

# San José Fire Department

The San José Fire Department's core mission is to serve the community by protecting life, property and the environment through prevention and response.



## Fire Department Emergency Medical Services Annual Report

Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support Committee

March 20, 2025

Item (d)1.

Presented by:

Robert Sapien, Jr., Fire Chief, Fire Department

Steve Boughey, Deputy Fire Chief, Bureau of EMS & Training

# Fire Department ALS & Ambulance Transport Services



## Engine, Truck, US&R, ARFF

- 34 Fire Stations
- 33 Engines, 9 Trucks, 1 ARFF, 1 US&R
- 4-Responders/ALS

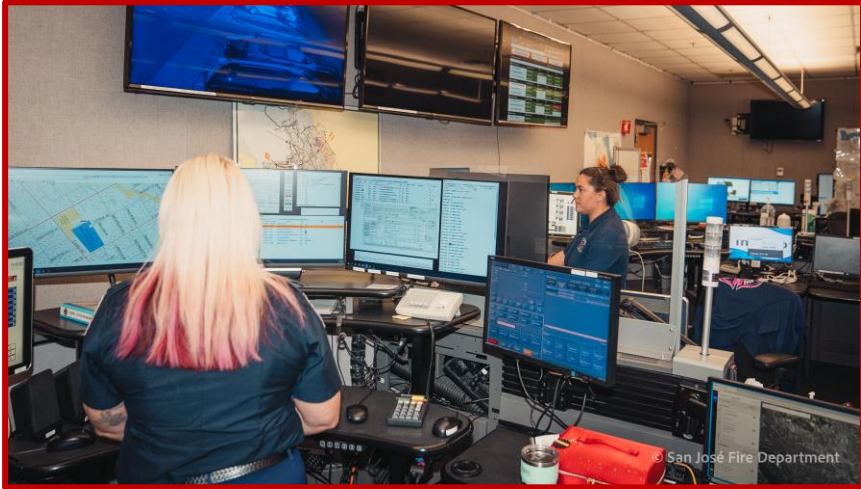


## Rescue Medics

- 3 Rescue Medics in service 24/7
- 8 Available in Fleet
- 2-Responders/ALS



# First Responder EMS Protocol for ALS Services



9-1-1 request is received for Emergency Medical Services

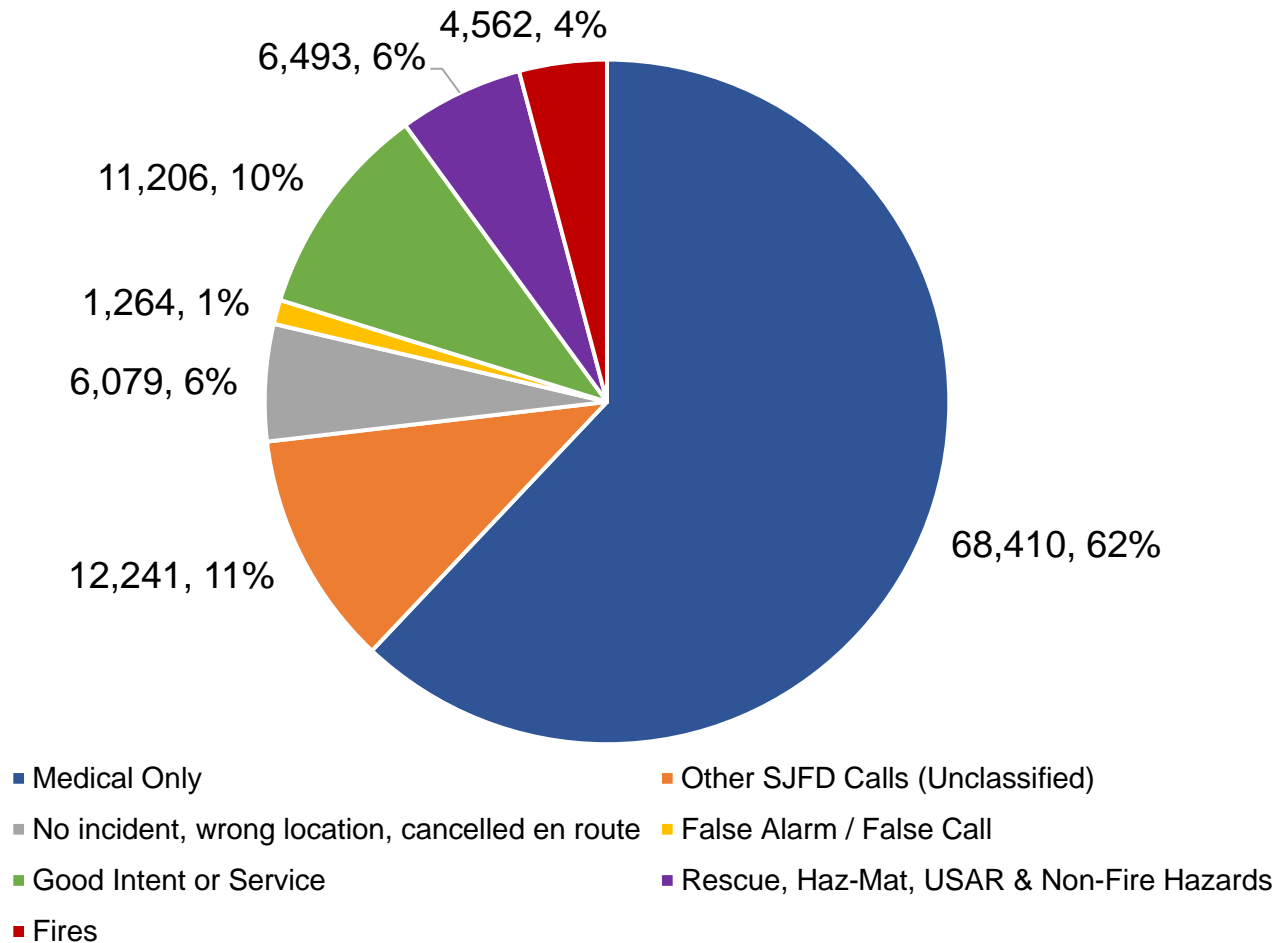
Fire & Ambulance Dispatched for Advance Life Support Services / Dispatcher Pre-arrival Instructions Initiated

Firefighter/Paramedic arrives and provides treatment

Firefighter/Paramedic retains patient care for exigent transport to Emergency Department

Transfers care to Ambulance for transport to Emergency Department

# Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Incident Type Distribution

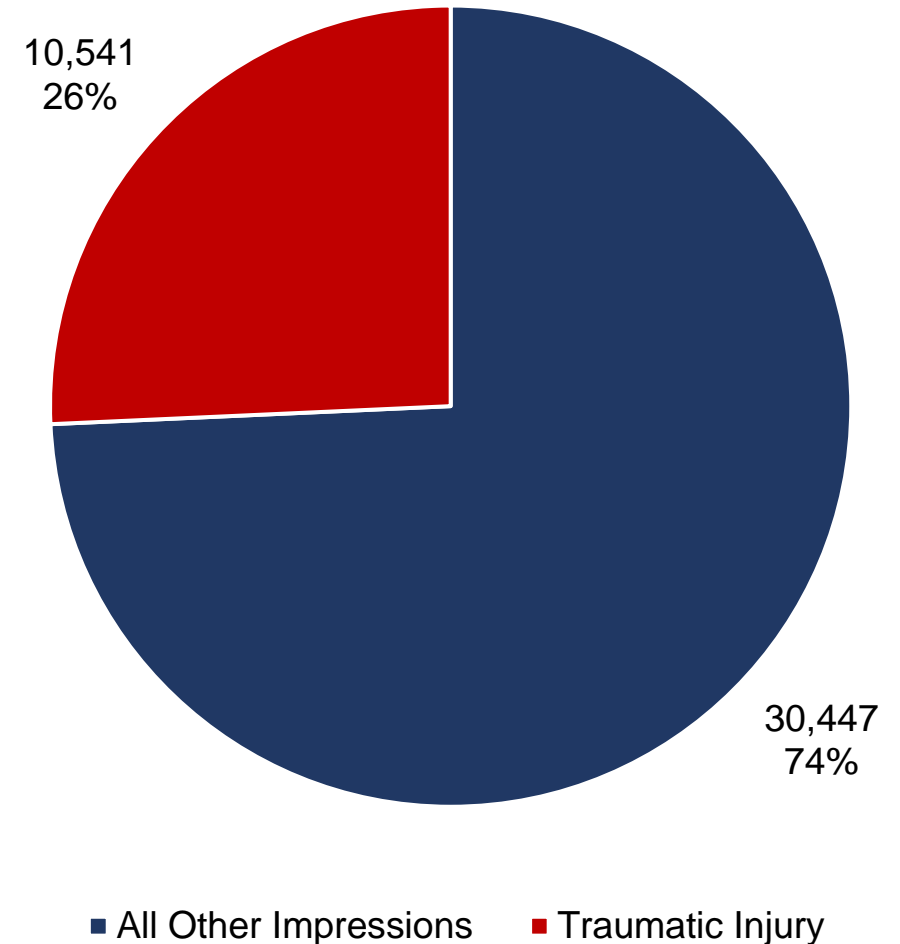


- Fire-based first responder EMS is an essential component to prehospital care
- 110,255 unique calls for service
- 68,410 (or 62%) Medical Only Emergencies

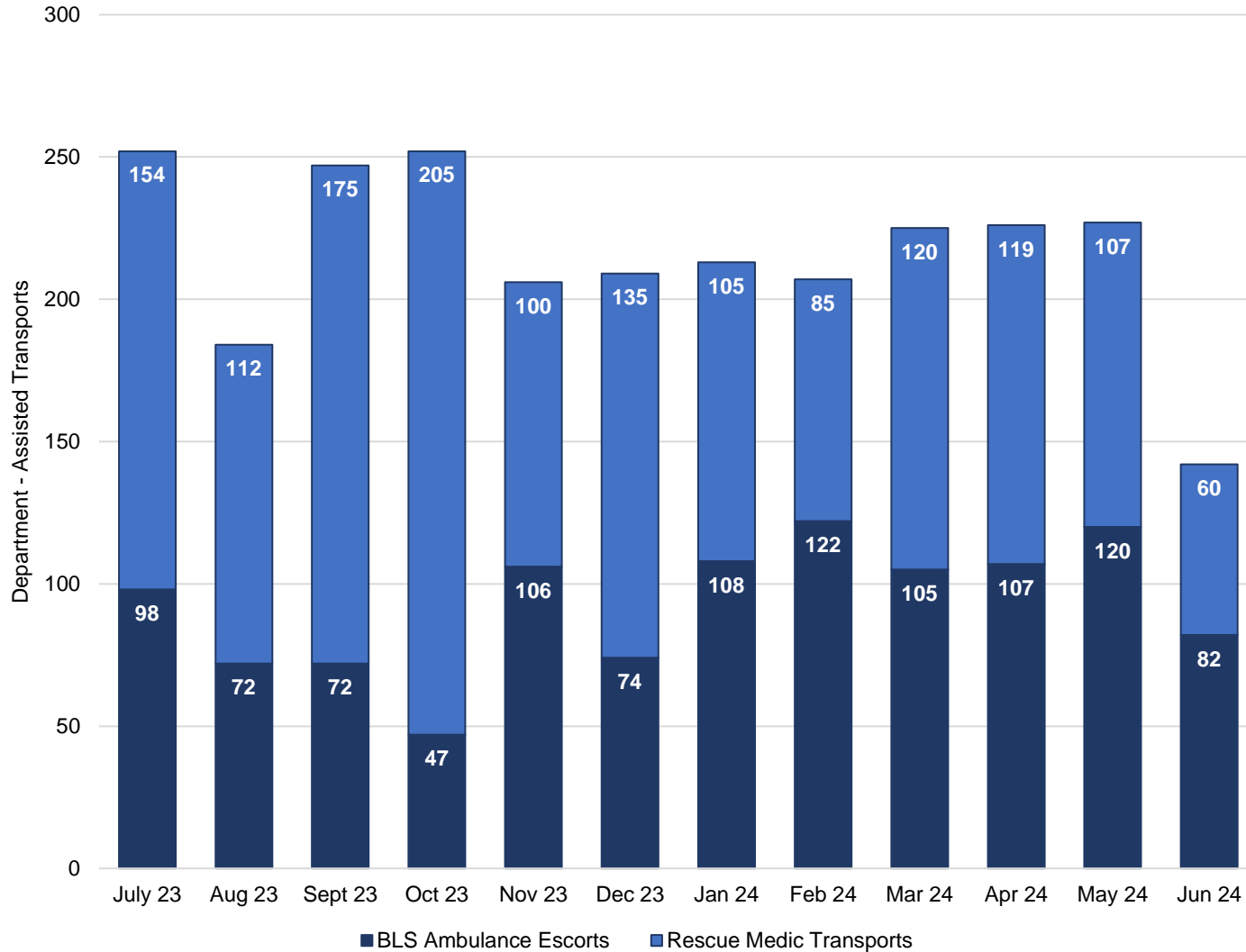
# Major Observations on Patient Primary Impressions



- 8% increase in Traumatic Injury and General Weakness
- Traumatic Injuries make up approx. 26% of total patient primary impressions
- Downward trends seen in FY 2023-2024:
  - Alcohol Intoxication/Overdose (-32%)
  - Altered Levels of Consciousness (-7%)
  - Chest Pain (-8%)



# Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Department BLS Escorts & ALS Transports



- Greater frequency in Department-assisted transports due to County's contracted ambulance unavailability
- 1,447 Rescue Medic Transports
- 1,113 BLS Ambulance Escorts
- 66% increase in SDO 10/11 Activation Minutes

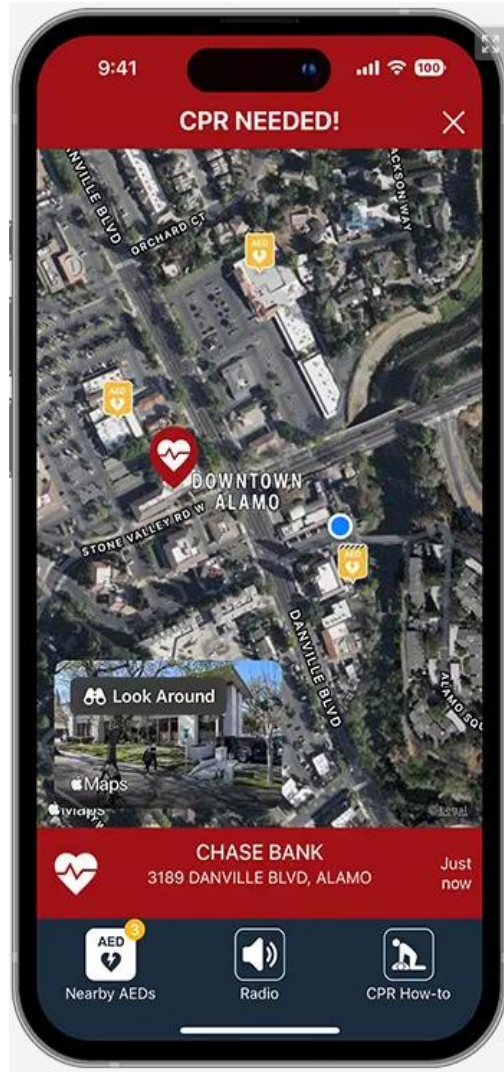
# Public Access Defibrillators (PAD Program)



- International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR):  
*Most adults who can be saved from cardiac arrest are in ventricular fibrillation (VF) or pulseless ventricular tachycardia. Electrical defibrillation provides the single most important therapy for the treatment of these patients. To achieve the earliest possible defibrillation, the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) endorses the concept that in many settings nonmedical individuals should be allowed and encouraged to use defibrillators.*
- 9 AEDs were utilized in FY 2023-2024 with 100% success rate for return to spontaneous circulation
- 236 AEDs located at 96 locations throughout the City



# PulsePoint App



- Early intervention for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest is critical:

*A study published in the Journal of the American Heart Association in 2018 concluded that each 1-minute increase in EMS response time was associated with a 10.7% (95% confidence interval, 10.0%–11.4%) decrease in favorable neurological outcome for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest victims<sup>1</sup>.*

- PulsePoint will alert skilled individuals, including off-duty health care professionals who have the PulsePoint App when SJFD receives 9-1-1 calls for cardiac arrest.

<sup>1</sup>Goto Y, Funada A, Goto Y. Relationship between emergency medical services response time and bystander intervention in patients with out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. *J Am Heart Assoc.* 2018;7:e007568.



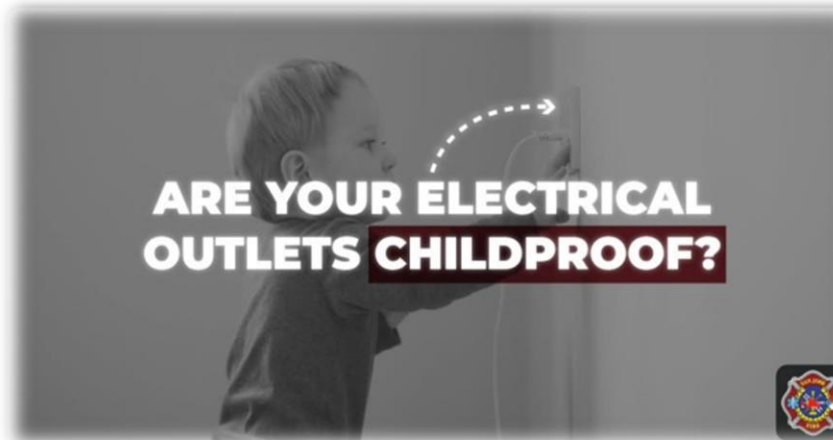
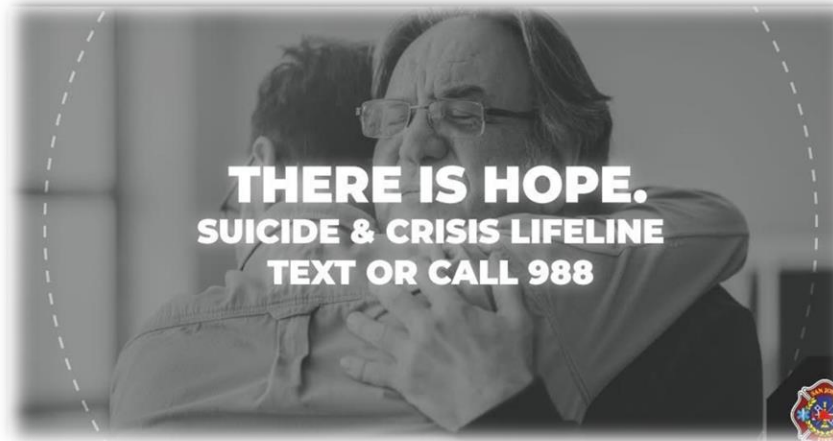
# Opioid Awareness Campaign



- Opioid Settlement Funds utilized to resource efforts in increasing public awareness of the dangers of opioid abuse
- Opioid Awareness Education & Outreach
  - Youth/Schools
  - At Risk Communities
  - Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)



# Continuous Public Information / Education



- 1** Prepare a pet go-bag with food, water, medication, and important documents.
  - 2** Designate a family member responsible for their safety in an emergency.
  - 3** Use a pet rescue sticker on windows to alert first responders of their presence in the home.
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# Questions?

Robert Sapien, Jr., Fire Chief  
Fire Department

Steve Boughey, Deputy Chief  
Bureau EMS and Training

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