

**MOORHEAD FIRE
DIVISIONS
2001
ANNUAL REPORT**

FIRE DEPARTMENT

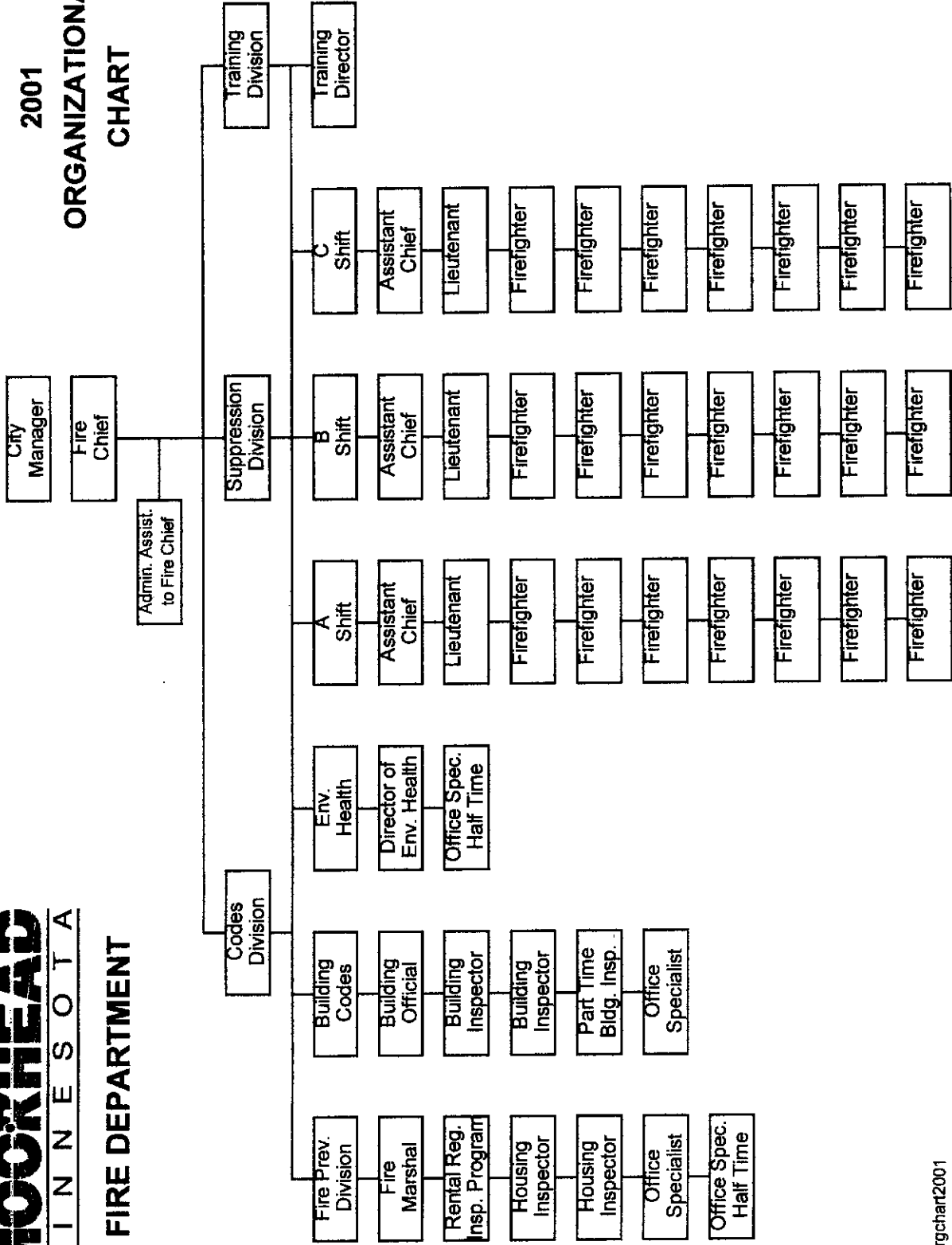


TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Chief's Report.....	1.
Fire Suppression Report.....	5.
Fire Prevention Report.....	9.
Rental Registration/Inspection Report.....	12.
Environmental Health Report.....	15.
Building Codes Report.....	17.

CITY OF
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 FIRE AND RESCUE

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**2001 MOORHEAD FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
 ANNUAL FIRE CHIEF REPORT
 Marty Soeth, Fire Chief**

There were 1,801 emergency responses in 2001, as compared to 1,917 in 2000, which is a decrease of approximately six percent. This is the second decrease since 1991. The response numbers over the last five years are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Emergency Responses</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
2001	1,801		6%
2000	1,917		7%
1999	2,066	4%	
1998	1,978	1.5%	
1997	1,949	3%	
1996	1,893		

Listed below are the estimated total fire losses for the last five years. As in the past two years, we have included the total values and total saved, as these are important numbers as well. When structure fires were involved, the value was obtained from the City Assessor's estimated market values. A further breakdown of all responses is found in the Fire Suppression Report on page 8.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Loss</u>	<u>Total Values</u>	<u>Total Saved</u>
2001	\$149,993.00	\$12,547,149.00	\$12,397,156.00
2000	\$255,310.00	\$2,140,660.00	\$1,885,350.00
1999	\$1,470,095.00	\$10,155,595.00	\$8,685,500.00
1998	\$540,588.00		
1997	\$183,430.00		
1996	\$262,765.00		

1.

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FIRE ADMINISTRATION ▲ BUILDING CODES
 HOUSING INSPECTIONS ▲ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



2000

Our department saw many changes in the year 2001. Those changes are as follows:

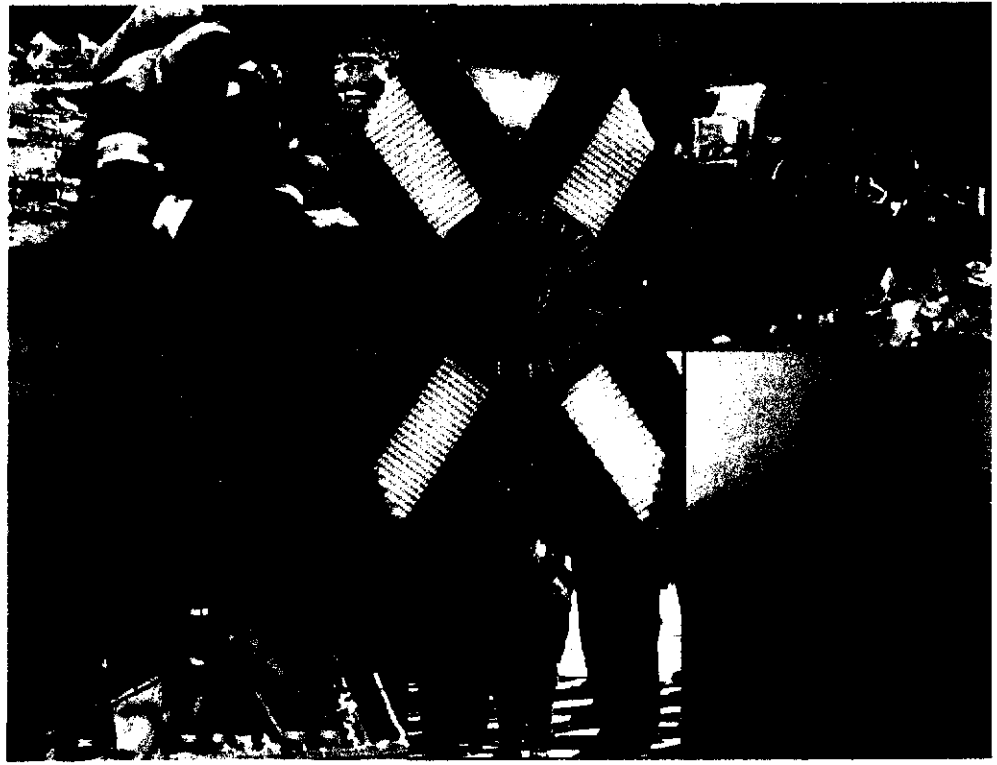
- Len Dusek began his full time duties as the Director of Environmental Health.
- Lynn Brown, Office Specialist from the Parks Department, joined our staff as the half-time Environmental Health and half-time Rental Housing Office Specialist.
- Daniel Castaneda was hired as the new Rental Housing Inspector.
- Benton Hicks was hired as the new Firefighter.
- Firefighter Mike Sigdestad retired after 27 years of service at the Fire Department.
- Dorene Rurup was promoted from Office Specialist to Administrative Assistant to Fire Chief.
- Amy Weigel, Rental Housing Office Specialist, left the Rental Housing Program to work in the Public Works/Engineering Department.
- Karen Ernst, Office Specialist from Economic Development joined our staff as the full time Rental Housing Department Office Specialist.

In addition to changes within our department, there were changes in our City as well. City Manager Jim Antonen left for employment elsewhere, and Gerald Sorenson became the Acting City Manager in his place. Also, long time Mayor Morrie Lanning decided to retire from office after the end of the year. I must mention that I have appreciated the assistance and guidance from both Mr. Antonen and Mayor Lanning in the past years.

A very special thanks must go to the Firefighters and Officers of the Moorhead Fire & Rescue, as well as to all the employees of the Fire Administration Office. The Moorhead Fire & Rescue Department and Codes Office could not operate as efficiently and effectively as it does without their dedication, experience and support.

I also thank members of the Moorhead City Council and the Acting City Manager for the assistance and direction given to our department.

9-11-01



I can not complete the annual report for this year without commenting on the tragic event of September 11.

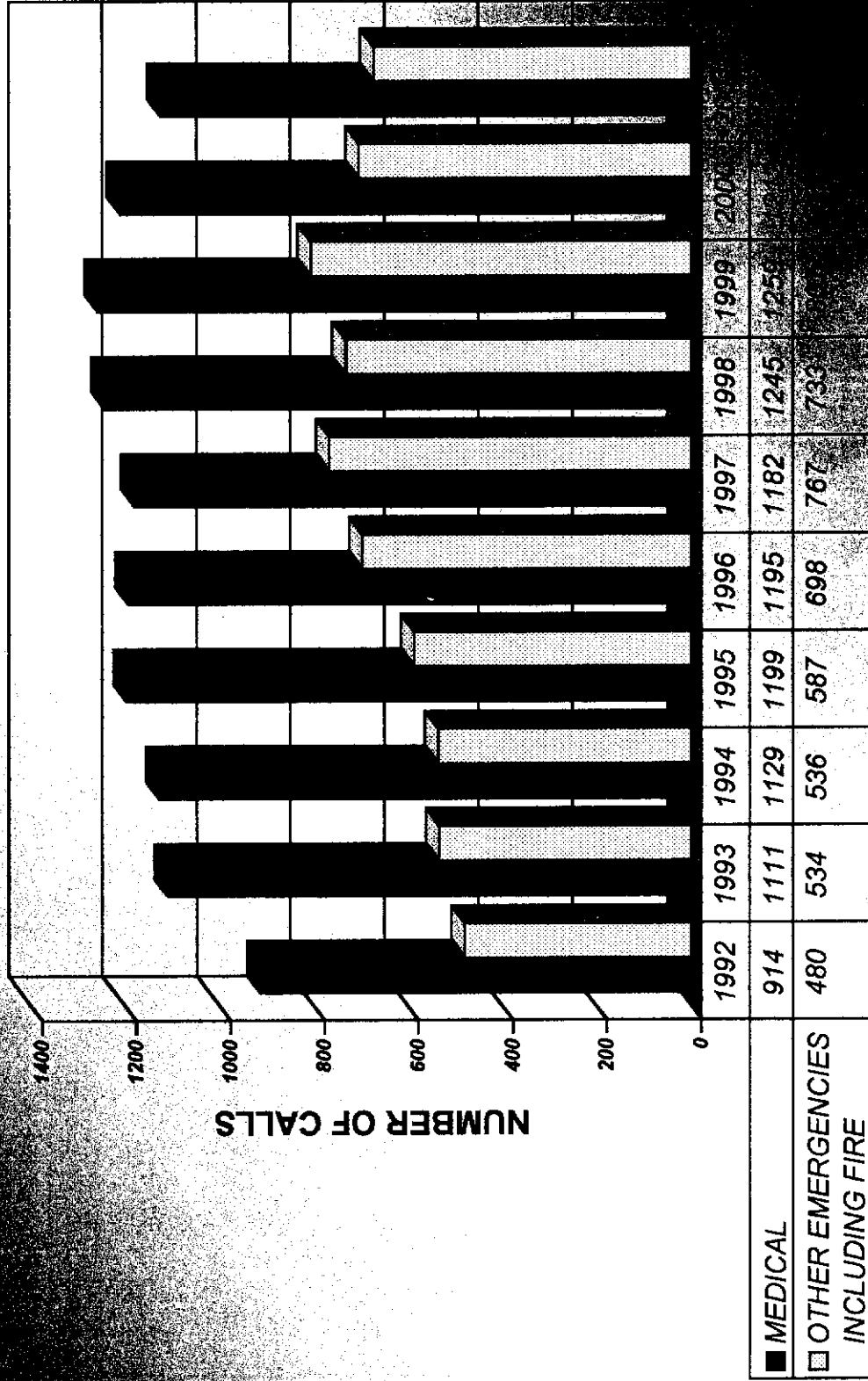
The attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon affected an enormous amount of people and tragically, so many lives were lost. Firefighters were portrayed as heroes, and I believe those in the fire service were truly humbled by the show of appreciation and attention.

It is true there is a strong sense of "brotherhood" among Firefighters. This bond is real and those in the fire service understand it. And although we had so many individuals from our department that wanted to travel to New York or Washington and assist in person, like others, we found alternative ways to help. The Moorhead Fire Department held a benefit dinner and the Soeth family created the "Ribbon Network Executive Committee". This committee, with the help of others, made and sold ribbons. All money generated from these events and the proceeds raised from the Open House held in October along with the money from sold ribbons were given to aid those in New York and Washington.

Although Firefighters were portrayed as "heroes" there many types of "heroes" throughout this ordeal. Without the support of citizens, volunteers, organizations, charities, people with all kinds of backgrounds and education, I believe our country could not have rebounded like it did.

As tragic and horrible as the events of September 11 were, I believe good things came out of this; a stronger appreciation for one another and family, the desire to help others in time of need, patriotism and a stronger sense of community.

ALARM CALLS 1992 - 2001



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**2001 MOORHEAD FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT
FIRE SUPPRESSION DIVISION
Marty Soeth, Fire Chief**

The Fire Suppression Division performs a wide variety of duties. In addition to responding to alarms, suppression includes training, public education, all types of emergency responses and other services performed by Fire & Rescue personnel. The following report reflects the activity hours of Fire Suppression's duties.

Because the fire service is an ever-changing profession, training is essential for our Officers and Firefighters to maintain and expand their skills. The department's below grade rescue team is actively training and operational. Hazardous Material training for the Regional Hazmat Team is ongoing along with inspections, suppression, confined space, drivers training, water rescue, high level rescue and preplanning activities.

Besides the training aspect, much of Suppression's time is spent on facility and equipment maintenance as is reflected in the following report.

In order to give citizens in the community an opportunity to experience aspects of the fire service and the types of technology used in modern fire and rescue operations, the Moorhead Fire & Rescue Department created its first Citizen's Fire Academy in 2000. This ten-week program is open to anyone in the community to experience some of the operations of the Fire Department through a variety of activities including Medical CPR, Search & Rescue, Auto Extrication, HazMat, High Level Rescue, Structural Burn and Water Rescue. The Citizen's Fire Academy was again held in 2001, and with the feedback we received from participants, we believe it to be a worthwhile program.

6.

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FIRE ADMINISTRATION ▲ BUILDING CODES
HOUSING INSPECTIONS ▲ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



The following report shows the Moorhead Fire & Rescue Suppression Division Activity Hours for 2001.

MOORHEAD FIRE & RESCUE SUPPRESSION DIVISION ACTIVITY HOURS FOR 2001	
ACTIVITY	HOURS
Training	3,623.00
Facility Maintenance	3,681.50
Equipment Maintenance	3,306.25
Inspections	507.50
Public Education	439.00
Administration	2,490.75
Physical Training	2,814.25
Fire Runs	1,560.50
Medical Runs	1,135.75

In 2001, there was a total of 1,801 emergency calls; of this number, 1,127 were emergency medical responses. Please see the attached Breakdown of Responses for 2001 which also includes an estimated dollar loss, total values and total saved.

**MOORHEAD FIRES & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
2004 BREAKDOWN OF RESPONSES**

TYPE OF SITUATION	TOTAL NUMBER	TOTAL VALUES	TOTAL LOSSES	TOTAL SAVED
FIRE				
Structure Fire	13	\$ 5,217,700.00	\$ 114,500.00	\$ 5,103,200.00
Outside of Structure Fire	3	\$ 7,000,100.00	\$ 23,993.00	\$ 6,976,107.00
Vehicle Fire	9	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 7,750.00	\$ 59,250.00
Trees, Brush, Grass Fire	6	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Refuse Fire	20	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 0.00
Fire, Other	8	\$ 261,649.00	\$ 3,050.00	\$ 258,599.00
TOTAL FIRES	59	\$ 12,547,149.00	\$ 149,993.00	\$ 12,397,156.00
Overpressure Ruptures (air and gas ruptures)	1			
Rescue Calls (emergency medical, lock in, search, extrication and ambulance assist)	1127			
Hazardous Condition (spill/leaks, power line down, arcing/shorting electrical equipment, chemical emergency and hazardous conditions standby)	79			
Service Calls (lock-out, water evacuation, smoke/odor removal, assist Police and other service calls)	136			
Good Intent Calls (smoke scares, controlled burning, vicinity alarm, steam or other gas thought as smoke)	64			
False Calls (malicious/mischievous false calls, system malfunction and unintentional false calls)	334			
Severe weather & Natural Disaster	1			
TOTAL FOR ALL INCIDENTS	1801	\$ 12,547,149.00	\$ 149,993.00	\$ 12,397,156.00

FIRE PREVENTION

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**2001 MOORHEAD FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT
FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION
Todd Erickson, Fire Marshal**

Attached is a copy of the 2001 Fire Prevention Quarterly Report which shows a breakdown of activities for the Fire Marshal position. Because of the inspections and corrected violations, the property in Moorhead becomes safer for residents, the property values increase for the owners, and the neighborhoods maintain their individuality and neighborhood pride.

Public fire education classes were an important part of the 2001 Fire Prevention Program. The classes given included: CPR/First Aid, Fire Extinguisher, Fire Extinguisher/Fire Safety, Fire Safety, Fire Safety for the Elderly, Fire Safety/Safe Babysitting and Friendly Monster. The Moorhead Fire Prevention Division gave 38 classes in 2001, with a total of 1,677 people in attendance.

The annual Open House was held during Fire Prevention week in October, with the theme of "Cover the Bases and Strike Out Fire". This year all proceeds received from this event were given to assist those in New York and in Washington.

In 2001, there were no deaths in Moorhead due to fire, demonstrating the importance of fire prevention.

10.

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FIRE ADMINISTRATION ▲ BUILDING CODES
HOUSING INSPECTIONS ▲ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



FIRE PREVENTION QUARTERLY FIRE PREVENTION REPORT

JANUARY 1, 2001 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2001:

	1ST QTR.	2ND QTR.	3RD QTR.	4TH QTR.	TOTAL
Fire Prevention Man Hours on Field Inspections	123.00	127.00	109.00	102.00	461.00
Fire Prevention Bureau Inspections	171.00	168.00	157.00	149.00	645.00
Written Violations	58.00	50.00	62.00	47.00	217.00
Verbal Violations	32.00	20.00	38.00	18.00	108.00
Corrections	56.00	54.00	50.00	52.00	212.00
Housing Inspections	10.00	27.00	15.00	38.00	90.00
Units Inspected	10.00	37.00	18.00	47.00	112.00
Commercial Inspections	161.00	151.00	149.00	111.00	572.00
Building Code Inspections	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
New Inspections	153.00	130.00	117.00	103.00	503.00
Reinspections	24.00	57.00	67.00	82.00	230.00
Complaint Inspections	1.00	3.00	1.00	5.00	10.00

TIME SPENT IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS (HOURS):

	1ST QTR.	2ND QTR.	3RD QTR.	4TH QTR.	TOTAL
Meetings and Conferences	37.00	18.00	19.00	41.00	115.00
Schools Attended	52.00	9.00	32.00	38.00	131.00
Fire Investigations	50.00	32.00	7.00	38.00	127.00
Fire Safety Classes Given	8.00	16.00	42.00	18.00	84.00
Fire Department Duties	201.00	272.00	252.00	219.00	944.00
Court Related Appearances	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	2.00
Plan Checks	0.00	3.00	7.00	2.00	12.00
TOTAL HOURS	349.00	350.00	359.00	357.00	1415.00

**RENTAL
REGISTRATION**

**INSPECTION
PROGRAM**

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**2001 MOORHEAD FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT
RENTAL REGISTRATION/INSPECTION PROGRAM
Todd Erickson, Fire Marshal**

Since its inception in 1986, the Rental Registration/Inspection Program continues to move forward to address the issues of parking, deterioration of housing, absentee landlords and overcrowding of rental property.

There are currently 877 properties registered as rental in Moorhead with a total of 4,195 individual units. As the following table shows, in 2001, there were 1,653 housing inspections made. There were 3,910 written housing violations with 3,479 of these violations being fully corrected.

A total of \$6,370.00 in fees was collected for reinspections and late registrations.

I believe the statistics reveal the effectiveness of the Rental Registration/Inspection Program. This program is doing the job it was designed for - systematic inspection of rental property, addressing life safety and other housing violations, and obtaining corrections of the noted violations.

13.



FIRE ADMINISTRATION ▲ BUILDING CODES
HOUSING INSPECTIONS ▲ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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**RENTAL HOUSING
QUARTERLY FIRE PREVENTION REPORT FOR
RENTAL INSPECTORS AND SHIFT INSPECTIONS**

JANUARY 1, 2001 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2001:

	1ST QTR.	2ND QTR.	3RD QTR.	4TH QTR.	TOTAL
Fire Prevention Man Hours on Field Inspections	85.00	878.00	632.00	592.00	2187.00
Fire Prevention Bureau Inspections	107.00	754.00	465.00	327.00	1653.00
Written Violations	311.00	1671.00	1192.00	736.00	3910.00
Verbal Violations	0.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	18.00
Corrections	75.00	1304.00	1114.00	986.00	3479.00
Housing Inspections	107.00	754.00	465.00	327.00	1653.00
Units Inspected	275.00	3270.00	941.00	655.00	5141.00
Commercial Inspections	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Building Code Inspections	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
New Inspections	91.00	397.00	198.00	143.00	829.00
Reinspections	16.00	357.00	267.00	184.00	824.00
Complaint Inspections	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TIME SPENT IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS (HOURS):

	1ST QTR.	2ND QTR.	3RD QTR.	4TH QTR.	TOTAL
Meetings and Conferences	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Schools Attended	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire Investigations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire Safety Classes Given	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire Department Duties	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Court Related Appearances	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Plan Checks	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL HOURS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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**2001 MOORHEAD FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT
ENVIRONMENT HEALTH DIVISION
Len Dusek, Environmental Health Director**

The Environmental Health Division is responsible for 155 food/beverage/lodging establishments, 42 retail food handlers, 33 special event stands, 5 mobile home parks, 17 swimming pools and 125 vending machines. In 2001, our division conducted 280 full inspections, 7 follow-up inspections and 3 construction inspections.

Another aspect to the Health Inspector's job is acting on nuisance complaints. In 2001, this office received 94 complaints from citizens. The inspector conducted 198 full inspections, 64 follow-up inspections and 9 enforcement actions. These nuisance complaints are received from the public as well as city officials and range from junk/debris/garbage in yards, junk vehicles, food service problems, pools and maintenance problems in mobile home parks.

Periodically this office receives requests for information concerning indoor air problems such as mold and radon. Currently there are two consulting firms that deal specifically with these problems. Our office will provide the caller with what limited information we have and then they are referred to these firms for more extensive information. Any outdoor air problems, such as oil spills, are referred to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

16.



FIRE ADMINISTRATION ▲ BUILDING CODES
HOUSING INSPECTIONS ▲ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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BUILDING CODES

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**2001 ANNUAL REPORT
BUILDING CODES DIVISION**

The Moorhead Building Codes Department is located in the Main Fire Station Annex. It is staffed by a Building Official, a Plumbing/Heating/Building Inspector, a half-time Building Inspector, a part-time Building Inspector and an Office Specialist.

The principal responsibility of the Building Codes Department is the enforcement of the various laws and ordinances enacted by the City and State regulating building construction.

Enforcement of these codes generally consists of review of proposed work to establish compliance with laws and ordinances, issuance of permits and inspection of the work to ensure compliance.

Staff members issue more than one thousand permits each year as well as direct thousands of inspection requests. Staff members are also involved in a wide variety of other projects that include the preparation of numerous reports, public education, handling of complaints and inquiries, attending various meetings, reviewing and recommending changes in city ordinances, staff education, and providing information for other city departments and the public.

The following table shows the 10-year comparison of permit numbers, valuation and revenue and also a 10-year comparison of building activity by category.

18.

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FIRE ADMINISTRATION ▲ BUILDING CODES
HOUSING INSPECTIONS ▲ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



10 YEAR COMPARISON OF PERMIT NUMBERS, VALUATION AND REVENUE

YEAR	NUMBER OF BLDG PERMITS	BUILDING PERMIT VALUATION	BUILDING PERMIT REVENUES	NUMBER OF MECH PERMITS	MECH PERMIT REVENUES	NUMBER OF PLUMB PERMITS	PLUMB PERMIT REVENUES	NUMBER OF ELECTR PERMITS	ELECT PERMIT REVENUES	NUMBER OF TOTAL PERMITS	TOTAL PERMIT REVENUES
1992	615	19,970,216.00	79,644.50	390	12,722.00	324	21,363.50	2,810.00	6,860.00	11,056.50	\$134,456.50
1993	729	43,554,522.00	148,686.50	512	17,731.00	288	23,330.00	4,830.00	3,540.00	21,283.52	\$219,401.02
1994	686	26,651,516.00	101,530.00	468	15,558.00	971	30,150.00	3,790.00	1,590.00	14,515.20	\$167,133.20
1995	649	23,831,684.00	93,139.50	591	18,064.00	776	28,374.00	2,190.00	1,640.00	13,518.00	\$156,925.50
1996	554	25,069,947.00	93,735.75	565	19,033.00	650	22,585.00	3,420.00	1,785.00	13,464.00	\$154,022.75
1997	620	20,702,468.00	75,175.00	647	19,407.00	381	14,396.50	3,495.00	1,905.00	11,675.50	\$126,054.00
1998	621	28,077,235.00	103,510.00	513	17,524.00	303	17,447.00	3,455.00	4,567.00	15,698.00	\$162,201.00
1999	599	35,953,896.00	121,078.00	654	23,508.00	263	17,203.00	615.00	375.00	18,559.50	\$181,338.50
2000	708	27,699,288.00	116,468.50	685	26,810.00	303	17,552.00	0.00	200.00	15,540.80	\$176,571.30
2001	608	48,621,367.00	179,159.75	584	28,096.00	301	21,620.00	0.00	2,686.50	23,187.00	\$254,749.25

10 YEAR COMPARISON OF BUILDING ACTIVITY BY CATEGORY

YEAR	NEW SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING		NEW MULTIFAMILY DWELLING		COMMERCIAL NEW (EXCEPT HOTELS)		GAMING PERMITS (RESUBMITTALS)		MISCELLANEOUS PERMITS		TOTALS	
	# OF PERMITS	VALUATION	# OF PERMITS	VALUATION	# OF PERMITS	VALUATION	# OF PERMITS	VALUATION	# OF PERMITS	VALUATION	# OF PERMITS	VALUATION
1992	135	11,731,334.00	5	2,680,000.00	110	3,722,820.00	318	1,836,062.00	47	615	\$19,970,216.00	
1993	141	13,660,500.00	17	3,623,000.00	109	24,248,351.00	332	2,022,671.00	130	729	\$43,554,522.00	
1994	72	7,678,000.00	13	2,104,500.00	113	13,959,123.00	376	2,909,893.00	112	686	\$26,651,516.00	
1995	128	12,092,300.00	3	390,000.00	121	8,131,729.00	319	3,217,655.00	78	649	\$23,831,684.00	
1996	77	7,956,300.00	2	240,000.00	111	14,541,159.00	312	2,332,488.00	52	554	\$25,069,947.00	
1997	52	5,904,000.00	5	1,204,000.00	101	9,460,260.00	371	4,134,208.00	91	620	\$20,702,468.00	
1998	101	9,989,147.00	4	1,320,000.00	106	14,401,050.00	337	2,367,038.00	73	621	\$28,077,235.00	
1999	97	11,777,000.00	4	4,973,000.00	93	16,365,942.00	347	2,825,054.00	56	597	\$35,940,996.00	
2000	100	10,709,100.00	15	3,269,997.00	97	9,521,563.00	428	4,198,628.00	68	708	\$27,699,288.00	
2001	116	13,060,500.00	5	1,890,000.00	103	21,427,036.00	319	12,223,831.00	65	608	\$48,601,367.00	