



FIRE & EMS NEWS

January 6, 2011

Happy New Year to you and your family!

This latest issue is jam packed with fire service news stories, training opportunities, training and safety information, volunteer opportunities and employment opportunities! Whether you are a future firefighter or a current fire service professional of any rank, you should find valuable information that will help keep you educated and informed, as well as up-to-date with the fire service.

SPRING 2011 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE

Registration for the Spring 2011 semester at Chabot College has begun!

- Classes begin January 18, 2011!

Presently, the following fire-technology related courses are going to be offered this Spring:

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization) Note: This section (Monday morning) will be a Hybrid course with on-campus meetings and 20 lecture hours conducted over the internet. Online lecture schedule will be available on the first day of class.	Monday (am)	0800 – 1155 hours
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)	1800 – 2155 hours
FT 51 (Fire Operations)	Thursday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety & Survival) Note: This is a Hybrid course with 8 sessions conducted over the internet, 10 on-campus meetings, & 2 Saturday lab sessions (8 hours each). Online & Saturday schedule is available on first day of class.	Wednesday (am) or Wednesday (pm)	0900 – 1150 hours or 1800 – 2050 hours
FT 53 (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
FT 55 (Fire Protection Equipment & Systems)	Thursday (pm)	1900 – 2150 hours
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - March 16, 18 and 20 (Wed/Fri/Sun)	Mon & Wed (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 89 (Firefighter 1 Academy evaluation) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: - April 12, 14 and 16 (Tue/Thu/Sat)	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0800 – 1650 hours

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 90A (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90B and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90B (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90C**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90C (Firefighter 1 Academy) **Must also be registered in FT 90A and 90B**	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2150 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 91A (Wildland Firefighter-1 Basic) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: May 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 22	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: April 26, 28, 30, and May 1	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: April 12, 14, 16 and 17	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours 0800 – 1750 hours
FT 95 (Work Experience) **Must also be registered in FT 96**	TBA	TBA
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) **Must also be registered in FT 95** Note: Class only meets on the following dates: January 19, February 23, March 9, April 27 & May 25	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)	1300 – 1650 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 81 (EMT) **Must also be registered in Health 83**	Wednesday (all day)	0830 – 1845 hours
Health 83 (Extrication and Triage) **Must also be registered in Health 81**	Saturday (one day only – TBA)	0830 – 1620 hours
Health 85 (EMT Refresher) Note: Class only meets on the following dates: April 25 through May 7, 2011	Monday & Wednesday (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1550 hours
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Mon & Wed (mid)	1300 – 1415 hours
PHED2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours

NOTE: The above information is to the best of my knowledge as of the time this went to print. For the most up-to-date information (including room numbers & registration numbers) regarding Spring 2011 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at www.chabotcollege.edu

My suggestion to everyone is to register as soon as you are eligible to. Classes fill up very quickly, and I with more people wanting to become firefighters, I don't see our numbers of students decreasing, only increasing. I would have liked to offer more classes in the summer time and in the fall; however the state budget crisis does not appear to be going away anytime soon. I think we are very fortunate if we get to keep the above courses that I have scheduled. Also, if you are registered in the Chabot College system, you are eligible to take classes at Las Positas College in Livermore as well. Just because one class is full (or does not fit your schedule) at Chabot doesn't mean it isn't being offered at Las Positas.

When you register for classes on the Chabot College website, you can see both schedules – Chabot and Las Positas.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:



Firecareers.com is providing a free seminar this weekend Saturday January 8, 2011, Santa Barbara, California at the Best Western Pepper Tree Inn. Two start times: 8:00 am and 1:00 pm. The 2½ hour program will cover; what it takes to become a firefighter, with an emphasis on the oral interview, along with a question and answer period. Also inform you on current hiring practices and future career opportunities. See you this Saturday, regards Craig Freeman

Please RSVP to Craig@Firecareers.com or 1-800-326-8401

For additional information or to look for other future seminars, or to view the numerous resources available to you, including firefighter job notification services – go to www.firecareers.com

FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

Firefighter Safe Operations in Abandoned Buildings

The recent double firefighter fatality fire in Chicago, the eight civilian fatality fire in New Orleans, and two other recent building collapses in Buffalo, NY and Washington, DC resulting in firefighter injuries stress the importance of safe operations in abandoned buildings. These events serve as an impetus for the U.S. Fire Administration to highlight and share with you materials designed to raise awareness of the risks and offer suggestions for addressing the dangers associated with vacant and abandoned buildings. Please share this information with community officials and operations personnel so we might prevent another tragedy.

- **Abandoned Cold Storage Warehouse Multi-Firefighter Fatality Fire (Worcester, Massachusetts) –**
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr-134.pdf>
- **Intentionally Set Fires -** <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v9i5.pdf>

- **Vacant Residential Building Fires -**
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v11i3.pdf>
- **Coffee Break Training: Abandoned Buildings -**
https://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/coffee-break/sb_2009_1203.pdf
- **Board-Up Procedures -**
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/napi4.pdf>
- **Abandoned Building Project Toolbox -**
<http://www.interfire.org/features/AbandonedBuildingProjectToolBox.asp>

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

FireNuggets.com

PRESENTS

- S-404 Safety Officer - All Risk -
(Meets NWCG 310-1)

Deputy Chief Mike Bryant - Los Angeles County Fire Department

With

Battalion Chief Dave Franklin - San Francisco Fire Department

The course curriculum will deliver “all risk” emergency information for the Safety Officer position commensurate with the requirements of FIRESCOPE. This is a State accredited class recognized by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group and California State Fire Training. Students will develop and deliver safety messages. In addition, they will develop and recommend measures for assuring personnel safety, and to assess and/or anticipate hazardous and unsafe situations. Additional subjects covered include: work place injuries and vehicle accident investigations, OSHA requirements, safety messages and briefings, Incident Command forms, assistant safety officer (Haz-Mat & USAR) responsibilities, risk mitigation, situational analysis of tactical application (215A), wildland duties and responsibilities, case study analysis (structure fires), training exercises (NFPA 1403), certification (CICCS) and task book requirements, fire fighter injury investigation (case study), and roles and responsibilities prior, during, and after Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) deployment.

- This is a three-day class (24 hours) and a must for all fire service members. Students are required to attend all three days. Upon completion the student will receive a California State Fire Training Certificate.
- If you have seen Chief Bryant you know first hand that he is one of the most dynamic and passionate presenters in today’s fire service. Do not miss this opportunity!

- This class is expected to fill quickly, so do not delay.

Total cost is \$375, and includes lunch each day, class materials and State Certificate.

February 7, 8, and 9, 2011

Carr Convention Center - 4400 Rosewood Drive, Pleasanton, CA

09:00-16:30 each day

• **To register or obtain more information, visit www.firenuggets.com**

Deputy Fire Chief Mike Bryant is a 29-year veteran of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. He has held the ranks of Firefighter/Paramedic, Firefighter Specialist, Fire Prevention Inspector, Fire Captain, Training Captain, Training Program Developer, Fire Battalion Chief and Assistant Fire Chief. Chief Bryant currently manages and oversees the East Regional Operations Bureau. He provides leadership for 33 cities, 76 fire stations, 4 divisions, 10 battalions and 1,400 personnel. Chief Bryant holds a Bachelor of Science degree in occupational studies from California State University, Long Beach. He is a qualified Type II incident commander, operations section chief, safety officer and division/group supervisor. In addition, he is a certified Master Instructor from California State Fire Training.

Battalion Chief Dave Franklin has been with the San Francisco Fire Department since 1990 and was Chief of Special Operations until the position was defunded. He is currently assigned to Battalion 4. Chief Franklin has worked on some of the busiest companies in San Francisco including Lt. of Rescue Co. 2 in the city's Mission District. As a Captain he was recruited to head up the SFFD newly formed Safety Division. When the Safety Division was moved under the control of the Chief of Training, he assumed the responsibilities as the in-service training Captain responsible for all in-service fire training along with continuing to function as a Safety Officer. Chief Franklin has been a Hands-On-Training (H.O.T.) Instructor for FDIC West in Sacramento and is the secretary for the Northern California Training Officers Association.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – CAL FIRE:

CAL FIRE, (formerly known as **California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection or CDF**) is now accepting applications for **Firefighter I**. Applications will be accepted **until January 31, 2011** for the 2011 fire season, which generally starts in the end of May and generally goes through October. If you are interested in applying you must complete a Firefighter I application (CAL FIRE Form 215) and mail it or deliver it in person to the North Coast Region I and Cascade Region II units (see below for locations). Applications will be accepted on a file in person basis only for the units in Southern California Region III and Central Sierra Region IV. Applications must be filed at each unit in which you wish to be considered for appointment.

To view more information about Seasonal Firefighter Hiring process and positions, go to: http://www.fire.ca.gov/about/about_careers_fireprotection_seasonal.php

There are 21 units through-out the state and they are divided between two regions, North Region, and South Region. In the Northern Region you can mail the completed application to each unit that you are interested in applying for. In the Southern Region they must be hand delivered. A list of the units can be found at the end of this announcement.

What you can expect working as a firefighter for CAL FIRE:

A firefighter 1 is a temporary position. You work a 72-hour workweek, four days on and three days off. You work the same four days in a week. Your responsibilities will include responding to vegetation fires, vehicle fires, structure fires, vehicle accidents, medical aides, public assist calls, or any other emergency. You are responsible for maintaining equipment and tools, following oral and written directions, cooking and cleaning around the station and other duties as assigned. At some stations you may get only one call per shift and others may get as many as four or five calls on a busy day.

Because CAL FIRE is a statewide fire department, you can get sent to any area within the state on a strike team assignment. You may only be gone one or two days or as many as fourteen days depending on the needs throughout the state. You may be assigned to an incident, usually a large fire, or may be assigned to cover behind other engines on an out-of-county assignment. In addition to being assigned to working on an engine, a firefighter 1 may be assigned to work at an Air Attack Base refueling aircraft, and reloading tankers with retardant. Another opportunity that is available to firefighter I is to work as a helitack firefighter assigned to one of nine helicopters throughout the state.

There is the opportunity to work as a fire fighter assigned to a Schedule A Contract. This is where a city, county, or fire protection district makes a contract with CAL FIRE to provide fire protection for the community. For example in the Santa Clara Unit, the South County Fire Protection District has contracted with CAL FIRE to provide the personnel to operate their fire department. As a result CAL FIRE personnel operate very much like any other municipal department with firefighter, engineers, captains, and chiefs, operating type I engines, and providing advanced life support medical care.

The hiring process:

After submitting an application, it is reviewed and given a preliminary score based on your education, training and experience. The more boxes you can check the more points you can get. By mid-March you should receive a letter indicating whether you passed the preliminary evaluation. If a passing score is given you may then be invited to an interview. The interview is 100 percent of you score. Because each unit must follow the same guidelines for hiring you can expect to hear the same, or close to the same questions at each interview. This can be a big help when trying to improve your interviewing skills. So the more units that you apply to the better chance you have to interview and improve.

Typically an interview panel is made up of an engineer and a captain. In some cases at the completion of your interview you are given your score, in other cases it is mailed to you. Your score is based from 0 to 100 points. Typically you need to get a score in the upper 90's to be considered for employment. By mid-May you should have received a letter indicating whether or not you are being considered for employment. From here one of a number of things can happen, you could get a letter stating that you will not be considered for future employment, or you can be contacted and offered a job, or you could be contacted and offered a slot in an academy but not a job.

The presumption is that a position may open up in the future and you would already be trained to take it. Typically a new hire academy is scheduled for the first or second week in June and consists of learning basic skills needed to work as a fire fighter. The end result is that by attending the class you can obtain the CAL FIRE 67 hour Certification. What generally happens around August or September is some firefighters quit and go back to school opening up position to hire more firefighters. So this provides some people second chance to get hired. If you stay in contact with the hiring coordinator in each unit and are willing to start later in the season you might get picked up as a late hire. After you get hired with CAL FIRE and work three months you have automatic rehire rights. Meaning you don't have to go through the same process to get hired the next season.

What CAL FIRE can offer you?

CAL FIRE is an all risk fire department. They respond to an average of 6,400 wildland fires annually and more than 275,000 non-wildfire emergencies each year. As a firefighter I you will gain experience in working on an engine as part of an engine company. You will get experience working at emergencies under stressful situation. You will learn what station life is like and how to work with people of different backgrounds in that environment. You will have the opportunity to earn additional certifications including Incident Command Systems, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Haz Mat Operations, Swift Water Rescue, Auto Extrication, and many other classes. You will gain experience working with the ICS system as part of an engine company at small and large incidents. Just like anything else you can get out of CAL FIRE what you put in. Because of the number of people retiring you have a very good opportunity to gain a permanent position if you put the effort into it. It is now up to you to make the first step.

NORTHERN REGION

File-in-person OR mail-in applications accepted at the units listed below:

- **Amador-El Dorado Unit**, 2840 Mt. Danaher Road, Camino, CA 95709, (530) 644-2345
- **Butte Unit**, 176 Nelson Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965, (530) 538-7111
- **Humboldt-Del Norte Unit**, 118 S. Fortuna Blvd., Fortuna, CA 95540, (707) 725-4413
- **Lassen-Modoc Unit**, 697-345 Highway 36, Susanville, CA 96130, (530) 257-4171
- **Mendocino Unit**, 17501 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490, (707) 459-7414

- **Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit**, 13760 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603, (530) 823-4904
- **San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit**, 6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018, (831) 335-5353
- **Santa Clara Unit**, 15670 Monterey Street, Morgan Hill, CA 95037, (408) 779-2121
- **Shasta-Trinity Unit**, 875 Cypress Avenue, Redding, CA 96001, (530) 225-2418
- **Siskiyou Unit**, 1809 Fair Lane Road, Yreka, CA 96097, (530) 842-3516
- **Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit**, 1199 Big Tree Road, St. Helena, CA 94574, (707) 967-1400
- **Tehama-Glenn Unit**, 604 Antelope Blvd., Red Bluff, CA 96080, (530) 529-8548

SOUTHERN REGION

Applications accepted on a FILE-IN-PERSON basis ONLY at the units listed below. Each applicant must appear in person Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- **Fresno-Kings Unit**, 210 S. Academy Avenue, Sanger, CA 93657, (559) 485-7500
- **Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit**, 5366 Highway 49 North, Mariposa, CA 95338, (209) 966-3622
- **Riverside Unit**, 210 W. San Jacinto, Perris, CA 92570, (909) 940-6900
- **San Benito-Monterey Unit**, 2221 Garden Road, Monterey, CA 93940-5385, (831) 647-6208
- **San Bernardino Unit**, 3800 Sierra Way, San Bernardino, CA 92405, (909) 881-6900
- **San Diego Unit**, 2249 Jamacha Road, El Cajon, CA 92019, (619) 590-3100
- **San Luis Obispo Unit**, 635 N. Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405, (805) 543-4244
- **Tulare Unit**, 1968 S. Lovers Lane, Visalia, CA 93277, (559) 732-5954
- **Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit**, 785 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas, CA 95249, (209) 754-3831

To view the job flyer and download an application, go to the CAL FIRE Careers website at: www.fire.ca.gov/about/about_careers_fireprotection_seasonal.php

For more information about CAL FIRE and their extensive operations throughout the State of California, visit their website at: www.fire.ca.gov

Minimum Qualifications for Seasonal Firefighter positions:

- Must be 18 years of age by time of appointment to a firefighter 1 position.

NOTE: A special thank you to Andrew Hunter, former Chabot College Fire Technology student for providing me with this information. Andrew works for the Modesto Fire Department and used to be a Firefighter with CDF. I appreciate your time and assistance!

For additional information, contact:

North Coast Headquarters: (707) 576-2275
 Human Resources Office: (916) 445-7801
 Southern Region Headquarters: (559) 243-4100

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

The Cutting Edge Command Officer

2-Day Workshop in Las Vegas, NV

Today's company and chief officers are facing unprecedented challenges, fireground dangers, liability, personnel conflict, public and fiscal scrutiny.

- **Don't be part of the problem; Be part of the solution!**

Day 1 - Leadership & Team Building

- **Conflict Resolution - Counseling - Role Play Exercises**
- **Liability & Command - Firefighter Bill of Rights - Internal Motivation**
- **Team Building - Labor/Management: The RBO Process**

Day 2 - Strategy & Tactics

- **Size Up and Dynamic Risk Assessment**
- **Street Smart Tactics - Beyond Checking the Boxes**
- **Real World ICS for Structure Fires**
- **The New Enemy and New Battlefield - Modern Fire Behavior and Construction**
- **Incident Reviews of Multi-Alarm Fires**
- **Simulation Scenarios for Residential, Commercial, and Apartment Fires**

Your Instructors:

Division Chief Ed Hadfield, founder of **Firetown Training Specialist** (www.firetowntrainingspecialist.com), has over 23 years of fire service experience. He is a frequent speaker on leadership within the fire service and also with corporate and civic leaders throughout the United States. Ed is well known for the creation and instructional delivery of company officer development programs that have raised the bar of professionalism in today's fire service ranks. Firetown specializes in Truck Company Operations, Firefighter Safety and Survivability, and Mission Focused Command Tactics.

Battalion Chief Anthony Kastros is a 23-year veteran of the fire service and founder of **Firefighter Inspiration Readiness & Education** (www.trainfirefighters.com). He is author of the Fire Engineering book and video series, "Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center," that focuses on strategy, tactics, and leadership. Chief Kastros is an FDIC and Firehouse World instructor, teaching fireground tactics and leadership/team building for fire departments throughout the United States. Anthony is the program director for the Sacramento Metro Fire Command Training Center and currently a line battalion chief supervising 12 companies.

April 13 and 14, 2011 - \$149.00

- **Clark County Fire Training Center - 4425 W. Tropicana Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89103**
- For registration information go to www.trainfirefighters.com

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

CISM - Group Crisis Intervention

Visalia Fire Training Center ~ January 26-27, 2011 - \$150.00

This program is designed to present the core elements of a comprehensive, systematic and multi-component crisis intervention curriculum. The Group Crisis Intervention course will prepare participants to understand a wide range of crisis intervention services. The CISM Group class will be taught by ICISF Certified Instructors, KC Peterson and Kevin Snider.

Further Course Information and Online registration is available at
www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

Fire Command 2C

January 17-21, 2011 - Monday-Friday 0800-1700 - \$550.00 per student.

This class will be held in a 12 story high rise building in Sacramento and will include instruction on position assignments, radios and command post vehicles!

The Fire Command 2C course is approached from a system basis and is applied to both small and large high-rise buildings. Topics included pre-fire planning, building inventory, problem identification, ventilation methods, water supply, elevators, life safety, strategy and tactics, application of the ICS, and specific responsibilities. Case studies and simulations conducted in a high rise building will be used. This course is designed for chief officers, company officers, and training officers.

The Fire Command Series is being taught by Deputy Chief Michael Bryant of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department.

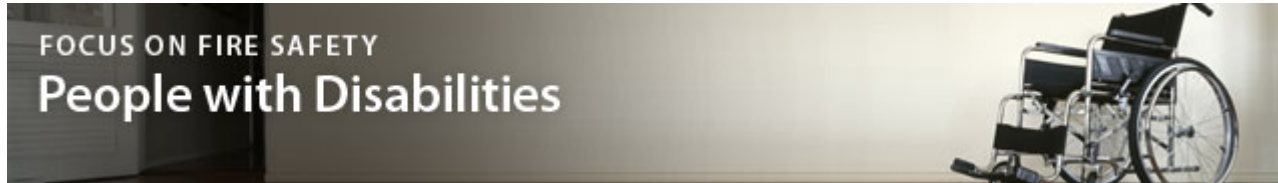
Enrollment is limited.

Prerequisite: I-300 & Fire Command 2A.

Registration includes college tuition, student materials and lunch which will be provided Monday-Thursday. Certifications include State Certification, Certificate of Completion provided by CFRTA and a Certificate from the State Fire Marshal.

Further Course Information and Online registration is available at
www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov.

FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:



Each year an estimated 2,655 deaths and 13,025 injuries occur as the result of residential building fires. The risk of death or injury from fire is even greater for people with physical, mental, or sensory disabilities. Declining mobility, health, sight, and hearing may limit a person's ability to take the quick action necessary to escape during a fire emergency. If you have a disability, you can increase your chances of surviving a fire by taking safety precautions such as making and practicing a home fire escape plan relevant to your needs and ensuring that working smoke alarms are installed on every level of the home. For more information, go to: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/disability.shtm>

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

A personal Invitation to attend Firehouse World Conference & Exposition in San Diego, CA – February 26 – March 2, 2011 – www.firehouseworld.com

- Over 100 classes
- Action-packed hands-on training
- Preconference programs
- Speakers from around the country
- Exclusive coverage of The Station Fire
- Breaking news of the San Bernardino pipeline explosion
- Driver training simulator classes
- Certified EMS classes
- Group discounts -- Register with 3 people and save 10%; 6 or more and save 20%
- *Plus everything listed below!*

If you're not able to attend the Conference, please be my guest and visit the Exhibit Floor for **FREE!**

- Meet face-to-face with 350 exhibitors
- Discover new products
- Shop and compare
- Register to win valuable prizes at Firehouse Fever booths
- Take the Driver Sim Rodeo Challenge
- Visit The Hot Box -- Attend one of Billy Goldfeder's "On the Truck Room Floor" 45-minute classroom sessions or Ron Moore's *The Challenges of Extrication Involving*

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Vehicles with Advanced Steel Structure – FREE to all attendees (conference or exhibit hall).

- Enjoy the Opening Ceremony & Keynote Presentation featuring Marine Corporal Joshua Bleill who will share a motivational message about a bombing in Iraq

Whichever you choose, register online with Promo Code FPSP86.

Complete details are available at www.FirehouseWorld.com or call 800-827-8009. I'm looking forward to seeing you!

Best Regards,
Steve Prziborowski

- I will be teaching the following classes at Firehouse World 2011:

Fire Officer Leadership – Lessons Learned or Reinforced After Getting Promoted

CATEGORY: Leadership – Tuesday March 1, 2011

The focus of this session is to share and discuss lessons learned or reinforced from personal experience after being promoted to the officer ranks. This will cover a variety of subject areas such as the emergency scene, the fire station, leadership, supervision, management, training, career development, and customer service.

Radio Reports Versus Size-Up: Is There A Difference?

CATEGORY: Size-Up – Tuesday March 1, 2011

This session will explore the terms "radio report" and "size-up," two distinctively different terms. Students will be exposed to different techniques for providing radio reports and sizing up an incident, and have a chance to practice and discuss radio reports and size-up by viewing a variety of simulated emergency scenes.

PRE6 - How to Excel at Fire Service Promotional Exams

CATEGORY: Promotional – Saturday February 27, 2011

A fire service promotional exam is a stressful process that virtually everyone dreads. Going into the process without having thought out how you will perform and what to expect in the various events is recipe for disaster. Class participants will be exposed to and offered key points for the most common events within a fire service promotional process: the written exam, the oral interview, the personnel problem, the oral presentation and the emergency simulation. The key points contained within this session will help increase your final score and may make the difference between getting promoted or not getting promoted and having to take the test the next time.

February 26-March 2, 2011
San Diego, CA
www.FirehouseWorld.com

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

2011 Upcoming Course Schedule

The California Fire & Rescue Training Authority announces upcoming classes for 2011!

Course registration is available on the website, www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov. Or, you may contact the office at (916) 475-1660 to request a registration form.

Resource Ordering & Statusing System (ROSS)

Two Different Dates and Locations!!

**ROSS Dispatcher Training - San Marcos, CA
January 10-14, 2011 (Monday-Friday) - \$260.00**

**ROSS Dispatcher Training - Mather, CA
March 7-11, 2011 (Monday-Friday) - \$260.00**

The course is designed to instruct students in the use of the Dispatch portion of the Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) computer application. This course is both interactive and combines lecture and hands-on practice.

Upon completion of the **ROSS Dispatcher Course**, the student will gain an understanding of: ROSS User Basics, Personal Settings/Notifications, Resource Status and Web Status, Initial Reports and Incidents, New Request, Quick Fill, Pending Request, Request Status, Travel, Incident Resources, Rosters, and Strike Teams. Advanced Travel, Tactical Aviation Screen, Cal EMA (Formerly OES) Ordering Process, Version 2.12 New Features.

Supplemental instruction/information:

- Class hours will begin at 1300 on Monday and end at 1200 on Friday and will be held 0800-1700 Tuesday through Thursday.
- Class attire is business casual, uniforms are not required.

Prerequisite: ICS 100 and 200 are required and may be taken online at: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp>. In addition, D-110 Dispatch Recorder is a prerequisite; pre-course materials can be purchased through NWCG. It is imperative students attend the entire class.

Wildland Courses

S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior February 7-11, 2011 (Monday-Friday) - \$175.00

This course is designed to instruct prospective fireline supervisors in wildland fire behavior for effective and safe fire management operations. It is required in order to be qualified as any single resource boss. This course is a prerequisite for S-390.

Prerequisite: I-200 and S-190

S-390 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations April 4-7, 2011 (Monday-Thursday) - \$300.00

This course is designed to meet training requirements for Division Supervisor, Operations Chief, Safety Officer, Situation Unit Leader, Plans Section Chief and prescribed fire positions. This is a skill course designed to instruct prospective fireline supervisors and fire managers in wildland fire behavior for effective and safe fire management operations.

Prerequisite: S-290 (S-290 certificate must be sent with enrollment form)

Fire Command 2 Series

Fire Command 2C: High Rise Fire Fighting Tactics Sacramento, CA January 17-21, 2011 (Monday-Friday) - \$550.00

This course is approached from a system basis and is applied to both small and large high-rise buildings. Topics included pre-fire planning, building inventory, problem identification, ventilation methods, water supply, elevators, life safety, strategy and tactics, application of the ICS, and specific responsibilities. Case studies and simulations conducted in a high rise building will be used. This course is designed for chief officers and experienced company officers.

****This class will be taught in a 12 story building in Sacramento and will include instruction on position assignments, radios and command post vehicles.****

Prerequisite: I-300 and Fire Command 2A

Fire Command 2D: Planning for Large Scale Disasters Sacramento, CA March 14-18, 2011 (Monday-Friday) - \$550.00

This course contains such topics as principles of disaster planning and management, fire service emergency plans, emergency operations centers, case studies of various natural and man made disasters, roles of local, state and federal OES and emergency management agencies, discussion of multi-hazard planning techniques, ICS and SEMS concepts, and principles of exercising emergency management staffs.

Prerequisite: I-300 and Fire Command 2A

**Fire Command 2E: Wildland Fire Fighting Tactics
Sacramento, CA**

May 16-20, 2011 (Monday-Friday)

\$550.00

This course contains such topics as California's wildland fire problem, wildland fire safety, weather effects, wildland fuels, wildland behavior, initial attack methods, using support equipment, using topographic maps, strategy and tactics, and air attack operations. Involves class participation and simulation. This course is designed for fire officers who have command responsibilities at wildland fires.

Prerequisite: I-300, Fire Command 1C, and Fire Command 2A.

Emergency Medical Technician

Citrus Heights, CA - March 8 - May 11, 2011

Tues & Thurs 6:00pm-10:00pm and Sat 8:00am-5:00pm

\$495.00

The Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-Basic) program provides the student with an outline of the EMS system, introduces assessment skills, as well as provides pathophysiology of common neurological, respiratory, and cardiac related emergencies. The EMT-Basic program is a 9-week basic training course for emergency medical technicians performing as ambulance attendants. It covers techniques of emergency medical care presently considered within the responsibilities of the emergency medical technician, and emphasizes the development of student skills in recognition of symptoms of illnesses and injuries and proper procedures of emergency care. A program completion certificate is awarded to students who pass the course with a 80% or better average. Successful completion of the EMT-Basic course provides eligibility to sit for the County of Sacramento Division of Public Health Emergency Medical Services certification examination. A student must be 18 years old in order to qualify for county certification. This course is conducted in compliance with Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations and Emergency Medical Technician - Basic (EMT). Field trips are required. 72 hours lecture, 72 hours laboratory.

Enrollment Limitations: Current CPR certification from American Heart Association Health Care Provider Course. Proof of negative TB test within the past year; vaccination for measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR); and vaccination for Hepatitis B. Once registered, students will be given direction to complete a background check, drug screen, and purchase an EMT Uniform Polo Shirt.

Hazardous Materials

HazMat Assistant Safety Officer
Sacramento, CA
February 15-16, 2011 (Tuesday-Wednesday)
\$160.00

Safe Hazardous Materials incident operations are critical to response and containment. Participants begin by assessing the incident as a "big picture" and learn to maintain site safety. This course is designed for those who may be placed as the Assistant Safety Officer Hazardous Materials. Topics will include role and effectiveness of a Safety Officer, Overall Incident Safety Principles/Risk Management, Departmental and Personal Legal Liabilities, Incident Planning, Personnel Monitoring, Safety Chemical Field Analysis & Monitoring, Safety Briefings and Reports, and Response to Terrorism Safety Issues.

Prerequisite: Hazardous Materials Technician/Specialist Certification

****Class is currently full, but if you would like to be added to our waitlist please call out office at (916) 475-1660.****

Contact Information

phone: (916) 475-1660

www.fireandrescuetraining.ca.gov

FIRE SERVICE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION **CLASSES BY CHUCK WILSON:**

- **Assessment Center and Fire Simulation Workshops**
- **Instructor: Chuck Wilson**

Assessment Center Workshop –

Designed for those who will participate in an Assessment Center on their Promotional Exam.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

COURSE CONTENT:

- Written Multiple Choice Exercises
- Leaderless Group Exercises
- In-Basket Exercises
- Oral Presentations
- Written Exercises
- Subordinate Counseling
- Practice Exercises
- NEW Student Workbook

Simulator Workshop –

Designed for those who will have a Simulation on their Promotional exam.

COURSE CONTENT:

- Strategy & Tactics
- S.P.A.R.S. Technique
- Initial Report Exercises
- Raters Sheets
- Exam Situations
- "Hot-Seat" For All
- Practice Simulation Exercises
- The "No-Zone"

Instructor: CHUCK WILSON

Chuck is recognized as one of the nation's leading instructors in Fire Department Promotional Testing. Most recently honored as the recipient of the Ed Bent Award as California Fire Instructor of the year for 2007. A Southern California Chief Officer with a Bachelor Degree from San Diego State. Senior Master Instructor in the California Fire Training System, Adjunct Instructor for 14 Colleges including Cal State, Los Angeles, and Texas A&M WMD Programs. An editorial contributor to The IFSTA 5th and 6th Edition Fire Instructor Textbook. This will NOT be a dry or boring class. Chuck has taught these classes to over 2500 students and proves you can have fun while learning. Exercises, Rating Sheets and Key Performance Elements are stressed.

Class Locations and Dates:

Oakland, CA	Anaheim, CA	Tempe, AZ	Glendale, CA
<u>January 8, 2011</u> Assessment Center	<u>January 13, 2011</u> Assessment Center	<u>January 17, 2011</u> Assessment Center	<u>January 20, 2011</u> Assessment Center
<u>January 9, 2011</u> Simulator Workshop	<u>January 14, 2011</u> Simulator Workshop	<u>January 18, 2011</u> Simulator Workshop	<u>January 21, 2011</u> Simulator Workshop
Oakland Fire Training Center 250 Victory Court Oakland, CA	North Net Fire Training Center 2400 E. Orangewood Ave., Anaheim, CA 92806	Scottsdale Public Safety Training Center 911 Stadium Drive Tempe, AZ	Glendale Fire Department 421 Oak Street Glendale, CA

Register at: www.promotionalworkshops.com

Classes are \$110.00 per day, per class, Pre-registered

\$120.00 per day per class at the door

3% Credit Card fee

* Now Accepting Visa and Master Card *

For More Information, contact:

CHUCK WILSON

77-263 Maliko Street

Kailua Kona, Hawaii 96740-4468

(808) 987-0038 Cell – Email: cwilson@promotionalworkshops.com

January 6, 2011

www.chabotfire.com

FIRE SERVICE WEBSITE RESOURCE:

Visit www.californiafirefighter.com for your statewide source for media, training and networking. California Firefighters is a **free** site dedicated to you for discussion and information sharing!

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

“Contemporary Firefighting Strategy & Tactics” Engine and Truck Company Operations

This highly informative and motivating 1 day seminar will be taught by CHIEF JOHN MITTENDORF and CHIEF PAUL STEIN, two of the most experienced and dynamic fire service instructors in the country. This multimedia presentation uses state of the art DVD technology for realistic fire simulations including 3-Dimensional views. Participants will have the opportunity to self-evaluate their own firefighting ability and discuss their fire incident control strategy with the instructors.

Topics to be discussed will be:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 5 Initial Fireground Priorities- Firefighting Safety & Survival benchmarks- Reading a Fire (Smoke is the fire talking to you)- Firefighter Fatalities (Lessons learned)- The Fireground Clock- Size-up, mental and verbal evaluation- Modern fireground environment as it relates to command and safety | <u>MULTIPLE DVD DIGITAL SIMULATIONS FOR:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Residential Fire Attack- Center hallway/Multi-family Fire Attack- Mini mall/strip mall Fire Attack- Warehouse Fire Attack- Multiple story/High rise building Attack |
|---|---|

Instructor Backgrounds:

John Mittendorf has over 30 years' experience with the Los Angeles Fire Dept. Chief Mittendorf has an extensive background as an International lecturer, has provided training programs for the National Fire Academy, California State University at Los Angeles, and many Fire Dept.'s across the country. He is the author of numerous fireground operational articles for magazines in the U.S. and Europe, and is the author of the recently released textbook titled, *“Truck Company Operations”* published by Fire Engineering Magazine.

Paul Stein is a 32-year veteran of the Santa Monica & Lakeside Fire Departments. He has experience at all levels of fire service leadership including; Union Officer, Captain, Battalion

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Chief, Training Chief, and Fire Chief. He has a BA in Management, is a California Master Instructor, and is a former "California Fire Instructor of the Year." Chief Stein has provided training programs for the National Fire Academy, and all the major fire conferences in the US, and many Departments throughout the country. He is the author of the popular Promotional Interview videos, the college text on Entrance Preparation, has written numerous articles for fire service magazines, and is considered an authority on management principles.

VALUE ADDED: CHIEF'S STEIN & MITTENDORF WILL MAKE A PRESENTATION ON "GETTING PROMOTED"

Registration fee includes: Multi-media presentation, student manual, refreshments, and certificate of completion. For additional information please call (805) 506-1811 or E-mail (paulhstein@aol.com)

*Seating is limited, Register Early!
Three (3) Separate Offerings Around California:*

Roseville, CA	Petaluma, CA	Santa Fe Springs, CA
February 8 or 9, 2011 0900 to 1700 hours	February 10, 2011 0830 to 1630 hours	February 15 or 16, 2011 0800 to 1600 hours
Roseville City Corporation Yards 2005 Hilltop Circle Roseville, CA 95747	Petaluma Community Center 320 N. McDowell Blvd. Petaluma, CA 94952	Town Center Hall 11740 E. Telegraph Road Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
<i>Hosted by the Roseville F.D.</i>	<i>Hosted by the Petaluma F.D.</i>	<i>Hosted by the Santa Fe Springs F.D.</i>

Registration Information for any of the one-day sessions:

- **Advanced registration before January 9, 2011 - \$80.00**
- **Group Rate 4 or more (must register together before Jan. 9) - \$80.00**
- **All registrations after January 9, 2011 - \$90.00**
- **At the door if available - \$100.00**

Mail Your Payment to:

Public Safety Consultants 2282 W. Adrian St. Newbury Park, Ca. 91320

* ADVANCED REGISTRATION DEADLINE Jan. 9, 2011

* NO REFUNDS AFTER Jan. 10, 2011*

NAME _____ **Phone ()** _____
ADDRESS _____ **CITY** _____
ZIP _____ **E-mail Address** _____

Will Attend:

- Feb. 8 or 9 – Roseville (circle date)
- Feb. 10 – Petaluma (circle date)
- Feb. 15 or 16 – Santa Fe Springs (circle date)

FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:

Application Period to Open: Fiscal Year 2010 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants

The Department of Homeland Security posted the FY2010 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grants Program Guidance on the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) Program Web site. The application period is scheduled to begin on Jan. 3, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. Eastern Time. Applications for these grants must be received by Feb 4, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

FP&S grants support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and fire-related hazards. The grants are competitive, and their primary goal is to target high-risk populations. Grant awards are made in order to mitigate high incidences of death and injury, and to carry out research for improving firefighter safety. Examples of the types of fire prevention projects supported by FP&S include smoke alarm installation, fire prevention and public safety education campaigns, juvenile fire setter interventions, media campaigns, and arson prevention and awareness programs. Organizations eligible to apply under the research activity should consult the Program Guidance for detailed information on priorities and areas of emphasis.

An applicant tutorial for the fire prevention activity is available through the www.firegrantsupport.com Web site. The tutorial provides valuable grant information. It will also walk you through the preparation and submittal of competitive applications. In addition, the applicant tutorial provides an overview of the fire prevention funding priorities and evaluation criteria. Applicants who have questions regarding the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants opportunity should contact the help desk as soon as possible at 1-866-274-0960 or at firegrants@dhs.gov. During the application period, the help desk will operate Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (ET), but is prepared to revise hours of operation based on volume, demand, holidays and urgency to complete the FP&S Grants application period and processing for FY2010.

The AFG Program is administered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate in coordination with the U.S. Fire Administration.

FY2010 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants Program Guidance - visit
www.firegrantsupport.com/docs/FY2010_FPSGuidance.pdf.

FY2010 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants FAQs - visit
www.firegrantsupport.com/content/html/fps/FAQs10.aspx.

FIRE SERVICE PROMOTIONAL PREPARATION CLASSES BY ANDONI KASTROS:

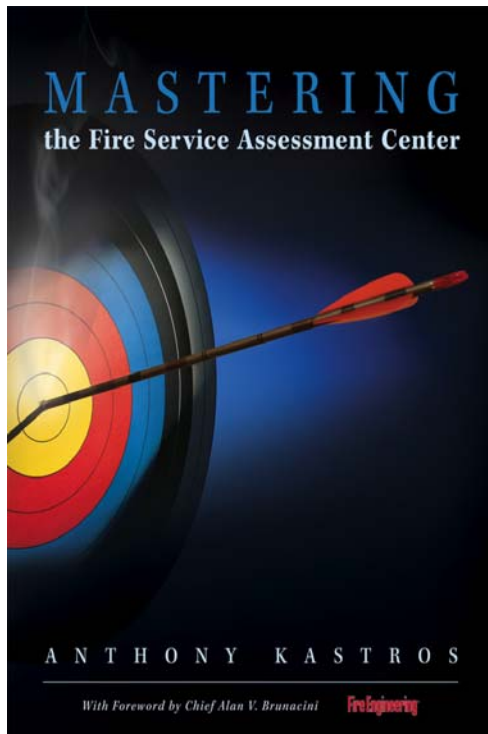


MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER

4-DAY WORKSHOP

INSTRUCTOR: ANTHONY KASTROS, AUTHOR OF
MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER
BY FIRE ENGINEERING

- PARTICIPATE IN EMERGENCY SIMULATIONS, ORAL PRESENTATIONS, VISUAL RESUMES, PROMOTIONAL INTERVIEWS, COUNSELING SESSIONS, VIDEO COUNSELING, IN-BASKETS, AND SUPERVISORY EXERCISES.
- DISCOVER THE PROPER MENTALITY FOR THE TEST, INCLUDING HOW TO SHED BAGGAGE AT THE DOOR.
- FOCUS ON BECOMING POSITION ORIENTED VS. TEST ORIENTED.
- LEARN ABOUT THE 27 KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES THAT SPAN THE DIMENSIONS OF LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.
- ASSESS AND BE ASSESSED USING SCORING CRITERIA UTILIZED IN TODAY'S ASSESSMENT CENTERS.
- PRACTICE EXERCISE-SPECIFIC TOOLS AND AVOID CANDIDATE PITFALLS.
- * INCLUDES BEST-SELLING BOOK PUBLISHED BY **FIRE ENGINEERING**.



*"I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE EXCELLENT SEMINAR THAT YOU GAVE IN PREPARATION FOR LA CITY'S FIRST EVER ASSESSMENT CENTER FOR FIRE CAPTAIN. BETWEEN WHAT I HAD BEEN STUDYING IN YOUR BOOK WITH FRIENDS AND WHAT WENT ON AT THE SEMINAR, WE ATTAINED SCORES OF 93.5% AND 100%. I REALLY LIKED THE FACT THAT YOUR INFORMATION ISN'T BASED ON TECHNIQUES OR GIMMICKS RATHER IT TEACHES HOW TO MOST EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE OUR ALREADY ACQUIRED SKILL SETS."
CHUCK - LA CITY FD*

*"I JUST WANTED TO DROP YOU A LINE AND LET YOU KNOW THAT I PLACED #1 ON OUR CAPTAINS LIST WITH AN OVERALL SCORE OF 95.36% AND I WAS PROMOTED LAST MONTH. THE PLAN THAT I PUT TOGETHER AFTER YOUR ASSESSMENT CENTER CLASS WORKED. YOUR METHODS ARE PROVEN. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND YOUR INSPIRATION THAT YOU GAVE ME TO PURSUE MY PROMOTION."
BRIAN - ROSEVILLE FD*

*"I AM SO, SO HAPPY THAT I TOOK YOUR COURSE. IT WAS ABSOLUTELY THE DIFFERENCE IN ME BEING SUCCESSFUL IN MY PROMOTIONAL PROCESS. I TOOK YOUR COURSE WITH SEVERAL OTHER COLLEAGUES FROM MY DEPARTMENT. I CAME OUT NUMBER 5 OF A LIST OF 47. THERE ARE THREE (3) OF US IN THE TOP 5 FOR CAPTAIN. THERE ARE 5 OF US IN THE TOP 10."
REGGIE - SAN JOSE FD*

ANTHONY KASTROS IS A 22-YEAR VETERAN OF THE FIRE SERVICE. HE IS A BATTALION CHIEF WITH SACRAMENTO METRO FIRE DISTRICT. HE IS AUTHOR OF THE BOOK AND VIDEO SERIES, "MASTERING THE FIRE SERVICE ASSESSMENT CENTER", BY FIRE ENGINEERING THAT FOCUSES ON ASSESSMENT CENTERS AND SIMULATIONS. CHIEF KASTROS IS AN FDIC INSTRUCTOR, TEACHING FIREGROUND TACTICS AND LEADERSHIP/TEAM BUILDING FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 7 THROUGH 10, 2011 – EL DORADO HILLS, CA
\$495.00*

GO TO WWW.TRAINFIREFIGHTERS.COM FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION
CLASS SIZE LIMITED TO DUE TO DEPTH OF INSTRUCTION

FIRE SERVICE INFORMATION FROM THE U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION:



Candle Fire Safety

The warm glow of candles can help set the mood for holiday celebrations, but did you know that a home fire caused by candles is reported in the United States every 34 minutes?

The majority of candle fires result from human error and negligence. Candle fires and the damage they can cause are preventable.

- If possible, avoid using lighted candles.
- If you must use candles, place them in sturdy holders.
- Keep candles away from children and pets.
- Extinguish candles after each use.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.

Learn what you can do to prevent a tragic candle fire from starting in your home at www.usfa.fema.gov/winter/.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

R.W. Jones & Associates will be offering a number of State certified courses to assist you with getting promoted and/or with career development to be a better firefighter, better company officer, better chief officer, etc.

- **Trench Rescue:** January 31 – February 2, 2011 (Class in South San Francisco, CA)
- **Fire Management 1:** February 7 - 11, 2011 (Class in Saratoga, CA)
- **Fire Command 1A:** March 21 – 25, 2011 (Class in Campbell, CA)
- **Fire Command 1B:** April 18 – 22, 2011 (Class in Los Gatos, CA)
- **Trench Rescue:** April 25, 30 & May 4, 2011 (Class in Sunnyvale, CA)
- **Trench Rescue:** April 26, 28 & May 5, 2011 (Class in Sunnyvale, CA)
- **Trench Rescue:** April 27, 29 & May 6, 2011 (Class in Sunnyvale, CA)

For more information and to register for the classes, go to their website at www.ertnow.com or call (209) 406-2447.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

The *Public Safety Training Group* in Brentwood, California will be offering a large number of State certified courses to assist you with getting promoted and/or with career development to be a better firefighter, better company officer, better chief officer, etc.

- **S-215 (Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface):** January 10 -13, 2011
- **Fire Instructor 2A:** January 24 – 28, 2011
- **Training Instructor 1A:** February 7 – 11, 2011
- **S-230 (Crew Boss – Single Resource):** February 15 – 17, 2011
- **Fire Command 1B:** February 21 – 25, 2011
- **Fire Instructor 2C:** February 28 – March 4, 2011
- **Fire Investigation 2A:** March 7 – 11, 2011
- **Training Instructor 1B:** March 14 – 18, 2011
- **Fire Management 1:** March 28 – April 1, 2011
- **S-290 (Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior):** March 29 – April 1, 2011
- **Fire Command 1C:** April 4 – 8, 2011
- **Fire Investigation 1B:** April 11 – 15, 2011
- **Training Instructor 1C:** April 18 – 22, 2011
- **Fire Prevention 1A:** April 25 – 29, 2011
- **I-300 (Intermediate ICS):** May 9 – 11, 2011
- **I-400 (Advanced ICS):** May 12 – 13, 2011
- **Fire Prevention 1B:** May 23 – 27, 2011

For more information and to register for the classes, go to their website at www.pstgonline.com or call (925) 240-5200.

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

Here is an opportunity to take one firefighter examination and be eligible to be hired by one of over 10 fire departments in the **Denver, Colorado** area!

The following information was found on their website, which also includes an online application: <http://www.drcog.org/index.cfm?page=FIRE>

The next application filing deadline is May 6, 2011, to be eligible to take the next test on June 6, 2011!

The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), on behalf of the member districts/departments, manages the Firefighter Intraregional Recruitment and Employment (FIRE) program. Testing occurs twice a year. Candidates take one written exam and the results then determine an eligibility pool of qualified candidates for our 13 member departments. Files may be reviewed throughout the year as openings occur.

Minimum Employment Requirements

- Be legally entitled to work in the United States and able to obtain a Colorado driver's license.
- Some departments hire candidates 18 years of age or older--others require applicants to be at least 21. There is no maximum age.
- Have a high school diploma or GED; having some college credits is desirable as are EMT/firefighter/paramedic certifications. Departments prefer applicants acquire an EMT certification prior to being hired, although not required to test.
- Some departments will train hires with out-of-state firefighter certification for Colorado certification, but smaller departments require candidates to go through the reciprocity process with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC)--call (720) 852-6735.

Fire Departments Participating

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Hawk Fire Department | <input type="checkbox"/> North Metro Fire Rescue District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boulder Fire & Rescue | <input type="checkbox"/> North Washington Fire Protection District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Heights Fire Department | <input type="checkbox"/> Parker Fire District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Littleton Fire Rescue | <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest Adams County Fire Rescue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Longmont Fire Department | <input type="checkbox"/> Thornton Fire Department |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Louisville Fire Department | <input type="checkbox"/> Westminster Fire Department |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain View Fire Protection District | |

Online Application Process

Completing the application and paying the \$50 non-refundable fee confirms your seat. Candidates will receive special testing instructions via e-mail about a month before the test.

Deferrals

You may request to defer your payment (one-time) to the next test. You must call 303-480-6730 at least three business days prior to your test date to defer. Don't defer unless it's unavoidable because you may miss out on a recruitment process.

What Happens Next

You must score at least 70 percent (overall) to pass, but departments may set a higher score for their recruitments. Departments could contact you for further testing throughout the year so keep your contact information current within your online application.

Written Exam Used

DRCOG administers the New Generation CWH Management Solutions Exam to identify individuals who are most likely to be successful in the fire service. The test assesses skills and abilities that Denver-area firefighters know are essential for their jobs. The exam has 150 questions; applicants have three hours and 15 minutes to complete it. The test measures:

- **Basic educational skills (reading, writing and math),**
- **Practical skills (judgment and common sense),**
- **Interpersonal skills, and**
- **Emotional outlook (ethics, motivation and effectiveness under stress).**

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

If you want to become a firefighter, have you started taking fire department examinations yet? If not, what are you waiting for? If you say you're not ready, you'll probably never be ready. If you want to wait until you finish your degree, then you're going to have wasted about two (or more) valuable years that could have been spent learning how to master the fire service testing process. You should be taking every fire service exam you qualify for – what's the worst that can happen if you take a test? If nothing else, you will hopefully start to learn your strengths and weaknesses and what it takes to become a firefighter. Don't rely on us to provide you with every fire department that is accepting applications. We only send out a small fraction of the current open firefighter positions across the United States. If you truly want to become a firefighter, put your money where your mouth is and subscribe to a fire testing service that will notify you when fire departments across the United States are accepting applications.

Two of the best fire testing notification services I have seen are:

- www.firerecruit.com

- www.firecareers.com

For less than \$100.00 per year (each), those companies (run by firefighters) will provide you with valuable testing information to help save you time and effort. Becoming a firefighter is not an easy task, and the badge will not drop from the sky into your lap. Don't wait for your friends to tell you about testing opportunities or expect to hear about them from us. That is not our job, to replace such companies.

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT) INFORMATION:

The Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) is a must have for any person planning on becoming a firefighter. More and more departments are requiring a candidate to possess a CPAT completion card (no older than one year) just to apply for their department. If you do not possess a current CPAT, you do not pass go, you do not collect two hundred dollars, and you miss out on the opportunity to compete for a firefighter position at many departments. The CPAT does not guarantee that you will be a successful firefighter.

Successfully passing the CPAT means that you should be able to enter a firefighter academy at a reasonable level of fitness appropriate to the job. I encourage you to learn more about the CPAT, and also look into having this certificate on your resume. Trust me, this may be an eye-opener for some – many of you will not pass it the first time. Make sure you take advantage of the orientation and practice sessions and learn where your weak spots are so you can focus on those areas. To see the available dates to take the CPAT at any of the below three locations, visit their website at www.cpatonline.org

- NOTE: Do not wait until the last minute to attempt to complete the CPAT as it is common for people to fail their first attempt and have to go back on another day for a retest. More and more departments are asking for a CPAT card within six months or one year of the date of their testing process and I've seen many candidates fail the CPAT (and even retests) and not be able to continue through a department's testing process because of their failure to plan ahead. Don't let this be you!

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

Southern California:
626 N. Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Northern California
526 Commerce Way
Livermore, CA 94551

Sacramento Area:
1329 N. Market Blvd., #100
Sacramento, CA 95834

FIREFIGHTER PREPARATION ASSISTANCE:

The Don McNea Fire School – www.fireprep.com has a wealth of information to assist you in becoming a firefighter.

Go to their website and view the information on “**How To Become A Firefighter**” and gain valuable insight into becoming a more prepared firefighter candidate and get you closer to the career of your dreams: http://fireprep.com/how_to_become_a_firefighter.html

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Here are a number of fire service seminars being offered by FireNuggets.com in 2009 – sign up now as they will surely sell out and be very popular! For more information, go to their website at www.firenuggets.com

Seminar #1:

Thursday, February 10, 2011

“Mental Management of Emergencies: Understanding Situation Awareness and Decision Making Under Stress”

- Presented by Chief Richard Gasaway, Phd.

This program focuses on improving the understanding of situation awareness and decision making. The program explores and discusses:

■ 6 ways your decision making are impacted by physical and mental stress ■ 7 step process for how experts make decisions in high stress, dynamic, rapidly changing environments ■ 4 essential components to making decisions under stress ■ 4 levels of competency in the development of expertise including tips for how to accelerate the development of expert-level performance ■ How decision making is influenced by pattern matching, mental modeling, sense-making and information chunking ■ 3 levels of situation awareness including how to develop and maintain each.

And

“Fifty Ways to Kill a First Responder: Understanding the Barriers Challenging Situation Awareness”

This program focuses on the top fifty barriers to situation awareness at emergency scenes. This program explores and discusses:

■ 12 categories of situation awareness barriers ■ How situation awareness is impacted by: Staffing levels, Communications issues, Attention management, Workload management, Human factors, The location of command, Command support and command aids, Incident and organizational goals and mission, The organizational culture,...and so much more ■ 5 critical command mistakes you can avoid ■ 10 best practices for command decision-makers

For details on this seminar, go to:

http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11_gasaway.pdf

Seminar #2: Thursday, April 14, 2011

“Fireground Strategies” A Two Part Program

January 6, 2011

www.chabotfire.com

27

- **Presented by Deputy Chief Anthony Avillo, North Hudson (NJ) Fire & Rescue**

Part 1: “Get ‘em in safe, Work ‘em safe, Get ‘em out safe. This presentation will challenge officers and prospective officers with regard to their preparation, attitude, philosophical approach, and operational and organizational skills in the hard environment (on the fireground) and in the soft environment (when you are preparing yourself and your members for the fireground). Officers will look inside themselves and at their departments and answer the questions: What kind of officer am I? What type of organization do I work for? Am I really an officer who looks out for his subordinates? Or do I use lip service and then do not practice what I preach? We will discuss why the insignias on the officer's collar stand for "conflict and confrontation" and help them to see that these seemingly negative connotations are actually leadership virtues for the effective officer. This class will explore setting expectations and setting proper example as well as discuss the skills of resolving subordinate issues. Discuss the rules of engagement, the art of command presence, street-command organization, and officer accountability. This will hopefully be a wake-up call for many officers who have become complacent and allowed their subordinates to follow that path as well.

Part 2: Incident Command, Fireground Organization & Size-Up This presentation will address the fireground experience from arrival through termination, including safety and the rules of engagement, the most critical size-up factors, command structure, strategy selection and modification, ongoing fireground operations such as decentralizing the fireground, progress reports, and a comprehensive look at post-control activities. Identify areas where weakness in command and organizational structure cause a breakdown in operations and safety. Learn how to bring the incident command system down to the street level, making for a safer and more effective fireground. Awareness and vigilance are the first steps toward a safer fire service. Students will identify activities counter to the safe execution of the incident action plan and learn that the weight of the "Everyone goes home" philosophy is on their shoulders and is a responsibility they cannot take lightly.

For details on this seminar, go to: http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11_avillo.pdf

Seminar #3: Thursday, October 20, 2011

Mastering Fireground Command – Calming The Chaos

- **Presented by Battalion Chief Anthony Kastros, Sacramento Metro Fire District**

The NIOSH top 5 line of duty death (LODD) operational causes on the fireground surround size-up, command, communications, accountability, and SOP's. This intense, hands-on and interactive workshop hits these issues head on and will streamline the components of strategy & tactics, SOP's and ICS. We synthesize these three key ingredients to help you drastically improve the way you command your next incident or handle your upcoming assessment center! Don't believe the lie that you cannot prepare for the test AND the job at the same time. The military, airlines, and NASA do it, and it's about time the Fire Service did! We will conduct extensive incident reviews, including actual video and audio of commercial structure, apartment, residential, wildland, fatal fires and saves. Participate in simulations for house fires, garden/center hall apartments, and commercial fire incidents to get answers to the following questions...

1. How do I set clear tactical objectives, have clear communications and establish command presence on my fires?
2. How do I create a personal system that blends all of my classes, certifications, SOP's, ICS, and tactical fundamentals into a simple, street smart and effective way?
3. What are the trigger points and safety issues of Offensive, Defensive and Combination strategies?
4. What are the key points to Rescue, Exposures, Confinement, Extinguishment, Overhaul, Ventilation and Salvage?
5. How do I really use ICS day-to-day and get beyond "checking the boxes"?
6. What could hurt me or my crew tonight?

For details on this seminar, go to:

http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11_kastros.pdf

Seminar #4: Thursday December 8, 2011

Strategic and Tactical Air Management for the Fireground

- **Presented by Captain Mike Gagliano, Seattle Fire Department**

The Point of NO Return is a dynamic, cutting edge presentation that is transforming the way the national fire service views Air Management, Tactical safety and Firefighter survival. This fast moving workshop utilizes dramatic audio/video, stimulating discussions, and everyday scenarios to create a synergistic learning experience where the students lead, as well as learn. At the center of the class are The Need, The Mandate, and The Solution. Each area will be covered in detail and gives the students practical information, along with drills, to take back to their departments. Among the topics covered are:

The Rule Of Air Management (ROAM) ■ The point of NO return ■ How firefighters are dying in structures ■ The coming changes to NFPA 1404 and how they will affect you ■ Factors that affect the duration of a firefighter's air supply ■ READY checks (A new way to do buddy checks) ■ Review of close calls from Seattle, Phoenix, Ft. Worth and other cities ■ Practical methods to manage your air ■ CARA radio reports ■ Myths of air management

These and other topics will make for a great day of learning and classroom participation. The consistent comment received from firefighters across the spectrum of experience is: "I wish I had this class years ago. I can take this and use it tonight."

For details on this seminar, go to:

http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11_gagliano.pdf

ALL FOUR 2009 SEMINARS:

- *Four seminars, five speakers, and quality professional networking, all for one low price of \$300, a \$140 savings off the individual seminar fees. This is 100% tax deductible as a professional education expense.*

For details on this four-seminar option, go to
<http://www.firenuggets.com/seminarbaypro11.pdf>

NOTE: All of the above seminars are going to be held at:

Carr Convention Center
4400 Rosewood Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94588

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Looking to increase your fire service knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) or obtain some initial or continuing education?**
- **Check out some of the various fire service & EMS training conferences and seminars around the United States:**

Firehouse World – San Diego, CA - February 26 through March 2, 2011
Go to www.firehouseworld.com for more information.

Fire Service Leadership Conference – Seaside, CA – March 6 through 9, 2011
Go to www.fireserviceleadership.org for more information.

Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) – Indianapolis, IN – March 21 through 26, 2011 - Go to www.fdic.com for more information.

Firehouse Expo – Baltimore, MD - July 19 through 23, 2011
Go to www.firehouseexpo.com for more information.

Fire Rescue International – Atlanta, GA - August 23 through 27, 2011
Go to www.iafc.org/fri for more information.

Firehouse Central – Las Vegas, NV - August 29 through September 2, 2011
Go to www.firehousecentral.com for more information.

California Training Officers Fresno Training Symposium – Fresno, CA - November 14 through 18, 2011 - Go to <http://register.calchiefs.org/> for more information

EMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE BAY AREA:

The San Francisco Paramedic Association is looking for volunteers for the following upcoming EMS related classes:

- Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Classes - Volunteers Needed -

Dates / Locations / Times:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - January 12, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - January 13, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - February 10, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - February 11, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - May 12, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - May 13, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - July 14, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - July 15, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - August 15, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - August 16, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - October 13, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) - October 14, 2011 from 1200 to 1700 hours (<u>Sausalito, CA</u>) <p align="center">**Go to their website at www.sfparamedics.org and click on Volunteer Info (under About) to confirm the above dates and times and to register as a volunteer.</p>
You will receive:	Valuable experience watching paramedic level (or higher) students perform patient assessments. Learn from their plusses and minuses. You will also receive a free San Francisco Paramedic Association t-shirt.
Your role:	As a volunteer, you will be moulaged and designated to role-play a victim of a trauma emergency scenario. Please wear loose, old, comfortable clothing, as you may be on the floor for some scenarios.
To register / More information:	Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at www.sfparamedics.org/pages/about/volunteer.php

FIREFIGHTER FATALITY INFORMATION:

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) has received notice of the following firefighter fatalities:

Name: Jimmy Tuberville
 Rank: Fire Chief
 Age: 64
 Gender: Male
 Status: Volunteer
 Years of Service: 20+
 Date of Incident: 12/13/2010
 Time of Incident: 1440hrs
 Date of Death: 12/13/2010
 Fire Department: Milledgeville Fire Department
 Address: PO Box 18, 24 Park Street, Milledgeville, TN 38359
 Fire Department Chief: Pending

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Incident Description: Fire Chief Tuberville passed away from an apparent heart attack while working at the scene of grass fire adjacent to Highway 22A, approximately 100 meters north of the Milledgeville fire station.

Incident Location: 12035 SR 22A, Milledgeville, TN 38359

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Fire Chief Jimmy Tuberville, c/o Milledgeville Fire Department, PO Box 18, Milledgeville, TN 38359

Tribute is being paid to Fire Chief Jimmy Tuberville at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 82 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 80 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and two from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name:	Chad Null
Rank:	Firefighter/Paramedic
Age:	33
Gender:	Male
Status:	Career
Years of Service:	5
Date of Incident:	12/16/2010
Time of Incident:	1130hrs
Date of Death:	12/16/2010
Fire Department:	Sullivan Fire Department
Address:	32 N Court ST, Sullivan, IN 47882-1508
Fire Department Chief:	Rob Robertson
Fire Department POC:	Rob Robertson

Incident Description: After returning from two emergency medical services calls, Firefighter/Paramedic Null was at the fire station when he was found unresponsive on the floor by colleagues. They immediately performed CPR, and Firefighter/Paramedic Null was rushed to the hospital where he died from an apparent heart attack.

Incident Location: 32 N Court ST, Sullivan, IN 47882-1508

Funeral Arrangements: There will be a Memorial Service, Monday, December 20, 2010 at 1600hrs, Sullivan High School, Sullivan, IN.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Firefighter/Paramedic Chad Null, memorial contributions/flowers may be sent to the Holmes Memorial Chapel, Sullivan, IN.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter/Paramedic Chad Null at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 83 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 81 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and two from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Edward Stringer
Rank: Firefighter
Age: Pending
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 12

Name: Corey Ankum
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 34
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 2

Date of Incident: 12/22/2010
Time of Incident: 0654hrs
Date of Death: 12/22/2010
Fire Department: Chicago Fire Department
Address: 10 W 35th ST, Floor 14, Chicago, IL 60616
Fire Department Chief: Fire Commissioner Robert S. Hoff

Incident Description: While working a fire at a vacant commercial building, 16 firefighters reportedly became trapped and were injured after the roof of the building collapsed. Two firefighters, Firefighter Edward Stringer, and Firefighter Corey Ankum, who according to reports had been on the roof of the building with other firefighters when it collapsed, passed away from injuries sustained in the incident. Ten other firefighters are reported to be in stable condition while four others are reported to be in critical condition.

Incident Location: 1744 E 75th Street

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Edward Stringer and Firefighter Corey Ankum at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

To date, 85 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 83 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Tom Hardy
Rank: Fire Chief
Age: 68
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 17
Date of Incident: 12/24/2010
Time of Incident: 1900hrs
Date of Death: 12/31/2010
Fire Department: Athens Township Fire Department
Address: 130 E Burr Oak ST, Athens, MI 49011
Fire Department Chief: Pending

Incident Description: While at the station after returning from a fire call, Fire Chief Hardy fell and struck his head. He was treated by fellow firefighters and transported to the hospital. While in the hospital, Chief Hardy's conditioned worsened and he remained in a coma for several days before passing away from his injuries.

Incident Location: 130 E Burr Oak ST, Athens, MI 49011.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Contributions in honor of Fire Chief Tom Hardy can be made to the Athens TWP Fire Department Auxiliary, 130 E Burr Oak ST, Athens, MI 49011.

Tribute is being paid to Fire Chief Tom Hardy at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 87 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 85 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: Kenneth Adamo
Rank: Captain
Age: 48
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 28
Date of Incident: 12/28/2010
Time of Incident: 0930hrs

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Date of Death: 12/28/2010
Fire Department: Elmwood Park Fire Department
Address: 182 Market St, Elmwood Park, NJ 07407
Fire Department Chief: Gary Ruglio

Incident Description: Firefighter Adamo was on an emergency standby at his fire station for the snow emergency declared by New Jersey Acting Governor Stephen M. Sweeney. During his period of duty, Firefighter Adamo reportedly also responded to one call, a smoke detector sounding. Upon release from duty, Firefighter Adamo returned home and went to bed. He was found deceased in his bed the following morning from a suspected heart attack.

Funeral Arrangements: Friday, 12/31/2010, @ St. Leo's Church, Market Street, Elmwood Park, NJ.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Captain Kenneth Adamo at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 86 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2010; 84 from incidents that occurred in 2010 and 2 from previous year incidents. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

AND:

Name: David Remington, Sr.
Rank: Driver/Operator
Age: 58
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 19
Date of Incident: 01/03/2011
Time of Incident: 2200hrs
Date of Death: 01/03/2011
Fire Department: Shapleigh Fire Department
Address: PO Box 14, 506 Shapleigh Corner Road, Shapleigh, ME 04076
Telephone: 207-636-2211
Fire Department Chief: Duane Romano
Fire Department Website: <http://www.shapleigh.net/fire.cfm>

Incident Description: Driver/Operator Remington was responding to a motor vehicle accident call on Owls Nest Road when for a cause still under investigation he lost control of his personally owned vehicle, a 2005 Chevrolet pickup truck, and crashed off of the roadway striking at tree. Remington was ejected from the vehicle and passed away from his injuries at the accident scene.

Incident Location: Vicinity of 176 Shapleigh Corner Road.

Funeral Arrangements: Pending, funeral arrangements will be made with Hobbs Funeral Home in South Portland (<http://www.hobbsfuneralhome.com/>). At the request of David's family, a full Firefighters funeral service will be held. More details will be forthcoming.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: In honor of Driver/Operator David Remington, Sr., c/o Shapleigh Fire Department, PO Box 14, 506 Shapleigh Corner Road, Shapleigh, ME 04076.

Tribute is being paid to Driver/Operator David Remington, Sr., at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, one (1) firefighter fatality has been reported to USFA in 2011. Year-to-date monthly and annual USFA firefighter fatality reports are posted online @ http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm

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Firefighter fatalities in USFA reports are summarized by date/year-of-incident. Initial notices posted online at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/> and distributed via USFA listserve do not represent the final on-duty firefighter fatality determination by USFA for such reports, nor LODD determination made by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (www.firehero.org) for names added each subsequent year to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD, they are the beginning of a research process for each firefighter fatality reported so that such determinations can be made.

FIRE SERVICE SAFETY, TRAINING & NEWS
STORIES TO LEARN FROM, COURTESY OF
DEPUTY CHIEF BILLY GOLDFEDER & GORDON
GRAHAM, HOSTS OF www.firefighterclosecalls.com

TENNESSEE FIRE CHIEF LINE OF DUTY DEATH-REPORTED HEART ATTACK

It is with deep regret that we advise you that the Fire Chief of Milledgeville FD, Milledgeville, Tennessee died in the Line of Duty today on the scene of a grass fire. Initial reports are that the Chief suffered chest pains while fighting the fire and had an apparent heart attack at the scene. Chief Jimmy Tuberville (age 64) was Fire Chief for the Town of Milledgeville VFD, located in McNairy County, with portions extending into Chester and Hardin Counties. (Southwest Tennessee). As always, our sincere condolences.

UPDATE: LOUISVILLE KY FIREFIGHTERS BURNED

Three firefighters suffered second degree burns to their hands, ears, arms, neck, back, scalp and chest yesterday (Sunday) morning. Two of them were treated and released yesterday for neck and ear injuries. Captain Toby Mathes, a 30-year-old 13-year veteran of the LFD has been listed in fair, stable condition at University of Louisville Hospital's Burn Unit. The Captain

suffered second degree burns to his scalp, hands, arms, chest, neck, ears and back. Captain Mathes is expected to survive and will remain in the hospital for the next few days for observation and treatment.

FIREFIGHTER CHARGED IN RESPONDING FIRE APPARATUS DEATH

A Firefighter in the U.K. is standing trial, accused of causing a death by dangerous driving, after the fire apparatus he was driving was involved in a crash that left a man dead. Firefighter Robert Hulatt, 27, was driving the rig when it was involved in a crash on September 11, 2009. The crash also involved a car driven by 52-year-old Lateef Sheikh, who was carrying four family passengers. Sheikh, 52, who was with his wife and three daughters, suffered chest and brain injuries and died almost a month later. The family was driving to school on September 11 last year, when the crash happened. The Court was told that Firefighter Hulatt was at the end of his night shift when he received an emergency call to a house fire. The Prosecutor said: "As FF Hulatt was coming up in his fully laden fire engine, he could not have seen what was going on to his right and, therefore, should have slowed or stopped but he didn't." FF Hulatt is charged with causing death by dangerous driving in March this year. He stood trial today.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-13-10 / 2159 Hours

AND:

Hey,

A wrong-way driver speeding at over 100 mph crashed head-on crash into an ambulance on Interstate 25 in New Mexico early yesterday (Tuesday) killing one person and injuring two others. The EMT driving suffered critical injuries as did a person in the car. A second person in the car was ejected and died. EMT Vanessa Carrillo, 19, was alone (after dropping her partner off) in the Rocky Mountain EMS ambulance and returning from transporting a patient to Albuquerque. EMT Carrillo suffered numerous injuries including two broken legs, a broken arm and facial fractures. The crash occurred just before 0230 Hours in the northbound lanes of I-25. The wrong-way car was exceeding 100 mph at the time of the crash. Santa Fe County sheriff's deputies had been looking for the car before the accident after getting reports it was going south in the northbound lanes of I-25. "Obviously speed appears to be a factor," cops said. "The wrong-way driving appears to be a factor. Police are investigating whether alcohol was a factor. "It's 2 in the morning, you have a vehicle heading the wrong way on the interstate," cops further said. "Those kinds of things don't just happen by chance." We wish her a rapid recovery.

UPDATE: FIREFIGHTER "ADMITS" CAUSING THE DEATH OF A FARMER AFTER THE RESPONDING FIRE APPARATUS SIREN STARTLED THE COWS, AND TRAMPLED THE FARMER

A U.K. Firefighter has admitted causing the death of a farmer who was crushed to death by a herd of cows after they were startled by fire apparatus sirens. WTF!!? Tragic? Yes. Criminal? Come on! It appears that FF Julian Lawford, 49, really had no choice but to plead guilty today to the incredible charge of causing the death of Farmer Harold Lee by careless driving. Farmer Lee, 75, was sadly trampled to death by his own cows as he walked them along a country road near his home. FF Lawford was due to stand trial accused of manslaughter by

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

gross negligence but admitted the lesser charge, which was accepted by the prosecution. The defending attorney told the court: "Such a plea reflects that he drove his fire engine forward with its lights flashing with the herd in front of him, which caused them to act as they did, causing the death." The FF turned off his flashing blue lights and siren, but then turned them back on again after the cows failed to disperse enough to let the truck through as they were responding to an emergency call. FF Lawford, who will not receive any jail time for the offense, has been suspended indefinitely by Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service. As you may remember, the incident happened on a rural road in August last year when the farmer was moving a herd of 100 dairy cows from a field toward their milking barn. He was airlifted to hospital with serious head and chest injuries and died six days later.

NEW ORLEANS FIRE COLLAPSE CLOSE CALL VIDEO:

Here is a clip from our friends at FF Spot. The video is a bit shaky to start with but watch starting at around 50 seconds when the FF's are on the handline, with heavy fire involvement and the impending collapse:

<http://firefighterspot.com/#859276/New-Orleans-Firefighter-Collapse-Close-Call-Video>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-14-10 / 2329 Hours

AND:

ALABAMA EMT STRUCK AND KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-ON THE INTERSTATE

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the Line of Duty death of an Alabama Emergency Medical Technician who was struck and killed by a vehicle while working a crash on I-65 this morning. EMT Laura Elizabeth Pullam, 29, of Lowndesboro was operating on the scene of a 2 vehicle crash around 0900 hours on I-65 south at the 161 mile marker near Hope Hull when the vehicle hit her. While EMT Pullam was treating a victim of the initial crash, a pick-up truck left the roadway and struck her. EMT Pullam was rushed to Baptist South Hospital where she died in the Line of Duty from her injuries. The driver of the truck, 42-year-old Robert Allen Cumbie of Montgomery, was not injured. A preliminary investigation showed that Cumbie was speeding and carelessly passing traffic that had slowed due to icy road conditions and the emergency vehicles that were on the roadside. State Troopers have initiated a traffic homicide investigation, which gets forwarded to the Montgomery D.A.'s office for review. Icy roads and bridges along Alabama roads were the scene of numerous crashes this morning. As always, our sincere condolences as we are reminded that while operating on the roadways can be deadly for all of us, this time of year, with cold weather conditions, is even worse. Protect & block wherever possible and expect the unexpected. Always.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-15-10 / 1951 hours

AND:

INDIANA FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY-COLLAPSES FOLLOWING A RUN

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the Line of Duty death of Chad Null, a 34 year old Firefighter/Paramedic with the Sullivan Fire Department in Indiana. FF/Medic Null collapsed

at the firehouse following an EMS response earlier today. We will post additional details on our home page later. As always, our sincere condolences.

**UPDATE: NORTH CAROLINA FF CHARGED IN TRIPLE FATAL CRASH - 95 MPH
"STREET RACING" RETURNING FROM FIRE TRAINING**

An Avery County volunteer firefighter has been charged in connection with a street racing triple-fatality crash involving two Blowing Rock volunteer firefighters returning from a training session in March. The third victim, a passenger in the vehicle hit by the car carrying the two Blowing Rock firefighters, died in a hospital 11 days after the collision. Tyler Jordan Vance, 18, was charged today with one count each of misdemeanor death by vehicle and misdemeanor spontaneous speed competition. Vance is free on a custody release with a court date set for Wednesday, Jan. 12. The crash happened during heavy rains as people were leaving McDowell's Fire & Rescue College. Shortly afterward that the collision involved a race between a Mustang carrying two Blowing Rock volunteer firefighters and a Camaro carrying two 17-year-old Avery County junior volunteer firefighters in which speeds approached 95 miles an hour. Vance, who was 17 at the time, was the driver of the Camaro but the name of the passenger has not been released. The 2008 Ford Mustang driven by Jeremy Gordon Bolick, 23, of Lenoir went out of control on U.S. 221 North in Marion about 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 21. The Mustang started spinning across the five-lane highway and collided with an oncoming vehicle. Bolick and his passenger, Charles Thomas Wright, 20, of Blowing Rock were killed in the crash as the Mustang slammed sideways into a 2006 Chrysler driven by Cynthia White Bassett, 51. Her husband, Jeffrey Wilkes Bassett, 51, died 11 days after the crash. Cynthia was released after more than three weeks in the hospital.

OHIO FIREFIGHTER TRAPPED IN FIRE/COLLAPSE

The fire occurred at a eight-unit multi-family dwelling in Streetsboro (Ohio) this morning around 0030 Hours. When companies arrived at the scene, part of the second floor was involved. While operating at the fire, the roof collapsed and trapped a Firefighter inside the house. It is reported that Firefighters and Police Officers set up a ladder and the Firefighter was able to get out of the building, using a window. A hose line was burned through during the collapse. Injuries were NLT.

OTTAWA FIREFIGHTER RESCUED

An Ottawa (Canada) Firefighter was injured while operating at a 2 alarm fire yesterday. The Firefighter was taken to the hospital around 1400 hours for smoke inhalation suffered while operating at the fire that broke out in the basement of a townhouse. Heavy smoke was showing from the basement when companies arrived. Firefighters were stretching into the home and were making progress on the fire when conditions changed and they had a mayday call - one of their Firefighters who was in the basement, couldn't get out. The Firefighter suffered burns to his face and smoke inhalation as he was pulled by other Firefighters through a basement window to safety. The injured Firefighter, who is in his 30s, is in serious but stable condition in the hospital.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-16-10 / 1811 Hours

AND:

2 FRENCH FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-ELECTROCUTION

We regret to advise you that in the French community of Nantes (West coast - 300km from Paris) 2 Firefighters died in the Line of Duty yesterday (Wednesday at 2300 hours) at a fire, by an electrical ark. They were reportedly on an aerial ladder, the smoke conditions were very heavy and they didn't see the electric lines. Fire Service Corporal SORIN (Jean-Charles) and Fire Service Sergeant AUGEREAU (Christopher) both lost their lives in the Line of Duty. We will post more details on our home page. As always our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take care-Be Careful.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-16-10 / 0658 hours

AND:

Hey,

As you recall, last September 6th, 2 members of the Tarrytown NY FD were killed in a confined space incident. Public Works foreman Anthony Ruggiero (a member of the FD) collapsed at the bottom of a cramped 20-foot-deep manhole, Volunteer Firefighter John Kelly decided to go down and attempt to save him. Halfway there, FF Kelly looked up, rolled his eyes back and fell the rest of the way down. Both men were pronounced dead later that day, due to asphyxiation from low oxygen levels. **The original intent was to unclog a blocked sewer pipe.** The Sept. 6 incident and investigation by the NY DOL showed a series of failures by the village to provide necessary training, programs and policies for its workers that the village knew were required by law. The village was cited for four "willful" and/or "serious" violations by the department's Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau, or PESH, which released its report late Thursday. Ruggiero's and Kelly's estates submitted separate wrongful death notices of claim, a first step in filing lawsuits against the village and several other government bodies this month. The claims allege negligence and recklessness by the village and other agencies in failing to train village workers or provide a safe work environment. Ruggiero went down the manhole to unclog a sewer pipe.

Fire Chief Peter Saracelli was "only several feet away from the manhole" as Kelly descended, but, as well, did not stop him. Additionally, 2 more Firefighters were allowed to save Kelly and Ruggiero while using the wrong equipment for the job. The village was cited for not communicating to employees that they could not enter the confined spaces. It also failed to implement written confined spaces and respirator programs and failed to provide written certifications for hazardous jobs. The report also provided a detailed narrative (see below) of what happened on Sept. 6, mentioning that Scott Weaver, the Public Works general foreman, did not tell Ruggiero or Kelly to go down the manhole, but he did not stop either of them as he watched them descend. Kelly, 51, of Sleepy Hollow, was a village Firefighter for 33 years and a NY DOT worker. Ruggiero, 47, of Tarrytown, was a village Firefighter and village employee for nearly 30 years, most recently the road maintenance foreman. Both leave family behind.

FOR A FULL SUMMARY OF THE REPORT & RELATED PHOTOS:

<http://tinyurl.com/35tc7on>

REMEMBERING CANARSIES BRAVEST:

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Many of you recall December 18, 1998, when 3 FDNY Firefighters from Ladder 170 in Canarsie (Brooklyn) were killed in the Line of Duty at a high rise fire. Lt. Joseph Cavalieri, FF Chris Bopp and FF Jimmy Bohan died on the 10th floor of a "fireproof" multiple dwelling on Vandalia Ave. whose sprinklers had been shut down prior to the fire. At 0454 hours Brooklyn transmitted box 4080 for a top floor fire at 17 Vandalia Avenue in the Starrett City development. The large area complex is located on Brooklyn's south shore. The 10 story 50 x 200 fireproof building is used as a senior citizen's residence. Engine 257 and Ladder 170, both quartered in the Canarsie section of Brooklyn, were 1st due and arrived within 4 minutes. Upon arrival, fire was showing from 2 windows. The 2nd and then 3rd alarms were quickly transmitted. At FDNY, the 1st due ladder company (which was L-170) searches the fire floor. Lt. Cavalieri, and FF's Bopp and Bohan went up the 10 flights of stairs with extinguishers and tools to rescue the resident in apartment 10-D, who was reported trapped. She escaped previously, but that was not known at the time.

NOTE: When the occupant escaped, she left the apartment door open and the air from the hallway fed the fire and blew out the windows. The halls were equipped with sprinklers but were deactivated at the time (See reports below). As the FF's arrived at the door, a sudden change in the wind direction forced an estimated 29 MPH wind gust into the apartment, and created a 2,000 degree fireball into the hallway. The 3 Firefighters just had enough time to get a Mayday transmitted. The high heat asphyxiated them and burned their masks off of them. Despite the best efforts of other Firefighters and EMS, all 3 members were pronounced dead at the hospital. Also injured in the fire were 6 other Firefighters and 4 residents.

NIOSH Report: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face9901.html>

From FDNY BC Frank Montagna: <http://www.chiefmontagna.com/memorial/memorial.htm>

Related Articles and Links:

NY Times 1: <http://www.nytimes.com/1998/12/19/nyregion/3-firefighters-die-trying-to-rescue-a-woman-in-brooklyn.html?pagewanted=all>

NY Times 2: <http://www.nytimes.com/1998/12/22/nyregion/grieving-comrades-and-families-bury-2-young-firefighters.html?pagewanted=all>

Unofficial FDNY & History: <http://www.nyfd.com/>

FDNY History From Frank Raffa: <http://www.fdneyork.com/>

FDNY VIDEO: While not directly related to the above LODD's, here is a link to the FDNY on-line video series you may find of interest w/ professional videoclips about FDNY Engine, Ladder and Special Operations and their related STAFFING:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/fdny/media/video/fdny-series/index.shtml> - **REST IN PEACE.**

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS:

Here are a couple of select ideas that we are glad to pass on based upon suggestions from TSL members:

===**BOOKS**==HERE are some outstanding NEW books that can still reach you by Christmas. **They are all FIRE related and of particular, we recommend DRAWN BY FIRE by Paul Combs.**

This may be THE PERFECT gift for this holiday season!

<http://www.fire-police-ems.com/books/bd9470.shtml>

There are also several other EXCELLENT choice on this page:

<http://www.fire-police-ems.com/books/2000.shtml>

(NOTICE THAT the 2nd edition of "Collapse of Burning Buildings: A Guide to Fireground Safety by Vinny Dunn, is now out-400 pages of details EVERY Firefighter needs, and also NOTE THAT: Rick Lasky's ENTIRE "PRIDE AND OWNERSHIP: Firefighters Love Of The Job" SEMINAR is now on DVD: <http://www.fire-police-ems.com/misc/dp9001.shtml>)

===FDNY SEMINAR=HOW ABOUT THE GIFT OF AN FDNY SEMINAR?

Can't find that PERFECT gift? Well, we have the solution! Why not treat someone to the FDNY 2011 TRAINING SYMPOSIUM? Check it out HERE: <http://www.fdnymuseum.org/>
This gift "of training" is well worth it and one they will appreciate forever.

===GIFTS=SUPPORT THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION WITH A GREAT GIFT!

Check out the online store and the many items available, while supporting the NFFF.
<http://tinyurl.com/33hutvm>

ALSO CONSIDER the gift of an inscribed BRICK on the NFFF walk of honor, to honor forever a FIREFIGHTER in your life, or remember one that has passed:

<http://firehero.org/memorialpark/walk/>

===IAFC SAFETY, HEALTH AND SURVIVAL SECTION'S 2011 OUTSTANDING POCKET PLANNERS:

For \$1.50 each, this allows you and/or your organization to "thank" each member (or if you are a FIRE business, consider these "custom imprinted" as give-a-ways to customers) with something they will really use with survival tips that can make a difference. The 12 months cover topics such as Emergency Driver Safety, the 8 Functions of Command, Firefighter Training Safety, Annual Medical Exam Info, Rehab Details, Firefighter PPE info, MAYDAY checklist, Situational Awareness, SCBA, Technical Rescue Safety, Avoiding CLOSE CALLS and "Know Your Job and Do It With Attitude" as several examples of what is in it. It puts simple, quick and easy to understand REMINDERS TO DO THEIR BEST TO SURVIVE each and every day.

CHIEFS, COMMISSIONERS, OFFICERS & PRESIDENTS: Please consider ordering enough with your FD name etc on each ASAP so that EACH of your Firefighters, EMTs and related members are given one as a unique and low cost new year appreciation.

ORDERING DETAILS HERE: <http://www.positivepromotions.com/product.aspx?p=ITP10cf>

===A FREE GIFT OF IAFC MEMBERSHIP FOR YOU? Say it isn't so? BUT IT IS!!

As an IAFC member for nearly 30 years, it is my privilege to pass this on to you. In a special drive going on right now by the IAFC, I (or any active IAFC member) am able to give YOU the gift of a FREE TRIAL IAFC MEMBERSHIP! The IAFC Gift of Membership program exists as a benefit for current members such as myself to share the advantages of an IAFC membership with fellow Fire Officers such as you.

INTERESTED? Go to: <http://www.iafc.org/displayemailforms.cfm?emailformnbr=101807> and just complete the online form for yourself (list me as your "gift giver"). Within 48 hours, you will receive a welcome email from Member Services containing your membership information. Within 2 weeks, you'll receive a welcome letter with tips on how to engage as an IAFC member, followed separately by your new IAFC Membership Card. You may list me as

the "gift giver" or sponsor (or any IAFC member who wishes to sponsor you) and also BE SURE to check off your interest in the **SAFETY, HEALTH AND SURVIVAL SECTION** . If you have any questions, let me know. How can you go wrong? **As Ben Franklin once said "If it's free, it's for ye"**

===THE IAFF APP!

Need a very cool gift? How about the IAFF's APP? The IAFF has released a VERY advanced App for Firefighters for scheduling and tracking critical job-related information. This shift calendar helps you manage your shift schedule, track sick, comp and vacation time, schedule trainings and take charge of all of your personal appointments, plus much more.

CHECK IT OUT HERE: <http://www.iaff.org/10News/121310CalendarApp.htm>

===FIRE SERVICE ART WORK? LOW COST BUT HIGH VALUE FIREFIGHTER GIFTS!

Check out CFSI's selection of FIRE SERVICE related prints, and NONE OF THEM OVER \$10.00! <http://www.cfsi.org/Results.cfm?category=5>

If needed, we'll run another LAST MINUTE gift list early next week if TSL readers submit related ideas.

FINAL WORD: It is with sincere regret that we share with you the passing of an old friend, Fire Chief Bill Schwartz. Bill was a former Chief of the Philomont (VA) Volunteer Fire Company, Chairman of the Loudoun County (VA) Fire Council, and former Commissioner & Chairman of the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Commission. Bill passed away Thursday evening at his residence. The Chief had been battling cancer but this was not expected. RIP. Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-18-10 / 2211 Hours

AND:

FIREFIGHTER DIES IN THE LINE OF DUTY - FROM BURNS

It is with deep regret that we advise you that Fire Commander Danny Hayat, who was critically injured in the Carmel fire in Israel 2 weeks ago, has now died at Haifa's Rambam Hospital yesterday from his wounds, raising the number of killed in the fire to 44. He was a Fire Commander in the Emek Yizrael Fire Service. Commander Hayat had sustained burns on over 50 percent of his body and lungs. Doctors had attempted to implant artificial leather skin on his body in the two weeks he was in the hospital. The procedure did not succeed. Hayat, 35, was among the first of the FF's who arrived at the bus load of prison wardens that burned on the first day of the fire. He leaves behind two children and a pregnant wife. Hayat will be laid to rest in the Afula cemetery at 1400 today. 44 people lost their lives in the blaze, including 36 Israel Prison Service members, several police officers and Firefighters including a teen Volunteer Firefighter.

THE SILENT KILLER OF FIREFIGHTERS

If you haven't seen it yet, check out THE SILENT KILLER video from the IAFF & IAFC. As we well know, Firefighters must take necessary risks every day, but CO is an unnecessary risk. This video helps you and your members get further educated on CO. It again reminds us to wear our masks (and reminds officers to enforce the wearing of them) during fire operations

and overhaul and avoid any kind of smoke or smoke related exposure. **Check it out HERE:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qzk2e5Pt8IE>

RELATED: REMEMBERING FF BRICK:

On December 16, 2003, 30-year-old probationary FDNY FF Thomas Brick died after he became separated from his crew members while searching for the seat of a fire at a furniture warehouse. His crew exited due to worsening conditions and a missing member announcement was made. At one point while inside the warehouse, members of an engine crew thought they heard a scream but could not identify the source. After an evacuation order was given and as engine crew members were exiting, the victim's officer mistakenly identified one of them as the missing member and canceled the emergency message. Once FF's had exited, a personnel accountability report (PAR) was taken on the street which revealed that the victim was still missing. The victim's officer initiated a second emergency message for a missing member and a search was begun. The victim, who had a working radio, was found lying face down with his face piece removed and 900 psi left in his self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). His Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) alarm was reported by fire fighters to be inaudible. His carboxyhemoglobin (COHb) level was 74.8% in the E.R.

HERE is the NIOSH REPORT: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200404.html>

URBAN FIREFIGHTING:

If you haven't already, take time to check out Urban Firefighter magazine. This **FREE** online magazine, offers an excellent URBAN view to URBAN firefighting. We emphasize that because one of the many differences in urban (compared to) suburban or rural, is density, response time-and very critically, staffing. And while numerous urban departments are under major attack from a fiscal standpoint (that may end up forcing major changes to some of their operations and services), this website gives you a great view of operations from an urban Firefighters perspective. The site also allows you to consider the commonalities between urban, suburban and rural for a much more diverse understanding of fire operations (on what some FD's can be expected to do, and what some FD's may not be able to do-depending on conditions and resources), no matter where you respond to... making the free site a valuable educational and comparative resource for any Firefighter, anywhere. **CHECK IT OUT HERE:** <http://www.urbanfirefighter.com>

**THE FIRE SERVICE UNDER ATTACK - "The Hits Just Keep On Coming"
DECEMBER 2010 NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER STAFFING & FIRE SERVICE
BUDGET REPORT***

The DECEMBER 2010 report has been posted.

(5 Second Video Commentary: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQZqJ_-WAO8)

HERE is a link to the page: <http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/staffing.php>

HERE is a direct link to the UPDATED DECEMBER 2010 REPORT:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/site/firefighterclosecalls/pdf/Firefighterclosecalls%2012-10.pdf>

***AND be sure to check out the new "amazing quotes" section featuring quotes by those making public policy, specific to Firefighter Staffing.** It is our collection of quotations taken from published articles over the last 30 months. All names have been redacted out. In fairness, some quotes come from officials who "Get It." The rest will scare

and anger you. Look at what they are saying and then go out and EDUCATE them! Ignorance, Wisdom or Prophecy - You Decide. **REMEMBER:** The intent of the above section within FireFighterCloseCalls.com is to not only educate, but also to encourage labor and management leaders to reach out to "like" and "similar" FD's to compare strategies and educational efforts.

FINAL WORD:

We regret to inform you of the passing of East Petersburg (Lancaster County, PA) Jr. FF Jay Jacunski. Jay was born June 4th, 1994. Jay had been struggling with Leukemia since being diagnosed sometime around May of this year. Jay, a highly gung ho and enthusiastic member, was presented with a beautiful leather helmet from his Fire Company members on Dec. 2, in the ICU of the hospital. He sadly passed on Dec. 15th, 2010, at the age of 16.

Details HERE: www.EPFC23.com . Rest In Peace Little Brother.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-19-10 / 0936 Hours

AND:

2 HAZ-MAT TECHS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-BRAZIL

Last Thursday, December, 16th, a Brazilian team of HAZMAT emergency contractors responded to an overturned truck with 45,000 liters of ethanol, on highway BR-262, in the State of Minas Gerais, Brazil. When trying to move the truck, it exploded and one HAZMAT Technician was instantly killed in the Line of Duty, on the scene. Another technician was taken to the hospital and we have been informed that he succumbed to his injuries during this past weekend. As always, our most sincere condolences. We will also post additional details on our home page as they become available.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 12-20-10 / 1027 hours

AND:

(THIS JUST IN: Sen. Threatens To BLOCK The 9/11 Bill)

<http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2010/12/21/coburn-to-block-911-responders-bill/>

We ask that any TSL members who feel so moved, please contact Senator Coburn, M.D. to alert him to the urgent (life & death) need to pass HR 847. While it failed last week, Senate Maj. leader Harry reid has said he will bring the Zadroga bill up again once this week but Coburn has threatened to kill it. Contact phone & e-mail for Sen Coburn: 202-224-5754, Fax: 202-224-6008 E-Mail:

<http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contactsenatorcoburn?p=ContactForm>

NEWS article from this afternoon on today's 9/11 bill actions **HERE**

<http://www.ibtimes.com/articles/94368/20101221/ground-zero.htm>

THE SECRET LIST

Chief Struck, LODD, Honored Gifts, Hilltop, LODD History (The Secret List 12-21-10 / 1740 Hours)

VA FIREFIGHTER DIES FROM JOB RELATED CANCER

It is with deepest regret we advise you that of the line-of-duty death of Paramedic Lieutenant William A. Brady, Jr. the Norfolk VA FD, IAFF Local 68 - Norfolk, Virginia. FF Brady, 47, passed away on Tuesday, December 14, 2010 from rectal cancer. A Celebration of Life Service has been held. As always, our sincere condolences.

FIRE CHIEF STRUCK

The Chief of the Clear Creek Fire Authority (Colorado) was hit by a vehicle on U.S. 40 west of Empire early today today while assisting the victim of an earlier crash. Chief Kelly Babeon was helping the occupant of a pickup truck when he was hit. Chief Babeon was airlifted to St. Anthony Central in Denver where he is listed in fair condition. The pickup was driven by Marcos Nevarez-Nunez, 44. Nevarez-Nunez went off westbound U.S. 40 and rolled down an embankment. Chief Babeon was parked on the right shoulder of the westbound lanes of U.S. 40. About 7:55 a.m. the driver of a Ford Explorer Sport Trac - a combination SUV/pickup - lost control and hit Babeon. The Chief was standing next to his vehicle and was hit by the left rear of the Sport Trac. The Sport Trac was driven by Randy Clay, 50. Clay has been cited for careless driving causing injury.

"HONORABLE CHRISTMAS GIFTS" FINAL CHANCE

2 MORE LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS GIFTS THAT BENEFIT MORE THAN JUST THE RECIPIENT:

IAFF BURN CALENDAR:

While civilian and fire fighter burn injuries continue, new research, treatment and education programs are making a difference. The programs and activities through the IAFF Burn Foundation, involving fire fighters, burn survivors and the medical community, are more important than ever. Please purchase the IAFF Burn Foundation's annual calendar with all proceeds going to prevention, education, survivor support and research! This is a wonderful gift for the holiday season which will "Help Heal Bodies, Hearts and Souls"!!!

MORE HERE: http://www.pro-calendar.com/iaffwallcal_store.html.

SEPTEMBER 11th FAMILIES ASSOCIATION

2011 THE 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK ON OUR COUNTRY.

A VERY APPROPRIATE TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT.

DONATE IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY, AT THE TRIBUTE WORLD TRADE VISITOR CENTER

In the past year over 500,000 people visited the Tribute WTC Visitor Center. This astounding number demonstrates what an important role the Tribute Center plays in helping people reflect on how the world has changed since September 11, 2001. As we all prepare for the 10th Anniversary, the Tribute Center will play an expanded role in serving the hundreds of thousands of people who will come to NYC to learn what happened here on 9/11. Our volunteer led walking tours, exhibits, and online education program will continue to educate while driving the conversation towards the ways we can remember all who were lost on 9/11 by doing sometime positive in our communities. To help keep this message of remembrance and hope strong we ask that you support the Tribute Center with a year-end, tax deductible gift. Your donation of \$10, \$20, or \$100 will ensure that the Tribute Center can serve the visitors who will come to the World Trade Center site in 2011.

MORE HERE: <http://www.tributewtc.org/contribute/index.php>

FIREFIGHTER LINE OF DUTY DEATH HISTORY:

**Remembering the Quadruple LODD of Hilltop Hose, PA FF's in Brackenridge PA.
=December 20, 1991**

4 Firefighters died in the Line of Duty when they were trapped by a partial floor collapse during a structure fire in Brackenridge, Pennsylvania, on the morning of December 20, 1991.

Michael Cielicki Burns (27)

David Emmanuelson (29)

Rick Frantz (23)

Frank Veri Jr. (31)

Although they were wearing full protective clothing and using SCBA, severe fire conditions caused a section of the ground floor to collapse into the basement. The collapse cut off their primary escape path, and the fire burned through their hoseline, leaving them without protection from the flames.

REMEMBER THE 4 HILLTOP HOSE FF's OF NATRONA HEIGHTS, PA by reviewing this report and sharing it with others at your firehouse:

USFA FATAL FIRE REPORT HERE: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tr-061.pdf>

"21 FIREFIGHTER'S KILLED INSTANTLY"

=December 22, 1910

THE CHICAGO STOCKYARDS FIRE 100 ANNIVERSARY IS TOMMORROW

Remembering Chicago's 'forgotten tragedy'

The fire began about 0400 Hours in the basement of Warehouse 7 of the Nelson Morris and Co. plant, run by one of the prominent meatpacking companies in the Union Stockyards. Black smoke was spotted by a night watchman who rang the alarm at 43rd and Loomis streets. The complete article can be viewed at:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/ct-met-stockyard-fire-anniversary-20101219,0,1931758.story>

"REMEMBERING THE KEOKUK 3"

=December 22, 1999

At 0824 Hours on Wednesday, December 22, 1999, a fire was reported in a multifamily dwelling in Keokuk, Iowa. Several neighbors phoned the Keokuk 911 center to report smoke coming from a residence, and that a woman was outside screaming that there were children trapped inside. Assistant Fire Chief Dave McNally, 48, Firefighter Jason Bitting, 29, and Firefighter Nate Tuck, 39 were killed while attempting the rescue of 3 trapped kids in that fire-who also perished. The 3 Firefighters left 8 kids of their own behind. The Firefighters died when a flashover occurred while the 3 were doing their search. The fire started in the kitchen of an old wooden two-story b/f home that had been converted into apartments. Staffing is a major issue in Keokuk, and that morning, 4 of the 5 total (+ the Chief) on duty firefighters arrived on scene with heavy smoke showing, and upon hearing the mother screaming that

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

her children were trapped inside, they immediately and understandably went in after them. When "Mom" screams that her kids are inside-we go in.

The 3 were inside, (the Asst Chief and 2 FF/pump operators) a Lt. was on the hydrant-couldn't see the building and one Firefighter was on side "A"... starting to pack up, to back the interior members up. The Chief made the terribly difficult decision to leave the scene for 3 minutes to personally transport a non-breathing rescued child--there were no other resources available... none. The hospital was a minute away. When he returned, the flashover had already occurred with only the Lt. and the one Firefighter left outside. A/C Dave McNally, FF Jason Bitting, and FF Nate Tuck perished in that duplex. R.I.P.

There are several excellent reports out on the fire:

HERE is the NIOSH report: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200004.html>

HERE is the NFPA report: <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/Keokuk.PDF>

KFD Link: <http://www.cityofkeokuk.org/kfd.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-21-10 / 1730 Hours

AND:

The Chicago Fire Department is currently working a 3-11 Alarm Fire and EMS Plan 2 at 1744 E. 75th St (cross street is Cornell). They have removed 2 firefighters and have 2 firefighters still trapped in the collapse of a one story brick commercial building. Also the Collapse Rescue Team has been ordered to report to the rear of the structure.

Live Audio can be heard here:

<http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?action=wp&feedId=115>

Also CNN is carrying live video from the scene.

Additional Information can be found:

www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/12/4-firefighters-trapped-as-brick-wall-collapses.html

www.statter911.com

www.wls.com

We will provide further updates as we get them.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-22-10 / 0905 Hours

AND:

2 CHICAGO FIREFIGHTERS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY, NUMEROUS INJURED - STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE AT THE SCENE OF A FIRE

Chicago media is reporting (from the Chicago Medical Examiner) that 2 Firefighters have died in the Line of Duty. NOTE: CFD has not yet confirmed that. Additionally, numerous others were injured when a wall collapsed during that 3-11 alarm fire at an abandoned South Side commercial building this morning. Firefighters searched through rubble for more than an hour as the trapped Firefighters were rescued and rushed to hospitals. CPD escorted CFD ambulances north on Lake Shore Drive to Northwestern and 1 of the Firefighters taken there has reported to have died. The condition of the other one was not available. A 3rd trapped Firefighter was taken to Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, where he is reported to have died. The condition of the fourth and other firefighters was not yet available. The fire broke out about 0654 hours in the abandoned one-story brick building in the 1700 block of East 75th Street. The fire was raised to two and then three alarms to save the trapped firefighters. A "mayday" was called. Firefighters also reported having problems with frozen hydrants. One witness claimed the injured Firefighters were on a ladder, and when the roof caved in, they were sucked in.

HERE are related links:

MEDIA:

<http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/12/4-firefighters-trapped-as-brick-wall-collapses.html>

<http://www.wgntv.com/news/wgntv-firefighters-trapped-after-building-collapse-dec22,0,6665454.story> (VIDEO)

<http://www.wgntv.com/> (VIDEO)

<http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2010/12/22/report-firefighters-trapped-in-south-side-blaze/>

DAVE STATTER-NUMEROUS SOURCES & EXCELLENT COVERAGE:

<http://statter911.com/2010/12/22/breaking-news-wall-collapse-in-chicago-traps-firefighters/>

RECORDED AUDIO OF THE FIRE & MAYDAY:

<http://alertpage1.posterous.com/chicagoil-building-collapse-and-mayday-1744-7>

More to follow on today's tragic loss in Chicago on The Secret List, on the above links and, of course, on our HOME page.

In a TRAGIC TWIST, today, December 22, but in 1910 was the CHICAGO STOCKYARDS FIRE where 21 Firefighters were killed in the Line of Duty.

That fire began about 0400 Hours in the basement of Warehouse 7 of the Nelson Morris and Co. plant, run by one of the prominent meatpacking companies in the Union Stockyards. Black smoke was spotted by a night watchman who rang the alarm at 43rd and Loomis streets. The complete article can be viewed at:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/ct-met-stockyard-fire-anniversary-20101219,0,1931758.story>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-22-10 / 1056 Hours

AND:

CHICAGO FIREFIGHTERS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED:

FF Edward Stringer-RIP (Reported to have several grown children and lives alone)

FF Corey Ankum-RIP (Ankum's wife is Mayor Daley's personal secretary. Ankum was a former Chicago cop who joined the CFD a year ago, assigned to Engine Co 72 who now leaves behind 2 very young children and his Wife). Initial reports are that Stringer and Ankum had been on or near the roof of the building in the 1700 block of East 75th Street this morning with other Firefighters when it collapsed. The building had a bow string truss in rear and a flat roof in front.

CHICAGO FD TERMINOLOGY:

If you are unfamiliar with CFD terminology, procedures etc. BELOW is an excellent source for those details: http://www.5-11club.org/5-11_Club/info/index.html

Courtesy of the CFD 5-11 Club

HERE IS THE RECORDED RADIO TRAFFIC INCLUDING THE BC TRANSMITTING THE MAYDAY:

<http://alertpage1.posterous.com/chicagoil-building-collapse-and-mayday-1744-7>

OFFICIAL UPDATES WILL BE POSTED HERE:

<http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cfd.html>

<http://www.iaff-local2.org>

*****SENATE STRIKES DEAL AND AGREES ON 9/11 HEALTH BILL BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT*****

It appears that Senate Democrats and Republicans have struck a deal and have finally passed the bill to provide health benefits and compensation to 9/11 Firefighters and other First Responders.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-22-10 / 1425 Hours

AND:

Hey,

While working at that fire this morning, a total of 16 Firefighters reportedly became trapped and were injured after the roof of the building collapsed. As you know, 2 Firefighters, Firefighter Edward Stringer and Firefighter Corey Ankum, who according to reports, had been on the roof of the building with other Firefighters when it collapsed, have died in the Line of Duty.

UPDATE RE: INJURED MEMBERS:

10 other Firefighters are reported to be in stable condition while 4 others are reported to be in critical condition. We will continue to post relevant updates on The Secret List as well as our home page.

HERE IS SOME ADDITIONAL VIDEO OF THE RESCUE EFFORTS:

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2010/12/22/132257144/video-chicago-firefighters-search-for-trapped-comrades>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-22-10 / 1517 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Thankfully, the most serious of the injured members are improving and all are stable. One of the most seriously injured Firefighters, a Lieutenant, is also now in stable condition, while the 2nd most seriously injured Firefighter has been upgraded to good condition.

FUNERAL DETAILS NOT YET AVAILABLE:

As you know, FF Edward J. Stringer - E63 and FF/EMT Corey D. Ankum T34 were killed in the Line of Duty following a wall collapse at a structural fire this morning. Please keep the families of Brother Stringer and Brother Ankum in your thoughts and prayers. **Once arrangements are made available, we will let you know through The Secret List and our home page. Additionally, please follow these 2 sites for details as they come out:**

www.iaff-local2.org

<http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cfd.html>

SOME OF THE NEWER MEMBERS OF THE SECRET LIST MAY NOT KNOW THAT when Chicago Fire Commissioner Bob Hoff spoke about the brotherhood of Firefighters today to the media, in his thoughts were also on another winter day when a South Side building collapsed, killing 2 Firefighters in the Line of Duty. **HOWEVER**-on that day, Feb. 14, 1962, it was (now) Commissioner Hoff's father, Battalion Chief Thomas Hoff and Chief Robert O'Brien, head of fire safety for the department, who were the ones who gave their lives when they were buried in rubble. That LODD was the general basis for the movie "BACKDRAFT" when the 2 Brothers lost their Dad in the Line of Duty.

More Details HERE:

<http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/12/fire-chiefs-father-also-died-in-building-collapse.html>

<http://tinyurl.com/yzzc9fs>

<http://tinyurl.com/yadmpdh>

9/11 HEALTH BILL PASSES:

.....Perhaps we should have lame duck sessions more often....

After a years-long battle and a battle of last-minute opposition by Senate Republicans, the House on Wednesday passed a bill that will provide \$4.2 billion in compensation and long-term health-care benefits for Firefighters and other First Responders who became ill from working at Ground Zero following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, sending the measure on to President Obama for his signature. The bill passed this evening by a vote of 206 to 60 after House leaders had held open the vote for more than an hour, presumably for members who were still hustling to make their way over to the Capitol on the final day of the 111th Congress' lame-duck session.

NOTE: MISSING for today's vote were nearly 170 House members, 100 more than had been missing in action for the previous day's votes. Thirty Republicans had joined all

but one Democrat, Mississippi's Gene Taylor, in supporting the measure. The House vote came hours after the Senate passed the bill by unanimous voice vote.

FINAL WORD:

Our condolences to the friends and family of Sacramento (CA) Metropolitan Firefighter Terrence Gee who has tragically passed away from occupational cancer. Additionally, Wilmington (MA) Firefighters Local 1370 regretfully announce the death of Retired Fire Chief Daniel C. Wandell. Our sincere condolences to all.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-22-10 / 2111 Hours

AND:

Hey,

As Chicago, our Nation and the Fire Service world mourn the Line of Duty deaths of Chicago Firefighters Edward Stringer and Corey Ankum, the city is now looking into possible legal action against the owner of that building. As you know, they were killed yesterday morning when the roof collapsed on them. Investigators speculate the roof collapsed because of a combination of snow, ice, weight and old age. The building had been vacant for years, but city inspectors ordered the owner to repair the roof in 2007 after deeming it structurally unsound. The building was also cited for several other code violations including cracked and defective walls and rotting boards. The owner told the Chicago media he couldn't afford the repairs so he tried to keep it boarded up, but vagrants kept finding a way to break in. The City Law Dept. says it is reviewing all legal options which could include civil or criminal contempt of court charges against the building owner.

GRAPHICS OF YESTERDAYS DOUBLE LODD FIRE & COLLAPSE IN CHICAGO:

<http://tinyurl.com/2wkeft7>

<http://tinyurl.com/36dxxxy>

TAKE TIME TO EXPRESS YOUR CONDOLENCES: <http://tinyurl.com/2fdcz3o>

INJURED CHICAGO FIREFIGHTER UPDATES: 5 of the 17 Firefighters who were hurt in yesterday's fire and collapse remained hospitalized. Larry Langford, CFD's spokesman, said that it was too early to say if the 5 Firefighters who remained hospitalized would be back at home for Christmas. "The most serious was stable yesterday and is still stable," Langford said. "The rest are even better." While the injured Firefighters are all recovering from the physical trauma, the entire CFD is reeling from the experience, the worst loss of life in more than a decade. "The day after it's starting to really sink in," Langford said. "It's a hard pill to take."

CHICAGO FIREFIGHTER LODD's MEMORIAL INFORMATION:

CFD IAFF Local 2 is advising that they do have rooms blocked out for next week and are being held at the following hotels for 12/27 through 12/31.

=Hyatt Regency Chicago

151 East Wacker

\$89 a night rate plus tax - block is under "Firefighters Union"

(312)565-1234 - mention block

=Fairmont

200 North Columbus

\$119 a night plus tax with free parking - block is under "Fire"

1-800 526-2008 - mention block

MORE SPECIFIC MEMORIAL SERVICE DETAILS WILL FOLLOW TOMORROW

DONATIONS:

A memorial fund has been set up for the Ankum Family at Chase Bank. You can call any Chase Bank and tell them you would like to make a donation to this fund. Tell them it is a business fund under FF Corey Ankum Memorial Fund.

FIREFIGHTERS SAVE THEIR CAPTAINS LIFE IN MAINE

We had hoped to post this much earlier this week (thanks to those of you who wrote us), but things got busy. This is the story of Fire Capt. John Prentiss, a 23-year Bangor FD veteran, who claims he hangs out with angels! Those angels are the 4 Firefighters who worked with him Sunday and brought him back from the dead. "I wouldn't be here today if it weren't for those four guardian angels," Captain Prentiss, 55, said Wednesday while sitting in his living room. "I wouldn't have survived. That's for certain." BFD FF's Melinda Caldwell, Nate Snyder, Bruce Johnson and Joe Wellman each recalled what they experienced Sunday when their Captain went into cardiac arrest shortly after leaving Fire Station 6 on an emergency call. Snyder was driving the fire apparatus with Captain Prentiss in the front seat and Johnson in the back of the cab. Caldwell and Wellman were in an ambulance behind them.

"About 1,000 feet down the street we heard a noise in the headset and it sounded like snoring," Johnson said. "I thought the captain was messing with me because he thought I was sleeping in the back." Snyder also thought that Prentiss was joking with him, giving him a hard time about driving too slowly. The snoring sound was agonal respiration, Snyder said. "Your heart dies, but your brain wants to live so it keeps trying to breathe," he said. Both firefighters realized something really was wrong when a dispatcher called and Prentiss didn't respond. "I dove over the doghouse of the engine and he was gone," said Johnson. "He was blue. He was just gone."

READ THE REST OF THIS VERY COOL STORY HERE:

<http://www.bangordailynews.com/detail/162189.html>

OUR BEST WISHES AND A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO Captain Prentiss and CONGRATS to the BFD crew! You are now GUARANTEED outstanding performance evaluations from your Captain ;-)

CORRECTION:

Yesterday we posted Captain Terry Gee's passing, however he works for the Sacramento Fire Department, not Sacramento Metropolitan Fire. Captain Gee was a Fire Captain with 24 years of service.

FINAL WORD:

The Kannapolis, N.C. lost a Firefighter off duty yesterday, but he did have a recent on-duty related medical incident, so it has not yet been clarified if this may be an LODD or not.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Engineer David Carpenter was at the YMCA working out when he collapsed (unknown cause at this time) in cardiac arrest. CPR with defibrillation was immediately performed to no avail. David was pronounced dead a short time later at the hospital. David was a full-time fire engineer with the City of Kannapolis, an active member of IAFF Local 3393, and an Assistant Chief at the China Grove VFD. Our sincere condolences to David's son, Joshua, and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-23-10 / 2200 Hours

AND:

Hey,

As per the CFD and IAFF Local 2, arrangements for FF Edward J. Stringer are as follows:

Monday, December 27, 2010

Blake Lamb Funeral Home

4727 W. 103rd St.

Oak Lawn, IL

Visitation: 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Funeral:

Tuesday, December 28, 2010

10:00 a.m. (Tentative)

St. Rita of Cascia Chapel

7740 S. Western

Chicago, IL

Cemetery: Pending

Arrangements for FF/EMT Corey D. Ankum -PENDING

A memorial fund has been set up for the Ankum Family at Chase Bank. You can call any Chase Bank and tell them you would like to make a donation to this fund. Tell them it is a business fund under FF Corey Ankum Memorial Fund.

Hotel Information: Room blocks have been held at the following hotels for the week of 12/27 through 12/31

Hyatt Regency Chicago

151 East Wacker

\$89 a night rate plus tax - block is under "**Firefighters Union**"

(312)565-1234 - mention block

Fairmont

200 North Columbus

\$119 a night plus tax with free parking - block is under "**Fire**"

1-800 526-2008 - mention block

More to follow.

Take Care-Be Careful,

January 6, 2011

www.chabotfire.com

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BillyG
The Secret List 12-24-10 / 1146 hours

AND:

Chicago FD Double LODD Memorial/Funeral Dates Now Set

The viewing for Chicago Firefighter Stringer will be held on Monday, December 27, 2010 from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Blake-Lamb Funeral Home, 4727 West 103rd Street Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453; (708) 636-1193; www.blakelamboaklawn.com. The funeral service for Firefighter Stringer will be held on Tuesday, December 28, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel 7740 S Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60620. The viewing for Chicago Firefighter Ankum will be held on Wednesday, December 29, 2010 from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Leak and Sons Funeral Home, 7838 South Cottage Grove, Chicago, Illinois 60619; (773) 846-6567; <http://www.leakandsonsfuneralhomes.com>. The funeral service will be held on Thursday, December 30, 2010; church and time has not been established.

Keep a watch on IAFF Local 2's site for full and complete details:

<http://www.iaff-local2.org>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-24-2010, Christmas Eve @ 1230 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Please note that the Wednesday visitation for the late CFD FF Corey Ankum will be held at the Apostolic Church of God at 63rd and Dorchester **not** at Leak Funeral Home as was previously published. Thanks to CFD's Father Tom M for that clarification.

THE MOST CURRENT CHICAGO MEMORIAL/FUNERAL DETAILS ARE HERE:

<http://www.iaff-local2.org>

A WORD ABOUT LEGIT VS BOGUS FALLEN FIREFIGHTER FUNDRAISERS:

This note is especially directed at our younger Secret List members who may be relatively new to the fire service, but of note to all. As you will see below, a "business" was selling Chicago FD memorial decals with no connection or benefit to the surviving families, IAFF Local 2 or the CFD. Legit fundraiser's will certainly be conducted soon, but keep your eyes out for sales like these, taking advantage of the deaths of the two Chicago FF's lost this week. Word is they have stopped the sales. Smart move. Legit FF LODD fundraiser's have clear indications of who is running it, who it benefits and will typically have the FD and/or IAFF Local endorsement-with contact names, phone numbers etc. We would suggest, again, to keep an eye on CFD Local 2's website (shown above) for any information related to fundraising sales and efforts to benefit the families of FF's Stringer and Ankum.

HERE is the original information as sent to us:

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/news/fullstory/newsid/124715>

JUST NORTH OF CHICAGO, IN EVANSTON, SEVERAL FF's WERE INJURED THIS MORNING.

One firefighter was hospitalized and 2 others were treated on the scene after they were hurt this morning Saturday at a fire that ran thru 3 garages and 2 dwellings in Evanston. Companies arrives and found a fire that was spreading quickly from at least one garage towards other garages, and dwellings. The fire left three garages and two homes damaged. Toward the end of the fire, a "Mayday" was called when a Firefighter became hurt. The FF was accounted for but needed help. The firefighter was not burned and 2 other firefighters were also hurt but suffered only minor injuries and were not hospitalized.

PA FIREFIGHTER TRAPPED-CLOSE CALL WITH A POSITIVE OUTCOME ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Fire companies in Lancaster County were dispatched on Christmas eve for a dwelling fire in East Hempfield Township. The caller reported smoke from a large single family home and arriving crews were met by neighbors reporting fire showing from the rear of the approximately 5,000 square foot luxury home. First arriving Rohrerstown engine and truck crews split up to do fire attack and search the dwelling. An 1.75 handline was stretched to side C where fire was showing out the patio doors and climbing up to the roof line. A second crew entered the front door and began a primary search and to locate the fire. Crews took out the glass in the rear patio doors and entered the large open 2 story family room. They found heavy fire extending up from the basement and climbing the interior walls. The line knocked down the visible fire and visibility improved slightly as the glass was taken out.

The second team was searching down the hallway to a bedroom, on the other side of the family room. Visibility in that area was still zero. Suddenly the Captain in front dropped into the basement through a large hole in the floor. He was suspended by his shoulders on electrical wires, the only thing that prevented him from dropping fully into the basement. His partner was directly behind him and instantly transmitted a MAYDAY to Command.

FULL DETAILS AND PHOTOS HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/3yplxar>

Our thanks to Chief Glenn Usdin of the new apparatus related blog:
www.FireTruckBlog.com - Please check it out.

MICHIGAN & NORTH CAROLINA APPARATUS CRASHES

A 19-year-old woman and a 6-month-old baby received minor injuries last night, after the car they were traveling in collided with a Plainfield Township fire truck headed to trailer fire. The apparatus was responding with sirens and flashing lights northbound when it collided with the car, which was eastbound, in the intersection. The car's two occupants were transported with minor injuries. This afternoon in Valmead, NC (Caldwell County) on Valway Road, a fire apparatus went off the road for an unknown reason or cause. The rig was upside down in a creek. At least 1 FF was transported in an unknown condition. We'll post updates

On Behalf of Gordon, Brian, Forest, Iggy, Chris, Pat, Barry, Rudy and I-along with our families as well as the crew from FireCompanies.com, we wish you and yours a peaceful and safe Christmas.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List, 1436 Hours, **CHRISTMAS DAY 2010**

AND:

Hey,

If you run EMS, this is of interest to you. It seems there is a significant issue of EMS personnel getting sick-in some cases, real sick, due to a disinfecting procedure and it's related equipment. This story is about an EMS agency in New Jersey. Following N.J.'s Monmouth-Ocean Hospital Service Corporation (MONOC EMS) use of their newly acquired machines to disinfect their ambulances (by pumping the vehicles full of a pesticide fog) paramedics began experiencing troubling ailments, according to PEMSAs. PEMSAs represents career EMS personnel across New Jersey. (Professional Emergency Medical Services Association of New Jersey, an IAFF affiliate). <http://www.pemsanj.com/>

In June, PEMSAs got several complaints from medics about odors in the ambulances and that they were developing different symptoms: migraines, nausea, asthma, eye irritation, skin irritation as a part of a long list of symptoms. More than a year later, more than 100 MONOC EMS employees report they're showing signs of illness, allegedly after exposure to the disinfectant chemical Zimek QD. One EMT went actually into respiratory failure several times, was admitted to ICU and has been seen by two pulmonologists. It started off very innocuously when the medic got a sore throat, an ear infection. headaches and it got progressively worse. A number of state and federal agencies, including the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), have launched investigations to determine whether workers' illnesses can be conclusively linked to their exposure.

Industry experts say it's not the chemicals themselves that are causing the problems but rather the method in which they're being applied. In May 2009, MONOC began fogging its ambulances with Dri-Mist Micro-Particle Generator, a patented machine manufactured by Zimek of Tampa, Fla. <http://www.zimek.com/>

By converting the disinfectant into a fog, Zimek attempts to treat areas that would otherwise be inaccessible to a person applying a conventional liquid disinfectant. Labor and environmental advocacy groups, however, claim the mode of application violates the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and that, due to the proprietary technology involved, the EPA is not equipped to accurately determine if the machine, and the fog it produces, are safe for human exposure. In July, PEMSAs filed its first complaint with the DEP, which issued a Notice of Violation to MONOC after it determined that the registration for Zimek QD had expired in New Jersey. The notice also points out that Zimek QD's label does not specifically state that the chemical is approved for fogging. Officials from DEP say they turned their investigation over to the EPA in November because the issue deals more with federal law than with state regulation. Meanwhile, officials from MONOC say they have stopped using the Zimek machine after receiving complaints from the union in June.

CLICK HERE AS THERE IS MUCH MORE TO THIS STORY:

http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2010/12/ems_workers_in_a_fog_over_disi.html

OLD WOUNDS OPEN BACK UP: CONVICT WANTS THE PITTSBURGH BRICELYN STREET FIRE CASE OPENED BACK UP.

A man convicted of setting the 1995 fire that killed 3 Pittsburgh Firefighters is asking a judge to reconsider his case. Greg Brown Jr., 33, who has been in state prison since 1997,

servicing 3 consecutive life prison terms, claims that he has new evidence that shows that 2 witnesses who received reward money after the trial did not disclose potential payment at trial and that the fire on Bricelyn Street wasn't arson. That evidence came as a result of an investigation conducted by the "Innocence Institute of Point Park University." Brown was convicted Feb. 21, 1997, of three counts of second-degree murder, two counts of arson and insurance fraud. He was found not guilty of criminal conspiracy. His mother, Darlene Buckner, who was charged along with him, was found guilty of insurance fraud. However, she was acquitted on charges of homicide, arson and conspiracy. She was sentenced to three years' probation. That infamous early morning Valentine's Day fire tragically killed Firefighters Thomas Brooks, 42; Patricia Conroy, 43; and Marc Kolenda, 27 in the Line of Duty. They were trapped in a lower level family room and died of smoke inhalation after their SCBA's ran out. **(LODD Fire Report links are below)**

Prosecutors accused Brown, who was then 17, and his mother of conspiring to burn their rented Bricelyn Street home to collect on a \$20,000 insurance policy that had been taken out in the months before the fire. However, Brown and Buckner claimed that they were shopping when the fire started and arrived home to see fire coming from the house.

READ MORE HERE:

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10360/1113412-53.stm#ixzz19ErKcT1K>

REPORTS: RELATED LINKS ABOUT THE TRIPLE LODD BRICELYN STREET FIRE IN PITTSBURGH:

<http://tinyurl.com/yhcads3r> (USFA REPORT)

<http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/pdf/Pittsburgh.PDF> (NFPA INFORMATION)

DRUNK VS FIREHOUSE-FIREHOUSE WINS

A drunk driver crashed a car into the front of a Kenner (LA) fire station on Christmas morning, and was injured when his head went through the windshield. 29-year-old Mario Perez, was treated at a hospital and then booked for drunk driving and with driving without a license, license plate or insurance. Upstanding citizen Perez also had 2 other arrest attachments as well. The 0615 hours Christmas morning "arrival" of Mr. Perez disabled the fire house bay doors, but are now using the back door until repairs can be made. No Firefighters were hurt. Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 12-26-10 / 1300 Hours

AND:

Hey,

2 Pennsylvania Firefighters were critically injured last night when their car crashed as they responded to a fire. Volunteer FF's Michael and Crystal Keith of Cherry Tree Borough, Indiana County, crashed into a pole in the borough at around 2230 hours last night. They were responding to that fire call and the Cherry Tree Fire Chief is who actually discovered the crash, on his way to the fire. Mr. Keith, who was the driver, was flown out to Conemaugh Medical Center, Ms. Keith was flown out to Altoona Medical Center and both were reported to be critical. We will have updates on their conditions later in the day.

CHICAGO UPDATE:

As we start off this week, Fire Fighters from around North America and perhaps further, along with family and friends, gather in Chicago, as they sadly prepare to say goodbye to the 2 Chicago FF's who died in the Line of Duty last week.

AS A FINAL REMINDER:

Visitation for **Firefighter Edward Stringer** takes place from 1500-2100 Hours at the Blake Lamb Funeral Home in Oak Lawn. His funeral is planned for tomorrow (Tuesday) at 0900 at St. Rita of Cascia Chapel in Chicago, followed by his burial at the Beverly Cemetery in Blue Island. A wake is set for Wednesday for **Firefighter Corey Ankum** at Apostolic Church of God from 1400-2000 Hours and his funeral is Thursday morning. Both Firefighters leave children and family behind.

CFD MEMOS WITH FULL DETAILS HERE:

FF STRINGER:

<http://iaff2.org/items/Department%20Memo%20M-82-10%20FF%20Edward%20Stringer.pdf>

FF ANKUM:

http://iaff2.org/items/Department%20Memo%20M-83-10%20FF-EMT_Cory%20Ankum.pdf

R.I.P.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-27-10 / 1008 Hours

AND:

Hey,

As you know, **2 Pennsylvania Firefighters were critically injured** when their car crashed when responding to a fire last night. Ass't Chief Michael Keith and his wife, FF Crystal Keith of Cherry Tree, Indiana County, crashed into a pole in the borough at 2239 hours last night. They were 2 blocks from the firehouse, where they intended to get their gear and respond on the apparatus. The Cherry Tree's Fire Chief, Ben Wilshire, discovered the crash on his way to the fire. The Chief is the only one allowed to go directly to the fire, and the balance of the volunteer Firefighters staff the apparatus. **Mr. and Mrs. Keith are part of the 25-member fire company crew, of which nearly 25% are Keith family members**, certainly not unusual for rural fire companies. Mr. Keith's uncle, mother, father, younger brother and older brother are also Cherry Tree members. With both of them injured, the fire company loses more than just manpower. Mr. Keith is the also the President of the Fire Company, as well as 2nd Assistant Fire Chief. Mr. Keith, who was driving, was flown to Conemaugh Medical Center and underwent surgery. Ms. Keith was flown to Altoona Medical Center, but she was transferred to UPMC Presbyterian for surgery. **Both remain in critical condition, and we'll keep you posted.**

SEAT BELTS USED BY WEST VIRGINIA FIREFIGHTERS IN CRASH, UPDATE:

(We will have photos posted on our home page later) - While responding to that car crash around 1600 hours, yesterday, Beckley (W. VA) Engine 1 rolled over on very slippery roads. They were responding on a run when the pumper slid, rolled onto its side and rolled over an embankment into a dwelling. The officer and crew was badly shaken up and the officer has a couple of fractures in his wrist and hand. **As stated by members of the BFD: "We are**

convinced the outcome would have been much different without our use of seat belts on the apparatus" Amen.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 12-27-10 / 1559 hours

AND

Hey,

In a noteworthy, high loss of life fire this morning, the N.O.F.D. sent this information out that we wanted to pass along. At 1:55 a.m. (this morning) the NOFD was dispatched to 2827 N. Prieur Street. Companies arrived within 5 minutes to find a tin construction abandoned warehouse structure which had no utilities, fully engulfed in fire which had partially collapsed. Two squatters on the scene told firefighters that they narrowly escaped and that they lit trash in a large barrel to stay warm from the freezing temperatures. Upon extinguishment, firefighters located the remains of eight people and two dogs throughout the structure. The NOFD is using one of its recently certified K-9 teams to canvass the scene. The State Fire Marshall is assisting with the investigation and the NOFD.

RESPONSE TIME DETAILS:

1st alarm: 1:55 a.m.

On scene 2:00 a.m.

2nd alarm: 3:09 a.m.

Units: 17

Firefighters: 37

Injuries: 0

Fatalities: 8

Cause: Trash in a barrel

NEWS VIDEO HERE: <http://www.wvltv.com/>

TOUGHER TIMES AHEAD FOR THE FIRE SERVICE WITH THE NEW UPCOMING CONGRESS ?

This year, unfortunately, the House and Senate failed to take action on several pieces of pending legislation that would have benefited the fire and emergency services and many veteran fire service politicians are extremely concerned about the actions, changes or lack of action the NEW Congress may be taking. For example, SAFER & AFG are now **UNFUNDED** until the new CONGRESS takes it on. Legislation reauthorizing AFG and SAFER also failed to gain passage in the 111th Congress. The House passed legislation in November 2009 reauthorizing both programs. The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee approved similar reauthorization legislation in July **but it was never taken up by the full Senate**. Passage of AFG and SAFER reauthorization legislation will now be in the hands of "the new" congress, starting in January. With the "reduce all spending" attitude of many in, and newly elected members, it is imperative that all Firefighters maintain aggressive communication with their own Federally elected officials, along with IAFF, IAFC, NVFC and other related politically active membership associations.

MUCH MORE HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/2frnhq9>

REMEMBERING 5 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY-BUFFALO, NEW YORK

(VIDEO)

On the evening of December 27, 1983 a warehouse was the scene of the worst disaster and Firefighter LODD loss of life in the history of the Buffalo NYFD. The warehouse had contained an illegal 500 gallon propane tank whose valve was broken off while it was moved and the building was in the process of being evacuated. The propane gas started to leak, eventually reaching an open flame. The tank exploded, killing all 5 firefighters assigned to Ladder 5 and 2 civilians; it also damaged a dozen city blocks and caused millions of dollars of damage in fire equipment. BFD members Mike Austin, Mickey Catanzaro, Red Lickfeld, Tony Waszkielewicz, and Matty Colpoys were killed in the line of Duty instantly. The 3 engines, 2 trucks, rescue and 3rd Battalion were responding to that report of the large propane tank leaking in the building. Engine 32 arrived and reported nothing showing, but they were talking to some workmen from the four-story, heavy-timber warehouse (approx. 50' x 100'). Truck 5, Engine 1 and BC Harvey Supple (who was critically injured) arrived right behind E-32.

37 seconds after the chief announced his arrival, there was a tremendous explosion. It completely leveled the 4 story building and it demolished many buildings on four different blocks. It seriously damaged buildings that were over a half a mile away. The ensuing fireball started buildings burning on a number of streets. A large gothic church on the next block had a huge section ripped out of it. For an excellent article on this tragic fire by then new firefighter-and now past Fire Commissioner Mike Lombardo, go to:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=2596§ionId=6>

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=2596§ionId=6>

VIDEO HERE: <http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/buffalo/Firefighters-remember-North-Division-Street-explosion>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-28-10 / 1248 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Because you have little else to do today, here are some random thoughts (**and lovely videos**) as 2010 comes to a close and we look ahead to 2011. When it comes to firefighter survival, things continue to improve in 2010. We think greater awareness has been the key combined with training, and we are seeing results. Clearly bad things are going to happen sometimes that aren't avoidable, as there are times when all the right things are done but conditions change while firefighters are in the process of making a potential rescue. Unfortunately most times they (the FF close calls, near misses, injury and LODD's) are avoidable: the predictable heart attacks, the crashes, the no seat belt ejections, the failure to size up, the lack of strong command, control and accountability on the fireground--these are issues we have to find solutions to. Actually we know the solutions: Sometimes it's just a matter of us taking this job (and training) seriously, "local FD leadership" getting aggressive and saving us from ourselves, or us trying to "save" the local leadership--just depends where you are. Either way, never in history has the fire service had so many training resources available. If there's one thing that has happened to improve firefighter survival, it's the Internet. There's so much communication and training related information freely available to firefighters now, as well as opportunities for the public to SEE what we do.

FOR EXAMPLE:

The public (and we) can learn what we do, no matter what: <http://tinyurl.com/28skouv>
And can learn HOW we probably should **NOT** act: <http://tinyurl.com/2q6f8vy>

When we think in terms of the bigger picture, a very large impact currently related to firefighter survival on the fireground is the economic situation. When you look at our "staffing" page at FireFighterCloseCalls.com, there are a lot of common issues related to fire department cuts. In speaking with veteran fire service firefighter and statistician Iggy Kapalczynski who runs that section with us, **it's back to the future**. If you take a look back, the problems within the economy started a long time ago--either people didn't pay attention or chose not to. But in terms of funding, the fire service always thought it was untouchable. And while this isn't the first time in history there have been firefighter layoffs, this is certainly the worst we have seen.

FIRE SERVICE CUTS ACROSS THE NATION

The Public Isn't Very Happy: <http://tinyurl.com/23rzi3f>

Fire departments are having to eliminate equipment, apparatus and stations, as well as having to cut both support and firefighting personnel. It's not unusual to see in the headlines these days hundreds of communities looking at a deep double-digit cuts. We are also seeing communities upping firefighter retirement ages and lowering their benefits. I think what's being missed by local officials is that firefighters should be entitled to different retirement rules and benefits. This is not a desk job. But perhaps in some areas we have pushed it too far. There are cases, and fortunately they aren't frequent, that make us all look bad. For instance, a firefighter who retires on three-quarters disability, tax-free, and is running marathons and working at other fire departments. Or those who manipulate the system to take sick-time pay (when not sick) and then come back and work extra shifts to make overtime. People see this abuse and say, 'enough is enough.' Unfortunately these are the stories that have been making national headlines, as few and as rare as they may be. Understand that newspapers sell well with stories like that.

When the public is personally doing fine, they don't pay much attention to what is going on around them. But due to the economy, everyone is worried about their own jobs and their income--and they look at "who has" when they don't. They are now asking questions, lotsa questions, about what local government is doing with their tax dollars and we, when not prepared, can be easy, yet sometimes unfair, targets. If there's ever been a time for fire departments to really show their value to their communities and to market themselves, it is now. Most people do not understand what we do, why we do it, why we work different shifts, why we have down time, why some are career, why some are volunteer, why we send a tower ladder to someone who is choking, why we have SUV's and on and on and on. We just assume they understand what we do, or until now, we really didn't care if they understood or not. Unfortunately, at the worst of it, many people now are under the misconception that they don't need as many firefighters, fire stations and fire equipment in their community as they had before. But in many cases, we've been guilty of not showing the public the exact reasons why we (actually "they") need a certain amount of firefighters responding to and operating on the fireground. We've not been real good at showing them how we spend their money.

Leadership (management and labor) should aggressively explore the best use of the public's bucks for "stuff", before someone else does it for us. If we are to survive, in many communities, we need to very strongly consider collaborative agreements with other FD's such as group purchasing (of nearly everything), group training, shared resources and automatic "mutual" aid responses--all to provide the best at a fair cost. Consider what 4 ambulances would cost with 4 FD's getting together and joint purchasing them vs everyone buying "their own"? Consider that when purchasing almost anything. Consider whatever you need to consider to show that the public's bucks are best being utilized. Seriously, rest assured, "they" are already looking at it and have no intention of asking "our" opinions once they do it. Many in our business have taken the wrong approach by going in, in a threatening way, saying people will die if cutbacks are made. Sure people will die, but because that is such a distant issue for most, they (from citizens to elected officials) really don't care. Or sometimes "they" don't care about "those" people that actually have most of the fires - the ones who are too poor to pay taxes anyway and usually don't vote. As we said, the average person does not care about fire cuts. They really don't. Want proof? See how many people are aggressively protesting fire cuts (and I don't mean FF's and their relatives). If the public was protesting cuts and supporting us in droves (because they are educated by us and know how badly they need us--all of us) fire department budgets would not get cut anywhere as deeply as some are. "Don't you dare touch our firefighters and our fire department;" some communities have that kinda support, but far too few.

A DIFFERENT APPROACH

Some People Are Not Very Supportive Of Their Local FD and Actually Block Our Progress: <http://tinyurl.com/2cz5phx>

When our budgets are being discussed, we might want to consider a different approach. Maybe consider a non-emotional, direct and measurable approach, where we say, "If you give us this much staffing, equipment and funding, then this is the service we can deliver for you. If you give us 30 firefighters for a 30-firefighter fire (and determining how many FF's we need is calculable), then there's a heck of a good chance we can take care of that fire for you; we can save that business for you, the town won't lose income from its loss and we have the best chance at getting the occupants (your taxpayers) out. But on the other hand, 'Ms. Mayor and Council' if we only have 10 firefighters having to deal with a 30-firefighter fire, you and the community very well may suffer a loss." People need to understand that very clearly. Use the facts, the numbers and the dollars--forget the emotion.

As hard as it has been for me to understand that in my career, we all need to try and understand that this is logic used at city halls, especially these days: (these quotes are from a very popular city/county manager association magazine) - "_____ is hardly the only city looking at overhauling its fire protection. The economic downturn has forced many municipalities into similar difficult decisions." "Every city we are working with is -- at the minimum -- considering station closings" - "Cities are making decisions based on what they can afford and how much 'insurance' they can afford" - "The call is out: 'Let's be as efficient as we can.' OK, but at what cost?" - "We are looking at how else we can deliver fire and EMS service"

(FOR MORE, go to: <http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/staffing.php> scroll down to AMAZING QUOTES)

We are much better off when we are able to come up with performance measures, showing what we do, how we do it and why we do it. Use facts, numbers, standards and measurable definitions. See how that works.

As our budgets are being discussed and established, the chief, IC etc, must make the tactical and procedural decisions of what we generally can accomplish (or not), other than on those rare rescue occasions, and even then, the occupants may be sh!t out of luck if we don't have the resources. We can only do so much with so much until much more arrives. It is critical that the public and the elected officials understand what we may or may not be able to do. And once the final decisions are made, it must be clear to the firefighters from the fire chief, based upon conditions, what we generally may be able to do and what we generally may not be able to do. Again, you cannot expect positive results at a 30 FF fire with 10 Firefighters, just like you cannot expect to win a pro football game with 4 players on your team. The difference is that when we have less players at the start, the outcome impacts much more than just the gamblers.

I'm not talking about persons trapped in a house, as we have and will take extraordinary risks to save a life. I am talking about when the people are out, and we simply **DO NOT** have enough firefighters to effectively and rapidly handle the fire, something or someone is going to suffer. It's factual and really, pure math. This much building + this much fire = the need for this many firefighters with tools and equipment quickly, which results in or equals = a fighting chance. Remove any part of the response time, the right number of firefighters with their tools and equipment, and the losing results are measurable and predictable.

Do you know of any community where they have cut back garbage collections and the garbage people still pick up as much as they used to? Fahgetaboutit. There are a reason for cuts and there must be clear expectations of what those cuts may bring. So, when a community cuts the FD to below realistically recommended levels, they (and we) cannot pretend that the FD is staffed like in children's books, where the rigs have 10 firefighters each and we save every house and life. That's a fantasy--and clearly some city hall folks live in a fantasy world at the expense of their unknowing taxpayers. Make sure the numbers add up, because there will be those from city hall that play the "numbers game" to fool the public: <http://tinyurl.com/cbuhnd>

A related thought for those city hall dwellers and related fire officials who have been publicly stating that "these cuts in stations and firefighters will not result in service level changes" - please re-think those ridiculous statements. All that does is let people know the funding wasn't needed to begin with and it gives the public a very false sense of security. Of course, maybe you didn't need those resources to begin with. Planning on covering with O.T ? How long do you think that funding will last until they then target that? And how long do you think the firefighters legitimately working all that O.T. will last ? Something's gotta give. And finally, while we're looking at "stuff," now may be the time for us to throw some egos out the window. Think about some of these kinda questions: Are we doing what's best for the public? Is the closest, qualified department and equipment responding, regardless of border lines? Does the equipment and staffing due to respond "match" (and exceed) what they are responding to? Are we using or abusing mutual aid? Is it mutual? Are we training to the "expert" level? Are the officers enforcing the SOP's? Are the FF's following the SOP's? Do they know WHY

those SOP's exist? Are we using the public's money as if it were our own? If there was a fire at our own homes, what would we want to respond?

HAVE IT YOUR WAY? EVERYONE wants it "their" way: <http://tinyurl.com/2ldhxl>

As some folks say, the public is paying for a service, and like Burger King, the public wants it "their" way. Unfortunately some "public" think they can "do without" and think they can live without many of services we provide. **Actually, they generally really do not know. The average taxpayer is clueless.** So when their FD is cut, but they get to save a few bucks on their tax bill, they are usually unaware of what may or may not respond. Unaware until their stuff is on fire, and then they'll find out. They generally do not understand what cuts equate to--and they really don't care. Not when their own jobs are at stake and their own benefits are cut--they generally just want to save some money and pay lower taxes.

If a community decides to, for example, "lay off 6 firefighters," they need to understand the impact that will have on the service provided. They need to understand what got done when those 6 jobs were intact--and what will not get done if those 6 (or whatever your number) are let go. We need to look at (and show) the cost of a firefighter as it relates to an individual taxpayer in that community and make sure the public knows what the figure is, because it probably works out as a couple of bucks for each person in a community a year. Not a big deal and it "feels" like a tidy little savings to them--until they need us. Show'm the numbers.

The question asked (by the public) should be: Are the cuts worth it, to save just a few bucks per taxpayer, and what will be the realistic impact of those cuts? We have to be very honest, factual and with little emotion. Educate the public to think of us (your FD) as their "must have" insurance. Pay for crappy insurance and as long as they don't make a claim, all is good. But make that claim when it's needed and then they find out their coverage sucks ... and now they have a problem. Saving money in a community by unrealistically cutting the FD is the same thing. It is no big deal until they dial 9-1-1. And when they dial 9-1-1 and a lot less shows up than what they expected, and their stuff is burning up, the results can be tragic for them and for us.

The key seems to be for us to intensely educate the public and elected officials well before the fire, using numbers they understand. They need to know what their "insurance policy" (your FD) will deliver - and what it simply cannot deliver when they make their claim (the 9-1-1 call for a fire).

It may be seen as a small price when you explain it that way. The public usually wants it "their" way: They want the lowest taxes before the fire, and then the best staffed, equipped and trained FD (stationed right next door) when they have that fire or emergency. The public can "have it their way" when they need us, but at a price that they are willing to pay. And in many communities that have taken the time to educate the public, they are willing to pay for excellent service when we fairly and without nonsense take care of the cash they provide us. It shouldn't have to take Firefighter (or civilian) deaths to help the public eventually "get it." <http://tinyurl.com/38vc76c>

We wish you the best in 2011, as so many FD's across North America fight to effectively exist, along with our best wishes to you & yours for a peaceful, healthy and happy 2011.

Take Care,

BillyG

The Secret List, 1300 hours, New Years Eve, 2010

AND:

Hey,

There has been another crash incident involving a Firefighter responding on a run. FF Clay Thornburg, 17, of the Hugh's Pond VFD in Gaston County, NC was responding to a dwelling fire last night at around 22:45 when he went off the road to the right and hit a driveway culvert and flipped his truck 5 times. He was wearing a seat belt. Members of his own FD (High's Pond) found him and had to extricate him from his pickup truck. He was treated and transported by EMS to Cleveland Regional Medical Center and was then flown to Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte. As of this morning, he is still in a coma with a severe skull fracture, brain swelling, and nerve damage to his shoulder and is listed in critical condition. You can find updates on his condition and send your best wishes to him at:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/claythornburg>

UPDATE: PA. HUSBAND & WIFE FIREFIGHTERS CRITICAL AFTER RESPONDING CRASH

That husband and wife who are volunteer firefighters remain hospitalized after crashing on their way to a fire in Clearfield County, PA. Cherry Tree Ass't Chief Michael and FF Krystal Keith were critically injured on Sunday while responding to a structure fire call. Krystal Keith is recovering with a dislocated hip and had surgery to put a stent near her heart. Michael Smith remains at Conemaugh Memorial in Johnstown and has not regained consciousness and is an induced coma to help relieve swelling in his head. In the meantime, thousands of people have signed up for a group on Facebook praying for the couple and waiting for more updates on their conditions. We join in hopes for their recovery.

REMEMBERING THE SAINT ANNA (WI) FIREFIGHTER LODD AT THAT DUMPSTER FIRE

A year ago today, that tragic dumpster fire and explosion killed a member of the Saint Anna (WI) Fire Department. FF Steven Koeser, 33, died in the Line of Duty at Bremer Manufacturing, a maker of aluminum castings. The Saint Anna VFD responded to the fire in the dumpster, containing metal byproducts, when water reacted violently with the burning metals. 8 other volunteer firefighters were also injured. That fire was a jolting reminder to all of us that ANYTHING can be in a dumpster and we need to ACT as if the worst may happen. Listen to what the dispatcher tells us, check pre-plans (what may be in that dumpster-although it could be anything), size it up, determine exposures, full PPE, approach with extreme caution as conditions dictate. Or don't approach. Treat it as a haz-mat, and you know how "fast" haz-mat teams "rush" in. They don't. They size up their runs to determine conditions and risk, as if it could kill them. Remember, it's JUST a ***** dumpster.

NIOSH REPORT w/PHOTOS HERE: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200931.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-29-10 / 1521 Hours

AND:

Hey,

2 people were killed this afternoon after a midair collision between a small airplane and a medevac helicopter in Weyers Cave (West Virginia) near Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport. The crash between the Cessna 172 and the medical helicopter happened around 1430 hours, north of the airport. The damaged EMS helicopter landed safely with two crew members and a patient aboard. One eyewitness is reported that the plane that crashed earlier this afternoon scraped the top of the helicopter, then went down. The witness was on his way to visit family when he saw the small plane and medical helicopter headed toward each other. He stopped the car, and watched as the plane grazed the top of the helicopter. Immediately after, the plane took a nose-dive to the ground and crashed.

FIRE STATION DESTROYED, CIVILIAN FATALITIES AS TORNADO STRIKES ARKANSAS

Parts of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee were on the lookout for more twisters after several touched down today including one that killed 3 people and destroyed the firehouse in the Arkansas town of Cincinnati and another that killed 3 in southern Missouri. 3 people died in Cincinnati, Ark., a hamlet of about 100 residents about 3 miles from the Oklahoma border. An elderly couple died in their home, while a dairy farmer was killed while milking his cows. The storm touched down near the center of the community with "lots of injuries" were reported, and officials in nearby Benton County said the storm injured two people and damaged five homes there. The Tulsa weather office issued a tornado warning for Cincinnati and area towns at 6 a.m., nine minutes before the storm hit. Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 12-31-10 / 1625 Hours

AND:

MICHIGAN FIRE CHIEF LINE OF DUTY DEATH-MEDICAL EMERGENCY FOLLOWING A RUN

We regret to advise you that Fire Chief Tom Hardy of the Athens VFD (MI) passed away yesterday after suffering a heart attack on Christmas Eve. Chief Hardy was on an emergency incident prior to returning to the station for clean up when he was found unconscious and remained in a coma until his death yesterday. This will be a 2010 Line of Duty Death. As always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

WASHINGTON FIREFIGHTER SUCCOMBS TO LINE OF DUTY RELATED CANCER

Woodinville acting Fire Lieutenant Matthew Durham, 45, a 15-year Firefighter, died Dec. 30 of a duty-related cancer. It's the first Line-of-Duty death for Woodinville Fire and Rescue. In addition to Woodinville Fire and Rescue, he was part of the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force was the Woodinville Hazardous Material Team Leader and was an acting Lieutenant. Lieutenant Durham leaves behind his wife and two sons, ages 9 and 11.

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

Cancer is a presumptive disease for State of Washington Firefighters. More than a third of nearby Seattle fighters hired before 1977 have developed some form of the illness. Seattle Fire Department Battalion Chief Dave Jacobs died of a duty-related cancer in Nov. 2009 at age 58. When Jacobs was diagnosed that year, seven forms of cancer were assumed to be job related when a firefighter is diagnosed. But his esophageal cancer wasn't one of them, so Jacobs was forced to prove his illness was job related to get workers' compensation. He poured over 650 records of fires he worked. Jacobs' work helped get legislation that's made esophageal cancer one of the cancer forms assumed to be job related in Washington. Seattle Battalion Chief James Scragg -- a survivor of the multi LODD Pang warehouse fire -- died of lung cancer Jan. 17, 2008, at age 54. Seattle Firefighter Tim Heelan, 43, also died in Jan. 2008 after melanoma spread to his lungs and spine. Marty Hauer, a Kent Firefighter who traveled the nation teaching fitness seminars to other firefighters, died in June 2008 from thymic carcinoma, a rare thymus gland cancer believed to have been caused by his job. Our condolences to the family and friends of Lt. Durham.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 1-1-11 1410 Hours

AND:

MAINE FIREFIGHTER KILLED RESPONDING-EJECTED FROM VEHICLE WHILE RESPONDING

It is with deep regret that we advise you that a Volunteer Firefighter died in the Line of Duty after a single car accident in Shapleigh (Maine) last night. 58 year old Firefighter David Remington of Acton was responding to a rescue call last night around 2200 Hours when he lost control of his truck. He was thrown from the vehicle and pronounced dead at the scene. The cause of the accident is still under investigation. FF Remington lived in Acton and was a Firefighter for the town of Shapleigh. As always our sincere condolences. **And while all the facts on this crash are not all out yet, it is probably another reminder to all of us to SLOW DOWN AND BELT IN.**

RELATED: NO SEAT BELTS USED IN ALMOST HALF OF POLICE LODD CRASHES:

At least 42% of police officers killed in vehicle crashes over the past three decades were not wearing seat belts or other safety restraints. The study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), which analyzed 733 crashes from 1980 through 2008, comes less than a week after a separate report found that fatal traffic incidents in 2010 were the leading cause of officer deaths for the 13th straight year.

MORE DETAILS HERE: <http://usat.me?42165348>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 1-4-11 / 0733 Hours

AND:

Hey,

Of special attention and interest to all Fire Officers, (and those who aspire to be), a NY state appeals court has reinstated a lawsuit against the Manlius and Pompey Hill (NY) fire departments in the Line of Duty death of a Volunteer Firefighter (2 FF's were killed) operating

at a Pompey house fire in 2002. The state Supreme Court Appellate Division concluded the law granting personal immunity to Volunteer Firefighters does not apply to the fire departments themselves or to department officials. The lawsuit stems from the Line of Duty death of Firefighter Timothy Lynch in a fire March 7, 2002, at a dwelling in Pompey. Manlius Firefighter John Ginocchetti also died in the Line of Duty at that fire (details below). FF Lynch's widow, Donna Prince Lynch, sued Onondaga County and then-county Fire Coordinator Mike Waters in 2003. The county responded to that lawsuit by suing the Pompey Hill Fire District, the Pompey Hill Fire Department, Assistant Chiefs Richard Abbott and Mark Kovalewski, the village of Manlius, the Manlius Fire Department, Deputy Chief Raymond Dill and homeowner Joseph Messina.

MORE THIS MOST RECENT ACTION HERE: <http://tinyurl.com/246oh3n>

HERE are several related articles and links of interest about the above fire:

<http://www.volunteerfd.org/article/400128/> (About the Fire & the "charges")

<http://tinyurl.com/ylijpyww> (About Incident Commander & Fire Officer Liability)

<http://tinyurl.com/2aooysm> (More on the NY State Charges)

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200206.html> (THE NIOSH LODD REPORT)

FLORIDA FIREFIGHTER SETS HIS "BROTHER" FIREFIGHTER ON FIRE

A veteran City of Apopka Firefighter has resigned after he was charged with lighting his co-worker on fire during a Christmas party last month. Jason Leblanc, 44, is charged with arson and arson resulting in the injury of another, FF Leblanc has been a firefighter for eight years. Leblanc and the victim, 25-year-old Jack Shumate, were at a private Christmas party on Dec. 18 with several others when Shumate was burned. The fire occurred around midnight when Leblanc allegedly poured lighter fluid on Shumate's legs and lit him on fire. Shumate was transported to Florida Hospital Apopka with second-degree burns on his legs. He has been unable to work since the fire. Shumate, who has been with the department for one year, declined to press charges against Leblanc.

NORTH CAROLINA 17 YEAR OLD FIREFIGHTER RESPONDING CRASH UPDATE:

Hugh's Pond Fire Firefighter Clay Thornburg remains in critical condition. As you know, he crashed his personal vehicle while responding on a fire call last week, when his vehicle reportedly hit a patch of ice and ran off the road. It rolled over 5 times before crashing into a ditch. His family has advised that they met with one of the doctors early this morning to view yesterday's brain scan. The scan revealed some brain damage (dead brain cells) in the frontal lobe. This area of the brain is responsible for emotion and personality. There is also smaller areas of damage in different locations of the brain, none of which is certain to cause lasting problems but the doctors warn that there is that chance. They explained it by referring to someone who has had a stroke. The damage in the frontal lobe is the same as someone who has had a stroke and some victims make a full recovery and others do not. Yesterday's CT scan also revealed 3 separate fractures in Clay's left hand so they relocated a blood pressure and glucose monitor line to his foot and placed a cast on his hand. There is still heavy swelling in Clay's arms, hands and feet and this is being treated with diuretics. Doctors seem to think that Clay will be "rounding the corner" so to speak during the next couple of days and hopefully swelling in the brain will be complete and no longer a threat. We continue to pray and hope for his successful recovery.

CONGRATS TO VETERAN FIRE CHIEF BRUCE VARNER:

One of our long time friends and one of the original Secret List members, Chief Bruce Varner, most recently Chief of Department in Santa Rosa FD, California, is retiring after 43 years on the job. The Chiefs retirement impacts every firefighter in the USA and Canada because well before "firefighter safety and health" became a common (or nearly common) denominator, Bruce was at the forefront. He literally was often the "lone voice" in the room pushing the issues most of you understand today. From intelligent aggressive firefighting operations to command, control and accountability, to firefighter survival, to tactical fire scene leadership and building construction as well as SCBA and related technological development and standard establishment, Bruce has been there from DAY ONE. Many of you with gray hair or no hair probably know Bruce from his countless hours of teaching around the country and his tireless work with NFPA committees.

Bruce's dedication to pushing our service forward (sometimes we kicked and screamed) started while he was with the Phoenix Fire Department (retiring as a Assistant Chief) and continued as he served as the Fire Chief for the Carrollton Fire Department (Texas) and finally with Santa Rosa (Calif). Bruce has also been one of the folks involved with IAFF safety and health and well being an inaugural member of the IAFC safety and health committee, which set the groundwork for today's aggressive, 1000+ member IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section. While we know that Bruce will continue to work on various fire service committees and related ventures, we do want to reach out and send him a heartfelt congrats on his retirement and THANKS for all the good he has done...so far. Those wishing to send Chief Varner an e-mail may reach him at: bhvarner@cox.net

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 1-3-11 / 2127 Hours

To subscribe to the Secret List and get these emails for yourself, go to www.firefighterclosecalls.com

FIRE SERVICE SAFETY, TRAINING & NEWS
STORIES TO LEARN FROM:

NOTE: All of the website links below were valid at the time of publishing; there is always the chance that the website links may not be valid when you attempt to open them up.

Budget Related Items:

Faced with rising costs and falling revenues, three California fire departments are looking at banding together or contracting with the state. The Oakdale Fire Department, Oakdale Fire Protection District and Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District have asked the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for a proposal for firefighting services:

<http://www.modbee.com/2010/12/20/1480617/fire-units-weigh-merger-state.html>

Tucson's (AZ) budget cuts will not result in layoffs to active-duty police and firefighters, after the City Council voted unanimously Tuesday to limit cuts to those departments. At the request of Councilman Paul Cunningham, the council voted on a plan from the police and fire chiefs to limit the cuts in those departments to 7.5 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively. The chiefs said those levels will allow for no layoffs of active-duty public-safety personnel and will prevent the closure of any fire stations: http://azstarnet.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_aeca5e8a-34cf-5f27-9f7e-4e66f5f78f47.html

New York City (NY) Fire Department Commissioner Salvatore Cassano testified before the City Council Monday, saying 20 fire companies will be closed overnight in an effort to close a \$60 million budget gap: http://www.ny1.com/content/news_beats/politics/130550/cassano--overnight-firehouse-closures-a-must/

Fire Department New York (FDNY) Firefighters are blowing through their overtime budget and are on pace to rack up an annual tab that's second only to the year when terrorists attacked the World Trade Center. The total overtime bill for firefighters is expected to rise to \$160 million by June, the end of the budget year. That would be the highest uniformed overtime cost since the budget year that included the 9/11 attacks, according to the city's Independent Budget Office: http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2010/12/15/2010-12-15_bravest_burn_through_ot_at_alarming_rate.html

Trenton (NJ) Mayor Tony Mack: 61 Trenton firefighters could be laid off if city doesn't receive key federal grant: <http://www.trentonian.com/articles/2010/12/17/news/doc4d0aa0d07e4d8776073329.txt>

A downtown Walnut Creek (CA) fire station will have half its firefighters removed Jan. 1 to save the county \$800,000 this fiscal year as the Contra Costa fire district struggles to operate with dwindling resources. The cutbacks at Station 1, one of the few county facilities manned by two fire companies, would provide less impact to fire service than other proposed station closures, an assistant fire chief told supervisors Tuesday. The board voted to remove one fire company -- consisting of three firefighters and costing the county \$1.58 million annually -- from the Civic Drive station. "We are facing unprecedented fiscal challenges in the fire district," said Rich Grace, Contra Costa fire district assistant chief. "This will not affect the county as adversely as closing or browning out a station entirely."... Closing a station is a last resort for us." http://www.contracostatimes.com/top-stories/ci_16857266?nclick_check=1

The City of Pasadena (CA) ended a "brown out" in emergency fire services, reinstating a four-firefighter ladder truck that was temporarily taken out of action earlier this year to save money, officials announced. Truck 32, based at Fire Station 32 and one of two truck companies staffed full-time, was taken out of service for the first part of fiscal year 2011, saving the city \$725,000: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_16855527

Bremerton's (WA) fire department has been asked to cut more than \$400,000 out of its 2011 budget, a task currently being ironed out by the department's management and

labor leaders: <http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2010/dec/10/bremerton-fire-department-asked-to-cut-400k-from/>

Switching Idaho's pension system from a defined benefits plan to a defined contribution plan may be the subject of intense debate during the upcoming legislative session. House Majority Caucus Chairman Ken Roberts, R-Donnelly, said there's been "a lot of discussion" about this issue, in part because of the potential liability facing taxpayers if the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho doesn't meet its investment goals:

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/2010/12/21/1462750/changes-coming-to-persi.html>

Tucson (AZ) Fire's efforts to cut the budget will cut down a program designed to save money in the long run. Tucson Fire has been praised for Alpha trucks designed to help speed up response time, and save money. But to meet the need for budget cuts soon those four special trucks will be parked permanently. For big problems, Tucson Fire calls out big, expensive ambulances and fire trucks. But firefighters handle thousands of less serious calls every year with what they call Alpha trucks: smaller, more efficient pick-up trucks staffed with firefighters who have advanced medical training. The call may be as simple as someone who fell and has no one to help them get up. Alpha Truck EMTs can give help right away, and offer long term help by connecting someone in need with social service agencies. That can cut calls overall:

<http://www.kgun9.com/Global/story.asp?S=13724388>

Earlier this month, city officials announced that Yakima (WA) firefighters agreed to take a 3 percent pay cut to help balance the city's 2011 budget and preserve jobs. Is that true? Answer: Not exactly. Questioned about the claim more closely this week, Assistant City Manager Dave Zabell conceded that what the firefighters agreed to was really more like a reduction in benefits than a cut in pay:

<http://www.yakima-herald.com/stories/2010/12/25/reported-cut-in-city-firefighter-pay-misleading>

Since Christmas, 34 firefighters have been laid off from the Gary Indiana Fire Dept. They layoffs count for 20% of the department and those that were let go are the youngest and newest to the job. The men and women were given their notices Monday and must turn in their gear by the weeks end. City budget constraints led to the layoffs and the department is feeling frustrated:

<http://www.wgntv.com/news/wgntv-gary-fire-dept-layoffs2-dec28,0,6170939.story>

The Copperopolis (CA) Fire Protection District is anticipating a \$252,900 shortfall in preliminary budgeting for next fiscal year, 2011-12. Chief Keith Cantrell said the shortfall can be attributed to a continued downturn in secured property tax revenue and increased employee costs due to California Public Employees' Retirement System contributions. CalPERS contributions are expected to bump to 30 percent from 25 percent of employee pay:

<http://www.uniondemocrat.com/20101229102165/News/Local-News/Copper-Fire-sees-252K-shortfall-next-budget-year>

Not-So-Positive Public Relations Items:

- ***Someone asked why I run these stories that tend to make the fire service look not-so-professional at times. Well, besides the fact they are public knowledge, I think it is critical for all of us in the fire service – current and future personnel – to learn from not only the good, but the not-so-good of others. Good, bad or indifferent, fire service personnel are in the public eye since we are paid by the taxpayers and they have a right to hold us accountable for our actions since they are paying for us to be here. In today's world, the key to success is building and maintaining positive working relationships with the public, not to mention the elected/appointed officials, since all of them are the ones that ensure we still have jobs and that we get what the community we work for feels is appropriate, reasonable, cost-effective and efficient, in regards to staffing and the number of fire stations and resoures.***

A New Jersey doctor supplied steroids to hundreds of law enforcement officers, firefighters. On a rainy August morning in 2007, the news rippled through New Jersey's law enforcement ranks, officer to officer, department to department. Joseph Colao was dead. The 45-year-old physician had collapsed in his Jersey City apartment, the victim of heart failure. Within hours, officers were calling the Hudson County public safety complex. "Is it true?" they asked, recalled Detective Sgt. Ken Kolich, who'd drawn the routine assignment to look into the death. "Did Dr. Colao die?" Kolich didn't suspect foul play, but he found it odd — and a little disturbing — that so many officers were interested in the fate of a man with no official ties to any police agency. Today, it's clear Colao was more than just a doctor, friend or confidant to many of the officers and even firefighters around New Jersey – he was their supplier:

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2010/12/hundreds_of_nj_police_firefigh.html

Jamie Geer, Clearwater's (FL) fire chief since 2004, was fired Monday after he was accused of sexually abusing a young girl for several years. Geer, 56, was arrested on a charge of capital sexual battery. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement says the abuse started when the girl was 8 or 9; she is now 17. Geer was arrested Monday in his office in downtown Clearwater Fire & Rescue headquarters. He was booked into the Pinellas County Jail, where he was being held in lieu of \$500,000 bail:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/labor-issues/articles/921078-Fla-fire-chief-fired-after-arrest-on-child-sex-charges/>

A black firefighter who filed a federal discrimination lawsuit claiming systemic racial harassment by his superiors has settled with the city for \$162,500. Todd Pickett, an 18-year veteran of the Passaic (NY) Fire Department, sued the city and Fire Chief Patrick Trentacost in U.S. District Court in Newark on allegations that Trentacost created a hostile atmosphere for Pickett in a department that is predominately white, according to the lawsuit: <http://www.firerescue1.com/labor-issues/articles/921084-NJ-firefighter-settles-discrimination-lawsuit-for-162-500/>

Clark County (NV) Firefighters file complaint against Clark County officials, accusing them of violating bargaining rules:

<http://www.lvrj.com/news/firefighters-file-complaint-against-county-officials-111972699.html>

A former deputy chief who left the city under unusual circumstances was named to lead the District of Columbia fire department (DCFD) on Thursday, the same day Mayor-elect Vincent C. Gray announced he would retain Metropolitan Police Chief Cathy L. Lanier. Mr. Gray announced the appointments at an afternoon news conference in which he introduced his public-safety team. The appointment of Chief Lanier, who is among the most popular public officials in Washington, was widely expected. But the appointment of Chief Kenneth B. Ellerbe to lead the 2,000-member D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department raised questions. Chief Ellerbe, a 27-year veteran of the D.C. fire department, briefly served as the city's interim fire chief in 2000. He last served as the department's director of community outreach before leaving in August 2009 to lead the fire department in Sarasota, Fla. The Washington Times reported in December 2009 that when Chief Ellerbe left the city to take the Sarasota job, instead of resigning from the department, he departed under an unusual personnel exchange agreement that placed him on leave-without-pay status:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/dc-mayor-elect-announces-choice-fire-chief>

An Avery County (NC) volunteer firefighter has been charged in connection with a street racing triple-fatality crash involving two Blowing Rock volunteer firefighters returning from a training session in March, authorities said. The third victim, a passenger in the vehicle hit by the car carrying the two Blowing Rock firefighters, died in a hospital 11 days after the collision. Tyler Jordan Vance, 18, of Elk Park, was charged Thursday with one count each of misdemeanor death by vehicle and misdemeanor spontaneous speed competition, said N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper T.D. Brewer: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/402303>

A Washington DC (DCFD) firefighter has been arrested and charged with a scam that involved CPR training. WTOP was first to report that D.C. firefighter Natalie Overton Williams has been on paid administrative leave for more than two years while being investigated. On Wednesday, Williams was arrested and charged with first degree felony fraud: <http://statter911.com/2010/12/16/dc-firefighter-on-paid-leave-for-two-years-now-under-arrest-natalie-overton-williams-charged-with-fraud/>

The Lowell (MA) Fire Department discriminated against a fire captain when it refused to let him return to work in 1997 after suffering asthma attacks, a Middlesex Superior Court jury has ruled: http://www.lowellsun.com/todayshheadlines/ci_16873471

A former New York City emergency medical technician has pleaded guilty to misconduct charges, admitting he posted a cell phone photograph of a corpse taken at a crime scene on Facebook. Mark Musarella also pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct Friday. Prosecutors say Musarella responded to a March 30, 2009, emergency call in Staten Island, where he snapped a picture of a woman who had been strangled. He then posted the image on the social networking site: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-ems/articles/920136-Ex-NYC-EMT-admits-posting-corpse-photo-on-Facebook/>

It seems the Cotuit (MA) Fire District will be putting out legal fires for the foreseeable future. Two of its longest-serving employees, firefighter Jayne Pierce and her husband, Capt. David Pierce, have filed federal and state lawsuits plus complaints with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination and the state Division of Labor Relations. In those complaints, the Pierces say Jayne Pierce has been the victim of sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, a hostile working environment and retaliation, and that David Pierce has been the target of "unlawful political discrimination" and "unlawful retaliation."

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/mass-firefighters-allege-discrimination-lawsuit>

A jury has awarded \$424,000 to a San Diego (CA) firefighter who said he was suspended and denied a promotion in retaliation for blowing the whistle on wrongdoing in the city's fire department. Paul Vandeveld, 44, of El Cajon, has worked in the department since 1990 but his career stalled four years ago after he tried to stop his fellow firefighters from harassing a colleague and aided then-City Attorney Michael Aguirre with his investigation into the city's pension scandal:

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/dec/20/san-diego-firefighter-wins-424000-city-court/>

A Steubenville (OH) firefighter has been fired for a second time this year. The firefighter, who was with the department for eight year, did not possess a valid driver's license when he was reinstated earlier this month, according to Steubenville Law Director Gary Repella. Repella said that is a requirement and a reason for Bowman's termination. He also added the termination was based on threats Bowman reportedly made against city officials in recent months:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/ohio-firefighter-fired-second-time-year>

Members of the Hillsboro (OR) Firefighters Association plan to attend tonight's City Council meeting to try to get answers about whether Hillsboro Fire Chief Gary Seidel was pushed out of his position. Lt. Larry Smith, president of the association, said he plans to ask Hillsboro City Manager Sarah Jo Chaplen to go on the record at the meeting, put rumors to rest, and say that there was no pressure put on the chief to retire. Smith said the union believes Seidel is being pushed out, and that everyone – including the chief – has been tight-lipped about the retirement:

http://www.oregonlive.com/hillsboro/index.ssf/2010/12/hillsboro_firefighters_will_ask_city_manager_tonight_to_confirm_she_did_not_oust_chief.html

A council meeting turned tense here tonight after a group of firefighters asked the mayor and city manager to say, publicly, that they did not force Hillsboro (OR) Fire Chief Gary Seidel to retire. Seidel announced his retirement -- effective Feb. 28 -- in November. He said he wanted to spend more time with his grandchildren. Tuesday night, Mayor Jerry Willey told the firefighters that Seidel "had options. He chose retirement." Fire Union President Larry Smith asked City Manager Sarah Jo Chaplen to "confirm there was no pressure on Chief Seidel to retire." As Chaplen moved her mic to speak, Willey butted in and said, "I don't think we're gonna go there."

http://www.oregonlive.com/hillsboro/index.ssf/2010/12/in_hillsboro_meeting_turns_tense_after_mayor_says_fire_chief_had_options_but_chose_retirement.html

Spalding County (GA) firefighter Joshua Tomlinson is one of six firefighters the county punished Tuesday. "How do you feel about the punishment the county handed down to you and the other firefighters? I think it was fair, in my opinion," said Tomlinson. The county said Tomlinson, firefighters Eric Huggins and Franklin Mcdowell were on the scene the night Dayna Kempson-Schatcht died in a fatal crash. The county said they saw firefighter Terrance Reid take cell phone video of Kempson-Schatcht's body but did not report it. "I feel that it was wrong to take a video in the first place. Firefighters, being in the profession that we are in, we need to show confidentiality. We don't need to be out there taking pictures and sending them," said Tomlinson. The county said Reid posted the video on the Internet and sent it to others. Someone sent that video to Kempson-Schatcht's parents. The investigative report recommended firing Reid, which the county did immediately. The report also recommended the county punish the other firefighters who knew about the video but did nothing. "I will say that what Mr. Reid did was morally and ethically wrong," said Capt. Lee Slaughter: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/six-georgia-firefighters-punish-accident-video>

Oxygen is a basic yet critical life-saving tool for any fire and rescue department. Wednesday, a lack of oxygen put the Rossford Fire Department out of service for three hours and relying on help in case they were called to help save a life. "It'd be like a fire truck going to a fire without any hose or any water," Rossford Fire Chief James Verbosky said. The crisis began when the chief placed a call to their supplier. "We notified our long time vendor, Reliance Oxygen, we would be making a vendor change come January 1. They sent their driver out here [who then] stripped our whole fire station of all oxygen." <http://www.wtol.com/Global/story.asp?S=13757515>

The new year started unhappily for the 29 Haverhill (MA) firefighters accused of lying to obtain their emergency medical technician recertifications. On Friday, Mayor James Fiorentini notified the firefighters named last year by the state as participants in the EMT training scandal that they face unpaid suspensions and possibly even losing their jobs. Fire Chief Richard Borden has recommended the mayor suspend 22 of the firefighters without pay for 624 hours each — the equivalent of approximately 26, 24-hour shifts. That equals about 30 percent of their annual pay. Borden recommended the other seven firefighters implicated in the scheme be given unpaid suspensions of approximately 300 hours each:

<http://www.eagletribune.com/haverhill/x1758589466/Haverhill-firefighters-face-losing-30-percent-of-pay-possibly-jobs>

An Apopka (FL) firefighter resigned after eyewitnesses say he deliberately set a co-worker on fire. Jason Leblanc sprayed another firefighter with lighter fluid at a holiday party and then set him on fire, officials told WFTV Monday. However, Leblanc was not arrested. According to Apopka Police, Leblanc will be charged with two felony counts of arson. The victim suffered second-degree burns. Investigators said the victim is 25-year-old Jack Shumate, a one-year Apopka firefighter:

http://www.wftv.com/news/26356882/detail.html?cxntlid=cmg_cntnt_rss

A cover-up within the fire department in McAllen (TX), launched on Halloween night after a fire engine backed into a mailbox, cost a fire lieutenant his job last week, *The Monitor* has learned. Fire Chief Rogelio Rubio axed Lt. Marcos Reyes on Thursday,

after an internal investigation concluded that Reyes tried to cover up the minor traffic accident that damaged a department vehicle. The engine's acting driver, Venancio Valenzuela, and a firefighter onboard at the time, Robert Vargas, remain under investigation: <http://www.themonitor.com/articles/fire-45905-lieutenant-mcallen.html>

Two members of the Phillipsburg (NJ) Fire Department have been arrested for allegedly setting fires or conspiracy to set the fires at six properties in the town last year: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/two-pennsylvania-firefighters-charged-six-arsons>

A California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection captain and another firefighter have been placed on administrative leave and served separation letters in connection with an investigation that both of them falsified time sheets and claimed to work hours that they did not, a Cal Fire spokesman confirmed Tuesday. "We expect to hold our employees to a high standard. This investigation led to this action," Daniel Berlant, a Cal Fire spokesman, said: <http://www.kcra.com/news/26370934/detail.html>

Facing mounting criticism for a poor response during the blizzard that buried New York City last month, the chief of the Fire Department's Emergency Medical Service was stripped of his command on Wednesday. The announcement that the chief, John Peruggia, was being demoted made him the first person to be reassigned in the wake of criticism over the way the city's E.M.S. and sanitation workers performed during the blizzard. Several neighborhoods were left buried in snow for days after a tepid emergency response, and the city's 911 dispatchers were forced to struggle with tens of thousands of calls from snowbound residents. As of Wednesday, ambulance delays related to the snow were seen as possible factors in at least three deaths: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/06/nyregion/06ems.html?_r=1&ref=nyregion

Positive Public Relations Items:

Nothing says Christmas like holiday lights and Saturday night the Lane Rural Fire/Rescue (OR) held their 17th annual light parade in northwest Eugene. Tons of youngsters and their parents came out to watch fire trucks decked out in twinkling lights cruise the streets. The parade also serves as a toy and food drive: <http://www.kval.com/news/local/111744954.html>

Northern Nevada firefighters from Reno and Sparks have partnered with the American Red Cross to encourage shoppers to "Give the Gift of Hope" this holiday season: http://dailysparktribune.com/view/full_story/10698405/article-Firefighters-support-troops-?instance=secondary_stories_left_column

Hundreds of Phoenix (AZ) area firefighters and police officers spent Tuesday loading up toys from a packed warehouse and delivering them to good little boys and girls -- "kids who need to see an officer in a different light," said W. Steven Martin, who has been behind the event for the past 24 years: <http://www.ktar.com/category/local-news-articles/20101221/Cops,-firefighters-help-Santa-for-24th-year/>

Each year, Nevada Division of Forestry seasonal Firefighters from Carson and Storey County organize an event to support local communities. This year the firefighters took it upon themselves to organize a canned food drive and cut Christmas trees for local families in need. The firefighters worked with Children's Cabinet and made contact with Wal-Mart in Carson City to get permission to set up a fire engine and Smokey in front of the store. Additional contact was made with a local cooperater, who was glad to donate trees off his property, which were to be removed for defensible space:

<http://dncr.nv.gov/2010/12/ndf-firefighters-organize-charity-efforts/>

For about a dozen years, Reno (NV) firefighters have held a holiday event for homeless children living in motels, shelters or sometimes vehicles in the downtown Reno area. This year's event was held Sunday. "It breaks my heart because a lot of these kids are more excited about the clothes than the toys," Reno Fire Chief Tamara Lopes said. "It tells you where they are in life." On Sunday, the children were fed a good meal courtesy of the Silver Legacy Resort and then made their way through the room with half a dozen tables lined with donated toys and clothing. The children selected items for themselves or to take back to their parents or siblings. Mentors talked with each child to try and learn a little about their situation so they could refer them to resources available to help them: http://dailysparktribune.com/view/full_story/10723946/article-Reno-firefighters-give-food--toys-to-homeless-children?instance=home_news_bullets

Len DeJorian, Mesquite's (NV) fire prevention officer, hauls food into the Virgin Valley Food Bank Monday as Charlie Proper loads up. City employees had a competition to see which department could collect the most food for the food bank, and the winner was . . . the food bank:

<http://www.thespectrum.com/article/20101221/DVTONLINE01/101220012/1053/DVTONLINE/City+employees+chip+in>

Phoenix (AZ) area fire departments have been utilizing new resuscitation techniques in hopes of improving survival rates on cardiac-arrest emergency cases. Many departments statewide have been involved in a two-year study on the efficacy of rapid, deep cardiac compressions, before any other treatment is provided. Emergency medical technicians in Mesa and Apache Junction have begun using hypothermia, which is believed to help keep neurological functions intact one a pulse is restored. "It's something we've been working to increase the survivability of patients," said Mary Cameli, Mesa assistant fire chief. "We wondered what we could add to it to help even more, and that's when hypothermia came into play. "It's a low-cost process. We're cooling the patient ahead of time. Studies have shown that (hypothermia) can help patients before surgery. The sooner we can start the process, the better off the patient is." The survival rate after sudden, out-of-hospital cardiac arrest is less than 8 percent, according to the American Heart Association. In Mesa, which averages about one cardiac-arrest call a day, the process of minimally interrupted cardiac resuscitation (MICR) has improved the survival rate to 22 percent, Cameli said:

http://www.ahwatukee.com/news/valley_and_state/article_7b079857-395b-5030-9a50-2cb82b0362f2.html

Grand Junction (CO) Firefighters traded their hoses for a heap of toys Thursday, to add to the Salvation Army's massive Christmas drive. Local union 2808 raided both

Grand Junction Walgreens and Target, filling carts with \$6,000 worth of gifts. The firemen donated half of the money. The stores graciously matched the rest. The firemen say they fundraise all year to be able to help needy children have a special holiday:

http://www.nbc11news.com/home/headlines/Firefighters_fill_carts_full_of_toys_for_Salvation_Army_112043159.html

Southern California Firefighters spend their free time working at an Upland (CA) Christmas tree lot to raise money for various causes:

http://www.dailybulletin.com/ci_16938180?source=most_viewed

The city of Chula Vista (CA) has reached an agreement with the city's firefighter's union on a deal that will save that cash-strapped city close to \$1 million every year. "We're doing it because we have to," said Capt. Mike Nash, president of the Chula Vista Firefighters Local 2180. Beginning January 14, city firefighters will begin paying 9 percent into their pensions. They will also give up 4.5 percent of future wage increases and agreed to a two-tiered hiring system. The agreement will save the city about \$913,000 annually and \$4.7 million over the life of the deal. Chula Vista is in the midst of trying to slash \$18.5 million from its \$133 million budget:

<http://www.10news.com/news/26354843/detail.html>

In response to eight fires that displaced more than 70 people in the Las Vegas (NV) Valley over New Year's weekend, area firefighters reached into their pockets to soften the landing for those forced from their homes, donating \$5,000 to the Red Cross. Firefighters from Las Vegas, North Las Vegas and Henderson made the combined donation to the "Fire Hurts ... Red Cross Helps" campaign, which helps with immediate needs such as food, clothing and shelter for the displaced:

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2011/jan/03/firefighters-donate-5000-red-cross-response-weeken/>

Bremerton (WA) firefighters agreed to concessions that will save the city \$191,000 in 2011, the city announced this week. Firefighters were due a 3.4 percent salary increase this year, and their gross pay will still reflect the raise. Each paycheck, however, will also include a deduction of the amount of the raise, which will be given back to the city. Becky Hasart, the city's financial services director since Dec. 1, described the move as one that still gives the firefighters the raise "on paper," but not in fact. Hasart said the negotiating meetings she was in with the union were marked by congeniality. "It didn't take long at all," she said. "The fire union has been extremely cooperative and they certainly understand the situation in which the city finds itself."

<http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2011/jan/05/bremerton-firefighters-accept-wage-freeze/>

Training & Safety Related Items:

Know your enemy: Disposable structures. Lightweight wood frame structure fires are among the most dangerous types of incidents for firefighters. Today's residential structure fire is not your daddy's residential structure fire. Today's lightweight wood frame structure is burning faster, failing sooner, and often doing so with tragic results,

much quicker than traditional wood frame structures built in years past. In just the past few months we have seen three separate fire incidents in Fargo, N.D, Coatesville, Pa., and Harrisonburg, Va., that have involved large wood frame apartment buildings, which resulted in close calls and firefighters being injured. Each of these incidents occurred in lightweight wood frame "disposable" structures. As the Ol' Professor, the late **Francis Brannigan** taught "The Building is your Enemy, Know your Enemy." Today the lightweight wood frame structure fire is the enemy. It has evolved into one of the most dangerous types of structure fires you will encounter:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/firefighter-safety/articles/921623-Know-your-enemy-Disposable-structures/>

A knife-wielding man attacks several firefighters who try to help him -- leading to a barricade situation in Phoenix (AZ) on Sunday. Someone called 911 and said a man was in need of help at a home near 32nd Street and McDowell. When firefighters arrived to help him, he began chasing after them with a knife:

<http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/dpp/news/crime/man-chases-firefighters-with-knife-12122010>

General Fire Service Related Items:

Social media policies: What you need to know. A poorly drafted social media policy at your fire department can create unexpected sources of liability:

<http://www.firerescue1.com/social-media-for-firefighters/articles/921614-Social-media-policies-What-you-need-to-know/>

Hundreds of would-be firefighters sat for the New York City Fire Department's entrance exam back in 2007, hoping to fulfill a dream of become members of New York's Bravest. Many aced the exam, but that test, and two others before it, were thrown out because federal judge Nicholas Garaufis ruled they illegally discriminated against blacks and Hispanics. No firefighters have been hired since and the city can only hire candidates from the invalidated test if the court signs off on the method used. Four years have passed and now many candidates are too old to take a new test that's currently being drafted by the city. Under the current rule, candidates must be under 29 years of age on the day of the test. NY1 has learned that on Dec. 20, a bill that would formally change that age requirement to 35 will go before the City Council:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/age-limit-raise-considered-fdny-exam>

Eastside (WA) Fire & Rescue has declined to change the scheduling system for firefighters, but the agency will consider the issue as part of upcoming union negotiations. Firefighters, administrators and commissioners spent several months studying the impact of a proposed change to work schedules that would mean firefighters would work two 24-hour shifts back-to-back and then have four days off in a row:

<http://www.issaquahpress.com/2010/12/14/efr-puts-off-firefighter-schedule-system-change/>

Many cities may be regionalizing their fire departments to save money, but the joint fire department of San Carlos (CA) and Belmont is going against the trend. They are splitting up after three decades of fighting fires together under the same department.

Belmont says it may start its own fire department again, but it's looking at other options as well. San Carlos is looking at hooking up with other regional fire departments, among them the North County Fire District headed by Daly City. "The city of Daly City provides the fire chief, the assistant chiefs, the fire marshal, the training, the back office, if you will," said Brian Mora, assistant city manager of San Carlos. Under that option, all San Carlos has to do is to pay the salaries of its rank and file firefighters. Next fall is the deadline for the two cities to make a decision. Currently, the fire department has four stations and approximately 40 firefighters:

<http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/peninsula&id=7837908>

The cities of Mukilteo and Lynnwood (WA) are discussing an interlocal agreement (ILA) in which the two would establish joint fire and EMS services. Both Mukilteo and Lynnwood mayors and councils met on Dec. 8 to discuss partial and full consolidation of EMS and fire services. "Our current ILA agreement, looking at EMS primarily, is a program consolidation of cooperative effort," said Lynnwood's Assistant Fire Chief Greg Macke. "We also have a few others that we're looking at and studying." The merging of services for municipalities and fire districts is a growing trend locally and nationally. Future regionalization is also likely. The new ILA between Mukilteo and Lynnwood would increase the two cities' resources and buying power for vehicles and equipment, require a single administration, and allow rotation of firefighters and paramedics depending on need. "We're spending a lot of money on the equipment we use, and if we pool that equipment together it could be less costly to acquire and can be used more often; therefore, you get a better return for your investment," Macke said:

http://www.mukilteobeacon.com/city-government/article.exm/2010-12-29_mukilteo_lynnwood_in_talks_to_merge_fire_service

Starting Jan. 1, 2011, all new one- and two-family residential dwellings built in the mountain communities of San Bernardino County (CA), as well as throughout the county, must include the installation of an automatic fire sprinkler system. Additionally, if a homeowner of an existing home makes a room addition that would increase the size of the home beyond 5,000 square feet, installing an automatic fire sprinkler system also would be mandatory:

<http://www.crestlinecourier-news.com/articles/2010/12/16/news/news2.txt>

Last year was record-setting -- the fewest on-duty deaths of firefighters since the USFA started compiling statistics in 1977. There were 85 on-duty deaths in 2010, according to preliminary statistics. Of those, 15 are classified as Hometown Heroes. In 2003, federal legislation was adopted that firefighters who died of heart attacks or strokes within 24 hours of a response or training receive that designation. This is the second year in a row that on-duty deaths showed a decline. In 2009, the country experienced the lowest number in 15 years. Of those who died in 2010, 55 were volunteers, 28 were career, one was a paid full-time wildland and one was a paid-on call. Heart attacks continue to claim the most firefighters -- 56.4 percent -- while trauma was reported in 23.5 percent of the deaths. Other causes included stroke, burns, heat exhaustion, asphyxiation and crushing:

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/usfa-2010-record-low-duty-firefighter-deaths>

Please make every day a learning opportunity and train like your life depends on it – because it does!

Also, thanks to everyone for their continued support over the years. You may not agree with all of the information contained within these newsletters, but remember why the information is being included: to better prepare you for a career in the fire service, to prepare you for promoting in the fire service, and to just keep you up-to-date with what is going on in your fire service. Even more important than that, this information will hopefully keep you safe and may just save your life or the life of a brother or sister firefighter! Take care and don't just stay safe – make it safe!

Steve Prziborowski, Editor / Publisher – Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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