



## HISTORY & BACKGROUND

# Indianapolis Airport Fire Department

With the January 18, 2008 opening of Fire Station Number 1, Indianapolis International Airport has two fully operational fire stations and is well-positioned for improved emergency response times to any location on the airfield, airport property, or surrounding areas.

- The Airport Fire Department (AFD) was formed on January 1, 1962 under control of the Indianapolis Airport Authority (IAA).
- AFD responds to more than 1,000 calls each year, including: structural fires, aircraft fires and other emergencies, spilled fuel and hazardous materials, medical assistance for the sick or injured, response to vehicle collisions, and vehicle extrications. Personnel may also be called upon to assist local fire departments with emergency situations.
- On any given day, 12 firefighters are on duty. Each shift has one battalion chief and two lieutenants.
- Fully staffed, the department is composed of 39 firefighters who work round-the-clock, 365 days a year. It includes the fire chief, two division chiefs, three battalion chiefs, six lieutenants, 27 firefighters, and a departmental administrative assistant.
- Fire Station Number 1 houses six firefighters during each shift and four full-time administrative personnel. The previous facility, Fire Station Number 2, was built in 1973. It also houses six firefighters per shift.
- In 2004, AFD implemented a full-service paramedic program with certified paramedic firefighters. All firefighters are certified to provide emergency medical service (EMS).
- Most AFD personnel are certified fire inspectors. All structures and facilities on airport property are inspected annually for fire code compliance. The passenger terminal, because of high occupancy levels, is inspected more frequently. Fire hydrants on and around the airport are flow-tested annually.
- The department houses and operates the Marion County Decontamination Unit, a self-contained trailer that can be mobilized anywhere in the county. The department is part of the Marion County Urban Search & Rescue team, housed on airport property to provide instant resources should a critical incident occur.
- AFD meets or exceeds FAA Part 139 standards and is classified as an Index D airport. It is also affiliated with numerous county, state, and national firefighting, emergency rescue, emergency management, hazardous materials, and educational organizations and associations.

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