

Fire Marshal's  
Office  
Annual Report  
2005

Joseph Cappucci  
Fire Marshal

# Vision



**Our vision is to continue to strive to educate the public on fire prevention measures to decrease the threat to the lives and the property of the citizens of New Haven.**

**We must reverse the cycle of apathy towards prevention and increase personnel and budgetary options to better serve the community.**

# From the Desk of the Fire Marshal:



The office of the Fire Marshal continues to strive to meet the statutory requirements set forth by Connecticut State Statute Chapter 541. As statutes change, so must we to keep up with the ever-changing rules and regulations. Fire marshal personnel, as required, are constantly in training and educational classes in order to provide the best possible services to the community.

On a daily basis, life safety and fire hazards are reported to this office by the public, municipal employees, other departments and fire personnel. These complaints are investigated and either compliance is gained through repeat inspections or violation notices; or the information is turned over to our court system for prosecution.

To eliminate hazards in a new or existing structure, this office conducts a plan review prior to construction or occupancy. Plan reviews ensure the public's safety by making it necessary that fire code requirements are met prior to construction or occupancy.

Reviewing building and renovation plans continues to be a major responsibility especially with the increase in multiple, major construction projects in New Haven for the Board of Education, Yale and other residential complexes.

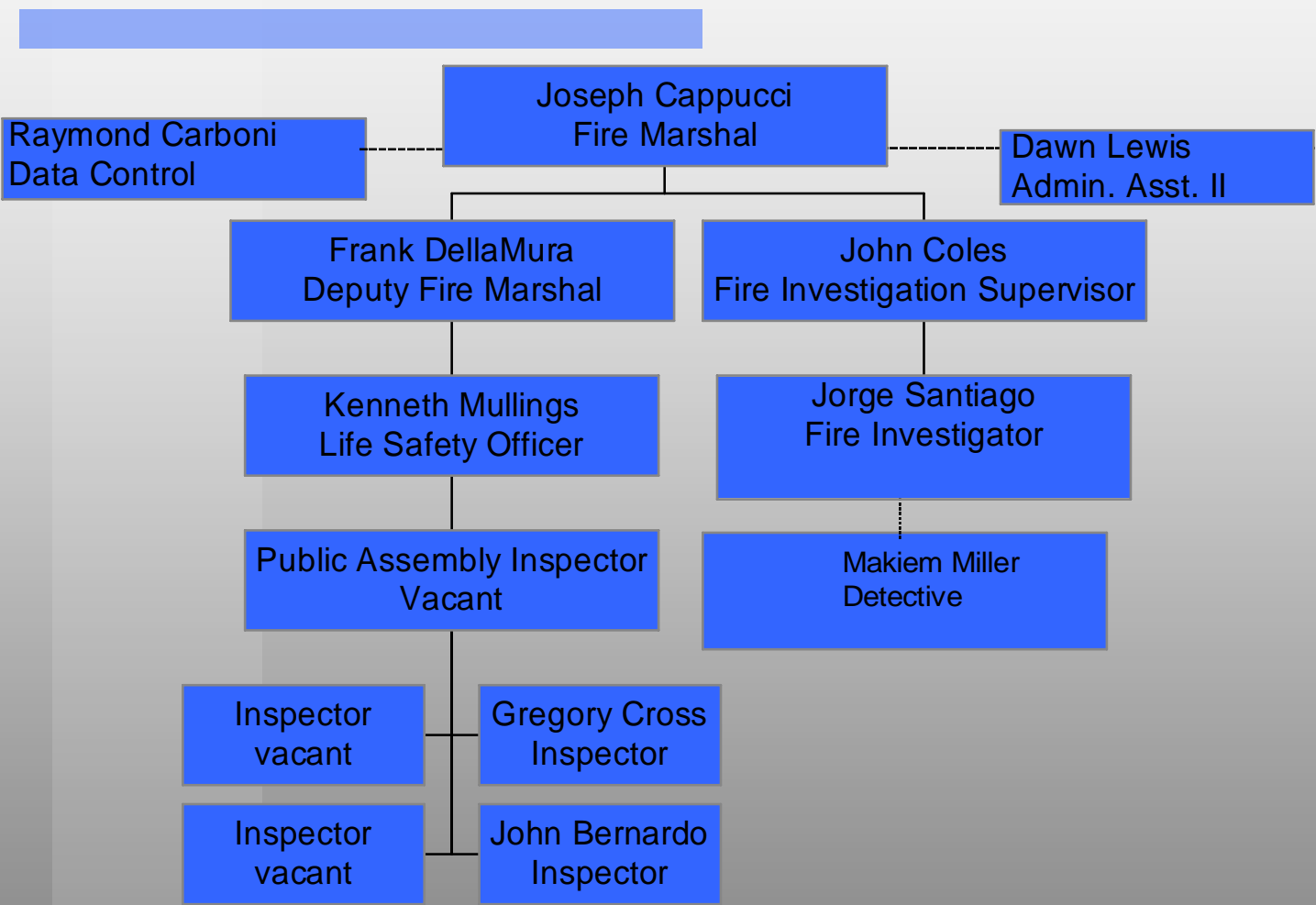
Fire Safety and prevention should be taken seriously at all times. Understanding the full impact of failing to do this only occurs after the damage has been done.

“We make our cars safe, we keep our money safe....it's time to make personal safety something we do all the time at home and at work.”

Joseph Cappucci

# Staffing

## FMO Organizational Chart



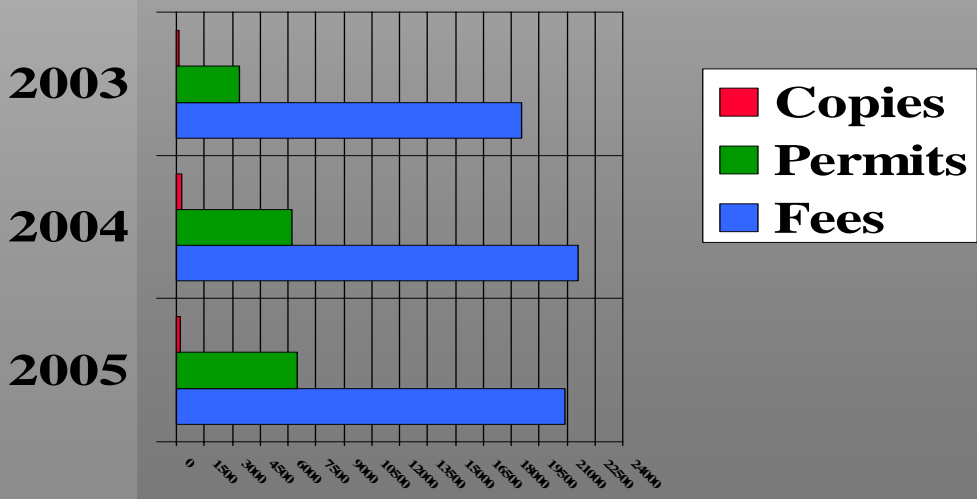
# 2005 in Review

## 2005 Fire Marshal's Office Revenue

date	report #	cut/weld	fill	copies	cash	total
12/15/05	70142	221	149	28	34	\$432.00
11/1/05	70141	663	596	0	30	\$1,289.00
10/5/05	70140	221	439	36	107	\$803.00
8/25/05	70139	0	0	14	0	\$14.00
8/24/05	70138	663	0	32	23	\$718.00
7/27/05	70137	1302	290	16	15	\$1,623.00
6/13/05	70104	430	5075	0	0	\$5,505.00
5/16/05	70103	645	580	5	15	\$1,245.00
5/16/05	70102	0	2320	0	5	\$2,325.00
5/16/05	70101	0	0	32.04	0	\$32.04
5/5/05	70100	0	145	19.25	0	\$164.25
5/5/05	70099	215	1885	0	0	\$2,100.00
5/5/05	70098	0	8410	0	0	\$8,410.00
5/2/05	70097	1505	725	29	0	\$2,259.00
3/4/05	70096	0	0	12.5	26	\$38.50
3/4/05	53445	645	0	12	0	\$657.00
<b>totals</b>		<b>6510</b>	<b>20614</b>	<b>235.79</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>\$27,614.79</b>

	Fees	Permits	Copies	
2005	\$20,869.00	\$6,510.00	\$235.79	
2004	\$21,595.00	\$6,195.00	\$271.25	
2003	\$18,551.75	\$3,395.00	\$147.50	

### FMO Generated Revenue



# 2005 in Review

The smoke trailer visited over 33 public and parochial schools and daycare centers during fire prevention month. The first week of fire prevention month was rained out, but over 3500 children participated with the smoke trailer.

Light duty personnel, the shop's personnel and the engine companies assisted about 250 children per day through the smoke trailer.



•The 2005 “*Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery*” promotion was very successful. Media announcements, handouts, coloring sheets as well as participating in the Mayor’s Halloween Parade made the event a success. The Energizer Battery company donated the use of the “Bunny” for the event. The FMO purchased a promotional banner which was on display to the community. Energizer has provided over 2000 batteries to us over the years to assist in our fire safety promotions.

Our 2004-2005 fire prevention poster contest winners enjoy receiving their awards and savings bonds from the Fire Marshal.



# 2005 in Review

## Special Events Inspected

- 🏆 New Haven Gospel Festival
- 🏆 Hospitality Village for Yale Football
- 🏆 New Haven Road Race
- 🏆 Yale Commencements
- 🏆 Programs at Woolsey Hall
- 🏆 International Arts Festival
- 🏆 Long Wharf Theater
- 🏆 Shubert Theater Performances
- 🏆 Fourth of July Fireworks
- 🏆 Public School Graduations
- 🏆 Jazz Festival on the Green
- 🏆 Nathan Hale Reenactment
- 🏆 Chili Cook Off
- 🏆 Yale Football Events
- 🏆 Leukemia Society Event on the Green
- 🏆 St Mathew's Church Pull Fest
- 🏆 First Calvary Church Revival
- 🏆 Community Outreach Tent Crusade
- 🏆 Flechas Long Wharf Festival
- 🏆 JWF Unity Carnival
- 🏆 Harbor Festival
- 🏆 Puerto Rican Day Festival
- 🏆 MLK May Day
- 🏆 Barnard School Dedication
- 🏆 Pfizer Building Dedication

## Annual Inspections Performed

- ▶ Rooming Houses
- ▶ New Haven Public & Private Schools
- ▶ Flammable Liquid Trucks
- ▶ Bulk Plants and Private Gas Pumps
- ▶ Churches
- ▶ Elderly Housing Units
- ▶ Fraternities and Sororities
- ▶ City Owned Buildings
- ▶ Day Care Centers
- ▶ Liquor License Renewals
- ▶ General Complaints
- ▶ DMR Housing
- ▶ Pawn Shops
- ▶ Dry Cleaners
- ▶ Health Care Facilities
- ▶ School Based Clinics
- ▶ Vending Trucks

# 2005 in Review



The new H.T.E. computer program was up and running in 2005 allowing not only firefighters but inspectors to log on and begin adding information to the screens.

The new information allows firefighters and inspectors to access information about properties in New Haven, thus putting current information at their fingertips.



Inspections and violations can all be added and seen as open or closed or if they've been cited for violations.



# Fire Marshal Data

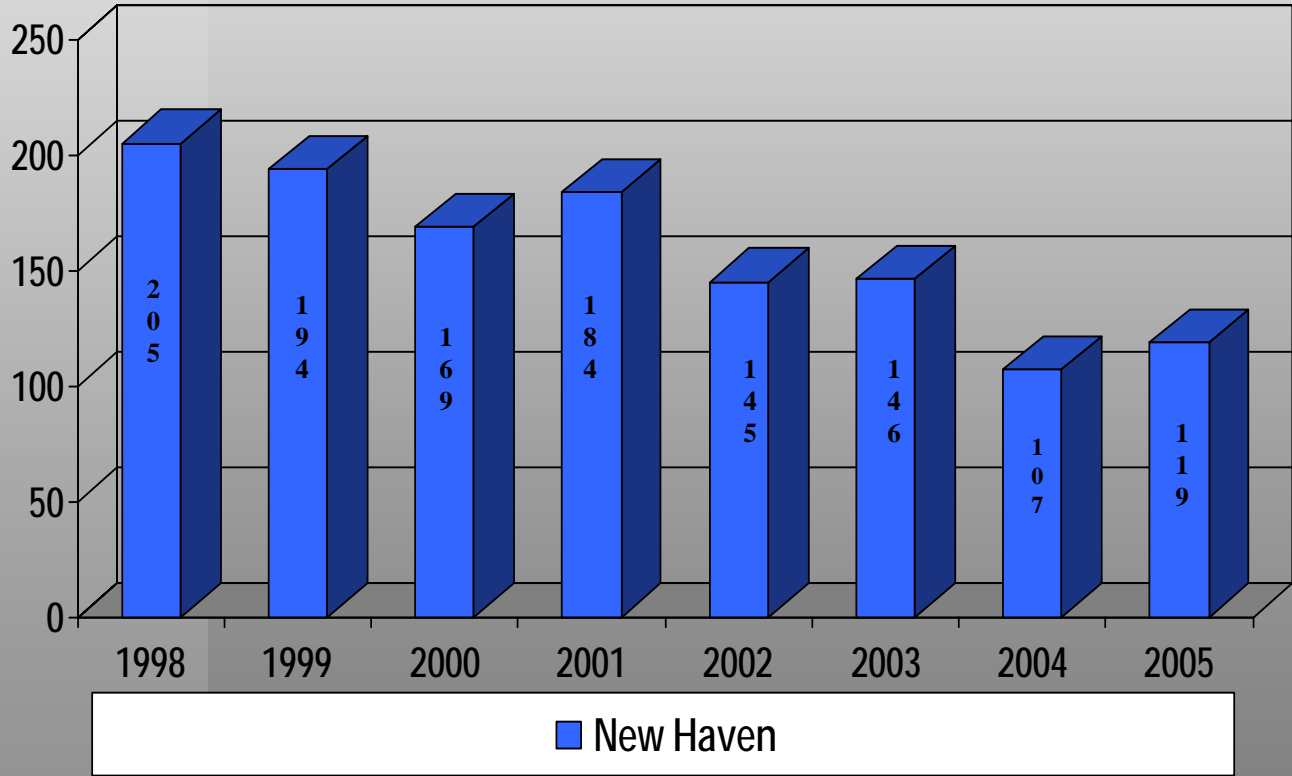
## Inspection Statistics 2005

FOI Requests	100
Files Reviewed	225
School Alarms	123
Flammable Storage	49
Flammable Trucks	89
Private Pumps	20
Complaints	575
General Inspection	684
Plan Reviews	455
FASBIS	327
Churches	267
Liquor Licenses	157

Year of Loss	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Incident Rates</b>						
Total Alarms	28,844	29,872	29,506	31,829	32,827	32,101
EMS Calls	19,556	20644	21,724	25,060	25,480	27,207
Fire Incidents	9,288	6,606	7,782	6,769	7,347	4,894
<b>Fires</b>						
Structural Fires	169	184	145	146	107	119
Incendiary Structure Fires	46	33	43	42	52	37
Vacant Building Fires	34	29	18	15	11	4
Multiple Alarms	27	26	22	17	19	13
<b>Civilian Casualties</b>						
Injuries	12	12	6	2		
Deaths	1	0	1	0	6	1
<b>Fire Loss</b>						
Total Fire Loss	\$2,867,100	\$3,995,659	\$2,256,088	n/a	\$3,659,350	\$2,651,100
Total Incendiary Loss	\$595,050	\$208,712	\$396,469	n/a		

# Structure Fires in New Haven

Structure fire losses were shown to have a steady decrease over the past 8 years due to increased home safety measures, fire prevention activities and the response and training of fire personnel....but further work must be done. It may prove costly to citizens, as the increase from 2004 to 2005 shows, to decrease the Personnel that directly influence fire prevention efforts.



# Fire Investigation Unit Report

## Fire Investigators:

In 2005 Detective Makien Miller was assigned to the Fire Investigation unit which directly helped to increase the number of arson arrests.

Captain John Coles

Investigator Jorge Santiago

Detective Makiem Miller

Month	File	Date	C/N	Location	Arson	Accident	Res Com	Occ Vac	Status	Remarks
Jan-05	NHFD	1/12/05	1053	358 Orange St		x	x	x	Closed	Heater fire - 2nd alarm
		1/19/05	1636	154 Frank St	x		x		Open	Shed Fire
		1/26/05	2325	44 Russell St		x	x	x	Closed	Electrical Fire
		1/28/05	2482	240 Exchange St		x	x	x	Closed	Electrical Fire
Feb-05	NHFD	2/1/05	2930	604 Orange St			x	x	Closed	Domestic
		2/2/05	2950	1605 Whalley Av- Regal Inn Rm 199		x	x	x	Closed	Electrical Fire-A/C Heating Unit
		2/8/05	3566	407 Grand Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Careless cooking
		2/9/05	3607	90 Fowler St					Open	Vehicle Fire-Undetermined
		2/17/05	4314	104 Sherman Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Candle Fire
		2/18/05	8306	57 Whalley Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Stove Fire
Mar-05	NHFD	3/1/05	5335	98 Fowler St Apt 1R		x	x	x	Closed	Poss/Candle Fire 2nd Alarm
		3/5/05	5631	810 Woodward Ave- Fireside Restaurant 320 Quinpiac Av Bldg				x	Open	Undetermined at this time
		3/15/05	6476	2 Apt. 2A		x	x	x	Closed	Candle Fire
		3/16/05	6582	138 Blatchely Ave			x	x	Open	Mattress Fire -undetermined
		3/16/05	6625	40 Batter Terrace	x		x	x	Open	Stair Tower
		3/17/05	6691	152 Lamberton St		x	x	x	Closed	Workmen cutting metal pipes
		3/17/05	6723	254 Kimberly Ave	x				Open	Dumpster Fire
		3/18/05	6828	46-48 Henry St	x		x	x	Closed	Clothes & mattress set on fire - arrest made
		3/22/05	7138	48 Cherry Ann St 585 Lombard St - New		x	x	x	Closed	Electrical Fire
		3/23/05	7170	Star Diner	x				Open	Bottle w/gasoline inside driveway
		3/24/05	7239	42 Lombard St			x	x	Open	Undetermined at this time-2nd Alarm
		3/24/05	7315	Dewitt & Putnam	x				Open	Vehicle Fire
		3/26/05	7491	9 Maltby Place		x	x	x	Open	Careless use of butane lighter
		3/26/05	7494	111 Kendall st	x				Open	Vehicle Fire
Apr-05	NHFD	4/1/05	7983	460 Edgewood Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Roof Torchng
		4/1/05	7968	158 Fillmore St	x		x	x	Closed	Juvenile Fire - Stuffed Animal
		4/2/05	8048	341 Smith Ave Apt 90		x	x	x	Closed	Careless cooking
		4/11/05	8845	109 Poplar St		x	x		Closed	Garage Fire misuse of a torch
		4/13/05	9044	398 Blatchley Ave			x	x	Open	trash fire outside of structure -undetermined
		4/18/05	9436	43 Forth Street	x				Open	Fence Fire Stockage Fence
		4/20/05	9594	138-140 Poplar St	x				Open	Fence Fire Stockage Fence
		4/22/05	9737	551-553 Whalley Ave			x	x	Open	2nd Floor Rear porch - undetermined-2nd Alarm
		4/23/05	9845	112 Eastern Street		x	x	x	Closed	Improper use of an extension cord
		4/25/05	10009	65 William Street	x				Open	Vehicle Fire
		4/26/05	10170	57 Judson Ave		x			Closed	Motorcycle Fire
		4/28/05	10344	24 Garden St		x	x	x	Closed	Kitchen Fire-Careless cooking
		4/30/05	10419	940 State St			x	x	Open	2nd Floor Window-Undetermined
May-05	NHFD	5/8/05	11176	60 Bright St		x	x	x	Closed	Combustibles near hot water heater
		5/13/05	11634	702 Winchester Ave	x				Closed	Juvenile Fire - Brush Fire
		5/15/05	11834	85 Orange Street		x	x	x	Closed	Candle Fire- Bathroom
		5/18/05	11962	19 Wheeler St		x		x	Closed	Friction Fire from a machine-Trash Dump
		5/19/05	12112	174 Blatchley Ave	x				Open	Vehicle Fire
		5/22/05	12355	384 New hall St	x		x	x	Closed	Pour of gasoline-attempted arson-Arrest made
		5/22/05	12374	255 New hall St		x	x	x	Closed	Kitchen Fire -Electrical appliance
		5/25/05	12624	933 Quinpiac Ave 400 Sargent Dr-		x	x	x	Closed	Tree Fell on UI wires. 2nd Alarm
		5/28/05	12895	Fairfield Inn		x		x	Closed	Small appliance fire - bathroom
Jun-05	NHFD	6/9/05	14008	466 Middletown Ave	x				Open	Vehicle Fire
		6/10/05	14077	6 Gray Lane	x		x		Open	Store Room poss. Juvenile fire
		6/10/05	14087	466 Middletown Ave					Closed	Gascontainer found on property. Unknown owner
		6/14/05	14421	4 West Read St		x	x	x	Closed	Radiate heating trash fire
		6/14/05	14460	32 Alton St	x		x	x	Closed	Attempted Arson - 3 Arrests
		6/21/05	15044	22 Frank St		x	x	x	Closed	Arcing wires
		6/22/05	15151	15 Shelton Ave		x		x	Closed	Smoking in bed

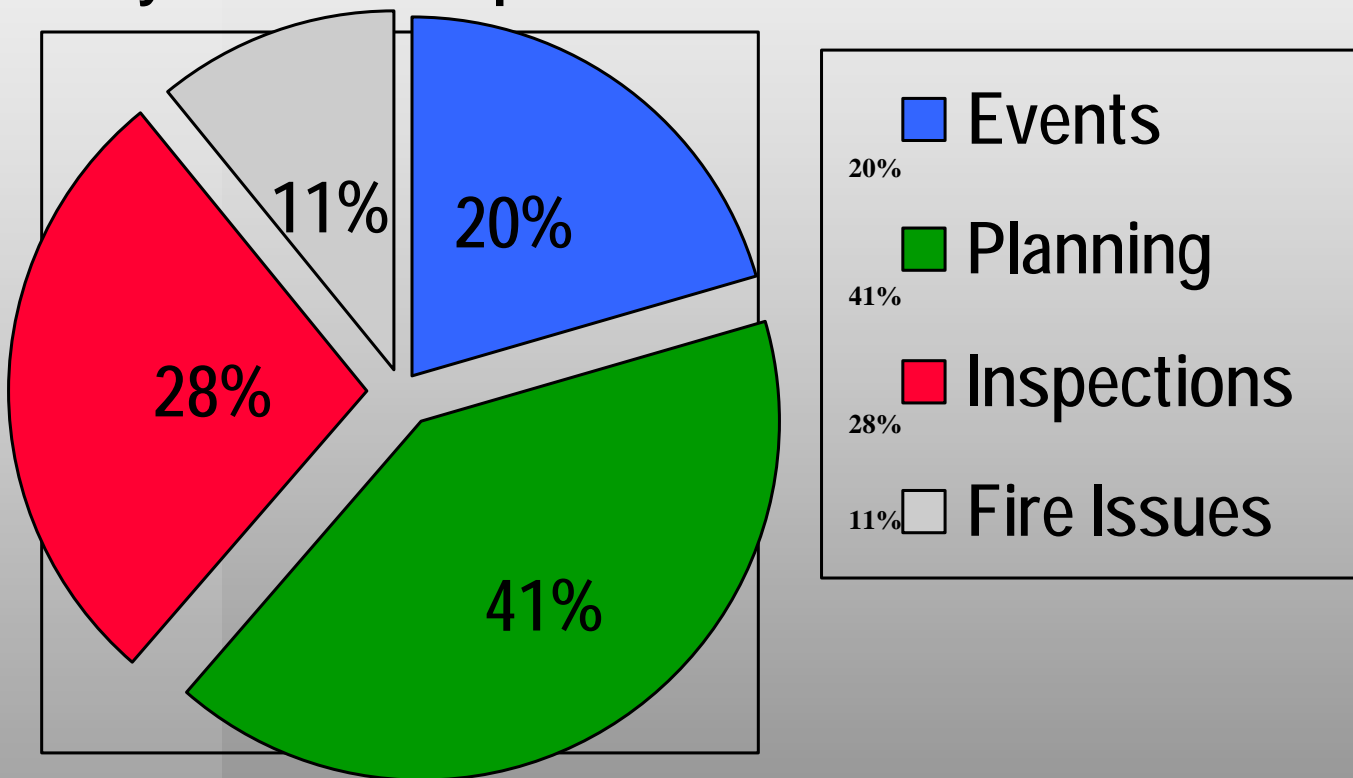
# Fire Investigation Unit Report

2005

Month	File	Date	C/N	Location	Arson	Accident	Res Com	Occ Vac	Status	Remarks		
Jul-05	NHFD	7/3/05	16072	381 Grand Ave			x	x	Closed	Roof Fire - poss. Fireworks		
		7/4/05	16187	288 Dwight St rear			x		Closed	4 bay garage exterior-undetermined		
		7/7/05	16446	15 Weybossett St apt3		x	x	x	Closed	Careless cooking		
		7/7/05	16440	431 Greenwich Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Child with ignition source		
			7/12/05	16873	First Ave-& Hemingway St	x				Open	Motor vehicle fire	
			7/12/05	16831	204 Barnes Ave			x	x	Open	2nd Floor undetermined	
			7/16/05	17192	1850 Ella Grasso Blvd			x	x	Closed	Storing illegal fireworks. Arrest made.	
			7/18/05	17423	149 Blatchely Ave	x		x	x	Open	Poss. Juvenile firesetters. Garage Fire	
			7/26/05	18151	66 Morris Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Fire poss. Start by a candle. 2nd alarm	
			7/26/05	18170	514 George st		x	x	x	Closed	careless smoking	
			7/27/05	18211	Mansfield/Hillside Pl	x				Open	Arson - stolen vehicle	
			7/28/05	18341	15 Richards St			x	x	Closed	Poss. Careless smoking	
		7/29/05	18458	7 Richards St	x		x	x	Open	Poss. Juvenile firesetters.		
Aug-05	NHFD	8/1/05	18718	143 West St			x		x	Open	Structure Fire	
		8/2/05	18788	51-53 Vernon St	x		x	x	Open	Malicious Fires		
		8/2/05	18799	80 Dwight St		x	x	x	Closed	Burning of bees nest		
		8/4/05	18957	18 Market Street	x		x	x	Open	Several Small fires		
		8/4/05	19013	107 Fitch St			x	x	Closed	undetermined		
				8/6/05	19155	Whalley Ave/Ella Grasso Blvd	x				Open	Motor vehicle fire
				8/9/05	19489	373-375 Blatchely Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Storage too close to water heater
				8/10/05	19517	293 Clinton Ave School				x	Open	Exterior of bldg smoldering materials
				8/11/05	19647	210 Wooster St			x	x	Open	1st Fl Apt. Bedroom - undetermined
				8/13/05	19754	608 Valley St	x		x	x	Closed	Arson Fire - Arrest made.
				8/17/05	20099	37 Admiral St	x		x	x	Open	Fire on the exterior of structure
				8/19/05	20233	190 Middletown Ave	x		x		Open	Motor vehicle fire
		8/23/05	20613	83 hallock Ave			x	x	Open	1st fl Living room-undetermined		
		8/25/05	20761	141 Sheffield Ave	x		x	x	Open	Pour of gas line at front door of apt 9B		
Sep-05	NHFD	9/3/05	21642	687 B Russell St	x		x	x	Open	Children playing with an ignition source		
		9/5/05	21818	County St/Goffe St		x			Closed	Tractor Trailer fire		
		9/8/05	22078	374 Winthrop Ave		x	x	x	Closed	smoking materials		
		9/8/05	22146	409 Winthrop Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Electrical		
				9/22/05	23295	150 Wallace St-Palmieri Foods			x		Open	Kitchen Area - undetermined
				10/4/05	52339	136 Winchester Ave			x	x	Closed	Undetermined - 1fatality
Oct-05	NHFD	10/4/05	525518	146 Davenport Av	x				Open	Motor vehicle fire		
				10/5/05	24458	339 Eastern St-BellaVista			x	x	Open	9th fl lobby- undetermined
				10/7/05	24582	61 Hemingway St		x	x	x	Closed	Kitchen fire, grease fire
				10/12/05	25061	269-271 Winthrop Ave			x	x	Closed	Basement Fire-vapors from paint products
				10/16/05	25426	190 Wolcott St Rear	x				Closed	Motor vehicle fire
				10/18/05	55031	252 James St Front of					Open	Motor vehicle fire
				10/20/05	25789	387-389 Shelton Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Structure Fire
				10/23/05	26062	1636 Chapel St	x		x		Open	Garage Fire
				10/26/05	26356	111 Kensington St		x	x		Closed	Fire on the exterior of structure
				10/28/05	26478	98 Union ave Opp.	x				Open	Motor vehicle fire
Nov-05	NHFD	11/1/05	26860	156 Cedarhill Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Possible Electrical appliance		
		11/4/05	27116	124-126 New hall St	x		x	x	Open	Arson 3rd fl, front & rear		
				11/7/05	400 Waterfront Terminal					Open	Dock Fire - undetermined	
				11/9/05	27620	107 Fairmont Ave	x				Open	Vehicle Fire
				11/10/05	27669	1560 Whalley Ave			x	x	Open	Undetermined
				11/18/05	28358	169 Olive Street		x	x		Closed	accidental
				11/27/05	29107	262 Hallock Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Electrical fire
Dec-05	NHFD	12/2/05	29513	342 Norton St		x	x	x	Closed	Electrical fire in Basement		
		12/5/05	29779	13 Lodge Street		x	x	x	Closed	Stove left on for heat		
		12/5/05	29833	235 Wooster St		x	x	x	Closed	Trash fire careless smoking		
		12/10/05	30223	211 Spring St			x	x	Open	Basement Fire		
				12/10/05	30517	40 So. Water St-Sound High School	x		x	x	Closed	Fire in microwave - arrest made
				12/12/05	30140	314 Lombard St		x	x	x	Closed	fire in closet
				12/19/05	31053	205-207 Alden Ave		x	x	x	Closed	Porch fire 2nd fl -careless smoking
				12/20/05	31140	13 Fillmore St		x	x	x	Closed	Tenant's carelessness lighting furnace
				12/20/05	31143	308-310 Peck St		x	x	x	Closed	Porch fire 1st fl - careless smoking
				12/23/05	31367	1 Long Wharf Dr. - Clark's Cafe		x	x	x	Closed	Linen basket - spontaneous combustion

# Yale University

It's estimated that Yale University sponsored events, infrastructure planning, inspections and fire related issues comprise nearly 20% of all duties and responsibilities performed by this office's personnel.



- ☞ Weekly inspections are performed at all Yale Theaters
- ☞ In 2005 there were extensive plan reviews and inspections for Yale renovations and building projects.
- ☞ Liquor License inspections are performed for Yale Cabaret, Yale Golf Course, Yale University Theater and the Yale Repertory Theater
- ☞ Yale commencements, special events, concerts and football games are all regularly inspected.
- ☞ Regular meetings are conducted with Yale Fire Marshal and staff

# Goals for 2006

- **Continue to upgrade database computer systems to allow for quicker access to property information by fire personnel**
- **Re-evaluate and increase fees for services and permits**
- **Fill all vacant positions**
- **Find funding for updated fire prevention materials such as: handouts, brochures, and videos for training**
- **Begin computer data entry and scanning process for old files**
- **Provide a “kiosk-style” information center for the public for fire department inquiries, permits, reports and foi requests.**
- **Acquire complete training and resource materials on the Fire Code updates**

# Conclusion:

**I wish the following former Fire Marshal's Office personnel well on their recent retirements and future endeavors:**

**Public Assembly Inspector Michael Knight**

**Inspector Ursalene Taylor**

**Inspector Richard Dingle**

**In conclusion, I would like to thank the following departments for their assistance to my office in keeping this city safe:**

**Office of the Fire Chief**

**Training School**

**Building Maintenance Personnel**

**Apparatus Mechanics**

**New Haven Police Department**

**Board of Education**

**Building Department**

**Livable Cities**

**The office of the CAO**

**Health Department**

**Yale Fire Marshal's Office**

**and the State's Attorney's Office**

**I look forward to working with the citizens of New Haven and various other organizations in this New Year to make our City safe.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Joseph Cappucci  
Fire Marshal**