

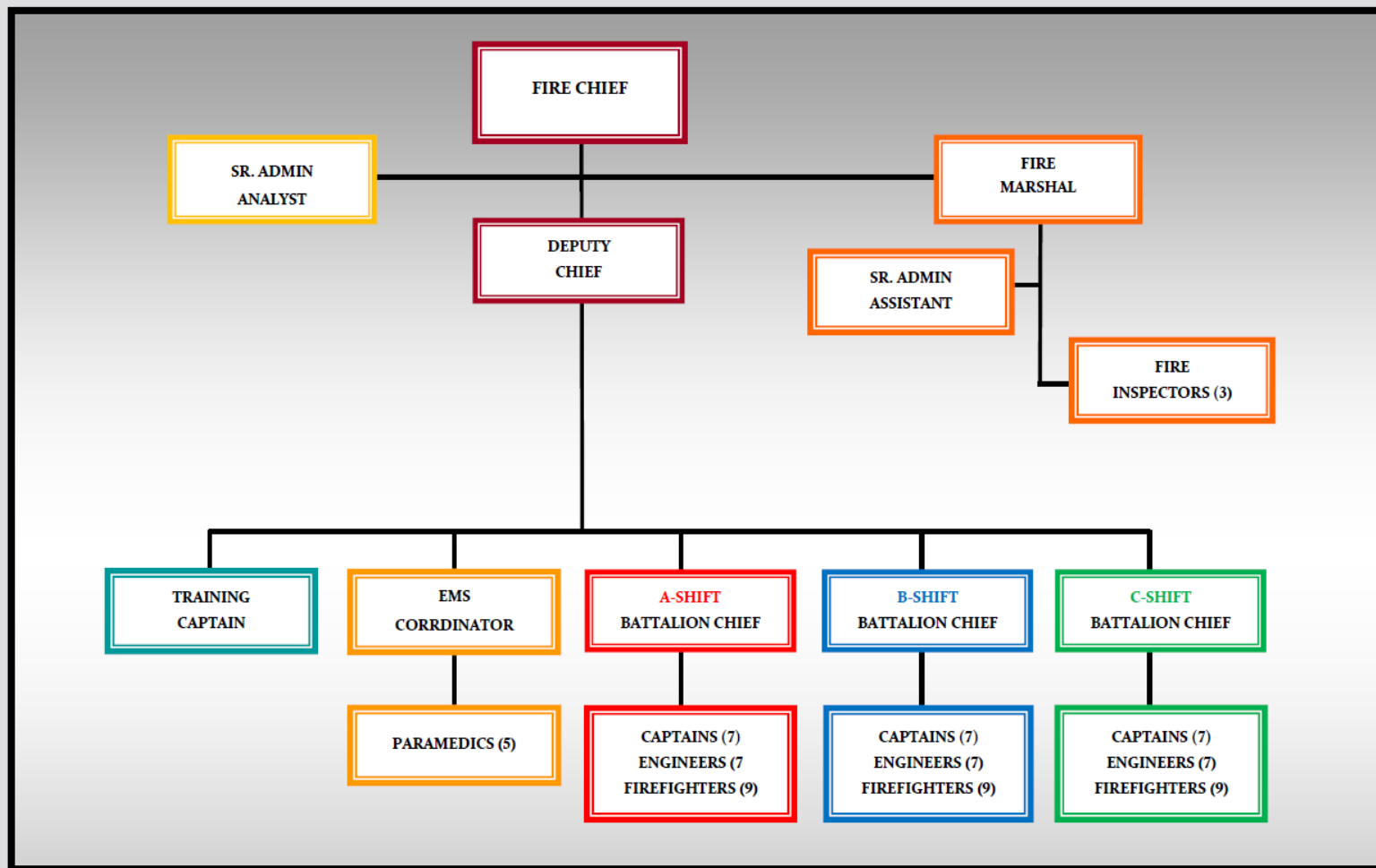
VISALIA FIRE DEPARTMENT



2025 Prevention Division Overview

DAN GRISWOLD, FIRE CHIEF
CORBIN REED, FIRE MARSHAL

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Allocated 88 Positions

Programs

- **Fire and life safety inspections and program management**
 - **Commercial business inspections**
 - **Apartment complex inspections**
 - **School inspections**
 - **Large family day care inspections**
 - **Residential care facilities**
- **Property maintenance**
- **Fire alarm permits**
- **Fire investigations**
- **Public education**
- **Construction access**
- **Illegal fireworks**
- **Safe and sane fireworks**
- **Site plan review**
- **Image trend management**

Fire and Life Safety Inspections

Annual fire and life safety inspections include inspections performed by engine companies and prevention staff. The City's policy is to attempt to inspect all commercial occupancies on an annual basis, most of these inspections are performed by engine crews. This equates to 2,772 inspections assigned to engine crews annually.

Fire and Life Safety Inspections Cont.

The California Health and Safety code requires that specific occupancies be inspected annually, by full-time paid staff. These occupancies include:

- **Multi Family (apartments, care homes) – 883**
- **Schools (excluding college) – 74**
- **Highrise (Town Meadows) – 1**
- **Hotels/Motels – 19**
- **Places of Detention (holding cells) – 1**

These inspections are performed by Prevention staff as they require an extensive knowledge of the California Fire and Building Codes and often require research into the original construction of the building.

Additionally, inspections referred by engine crews for non-compliance, state licensed facilities, and complaint generated inspection are performed by Prevention Staff.

Property Maintenance

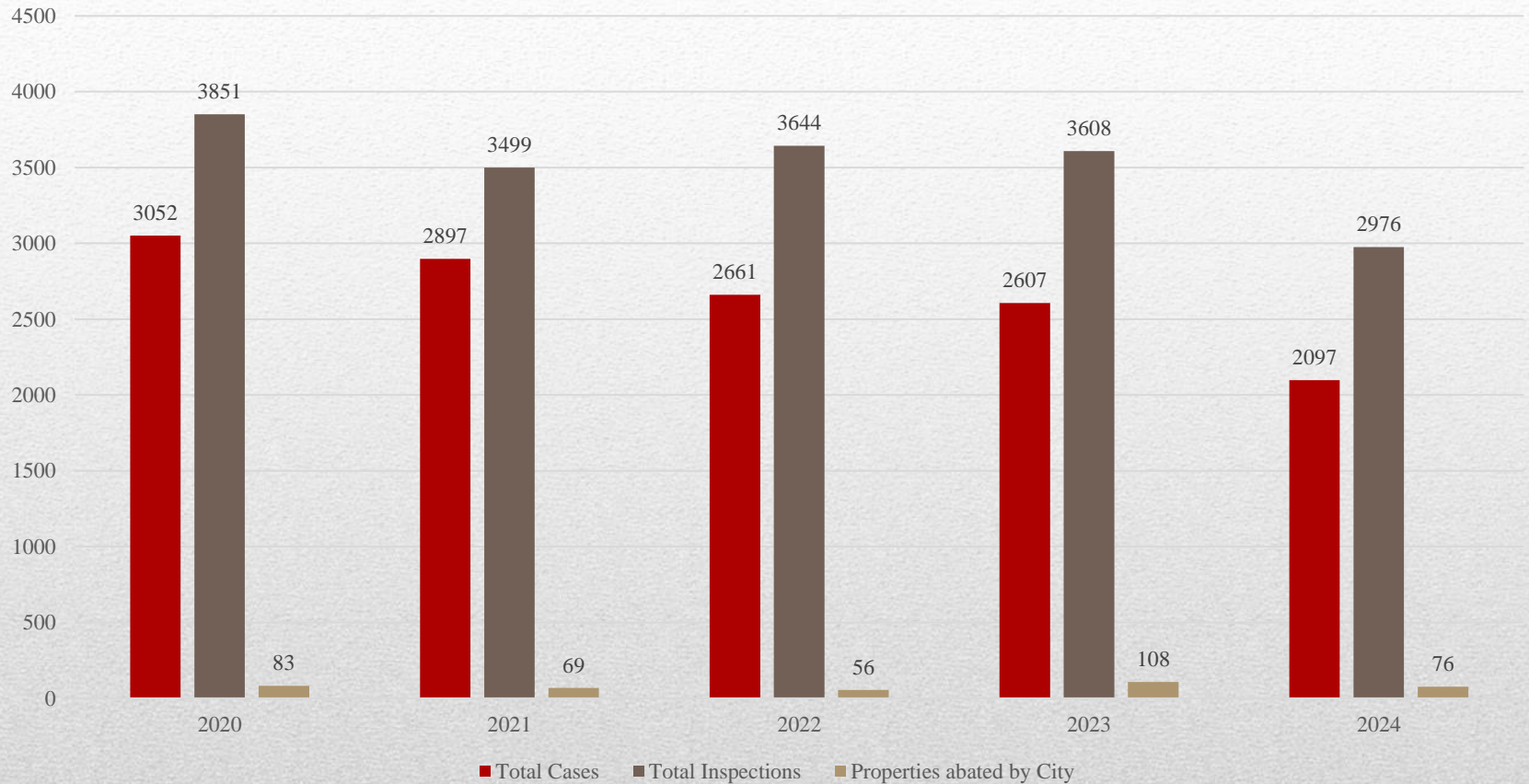
Property maintenance complaints such as junk, trash, debris, weeds and overgrowth are the the Fire Prevention Division's responsibility. Cases are primarily complaint driven based on complaints received from the public. Additionally, the goal is to have all vacant lots abated throughout the community prior to July 1st.

Total Cases

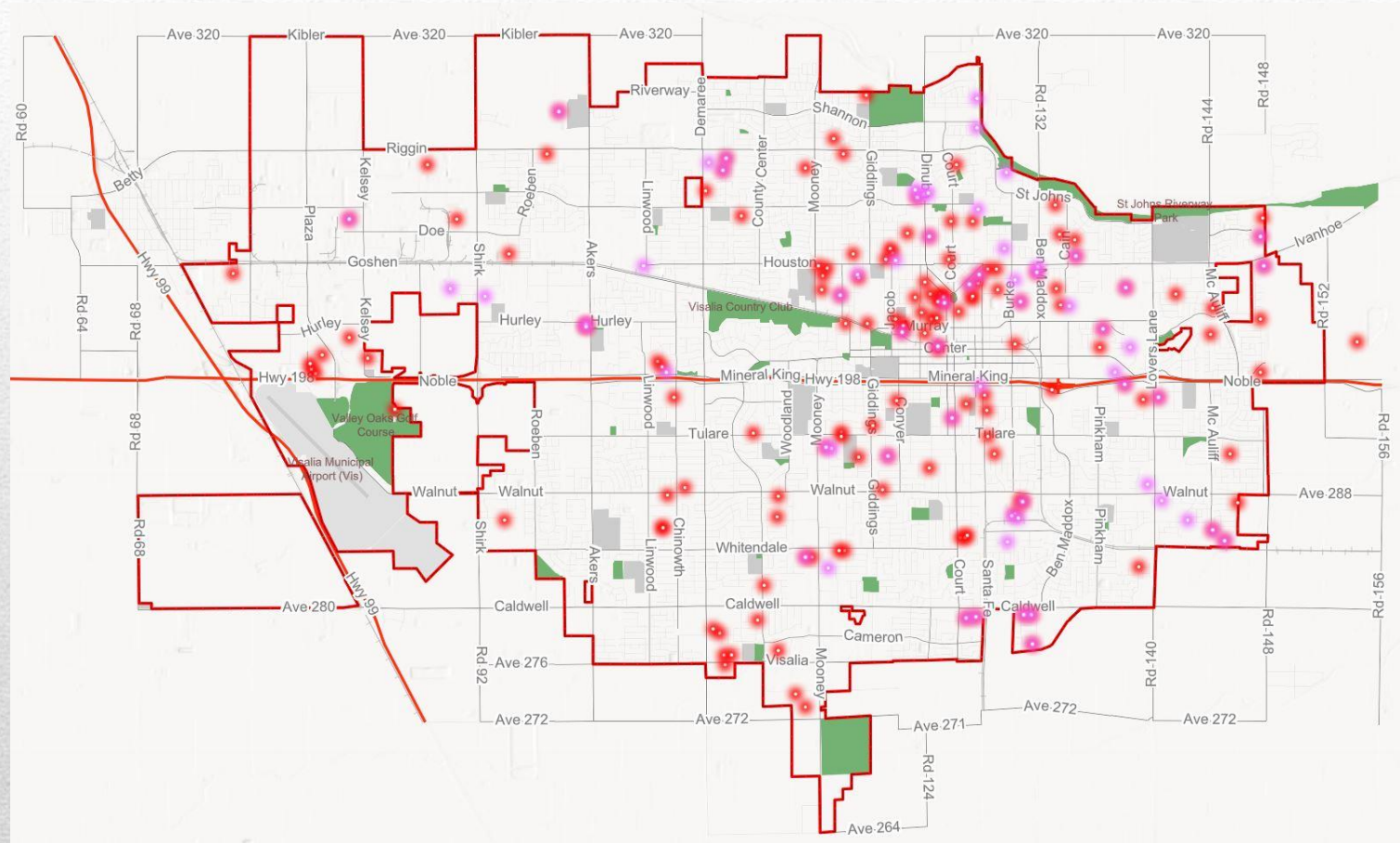
- Cases vary from year to year depending on subdivision development, new annexations, and economic factors such as foreclosures.**
 - Currently 2,165 cases have been generated this year with 2,371 inspections performed. Thirty-six workorders have been issued thus far in 2025.**
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Property Maintenance Cont.

Property Maintenance Cases



Current Property Maintenance Cases



Fire Alarm Permits

- Fire Alarm Permits are required by ordinance for all fire alarm systems throughout our community.
- To obtain the permit applicants must provide an emergency contact list with persons who can provide 24/7 access to their property along with a current annual service report.
- The goal of this permit is to ensure systems are being maintained in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) guidelines there by reducing the number of false alarms and ensuring the system is operating as it should.
- There are approximately 800 permits issued annually by the Fire Alarm Coordinator Sr. Administrative Assistant Stephanie Phipps.



City of Visalia Fire Department
Fire Alarm Coordinator
420 N Burke St.
Visalia, CA 93292

PERMIT #:
ALARMED ADDRESS:

Thank you for submitting your application. Your Fire Alarm System Permit is attached. Please detach the bottom portion along the dotted line and post on, or within 3 feet of, the main fire alarm panel. All alarm systems must have a valid fire alarm permit and must be renewed by July 1st of each year. Failure to renew this permit will constitute a violation of Visalia Municipal Code Section 8.08.

When an alarm requires testing, repair, or modification, notification shall be given to the Visalia Communications Dispatcher at (559) 734-8117 prior to such action. A service charge for an emergency response will be charged to the property owner when an alarm system generates false alarms in accordance with the City of Visalia's current fee schedule.

If you have any questions regarding this permit, please call (559) 713-4486. Should you choose to contest an alarm response, you must do so in writing to the address listed above within five (5) working days of the incident.

Fire Alarm System Permit shall be posted within 3 feet of the main fire alarm panel

VISALIA FIRE DEPARTMENT Fire Alarm System Permit

Permit Number:
Date Issued:
Expiration Date:
Monitoring Company:



Alarmed Address:

Reminder:

When an alarm requires testing, repair, or modification, notification shall be given to the Visalia Communications Dispatcher at (559) 734-8117 prior to such action. The system shall also be placed on test by the monitoring company.

Fire Investigations

Fire Investigation Team

- Fire Marshal- Team Manager/Certified Fire Investigator
- Two - Lead, Certified Fire Investigators
- Three - Apprentice Fire Investigators
- Five - Fire Investigator Trainees

Fire Investigations

- All fires are required to be investigated.
- Fires meeting the following criteria requires a Certified Fire Investigator
 - High dollar loss
 - Political
 - Significant injury or death
 - Suspicious circumstances
 - As seen fit by the Incident Commander

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/PUBLIC EDUCATION



- 77 Public Education Events Attended.
 - Approximately 4,689 event attendees.
- Third grade Fire Prevention Month
- 23 citizens were provided the opportunity to ride-along with an Engine Crew.
- 21 free smoke alarms were installed throughout the community.
- Fire Trucks and Food Trucks.



Construction Access

Fire Department Apparatus Access is a continuing challenge. Working with developers to provide a temporary solution that meets Fire Code requirements and works with their construction timelines and needs, is a challenging middle ground to find. Temporary access standards for residential projects were established in July 2019 and have proven effective on multiple projects. By having these guidelines in place, firefighters were able to successfully access, control and extinguish multiple fires in houses under construction including, two on North Santa Fe and two on West Porter.

Commercial construction access standards continue to be a work in progress working with developers on a case-by-case basis until written standards can be implemented.



Illegal Fireworks

- Illegal fireworks are classified as any firework not bearing the Safe and Sane fireworks seal from the State of California
- Citations within the City of Visalia range from \$2,000 to \$4,000 for each offence.
- Citations are tracked over a three-year period.
- Visalia.gov/celebratesafely is utilized to provide information on fireworks booth locations, safety tips, and illegal fireworks penalties and reporting information.
- Education through social media postings throughout the month of June, flyers included in City utility bills, and banners will be hung at each fire station.





THANK YOU.
