

# CNMI DEPARTMENT OF FIRE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT 2019

## Table of Contents:

1. Who we are? 2. How are we doing? 3. Finance? 4. What's next?



The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS) in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) is a state agency, organized primarily to provide efficient and effective firefighting, fire protection, fire investigation, emergency medical services, specialized rescue, handling of hazardous material, and Wildland firefighting services to persons and property in the CNMI.

DFEMS is within the Executive Branch of the Commonwealth Government and is headed by the Commissioner of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, who is appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. DFEMS on the islands of Rota and Tinian is administered by a qualified Resident Deputy Commissioner, who is appointed by the island's mayor with the advice and consent of the Municipal Council members on those respective islands.

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services is a reality after a bill separating the service from the Department of Public Safety became law on January 25 2015. Prior to Senate Bill 18-057, SD 2 becoming Public Law 18-73, the CNMI Fire Division was the only fire division in the United States under the wing of a department of public safety. Before the enactment of P.L. 18-73, there were three failed attempts to have similar bills passed by the House and Senate.

DFEMS has a rich history and a dynamic present characterized by its service to our visitors and our residents. The department continues to reach for highest standards of work performance, personal protective equipment, and rescue and firefighting equipment while addressing the safety and health of our personnel.

DFEMS has incurred a large debt due to the impact of two devastating typhoons in 2015 and 2018. The department is establishing a debt repayment plan and is working diligently with the Department of Finance and the Office of Management and Budget to ensure vendors are paid in order to maintain effective and efficient emergency operations.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) has been identified and the department's management team is working with the central government on availability of funds to outfit the department on the islands of Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

To better serve the community, DFEMS Command has identified the need to establish a permanent administration building which will complement the intent of both Governor Torres and Lt. Governor Palacios to provide more comprehensive services for the people of the CNMI.



## Mission Statement

Protect the lives and property of the people of the Commonwealth—both visitors and residents alike—from fires, natural disasters, and hazardous material incidents by providing emergency medical services as well as preventing fires through mitigation and education programs.

## Fire Personnel

Saipan-109 Tinian- 22 Rota- 21

## According to the 2010 United States Census

- **50.9% Asian**  
(35.3% Filipino, 6.8% Chinese, 4.2% Korean, 1.5% Japanese, 0.9% Bangladeshi, 0.5% Thai, 0.4% Nepalese, 0.3% Other Asian),
- **34.9% Pacific Islander**  
(23.9% Chamorro, 4.6% Carolinian, 2.3% Chuukese, 2.2% Palauan, 0.8% Pohnpeian, 0.4% Yapese, 0.1% Kosraean)

# Fire Suppression Response

Working Structure Fires	18
Automotive Fire	14
Wildland Fire	202
Suppression Assist Medics	208
Rescue Unit Assist Medics	433
Search and Rescue Mission	13
Hazardous Material	17
All Others	443
Total Emergency Response	1348
Total Non-Emergency Response	513
Total:	1861



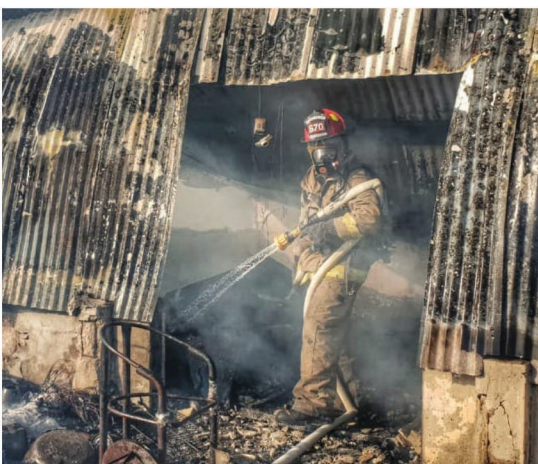
## Other Statistics

Vehicle Crash w/o Extrication | 195  
 Total Acreage Burned | 14.3

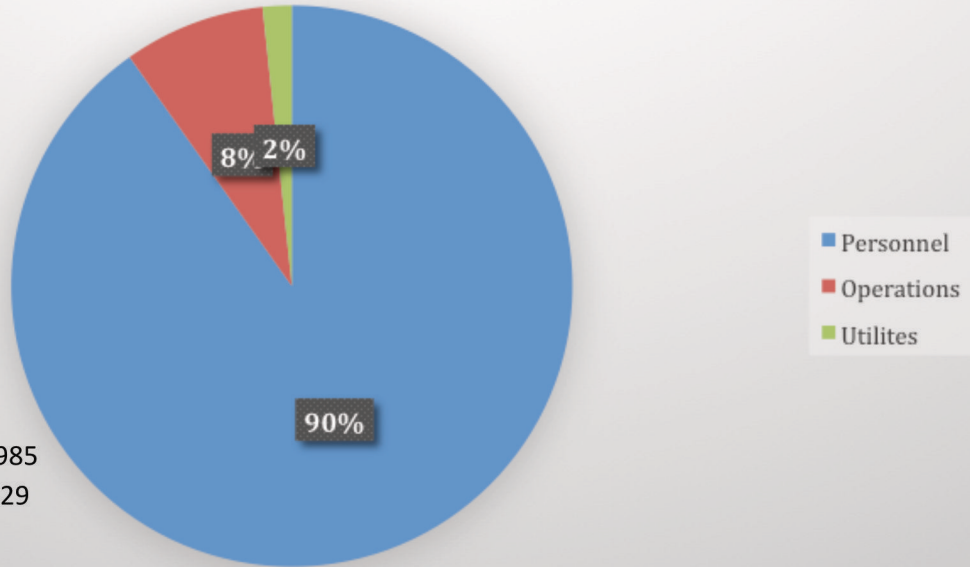
# Emergency Medical Services Ambulance Response

A medical emergency is an acute injury or illness that poses an immediate risk to a person's life or long-term health, sometimes referred to as a situation risking "life or limb".

Ambulance Response	5614
Motor Vehicle Crashes Transported	116
Field Patient	5412
Refuse Transport from MVC	174
Total Transported to Hospital:	4139
Immediate Transport Code-1:	170
Moderate Measure Code-3:	3969

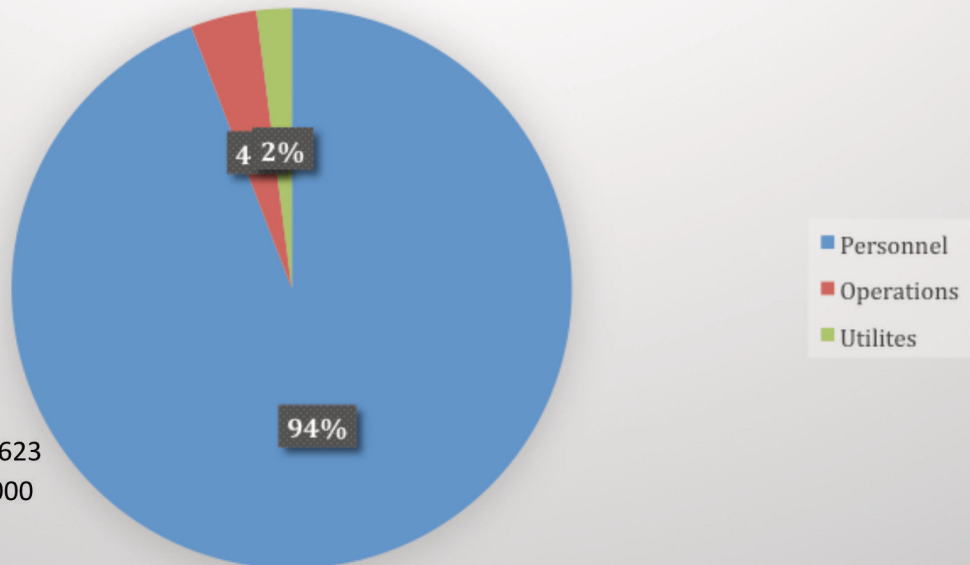


## Approved Financial Summary



Personnel: 4,802,985  
Operations: 433,729  
Utilities: 88,920  
Total: 5,325,634

## Requested Financial Summary



Personnel: 5,039,623  
Operations: 205,000  
Utilities: 108,000  
Total: 5,352,623



# Goals

1. Develop a multi-year master plan with stated goals, objectives, and timelines; revise and update the plan annually based on yearly evaluation of accomplishments.
2. Enhance the department's professional image in the community.
3. Establish competency-based job descriptions for all positions in the department in order to clarify roles and expectations.
4. Identify and prioritize personnel training needs.
5. Hire qualified applicants based on formal job descriptions in order to sustain the organization for the future.
6. Evaluate personnel performance annually based on job descriptions.
7. Provide management and communications training for all supervisors.
8. Identify, implement and enforce procedures to ensure the workplace is free of violence and harassment while promoting unity.
9. Implement a validated physical agility test for all fire personnel.

