



# CHATTANOOGA FIRE ENGINES NOW AT COMPASS AUCTIONS

## 152 YEARS OF THE CHATTANOOGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 1871, Chattanooga faced a devastating fire that destroyed all buildings on the west side of Market Street between Seventh and Ninth Streets. The fire prompted the realization of the city's vulnerability and the need for organized fire protection. With only two hand pumps and a few reels of hose, the Chattanooga Fire Department (CFD) was ill-equipped.

The destructive fire served as a catalyst for change, prompting Mayor and Aldermen, along with Colonel Tomlinson Fort, to reorganize the CFD. The department became volunteer-based, with 105 citizens signing a petition to form a Fire Department for the protection of life and property.

The reorganized CFD received public support and awareness, becoming a point of civic pride and an honor to be a member. Efforts in 1876 led to the purchase of a new engine for \$6,000. This marked a turning point in the city's commitment to fire protection, recognizing the potential devastation and the necessity of a well-equipped and organized fire department.

## CHATTANOOGA FIRE DEPARTMENT TODAY

Today, the CFD has 26 companies that work out of 20 stations across the city. Through continuous training and hands-on experience, firefighter skills have been honed and expanded. Proficient firefighters now wield enhanced tools and equipment. Chattanooga has undergone impressive development and has made substantial investments in ensuring the safety of its residents.

In honor of the rich history of the CFD, these antique fire engines have been in parades and events of downtown Chattanooga.



## OWN AN PIECE OF CHATTANOOGA HISTORY TODAY

1960 Seagrave 531 B Pump Truck  
1950 Seagrave 66EB Pump Truck

Compass Auctions is honored to bring these to auction on **January 31, 2024 starting at 10 am ET and for one day only. For more information, call 800-729-6466 or visit [SoldOnCompass.com](https://www.SoldOnCompass.com).** This is your chance to take part in and preserve these historic materials.