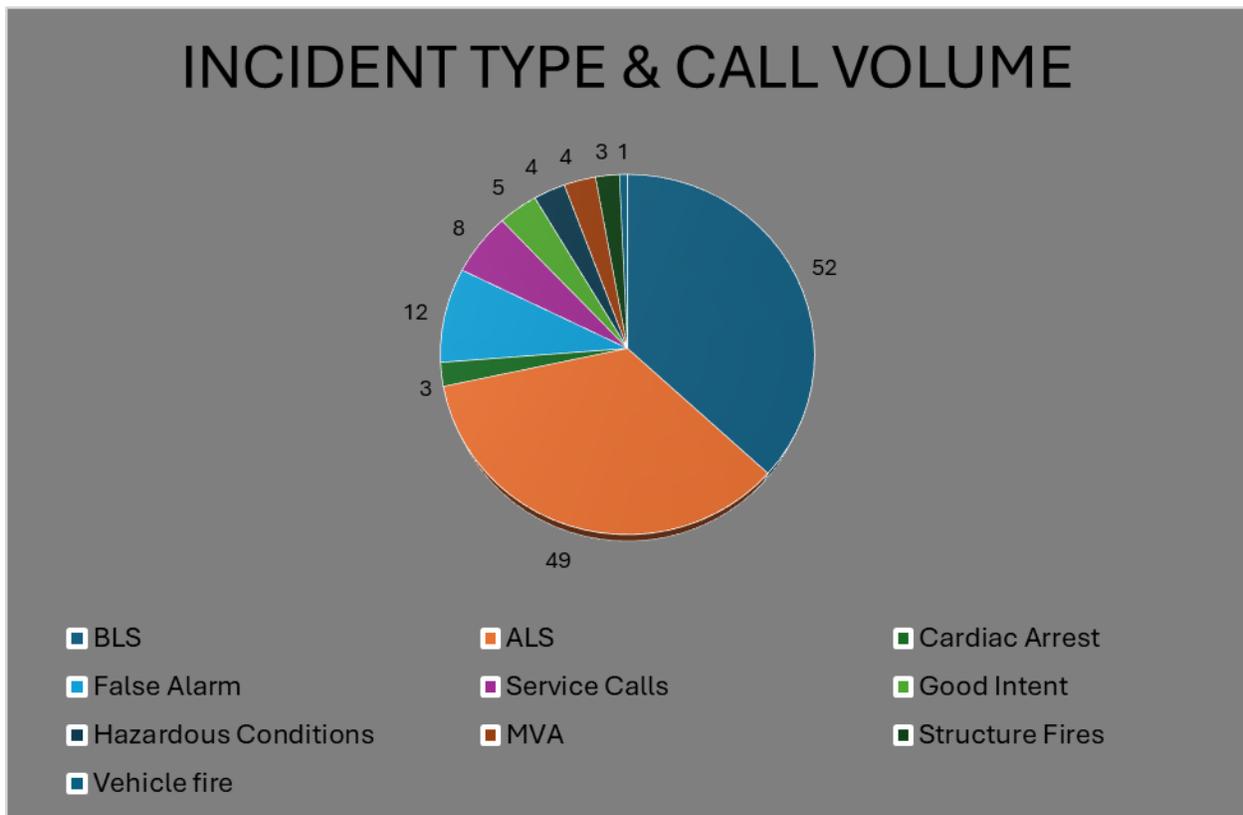
Bud Meyers, Fire Chief
bmeyers@coventry-ct.gov

LECC Report

February 05, 2026

Calls:

For the month of December, we responded to 141 calls consisting of: 52 BLS, 49 ALS and 3 Cardiac Arrest for a total of 104 Medical calls, 12 False alarms, 8 Service calls, 5 Good intent calls, 4 Hazardous conditions, 4 MVA, 3 Structure fires, and 1 Vehicle fire.



Apparatus:

New tires are required for the rear of Quint 218

Stations:

Station 318 has a heat circulating pump issue that requires replacement. Fire alarm panels at Station 118, 218 and 318 have been converted to internet and cellular monitoring.



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Equipment:

1,300 feet of large diameter hose has been order.

Administrative:

Our live-in program was recently featured in the municipal magazine

I wanted to share a brief update following my attendance at a recent press conference that focused on national issues affecting fire apparatus pricing, procurement practices, and manufacturing delays.

The information presented reinforced that municipalities across the country are experiencing fire apparatus cost increases that far exceed historical trends. Where departments historically planned for annual increases of approximately 3–5 percent, current apparatus pricing reflects increases of 40–60 percent or more over what would have been expected based on pre-COVID cost trajectories. In many cases, comparable apparatus is now priced at \$1 million, compared to an anticipated range of approximately \$600,000.

Delivery timelines were also discussed, with apparatus lead times increasing from approximately 12 months pre-COVID to commonly three to five years today.

A significant topic addressed was consolidation within the fire apparatus manufacturing industry. Through multiple mergers and acquisitions, the market is now largely dominated by approximately three major corporate manufacturers. This consolidation has reduced competition, driven smaller manufacturers out of the marketplace, and is contributing to escalating costs, limited purchasing options, and extended production backlogs.

Concerns were also raised regarding pricing practices in which manufacturers pass cost increases back to municipalities even after contracts have been executed, undermining the intent of competitive bidding and increasing financial uncertainty for local governments.

Additionally, it was noted that a federal engine emissions mandate scheduled for 2027 is expected to add approximately \$115,000 per engine, and due to extended manufacturing lead times, these anticipated costs are already being reflected in current apparatus pricing.

Respectfully submitted,

Bud Meyers,
Chief
Town of Coventry Fire & EMS Department