

# Grand Rapids Fire Dept.

## Hazardous Materials Team

Jack Johnson

Deputy Chief - Operations Division







# Overview

- HazMat Team Leadership
  - Battalion Chief Kathy Thompson
  - Captain Justin Steeby
  - Captain Matt Dumond
- 36 - HazMat Technicians
- Martin Luther King Jr. Fire Station
  - HazMat 1
    - Primary Response (cross-staffed)
  - HazMat 2
    - Secondary Response (cross-staffed)
  - Engine 2
  - Platform 2





# Response Disciplines

- HazMat Technician - 80 hrs.
- Public Safety Sampling - 24 hrs.
- Railcar Technician - 40 hrs.
- Highway Cargo Technician - 40 hrs.
- Chemistry - 48 hrs.
- HazMat Officer - 32 hrs.
- “HazMat IQ” Technician - 8 hrs.
- Advanced Air Monitoring - 24 hrs.



# Response Apparatus

HazMat 1



DYLAN BARTZ 2025

HazMat 2

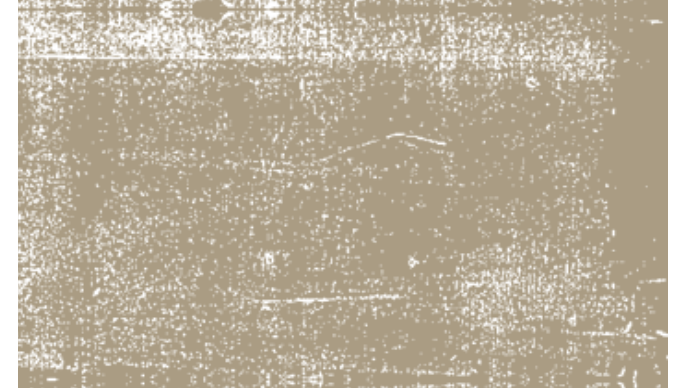


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# 2024/2025 Statistics

- Implemented Lithium-Battery Response SOG
- Responses
  - 2024 = 9 HazMat Team responses
  - 2025 = 24 HazMat Team responses
    - 10 lithium-ion battery responses







# 2024/2025 Training Statistics

- Training
  - FDNY Lithium-Battery collaboration
  - HazMat Tech = 1
  - HazMat Officer = 4
  - Chemistry = 2
  - MI HazMat Responder Conference = 11
  - Advanced Air Monitoring = 5
  - Regional Training Exercise = 14





CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS  
**STRATEGIC PLAN**

UPDATED OCTOBER 2022  
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED APRIL 2019



# Strategic Plan Alignment

- Strategic Priority: Safe Community
- The City's Strategic Plan (updated October 2022) identifies Safe Community as one of six high-level priorities. The defined outcome is that "all people feel safe and are safe at all times throughout our community."
- The HazMat Team falls directly under this priority by:
  - Providing specialized response services that protect lives, property, and the environment during a hazardous materials release.
  - Enhancing overall community safety through rigorous training and readiness for hazardous materials incidents.



An aerial photograph of a city skyline at sunset. In the foreground, a multi-lane highway bridge spans a river. The city skyline features several tall buildings, including a prominent blue glass skyscraper. The sky is filled with colorful clouds in shades of orange, pink, and blue.

# Future Plans

- MABAS re-accreditation
- Increase gas leak identification capabilities
- Replacement of frontline hazmat apparatus
- Continue to match emergency response capabilities to emerging community risks