

# 2025 BOAT TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

## YEAR-END SUMMARY

Year 2025 brought some temporary changes in operations and tactics due to equipment repair and maintenance. Fire Boat Trident was sent to Metalcraft Marine in Canada for a complete renovation project. The Trident underwent various upgrades in mechanical and technological systems as well as cosmetic and bodywork repairs.

To maintain water-safe operations for the 2025 boating season, the department received a spare fire boat from the Perth Amboy, New Jersey Fire Department. "Fire Boat Jersey," as it was described by team members, is a 2006 Metalcraft 39' fire boat, like the Trident. Team members trained on this boat throughout the year. Fire Boat Jersey was taken out of service in November of 2025 with the expectation that the return of MFD's Trident would occur in April 2026.

## NOTABLE INCIDENTS

- The team responded with Fire Boat Jersey along with other agencies to a plane crash in Lake Michigan. Three individuals were rescued from the wing of the plane by Coast Guard personnel.
- The team responded to mutual aid requests to South Milwaukee and Oak Creek for victims in the water off the shores of Grant and Bender Parks.
- Fire Boat Jersey was utilized to cool the St. Paul Street Bridge that was seized closed due to extreme heat. Water was drafted from the Milwaukee River through the fire boat's water monitors to cool the underside of the bridge to mitigate the situation.
- Marine 1/Zodiac 1 responded to incidents utilizing sonar capabilities to help find missing persons underwater, including a response of a missing child in Jaycee Quarry Park in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.
- The team was paramount in rescuing stranded victims in high water situations during the summer flooding of August 2025.

## TRAINING / EQUIPMENT / COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- The team welcomed seven new members who completed their new member orientation training and became official Pilot Interns. Other members of the team went from Pilot Interns to Full Pilot status.
- Six members attended the Resolve Academy in Fort Lauderdale, Florida to be trained in shipboard firefighting for the land-based firefighter.
- Zodiac 1 received a Sonar platform retrofit which helps streamline Sonar equipment capabilities.
- The Boat Team continues to focus its training on a myriad of scenarios ranging from boat fires, stranded boaters, and rescuing drowning patients. The team collaborated with the MFD Dive Team training on updated equipment, creating familiarity for both teams' crews.

- Members of Engine 1 and the Boat Team welcomed over 1,000 people to its station on Broadway and Wells for the 2025 “Doors Open Milwaukee” Campaign.
- Rescue equipment was on display for ***Discovery World’s Big Machines Day***.
- The Boat Team participated in boat parades on the Milwaukee River including events organized by the Milwaukee Sailing Center and Light The Hoan organizations.
- Fireboat Jersey kicked off the 2025 Air and Water Show by flowing water and showing off its maneuvering capabilities leading the annual parade. The Boat Team remained on standby rescue for the show.
- Members of Engine 1 and the Boat Team hosted various tours and outreach for the MFD’s 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary including an “Ice Skate with a Firefighter” at Red Arrow Park. The team with equipment display was showcased at the culminating 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party held at the iconic Summerfest Grounds in September.
- Due to their history, location, and legacy, Engine 1 and the Boat Team remain leaders in community outreach and public relations for the Milwaukee Fire Department.