

**2017-2018 BUDGET QUESTION**  
***Response to Request for Information***

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**DEPARTMENT:** Fire

**REQUEST NO.:** 32

**REQUESTED BY:** Alter

**DATE REQUESTED:** 5/10/17

**DATE POSTED:** 5/15/17

**REQUEST:** What other elements contribute to overtime besides vacation and/or productive time for the Austin Fire Department?

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**RESPONSE:** There are different reasons for overtime. The primary reasons are backfill in Operations and Call Back for arson investigators and dispatchers. Backfill occurs when one firefighter relieves another or when there is a personnel shortage, i.e. staffing an apparatus due to a firefighter vacancy or leave (sick, vacation, training, or special assignment). The following table shows the number of back-fill overtime hours accrued in FY 2016 and year-to-date in FY 2017.

Overtime Reason	Overtime Hours	
	FY2016	FY2017 YTD
Emergency Call Back (arson investigators/dispatchers)	17	33
Relieving Personnel	8,313	6,828
Personnel Shortage	357,576	241,144
<b>Total</b>	<b>365,906</b>	<b>248,005</b>

The other reasons for overtime include various special assignments or project leave. The following tables show the overtime hours accrued and the type of assignment or project.

Overtime Reason	Overtime Hours	
	FY2016	FY2017 YTD
Austin Water Utility Training	375	272
Battalion Chief Work Day (2/3 of BCs come in on their day off)	426	355
Community Outreach	1,156	833
Drug Screening	211	125
Educational Services/Acting as a Training Instructor	13,057	15,452
Administering Flu Shots	1	
Assisting with Recruiting & Hiring Cadets	1,059	302
Honor Guard	354	135
Pass the Torch Program Instruction	1,159	858
Public Information Requests	12	27
Special Events	2,756	1,708
Special Operations Training	3,987	2,962
Assisting with Wildfire Mitigation	6,852	3,205
Other	5,508	2,574
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,913</b>	<b>28,808</b>