

Meeting October 23, 2025 - Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda - Thursday, October 23, 2025, 5:30 PM, Hybrid via Zoom OR In-Person at City Hall, Queen City Room, 3rd Floor, 149 Church Street, Burlington, VT

Category 3. Tammy Boudah - Howard Street Team

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

4. State's Attorney - Sarah George

Subject 4.1. State's Attorney - Sarah George

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Category 4. State's Attorney - Sarah George

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

5. Chiefs' Reports

Subject 5.1. BPD

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Category 5. Chiefs' Reports

Department

Type

Recommended Action

Subject 5.2. BFD

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Category 5. Chiefs' Reports

Department

Type

Recommended Action

6. Public Forum

Subject **6.1. Verbal Comments**

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Category 6. Public Forum

Department

Type

7. Councilor Comments

Subject **7.1. Councilor Comments**

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Category 7. Councilor Comments

Department Council and Board

Type

8. Next Meeting Date

Subject **8.1. Next Meeting Date**

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Category 8. Next Meeting Date

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

9. Adjournment

Subject **9.1. Motion to adjourn**

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Category 9. Adjournment

Department Council and Board

Type

Recommended Action

10. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

Subject **10.1. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator (802-865-7136)(TTY 802-865-7142). Persons with disabilities**

who require assistance or special arrangements to participate are encouraged to contact 802-865-7000 (voice) or 802-865-7142 (TTY) at least 72 hours in advance so that proper arrangements can be made. The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status, crime victim status or genetic information.

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Category 10. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

Department Council and Board

Type

Public Safety Committee
Thursday, September 25, 2025
Remote via Zoom/In-Person in Queen City Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, Burlington,
Vermont
DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Melo Grant (Chair), Buddy Singh

Staff Present: Jessica Brown (City Attorney), Michael Curtin (BFD Battalion Chief), Shawn Burke (Police Chief)

Public Present: Robin Lloyd, Fawnya Willson

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM by Councilor Grant.

1. Adopt the Agenda
1.01 Adopt the Agenda

Motion to Adopt Agenda as written.

Motion by Councilor Singh, Seconded by Councilor Grant

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

2. Adopt Minutes
2.01 Motion to Adopt Draft Minutes from August 28, 2025

Motion to Adopt Agenda as written.

Motion by Councilor Singh, Seconded by Councilor Grant

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

3. Public Forum
3.01 Verbal Comments

Public forum closed at 5:32.

Public forum reopened at 6:34.

Robin Lloyd, a resident of Ward 8, asked Councilor Singh why he voted against Mayors for Peace.

Fawnya Willson expressed gratitude for the Committee's work and wanted to know more about what transitional housing options are being explored.

Public forum closed at 6:38.

4. Chiefs' Reports

4.01 BPD

Chief Burke presented to the Committee on incident and patrolling data, online reporting, and how to fill out the online drug tip form. No action taken.

4.01.01 Online Reporting

No action taken.

4.01.02 Online Drug Tip

No action taken.

4.02 BFD

Chief Curtin presented August incident and department data to the Committee. No action taken.

5. Social Media Concerns

5.01 Social Media Concerns

No action was taken.

6. State's Attorney Data

6.01 State's Attorney Data

Councilor Grant said she is coordinating having State's Attorney Sarah George attend the October or November meeting. No action was taken.

7. UVM – Community Safety Communications and App

7.01 UVM – Community Safety Communications and App

Councilor Grant reviewed UVM's community safety resources for students. No action was taken.

8. Upcoming Meetings

8.01 Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting was set for October 23.

9. Adjournment

9.01 Motion to adjourn

The meeting was adjourned with no objection at 6:38 PM.



BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

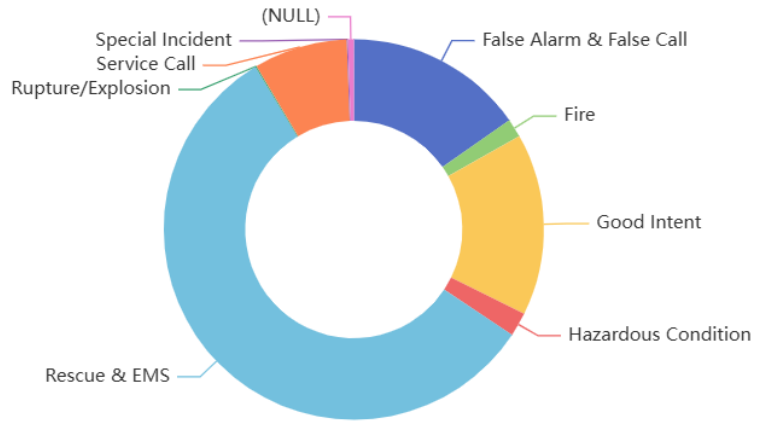
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Chief's Report to the Public Safety Committee: September Data Points October 23, 2025

Call Volume & Activity Summary

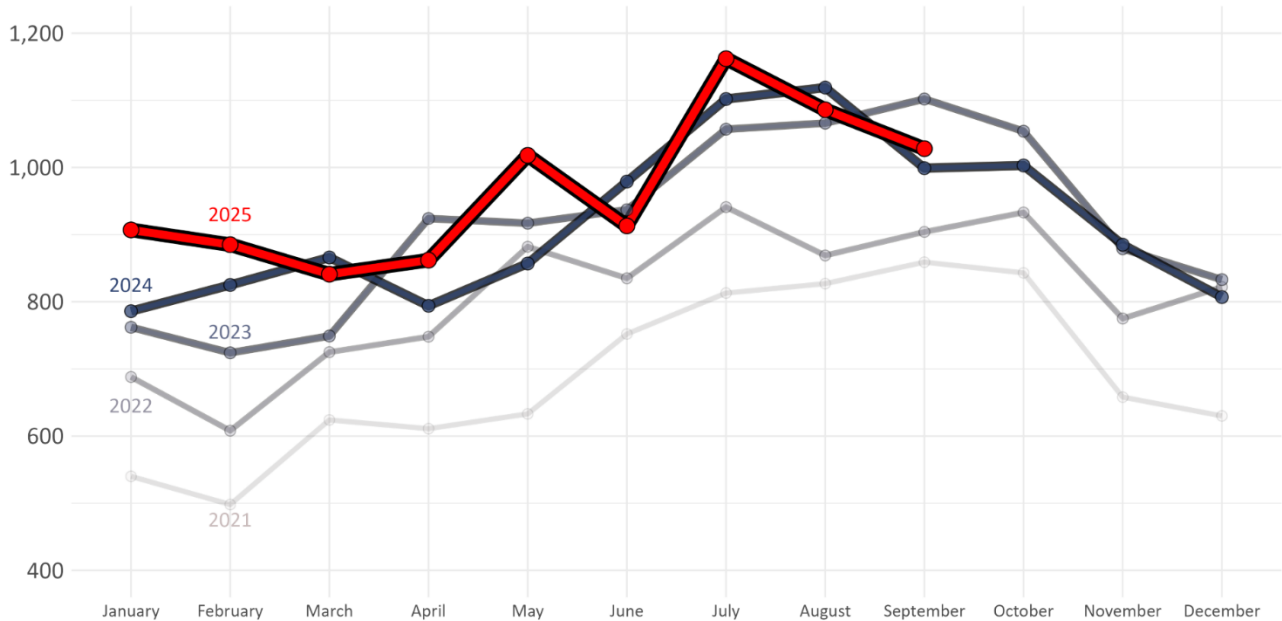
Total Incidents for the month of September: **1,028**
 Total Incidents: **8,766** (As of 10/1/25)

- Fire Incidents: **172**
- EMS: **586**
- Hazmat: **21**
- Service Call/Public Assist: **82**



During the same period in 2024, we responded to **1,004** incidents, a **2.4%** increase from last year.

Fire Department Monthly Response Totals, 2021 - 2025
 Source: First Due



Data through 9/30/2025



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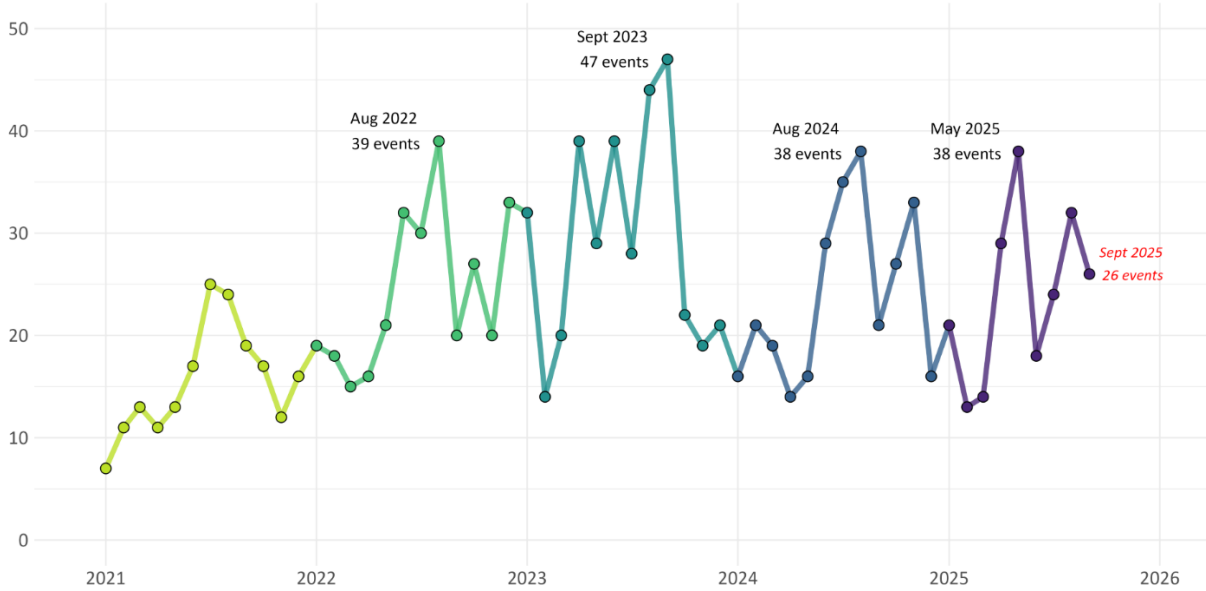
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EMS Data:

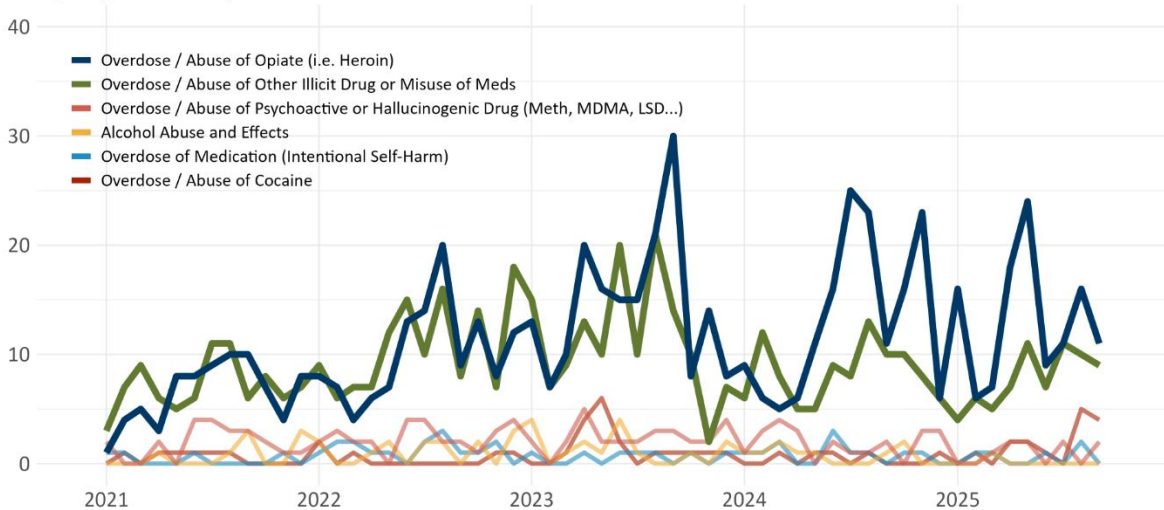
In September 2025, Burlington Fire Department crews responded to 26 confirmed drug-related events or overdoses, down from 38 in May 2025 and below the same month last year (47 in September 2023). While the overall trend remains variable month to month, this represents a notable decrease compared to prior peak periods.

Confirmed Drug Events / Overdoses by Month
Siren incidents with a Working Diagnosis or Secondary Impression that contains 'Overdose/Drug Abuse' or 'Poisoning'



Data through 9/30/2025

Monthly Working Diagnoses & Secondary Impressions for Confirmed Overdoses / Drug Events
Top diagnoses that reference substances



Note: Incidents can have more than one Secondary Impression.
Note: This chart excludes alcohol-only events.
Non-substance diagnoses include 'Altered Mental Status', 'Anxiety Attack / Acute Stress Reaction', and 'Psychiatric / Behavioral Problem'
Data through 9/30/2025

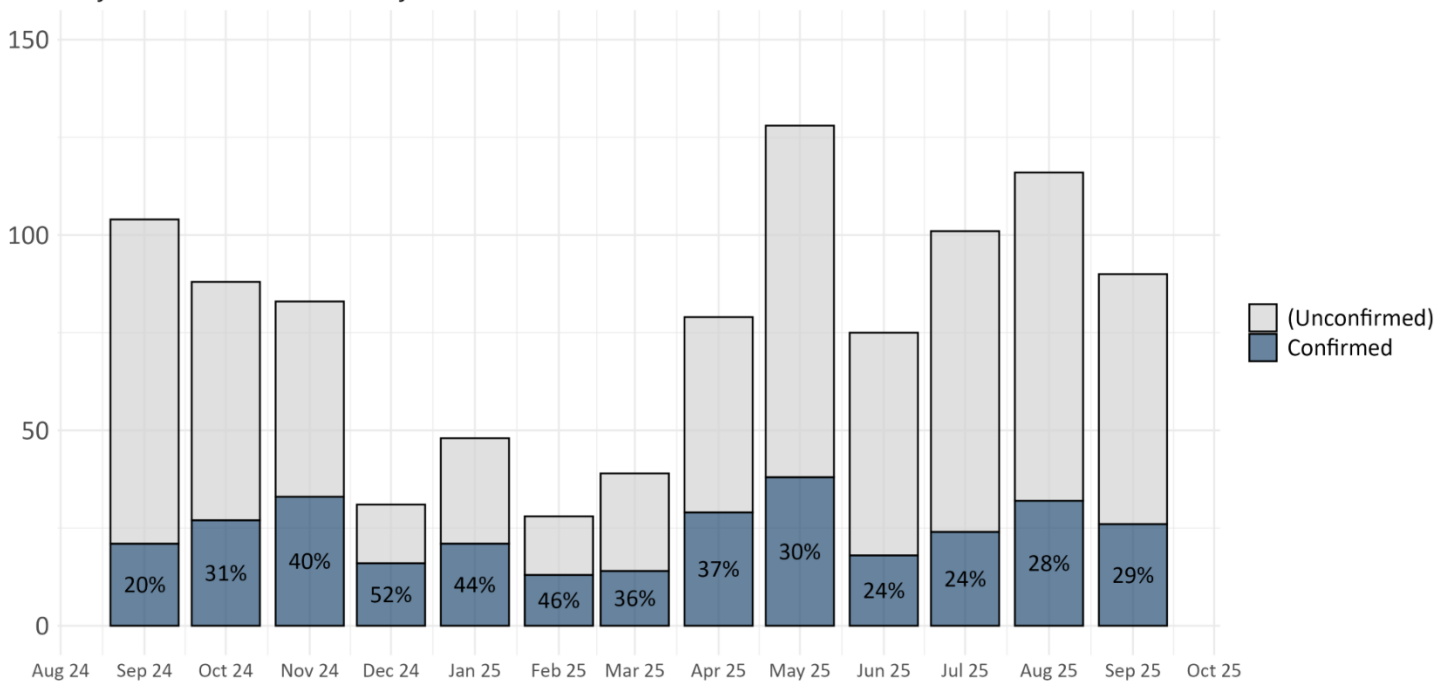


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Over the past year (Sept 2024–Sept 2025), Burlington Fire was dispatched to an average of 80–100 overdose-related calls per month, though only about 25–35% of those were confirmed as actual overdoses on scene. The remaining 65–75% were found to involve other medical, person sleeping, person left the scene, person denies EMS attention, or behavioral conditions. While the total number of dispatched overdose calls has remained relatively steady since spring, the confirmation rate continues to hover around one-third.

BFD Events Dispatched as Overdoses
Confirmed on scene vs. not confirmed on scene



*Confirmation obtained via responder diagnosis in Siren
Data through 09/30/25*

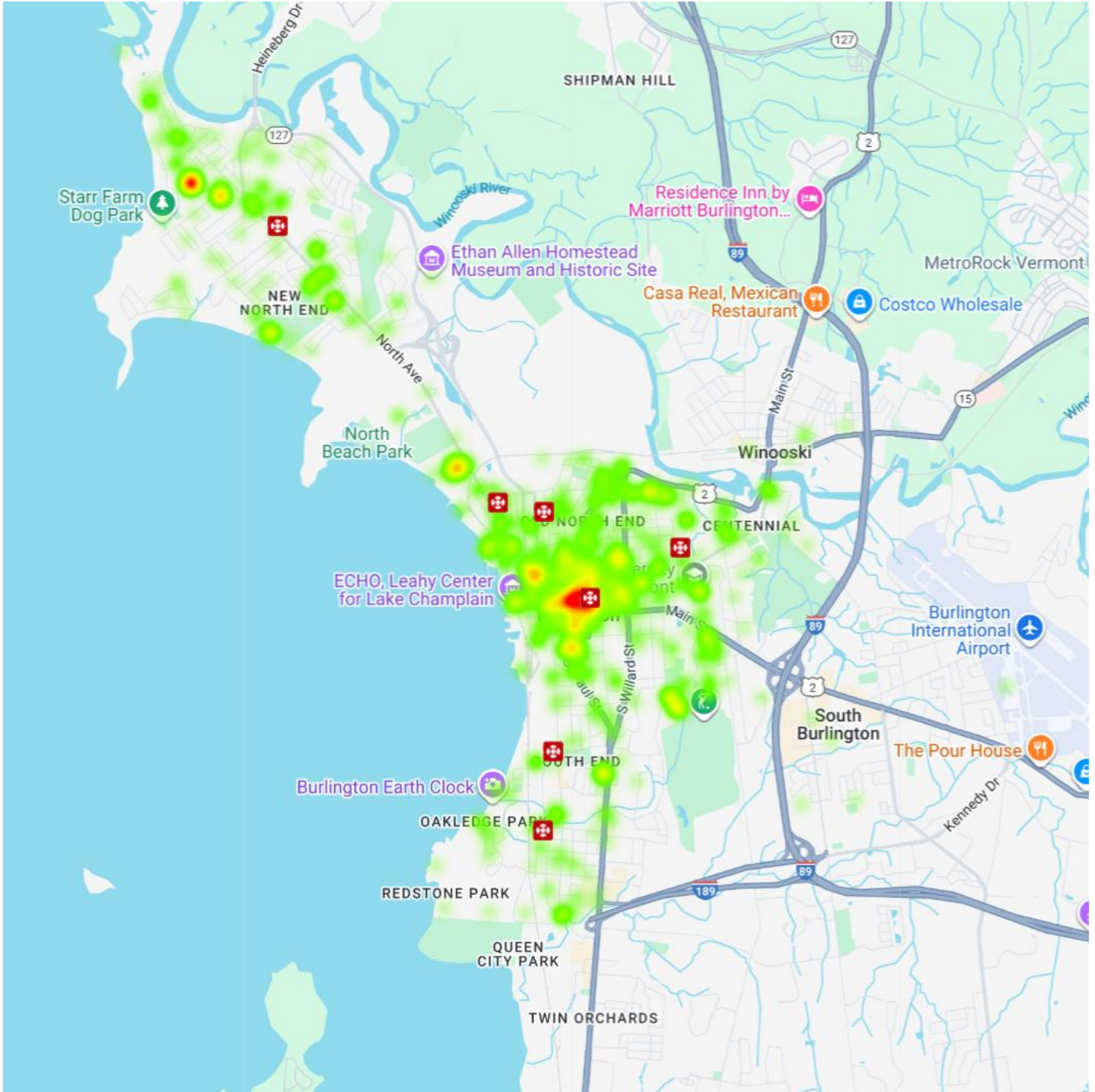




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CRT Data for September 2025:

Staffed 14 days for the month of September

Total Contacts	Narcan Kits	Wound Care Kits	Comfort Care Kit	Referrals
59	11	1	3	3

Personnel & Staffing

Total Department Staff: Uniformed Members **88** / Authorized **95**
(Recruit School started for 4 new employees on 10/20)

- Minimum Daily Staffing: **22**
- Vacancies: **8**
- Injuries/LOA/FMLA: **6**
- Staff Training Hours: **496**
- Company Level Inspections: **6**

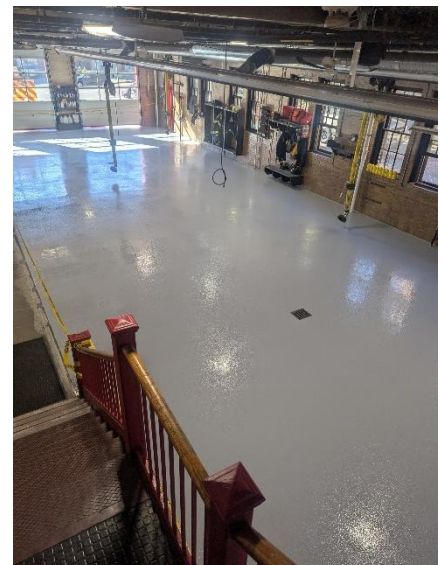
Overtime Type	2025 Hours	2024 Hours	% + -
Minimum Staffing	831	695.75	+19
Mandatory	123.75	141.5	-12.5
CRT	279.25	117	+138.6
Emergency	5.5	0	+550
Extra Duty Events	132	96.5	+36.7

Firehouses

- Station 1 floor refinishing completed

Community Engagement

- 9/6 Public Education event at 35 Cambrian Way
- 9/17 Ladder 2/Ambulance 2 Firehouse Tour
- 9/23 Firehouse tour Station 1
- 9/29 Ride Along with Ladder 2 for day tour





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Division Updates:

Operations Division:

- 7 members of BFD participated in the MARSEC USCG drill on August 27th at the USCG station. Drill went well and met the needs of the USCG Northern Sector Command. Beneficial for our members to interact with various agencies at the drill.
- Met with USCG 9/25, pursuing viability of a grant for future acquisition of boat for emergency response on the lake and shoreline.
- Aerial apparatus along with ground ladders on all apparatus were tested and with the exception of two ground ladders passed. Two ground ladders need minor repairs, which will be done in house.
- A team of five members along with DC OPS has been created to evaluate the benefits of Drone use in fire department operations. One meeting has taken place and a second meeting on 10/9 will be had with UVM UAS team for further input/education and operational limitations.
- Our desire to evaluate technical rescue capabilities within the department is on-going. BC Aumand will lead our efforts.
- We have taken delivery of new SCBA units which will replace every SCBA unit on all of our apparatus. Major upgrade to improved units and safety to our members. Lt. Mathieu is leading the changeout which will include training our members in the month of October.

Administrative Division:

- Currently revising FROI SOG and related forms with the assistance of Derek Gavelis.
- Next recruit academy is scheduled to begin on October 20th, with (4) recruits (3 laterals and 1 entry level). Establishing a list for an anticipated May 2026 Recruit Academy. Note: Received 65 applications for entry-level and 15 lateral firefighter applications.
- Station 1: Apparatus floor and stairwell renovation in progress. Floor expected to be finished for Friday, October 10th. Total project completion date TBD. The apparatus floor will be re-organized. Additional details will be forthcoming.
- Station 2: In process of obtaining pricing to complete floor apparatus bay floor finish. Stay tuned.
- Station 2: One of the basement floor drains has a complete blockage (closest to the A side). Avoid washing vehicles in basement. Working with Kim Bleakley to establish a replacement or repair plan.
- Station 2: Farrington Construction will be installing a new cover on the sump pump pit.
- Station 2: Pursuing an annual HVAC PM agreement. In progress.
- Station 3: Initial stages of engineering for dorm room project and apparatus bay floor.
- Station 4: Exterior man doors recently replaced. In the process of replacing furniture. All stations:
 - Executed contract with vendor to complete PM/service on exhaust capture system. Vendor is expected to be on site next week to conduct service work.
 - Assessing need for sprinkler system repairs across all stations following recently completed annual inspections.
- Reminder to shift commanders and company officers to complete required employee appraisals.



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EMS Division:

- **Inventory and Apparatus Evaluation:** We are continuing our comprehensive review of EMS inventory and evaluating each apparatus to identify current and future needs.
- **Medication Administration Safety:** A draft policy regarding medication administration safety is in development to enhance standardization and reduce potential risk.
- **Fire Rehabilitation Support:** The EMS Division is providing Fire Rehabilitation coverage during the Live Burn Training exercises being conducted by the Fire Training Division.
- **Training and Education:** We are preparing to offer a Paramedic Refresher Course, which will serve as an outside training opportunity. Preparations are also underway for our in-house EMT and AEMT Refresher Courses.
- **Provider Development:** Five members have completed their AEMT program as required by contract, and their state licenses are beginning to arrive. Getting these members operationally ready and up to date with the PREVENT Initiative and Controlled Substance policies remains a current priority.
- **Medical Direction and Training:** Dr. Sheeser has returned for the month of October and is providing focused paramedic training sessions. As of October 1st, we also welcome our new District Paramedic Medical Director, **Dr. Doug George**, who has served on the district board and brings extensive experience through his work with HealthNet's Critical Care Transport Team, Vermont State Police, USAR, and other tactical units and trainings. We are very excited for the future under his leadership and partnership.
- **Community Collaboration:** The Division recently presented its first case to the Situation Table and is taking the lead in coordinating care and reconnecting the patient with essential services to mitigate future risk.

Training Division:

- Thanks to an invitation from Warren Fire Department, six members were able to attend Elevator Emergency Management, Presented by Dragon Rescue Management.
- T1 and L2 crews completed department training on a new Patient Tie in System for the stokes baskets.
- Members completed the Annual Fitness Assessment organized by our Fit4Fire committee.
- Three members are beginning Fire Officer 1&2 which will run until November.
- B-Shift will be conducting Live Burn Training at the Vermont Fire Academy on October 8th and C-Shift on October 22nd.
- Our pack techs, as well as pack techs from three neighboring departments, will receive training from Scott for the new Scott Air Packs on October 10th.
- Lt Mathieu is scheduled to conduct department wide training for the rest of our members on the new packs the following week.
- Recruit Academy 25-02 is scheduled to begin on October 20th. These Academies are not only challenging for the Recruits. A great deal of support from the membership is required to put on a quality Recruit Academy and adequately prepare new members to serve the community here in Burlington.



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Thank you to all of the members who have already stepped up and those who will over the next few months.

- BFD is hosting Managing Disciplinary Challenges in the Fire Service by Curt Varone on October 22-23.

Fire Marshal:

The Fire Marshal Office had a successful fire prevention day at the Farmers Market down on Pine St. on 10/4/25. We bought a Sparky the Fire Dog costume and we were joined by Champ and Riley from UVM for a short time. A sprinkler head demonstrations attracted multiple people through out the day. Fire extinguisher training was sought after by many people from two years old to sixty plus. We are also giving fire safety presentations to Juniper House, Thayer House, Fern Hill, Three Cathedral Square and Heineberg Senior Housing this year. The fire safety theme this year is lithium-ion battery safety. We purchased two informational towers to place in apartment buildings to stress the importance of lithium-ion battery safety. We are also working on getting into the school system.

Social Media:

