



Fire Chief Corey Thornton

City of East Point
Fire Department

2025

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

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Cover photo by Anthony Lee

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Neighbors

The New Neighborhood Watch™



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

by Fire Chief Corey Thornton



Dear Residents, Supporters, and Stakeholders,

As Fire Chief of the City of East Point Fire Department, I am proud to present the 2025 Annual Report—a reflection of a department navigating with purpose, grounded in service, and strengthened by perseverance.

The past year marked the start of a season of leadership transition within our department and across the broader fire service. Transition, while often challenging, is also an opportunity—an opportunity to reaffirm our mission, develop emerging leaders, and honor the foundation laid by those who came before us. In 2025, we approached change not with hesitation, but with intention, ensuring continuity of service while preparing our organization for the future.

Through rising call volumes, complex emergencies, and evolving community expectations, our staff remained steadfast. Their perseverance was evident on every scene, in every training evolution, and in every interaction with the residents we serve. This department continues to be defined not only by its operational excellence, but by its commitment to one another and to the community of East Point.

Whether responding in moments of crisis or engaging proactively through education and prevention, the East Point Fire Department remains committed to being a reliable, visible, and trusted presence.

With gratitude,

Chief Corey Thornton



Chief
Fire
Officer*

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to prevent disastrous incidents from occurring and to minimize damage to life, property and the environment.

The City of East Point Fire Department, established in 1908, has evolved into a multifaceted and proactive community based organization committed to delivering the highest quality of comprehensive safety services. The City of East Point is located within the Metropolitan Atlanta area and shares its borders with Atlanta, Hapeville, College Park and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. With an average response time of six minutes, we continually strive for excellence in our Fire and Emergency Services. The department's prehospital care relies on a tiered response system.

All Firefighters are trained as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) at the Intermediate level at a minimum and provide Basic Life Support (BLS) for less serious medical situations and Firefighters trained as Paramedics and Advanced EMTs provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) for more .

In order to provide the highest level of Fire and EMS services for the residents of East Point, we strive to hire and maintain a well trained workforce that meets national standards for training and utilizes equipment and resources geared toward reducing the number of fires and fire related deaths.



FIRE HEADQUARTERS

3121 Norman Berry Drive

STATION 2

3171 Norman Berry Drive

Engine 2, Rescue 2, Battalion Chief

Personnel: 6

STATION 3:

3800 North Commerce Drive

Engine 3

Personnel: 3

STATION 4:

2222 Ben Hill Road

Engine 4, Ladder 1, Rescue 4

Personnel: 8

STATION 5:

3949 Washington Road

***Under Renovation**

WHAT IS ISO AND WHY IT MATTERS FOR OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluates fire departments across the United States and assigns a Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating that shows how well a community is protected from fire. This rating ranges from Class 1 (best) to Class 10 (needs improvement) and is based on how ready and capable a fire department is, including:

- Firefighter staffing, training, and equipment
- Water supply and hydrant availability
- Emergency communications (911 response)
- Fire prevention and public safety education

ISO's evaluation gives residents and businesses a consistent way to understand fire protection quality and helps insurance companies fairly assess fire risk.

A strong ISO rating often leads to lower property insurance premiums because insurers see that the risk of severe fire damage is reduced thanks to our proven fire protection capabilities.

The East Point Fire Department currently holds an **ISO Class 1 rating**, which is the highest possible classification. Class 1 departments are extremely rare — typically well under 1 % of all departments nationwide earn this distinction.



NEW PARTNERSHIPS



With the backing of committed residents, the East Point Fire and East Point Police Departments have taken a transformative step by establishing the East Point Public Safety Foundation. This new nonprofit organization represents a unified commitment to enhance public safety, deepen community connections, and support the well-being of the city's first responders.

The East Point Public Safety Foundation is the result of a groundbreaking collaboration between two essential city departments. Recognizing their shared mission, the Fire and Police departments have come together under one banner to:

1. Launch joint public education campaigns on fire prevention and crime awareness.
2. Host community events, youth engagement programs, and safety-focused workshops.
3. Raise funds to support advanced training, modern equipment, officer wellness, and proactive community policing.

This unified front not only reflects both departments' ongoing commitment to professionalism and public trust, but also leverages their strengths to create more meaningful community impact.

Building on a Strong Foundation

East Point already benefits from a well-established public safety infrastructure. The formation of the Foundation expands on that strength by creating new pathways for community engagement and support. With input from residents and leadership from both departments, the Foundation will help build a safer, more connected East Point.

If you represent a local business, service organization, or private foundation interested in supporting the mission, the East Point Public Safety Foundation is ready to welcome you!

Please visit eppsf.com for more information.

EAST POINT FIRE BY THE NUMBERS

2025



2,250 Fire Calls



9,180 EMS Calls



**200 Certificate of
Occupancy Inspections**



**11,252 Hours of
Company Training**



**1189 Local Businesses
Inspected**



**2,834 Food Deliveries
for Local Residents**



**Reviewed 547
Building Plans**



**Attended 180
Community Meetings**



**Taught CPR
Classes to
103 people**



**24 Newly certified
Firefighters**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FIRE ACADEMY TO ADVANCED EMT TRAINING

Fire Department professional development programs provide an educational foundation for preparation of our Firefighters to meet professional standards.

These programs also provide credentials and meet qualifying requirements in advance of serving in step-up roles and in preparation for future promotional opportunities.

In 2025, a total of 24 new Firefighters were hired.

FIRE OFFICER ON-BOARDING AND PREPARATION

In May of 2023, meetings were held by the Fire Chief to plan and develop the system for on-boarding new officers and creating a pathway for future promotions.

This was in response to the service retirements expected in the new few years.

The Career Path Book (CPB) provides our staff with suggested classes and training to help them progress within the department.

EAST POINT FIRE DEPARTMENT CAREER PATH



FIRE OPERATIONS

The Operations Division is the heart of the East Point Fire Department. It consists of three Fire stations, located throughout the city, consolidated into one Battalion. The three fire stations are equipped with three engines, one ladder truck, two advanced/basic life support rescue units, one Air/Light vehicle and a battalion command vehicle.

Employees assigned to this division are distributed on three shifts A, B, & C, working twenty-four 24 hours on duty and 48 hours off duty. All operations employees are certified as emergency medical technicians or paramedics.

2025 Station Responses

Fire Station #2	4148
Fire Station #3	4111
Fire Station #4	3159

Emergency response demand increased significantly, led by a sharp rise in EMS calls. EMS incidents grew from 7,216 in 2023 to 9,180 in 2025, reflecting regional trends in medical emergencies and reinforcing the Fire Department's role as a critical healthcare safety net for residents and visitors alike.

Fire calls remained consistently high, exceeding 2,200 incidents annually, underscoring the continued need for strong suppression capabilities and rapid response.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Employees on shift and in Fire Administration instruct a variety of Fire Safety classes to neighborhood associations, civic groups, schools and churches. The Fire Safety House, station tours, special community events and neighborhood association meetings are a sampling of the platforms used to convey this information.

Additionally, Fire Crews canvass the neighborhood after fires, conduct home inspections, install smoke detectors, child safety seats and provide blood pressure checks at Fire Stations.

Smoke Detector/CO Installations: 41
Special Community Events: 44



EMS/FIRE TRAINING

The EMS/Training Division is responsible for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Fire Rescue Training. One of the core responsibilities in this division is to provide standards and training and to ensure that all citizens of East Point receive the highest level of professionalism and standard of care.

The Training Division ensures that firefighters comply with all state and national standards for fire and emergency medical services.

2025 Training Totals

11,190 hours of Company Training

1,028 hours of Officer Training

1,940 hours of Driver's Training

1040 hours of Hazardous Materials Training

280 hours of Fire Inspector Training

160 hours of Life Safety Educator Training



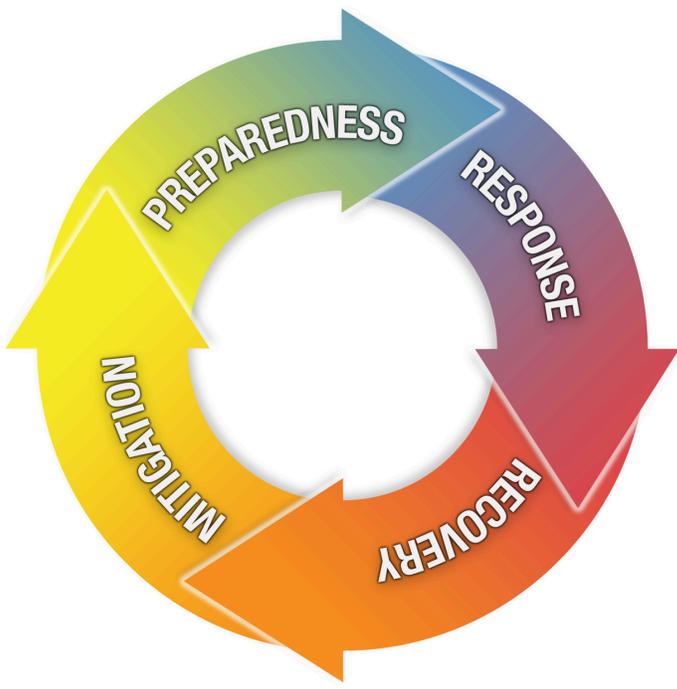
HOMELAND SECURITY

The Homeland Security Division is committed to protecting the East Point community by preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all hazards, whether natural or man-made. This team works year-round to develop emergency plans, write grants conduct training exercises, and educate the public on disaster preparedness. Through risk assessments and mitigation strategies, they ensure the city is ready to handle emergencies efficiently and effectively. From severe weather events to large-scale incidents, their goal is to enhance public safety and build a more resilient community.

The division's efforts are strengthened through strategic partnerships at the local, state, and federal levels. It collaborates with the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency (AFCEMA) to coordinate emergency response efforts within the metro region. At the state level, it works with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) to align initiatives with statewide emergency response strategies and access critical resources. Additionally, its partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) ensures support in disaster response, recovery funding, and federal training programs. By working closely with these agencies, East Point is better equipped to protect lives, property, and infrastructure during times of crisis.

3.62

**Million Dollars in Grants and
Federal Appropriations secured
by the Homeland Security
Division since 2019**



LOGISTICS

The Logistics Division is the backbone of the East Point Fire Department, ensuring that firefighters have the tools, equipment, and resources needed to respond effectively to emergencies. This division is responsible for maintaining and managing essential supplies, fire apparatus, protective gear, and station facilities.

Logistics personnel work behind the scenes to coordinate vehicle maintenance, equipment repairs, and supply distribution, keeping the department mission-ready at all times. Their efforts ensure that every fire station remains fully equipped and operational, supporting the safety and efficiency of our firefighters in the field.

In 2025, the Logistics Division ensured that every firefighter went to work with the right tools, functioning apparatus, and safe facilities, quietly supporting 100% of emergency responses through continuous equipment maintenance, supply distribution, and station support—often without recognition, but never without impact.



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONTINUES IN 2025

In 2025, the East Point Fire Department continued its proactive commitment to Community Risk Reduction through a broad range of education, prevention, and outreach initiatives designed to reduce emergencies before they occur. Through age-appropriate programming, the department focused on empowering residents with the knowledge and skills needed to keep themselves and their families safe.

Signature programs such as “Be Cool About Fire Safety” remained a cornerstone of fire prevention efforts, engaging students through interactive skits, puppet shows, music, and hands-on learning during National Fire Prevention Week and throughout the year. The department’s Fire Safety House, an inflatable, walk-through teaching tool, was used extensively to help children identify common household hazards and practice safe escape behaviors in a controlled, realistic environment.

527

People were educated during 2025 in fire and life safety through in-person sessions.



FIRE PREVENTION

The Fire Prevention Division oversees the Fire Prevention and Fire Investigation programs. Fire Prevention is responsible for enforcing the Fire Codes of the City of East Point and the State of Georgia, conducting annual business inspections, determining the cause and circumstances of fires and explosions, reviewing building sites, detection, and suppression plans to ensure code compliance, reviewing fire lane plans, and issuing Certificates of Occupancy to new businesses.

547 sets of Building Plans Reviewed
200 Certificate of Occupancy Inspections
27 Fires Investigated
8 Fire Alarm Systems Inspections
15 Ceiling Cover Inspections



INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The East Point Fire Department's Internal Affairs Division is committed to upholding the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and accountability within the department. Responsible for investigating complaints, policy violations, and ethical concerns, the division ensures that all personnel adhere to departmental regulations and city policies. Through a fair and thorough investigative process, Internal Affairs fosters trust between the department and the community by promoting transparency and maintaining a culture of accountability.

In addition to conducting investigations, the Internal Affairs Division plays a key role in reviewing policies, recommending procedural improvements, and providing training on ethical conduct and workplace professionalism. By proactively addressing concerns and reinforcing department values, the division supports a safe, fair, and effective work environment for all personnel. Through its diligent oversight, Internal Affairs strengthens public confidence in the East Point Fire Department and enhances the overall effectiveness of emergency services in the community.

5

Investigations conducted by
Internal Affairs in 2025



THANK YOU

As we close another year of service, we want to extend our sincere gratitude to our Mayor and City Council, the City Manager's Office, and our dedicated city leadership for their continued support and trust in the East Point Fire Department. Your commitment to public safety, sound governance, and community investment makes our work possible and strengthens our ability to serve with professionalism and purpose.

We also want to thank our residents, local businesses, and the many sponsors and community partners who stood with us throughout the year. Your support—whether through collaboration, participation in safety programs, or generosity during community initiatives—reminds us that public safety is a shared responsibility. Together, we are building a safer, stronger, and more resilient East Point, and we are deeply grateful for your partnership and confidence in our department.



**American
Red Cross**

