

The Voluntown Volunteer Fire Company

Executive Director / CEO

EIN 900656992

CT · NTEE M24

FY ending 2024-06-30

June 9, 2026

This analysis benchmarks the total compensation of **Christopher Smith, Executive Director / CEO** (\$12,448) against **every comparable organization** that fit the selection criteria — **186** in total — drawn systematically from IRS Form 990 filings, not a hand-picked subset.

Compensation sits at approximately the **71st** percentile of comparable organizations

within the typical range

Benchmarked executive: Christopher Smith — reported title "President", a **direct title match** to the Executive Director / CEO role.

How comparable organizations were selected

SECTOR	Organizations sharing the subject's NTEE classification (M24).
BUDGET	Total revenue between \$208,434 and \$466,645 — 0.67x to 1.50x the subject's \$311,097 (the band tightens as size grows).
GEOGRAPHY	Same NTEE sector (M24), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5x revenue.

186 organizations qualified on sector, size, and geography → **186** within the band form the benchmarked peer set.

Distribution of comparable compensation



\$511	\$1,457	\$4,573	\$16,667	\$38,600	\$12,448
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● Comparable organizations

Each figure is Form 990 Part VII columns D + F (reportable pay plus other compensation and benefits; column F may include amounts from related organizations), normalized to CT cost of living (BEA RPP, 2023) and to its filing year (CPI-U); the reported amount is on each linked 990.

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
Southwest Ranches Volunteer Fire Rescue Inc	FL	\$310,895	President Fire Chief	\$19,800	\$19,838	2024
Clintonville Volunteer Fire	PA	\$311,761	Treasurer	\$3,000	\$3,285	2023
Mountain View Volunteer Fire	NC	\$310,079	Chief	\$1,186	\$1,273	2025
Savannah Volunteer Fire Company	OH	\$312,384	Chief	\$16,020	\$18,097	2024
East Mead Volunteer Fire Company No 1	PA	\$312,458	Manager Of Operations	\$38,675	\$42,349	2023
State Firemens And Fire Marshals	TX	\$309,675	Exec Director	\$16,807	\$18,460	2023
Amity Community Volunteer Fire	IN	\$308,429	Board Member	\$1,950	\$2,193	2024
Cooleemee Volunteer Fire Department	NC	\$314,024	President	\$15,911	\$17,534	2024
Prichard Volunteer Fire Department	WV	\$308,090	Fire Chief	\$33,265	\$39,549	2023
Devils Lake Volunteer Fire Dept	ND	\$307,857	Secretary	\$1,200	\$1,405	2024
Fountain Rural Fire Association Inc	NC	\$306,965	President	\$156	\$177	2023
Eldridge Volunteer Fire Co Inc	IA	\$306,212	President	\$2,140	\$2,499	2024
Potsdam Volunteer Fire Department	NY	\$316,461	Warden	\$300	\$281	2025

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
Belle Plaine Fire Department	MN	\$317,279	President	\$600	\$632	2024
Morrisvale Volunteer Fire Department Inc	WV	\$304,798	Treasurer	\$6,000	\$6,750	2025
C B S Fire Association	IA	\$304,432	Treasurer	\$285	\$333	2024
Kings Park Fire Department Inc	NY	\$318,169	Secretary	\$6,000	\$5,783	2024
Bower Hill Volunteer Fire Dept	PA	\$318,223	Trustee	\$1,643	\$1,800	2023
Sellersburg Vol Fire Dept	IN	\$303,586	Board Member	\$65,943	\$74,168	2024
Three Oaks Emergency Vehicle Association	MI	\$303,482	Administrator/director	\$82,286	\$90,584	2024
International Assoc Of Fire Fights	CT	\$302,461	Board Member	\$7,000	\$7,000	2024
Clarendon Fire Company Inc	NY	\$301,735	President	\$500	\$482	2024
Town Of Carlton Fire Company No 1 Inc	NY	\$301,023	President	\$480	\$463	2024
Penderlea Fire Department	NC	\$300,834	Assistant Chief	\$175	\$193	2024
Firefighters United For Safety Ethics And Ecology	OR	\$321,631	Executive Director	\$95,791	\$94,876	2024

Comp (reported) is the figure on each organization's Form 990 (columns D + F); **Comp (adjusted)** normalizes it to CT cost of living and 2024 dollars. Click any organization to verify the figure on ProPublica.

■ Methodology

Comparable organizations were drawn from electronically filed IRS Form 990 returns and matched on sector (NTEE code), budget (a size-adaptive revenue band that tightens as the organization grows), and geography (same-state first, broadening only when too few peers qualify); every organization within the band forms the peer set. To compare fairly across regions and years, peer compensation is normalized to CT cost of living (BEA Regional Price Parities, 2023) and to the subject's filing year (CPI-U). The figure benchmarked is Form 990 Part VII, Section A, columns D + F — reportable pay plus other compensation, benefits, and deferred amounts (column F may include amounts from related organizations) — with the chief executive matched by role. Related-organization amounts (column E) and institutional trustees are excluded. Full methodology: peerbasis.org/methodology.

● Sample, role match & sensitivity

PEER COUNT	186 organizations. Compensation range \$28–\$148,253; filing years 2022–2025.
SIZE BASIS	Matched on total revenue (\$311,097); for reference, expenses \$326,836 and assets \$467,967.
ROLE MATCH	Christopher Smith, reported title "President", benchmarked as Executive Director / CEO. The title maps directly to this role.
RELATED-ORG PAY	5 peers report related-organization compensation (column E), which the D + F benchmark does not fully capture; review where material.
OUTLIERS	18 peers fall outside 1.5× the interquartile range — consider whether any reflect one-time payments (severance, deferred-comp payouts).

Sensitivity — the subject's percentile under alternative compensation definitions:

BASIS	SUBJECT PERCENTILE
Total compensation (D + F), cost-of-living + inflation adjusted — the PeerBasis default	71 st
Total compensation (D + F), as reported (no adjustments)	73 rd
Reportable pay only (column D), adjusted	73 rd
All sources (D + E + F), adjusted	71 st

If the percentile moves materially across these definitions, the result is sensitive to methodology choices, and the board should weigh which basis best fits its facts.

● Rebuttable presumption of reasonableness · 26 CFR 53.4958-6

Compensation paid by a tax-exempt organization is presumed reasonable — shifting the burden to the IRS — when three requirements are met. This report supplies the comparability data for the second. The board should record the following in its minutes *concurrently* with its decision:

Draft board minutes – executive compensation

1. The compensation of the Executive Director / CEO (Christopher Smith) was approved in advance by [the Board / Compensation Committee], composed of members with no conflict of interest with respect to the arrangement.
2. Prior to its determination, the authorized body obtained and relied upon appropriate comparability data, namely the PeerBasis Compensation Comparability Determination dated June 9, 2026, comparing compensation against 186 similarly situated organizations (Same NTEE sector (M24), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5× revenue).
3. The authorized body determined that total compensation of \$12,448 is reasonable (approximately the 71st percentile of comparable organizations) and documented the basis for this determination

concurrently, on [date], by a vote of [__ for / __ against].

Sources: IRS Form 990 e-file data (apps.irs.gov); IRS Business Master File (NTEE classification). Every figure traces to an original public filing — click any organization above to verify it on ProPublica. PeerBasis is a service of Prismind Analytics; its [methodology is published](#), was commissioned for independent adversarial review, and discloses its own limitations. This report is comparability data to support a board's good-faith determination under IRC 4958; it is not legal or tax advice. Generated by PeerBasis on June 9, 2026.