



FIRE & EMS NEWS

March 31, 2008

Volume 6 – Issue 12

FIREFIGHTER LINE-OF-DUTY-DEATH **INFORMATION:**

This issue is dedicated to brother Brett Loverain, a Los Angeles Fire Department Firefighter who was killed in the line-of-duty on Wednesday March 26, 2008. Here is one of the best articles I've seen to bring into perspective what happened, courtesy of Firehouse Magazine's website – (www.firehouse.com):

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?sectionId=39&id=58906>

Here was one of the initial public information notifications from one of their Public Safety Officers:

For Updated Information Please Refer to <http://www.lafd.org/blog.htm>

Explosion With Firefighter Fatality
8800 S. Sepulveda Bl.
Playa Del Rey
Wednesday, March 26, 2008
TIME: 2:20 PM
INCIDENT #: 0692

On Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 1:57 PM, 15 Companies of Los Angeles Firefighters, 5 LAFD Rescue Ambulances, 6 Arson Units, 1 Urban Search and Rescue Unit, 1 Rehab Unit, 2 Helicopters, 3 EMS Battalion Captains, 3 Battalion Chief Officer Command Teams, 1 Division Chief Officer Command Team, 1 Command Post vehicle, Emergency Lighting, and a variety of other support staff, all under the direction of Deputy Chief Mario Rueda responded to an Explosion at 8800 S. Sepulveda Bl. in Playa Del Rey.

It is with great sadness that the men and women of the Los Angeles Fire Department share word of one, City of Los Angeles Firefighter dying today in the line of duty. Firefighters were summoned to investigate smoke in the 8800 block of South Sepulveda Boulevard in the Westchester area of Los Angeles - not far from Los Angeles International Airport.

As firefighters arrived, they discovered a manhole cover blown loose from an underground electrical vault. The area was cordoned off, restricting civilian access to protect the lives of bystanders should another blast occur. Approximately 15 minutes after arrival, another manhole blast occurred , creating additional concerns from the incident commander.

At approximately 2:20 PM, additional Firefighters were dispatched to an office building several hundred feet down the street on a reported structure fire. Upon arrival, Firefighters entered the building to investigate the source of the smoke. While attempting to enter a locked utility room, a major explosion occurred, causing severe injuries to two male Firefighters and minor injuries to one civilian. An immediate request was made for two air ambulance's to transport the critically injured Firefighters to local hospitals.

Firefighter Brent A. Lovrien, age 35, a 10 year veteran of the LAFD assigned to the 'A' Platoon at Fire Station 95 since October 2005, died shortly after arrival at the Centinela Freeman Regional Medical Center, Marina Campus. Engineer Anthony J. Guzman, age 48, an 18 year veteran of the LAFD assigned to the 'A' Platoon at Fire Station 95 since February 2002, suffered multiple fractures and facial trauma. He was transported to the UCLA Medical Center in Westwood, where he remains in serious but stable condition following surgery.

Preliminary reports indicate the two incidents were related. The civilian was treated at the scene and released. As dictated by Fire Department policy, a formal and detailed multi-agency investigation is underway to determine the exact nature of the explosion, as well as the precise cause and manner of the Firefighters death. The dollar loss is still being tabulated.

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LAFD E-Mail: Ron.Myers@lacity.org

Below you will find Memorial Service information, courtesy of my good friend Brian Humphrey, Public Safety Officer for the Los Angeles Fire Department:

Dear Friend of the LAFD,

Memorial services have been scheduled for fallen Los Angeles Firefighter Brent Lovrien, and we cordially invite you to two public events which will celebrate his life:

- Candle Light Vigil...

Thursday, April 3, 2008
5:00 PM
Fire Station 5
8900 Emerson Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90045

All are welcome at this public event, which is being held at a Fire Station near where Brent worked. Carpooling is encouraged. Interactive Map with Driving Directions:

<http://snipurl.com/22vyh>

- Memorial Services and Interment...

Friday, April 4, 2008

9:30 AM

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels

555 West Temple Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

All are warmly welcomed to attend this public tribute to our fallen Brother, which will be preceded by a local walking procession to the Cathedral for public officials, uniformed Firefighters, Law Enforcement Officers and EMS members. Interactive Map with Driving Directions: <http://snipurl.com/22vyl>

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Following Cathedral ceremonies, a family memorial service will be held at the Calvary Chapel in Downey. At the conclusion of the Downey service, our Brother Brent will be privately interred at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier.

More detailed information about the walking procession and services, including accommodations and logistics for out-of-town Firefighters and apparatus will be posted soon on the LAFD News & Information blog, which is accessible at all times via: <http://lafd.org/blog>

KINDLY NOTE: Please do not contact the Cathedral, as their staff has no information to provide.

Those wishing to offer an on-line note of condolence, can share sentiments here: <http://snipurl.com/22vyo>

In closing, please accept our thanks for your many gestures of condolence. Your words and deeds not only bring healing, but also inspiration for each Los Angeles Firefighter to live up to Brent's demonstrated standard of Courage, Integrity and Pride.

Respectfully Yours in Safety and Service,

Brian Humphrey
Firefighter/Specialist
Public Service Officer
Los Angeles Fire Department

LAFD Home Page: <http://lafd.org>

LAFD News Blog: <http://lafd.org/blog>

Here is an updated summary of events surrounding the incident:

Dear Friend of the LAFD,

The following is an updated summary of the events surrounding the death of Los Angeles Firefighter Brent Lovrien, and includes a statement regarding the investigation by Battalion Chief John Miller. For the latest information, we encourage you to visit and bookmark:

<http://lafd.blogspot.com/2008/03/los-angeles-firefighter-killed-in-line.html>

<http://lafd.blogspot.com/2008/03/memorial-services-announced-for-fallen.html>

Additional updates are anticipated in the coming days.

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Preliminary Review...

On Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 1:57 PM Los Angeles Firefighters were summoned to investigate a "smell of smoke" inside an office supply store at 8540 South Sepulveda Boulevard in the Westchester area of Los Angeles - not far from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX).

LAFD Engine 5 arrived at 2:03 pm and reported an underground electrical vault explosion in front of the location, and that they would handle the situation.

At 2:16 PM, Engine 5 reported a second underground electrical vault explosion and requested additional Fire Department resources for the new incident at 8800 South Sepulveda Boulevard.

At 2:23 pm, Los Angeles Fire Department dispatchers received a telephone call reporting a structure fire at the site of the second explosion.

Engine 5, already on scene at the 8800 South Sepulveda Boulevard location, initially reported no evidence of fire. One minute later, they reported fire in a locked room, and to keep all resources responding.

Engine 95 arrived soon thereafter to investigate the source of the smoke in the locked room, an approximately 7 foot wide by 4 foot deep electrical/storage closet on the southeast, first floor corner of the two story structure.

As the Engine 95 crew sought to access the locked room, later determined to contain electrical utility meters for the building, a severe explosion occurred, causing injury to two Firefighters and one civilian.

- LAFD Firefighter Brent Lovrien

Firefighter Brent A. Lovrien, age 35, a 10 year veteran of the LAFD assigned to the 'A' Platoon at Fire Station 95 since October 2005, died shortly after arrival at the Centinela Freeman Regional Medical Center, Marina Campus.

- LAFD Engineer Anthony Guzman

Engineer Anthony J. Guzman, age 48, an 18 year veteran of the LAFD assigned to the 'A' Platoon at Fire Station 95 since February 2002, suffered multiple fractures and facial trauma. He was transported to the UCLA Medical Center in Westwood, and following surgery, was listed in serious but stable condition.

The civilian was treated at the scene and released.

As dictated by Fire Department policy, a formal and detailed multi-agency investigation has sought to determine the exact nature of the explosion, as well as the precise cause and manner of Firefighter Lovrien's death.

The following is a statement by and attributable to LAFD Battalion Chief John Miller

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"Based on our investigation, which included physical examination, numerous interviews, and the collection of physical evidence, has determined that the explosion at 8800 S. Sepulveda was the result of a fire that originated in the electrical vault located at the intersection of Sepulveda and La Tijera.

Various witnesses reported smelling odors as early as 10:00 am. It is our opinion that the fire was a result of a ground fault in an electrical conduit that was feed out of the underground vault. This ground fault resulted in a fire within the vault, which pressurized the vault with unburned products of combustion. This material, traveled through the conduit transmission corridors, approximately 250 feet that caused the initial explosion at the underground electrical vault located in front of Staples. Witnesses report the access cover of the vault traveling upwards of 20 feet in the air.

The resulting pressure from this explosion causes smoke to travel back down the corridors to the electrical vault at Sepulveda and La Tijera. During this time, smoke is traveling in all directions and follows the underground electrical conduit to the electrical room at 8800 Sepulveda. This combustible smoke accumulated in the confined area of the electrical room. When Firefighter Lovrien attempted entry into the room, a spark was generated when the composite blade of the rotary saw struck the locking mechanism of the door.

There was no evidence of any fire, electrical problem, natural gas leak or incendiary devices found in the room. Investigators have concluded that unburned combustible gases, from a fire in the electrical vault located in the street at the front of the building, accumulated in the electrical room. These products of combustion reached its explosive limit and was ignited by a spark from the forcible entry attempts."

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For the latest information, please visit and bookmark:

<http://lafd.blogspot.com/2008/03/los-angeles-firefighter-killed-in-line.html>

<http://lafd.blogspot.com/2008/03/memorial-services-announced-for-fallen.html>

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Respectfully Yours in Safety and Service,

Brian Humphrey
Firefighter/Specialist
Public Service Officer
Los Angeles Fire Department

LAFD Home Page: <http://lafd.org>
LAFD News Blog: <http://lafd.org/blog>

Here is another nice story about how his co-workers reminisced about him:
http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci_8723890

And another story shortly after the incident unfolded:
<http://www.myfoxla.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=6140371&version=16&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.1.1>

FIRE SERVICE EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION – Denver (CO):

Denver Regional Council of Governments Upcoming Firefighter Recruitment

The following fire departments are participating in this year's firefighter recruitment:

- Boulder Fire Department
- Black Hawk Fire Department
- Federal Heights Fire Department
- Larkspur Fire Protection District
- Littleton Fire Department
- Longmont Fire Department
- Louisville Fire Department
- Mountain View Fire Protection District
- North Metro Fire Rescue District
- North Washington Fire Department
- Parker Fire Protection District
- Southwest Adams County Fire Rescue
- Thornton Fire Department
- Westminster Fire Department

The above 14 fire departments will be participating in this year's joint firefighter recruitment, and are accepting applications until **May 16, 2008**

For more information about the participating departments, the entire process, and to fill out an online application, go to: <http://www.drcog.org/index.cfm?page=FIRE>

FIRE SERVICE VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:

The following comes courtesy of Chris Johnson – thanks Chris!

Good Afternoon,

On Saturday, April 26, 2008, CORE volunteers will participate in the CORE Citywide Emergency Response Exercise in their neighborhoods throughout the City of Oakland. Because part of the main focus of this exercise is Disaster First Aid, we are going to need quite a few volunteer victims. We have offered to send at least one volunteer victim to each CORE Group that would like to take on the challenge, and based on our current responses it looks like it will be about 15-20 groups. Therefore we need to recruit a minimum of 20 volunteer victims, ideally many more so we can challenge the groups with more victims than they anticipate.

If you participate as a volunteer victim for this event, you will need to report to the Office of Emergency Services (1605 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way) between 8:00 and 9:15am on the morning of April 26. (You will be given a specific appointment time during that period so we can work with just a handful of you at once.) At this time you will receive information about your injury, disaster make-up if applicable, and directions to the neighborhood where you will be stationed. Please note that some injuries will not require disaster make-up at all, but you still need to show up to the morning briefing to receive instructions.

After the briefing at OES, you will report to an Oakland neighborhood at approximately 10am, where you will act out the role of a disaster victim. Please note that you will need to provide your own transportation. The neighborhood exercise and hotwash (group feedback session) will likely end by 11:30am, but absolutely no later than 12noon. When the neighborhood activity is finished, your service will be complete.

At your earliest convenience, please send an email to kbooth@oaklandnet.com or call 510-238-6351 to confirm your participation as a volunteer victim in the April 26, 2008 CORE Citywide Emergency Response Exercise. If you know anyone else (18 years & up only please) who might be interested in being a volunteer victim, please share the above information with them as well. No prior experience in CORE is necessary, but some experience in the medical field, such as EMT training or above, is helpful so you can provide correct feedback to the CORE volunteers regarding their medical treatment of your injury.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email or by phone at any time. Thank you.

Kaity Booth
Acting CORE Coordinator
Oakland Fire Department Office of Emergency Services
Tel: (510) 238-6351 ~ Fax: (510) 238-7761
kbooth@oaklandnet.com
www.oaklandcore.org

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA :

Go to www.chabotfire.com and click on **TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** to find valuable information on numerous California State-certified State Fire Marshal (and other) classes currently available around the State of California, including college degree programs.

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS:

**Alameda County Training Officers / Contra Costa Training
Officers**

Are Proud to Present:

**WILDLAND 2008
June 24th & June 25th**

This annual event is held at Camp Parks in Dublin and is open to all fire agencies within Alameda County, Contra Costa County and neighboring counties. The focus of this event is to exercise Wildland Fire Fighting Strategies and Tactics!

Hands-on training will include: Progressive hose lays, hand line construction, mobile attack, water supply, structure protection tactics and safety within the wildland environment.

Cost for the event per day is:

\$ 100.00 per Engine Company - ALCO & CoCo counties
\$ 150.00 per Engine Company - Out-of-County agencies
\$ 25.00 per Single Resources (ST/TF leaders, COMT...)

"All participants are required to have and use full Wildland Personal Protective Equipment including Wildland Appropriate Boots!"

Please fill out and return this portion with payment to:

Registration is Required by Friday June 13, 2008
Please make checks payable to:

ALCO Training Officer's Association
C/O Bud McLaren, Treasurer
120 Vista Avenue
Piedmont, CA 94611-4031

Agency 3 Letter ID _____, Apparatus Type _____, # of Apparatus _____, Single resource _____

Day your agency would like to participate: June 24th _____ June 25th _____

Agency contact: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Ph # _____ - _____ - _____

bmclaren@piedmont.com 510-420-3031 office, 510-420-3033 fax

FIRE SAFETY & PUBLIC EDUCATION INFO:

USFA Releases New Firefighter Autopsy Protocol

EMMITSBURG, MD. - The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has issued an updated edition of the [Firefighter Autopsy Protocol](#) (PDF, 2.6 Mb) manual. Extensively revised since the original 1994 edition, the manual addresses additional areas related to the conduct of autopsies and considers emerging issues and new technologies.

"The updated *Firefighter Autopsy Protocol* manual is intended to advance the analysis and understanding of the causes of firefighter deaths and contribute to the future development of improved health and safety standards, operational procedures, and technology for our nation's firefighters," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "With the continued development in our understanding of the causes of firefighter fatalities, we can all work toward preventing them in the future."

Each year an average of one hundred firefighters lose their lives. This protocol provides general background related to the conduct of autopsies as well as additional information where current autopsy practices may be supplemented to ascertain causes and mechanisms of firefighter fatalities. It includes discussion on the examination of personal protective clothing as well as toxicological evaluations. The manual recommends that autopsies be performed for all firefighter fatalities where a line-of-duty death has occurred.

FIRE SERVICE PUBLIC EDUCATION INFO:



5th Annual Memorial Golf Tournament & 27 Regional Tournaments to be Held June 9 - 13, 2008

This [Annual Memorial Golf Tournament](#) is held in honor of all fallen firefighters and in support of the families whose loved ones paid the ultimate price in the line of duty. All proceeds from this event will be presented to the [National Fallen Firefighters Foundation](#) to assist these firefighters' families.

As a result of the tournament's success in prior years, 2007 marked the first year of our Regional Golf Tournaments. During US Open Week, tournaments were held at ten locations across the country on behalf of the Foundation. The golf tournaments raised over \$115,000 in support of the Foundation's survivor programs!

We need your help to continue to make a difference.

- » Register: [For This Year's Tournament \(Online Registration Available!\)](#)
- » Sponsor: [Be a Sponsor at This Year's Tournament](#)

View Our Regional Tournament Sites

This year, over two dozen tournaments will be held in to benefit the [National Fallen Firefighters Foundation](#). The [Annual Memorial Golf Tournaments](#) will further promote a National Recognition Day for our fallen fire heroes. Please click on a location below for information about a tournament near you.

Arizona

» [Tucson, AZ](#)

California

» [Fremont, CA](#)
» Tulare County, CA

Georgia

» [College Park, GA](#)

Illinois

» Rockford, IL

Louisiana

» [Jefferson Parrish, LA](#)

Missouri

» [Joplin, MO](#)

Nebraska

» Omaha, NE

New Hampshire

» Londonderry, NH

New Jersey

» [South Jersey](#)
» Jersey City, NJ

New Mexico

» Albuquerque, NM

New York

» [Rochester, NY](#)

North Carolina

» [Raleigh, NC](#)
» [Rocky Mount, NC](#)

Ohio

» [Marysville, OH](#)

Oregon

» [Hillsboro, OR](#)

Pennsylvania

» [Erie, PA](#)
» [Fairfield, PA](#) (Home Site)
» Lower Merion, PA
» [Philadelphia, PA](#)

Texas

» Arlington, TX

Utah

» [Salt Lake City, UT](#)

Virginia

» [DC Metro Area \(Fairfax, VA\)](#)
» [Norfolk, VA](#)

Wisconsin

» Wautoma, WI

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING & SAFETY INFO:

U.S. Fire Administration Adopts Official Position on Residential Fire Sprinklers

U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade's Remarks to Graduates of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program Attending the 20th Annual Symposium

As the U.S. Fire Administrator, it is my job to direct programs implemented to reduce the loss of life and property due to fire and related emergencies, through leadership, advocacy, coordination, and support. In that role, I would like to address members of the Fire Service,

homeowners, home builders, and other interested parties about the powerful protection from fire provided by residential fire sprinkler systems and why all homes should be equipped with them.

Every day the U.S. Fire Administration collects news stories from our Nation's media that deal with the tragic loss of life from fire in American homes. In January and February alone, over 300 people lost their lives in home fires. Commercial buildings such as schools, office buildings, and factories have benefited from fire protection sprinkler systems for over a century. But what about our homes? Although we protect our businesses from fire, what actions do we take to protect our families, our homes, and our possessions from fire? Millions of Americans have installed smoke alarms in their homes in the past few years, but a smoke alarm can only alert the occupants to a fire in the house. It cannot contain or extinguish a fire. Residential fire sprinkler systems can.

In the year 2006, 19% of all reported fires occurred in one- and two-family structures; however, these fires caused 66% of the fire deaths in the United States – over 2,100 people died in their own homes. In addition, approximately 25 firefighter deaths occur during responses to residential fires each year. Despite the fact that these statistics represent improvement over the last 30 years, they continue to be appalling. Such losses are unacceptable.

Since the 1970's, the U.S. Fire Administration has promoted research studies, development, testing, and demonstrations of residential fire sprinkler systems and smoke alarms. These efforts, in concert with heroic efforts by many organizations and individuals, have resulted in the adoption of requirements to install smoke alarms in all new residential construction. In many jurisdictions, the retrofit of smoke alarms into existing residential occupancies has been mandated. Together, these initiatives have saved many lives.

The results have been different, however, with respect to residential fire sprinkler systems; only a few jurisdictions have mandated their installation in new construction, and none have mandated retrofit of existing one- and two-family housing stock. The Center for Fire Research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology has studied the impact of both smoke alarms and sprinklers in residential occupancies, and estimates that:

1. When fire sprinklers alone are installed in a residence, the chances of dying in a fire are reduced by 69%.
2. When smoke alarms alone are installed in a residence, a reduction in the death rate of 63% can be expected.
3. When both smoke alarms and fire sprinklers are present in a home, the risk of dying in a fire is reduced by 82%, when compared to a residence without either.

Much has been written about the reduction of residential fire deaths due to improvements in building codes and the installation of smoke alarms. Without a doubt, these have had a substantial impact on the home fire problem. The annual number of fire deaths in residential occupancies continues to decline. The trend in fire death data, however, shows that the number of residential fire deaths is declining at a slower rate over the past 10 years than it did in the period 1977 through 1995.

Full-scale fire tests in residential settings suggest one explanation for this slowing in the rate of decline in residential fire deaths. The research shows that the available time to escape a flaming fire in a home has decreased significantly from 17 minutes in 1975 to only 3 minutes in 2003. This decrease in time to escape has been attributed to the difference in fire growth rates of home furnishings. In short, a fire involving modern furnishings grows faster than a fire involving older furnishings. The practical impact of this finding is clear – smoke alarms alone may not provide a warning in time for occupants to escape a home fire.

We at USFA have carefully reviewed the data and the relevant research and it is our **official** position that all Americans should be protected against death, injury, and property loss resulting from fire in their residences. All homes should be equipped with smoke alarms and automatic fire sprinklers, and families should prepare and practice emergency escape plans. The Fire Administration fully supports all efforts to reduce the tragic toll of fire losses in this nation by advocating these actions, including the proposed changes to the International Residential Code that would require automatic sprinklers in all new residential construction.

Only fire sprinklers can detect fire AND automatically control it – affording families the time to make a safe escape and protect valuables and property. Please join with us in helping to save lives by supporting the installation of residential fire sprinklers in all American homes.

For more information on increasing the awareness of the benefits and availability of residential fire sprinkler systems, please visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov and the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition's Web site at www.homefiresprinkler.org.

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.

Basic Information For The CPAT Test

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants must be 18 years of age and must show government issued photo identification (i.e. drivers license, school or military ID; or a passport or visa). Candidates without a photo ID will not be allowed to take the CPAT.

APPLY EARLY

Applications are accepted in the order they are received. Applications are not accepted until the fee has been paid.

PAYMENT:

The fee to take your first test at their site is \$150.00. Your fee must be paid for your application to be accepted. This fee is non-refundable. Payment can be made with check, money order, Visa, or MasterCard. If you are paying by check, the check must clear your bank before you can take the CPAT. Make payments to "CFFJAC." Your fee includes participation in an orientation session, related printed materials and test.

ORIENTATION SESSION:

Working with experienced CPAT proctors, you will be given the opportunity to try each of the 8 events and determine where you may need to strengthen yourself. You will be given a set of exercises to physically prepare yourself for the CPAT. If you elect not to participate in the orientation, you will be required to sign a waiver acknowledging that the orientation was offered. There are no discounts if you elect not to participate in an orientation. The CPAT dress code is enforced for all candidates who attend an orientation.

TEST:

The registration form has a place for you to choose a preferred and second orientation day as well as a preferred and second test day. You will be notified by mail of the confirmation of your orientation and test dates. A group of candidates are scheduled every half hour to report to the CPAT center. Please be on time, but not excessively early. Space for waiting is limited. If for some reason you cannot attend your scheduled test day, please notify us as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to reschedule you to a test day that will fit your schedule.

RETESTS:

If you have taken the CPAT at a CFFJAC monitored venue in the past and would like to retest, the fee is \$100.00.

PRACTICE SESSIONS:

For \$25.00, you can schedule a supervised practice on the CPAT course with a proctor. Your session is designed to meet your individual needs. A session may include: Training on the CPAT equipment, watching the instructional video, going through the course in its entirety. You also receive the benefit of mentoring: techniques, expert evaluation and conditioning advice from our CPAT proctors.

Refunds for cancelled or rescheduled practice days will not be given if requested after 10:00 am the day before your scheduled practice day.

WHAT TO WEAR:

The dress code is strictly enforced for safety. The CPAT dress code for the orientation, practice sessions and test is: Long Pants (no shorts), T-shirt or sweatshirt, footwear with no open heel or toe, and no loose or restrictive jewelry. Candidates must be in proper CPAT attire before being allowed to participate in the orientation, practice sessions and test.

PARKING:

When you arrive at the CPAT center, please park to the rear of the building and enter the front door.

NO SPECTATORS PLEASE:

There is limited space at the CPAT center. In order to accommodate a fair and standard testing process for all candidates, we will not be able to allow spectators on the CPAT course or in the facility.

CPAT TESTING CENTER LOCATIONS:

Southern California:

626 N. Eckhoff Street
Orange, CA 92868

Northern California

6723 Sierra Court, Suite G
Dublin, CA 94568

Northern California 2008 Schedule:

ORIENTATION DATES:

- April 14, 26
- May 12, 27
- June 9, 21

It is strongly recommended that an Orientation be attended at least 8 weeks prior to taking the CPAT Test. Allow 1 ½ to 2 hour for the orientation. There is no cost for the Orientation, it is include in the testing fee.

PRACTICE DATES:

- April 14, 15, 26, 29
- May 12, 13, 27, 28
- June 9, 10, 21, 24

TEST DATES:

- April 17
- May 3, 15, 31
- June 12, 28

Additional test dates will be scheduled as needed. Allow up to 1 hour to complete the process.

Southern California 2008 Schedule:

ORIENTATION DATES:

- April 21
- May 3, 19
- June 7, 23

It is strongly recommended that an Orientation be attended at least 8 weeks prior to taking the CPAT Test. Allow 1 ½ to 2 hour for the orientation. There is no cost for the Orientation, it is include in the testing fee.

PRACTICE DATES:

- April 15, 22
- May 6, 13, 20
- June 3, 10, 17, 24

TEST DATES:

- April 19, 24
- May 8, 17, 22
- June 5, 12, 21, 25

Additional test dates will be scheduled as needed. Allow up to 1 hour to complete the process.

Practice sessions are only \$25.00.

For more information about the above orientation, practice sessions and tests, including how to sign up and find out more about the 8 events, visit their website at www.cpatonline.org

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

2008 -2009 SCHEDULE OF COURSES **CALIFORNIA FIRE ACADEMY AT MONTEREY BAY** **115 Colonel Durham St. - Seaside CA 93955** **(831) 646-4240 nrodda@mpc.edu**

August 2008

4 to 8 Fire Command 2A
18 to 22 Fire Prevention 1A
25 to 29 Fire Prevention 2A

September 2008

8 to 12 Fire Instructor 2A
15 to 19 Fire Management 2A
22 to 26 EMT Instructor Orientation
29-10/3 Fire Investigation 1A

October 2008

6 to 10 Fire Command 2C
13 to 17 Fire Management 2E
20 to 24 Fire Command 1A
27 to 31 Fire Investigation 2A

November 2008

3 to 7 Fire Instructor 2B
17 to 21 Fire Prevention 2B

December 2008

1 to 5 Fire Prevention 1B
8 to 12 Fire Prevention 3A

January 2009

12 to 16 Fire Instructor 1A
26 to 30 ICS 300/400

February 2009

2 to 6 Fire Command 2B
23 to 27 Fire Command 2E

March 2009

2 to 6 Fire Management 2C
9 to 13 Fire Instructor 1B
16 to 20 Fire Instructor 2C
23 to 27 Fire Management 2D
30-4/3 Fire Prevention 2C

April 2009

6 to 10 Fire Command 1B
13 to 17 Fire Command 2D
20 to 24 Fire Management 2B
27 to 5/1 Fire Prevention 3B

May 2009

4 to 8 Fire Instructor 1C
11 to 15 Fire Command 1C
18 to 22 Fire Investigation 1B

June 2009

1 to 5 Fire Investigation 2B
8 to 12 Fire Management 1
15 to 19 Fire Instructor 3

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"> - Thursday April 24, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours - Friday April 25, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours - Thursday May 8, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours - Friday May 9, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours - Wednesday June 25, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours - Thursday June 26, 2008 from 1200 to 1700 hours <p>**Go to their website at www.sfparamedics.org and click on Volunteer Info (under About) to confirm the above dates and times.</p> <p>NOTE: All of the above classes will be held at the Bay Model Visitor Center in Sausalito (2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito)</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.
Contact person(s):	Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information or to sign-up at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or email them at director@sfparamedics.org or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at www.sfparamedics.org/pages/about/volunteer.php

- Advanced Medical Life Support Classes: Volunteers Needed

Dates / Locations / Times:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saturday April 12,, 2008 from 1230 to 1800 hours - Sunday April 13, 2008 from 1030 to 1630 hours - Thursday June 19, 2008 from 1230 to 1800 hours - Friday June 20, 2008 from 1030 to 1630 hours <p>NOTE: All of the above classes will be held at the San Francisco Paramedic Association – 657 Mission Street, Suite 302, San Francisco, CA 94116</p> <p>*** Go to their website at www.sfparamedics.org and click on Volunteer Info (under About) to confirm the above dates and times.</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 medical emergency scenario. Please wear loose, old, comfortable clothing, as you may be on the floor for some scenarios.
Contact person(s):	Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information or to sign-up at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or email them at director@sfparamedics.org or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at www.sfparamedics.org/pages/about/volunteer.php

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING & EDUCATION INFORMATION:

FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY

LEARNING

Media
CENTER

Everyone Goes Home® Learning Media Center E-Alert - March 12, 2008



*Can We Change?
Will We Benefit?*

This Month's Features
[Can We Change?](#)
[Will We Benefit?](#)


This media segment focuses on health and wellness. It asks you to take a close look at whether you are "**choosing**" to go home to your loved ones by the diet and exercise choices you make.

» [Click Here to View This Media Clip](#)

[10 Cones of Highway Safety](#)


In this segment, you will focus on road-side scene safety with the 10 Cones of Highway Safety, which is featured in the Firefighter Life Safety Resource Kit Volume 2. This video is courtesy of [ResponderSafety.com](#).

» [Click Here to View This Media Clip](#)




*10 Cones of
Highway Safety*

» Archives: [Visit the Learning Media Center](#)



The *Everyone Goes Home*® Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives Program is made possible through the efforts of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, with funding provided by the Department of Homeland Security, Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the generosity of Fireman's Fund Insurance Company.



Homeland Security



Fireman's Fund
Insurance Company

www.everyonegoeshome.com

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING & EDUCATION INFO:

U.S. Fire Administration Releases Residential Building Electrical Fires Report

WASHINGTON D.C. – The United States Fire Administration issued today a special report, part of its Topical Fire Report Series, examining the causes and characteristics of electrical fires that occur in residential buildings. An estimated 28,300 residential building electrical fires occur annually and cause 360 civilian deaths, 1,000 civilian injuries, and \$995 million in direct loss.

"It is important for residents to take necessary and commonly known safety precautions to prevent electrical fires in the home," said United States Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "Checking for overloaded circuits, replacing worn electrical cords, and hiring licensed electricians to ensure proper installation of electrical equipment and its components are ways to reduce your chances of having an electrical fire in your home."

The report, [Residential Building Electrical Fires](#) (PDF, 451 Kb), was developed by the National Fire Data Center, part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's United States Fire Administration. The report is based on 2003 to 2005 data from the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS).

According to the report, 47 percent of the residential building electrical fires, where equipment was involved in the ignition of the fire, are caused by the building's wiring. Thirty-eight percent of electrical fires occur in functional areas of the home. Functional areas include bedrooms, dining rooms, kitchens, bathrooms, laundry areas, etc.

The short topical reports are designed to explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in NFIRS. Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information. Also included are recent examples of fire incidents that demonstrate some of the issues addressed in the report or that put the report topic in context

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

EAST CONTRA COSTA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENTS

S-244 Wildland Fire Field Observer

Dates: May 05-07 2008

Location and Schedule: Station 59/Round Valley Regional Park 08:30-1630

March 31, 2008

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

19

Cost: \$180.00 Per Student

Instructors: Fire Captain Richard Carvalho

To Register: Please Contact Patricia Hubbard 925-634-3400 ext 204

This class is open to outside agencies and is filling up fast.

AND:

Low Angle Rope Rescue Operations (LARRO)

This class is a pre-requisite for Rescue Systems I

Dates: April 28-30 2008

Location and Schedule:

- Day 1 Station 59 0830-1630

- Day 2 Round Valley Regional Park 0830-1630

- Day 3 Round Valley Regional Park 0830-1630

Cost: \$275.00 Per Student

Instructors: Josh Sunde, Nevada County Consolidated Fire

To Register: Please visit our Training Bureau website at www.eccfpd.org to register online.

FIRE & EMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Go to www.chabotfire.com and click on **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** to find valuable information on numerous volunteer opportunities. Having some form of volunteer experience on your resume is a **must** for every firefighter candidate as many departments ask questions in their oral interview relating to how much volunteer experience do you have. Do something, and it's never too late to start building your resume and more importantly, giving something back to your community or someone in need.

FIRE & EMS RELATED COMPANY PROFILE:



Looking for fire and EMS related equipment and clothing? If so, please consider visiting Somewhere Out West in Mountain View, CA. Their website is www.westcoastfirestore.com and they are located at:

455 Castro Street
Mountain View, CA 94041
650-625-9550



Somewhere Out West
Serving First Responders

Firefighting, Rescue, EMS, Public Safety Gear & Equipment

Somewhere Out West is dedicated in helping our customers locate high quality products. We are building our reputation as much more than an equipment provider, we are your Public Safety Supply partners.

We offer you integrity in all business transactions, a knowledgeable, consistently friendly staff and are here to always meet your needs as a customer. Let us gain your confidence, support, and business. Give us a chance to quote your next bid big or small. We offer highly competitive pricing.

Our store features selected products such as; turnout gear, helmets, helmet arcs and reflective trapezoids, firefighter gloves (structure, wildland, extrication), suspenders, turnout gear bags, bunker boots (rubber and leather), flashlights, firefighter tools, barricade tapes, kid's fire gear, wildland gear, professional police products, tactical and duty gear, pepper spray, clothing, shoes, field guides, novelty and gift items.

In an effort to support our local community and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) we also stock emergency supplies such as; American Red Cross Endorsed Crank Radio, Crank LED lights, Survival Kits (food and water), 4 in 1 emergency tool, variety of earthquake preparedness items, emergency blankets, ponchos, hand warmers, light sticks, water sanitizer tablets, water heater straps and the CERT field guide.

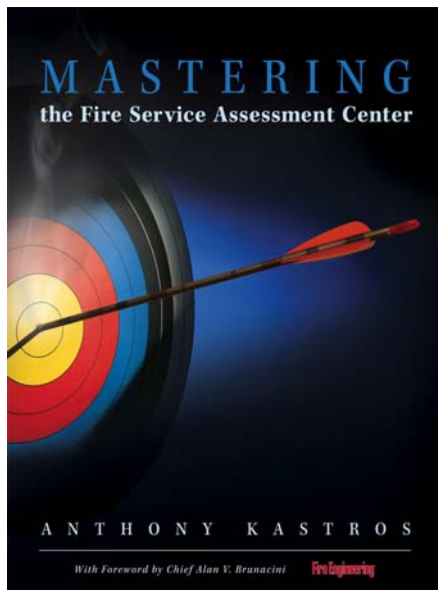
455 Castro Street
Mountain View, CA 94041
Phone: (650) 625-9550
Fax: (650) 625-9552

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

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, PROMOTIONAL INTERVIEWS, COUNSELING SESSIONS, 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 CANDIDATE PITFALLS.
- * INCLUDES **FIRE ENGINEERING** BOOK.

ANTHONY KASTROS IS A 21-YEAR VETERAN OF THE FIRE SERVICE. HE IS A BATTALION CHIEF WITH SACRAMENTO METRO FIRE DISTRICT. HE HAS COACHED THOUSANDS OF FIREFIGHTERS ON ASSESSMENT CENTERS, INTERVIEWS, AND PROMOTIONAL TECHNIQUES. CHIEF KASTROS IS AN FDIC INSTRUCTOR, TEACHES LEADERSHIP/TEAM BUILDING FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA AND FIRE MANAGEMENT 1 AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEVEL. HE IS A CALIFORNIA STATE CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR FOR INCIDENT COMMAND, RAPID INTERVENTION TACTICS, DRIVER/OPERATOR, AND CONFINED SPACE RESCUE. ANTHONY IS THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR THE SACRAMENTO METRO FIRE COMMAND TRAINING CENTER.

MAY 5-8, 2008
EL DORADO HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT
\$495.00* - GO TO WWW.TRAINFIREFIGHTERS.COM
FOR REGISTRATION
CLASS SIZE LIMITED DUE TO DEPTH OF INSTRUCTION

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY INFORMATION:

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) Releases New Emergency Incident Rehabilitation Manual for Firefighters and Other Emergency Responders

EMMITSBURG, MD. - The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), working with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), has issued an updated version of the manual *Emergency Incident Rehabilitation*. The revised manual examines critical topics related to emergency incident rehabilitation, including operational issues, human physiology, weather issues, and technology and addresses ways to better protect firefighters and other emergency responders through the use of proper protective clothing and improved tactical procedures. The manual released today updates the original USFA document published in 1992.

"Effective emergency incident rehabilitation is an important facet of firefighter health and safety," said U.S. Fire Administrator Greg Cade. "It is needed on the incident scene to prevent potentially serious and life-threatening conditions from occurring."

Emergency responder rehabilitation is designed to ensure that the physical and mental well-being of members operating at the scene of an emergency do not deteriorate to the point where it affects their safety. It can prevent serious and life-threatening conditions – such as heat stroke and heart attacks – from occurring. *Fireground rehab* is the term often used for the care given to the firefighters and other responders while performing their duties at an emergency scene. *Fireground rehab* includes monitoring vital signs, rehydration, nourishment, and rest for responders between assignments.

"This rehabilitation of firefighters during emergency operations or training exercises can significantly reduce their risk for illness or injury," said IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. "The IAFF was pleased to work with USFA to enhance firefighter health and safety through this important project."

To download *Emergency Incident Rehabilitation* and for further information about the USFA/IAFF incident rehabilitation partnership effort, please visit the USFA Web site at www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/research/safety/incident.shtm .

FIRE SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

The Contra Costa County Fire Training and Safety Officers Association

In conjunction with Lee and Associates

PRESENT

WORCESTER COLD STORAGE and WAREHOUSE FIRE

A Personal Look from the Company Officer Perspective

June 10, 2008

0900-1600

PREPAID REGISTRATION ONLY

By June 4, 2008

\$50.00, includes continental breakfast and lunch

TO REGISTER, GO TO: www.srvfire.ca.gov/worcester.htm

San Ramon Community Center, Fountain Room
12501 Alcosta Boulevard

Questions: Captain Ame Blackshear

ccctoevents@srvfire.ca.gov

925-567-6935


Presented by District Chief John Sullivan, Worcester Fire Department

This presentation will take an in-depth look at the circumstances surrounding this multiple line-of-duty death incident from the perspective of the company officer. District Chief John Sullivan will guide the presentation using his personal experiences from the Worcester Cold Storage fire as a line officer (then a lieutenant). Sullivan led multiple search-and-rescue attempts into the building and subsequently lost two crew members to the inferno.

This first-hand account provides critical insight into the event and emphasizes the "lessons learned" aspects of analysis and commentary on the effect of the event. The Worcester Fire Department is resolute in its mission to ensure that the same fate never befalls another department for lack of insight.

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY INFORMATION:

Below is the March 2008 Everyone Goes Home (www.everyonegoeshome.com) newsletter.



www.EveryoneGoesHome.com
EVERYONE GOES HOME®
FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY INITIATIVES

March 2008
E-Newsletter

[Georgia Sugar Refinery Fire](#)

Imagine this scenario: a major building explosion, a remote location, an unknown number of people missing, and a search area encompassing a 160-acre site. Oh, and you are expected to organize the entire rescue effort and ensure that each and every firefighter and rescue worker returns home safely and uninjured. Sound like a challenge?
» [Click Here to Read the Full Article](#)

[What's it Going to Take?](#)

December 4, 2006, The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) issued a "Member Alert" notifying their membership about the hazards associated with the light-weight construction in residential occupancies.
» [Click Here to Read the Full Article](#)

[Know the Enemy - Building Construction and Fire Behavior](#)

In 2007 there were over 19 firefighter fatalities due to structural collapse. The U.S. Fire Administration stated the following in a report entitled Trends in Firefighter Fatalities Due to Structural Collapse written in 2003, "Structural collapse is an insidious problem within the fire fighting community. It often occurs without warning and can easily cause multiple fatalities." Five years have gone by and not much has changed.
» [Click Here to Read the Full Article](#)

More March 2008 Articles:


- [USFA Announces Video Version of Coffee Break Training](#)
- [USFA Releases New Emergency Incident Rehabilitation Manual for Firefighters](#)
- [Advocates Report](#)
- [Firefighter Cancer Support Network Coordinator Loses Battle with Cancer](#)

» **More:** [View the Complete March 2008 Newsletter](#)
» **Archives:** [Everyone Goes Home® Newsletters](#)

» For More Information Visit: www.everyonegoeshome.com



The *Everyone Goes Home®* Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives Program is made possible through the efforts of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, with funding provided by the Department of Homeland Security, Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the generosity of Fireman's Fund Insurance Company.

**Homeland Security**

**Fireman's Fund®**
Insurance Company

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

Looking to expand your horizons and learn more about the fire service? Looking to get additional training from instructors around the country including the best in the fire service? Looking to see the latest and greatest fire service tools and equipment and apparatus? Looking to network with other fire service professionals around the country? If you answered yes to at least one of the above questions, then you should consider attending at least one major fire service conference per year. Here are some of the major ones and I would encourage everyone to attempt to attend at least one per year to keep yourself up-to-date and continue your education.

Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) – Indianapolis, IN.

April 2008 – www.fdic.com

- This annual event is hosted by [Fire Engineering Magazine](#).

Firehouse Expo – Baltimore, MD

July 2008 – www.firehouseexpo.com

- This annual event is hosted by [Firehouse Magazine](#).

Fire-Rescue International – Denver, CO (2009 is scheduled for Dallas, TX)

August 2008 – www.iafc.org/fri

- This annual event is hosted by the [International Association of Fire Chiefs](#)

Pittsburgh Fire & Rescue Expo – Pittsburgh, PA

September 2008 – www.pittsburghfireexpo.com

Firehouse Central – Las Vegas, NV

October 2008 – www.firehousecentral.com

- This annual event is hosted by [Firehouse Magazine](#).

Fire-Rescue Expo – Las Vegas, NV

November 2008 – www.firehousecentral.com

- This annual event is hosted by [Fire Rescue Magazine](#).

California (North and South) Training Officers Symposium – Fresno, CA

November 2008 – www.norcaltos.org

- This annual event is hosted by the [North and South California Training Officers Association](#)

Firehouse World – San Diego, CA

February 2009 – www.firehouseworld.com

- This annual event is hosted by [Firehouse Magazine](#).

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.firecareers.com
- www.firerecruit.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.

FREE FIRE PREPARATION INFORMATION, COURTESY OF THE DON McNEA FIRE SCHOOL!

Some more firefighter testing tips courtesy of the www.fireprep.com - The [Don McNea Fire School!](http://www.fireprep.com)

HOW TO BECOME AN EMT (EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN)

Emergency Medical Technicians (known as EMTs) are trained to provide emergency care, including ambulance services. Peoples' lives often depend on the quick reaction and competent care of EMTs. Incidents as varied as automobile accidents, heart attacks, drownings, childbirth, and gunshot wounds all require immediate medical attention. EMTs provide the vital attention as they care for and transport the sick and injured to a medical facility.

In an emergency, EMTs are typically dispatched to the scene by a 911 operator and often work with police and fire department personnel. Once they arrive, they determine the nature and extent of a patient's condition while trying to ascertain whether the patient has preexisting medical problems. Following strict rules and guidelines, they give appropriate emergency care and, when necessary, transport the patients.

At the medical facility, EMTs help transfer patients to the emergency department, report their observations and actions to emergency room staff, and provide additional medical treatment.

EMT Basic (also known as EMT I) represents the first component of the Emergency Medical Technician system. An EMT I is trained to care for patients at the scene of an accident while transporting patients by ambulance to the hospital under medical direction. An EMT I has the emergency skills to assess a patient's condition and manage respiratory, cardiac and trauma emergencies.

The EMT Intermediate (EMT II and III) have more advanced training that allows the administration of intravenous fluids, the use of manual defibrillators to give life-saving shocks to stopped hearts, and the applications of advanced airway techniques and equipment to assist patients experiencing respiratory emergency.

Working conditions: EMTs work both indoors and outdoors in all types of weather. They are required to do considerable kneeling, bending, and heavy lifting. Many people find the work of an EMT exciting and challenging and enjoy the opportunity to help others. EMTs employed by fire departments work 40-50 hours per week; those employed by hospitals frequently work between 40-60 hours per week; and those employed by private ambulance services work between 45-50 hours per week.

Training and other qualifications and advancement: Formal training and certification is needed to become an EMT. All 50 states have a certification procedure. To maintain certification, EMTs must register usually every 2 years. In order to register, an individual must be working as an EMT and meet continuing education requirements. Basic coursework typically emphasizes emergency skills such as managing respiratory trauma and cardiac emergency and patient assessment. Formal courses are often combined with time in an emergency room or ambulance. The program also provides for instruction and practice dealing with bleeding, fractures, airway obstruction, cardiac arrest, and emergency childbirth. Students learn how to use and maintain common emergency equipment such as backboards, suction devices, splints, oxygen delivery systems, and stretchers. Graduates of an approved EMT training program who pass a written and practical examination administered by the state certifying them with the title of Registered EMT Basic. This course is also a prerequisite for EMT Intermediate and EMT Paramedic Training.

EMT Intermediate training requirements vary from state to state. Training commonly includes 35-55 hours of additional instruction beyond EMT Basic coursework.

Job opportunities: Employment needs for EMT is expected to grow faster than the average of all other occupations through 2012. Population growth and urbanization will increase the demand for full-time paid EMTs, rather than for volunteers in a department. In addition, a

large segment of the population – the aging baby boomers – will further spur the demand for EMT services as they become more likely to have medical emergencies.

Opportunities for individuals will be best for those who have advanced certification such as EMT Intermediate and EMT Paramedic as clients and patients demand higher levels of care before arriving at the hospital.

Where can you find training to become an EMT? Almost all community colleges and some state colleges and hospitals offer training for Emergency Medical Technicians. This is usually a 3-month course that can be completed as part of other curriculum at a college.

For those of you who are in the process of becoming an Emergency Medical Technician and will be taking a certification test, please check our website periodically at the "EMT/Paramedic Review" link. We periodically update our examination questions database to help you pass this examination.

For those of you interested in becoming a paramedic, please review the specific link on the left, "How to Become a Paramedic."

[View our list of over 650 Fire/EMT/Paramedic Colleges Across the County](#)

Since 1950, Don McNea Fire School has prepared over 40,000 fire applicants with their entry level seminars and products. Fireprep.com has over 250 pages of FREE information and careers articles to help you reach your goal of becoming a firefighter. Go to www.fireprep.com and register for their free fireprep e-mail newsletter that features career articles by the countries top entry level authors. You will also be informed at no cost of firefighter examinations be given across the country. While at their website don't forget to review our award winning 'Ultimate Firefighter Exam Package'. This product has help hundreds of fire applicants finish in the top 2% of the exam process. Go to the link below to review the ultimate firefighter exam package. www.fireprep.com/ultimate_firefighter_exam.html

Don McNea Fire School - dmfireschool@aol.com - 1-800-989-FIRE

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

CERES FIRE DEPARTMENT

PRESENTS

The Art of Reading Smoke



**June 24, 2008
0900-1700 Hours
Harvest Hall
3800 Cornucopia Way, Ste. B
Modesto, CA 95358**

Instructor: Dave Dodson, Former Battalion Chief and Safety Officer. Dave has over 24 years in the firefighting business and is the author of the book, "Fire Department Safety Officer," (Delmar, 1999). His "Art of Reading Smoke" class was a standing-room only presentation at FDIC. Dave is the recipient of the 1997 George D. Post *Instructor of the Year*.

The Art of Reading Smoke tells us how to read a fire and predict its progress. This class packages information to help firefighters stay safe. Come prepared to practice an easy-to-remember approach to rapid size-up leading to good decisions. You don't want to miss this class!

Seminar Fee: **\$70 Per Person – Includes lecture notes, handouts, breakfast and lunch.**

Questions: **Captain Cummings 209-538-5631
Carissa Higginbotham 209-538-5701**

Space is limited so please call 209-538-5701 to secure your seat in the class! All students must fill out the attached registration form.

Mail check or money order (with attached registration form) to:

**City of Ceres
Attn: Carissa Higginbotham
2755 3rd St.
Ceres, CA 95307**

CERES FIRE DEPARTMENT

PRESENTS

The Art of Reading Smoke

Name of Student(s)/Title: _____

Department: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Payment Method (Check One):

___ Check# _____ Payable to: "City of Ceres"

___ Visa ___ Mastercard

Charge Authorized By (name as shown on credit card): _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

V-Code (3-digit number on back of card): _____ Amount: _____

Signature: _____

___ RSVP Only – Will pay at the door (check payment only)

Ceres Emergency Services
2755 3rd St.
Ceres, CA 95307
Phone: 209-538-5701
Fax: 209-538-5681

FIREFIGHTER RELATED 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.

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

Name: Raymond Barrett
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 62
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 31
Date of Incident: 03/09/2008
Time of Incident: 1449hrs
Date of Death: 03/09/2008

Fire Department: W. Milford Township F.D., Apsawa Volunteer Fire Company #1
Address: 1480 Union Valley Road, West Milford, NJ 07480
Fire Department Chief: Fire Commissioner Ed Steines
Fire Department Website: <http://www.wmoem.org>

Incident Description: Firefighter Barrett was working a hose line at a residential structure fire when he collapsed from a cause still under investigation. All attempts to revive Barrett while at the scene, enroute to and at the hospital were unsuccessful.

The cause of the fire in the unoccupied rancher style residence is under investigation, but believed to have been related to a power outage in the area.

Incident Location: 34 Navajo Trail, West Milford, NJ 07480 (USNG: 18T WL 5121 4204)

Map View:

<http://floridadisaster.org/gis/kml/viewer.htm?zoom=17&usng=18TWL5121342044&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Raymond Barrett at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 29 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

USFA does not have a Line-of-Duty-Death (LODD) criterion nor does it make LODD determinations. "Please note, running totals of firefighter fatalities used on these initial notices do not necessarily reflect the number of firefighter fatalities used in totals for the (provisional) monthly year-to-date USFA firefighter fatality reports, or year-end (provisional) reports posted online (http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/statistics/ff_stats.shtm)

Firefighter fatalities in USFA reports are summarized by date/year-of-incident. Initial notices posted online (<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 (<http://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.

AND:

Name: John Delaney
Rank: Captain
Age: 44
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 23
Date of Incident: 03/17/2008
Time of Incident: 1420hrs
Date of Death: 03/17/2008

Fire Department: Mesa Fire Department
Address: PO Box 1466, 40 N Center ST, Suite 115, Mesa, AZ 85201
Fire Department Chief: Harry Beck
Fire Department Website: <http://www.cityofmesa.org>

Incident Description: Captain Delaney passed away at the hospital a short time after suffering a cardiac arrest while in his office at the fire department.

Incident Location: 40 N Center ST, Mesa, AZ 85201

Map view:

<http://floridadisaster.org/gis/kml/viewer.htm?zoom=16&usng=12SVB2269697745&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: Pending

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending

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

To date, 31 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Donald "Lee" Grubor
Rank: Deputy Fire Chief
Age: 42
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 21
Date of Incident: 03/21/2008
Time of Incident: 2116hrs
Date of Death: 03/22/2008

Fire Department: Lewistown Fire Protection District
Address: PO Box 311, Lewistown, IL 61542
Fire Department Chief: John Spotlow

Incident Description: Deputy Chief Lee Grubor fell ill at his residence approximately an hour after clearing the scene (0032hrs) of an earlier mutual aid structure fire. Grubor was treated and transported to the hospital, but passed away at 0252hrs from a cause still to be determined.

Funeral Arrangements: Visitation, 03/25/2008, Henry-Lange Memorial Home (203 N Illinois St), 1600-1900hrs. The funeral will be held at the Lewistown United Methodist Church (204 W. Washington Ave.), 03/26/2008 at 1030hrs with the Rev. Bill Bunnage officiating. Burial will be in Waterford Cemetery in rural Lewistown.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Memorial contributions may be made to the Lewistown Rescue Squad (PO Box 311, Lewistown, IL 61542), or any charity of the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be made at www.henrylange.com.

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

To date, 32 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Brent A. Lovrien
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 35
Gender: Male
Status: Career
Years of Service: 10

Date of Incident: 03/26/2008
Time of Incident: 1357hrs
Date of Death: 03/26/2008

Fire Department: Los Angeles Fire Department
Address: 200 N Main ST, Room 1800, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Fire Department Chief: Douglas Barry
Fire Department Website: <http://lafd.org/>

Incident Description:

Los Angeles Firefighters were summoned to investigate smoke in the 8800 block of South Sepulveda Boulevard. At approximately 1440hrs, an explosion occurred at a nearby building, causing injury to two male Firefighters and one civilian. Firefighter Brent A. Lovrien, assigned to the 'A' Platoon at Fire Station 95 since October 2005, died shortly after arrival at the Centinela Freeman Regional Medical Center, Marina Campus.

Engineer Anthony J. Guzman, age 48, an 18 year veteran of the LAFD assigned to the 'A' Platoon at Fire Station 95 since February 2002, suffered multiple fractures and facial trauma. He was transported to the UCLA Medical Center in Westwood, where he remains in serious but stable condition following surgery.

Preliminary reports indicate the civilian was treated at the scene and released. As dictated by Fire Department policy, a formal and detailed multi-agency investigation is underway to determine the exact nature of the explosion, as well as the precise cause and manner of Firefighter Lovrien's death. The men and women of the Los Angeles Fire Department thank you for your kind words and sentiment at this time of overwhelming sorrow and immense loss.

The latest information about this incident, as well as details regarding memorial services will be posted @ <http://lafd.blogspot.com>

Incident Location: 8800 block of South Sepulveda Boulevard (USNG: 11S LT 710 583)

Map View:

<http://floridadisaster.org/gis/kml/viewer.htm?zoom=16&usng=11SLT710583&disp=h>

Funeral Arrangements: Pending, updates @ <http://lafd.blogspot.com/>.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Pending, updates @ <http://lafd.blogspot.com/>.

Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association, to learn more, visit: LAFRA.ORG or call 1-800-244-3439

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Brent A. Lovrien at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 33 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

AND:

Name: Eric Speed
Rank: Firefighter
Age: 33
Gender: Male
Status: Volunteer
Years of Service: 12
Date of Incident: 03/28/2008
Time of Incident: 0930hrs
Date of Death: 03/28/2008

Fire Department: Caddo Parish Fire District Two
Address: 4305 North Lakeshore Dr., Shreveport, LA 71107
Fire Department Chief: Harry L. Lowery

Incident Description: Firefighter Eric Speed was operating a tanker enroute to a mutual aid residential structure fire call in a neighboring fire district, when the apparatus left the road way, turning over and striking several trees. The cab of the apparatus was severely damaged by the trees causing Speed to be severely injured. Firefighter Speed was airlifted to the hospital but was pronounced on arrival. The investigation continues regarding the causes of the accident, such as load factors, traveling speed, and mechanical problems. Reports indicate that unfamiliarity with the particular roadway the apparatus was traveling and the sharp ninety-degree turn where the accident took place were factors in the accident.

Incident Location:

- (1) Mobile home fire, 6200 block of Green Meadow Road (USNG: 15S VS 1729 1138).
- (2) Tanker rollover, Shepherd Road (15S VS 2101 0425).

Funeral Arrangements: 04/05/2008, details pending.

Memorial Fund Contact and Address: Contributions to FF Speed's family can be made in his name at the Shreveport Firefighters Credit Union, 6015 Hearne Ave. Shreveport, LA 71108, Phone: (318) 636.5600; or 2207 California Drive, Suite 1A. Bossier City, LA 71111, (318) 746-1900 (www.profirefighterscu.com).

Tribute is being paid to Firefighter Eric Speed at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/fatalities/>

To date, 34 firefighter fatalities have been reported to USFA in 2008 as a result of incidents that occurred in 2008.

Some more firefighter safety and training information, courtesy of Deputy Chief Billy Goldfeder and Gordon Graham, hosts of www.firefighterclosecalls.com

7 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED: WILDLAND FIRE: We regret to advise you that 7 firefighters died in the Line of Duty in Honduras yesterday as they were overrun by a wildland fire. They

were working on the fire and suddenly there was a change of wind direction and they were engulfed. Honduras is at the start of its summer and forest fires are common at this time. Our condolences to all affected.

CANADA 18 YEAR OLD FF LODD UPDATE: The Val-des-Monts Volunteer Firefighter who was killed in the Line of Duty yesterday had **6 months on the job**.

At 1345 hours yesterday, the Val-des-Monts FD responded to a fire call from an alarm company for a dwelling fire. The man in the home didn't even know there was a fire and had to be alerted by a neighbor when the dispatcher's verification calls to the house were unanswered. Firefighters from Val-des-Monts responded and the fire was under control around 1545 hours. At that time, 4 Firefighters went in to handle hot spots, entering through the garage - which had not been damaged in the fire. They were on their way out and heard some cracking...they ran out...but the last one trying to get out was the 18 years old FF and the garage collapsed on him.

Mutual aid was called for and the 18 year old Firefighter's body was found in the rubble within 45 minutes...he was not breathing...they worked him on the way to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. We will continue to update this information here and on our home page.

COLLAPSE OF BURNING BUILDINGS & YOUNG FIREFIGHTERS:

In the past 6 months or so, several Firefighters, some **VERY young**, have died in the Line of Duty during OVERHAUL, while hitting HOTSPOTS...etc. Clearly, losing a Firefighter's life of ANY age is a tragic loss...but it seems to hit harder...much harder when it is during OVERHAUL...and then, a kid who HAD a great future on this job.

Easily the BEST non-hands on resource among many to **TRAIN YOUNG FIREFIGHTERS** in the collapse of burning buildings-and structural firefighting in general is Chief Vinny Dunn's book: <http://www.pennwellbooks.com/colofburbuil.html>

And while this BOOK is the bible in FF survival, some **YOUNG FIREFIGHTERS** "these days" may learn better, a bit differently. They may do much better watching the **VIDEO** series. So what? Whatever it takes. <http://store.pennwellbooks.com/colofburbuil3.html> This is an outstanding INVESTMENT ...well worth it.

Today's YOUNG Firefighters learn differently. **Deal with it**. They naturally must also learn the "old fashioned way" but these GAMERS may be quicker to also learn via video, the Internet or whatever. Either way-we have to get them TRAINED. **FRUSTRATED** by the young GAMER FIREFIGHTERS? No worse than the old timers being frustrated with us. We recently had a pretty good discussion about these "kids" here: <http://dynamic.firehouse.com/broadcast/2008/02/27/through-the-smoke-young-firefighters-the-gamer-generation/>

There are also some related links on the above page as well to help us better understand THIS new generation of Firefighters.

Interior Structural Firefighting: It is critical to think and make tactical decisions based upon: **"who we are risking...for what."** We are not advocating not ever going in. Not at all. We just have to do our absolute best to make sure the conditions, size-up and resources best match the actions being taken with regard to these "kids"..young and old, that get sent in.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,
BillyG
The Secret List 3-10-08 / 1215 hours

AND:

Hey...

It is with deep regret that we advise you of the passing of Pontiac (IL) Fire Lt. Tim Murphy. Lt. Murphy passed away on Monday, March 10th at his home after a battle with cancer and is being handled as a Line of Duty Death and career/job related. For more info contact: (815) 842-3225. Our sincere condolences to the loss of Lt. Murphy. For more related info go to: www.FireFighterCancerSupport.org

NORTH CAROLINA DOUBLE LODD FUNERAL/MEMORIAL DETAILS:

Chief Bob Parnell, Salisbury, N.C. advises that the visitation and funeral arrangements for the two fallen Salisbury Firefighters have been announced. Visitation for both firefighters will take place on Wednesday, March 12, 2008 and memorial services on Thursday, March 13. For more information go to:

http://www.salisburync.gov/press/2008/10-March/CityFuneralArrangFallenSFDFFirefighters3_10_08PM.pdf

CHIEF STRUCK BY LADDER TRUCK: 3 CT Firefighters were hurt yesterday while operating at a house fire. The most seriously injured was Mortlake (Brooklyn) Assistant Fire Chief Douglas Kramer, who was struck by his department's ladder truck as the company was preparing to return to quarters. Chief Kramer was taken by ambulance to the hospital where he was being treated for a broken rib, a serious hand injury and other lesser injuries, according to Mortlake Fire Chief John Guari. Kramer was expected to remain at the hospital overnight. He apparently standing next to his own truck when the ladder truck backed into him and his vehicle. A police report of the accident identified the driver of the ladder truck as a veteran member and former chief of the department. The Chief of Department said he is looking into the circumstances of the accident. **"We have policies that are designed to prevent something like this from occurring and I want to determine if those procedures were being followed,"** he said.

FATHERS & SONS: I always thought about doing a photo book about firefighting families. So many FD's have rosters with many of the same last names on them. A "coffee table" style book showing pictures of "fire" families including Fathers, Sons, Daughters, Mom's etc who are firefighters together or in other FD's might be cool...because there is a lot of that great connection in our business. Maybe that book exists? If so, I missed it and will get it. So while we may or may not do it anytime soon, I like thinking about it. The idea of showing families that do what we do is intriguing to me and might be a good idea to help raise some bucks for a good charitable cause or something like that.

Firefighting families are cool....but the "relative" connection can also be horrific. Such as the case just within the last week with some of the LODD's.

==The Firefighter who was killed in Val-des-Monts, Canada was 18 year old André Manseau. He had six months on the job. **His Dad is a Firefighter with the same department and was at the scene when the fire & collapse took place.**

==The Firefighter who was killed in West Milford, New Jersey was Raymond Barrett. He was 62 and had decades of service and was a former Chief. **His Son Wayne was on the scene, as a Firefighter, when his Dad collapsed while fighting the fire.**

==The Firefighter who was killed in Pine Township, Pennsylvania was Brad Holmes and he was 21. **His brother, Chris, is the Fire Chief and their father, Joe, is the Assistant Fire Chief. All were operating on the scene when Brad became trapped while searching for a trapped victim.** Brad died a few days later from horrific burns and related injuries.

==The Firefighter who was killed in Lower Chichester, Pennsylvania was Lt. Nicholas Picozzi Jr., 36., "The whole Picozzi family worked in the FD...that's what makes it even harder on us," Chief Ray Fuller Sr. of the Lower Chichester Fire Department said. **Lt. Picozzi's Father, a member of the FD was on the scene-and later collapsed from chest pains upon hearing of the tragic loss of his son.** Nick was trapped and later rescued from the basement of the burning home. His Mom was also active in the Auxiliary.

When we were writing some of the LODD's up in the last few days, the family connection, but especially the Father & Son connection really stood out hard. It adds just one more deep emotional dimension when thinking about "**Who's In Your Wallet**"

FIREFIGHTER INJURY REPORT:

The USFA has released the following excellent report Fire-Related Firefighter Injuries: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/media/press/2008releases/022808.shtm> . This is the report itself: http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/2004_ff_injuries.pdf

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-11-08 / 1422 hours

AND

It is with regret that we advise you of the On-Duty Death of Fire Captain Matt Moore of the Murrieta, CA FD, who died last night. Captain Moore had been ill since contracting an amoebic brain parasite late last year, suspected to be while operating at previous wildland fires. Captain Moore was surrounded by his family, including wife Sherry, children Alyssa, 16, Trent, 13 and Branden, 13, his parents Carol and Phil, brother Mark, **also a Murrieta Fire Captain** and countless friends and colleagues. Captain Moore has been hospitalized since November, 2007 with an aggressive form of meningitis caused by an amoebic parasite known as Balamuthia mandrillaris. Balamuthia mandrillaris enters the body through the lower respiratory tract or through open wounds. For the last six weeks, Captain Moore has been in the Intensive Care Unit at the University of California San Diego Medical Center.

Here is an article related: http://www.myvalleynews.com/story.php?story_id=28724
Here is a link to the MFD Firefighters: <http://mfa3540.org/index.cfm?section=1>
Our sincere condolences to all affected...but especially the members of the MFD and Captain Matt Moore's family and friends.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-11-08 / 1955 hours

CORRECTION NOTE: 18 y.o. FF André Manseau's Father is not a FF & was not on scene when the LODD of his son occurred. This has now been confirmed by the Mayor of Val des Monts. The initial info that was released stated that he was. We regret any confusion by passing the media info on.

AND:

Hey...

Here are the details for the memorial and funeral info related to the Line of Duty Death of Ex Chief/FF Ray Barrett-West Milford FD. **While some of you may not be attending, please check out the link.** The Firefighters did an excellent and very classy job in announcing the details while honoring Chief Barrett's life, service and family. **Please take a look:**

<http://www.wmfd4.org/raybarrett.htm>

NORTH CAROLINA AUTOPSY UPDATE: A preliminary autopsy report released on North Carolina Fallen Firefighters: Salisbury Firefighters Victor Isler and Justin Monroe died from heat exposure and carbon monoxide poisoning, according to preliminary autopsy information. Full autopsy reports from the Mecklenburg County Medical Examiner's office will likely be available in three to four months. As you know, Firefighters Monroe, 19, and Isler, 40, died Friday in a fire at Salisbury Millwork. Initial reports are that the fire was thought to be contained at one end of a building before it spread, trapping the firefighters.

CANADA UPDATE: The 18-year-old Val-des-Monts Firefighter who died when the garage of a burning house collapsed on top of him will be buried on Monday. André Manseau was killed Sunday while operating at that fire. Services for FF will be held on Monday at 3 p.m. at the Saint-Pierre-de-Wakefield church in Val-des-Monts.

RUMOR MILL: The below video link has been floating around. While at first it makes you want to look for a sharp object to end your pain, it isn't what it seems. The FD had a demo apparatus at their station and this is that "double front/rear cab" rig that was there. Naturally, and acting in the finest traditions of us messing with one another, while still being seat belted....this was the excellent "gotcha" result...that we hope some WTF'r out there doesn't try for real. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GG6BLSkMEQU>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 12-12-08 / 1200 hours

AND:

March 31, 2008

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

40

Hey...

Authorities ticketed an Iowa EMT yesterday for a February crash that killed a school teacher and injured four others. The ambulance, with lights and siren activated, struck the teachers vehicle and then a minivan. The EMT driver was among those hurt in the crash....she had violated state law that allows emergency vehicles to "proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation." The ticket carries a \$35 fine....but opens the door wide open for civil action. Authorities said a more serious charge would have required authorities to prove that the EMT drove recklessly (intentionally). STOP AT RED LIGHTS & STOP SIGNS... don't go thru this.

2 FORMER FF'S GOING TO JAIL: Two former FDNY Firefighters pleaded guilty on Thursday to reckless endangerment for starting a small fire outside a Manhattan firehouse last fall (while members of FDNY), an off duty incident described as a prank gone awry. 1 FF pleaded guilty to a felony charge of first-degree reckless endangerment, which under the penal law is a crime committed with "reckless indifference to human life" that produces a "grave risk of death." He was promised a sentence of one to three years in prison at his sentencing on May 1. The other FF pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of second-degree reckless endangerment: conduct that creates a "substantial risk of serious physical injury." He was promised a sentence of five months in jail and 100 hours of community service.

THIS TIME OF YEAR we again remember Richard Stefanakis, Charles Brace, Lloyd McCulloch, Dusty Jones, Cyril Fyfe and Kevin Olson...and how they gave their lives at fires.

Richard Stefanakis & Charles Brace: The tragic loss of these two Firefighters in Pittsburgh occurred on March 13, 2004...on St. Patrick's Day 4 years ago at the Ebenezer Church fire. Following the fire, while hitting hot spots, the bell tower steeple predictably collapsed killing FF Stefanakis and Battalion Chief Charles Brace. The fire killed the 2 PBF Firefighters and injured 28. They tragically lost their lives in a collapse that had burned for hours prior. Here is a link to the NIOSH report on that fire: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200417.html> ;

Similar circumstances happened again when in Moulton, Alabama (on Feb 21, 2006) when Fire Captain Lloyd McCulloch, 63, and Firefighter Dusty Jones, 23, were HITTING HOT SPOTS at a fire that had been burning for hours, had been knocked down...and then a concrete wall predictably collapsed, killing them instantly. They lost their lives for a gutted building. Here is that NIOSH Report: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200607.html>

And in Yellowknife, Canada, two more tragic Line of Duty deaths happened on March 17 of 2005.....when two Firefighters were killed while operating in a detached saw shed fire...a saw shed. An outside shed used to cut lumber at a home supply business....what's that value? A simple shed. So they died for a shed. Yellowknife Fire Lieutenant Cyril Fyfe, 41, and Firefighter Kevin Olson, 24, (a probie and newlywed) were inside the burning shed when part of the roof-and all that was on it-came down on them. They were crushed by the building roof and the weight of heavy ice, snow and 4 firefighters on that roof. 4 firefighters were on top of the roof but escaped without serious injuries. Lt. Fyfe and FF Olson died from being crushed inside the shed.

The Chief and Deputy Chief were charged in the Firefighter deaths.

<http://dynamic.firehouse.com/broadcast/2006/03/17/fire-officers-charged-in-firefighter-deaths/>

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/north/story/2006/07/17/fire-drop.html>

Of course need to do our best to protect property. That's part of the mission...but the priority of LIFE and "property" are at two VERY different "what's worth it" levels. So me Firefighters will kick and scream saying that "it is our duty to protect property"...yeah it is. But the two are very different. Some Firefighters feel "if we die doing that...that's just a risk of the job". Take your head out of your a**.

Take some time this week to remember the families, friends, fellow Firefighters of Pittsburgh Battalion Chief Charles Brace, 55, Firefighter Richard Stefanakis, 51, Moulton's Fire Captain Lloyd McCulloch, 63 and Firefighter Dusty Jones, 23 as well as Yellowknife, Canada Fire Lieutenant Cyril Fife, 41, and Firefighter Kevin Olson, 24...all who clearly lead very heroic lives, but gave their lives way too soon, for "stuff."

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,
BillyG
The Secret List 3-14-08 / 1950 hours

AND:

Hey...

Days after a Volunteer Firefighter was killed in the Line of Duty and others were injured in a Delaware County (PA) house fire, additional Firefighters (in Darby Borough) were hurt operating at another dwelling fire on Thursday. At 2030 hours, 2 Firefighters suffered smoke inhalation and a Firefighter from Sharon Hill was treated for dehydration while operating at the fire.

Also, a Fire-Police officer (Lt. John Petrvcics) from Darby Station No. 2 was in stable condition at the hospital after suffering a witnessed heart attack, resulting in cardiac arrest while directing traffic in the vicinity of the fire. Fire-Police Officers are members of FD's that handle outside duties on fire and emergency scenes such as traffic and crowd control. On Tuesday, Lt. Nicholas Picozzi II of the Lower Chichester FD was laid to rest. As you know, Lt. Picozzi died in the Line of Duty after being rescued from a house fire on March 5. 3 other Firefighters were injured. And in September, Sharon Hill Firefighter Michael Reagan, 19, died in the Line of Duty from injuries suffered at a detached garage fire. And in August, Parkside Firefighters Chase Frost, 21, and Daniel Brees, 20, were very seriously injured while operating at a house fire. FF Frost is in Texas currently recovering from burns to more than 50 percent of his body.

And the Riverhead (Long Island, N.Y. FD) Commissioners have banned alcohol from their firehouses following what cops say was a drunken driving crash last month where a Captain crashed a fire rig into a utility pole after taking part in a parade. We posted more about this on our news/updates area of our home page. Banning booze from the firehouse? What a

concept. And it isn't even listed as one of the 16 initiatives on how to reduce FF injury and death.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-15-08 / 0600 hours

AND:

Hey....

While you may not know this Fire Lieutenant, a medical Line of Duty Death from Boston FD who passed away on Thursday, at least please take time to read **DON'T BE ME**...below.

It is with regret that we report the Line of Duty Death of Lieutenant Robert T. Kilduff, Sr. who was the Vice President of IAFF Local 718 Boston, and the Legislative Representative of the Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts. Lt. Kilduff passed away on Thursday, March 13, 2008 from occupational cancer.

Funeral information is here: <http://www.bostonfirelocal718.org>

The following are excerpts from a letter from the late Lieutenant Bob Kilduff. The entire letter is on the Boston local 718 website.

DON'T BE ME

My name is Bob Kilduff. I have been a firefighter for 34 years. Were it not for some help from above, marvelous medical people and dumb luck I would well be on my way to an early death due to occupational cancer. I am telling my story in the hope that another brother or sister Firefighter will not have to share my experience.

Like many of you reading this, I only went to the doctor when hurt. You know the drill: burns, cuts, smoke inhalation and the many orthopedic injuries that come part and parcel with our job. For reasons unknown the thoughts of retirement age prompted me in May of 2003 to get my first physical exam in 30 years. I felt the best I had in years and the test results bore this out. All was well. The doc however advised that I have a colonoscopy due to my age. Not really thrilled, I acquiesced. The procedure was a piece of cake; however, the test revealed a large tumor in my colon which needed to be addressed. Twenty days later a section of my colon was removed. I had to undergo a 6 month chemotherapy program which could have been avoided with early detection. It now appears that my cancer is in remission and the doctors predict these procedures will help save my life.

The issue here is why go to the doctor and learn you're very sick when you can go to the doctor and keep from getting very sick. I have learned the hard way that you must act prudently if you want to see your grandkids grow, have a chance to retire, golf, fish, hunt, go to the track or whatever. If you don't have regular medical checkups your odds of enjoying a longer than normal life are greatly diminished. Early detection of cancer is paramount in successful treatment. This will allow you to do what you want to do and not what your doctor will allow you to do.

In 1990 a cancer presumption law was passed by the Legislature in Massachusetts. The reason it was signed into law was that it has been shown that firefighters have a serious problem with cancer. Numerous studies have pointed to the fact that there are over a dozen cancers that attack firefighters more often than the general population. Our exposure to the products of combustion and the resultant carcinogens are the reason and we must be more proactive in protecting ourselves through cancer screening. The Boston Fire Department's Medical Examiner Mike Hamrock deals with cancer and firefighters daily. From his observations, firefighter cancer screening should take place if there is a family history of cancer. For example, colon screening normally scheduled for a fifty year old should take place at age forty due to our higher incidence of the disease. Firefighter deaths due to occupational diseases are far more common than the number of line of duty deaths caused by other means and we must take them seriously.

I ask that you take a few minutes to examine your efforts to help yourself stay healthy. Think for a moment about my experiences over the last ten months and if necessary take the action necessary to help you avoid my fate. **Remember, DON'T BE ME.**
God Bless and stay safe-BK.....

Rest in peace, Lieutenant Kilduff.

From FirefighterCloseCalls.com:

=USE YOUR SCBA-BREATHE NO CRAP-EVER.

=ALLOW NO SOOT TO REMAIN ON YOUR SKIN, HOOD OR GEAR FOR ANY REASON.

=USE YOUR FULL PPE-HEAD TO TOE-NO EXPOSED SKIN-EVER.

Need more information re: Firefighter Cancer? Check out these sites:

<http://healthnews.uc.edu/news/?/3750/>

<http://dynamic.firehouse.com/broadcast/2006/12/22/firefighting-cancer/>

<http://dynamic.firehouse.com/broadcast/2007/01/29/100000-firefighters-are-not-wrong/>

FIRE RECRUIT KILLED WHILE BEING A HERO:

The victim in this fatal hit and run was a new candidate to the Chicago Fire Academy. He stopped several men from assaulting a woman. The criminals left, but returned in their car and deliberately ran down Firefighter Candidate Thomas Dalof, with the intention of killing him....and they did. RIP.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/chi-080316hitrun-edgewater-story,0,3539369.story>

SPECIAL NOTICE: On behalf of FCSN, (www.FireFighterCancerSupport.org) we would like to express our sincere sorrow on the passing of Debbi Wood. Debbi lost her 8 year battle with cancer on March 12th 2008. Debbi had been the FCSN's Wellness Coordinator from the start. Our sincere condolences to her husband Steve, **Battalion Chief with Brea F.D.** California, son Daniel (age 21), daughters Kelli and Nikki (ages 18 and 10 respectively) and all her family. Contact for Steve & family: SWood@FCSN.net .

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-16-08 / 2236 hours

AND:

It is with deep regret that we report that Kansas City, Missouri FF Terrance Crocket died in the Line of Duty while working at a structure fire this morning. Initial reports are that FF Crocket collapsed at the fire. The fire was reported about 12:30 in a single-story dwelling. It was declared under control in about 15 minutes or so but shortly afterward, Firefighters at the scene reported that a member had collapsed inside the house. Details for Visitation and Funeral Services will be posted as the information becomes available. As always, our sincere condolences to all affected.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG The Secret List
3-17-08 / 1633 hours

AND:

Hey...

Additional details have been released related to the very tragic Line of Duty Deaths of Salisbury (N.C.) Firefighters Justin Monroe, 19, and Victor Isler, 40. As you know, the millwork and related building(s) presented major challenges, according to the pre-plan, which was used by firefighters while responding. There are parts of the building where fire could be hidden...the building stored significant hazardous materials...and the plan noted "rapid overhaul for hidden fires, numerous additions make it difficult to search." The plan said the FD could get 4,300 gallons of water per minute from nearby hydrants. If Salisbury Millwork was fully engulfed by flames, the fire would need more than 11,000 gallons of water per minute.

Once again, as in several recent past LODD's, we hear "**Mayday! Mayday! Mayday!**" as FF's Monroe and Isler were trapped inside the mill. **Here are several links to all low you to learn further from this fire:**

Radio Traffic:

http://news14.com/Video/video_pop.aspx?vids=64154&sid=1&rid=94

Related Articles and Links:

<http://media.charlotteobserver.com/images/pdf/salisburymillworkfire.pdf> **(Building layout)**

http://news14.com/content/top_stories/594001/911-tapes-from-salisbury-fire-released/Default.aspx

<http://www.wbtv.com/news/topstories/16791571.html>

<http://www.charlotte.com/local/story/543049.html>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.
BillyG
The Secret List 3-19-08 / 1025 hours

AND:

March 31, 2008

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

45

Hey...

Yesterday was the 5th Anniversary of the very tragic Line of Duty Death of **Cincinnati (OH) Firefighter Oscar Armstrong III**. Firefighter Armstrong was killed on March 21, 2003, as he conducted a search in a single family dwelling fire. If you have not had the opportunity to review the report, below are 2 links to it. The report is highly valuable not only in the professional manner in which it was developed, but in the information that it contains. The report clearly outlines how critical the basics are prior to and while operating at a single family dwelling fire and should be required reading for any Firefighter.

Links to the report:

<http://www.iafflocal48.org/publicpages/page1.php?name=8>

http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/cityfire/downloads/cityfire_pdf8213.pdf

And more recently, and hopefully, we have all followed the very tragic Line of Duty Death of **Prince William County (VA) Firefighter, Technician Kyle Wilson**. FF Wilson died on April 16, 2007 as he too was conducting a search for potential trapped victims in a single family dwelling fire. Last week, we had an opportunity to discuss the fire with the Chief and a Battalion Chief from Prince William County.

Here is a link to that discussion:

<http://dynamic.firehouse.com/broadcast/2008/03/20/through-the-smoke-firefighter-trapped-a-mayday-and-a-lodd/>

The number of Firefighters being critically injured and killed in single family dwelling fires is not dropping. The above links contain highly valuable, yet **free** information, on what happened, and what lessons were learned...so we don't repeat what those who wrote the reports suggest we not repeat.

TAKING A STAND. The IAFC Board of Directors has taken a clear stand regarding residential fire sprinklers....and, naturally, it supports and urges the installation of residential fire sprinkler systems in new construction. Since the National Association of Home Builders lead their major high dollar opposition campaign against fire sprinklers last year, they clearly took a stand **against firefighters** and our ability to survive...as well as the problem of those living in the burning home...**and their ability to survive**. The unknowing will say "firefighters don't have to go in" or "just focus on the use of smoke detectors" and that solves the problem. Nahh-not by any stretch of the imagination. So often Firefighters **do** have to go in and get whoever out---no one else does that---just the Firefighters. And then there is the **smoke detector reliability** issue. <http://www.ky3.com/news/specialreports/11120861.html> (Article on smoke detector problems w/IAFC info)
<http://www.barrecityfire.org/> (Firefighters website focused on the smoke detector issue)

Consider some recent LODD's where Firefighters had reason to believe civilians were trapped...and imagine the outcome if the structure had been sprinklered. **Residential fire sprinklers are the final piece to the solution of significantly and automatically reducing civilian and firefighter injury and death in dwellings.** Here is the action taken by the IAFC BOARD:

http://www.iafc.org/associations/4685/files/downloads/ABOUT/POLICY_STATES/IAFCposition_FireSprinkler.pdf

Additional residential FIRE sprinkler information for Firefighters & Fire Officers:

<http://www.ircfiresprinkler.org/>

<http://www.ircfiresprinkler.org/resources.htm>

[http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/In-the-Community/Whats-it-Going-to-Take/9\\$58626](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/In-the-Community/Whats-it-Going-to-Take/9$58626)

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-22-08 / 0003 hours

www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com

AND:

ILLINOIS LODD: We have been advised that Deputy Chief Donald Lee Grubor (42 years old) of the Lewistown Fire Protection District (IL) tragically died in the Line of Duty early Saturday morning. It is reported that he had returned from a mutual aid structure fire and then returned home when he was stricken. An exact cause of death has not been determined pending results of an autopsy. Deputy Chief Grubor's visitation will be held Tuesday night at Henry-Lange Memorial Home from 4-7. There will be a Fire Department walk through at 6:30. Meet at the funeral home at 6:15. The funeral will be held at the Lewistown United Methodist Church on Wednesday at 10:30 am.

WORCESTER FIRE OFFICER PASSES: We have also been advised that the Worcester (MA) Fire Department lost a member of their department this weekend. Tragically, Lieutenant Donald M. Quinlan has died from a rare immune system disorder which may be related to his job...but has **not** yet been determined as an LODD. We mention this very sad loss out of respect as well as to inform FF's of what any FF may face ...and we will post additional as it becomes available on FireFighterCloseCalls. Some of you may also remember Lt. Quinlan, who, in 2005, was searching for civilians on the top floor of a working three decker fire, escaped serious injury when a backdraft blew out the front and side windows. Our condolences to those affected by the loss of both Chief Grubor and Lt. Quinlan.

CT. FIREFIGHTER BAILS OUT OF AMBULANCE-UNUSUAL FIREFIGHTER CLOSE CALL. A New Haven (CT) Firefighter jumped out of a moving ambulance Friday night when he saw his estranged wife with her divorce lawyer on the street...and he started a confrontation...leading to his arrest. Reports are that FF Matt Kennedy was working when he jumped out of the FD EMS unit and assaulted his wife's attorney. FF Kennedy was charged with violating a protective/restraining order that his wife had against him and he has now been placed on administrative leave. The NHFD Chief calls the incident disappointing and embarrassing.

MEMPHIS FF's TRAPPED: And in Memphis, 5 Firefighters were trapped at a working house fire this morning but are now at home recovering. The 0400 hours fire was in a guest house when it collapsed, onto the Firefighters while they were hitting the fire. 4 members were treated for 2nd degree burns to the legs, neck, arms and shoulders and the 5th suffered a minor leg injury.

APPARATUS CRASHES WHILE RESPONDING: We have posted 2 apparatus crashes that happened over the weekend in both PA and South Carolina.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-24-08 / 0015 hours

AND:

Hey...

Tragically, a College of Charleston (S.C.) student Emily J. Salisbury was killed yesterday in a crash with a responding ambulance. Media is reporting that the ambulance had just left a hospital, was dispatched to an emergency call when the front of the ambulance "T-boned" the front and rear doors on the driver's side of Ms. Salisbury's car. The hi impact crash sent the ambulance and car sliding into parked vehicles. Ms. Salisbury, 22, died of head injuries less than an hour later. Investigators have not determined the ambulance's speed at the time of the crash or what the circumstances were causing the crash. Two paramedics inside were not injured and were reported to have been belted in. STOP until safe at all stop signs & red traffic signals. **The consequences are hardly worth it.**

While not directly related to the above...here are some "videos for thought" :

...put YOUR FAMILY in this car:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwAP-vfQyRU&feature=related>

...and EXPECT "clueless civilians" to not care WHAT color the traffic light is:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGo1du_RFJY

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-26-08 / 1255 hours

AND:

It is with deep regret that we advise you that a Los Angeles **City** Firefighter was killed in the Line of Duty late this afternoon and at least 1 other Firefighter is in very critical condition following an explosion. The explosion occurred at the Water and Power Credit Union building, involving an underground electrical utilities vault. Initial reports are that the companies responded/arrived, possibly with manholes blowing up, and upon arrival and operating at the scene while determining the problem, additional explosions occurred leading to the tragic results.

Updates will follow.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-26-08 / 1933 hours

AND:

LAFD LODD UPDATE: Yesterdays blast tragically killed **Los Angeles City Firefighter Brent A. Lovrien**, age 35, in the Line of Duty. FF Lovrien was a 10 year member of the LA City FD assigned to Fire Station 95. Details are that yesterday, Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at 1357

hours LA City FD responded for smoke in the area, not far from Los Angeles International Airport. At approximately 1420 hours, an explosion occurred at a nearby building. In addition to FF Lovrien, **LAFD Engineer Anthony J. Guzman**, a 48-year-old 18 year veteran of the LAFD, also assigned to Fire Station 95, suffered multiple fractures and facial trauma-he is in serious but stable condition following surgery.

The investigation into the incident is looking into the possibility of a started/running fire department power saw as the ignition cause of the blast. Civilians in the area reported smelling gas before the explosion and say they claim they saw Firefighters take a power saw out and start it up.... "As soon he turned it on and put it by the door, that was when the explosion occurred," a witness told the media. **However, investigators are considering around numerous theories from the saw to electrical problems to methane gas as potential causes.**

For UPDATES on this incident, the tragic loss of FF Lovrien, memorial and donation information, go to: <http://lafd.blogspot.com/> As always, our sincere condolences go out to all affected, the members of the LA City FD but especially the family of FF Lovrien,

UPDATE: Firefighters & Digital Radios:

Once again, digital radio systems used by Fire departments are in the news. The most recent is an article

entitled "Firefighters' distrust of digital radio system grows" from Mobile Radio Technology.

Here is a link to that article:

<http://www.fireengineering.com/news/newsArticleDisplay.html?id=159642> .

Here are other articles and links of interest on the issues of digital fire radio systems:

<http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=719>

<http://www.withthecommand.com/2004-Feb/OH-billyg--hearme2.html>

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/fireradiocomm.php>

<http://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/maillist/archive.php?id=SecretList&issueID=18>

<http://blog.tcomeng.com/index.php/2007/phoenix-fire-report-on-digital-trunked-radio/>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 3-28-08 / 0019 Hours

AND:

We regret to advise you that a fire tanker overturned while responding to a mobile home fire just north of Shreveport this morning, killing the apparatus driver. **Firefighter Eric Speed, 33 was killed in the Line of Duty.** The crash happened in a 90-degree curve of a roadway. Cops said Speed, a member of Caddo Fire District 2, was responding to assist a neighboring department with a mobile home fire when the crash happened shortly before 1000 Hours.

The 3,000-gallon tanker struck a tree and came to rest on its side. Our sincere condolences to all affected, especially the family of FF Speed. Details will be posted later.

And in Lincoln (NE), A firefighter recruit training exercise took a nasty turn Wednesday when a fire recruit fell about 15 feet from a ladder. He and another recruit were taken to the hospital and checked out OK. Tony Grazziano lost his footing trying to carry fellow recruit Parry Siebenaler down the ladder with his weight on his knee to simulate a rescue from a third-story window of the training tower around 1430 hours. Grazziano fell parallel to the ladder hitting another recruit, Jordan Petersen, who was helping hold the 40-foot ladder. The two hit their heads on concrete, knocking their helmets off. The LFD is reviewing the incident.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-28-08 / 1618 hours

AND:

Hey...

In a response to actions demonstrating (and a photo showing) failure of self discipline, failure to follow policy and simply not "getting it" by at least 1 Officer and FF, the Charleston (S.C.) FD has suspended a Fire Captain for failure to wear his SCBA at a car fire. The event was made public after a photo of the crew operating that way at a car fire was printed in the newspaper. The captain was given a 2 week suspension without pay a 2nd Firefighter will receive a written warning. Both violated a department policy that requires firefighters wear and use all their protective gear, including SCBA, at all related emergencies. We will post additional info and the entire article from the Post & Courier on our home page.

Sometimes this stuff is simple. One way to look at it is by using **RED, YELLOW and WHITE or GREEN policy guidelines**. (Here are examples:

<http://firefighterclosecalls.com/sopsog.php>)

If you violate a RED policy, you could hurt or kill someone...or yourself. **So just don't do it.** If you choose (it's a choice) to violate a RED policy, you will be suspended or perhaps even lose your job. What's the result of not following and respecting FD health, safety and survival policies? ...it will hurt you or those whose pictures are in your wallet, in your locker or on your desk. Another way of looking at it is if a FD has policies, policies specifically related to safety, health and survival...just follow them. Just shut up, quit whining and just do what is expected. And if you are an Officer, just enforce them. Concerned your FF's won't like you/us for doing your job? They probably don't like you/us anyway. That's irrelevant. The whole "choosing" to enforce or follow safety, health and survival policies is lame. It's not a choice. It's what is expected at all levels...firefighters, officers and family members.

Additional information related to not wearing SCBA's at a car-or any type of fire:

<http://dynamic.firehouse.com/broadcast/2006/12/22/firefighting-cancer/>

<http://dynamic.firehouse.com/broadcast/2007/01/29/100000-firefighters-are-not-wrong/>

<http://www.firefightercancersupport.org/index.cfm?Section=1&pagenum=183&titles=0>

LOS ANGELES FF LODD UPDATE: Firefighters, family and friends on Friday will say goodbye to the firefighter known as "Lovey". FF Brent Lovrien, 35, died in the Line of Duty on Wednesday in an explosion while he and other FF's were operating at a call reporting smoke rising from a building. While trying to open a jammed door with a power saw, the door blew. The LAFD is investigating what could have cause the explosion. A candlelight vigil will be held at 5 p.m. April 3 outside Fire Station 5 in Los Angeles, 8900 S. Emerson Ave. Funeral services will be at 9:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Los Angeles, 555 W. Temple St. Please check www.LAFD.org for additional.

LOUISIANA FF LODD UPDATE: Volunteer Firefighter Eric Speed, a 12-year member of Caddo Fire District 2, died in the Line of Duty yesterday after he lost control of the fire tanker he was driving and it crashed. FF Speed is the first Line of Duty Death in the FD's 32-year history. FF Speed was responding to a mobile home fire in a neighboring fire district when he reportedly took a wrong turn and drove into an unexpected 90-degree curve. **Firefighter Speed, 34, leaves behind 4 children and his mother, among other family members.**

Here are more details: <http://www.ksla.com/Global/story.asp?S=8087716&nav=0RY5>

Take Care-BE CAREFUL.

BillyG

The Secret List 3-29-08 / 0729 hours

AND:

Hey...

A woman died at the hospital last night after being involved in a crash with a responding ambulance in Steubenville, Ohio. The woman was pronounced dead at 6:46 p.m., nearly nine hours after the crash. The ambulance was responding to a call at the time, and the cause of death was blunt force trauma to the chest. **Police said the ambulance had its lights and siren activated as the civilian driver attempted to make a left turn while the ambulance was trying to pass.**

And in Minnesota, a 25-year-old Rockville Firefighter who was injured after responding to a run is now in satisfactory condition, as of yesterday. FF Travis John Rothstein was injured as he was leaving the firehouse after the emergency when his all-terrain vehicle rolled in the parking lot of the firehouse. Cops advised that speed appeared to play a role in the crash. He was taken to the hospital and was initially reported to be in critical condition.

Take Care-BE CAREFUL,

BillyG

The Secret List 3-30-08 / 0715 hours

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

The Boise (ID) Fire Department has a new Ladder Truck. What is important to note is that the funding was a combination of public and private funds – a very creative and smart way to fund fire department activities, assuming there is no conflict of interest or “strings attached.” A good lesson for all fire departments to learn from in these days of tight budgets.

For the full story, go to:

http://www.fox12news.com/Global/story.asp?S=8001367&nav=menu439_2

Ex-FDNY Firefighters plead guilty in an arson case where they intentionally set fire to one of their stations. They were current firefighters at the time of the arson...

For the full story, go to:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=58726§ionId=46>

More than \$900,000 in Assistance to Firefighters Grants were awarded to various fire departments throughout the United States. Great job to all those departments for actually making the effort to put together the grant applications. Nothing ventured, nothing gained, and in today’s world of tight budgets, this is a great way to get additional, necessary funding to continue providing the best service we can to our communities and citizens.

For the full story, go to: [http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/Funding-and-Finance/Round-32-AFG-Awards-Announced/12\\$58724](http://cms.firehouse.com/web/online/Funding-and-Finance/Round-32-AFG-Awards-Announced/12$58724)

A story from Idaho where college students are getting the opportunity at local fire departments to gain valuable experience; a win-win option for both the students and the fire departments, if done properly.

For the full story, go to: <http://www.kidk.com/news/local/16656256.html>

A retired Firefighter from Menlo Park (CA) is up on charges for apparently soliciting to have his wife murdered.

For the full story, go to: http://www.orovillemr.com/news/ci_8571343

The budget woes continue, in various forms and fashions:

The City of Pacifica (CA), just south of San Francisco, is looking at slashing funds for public safety. Once again, we can't forget that each community has the obligation and right to set the appropriate level of public safety staffing (police and fire) for their community. If they don't want to pay for four person engine companies or have fire stations on every corner, they don't have to. This just reinforces our need to do our best to rationally (not emotionally) educate and inform our citizens and elected/appointed officials through quality data how important it is to have so many stations or so much staffing within our community. Even doing that does not guarantee we'll get the highest level of funding to do everything we want. However, we have to try. The bottom line is the community gets what they pay for, and we still must do the best we can with what we have.

http://www.examiner.com/a-1273473~Pacifica_residents_threaten_to_slash_funds_for_fire_services.html

But, not every department is suffering or getting exposed to cuts. The Phoenix (AZ) Fire Department has been spared budget cuts – there will still be cuts within the city, but other city agencies will take the hit. Another reason to have a great relationship with your elected/appointed officials as well as your community:

<http://webmail.aol.com/35304/aol/en-us/Suite.aspx>

And the Windsor Fire Protection District (CA) is also a winner; they were able to convince their voters to approve a parcel tax increase to fund 16 firefighter positions:

<http://www.sonomawest.com/articles/2008/03/12/windsor/news/news1.txt>

The Tucson (AZ) Fire Department is faced with possibly not hiring recruit firefighters to fill needed vacancies, due to their budget crisis:

<http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/ss/local/80104.php>

Some Colorado Fire Departments feel they could save \$60 million through consolidation, what a concept:

http://www.zwire.com/site/tab8.cfm?newsid=19431055&BRD=2713&PAG=461&dept_id=559193&rfi=6

And in Idaho, a couple of fire departments are considering merging together to provide a more efficient level of service to their communities:

<http://www.mtexpress.com/index2.php?ID=2005120016>

A Boston (MA) Firefighter has been arrested for apparently smoking a joint in a department vehicle, in a department uniform. And there are those that are still against drug testing in the fire service? Sorry to be a realist, but there are stories like this around the country, and while it may only be a few, select individuals getting caught for drug use, it is still enough to make our entire fire service look bad. If we don't start doing a better job at policing ourselves, some other outside agency (like the federal government) make be forced to come in and start really telling us how to do business,

like they had to do with departments 20 to 30 years ago by imposing Federal Consent Decrees on departments that had done a poor job or hiring enough diversity.

For the full story, go to:

<http://dailydispatch.com/DDR.asp?st=CO&lk=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Eebostonherald%2Ecom%2Fnews%2Fregional%2Fgeneral%2Fview%2Ebg%3Farticleid%3D1078676%26amp%3Bsrc%3Dhome%26amp%3Bposition%3Dmailed>

Another story to reinforce that “Rapid Intervention” isn’t rapid. I’ve heard more firefighters than I care to mention, say that the RIC or RIT or FAST (or whatever your department calls the rapid intervention company) will rescue the downed, trapped or missing firefighters. This story reinforces that the rapid intervention crew cannot and usually does not save every firefighter they go after. Don’t get me wrong, we need to continue to train on and use rapid intervention crews, but we also need to do a better job at not putting our firefighters in a position in the first place to have to use the rapid intervention crew. RIC is reactive, not proactive as some may think. Being proactive means doing a better job at training our personnel and ourselves on building construction, fire behavior, situational awareness, risk management, safety and hazard evaluation.

For the full story, go to:

http://www.fireengineering.com/display_news/158911/25/none/Firefighters_died_despite_NC_team%27s_quick_action

Some great lessons to be learned: The Tacoma (WA) Fire Department is the subject of a report that finds the department committed errors or mistakes during a chlorine leak response. Once again, don’t find this negative; take it for what it should be – a positive learning experience if done correctly to not repeat the same mistakes. While we may have thin skin and not like seeing ourselves as being perceived as making mistakes, we’re all going to make mistakes; the key is that we learn from them, share them with others, and don’t make the same mistakes twice!

For the full story, go to:

<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=58687§ionId=46>

Some great fire service information, courtesy of my good friend Brian Humphrey, Public Service Officer for the Los Angeles Fire Department. This is an example of an email they send out to keep the public (and the fire service) informed of various events. To find out more, visit their website at the website url below Brian’s name below.

Dear Friend of the LAFD:

Periodically, we share a digest of *non-incident* articles from the Los Angeles Fire Department blog. We welcome you to click the links below.

But first, please save these dates:

Monday, March 31, 2008:

- Join Us For LAFD Night with the Clippers

<http://snipurl.com/21k49>

Saturday, May 10, 2008:

- Fire Service Day, Annual Open House at Neighborhood Fire Stations

<http://www.lafd.org/fsd.htm>

Saturday, May 31, 2008:

- Grand Opening of LAFD Air Operations at Van Nuys Airport

****PLEASE NOTE: More soon about this and other Grand Openings!**

Recently on the LAFD Blog...

- Today is 3-1-1 Day in Los Angeles

<http://snipurl.com/21k4b>

- Joe Dupee - You Only Know Him Now

<http://snipurl.com/21k4c>

- The Invisible Danger You Carry to the Gas Station:

<http://snipurl.com/21k4d>

- We Mourn the Passing of an Entertainer, Commissioner and Friend:

<http://snipurl.com/21k4e>

- No More Oscars For the Most Powerful Man in Hollywood:

<http://snipurl.com/21k4g>

- When the Pandemic Arrived in Los Angeles

<http://snipurl.com/21k4h>

- Deadly Blast a Proving Ground For Live TV:

<http://snipurl.com/21k4j>

- Are You a Smoker? You Need to Put it Out:

<http://snipurl.com/21k4k>

- Congress Did Their Part, Will You Do Yours?

<http://snipurl.com/21k4l>

- 47 Years Ago: LAFD Badge #480 Retired:

<http://snipurl.com/21k4m>

- L.A. Firemen's Credit Union is Giving It Away:

<http://snipurl.com/21k4o>

Do you know someone who would like to join (or leave) our e-mail list? Simply have them visit: <http://lafd.org/info.htm>

Respectfully Yours in Safety and Service,

Brian Humphrey
Firefighter/Specialist
Public Service Officer
Los Angeles Fire Department

LAFD Home Page: <http://lafd.org>

LAFD News Blog: <http://lafd.org/blog>

A refreshing story about the new Aurora (CO) Fire Chief, which is quite refreshing. Being the fire Chief isn't easy, but he seems to have his heart and mind in the right place, and starting his new position with the best of intentions.

For the full story, go to: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_8566149

The Colorado Springs (CO) Fire Department is the center of attention for this story discussing how their lack of inspections and pre-planning may have put their personnel at risk. It's pretty simple, if there is a commercial building in our jurisdiction, hopefully before it burns, we'll have taken the time to at least walked inside of it for pre-fire planning purposes, to be somewhat familiar with what to expect at 3:30 in the morning when we're half asleep and in for the fight of our lives attempting to extinguish a fire.

For the full story, go to:

<http://www.fireengineering.com/news/newsArticleDisplay.html?id=159186>

An interesting story from Flagstaff (AZ) where the Fire Chief is attempting an interesting but creative way to ensure the OSHA 2 in/2 out standard is being met, to increase the level of service to his community. What's more interesting is to read the comments by readers below the story. Once again, before you point fingers and get mad at the readers, take note of what the public is saying about us. If you haven't figured it out by now, just because the public tends to love their firefighters doesn't

mean they want to pay for us to have large salaries with excellent benefit packages, not to mention well-staffed departments and apparatus.

For the full story, go to:

http://www.azdailysun.com/articles/2008/03/14/news/20080314_front_page_7.txt

A New York Fire Department has banned alcohol after a recent tragedy. Very strange to see a fire department in the year 2008 still allowing alcohol at a fire station. It doesn't matter if we are volunteer or paid – we're still supposed to be a profession. If we want to be professional, we must act that way.

For the full story, go to:

<http://www.newsday.com/news/local/suffolk/ny-lifire0315%2C0%2C7491868.story>

Something we can all learn something from, or at least reinforce what we already should know – that trust is built up over time and can be ruined in a moment's notice with one poor choice or decision on our part. This article is titled "Catastrophic Trust Failure" and is a must read for all of us in the fire service.

For the full story, go to: <http://www.firerescue1.com/firefightersafety/articles/391682/>

A very innovative way for a fire department to partner with their community to encourage students to spend their spring breaks in a positive way – to learn about fire safety. This article discusses how the Clark County (NV) Fire Department (the department who covers the Las Vegas strip) is offering students a chance to learn more about fire safety as opposed to partying during their spring break.

For the full story, go to: <http://www.azcentral.com/community/swvalley/articles/0317swv-costello0315.html>

This story from Idaho is almost scary, and almost seems like it was from 30 years ago. A very interesting story about how the local fire department personnel are trained as first responders to respond to medical calls with the ambulance company. Isn't that how it works in most of the country already? I know there are still a few holdouts around the nation (fire departments) that chose not to respond to medical calls, but those are far and few.

For the full story, go to:

http://www.magicvalley.com/articles/2008/03/15/news/local_state/132885.txt

A great example of creative and realistic training: using real buildings within your district to train on. Granted, these are hard to come by, but when they do become available, it's great to take advantage of. This story is from Pocatello (ID) where they were fortunate enough to have a McDonald's Restaurant that was soon-to-be demolished to train at.

For the full story, go to: <http://www.kidk.com/news/local/16728681.html>

A story from Southern California about fire explorers (a youth organization helping give future firefighters an opportunity to learn more about the career) getting a taste of firefighting from the pros. If you're young enough, this is a great opportunity while typically still in high school to learn more about the fire service and gain valuable experience. If you're a fire department without such a program, it is something to consider, especially if you're interested in preparing future fire service leaders for their upcoming careers, and a great way to give something back to the community and even help increase the opportunities for the youth of your community to succeed in life.

For the full story, go to:
<http://www.mydesert.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080328/NEWS01/803280334/1006/news01>

People sometimes laugh when they find out we have to lock up our ladders at our drill tower as well as purchase apparatus with locking compartments. Well, here is one reason why – Florida fire departments are being faced with metal thieves stealing fire department connections; this is just one example of what seems to be a nationwide problem, including the theft of copper.

For the full story, go to:
<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=58875§ionId=46>

And a similar story from Southern California where metal thieves are stealing fire hydrants. For the full story, go to:
<http://cms.firehouse.com/content/article/article.jsp?id=58914§ionId=46>

The Charleston (SC) Fire Department cannot stay out of the news.

The first story is how their Mayor is now warming up to the idea of working more closely with the firefighters' union local to help ensure the needed (long overdue) changes take place to attempt to provide a better trained, a better staffed, a better equipped, and better prepared fire department. Unfortunately, since they don't seem

to be moving fast enough, the President of the International Association of Fire Fighters had to pay a visit to help offer his services.

For the full story, go to:

http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/mar/28/riley_open_fire_talks35259/

And when you thought they may be on the right road to recovery, especially with changing parts of their culture, take a look at the picture in the following article – it almost appears they are taking a step back or at least remaining as status quo:
http://www.charleston.net/news/2008/mar/27/fire_photo_sparks_inquiry35158/

Training, safety and public education information for all of us to learn from and educate others with. The Nampa (ID) Fire Department demonstrated the value of fire sprinklers. They set a room on fire twice.

- *In the first demonstration, fire sprinklers suppressed the fire in an 8 x 10 foot room in one minute.*
- *In the second demonstration without sprinklers, the same room was completely engulfed in flames in 3 minutes, 20 seconds.*

And for those that say that fire sprinklers will reduce the amount of fires we go to or take the fun out of our job, how about this thought: yes, they may reduce the number of fires, but they will definitely make it safer for the customers we serve and more importantly, make it safer for us to do our jobs. As for the lack of fun, fun is in the eye of the beholder. If you're smart, you know how to make the most of any situation and have fun when you can in any situation as well.

For the full story, go to: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/westtv/story/325781.html>

A story that should be a wake-up call for all of us in the fire service: New cars are stronger – and more challenging to extricate victims from, but are the indeed safer?

For the full story, go to:

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/article/20080320/NEWS/803200307/0/news>

I wish every Fire Chief had this problem to deal with. A Fire Chief east of Phoenix (AZ) is struggling with how to provide increased levels of service due to the astronomical levels of growth he is faced with. Must be nice...

For the full story, go to: <http://www.azcentral.com/community/swvalley/articles/0317swv-costello0315.html>

A really positive story from Oregon about firefighters doing some public education and physical fitness to raise funds and awareness for Leukemia and Lymphoma. We need more of these types of stories, especially in today's world of tight budgets and limited funding. The more we can prove to our citizens that they cannot live without us and that we are always doing what it takes to make the world a better place, the better off we will be in the long run.

For the full story, go to:

http://www.tualatintimes.com/news/story.php?story_id=120597640345737900

A City of New York inspector has been arrested over falsifying documents after a recent New York City crane collapse. Just another reminder that it pays to be honest and not attempt to falsify or alter documents for whatever reason. It will come back to haunt you.....

For the full story, go to: <http://kdka.com/national/inspector.crane.collapse.2.681670.html>

Glendale (AZ) Firefighters arrived on scene at a house fire to find 15 (yes, fifteen) people living within a house. This is not uncommon as people may think, and I've even seen and heard of numbers well above 15 for a typical 3 bedroom house you would think could be in anywhere USA. So, moral of the story, always expect the unexpected.

For the full story, go to:

http://www.abc15.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=25ac83ed-22e4-4192-9fab-518bb231eb56

And a related story: <http://www.kpho.com/news/15722095/detail.html>

Please be safe out there and make every day a learning opportunity – because it is!

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. Take care and Stay Safe!

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

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Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site: www.chabotfire.com
Chabot College web site: www.chabotcollege.edu

***** PLEASE FEEL FREE TO PASS THIS ON TO YOUR FRIENDS OR CO-WORKERS*****

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- If you would like to be added to our mailing list (no, I won't give your email address out to others), email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and I will add you to the list. Benefits of being on the mailing list include being notified when the latest Fire & EMS news is published, and being notified of firefighter testing opportunities, volunteer opportunities, or training opportunities.
- If you know of someone who wants to receive this newsletter (as well as other updates) email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and I will place them on the mailing list.
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- If you are subscribed to my email mailing list and you are not receiving anything (a problem some earthlink, aol, hotmail and yahoo users have at times), make sure you add my name – Steve Prziborowski and the email address I use to send this newsletter and other fire and EMS related news items out – sprziborowski@aol.com to your address book, safe list, white list, etc. Since I mass mail items to thousands of people, some email providers may think these items are spam or junk mail, even though they are not. If you have not received anything from me in over two weeks, email me to let me know so that I can attempt to troubleshoot the issue.