

January 2013

# **PENINSULA TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT**



## **FIRE DEPARTMENT 2012 SUMMARY REPORT**

**Protecting the citizens of Peninsula Township**

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**Prepared by**

**Richard Vander Mey**

**Randy Rittenhouse**

**Matt Mosher**

2012  
PENINSULA TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

OFFICERS

\_Fire Chief Richard Vander Mey EMT-B/Firefighter  
Assistant Chief Randy Rittenhouse EMT-B/Firefighter  
Captain Grant Blackmer MFR/Firefighter  
Captain Cory Reamer EMT/Firefighter  
Medical Director Randy Rittenhouse EMT-B/Firefighter  
Public Relations/Training Officer Matt Mosher EMT/Firefighter  
Marine Rescue Team Leader Matt Mosher EMT-B/Firefighter

Members

Bottomley Lottie EMT-Specialist  
Bottomley Shawn Paramedic/Firefighter  
Campillo Shaun EMT-B/Firefighter  
Childers Chiris EMT-B/Firefighter  
Deering Ryan EMT-B/Firefighter  
Haines Nickolas EMT/Firefighter  
Harvey Robert EMT-Specialist/Firefighter  
Hawkins Nickolas EMT-B/Firefighter  
Innes Shaun Firefighter  
Jensen Jon EMT-B/Firefighter  
Lipe Cody EMT-B/Firefighter  
Mansfield Daren EMT-B/Firefighter  
Sarber Kyle EMT-B/Firefighter  
Sharpnack Pat EMT-B  
Snow John EMT-B/Firefighter  
Somsel Eric Paramedic/Firefighter  
Strom Brent Paramedic/Firefighter  
Vander Mey Michael MFR/Firefighter  
Vander Mey Thomas MFR/Firefighter  
Weatherholt David EMT-B  
Wilkins Michael EMT-B/Firefighter

2012 Retirees

Flachsmann William 13 Years of Service  
Lardie Charles 40 Years of Service  
Stafford Robert 12 Years of Service

A letter from the Chief,

I have been a member of the Peninsula Township Fire Department for over 38 years. During that time, I have seen extraordinary changes in the department and the community we serve. Our requests for service have steadily increased each year with this year being no exception. In 2012, the department responded to an all-time record 525 requests for service. Because of our increased responses, fire station #1 is staffed 24 hours a day by two Firefighter/EMTs. With the implementation of the 24 hour staffing, we are able to provide faster response times for our residents and visitors when our services are needed.

The Peninsula Township Fire Department was evaluated by ISO (Insurance Services Organization). They establish the Public Protection Classification (PPC) number system which many insurance companies use to calculate the cost of your home owners insurance. On November 6, 2012, Peninsula Township received the results of that evaluation. We are pleased to announce that, with the implementation of 24 hour staffing and our fire suppression capabilities, the township has received a lower PPC rating. In areas of the township that are served by pressurized water, the PPC classification was 6 and has now been reclassified to a class 5. The remaining area of the township that had a PPC classification of 9 has now been reclassified to a class 7. These changes in the township's PPC rating equates to a lower cost for fire protection insurance for our residents. We urge you to contact your insurance carrier and make sure they are using these adjusted PPC Rating Classification numbers. We were able to achieve our goal of obtaining a lower PPC rating for the township and we will continue to work towards obtaining a lower PPC rating for the township.

The department has been actively seeking grants to get the most efficient use of your tax dollars. In 2012, the department was awarded grants from the Region 7 Homeland Security, The Par Plan of Michigan and FEMA DHS/Port Security Grant Program. On June 29, 2012, the township was notified that it had been selected to receive a 2012 FEMA Department of Homeland Security Port Security grant in the amount of \$317,150.00. This grant will fund 75% of the cost of a larger and much-needed water rescue vessel. Currently the department is using a donated 1989 17 foot center console MAKO fishing boat to perform water rescue operations. The current water rescue boat has very limited capabilities and was never designed to be used for this purpose. The new rescue boat will enhance our water rescue and marine fire fighting capabilities and will provide our personnel with a larger and much safer vessel which can be safely operated in rough sea conditions. The department will continue to seek out and apply for additional grants to help stretch your tax dollars.

In the calendar year of 2012, we have had three long time members retire from active service. The three members are; Assistant Chief Woody Flachsman, 13 years of service, Charles Lardie, 40 years of service and Bob Stafford, with 12 years of service. I would like to personally thank these individuals for their dedicated service to the department and the citizens of Peninsula Township.

The Peninsula Township Fire Department continually trains on the latest skills and techniques in fire, rescue and medical training. With the support of our community, we are able to continue to expand our capabilities to meet the growing needs of the township residents. I would like to thank you for your support and we look forward to enhancing our capabilities to better serve you in the years to come.

Richard VanderMey, Chief  
Peninsula Township Fire Department

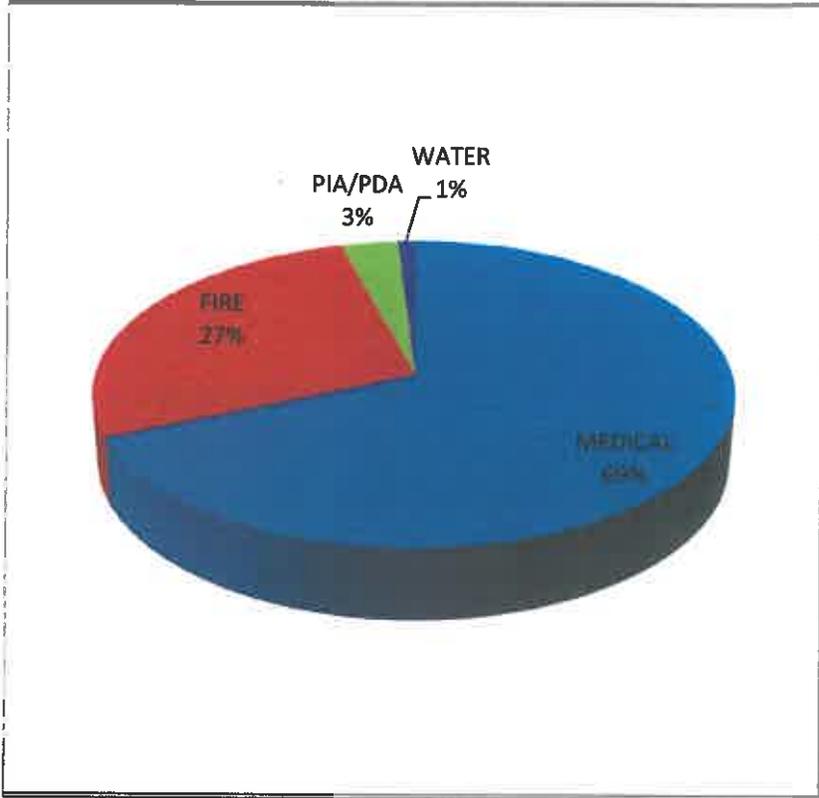
**PENINSULA TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT  
2012 ANNUAL RUN REPORT DATA**



2012 was a very busy year for the Peninsula Township Fire Department, we responded to record 525 requests for service. In 2012 the department experienced a 41.89 % increase in requests for service when compared to 2011.

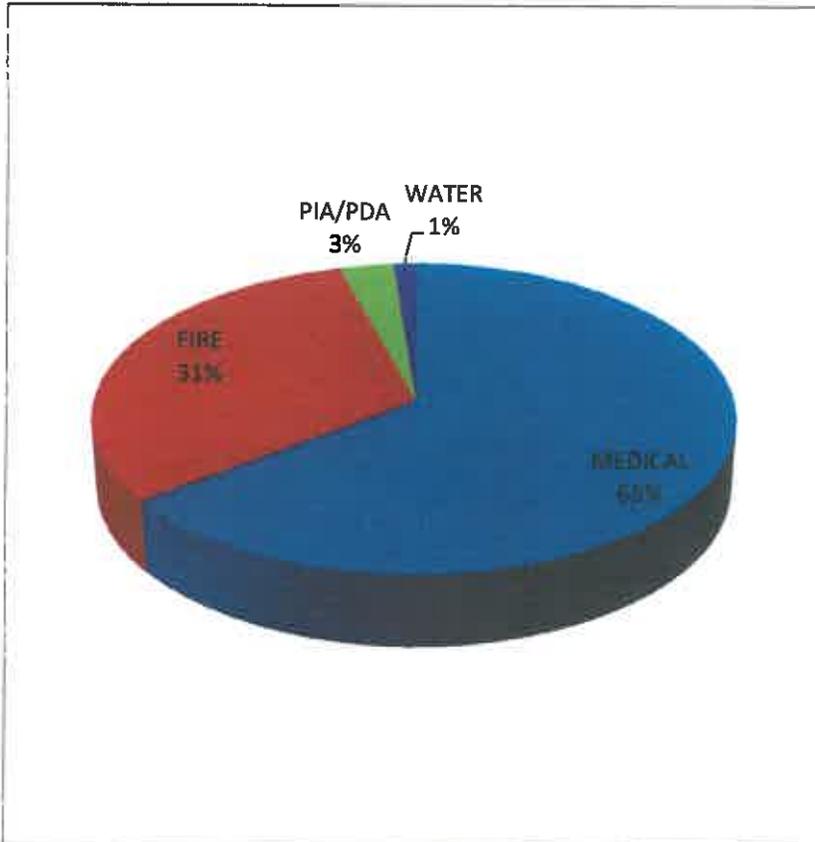
On the next page you will find two detailed graphs, one for the calendar year of 2011 and one for 2012. These graphs show the percentage that each type of run comprises in the yearly run total.

2011 ANNUAL RUN DATA



MEDICAL	253
FIRE	101
PIA/PDA	12
WATER	4
TOTAL	370

2012 ANNUAL RUN DATA



MEDICAL	338
FIRE	164
PIA/PDA	16
WATER	7
TOTAL	525

2012

**PENINSULA TOWNSHIP  
INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE, INC  
PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASSIFICATION**

**Public Protection Classification  
Summary Report  
Peninsula TS FDS**

**Michigan**

**Prepared by**

**Insurance Services Office, Inc.  
4B Eves Drive, Suite 200  
P.O. Box 961  
Marlton, New Jersey 08053-3112  
(856) 985-5600**

**November 6, 2012**

## Classification Details

### Public Protection Classification

ISO concluded its review of the fire suppression features being provided for/by Peninsula TS. The resulting community classification is **Class 5**.

If the classification is a single class, the classification applies to properties with a Needed Fire Flow of 3,500 gpm or less in the community. If the classification is a split class (e.g., 6/9), the following applies:

- The first class (e.g., "6" in a 6/9) applies to properties within 5 road miles of a recognized fire station and within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant or alternate water supply.
- Class 8B or class 9 applies to properties beyond 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant but within 5 road miles of a recognized fire station.
- Alternative Water Supply: The first class (e.g., "6" in a 6/10) applies to properties within 5 road miles of a recognized fire station with no hydrant distance requirement.
- Class 10 applies to properties over 5 road miles of a recognized fire station.
- Specific properties with a Needed Fire Flow in excess of 3,500 gpm are evaluated separately and assigned an individual classification.

## Classification Details

### Public Protection Classification

ISO concluded its review of the fire suppression features being provided for/by Peninsula TS FDS. The resulting community classification is **Class 7/10**.

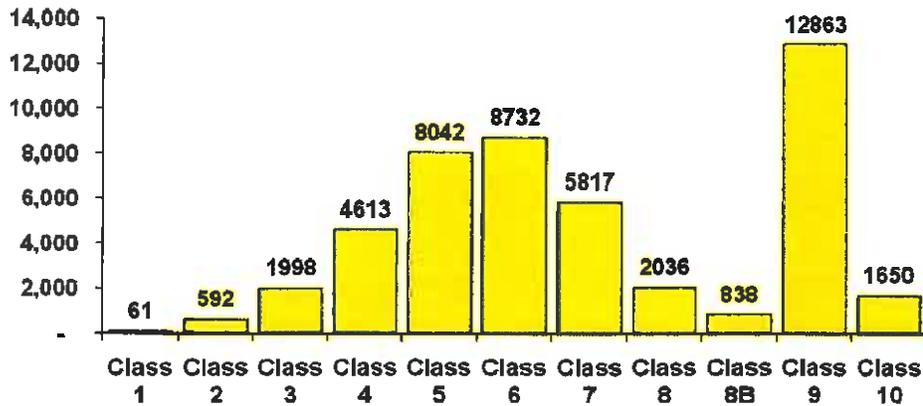
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## Distribution of Public Protection Classification Numbers

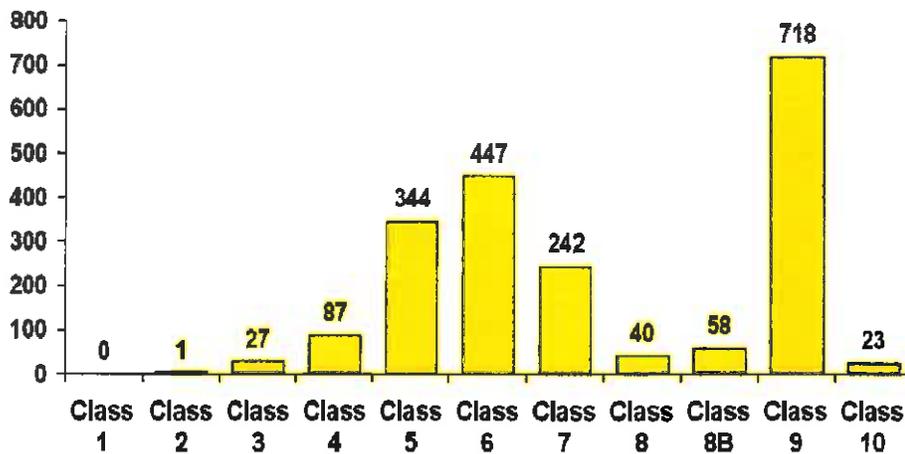
The 2011 published countrywide distribution of communities by the Public Protection Classification number is as follows:

### Countrywide



The 2011 published statewide distribution of communities by the Public Protection Classification number is as follows:

### Michigan



## *PTFD 2012 Public Education/Public Relations*

The PTFD was involved in several public education and public relations activities in 2012 including:

Visits to the Old Mission Peninsula Elementary School provided opportunities to teach fire safety and fire equipment familiarization to the students as well as to expose them to the medical equipment and medical procedures as related to an ambulance. The PTFD personnel also attended several school sponsored special events in order to enrich public relations.

The PTFD personnel attended several American Legion meetings to interact with the members as well as to answer any questions.

The Fire Alarm/Home Inspection Program has become very successful. The program involves having firefighters inspect Peninsula Township citizens' homes and their current smoke alarm situations. When needed the PTFD will provide the homeowner with up to 2 new dual-sensor smoke alarms, install the alarms and/or replace batteries that are over 1 year old or not working. The homeowner will also be informed of the proper use and maintenance of smoke alarms and the importance of having working CO detectors and fire extinguishers as well as answer any home safety questions.

Peninsula Township Fire Station tours were provided for school groups, Cub Scout troops, Boy Scout troops, Olympics of the Mind teams, other fire department members from outside the community and the general public. These tours involved providing the attendants with educational an educational experience.

The annual PTFD open house, sponsored by the Peninsula Fire and Rescue Association, was attended by over 500 participants. The open house included tours of the station, a display of emergency vehicles and equipment, a pig roast, an obstacle course, prize give-aways, games, safety handouts and public interaction involving question and answers.

## *PTFD 2012 Training*

The PTFD provides regular in-house firefighter and medical trainings. These trainings take place in the form of monthly classroom and practical lessons as well as monthly independent study lessons.

Many of the training topics that are offered through the year are required annually in order to maintain an active standing in the department. These topics are made available through the monthly trainings.

A licensed medical instructor oversees the monthly medical classes. The monthly firefighter classes are taught by different instructors that are qualified to teach each topic.

There are many out-of-house fire and medical trainings available throughout the year and the fire department employees attended many of these classes in 2012. As well as increasing training options these multi-agency lessons provide a valuable opportunity to work with other agencies that will be responding to assist the Peninsula Twp. Fire Dept.

Additional training is also made available to PTFD rescue personnel in the form of live burns, real-structure training, an on-going training folder, a video library and on-line training. Through these trainings every relevant aspect of the emergency services is addressed on multiple levels providing the rescuers with the repetitive type of training that is necessary in this profession.

## EMS Update

**2012 brought more positive and important changes that include:**

**Medical responses and transports increased by 34% in 2012**

**Continued 24 hour staffing of Fire Station #1 by 2 Firefighter/EMT'S**

**Mobile Data Terminal placed in service in primary ambulance**

**Free Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar checks at station #1**

**Applied for grant funding to purchase a LUCAS chest compression unit**

**Exploring upgrading and training our medical staff to function at paramedic level**



**2012**

**PENINSULA TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT  
MARINE RESCUE TEAM**

# CURRENT MARINE RESCUE BOAT



## *PTFD Marine Rescue Team*

The PTFD Marine Rescue Team responded to seven water related emergencies in 2012.

The PTFD's Marine Rescue Team participated in several specialized trainings in 2012 including: Marine Rescue Technician Certification training for 17 fire dept. employees provided by Michigan Rescue Concepts. United States Coast Guard and Traverse City Fire Department interagency water rescue training. United States Coast Guard and Traverse City Fire Department interagency ice rescue training. PTFD Marine Rescue Team in-house water rescue training. Traverse City Sheriff's Department interagency air boat training. GPS, Radar and Sonar operations. Boat handling. Boat trailering. Marine rescue equipment familiarization. And jurisdiction familiarization.

All of the fire department's marine rescue equipment was made possible through the Peninsula Fire and Rescue Association's fund raising efforts.

## **2012-13 Marine Rescue Training**

Marine training continued throughout the year. Training included multi-agency training between the Peninsula Township Fire Department Marine Rescue Team and the United States Coast Guard Station Charlevoix, United States Coast Guard Station Sault Saint Marie, Traverse City Fire Department, Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department, Grand Traverse County Sheriffs Department, Elk Rapids Fire Department, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Leelanau County, and Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grand Traverse County.

Licensed instructors were provided through Michigan Rescue Concepts, the United States Coast Guard Station Charlevoix, the United States Coast Guard Station Sault Saint Marie, Traverse City Fire Department and Peninsula Township Fire Department. The result of this training is that the Peninsula Township Fire Department currently has 17 certified marine rescue technicians and 9 certified ice rescue technicians.

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2012

FEMA  
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
PORT SECURITY GRANT

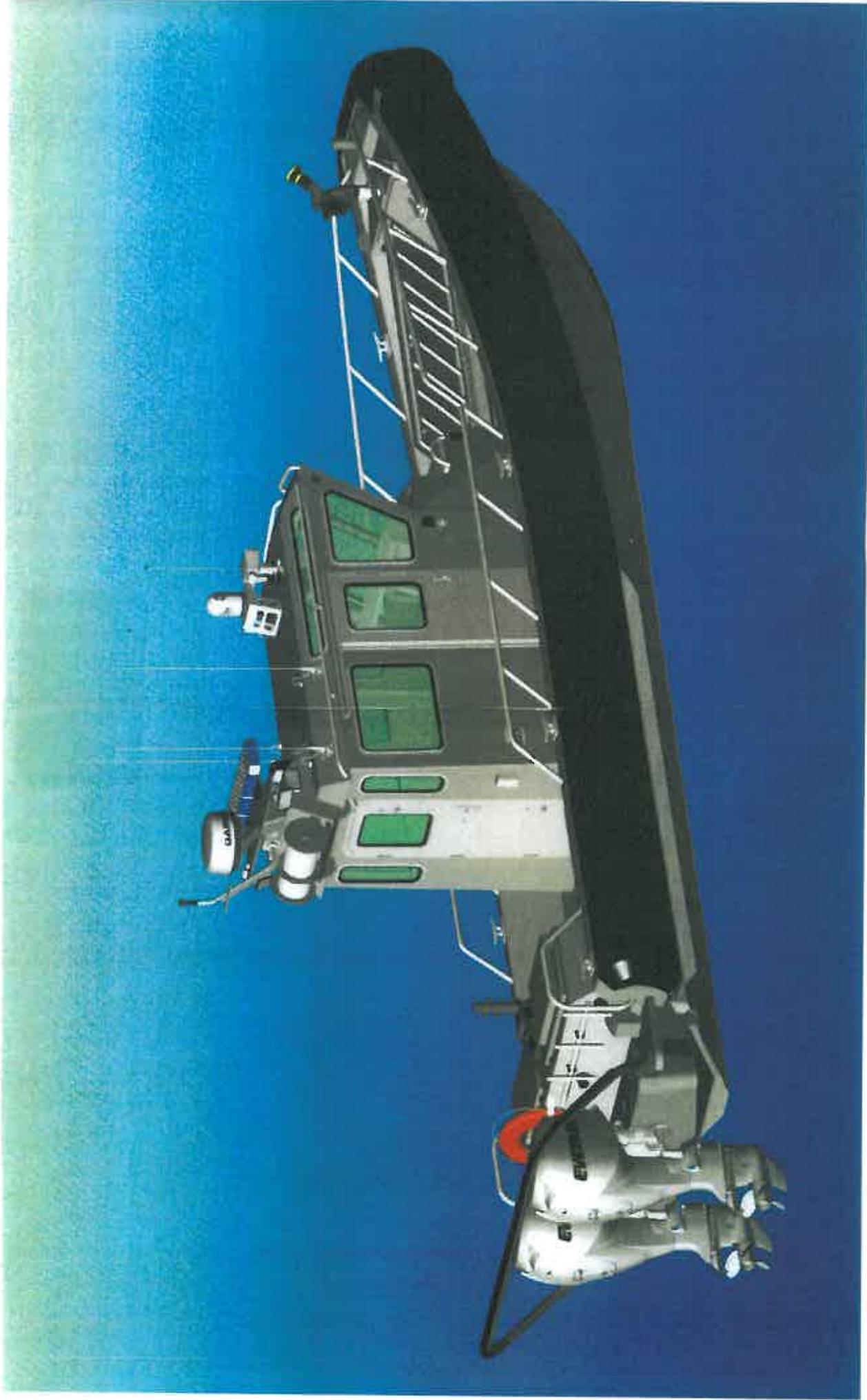
## **PTFD Marine Rescue Facts**

The Peninsula Township Fire Department has a legal obligation to respond to all fire and rescue emergencies within its jurisdiction. This jurisdiction includes over 65 miles of shoreline, Power Island and extends to the mid-point of both East and West Grand Traverse Bays and 1 mile beyond the tip of the peninsula.

The Peninsula Township Marine Rescue Team consists of 17 certified Marine Rescue Technicians who have responded to over 30 marine rescue calls in the past 4 years using in a 17' Mako fishing boat that was donated several years ago. This current marine rescue boat is greatly limited in its ability to provide safe, efficient marine rescues.

Fortunately, the Peninsula Township Fire Department applied for and was awarded a 2012 FEMA/Department of Homeland Security - Port Security Grant. These government agencies reviewed thousands of grant applications from across the country and determined that the Peninsula Township marine rescue vessel represented the greatest need for this funding. The grant will fund 75% of the total cost of a new marine rescue vessel, and all required equipment, training and certifications. The new marine rescue vessel will address the shortcomings of the current marine rescue boat by providing fire suppression capabilities, the ability to provide medical treatment, improved electronics and communications systems, twin engine reliability, side-scan sonar and a radiation detector that meets the requirement of the grant in order to support law enforcement and current homeland security efforts. These improvements will provide more efficient and safer responses by providing better protection to Marine Rescue Team personnel and rescued individuals during dangerous weather and sea conditions.

The FEMA/DHS Port Security Grant was created to address the greatest need in the greatest variety of organizations. Through this sharing of information and responsibility the assets provided through the grant represent increased capabilities for multiple organizations.



**NEW FEMA/DHS GRANT FUNDED RESCUE BOAT**