

# COACHELLA CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

QUARTERLY REPORT

APRIL – JUNE 2024



---

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

---

1. Personnel Assignments
2. Response Reports
3. Administration Reports

ADMINISTRATION  
 1377 SIXTH STREET  
 COACHELLA, CA 92236  
 (760) 398-8895

1. Division Chief – Richard Tovar
2. Battalion Chief – Justin Karp
3. Battalion Chief – Vacant
4. Administrative Assistant – Marisa Duran

STATION 79  
 1377 SIXTH STREET  
 COACHELLA, CA 92236  
 (760) 398-8895

Engine Company 79

1. Fire Captain – Johnny Garcia
2. Fire Captain – Rodrigo Vega
3. Fire Captain – Anthony Rosales
4. Fire Apparatus Engineer – Tommy Lemus
5. Firefighter Apparatus Engineer/Paramedic – Damian Sianez
6. Firefighter II/Paramedic – Tony Ippolito
7. Firefighter II/Paramedic – Daniel Lucido
8. Firefighter II/Paramedic – Matthew Rosenberger

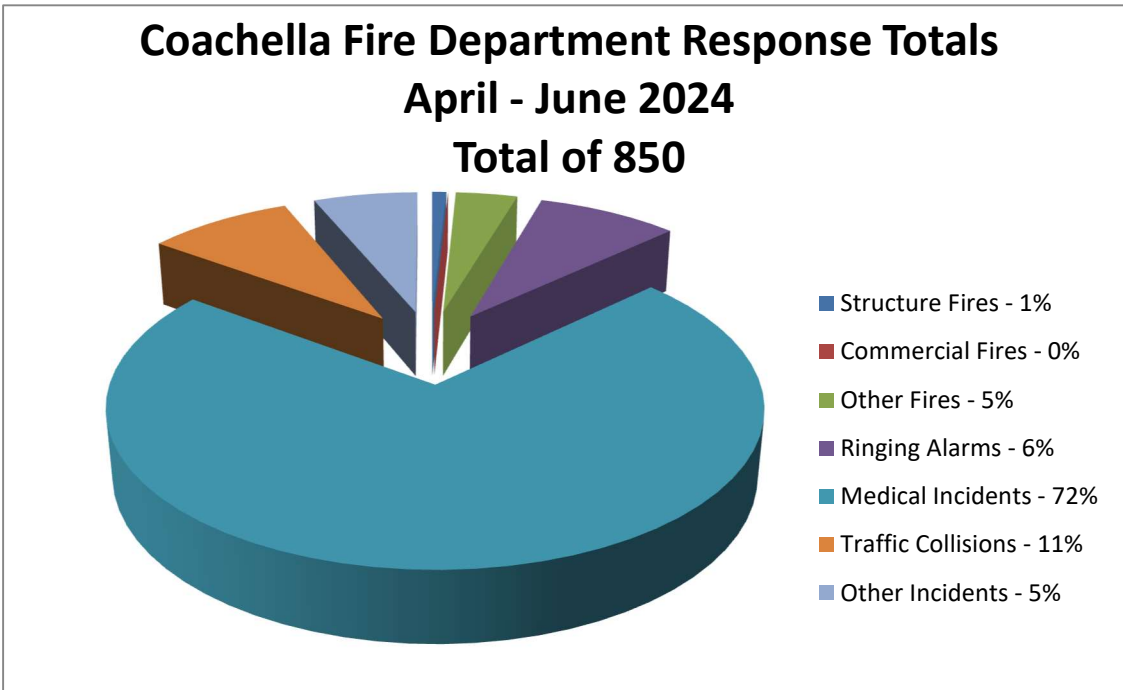
**YEAR END RESPONSE REPORT**  
**APRIL 1, 2024 – JUNE 30, 2024**

	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	YTD (CITY OF COACHELLA)
STRUCTURE FIRES	3	3	2	11
COMMERCIAL FIRES	0	0	2	2
OTHER FIRES	11	14	16	80
RINGING/FALSE ALARMS	19	16	14	108
MEDICAL INCIDENTS	189	222	222	1,229

TRAFFIC COLLISIONS	23	26	55	160
OTHER INCIDENTS	9	14	10	58
TOTAL	254	295	301	1,648

**RESPONSE TIMES**

	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	YTD (CITY OF COACHELLA)
AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES (MINUTES)	4.6	5.1	4.6	5.1
% OF CALLS ON SCENE IN 5 MINUTES OR LESS	71%	68%	67%	66%



## **SIGNIFICANT EVENT**

4/13/24 – Firefighters responded to a reported traffic collision cut and rescue at Van Buren Street and Avenue 51. The first arriving company officer reported two vehicles, one vehicle with major damage and 2 victims requiring extrication. Crews used specialized equipment, including the “Jaws of Life,” to initiate extrication. Both patients were transported to a local area trauma center for further treatment and evaluation.

4/26/24 – Fire Department resources were dispatched to a reported medical incident off the Interstate 10 and Coachella Canal. The patient was approximately one to two miles South of Interstate 10 in an unhused encampment. Initially, firefighters were not able to access the patient via fire engine or ambulance. A request was placed for a helicopter and or utility vehicle (UTV) to assist with accessing the patient. As the additional resources were being dispatched, Firefighters hiked into the area to make patient contact and initiate advanced life support measures. Once the patient was stabilized, firefighters opted to carry the patient out to the awaiting ambulance. **(See photos below)**



5/8/24 – City firefighters responded to a reported possible natural gas or chlorine leak at Bobby Duke Middle School in the City of Coachella. Firefighters reported a large multi building educational facility with no evacuations at that time. Firefighters were able to coordinate with school faculty and gather all students stating they were experiencing symptoms of possible exposure. School Facility Maintenance secured the 24 classrooms that the leak potentially affected. All children were evaluated and a total of 18 students were transported with minor symptoms to local area hospitals. The Riverside County Hazardous Materials Team arrived on scene and were able to determine no leaks were detected in the classrooms. School property was turned over to the Gas Company to perform pressure tests to further insure no gas leaks on the property.

5/13/24 – Coachella Firefighters responded to a reported vegetation fire in the area of Grapefruit Boulevard and 6th Street. Fire crews reported a large spot of vegetation burning along the train

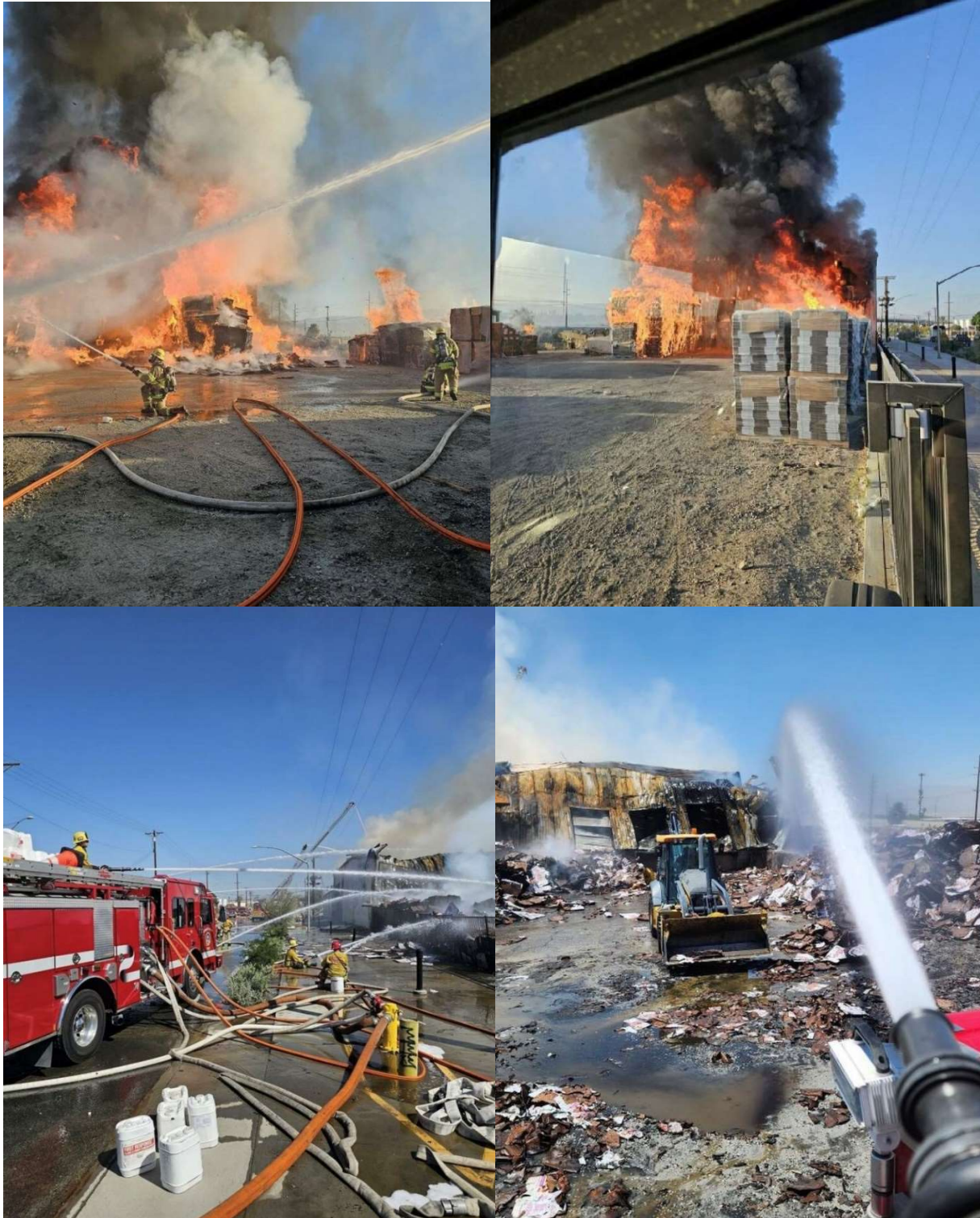
tracks with a significant wind from the South. Due to the proximity of the fire and the railroad tracks, a hard closure of the railroad was initiated so firefighters could safely work on suppressing the fire. The closure was implemented for roughly 45 minutes before it was safe enough to have the trains pass at a reduced speed of 15mph. The fire was contained to half an acre of vegetation and miscellaneous refuse from transient encampments.

5/14/24/23 – Firefighters were dispatched to a reported vehicle versus pedestrian in the area of Avenue 52 and Dos Palmas Avenue in the City of Coachella. The first arriving Engine Company reported a single vehicle collided with a small off-road quad, being ridden by three juveniles. The three juveniles all sustained moderate to major injuries. One juvenile was transported by Mercy Air ambulance and the two additional patients were transported via ground ambulance to Desert Regional Medical Center.

6/6/24 – Multiple 911 reports of a commercial building on fire in the City of Coachella initiated a response to 85-400 Grapefruit Boulevard. The first arriving fire engine reported a large building with significant fire in the high piled cardboard boxes on the exterior of the building that was spreading quickly. A second alarm was started with equipment from several agencies responding. The fire, pushed by the wind and high fuel load, spread through this vegetable packing facilities pallets and boxes ultimately burning off the roof and crumpling walls. Multiple large hoses were used to extinguish this fire including overhead Ariel streams. The runoff was tested by Environmental Health and no hazardous materials were found. High temperatures and heavy workload resulted in firefighter exhaustion. Ambulances transported ill firefighters to the local emergency rooms for evaluation. A formal firefighter rest and rehabilitation was set up with the Sun Bus contributing their resources as a cooling station. Temperatures were expected to reach 109 degrees. Due to the unsafe and unstable building, firefighters extinguished from the exterior. Heavy equipment Backhoes and Dozer worked to spread the high piled storage out. Train tracks along the building's perimeter have been affected by smoke and trains are being slowed for safety. Fire crews worked on the fire overnight to ensure all hot spots are extinguished. The fire cause is currently under investigation.

**(See photos below)**





6/11/24 – Firefighters were dispatched to a reported residential structure fire at 1558 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. The first arriving engine company reported light smoke coming from the roof. Fire crews were able to extinguish the attic fire quickly and keep it from spreading to nearby properties. City of Coachella building and safety departments red tagged the building and a total of six residents

were displaced. The American Red Cross was notified and provided assistance to the family.  
Total Lost: \$30,000.00 Total Saved: \$350,000.00

6/13/24 – Firefighters responded to reports of a single vehicle roll over at the intersection of Grapefruit Boulevard and Avenue 49. The first arriving engine company reported a vehicle on its side, victims trapped with critical injuries. Crews utilized the Jaws of Life to free the trapped parties who were then transported by ambulance to a trauma center for further care.

6/16/24 – City of Coachella firefighters responded to a traffic collision at the intersection of Cesar Chavez Street and Avenue 54. Upon arrival firefighters reported a single vehicle collided with a light pole. Patient was extracted from the vehicle and was given advanced life support care. The injured party later succumbed to his injuries at an area hospital.

6/19/24 – Coachella Firefighters responded to a commercial structure fire at 46-165 Dillion Road. Discovered was a commercial car wash showing heavy smoke and visible fire. Upon making entry firefighters located the fire to an office space on the second story of the building. Fire personnel were able to contain the fire to the building of origin with minimal damage to the main components of the car wash. Total Lost: \$100,000.00 Total Saved: \$500,000.00

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITY**

4/9/24 – Students from Peter Pendleton Elementary School had the opportunity to tour our newly remodeled Fire Station for the first time. **(See photos below)**





4/25/24 – Many were in attendance for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of Fire Station #79. (See photos below)



