

Dear Requestor: Attached you find records responsive to your request. Please understand this case is still under active investigation. Redactions have been made in the records to protect the names of who we believe are victims of the incident. We believe such victims have potential privacy interests at least throughout the course of the investigation, as well as general privacy interests under both state and federal laws. See, for example, RC 149.43(A)(1)(h)(v)(rr), (A)(2). We trust you will understand this situation.



**Austintown Fire
Department**

Station: **1**
Shifts Or Platoon: **C Shift**

Location:
**AUSTINTOWN STUDIO
APARTMENTS
850 N MERIDIAN RD
Austintown OH 44509**

Lat/Long:
**N 41° 7' 12.58"
W 80° 42' 44.42"**

Zone:
2 - District 2
Location Type: **1 - Street address**
Map Page: **2694**

Incident Type:
111 - Building fire

FDID: **50101**
Incident #: **2025-4473**
Exposure ID: **87104087**
Exposure #: **0**
Incident Date: **11/22/2025**
Dispatch Run #: **A25091507**

Report Completed by:	O'Hara , Thomas	ID: 193	Date: 12/12/2025
Report Reviewed by:	Metzinger , Thomas V	ID: 177	Date: 12/16/2025
Report Printed by:	Hemphill, Barbara L	ID: u335	Date: 12/17/2025 Time: 09:11

Structure Type: Enclosed building	Property Use: 429 - Multifamily dwelling	
Automatic Extinguishment System Present: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Detectors Present: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cause of Ignition: Cause under investigation
Aid Given or Received: Mutual aid received	Primary action taken: 22 - Rescue, remove from harm	
Additional actions: 53 - Evacuate area , 11 - Extinguishment by fire service personnel		
Losses	Pre-Incident Values	
Property:	Property:	Civilian Injuries: 6 Fire Service Injuries: 0
Contents:	Contents:	Civilian Fatalities: 1 Fire Service Fatalities: 0
Total:	Total:	Total Casualties: 7 Total Fire Service Casualties: 0
Total # of apparatus on call: 12		Total # of personnel on call: 23

Neighboring Agencies
Agency Name: Boardman FD - 50107 Agency ID: 50107 Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Cardinal Joint FD - 50109 Agency ID: 50109 Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Ellsworth FD - 50113 Agency ID: 50113 Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Girard FD - 78125 Agency ID: 78125 Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Jackson FD - 50119 Agency ID: 50119 Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Liberty FD - 78129 Agency ID: 78129 Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Lordstown FD - 78121 Agency ID: 78121 Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Poland FD - 50123 Agency ID: 50123

Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Weathersfield FD - 78300
Agency ID: 78300
Agency Type: Fire
Agency Name: Youngstown FD - 50043
Agency ID: 50043
Agency Type: Fire

NARRATIVE (2)

Narrative Title: (1) Dispatch/Response

Narrative Author: Metzinger, Thomas

Narrative Date: 12/10/2025 11:18:40

Narrative Apparatus ID: S-17

Narrative:

AFD units were dispatched to a possible structure fire at this location. Dispatch advised that they were receiving numerous calls reporting that the building partially exploded. A first alarm MCI was declared and numerous apparatus from CJFD and YFD as well as Mahoning County IMAT were requested at this point. Shortly thereafter, dispatch advised APD was on scene and confirmed that the north side of the building appeared to have exploded. A second alarm MCI was then declared.

NARRATIVE (3)

Narrative Title: (2) Arrival/Initial Actions

Narrative Author: Metzinger, Thomas

Narrative Date: 12/16/2025 10:36:58

Narrative Apparatus ID: S-17

Narrative:

R-1 was the first arriving AFD unit and reported that the north end of floors 3-5 appear to be the area that had exploded. S-17 arrived shortly thereafter and established a casualty collection point for EMS in the NE corner of the parking lot by the Meridian Rd. entrance. Enbridge was requested to the scene as there was a strong odor of natural gas in the parking lot. Contact was made with on scene maintenance who was unable to provide the location of the gas shut off for the building. The S-17 crew proceeded into the building with APD to begin evacuations and a primary search of the fourth floor. APD officers handled evacuating floors 1-3 while S-17 proceeded to floor 4 via the north stairwell. The S-17 engineer and R-1 firefighter were tasked with locating the gas shutoff. Upon our arrival on the fourth floor, there was catastrophic damage to all walls and the ceiling. There were two small fires burning in what appeared to be the apartment visible directly opposite the north stairwell. There were also people calling out for help in a stuck elevator car (elevator 2) that was clearly visible between floor four and three. The walls surrounding the elevator shaft were completely gone and the elevator 1 shaft was completely open to the basement. A primary search of the corner rooms affected by the explosion began immediately. The fires were extinguished with the hotel pack shortly thereafter. Additional resources had arrived and were assisting in evacuations of the undamaged areas of floor 4 and floors 5-7 as well. This was a joint fire/APD effort.

NARRATIVE (4)

Narrative Title: (3) Continued Actions

Narrative Author: Metzinger, Thomas

Narrative Date: 12/10/2025 11:18:10

Narrative Apparatus ID: S-17

Narrative:

The primary search of the fourth floor NE corner apartments was conducted by the S-17 crew and were negative for victims. There was extensive damage to these rooms with large amounts of debris everywhere. YFD B-1 arrived on scene and assumed command from outside. CJFD units successfully extricated the victims from the stuck elevator and evacuated them to the outside. YFD units began to arrive and assisted with evacuations and secondary searches of the affected apartments of the 4th floor as well. All rooms on floors 1-3 and 5-7 had both primary and secondary searches performed and all were negative. This occurred as additional resources arrived on scene.

NARRATIVE (5)

Narrative Title: (4) Additional Actions/Information

Narrative Author: Metzinger, Thomas

Narrative Date: 12/10/2025 11:18:18

Narrative Apparatus ID: S-17

Narrative:

Numerous agencies responded to this incident including multiple fire departments, private EMS agencies, Mahoning County EMA, various law enforcement agencies, and utilities. These agencies were either specifically requested or were dispatched as a result of the IMAT callout. Additionally, the State of Ohio Fire Marshall was requested to the scene to lead the investigation. The Federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms as well as the National Transportation Safety Board were contacted and briefed on the situation as well.

After primary/secondary searches were completed, the process of moving uninjured residents to offsite locations began via both school bus and WRTA buses. This was an ongoing process and coordination with various healthcare agencies took place to facilitate placement of residents and access to needed pharmaceuticals.

During the evening of this date, the OFM requested an additional search of the building of all floors to check for (1) victims, (2) pets, (3) extensive damage locations, and (4) any unusual items. This was performed with three, two-person AFD crews who checked all floors and found no remaining victims. Numerous pets were found and their locations were noted on a list. There were a few unusual items found by AFD members on both the search and while on scene. These included what appeared to be a small, unexploded firework in the parking lot which was found NE of the building in the debris as well as two small blue liquid storage drums that were found in one of the rooms with most extensive damage. The OFM was informed of these findings.

NARRATIVE (6)

Narrative Title: (5) Operations Day 2

Narrative Author: Marcum, Fredrick

Narrative Date: 12/03/2025 15:57:20

Narrative Apparatus ID: 172

Narrative:

On 24 Nov. 2025 0700hrs the Austintown Fire Department resumed operations at 850 North Meridian Road. This operational period is tasked to perform searches for any reaming animals that were not found or identified during the initial incident.

AFD was furnished a list of apartments by animal charity of Ohio, that may still have unaccounted animals in them. AFD E1 conducted a coordinated search of each apartment, after all apartments were searched, AFD performed 2 sweeps of the entire building, and was able to rescue approximately 52 animals.

All animals that were rescued were identified by the humane agency and the owners were contacted by AFD. Those that were not able to come to the scene to retrieve their animals were notified that animal charity would house them until arrangements could be made.

NARRATIVE (7)

Narrative Title: EMS/Shelter Operations

Narrative Author: Wirtz, Brandon

Narrative Date: 12/10/2025 00:09:56

Narrative Apparatus ID: 171

Narrative:

171 arrives on scene and assumes EMS command. Upon arrival command notified of patient collection point at both the A side and B/C corner of the building. 6 patients transported prior to arrival of EMS command. Residents self extricating from A side of building. Residents being assisted down C side stairs. Ambulance staging established on Meridian road. EMS command moves to B/C patient collection point where 5 ambulances had gathered prior to establishment of staging. EMS crews triaging patients at B/C corner. Apparatus positioned for transport. Residents assessed and held at B side of building for further instruction. Two additional patients transported from B/C collection point. A side patient collection point transports 1 BLS patient. A side patient collection point reports no further patients. Residents gathering at Meridian rd awaiting instruction. Red Cross, Austintown Senior Center, and Austintown Schools notified to establish shelter to accept residents displaced by explosion. WRTA and Austintown Bus garage contacted to assist with resident transport. Shelter established at AES. 88 residents assisted onto buses and transported to AES. Limited need for EMS on scene after beginning resident transport. EMS command transferred to IC and 171 relocated to AES for Shelter Operations. Residents registered to shelter and provided food and necessities. Ongoing EMS issues led to 4 additional patient transports from shelter for a total of 13 patients throughout event. Representatives of AFD, APD, Austintown Township Administration, United Way, Red Cross, EMA, County Commissioners, Home Destination, and Catholic charities on scene to assist with resident relief and arrange overnight accommodations. AFD representative remained with residents through final transport for overnight accommodations at the Baymont Hotel in Boardman.

NARRATIVE (8)

Narrative Title: (6) Command

Narrative Author: O'Hara, Thomas

Narrative Date: 12/10/2025 11:06:15

Narrative Apparatus ID: 193

Narrative:

Upon my arrival a face-to-face briefing was had with YFD B-1. AFD 172 had already completed a 360 of the building and advised all the visible damage was in the A/D corner of the building. Command was transferred from YFD B1 to AFD 193 and AFD 172 was assigned as Safety officer & AFD 171 assigned to EMS. Crews already in the building continued the search of the building and assisting residents out of the building. BFD Chief 70 was assigned interior operations. The crews from AFD, APD, YFD, CJFD completed a primary and secondary search of floors 1 thru 7 with an all clear. All crews were pulled out of the structure, and a PAR was completed with all assigned companies accounted for. A third search of the entire building was completed with all clear. A fourth search of the build was completed with all clear. During this search the crews secured all apartment doors that were not damaged

The utilities were contacted and arrived at the scene. Enbridge was on scene, confirming the gas was shut off. Ohio Edison disconnected power to the building from the outside. Youngstown Water arrived and shut all the water off to the building

All the residents were directed to two areas outside the building. One of those areas was on the B/C corner of the building and the other located in the northeast area of the front parking lot. The residents were accounted for from renters list supplied by the building manager. The residents were transported to the Austintown Elementary school on either a WRTA or Austintown Local School District bus.

The State Fire Marshall Investigation office was contacted for assistance with the investigation. At the same time the ATF & NTSB were contacted and notified of the incident. Once on scene they started their investigation. The State Fire Marshall Investigator called in the Ohio USAR team. The Ohio USAR team assisted the state investigators in the primary blast area.

A Structural engineer was contacted and came to the scene to assess the safety of the building for the safety of the first responders. AFD was informed at that time the building was structurally sound for us to continue our work in the building. This was just a preliminary evaluation for the immediate safety of the first responders. A full and complete assessment of the building structural stability will need to be completed by a structural engineering firm for any future decisions of the building's stability.

There were multiple agencies called in to assist with all the pets that were left in the building. Those agencies assisted with a few pets went to the shelter to compiling a list of pets left in the building.

An AFD crew and APD were on scene over night to secure the building

11/23/25

Sunday morning the State Investigators were back on site continuing their investigation. The building manager had a company securing the ground floor doors, they also installing fencing around the building and blocking the entrances.

On Sunday the Animal Charities came back and AFD escorted them into the building to retrieve any pets that were still in the apartments.

The last AFD units cleared the scene at 15:59 on 11/23/25

YFD B-1 was Operations.

BFD Ch70 was interior Operations

AFD 172 was assigned Safety.

AFD 171 was assigned to EMS.

Ellsworth C-45-2 was assigned as the scribe.

EMA representative was 704

CH620 was assigned to staging.

NARRATIVE (9)

Narrative Title: Safety Officer

Narrative Author: Marcum, Fredrick

Narrative Date: 12/11/2025 11:39:37

Narrative Apparatus ID: 172

Narrative:

During transfer of command from YFD Battalion Chief to AFD Assistant Chief, I was appointed as Safety Officer. During emergency operations, I performed several 360-degree views of the structure and noted any safety concerns. As crews exited the building, all personnel were accounted for. Command was continually briefed on the condition of the structure. A safety briefing was conducted in the Command Center, and it was decided to seek out a structural engineer. Present were the IC, EMA, SFM, Safety, and Interior Command. The scene was continuously monitored for safety concerns, and PAR was maintained throughout the incident.

APPARATUS

Fire Controlled Date / Time: 11/22/2025 1:10:00 PM

Unit	S-17	Unit	R-1
Type:	Engine	Type:	ALS unit
Use:	Suppression	Use:	EMS
Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens	Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens
# of People	3	# of People	1
Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23	Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23
Dispatched	11 /22/2025 12:50:56	Dispatched	11 /22/2025 12:51:55
Enroute	11 /22/2025 12:51:52	Enroute	11 /22/2025 12:51:57
Arrived	11 /22/2025 12:56:47	Arrived	11 /22/2025 12:55:28
Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 17:42:53	Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 20:55:54
In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
In Service	11 /22/2025 17:42:53	In Service	11 /22/2025 20:55:54
Unit	S-55	Unit	193
Type:	Engine	Type:	Ground fire suppression, other
Use:	Suppression	Use:	Suppression
Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens	Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens
# of People	3	# of People	1
Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23	Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23
Dispatched	11 /22/2025 12:53:22	Dispatched	11 /22/2025 12:58:02
Enroute	11 /22/2025 12:53:26	Enroute	11 /22/2025 12:58:06
Arrived	11 /22/2025 12:58:00	Arrived	11 /22/2025 13:14:31
Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 17:42:53	Cleared Scene	11 /23/2025 00:48:10
In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
In Service	11 /22/2025 17:42:53	In Service	11 /23/2025 00:48:10
Unit	R-2	Unit	L-1A
Type:	ALS unit	Type:	Truck or aerial
Use:	EMS	Use:	Suppression
Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens	Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens
# of People	1	# of People	3
Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23	Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23
Dispatched	11 /22/2025 13:05:58	Dispatched	11 /22/2025 13:06:23
Enroute	11 /22/2025 13:06:03	Enroute	11 /22/2025 13:06:30
Arrived	11 /22/2025 13:06:04	Arrived	11 /22/2025 13:06:31
Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 19:53:37	Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 20:56:06
In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
In Service	11 /22/2025 19:53:37	In Service	11 /22/2025 20:56:06
Unit	L-3	Unit	L-4
Type:	Quint	Type:	Quint
Use:	Suppression	Use:	Suppression
Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens	Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens
# of People	2	# of People	2
Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23	Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23
Dispatched	11 /22/2025 13:06:23	Dispatched	11 /22/2025 13:06:43
Enroute	11 /22/2025 13:06:51	Enroute	11 /22/2025 13:06:49
Arrived	11 /22/2025 13:09:55	Arrived	11 /22/2025 13:17:18
Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 22:19:45	Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 20:57:16
In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
In Service	11 /22/2025 22:19:45	In Service	11 /22/2025 20:57:16
Unit	189	Unit	E-4
Type:	Ground fire suppression, other	Type:	Engine
Use:	Suppression	Use:	Suppression
Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens	Response Mode:	Lights and Sirens
# of People	1	# of People	3
Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23	Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23
Dispatched	11 /22/2025 13:10:08	Dispatched	11 /22/2025 13:30:14
Enroute	11 /22/2025 13:10:13	Enroute	11 /22/2025 13:30:19
Arrived	11 /22/2025 13:12:08	Arrived	11 /22/2025 13:33:54
Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 23:32:20	Cleared Scene	11 /22/2025 21:06:18
In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
In Service	11 /22/2025 23:32:20	In Service	11 /22/2025 21:06:18
Unit	E-1	Unit	199

Type:	Ground fire suppression, other	Type:	Chief officer car
Use:	Suppression	Use:	Suppression
Response Mode:	No Lights or Sirens	Response Mode:	No Lights or Sirens
# of People	2	# of People	1
Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23	Alarm	11 /22/2025 12:50:23
Dispatched	11 /22/2025 22:03:01	Dispatched	11 /23/2025 07:07:48
Enroute	11 /22/2025 22:03:05	Enroute	11 /23/2025 07:07:54
Arrived	11 /22/2025 22:40:52	Arrived	11 /23/2025 08:23:46
Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	Cancelled	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
Cleared Scene	11 /23/2025 15:59:36	Cleared Scene	11 /23/2025 16:08:55
In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --	In Quarters	-- / -- / -- -- : -- : --
In Service	11 /23/2025 15:59:36	In Service	11 /23/2025 16:08:55
Number Of People not on apparatus: 0			

FIRE			
Acres Burned	None or Less Than One	Acres Burn From Wildland Form	False
Area Of Fire Origin	Common room, den, family room, living room, lounge	Heat Source	Undetermined
Item First Ignited	Undetermined	Fire Is Confined To Object Of Origin	
Type Of Material	Undetermined	Cause Of Ignition	Cause under investigation
Factor Contributing To Ignition	Undetermined		
Human Factors Contributing	None		

STRUCTURE FIRE			
Structure Type	Enclosed building	Building Status	In normal use
# Of Stories At Above Grade	7	# Of Stories Below Grade	1
Square Feet	26400	Length	
Width		Floor Of Origin	4
Fire Spread	Confined to building of origin		
Minor Damage	1	Significant Damage	0
Heavy Damage	0	Extreme Damage	0
Presence Of Detectors	Present	Type Of Detection System	Smoke
Detector Power Supply	Hardwire only	Detector Operation	Detector failed to operate
Detector Effectiveness		Detector Failure Reason	Detector failure reason, other
Presence OF AES	Present	Type Of AES	Wet-pipe sprinkler system
Operation Of Automatic Extinguishing System	System did not operate	Number Of Sprinkler Heads Operating	
Reason For AES Failure	System components damaged		

ARSON		
Agency Name	Agency Address	Agency Phone
State Fire Marshal, Investigat	8895 E Main ST Reynoldsburg OH 43068	8005892728
Remarks:		
The fire investigation is turned over to the State Fire Marshal, Investigation Bureau.		

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES 1

Gender	Name	Age	Date Of Birth	Race	Ethnicity Hispanic
Male		63	***	White	
Affiliation		Date Of Injury		Time Of Injury	
Civilian		11 /22/2025		12 :50:	
Severity		Cause Of Injury			
Death					
Human Factors					
Contributing Factors 1		Contributing Factors 2		Contributing Factors 3	
Story At Start Of Injury		Story Where In jury Occured		Specific Location At Time Of Injury	
4		2		Unknown	
Primary Apparent Symptom		Primary Part Of Body Injured		Disposition	
				Transported to emergency care facility	
Remarks					
Apartment #425. Transported by Lane to Mercy Main.					

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES 2

Gender	Name	Age	Date Of Birth	Race	Ethnicity Hispanic
Male		44	***	Undetermined	
Affiliation		Date Of Injury		Time Of Injury	
Civilian		11 /22/2025		12 :50:	
Severity		Cause Of Injury			
Undetermined					
Human Factors					
Contributing Factors 1		Contributing Factors 2		Contributing Factors 3	
Story At Start Of Injury		Story Where In jury Occured		Specific Location At Time Of Injury	
4		4			
Primary Apparent Symptom		Primary Part Of Body Injured		Disposition	
				Transported to emergency care facility	
Remarks					
Apartment on fourth floor. Transported by Lane to Mercy Main.					

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES 3

Gender	Name	Age	Date Of Birth	Race	Ethnicity Hispanic
Male		76	***		
Affiliation		Date Of Injury		Time Of Injury	
Civilian		11 /22/2025		12 :50:	
Severity		Cause Of Injury			
Undetermined					
Human Factors					
Contributing Factors 1		Contributing Factors 2		Contributing Factors 3	
Story At Start Of Injury		Story Where In jury Occured		Specific Location At Time Of Injury	
5		5			
Primary Apparent Symptom		Primary Part Of Body Injured		Disposition	
				Transported to emergency care facility	
Remarks					
Apartment #524. Transported by Girard FD to Mercy Main.					

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES 4

Gender	Name	Age	Date Of Birth	Race	Ethnicity Hispanic
Female		80	***	Undetermined	
Affiliation		Date Of Injury		Time Of Injury	
Civilian		11 /22/2025		12 :50:	
Severity		Cause Of Injury			
Undetermined					
Human Factors					
Contributing Factors 1		Contributing Factors 2		Contributing Factors 3	
Story At Start Of Injury		Story Where In jury Occured		Specific Location At Time Of Injury	
5		5			
Primary Apparent Symptom		Primary Part Of Body Injured		Disposition	
				Transported to emergency care facility	
Remarks					
Apartment on 5th floor. Transported by EMT to Mercy Main.					

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES 5

Gender	Name	Age	Date Of Birth	Race	Ethnicity Hispanic
Female		80	***	Undetermined	
Affiliation		Date Of Injury		Time Of Injury	
Civilian		11 /22/2025		12 :50:	
Severity		Cause Of Injury			
Undetermined					
Human Factors					
Contributing Factors 1		Contributing Factors 2		Contributing Factors 3	
Story At Start Of Injury		Story Where In jury Occured		Specific Location At Time Of Injury	
2		2			
Primary Apparent Symptom		Primary Part Of Body Injured		Disposition	
				Transported to emergency care facility	
Remarks					
Apartment #201. Transported by EMT to Mercy Boardman.					

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES 6

Gender	Name	Age	Date Of Birth	Race	Ethnicity Hispanic
Male		59	***	Undetermined	
Affiliation		Date Of Injury		Time Of Injury	
Civilian		11 /22/2025		12 :50:	
Severity		Cause Of Injury			
Undetermined					
Human Factors					
Contributing Factors 1		Contributing Factors 2		Contributing Factors 3	
Story At Start Of Injury		Story Where In jury Occured		Specific Location At Time Of Injury	
4		4			
Primary Apparent Symptom		Primary Part Of Body Injured		Disposition	
				Transported to emergency care facility	
Remarks					
Apartment #421. Transported by EMT to St. Joes.					

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES 7

Gender	Name	Age	Date Of Birth	Race	Ethnicity Hispanic
Male		66	***	Undetermined	
Affiliation		Date Of Injury		Time Of Injury	
Civilian		11 /22/2025		12 :50:	
Severity		Cause Of Injury			
Undetermined					
Human Factors					
Contributing Factors 1		Contributing Factors 2		Contributing Factors 3	
Story At Start Of Injury		Story Where In jury Occured		Specific Location At Time Of Injury	
2		2			
Primary Apparent Symptom		Primary Part Of Body Injured		Disposition	
				Transported to emergency care facility	
Remarks					
Apartment #222. Transported by EMT to St. Joes.					

PEOPLE -- PERSON 1

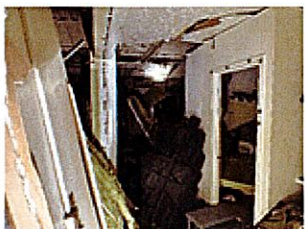
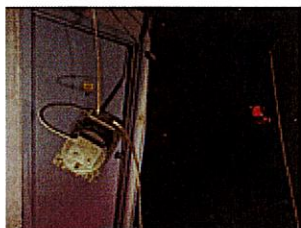
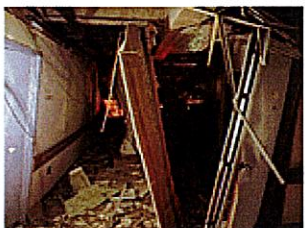
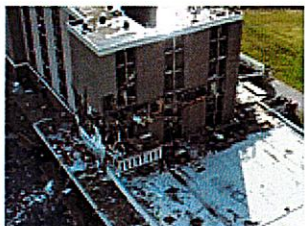
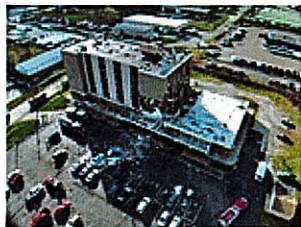
Telephone Number	(330)727-2918	Involvement	CONTACT
Address			

PEOPLE -- PERSON 2

Is Owner	False	Business Name	
Telephone Number	(330)727-2918	Involvement	CONTACT
Name	BILL	Date of Birth	
Address			

CUSTOM FIELDS FORM	
Emergency response?	Yes
Part-Time toned?	Yes
Incident Type:	Structure Fire
FD first on scene?	Yes
Ambulance Company:	Lane
Insurance Company:	
Agent:	
OFFICE ONLY:	
Page 9 Comments/Narrative	
Captain Review Complete?	Yes
Office Review Complete?	

INCIDENT IMAGES





Member Making Report (Assistant Chief Thomas O'Hara): _____

Incident Reviewer (Captain Thomas V Metzinger): _____

Boardman Township

7440 Market St., Boardman, Ohio 44512 (330) 726-4199 FAX (330) 726-4195

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mark A. Pitzer, Fire Chief

Incident Supplemental

BFD incident #25BF5178

850 North Meridian Rd.

Austintown, OH 44509

November 22nd, 2025

On November 22nd, 2025, at approximately 1306 hours, I received an Active 911 alert for an IMAT call-out to 850 N. Meridian Rd. for a building explosion with mass casualties. I responded immediately in my Command vehicle notifying Boardman Dispatch of my response, and requested additional EMS units / BFD's Rehab Unit. While enroute, I spoke to other IMAT operators to coordinate the response and what additional resources would be needed.

Upon my arrival to the scene, I noted severe damage to the structure on the Alpha/Delta corner at floor number 4 and 5. I parked by vehicle in the main parking lot on the Alpha side. Upon exiting my vehicle I was met by Chief Comstock from Poland and Battalion Chief Beehler from Youngstown. I asked B/C Beehler, who was the Incident Commander at that time, what his needs were. B/C Beehler stated he needed a Chief Officer on the interior to coordinate search and rescue operations and oversee a rescue of a trapped victim in an elevator. I immediately acknowledged the task and began donning my PPE.

Once I was geared up, I confirmed the operating channel with Command and began walking towards the structure. I quickly assessed the structural integrity of the building prior to entering said structure. I noted that the main structural supports were intact and not compromised (steel columns, beams/girders, steel decking/concrete floors). This is a type I constructed building. I noted the secondary structural members, studs, wall sections, drywall, drop ceiling were blow out of the two corner apartments on the 4th floor and exterior wall sections on the 3rd and 5th floors. These appeared to be not load bearing structural members.

I entered the structure and began my ascend to the 4th floor to prioritize search and rescue operations on the most affected areas first. Crews would then work their way through the subsequent floors. I immediately made radio contact with the crews to instruct them of this operation. I located the interior stairwell and made my way to the fourth floor. Upon entering the 4th floor I was met by Canfield L-103 who was actively removing the trapped occupant from the stuck elevator. The victim was successfully removed and escorted out of the building through the interior stairwell. I made radio contact with the Austintown, Canfield, and Youngstown crews to coordinate our search efforts on floor number 4 as the priority. Primary searches were done on floor number 4 first then we coordinated the searching of floors 1-3 and 5-7.

I advised the crews to mark each apartment door with a slash mark to signify said apartment had a primary search completed and clear. Also, notify me of any victims located so we can coordinate removal of any victims. I first received notification of an all clear on floor number 4. Crews reported back to me as floors were searched and cleared. All clears were given on floor number 1-3 and ultimately 5-7. All floors had a primary search and I reported back to command of an all clear of the structure. Once primary searches were completed, I instructed interior crew to exit the building.

Boardman Township

7440 Market St., Boardman, Ohio 44512 (330) 726-4199 **FAX** (330) 726-4195

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mark A. Pitzer, Fire Chief

During the course of these search and rescue operations, I stayed on the 4th floor to observe the damage and continue to monitor for any shifts or movement in said structure. I communicated to IC the need to control all utilities, gas, electric, and water to be turned off. Electric and gas was already secured. Youngtown Water was enroute to turn off the domestic water supply to the building. I noted water flowing in the apartment at the Alpha/Delta corner on the 4th floor which was cascading to the floors below, dropping ceilings and flooding the below floors.

After the Primary searches were completed, I followed all interior crews outside who went to a staging area and I went to the Command Post to report out to the IC on our interior operations. Incident Command requested a secondary search to be done. I gather a crew from Austintown and a crew from Youngstown to perform a secondary search, systemically, of the entire building.

Again we entered the structure, YFD crew started on floor number 1 and AFD crew started on floor number 2. They were instructed to clear each floor again and report back to me that the secondary search was complete before moving to the next floor. YFD would search the odd number floors and AFD would search the even number floors. I posted on floor number 4. Each floor was searched and when those secondary floor searches were completed I notified Incident Command of the same. Secondary searches were completed and reported to Command. No additional victims were located. All crews exited the structure and a face to face report out given to IC.

Signed:



Mark A. Pitzer
Fire Chief

Supplemental Report – Staging 850 N. Meridian Rd Austintown, OH 44509

Michael Mortimer (Chief 620) checked in with command and was assigned the role of staging officer. Fire apparatus staging was assigned to Meridian Road Southbound right-hand lane. Ambulance staging was assigned to Meridian Road Southbound left-hand lane. All units' arrival on scene checked in with Chief 620 and staged at the front of the building in the lawn between parking lot and roadway.

Crews broken up into groups with all EMS sent to EMS command/triage area on the side of the building. Fire personnel and crews staged in crews of 3 to prepare to relieve working crews upon entry into Rehab and/or request of Incident Command.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Mortimer", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Mortimer

YOUNGSTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Reporting Party: BC Beehler

Date: 12-07-2025

Subject: 850 North Meridian Road (Phoenix House)

Incident No. # 25YF4619

Alarm came in from YFD Dispatch at 12:59 stating Austintown Fire is requesting Mutual Aid for a Building explosion at 850 Meridian Road. YFD Companies (R3, E15, L22, L24 and B1) responded from their respective quarters. B1 arrived on scene at approximately 13:01 to find AFD working in a 7 story High Rise Building. The Building appeared to have had an explosion on the North Side of the Building. B1 assumed Command and asked for locations of Companies working inside and what their tasks were. At this point, Search, Rescue and Fire Suppression operations were already underway by APD and AFD. YFD R3 on scene at 13:01 and reported to Command for orders. While getting face to face orders, R3's Officer observed a Victim's hand waving for help on the one story roof in the front of the Building. Command ordered R3 to remove the Victim from the Roof. YFD L22 and E15 were on scene at 13:04 and 13:03 respectively. L22, R3 and E15 put an Extension Ladder to the Roof. L22, R3 and E15 ascended the ladder with EMS equipment and a backboard. These companies boarded and removed the victim through a second story window, down the interior steps and out the front door to EMS. The entire rescue took approximately 10 minutes. L24 was on scene at 13:06. L24 put to work searching the upper floors of the building and removing several occupants. Once L22, R3 and E15 were complete with the rescue off the roof, they assisted L24 with searching the upper floors of the building and removing several victims. B1 remained IC until AFD's Chief arrived on scene. B1 then assisted where needed. All YFD Companies back in service by 16:00.

Signature of Reporting Member Fred Beehler Digitally signed by Fred Beehler
Date: 2025.12.07 17:31:04
-05'00'

MAHONING COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Board of Mahoning County Commissioners

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Carol Rimedio-Righetti
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700 Industrial Road
Youngstown, OH 44509
Robin R. Lees, Director
Conner T. O'Halloran, Emergency
Planning/E911 Administrator

EMA Supplemental Narrative

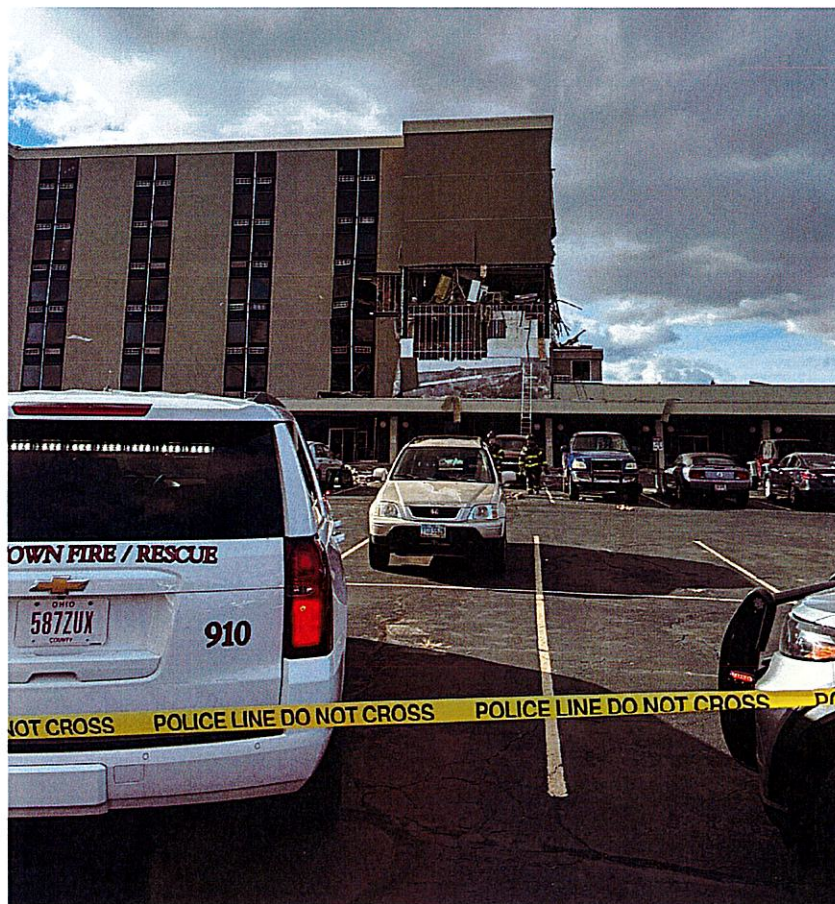
Austintown Senior Living Explosion (aka The Phoenix House)

November 22nd, 2025

25EMA009

Prepared By: Conner O'Halloran, MS NRP

Mahoning County Emergency Management Agency



EMA dispatched to a second alarm MCI and West IMAT response to a building explosion. I, Conner O'Halloran, responded to the scene and began immediate liaison operations with incident command. We established real time communication with St. E's Main. St. E's Main was placed on emergency diversion for all calls except for trauma, stroke, and heart attack. All other patients diverted to other Mercy facilities. St. E's Main confirmed code yellow activated. I had multiple phone calls with YFD Battalion 2 (Chief Frease) along with Chief ED physician Dr. Chad Donley. St. E's Senior Level management was fully functional in about 20 minutes.

Primary and secondary searches were being conducted and lots of people were removed from the building. All of them were initially classified as walking wounded however after further analysis, they did not appear to have any injuries at all. It was decided of these people needed to be relocated to a shelter so the operation split between fire rescue, investigation, and shelter. Two causality collection points established, CCP1 was in the parking lot in the northeast corner, CCP2 was established outside of the building on the B/C corner.

A shelter location was established at Austintown Senior Center. This location was eventually moved to Austintown Elementary school. The Red Cross was notified and directed to the elementary school along with the school's school resource officer. Ellsworth Fire, Chief Jillian Smith started shelter operations and were briefed to anticipate secondary medical emergencies at the shelter. A Lane ambulance was also directed to the shelter for standby. Four buses (one WRTA and three school) were used to relocate all displaced people from the explosion scene to the shelter. A fifth bus (school bus) remained on scene at the explosion site for a little bit in case there were additional people needing to be relocated.

There were several people who refused to go to the shelter despite multiple attempts by Ohio State Patrol officers and supervisors along with fire command officers. It was becoming evident that the shelter was starting to have secondary issues with anxiety and medical illnesses requiring EMS intervention.

Director Lees stayed with the command vehicle and ran operations at the scene. I left the scene and proceeded to the shelter location. While en route to the shelter, it became evident that secondary issues were started to deteriorate with one patient needing possibly sedated and emergent police and EMS involvement. I continued to the shelter emergent to work on stabilizing operations. We established a command room inside a music room. We were able to house everyone (82 in total) in the gym and the cafeteria.

United Way, Red Cross, Police, Catholic Charities, Direction Home, Hazmat, ARES, and Mercy Health (remote support) all set up command operations out of a music room. Initial challenge was to determine the next steps. Direction Home and United Way worked with Red Cross to determine who can be emergently placed into assisted living facilities. The remainder of the people needed to be relocated to either a hotel or family/friends. This particular population has various medical needs, some requiring strict medication regimens. For this, we developed a large conference call, including Mercy officials. In all from Mercy, we had President Harley, ED director John Reese, ED Chief Physician Dr. Chad Donley, pharmacy

supervisor, social work supervisor, Chief Martin, and TJ Cotterman. Over the next two to three operational periods, we would break and reconvene via conference call. Each operational period ranged from 60 to 90 minutes.

Another issue, which developed once the location of the shelter was established, were donations. There were several donations dropped off immediately which burdened limited staff. Once more responders arrived, a system needed built to sort and distribute the donations. Inside the gym area was where most of the people stayed. This developed into an issue with managing pets. Although the majority of the pet issues were solved, this was an extra variable to manage. In addition, it caused grief for some people because they were not able to get their pets out of the building. People were constantly asking responders to check on their animals or find a way to get their animals for them.

Several ideas were workshopped to be able to prescribe and fill critical medication. Fast acting insulin was the commonly used medication however psychiatric medication became acutely needed as well. In between our second and third operational period at the shelter we had a breakthrough, we had two nurse practitioners, and some nurses arrived. This solved the initial problem of reissuing prescriptions.

A hallway was secured and a makeshift clinic was established. All remaining shelter patients who did not have an avenue to go to a nursing home were processed through this clinic. In addition to clinic operations, Wedgewood Pharmacy called in their staff and agreed to fill each prescription. This included validating the prescriptions are within the patients established medication plan. At the close of this particular operation period, one last conference call was conducted. Dr. Kravec joined and between him and President Harley, a secondary check of all prescriptions was planned for the following Monday. This created a safety net to double check everyone's work.

Once the medication problem was resolved, we needed to assure all nursing home patients were on a transport van going to their destination before we released hotel information. This was done with clear intent because funds and hotel availability were limited. We needed to assure that the hotels were reserved for those with no other option. In all, about 30 of the 82 patients were transported and booked into the Baymont Hotel in Boardman. Additionally, I transported the initial round of medication to the hotel for distribution. Capt. Wirtz, Chief Williams, FF/EMT Aey, along with a Boardman Police supervisor and two patrol officers assisted with medication distribution. A second medication delivery was needed the Capt. Wirtz performed with Boardman Police providing security.

In addition to the medication issue, food had to be secured for Lunch and Dinner for the hotel. Trustee Santos took on that and secured lunch and dinner operations before the transport operation began. This completed any known needs for everyone until Monday morning. All operations were completed around 0200 November 23rd.