

From: [REDACTED]
[Gunaratnam Rachael](#)
Subject: RE: NTSB request for information
Date: Thursday, May 9, 2019 3:24:14 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hello again

I did arrive about 10 minutes later but it is an estimate they do not have my arrival exact time, but listening to radio chatter that seems very close.

1, 125 is just firefighter positions does not count civilian dispatchers or mechanics or admin staff. The whole department recall is the best answer, not sure I would actually find a 100% correct number.

2. I am researching the dates, we do not have them I am working with Columbia gas and trying to get their records. It was classroom on gas and general safety and we do tours annually up there of the facility but had not done and actual drill.

3. I have my firehouse fire reports and that is what we have for CAD as it lists the addresses and times,, but I will tell you because of the overwhelming amount of calls times are wrong and we did not capture all calls. People would grab a crew when they were at a call and have them check many homes at the same time, not captured. If you want those reports we can try and work something out. Beyond my IT capabilities, but I will get someone who can do it.

Stay Safe

Brian F. Moriarty
Lawrence Fire Chief
65 Lowell Street
Lawrence, MA 01840



From: Gunaratnam Rachael [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2019 1:18 PM
To: Brian Moriarty [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NTSB request for information

Chief,

Thank you for getting back to me.

Just some follow up questions/requests:

- 1) When you say 125 positions—is that both FF and admin? Or just FF? I'll just mention in the report that you did a recall of the whole department that day and the majority of which did respond---don't need an exact number of who responded on Sept. 13, unless you want it in in my report.
- 2) I do need the dates of training with Columbia Gas and a general statement of that training covered—was it natural gas and propane? What kind of scenarios covered? Also did you do an actual drill/exercise with Columbia Gas? Was that conducted separately? If so, please provide the date.
- 3) I don't need the fire reports—I realized I meant the CAD reports. Are those available and be sent by email?

Thank you,
Rachael

From: Brian Moriarty <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, May 9, 2019 8:46 AM
To: Gunaratnam Rachael <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: NTSB request for information

Hello Rachael

I will attempt to answer all you questions.

1. Yes I still have 4 FF injuries in law. But there were some in other towns. North Andover told me 1 FF injury and Andover told me 2 FF injuries
2. Our numbers have not changed
3. Our numbers are 24 is the minimum on duty. We have a total of 125 positions at the time. I had 6 vacancies and 3 on injury leave. During the emergency I had a full department recall. So the vast majority of the department responded that day. But I did not go back and count how many showed up. If it is extremely important I will have my secretary go back in the books and see the paid numbers. I do believe that day we were at minimum of 24.
4. I do not currently have an after action report. One is being created. It is not completed yet. I will have to search the last date of training at CG. We had yearly facility training but had never trained for this type of event. They also used to come to the station once a year for gas safety training. But again I would have to research those dates if you need them.
5. Yes we have many fire reports but many of them are the same as we were just documenting damage to structures and my officers were not at every fire.
6. Shelters- Partham school at east Haverhill and Marston streets 250 each, Arlington school on Arlington St. both schools on the north side of the city, 1 night at central catholic high school because the others were at capacity and the electricity had not been turned on. Stafford St in Methuen/Lawrence line off Broadway this shelter was a FEMA organized shelter that was set up with the trailer parks for the cold, not on the initial 4 days.

Stay Safe

Brian F. Moriarty
Lawrence Fire Chief

65 Lowell Street
Lawrence, MA 01840



From: Gunaratnam Rachael [redacted]
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2019 4:23 PM
To: Brian Moriarty <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: NTSB request for information

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Chief Moriarty,

Thank you the information you sent me last fall. I wanted to follow up on a few things to see if any numbers have been updated.

- 1) You reported below four firefighters injured—is this number still correct?
- 2) You reported: 9 building fires, 53 boiler or appliance fires, 5 explosions—has this number changed?
- 3) Also, you mention the number of fire stations but how many firefighters in total are on staff in Lawrence? how many are usually on shift? And on Sept. 13th, how many Lawrence Fire fighters responded?
- 4) When was the last drill done with Columbia Gas? Do you have any after action reports? Please provide any documentation you have on this.
- 5) Were any fire reports completed for Sept. 13 incident?

Thank you in advanced for assisting me with this information.

Regards,

Rachael Gunaratnam

Hazardous Materials Accident Investigator
Office of Railroad, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Investigations
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[REDACTED]

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From: Brian Moriarty <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2018 11:56 AM

To: Gunaratnam Rachael [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: NTSB request for information

I will try

I do not have an exact time I went to the unified command it was some time after I was at Springfield st. I did not look at my watch

I am the EMD for Lawrence

We have 5 functioning fire stations, a 6th station is the fire prevention office

All the command posts that I am aware of were at the showcase cinema parking lot off Rt 114 at Rt 495

Injuries-Trauma from falling down stairs, trauma (fx) arm from falling through floor at fire not gas cause but during event, a knee injury, dehydration and heat exhaustion

I am aware of 9 building fires, 53 boiler or appliance fires, 5 explosions I am sure it will get bigger as we find stuff

South Lawrence as a whole and I don't have an exact number

I don't know how this was communicated except that MEMA sent out some texts using some type of software, I got messages on my phone

Training drills copies will have to be collected will take some time

I believe the state actually did the photo stuff

Working on fire reports could be a while

ERG's will happen but again I need time to collect

Stay Safe

Brian F. Moriarty
Lawrence Fire Chief
65 Lowell Street
Lawrence, MA 01840

From: Gunaratnam Rachael [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2018 11:04 AM
To: Brian Moriarty <[REDACTED]>
Subject: NTSB request for information

Chief,

Thank you for speaking with me today. We need the following information from Lawrence. I have already received the run cards and 9-1-1 calls. I still need the following specific to the City of Lawrence:

- When did Lawrence join the unified command?
- Who is the Emergency Manager for Lawrence?
- How many fire stations are in Lawrence?
- Where were the locations of the different command posts that Lawrence had or joined during the incident?
- List of fire fighter injuries during the incident
- Number of dwellings with fire or explosion damage
- Evacuation zones—street names? No. of homes involved in South Lawrence?
- How was the message communicated to the public about the evacuation? Radio? Social media? Reverse 9-1-1? Does Lawrence have the capability of a reverse 9-1-1?
- Copies of any training drills or exercises with Columbia Gas
- Any photographs taken of fire or explosion damage (if already provided to state police, don't need to resubmit)
- Fire Reports
- Emergency Response Plans and Procedures
 - Incident Action Plan
 - Columbia Gas Emergency Response Plan
 - FD Emergency Procedures for responding to a natural gas incident.

If anything can be provided today, would be appreciated.

Thank you for your help,
Rachael

Rachael Gunaratnam

Hazardous Materials Accident Investigator
Office of Railroad, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Investigations
National Transportation Safety Board
490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
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