

Bureau of Fire - Public Safety Committee March Report March 5, 2026

Chairperson and Members of the Public Safety Committee,

I respectfully submit the following monthly report.

- The past month remained extremely busy, with numerous structure fires, motor vehicle accidents (MVAs), and several weather-related storm events requiring coordinated multi-agency responses.

I would like to extend my appreciation to all EMS providers, fire departments, law enforcement agencies, dispatchers, Department of Public Works (DPW), Highway Departments, and the New York State Department of Transportation for their professionalism and rapid response during these events. Their teamwork and dedication continue to ensure the safety of our residents.

- The Bureau of Fire is working in partnership with the Division of Public Safety, Bureau of EMS, Sheriff's Office, and New York State Police to host the 3rd Annual Emergency Services Youth Academy. The program will be held July 20–24 at the Training Center and is open to students ages 14–16.
- Fire Chief meetings were conducted in all six battalions. Topics discussed included:
 - Public Employee Safety and Health (PESH) requirements for injury and illness reporting
 - Storm Mode operations in coordination with 911
 - Implementation of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) across all fire departments
 - Workers' compensation procedures
 - Recruitment and retention strategies
 - The NERIS fire reporting system
 - Statewide Mutual Aid response
- Training courses are going well, with planning underway for spring and summer course offerings.
- A coordination meeting was held with State and County Fire Instructors and representatives from the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control to review training standards and reinforce joint efforts.
- The Recruitment and Retention Task Force will be participating in several school career days throughout the county. These outreach efforts help build future membership to our emergency services agencies.
- The annual Burn Ban will be in effect from March 16 through May 14.
- Daylight Saving Time begins March 8. Residents are reminded to change their clocks and check or replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Thank you for your continued support

Respectfully submitted,

John Hauschild

Deputy Commissioner of Public Safety/ Fire Coordinator