



## 2006 2nd busiest year for RBF

By CLIFF LARIMER -DN Staff Writer

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RED BLUFF It was a busy 2006 for the Red Bluff Fire Department, but only the second busiest in department history.

Fire Chief Gerry Gray presented a brief recap of last year's activities to the city council this week, and will be presenting a more detailed report "very shortly."

Last year the department responded to 2,312 incidents of all kinds - actual fire calls being only a small part of the total.

The number was somewhat below 2005, the department's busiest year - when the department responded to 2,352 incidents. Incident total in 2004 was 2,195.

Gray told the council he wanted to present the brief recap early to get a chance to thank every in the department for "an excellent job."

He remarked how much the department has changed since he went to work for it 16 or 17 years ago, saying in those earliest days there were some when there were no calls.

Now the norm is six to seven responses of some kind each day, and that during the cold snap a few days ago the number increased significantly.

The recap for last year shows that nearly two-thirds of the incidents were rescue and emergency medical, 1,665. Fire incident total was 128, service calls 254, "good intent" calls 165, false calls 49, hazardous condition

48, explosion 2 and special incident 1.

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Good intent calls are those from people trying to help, calling in something of concern, anything from seeing steam or smoke, or noticing a motorist slumped over the wheel, or some other perceived medical problem.

False call totals have dropped, from 99 in 2004 and 72 in 2005.

Gray said that is in part because repeat calls from faulty alarms at a business can be costly.

After a certain number from the same business, the firm gets a bill.

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